

Ice skating enthusiasts in Quincy, 1910



Las Plumas

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MUSEUM STAYS OPEN THIS WINTER

For the past several years, the Museum has traditionally closed its doors to the public during the winter months in order that staff and volunteers could dedicate their time to reorganizing, inventorying, cataloging, and accessioning the Museum's enormous collection of archival materials, photographs, and county records and documents, including a backlog of artifacts and other items needing to be input into our computer system. This annual seasonal closure has also allowed our staff and volunteers to work on major and minor changes and renovations to the Museum itself and has, in the past, required moving large objects, setting up temporary work spaces in the Museum, and creating the sort of transitional clutter that would disrupt the flow of a visitor's museum experience.

However, over the years this work has not only improved the overall exhibition space and the behind-the-scenes storage areas of the Museum, but has also improved our archives

to allow quicker and easier retrieval of these materials for the many researchers who use our collections.

This year, however, major renovations and projects (both by the Association and the County) having been completed before this winter (see related story), and with staff and volunteers working on artifacts and archival records on a daily basis, and with no need to create impromptu work stations in the Museum, it was decided that it was in the best interest of the Museum's role as a community resource to remain open this winter.

Thus, if you find yourself with a house full of guests or kids this January and February and the winter weather just isn't cooperating for a day on the lake or an outing in the park, we invite you to bring them by the Museum to experience the rich cultural history of Plumas County. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 AM – 4 PM, and we are always happy to bid you welcome and

share the area's fascinating history with you. We hope to see you here this winter!

New Look Inside and Out

This past summer and fall the Museum underwent several improvement projects that not only added to the beautification of the building and its surroundings but also improved the functionality, safety, and comfort of our public spaces and those used by visiting researchers and our staff.

First, major work to the outside of the building and its landscaping took place as County crews removed juniper and other overgrown plants, re-rocked and topped off the garden beds around the front of the Museum, reseeded the west lawn, and gave an all-around sprucing up to the visual appearance of the Museum's entryway. Museum volunteer Sally Nichol and neighbor later enhanced the new landscaping with plantings of boxwood and other small shrubs.



Landscaping



Re-Carpeting



Rewiring

In November, the County also provided for the painting of the Museum exterior, and painting crews spent several days prepping and painting the main building and its additions – something which was long-needed, last having been painted more than a decade ago.

This past December saw the completion of two other major projects, the first being the relocation of power lines within our archive library. Under the guidance of Museum Trustee Bill Coates, volunteers Mike Wilcox of Wilcox Construction, Tom Vaglivielo and two of his crew, and Mark Serumgard of Gard Electric relocated power lines from the ceiling

to the floor, which required the cutting of a channel in the concrete floor and rerouting and rewiring the electrical lines into a new floor outlet. A job easier said than done, but after 7 hours of, extremely dirty work, the job was successfully completed by these tireless volunteers.

Quick on the heels of that endeavor came another County-funded project, the installation of approximately 1,000 feet of new carpeting in the Museum. Although replacing the 52 year old carpet that was installed in 1968 only took the crews from Towne Carpet of Chico two and a half days to actually install, the new installation

required staff to move all the desks, tables, cabinets, chairs, and office equipment from the director’s office, archival library, and the main reception areas into the main floor of the Museum. With the stairwell to the mezzanine also receiving new carpeting, the Museum was forced to close its doors to the public for a short period in December.

While you’re enjoying your visit to the Museum this winter, we hope you take time to notice all the improvements that have taken place here this past summer and fall and might just enjoy the new *raisinberry* carpet under your feet.



Snowbound - February 19, 2011.

New Fees For The Museum

At the December 10th meeting of the Plumas County Board of Supervisors, members of the Board approved the raising of public entrance fees, research usage fees, and school tour fees at the Museum.

The new fee schedule, which took effect on January 1, 2020, raises the public entrance fee for those 12 and older from \$2.00 to \$5.00 per person, with children under the age of 12 receiving free admission. All Museum members will continue to receive the benefit of free admission as well.

Because of the staff time needed to help researchers with archival research, the retrieval of files, documents, and records, and the search for other objects or artifacts, as well as the copying of photographs and other time consuming tasks, archival research fees are now \$50.00 (raised from \$25) with

students, including college students, paying \$25.00. This archival research fee covers as much time as a researcher needs over the course of their visit, be it one hour or several consecutive days.

Also approved by the Board was a new school tour fee of \$25.00 per tour which reflects the increased staff time that these kind of activities require.

Since the fees at the Museum haven't changed in over a decade, these new increases may come as a surprise to many of our long-time Museum members. However, we want to reiterate that all Museum visitors will continue to enjoy unlimited free admission to the Plumas County Museum. We highly encourage all Museum members to share the gift of membership in the Museum Association with their friends, family, and acquaintances so

that they too may enjoy this benefit of being a member of the Plumas County Museum.

With the start of a new year, we look forward to serving our Members and look forward to seeing you at the Museum.

Volunteer Needed

We are looking for a volunteer to be the Exhibit Yard & Wagon Shed steward. Typical duties are to maintain and refresh outside exhibits, remove leaves and debris from the yard, keeping the Wagon Shed and walkways clear, simple maintenance of iron and wood artifacts, creation of new displays, and possible interaction with visitors. Please contact the Museum at 283-6320 if interested.

Monetary Donations

Since Our Last Newsletter Through 2019

\$1 - \$99: Dorris Beck; Robert & Janet Cameron; Richard & Ann Castaldini; Lee & Barbara DeCamp; Jim & Lynn Dow; Barbara Emert; Sali Evans; Wilma Jones; Al & Carol Klem; Ray & Sally Nichol; Rob Russell & Deborah Whittaker; Kent & Lena Stokes; Altalee Stout; Sharon Thon; Tom & Diane Uchytal.

\$100 - \$199: Jim & Billie Bequette; Patrick & Janna Cook; Diane McCombs; Marge Murray; Toney O'Rourke; George A. Poole; Sharyl Shanen-Raya; Elizabeth Schramel; George Schuechenezuber III; Carol Wells.

\$200 - \$499: Linda Batson & Guy McNett; Terri Castaneda; Tom & Mary DeMund; Tati Erickson; Valerie Vann; John & Tracy Wixted (Ranchito Motel).

\$500 - \$999: Marc & Diane Coventry; Heather Henderson; Barry & Joan Hollenbeck; Patrick & Camille Leonhardt; YourCause: Chevron Matching Employee Funds.

\$4000 - \$5000: Anonymous, Kay Pierson.

Be sure to check out our historic photos on Facebook at www.facebook.com/plumascountymuseum/

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Please check your mailing label for your membership EXPIRATION DATE. Due to increased printing and postage costs, we cannot send newsletters to non-renewing members.

Individual Membership \$25.00 - Family \$35.00 - Patron \$100.00 - Sustaining \$1000.00 - Corporate \$150.00 Please mail your check to **Plumas County Museum, 500 Jackson Street, Quincy, CA 95971** or pay online at the Museum e-store: www.plumasmuseum.org.

Hours: Tue-Sat • 10:00 - 4:00

Closed Monday & Holidays

Call (530) 283-6320 to confirm.