1969

Archives of Keepsakes Clampouts Vol. 1 Pt. 3

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What sayeth the Bretheren

Satisfactory!

Billy Holcomb Chapter
E Clampus Vitus

Billy Holcomb Chapter, E Clampus Vitus

Spring 1982 Clampout

National Old Trails

This bridge marks the site where the national old trails Highway, later Highway 66, crossed the Colorado River. It links the Mojave Indian Lands visited by Father Garces in 1776. Near this location the American explorer, Jedediah Smith and his band of Rocky Mountain Men, crossed the river in 1826 and opened the Pioneer Trail into Southern California.

California Registered Historical Landmark No. 781

Plaque placed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation in cooperation with Fort Mojave Indian tribe, City of Needles, County of San Bernardino, and Arizona County of Mojave.

June 17, 1978

Dedicated May 2, 1982

By Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus in cooperation with Needles Chapter of San Bernardino County Museum Association.

Dedication of California Registered Historical Landmark No. 781 at Needles, California

May 2, 1982
Clampcrew present March 13, 1982 for NATIONAL OLD TRAILS historical marker construction at Needles Bridge:

Glenn Hearrell, Clamplaquesupervisor
John Burleigh, Poor Blind Candidate
Everett Knapp, Vice Humbug
Bruce Moore
Bill Pearson, Gold Dust Receiver
Phil Porretta, Clamphistorian
Bill Reeves
Ron Rezes
Terry Rhind
Frank Sepulveda, Damnfool Doorkeeper
George Spooner, Graybeard
Jim Waltrip

Historical marker construction sponsored by:

Billy Holcomb Chapter, E Clampus Vitus
Needles Chapter, San Bernardino County Museum Association

Plaques provided by State of California, Department of Parks & Recreation

NATIONAL OLD TRAILS state landmark plaque stored since 1978 at San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands.

Special thanks to:

Mac & Maggie McShan of Needles
David Daniel, Needles Mayor
Needles City Council
Gerald Smith, San Bernardino County Museum Director

Text by Phil Porretta

THE MOHAVE TRIBE

Mohave Valley, home territory of the Mohave Indians, is roughly 5 miles wide and extends for 40 miles along the Colorado River in the Needles area. The Colorado, like the Nile River, annually overflowed its banks and could be used to irrigate crops. The Mohaves effectively used the river for farming. They cultivated corn, beans, pumpkins, watermelons, cantaloupes, and a little cotton and wheat. The farmed food was supplemented by fish and small game. Mohave Valley had the densest Indian population in what is now the American Southwest.

Mohave men were powerfully built and normally 6 to 6-1/2 feet in height. Although Mohave women were much shorter, many of the young girls were gracefully proportioned. The men usually wore only a loincloth and the women usually wore only a short skirt of bark strips. The Mohaves were excellent swimmers. The men were fantastic long-distance runners and sturdy travelers. Mohave trade routes were long and well-established. The Mohave trail to the coast became a U.S. military road.

Probably the first European to visit Mohave Valley was the Spanish padre Francisco Garces. The Franciscan missionary visited the Mohaves in 1776 and recorded in his diary the favorable impressions of the friendly and attentive Mohaves: "...none are thieves; they seem valiant, and nowhere have I been better served...The female sex is the most comely on the river; the male very healthy and robust."

Jedediah Smith led the first American expedition to enter California via a land route. Smith was the senior partner of a St. Louis based fur trading company. On October 26, 1826, he arrived with 14 trappers at the Mohave villages along the Colorado near the present city of Needles. Here Smith rested his weary men and pack animals for 15 days.

Seeking to replenish their supplies, Smith and his men took to the Mojave Trail west from Needles. They crossed the desert to the Mojave River, went over the San Bernardino Mountains, and crossed the San Bernardino Valley to the hospitality of Mission San Gabriel.
The Mexican governor of California was suspicious that Smith was on a military mission. Smith did not have a proper visa and was ordered to leave California. He “left” by traveling up the San Joaquin Valley and trapping the American and Stanislaus Rivers. On May 20, 1827, he became the first white man to cross the Sierra Nevada range. He then returned to the Salt Lake area where the expedition had begun.

A monument honoring Jedediah Smith for blazing the overland trail into California is located in San Bernardino at the southeast corner of Fourth and Arrowhead on the grounds of the county courthouse. The monument was built by the Native Daughters of the Golden West and dedicated on April 1, 1951.

Lieutenant Joseph Ives explored the Colorado River in 1858 and reported the Mohaves to be “as fine physically as any people seen.” He recorded the impressive stature of a Mohave chief: “Cairook came to bid us farewell, I was never before so struck with his noble appearance. When he shook hands, his head was almost on a level with mine as he stood beside the mule on which I was sitting.”

In the January 15, 1865 issue of the “Daily Alta California” is recorded the reaction of Mohave Chief Irataba to a correspondent’s question of what he thought of Americans: “He put his hand on my shoulder [and said] ‘Mericanas too much talk, too much eat, too much drink, no work, no raise pumpkins, corn, watermelons. All the time, talk, drink...no good!’”

Some scholars theorize that Mohave ancestry is Caucasoid rather than Mongoloid. They claim that the height and shape of the Mohaves cannot be explained from Asiatic people. These scholars type Mohaves and related tribes as Paleo-Alpine.

NATIONAL OLD TRAILS ROAD

The idea of federally built and maintained interstate carriage roads was conceived by George Washington in 1785. Thomas Jefferson approved a national road bill while he was president, Congress passed the bill in 1806, and work began on the Cumberland Road across the Allegheny Mountains.

Interstate roads were a major issue by which John Quincy Adams was elected president in 1824. The next year congress voted that the national Cumberland Road be planned to extend to Santa Fe (then in Mexico). Henry Clay politically supported the national road and the Cumberland Road was also known as “Clay’s Road”.

Federal backing of the Cumberland Road slackened after 1836 although plans continued to extend the road from Wheeling on the Ohio River to the Mississippi River. Gradually the road fell into disrepair.

It wasn’t until 1907 that pressure could successfully be applied to revitalize the national road. And then it would be for use by the new-fangled automobiles.

In April 1912 a large pressure group convened at Kansas City. “National Old Trails Road” was the name they proposed for the interstate road to be the backbone of a vast network of interstate roads. They called themselves the National Old Trails Road Association. Led by Judge Joseph M. Lowe, they successfully gained federal support.

The National Old Trails Road soon became a reality which included the Old Cumberland Road and its westward extension. The National Old Trails route in 1924 was shown on a map published by the National Old Trails Road Association. The eastern termini were Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, Md. The two roads soon united and went west through Maryland and the southwest corner of Pennsylvania to Wheeling, West Virginia.

The route continued to Zanesville, Columbus, and Dayton, Ohio; to Indianapolis, Indiana; across southern Illinois to Saint Louis; across Missouri to Kansas City. From there it paralleled the previously laid Santa Fe Railway tracks - which roughly followed the Santa Fe Trail - through Kansas and the southeast corner of Colorado to Santa Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico. There the road had an alternate route. One section went on to Socorro, New Mexico - this followed the oldest road in North America (built in 1606). This section went on to Springerville, Arizona and met the other section at Holbrook, Arizona. The other section reached Holbrook via Gallup, New Mexico. At Williams, Arizona, there was a
spur road to the Grand Canyon. The main road continued on to Kingman and Oatman, Arizona, and entered California at Needles. In California the road ran through Goffs, Amboy, Ludlow, Barstow, Victorville, and San Bernardino - where as Foothill Boulevard it went on through Rialto, Fontana (home of Billy Holcomb Chapter!), Cucamonga, Upland, Claremont, Glendora, Azusa, Monrovia, Pasadena, and Los Angeles, the western terminus.

The Daughters of the American Revolution also supported the national roads effort. Eventually the D.A.R. built an “Old Trails” monument in every state through which the National Old Trails Road passed. In California, their impressive monument is the large “Pioneer Mother” statue on Foothill Boulevard at Euclid Avenue in Upland.

For pioneer American motorists the most usable transcontinental highway network was the National Old Trails system. An important link of the system was where it crossed the Colorado River at the Arizona-California border near Needles, California.

Until 1914 the Needles Ferry was used to carry cars across the river. The type of barge employed was only large enough to ford one car at a time. This limit was not a problem because traffic was very light there in those days. At Springerville Arizona, on the National Old Trails Road, a count of west-bound cars was kept. In 1912, only 113 cars were counted; in 1913, 194; in 1914, 419.

In 1914 a flood took out the Needles Ferry. This caused the magnificent Red Rock Railroad Bridge, 12 miles downriver of the washed-out ferry, to be planked for auto travel as an emergency highway crossing of the river. A tower man signaled motorists that no trains were coming.

The first railroad bridge to span the Colorado in the Needles area was completed on August 13, 1883. The bridge was about 2-1/2 miles downriver from the railroad town of Needles founded that year. The railroad has remained a major industry of Needles. The first bridge was destroyed May 4, 1884 and replaced by a timber bridge which washed out May 9, 1890.

The Red Rock Bridge, when completed on June 25, 1890, was the longest cantilever bridge in the Americas. It lost its cantilever status in 1911 when a mid-channel pier was added to accommodate the newer and heavier trains of that era.

On March 25, 1916 the delicate and beautiful Old Trails Arch Bridge opened to motorists. It was located 800 feet downriver from the massive Red Rock Bridge which reverted to railroad use only. For 12 years the Arch Bridge was the longest 3-hinged arch bridge in the U.S. It was posted for 11-ton load limit and one-way for trucks and buses.

Eventually a Chicago to Los Angeles section of the National Old Trails highway system became the heavily-traveled U.S. 66. Route 66 was publicized by the old popular song “Get Your Kicks on Route 66”.

In June 1947 the Red Rock Bridge rail deck was replaced with a concrete highway deck. U.S. 66 was rerouted to the Red Rock Bridge and the Arch Bridge carried the huge Texas-California gas line. A new railroad bridge opened 500 feet upriver from the Red Rock Bridge.

Eventually the Red Rock Bridge was replaced by the Interstate 40 Bridge at the same location near Topock, Arizona.

About 1952 a narrow bridge was built across the Colorado about one-half mile downriver from the old Needles Ferry site. When the ferry was in use, the river was a quarter mile farther east. The bridge was used by the Bureau of Reclamation for desperately needed river control work. After most of the work was done, the one-way Bureau Bridge was opened to limited public use. The California end of the bridge, at Jack Smith Park in Needles, was the Spring 1982 Clampsite of Billy Holcomb Chapter.

The Bureau Bridge was dismantled shortly after the June 17, 1978 opening of the new Needles Bridge about 1-1/2 upriver. This new Needles Bridge is near where the National Old Trails originally crossed the Colorado River and entered California. It is at this new bridge that the historical marker commemorating NATIONAL OLD TRAILS was erected by Billy Holcomb Chapter.
The Billy Holcomb Chapter of the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus, of the Great and Giant Counties of San Bernardino and Riverside, hereby invites all Clampers to attend the doins at "The National Old Trails Highway" crossing at Needles. All brothers are requested to bring a miserable pbc.

We will be camping right on the Beautiful Colorado River. At the command of Humbug Yomesite Sam Zanone, a special site right in the middle of Clamperdom has been reserved for you and this event. Before we explain the do's and don'ts here is the schedule of Campevents. Grab your ASS, cause here we go again!

PRECLAMP SCHEDULE, CLAMPSCHEDULE AND RANDOM pbc RULES:

PRECLAMP OUT
Please explain to yer pbc exactly what he is expected to do at the Clampout. For your assistance, a few rules are detailed later.

APRIL 13, 7:00PM Monthly Meeting at the Pizza Chalet - 9660 Sierra Ave in Fontana. All members with idle curiosity and those who wish to take an active part in helping with your Clampout are asked to attend.

SAT. APRIL 17 PAPERWORK AND CLAMPFEE Are due at Gold Dust Receiver, The Rev. Bill Pearson's residence. If you are late, add 5 bucks to the fee and call Bill at; 714-862-8245 (home) or 714-883-3088 (work).

FRI. APRIL 30, 6 PM BEER AND CHILE FEED Kickoff to the Official, Unofficial Doings.
6:01PM ERRRRECTION OF THE FFFFARTING POST And the first morals lecture inside the Reverend Bill Pearson's tent.
6:02PM THE OFFICIAL Beginning of Attitude Adjustment Hour at Humbug Zanone's humble abode. All Brothers and pbc's are encouraged to stop by and have their attitude adjusted, by the Humbug.
7:00PM UNOFFICIAL CAMPFIRE And pbc lubrication. (Brother Shaw, XGNH & Clampatriarch has generously donated the oil).

ARRIVAL All pbc's Must Find The Hangman, Sir David of Myers for check-in, assignments, rules, etc.

SAT. MAY 1 7:00AM BREAKFAST - The first of Clampchef Lopes Gourmet Gastro-nomical creations of the weekend. Better get there before 7:59 or take your chances!
8:30AM pbc meeting with the Hangman at City Hall.

(SEE OTHER SIDE)
SAT. MAY 1  
8:45AM SIGNUPS Start for the Clamper Olympic Games.  
9:30AM CUTOFF Arrival time for pbc's. First and probably FINAL  
Cutoff time for pbc check-in with the Hangman.  
10:00AM CLAMPEROLYMPIC GAMES BEGIN. pbc Parade, followed by darts,  
horseshoes and pbc toss.  
11:59AM GRAYBEARDS MEETING  
1:00PM pbc meeting For further Indoctrination and lubrication,  
at City Hall.  
1:59PM GRAYBEARD REVIEW of pbc's. (private rearview of the low  
lifes).  
2:15PM pbc ENTERTAINMENT AT CITY HALL.  
3:14PM pbc INITIATION - pbc's must be sober to gain the Enlighten-  
enment of SAINT VITUS!  
5:30PM DINNER - is served at our Million Dollar cook trailer. As  
usual, Juicy Steaks with all the fixins. Our pbc Orches- 
tra will Serenade us, to aid our digestion after such a  
trying day.  
7:15PM CLAMPFIRE TALK and Clampband Entertainment (including the  
pbc All Kazoo Marching band).  

SUN. MAY 2  
6:00AM ALL pbc's up for Cleanup!  
7:00AM BREAKFAST is served, (for those that are able). Liquid  
or substantial, take your pick.  
10:00AM PLAQUE DEDICATION AT THE SITE. MEMBERSHIP CARDS AND  
CERTIFICATES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AFTER THE DEDICATION.  
ALL new members just past pbc status must report back to  
the camp ground for final cleanup.

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**IMPORTANT RULES AND ADVICE**

- **BRING MONEY**
- **BRING A pbc OR THREE**
- **BRING EXTRA WATER**
- **BRING PERSONAL GEAR**
- **BRING COMPLETE EATING MATERIALS**
- **BRING FOLDING CHAIRS**
- **BRING YOUR OWN SPECIAL REFRESHMENT**
- **BRING EXTRA BEER AND HORS D'OEUVRRES**
- **BRING EXTRA ICE**
- **BRING A FISHING POLE?**
- **BRING SKIVVIES FOR DIPPING?**
- **BRING EXTRA FIREWOOD**
- **BRING ANYTHING ELSE YOU THINK WE MAY NOT HAVE, BECAUSE WE PROBABLY DON'T!**

**THINGS TO TELL YER pbc**

- **THE HANGMAN HAS COMPLETE CHARGE OF ALL pbc's THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND. pbc's WILL FULFILL ALL REASONABLE REQUESTS FROM THE HANGMAN AND CLAMPERS. pbc's SHOULD EXPECT FRIENDLY VERBAL HARASSMENT AND NO PHYSICAL ABUSE!!!**
- **pbc's WILL NOT WEAR ANYTHING WITH RED OR BLACK COLORING UNTIL INITIATED. pbc's MUST ATTEND ALL SCHEDULED AND SPONTANEOUS MEETINGS. pbc's WILL BE ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITIES AND WILL BE EXPECTED TO COMPLETE THEM. WE ARE A HISTORICALLY BASED ORGANIZATION THAT HAS A GOOD TIME DEDICATING PLAQUES AND PARTICIPATING IN "CALIFORNICATION" ADDITIONAL RULES WILL BE EXPLAINED BY THE HANGMAN.**

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**A LITTLE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND ON THE SITE:**

THE NATIONAL OLD TRAILS HIGHWAY, LATER HIGHWAY 66, CROSSED THE COLORADO RIVER NEXT TO WHERE WE WILL BE. IT LINKS THE MOJAVE INDIAN LANDS VISITED BY FATHER GARCES IN 1776. NEAR THIS LOCATION THE AMERICAN EXPLORER JEDIDIAH SMITH AND HIS BAND OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN MEN CROSSED THE RIVER IN 1826 AND OPENED THE PIONEER TRAIL INTO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. FOR PIONEER AMERICAN MOTORISTS THE MOST USABLE TRANSCONTINENTAL HIGHWAY NETWORK WAS THE NATIONAL OLD TRAILS SYSTEM.
NEEDLES CLAMP MAP - APRIL 30TH THRU MAY 2, 1982

Take I-15 to Barstow. In Barstow, bear to the right on I-40 to Needles.

In Needles, take "J" Street exit (motel 6 exit). At this point watch for posted ECV signs.

Turn left on "J" Street (under I-40)...travel past Third Street, stop at Broadway, and continue straight to FRONT Street. Turn right on FRONT Street.

On FRONT Street, travel past "I" Street, then, just before "H" Street, turn left and cross the tracks at the Santa Fe Railroad Depot. Follow this road across the golf course (bears right...name of road???)...this road deadends at BRIDGE ROAD.

Turn right on BRIDGE ROAD and travel all the way to the end. The Clampsite is on the river near Jack Smith Park. This site is inside city limits...Be Courteous and obey all Laws !!!
For pioneer American motorists the most usable transcontinental highway network was the National Old Trails system. An important link of the system was where it crossed the Colorado River at the Arizona-California border near Needles, California.

Until 1914 the Needles Ferry was used to carry cars across the river. The type of barge employed was only large enough to ford one car at a time. This limit was not a problem because traffic was very light there in those days. At Springerville, Arizona, on the National Old Trails Highway, a count of west-bound cars was kept. In 1912, only 113 cars were counted; in 1913, 194; in 1914, 419.

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Eventually the Red Rock Bridge was replaced by the Interstate 40 Bridge at the same location near Topock, Arizona.

In 1978 near the site of the old Needles Ferry, the original National Old Trails crossing of the Colorado River at Needles, a county bridge was built across the Colorado. It is at this new Needles Bridge that the Billy Holcomb Chapter Spring 1982 Clampout will commemorate on May 2 the National Old Trails Needles crossing.
The historical marker will be worded as follows.

NATIONAL OLD TRAILS

THIS BRIDGE MARKS THE SITE WHERE THE NATIONAL OLD TRAILS HIGHWAY, LATER HIGHWAY 66, CROSSED THE COLORADO RIVER. IT LINKS THE MOJAVE INDIAN LANDS VISITED BY FATHER GARCES IN 1776. NEAR THIS LOCATION THE AMERICAN EXPLORER, JEDEDIAH SMITH AND HIS BAND OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN MEN, CROSSED THE RIVER IN 1826 AND OPENED THE PIONEER TRAIL INTO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

CALIFORNIA REGISTERED HISTORICAL LANDMARK NO. 781

PLAQUE PLACED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN COOPERATION WITH FORT MOJAVE INDIAN TRIBE, CITY OF NEEDLES, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, AND ARIZONA COUNTY OF MOHAVE.

DEDICATED MAY 2, 1982 BY BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER OF E CLAMPUS VITUS IN COOPERATION WITH NEEDLES CHAPTER OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION.
What sayeth the Brethren

Satisfactory!

BILL HOLCOMB CHAPTER
E CLAMPUS VITUS

RANCHO CHINO ADOBE SITE
("BATTLE OF CHINO" SITE)

June 5, 1982

California Registered Historical Landmark No. 942
SPONSORS:
State of California
Chino Valley Historical Society
San Bernardino County Museum Association
Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus

DEDICATION HOST:
Phil Porretta, Billy Holcomb Chapter Historian

DEDICATION INVOCATION:
Father Guillen, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Chino

SPECIAL GUESTS:
Robert Townsend, county supervisor
Larry Walker, Chino mayor
Charles Reher, Chino Valley Historical Society president
Gerald Smith, San Bernardino County Museum director
Max Scott, Boys Republic director
Don Antonio Lugo High School Band and Larry Holguin, band director

EDITOR:
Phil Porretta, Billy Holcomb Chapter historian

SPECIAL THANKS TO:
Chino Fire Department and Chief Short
Glenn Hearrell and the Billy Holcomb Chapter construction crew who erected the state landmark historical marker and directional sign

The following article is based on material submitted in 1980 by Mr. Porretta to the State Historical Resources Commission. It was part of his application for registration of the site of the Rancho Chino adobe of Isaac Williams as a historical landmark.

Rancho Santa Ana del Chino — better known as Rancho del Chino or simply Rancho Chino — was one of the best food-producing ranchos of Mission San Gabriel. The "Santa Ana" part of the rancho's name probably indicates that the Santa Ana River was one of the rancho's original boundaries. "Chino" probably comes from Chino Creek which ran through the rancho.

On 26 March 1841, the large rancho's choicest five square leagues (about 22,000 acres) was granted to Antonio Maria Lugo by his grandnephew Governor Alvarado. Lugo soon built a roomy adobe on the rancho for his family. He deeded half-interest in his Rancho Chino to his American son-in-law Isaac Williams as an inheritance gift to his daughter on 22 December 1841. The gift included 4000 head of stock.

On the rancho, one-half mile from the Lugo adobe, Williams had already begun to build his adobe mansion. His adobe was later described by this son-in-law Stephen C. Foster — who became mayor of Los Angeles in 1856 — as the "largest and best arranged private home in California at that time." The house plan formed a quadrangle, about 250 feet on a side, around a patio. On the north and south sides two large doors opened into a patio. Although the adobe had a fortress-like look, it had an elaborate interior. There were many outbuildings and corrals. During the Mexican War, Marine Captain Archibald Gillespie commanded the U.S. troops occupying Los Angeles. His needlessly oppressive treatment of the Californios triggered a general revolt against Americans. About twenty-four Americans — mostly ranchers — took refuge at the Williams adobe on Rancho Chino. The list of refugees include names significant in California history; Isaac Williams, Benjamin Wilson, Louis Robidoux, Michael White, John Rowland and John Reed.
On 26 September 1846, the refugees were besieged by about twentytwo mounted Californios led by Jose del Carmen Lugo. The next morning the Californios were reinforced by about thirty volunteer soldiers led by Serbulo Varela. The attackers included personages significant in California history: Jose Avila, Ramon Carrillo, Jose Palomares, Diego Sepulveda, Ricardo Vejar, and the five Lugo brothers.

That morning, the Californios stormed the adobe. While attacking the fortress, Carlos Ballesteros was shot and killed. He was the only fatality of what became known as the Battle of Chino. He was wellliked by the Californios, and ironically, he was a good friend of the besieged Benjamin Wilson.

Other attackers safely reached the protection of the three-foot-thick walls of the adobe. Its roof was coated with tar from Rancho La Brea. The Californios soon set fire to a corner of the roof, forcing Williams to appear on the roof with his three small children. After Williams’ emotional pleas that his children be given safety, their uncle Jose del Carmen Lugo took them into protective custody.

Neither side realized that the opposition was short on ammunition. Soon the Americans saw their position to be hopeless and, given the promise of protection, surrendered. Three Americans were seriously wounded. Antonio Lugo later cared for the injured Americans and reprimanded his sons for the attack. The American prisoners were offered release if they would give their word to remain neutral during the war. All the Americans declined this offer.

The Battle of Chino was the first major skirmish on California soil during the Mexican War. The Californio victory at Chino fed their revolt against American occupation and led to larger clashes at Dominguez, San Pasqual, San Gabriel River, and La Mesa.

Travelers from the south reached Chino only after crossing many miles of desert and mountains. They were often starving and destitute. The Williams adobe became an inn famous for its hospitality to immigrants. Their comments are preserved in a guest register of those stopping at the adobe. Traveler Alfred Robinson recorded of the adobe: “It is a most delightful spot — and the most spacious building of its kind in the country; it possesses all desirable conveniences.”

The Lugo adobe also was used as an inn until September 1850 when it was converted to an army post for protection against Indian attacks.

Isaac Williams died at his Rancho Chino adobe on 13 September 1856. Three days later his daughter Merced married John Rains — some said over Williams’ dead body — who had been a foreman at Rancho Chino. Williams’ other daughter, Francisca, married Robert Carlisle, a 27-year-old Kentuckian, on 13 May 1857.

From 1858 to 1861 the Williams adobe was a twice-weekly meal and horse team change station on the Butterfield Stage route. Carlisle managed this station while Rains managed the stage station at Warner’s Ranch — although Merced continued to reside at the Williams adobe.

In 1861 Carlisle purchased the Rains interest in Rancho Chino. The Rains family then moved to Rancho Cucamonga. The Carlisles continued to occupy the Williams adobe.

A reporter of the Sacramento Union, in 1862, wrote: “Chino rancho, which is considered one of the finest in the country, is situated in a level valley with mountains on every side. Here we see cattle in such herds as would defy human calculation to arrive at an accurate idea of the number. The residence of Carlisle, the proprietor, is one of the first-class adobes, exceedingly plain but comfortable and furnished with taste and an eye to elegance. A beautiful garden surrounds the house, enclosed by large trees which seem to bear the impress of antiquity. Some distance from the house are the quarters of the Indian servants, about 100 in number.”

Rancho Chino prospered until Carlisle’s death in 1865. In 1867 Carlisle’s widow, Francisca, leveled her father’s historic adobe and built a frame house on its site.

In 1881 the rancho was sold to Richard Gird who had earned $1,500,000 developing the famous Tombstone mine in Arizona. Gird added to the rancho until it contained 45,000 acres. Ten years later, Gird employed the expertise of the Oxnard brothers — Henry and Robert — to build on his rancho a factory to extract sugar from sugar beets. This was the first sugar beet factory in southern California. The Oxnards were so impressed with the success at Chino that in 1898 they built an even larger factory in Ventura County and developed the sugar beet industry there.

In 1894 Gird sold Rancho Chino to Charles Phillips of San Luis Obispo for $1,600,000. This was the largest land sale in San Bernardino County up to that time. Phillips failed to meet obligations and in 1896 the ranch was sold again — this time to London
underwriters. The English capitalists broke the ranch into small tracts and sold it piecemeal.

On 28 September 1946, a plaque-and-cannon monument commemorating the Battle of Chino was dedicated on Eucalyptus Avenue just south of Casa Colina Convalescent Home and just north of the Williams adobe site. In 1963 the plaque and cannon were stolen and never recovered. On 25 May 1974, a duplicate plaque and another old cannon graced a new monument located in front of the Chino Fire Station #2 — (east of the previous monument) on Eucalyptus Avenue; one block west of State Highway 71 and Pipe Line avenue, three miles southwest of Chino.
THE PUBLIC IS INVITED

Historical Marker Dedication

of

RANCHO CHINO ADOBE SITE

("BATTLE OF CHINO" SITE)

California Registered Historical Landmark No. 942

TIME: 10:30 AM Saturday June 5, 1982
PLACE: Chino Fire Station #2 on Eucalyptus Avenue, one block west of Highway 71 (Corona Parkway) at Pipeline Avenue

Sponsors: State of California
Chino Valley Historical Society
San Bernardino County Museum Association
Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus

Dedication host: Phil Porretta, Billy Holcomb Chapter historian

Dedication invocation: Father Guillen, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Chino

Special Guests: Robert Townsend, county supervisor
Larry Walker, Chino mayor
Charles Reher, Chino Valley Historical Society president
Gerald Smith, San Bernardino County Museum director
Max Scott, Boys Republic director
Don Antonio Lugo High School Band and Larry Holguin, band director

Historical Sketch: Phil Porretta, Billy Holcomb Chapter historian

Newspaper coverage: "Chino Champion"

Special thanks to: Chino Fire Department and Chief Short
Glenn Hearrell and the Billy Holcomb Chapter construction crew who volunteered to erect the state landmark historical marker and a directional sign
Editor's Note:
The following article is based on material submitted in 1980 by Mr. Porretta to the State Historical Resources Commission. It was part of his application for registration of the site of the Rancho Chino adobe of Isaac Williams as an historical landmark.

Rancho Santa Ana del Chino—better known as Rancho del Chino or simply Rancho Chino—was one of the best food-producing ranchos of Mission San Gabriel. The "Santa Ana" part of the rancho's name probably indicates that the Santa Ana River was one of the rancho's original boundaries. "Chino" probably comes from Chino Creek which ran through the rancho.

On 26 March 1841, this large rancho's choicest five square leagues (about 22,000 acres) was granted to Antonio Maria Lugo by his grand-nephew Governor Alvarado. Lugo soon built a roomy adobe on the rancho for his family. He deeded half-interest in his Rancho Chino to his American son-in-law Isaac Williams as an inheritance gift to his daughter on 22 December 1841. The gift included 4000 head of stock.

On the rancho, one-half mile from the Lugo adobe, Williams had already begun to build his adobe mansion. His adobe was later described by his son-in-law Stephen C. Foster—who became mayor of Los Angeles in 1856—as the "largest and best arranged private home in California at that time." The house plan formed a quadrangle, about 250 feet on a side, around a patio. On the north and south sides two large doors opened into a patio. Although the adobe had a fortress-like look, it had an elaborate interior. There were many outbuildings and corrals. During the Mexican War, Marine Captain Archibald Gillespie commanded the U.S. troops occupying Los Angeles. His needlessly oppressive treatment of the Californios triggered a general revolt against Americans. About twenty-four Americans—mostly ranchers—took refuge at the Williams adobe on Rancho Chino. The list of refugees include names significant in California history: Isaac Williams, Benjamin Wilson, Louis Robidoux, Michael White, John Rowland and John Reed.

On 26 September 1846, the refugees were besieged by about twenty-two mounted Californios led by José del Carmen Lugo. The next morning the Californios were reinforced by about thirty volunteer soldiers led by Serbuco Varela. The attackers included personalities significant in California history: José Avila, Ramón Carrillo, José Palomares, Diego Sepulveda, Ricardo Vejar, and the five Lugo brothers.

That morning, the Californios stormed the adobe. While attacking the fortress, Carlos Ballesteros was shot and killed. He was the only fatality of what became known as the Battle of Chino. He was well-liked by the Californios, and ironically, he was a good friend of the besieged Benjamin Wilson.

Other attackers safely reached the protection of the three-foot-thick walls of the adobe. Its roof was coated with tar from Rancho La Brea. The Californios soon set fire to a corner of the roof, forcing Williams to appear on the roof with his three small children. After Williams' emotional pleas that his children be given safety, their uncle José del Carmen Lugo took them into protective custody.

Neither side realized that the opposition was short on ammunition. Soon the Americans saw their position to be hopeless and, given the promise of protection, surrendered. Three Americans were seriously wounded. Antonio Lugo later cared for the injured Americans and reprimanded his sons for the attack. The American prisoners were offered release if they would give their word to remain neutral during the war. All the Americans declined this offer.

The Battle of Chino was the first major skirmish on California soil during the Mexican War. The California victory at Chino fed their revolt against American occupation and led to larger clashes at Dominguez, San Pasqual, San Gabriel River, and La Mesa.

Travelers from the south reached Chino only after crossing many miles of desert and mountains. They were often starving and destitute. The Williams adobe became an inn famous for its hospitality to immigrants. Their comments are preserved in a guest register of those stopping at the adobe. Traveler Alfred Robinson recorded of the adobe: "It is a most delightful spot—and the most spacious building of its kind in the country; it possesses all desirable conveniences."
The Lugo adobe also was used as an inn until September 1850 when it was converted to an army post for protection against Indian attacks.

Isaac Williams died at his Rancho Chino adobe on 13 September 1856. Three days later his daughter Merced married John Rains—some said over Williams' dead body—who had been a foreman at Rancho Chino. Williams' other daughter, Francisca, married Robert Carlisle, a 27-year-old Kentuckian, on 13 May 1857.

From 1858 to 1861 the Williams adobe was a twice-weekly meal and horse team change station on the Butterfield Stage route. Carlisle managed this station while Rains managed the stage station at Warner's Ranch—although Merced continued to reside at the Williams adobe.

In 1861 Carlisle purchased the Rains interest in Rancho Chino. The family then moved to Rancho Cucamonga. The Carlisles continued to occupy the Williams adobe.

A reporter of the Sacramento Union, in 1862, wrote: "Chino rancho, which is considered one of the finest in the country, is situated in a level valley with mountains on every side. Here we see cattle in such herds as would defy human calculation to arrive at an accurate idea of the number. The residence of Carlisle, the proprietor, is one of the first-class adobes, exceedingly plain but comfortable and furnished with taste and an eye to elegance. A beautiful garden surrounds the house, enclosed by large trees which seem to bear the impress of antiquity. Some distance from the house are the quarters of the Indian servants, about 100 in number."

Rancho Chino prospered until Carlisle's death in 1865. In 1867 Carlisle's widow, Francisca, leveled her father's historic adobe and built a frame house on its site.

In 1881 the rancho was sold to Richard Gird who had earned $1,500,000 developing the famous Tombstone mine in Arizona. Gird added to the rancho until it contained 45,000 acres. Ten years later Gird employed the expertise of the Oxnard brothers—Henry and Robert—to build on his rancho a factory to extract sugar from sugar beets. This was the first sugar beet factory in southern California. The Oxnards were so impressed with the success at Chino that in 1898 they built an even larger factory in Ventura County and developed the sugar beet industry there.

In 1894 Gird sold Rancho Chino to Charles Phillips of San Luis Obispo for $1,600,000. This was the largest land sale in San Bernardino County up to that time. Phillips failed to meet obligations and in 1896 the ranch was sold again—this time to London under-writers. The English capitalists broke the ranch into small tracts and sold piecemeal.

On 28 September 1946, a plaque-and-cannon monument commemorating the Battle of Chino was dedicated on Eucalyptus Avenue just south of Casa Colina Convalescent Home and just north of the Williams adobe site. In 1963 the plaque and cannon were stolen and never recovered. On 25 May 1974, a duplicate plaque and another old cannon graced a new monument located in front of the Chino Fire Station #2—(east of the previous monument) on Eucalyptus Avenue; one block west of State Highway 71 and Pipe Line Avenue, three miles southwest of Chino.

SITE OF THE BATTLE OF CHINO
Chino Fire Station #2

- Historical marker

Eucalyptus Av.

1. Preferred sign location
2. Alternate sign location

Bottom of sign is to be 7 feet above ground.
Sign & posts are to be well off edge of pavement.

RANCHO CHINO
ADOBE SITE
500 FEET
HISTORICAL LANDMARK 942

Sign detail
(Type G13-1)
36" x 30"

Caritas por Viudas y Huerfanos
DIRECTIONS TO RANCHO CHINO "BATTLE OF CHINO" HISTORICAL MARKER:
Pomona Freeway 60 or Riverside Freeway 91 to Chino-Corona Highway 71; then either 3 miles south from 60 or 9 miles north from 91 to Pipeline Avenue. Then one block west on Eucalyptus Avenue to Chino Fire Station #2. Dedication begins at 10:30 AM Saturday June 5, 1982.

DIRECTIONS FROM HISTORICAL MARKER TO FAMCLAMP:
East on Eucalyptus Avenue 1.6 miles to Central Avenue; then south 3 miles to Pine Avenue; then east 1 mile to Euclid Avenue 83; then south .6 mile to Prado Regional Park. Entrance fee is $2 per vehicle. Group picnic area is on east side of park. Overnight camping may be available. Famclamp begins at 11:30 AM Saturday June 5, 1982.
ATTENTION, ATTENTION, ATTENTION
FAMCLAMP AND HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION
ON SATURDAY, JUNE 5TH, 1982

ATTENTION BROTHER CLAMPERS!

This year's Famclamp is at Prado Regional Park, (at the group picnic area). This one is rather special, as we will be dedicating a Historical Marker to "The Battle of Chino," thanks mainly to the efforts of our Brother Phil Porretta. This will be a great chance to show our family and friends the historical side of clampers, and as usual have a good time doing it.

CLAMP SCHEDULE OF THE DAY - JUNE 5TH, 1982 MAP AND DIRECTIONS ARE ON THE BACK

PLAQUE (HISTORICAL MARKER NO. 942) DEDICATION AT 10:30 A.M. WITH A SHORT TALK BY PHIL PORRETTA.

THE FAMCLAMP BEGINS AT 11:33 A.M.

LUNCH IS SERVED SHORTLY THEREAFTER. THE CHAPTER IS PROVIDING HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS WITH ALL THE FIXINS, CLAMPER PICNIC BEANS, AND SOFT DRINKS. THE CHAPTER WILL NOT BE PROVIDING ANY LIQUIDS FOR ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT AS THIS IS A FAMILY EVENT. SO, IF YOU NEED YOUR ATTITUDE ADJUSTED FURTHER, BRING YOUR OWN.

HORSESHOES, DARTS, AND GAMES FOR THE KIDS, (WITH PRIZES FOR THE LITTLE ONES) WILL FOLLOW LUNCH.

GOLD DUST REQUIRED FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE:
CLAMPERS AND PROSPECTIVE CLAMPERS, (ADULT MALES), EACH $4.00
WIDDERS AND LITTLE PEOPLE, EACH $1.00
GOLD DUST PAYABLE BY MAIL OR AT THE EVENT.
PLEASE LET THE FAMCLAMP CHAIRMAN DAVE MYERS KNOW BY PHONE OR MAIL IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING. 714-998-6684, 5309 BERGH, ANAHEIM, CA 92807.

FUTURE EVENTS

MAY 28 MURPHYS AT MURPHYS, CALIFORNIA
JUNE 1 MONTHLY MEETING AT THE PIZZA CHALET 7:00 PM - 9660 SIERRA AVE IN FONTANA
JUNE 5 FAMCLAMP AND PLAQUE DEDICATION
JULY 6 MONTHLY MEETING AT THE PIZZA CHALET
AUGUST OLD MINERS DAYS PARADE AT BIG BEAR LAKE (INFORMATION TO FOLLOW)
SEPT 11 PRECLAMP OUT PLAQUE CONSTRUCTION FOR THE OLD BEAR VALLEY DAM
SEPT 21 MONTHLY MEETING AT THE PIZZA CHALET
OCT 8-10 FALL CLAMP OUT OLD BEAR VALLEY DAM AT BIG BEAR LAKE

SOME OR ALL OF THE ABOVE DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
DIRECTIONS TO RANCHO CHINO "BATTLE OF CHINO" HISTORICAL MARKER:
Pomona Freeway 60 or Riverside Freeway 91 to Chino-Corona Highway 71; then either 3 miles south from 60 or 9 miles north from 91 to Pipeline Avenue. Then one block west on Eucalyptus Avenue to Chino Fire Station #2. Dedication begins at 10:30 AM Saturday June 5, 1982.

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Old Miners Day Parade
Big Bear Valley

SUNDAY
AUGUST 1, 1982
12:30 P.M.

Theme: "WESTWARD HO"

Meet at Thrifty's Parking Lot
On Big Bear Blvd.
10:30 AM

"Win this one for The Gipper"

3rd place last year!
4th this year?

Clamper Apparel!
Bring yer kazoo!

Meet at Thrifty's
213/421-9273
For Further Info

E CLAMPUS VITUS/BILLY HOLCOLMB
What sayeth the Brethren

Satisfactory!

BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER
E CLAMPUS VITUS

BLUFF LAKE
STAGE STOP
CAMP BLUFF LAKE
BLUFF LAKE is just two miles from Big Bear Lake as the crow flies or as your horse would carry you through the pines from lake to lake. But the shortest driving distance between the lakes is about eight miles. The most direct road route is south from Highway 18 on Mill Creek Road to Forest Road 2N10 which goes to Bluff Lake.

Today’s road routes to Bear Valley, the location of Big Bear Lake, are vastly unlike those of yesteryear. Today’s motorist may reach Bear Valley by any one of five major routes. Around the 1890s there were only two roads up to Bear Valley. One was up Cushenberry and Johnson Grades from Lucerne Valley and the other was up from the Redlands through Santa Ana Canyon and up Clark’s Grade.

This second road made Bluff Lake famous. “Resorts,” actually fishing camps around a lake, such as at Bluff Lake, make a necessity of having a good road up to Bear Valley from San Bernardino.

It sometimes took seven days to reach Bear Valley via Victorville and Johnson’s Grade. But it usually took only two days to reach Bear Valley via Santa Ana Canyon and Clark’s Grade.

Burro trains went up regularly to Seven Oaks Resort on the crossing of the Santa Ana River. The burro trains continued up Clark’s Grade to Bluff Lake Resort, managed by Sylvanus Thurman.

In 1889 the following advertisement appeared in the Los Angeles “Citrograph”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trips from Los Angeles to Lewis/Knight Resorts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles — Redlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage to Thurman’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burro and Guide to Lewis/Knight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging and Board</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In June 1890 a new hotel was being built at Bluff Lake. Henry Huntington and his son H. L. Huntington had men at work preparing to accommodate the many travelers expected that summer. Pieces of the foundation of the hotel built by the Huntington are still visible on the north side of the lake.

In 1898 the “Burro Express” still went regularly to Seven Oaks and Bluff Lake. The road up Clark’s Grade was improved and by 1899 the Bear Valley and Redlands Toll road stages with good teams were traversing the entire road via Clark’s Grade.

Two cabins at Blue Lake are said to have been the original “Stage Stop”. Later the two log cabins were tied together, thus enlarging the structure. Today it is used as a bunkhouse.

The nearby Bear Valley Dam was declared “The Eighth Wonder of the World”. Frank E. Brown, engineer of the dam, is said to have spent much time at Bluff Lake during the dam construction of 1883-84. The dam created Big Bear Lake, the largest man-made lake in the world at that time.
What sayeth the Brethren

Satisfactory!

BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER
E CLAMPUS VITUS

BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER,
E CLAMPUS VITUS

FALL 1982 CLAMPOUT

OLD BEAR VALLEY DAM


CALIFORNIA REGISTERED HISTORICAL LANDMARK NO. 725

PLAQUE PLACED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN COOPERATION WITH BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER OF E CLAMPUS VITUS, U.S. FOREST SERVICE, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM, BIG BEAR VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OCTOBER 10, 1982

Dedication of Historical Marker for Old Bear Valley Dam California Registered Historical Landmark No. 725 at West end of Big Bear Lake, California

October 10, 1982
hauled up Cajon Pass, then through what is now Apple Valley to Old Woman Springs, up Cushenberry and Johnson Grades and finally into Bear Valley and down to the dam site. Records of that day indicate that the freight bill from Colton to the Valley was in excess of $10.00 per barrel, much more than was estimated.

Actual construction began in the late summer of 1883 and progressed about as planned until the cold weather and snow interrupted the proper curing of cement. An earth-fill dam had to be constructed about 2 miles east of the construction site to hold back the water while foundations were being excavated and rock and masonry base properly tied to the bedrock. Then a small pond formed just behind the rock base where large wooden rafts floated the huge blocks of granite from the nearby quarry to the proper location to be fitted into the rising dam.

As soon as the weather moderated in the spring of 1884 and most of the snow had melted, construction was again started. The original dam was 52 feet high from the center of the outlet gate, in the bottom of the dam. About 30 feet from the south abutment there is a 20-foot wide spillway 4 feet lower than the top of the dam, all buried underwater at the present time.

Winter set in early in the fall of 1884, and a heavy snowstorm in November made it impossible to lay the top course of rock completely across the dam. The original arch rock dam still lacks the top concourse of rock, except for a few ashlars at the south end.

The fall and winter of 1884 produced the heaviest snowfall and precipitation ever recorded in its history — 91 inches. By the following summer a lake nearly 5 miles in length and as much as a mile wide was impounded back of its seemingly thin wall of rock. Engineering journals of the time proclaimed this lake as the largest man-made body of water in the world and Bear Valley Dam the eighth wonder of the world. Its designer and builder, Frank E. Brown, was later honored by his alma mater, Yale, for his achievement.

The dam served the company from 1884-1912 through drought, earthquake, temperatures as low as 30°F below zero, winds and floods. It also withstood the skeptics. The total expenditure was about $75,000. Today it would cost more to obtain an engineering feasibility study.

It soon became evident that in order to properly regulate the water flows in summer as well as during the winter storms, a permanent dam keeper must be hired. In those days very few people stayed in the Valley during the winter, so in order to attract a dam keeper the company built a log cabin in 1887 at the site of the famous rock house on the knoll above the south end of the dam. It burned in 1889 and the rock house was built and finished in 1890 and the dam keeper and weather recorder moved in. This old rock house was given to the U.S. Forestry Service and still stands.

Following completion of the old dam a number of above-normal snowfall years occurred. In order to supply water in dry years the company started a higher dam in 1890 about 200 feet downstream from the single arch dam. This was to be a rock fill dam 13 feet higher than the existing structure or to the 65' contour. To organize this expansion the assets of the Bear Valley Land and Water Co. were turned over in December 1890 to the Bear Valley Irrigation Co.

Numerous problems plagued the company and although they reorganized in 1894 as the New Bear Valley Irrigation Co., they ended in bankruptcy. The citrus growers in the Redlands-Highland area realized something had to be done to salvage the project and give them a dependable water supply under their control. Thus in June of 1903 they formed the Bear Valley Mutual Water Co. and after negotiations took over the dam and lands at Big Bear in January 1909.

They sold bonds sufficient to pay off, at a discount, the old bondholders, and leave money for building a higher dam at Big Bear. The present multiple-arch dam designed by John S. Eastwood was built in 1911-12 at a cost of $138,000. This dam is 82 feet above the stream bed but based on the 0 elevation of the center of the outlet gate in the old dam the top of the arches is 72 feet 4 inches. The old dam when filled to capacity created a lake of 1800 acres. The new dam, although only 20 feet higher, developed a 2500 acre lake and nearly trebled the total capacity, 25,00 acre feet vs. 73,000 acre feet. When the first dam was planned, there were no local rainfall records so the size and height was purely an educated guess. Twenty-eight years later rainfall records indicated that a larger dam could be constructed to efficiently impound water. The intervening years of history had proven that a height of 72 feet on the new dam was about correct, as the lake has filled 5 times: 1916, 1922, 1938, 1969,
and 1979; and flood releases have been quite minimal, except in 1916 when 25,000 acre feet was spilled. There has been a wide range of annual precipitation in the rain and snow gauge at the dam house, from a low of about 12 inches to a high of nearly 91 inches, for an average in the last century of 38 inches at the dam.

On February 25, 1893, President Benjamin Harrison established the San Bernardino Forest Reserve. In 1907 the reserve name was changed to San Bernardino National Forest. Soon the preserve was merged with the adjacent Angeles National Forest and it assumed that name. In 1925, the two preserves were separated again. San Bernardino National Forest is larger than the State of Rhode Island. Its administration by the U.S. Forest Service is complicated by numerous inholdings, including many near Big Bear Lake.

In 1916 the surface of Big Bear Lake was dedicated to the free use of the public for hunting and fishing. This enabled the State Division of Fish and Game to stock the lake with fish.

Extra guards were hired by the Water Co. to guard the walkway over the dam during the years of the First World War. In 1923 the County of San Bernardino proposed to build the highway bridge over the dam and with the cost of the extra guards fresh in mind, the Water Co. granted the easement with the proviso that the public would have to pay for any guarding in the future. Thus during the Second World War, the State Guard stationed a contingent of men to guard the dam.

In 1916 the Water Co. formed the Bear Valley Development Co. and deeded all their lands above the high water contour to this new company. This company was dissolved in 1944, and all assets turned back to the Water Co.

The lake was operated 100% as a holdover irrigation water storage facility and more water was released in dry years than in wet ones. Because of this, considerable feeling was generated by residents of Big Bear (originally called Pine Knot Resort) that the Water Co. was hostile to the local interests. The Water Co. as a gesture of goodwill always turned over in total to the Chamber of Commerce the rental payments by the motion picture companies for filming on Company land. The Company during the 1930's and 1940's helped to blue-stone the lake to reduce the algae and aquatic weeds. The Company gave property for the community church and hospital.

By 1940 the Water Co. had allowed commercial boat businesses on the lake. For safety they maintained a lake patrol from that date on.

In 1938, the Water Co. refinanced their bonded indebtedness so they could give clear title to lots sold in the Valley without the lien of outstanding bonds. After World War II, the demand for residential business lots was brisk.

As Big Bear's population grew, agitation increased to do something about the fluctuation in the lake level. The dry year, 1961, saw the lake 99% empty and this led to the creation by the voters in Big Bear of the Big Bear Valley Municipal Water District. The District filed a lawsuit in October, 1965, to condemn Big Bear Lake. The case came to trial in 1972 and was finally resolved by the Stipulated Judgement dated January 22, 1977, whereby the District, for cash payment of $4,756,500 was deeded Company land consisting of the lake bottom, both dams, and the surface rights. The Water Co. retained possession of all natural water inflow into the lake. However, the District has the option of supplying the Water Co. with pump water or imported (State Aqueduct) water in lieu of releasing lake water. Thus the District can keep releases of water from the lake at a minimum. It is estimated that the lake level should not drop in the future more than 15 feet below the top of the arch.

Thus has the century-old dream of Frank E. Brown been doubly fulfilled. The desert valley below has prospered and bloomed and the valley a mile higher, once only home of roaming bears, has become the mountain paradise of Southern California.
Ceremony set for old dam dedication

A dedication ceremony for the original rock dam of Big Bear Lake will take place Sunday, Oct. 10, at 10:45 a.m. at the dam site.

Built in 1884, the dam is now completely underwater due to the placement of the newer dam built in the early 1900s.

The plaque, commemorating the old dam as a California Registered Historical Landmark No. 725, is being placed by E. Clampus Vitus, a mining group organized during the California gold rush period, in cooperation with the California State Department of Parks and Recreation, U.S. Forest Service, San Bernardino County Museum, and the Big Bear Valley Historical Society.

The monument will be located by the parking area on the south side of the lake a few feet east of the new higher dam.

Carriage House
RENTALS
From $8 * day + $ per mile
866-5434
Greetings from the Humbug, Greybeards, and all other officers whether in good standing or not. The Billy Holcomb Chapter of the Ancient & Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus, of the great and giant counties of San Bernardino and Riverside, hereby invites all Clampers to the doins at the "Old Bear Valley Dam Site" at Big Bear. All brothers are requested to bring a miserable pbc.

We will be camping right in the beautiful San Bernardino mountains (approx. 6,000 ft.), at a private camp with its own lake. At the command of Humbug "Long" Tom Robertson, a special site right in the middle of Clamperdom has been reserved for you at this event. We will be dedicating two placques, the larger of the two is (or will be) California Registered Historical Land No. 725, to the "Old Bear Valley Dam"; the other placque will be erected where we are camping, by pbc's at the site of the "Bluff Lake Stage Stop".

Before we explain the do's and don'ts, here is the schedule of Clampevents, etc., so grab your ass and prepare for the hills, cause here we go again!!!!!!

Preclamp Schedule, Clampschedule and Random pbc Rules, etc.

Sept. 22
Wed., 7:00 p.m. Note this is on Wednesday, not Tuesday, General Preclampout meeting.
New location, Brigham's Restaurant, 820 W. Foothill Blvd., Upland, CA.
Directions: (Semi-accurate), take any freeway to the 10 fwy, take the mountain offramp and go north to Foothill. Turn right (east) on Foothill. We have a room all to ourselves. American and Mexican food is available, as well as a full beverage selection.

Special Note: At the direction of the Clampatriarch, the no drinking rule at monthly meetings has been deleted until further notice.

All future monthly meetings will be at the above location on the first Wednesday of the month, unless stated otherwise. The 2nd being Wed., Nov. 3.

Sept. 25, Sat. Paperwork and Clampfees are due at Gold Dust Receiver, the Rev. Bill Pearson's residence. If you are late, add 5 bucks and call Bill at: (714) 862-8245 (evenings or on the weekend).

Preclampout Please explain to yer pbc exactly what he is expected to do at the Clampout. For your assistance, a few rules are detailed later.

Oct. 8, Fri, 6:00 p.m. Beer and Chili Feed - Kickoff to the Official, Unofficial Doings.
6:01 p.m. Errrrection of the FFFarting Post - And the first morals lecture inside the Reverend Bill Pearson's tent.
6:02 p.m. The Official Beginning of Attitude Adjustment Hour at Humbug Robertson's Shumble abode. All Brothers and pbc's are encouraged to stop by and have their attitude adjusted, by the Humbug.
7:00 p.m. Unofficial Campfire and pbc lubrication. (Brother Shaw, XGNH & Clam-patriarch has generously donated the oil.)

Arrival All pbc's Must Find the Hangman, John The Jack(off) Stamp for check-in, assignments, rules, etc.
Breakfast - The first of Clampchef Lecourt's Gourmet Gastronomical creations of the weekend. Better get there before 7:59 or take your chances!

Signups - Start for the Clamper Olympic Games. See Clamper Twotone Calabrese.

Cutoff - Arrival time for pbc's. First and probably Final Cutoff time for pbc check-in with the Hangman.

Clamperolympic Games Begin. pbc Parade, followed by darts, horseshoes and pbc toss.

Stage Stop Plaque Construction.

Graybeards Meeting (Graybeards meet the lowly pbc's at 11:35 a.m.)

pbc meeting - For further Indoctrination and lubrication at City Hall.

Dinner - is served at our Million Dollar cook trailer. Roast Baron of Beef with all the fixins. Our pbc Orchestra will serenade us, to aid our digestion after such a trying day.

Clampfire talk and Clammband Entertainment (including the pbc All Kazoo Marching Band.) As a special attraction Ron Miller will be leading the Clamper Band on his gut bucket. A formal program is planned.

All pbc's up for Cleanup!

Breakfast is served (for those that are able). Liquid or substantial, take your pick.

pbc Initiation - pbc's must be sober to gain the Enlightenment of Saint Vitus!

Placque Dedication at the site. Membership cards and certificates will be distributed after the dedication. All new members just past pbc status must report back to the campground for final cleanup. NO DRINKING AT THE DEDICATION.

IMPORTANT RULES AND ADVICE

Bring Money
Bring a pbc or three
Bring extra water
Bring personal gear
Bring complete eating materials
Bring folding chairs
Bring your own special refreshment
Bring extra beer and hors d'oeuvres
Bring extra ice
Bring a fishing pole?
Bring skivvies for dipping?
Bring extra firewood
Bring anything else you think we may not have, because we probably don't!

Above All, Bring a Clamper Attitude and Be Prepared for One Hell of a Good Time!!!

THINGS TO TELL YER pbc

The Hangman has complete charge of all pbc's throughout the weekend.

pbc's will fulfill all reasonable requests from the Hangman and Clamper's.

pbc's should expect friendly verbal harassment and No Physical Abuse!!!

pbc's will not wear anything with red or black coloring until initiated.

pbc's must attend all scheduled and spontaneous meetings.

We are an historically based organization that has a good time dedicating plaques and participating in "Californication". Additional rules will be explained by the Hangman.

pbc's will be assigned responsibilities and will be expected to complete them.

Special Note - All early arriving pbc's will have very limited duties by dictate of the Humbug, and will be compensated for any early duties - By lighter duties for the remainder of the weekend.

A LITTLE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND ON THE SITES:

The original Bear Valley Dam (now directly behind Big Bear Dam) was built in 1884. It formed Big Bear Lake, the largest man-made lake in the world at the time. Many engineers and others claimed it would not hold water. When it did, it was considered by many people to be the eighth wonder of the world.

The Bluff Lake Stage Stop was used in the late 1800's by burro trains and stages. It was on one of only two roads to the area at the time. The original cabin is still standing and in use by the camp.
DIRECTIONS TO CAMP BLUFF LAKE
PASADENA YMCA CAMP

TAKE ANY ROAD TO BIG BEAR LAKE, HWY. 18. APPROX 2 1/2 EAST OF THE DAM.
TAKE TULIP LANE OR MILL CREEK RD., TO THE FOREST DIRT RD #2N10.
REMEMBER TO STAY ON 2N10 UNTIL YOU REACH THE YMCA CAMP SIGN, APPROX. 7 MILES. THE ROAD IS UP HILL
AND WE DON’T RECOMMEND IT FOR TOWING, ESPECIALLY
NOT A LARGE TRAILER.

NOTE:
CHECK YOUR ODOMETER AT
OAK KNOLL LODGE.

ALSO— THERE ARE NO
SIGNS THAT SAY ANYTHING
ABOUT OUR CAMP UNTIL
YOU GET HERE

SIGN SAYS:
2 MILES TO
YMCA CAMP
(REALLY ONLY .8 MILE)
The Ancient and Honorable Order of
E Clampus Vitus
Billy Holcomb Chapter

CLAMP PROCLAMATION

The Clampband Master, the right HARMONIOUS JOHN STAMP HERE BY WISHES TO
PROCLAIM, ANNOUNCE AND OTHERWISE SPREAD THE Glorious Clamproclamation:

TO WIT: that on the Date of December 5th, 1982, A Sunday the @xBilly Holcomb Clampband will meet to have a HOOT & HOLLAR. It will be held at SPOONERS RANCH (see map). Get your fiddle, get box, gut bucket Kazzo, drum amplifier, combs mouth oran, Patatoe, pikalow, or any device that produces musiak, whistles, clangs or twitters, hums.

Graybeard Spooner & Clampband Master Stamp will provide the first case of beer & some grub so bring some of your own beer, and some more grub. Also bring musak merriment & instruments. The Merriments start at 10:AM Sunday Dec 5 until Graybeard Spponer throughs us out. (See the map sox yous wont get lost)
CLAMPCALENDER

Dec. 5th 1982. Music Fest at Spooner's Ranch 10:00AM (Sunday)
Dec. 1st 1982. Monthly meeting at Brighams Restaurant in Upland. 7:00PM Wednesday

JAN. 5th 1983. Monthly meeting at Brighams Restaurant 7:00PM Wednesday

FEB. 2th 1983. Monthly meeting at Brighams Restaurant 7:00PM Wednesday.

FEB. 12th 1983. Saturday WIDDER'S NITE SIT DOWN DINNER FIRST CABIN ect.to be held at the Famous MISSION INN IN RIVERSIDE CALIF.

MAR. 2nd, 1983 Wednesday, Monthly meeting at Brighams.

April 6th 1983 Wednesday Monthly Meeting at Brighams Restaurant.

April 29 to May 1st: Spring Clampout Thursday thru Sunday 1983: Coolguardie & Barstow Harvey House. More information to follow

June 1st 1983. Monthly meeting at Brighams Restaurant

June 4th 1983. FLAMCLAMP: JURUPIA PARK in Riverside, site of Rubidoux House. Time to be announced.

July 6th 1983 Monthly Meeting at Brighams.

Aug. 3rd 1983 Monthly Meeting at Brighams.

Aug. 1983 OLD MINERS DAY PARADE at Big Bear (Information to follow)

Sep. 21 1983 Monthly Meeting at Brighams Last Change Planning & get it together for Fall Clampout.

OCT. 7, 1983 Fall Clampout at Hemet More Information to follow.

Brighams Restaurant is located at Foothill Blvd & San Antonio off of Mountain Dr. in Upland
BARSTOW HARVEY HOUSE


CALIFORNIA REGISTERED HISTORICAL LANDMARK NO. 892

PLAQUE PLACED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION IN COOPERATION WITH BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER OF E CLAMPUS VITUS, MOJAVE RIVER VALLEY MUSEUM, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM, AND FRED HARVEY, INC.

MAY 1, 1983

Dedication of Historical Marker for Barstow Harvey House
California Registered Historical Landmark No. 892 at Barstow, California
May 1, 1983
SPONSORS OF THE HARVEY HOUSE
HISTORICAL MARKER:
Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus
Mojave River Valley Museum Association
San Bernardino County Museum Association
Fred Harvey, Incorporated — an Amfac company

SPECIAL GUEST:
Addie Park Bassett, ex-Harvey Girl

SPECIAL THANKS TO:
Dave Myers, Billy Holcomb Chapter Noble Grand Humbug
Gordon Stricler, Mojave River Valley Museum Association president
Gerald Smith, San Bernardino County Museum director
John Hyatt, Fred Harvey Inc. director of administration
Irish Robertson & the clamplaque construction crew
Germaine Moon, Mojave River Valley Museum historical researcher
Gale & Winona Kenyon, Barstow Harvey House Society leaders
Bill Mann, Mojave River Valley Museum Association past president

Text written by Phil Porretta, Billy Holcomb Chapter historian

HARVEY HOUSES

In 1876, English-born Frederick Henry Harvey became restaurant and hotel concessionaire for the rapidly expanding western railroad, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe. Up to this time railroad eating houses were "greasy spoons." But Fred Harvey's large tasty meals, classy service (English silver and Irish linen), and winsome "Harvey Girl" waitresses attracted passengers. Eventually a proud chain of Harvey Houses (often a combination depot-hotel-restaurant) was strung along the Santa Fe main line through Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. Harvey service expanded to dining cars, lunchrooms, and newstands. Harvey dining spread to Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Illinois.

The first Harvey House was built at Topeka, Kansas. The second, 100 miles down the line at Florence, Kansas. At Harvey Houses the excellent food was served according to strict formula by courteous and attractive Harvey Girls.

The hearty western men considered the Harvey waitress more appealing than the food she served. To recruit these special charmers, advertisements for "young women, 18 to 30 years of age, of good character, attractive and intelligent" were placed in Eastern and Midwestern newspapers. The approved applicants were given training in the unique Harvey technique of food service. The uniforms were black dresses with white collars and white aprons. The hair had to be plainly done with an optional white ribbon bow.

Harvey Girls had to promise not to marry for a year. But many did marry (often to well-to-do cattle ranchers, miners, tradesmen, and railroaders) and quit. A Harvey Girl's salary, tips, and free room and board were considered good benefits—even though they often worked a 12-hour day.

Harvey Girls had a reputation of high moral character. They lived in dormitories usually on the grounds of the Harvey House. A house matron enforced an early curfew, except for their weekly Friday night dance (where guests' shooting irons and blades were held at the door). Harvey policies helped to civilize the wild West.

On November 15, 1885, the California Southern Railroad (owned by Santa Fe) completed its tracks from San Bernardino north through Cajon Pass and made a connection with the Mojave to Needles tracks of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad (controlled by Santa Fe and absorbed by Santa Fe in 1897). The place where the C.S. tracks joined those of the A&P was named Waterman Junction for the nearby Waterman silver mine. In January 1886 the "Waterman Junction" sign was replaced by one reading "Barstow." The new station name was in honor of William Barstow Strong, then president of Santa Fe.

During 1886 a brick-and-wood two-story depot-hotel-restaurant was constructed at Barstow station. This was the first Barstow Harvey House and its business thrived. A photo of the structure exists in the Burr Belden collection of the San Bernardino County Museum. On July 8, 1887, the first Barstow Harvey House
was destroyed by fire.

The second Barstow Harvey House, larger and better built than the first, was completed around the end of 1887. It was a wooden hotel-restaurant built next to a separate depot building. On June 29, 1892, the second Barstow Harvey House burned beyond repair.

A third Barstow Harvey House was built. In 1900 it was staffed by a manager, a cashier, two laundresses, a baker, a cook, a maid, four Harvey Girls, a yardman, and a porter. About 1905 a second story was added to the depot and its upper floor was extended to connect with the Harvey House. The third Barstow Harvey House was reduced to ashes in 1908.

In 1896 Santa Fe began a program to upgrade its Harvey Houses to include an extensive line of luxury station-hotel-restaurants. The first of these was the “Castaneda” in Las Vegas, New Mexico. It had an indigenous Spanish colonial-Pueblo Indian style of architecture. The luxury Harvey Houses were alike in a general sense but some had strikingly dissimilar styles. The Wellington, Kansas, Harvey House was an example of 18th Century Flemish design; the Hutchinson, Kansas, Harvey House (the “Bisonte”) was like a Tudor manor house; the Trinidad, Colorado, Harvey House (the “Cardinas”) was of Moorish style. The smaller Harvey Houses were not given names.

Other outstanding Harvey Houses were in New Mexico — at Lamy (the “El Ortiz”), Albuquerque (the “Alvarado”), Santa Fe (the “La Fonda”), the health resort six miles from Las Vegas (the “Montezuma”), Vaughn (the “Las Chavez”), Gallup (the “El Navajo”), and Clovis (the “Gran Quivira”); in Kansas — at Dodge City (the “El Vaquero”), and Syracuse (the “Sequoyah”); in Colorado — at La Junta (the “El Otero”); in Arizona — at Williams (the “Fray Marcos”), Winslow (the “La Posada”), Ash Fork (the “Escalante”), Seligman (the “Havasu”), and two at Grand Canyon (“El Tovar,” “Bright Angel Lodge,” and “Phantom Ranch”); in California — at Needles (“El Garces”) and Barstow (our own “Casa del Desierto”).

Other early Harvey establishments in California were: a combination hotel-lunch room at Mojave; combination dining room-lunch rooms at Bakersfield, Merced, and on two ferries in San Francisco Bay; lunch rooms at San Bernardino, Los Angeles, and San Diego; newsstands at Fresno, Stockton, and the San Francisco Ferry Building.

Signals were devised to enhance Harvey customer satisfaction. As a train neared a Harvey House, a conductor who had each passenger’s meal order gave this information to the engineer who forwarded the totals to the Harvey House. The sounding of a gong at the Harvey House warned the staff to prepare for a train arrival. As the passengers filed into the Harvey House, Harvey Girls began serving the first course. Alpaca jackets were provided for costless men to be served in Harvey dining rooms — the rule did not apply in Harvey lunch rooms. Santa Fe employees had coupons to have Harvey meals at half price.

A Harvey Girl asked diners if they preferred coffee, hot tea, iced tea, or milk. Soon another Harvey Girl appeared and magically poured the correct drinks without asking. This trick was accomplished by a cup signal. If the original waitress left the cup right side up, that meant coffee. Cup upside down meant hot tea. Cup moved away meant milk.

The manager strolled among the diners soothingly announcing that there was no need to hurry to avoid missing the train. Eventually a gong sounded to warn the passengers to return to the train.

Fred Harvey insisted that his employees go to great lengths to please customers. The Harvey corporation maintained this principle even after his death in 1901. Another corporate policy has been for Harvey buyers to select high quality goods at fair prices and charge Harvey customers fair prices.

Mary Colter greatly influenced the architecture and interior styling of several Harvey structures. She started working for the Harvey corporation in 1902. Because of her outstanding Harvey accomplishments, she became a famous architect, interior decorator, and Southwest art and ethnology authority.

Mary Colter was responsible for many of the Harvey buildings at Grand Canyon: the Harvey dormitories, the Hopi House, the Watchtower, Hermit’s Rest, Phantom Ranch, and Bright Angel Lodge; she decorated the bar at the beautiful El Tovar. She was the primary architect of the outstanding Harvey Houses at Gallup, New Mexico, and at Winslow and Painted Desert, Arizona.

Her popular style was applied by architect Francis Wilson (for the contractors Sharp & Fellows) to the fourth Barstow Harvey House, the superb “Casa del Desierto.” Its site differed from the previous three Barstow Harvey Houses because of station yard enlargement and rearrangement. Casa del Desierto opened on February 22, 1911. Its pseudo Spanish-Moroccan style was well-suited to the desert. Its design was superior to the earlier Neo-Roman styled Harvey House, El Garces, at Needles. Its adjacent station house and home for railroaders formed a three-part complex interconnected by covered walkways. The reinforced concrete and red cinder block complex was almost a little city. Its red clay tile roof blended well with its towers and arcways.

The three-level western section, called the “Reading Room,” was home for Santa Fe employees. The main floor had an office, a library, and a large recreation hall. The second story had day sleeping quarters. The basement was a dormitory. The entire western section was leveled about 25 years ago.

The middle section of the complex was the depot. It has been an Amtrak station house since May 1971.

The eastern section was the Harvey House proper. From the lobby, majestic stairs led to 25 guest rooms plus a four-bedroom apartment for the manager. The main floor had a dining room, a U-shaped lunch counter, and a kitchen. In 1911 total seating for dining patrons was about 120. In 1922 the dining room seated 104 but the room was expanded in 1943 by enclosing the eastern half of the veranda. In 1922 the lunch counter seated about 25. Behind the kitchen, the building ended in two wings. The west wing was an L-
shaped dormitory — the male help lodged in the basement, the Harvey Girls shared rooms on the first floor. The second floor, for guests and railroaders, joined the 17 hotel rooms above the restaurant. The northeast wing contained the staff lunchroom, offices, and food storage and processing areas. The entire eastern section was closed in 1971 and is now vacant and fenced to prevent trespassing.

Because of the distinctive indigenous Southwestern architecture of the luxury Harvey Houses, the food service took on a broader aspect. The merchandising of Indian arts and crafts became and important part of the Harvey enterprise.

In 1914, when the new Union Depot opened in Kansas City, the Harvey corporation began a new line of novelty stores similar to today's airport gift shop-newsstands. These stores were an instant success. Mary Colter had a hand in decorating the Harvey stores in Kansas City, and at Union Stations in Chicago and Los Angeles — and in Cleveland and St. Louis, where the Santa Fe did not operate.

In 1945 M-G-M made the color movie “The Harvey Girls” telling the story of the West's favorite waitresses. The high quality musical starred Judy Garland, John Hodiak, Angela Lansbury, and Ray Bolger. Harvey corporation president, Byron Harvey, Jr., appeared in the movie as an 1890 Santa Fe conductor. The movie featured Johnny Mercer's hit song, “On the Atchison, Topeka, and the Santa Fe.” It goes like this:

Do you hear that whistle down the line? I figure that it's engine number forty-nine. She's the only one that'll sound that way — On the Atchison, Topeka, and the Santa Fe.”

In the motion picture, engine number forty-nine had the name "Wm. B. Strong" painted on its side. The “B.” is for “Barstow” from which the city got its name.

Due to World War II, Santa Fe had to carry thousands of additional military passengers. Many Harvey Girls returned to their old jobs of 20 to 40 years previous to help the war effort.

Eventually the need for Harvey Houses was eliminated by more dining cars, faster trains, and air and automobile travel. The Harvey corporation reacted by expanding into resort hotels and classy concessions such as: Furnace Creek Inn in Death Valley, Painted Desert Inn in Arizona, and two restaurants and two refreshment bars in the Los Angeles Music Center. But the historical significance of Harvey Houses should not be forgotten.

The Barstow Harvey House Society, led by Gale and Winona Kenyon, has vigorously campaigned to preserve the Barstow Harvey House. Backed by the Mojave River Valley Museum Association, they have indicated forcefully to Santa Fe their desire to save the Harvey House from destruction. They are the conscience of their community. Their effort to save the visual evidence of our heritage is to be applauded. We fervently wish that somehow the Barstow Harvey House will be restored and opened to the public.

The following poem, printed in 1895, is an example of the lore that sprang from well-prepared Harvey House meals served by shapely Harvey Girls:

"Harvey Houses, don't you savvy; clean across the old Mojave, On the Santa Fe they've strung 'em like a string of Indian beads. We all couldn't eat without 'em but the slickest thing about 'em Is the Harvey skirts that hustle up the feeds."


By Order of The Graybeards

Unofficial Official Clamproclamation Billy Holcomb Chapter

Spring Clampout
April 29, 30, & May 1
1983
Barstow & Coolguardie

THE GRAND NOBLE HUMBUG, The Right Skinny DAVE MYERS HERE BY WISHES TO PROCLAIM,

ANNOUNCE AND OTHER WISE SPREAD THE GLORIOUS CLAMPROCLAMATION:

TO WIT: Get yer clamper gear & you know what together and head for Billy Holcomb's Clampsite 12 miles north of Barstow in the giant and glorious county of San Bernardino. The remote and primitive Clampsite features awesome desert scenery. It is reached by following fort Irwin Road (paved) north from Barstow about 6 miles to left turn (that's a "Haw!" to yer burro) onto Copper city Road (graded but good) another 6 miles north (north again? now can this be? it must be an anomaly of geography!) (or a clamper readin duh map) to the junction with the dirt road to Coolgardie Mining Camp (abandoned-nobody home)--- at this junction look fer prostrate red-shirted fauna beneath a huge Joshua tree.

Whereas:
Usual lubriacation and gas-tronomical chili-and-beans on Friday eve (Real clampers don't eat quiche they eat Billy Holcombs Famous Bung Hole Burnin Chili & Beans), fun and games on Saturday and on Sunday morning a Clamper salute to the shapely waitresses that tamed the Wild West along the Santa Fe RR line, the Harvey Girls. Namely, we will dedicate an officail bronze and Beautifulu state plaque fer California Registered Historical Landmark #892, the majestic Barstow Harvey House (it's still standing--but possibly not fer long--at the Barstow Amtrak Station). The dedication will be near the railroad exhibit on the grounds of the Mojave River Valley Museum on Barstow Road on block north of Interstate 15 in Barstow.

Therefore: Send yer GOLD DUST ($35 fer PBC & other fools or piddling $25 fer members-fer gobs of good grub and guzzles) To the Grand Noble Gold Dust Receiver Larry "Penny Pinchin" Wright, at 12415 Waterloo, Chino CA, 91710

Theseas, To Wit & Soforth: Special Clamproclamation by Order of the Graybeards & de Humbug.

Reafirmation of The Rules: 1. No Gun, firearms, Shotguns, Rifles, Cannon or heavy weapons,

2. No Explosives of any type.

3. No Fireworks of any type.

4. Tell your PBC about these rules

The reaffirmation of this rule is do to gastly doings in the diggin' at Chief Truckee chapter up north o here.

So Recorded, Bill

Grand Noble Recorder

writin by Poretta with contributions by the Rev.

TURN DE PAGE FOR MORE INFO
April 6, 1983  
Month meeting at Brighams restaurant. Last chance Planning & get it together for Spring Clampout.

April 22, 1983  
Paperwork and Clampfees are due at God Dust Receiver, Larry Wright residence. If your are late, add 5 bucks and call Larry at (714) 628-4622.

Preclampout  
Please explain to yer pbc exactly what he is expected to do at the Clampout. For your assistance, a few rules are detailed later.

April 22, 1983  
Paperwork and Clampfees are due at God Dust Receiver, Larry Wright residence. If your are late, add 5 bucks and call Larry at (714) 628-4622.

Preclampout  
Please explain to yer pbc exactly what he is expected to do at the Clampout. For your assistance, a few rules are detailed later.

April 29, 1983  
6:00PM  
Beer and Chili Feed— kickoff to the Official, Unofficial Doings  
Chili Bean served until there are no more.

6:01  
Errrrrection of the FFFFFarting Post — Explaniation of this honorable tradiation by the Rev Bill

6:02PM  
The Humbug's Slippery Gloch hour & Attitude Adjustment Hour at Humbug Myers Humble Abode. All Brothers & pbc's are encouraged to stop by and have their attitude adjusted, by the HUMBUG.

7:00  
Unofficial Clampfire & pbc lubrication. Bring your KY Jelly

ON ARRIVAL  
ALL PBCS Must find the HANGMAN, TERRY THE TERRIBLE RHIND FOR CHECK-IN assignments, rules, etc.

April 30, 1983  
Saturday  
7:00, A M  
Breakfast at 7:00AM The first of Clampchef Badero's Gourment Gastronmical creations of the weekend. Better get there before 7:59 or take yer chances.

8:30 AM  
pbc meeting with the Hangman at City Hall.

8:45 AM  
Sign Ups Start for the Clamper Olympic Games, See Clamper "Can get the Wrinkles Out Hopwood".

9:30AM  
CUTOFF -TIME Arrival time for PBC's. First and Probably Final Cutoff time for pbc check in with the Hangman.

10:00AM  
CLAMPEROLYMPIC GAMES BEGIN. pbc Parade,BEER CHUG, FOLLOWED BY HORSESHOES AND pbc TOSS & OTHER FUN THINGS TO DO.

10:01  
Graybeards slippery Gulch Shooters?

11:29  
Graybeards Meeting  (Graybeards meet the Lowly pbc's at 11:35AM)

2:00 PM  
pbc meeting— For further Indoctrination and lubrication at City Hall

3:30 PM  
pbc Entertainment at City Hall

5:30PM  
Dinner is served at our Million dollar rolling gourmet Place Chuck Wagon STEak with all the FIXINS Top notch first Class Steak.

Entertainment by the pbc all Kazoo band.
Get yer Clamper gear and head for Billy Holcomb's Clampsite 12 miles north of Barstow in the giant and glorious county of San Bernardino. The remote and primitive Clampsite features awesome desert scenery. It is reached by following Fort Irwin Road (paved) north from Barstow about 6 miles to left turn (that's a 'Haw!' to yer burro) onto Copper City Road (graded but good) another 6 miles north (north again? how can this be? it must be an anomaly of geography!) to the junction with the dirt road to Coolgardie Mining Camp (abandoned)--at this junction look fer prostrate red-shirted fauna beneath a huge Joshua tree.

Usual lubrication and gas-tronomical chili-and-beans on Friday eve, fun & games on Saturday, and on Sunday morn a Clamper salute to the shapely waitresses that tamed the wild West along the Santa Fe RR line, the Harvey Girls. Namely, we will dedicate an official bronze and beautiful state plaque fer California Registered Historical Landmark #892, the majestic Barstow Harvey House (it's still standing--but possibly not fer long--at the Barstow Amtrak Station). The dedication will be near the railroad exhibit on the grounds of the Mojave River Valley Museum on Barstow Road, one block north of Interstate 15 in Barstow.

Send yer gold dust ($35 fer PBC's or a piddling $25 fer members--fer gobs of good grub and guzzles) to G. D. Receiver Bill "Parson" Pearson, 28449 Carriage Hill Drive, Highland, Ca 92346.

Yer obedient servant,
Phil "Roadrunner" Porretta
Historian & 4th VNGH

Raffle ticket
Sally's Mustang Ranch
Map drawn by Phil Perretta

NORTH

Clampsite
April 29 - May 1, 1983

Coolgardie

Copper City Road

Gold 9

Fat Irwin

Edwards 58

First Fort Avenue

Amtrak Station (remains of Barstow Harvey House)

BARSTOW

Dedication → Mojave River Valley Museum
11 am May 1, 1983

Plaque Dedication 11 am May 1

Baker 40

Victorville 24

Lucerne Valley 15

Main St.

Main St.
A group that has a long memory

E Clampus Vitus is at it again; it will dedicate another California registered historical marker next Sunday, this time to commemorate the Harvey House in Barstow.

As an organization, E Clampus Vitus, along with its fun and pun times, concentrates on perpetuating memories of California's history. The Billy Holcomb Chapter will officiate at an 11 a.m. ceremony May 1 at the Mojave River Valley Museum, Barstow Road and Virginia Way.

Fred Harvey, the corporate father of the Harvey House, was the Col. Harland (Kentucky Fried Chicken) Sanders or the Ray (McDonald's) Krock of his time.

In 1876, Harvey became the restaurant and hotel concessionaire for the westward reaching Santa Fe and soon developed a chain of Harvey Houses that dotted the right-of-way from Kansas, through Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona to California.

According to E Clampus Vitus historian Phil Poretta, the first Harvey House was built in Topeka, Kansas. By 1885, the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, which was controlled by Santa Fe, was extended to Mojave, Calif.

In November of that year the Santa Fe-owned California Southern Rail-}

road completed its tracks from San Bernardino northward to meet the A&P line at Waterman Junction. The following year the intersection was renamed Barstow in honor of William Barstow Strong, president of the Santa Fe.

Also in 1886, a two-story brick and wood combination depot-hotel-restaurant was constructed for a Harvey House. It lasted a year before it burned to the ground and its replacement likewise was destroyed by fire in 1892. Barstow's third Harvey House was reduced to ashes in 1906.

The fourth house was opened on Feb. 22, 1911, as part of a three-building complex, connected by covered walkways. The western section was torn down in the 1950s. The middle section has been an Amtrak station house since 1971 and the eastern section, the Harvey House of old, is vacant and fenced to prevent vandalism.

Chapter historian Poretta says if you're old enough, you'll probably remember the Harvey Girls, not just as the title for a 1945 MGM movie, but as the attractive young women who served dinners to hungry passengers on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway line.

One of those Harvey Girls, who will be honored next Sunday, is Addie Park Bassett, who has lived in Barstow since she rode the Santa Fe to California in 1927. In 1933 she married Frank Bassett, a Harvey chef, who retired in 1954.

"My late sister, Jessie, and I were Harvey Girls in Vaughn, N.M., before coming to California. We started work in Barstow on the 4th of July and served four trains every day at noon. In Vaughn, we worked seven days a week, but at Barstow we got a day off."

"At the beginning I was making $35 a month and got my room and board and uniforms. We loved our work and we were proud that you couldn't beat the food or the service. We served 344 people at a sitting," she said in a telephone conversation last week.

"With a laugh, she added, 'That movie 'Harvey Girls' was good entertainment, but there was not that much singing and dancing at the real Harvey Houses."

"I retired in 1967, about 8 years after the Harvey Company sold the restaurant to an independent operator."

Wrote Phil, "To recruit his special charmers, Harvey ran ads in eastern and midwestern newspapers for 'young women, 18 to 30 years of age, of good character, attractive and intelligent'."

"The approved applicants were carefully trained, they wore black dresses with white collars and aprons and their hair had to be plainly done with an optional white ribbon bow."

At the beginning, they worked 12-hour days, but their salary, tips and free room and board were considered good benefits. They lived in dormitories with house matrons and their social life was confined to chaperoned Friday night dances.

Barstow's Harvey House, Casa del Desierto, was the largest in the state and second oldest after Needles' El Garces. Phil says. Other smaller dining rooms, lunch rooms and news stands followed in other California cities.

Harvey Girls had a tricky way of quickly and mysteriously serving newly arrived customers. As soon as diners were seated, a girl asked each one if he or she preferred coffee, hot tea, iced tea or milk. Soon another girl appeared and magically poured the correct drinks without asking.

The trick was accomplished by a cup signal. The original waitress set it up — a cup right side up meant coffee, upside down meant hot tea, upside down and tilted in the saucer meant iced tea, and a cup moved aside meant milk.

The dedicatory marker was financed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation, E Clampus Vitus, Mojave River Valley Museum, San Bernardino County Museum and Fred Harvey Inc. A few bricks from the Harvey House will be embedded in the base.

Chuck Palmer is a Sun staff writer. His column appears Sundays in the Living Section.
Even in 1895 when this poem was published, the Harvey legend had become a part of the expansion history of the United States. Fred Harvey opened the first Harvey restaurant/hotel in 1876 at Top- eka, Kansas, in conjunction with the Santa Fe Railroad.

One hundred and seven years later in the windy, desert California community of Barstow, a brass plaque is embedded in a granite monument dedicated to Harvey’s ideal restaurant—excellent food with excellent service.

May 1, 1983, was an exciting day for many former Harvey employees in Barstow—a day to relive experiences.

Clarence Crooks, Orville Lewis, Frank Dillard and Donald Pattison—former Harvey "men" worked for Harvey and/or Santa Fe with food service. Patterson managed the restaurant from the spring of 1958 until May, 1968. Lewis, Dillard, and Crooks worked for Harvey in earlier years. They swept floors and made and sold ice cream among many other chores.

The girls also remembered their past experiences.

Yvonne Flores recalled that she was among 25 girls brought over from the Navajo Reservation to meet and feed the troop trains during World War II. "It was a wonderful place to work for a girl away from home. Why, even we got $25 a month and room and board!"

Julia Walters laughed. "I came to Barstow the 31st of May. The birds were singing. Flowers were blooming, and I’d left snow in Chicago. This was heaven, I thought. Then in July and August . . . I changed my mind."

Rose Schmitt was a head waitress from 1937 to 1939 in the Barstow Harvey House, but came from Kansas City and worked in the Gallup and Grand Canyon Harvey’s before she was brought to Barstow to be head waitress. She chuckled at the memory of working the Bright Angel Lodge at the Grand Canyon in the summer of 1936.

"There were a lot of tourists from here and other countries. We called them ‘dudes.’ They’d take the mule ride down to the floor of the canyon and come back walking bow-legged and so sore."

"Barstow was a very small community and the Harvey House was THE posh eating place for the townfolk. The restaurant worked three shifts—right around the clock—and fed the railroad men, too."

It was here that she met "a handsome, curly-haired man who looked like Robert Taylor" and married him in 1939.

"Harvey Houses, don’t you savvy; clean across the old Mojave, On the Santa Fe they’ve strung ’em like a string of Indian beads. We all couldn’t eat without ’em but the dinkiest thing about ’em is the Harvey skirts that hussle up the feeds."

The Harvey Girls’ uniforms are readily recognizable. In the winter, the waitresses wore black skirts, black blouses with black bow ties, and white bib aprons. This changed in the summer to white skirts and white blouses. The head waitresses wore an all-white uniform with a long narrow black clip in her hair and a hairnet.

E Clampus Vitus

The E Clampus Vitus is an historical service organization with a long and honored record. They have been extremely active in bringing historical artifacts to the attention of the public and working for their preservation. One of their projects has been financing the landmark plaques authorized by the State Historical Commission. Not only do E Clampus Vitus members work to see that historic sites are not destroyed, they bear a large portion of the financial cost of the very expensive plaques—they cost about $1,000 each. They do a great service for the citizens of the state of California and are mostly unsung about their contributions of time, effort, and money.

Harvey House Marker

It was the Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus along with the Mojave River Valley Museum Association, the San Bernadino County Museum Association and Fred Harvey, Incorporated (an Amfac company) who sponsored the historical marker honoring the Barstow Harvey House.

Phil Porretta, Billy Holcomb Chapter historian, wrote the informative historical booklet tracing the events leading to the building of the Harvey House now called Casa del Desierto.

The marker is on the grounds of the Mojave River Valley Museum. Unfortunately, the future of Casa del Desierto, owned by Santa Fe Railroad, is uncertain. Rather than place a plaque at the House that might possibly be destroyed, it was decided to erect it at the Museum where it will stand undisturbed.

The splendid Casa del Desierto is of Spanish-Moorish design, which was in vogue at the turn of the century. It is still standing and a drive to the Santa Fe Depot to see it is worthwhile. Francis Wilson was the architect. His work reflects the style of Mary E. J. Coulter, a reknown architect. The remaining two-story buildings are of red cinder block, with concrete pillars with mosaic tile on the towers. The roof is covered with red clay tile. The use of arches is especially attractive.

Gordon Stricker is the current president of the 200 member Mojave River Valley Museum. He and his wife Donna have personally arranged all of the displays in the museum. They are amateur field archeologists and have worked with world reknown Dr. Leaky, senior. Many of Barstow’s citizens take an active part in preserving the history of their region which is rich in archeological, architectural and historical sites.

Pat Keeling, Mohave River Valley Museum Board Member, was the Program Chairman for the event. It was she who gathered together the former Harvey Girls and men) and arranged the historical program presented by Germaine Moon, Mohave River Valley Museum’s historical researcher.

The dedication of the historical landmark marker in May revived memories for the special people who have been called Harvey Girls and who are part of California history in the making.

CASA DEL DESIERTO, as it stands today at the Santa Fe Depot—a magnificent reminder of another day. Fred Harvey took over operation of all the hotels/restaurants on the Santa Fe line in 1863, including Barstow—known then as Waterman Junction. The first depot burned down in 1908. Its replacement in 1911 was this magnificent structure of Spanish-Moorish design, in vogue at the time. Today this building is the best surviving example of California’s rash of depot-hotel at the turn of the century.

The Barstow Harvey House—named Casa del Desierto (Desert House)—opened in 1911 and closed in 1971. During Rose Schmitt’s tenure, the dining room seated about 110 and had a lunch counter, too. They fed one train after another, generally 300 per train in the summer months. There were no dining cars on the trains. The conductor would get each passenger’s order and it would be called ahead to the next dining stop.

The Harvey Girls’ uniforms are readily recognizable. In the winter, the waitresses wore black skirts, black blouses with black bow ties, and white bib aprons. This changed in the summer to white skirts and white blouses. The head waitresses wore an all-white uniform with a long narrow black clip in her hair and a hairnet.

Harvey House Marker

It was the Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus along with the Mojave River Valley Museum Association, the San Bernadino County Museum Association and Fred Harvey, Incorporated (an Amfac company) who sponsored the historical marker honoring the Barstow Harvey House.

Phil Porretta, Billy Holcomb Chapter historian, wrote the informative historical booklet tracing the events leading to the building of the Harvey House now called Casa del Desierto.

The marker is on the grounds of the Mojave River Valley Museum. Unfortunately, the future of Casa del Desierto, owned by Santa Fe Railroad, is uncertain. Rather than place a plaque at the House that might possibly be destroyed, it was decided to erect it at the Museum where it will stand undisturbed.

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Fall 1983 Clampout

POCHEA INDIAN VILLAGE SITE

Pochea was one of a cluster of Indian villages forming the very large settlement of Pahsitnah, which extended along the ridge east and west of Ramona Bowl. Pahsitnah was thriving when the Spanish first passed by in 1774. A tragic story tells of the natives contracting smallpox from Europeans, a terrible epidemic spreading, and some survivors fleeing to the area of the present Soboba Reservation.

California Registered Historical Landmark No. 104
Plaque placed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation in cooperation with San Jacinto Valley Museum, Hemet Area Museum Association, Ramona Pageant Association, and Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus.

October 2, 1983

Dedication of Historical Marker for Pochea Indian Village Site
California Registered Historical Landmark No. 104
at Ramona Bowl, Hemet, California
October 2, 1983
RAMONA BOWL INDIAN VILLAGE SITE

Many scholars theorize that about 2000 years ago aboriginals from the Nevada-Utah Great Basin entered California via the Owens Valley. It is easy to suppose that the wanderers spread into southern California and into the pleasant San Jacinto Valley. As groups split off in California, their languages diverged from their common Shoshonean branch of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic family.

Seven large Indian settlements were established in the San Jacinto Valley area. Indian tradition has it that the first settlement was Ihav (pronounced hEe-vah), located near Gilman Hot Springs. Other settlements followed, each established near a good source of water. The largest of the seven villages was Pahsimah, which stretched for six miles from Big Springs on the west to Bautista Creek on the east. Now situated in this area just south of Hemet is the Ramona Bowl, a 6000-seat amphitheater. The other settlements were: Soboba, near Soboba Hot Springs; Jusispah (also called Huachippah), near the artesian wells where the town of San Jacinto now stands; Corova, in Castile Canyon, northeast of Hemet; Ararah, in Webster's Canyon, north of Valle Vista and on the old road to Idyllwild; and Serrano, a somewhat smaller settlement, near Eden Hot Springs.

The first six settlements listed probably were established by ancestors of the present Mountain Cahuilla Indians. Serrano Indians established the seventh.

Soboba means a warm place; Corova means a cool place. Ruby Modesto, a Desert Cahuilla, translated Pahsimah as a Cahuilla place name meaning "where it is pressed down." Perhaps the many grinding stones found in that area indicate what was "pressed down." Or it may refer to the topography of the area—Pahsimah spread along the north slope of the Santa Rosa Hills.

The San Jacinto Valley has been near the border between Cahuilla and Luiseno tribal territories with Serrano territory not far away. This accounts for the facts that many sources classify the valley as Luiseno land while others classify it as Cahuilla land and many sources indicate Serrano influence in the valley. The Indian place names there are generally thought to be of the Cahuilla tongue. It is suggested that the valley usually has been Cahuilla territory.

The first recorded non-Indian to enter the San Jacinto Valley was Juan Bautista de Anza. He led the first Spanish expedition to find an over-
land route from Mexico to California. On March 18, 1774, he descended Bautista Canyon (undoubtedly named for him) and entered the valley near Valle Vista, just east of Hemet.

Anza named the valley San Joseph and described it as "broad and most beautiful (with) a good-sized river (ed.—the San Jacinto River) on whose banks are large and shady groves...All its plain is full of fertile pastures and other vegetation, useful for the raising of cattle (and) good crops." In the valley he encountered some shy Indian women: "we saw some heathen women, but they did not wish to come near us, although they were coaxed."

The next day Anza headed northwest across the valley. He noted in his diary: "Today several heathen came to us here and along the road which we traveled, talking with us now with greater freedom than those farther back, but as soon as they were given presents they left us. There is nothing particularly noteworthy about them, for in everything they are similar to those last seen...I have not seen very many of them, but it is evident from their tracks and their dwellings that (the area) is thickly inhabited by them." At that time, Pahsitnah was possibly at the height of its prosperity.

Anza again entered San Jacinto Valley from Bautista Canyon on his next expedition, for the founding of San Francisco. Padre Pedro Font was chaplain of the expedition. Font wrote in his diary entry for December 29, 1775, that in Bautista Canyon he saw "some abandoned little huts. Before we halted a few Indians who were camped on the banks of the river, armed with their bows and arrows, permitted themselves to be seen at a distance, but they did not wish to come near us although we called them. These Indians are of the Jeniguechi tribe and are very similar in all respects to the Jecuiches of the mountains." Today both these tribes would be classified as Mountain Cahuilla.

Font described San Jacinto Valley as "very large and beautiful. Its lands are very good and moist, so that although this was winter we saw the grass sprouting almost everywhere in the valley."

Contact with the Spanish was to be a curse to the valley Indians. The new culture presented laws which reduced their status and diseases which reduced their population.

In 1881 Helen Hunt Jackson wrote a scholarly report, A CENTURY OF DISHONOR, which exposed the harsh legal treatment of American Indians. In 1884 she wrote an historical novel, RAMONA, which depicted the sad plight of southern California Indians. The novel captured the attention of the American public and helped the Indian cause. In 1923 the annual spring enactment of RAMONA began at Ramona Bowl.

During the 1920s and 1930s DeWitt Hutchings of Riverside promoted attractions of the Riverside area. He wrote tourist-directed booklets about Mount Rubidoux and the Mission Inn. He was the son-in-law of Frank Miller, then owner of the Mission Inn. Hutchings wrote that the settlement of Pahsitnah consisted of a cluster of seven villages and that Pochea was located about 7/10 of a mile east of Ramona Bowl and on the property of "Captain S. C. Hoffman" (ed.—the S. is for Samuel) on Crest Drive in Hemet.

In 1932 Hutchings submitted an application to register the Pochea site as a state landmark. It seems likely that he did this as a promotion for the RAMONA outdoor play. RAMONA advertisements in the 1930s often stressed that many Indian artifacts could be viewed in their native settings near the Bowl.

In 1933 a 9-member state committee approved the Hutchings application and the Pochea site became California Registered Historical Landmark #104. It is interesting to note that Hutchings himself was a member of the approval committee. Another member was Herbert Bolton, the famous historian, author, and professor at the University of California at Berkeley. Another member was Carl Wheat, a leader in the revitalization of the previously inactive E Clampus Vitus organization in the early 1930s. Without Wheat's efforts our beloved ECV may have died out completely.

In 1934 John Harrington, an outstanding ethnologist associated with the Smithsonian Institution, studied the Hemet area. He recorded the place name "Putsheeya" as being about ½ mile east of Hutchings' "Pochea." It is tempting to equate the two place names.

Harrington recorded perhaps six of Hutchings' seven villages of Pahsitnah: Putsheeya, Quava, Pitshaa'av, She'eeng, Hawisha, and Sho-vo'may. Quava was identified as being near Big Springs just west of the Bowl. The place name Pahsitnah was known as early as 1912 because it was then recorded on page 236 of Elmer Holmes' HISTORY OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY.

The information used by Hutchings in 1932 was "Lusinio Lugo, medicine man of the Cahuillas, living at Cahuilla (ed.—about 25
miles southeast of Hemet).” Harrington’s informants in 1934 were Vicente and Luisa Lugo of Soboba. In the Hemet News of April 15, 1932, an article reported that “Leonicio Lugo of Cahuilla” had a letter written by Helen Hunt Jackson in 1883. “Lugo” is a Cahuilla surname as is “Lubo” (the “real” Ramona was Ramona Lubo). Both surnames probably stem from the Cahuilla “Wolf” clan as corruptions of the Spanish word for wolf: “Lobo.”

Lusinio Lugo translated “Pochea” as meaning “Where the Rabbit went in.” Kathy Saubel, Cahuilla expert of the Malki Museum, could offer no translation. William Pink, an Indian who grew up in the Hemet area, doubted the Lugo translation but could offer no other. Clarence Swift, Hemet city historian, suggested that Pochea itself was a clan name.

Hutchings reported that Lusinio Lugo indicated that Pochea “was a thriving village of the Sabobas (sic) when the Spaniards came.” It seems reasonable that the San Jacinto Valley natives were prosperous in the late 1700s. However, William Pink thought it inaccurate to label the Pochea inhabitants at that time as Sobobas. He suggested that they were ancestors of the present Mountain Cahuillas.

Hutchings reported that from Pochea “Some 400 of the men were persuaded to go and live at Mission San Juan Capistrano during the time of its building. Many contracted measles from the Spanish and gave it to their home people. The scourge (sic) took a terrible toll in the tribe and the few survivors fled across the San Jacinto River and never again have the Sabobas (sic) been willing to live at the old home, which they regard as the cemetery (sic) of their finest stock.”

Analysis of the Hutchings report reveals that 400 would be an incredibly large number of men from Pochea. The entire settlement of Pahsitnah, agreed by all sources to be very large, may have had a population of 300. The entire Cahuilla population at that time may have been between 3,000 and 10,000. Their territory extended across a wide corridor from Riverside to the Salton Sea.

The next consideration is that of any Indians from the San Jacinto Valley area going to Mission San Juan Capistrano during the time of its building. Harry Lawton, an author deeply involved in Riverside County history, researched the matter, including investigating mission records. He could find nothing to substantiate the theory that valley Indians went to the mission. But this still remains a possibility although Cahuillas generally were not missionized.

The story of an epidemic does seem highly probable. California mission Indians experienced severe measles epidemics in 1806 and 1827. Mission San Juan Capistrano was founded in 1776 but the actual construction went on from 1796 until 1806. There was an alarming outbreak of smallpox in 1833, a severe smallpox epidemic in 1837, and a very severe smallpox epidemic during the winter of 1862-63. Both measles and smallpox were white men’s diseases to which Indians had little immunity.

Many sources specify that the 1863 smallpox epidemic caused Pahsitnah to be finally abandoned as an established settlement site. However, Pahsitnah may have also experienced the 1806 measles epidemic.

Clarence Swift affirmed that the Sobobas had a tradition about avoiding the Pahsitnah site. This tends to confirm the story of an epidemic there.

The Hemet News of March 24, 1933, reported that Eva Percival addressed the Valle Vista PTA to review the interesting speakers on the Indian landmarks of the area. The November 13, 1925, Hemet News reported that Mrs. Percival, head of the History & Landmarks section of the Hemet Woman’s Club, discussed her archaeological survey of the Pahsitnah site. She had found a rock about 15 by 20 feet in size with 34 metate holes in it.

This metate rock may be the same rock in the photos included in Hutchings’ 1932 registration application. Hutchings described the rock: “One rock there (ed.—on the Hoffman ranch, east of the Bowl) has over forty metates (see photos). Near this rock is another with many pictographs. . . . The metate rocks (on the Hoffman property) mark the village site. . . . It would be difficult to find a rock containing a finer display of metates than this boulder on the Hoffman property shown in the photo attached.”

Local expert Margo Tracy found a metate rock which matches the rock in Hutchings’ photos. A pictograph rock is nearby. But her find is west of the Bowl, not east. No such feature is known to be east of the Bowl. This identification was confirmed by a study team from the University of California-Riverside (UCR).

The San Jacinto Valley Register 1939 issue of Echoes from Ramonaland described the Pahsitnah site as containing “hundreds of mortar, a bathing pool, ceremonial rocks, and a few pictographs.”
In 1951 Dr. Hal Eberhart recorded archaeological survey data about the Pahsitnah site at Big Springs Ranch, ½ mile west of Ramona Bowl.

Site survey notes for the Ramona Bowl area are on file with the Archaeological Research Unit (ARU) at UCR. The relevant site members are CA-RIV-102, CA-RIV-119, CA-RIV-123, and CA-RIV-732.

At San Bernardino County Museum, site survey notes for the Bowl area are filed under sites SBCM 18, SBCM 537, SBCM 552, and SBCM 844.

A site survey recorded in August 1960 by Lorna & Vernon Watkins, a brother and sister investigation team, pin-points many metates, a shelter cave, and a marked boulder near the Bowl. Arda Haenszel's site survey of May 1965 reports findings similar to those of the Watkins'. The cave is mentioned in the *California Caver* issue of June-July 1950. Another similar site survey was recorded by Dorothy Cowper on February 27, 1971.

Dr. Gerald Smith, current Executive Director of the San Bernardino County Museum Association (SBCMA), explored the site in 1938. He returned and on a site survey of November 13, 1971, reported another shelter cave near Ramona Bowl. His field visit to the cave was reported in the SBCMA Newsletter of December 1971. The cave was later deeded to SBCMA by the owners, Orson and Nellie Lomaugh. Violet Tapper and Nellie compiled *THE FRIENDLIEST VALLEY: MEMORIES OF THE HEMET-SAN JACINTO AREA*, an anthology of remembrances by valley old-timers.

Near Ramona Bowl, from July to December 1977, Jim Swenson directed a study team of UCR ARU. Their test excavations exposed an aboriginal midden (trash deposit) over one meter in depth. Swenson referred to Pahsitnah as one of the largest village complexes in aboriginal southern California. Nelson Leonard and an ARU crew conducted an archaeological evaluation of a project area near the Bowl. They reported numerous archaeological remains. Because of the lack of 19th and 20th Century Indian artifacts found in the Bowl area, they suggest that the natives abandoned the site soon after contact with the Spanish.

An important ceremonial object was uncovered at the site by Becky Langenwalter of the ARU study team. Such an item left at the site gives credibility to the tradition of an epidemic causing the abandonment and of the taboo of returning to the site.

An archaeological-historical resources assessment of land near Ramona Bowl was written by Dr. Joseph Hearn of SBCMA. His report of February 8, 1978, states that his project site was part of a large complex of food processing, habitation, and ceremonial sites used by aboriginal hunters and gatherers for about 1000 years.

A site survey recorded in July 1978 by Dan McCarthy for Joan Oxendine is expanded upon in an Environmental Impact report dated October 1978 and co-authored by Oxendine and William Pink. This report refers to Pahsitnah as "an extensive village" and "a significant archaeological site."

The Ramona Bowl area has been rich in surface artifacts. Good private collections have been made by Margo Tracy, Harland Garbani, and Charles Van Fleet. In the *Hemet News* Golden Anniversary Edition of 1943, a photo shows the local collection of Fred Franklin, Jr. His collection was acclaimed as one of the finest amateur displays in southern California by Southwest Museum heads.

The Southwest Museum in Los Angeles is an excellent Indian museum. The Malki Museum, on a Cahuilla reservation near Banning, specializes in Cahuilla material. The San Bernardino County and San Jacinto Valley museums have good Indian exhibits. A fine labeled collection of Bowl area artifacts is in the UCR ARU trailer.

In 1950, to help celebrate the California statehood Centennial, a state marker was placed at Ramona Bowl. The marker commemorated the site of the dramatization of the historical novel RAMONA, although the Bowl itself was, and is, unregistered as a California landmark.

Now, finally a state marker has been placed to give specific recognition to the nearby Indian settlement, its rich archaeological legacy, and sad but typical story of New World Indians literally exterminated due to Old World contact. Let us salute Pochea Indian Village Site, California Registered Historical Landmark #104.
The Ancient and Honorable Order of
E Clamping Vitus
Billy Holcomb Chapter

BY ORDER OF THE GRAYBEARDS

UNOFFICIAL OFFICIAL CLAMPROCLAMATION

FALL CLAMPOUT
SEPT. 30, OCT. 1, & 2 1983
HEMET

THE NOBLE GRAND HUMBUG, THE RIGHT HONORABLE DAVE MYERS HEREBY PROCLAIMS, ANNOUNCE, IMPRECATE, & OTHER WISE SPREAD THE GLORIOUS CLAMPROCLAMATION:

TO WIT: Grab your RED SHIRT & BLACK HAT, & unhitch yer burro and make tracks to a fabulous weekender clampout in Romona country. Attitude adjustment begins Friday evening, September 30, 1983, with chili con carne (hot & extra hot). Hearty breakfast on Saturday and Sunday plus a luxury dinner Saturday -- Con mucha cerveza y cold -- all fer the low low discount rub of $30 per member and $40 per PBC. Send yer gold dust to Larry "The Impecunious" Wright, 12415 waterloo drive, chino, ca 91710. Bring yer own grub utensils.

Dart and horseshoe games on Saturday fer surprising prizes. A Clampfired historical talk Saturday night fer yer entertainment. On Sunday at 11 AM will be a plaque dedication fer California Registered Historical Landmark #104, the Pochea Archaeological Site.

The Plaque will commemorate a very large Indian settlement which spread out among the hills where the Ramona Bowl (home of the outstanding Historical outdoor play set in old California) is now situated. The Indian settlement was wiped out by an epidemic of smallpox, a whitemans disease. Many excellent artifacts have been unearthed at the site by University of California-Riverside researchers.

The clampsite is on a private ranch in the live-oak-studded hills south of Hemet. The clampsite may be reached by following Riverside County Route R3 (that's State Street in Hemet) south from State Highway 74 (that's Florida Avenue in Hemet) for 9.4 miles. At this point on the west side of R3 is a sign which states, "Bulldozer for Hire" painted on a large yellow dozer blade. Right there turn west onto a dirt road and in 300 yards you are there!

Where as: Reaffirmation of the Rules:

1. No Guns, Firearms, Shotguns, Rifles, Ect.
2. No Explosives of any type
3. No Fireworks
4. Tell your PBC about these rules.

So Recorded,  
Noble Grand Recorder

Map by Noble Grand Clamppcartographer Porretta
PRECLAMP SCHEDULE, CLAMPSCHEDULE AND RANDOM PBC RULES, ECT. & OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF.

Sept 7th 1983
Month meeting at Brigham's restaurant. Last chance planning & get it together for Spring Clampout.

Sept 20th 1083
Paperwork and Clampfees are due at God Dust Receiver, Larry Wright residence. If you are late, add 5 bucks and call Larry at (714) 628-4622.

Preclampout
Please explain to yer pbc exactly what he is expected to do at the Clampout. For your assistance, a few rules are detailed later.

SEPT 30, 1983
Beer and Chili Feed—kickoff to the Official, Unofficial Doings
6:00 PM
Chili Bean served until there are no more.

6:01
Errrrection of the FFFFFarting Post—Explanation of this honorable tradition by the Rev Bill

6:02 PM
The Humbug's Slippery Gluch hour & Attitude Adjustment Hour at Humbug Myers Humble Abode. All Brothers & pbc's are encouraged to stop by and have their attitude adjusted, by the HUMBUG.

7:00
Unofficial Clampfire & pbc lubrication. Bring your KY Jelly

ON ARRIVAL
ALL PBCS Must find the HANGMAN, TERRY THE TERRIBLE RHIND FOR CHECK-IN assignments, rules, etc.

OCT. 1 1983
Saturday
7:00, AM
Breakfast at 7:00 AM The first of Clampchef Badero's Gourment Gastronomical creations of the weekend. Better get there before 7:59 or take yer chances.

8:30 AM
pbc meeting with the Hangman at City Hall.

8:45 AM
Sign Ups Start for the Clamper Olympic Games, See Clamper "Can get the Wrinkles Out Hopwood".

9:30 AM
CUTOFF -TIME Arrival time for PBC's. First and Probably Final Cutoff time for pbc check in with the Hangman.

10:00 AM
CLAMPEROLYMPIC GAMES BEGIN. pbc Parade, BEER CHUG, FOLLOWED BY HORSESHOES AND pbc TOSS & OTHER FUN THINGS TO DO. Graybeards slippery Gulch Shooters?

10:01
Graybeards Meeting (Graybeards meet the Lowly pbc's at 11:35 AM)

11:29
pbc meeting—For further Indoctrination and lubrication at City Hall

1:00 PM
pbc Entertainment at City Hall & initiation of PBC into the Order

5:30 PM
Dinner is served at our Million dollar rolling gourmet Place Chuck Wagon Steak with all the FIXINS Top notch first Class Steak. Entertainment by the pbc all Kazoo band.
SUNDAY, OCT. 2, 1983

6:00AM PBC'S up & at them for Clean UP & to man the cooktrailer for Sundays breakfast.
7:00AM  Sunday Breakfast with all the Fixings.
10:00 AM  Clean Up the Camp Everybody helps out.
11:00 AM  Plaque Dedication at Ramona Bowl (Just inside the Entrance)
The Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus
Billy Holcomb Chapter

Map to Clampsite for Sept 30 - Oct 2, '83
drawn by Phil Fiorretta

Historical Marker dedication Sunday Oct 2
11 am

Turn west onto dirt road at sign "BULLDOZER FOR HIRE"
on large yellow 'dozer blade (on west side of R3).
Go on dirt road about 300 yards to clampsite.
The arrival of the Spanish brought tragedy to the Indians

The story of Ramona, romanticized by author Helen Hunt Jackson in the 19th century, was well known among readers of her time.

And, because the Ramona Pageant is performed in Hemet each year, the love story of the Indian maiden and her lover, Alessandro, has claimed the attention of 20th century Americans far removed from the pretty San Jacinto Valley in Riverside County.

The 6,000-seat Hemet bowl is used in the spring for the outdoor pageant and in the summer for concerts. This year, a fall event also will focus attention on the picturesque site.

At 11 a.m., Oct. 2, on the occasion of its Fall Clam­pout, Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus will dedicate a historical marker at the Pochea Indian Village Site near the amphitheater, according to my correspondent Phil Poretta, who says everyone is invited.

Phil is the historian for the Holcomb chapter of the California organization that gathers for fun and to commemorate the past of our Golden State in a special way.

Registered as California Historical Landmark No. 104, the site is described on the marker as follows:

"Pochea was one of a cluster of Indian villages forming the very large settlement of Pahsitnah, which extended along the ridge east and west of Ramona Bowl. The settlement was thriving when the Spanish first passed by in 1774.

"A tragic story tells of the natives contracting smallpox from Europeans, a terrible epidemic spreading and some survivors fleeing to the area of the present Soboba reservation."

Phil sent me a copy of the text he wrote for the occasion and it proves to be an interesting account of how aboriginals are thought to have migrated from the Nevada-Utah great basin into Southern California.

Seven large settlements were established in the San Jacinto Valley area, he wrote, the largest of which was Pahsitnah. It stretched for seven miles from Big Springs to Bautista Creek.

"We saw some heathen women, but they did not wish to come near us, although they were coaxed," he wrote.

A year later he was back in the valley again, this time with Padre Pedro Font who wrote that the Indians, still reticent to approach the Spaniards, were members of the Jeniguechi tribe and found them "very similar in all respects to the Jucuchis of the mountains."

The arrival of the Spanish was to become a curse to the Indians. The new culture passed laws that reduced their status and brought diseases that reduced their population.

Three years before she wrote "Ramona," Jackson published a scholarly paper exposing the harsh legal treatment of American Indians. Her historical novel, however, is the work that most helped their cause. It resulted in the pageant that was first produced in 1923.

In the '20s, DeWitt Hutchings of Riverside wrote tourist booklets about Riverside County attractions and in one he located Pochea seven-tenths of a mile east of Ramona Bowl on Capt. S.C. Hoffman's property.

In 1933, a state committee approved Hutchings' application to establish the spot as historical site No. 104. The newly made plaque, installed Sept. 10 by Billy Holcomb Chapter volunteers, will permanently mark that spot.

Chuck Palmer is a Sun staff writer. His column appears on Sunday in the Living Section.
A slow, steady burn is better than a flare-up

By JACKIE RICHARD
Sun Staff Writer

We are thinking of buying a special fireplace grate which would allow us to burn rolled newspapers. We've heard pros and cons about using paper for fuel and don't want to create any conditions that might lead to a chimney fire. Can you advise us?

— Barbara Cambroto, Wrightwood

Quilts containing wool batting should also be dry cleaned because oils from the wool can penetrate fabric and cause spots or stains.

Quilts made of cotton fabric and cotton batting can be carefully hand washed in cool water. Dunham recommends a special detergent called En-V.
SODA SPRINGS
ZZYZX MINERAL SPRINGS

IN 1860 THE U.S. ARMY ESTABLISHED AN OUTPOST AT SODA SPRINGS TO PROTECT GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES FROM INDIANS. LATER, MINERS PROCESSED THE ADJACENT LAKE MINERALS. IN 1906 THE TONOPAH & TIDEWATER RAILROAD ARRIVED. IN 1944 DR. CURTIS H. SPRINGER ESTABLISHED A HEALTH RESORT AT THE OUTPOST SITE, WHICH HE RENAMED ZZYZX MINERAL SPRINGS.

Plaque placed by BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER OF THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ORDER of E CLAMPUS VITUS in cooperation with FRIENDS OF THE MOJAVE ROAD and BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT.

May 6, 1984

Dedication of Historical Marker for
Soda Springs -- Zzyzx Mineral Springs
Historical Site
Ten Miles Southwest of
Baker, California

May 6, 1984
Sponsors of the Soda Springs historical marker:
Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus
Friends of the Mojave Road

Billy Holcomb Chapter historical site scouts:
John Buleigh
Bill Collett
Ron Hibble
Jim McMullen
Mel McMullen
Bill Pearson
Phil Porretta
Ed Rezes
Frank Sepulveda
George Spooner

Historical advisors:
Dennis Casebier, author of "Gudie to the Mojave Road"
Anne Duffield, author of "A Short History of Soda Springs"

Acknowledgments:
Dennis Casebier, FRIENDS OF THE MOJAVE ROAD, chairman
Bill Pearson, BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER, Noble Grand humbug
Irish Robertson, BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER marker builder
Gabe Lopes, BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER plaque currier
Alan Romspert, DESERT STUDIES coordinator (CSU, Fullerton)
Alden Sievers, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT area manager (Barstow)
Tim Smith, Bureau of Land Management
Curtis Springer, DR. CURTIS HOWE SPRINGER FOUNDATION director
(Las Vegas, Nev.)

Text written by Phil Porretta.
Located in Chemehuevi Indian territory, Soda Springs was used by Mohave Indians as a water stop on their journeys to the southern California coast. The home territory of the Mohave tribe long has been along the Colorado River near the present city of Needles. A thousand years ago they traveled to trade their home-grown crops for attractive seashells of coastal Indians. The Mohave routes across the intervening Mojave Desert were determined largely by locations with drinkable water. Soda Springs was such a site. Its flowing springs were long its main attraction.

Using Indian pathways, in 1776 Spanish missionary-explorer Padre Francisco Garces became the first recorded non-Indian to cross the Mojave Desert. Also following Indian routes, in 1826 trapper Jedediah Smith became the first American to cross the Mojave and the first American to enter California by an overland route. Both first crossed in an east-to-west direction.

The Indian transdesert routes became known as the Mojave Trail. When crossing the western half of the Mojave Desert, the Indians usually followed the Mojave River. The intermittent, above-ground under-ground, nature of the river prompted Smith to call it Inconstant River. Its source is in the San Bernardino Mountains where it drains the current Silverwood Lake-Lake Arrowhead area. Its dry termination is a final sink into Mojave sands usually just south or east of Soda Springs.

Soda Springs received its name from an 1854 railroad survey report by Lt. Amiel Whipple. He applied the name "Soda" to the dry lake adjacent to Soda Springs because, as he reported, the lake bed
was "covered with efflorescent salts, probably sulphate of soda."
The "Soda" name was later applied to the springs as well.

In April 1859 the U.S. Army established Fort Mojave on the Arizona side of the Colorado River about 15 miles north of the present city of Needles. The Mojave Trail became a government wagon from the fort to Los Angeles and became known as the Fort Mojave Road. In April 1860, Camp Cady was established on the new wagon road halfway between the fort and the civilization of San Bernardino.

Smaller outposts were established between Camp Cady and the fort. Camp Cady and the small outposts were manned only when considered necessary. The first outpost established east of Camp Cady was at Soda Springs, 35 miles away. The construction of a small circular earthen breastwork at Soda Springs was begun on May 1, 1860, and completed on June 4, 1860.

Based at Camp Cady, Major James Carleton commanded a campaign against desert Indians. During the campaign, Carleton sent Lt. Milton Carr and 16 dragoons to scout for Indians and establish a small outpost at Soda Springs. Carr carried out his orders. He found and successfully battled some "Pah-Ute" Indians. In reports to Carleton, Carr recorded of Soda Springs:

"May 1st...Found plenty of tule grass and water here. There are three springs, one large and two small ones. The water is impregnated with some alkaline substance and is unpleasant to the taste...Had the place for a small, circular redoubt marked out, to be thrown up by four men..."

"May 3d...On my arrival in camp at Soda Springs, I found the redoubt going up finely. The earth is very good for such purposes, being very tenacious and there is plenty of good sod for revetting. With plenty of tools and the necessary time, a very good and substantial redoubt could be built here."
"June 4th. Lay over to-day to rest the horses and finish the Redoubt. Had it finished so that a small party of men can hold it securely against any number of Indians that will ever be likely to be in that part of the county. Loop-holes are so arranged around the top, that men inside of the redoubt can command all the ground around, without exposing themselves to the fire of the Indians. Had the front traverse so arranged, also, that it will afford shelter to three or four horses."

In a report dated May 14, 1860, Carleton recorded that the "small redoubt...erected at Soda Spring...is called Hancock's Redoubt. Should small parties hereafter be required to operate from that point, five or six men on foot in this redoubt can guard the supplies".

"Hancock's Redoubt" at Soda Springs was named in honor of Captain Winfield Scott Hancock, Army Quartermaster at Los Angeles. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Hancock volunteered to leave Los Angeles and fight with the Union Army in the East. His outstanding courage and leadership in Civil War battles earned him the rank of major-general and the status of hero. His popularity led to his selection by the Democrats as their presidential candidate for the 1880 election. He was very narrowly defeated by the Republican candidate, James Garfield.

The army abandoned Hancock's Redoubt on June 6, 1860. But Soda Springs remained an important water stop on the Fort Mojave Road. Traffic on that route increased during 1863-64 due to gold and silver strikes in Arizona.

The rich new La Paz gold fields were on the Arizona side of the Colorado River about 10 miles northeast of the present city of Blythe. The U.S. mail route went from the La Paz mining district to cross the southern part of present Riverside County somewhat south
of current Interstate 10. In 1866 "political tricksters" changed the mail route from the La Paz road (also known as the Bradshaw road) to the Fort Mojave road.

Inspector General Roger Jones recommended that a mail relay station be established at Soda Springs. Based on this, Major William Price, commander at Fort Mojave, on July 24, 1867, ordered Lt. Manuel Eyre of Camp Cady to re-establish the post. By August 21, 1867, the post at Soda Springs was again manned. The post was to escort the mail and provide fresh horses. The structures at Soda Springs were improved with rock buildings and a corral.

On April 18, 1868, more political trickery changed the mail route back to the La Paz road. On May 23, 1868, the army removed its men from Soda Springs.

By 1871 Fort Mojave was supplied by river steamboats rather than overland wagons. Thus the government lost interest in the Fort Mojave Road. The road became known as simply the Mojave Road and later often was called the Old Government Road. In 1871 the army sold Soda Springs to a commercial enterprise. A San Bernardino Guardian reporter traveled the Mojave Road. For August 30, 1871, he wrote of commercial Soda Springs: "The boys have built for the use of the public a nice bathing place and invited us to take a bath while they were preparing dinner."

The commercial rest stop at Soda Springs was known as "Soda Station." An excellent 1874 photograph of Soda Station appears on page 194 of Guide to the Mojave Road by Dennis Casebier. George Hetzel was stationkeeper in 1882 and did some mining of Soda Lake.

In 1885 the site was called "Shenandoah Camp." With the
The completion of the transcontinental railroad across the Mojave Desert, the Mojave Road lost importance in the mid-1880's. The road alongside the railroad track was part of the National Old Trails Highway which became the famous "Route 66" and now is Interstate 40.

The 1900 Census recorded Frank and Sarah Riggs as living and mining in the Soda Springs area. Their five-acre Hetzel Mill site claim included Soda Station.

From November 1905 to March 1906 Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad crews laid track from Ludlow, through Soda Springs, and on to Silver Lake. The T&T line was created by Francis "Borax" Smith to freight his borax ore from Death Valley across the desert. The railroad also carried ores from other mines and included passenger service. A T&T passenger station opened at Soda Springs on November 8, 1907, and closed on August 31, 1908. But Soda Springs continued to be a T&T siding station for many years.

The Pacific Salt and Soda Company made improvements at Soda Springs from 1907 to 1912. They recovered minerals from Soda Lake brine by an advanced technology refrigeration method and by standard solar evaporation. Sulphate, salt, and sodium carbonate were produced. They built the 1½-mile narrow gauge track from the lake bed to their processing plant at the siding.

Desert authority Edmund Jaeger wrote that Charles Russell, co-founder of Jehovah's Witnesses, established a religious camp at Soda Springs in 1914. The camp apparently disbanded when Russell died on October 30, 1916.

David Thompson, U.S. Geological Survey agent who mapped the Mojave Desert, visited Soda Springs on December 7, 1919. He described
the site as deserted.

Famous mystery writer Erle Stanley Gardner drove to Soda Springs to shoot frogs with a bow and arrow. His story of the trip appeared in the September 1936 issue of *Field & Stream* magazine.

Prehistoric tools were found at Soda Springs. Elizabeth and William Campbell wrote an analysis of the findings which was published by the Southwest Museum of Los Angeles in June 1937.

On June 14, 1940, all Tonopah & Tidewater operations halted. Its rails were torn up between July 18, 1942, and July 25, 1943.

Curtis Springer began occupying the land around Soda Springs on September 13, 1944. With his wife-to-be Helen and other associates, they claimed 12,800 acres.

Curtis Springer had a background steeped in evangelism. He was known as Dr. Curtis Howe Springer. He had established six health resorts in eastern U.S. He determined to establish a health resort at Soda Springs. He renamed the site Zzyzx (pronounced Zye-zix) Mineral Springs to be the last word alphabetically in the English language and it still is.

Over the next several years he did much to improve the property. He gathered many destitute men from Skid Row in Los Angeles to work at his resort. Rock ruins of the old army fort, including a blacksmith shop and a guardhouse, were incorporated into his new resort buildings. The rocks are still clearly visible in the front wall of Main Building. Resort structures included a 2-story 60-room hotel ("The Castle"), a dormatory ("Sunrise"), a dining hall, a radio studio, a chapel, a food-processing plant, indoor baths,
a swimming pool in the shape of a Christian cross pointing to the North Star, and a lake (stocked) with a beautiful fountain. The grounds were enhanced by the planting of 7000 salt cedar shade trees, 2000 Washingtonia palms, and 4000 oleander flowering bushes of ten colors, lining neat avenues.

Springer had the longest continual program on radio, starting in 1924 on KDKA in Pittsburgh, Pa., the world's pioneer radio station. His daily half-hour program usually consisted of friendly philosophy and recorded religious music. He promoted the Zzyzx resort over national and international broadcasts which reached over 14 million listeners. He also promoted his highly successful mail-order business of health products.

His business mail overloaded the Baker post office causing increased employment for the townspeople. His resort business increased the Baker motel business as his guests often waited in Baker for accommodations in Zzyzx.

The Zzyzx resort had rules forbidding alcohol, drugs, and arguing. Healthy vegetables and fruits and their juices were served. Christianity was promoted. Guests enjoyed hot mineral water bathing, swimming, horseback riding, hiking, fishing, shuffleboard playing, daily churchgoing, and nightly travelogue watching.

Problems for Springer began on December 10, 1965, when the Bureau of Land Management declared his mining claims invalid. On June 24, 1966, BLM served Springer a Notice of Trespass. A lengthy and controversial court battle began. Meantime, complaints of his mail-order cures led to charges by the California Bureau of Food and Drug Inspections in 1968 and to a conviction of false advertising
in 1970.

On April 11, 1974, the Springers were forceably evicted from Zzyzx. They now reside in Las Vegas, Nevada.

BLM deliberated over what to do with the site. Finally, on July 1, 1976, a 5-year management lease of the central 1280 acres of Zzyzx was granted to the California State Universities at Dominguez Hills, Fullerton, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Northridge, Pomona, and San Bernardino. The colleges formed a Consortium to operate a Desert Studies Center at Soda Springs to offer courses, research, and field trips in anthropology, archaeology, geology, geography, and biology.

In December 1976 NBC filmed an in-depth news story of Zzyzx. It has been shown and rerun on TV.

The resort buildings had been neglected for two years, so the Consortium's first efforts were those of restoration. The Consortium closed off Soda Springs from public usage. This caused an outcry which resulted in opening the facilities to the public the last weekend of each month. On each open Saturday and Sunday tours are given by BLM at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. for $1 per person. The first of these tours was given on July 31, 1982.

Meanwhile, on October 1, 1980, the 5-year management lease to the Consortium was replaced by a 25-year agreement.

A unique item of study at Soda Springs is the endangered Mojave Chub fish. About 6 to 10 inches long, they are rather large members of the minnow family which evolved in the isolation of the Mojave River. The only surviving genetically pure specimens inhabit the pools at Soda Springs.
Friends of the Mojave Road, led by Dennis Casebier, has cleared off the original wagon road from the Colorado River to Barstow. Because Soda Springs is closed off to the public, the road was detoured around the south end of the Desert Studies area. The road has been designated a National Recreational Trail in the East Mojave National Scenic Area, created in 1981, which extends eastward from Soda Springs.
Bibliography


___________ Guide to the Mojave Road. Norco, Ca.: Tales of the Mojave Road, 1983.


SPECIAL CLAMP-NOTICE AND CLARIFICATION

The previous mailing about the pre-clampout plaque construction party was confusing to some of the brethren and needed some clarification. The Weekend of April 27th, 28th & 29th is the trip to Soda Springs to build the monument. The construction of the monument is the only official function sponsored by E. Clampus Vitus. Any other activities are un-official.

The Official Clampout is the Weekend of May 4th, 5th & 6th.

SECOND CLAMP-NOTICE AND CLARIFICATION

On Thursday, May 3rd a trip over the Mojave Road from Fort Mojave on The Colorado River to Soda Springs will be conducted by Bill Pearson & Sid Blumner this is also an UN-OFFICIAL function & is not sponsored by E Clampus Vitus, anyone interested in going Please contact one the above It is recommended for 4 wheel drive vehicles only.

SO RECORDED

HUMBUG BILL
THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ORDER OF
E CLAMPUS VITUS
BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER

BY ORDER OF THE GRAYBEARDS
UNOFFICIAL OFFICIAL CLAMPROCLAMTION
SPRING CLAMPOUT
SODA SPRINGS---2ZY2X SPRINGS

THE NOBLE GRAND HUMBUG, THE RIGHT HONORABLE BILL PEARSON, HEREBY PROCLAIMS, ANNOUNCES, IMPRECATES, & OTHERWISE SPREADS THE GLORIOUS CLAMPROCLAMATION!!!!!!!

TO WIT: GRAB your RED SHIRT & BLACK HAT, unhitch yer burro and head for the high desert out Baker way. It is CLAMPOUT time at SODA SPRINGS. Leave yer worries, the widder & orphans at home. The SlipperyGulch Saloon opens at 6:00PM or maybe sooner on Friday, May 4th, due to the noble generosity of Humbug Bill. Also fortify yerselves with chili con carne caliente by the Damm Fool Doorkeeper Frank Sepulveda. The cook crew, lead by Tony & the Chefs, will serve up new gourmet delights for the usually two breakfast & the wonderful & delectable Saturday night Steak dinner. "How much is the rub?" you might ask. It is only $30 fer a red shirt and $40 fer the lowlife PBC. A bargain at twice the price. Mail yer GOLD DUST to the Gold Dust Receiver Ken "Yogi" LeCourt at P.O. BOX 26, Patton, California.

Therefore: ClamPer Olympics (Here is where we get the jump on L.A. & the rest of the World.) Darts & Horseshoes fer surprizing prizes. A Clampfire & historical gabfest will be held for yer entertainment on Saturday Night. On Sunday at 11:00 AM there will the Plaque dedication at Soda Springs. This will be Billy Holcombs Official Plaque #29.

TO WIT AGAIN: The Plaque will commemorate the various historical events that took place there.

WHEREAS: The clampsite will be located at RAZOR JUNCTION under the Salt Ceders. See inclosed Map with direction.

ANYWAY: There will be 3 guided tours of the Soda Springs area by the Bureau of Land Management On Saturday at 10:00 AM and 12:00 Noon also at 2:00PM. There may be one after the dedication if needed.

REAFIRMATION OF THE RULES:

1. NO GUNS OR OTHER FIREARMS
2. NO EXPOSIVES OF ANY TYPE
3. NO FIREWORKS
4. NO Widders or other Ladys.
5. TELL YOUR PBC ABOUT THESE RULES.
Preclampout schedule and clamp schedule for Soda Springs, Spring Clampout 1984

April 3rd: monthly meeting at Villa de carlo in colton at 7:00pm. last chance planning for clampout. lets get it together.

April 25 paper work and clamp fee due at Gold Dust Receiver LeCourts. Add 5 bucks if you are late and call Ken at (714) 883-7274.

Pre-clampout: Explain to yer Pbc exactly what is expected of him at the clampout

Friday, May 4th: Beer and chili feed—Kick off to the official & unofficial doings at the diggins.

6:00pm chili con carne con beans Prepared by the Damm Fool doorkeeper & Keeper of the bean pot Frank Sepulveda. Chili served until its gone. Cerveza y cola also.

6:01 Errrection of the FFFArtng PPPost. The mysterious history of this ancient artifact will be explained by one of the Graybeards.

6:02 The Humbugs Slippery Gluch Saloon opens. Come and have your attitude adjusted at this time by Humbug Bill under the Salt Ceders.

7:00 Un-official clampfire & liars contest. Subject limited to sexual prowess & consumption of beer.

On Arrival FBC must report to The Hangman. (Either Bardero or Yowell).

Saturday, May 5,----

Breakfast at 7:00Am: The first of Tony the cook's gourmet gastronomical creations of the weekend. Better get there before 8:25AM or get leftovers.

7:30 Greybeards Meeting a la fresco

8:30 FBC Meeting with the Hangman
8:45---sign up for clammer olympics with Andy Hopwood.

8:45---sign up for one the Tours of Soda Springs at 10AM, 12 Noon and at 2PM. A guide will be provided by the BLM. No PEC on the 10:00am tour. Sign up at City Hall. Only 30 Clampers & PEC Per Tour.

9:30---Cutoff-time for arrival of PEC at clampsite. First and last time for PEC to check in with Hangman.

10:00---Clammerolympics Games begin. PEC Parade, & PEC toss. Followed by Horseshoes, and other fun things to do. First Tour of Soda Springs

10:30---Graybeards meeting the PEC's.

10:40---PBC Meeting for indoctrination and lubrication after meeting the Graybeards.

12:00---Tour at Soda Springs. 30 People only on tours.

2:00---Tour at Soda Springs. 30 only.

3:30---PBC Entertainment of the brethren.

5:30---Dinner is served at our Million Dollar rolling gourmet Chuck wagon. It is steak with all the fixins.

7:00PM---Clampfire and historical talk by chapter historians.

Sunday, May 6.----last day of clampout.

6:00---PEC up & at them for cooking breakfast & clean up.

7:00AM---Sunday Breakfast with all the fixins.

9:30AM---Initiation of PEC into ECV.

11:00AM---Dedication of plaque at Soda Springs.

If needed there will be one more tour after the dedication.

1:00 Go Home after cleaning Clampsite.
(1) Take I-15 past Barstow towards Baker

(2) Leave I-15 at Razor Rd

SODA DRY LAKE
1984 SPRING CLAMP-OUT

(3) Follow Razor Rd south approx. 3½ miles to a grove of 6 desert iguanas (the Rev. Bill says you can't miss it; only thing out there.
DEDICATION

of the

HISTORICAL MARKER

for the Site of the

U.S. RABBIT EXPERIMENTAL STATION

JUNE 3, 1984

In March, 1928, the Federal Government established the first and only Experimental Station in the United States devoted solely to research of the breeding and raising of rabbits. On a five-acre parcel of land donated by A.B. Miller of Fontana, the Station successfully pioneered new techniques of rabbit care and breeding until 1965. At that time, the City of Fontana acquired the property for use as a senior citizen facility.

California Registered
Historical Landmark No. 950

The plaque is placed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation in cooperation with the Fontana Historical Society, City of Fontana, and Billy Holcomb Chapter E.C.V., June 3, 1984.
JUNE 3, 1984

DEDICATION PROGRAM

Introdution of Guests and Brief talk .......... John Charles Anicic, Jr.

Prayer ................................................. Charles Koehler, Mayor
Pro-Tem of Fontana

Flag Raising ........................................... Veterans of Foreign
Wars, Post #6563
Honor Guard

Message from City of Fontana Mayor .......... Nathan Simon

Message from State of California,
Historical Preservation Commission
Member .................................................. Nadine Hata, Ms.

Bringing of City of Fontana,
Key to the City, by a Fontana Girl ..Miss Summer Campbell

Presentation of Key to City by Mayor
to Ms. Nadine Hata ......................... Nathan Simon

Message from Billy Holcomb Chapter
E Clampus Vitus ........................................ Phil Porretta

Message from San Bernardino County
Museum Association and
State Historical Representative
Region 7 .................................................. Dr. Gerald Smith,
Past Director of the San
Bernardino Co. Museum

Message from Fontana Historical Society
President .............................................. John C. Anicic, Sr.

Description of the Landmark Plaque
#950 .................................................. John Charles Anicic, Jr.

Unveiling of the Plaque ............................. Special guests

Letter from Senator Pete Wilson ............. John Charles Anicic, Jr.

Message from Parks & Recreation Director .. Gil Meachum

Tour of Rabbitry Office Building and Grounds
Reception at Rabbitry.

Tours of National Register Camp #1 Ranch House
for those interested in seeing the Grant Work...
SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THOSE
WHO HELPED THE FONTANA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO
ACCOMPLISH THE GOAL OF THIS
LISTING..................
To our Guests:

This Dedication today is possible due to the efforts of the City of Fontana, (for their permission to list the property, and their donation of materials and time); The Fontana Historical Society, (for the writing and research of the Station, and the listing of said Station with the State of California Historical Preservation Committee, and the Dedication Ceremony); and the Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus, (builders of the monument with their labor); and Phil Porretta, (for donation of materials for the monument).

This working together of so many for a common cause, (the Preservation of an Historical Site & Buildings for future generations to see), is what Historical Preservation is here in California.

.........OUR PAST IS THE BUILDING STONES OF THE FUTURE.........
Sponsors of the Site of the United States Rabbit Experimental Station Historical Marker:

City of Fontana
Fontana Historical Society
Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus

Special Guest:

Dorthea Newport (Miller), Niece of A.B. Miller, founder of Fontana
(Could not make dedication due to illness)

Special Thanks:

State of California State Archives
State of California State Library
State of California Historical Preservation Office
State of California Historical Preservation Commissioners
San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, Cal McElwain
San Bernardino County Museum, Dr. Gerald Smith
City of Fontana, City Council & Parks and Recreation Commission
Fontana Historical Society, Board of Directors
Dr. Robert B. Casady, last director of the rabbitry (1957-65)
United States National Archives

Dedication booklet designed & written by: John Charles Anicic, Jr.
Fontana Historical Society Researcher & Historian

Printing by Mary & Joe Wagae and Covers printed & donated by:
Showcase Printers, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Bittner
History from the Past on the
U.S. Rabbit Experimental Station
Early Beginnings:

In July, 1925, D. Monroe Green was placed in charge of rabbit experimental work of the Bureau of Biological Survey in Washington, D.C. There was no building or location for a research center. He came West to make investigations for a research station location.

He met with representatives of the Association of Rabbit Breeders of Southern California of which William A. Bixler was secretary, and the need for a station was discussed. Southern California was a most desirable location, inasmuch as the industry has made such rapid strides here, and also because it seemed destined to be the center for the entire nation.

W.A. Hanna, president of the National Rabbit Federation for 1927-28; Ellis L. DeLancey and A. McCall Smith, editors of publications dealing with the rabbit industry and Kenneth P. Button, secretary of the Federation, worked tirelessly in keeping up interest in the project. Green returned to Washington and reported to Mr. Redington, his superior. Green returned to Southern California for further survey, to learn if funds for buildings and equipment was available. Green arrived in Los Angeles in May, 1927 and within two weeks negotiated the necessary financial assistance and returned to Washington with two offers; Fontana had the best offer with A.B. Miller's donation of 5 acres in a grove and money to build. Additional help came from the San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce, Chaffey Union High School, San Bernardino County Supervisors and Congresswoman Phil D. Swing. His superiors accepted Fontana's offer. Work started on the buildings in September, 1927.
Preparations for the Dedication:

The following people were on the committees that prepared the dedication and activities of the day. In February, 1926, plans were in full swing.

Cornelius DeBakesy—general chairman of the dedication event.
D. Monroe Green—director of the station.
Committees: General—Cornelius DeBakesy, chairman; William Chantry, Phil Hasbrouck, J.D. McGregor, H.C. Barbee, Harry Larsen.

Program Committee: A. McCall Smith—chairman; Dr. George E. Clements, Los Angeles; Roy Mack, San Bernardino; J.M. Page, Pomona; Benjamin Spencer, Ontario; J.H. Wilder, San Bernardino; W.J. Gaynor, Los Angeles; W.G. Claypool, Pasadena; David Tilt, Fontana; A.M. Davidson, Fontana; Duff Hansen, Fontana; R.E. Bailey, Fontana; Dr. Hunt, Los Angeles.

Invitation Committee: John T. Lynch—chairman; H.S. Sears, Atascadero; C.H. Bixler, Compton; C.L. Blake, Granada; L.C. Moats, Hawthorne; S.O. Erich, Hayward; Mabel Stock, Los Angeles; L.M. Campbell, Modesto; E.N. Foque, Norco; J.R. Berry, Redlands; Grant Walters, Pomona; C.H. Wheeler, Ocean Park; T.L. DeWitt, San Diego; Charles H. Cope, San Francisco; J.H. Ronk, San Jose; O.E. Fisher, Santa Cruz; C.J. Rainey, Ventura; E.J. Trumper, Sparrland; C.W. Wheeler, Culver City; H. Aldridge, Menlo Park; R.S. Wisel, Roscoe; George Green, Los Angeles; C.F. Pettry, San Diego; T.H. Banks, Butner, Washington; Byron Johnson, Salt Lake City, Utah;
T.E. Howland, Seattle, Washington; H.K. Carter, Tacoma, Washington; Catherine Hays, Portland, Oregon; J.F. Ripsinskie, Inglewood; A.C. Freeman, Alta Loma; Leroy Pierce, Los Angeles; Rowland Cox, Fontana; Ed Rees, Fontana; A.W. Copley, Fontana; Charles Moore, Fontana; Dr. Hambleton, Fontana; W.J. Smith, Fontana; William Cumming, Fontana; Don Conklin, Fontana; Steve Powell, Fontana; T.J. Conway, Fontana; Phil Deicher, Fontana; G.E. Dodge, Redlands; R.B. Hastings, Sparrland.

Lunch Committee: R.E. Boyle- chairman; Franklin Hall, Ontario; T.G. & Banquet

Culley, San Fernando; N.M. Cupp, Los Angeles; W.A. Bixler, Pomona; Teklar Floreen, El Monte; C.H. Gibson, Brentwood; F.J. Rainey, Ventura; C.H. Bixler, Huntington Park; H. Richmond, Pomona; E.P. Bradbury, Fontana; W.W. Leis, Fontana; George West, Lynwood; J.C. Spencer, Los Angeles; R.L. Nougaret, Fontana; J.P. Burney, Fontana; H.M. Harter, Fontana; Dr. P.C. Guyselman, Fontana; Dr. C.C. Markey, Fontana; William Sneehy, Fontana; J.S. Mayer, Fontana; Ed Snyder, Fontana; F.B. Williams, Fontana; J. Chelins, Fontana; F.R. Williams, Fontana; Harry Bonnell, Fontana.
Dedication Day Activities:

National Editorial Publisher's Luncheon
12:00 p.m. Fontana Farms Inn

Cornelius DeBakesy—Editor & Publisher of the Fontana Herald, chairman

J.D. McGregor—Vice President of the Fontana Farms Company, toastmaster

Paul G. Redington—Chief of Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D.C.

Tobis Larsen, President of the Southern California Publishers Association, Clermont, Ca.

D. Monroe Green—Director of the United States Rabbit Experimental Station, Fontana, Ca.

Burton Smith—Editor of the Los Angeles Times

A. McCall Smith—Editor of American Rabbit Magazine, San Jose, Ca.


LeRoy Pierce—Editor of the Pacific Coast Rabbit Journal, Los Angeles


E.D. Merrill—Dean of the College of Agriculture, University of California, Berkeley, Ca.
Dedication Exercise

2:00 p.m. at the United States Rabbit Experimental Station, on Cypress Street, Fontana, Ca.

Rev. C.A. Foreman- Pastor of the Fontana Community Church

L.E. Blackman- Executive Secretary, Wilshire Building, Development Association, Santa Monica, Ca.

Paul G. Redington- Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D.C.

E.D. Merrill

Flag Raising by the Fontana American Legion Post

A little Fontana Girl, Rosie Kopac, brought a large gold key on a dainty pillow to the platform.

A.B. Miller, Founder of Fontana and President of the Fontana Farms Company presented the key to D. Monroe Green, Director of the new Station.

Pomona Boy Scout band played, and the public sang the National Anthem.

Letter was read from Secretary of Agriculture Jardine of Washington, D.C. who sent his best wishes.

Inspection of the new United States Rabbit Experimental Station was then given.

White Ribbon was cut on the entrance into the Offices.

Rabbit Federation & Chamber of Commerce Banquet

6:30 p.m. Fontana Farms Inn
Description of the United States Rabbit Experimental Station Complex:

The large, Spanish style, Administration Building has a spacious lobby, offices and laboratories. The new secretary, Neil Sterling, has her desk in the lobby, by the fireplace. The lobby is 20 feet by 40 feet with a fireplace at one end. There are two oil paintings by William A. Bixler called "A bit of California Coast" and "The San Gabriel Mountains". The fireplace and lobby remain about the same today.

A feed barn with mixing and sterilizing rooms, a garage, a carpenter shop, several types of breeding houses and additional buildings with a capacity of 5,000 animals, all equipped with modern pens & nest boxes, are included in the equipment at the station. Also an attractive residence for the Superintendent and a store house for supplies and equipment. The 5 acres are enclosed by a 6 foot wire guard fence, walks are graveled between buildings; with a beautiful fountain amid the orange trees and velvety lawns grace the frontage.

The entire site and all buildings were designed and built by H.L. Larsen, local contractor picked by A.B. Miller.

There were many rabbits donated from all over the United States to the new Station. Some of the breeds were: White & Red New Zealand, Blue & White Americans, Flemish, Chinchilla, French Silver, Havana, American Sable & Polish.
DIRECTORS OF THE RABBIT STATION

D. Monroe Green......1927-28
John W. Meyer........1928-34
Dr. George S. Templeton .........1934-57
Dr. Robert B. Casady ...........1957-65
D. MONROE GREEN.....First Director of the Station.

Was appointed director in 1927-28, with 10 years of experience in government positions.

Aside from requiring administration ability and definite knowledge of feeding, breeding and handling rabbits for their meat, the position which Mr. Green fills necessitates work of a technical nature. Knowledge due to extended experimentation & investigative, combined with ability to draw accurate conclusions from results obtained and to present them in understandable form in spoken or written language. Also selected for this position because of his practical experience along lines of investigation analogous to those conducted by the Bureau of Biological Survey. In addition, his duties will have to do with the studying methods of feeding, breeding, and handling fur-bearing rabbits. He will also study fur-dressing, and dyeing methods in effort to secure betterment of existing conditions.

Born, April 29, 1889, at Cherry Valley, N.Y., Raised 1903 to 1917 at home, poultry, pigeons and rabbits. During the last 5 years of this time, he exhibited and judged poultry at large Eastern exhibitions. His business career started in 1911, when he published the Poultry Husbandry, a national poultry magazine from 1914-1917, was publishing a weekly newspaper, The Cherry Valley Gazette.

Entered employ of the United States Department of Agriculture, September 1917, as extension poultry husbandman, he was placed in charge of boys & girls club work in 10 states. This
was most successful of his projects, during the War Years. In first year 1918, 2151 clubs were organized with 31,095 members, value of their combined poultry & eggs produced had value of $403,690. This was were more than the Government appropriated for research.

Author of and designed the covers for, a department Circular #13-20. November 1919, he went to Phoenix, Arizona to start work on a United States Poultry Experimental Station; then he returned to Washington, D.C.

He resigned from the Bureau of Animal Industry to accept a position as biologist in charge of the rabbit experiment work of the Bureau of Biological Survey, on July 1, 1925.

He then came West to make investigations for a Research Station.

Mr. Green resigned in August 1928, when he decided to go into private business in Southern California.
John W. Meyer

Second Acting Director of the Station.

He was the acting Superintendent of the Station from the beginning.

He remaining time at the Station lasted until 1934.
Dr. George S. Templeton, director of the United States Rabbit Experimental Station for the past 23 years, will retire today and succeeding him will be Dr. Robert B. Casady.

It is fitting that Dr. Casady should follow in Dr. Templeton's footsteps. Both men have that rare quality which is dedication to their work.

It is Dr. Templeton's devotion toward his work which has saved the government and rabbit industry millions of dollars. This gentleman of gentle disposition and kind smile, now completely gray-haired, is responsible for inspiring a devoted staff to produce milestones in rabbit research.

He has directed the only U.S. Rabbit Experimental Station in the country, from which the industry gets its information for periodicals, farm papers, and foreign magazines. Correspondence comes to this station from almost all parts of the world.

"Accomplishments of this station are the result of close teamwork of the entire staff," Dr. Templeton said.

Through the development of efficient formulas for rabbit rations, Dr. Templeton was able to recommend a feeding program that has increased the weight of the fryer rabbit, principal meat product, and at the same time reduce the quantity of feed to produce rabbits by 20 to 25 per cent, saving millions of dollars.

In earlier years, it required 10 manhours to care for a doe a year. Now, through research, the time required has been reduced
to four manhours, making it possible for a person to care for more rabbits and increase his income in proportion.

Other research included rations designed to save labor, the design of modern equipment for feeding and care of rabbits, palpating does to determine pregnancy, automatic watering system and automatic self-feeders.

The disease unit, under Dr. Templeton's direction, has developed methods for coping with coccidiosis and respiratory problems and the station has developed a program for using antibiotics in rations that reduces loss of young due to enteritis about 75 per cent.

A lot of experimentation has been done in the study of factors that have to do with quality of pelts.

Results obtained at the Fontana station are released in farmer's bulletins, circulars and pamphlets and anybody interested in the publication can obtain a list of the literature by writing the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 25.

It was A.B. Miller's foresight and dynamic personality which brought the experimentation station to Fontana. While other towns in Southern California debated whether to accept the station, Miller went ahead and started the design of the building and leased it to the government for $1 a year.

Miller, founder of Fontana, wanted to develop an excellent agricultural community.

There are 700 to 1000 rabbits at the station for research and over 4000 are used in a year for experimentation and research. There have been as many as 3000 persons touring the station in a
year and inquiries annually have gone as high as 6000.

Dr. Templeton's staff includes Karl W. Hagen, bacteriologist and chairman of disease research; Allan Suitor, superintendent and chairman of experimental work who has been with the station for 30 years and his department Kenneth Mize, Clifford Neal and Ralph Marble, and Mrs. Ida R. Bailie, secretary for 23 years.

Dr. Templeton said the future still holds nutrition problems and the number one killer disease, enteritis, is still not licked.

The work on animal husbandry research, animal disease and parasite research will go on among the most beautiful rabbits in the world. Anyone who tours the station will be amazed at the whiteness of their fur, the ears as pink as a baby's mouth, and the immense size of the traditional Easter bunnies.

Dr. Templeton will no longer be behind his desk, or out working among the rabbits. He will leave without fanfare, but his work will never be forgotten. He views retirement with mixed emotions for he was a man in love with his job. The industry will lose a outstanding man, but a person well-deserving of enjoying life's closing years.
Dr. Robert B. Casady

Dr. and Mrs. Robert B. Casady, who for the past eight years have been active members of the community, will leave Fontana soon to begin a new life in Beltsville, Md.

Dr. Casady has been superintendent of the U.S. Government Rabbit Experiment Station in Fontana since 1957. Closing of the local station will result in a new assignment. At Beltsville Dr. Casady will be in charge of a research team on animal identification at the Agricultural Research Center.

The team will attempt to discover better means of identifying animals from a distance, Dr. Casady said.

From all indications, the Rabbit Experiment Station in Fontana will be discontinued. The government is dropping fur-animal research, according to Dr. Casady. All personnel have been reassigned.

The Casady's expect to leave Fontana no later than August, depending on government orders.

Dr. Casady was born and raised in Los Angeles and received his B.S. degree in animal husbandry from the University of California at Davis in 1941. He served in the U.S. Army from January, 1942 until January, 1946, emerging with the rank of captain. Continuing his agricultural career, Dr. Casady completed post graduate school and received his PhD in 1948 as a physiology major.

He served on the teaching research staff at UC at Davis until 1950. He also completed assignments at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, and a year's special research at the John Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. before coming to Fontana in
The Casadys, who have made their home at 9105 Palmetto Ave., have three children, Robert L., 21; Theresa G., 17; and Steven, 14.

Dr. Casady is a past president of the Fontana Kiwanis Club, has served on the Chamber of Commerce board of directors, and was campaign chairman for the 1962-63 Greater Fontana United Fund.

He is also on the Board of Deacons for Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, serves as the church's Sunday church school superintendent, chairman of the Christian education committee, and chairman of the building committee.

Dr. Casady's professional organization memberships include Alpha Zeta, honorary agricultural fraternity; Sigma Xi, professional society; the American Society of Animal Science, the American Assn. for the Advancement of Science, and has served on the Rabbit Nutrition and Rabbit Standards sub-committees for the National Research Council.

Mrs. Casady has been active in the Lutheran Church Women at Gloria Dei and is employed part-time at the Southern California Edison, Co.
STARTS RETIREMENT—Dr. George S. Templeton, holding rabbit, director of the U.S. Rabbit Experimentation Station in Fontana, only one of its kind in the country, discusses his plans for retirement with his successor, Dr. Robert B. Casady. Dr. Templeton directed the station for 23 years. Dr. Casady taught and did research at the North Carolina State College for seven years and at the University of California at Davis for a year and a half, where he also earned his Ph.D. He and his wife have three children and reside at 9105 Palmetto Ave., Fontana.

Triad Photo
Brief Written Histories of the Station
Rabbits had been grown at Fontana in increasing numbers at commercial ranches for years. Some time previously, in January of 1927, they had effected an organization of rabbit breeders, with A.M. Davidson as president; Mrs. E.C. Pierson and D.R. Chambliss, vice-president; and William Sheehy, secretary-treasurer.

When it was learned that the Government proposed to construct the experiment station in Southern California, leaders of the association and others launched upon a successful campaign which was ultimately to bring new honors to Fontana.

As president of the Fontana Farms Company, A.B. Miller offered the 5-acre site which later was chosen, along with $30,000 in cash towered a fund to construct the necessary buildings.

The county board of supervisors and various civic organizations in the district gave assistance, as did Phil. D. Swing, then Congressman.

Following selection of the Fontana site, the building contract was awarded to Harry L. Larsen, local resident. An excellently attractive office-administration structure, reception room, laboratory rooms, and also a resident caretaker cottage with all equipment were housed amid a 5-acre citrus grove on Cypress Street, just north of the Pacific Electric tracks.

Dedictory ceremonies conducted in March, 1928, in connection with opening were largely attended, when prominent officials of the Federal, State and County Governments, along with leading rabbit breeders and many prominent newspapers publishers took part.

The United States Government took possession and established it as a research or experiment service organization this station, the first of its kind, was maintained by the Bureau of Animal Industry in the Department of Agriculture.

D. Monroe Green was the first director of the station, being followed by John W. Meyer.

Several persons were here conducting affairs pertaining to raising, breeding and feeding rabbits. Besides the director, there was a pathologist and bacteriologist to work in the laboratory, several for office work and general care of the plant duties.

Frank G. Ashbrook, whose interest in the work of the Fontana station also was high, succeeded Mr. Redington in charge of the division of fur resources of the bureau of biological survey.

Mr. George Templeton, a graduate of Missouri University, became director of station in March, 1934. He had considerable teaching experience in both Mississippi and Texas agricultural colleges and had been doing research in animal livestock before coming to Fontana. He has won the commendation of breeders for his splendid service. His definite values here issued from this government institution and probably the greatest advance has been along the line of rabbit nutrition which has reached a standard position of producing 1 pound of meat for 3½ pounds of feed. This came about after years of experimentation with foods and the result has been that it has added to the profit side of raising rabbits.
The work of the station developed improved methods for producing rabbits with meat, fur and wool of fine quality. Research studies and experiments were conducted in nutrition, feeding and parasitic disease sometimes involving 1,000 to 1,200 rabbits at one time. The results of the studies were written up and published in government pamphlets and publications for national and international distribution. Attention was also paid to discover the best breeding and growing conditions, better management practices and the use of the most improved equipment.

The station housed 400 rabbits in quarantine house. The yearly experimentations required over 4,000 rabbits. All rabbit equipment and buildings were strictly sanitary with water of good quality available.

During World War II, Life magazine had a 2 page spread on the station. Due to the article, 46,000 inquires came in. On the average, 2,500 to 3,000 visitors a year, plus a large correspondence with the growers all over the United States and Foreign countries.

A.M. Davidson, 1st association head of Fontana later was to become president of the California Rabbit Breeder’s Association.

John T. Lynch, who had served as secretary of the Fontana Association was signally honored in the industry when in February, 1929, he was elected president of the National Rabbit Federation.

Mr. Templeton recalls an account when Mr. Miller’s prodigious memory and a capacity for detailed information. It seems that back in 1936 the station had a record-breaking doe. (Records are broken in terms of pounds of fryers produced yearly.) 5 or 6 years later Mr. Miller dropped in one morning for a visit and casually inquired, “By the way, Templeton, have you had another doe that could out-produce old ‘W-787’?”

George Templeton was given a superior service award certificate, presented in Washington, D.C. ceremonies by Sect. of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson for his contribution in rabbit research and production, which have effected an approximate saving of 2 million dollars a year to the rabbit industry on June 15, 1955.

In 1965, the station was declared surplus by the Federal Government. Dr. Robert Casady, its director at the time, was transferred to Iowa. The City of Fontana acquired the station for use as a recreation center and senior citizen facility.
SAN BERNARDINO MOUNTAINS

The Playgrounds Of All The Valley People

The Mormons, having arrived where the city of San Bernardino was beginning in 1851, were soon pressed for building material and by 1853 had built saw mills on the crest of the mountains of San Bernardino.

Lumber was not only needed for erecting their own homes, but was hauled by ox teams to the seaside and shipped by boat to Los Angeles and San Francisco. Lumber and flour seemed to be their chief income of cash in much need in particular to pay for the large tract of land purchased from the Spaniards.

Where the Solamoros Indian tribe had once ranged over the beautiful land of streams and lakes, now it becomes the working land of the Mormons, who cut a very large area of timber. The sawmill was located in what was known as Seely Flats and other sawmills were built in similar locations.

Later on, a much more useful purpose for the mountain tops was found. By 1884, Big Bear valley became the location of a large lake 8 miles long by damming up one end of the valley. This solved the water need for Redlands, then developing large and beautiful orange orchards.

Soon other lakes were made in like manner and two of them were large, called Lake Arrowhead and Lake Gregory, the former being constructed in 1892. Several smaller lakes were created. Finally, the mountain crest became an immense recreational ground for all the San Bernardino Valley towns and for people living far beyond these towns.

By 1932, the Rim of the World Drive was made a high gear road and may hold travel in winter time as many come for winter as well as summer sports. There are other roads to the mountains more recently built, coming in from other directions. Many thousands of homes there are covering the crest of the mountain

U.S. RABBIT EXPERIMENT STATION OF FONTANA

Quietly and unknown to many living in Fontana, is going on a most valuable and important activity which reflects its influence far beyond the limits of California. It is under the control of the United States Department of Agriculture and is called the United States Rabbit Experiment Station.

The birth of this institution came about through the efforts of Mr. A.B. Miller who earnestly seeking development of every form of agriculture, hit upon the idea of establishing of a place or farm for guidance in care, feeding and developing of rabbits, which now in its beginning as a meat industry in California was coming into considerable notice.

The new industry promised not only a supplemental value on the farm, but had an appeal to men of retired age who needed light open air employment. Also there was a consideration of value of rabbit pelts as fur and a bi-product for fertilizer to citrus groves and gardens. There had already been numbers of old people coming to Fontana for this advantage. Carried on to full extent, as some did, it became a full time job bringing in a fair living.
Mr. Miller erected suitable buildings attractive in architecture, an administra­tion building having a commodious reception room, an office and laboratory rooms. In the rear were erected suitable rabbit houses and storage house and shop. Adjoining, was built a residence for the caretaker. All this on 5 acres.

Finding that the Government could make best use of this plant, Mr. Miller turned it over to Uncle Sam for rental of one dollar yearly, till a little later the government took title to the property and then established it as a research or experiment service organization, but what its name implies, a place for research.

Several persons are here conducting affairs pertaining to raising, breeding and feeding rabbits. Besides the director, was a pathologist and bacteriologist to work in the laboratory, several for office help and general care of the plant duties.

The housing is built for 400 rabbits with a quarantine house also. The yearly experimentations require about 4,000 rabbits. All rabbit equipment and buildings are made strictly sanitary with fine convenience of plenty of water and cooling system for rabbits in very hot weather.

The Government took over this institution in the year 1928 when its first director, Mr. D.H. Greene became director and following him came Mr. George Templeton, a graduate of Missouri University. He had already had considerable teaching experience in both Mississippi and Texas agricultural colleges and had been doing research work in animal livestock before coming to Fontana where he has served as director to this date.

During Mr. Templeton's directorship, very definite values have issued from this government institution and probably the greatest advance has been along the line of rabbit nutrition which has reached a standard position of producing one pound of meat for three and a half pounds of feed. This came about by long years of experimentation with foods and the result has been that it has added to the profit side of raising rabbits.

Very considerable research has been going on for the control of rabbit ills, the most disturbing and most serious has been a form of enteritis. Mr. Templeton thinks this scourge is seventy-five percent controlled by some new antibiotics now being used. There are a dozen or more other ills to which rabbits are subject and all are treated and studied at the station here. The matter of breeding, care, sanitation and housing have all been subjects of investigation.

The knowledge gathered here through the years of time is gathered into printed form in pamphlets and sent out to all parts of the country. There are times when Mr. Templeton goes to distant cities on lecture tours. There are times when advisory meetings are held at the rabbitry station.

About two years ago, Life Magazine printed pictures of this rabbitry, resulting in many thousands of letters of inquiry.

The San Bernardino Sun published a news item relating to Mr. George Templeton under date of June 15, 1955 as follows: "Director George Templeton of the U.S. Rabbit Experiment Station, Fontana, was given a superior service award certificate, presented in special Washington D.C. ceremonies by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson for contribution in rabbit research and production, which have effected an approximate saving to the industry of two million dollars per year."
Newspaper Articles about the Station
Written by:
John Charles Anicic, Jr.
An industry on the comeback in California is the Rabbit Breeding and Producing Industry. The following is an account of Fontana's long connection with this industry, one which put this industry on it's feet during the 1920's & 1930's.

We (FONTANA) still have the distinction that we had the only Experimental Station in the United States, and it made the industry the great one it is today.

In the 1920's, a new meat industry in California was coming into considerable notice. The new industry promised not only a supplemental value on the farm, but had an appeal to men of retired age who needed light open air employment. Also there was a consideration of value of rabbit pelts as fur and bi-product for fertilizer to gardens and groves. There had already been numbers of old people coming to Fontana for this advantage. Carried on to a full extent, as some did, it became a full time job bringing in a fair living.

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In 1965, the Station was declared surplus by the Federal Government. Dr. Robert Casady, was director at the time. The City of Fontana acquired the Station for use as a Recreation Center and Senior Citizen's Facility, (Now called Josephine Knopf Senior Citizen's Center.)

The main building has been enlarged, 2 sections walled in and the tile roof was just replaced. The remains of the experimental buildings are
still standing, being used for storage by Parks & Recreation Department. The caretaker's cottage is still in use today.

This complex was the only one built in the United States. It is worth saving for future generations to see. The complex could be used for activities, by all.

Anyone with information as to workers, directors, any history of Rabbitry, please write me.
Article for Saturday:

June 21, 1982

The month of June is growing to a close, as is the Fontana Historical Month and its 70th Anniversary of Dedication; the Citizens of Fontana have shown their interest for the Heritage and History of their City. I, as a member of the Fontana Historical Society and chairman of the Camp #1 Ranch House, and Researcher for the Society, would like to thank you all for your interest in your History.

There is one Historical Building that I haven't mentioned yet this month, and I will do so this week at the close of the month. The building is the Senior Citizens Hall, Josephine Knopf Center; previously the main office of the United States Experimental and Research Station (the only such station of its kind in the world). The site and building, a previous building still remains of the working station, that is the Slaughter House. The rest of the buildings were destroyed by fire for the sake of a motor-cross, that never developed. Some of the wood was saved by the Society to be used at the Camp #1, Ranch House Site.

On May 11th, I represented the State of California Historical Board of Commissioners to the Parks & Recreation Commission of Fontana. At the State Meeting in Santa Monica in March, the State asked me to approach the City of Fontana on a matter for the State, the group to see first would be the Commission, since they over-see this property. The request was for help to place a plaque on the site, since it is a State of California Historical Landmark. The State is unable to raise the money, $998.00, that they usually do for a plaque. They asked if we would do so. A gentleman from Pomona has come forward with a Donation for this project. His name is Phil Perretta, a member of a group of gentlemen that erect monuments, historical, all over the
State of California.

The City Council, last night at the Council Meeting, appropriated some money to pay the rest of the plaque. The group will be putting up the monument in the late fall or early spring. It will take some time to have the plaque made. I will be telling the State of the City's Help at the August Meeting in Sacramento that I will be attending, while on vacation.

The site is #950 in the State of California Landmark Book. It was started in March, 1923 and remained open till June, 1965. The Station helped the fledging rabbit industry of California to raise to a proper place in the industry.

The caretakers home still stands to the north of the Center. When you get a chance, drop by and see the site. The office building has changed little, just a few minor differences. Josephine has taken great care of the Center. The roof had its tile changed last year and there was grant money for repairs and a van two months ago.

I would like to thank the City Council for their help on the plaque for the Site that the State requested.

Another piece of equipment has been donated to the Camp #1 Museum, a hay rake by Harold Crawford, a long time resident of Fontana, of Crawford's Drug Store. We thank him for his donation.

Be sure to join the Society this month, membership month, they can use your help and you will be able to keep up on the news of the History of Fontana in the articles in the Society Newsletter and books. Join now.
Landmark Statue Designated By the
State of California
Historical Preservation
Commission
State of California Preservation Commission  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA

We wish to advise that at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fontana, on Tuesday, March 16, 1982, the City Council went on record as supporting John Anicic, Jr. in his efforts to have the former U. S. Rabbit Experiment Station, located on Cypress Avenue, declared a historical landmark.

The Council took official action to support Mr. Anicic's request and to authorize that a letter be written allowing this city building to be so designated.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should have any questions regarding this action.

Very truly yours,

Frank Horzen
Mayor

cc: John Anicic, Jr.
June 10, 1982

Mr. John C. Anicic, Jr.
Fontana Historical Society
Post Office Box 426
Fontana, CA 92335

Dear Mr. Anicic:

The State Historical Resources Commission, sitting in regular session in Pasadena, on May 7, 1982, considered your application for registration of the United States Rabbit Experimental Station, Fontana, San Bernardino County. You will be pleased to know that the Commission recommended registration of this landmark. Landmark No. 950 has been assigned to this site.

The Commission also recommended allocation of an official bronze plaque for your site. Unfortunately, all of our plaque monies have been allocated for the 1981-82 fiscal year. If you would like to plan a dedication for your landmark, it should be scheduled for some time after July 1, 1982. Please let me know so that I may allocate a plaque from the 1982-83 fiscal year for your dedication.

Thank you very much for your continued interest in our state landmark program.

Sincerely,

Sandra J. Elder
Assistant Executive Secretary

sje
What sayeth the Brethren

Satisfactory!

BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER
E CLAMPUS VITUS
THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ORDER OF
E CLAMPUS VITUS
BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER

By Order Of The Graybeards
UNOFFICIAL OFFICAL FlamClamProclamation
Flamclamp
SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 1984
FONTANA RABBITT STATION

THE NOBLE GRAND HUMBUG, THE RIGHT HONORABLE BILL PEARSON HEREBY PROCLAIMS,
ANNOUNCES, IMPRECATES, & OTHERWISE SPREADS THE GLORIOUS CLAMPROCLAMATION!!!!!!!

TO WIT: GRAB your RED SHIRT & BLACK HAT, unhitch yer burro and GIT The whole
Family ( the missis & the younguns or other friend) and head for the Jurupia
Hill- Martin Tudor Regional Park out Fontana Way. The Billy Holcomb Chapter ECV
FAMILY Picnic in Fontana will be preceded by the dedication of a historical
marker in Fontana for California Registered Historical Landmark No. 950 (U.S.
Experimental Rabbit Station2) This will be an attractive "official" State
landmark Plaque donated by the California Historical Commission(Dept. of Parks
& Recreation). The co-sponsors are the Fontana Historical Society and the City
of Fontana. The registration application was made by John Anicic of the Fontana
Historical Society. The Proposed Plaque wording was composed by Phil Forretta of
Billy Holcomb Chapter ECV.

The Rabbit Station was the first & only Federal Rabbit research station in
the U.S. It was operated from March 1928 to June 1965 by the U>S> Dept. of
Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry. It developed better methods for
producing rabbits & teaching them to multiply with high quality meat & fur coats.
The current Fontana Sr. Citizens Facility consists of remodeled buildings of the
old U.S. Rabbit Station.

Decedication Place: Senior Citizens Community Center, Cypress Ave & Sevillle
Ave.in Fontana,

Hosted by The Fontana Historical Society and The Fontana Parks & Recreation
Department and The Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus.

Picnic time: Noon, Sunday June 3, 1984

Picnic Place: Jurupia Hill- Martin Tudor Park (A Fontana City Park), on West Side
of Sierra Way, 1 1/2 miles south of sierra Ave off-ramp of Interstate 10. Park
may also be reached from Pomona Fwy (State route 60) via Valley Way off-ramp
north ( becomes Armstrong Road) to Sierra Ave. --Left turn and you'll soon be
there!!!!

Bill Pearson, The Humbug

Food: Hamber9ers & Hotdogs and the fixins, Potato Salad. And Liquid
refreshments.

Cost: $4:00 Per Clamper & $1:00 Per family member.

There is a small entrance fee per auto
charged by the Park (1 or 2 dollars).

SEE MAP

Caritas por Viudes y Huertinos
Ructumus Secundum Retromandibularis Humerus
The Billy Holcomb Chapter family picnic in Fontana will be preceded by the dedication of a historical marker in Fontana for California Registered Historical Landmark #950 (U.S. Experimental Rabbit Station). This will be an attractive "official" state landmark plaque donated by the California Historical Commission (Dept. of Parks & Recreation). The co-sponsors are the Fontana Historical Society ad the City of Fontana. The registration application was made by John Anicic of the Fontana Historical Society. The proposed plaque wording was composed by Phil Porretta of Billy Holcomb Chap.

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Dedication time: 11 am, Sunday June 3, 1984
Dedication place: Senior Citizens Community Center, Cypress Ave. & Seville Ave, Fontana. (between Arrow & Foothill and Sierra & Citrus) - hosted by:
John Anicic, historical researcher for Fontana Historical Society
Gill Meachum, director of Parks & Recreation, City of Fontana
Phil Porretta, historian for Billy Holcomb Chapter, ECV

Picnic Time: Noon, Sunday June 3, 1984
Picnic place: Martin Tudor Park (a Fontana City park) on west side of Sierra Ave., 1/2 miles south of Sierra Ave. off-ramp of Interstate 10. Park may also be reached from Pomona Hwy (state route 60) via Valley Way off-ramp north (becomes Armstrong Road) to Sierra Ave. - left turn and you'll soon be there!

Food & cost: To be determined by the honorable powers of Billy Holcomb Chapter.
DEDICATION
of the
HISTORICAL MARKER
for the Site of the
U.S. RABBIT EXPERIMENTAL STATION

JUNE 3, 1984

In March, 1928, the Federal Government established the first and only Experimental Station in the United States devoted solely to research of the breeding and raising of rabbits. On a five-acre parcel of land donated by A.B. Miller of Fontana, the Station successfully pioneered new techniques of rabbit care and breeding until 1965. At that time, the City of Fontana acquired the property for use as a senior citizen facility.

California Registered
Historical Landmark No. 950

The plaque is placed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation in cooperation with the Fontana Historical Society, City of Fontana, and Billy Holcomb Chapter E.C.V., June 3, 1984.
JUNE 3, 1984

11:00 a.m.

Introduction of Guests and Brief talk...........John Charles Anicic, Jr.

Prayer........................................Charles Koenler, Mayor Pro-Tem of Fontana

Flag Raising..................................Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post #6563 Honor Guard

Message from City of Fontana Mayor............Nathan Simon

Message from State of California, Historical Preservation Commission Member............Nadine Hata, Ms.

Bringing of City of Fontana Key to the City, by a Fontana Girl...Miss Summer Campoll

Presentation of Key to City by Mayor to Ms. Nadine Hata....................Nathan Simon

Message from Billy Holcomb Chapter E Clampus Vitus..................Phil Porretta

Message from San Bernardino County Museum Association and State Historical Representative Region 7..................Dr. Gerald Smith, Past Director of the San Bernardino Co. Museum

Message from Fontana Historical Society President..................John C. Anicic, Sr.

Description of the Landmark Plaque #950..................John Charles Anicic, Jr.

Unveiling of the Plaque........................Special guests

Letter from Senator Pete Wilson..................John Charles Anicic, Jr.

Message from Parks & Recreation Director.....Gil Meachum

Tour of Rabbitry Office Building and Grounds

Reception at Rabbitry.

Tours of National Register Camp #1 Ranch House for those interested in seeing the Grant Work...
To our Guests:

This Dedication today is possible due to the efforts of the City of Fontana, (for their permission to list the property, and their donation of materials and time); The Fontana Historical Society, (for the writing and research of the Station, and the listing of said Station with the State of California Historical Preservation Committee, and the Dedication Ceremony); and the Billy Holcomb Chapter of Clampus Vitus, (builders of the monument with their labor); and Phil Porretta, (for donation of materials for the monument).

This working together of so many for a common cause, (the Preservation of an Historical Site & Buildings for future generations to see), is what Historical Preservation is here in California.

.....OUR PAST IS THE BUILDING STONES OF THE FUTURE.....
What sayeth the Brethren

Satisfactory!

BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER
E CLAMPUS VITUS
Rabbit station finally gets its plaque

By JAMES SPECHT
Sun Staff Writer

FONTANA — It could be called the tale of the hare and the bureaucratic tortoise.

Two years after it received a designation as State Landmark 950, the U.S. Rabbit Research and Experiment Station in Fontana has finally received its plaque and will be dedicated formally at 11 a.m. Sunday.

The small building at 8384 Cypress, which is now the Josephine Knopf Senior Citizens Center, was from 1928 to 1965 the nation's only research station devoted to creating a better breed of rabbit.

Recognizing it's value as a historical building, the Fontana Historical Society in March 1982 applied to the state for landmark status and received it later that year, said John Anicic Jr. of the society.

While it leaped to recognize the significance of the station, the state has crawled in providing money for the actual landmark plaque, however.

"It's taken a year and a half to get the plaque from the state," Anicic said. "We were pretty low on the list." More problems held up the ceremony even after the state had allocated the money for the brass plaque, however.

"We got held up a couple of weeks because the first casting came out with a hole in the center," he said.

But the society will be out this Sunday with state, county and city officials to place the plaque on a monument near the small building. Anicic said the rabbit station was purchased by the city in 1965 when the Bureau of Animal Industry of the U.S. Department of Agriculture closed the research station and the land was declared surplus.

Between 2,500 and 3,000 persons a year had visited the experiment station, observing new developments in the commercial raising of rabbits for fur and meat.

According to historical society records, a number of Fontana residents began raising rabbits for their fur and food value in the 1920s. The rabbit breeding business was particularly attractive as a pension supplement to older, retired residents.

A local society of rabbit breeders, organized in 1927, learned that the U.S. government might build a rabbit research center in Southern California and successfully lobbied to bring it to Fontana.

Experiments on up to 1,260 rabbits a time at the station and field work around the country developed research on methods of rabbit raising, rabbit diseases, nutrition and feeding, breeding and rabbit products, Robert B. Cassady, the station's last superintendent, wrote in 1962.

Research produced such varied results as showing the nutritive value of rabbit meat, finding causes and cures for various rabbit diseases and the use of earthworms as natural disposals for rabbit waste, Cassady wrote in a USDA report.

"We have just have to get it in to them," Anicic said. "Since they ran it, they'll probably jump at it." The U.S. Rabbit Research and Experiment Station in Fontana in 1930.

Education

(Continued from B-1)

centers shifting to the Sunbelt and Pacific states, public schools are experiencing a rapid increase in the number of enrolled minority students, particularly Hispanics, he said.

That trend is likely to continue through the year 2000, Hodgkinson said, because the average age of Hispanics is 22, while whites and blacks average 31 and 24 years of age, respectively.

But while minorities already make up 55 percent of the enrollment in American public schools, they are still being denied adequate access to the college and university level, he said.

Unless the situation changes, it will be bad news for everybody, not just minority youths, he said.

"If the university is irrelevant to 55 percent of the youth, it's not the youth who are in trouble, it's the universities," Hodgkinson said.

It's also trouble for America's older population, because uneducated youths mean a weaker work force — and even less money for Social Security, he said.

"High tech will become a larger part of our lives," he said. "It's just for the larger percentage of the work force, all this is irrelevant."

Hodgkinson also dismissed the notion that schools are not teaching as well as they once did, arguing that the educational system has to teach a far more populous and ethnically diverse group of students today than it did years ago.

The educational system, he said, "has just been astonishing in what its done."

"We are now achieving with 75 percent of the population almost the level we did with 10 percent in 1910," he said.
By studying eclipses, scientists have been able to identify elements in the sun's atmosphere before they have been isolated on earth. In 1868, for example, helium was discovered in the corona, a glimmering shroud that can be seen around the sun during a total solar eclipse. Helium was not discovered on earth until 27 years later. Scientists were able to test Albert Einstein's theory of relativity by studying the curvature of the sun's surface was given a boost in 1973 when scientists used the Concord supersonic jet to observe the sun's surface, which travels faster than the speed of sound, the total eclipse would have been in 7 minutes and 4 seconds.

Cunningham said the space shuttle will add a new dimension to the study of lunar and solar dynamics. "From the earth, we see the heavens through a very dirty window," he said. "So we need to get outside to get a really clear look." Southern Californians will get their next chance to view a solar eclipse in seven years. "The next time we will be able to see a solar eclipse will July 11, 1991," said Jeff Greb, museum guide at the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles.

On January 4, 1992, Southern Californians will be treated to a sunset eclipse with a ring around the moon, he said. "We'll be the only place on the world's smallness. The Blandfords met in San Bernardino, Ontario, and Victorville and can be contacted through the Family Service Agency, (714) 898-6502. High Desert residents should call (619) 245-6445.

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Everyone urged to report any suspected cases of child abuse

By ERIN KELLY
Sun Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — Sexual abuse of children is on the rise in San Bernardino County, and social workers are urging concerned citizens and family members to report the crimes so victims can be protected.

"Without proper intervention, the emotional scars that sexual abuse leaves on children may be lifelong," said Bob Morales, intake supervisor for the San Bernardino office of Child Protective Services, part of the county Department of Public Social Services.

Margaret Green, the CPS program manager in San Bernardino, said statistics for the 1982-83 fiscal year show that 585 cases of child sexual abuse were reported throughout the county — an increase of 26 percent from the previous year.

Although the 1983-84 fiscal year has not ended, 876 sexual abuse cases already have been reported, Green said.

And Morales said that many more cases go unreported.

The figures that do exist reflect both an increase in people reporting the crimes and a rise in abuse," Morales said.

"We're living in a much more permissive society as evidenced by the expansion of kiddie porn and child prostitution," Morales said. "Children in our communities are not valued enough as people."

Asked to comment on a Los Angeles Times syndicated series on child abuse printed in The Sun this week, the social workers agreed that children who do try to inform adults about the abuse are almost always telling the truth.

"In the last five years, I can remember only two children out of thousands who had made up a story," Morales said.

The real problem, the CPS officials said, is that children are often afraid to tell about abuse.

"Older children especially fear the effect it will have on their family if they tell," said social service worker Margot Lowell, who investigates child abuse cases.

"They recognize that they may have to leave their home, that the worker and members of Parents United all told the court they believed the offender would no longer pose a threat to his daughters."

"They (the family members) were reunited and function better than ever before," Morales said.

But cases don't always turn out so well.

Green recalled several times when the father of a family denied the molestation and the mother refused to believe the child.

Such cases get to the point where other family members won't even talk to the child, he said, isolating the child from the family so the child is "doubly victimized."

In those types of cases, the child is usually removed from the home and sent to live with relatives or other responsible guardians, Green said.

Divorce is a common outcome of sexual abuse cases, he said.

"For rehabilitation to work, the offender must ultimately admit responsibility," Morales said. "It's short-sighted to think the problem will go away without outside intervention. There must be the clout of a court to get people to change."

Although relatives or friends of the victim's family avoid re-
This building, now housing Fontana's Josephine Knopf Senior Citizens Center, 8384 Cypress Ave., was the federal Rabbit Research Station from 1928 until 1965.
By MATT COKER
The Daily Report

It is finally official.

The N.S. Rabbit Research and Experimental Station, better known these days as the since the work was performed Josephine Knopf Senior Citizens Center, will be formally recognized Sunday as California Landmark No. 950.

From 1928 to 1965, the little semi-Spanish styled building at 8384 Cypress Ave. served as the only rabbit research facility in the country.

Why Rabbits? Fontana historians point out that in the 1920s rabbit was considered the new meat industry in California. Rabbits also possessed valuable pelts and produced bi-products for fertilizer.

Older folks found the work profitable since raising rabbits was not tedious. It was also advantageous to their health. They could work in the open air.

Fontana farms had been filling up with the furry little critters by the time government officials began scanning the Southland for a place to locate an experimental station dedicated to breeding better bunnies.

Fontana farm leaders lobbied to get the station and even offered a five-acre site and funds to construct buildings.

The building was up by 1929 and, as the old cliche goes, the rest is history.

The Fontana Historical Society saw that the building symbolized the area's early roots and applied to the state in 1982 for landmark status.

It was a year before the society heard anything. But what it did eventually hear was good news: the station would become state historic landmark No. 950.

A bronze plaque from the state was needed to formally dedicate the facility. The speed of bureaucracy again proved slow: One plaque to be used for the ceremony was cast with a hole in the center, according to society member John Anicic.

It has been two tough years, but society members now have a new plaque. Civic leaders will be at the station in full force Sunday to dedicate the historic facility.

The ceremonies begin at 11 a.m. Sunday. A reception will be held in the center following the dedication. Tours of other historic spots in the city will follow.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture closed the station in the mid-60s and declared it surplus.

The city bought the facility, now operated by the parks and recreation department.
By Order Of The Graybeards
UNOFFICIAL OFFICIAL ANNIVERSARY Celebration.
Clamp-Party
SUNDAY, August 30, 1984
SPOONERS RANCH

THE NOBLE GRAND HUMBUG, THE RIGHT HONORABLE BILL PEARSON HEREBY PROCLAIMS,
ANNOUNCES, IMPRECATES, & OTHERWISE SPREADS THE GLORIOUS CLAMPROCLAMATION!!!!!!!

TO WIT: GRAB your RED SHIRT & BLACK HAT, unhitch yer burro and Git to Spooners
Ranch. Leave the Widders & Orphans at home, Stagg Only. The Billy Holcomb
Chapter ECV will celebration the 15th Anniversary of its founding. There will be
Hambergers with all the fixing & our famous Chilibeans. Bring your own Beer or
Booze.
The rub will be $5.00 per person. Bring prospective PBCs. On Saturday we need
volunteers to help set up. Camping space is available for Saturday Night for
those who wish to bring Tents & or RVs.

P.S. There will be a special commemorative pin honoring the founding of our
chapter. The cost will be $5.00 to Clampers only.

Please Reply by Sept 15, 1984

NAME

Amount Submitted:

Call The Humbug OR The Silverspoon if you are going to make it at the last
minute.

Bill the Humbug

(714) 862-8245

Mail to George Spooner,
Spooner's Ranch
448 North Orange St.
Riverside, Cal. 92501

ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ORDER OF
E CLAMPUS VITUS
Preclampout schedule and clampschedule for Old Mining Town of Hart.

September 5th.: Monthly meeting at Brighams Restaurant in Upland at 7:00pm. Last change planing for clampout. Let's get it together.

September 30th.: Paper work and clampfee due at Golddust Receiver Harrell. Add 5 bucks if you are late. And call Glenn at (714) 823-0384.

Pre-clampout: Explain to yer pbc exactly what is expected of him at the clampout.

Friday, Oct. 11th: Beer and chili feed—Kickoff to the official & unofficial doings at the diggins.

6:00pm chili con carne con beans prepared by the Damm Fool doorkeeper & Keeper of the bean pot Frank Sepulveda. Chili served until its gone. Cervesa y cola also.

6:01 Errrection of the FFFArting Pppost. The mysterious history of this ancient artifact will be explained by one the the Graybeards.

6:02 The Humbugs Slippery Gluch Saloon opens. Come and have your attitude adjusted at this time by Humbug Bill at the diggins.

7:00 Un-offical clampfire & liars contest. Subject matter limited to sexual prowess & consumption of beer.

On arrival PBC must report to The Hangman. (Tom Neyman)

Saturday, October 12th:

Breakfast at 7:00Am: The first of Tony the cook's gourmet Gastronomical creations of the weekend. Better get there before 8:25AM or get leftovers.

7:30----Greybeards Meeting ala fresco

8:30----PBC Meeting with the Hangman

8:45----sign up for clamper olympics with Andy Hopwood.

9:30----Cutoff-time for arrival of PBC at clampsite. First and last time for PBC to check in with Hangman. ---OVER---
10:00---Clamperolympics Games begin. PBC parade, & PBC toss. Followed by Horseshoes, and other fun things to do.

First Tour of Soda Springs

10:30---Graybeards meeting the PBC's.

10:40---PBC Meeting for indoctrination and lubrication after meeting the Graybeards.

11:00---Most PBC Free Until the Hangman wants you back. (3:00AM)

3:30----PBC Entertainment of the brethern.

5:30-----Dinner is served at our MillionDollar rolling gourmet Chuck Wagon. It is steak with all the fixins.

7:00PM---Clampfire and historical talk by chapter Historians.

Sunday, May 6,-----last day of clampout.

6:00---PBC Up & at them for cooking breakfast & clean up.

7:00AM---Sunday Breakfast with all the fixins.

9:30AM----Initiation of PBC into ECV.

10:30AM: Clean up of Clampsite:

11:00AM---Dedication of of Plaque at Hart.

Head for Home:
Gold was discovered in the nearby Castle Mountains in December 1907 by Jim Hart and the Hitt brothers, Bert and Clark. The town of Hart quickly sprang up. Its five hotels and eight saloons served a population of about 400. The relatively quiet town had neither a church nor a school. Hart had its own newspaper during 1908-1909. The nearest rail connection was 3½ miles northwest at the siding of Hitt. The mines played out after ten years and the town was deserted.

Plaque and base provided by Billy Holcomb Chapter of the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management.

October 14, 1984
HART

After the fabulous mining strikes in west-central Nevada during the 1860-70 Comstock period, western mining activity subsided. Then in 1900 a few golden flakes were discovered at Tonopah, Nevada, and the stampede was on. Four years later, a few miles south of Tonopah, a new strike put the town of Goldfield, Nevada, on the map. Goldfield became the site of one of the West's largest gold deposits.

Intensive prospecting in the region continued. In 1905 Shorty Harris, "a single blanket jackass prospector" (that's the epitaph on his tombstone in Death Valley), discovered gold in the Bullfrog Hills. His find triggered the boom of Rhyolite, Nevada, to a population of 12,000 in 1907 and the flurry of prospecting throughout the desert.

Jim Hart was one of the hopefuls searching through the desert. He had been prospecting at Goldfield, apparently without much luck. But with his partners, the Hitt brothers, Bert and Clark, he finally hit pay dirt assaying at $2,200 per ton. The time was December 1907; the place was the Castle Mountains of California within five miles of the Nevada border.

Hart's discovery vein was named the Oro Belle Mine. Apparently another associate, Mack Foster, helped with the mining.

George Foster had been a broker at Goldfield. With Will Foster as assistant, he laid out the townsit of Hart at the foot of the gold-bearing mountains to receive an onrush of hopefuls. In spite of a severe national economic depression, they successfully promoted the town and its mines.
The Needles "Eye" reported the immediate attraction of Hart:
"Many people have left Needles and Searchlight in automobiles,
buggies, and wagons, and on bicycles and burros." At the end of
January of 1908, the new Hart "Enterprise" reported the new town's
speedy progress: "A hundred tents are scattered about, and the
number is fast increasing. Where two weeks ago the eye beheld
nothing but joshuas and cacti the mountain side teems with life
and progress."

By May of 1908 Hart was bustling with 400 residents and many
buildings. By July the structures included two 2-story hotels
(the Norton House and the Martin House), a one-story rooming house
(the Old Star), two other hotels, a general store (Brown & Gosney
Co.), two groceries (Funk's and Buckler's), a bakery-restaurant
(Messmer's), a book store (Ames'), a newspaper office (Flanagan's
"Enterprise"), a real estate office (Foster's), two surveyor
offices (M.L. Cook's and Stone & Brown's), a hardware store
(Smith, McCarthy & Bradley's), a lumber yard, a drug store,
a candy store, and eight saloons (the Agguire, the Northern Club,
the Arlington Club, Honest John's, and the Hart & Hitt are names
that have been passed down to us).

Such a nearly complete town for a mining camp was unusual.
About all that Hart lacked was a church, a school, and a bank.
Utilities included a post office, phone and telegraph lines,
stage service to Searchlight, and a 4-mile water line to Malapais
Springs.
The Norton House (with furnishings described as "first class") had a dining room and a bar. The Martin House had a pool hall within its lobby. The Old Star had curtains as partitions between beds. Brown & Gosney, the general store, included a post office. The general store also served as the unofficial town hall. The store manager, Milton Munday, served as postmaster and justice of the peace.

Harry McCallum headed the town's Business Men's League, formed to enforce law-and-order. After some preliminary gunplay, the League generally succeeded in keeping the town quiet and safe. McCallum did much in promoting the town.

The two largest mines near the town were the Oro Belle and the Big Chief, both owned by Jim Hart and Bert Hitt. They and Harry McCallum were part owners of the Hart Consolidated Mine. The Big Chief had a 10-stamp mill and its operators also ran the nearby Jumbo Mine. Another Hart mine, the Twin Peaks, met little success. Smaller mines were the Florence, Flyer, Piute Belle, Todd Hunter, and Zincaraffe. Hart's gold veins remained only a few inches wide. Their disappointing production of high grade ore probably netted losses to their owners.

Ten miles west of Hart was the small rail center and ranch community of Barnwell. Today the large OX Cattle Company has its headquarters about seven miles south of the site of Barnwell. Five miles northwest of Barnwell was the mining camp of Vanderbilt, named for the fabulously wealthy Vanderbilt family of the east.
Hart's nearest rail connection was 3½ miles northwest at the siding of Hitt on the new (1907) Barnwell & Searchlight Railway, a subsidiary of Santa Fe. The B&S was a 23.22-mile connecting link between Barnwell and the mining town of Searchlight, Nevada. In 1893 the Nevada Southern Railway had connected Barnwell (then called Manvel) to Goffs and the Santa Fe main line. In 1895 the newly-formed California Eastern Railway took over the bankrupt Nevada Southern. In 1902 the Santa Fe purchased the California Eastern (and changed the name of Manvel to Barnwell).

The railroad agent at Hitt, R.J. Young, had a two-cylinder automobile. He doubled as mail carrier between Hitt and Hart. Before railroad mail service, George Atterson brought the mail in from Barnwell by stage.

Hart never had a school but Barnwell did. One year, three Hart boys, aged 10, 11, and 12, walked to Barnwell every Sunday afternoon before a school week. At Barnwell, the trio lived by themselves in a cabin, cooking their own food and going to school. They washed dishes as infrequently as possible. They used dishes from vacant cabins until there were none left. Then they washed them all. On Friday afternoon they walked back to their families in Hart.

One of the three boys was John Snorf who in 1956 lived in Las Vegas, Nevada. He told his remembrances of Hart to Burr Belden, past Historian of Billy Holcomb Chapter. Belden then wrote a long article on Hart in the San Bernardino Sun-Telegram of September 30, 1956.
Hart's four-page weekly newspaper, the "Enterprise", was edited by J.B. Flanagan. It had moved from Searchlight to Hart in 1908 but left Hart in 1909 when the mines began to decline.

In 1910 Hart's real estate agents, brothers George and Will Foster, bought a big touring car in Los Angeles and drove it to Hart. In those days that was a 9-day drive via the best route (mostly old wagon roads). The car was a big hit in Hart as the locals were treated to bumpy rides at 10 to 15 miles per hour.

In January 1911 a big fire destroyed much of Hart. There were only a few barrels of water in town, so the fire just burned itself out. After the fire a water pipe to Barnwell was installed. When the surface pipe line froze in winter, water was brought in by wagon or pack animal from French's Spring, six miles away. This impure water often needed to be filtered through a cloth before being used.

Hart's water problem was finally solved when the Oro Belle Mine struck water at 800 feet. A 50,000-gallon tank held the water in 1912. But by then Hart's population had dwindled drastically.

Hart had a five-grave cemetery. Two of the deaths were from natural causes. One was a suicide. One was a shooting victim. The last was a mine accident victim, the father of John Snorf, John was one of the boys who walked to school at Barnwell.

The shooting victim was involved in a love triangle. In 1913 Charlie Lamb and Bob Yancy were rivals for a woman who had a house in Barnwell. When she left on a trip to visit relatives, Yancy saw her off on the train. She gave him her house key and told him to keep an eye on the property.
Yancy was living in Barnwell but soon moved to Hart. Meanwhile, Lamb, who lived in Hart, went to Barnwell for temporary work. Lamb intended to reside in the woman's house while she was away. Lamb met Yancy at Judge Munday's general store in Hart. When Yancy refused to give Lamb the house key, Lamb whipped out his shooting iron and blasted Yancy. Lamb quickly remorse and walked the 3½ miles to the railroad station at Hitt where he begged a doctor on the train from Searchlight to save Yancy's life. Lamb boarded the train to Goffs where he wired the sheriff in San Bernardino to give himself up. Unfortunately, Yancy died anyway. Lamb pleaded a grief-stricken "guilty" and was given only a one-to-five year sentence.

As Hart's mines failed to produce, the town's days were numbered. In 1915 the post office closed. By 1918 the general store had closed. A 1919 report described Hart as deserted. Washouts in 1923 gave the Santa Fe an excuse to abandon the financially unsound Barnwell & Searchlight rail service. Although clay was found near Hart in the 1920s and worked somewhat successfully, Hart remained a ghost town. Hart was a typical mining camp born with dreams that did not come true.
Bibliography


Historical advisors:
Dennis Casebier, author-historian
Alan Hensher, author-historian
Ron Miller, author and Billy Holcomb Chapter historical advisor
Arda Haenszel, author-historian
Bill Pearson, Billy Holcomb Chapter grand noble humbug

Text written by Phil Porretta
BY ORDER OF THE GRAYBEARDS
UNOFFICIAL OFFICIAL CLAMP PROCLAMATION
SPRING CLAMP OUT
October, 12th, 13th & 14th 1984
HART MINING TOWN—Joint Clampout with the Low Hung Whang Chapter #8

THE NOBLE GRAND HUMBUG, THE RIGHT HONORABLE BILL PEARSON HEREBY
PROCLAIMS, ANNOUNCES, IMPRECATES, & OTHERWISE SPREADS THE GLORIOUS
CLAMP PROCLAMATION!!!!!!!

TO WIT: GRAB your RED SHIRT & BLACK HAT, unhitch yer burro and
head for the high desert out Ivanpah way. It is CLAMP OUT time at
Hart. Leave yer worries, the widder & orphans at home. The
SlipperyGulch Saloon opens at 6:00PM or maybe sooner on Friday,
Oct. 12th, due to the noble generosity of Humbug Bill. Also
fortify yerselves with chili con carne caliente by the Damm Fool
Doorkeeper Frank Sepulveda. The cookcrew, lead by Tony & the
Chefs, will serve up new gormet delights for the usually two
breakfast & the wonderful & delightsome Saturday night Steak
dinner.

"How much is the rub?" you might ask. It is only $25 fer a red
shirt and $35 fer
the lowlife PBC. A bargain at twice the price.

Mail yer GOLD DUST to the Gold Dust Receiver Glenn Harrel at 9926
Palmetto ave. Bloomington, Cal 92316.

Therefore: Clamper Olympics. Darts & Horseshoes fer suprizings
prizes. A Clampfire & historical gabfest will be held fer yer
entertainment on Saturday Night. On Sunday at 11:00 AM there will
the plaque dedication at Hart. This will be Billy Holcombs
Official Plaque #30.

TO WIT AGAIN: The plaque will commemorate the various historical
events that took place there.

WHEREAS: The clampsite will be located at at the town site of
Hart. See enclosed Map.

Bring Water: This is a dry Camp.

REAFIRMATION OF THE RULES:

1. NO GUNS Or OTHER FIREARMS
2. NO EXPLOSIVES OF ANY TYPE.
3. NO FIREWORKS
4. NO Widcers or other Ladys.
5. TELL YOUR PBC ABOUT THESE RULES.
6. No Newspaper reporters or other journalists.
Where AS: This a joint clampout with The Floating Low Hung Whang Chapter #8. Members of Billy Holcomb Chapter will be able to join Low Hung Whang for $10. You will receive a membership certificate and a patch, (Yes there is a Low Hung Whang Chapter) The Clampatriarch of the Whangs will be in attendance.

Bill Pearson, NGH.

RSVP Before Oct 1, 1984
Name
Address
City
Phone

Fee Schedule
Mailer Fee (to stay on Mail list) 3.00
Fall Clampout Fee: Includes a patch, food, beer, etc.
Members of Billy Holcomb and members of other Chapters (Add $5.00 if Late) $25.00
PBC Fees (includes Master Patch) $35.00
Fee for Good of the order: $5.00
Yes I want to join Low Hung Whang Chapter here is my extra $10.

Make Check Payable to Billy Holcomb Chapter.

Total Amount:

Mail this form with Golddust to: Glenn Hearrell at 9926 Palmetto Ave, Bloomington, Cal 92316
CLAMPANNOUNCEMENT

FALL CLAMPOUT AT HART

IMPORTANT STUFF

8/17/84

Preclampout schedule and clampschedule for Old Mining Town of Hart.

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Breakfast at 7:00Am: The first of Tony the cook's gourmet Gastronomical creations of the weekend. Better get there before 8:25AM or get leftovers.

7:30-------Greybeards Meeting ala fresco

8:30-------PBC Meeting with the Hangman

8:45-------sign up for clamper olympics with Andy Hopwood.

9:30-------Cutoff-time for arrival of PBC at clampsite. First and last time for PBC to check in with Hangman. ---OVER---
10:00---Clamperolympics Games begin. PBC parade, & PBC toss. Followed by Horseshoes, and other fun things to do. First Tour of Soda Springs

10:30---Graybeards meeting the PBC's.

10:40---PBC Meeting for indoctrination and lubrication after meeting the Graybeards.

11:00---Most PBC Free Until the Hangman wants you back. (3:00AM)

3:30---PBC Entertainment of the brethren.

5:30---Dinner is served at our Million Dollar rolling gourmet Chuck Wagon. It is steak with all the fixins.

7:00PM---Clamfire and historical talk by chapter Historians.

Sunday, May 6,-----last day of clampout.

6:00---PBC Up & at them for cooking breakfast & clean up.

7:00AM---Sunday Breakfast with all the fixins.

9:30AM---Initiation of PBC into ECV.

10:30AM: Clean up of Clampsite:

11:00AM---Dedication of of Plaque at Hart.

Head for Home:
PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP
E Clampus Vitus
BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER

TO THE GRAND NOBLE RECORDER:

I hereby petition for membership in the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus. I certify that I have received my novitiate instruction from my sponsor, Clamper-------------------------------, and hereby solemnly affirm my belief in the Dictum of the Order, "PER CARITATE VIDUARIUS ORPHANIBUSQUE, SED PRIME VIDUARIUS," and wholeheartedly, without reservation, agree to render SATISFACTORY SERVICE at all times.

I further agree to present myself at the E.C.V. Hall of Comparative Ovations at such time and place designated by the NOBLE GRAND HUMBUG, guaranteeing that I shall arrive fully equipped to negotiate the Chasm of Terror and Despair and to reach the safe haven of CLAMPERDOM.

As evidence of my good faith, I forward herewith my gold dust ($----------------) in payment of the initiation fee unusually charged each POOR BLIND CANDIDATE. In return I humbly beseech you to transmit my Badge of Office which I shall proudly wear when presenting myself for infamous induction. I realize that without this Badge of Office, the Grand Hangman and the Damnfool Doorkeeper cannot permit to enter the Hall of Comparative Ovations.

Be it known, if you are accepted and inducted, that to remain a Clamper you must either attend each and every Clampton or send in the required gold dust for remaining active if you can't make it. If do not you are no longer a Clamper.

GRAND NOBLE RECORDER'S RECORD:
Application received----------------------------------
Application approved----------------------------------
Application rejected----------------------------------
Ritual taken----------------------------------------
Scroll mailed---------------------------------------
Witness my Hand and Privy Seal this day of_______, 19______

TO BE DETACHED ONLY BY GRAND NOBLE RECORDER

P.B.C. APTITUDE TEST
(To be filled out by P.B.C.) CHECK YES NO
I am a jolly good fellow .....................................□ □
I am interested in California history (State any special field) ...........................................□ □
I can draw or cartoon ......................................□ □
I can sing .....................................................□ □
I enjoy theatrical work .....................................□ □
I play a musical instrument ................................□ □
(State which)
I am willing to help if called upon .....................□ □
I am not a jolly good fellow ................................□ □
(For G.N.R.) CLAMPERATING..............................

FOR P.B.C. TO FILL OUT. PLEASE PRINT.

| Full name ____________________________ |
| Address ______________________________ |
| City________________________ Zip Code________________ |
| Occupation __________________________ |
| Age_________ Place of birth________________________ |

Illegal Signature
November meeting moved to Stove Pipe Wells, Death Valley. (Un-offical)
November 8 to 11th. Humbug screwed up.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

DECEMBER 5TH, 1st Wednesday of Month.
January 2nd, 1st Wednesday of Month.
February 6th, 1st Wednesday of Month.
March 6th, 1st Wednesday of Month.
April 3rd, 1st Wednesday of Month.
Spring Clampout
May 3rd, 4th & 5th at Wiley's Well (Blythe, Riverside County)
June 5th, Regular Meeting.

June 28th, 29th and 30th. Proposed Famclump at Salton Sea.

July No Meeting.
August 7th Regular Meeting

September 4 Regular Meeting (Last Meeting before Clampout)

Fall Clampout
October 11th, 12th and 13th Fort Mojave (ON THE RIVER).

November 6th, Regular Meeting.

Serious Shit

1. Watch For New Items in Store, It's going to be better.

2. RSVP Flamclump by Spring Clampout.

3. Clampout fees are $30 for Members, $40 for PBC

4. ClampCook Trailer Fund: All Donations for upgrading the cooktrailer will be greatly appreciated. The trailer needs to be improved for better handling when being towed and to improve the quality of the meals.

5. Special Note to All Spongers of PBCS: Please procure a letter from your PBC's wife or Girl Friend. This letter should be humorous and tell why the PBC should be admitted into our Order. It will be read at the clampfire.

What sayth the brethren.

Ken LaCourt Noble Grand Humbug.
Widders Nite!
"All ye good Clampers"

Bring your Widders
to the biggest night of the year in Clamperdom.

When: March 8, 1985
Where: El Rancho Verde Country Club, Rialto, Cal.
Time: 7:30 to?
Cost: $35.00 per couple - advance sale (adv. sale cut-off date Feb. 28)
$40.00 at the door

Bring yourselves, guests, inactive clampers and future P.B.C.s.
There will be a raffle for many good things including a b&w TV.

How to get there:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Club Dr.</th>
<th>Club</th>
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<tr>
<td>High Ave.</td>
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<td>Base Line</td>
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<td>Foot Hill</td>
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<td>Inter State 10</td>
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<td>Riverside Ave.</td>
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North
Although the Chemehuevi Indians (pronounced Chem-e-WAY-vee) are the only local tribe to migrate into California during the period of recorded history, little is known about them. The migration of the tribe was prompted by a disturbance caused by the Yumans on whom they may have bordered. When Garces visited the Colorado River, there were no Chemehuevi below Eldorado Canyon, and the California shore was in Yuman hands. Soon after, the Yumans and Mohaves drove the remnants of the Halchidhoma and Kohuana tribes eastward. They then permitted the friendly Chemehuevi to occupy the river.

When Lieutenant Joseph C. Ives led his American exploration team up the Colorado River in 1857, he found Chemehuevi camped beside the Mohaves on Cottonwood Island and in the Chemehuevi Valley. They were on both sides of the river and had established territory throughout the High and Low Deserts of California, even into Death Valley and the Panamint Range.

The area surrounding Wiley’s Well was clearly within the territory of the Salt Clan of the Chemihuevi.

**THE BRADSHAW TRAIL**

During the Civil War, a group of miners discovered placer gold in a gulch on the east side of the Colorado River, approximately seventy miles north of Fort Yuma. The news of the find spread immediately to Southern California. A typical gold rush was under way within a very short time, and a good road to the new diggings became a crying need.

There was already a road from San Bernardino through Cajon Pass to Fort Mohave, and from that point there was at least a trail that could be followed down along the river to the mines. But on May 31, the Los Angeles Star announced that “Parties who have left town for the Colorado placers intending to take a cut-off by way of San Gorgonio Pass, thence on a straight line to the new diggings have sent word that the new road is in first rate condition and perfectly practicable.”

W. D. Bradshaw, a man well known for adventurous exploits in the state, was one of the first to make the trip from Los Angeles to the new gold fields. The route he followed became the road that bore his name.

Excitement in Los Angeles over the placers on the Colorado was intense, and the Star for June 7 devoted its news columns to rumors and reports coming from them. The next issue contained an advertisement by Messrs. Warringer and Bradshaw to the effect that a boat would be running on the river by the middle of the month, and that a large ferry would be put on as soon as possible. There was also a letter from “Chuckuwalla Camp” that indicated a beginning of freighting from San Bernardino to the mines by way of the San Gorgonio Pass.

In the matter of water, that eternal problem on the desert in the days of transportation by animals, the Bradshaw Road, when compared with many other desert roads, was really well...
supplied. In only one stretch was the distance between natural watering places as great as thirty-five miles, and even in that stretch there were points where water could be developed. One had only to remember the Mormon Road from Salt Lake toSan Bernardino, with its terrible pulls between watering points—one of them a jornada of fifty-five miles—to realize how well watered the Bradshaw Road was.

The placers on the Colorado, which had led to the opening of this road, were eventually exhausted. New mining fields were, however, discovered in central Arizona, and the carrying of supplies to the various military posts in the High Desert created a large amount of freight and express business for the road during the years to come.

WILEY'S WELL

Wiley's Well is an historic waterhole which has served prospectors, cattlemen, outlaws, illegal aliens, Patton's army and explorers for nearly a century. More recently it has become the base camp for hundreds of rock collectors who go into the Chuckawalla country to search for the many varieties of semi-precious stones found over a wide area.

The well was dug by A. P. Wiley, owner of a little outpost store, who was appointed postmaster at Palo Verde on September 29, 1905, when homesteaders were tracking into the mesquite jungles of the Palo Verde Valley to file claims on the lands which had not already been acquired by Thomas Blythe.

Nearly midway between the Chuckawalla and Mule Mountains and at the south side of Chuckawalla, the well was dug in 1908. A county signpost once stood on the road about fifty feet south of the well, which is on the east bank of a large wash through which a considerable territory on the south slopes of the Chuckawallas drains into Ford Dry Lake. Along the wash there is a heavy growth of palo verde and ironwood trees.

J. Smeaton Chase wrote in 1919: "As I was saddling the next morning a prospector chanced along. He was driving a buckboard with two small mules, and was bound for Blythe, having come by way of Wiley’s Well. Was I going that way? he asked. I told him Yes. 'How long rope have you got?' he inquired. 'Forty feet,' I said, indicating Kaweah’s picket-rope. 'That won’t do you no good,' he remarked. 'It’s sixty foot down to water. If I hadn’t had them two long tie-ropes I’d have starved when I got there yesterday. Some son of (et cetera) has stolen the rope off the windlass. I hope he’ll die raving mad for a drop of water right where he can see it, like I might have done. Roping up’s too good for that kind of dirt.'"

ROCK HOUNDING

Within a radius of thirty miles of Wiley’s Well, the rock collectors have, for years, found a score of deposits which yield good cutting material for their lapidaries, and have given highly descriptive names to the various localities.

There are the Hauser Beds, where so much excavating has been done in quest of geodes that the hillsides and ravines have the appearance of an old California placer field. The Potato Patch which derives its name from the shape of the geodes found there, the Twin Buttes where the collecting material includes banded agate, red and white fortification vein agate, chalcedony and also crystalline and drusy chalcedony. Some of the chalcedony is fluorescent.

The Chuckawalla mineralized area, which includes the Chuckawalla Mountains, Mule Mountains, Palo Verde Mountains, and Black Hills, has been a favorite hunting ground for collectors for more than fifty years, and yet the surface of this vast desert jewel box is still yielding good stones to those who hike beyond known areas. Undoubtedly there is untold wealth beneath the surface for future generations of collectors. At one place in the area are geodes weighing several hundred pounds—so big that no one has yet found what is inside of them. They are too big for an ordinary lapidary saw.

Now Billy Holcomb Chapter of E Clampus Vitus has visited the area for a second time, and Wiley’s Well will never be the same again!

WHAT SAYETH THE BRETHREN?
SATISFACTORY!!!
BY ORDER OF THE GRAYBEARDS
UNOFFICIAL OFFICIAL CLAMPROCLAMATION
SPRING CLAMPOUT
MAY 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1985
Wiley’s Well

THE NOBLE GRAND HUMBUG, THE RIGHT HONORABLE KEN LACOURT HEREBY PROCLAIMS, ANNOUNCES, IMPRECATES AND OTHERWISE SPREADS THE GLORIOUS CLAMPROCLAMATION.

TO WIT: Grab your RED SHIRT and BLACK HAT, unhitch yer burro and head for the high desert out Blythe way. It is CLAMPOUT time. Leave yer worries, the widder and orphans at home. The Slippery Gulch Saloon opens at 6:00 pm or maybe sooner on Friday May 2nd, due to the noble generosity of Humbug Ken. Also fortify yerselves with chili con carne caliente by the damn fool, who does it this time. The cookcrew, lead by Jim and the chefs, will serve up new gourmet delights for the usually two breakfast and the wonderful and delightful Saturday night steak dinner.

"How much is the rub?", you might ask. It is only $35 for a red shirt and $40 for the lowlife PBC. A bargain at twice the price.

Mail yer GOLD DUST to the GOLD DUST RECEIVER Phil Porretta, 21625 Fairwind Drive, Diamond Bar, Ca. 91765.

Therefore: Clapper Olympics. Darts and Horseshoes for surprizings prizes. A Clampfire and historical Gabfest will be held for yer entertainment on Saturday night. On Sunday at 11:00 am there will be the plaque dedication at the reststop.

TO WIT AGAIN: The plaque will commemorate the various historical events that took place there.

Bring water: This is a dry camp.

REAFFIRMATION OF THE RULES:

1. NO GUNS OR OTHER FIREARMS
2. NO EXPLOSIVES OF ANY TYPE
3. NO FIREWORKS
4. NO WIDDERS OR OTHER LADIES
5. TELL YOUR PBC ABOUT THESE RULES
6. NO NEWSPAPER REPORTERS OR OTHER JOURNALISTS

Ken LaCourt, N.G.H.
Mail this form with Gold Dust to: Phil Porretta
21625 Fairwind Drive
Diamond Bar, Ca. 91765

RSVP before May 1, 1985

Name:

Address:

City:

Phone:

Fee Schedule:

Mailer Fee (to stay on mailing list) 3.00

Fall Clampout Fee: Includes Patch, food etc.. (Furnish your own beer, please.)

Members of Billy Holcomb and other Chapters (add $5.00 if late) $35.00

PBC Fees (includes Master Patch) $40.00

Fee for GOOD of the order: $5.00

Make check payable to Billy Holcomb Chapter.

Total amount:
IN 1839 GOVERNOR JUAN ALVARADO GRANTED THE 13,000 ACRE TRACT CALLED CUCAMONGA TO TIPUNTO TAFIA, AN EX-SOLDIER WHO WAS A PROMINENT MERCHANT AND ALCOHOL IN LOS ANGELES. A HALF MILE WEST OF THIS MARKER, TAFIA, EMPLOYING INDIAN LABORERS, IMMEDIATELY BUILT AN ADOBE HOUSE ON A VANTAGE POINT ON RED HILL. THE LARGE ADOBE WAS ABANDONED IN 1850 WHEN TAFIA'S HEIRS SOLD THE RANCHO; THE ADOBE SOON DISINTEGRATED INTO ITS NATIVE EARTH. THIS MARKER IS LOCATED ON LAND WHICH ONCE WAS A PART OF TAFIA'S RANCHO.

CALIFORNIA REGISTERED HISTORICAL LANDMARK NO. 360.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE TAPIA ADOBE SITE
CALIFORNIA REGISTERED HISTORICAL
LANDMARK NUMBER 360

On March 3, 1839, Mexico's Governor of California, Juan Alvarado, granted to Tiburcio Tapia "the place called Cucamonga." Tapia had gained the governor's favor through past military service and public offices held in the pueblo of Los Angeles.

The Cucamonga tract was about 13,000 acres in size and almost rectangular in shape. To the east of the tract was Rancho San Bernardino; to the west was Rancho San Jose (today's Pomona area). The tract's southern boundary was the San Bernardino-Los Angeles Road; the northern boundary was the base of the San Bernardino Mountains.

Tiburcio Tapia's paternal grandfather, Felipe Santiago Tapia, had been a Spanish soldier in the 1776 Anza Expedition from Mexico which founded San Francisco. Tiburcio's father, Jose Bartolome, was Felipe's eldest son and had accompanied his father and mother and eight other siblings on the 1776 Anza Expedition. In 1786, Felipe resettled his family in the California pueblo of San Jose, Bartolome was majordomo at San Luis Obispo in 1789, when he married Maria Francisca Villalobos. Tiburcio was born that same year in Los Angeles.

Tiburcio Tapia became a soldier. He rose to corporal of the Santa Barbara company. He was Commander of the Guard at Mission Purisma Concepcion (50 miles northwest of Santa Barbara) in 1824, when with only four other soldiers he successfully defended the mission against an Indian attack.

Tiburcio's father, Bartolome Tapia, was granted Rancho Topanga Malibu Sequit about 1802. When Bartolome died in 1824 the rancho title passed to his widow, Maria.

After Tiburcio Tapia completed his military service he moved to Los Angeles, where he became a merchant. California government costs were funded by a 100% duty charge on imported goods. To avoid the expensive duty charges, smuggling became common. Tiburcio had access to his mother's Malibu coast for smuggling. At his store on Calle de Las Ninas in Los Angeles, he sold goods such as brandy, crepe shawls, Chinese silks, and slippers at popular prices. He made a fortune!

Tiburcio was the natural father of three children (Rafael, Maria Merced, and Jose de la Cruz) and the step-father of two children (Ramon Duarte and Presentacion Duarte). Apparently he was a widower in 1836.
(his first wife was an Indian), but by 1844 he had married Tomasa Valdez, some 30 years his junior. Tiburcio's eldest son, Rafael, was recorded in the 1836 census as being 13 years old but, curiously, no later information on him has been found. Tiburcio's youngest son, Jose de la Cruz, died at age 13, in 1853.

Tiburcio was a respected citizen of Los Angeles, twice serving as alcalde (judge). In 1839 he was president of the city council.

Tiburcio acquired some stock and needed grazing land. In an application dated January 23, 1839, he petitioned Governor Juan B. Alvarado for ownership of the Cucamonga tract. Alvarado officially approved the Cucamonga grant on March 3, 1839. The grant allowed for "three (square) leagues... more or less" (1 square league = 4,409 acres). But Juan Leandry, Los Angeles Justice of the Peace and in charge of the Cucamonga survey, marked off about seven square leagues. Perhaps Leandry was seeking favors from Tapia. Anyway, many litigations and years later, Rancho Cucamonga was legally set at three square leagues.

The pre-Spanish inhabitants of the Cucamonga area were of the Shoshonean Indian group. The Spanish sub-categorized the group and the natives at Cucamonga were classified as Gabrielino ("near Mission San Gabriel") or Serrano ("mountain people"). Cucamonga was a border region between the two groups and probably was occupied by both sub-groups at various times.

The name Cucamonga comes from the Indian word for the region. The Gabrielino name was Kukumo-nga; the Serrano name was Kukamo-na-t or Kukumu-nga-bit. The interpretation of the place name has been variously given as "Sandy Place," "Place of Many Springs," and "Place of the Light Over the Mountain". One thing is for sure: "nga" is a Shoshonean suffix meaning "place of".

At least two Indian villages were in the Cucamonga area— one called Guapiana on San Antonio Creek, and one called Cucamonga by the springs near Cucamonga Creek just east of Red Hill. Many metates, grinding stones, arrowheads, and other artifacts have been discovered in the area. The Indians likely lived a quiet, peaceful life in this chaparral region of luxuriant, shrubby plants.

The natives of the Cucamonga area were credited as being intelligent and industrious. In 1839 Tiburcio Tapia employed them to help build his adobe house, tend to the stock, and start the plantings. But when the natives realized that their rich grazing and hunting grounds were being taken from them, they retaliated as they retreated to the foothills and canyons by stealing stock. By 1859 the natives no longer lived in the area.

The Cucamonga grant of March 3, 1839,
specified that "Within a year he (Tapia) shall build a house and it shall be inhabited." A large fort-like adobe house was soon built. Abel Stearns, in an affidavit, stated: "(In February 1840) there was a house in the land (Cucamonga) which Tapia had built and in which his overseer (Jose Maria Valdez) and servants had lived. . .". The survey notes of February 28, 1840, mention "where the (Los Angeles-San Bernardino) road crosses the creek (Cucamonga Creek) in front of the hill (Red Hill) on which the house is situated. . .".

Tapia's adobe house was described as "well-built, massive as a fortress, facing south, with east and west wings and a gateway on the north side." The roof was covered with tar brought from Rancho La Brea near Los Angeles.

Contrary to some reports the house was not on the summit of Red Hill but on the southeastern slope, although on an excellent vantage point. The site afforded a good prospect of the Los Angeles-San Bernardino traffic and travelers using the Cajon Pass-Cucamonga diagonal.

Probably Tapia only lived part-time at the rancho. A house in Los Angeles was a more practical residence for running his important business in town.

A certificate dated August 23, 1845, recorded the death of Tiburcio Tapia at his residence in Cucamonga.

Tapia's estate inventory included "12 rows in the mother vineyard of 47 vines each at Rancho Cucamonga." Tapia's majordomo, Jose Maria Valdez, is credited with setting these out. This probably was the first large planting of grapes in Southern California for commercial purposes. The plants probably were taken from Mission San Gabriel. Wine has been an important product of the Cucamonga region ever since.

Ramon Duarte apparently lived at Cucamonga after Tapia's death, looking after the rancho. In 1846 Ramon helped lead the Californios in holding off General Kearney's American army at the Battle of San Pasqual.

In 1847 there was an Indian raid at Rancho Cucamonga. Thirty Indians drove away all the horses in the corrals.

On July 4, 1847, Tapia's daughter and heir, Merced, married French settler Leon Victor Prudhomme in the Los Angeles Plaza Church. They moved into the Tapia adobe at Rancho Cucamonga.

There is a story that Tapia
buried a chest of gold coins at a secret location that is still unknown. Even Tapia's daughter, Merced, who knew the story, did not know the treasure's hiding place. Merced's son, Charles J. Prudhomme, was a guide at the Los Angeles City Hall in the 1920's and told the following eerie tale to tourists:

"She (Merced) occupied the room of her father (in the Tapia adobe at Cucamonga) and one night she saw a mysterious light moving across the wall until it stopped at one particular point. This vision repeated itself and so disturbed her that her husband, to prove how foolish was her fancy, located the spot and plunged his knife into the adobe wall. To his own surprise it sank into a hollow place. When he thrust in his hand he drew out a purse containing silver pesos and a scrap of paper with faded lines and words upon it."

The tale continues on, describing how Merced believed they had discovered a key to the hidden treasure chest. But after careful study of the paper and much search the treasure was not found.

Tapia's Rancho Cucamonga adobe house was on the Old Spanish Trail, also known as the Santa Fe Trail, used by the forty-niners. Often Tapia's adobe was the first stop after the long and difficult crossing of the Mojave Desert. The weary travelers considered Tapia's adobe to be a haven. Especially popular was the good wine.

The Prudhommes sold Rancho Cucamonga in 1858 to John Rains and his wife, the daughter of Isaac Williams who had owned Rancho del Chino. Tapia's adobe house on Red Hill was abandoned as Rains soon built a new house just east of Cucamonga Creek near Red Hill. A short distance south of his new house, Rains built an adobe winery which has been restored and is now the Thomas Vineyards Winery. Next to the winery is the old adobe residence used by Mr. Dunlap who was in charge of building the Rains winery and enlarging the vineyards. The winery is California Registered Historical Landmark Number 490.

From the Thomas Vineyards Winery, the Tapia Adobe Site is half a mile away, just north of due west. Until recently the adobe site was used as growing grounds for Kramer Brothers Nursery. The adobe site is near the present intersection of Valle Vista Drive and Red Hill Country Club Drive.

A 1928 magazine article reported that "the walls of this building (Tapia's adobe on Red Hill) long since returned to the earth from which they came. But the site can still be traced, and bits of brea remain on the ground." Undoubtedly the seekers of Tapia's hidden treasure chest,
the ground." Undoubtedly the seekers of Tapia's hidden treasure chest, who dug and re-dug around the adobe house, helped to cause its early demise.

In 1939 the Tapia adobe site was owned by Otto Kramer. His approval to register the historical site allowed the state to officially recognize the site on May 19, 1939. The Tapia Adobe Site is California Registered Historical Landmark Number 360.

Test by Phil Forretta
Graphics by Ron Miller
Billy Holcomb Chapter
E Clampus Vitus
BIBLIOGRAPHY


Miller, Ronald D. (author and Cucamonga area historian) Telephone interviews (714/946-5718).


WHAT SAYETH THE BRETHREN?

(AND WILLOWS AND ORPHANS)

SATISFACTORY!
In 1839 Governor Juan Alvarado granted the 13,000 acre tract called Cucamonga to Tiburcio Tapia, an ex-soldier who was a prominent merchant and alcalde in Los Angeles. A half mile west of this marker, Tapia, employing Indian laborers, immediately built an adobe house on a vantage point on Red Hill. The large adobe was abandoned in 1858 when Tapia's heirs sold the rancho. The adobe soon disintegrated into its native earth. This marker is located on land which once was a part of Tapia's rancho.

California Registered Historical Landmark No. 360


Dedication: Sunday June 2, 1985 at 11 am at Thomas Winery, Foothill & Vineyard, Cucamonga.

Picnic: Noon (after dedication) at Cucamonga-Guasti Regional Park ($2/vehicle fee) on Archibald Av. 1/2 mile north of I-10...Group area by large vat.
Sunday, June 2, 1985

BILLY HOLCOMB

FamClamp Picnic

Historic Plaque dedication/Non Picnic at Group Area by large wine vat. Noon.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, beans & non-alcoholic drink provided by Billy Holcomb Chapter.

Wine provided by Thomas Vineyards & J. Filippi Vintner Co.

Beer is allowed in park.

Red: Males over 21 .... $5

Women & children over .... $2

Children under 12 .... $1

Send check - payable to "Billy Holcomb Chapter-EC" to Phil Porretta

21625 Fair Wind Lane

Diamond Bar, CA

91765
BILLY HOLCOMB
ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ORDER OF E CLAMPUS VITUS

FALL TREK
OCT. 11th, 12th, & 13th

IRON MOUNTAIN
Iron Mountain Divisional Camp

In the early days of World War II, the largest military training exercise ever undertaken was initiated in the southern deserts of California and Arizona. The Desert Training Center—California-Arizona Maneuver Area, as it came to be known, was established for the purpose of conditioning troops and testing military equipment before subjecting them to the rigors of the battlefield. From 1942 to 1944, close to one million troops of the armed forces conducted large-scale maneuvers throughout the entire area and cycled through a series of primitive base camps which they established and called "home" between maneuvers. Of the more than ten camps established as part of the Desert Training Center, Camp Iron Mountain remains today as one of the most significant and best preserved remnants of this period in our nation's history.

SAVE YOUR MAP

C.B. CHANNEL # 13 (For Your Listening Pleasure)
Summary

Description English: Map of the United States Army Desert Training Center

Date 1942

Source http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/ca/pdfs/needles_pdfs/Par.9550550e.File.pdf/map2.pdf

Author US Army via United States Bureau of Land Management

Permission (Reusing this file) USGOV-PD

Licensing
A slab now stands where tanks once clanked

By WENDY BORBATH
The Press-Enterprise

DESERT CENTER — Forty miles north of the last gas station in Desert Center, near a stretch of two-lane highway that is lined with signs warning of "Drifting Sands" and little else, there is a turnstile.

It is the entrance to a relief map of a World War II training center.

Or, more correctly, the entrance to what is left of a relief map of what was once a training center for more than a million men more than 40 years ago.

The Desert Training Center was used by the U.S. Army to train men for armored warfare from 1942 to 1944.

Under the leadership of Gen. George S. Patton, the purpose of the Desert Training Center — which included 11 camps on more than 30,000 square acres of land in Riverside and San Bernardino counties — was to prepare soldiers to go to war in North Africa and Europe.

The empty camps — stripped of the tents, tanks and men that once populated them — are frequented these days mostly by desert snakes and jack rabbits.

And few men.

Except on days like yesterday.

Yesterday, more than 100 members of the Billy Holcomb (See CAMPS, Page B-3)

Camps . . .

(From Page B-1)

Chapter of the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus, a San Bernardino based historical society, dedicated a 5 foot 6 inch slab of brass-plated concrete to the memory of the men and women who once served in one of the Desert Training Center camps — the Iron Mountain Divisional Camp.

Not much of the Iron Mountain Divisional Camp is left. Two stone chapel altars and some stone-outlined streets and emblems are its only remains — except, of course, for the relief map.

About 3 miles from the spot where the Billy Holcomb Chapter members stood along state Highway 62 to dedicate the concrete monument, two fences — one chain link, the other barbed wire — protect the rocks, weathered wooden signs and sandy miniature mountains that make up the relief map.

The only way to get close to the map is to pass through the barbed wire fence and stand against the chain link fence that immediately surrounds it.

And the only way to get through the barbed wire fence is to pass through its metal turnstile.

Although the relief map and other Desert Training Center remains are not tourist hotspots, members of the Billy Holcomb Chapter of the historical society said they hope yesterday's dedication will bring attention to the training center and encourage veterans and other volunteers to help them preserve the camps.

The California Bureau of Land Management owns the land but does not have the authority to rebuild or refurbish the camps, according to Gary Ryan, BLM chief of resources in Needles.

Instead, the BLM must depend on volunteers and historical societies to renovate the camps, Ryan said.
2nd NOTICE

BILLY HOLCOMB'S BIRTHDAY
December 8th, 1985

Red Shirts & prospective PBC's only!
$10.00 fee includes Birthday Badge, food
(hamburgers, chili, hotdogs served Sunday Dec 8
after 12 Noon), and Clamper Games & Prizes.

It's OK to pay upon arrival but it would help
if you could send your money soon to:
Tony Calabreze, 13149 Sequoia Ave., Chino, Ca. 91710.

The Party location is SPOONER'S RANCH
448 N. Orange St.
Riverside

North

Events & food start
at Noon Sunday Dec 8
and end at dark.

You are welcome to arrive
as early as 4 pm Saturday Dec 7-
provide your own accommodations and
stay overnight!
THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ORDER OF
E CLAMPUS VITUS
BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER

1986
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WARNING -- All dates, times, and places are tentative.

All General Meetings and Greybeard Meetings are to be held at Brigham's Restaurant in Upland (on Foothill Bl. just west of San Antonio Av.) at 7 pm unless notified otherwise.

Jan. 8 Greybeard Meeting
Feb. 5 General Meeting
Mar. 1 Widder's Night at El Rancho Country Club, Rialto
Mar. 5 General Meeting
Mar. 21-23 EMMORRHOID Trek
Apr. 2 General Meeting
Apr. 16 Greybeard Meeting
Apr. 25-27 TRASH Trek
May 2-4 Spring Clampout at Lucerne Valley
June 4 General Meeting
July 2 General Meeting
Aug. 3 FamClamp at Rancho Jurupa County Park, Rubidoux
Aug. 6 General Meeting
Sep. 3 General Meeting
Sep. 16 Greybeard Meeting
Oct. 10-12 Fall Clampout at Randsburg/Red Mountain
Nov. 5 General Meeting
Dec. 3 General Meeting

Caritas por Vludas y Huerflhos
Ructumus Secundum Retromandibularis Humerus
BILLY HOLCOMB CHAPTER
PROPOSED CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1986-87

5 Nov — General Meeting, Cucamonga at 7pm
30 Nov — Doo-Dah Parade, Pasadena
7 Jan — General Meeting
14 Feb — Widders Night, Claremont or Corona
4 Mar — General Meeting
27-29 Mar — Hemorrhoid Trek, Camp Rock Springs—Camp Ibis
1 Apr — General Meeting
1-3 May — Spring Clampout, Banning
3 Jun — General Meeting
12 Jul — Plaque Dedication, San Jacinto
26 Jul — FamClamp, Yucaipa
5 Aug — General Meeting
2 Sep — General Meeting
9-11 Oct — Fall Clampout, Jensen Ranch

NOTE WELL: All dates, times, and places are subject to change.

Graybeard meetings are to be scheduled as required. An informal Graybeard meeting is to follow each General meeting.
A special, "Commemorative" TRASH XII, insulated mug has been commissioned. This limited-production cup will be available 1st come, 1 each as long as they last. You can send in $5 with your registration to reserve one and pick it up with your Trek Guide at the Hart Campsite when you check in.
HOW TO GET THERE (it is a fun piece)

We suggest you get a good, detailed San Bernardino County map, (AAA, Auto Club of So. Calif., U.S. G.S., etc.) find Baker — at the junction of Calif. #127 and I-15. Go East to Mountain Pass (LAST chance for GAS — FILL UP, AND record your mileage!!), then 5 miles East to Nipton Road, right 3.5 miles to Ivanpah Road, right again, to the RR tracks — it’s 9.6 miles. (When you cross it’s Ivanpah — just in case you don’t recognize the city). Keep coming, have faith in the TRASH leader and the Red ECV signs. It’s 8.2 miles to a left turn, at Barnwell (with 2 occupied-looking houses), then wind about and up to Hart — a very visible mining site on the range to the East, about 6 miles. Your leader promises full guide service for the Trek from there! IF you should chicken out or get caught by dark enroute Thursday night or Friday night, get a “dawn patrol” start and allow 2 hours driving-and-finding time to reach Hart in time for the 7:30 Saturday (or 8 am Friday) tour start.

BE PREPARED for cold nights in camp. The infirm CAN stay in Baker, but, the night life is moths around the lights.

COMMUNICATIONS: None, except our own CB’s, BUT keep it open for business/guide use! (Knock off the sophmoric music and chatter or use your own X-rated channel!) You will have a full, interesting Trek program. There will be a LOT of heavy road dust — and need for considerable caution in maintaining column safety with 50+ vehicles.

All camps are DRY. Bring your own water, food for Thursday night and Friday, and wood for campfires. AND plan to PACK OUT anything YOU bring into the Desert area!

The BLM has posted a ranger at the Soda Springs/Zzyzx educational/historic site, just West of Baker with 90 minute tours at 10 am, 12 noon and 2 pm, April 27.
All registrations must be paid to:
Trashcollector, Hugh Tolford
14236 Margate St.
Van Nuys, CA 91401

NO LATER THAN Monday,
March 17, 1986.

The Trek, which covers the high Eastern Mojave Desert Region of California, will start from the site of the Historic Mining Community of Hart promptly at 7:30 am Saturday morning, April 26, 1986. Participation in the Trek is limited to Humbugs and X-Humbugs of E Clampus Vitus who have registered in advance and paid their TRASH membership mailing fee of $5.00 and the Trek fee of $40.00. The Trek fee covers the cost of the Trek guide and 4 meals — a quickie breakfast, gourmet trail lunch, and BBQ dinner on Saturday, and a full breakfast on Sunday, April 27.

A special, one day, pre-Trek trip to the historic Fort Paiute ruins and Oasis — just West of the Colorado — will be conducted on Friday, April 25 — departing from Hart, PROMPTLY at 8 am and returning in the late afternoon.

Based on the TRASH Board’s experience with prior Treks, NO MOTOR HOMES, BUSES OR LARGE VEHICLES (above the size of pickups or high clearance vans) will be accepted at the Hart Campsite, or on the Trek. Trash members are asked to pool so that 2 or more men are in each Trek vehicle. For those who simply must travel to the desert area with motor homes, they can be left at the community of Baker or at the Saturday Night campsite, (Silver Lake turnoff — 8.3 miles North on Highway #127 at Old Adobe — camp in trees at Powerline). (On the Friday, Ft. Paiute trip, only high clearance, well driven, pickups will make it, and it is probable that the last 1+ mile will require a hike or pooling in 4-WD vehicles.)
TO: Trashcollector Hugh C. Tolford
14236 Margate Street
Van Nuys, California 91401

Count me IN. I will be on the Trek April 26 & 27.
Trek Fee $40.00 $________
Membership/mail list $5.00 $________
Reserve a Trek Mug/ will pickup $5.00 $________
TOTAL ENCLOSED $________

Name ____________________
Chapter ________________ Humbug Year _________
Address ________________________________
City/State/Zip ____________________________________________
□ I DO hope to be at Hart on Thursday night to make the Paiute pre-Trek, Friday, April 25.
□ I DO NOT hope to be at Hart on Thursday night to make the Paiute pre-Trek, Friday, April 25.

You all cum see us!

This is Camp?
Any complaints? Look up one of these Leaders!

Winter Scene, Hart, Calif.

THE MOJAVE ROAD and other desert trails

THE WOTHE ROAD

Van Nuys, California 91401
Translocator Hugh C. Tollard

14260 Margate Street
Hope it's still there in '86

Would you really find
these guys thru the
Desert for THREE

Drs.

who's host!

At least we found
the road

I say they went straight

Not us

At least we can eat
Till marsh brings the
Chicken