



# The Coffee Break

*Suggested donation \$1*

Volume 1, Issue 11

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

## Who's Who

Marv Larson would like you to know that he was *almost* born in Trinity Center. After all, his mom had spent 8 and a half months of her pregnancy there. However, in 1917, it seemed more prudent to go to Chico to have her baby. So, she traveled by stagecoach to Chico, and a 13 pound 12 ounce Marvin was born to his 90 pound mother. They returned to Trinity Center when Marv was 10 days old. Marv became a 4th generation Trinitarian. His great-grandfather, Tom Coyle, made his way to Trinity Center in 1858, from Ireland. He staked out a mining claim in the area. He eventually sent for his wife and children who were in St. Louis. In the mid 1870's Marv's great grandfather Larson came to Trinity Center and worked as a blacksmith. Marv's mom's family came to Oregon in covered wagons and then around 1900 came to Trinity Center and met Marv's father, who was a superintendent at the Bonanza King Mine.



*Marv Larson*

When Marv was five, his family left Trinity Center for Hammondton, near Murrysville, to work on the big dredgers. He then spent a year in Oregon and time in Chico. In 1928 the family moved to Fairbanks, Alaska to pursue more mining. They then spent a year in the Yukon Territory. Marv became quite an expert in Canadian history during this time. His mom wanted him educated in the U.S. so they eventually moved to Oakland. As a young adult Marv attended Stanford University, and received a degree in Mining Engineering. He worked the gold mines in Montana, Colorado,

New Mexico and Alaska.

From 1941 until 1943 he worked for a U.S. Engineering firm, building the air base in Fairbanks, Alaska. In 1943 he entered the Army Air Corp as a private. He ended up a 2nd Lieutenant and was eventually sent to Virginia where he met his wife, Edna (Red). He married the soft spoken Virginia school teacher in 1946. Marv left the military in 1946, and he and Red moved to the Bay Area, where he returned to Stanford for two more degrees in Engineering (Civil and Structural). They have one son and two grandchildren, who now live in San Jose.

He spent some more time traveling and working in Alaska and Seattle, but finally returned again to the Bay Area, where he and Red spent the next 30 years. Marv worked for various engineering firms, and ran his own office for 10 years.

In 1983 Marv had come full circle when he returned to Trinity Center. He remains active in the Lions Club and various professional societies. Anyone who knows him soon realizes that he is a very special man with a heart full of fun. Marv has enjoyed a long term love affair with photography.

Red says she greatly admires her husband and that he never "fusses" at her or raises his voice. Marv says of Red that he has been well satisfied with her after 54 and a half years of marriage. He says he paid \$2 for their marriage license and that he figures he can't get a refund, so he's decided to keep her. He says she was on "probationary status" but due to her excellent cooking and homemaking skills, he plans to take her off the trial list.



*This Month's Who's Who*

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### Special points of interest:

- *Marv Larson as we know him*
- *News from Coffee Creek and Trinity Center*
- *What's happening in your community*



## Times Past - "The Carrville Mercantile Company" - by Vi Karrer

In 1855 James Carr and his wife Sara established the Carrville Inn. The California Oregon stage route passed directly in front and business flourished. By 1860 James had set up a blacksmith shop, a sawmill, a freight depot, and a general store. The store was really needed to supply the influx of settlers, mostly miners, as the gold rush was really on, due to some of the fabulous gold strikes in northern Trinity and the Yreka area.

About 1910 the store was sold to McCormick Seltzer Mercantile Co. of Redding, and they continued to do business until 1920. The store then reverted back to the Carr family and was managed by Clarence Carr.

A post office was established in January of 1882 and remained until 1943 when it was moved to Trinity Center. The post office was a small room in the back of the store. The tiny post office window is now in the Scott Museum in Trinity Center.

Ledger books from 1900 showed that they handled a great variety of merchandise like wheat and barley at 2 1/2 cents a lb., 1/2 dozen shovels \$6.50, all kinds of tools, nails, blasting caps and fuses, 1 pt. turpentine 15 cents, 1 pr. overalls 45 cents, 8 yds. Canvas \$4, 1 box 44 cartridges \$1, 8 1/2 lbs. Mule shoes

\$1.43, 24 yds calico \$2, 9 lbs. dried peaches 81 cents, 17 1/2 lb ham \$2.95 and horse collar \$2.25.

One popular item seemed to be Swamp Root at 50 cents a bottle. I investigated this and it turned out to be a tonic with a fairly high alcohol content.

The store eventually discontinued groceries and operated as a bar for awhile before it closed for good.

The Coffee Creek school was held in the store building for awhile until a new school was established.



## Coffee Creek and Trinity Center Life

Dale Andresen of Trinity Center and Becky White of Redding tied the knot on November 11th at the Coffee Creek Community Church. Becky's uncle, Butch Flowers, performed the ceremony. Dale brings children, Robert, Tony, and Sarah, and Becky, brings son, Josh, to their new union. After the wedding a beautiful reception was held at the Trinity Center IOOF Hall to celebrate. Dale and Becky then spent a couple of days on the coast for a short honeymoon.

Dale and Becky want to thank their friends and neighbors for all the effort that was made to make this a very special occasion. Thanks are also given by Phil and Wilma Villaloboz to those who helped them with the decorations.



*Becky and Dale Andresen*

Anna Clegg was recently honored at a breakfast get-together hosted by the North Trinity Lake Improvement Association Board of Directors. Anna has retired from the board after 8 years of service. She did a great job and will be missed.



*Anna Clegg*

The Trinity County Historical Society has recently honored Vi Karrer, Louise McDonald, Cleo Seymour and Ethel Steele as Trinity Pioneers. All four ladies will receive silver medallions commemorating their many years in Trinity County. Bill McCoy with the Historical Society is in the process of doing video taped interviews with these special people. The taped interviews will be available through the Historical Society.

Coffee Creek resident Lee Travers' incredible wire trees are currently on display in the front window of Debbie Olson's new gallery, Landscape Language. Landscape Language is located near the gym on main street. His trees are also at the Highland Art Center. Lee's trees are made entirely of wire and are true works of art. They would make a fabulous and unique Christmas gift for anyone on your list.





## Fire Call



A 30 foot flag pole was recently donated to the Coffee Creek Volunteer Fire Company by Sara Morrow. Sara donated this gift in memory of her brother, David Halsted, who was a Pearl Harbor survivor. The flag that will fly from the pole was the same flag that draped Chief Halstead's casket when he passed away. Mrs. Morrow is EMT Kit Garrity's mother.

Santa will soon be visiting in Coffee Creek courtesy of the fire department. Mr. Claus will be available to listen to Christmas lists from the children and will be happy to have his picture taken with your little one. Watch for flyers at the Coffee Creek Country Store for time and date.

## Dam Update — Finally AKA Merry Christmas Trinity Center!

The Bureau of Reclamation has finally completed their "Appraisal Level Study" on Trinity Dam. The study appraises raising the dam to increase the reservoir's water supply, while still leaving enough capacity in the reservoir to contain infrequent floods. The findings are contained in the Executive Summary of the study:

"\*Any operational or structural changes must continue to preserve the current flood control volume in the reservoir to protect the safety of the dam and address SOD concerns. The landslide does not factor into this study, because recent risk assessments have not found any significant risk of the landslide moving during either a flood or an earthquake.

\*Essentially, the Trinity River Basin's export yield is reduced if more water is kept in the Trinity River for fish flows. Raising the minimum pool may address some aesthetic, recreational, and ecological issues, but it would short the CVP even more.

\*Under the most likely conditions of 360 to 815 thousand acre-feet (TAF) per year fish flows and a 600 TAF minimum pool, raising Trinity Dam would have no effect on the amount of water that Trinity Lake would store. Due to the higher fish flow demands, no spills would occur based on an analysis of the past 70 year period of record. Also, a higher dam and the resulting, possibly higher reservoir would require construction of a dike around the town of Trinity Center, although Trinity Lake would seldom rise to the level of the dike. Opposition to raising the reservoir has been voiced by the residents of Trinity Center."

The following is excerpted directly from the Summary:

"Based on the findings of this analysis, no further studies for raising Trinity Dam to increase water supply yield are warranted. Further studies may be warranted to correct SOD

(Safety of Dams) concerns. Additional studies at the appraisal level are needed to evaluate the benefits of a TCD (Temperature Control Device) before proceeding to a feasibility investigation. Such studies could define water flow and temperature demands downstream, fluctuations in reservoir levels, and desirability and best type of TCD. The analysis and recommendations of this appraisal report may need to be reevaluated pending the Secretary of the Interior's Record of Decision for the *Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report.*"

The bottom line is that, at least for the moment, it appears that the dam will not be raised. Please note the section which refers to the opposition from Trinity Center residents. This factor was considered as a direct result of our activism as a community when we all appeared before the Water Policy Committee several months ago to voice our opposition to the raising of the dam. It's heartening to know that we can make a difference.

## Thomas C. Foster

Long time Trinity Center resident, Thomas "Tommy" Foster passed away November 14th at his home following an illness. Tommy was 45 years old. He lived in Trinity Center until he was 4 years old and then moved with his parents to Redding. After graduating from Enterprise High School he moved back to Trinity Center when he was 18 years old and has worked as an equipment operator for the Trinity County Road Department for the past 27 years. For many years he served as a supervisor.

*The following was contributed by Tommy's stepdaughter, Afton Hollister, and his wife, Cynthia Foster.*

The recent loss of Tommy Foster was one that affected all who knew and loved him deeply. He always had a smile to share or a joke to tell. His laugh would remain even after he left the room. No matter where he went he was known by his smile. Known over the air as "The White Knight", he often came to the rescue of snowed in locals and stranded travelers. He could plow snow like no other. He had a relationship with snow. He would wake from a deep sleep knowing that it was time to go to work. How he knew we'll never know. In fact, the night of his passing it snowed for the first time all year in Northern Trinity. Maybe this was a message from him to us all.

Even though Tommy was a big man of great stature he was Fred Astair on the dance floor. If you were lucky enough to hear him sing you would find a delightful side of Tommy. He had perfect pitch.

He is survived by his wife Cynthia Foster, his two sons, Steven and Billy, his stepdaughter, Afton, his parents, Bill and Jewel Foster, and his sister, Susan. He was greatly loved.







The date printed in the November "Coffee Break" for the Artisans Guild Craft Fair was incorrect. The date was changed to **December 2nd**. This craft sale is a great place to shop for those one of a kind gifts for Christmas. As usual this year's fair will be held at the IOOF Hall from 10 am until 4 pm.

Also on **December 2nd** the Douglas City Fire Belles will be holding their Crafts Fair from 10 am until 4 pm at the CD Hall in Weaverville. The Coffee Creek Fireflies will have their crafts for sale at both the Trinity Center event as well as the Weaverville show.

The Coffee Creek Community Church music ministry youth went on a great skate trip to Redding on October 28th. There is another outing being planned in December. Details are forthcoming to those who participate on Sunday mornings during the regular music ministry practices. Twenty two youth enjoyed the last trip.

Coffee Creek Community Church will be holding a Christmas party on **Dec 2nd** at 6 pm at the church. Everyone is asked to bring a white elephant present to exchange.

The new Aerobics Class will begin **December 5th** at the IOOF Hall. Classes will be held at 11 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the month of December. January will move to Mondays and Thursdays. The cost is \$2.00/class paid monthly up front at the first meeting of the month. The fee is used to pay for the facility. Pam Burkes is volunteering her time to lead this class. If you have questions call Pam at 266-3949.

The Trinity Lake Lions Club will hold its annual dinner for area seniors on **December 9th** at the IOOF Hall in Trinity Center. The doors will open at 5 pm and dinner will be served at 6 pm. This is a special holiday meal of turkey and ham with all the trimmings. If you are interested please call Lib Rymer (266-3358) or Randy Spencer (266-3227) for reservations.

Merry Christmas from the Garden Club. This year's December program will be held Tuesday, **December 12th** at the Alpen House at Wyntoon. As in years past, B J Groves will be demonstrating her very special floral arrangements. There will be lots of Christmas goodies and gifts. For more information call Audrey Eyman at 266-3440.

A Christmas party Luncheon will be held at The Sasquatch at 1 pm Wednesday, **December 13th**. Ladies and gentlemen are invited. There will be entertainment and prizes. Judging from years past this will be a very special occasion.

Here is an advance notice of the Firearms Safety Class that Roger Chatterton will again offer this coming year on **January**

**12th**. The class will be held from 6 pm until 10 pm at the Trinity Center Community Church. Roger adds the following:

Penal Code sections 12050-12054 impose certain requirements on persons who are either applying for a concealed weapons permit for the first time or are renewing an existing permit. Both categories of individuals must pass a course of instruction covering at least firearms safety and the law regarding the permissible use of a firearm. The somewhat confusing aspect is that although the course content is the same for new applicants and renewals, the law specifies a course no longer than 16 hours for new applicants (but no minimum number of hours) and a course of at least 4 hours (but no maximum number of hours) for renewals. Thus a course of four hour duration will satisfy both requirements. The other requirement is that the course (s) be acceptable to the issuing authority, in this case the Trinity County Sheriff's Dept. Sheriff Paul Schmidt has previously approved the course I give.

There is no need for pre-registration. At the conclusion of the class I will have everyone sign a roster which will be forwarded to the Sheriff's Dept. Persons who do not now hold concealed weapons permits will be asked to list their California Drivers License number on the roster. Those with permits should list their permit number in the same space. This will make it as simple as possible for the Sheriff's Dept. to cross reference names. Anyone who will come up for renewal in 2001 or 2002 should take the course regardless of renewal date, as the course will satisfy the statutory requirements.

Do not bring firearms to class. I do not charge for this class. For those who may be absent on the above date, I plan to do the same course in early April. I haven't settled on a date yet as I have several other commitments coming up during that time. I should have the date nailed down by mid-February.

If there are questions I can be reached at 266-3677 after 10 am or by email at [trvrc@tds.net](mailto:trvrc@tds.net).

### Coffee Break Sheriff's Report

Man in Coffee Creek reports 1980 Volvo GL found wrapped in Saran Wrap the day after Thanksgiving. The suspects reportedly did an excellent "wrap" job even though working under the cover of darkness. The suspects, as with all Trinity County perpetrators of unusual acts, are still at large (not only are they at large, but they are rumored to BE large). If you have any information regarding the whereabouts of these "wrapsters" please notify the "Tipster Line" for "The Coffee Break". All information will be referred to local informal channels for widest possible exposure.





# The Highway Patrol Comes to Town – by Bill DeWolf

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The Highway Patrol came to town the other day. The town is 100 people in the wintertime and can best be described as a small community. When the Highway Patrol comes to town it hardly goes unnoticed. After the first observation the telephone lines begin to sing and the bells begin to ring.

The school is alerted and the children are prepared for the event. Each child is given a small American flag. The crossing guards are called out to insure their safety. The road leading out to the highway is lined on both sides with children eagerly awaiting the patrol car's passing.

As the patrol car travels up and down each street one of the town's ladies stops it and hands the patrolman a dish of cookies.

The patrolman is forced by duty to stop those without seat belts and in addition one other car. The driver was asked for his driver's license and he asked the officer, "Why do I need a driver's license? The car isn't registered?" When asked about insurance he replied, "Why should I buy insurance? There aren't enough cars up here to run into."

Three tickets were issued for seat belt violations and one for no license, registration or insurance. The cookie haul was estimated to equal 23 pounds and with a look of satisfaction on his face the officer headed out of town.

The school children lining the road were wildly waving small American flags and cheering as he passed to continue his assigned duties.

We, of this small community, would appreciate a more advanced notice of the highway patrol's pending visits. With a little extra time a pot luck could be held and the school choir could entertain and a country western dance held. We only ask just a little advance notice in order to make better plans.

## School Days



### Coffee Creek School

The holiday season is upon us. The children, with the assistance of Mary Hansen, are preparing a musical program for the community. Please come and enjoy the show.

Coffee Creek School Presents

Marley's Turn & the Littlest Christmas Tree  
Friday, December 8th at 7 pm  
IOOF Hall in Trinity Center

The upper grade students visited Shasta Dam in November as part of their year-long water study. The students learned that the dam is 602 feet high, and that the amount of cement used could make a 3 foot wide sidewalk encircling the earth at the equator.

The primary grade students used their Halloween pumpkins to learn more about mathematics. They estimated the circumference, number of seeds, and weight. They also wrote about their pumpkins and decorated them.

Jody Vandergrift won Third Place, Melissa Delany and Alyssa Haire received Honorable Mention in the 6-8th grades county-wide Tobacco-Free Education Poster Contest. Congratulations everyone.

The student council sponsored an after-school party for the younger students. It was so successful that they are planning another fun-filled afternoon in December.

### Trinity Center School

Trinity Center School will be selling Christmas trees at the Artisans' Guild Crafts Faire on December 2nd at the IOOF Hall in Trinity Center. The Booster Club will also be serving lunch and selling Christmas candy. There will also be a Santa Photo Booth.

## The Choices – by Bill DeWolf

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A trip to the polling place  
To select a pretty face.  
My selection won't win.  
The margin is just too thin.

Call the lawyers in.  
Call the judges in.  
The margin is still too thin.

Hold the ballot to the light.  
The margin is still too tight.  
Count the ballots, check them out.  
Count them till you wear them out.

I know my man will not win.  
That damn margin is still too thin.  
Euphoric I will be.  
When the man elected, was picked by me,

### Editors note:

Hopefully, by the time you read this the presidential election will be put to bed and our thoughts may be consumed with shoveling snow. You should all find some comfort in the fact that our communities are in a league of their own when it comes to voting. Trinity Center's voter turnout was some 88% and Coffee Creek's was 84%. The state turnout was a paltry 39.4% according to "Newsweek". I guess when it's all over we can at least complain with some degree of legitimacy, having taken part in this process. In any event this historical election has livened up the morning discussions at the Yellow Jacket and the Forest Café.



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

"The Coffee Break"  
HCR 2, #4014  
Trinity Center, CA 96091

Phone: 530-266-3276  
Fax: 530-266-3571  
Email: eaglecreek@tds.net



Coffee Creek Fire Co.

A Coffee Creek Firefly Publication



## My Christmas Eve – by Sue Dahm

It's Christmas Eve tonight.  
Memories linger still.  
As I see a candle light  
From a house up on the hill.

I walked the path  
Of the newly fallen snow  
Toward the house  
With only a candles glow.

I climbed the stairs to the porch,  
And came to a frosted windowsill.  
Tears brought back those memories  
That are with me still.

Mama was in the kitchen  
Taking bread from the oven,  
While Grandma made her  
Cookies by the dozen.

Grandpa was sitting  
In his favorite chair,  
Carving on a piece of wood,  
And getting slivers everywhere.

I bowed my head,  
And breathed a sigh,  
Then looked up  
And started to cry.

For that's when I saw my daddy,  
Through the kitchen door,  
Cutting and trimming the Christmas tree,  
As he so often had done before.

How big and full the tree had stood  
In the corner of the room,  
As if it knew that Santa ,  
Would be here real soon

The sound of carols  
Softly played through the night,  
As presents were put under the tree  
Waiting for Christmases first light.

How true and real it all could be,  
And how real it had seemed.  
Then I opened my eyes.  
Again I started to cry,  
For-it-all-was-just-a-dream!  
That was my Christmas Eve.

### Subscription Info:

It's the time of year to renew your "Coffee Break" subscription. 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 March you would be paying for only those issues left until the end of the year (That is 10 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.

### Editor's Notes

A big thank you goes to Cyndi Bauman, daughter of George and Ann Bauman, for her donation of a big box of paper to print "The Coffee Break".

I also want to thank all of you for your support of "The Coffee Break" this year and wish everyone a lovely holiday season.

