



The Coffee Break

\$1.00

Volume 2, Issue 11

Every last cent goes to the Coffee Creek Volunteer Fire Co.!

Who's Who

When you travel up Coffee Creek Road you will pass a sign that says "This is not a blankity blank freeway". Well, the sign conveys the essence of Kent Weaver – tell it like it is, without a lot of feathers. Even at 86 years old, Kent is full of curiosity as well as a healthy dose of vim and vigor.



Kent Weaver

He was born in January of 1916 in San Francisco. His dad had an interest in Studebaker and was the only company that financed those cars this side of Denver. His mom, Gigi, was from San Rafael. When Kent was around 3 years old, his parents divorced and he lived with his mother. She remarried and the family moved to Modesto. Kent's step dad worked for Modesto Gas Co. He remembers happy days with friends playing in the irrigation ditches (It's hot you know in Modesto).

When he was a freshman in high school he moved back to San Francisco, finished high school, and went to UC Berkley where he lived with his father the last year. There he majored in economics and comments that he, "managed to get out with a C average".

Kent will only admit to committing one minor transgression. He shot the lights out at the park. "I got hauled in for that one" .he says with a sly grin.

After graduating he worked in the city with a gas and electrical appliance company.

In 1940 he married Jean Summers

(Jeannie). The war came, and in 1942 he joined the Navy. He was first involved with tugboats and then worked his way to skipper of the destroyer, U. S. S. Lawrence. The destroyer was stationed in San Francisco and made runs all the way from Alaska to Baja. He served for 4 years then resigned his commission. Next he moved on to selling cars, where he made \$25 commission on every car he sold. That was good money then. The couple had three boys, Kit, Richard and Doug. Kent had a brief encounter with Coffee Creek when he camped in the area with the Boy Scouts. He remembers sleeping in the barn at Eagle Creek Ranch. It would be many years later before he bought his cabin on Coffee Creek Road. He once told Johnny Stoddard that if he ever wanted to sell his cabin, to let him know. Johnny sold him the cabin in 1950 or '51.

The first time they came to Trinity County as a family, the boys were around 6 or 7 years old. Kent's mother leased a cabin for \$35 a month north of old Trinity Center before the lake was built. Later, she rented a cabin just north of the Ramshorn Bridge, near what is now Rt. 3. She had a goat that would crawl in bed with the kids. Gigi and Vernie Sewell were good friends.

After selling cars he put his economics major to work, in his own venture, when he and Glen Boyce pooled their money and bought the Glenn Fertilizer Company in Willows. Now he was living in Chico and commuted to Willows. Twenty years later he sold the company at 48 and exclaims that it was the "happiest day of my life".

After selling the company he moved into

the lumber business, buying Hughes Plywood. He then bought a redwood company in Redding. Jeannie didn't want to leave Chico, and all their friends, and move to Redding. First he built a home in Old Shasta with all the bells and whistles for his wife, Jeannie. There was a sign over the door that said, "This house was built for Jeannie Weaver". When they had just finished the house there was a terrible wildfire which threatened the house. The fire was so fierce that 17 firefighters were trapped behind the stone fire place and used water out of the toilet to protect themselves. Miraculously, the house survived the fire with only \$5000 in damage. Unfortunately they lost many of their personal items when the truck, laden with personal papers, photos, and possessions wouldn't start because the fire pulled much of the oxygen out of the air under the hood.

Then at age 62 Kent was on a fishing trip with friends, when he had a stroke. He says, "It was just terrible, because I used a lot of bad language". Kent worked hard in rehabilitation and over came his stroke.

His kids each took over the businesses and Kent retired. Of course, he didn't really retire.

Kent and Jeannie enjoyed many wonderful years together in Old Shasta and Trinity County. Kent says he's had more fun in Trinity than any other place he's ever been." The pair threw many memorable parties in Trinity County. One great bash was their 25th anniversary party in 1970 at the Carrville Inn. Friends came and stayed in tents and campers, from as far away as Ari-

zona and Hawaii. There was always plenty of booze to limber up the stiffest member of the group.

Kent and Jeannie started packing with one horse borrowed from Johnny Stoddard. They enjoyed many great pack trips into the Alps and Marbles. Some of the trails they rode are no longer there!

Kent still enjoys frequent pack trips into the back country. He normally rides, now, with his wife's cousin, Barry Bowen, and other good friends. Last year he rode with the Back Country Horsemen during their annual high country fish plant. Over the years he's been pretty lucky, with no major injuries on his trips. He has been bucked off occasionally, the last time being four years ago by his horse, Copper. He now has Copper and three other animals in his string

He also enjoys frequent fishing trips, usually with his old friends from Chico days. Earlier this summer he spent several days fishing for "Dorado" in Baja. Last year he fished Costa Rica for tarpon. This past weekend he drifted the lower Sacramento, fly fishing for large trout. Just two weeks ago he traveled to Wyoming with his dog, Bill, "just because the place intrigued him".

There are many "Kent stories". One of the best is one Kent vehemently denies. It is about the time a large gold nugget turned up at Kent and Jeannie's cabin. Kent brought in an excavator to look for more nuggets. When she realized that he was going to dig up the whole place, Jeannie confessed that she and friends had borrowed the large "planted" nugget, that had been fashioned from someone's melted down gold teeth.

Kent lost Jeannie in 1989. He says he "never has seen anyone like her, so he has never wanted to marry again." He also lost his son, Kit, to a hit and run driver in Redding.

Kent still lives in their Old Shasta home. He also maintains a house in Tiburon. He likes to read and says that he "goes from day to

day". Kent describes his life as "splendid and perfect". Although he'll tell you that he doesn't go at it as hard as he used to, his schedule would exhaust most anyone half his age.



Who's Who in His Usual Pose

Times Past - "The Story of Rattlesnake Whiskey" - by Vi Karrer

This story was told to me by an old timer of the Coffee Creek/Trinity Center area, Frank Cade.

In the past all of the stores had benches on the porch where men gathered to watch the freight teams and stages come in. They also spent a lot of time debating the topics of the day and catching up on all of the local news.

On one of those days, a few men were gathered on the Carrville Store porch, one being Frank Cade. One of the men was also accompanied by his dog, Nellie.

During the course of the conversation on this particular day they were interrupted by the approach of a Mr. Wallace from Copper Creek. In those days there was a swing bridge across the Trinity River to accommodate the residents of Copper Creek. Wallace lived near Copper Creek and operated a still where he made what he called Blue Grass Whiskey. As the man approached the boys noticed that he was carrying a 5 lb. lard pail which aroused their curiosity, so one of the men asked him what he had in the bucket.

His reply was, "By jingo, I'll show you", and he took the lid off the bucket and a rattlesnake fell out. The dog, Nellie, immediately gave the snake a toss, and it landed wrapped around Frank Cade's leg. Frank said that the snake was sizzling mad by then, but Mr. Wallace said that he would fix him. He took a flask of his Blue Grass Whiskey from his pocket and poured some on the snake. The poor snake immediately collapsed. The snake was returned to the lard bucket, delivered to Yin, the Chinese cook, at the Carrville Hotel, pickled and sent to China for medicinal purposes.

Mr. Wallace's whiskey was renamed Rattlesnake Whiskey after that. I was told by some that sampled it, that it was really bad stuff.



Virginia "Ginger" Crew

Ginger Crew passed away Sept. 29th in Trinity Center. She lived in Trinity Center for 10 years. She is remembered by her family and community as a person who was passionate about her gardening. She loved to putter with her potted plants as well as her flower beds. She was also a very good housekeeper, cleaning the church until her health failed. Ginger was a very personable person and will be greatly missed.

Ginny Holder

Ginny Holder past away this past month in Coffee Creek. Ginny was a very private person who loved game shows, especially the old ones like "What's My Line". She also loved to play cards and her dream was to go to Reno. Ginny lived in Coffee Creek for 14 years.

Edna "Red" Larson

She left us on Sunday, October 28, but Edna Larson will long be loved and remembered in Trinity County. She was, indeed, a mover and a shaker on the local Trinity Center scene, and the statewide Lion's organization.

Red Larson brought with her a sunny disposition, a smile, and that lilting southwestern Virginia accent, that lighted up any gathering she'd attend. An avid bridge player, she never missed a weekly session of her local bridge club, and when not playing bridge, she did excellent needlework and quilting. This multitasking lady left the hills of southwestern Virginia for Washington, D.C. in the early 40's to work as a "Government Girl" helping with the war effort. It was there that she met and married her soldier lieutenant, Marv, who was at that time an instructor for the Army at Ft. Belvoir, just across the Potomac in Virginia.

Although she and Marv moved all about the country after his discharge from the Army, Red never forgot her roots. She'd often remind folks, "I'm a miner's daughter, and damn well proud of it". When I headed off to college, my Daddy said, "Remember girl, you're no better and no worse than anybody you ever meet at college." She was really proud of being named "Citizen of the Year" by the local Lion's Club. She produced the most sumptuous brunches in honor of visiting Lion officials at least twice a year, and she was hostess to those visiting officers, she and Marv sharing their home with them. She was well loved by all.

After so many years working for the Trinity Lake Lions as their unofficial hostess and greeter, she joined the club and was really pleased to be working as a regular member of the organization. A memorial service for Red will be held at 2 p.m. in the Trinity Center Church on Saturday, November 10. All of her many friends are invited to be present.

All of the above remembrances were contributed by family, friends and neighbors.

Daniel Boone actually hated
coonskin caps

Did You Know.....?

The Unknown Critic



Cheri and Smoky Silva purchased the Forest Café in 1995 from Mary and Jim Havener. The Café is not just a place to eat! To most who live in Coffee Creek it's our lifeline to the rest of the world, our Country Club, and, ah yes, a wonderful restaurant. Cherie and Smoky have done some truly lovely things. Whether in your own home or at the Café, catering a private party or just having a hamburger it's an event. It is as good as you could find in the "big city". One of the most "loving" things is having a place to go after a loved one's memorial service at the church – usually a pot luck and always a true feeling of family, friends and love. Monday night football has been a favorite along with the great live music and dancing that happens three or four times a year. Catering several dinners at the IOOF Hall, the Lion's Club dinners, and many other local causes is appreciated by all. One particular afternoon tea for the ladies of our community was especially eventful. It seems four of the local (very local) husbands decided they were not to be denied the pleasure of coming to this tea and came as four of the most pathetic looking women you have ever seen. The very thought of this still brings great laughter and a tear to my eye.

As you know Cherie has turned in her pots and pans and is now enjoying a well deserved rest from years in the kitchen.

Smoky is now the master of ceremonies at the Café and is looking forward to some new and different ideas concerning menus, special dinners and special events. We, here at the Coffee Break News and Reviews, sincerely hope that the communities of Trinity Center and Coffee Creek (plus of course our beloved tourists) will enjoy many wonderful meals at the Forest Café and support one of our few local businesses.



Fire Call



Going Once



Oh, Come On – Give Me a Break



Going Twice



“Team Repeater” Takes A Bow

North Lake is one step closer to a repeater. On October 6th Trinity Center and Coffee Creek Fire Company workers showed up high on Boulder Creek Road to site the building that will house the new repeater. Trinity Center Fire Chief, Dick Hamilton, moved the incredibly heavy structure into place with his equipment. He managed to finesse the building on to the pad and tapped the final 18” deftly with his giant equipment.

The repeater will provide much needed communications for the fire companies, which have been sorely lacking. There have many occasions where personnel have been unable to talk to dispatchers and county medical assistance. The repeater will solve these problems.

Coffee Creek and Trinity Center Life

Well, one of our own (actually ye old editor’s own), received the Award of Merit at the Western Pennsylvania Engineer’s Society’s International Water Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in October. Big deal you say. Well, it did involve wearing a suit and ye old one had to wear the dreaded dress and, indignity of indignities, panty hose. And then there were the high heels (the last straw). Yes, that’s a big deal. Airplanes, speeches and bulging suitcases, all for this little crystal doo dad which could have been mailed (a little risky these days). The whole thing was over in a matter of minutes. Bob Cunningham figures he got the award because he was the last one breathing. And finally, this proves that engineers are really a fun crowd despite their reputation to the contrary.

Say a big Happy Birthday to Jimbo Dahm. He turned 65 on October 27th. He will probably kill the editor, but then there is editorial license.

This one was supposed to be in last month’s issue, but I screwed up. So here goes. Coast Central Credit Union notified Cecilia Mohr in September that the Neighborhood Watch account had been inactive for so long that it was going to revert to the government. Kathy Milovich and Cecilia were cosigners on the account and jointly decided that the money should go the Red Cross fund for families of the Oregon Fire. They generously donated \$201.61 cents to the effort.





Coffee Creek School

Chess has become a favorite activity for the older children. And, thanks to Bill and Velma Justice and Janet Blough, we now have enough sets so that the children can have several games going at the same time. A huge THANK YOU for your support. Also, thanks to Barry Bowen for working on our field.

In response to President Bush's suggestion, the children have earned and contributed money to send to the children of Afghanistan.

A group of students attended Indian Day at Burnt Ranch School. They ate acorn soup and salmon which had been prepared traditionally. The children played games, watched dancers, painted rocks, and learned more about the local Native American people. We also took a trip to Tami And Casey Lyon's pumpkin patch. Ms. Crnich has used the pumpkins to teach the children important mathematical skills.

The children celebrated Red Ribbon Week this month. This is a nation-wide effort to educate youth regarding the dangers of

drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

Teachers from Coffee Creek and Trinity Center schools are participating in a staff development opportunity regarding student writing skills. The northern California Writing Project at California State University, Chico has provided an instructor. This is the second year that we have been able to participate in the project.

We have a very active fund raising group at school. They have planned several activities for the next several months. Aluminum cans will be collected at school on the first Friday of each month. In addition, we will have a bingo and bake sale, and participate in the December crafts fair at the Odd Fellows Hall. On January 17th we will have a Mexican Feast and Bake Sale.

DATES TO REMEMBER: Friday, Nov. 2-Aluminum can collection; Thursday, Nov. 29-Bingo and Bake Sale. Thanksgiving break will be Wednesday, Nov. 21 through Friday, Nov. 13. The Child Development Conference will be held in Weaverville on Saturday, Nov. 17. Register by Nov. 12th. It's for parents and other family members and is free. Contact our school for more information.

Ye Old Editor Speaks

The year is rapidly coming to a close and I must admit I've had thoughts of putting "The Coffee Break" to bed, so that I could have my own break. Bear with me while I whine a little. This little ditty is "published" entirely by myself with the help of those who have generously written articles for "The Break". I also must thank those that have reluctantly granted me interviews, so that our communities might better know each other. Most of you have been drug kicking and screaming with misplaced modesty to the interview table. (You get a free lunch, you know—my form of bribery.) The plea for interviews has been answered many times, with a lot of persuasion, for which I am eternally grateful. It takes a lot of nerve on my part, which I seriously lack, to call you and ask for the pleasure of your company. I am very uncomfortable approaching you, and I feel like I'm at the high school gymnasium, and will go home without the dance. My goal, however, is to gather my nerve and ask all of you to ignore your modesty and reveal your very interesting lives

to us. Most of you claim that you don't or didn't have an interesting life. I have yet to find anyone, that I didn't find fascinating. Back to whining a little. I do work a 40 hour a week plus job running our business jointly with my husband. I find odd times to accomplish this and still enjoy my active social life, which I enjoy much more than bookkeeping. You're probably saying, "Get to the point". Well, the point is, that in order for me to continue publishing "The Break", I need your understanding if I am a little later than my commitment to get this out by the 1st of every month. I need to be able to take a vacation or a last minute trip without feeling the first of the month deadline looming over me. (I was one of those kids who always had the homework on time.) I also need time to have the flu or a bad cold or just to spend some extra time at work when needed. I know I will have your understanding when this occurs. Thanks for all the support that allows me to do what I truly enjoy.

P.S. To whoever the "North Lake Loco" is I thank you for the entertaining "Did You Know" section.

Get on the Band Wagon

Our supervisor, Chris Erickson, has recently written a letter to Kristi Burney of Cal Trans regarding the speed limit through Coffee Creek on Highway 3. The speed limit in this area is 55 mph, and drivers frequently move at a whopping 70 mph. Many children cross this section of highway to get to school and church. Needless to say, this area is very dangerous. Chris is requesting from Cal Trans a reduction in speed limit to 45 mph as well as a cross walk. Many Cal Trans decisions are based on accident history, but it seems to be a wise move to act on this request before such a tragic event takes place. Soooo—please take a moment of your time and call Ms. Burney to voice your concern. The time you take to make a call could help to make a difference. Call Kristi Burney at 225-3113.

More Things To Do in North Trinity Lake



Local "Guys" Communicate Over the Bed of a Pickup Truck



Every last cent from the sale of this newsletter goes to the Coffee Creek Volunteer Fire Company!



Coffee Creek Fire Co.

A Coffee Creek Firefly
Publication



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Renew Now!

Subscription Information

**Thanks for Your Support of the
Coffee Creek Fire Company**

Now's the time to renew your subscription to "The Coffee Break". All subscriptions end with the December issue. The cost of renewal is \$18 which covers the cost of postage.

Again, we can only accept out of the area subscriptions, as we are all volunteers, and it would be prohibitive to try and handle local subscriptions also. Please make checks payable to CCVFC Business card style advertising is available for \$5 a month

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Prehistoric Creature Found on Eagle Creek Loop

Four years after the 1997 flood, the bridge which connects Eagle Creek Loop back to Highway 3 on the north end is almost completed. Actually, by the time you read this, it should be completed since the deadline is in November. The picture below shows the massive machinery used to pump concrete up to complete the deck of the structure.



**Brontosaurus?? No. Just Pumping Concrete
on the Eagle Creek Bridge**



Town Crier

November's Garden Club will meet at Marge Lauerman's home on Tuesday, **November 13th** at 1 pm. At this month's meeting have fun making Thanksgiving and Christmas wreaths. Bring your own tools, supplies, and greenery. Get in the spirit of the season and have fun. For more information call Audrey Eyman at 266-3440.

Don't miss the annual Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings at Coffee Creek Church, Sat. **Nov. 17th**, from noon-5pm. The whole community is welcome. There is no cost for the meal.

Aerobics for all levels, **Tues, Thur., and Saturday** 9-10:15 am. On Thursday's after aerobics, join us for a half hour of line dancing. \$14/month or \$2/class. All proceeds benefit the IOOF Hall. For more information call Pam Burkes at 266-3949.

