



# The Coffee Break

Volume 2, Issue 10

*Suggested donation \$1*

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

## Who's Who – by June Spinola

I was born during the Depression along with my sisters –Jewel Foster (lives in Redding) and Julia Ward (lives in Idaho) to Clarence and Martha Davis in Pocatello, Idaho. We joined 4 older sisters and 3 older brothers. Two more brothers were born later, making 12 children in all. “Cheaper by the Dozen” - not true! As of this date, all 12 of us are still alive residing in Idaho, Oregon, Iowa, and California.



*June Spinola*

We were the first triplets born in Idaho. We weighed 7 1/2 pounds all together, and were in an incubator for only 6 weeks. Our mother took us home and kept us wrapped in cotton batts. Our beds were shoe boxes. To keep us warm our mother kept a fire in the wood stove and kept us on the oven door to keep us warm. When we were 5 months old she made clothes for us. She made 3 bands out of one normal one, an undershirt from one band, and each of us had a dress, slip, sweater, cap and booties.

When we were 5 years old we won the “Million Dollar Baby Show”. (I think that was the cost of the show!) in Blackfoot Idaho. We won a silver cup with our names engraved on it. It has since disappeared.

We had lots of fun in school keeping the teachers wondering who we were. We changed seats a lot to keep them guessing. Needless to say, they had no sense of humor.

We are very close, and know when one or the other is ill, and keep in touch often.

I remember when we were about 10 years old, along with our brothers, we all worked in the potato fields, picking potatoes. We had to pick 50 sacks a day at 10 cents a sack, consisting of 2 bushel baskets a sack. This was harvest vacation. In the spring vacation we went to the potato cellars to cut them for seed. We each had a bucket with cutters across it and pushed the potatoes through them. This was hard work for kids, but that was the way it was.

During W W II I remember we all raised a Victory Garden for food, as we had ration stamps to get the basics – meat, eggs, butter, milk, gas, etc. We learned to economize. I remember when the sirens went off, we had to put up black curtains so the light wouldn't show through. After the war, my father worked for Kraft Cheese for several years, and then we lived on a ranch in high school days. My parents and my 2 brothers moved to Redding, California in 1953.

In 1952 I came to California to be a bridesmaid for my sister, Jewel, who married Bill Foster of Trinity Center. I was then introduced to my future husband, Al Spinola. (His family owned the

Buckeye Store in Stringtown before the dam.)

Al served in W.W.II and the Korean Conflict. We met again in 1953. We have 3 grandchildren, Josh, Kirsten and Trever. Al worked for R & G Lumber Mill and the dredge He retired from the road department after 28 years.

I have kept busy through the years. I registered to vote when I was 21, and I haven't missed an election yet. I served on the Election Board in 1956, and I am still on it. I served on the school Board for 4 years in Coffee Creek and 4 years in Trinity Center. I worked as a waitress for several years at the Ycatapom and Cedar Stock. I also worked for a jeweler for 4 years, and worked for Wynthoon Resort 12 years for Harold and Dorothy Hodges, and I have been a docent for the Scott Museum since 1987.

My husband and children are the most precious things in my life. Without them I would just be nothing. The loss of our daughter was the most tragic thing of my life. One never thinks you can lose your children. However, we have the wonderful memories of her.

Trinity Center has been my home for a long time. It's a beautiful place to live with a lot of wonderful people helping other people.

One asks what I do. In my free time I crochet, do crafts and restore dolls, and paint sometimes. I haven't gotten bored yet, I and hope this does not bore all of you.

# Times Past - "Carrville Cemetery" - by Barbara Vasconcellos

On the hill behind the Historic Carrville Inn is the Carr family cemetery. Most all of the descendants of James E. and Sarah are buried there as are a few local people who were not Carrs. As you walk the path along Carr Gulch and approach the cemetery, the first thing you see beyond the wrought iron gate is a beautiful monument of the Madonna. This final resting place is in a serene, yet majestic setting, surrounded by huge trees and looking to the east, past the Inn are the mountains, river and pastures of the original 160 acres of Carrville land.

James Erastus Carr and his young bride, Sarah, bought and settled this property, the Curry and Noyes ranch, in the mid 1860's, and it remained in the family for over 100 years, finally being sold in 1968. Voices cannot be heard from the graves, but if they could speak to us, I'm sure they would tell some wondrous tales of those early days, of adventures, happiness, sadness, good times and bad. It was not an easy time to live, but without people like those early Carrs, this wonderful area would possibly not be settled today.

As you enter the fenced cemetery there are large headstones on the left. The first belongs to James E. Carr, who history says was likely born in Scotland, moved to Ireland, immigrated to Tennessee and came to Trinity Valley over the mountain trail from Siskiyou County. He died in 1894 at age 81 years, with many accomplishments to his credit. He had interest in a number of mines, he was a rancher, a merchant, was the force behind building the wagon road over Scott Mountain and managed the stage and mail route. He had a lumber mill, a blacksmith shop, ran a freight depot, was the first Carrville Post Master and last but not least, with his wife, ran the busy and prosperous Carrville Inn.

Next to his grave is the resting place of his wife, Sarah Jane. Little is written about her, but it's said that she was born in Ireland. She was much younger than her husband but likely matched him in spirit, if not in years. It was Sarah who picked out the building site for the hotel, and with her hard work and foresight, made it into a major stage stop on the California-Oregon Road. Sarah died in 1902 at age 65. She gave birth to six children and only one, George Lee, was alive when she passed on. They are all laid to rest in the family cemetery.

Four young children are buried on the right hand side of the site and the base of the Madonna monument is engraved with their names and dates. The first occupant of the cemetery was a baby girl, Margaret Jane, who was born in 1873 and lived only 5 days. The other 3 sides name children who died within days of each other in early April, 1881 during a terrible diphtheria epidemic. First to go was their only daughter, 14 yr. old Cecelia Loring, called Daisy. John James, 11 yrs. and William Henry, 5 yrs. followed her in death. In 1889, their second oldest son, Jesse David, took his own life at age 21 yrs. He rests beside his mother. Then, of the six children, only the eldest, Geo. was left.

Next to Jesse lie two infants, neither of them are Carrs. One is a Hannon baby whose father, at one time, leased the Carrville store and whose family lived in the area. The other is Frank Jr., the newborn son of Frank and Anna Rose, then of the Headlight Mine. Anna Rose helped at the Inn as an activity director and also helped teach some of the later Carr children. Baby Frank died at birth in 1912.

The next marker belongs to George Lee, first born son of James and Sarah. He died in 1910, only 46 yrs. old. There was a grease fire in the ceiling of the hotel kitchen which he put out, then he collapsed and died outside the Inn. George had followed in his father's footsteps and was a very successful business man. He was in mining, mercantile, ranching and running the hotel among other things. In 1890 he married Mary Alice Ursher, sold his store in Trinity Center to Pete McDonald, and the young couple moved to Carrville. The Inn was doing very well, and these younger Carrs continued to expand and improve the building and accommodations. He also ran the Carrville Mercantile Co. He and his wife had three children, George James, Clarence, and Cecelia (Cecil) Jane.

Mary Alice (Ursher)Carr, also called May or Maye, is buried next to her husband. She was a school teacher and he ran a store in Trinity Center. She was a strong woman who had an excellent business head. After the death of her husband, she kept the Inn going and continued to improve it. She also lost one of her sons, George Jr., to suicide in early manhood. On the eve of his burial at Carrville, the Inn caught fire and burned to the ground. Undaunted, she rebuilt and opened it the following year. She died in 1936 at 65 years of age. George Jr. is buried next to his mother. He died in 1917, 26 years of age. He had been studying Law in Berkeley, Ca.

Clarence Carr's first wife, Agnes MacIllwaine, occupies the next grave. Her father was active in mining pursuits in the area. She was the book-keeper in the Carrville Store until her death in 1933. Clarence, the last surviving son, is buried between his first and second wife. After the death of Agnes, he married Juanita Crocker from Roseburg, Oregon. In 1935 their daughter, Mary Lou, was born. She is an only child of the last Carrs. Juanita died in 1965, 61 years of age.



Clarence helped at the hotel and ran the store for awhile. Times were hard, the depression was upon the nation and there were few tourists and fewer miners. He had an ice business, in the beginning cutting and storing it in straw and later manufacturing it in a building behind the hotel that he built for that purpose. He died in the Weaverville Hospital in 1959.

Up the incline, just beyond Clarence and Juanita, is the grave of their only grandson, Rocky Huffman, great-great grandson of the founders of Carrville. He died tragically in 1961 at the age of eight, when he drowned in Trinity Lake, the first of many victims it has claimed. Mary Lou and Herman Huffman were his parents. He is survived by his mother Mary Lou Carr Huffman Simmons and three sisters.

On the right of the gate, as you enter, are four unmarked graves which belong to the four children named on the monument. Almost across from the grave of Mary Alice is her father, James Usher, another pioneer family. Next to Mr. Ursher is Horace Browne, called Capt. Browne. He was a family friend and came from Virginia.

Beyond Capt. Browne are the three graves of the Dodge family. These graves are at an angle, for whatever reason is unknown. First is Mr. W.S. Dodge, born in Maine, who died in 1912 at 85 years of age. Next is his wife, Mary Creedon Dodge, born in Ireland who died in 1917 at 78 years. They met and married in French Gulch in 1856 and had five children. Next to her is the grave of their only son, J.W.S. (Wilber) Dodge. They had a ranch up near Sunflower Flat, now known as the Trumble Ranch and were old-timers. These graves are not well marked and there is some question as to whether Wilber's sister, Ella, is also in a nearby grave. The Dodges and the Carrs were good friends, and in 1907 they moved to a home just north of Carrville. Mrs Dodge died the morning after the fire that destroyed Carrville. No doubt the stress of the fire and the burial of George L. Carr contributed to her demise.

Just outside the fenced area is another grave which belongs to a Mrs. Mortimer who is the grandmother of the Hannon infant buried on the other side.

Cecil Jane Carr Johnston married Captain Ewart (Jack) Johnston and they lived and raised thoroughbred horses on their farm in Virginia. She died in 1981 and is buried back there.

The Carr Cemetery is on private property and you must obtain permission to visit it. One humorous note: When we owned and operated Carrville Inn, we would often suggest to guests that they should walk up and see the Historical Carr Cemetery. One gentleman got very excited and asked, "What kind of cars are buried there?" Ray thought a minute and said, "Well, there are several Dodges up there."



## Carrville Cemetery

### Town Crier



This month's Garden Club meeting is a real doozy and guaranteed to be most entertaining. Join the "Great Veggie Cook Off" at Anna Clegg's house on Airport Rd., Tuesday, **October 9th**, at 1 pm. Members can bring their veggie creations, which could include cookies, pies, soup, or any other creation you can think of. You can smash, bake, boil, or just be creative. There will be prizes for the best and the worst. Have a great time at this one!

Don't forget "October Fest" featured in last month's "Coffee Break". The Coffee Creek Ranch celebration of pumpkin time will be held **October 7th**.

### Dean Cargile

Dean Cargile, of Trinity Center, passed away September 9th in an airplane crash. Dean was with his son-in-law on a rented plane which went down near Half Moon Bar on the Rouge River.

He had been a truck driver for many years and worked for Cal Trans for the last year and a half. His co-workers at Cal Trans remember him as a guy who loved to fly. He leaves behind a daughter, son, and grandson.



# Coffee Creek and Trinity Center Life



## More Things to Do in the North Lake Area – Taking a Garage for a Walk

The Coffee Creek Fireflies thank those who baked all the goodies for the Lion's Club Labor Day Barbecue. Many of you went way and above the call of duty, baking numerous tasty dishes to sell at the booth. The Fireflies made about \$1600 between pie and craft sales. Thanks to all of you who help to support the Firefly Coffee Creek Fire Company's funding efforts .

Now that we're on the "Firefly" subject, the next time you see the gals, they will be all decked out in their new T-shirts made by Julie Eaker.

After hours of scientific study, the Coffee Creek Country Store has unveiled their Take and Bake Pizza. Generous portions of up to 15 different toppings of your choice range in price from \$6.15 to \$12.25, depending on how many toppings you desire. Think of a cool autumn evening with a warm pizza and perhaps some hot apple cider. Then there's the romance by the fire, well—you complete the picture.

## Fire Call



### *Trinity Center and Coffee Creek Fire Departments*

A new First Responder Class will be held on Monday nights beginning January 7th (tentative date). The meeting place will be the Coffee Creek Fire Hall from 6 pm until 10 pm. The cost of the class will be only the text book and the cost of certification. Both of our departments are always looking for more trained personnel. If you want to serve your community and learn some real skills, this is the class for you. These classes are not offered very frequently, so take the opportunity now. Julie Eaker (who teaches the class on her own time for no compensation) will be the instructor. She has a knack for making a class valuable as well as fun. For more information and possible change of date contact Julie at 266-3507. Since this class requires some time commitment advance notification of your intent to attend the class would be appreciated. If there is a change in the beginning date of this class, "The Coffee Break" will let you know.

### **Coffee Creek Department**

#### *From the Chief – Butch Garrity*

What's with all the hose, you may ask? Most of you have seen the fire hose that has been laid out at the fire hall for the last three weeks or so. Well, it was not the same hose for the entire time. It actually was four different batches of hose. One of the things we are required to do in order to keep our

insurance rating, so you can get fire insurance for your house, is to test all of our hose annually. We have three fire trucks loaded with hose and spare hose as well. We test the hose in stages, so our trucks are loaded and ready to go at all times. The hose is tested to 300 lbs. for five minutes.

As I mentioned above, we have three fire trucks, E-1, E-2 and E-3. E-3 has been with us the longest. It is the white one. E-3 is outfitted with 600 ft of 2 ½" hose, 600 ft of 1 ½" hose, four self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), ladders and lots of other equipment used primarily to fight structure fires. It can carry 750 gallons of water and is classified as a type 2 engine. Lynette Vandergrift is the captain/engineer of E-3. We took E-3 to Weaverville for structure protection and it performed very well. E-2 is our "brush rig." We acquired it from BLM after the Lewiston fire. We use E-2 for quick response to vehicle accidents, rescues, chimney fires, brush fires etc. She carries 1 ½ and 1" in hose and 200 gallons of water and has four wheel drive. Jimbo Dahm is the captain/engineer of E-2. She is classified as a type 6 engine. We took E-2 to the Hayfork incident. E-1 is our newest engine. Holly Anderson's brother donated the engine to us. E-1 carries 2 ½, 1 ½ and 1 in hose, ladders, and other equipment used to fight both brush or structure fires. E-1 is a 1968 Ford 850 and runs like a top! Breeze Johnson is her captain/engineer. She carries 800 gallons of water and is classified as a type 2 engine.





### *Coffee Creek School*

September has been a challenging month, to say the least. We began school a week after the Weaverville fire on a very sad note. On the first day of school we learned that one of last year's students, eight year old Carolyn Reichling, had a freak accident and drowned on Labor Day. Our thoughts have been with her family. And then, one week later, we were again saddened by the events in New York, Washington DC, and Pennsylvania. These are very difficult times for the children as well as the adults. The children especially need our attention and patience.

We were able to re-visit Coffee Creek to take samples and conduct experiments much like those done last year. The children were able to compare last year's water volume with that of this year. Needless to say, it's significantly lower this year. The students shared these results at Back-To-School Night on September 18th.

### **Carolyn Reichling**

Carolyn Reichling was born on March 25, 1993. Her parents, Michelle and Mike, brought her to Coffee Creek from Marin County to attend second grade at Coffee Creek Elementary School along with her brothers, Steven and Matthew. She was a girl who loved insects, digging in the dirt, and playing outside with her friends. She always was laughing, telling funny jokes, and getting into funny situations. She enjoyed playing with her friends, nature, and reading. Her favorite books were the Little House on the Prairie series. It seems fitting for her favorite color to be green since she loved all of nature and its creatures. She was a friend to all who knew her and loved her. On September 3, 2001 she drowned at Point Reyes. A service was held in Marin County on September 6th and one in Coffee Creek on September 15th. A garden area in the front of Coffee Creek School has been dedicated to her. She will truly be missed by one and all.

### **A Farewell from Bob and Dorothy Berger**

We want to express our thanks to this community. Many kind words have come our way, by all of you. You have been a great pilgrimage for the two of us, being true "flat landers", coming into your midst in 1989 and enjoying this beautiful place.

Trinity Center Community Church is now in its twentieth year. We have served almost twelve years and leave with lasting friendships and memories.

After much prayer and counsel, Dorothy and I had a clear message from the Lord. I turned 68 this year and it is time for me to leave the full time ministry. I will enjoy serving in a volunteer pastoral minis-

try. Our area has a new Youth and Family Coordinator, Bonnie Groves. Human Response Network provides grants to various schools in the county in order to provide after school programs, and family support regarding health issues such as dental and other health screenings. Contact Bonnie if you have any questions.

We had a visit from Dan Keeley's Reptile Ranch and saw first hand an alligator, iguana, tortoise, python, boa constrictor, king snake, and two rattlesnakes. The children were able to touch and hold most, but not all, of the animals. Did you know that there are no timber rattlers up here and that tortoises can't swim?

We now have an after school music opportunity! Please come and sing with the children every Tuesday from 3:00 PM TO 4:00 PM. Mary Hansen will lead us in song. Bring an instrument and let's have a grand ol' time.

We have three daughters with families all living in the Sacramento area. They helped make the message clear that it was time for us to live near them. This will give us more time to enjoy our nine growing grandchildren, while we have eyes to see, ears to hear and the energy to participate.

Could you bear with me as I share a little history. My ministry started in 1956 when I was in the U.S. Air force stationed in Morocco with the Strategy Air Command, as a medical corpsman. I had a great ministry with airmen while serving there. Then I felt God would have me leave the Air Force after seven years (1952-1959). I then returned to college for a Bible education. I attended Biola University, Cal State Fullerton and graduated from Berean Christian College with a Bachelors and from Berean Christian Seminary with a Masters in Theology.

I was active as a Church leader at First Baptist Church La Mirada, where I answered my first call to service as a deacon in 1960-67. My next call was to serve with Campus Ambassadors as a minister at San Jose State University as well as serving with the staff of Calvary Los Gatos 1967-1980. From there God called me to pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Salinas where I was ordained June 27, 1982. Then I was called to start a new Church in Salinas-Prunedale area in Monterey County. I then accepted the call to this Church toward the end of 1989.

So what is the future? God willing, this September 29th we will move to the little town of Hood, CA, (247) population in the Sacramento Delta River area. Our three daughters and their families live within 6-15 miles of our next home in that rural farm country.

We believe God is leading us to assist in church planning again. The Rev. Joe Pursch is planning a new missionary Church in the Pocket Area of the most western part of Sacramento. Our new address will be Box 126, Hood, CA 95639, telephone 916-775-4757. We are hoping and praying our Trinity Center home will sell soon.

Thank you all for being good neighbors. You are what makes this a dream place to come for vacation and to settle in as home owners.

Love, Bob and Dorothy Berger



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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## We Got Your Number

The North Trinity Lake telephone directory is now being updated for the year 2002. If you have not previously been listed and would like to be included or would like to change or delete a current listing, please contact:

Viv Green  
HCR 2, Box 4036  
Trinity Center, CA 96091

All changes must be submitted by **10/15/2001**.  
Advertising is also available for a contribution.

## Subscription Information

If you wish to subscribe to "The Coffee Break" we suggest a donation of \$1.50 per issue to help cover mailing and handling costs. We only renew up until December of 2001, so if you renew in October you would be paying for only those issues left until the end of the year (that is 3 more issues at \$1.50 per issue).

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 also available for \$5 a month.



**"Million Dollar Babies" June, Jewel,  
and Julie**

Fingernails have a life span of 3 to 6 months. (That's how long it takes them to grow from base to tip. Equal to 1.5 inches per year.)

## Did You Know.....?

