

6/8/05

Retired Detective Sergeants Robert Bryant and James Meckel, Contrary to reports that they were on a 12 day vacation fishing trip and motor cycle run, claims they have been on a “high-level task force meeting ... at a very secluded, secret location high in the mountains approximately thirteen miles from Shaver Lake, Ca.” “In Fact”, said Bryant, “we went undercover as motorcycle gang members and rode throughout the northern and central California area in search of evidence, witnesses, clues and general information regarding the whereabouts of our beloved Crow ... and at one point, had thousands of motorcyclists searching from San Jose to Hollister for any sign of Crow”. According to Bryant they uncovered possible photographic evidence of the true perpetrators, and a “witness to portions of this despicable crime”. Sgt. Bryant and Capt. Chatterton made a joint statement Sunday evening announcing they are very close to a major breakthrough and are hopeful for the safe return of Crow very soon. Bryant and Meckel, along with retired Captain Roger Chatterton, are still being considered person’s of interest of the disappearance of Crow, who was bird-napped almost a month ago

Pat Forbes, one of the grieving wives in the North Forty area has searched the area in and around Marysville in hopes of finding some lead to rescue our beloved crow. She was visited by several members of Crows family, who have indicated they were working on reward for the safe and unmolested return of Crow. One must wonder what kind of legal tender crows use ... road kill??? Maybe instead of an offer of an award for the return of crow unmolested, there should be a suggestion that tons of road kill is being saved for the perpetrators of this dastardly crime if Crow is not returned unharmed and unmolested soon.

Task Force Leader, Captain Roger Chatterton, has been strangely quiet about Crow’s disappearance this past week, with the exception of a personal email to this reporter, accusing my journalistic ethics as having reached a new “nadir”. Chatterton seems to be fond of using words that look “pretty”. He also compared me to Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, reporters for the Washington Post, who unraveled the web of political spies in the Watergate investigation. Wow!!! Ahh, the power of the press!

The part of Chatterton’s email that concerns this reporter the most was his desperate attempt to turn suspicions from himself and his two friends by impugning the reputation of the Red Hat Society. In response to last weeks column, after an interview with Chatterton, I mentioned the concern that little has been “done by the task force as a unit aside from a lot of “lip service” from Team Leader, Roger Chatterton, who has been named an expert on making useless dialog sound official”. Chatterton wrote: “I rightly declined to specify (on the case) due to an on-going investigation that indicated some degree of involvement and culpability on the part of the Red Hat Society”. He continued, “You remarked on the size of that organization (which I took to mean numbers of persons within the organization as opposed to individual members sizes) and (you) asked if the entire society were suspect. I responded that the indications were that this was a radical, militant, fundamentalist arm of the Red Hat Society”. I reminded him he oughtn’t get a group of fun loving women, 40 chapters strong, and boasting over a million members, feeling their good name was being besmirch, or falsely accused..

It is beyond this reporter’s comprehension how anyone could cast such allegations towards a society of sweet little old ladies who have reached or surpassed the age of 50, and “just want to have fun”. And who also bring brightness, laughter and joy where ever they go in their red hats and purple attire. Shame on you, Mr. Chatterton. Knowing the gentle nature of my sister red hatter’s, I do not really believe Chatterton is in any danger of reprisal ... yet. However, one has to wonder if Mr. Chatterton has any idea how many women belong to the Red Hat Society.

Lest my dear readers get the wrong impression of our three “persons of interest”, none of which has been formally named a “suspect” in this case, please know they are highly respected retired detectives of the sheriff department, and have done a lot of good for the community and people in general. And I proudly call them my friends. **JUST GET CROW BACK TO US!**

Despite the unusual coolness for June in the North Forty area, the snow has melted from Billy’s Peak and it is time to turn our thoughts to gardening. Peter Yang and his mother, Margaret, have been owners of the Trinity Center Nursery and Gifts on Scott Road across from the Jaktri Market for three years. I paid my first visit there this week, and was completely fascinated with the wonderful oasis they have created. The gift area has beautiful paintings and water colors by Anderson and Margaret Yang. Anderson is a world renowned water colorist whose work is hard to differ from the photo it came from. Margaret’s work is also par excellence. Anderson teaches, works, and shows his work all over the world. They also have greeting cards featuring their art. I was amazed by the selection of gifts, and how tastefully they were displayed in such a small area.

In the garden area, they have a number of deer “resistant” plants, trees, and shrubs. They also have annual and perennial bedding plants and fruit trees. There is a selection of fertilizer, plant food, and bug “stuff”, plus an assortment of garden tools and pots. The hour’s for the nursery is 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

The Trinity Lake Garden Club, which meets the second Tuesday of each month, will be having their annual plant and seed exchange next Tuesday, June 14 at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Olga Darling, who lives next to the Forest Café. Bring bulbs, plants, seeds, and cuttings to share. After the exchange the garden club will continue to the gardens of Barbara Langford, where Barbara will share her gardening techniques. Every one is welcome, and they will be asking for a \$1.00 donation. Charlotte Scott can answer any questions at 286-2810

It is time to mark your calendar for the TCVFD annual Fourth of July BBQ. This Fundraiser will be held at the Wyntoon Resort, on Saturday, July 2. A planning meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 8. Expect more information to follow in the next few columns.

The Trinity Lake Lions Club will be having their 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Installation & Awards Banquet, Thursday, June 9. The program for the evening will be dedicated to two deceased members Bill Haag and Marvin Larson. Charter Members, Dick Hamilton and Lynton Scott will be presented Life Membership Awards. District Governor Charles Davis, District 4C-1, will welcome three new members, Glen Ahmann, Ann Bryant, Michael Hopkins, and transferring member Milton McConnell.

After the awards presentations, the 2005/2006 Officer’s will be installed by District Governor Charles Davis. New officer’s will be; President – Bruce Dunn, 1<sup>st</sup> VP - Loren Teitzel, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – John Wagner, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP – John Aasen, Secretary - Sally Wagner, Treasurer – Annitta Pickard, Lion Tamer – Dennis King, Tail Twister – Dana Graham, Dir. (2yr.) – Pete Ulrich & Milton McConnell, Dir (1yr.)Bernie Berkowitz & Janet Blough, Immediate Past President – Barry Bowen

There are 53 current members in the Trinity Lake Lions Club, up from 25 when the club received its charter in 1975. In 1976 they built the first bus shelters, held their first White Cane Day, participated in their first Speakers Contest, and held the first Easter Egg Hunt for the children. 1977 The Trinity Lake Lions paid their first \$200 Scholarship and held a Flag Day presentation

at schools. 1978, Trinity Lake Lions build a new kitchen in the community hall and began holding meetings there. 1979 was the first Little Reno Night. 1980 sponsored a Girl Scout Troop. 1981 sponsored a Boy Scout Troop. 1982 began Bingo at Wyntoon Park and took over the Fishing Derby. 1983 held their first Christmas Dinner Party. 1984 sponsored a Brownie Troop. 1985 held first local Student Speaker Night. 1986 Took over the Labor Day BBQ. 1990's to 2.000,s continued funding projects and expanding community service

This year's Youth Accomplishments: \$4,634.00 and 505 man hours to Local Schools, Fish Derby, Little League, Sober Graduation, Student Speakers, Easter Egg Hunt, All Star Football, Santa Visit, TC Wrestling.

This Years Community Activities: \$14,860.00 & 326 man hours: Senior Christmas Dinner, Bingo, Little Reno Night, Highway Cleanup, Fly-In BBQ, Community Hall repairs, Blood Drive, City of Hope, Senior Firewood, Library Computer, Museum Alarm, Tsunami Relief, Fire Dept. Heart Monitor, Humanitarian Fund, Lions Eye Foundation.