

JUNE 2020

MINERAL KING CHRONICLE

VOLUME 35

MINERAL KING PRESERVATION SOCIETY



President's Message

STUART HENDRICKS

Greetings! Well, life is certainly a lot different than ever before as people plan for spending time in Mineral King this summer, but we will get there, eventually. Lisa (Director) and Sandi (Curator) have been making adjustments and are continuing along with planning the business and activities of the MKPS. The updated/new MKPS website has been up and running since early March and it is awesome, so check it out! It is a great way to stay connected to Mineral King through these difficult times. Kudos to Lisa and Sandi for the update. Earlier this year, the MKPS board added two new board members, Dan Vassar and Kate Pinkham-Wu. Dan is from Bakersfield, and Mineral King is one of his favorite places for hiking and backpacking. He has spent time in Mineral King nearly every summer since the early 1970's. Kate is from Visalia and has cabin ties to a cabin in east Mineral King, so her Mineral King history goes back to the late 1970's. While in high school, Kate worked in the Silver City store/restaurant one summer and also took photographs of the MK cabins as part of the National Historic Registry process. Keith Cosart, who has been an MKPS Board member since the beginning, has decided to step down and pass the baton on to others. Keith has held the office of treasurer for as long as I can remember, and he has done a tremendous job. Thank you, Keith, for the many years of service you have given the MKPS board. Remember, stay up to date on Mineral King information, events, and activities through the MKPS website!

In this Issue:

President's Message

PAGE 01

Lifetime Members

PAGE 02

Curator's Corner

PAGE 03

Photos from New
Collection

PAGE 04

Membership

PAGE 05

Board & Staff

PAGE 06

Memorials

PAGE 07

Letter from the Director

PAGE 08

MKPS BLOG

PAGE 09

Picnic, Contact Info
& Partnerships

PAGE 10

Lifetime Members

Though MKPS no longer offers the Lifetime Membership level tier, we are grateful to the following couples and individuals who have signed up for a Lifetime Membership through the years. Though many have passed, we would like to honor their generosity here, as well as on our website.

Thank you to all of our members for your continued support!

Adams, Linda E.	Doctor, Joseph E.	Megalli, Mary Dungan
Aldine, Charles R.	Dungan, Vincent & Tori	Mitchell, Annie
Alltucker, Michael	Edgerton, Bradford & Louise	Newman, Robert & Betty
Alltucker, Marilyn	Elliot, John & Sarah	Off, Tracy
Andresen, Robert & Elizabeth	Gravelle, Gordon & Molly	O'Neill, James & Louise
Assay, Lyl D., M.D.	Gregg, Mignon	Peterson, Burton
Barboni, Richard	Hack, Sherry	Peterson, Edward (Jock) & Ora Kay
Barboni, Richard C., DDS	Hamilton, Maureen Griggs	Peterson, Jay & Betsy
Bennett, Thiry Gail	Hansen, Jack & Barbara	Paterson, Michael B.
Bickett, Jill	Hansen, William & Jinx	Pinkham, Charles & Lindsay
Bree, Donn, PhD	Hawthorn, Roy	Pinkham, Donald R. & Helen W.
Brewer, Chris	Hastrup, Louise	Pinkham, Judee B.
Britten, Sophronia A.	Hath, Kathy Tavares	Pinkham, Patrick & Mary
Brodhead, Loren F.	Hawthorne, Roy	Queirolo, Annie Lawson
Burdic, John & Elaine McCain	Hendricks, Stuart	Reid, Harold & Torri
Bungay, Robert	Hengst, Robert & Linda	Runciman Jon
Cairns, Aubrey	Hicks, Bob & Jerry	Runciman, Jere Jr.
Cairns, David & Carol	Holden, John	Saurenman, Louise B.
Cattanach, David & Shirley	Hubbell, Robert & Jill Beckett	Sauve, Julie Chandler
Cluck, Rosemary	Jackson, Bruce & Marge	Seaborn, Margaret
Conrad, Kristy	Jackson, Louise	Shephard, Sonie Gay
Cosart, Pam Young	Jacobsen, Richard & Patricia	Sorenson, Louise B.
Cunningham, Glenn	Kelly, Bradford James	Stansfield, Jeff & Tracy
Curry, Donald	Kelly, Douglas	Steiny, J.D.
Curtis, John & Linda	Koch, Richard & Jean	Steiny, Susan
Davis, Alta S.	Kuhn, Janet L.	Sweet, Ardeen
Davis III, Jeff & Sally	Lean, Cathy Hansen	Tavares, Trevor
Deitz, Steve	Ledford, Merl & Diane	Vassar, Daniel & Barbara
Devol, Nicole	Ledford, Joy	Voelz, Daniel & Kim
Devol, Randy	Livermore, Norman B., Jr.	Weldon, Marilyn K.
Devol, Sharon M.	Luxenberg, Diana	Whitendale, Marjorie
Devol, Shirley	Martin, Helen	Wills, Mary Bree
Di Silvestro, Brian	Martin, William	Wollenman, LaWanda
Di Silvestro, Laurel	Matthews, Susan	Young, Pam Cosart
Dixon, Evander	Mauritson, Blake	Zurcher, Esther
Dobson, Edward Brown	Maze, Bill & Becky	

We have been working through past records to ensure that all member names have been properly recorded. If you notice any errors or discrepancies, please contact Lisa Monteiro at Lisa@MineralKing.org



Curator's Corner

SANDRA STRYD

All around the world things are changing, and quickly! Due to the Tulare County shelter in place order, many of our events have been cancelled and the Mineral King Room is closed to visitors. Safety is a top priority and I'm working to try to put some of our collection online, whether on YouTube or our website, highlighting some of our electronic recordings and a visual tour of some of our exhibits. We will notify our members via email when we have more information available. For now, we are still here working behind the scenes from home and occasionally, solitarily in the office.

We are preparing a new exhibit at the Honeymoon Cabin in Mineral King. Marilyn DeCarteret graciously donated old bottles she found in Mineral King. Marilyn spent many summers at Mineral King as a child and later she and her husband Bill owned the Mineral King Pack Station and leased the Resort. We are excited to have a new display case to highlight this splendid exhibit of old bottles used by Mineral King's early visitors (just two of the many bottles to be on exhibit can be seen to the right).

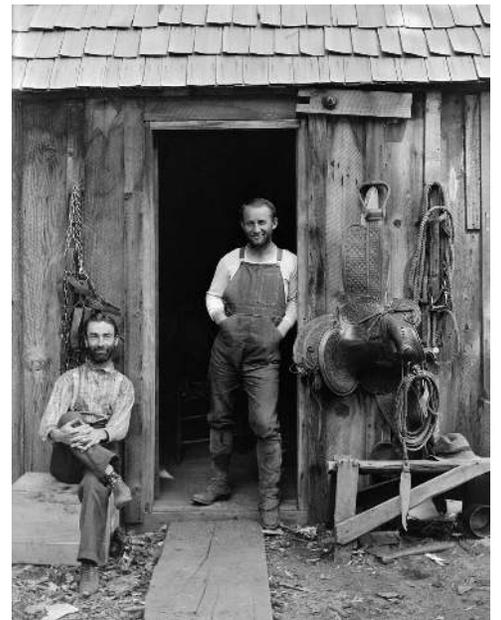
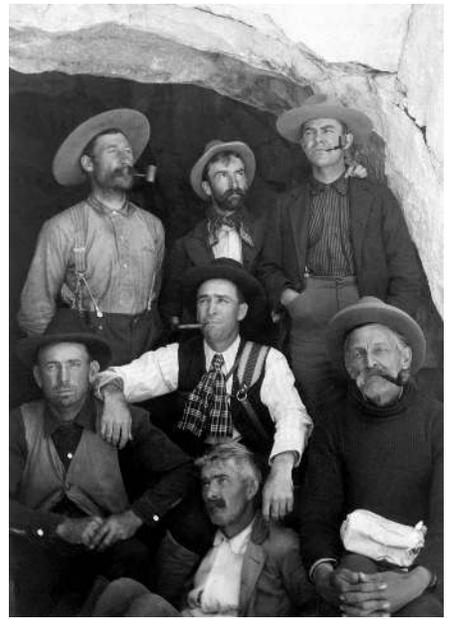
We are so thrilled to have been the recipient of the "Louise Jackson Collection" as well. Donated to us by Louise, this collection has countless amounts of research material and aids, original documents, photographs, maps, newspaper collections, books, publications, manuscripts, papers, and electronic recordings. Work will begin to get this digitized so everyone can have access.

Louise Jackson's mother, Alice Crowley Jackson, spent years researching and recording Mineral King's history. Louise continued that research and has written *The Mule Men: A History of Stock Packing in the Sierra Nevada and Mineral King: the Story of Beulah*. Louise's family were some of the earliest pioneers of Mineral King. Louise is a mother of three, teacher, artist, writer and extensive traveler.

Stay safe and we hope to see you soon at the Mineral King Room located in the Three Rivers Museum in Three Rivers and at the Honeymoon Cabin in Mineral King.



Preview of Photos from the Louise Jackson Collection



MEMBERSHIP

MKPS 2019 membership income was just under \$500, thanks to our generous renewals and new sign ups we are almost to \$3,000 in 2020!
Help us meet our goal of \$10,000 annual membership income!

Membership income supports MKPS programs & projects, call us or sign up online at www.MineralKing.org/membership

Annual Membership Levels:

Student	\$15.00
Individual	\$20.00
Family	\$40.00
Business	\$200.00

Annual Preservationist Level Members:

Farewell Gap Friends	\$250.00
Crystal Falls Champions	\$500.00
Sawtooth Supporters	\$1,000.00

Good words for Great Souls
PAGE 01





WISH LIST

As a growing organization our needs are many, but you can help! Here is a short list of some of the items on our wish list:

- OFFICE DESKS
- ACID FREE STORAGE BOXES
- OFFICE SUPPLIES
- SCANNER
- PRINTER PAPER
- CLEANING SUPPLIES
- PRINTER INK
- DONOR AND COLLECTION SOFTWARE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stuart Hendricks - President
Jim Ingram - Vice President
Daniel Vassar- Treasurer
Kate Pinkham Wu - Secretary
Forrest Jones
Cathy Lean
William Martin

Emeritus:
Michael Botkin
Louise Jackson
Marilyn Weldon

STAFF

Lisa Monteiro - Director
Sandra Stryd - Curator
Melissa Davis - Assistant Curator

Visit our website at: www.MineralKing.org

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

We hope you will think of MKPS when planning your estate, or as a fitting means of honoring a departed friend or loved one. The complete list of all memorial donations made to MKPS throughout the years can be found on our website. The only memorial donation to come in since our summer 2019 newsletter is in memory of Leona and Hyler Bree.



OUR MISSION

THE MINERAL KING PRESERVATION SOCIETY IS DEDICATED TO PROTECTING AND PRESERVING THE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HISTORY OF MINERAL KING AND SURROUNDING SOUTHERN SIERRA COMMUNITIES, AND TO EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE HISTORIC AND NATURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE AREAS THROUGH PROGRAMS AND DISPLAYS.

Letter From the Director

LISA MONTEIRO

Hello friends, I hope you have enjoyed this edition of the Mineral King Chronicle. Putting these newsletters together feels like a puzzle that slowly takes on a greater picture once complete. It is a snapshot into the work being done to protect and preserve the vibrant history of Mineral King by staff, volunteers, and supporters. Stuart and Sandi have both covered what it is like in these uncertain times, and at the risk of sounding repetitive, I want you all to know how much your support means to us. When you chose to support a small non-profit like MKPS you are helping to ensure that we can fulfill our mission. It was with a heavy heart that we decided to cancel our Stories of the Sierra series of talks, but our presenters are all still interested in participating next year. We are confident that this will be a wonderful program that will help to raise awareness of MKPS in the Central Valley. Picnic in the Park and Music on the Mountain events in Mineral King are moving forward as scheduled. Please check our website or Facebook for the latest event information.

I have been working for MKPS for ten months; in that time our board and staff have done a lot of work to lay the foundation, positioning MKPS as an organization that follows the guidelines set forth by the American Alliance of Museums. While the pandemic has affected many of the funding priorities with foundations and corporations, I continue to submit funding requests for future projects and programs. The main project we are currently working to fund is a digitization and cataloging project. As with many small, volunteer run organizations, over time there have been multiple methods used to acquire, process, catalog, and store items donated. It is my goal to create a registration system for items in our collection that will be readily understandable to anyone searching for an item and that it is accessible, free of charge on our website. We are raising funds so that we can purchase archival software, a large museum grade scanner, acid free files, storage boxes, staff time, and more. If you are interested in donating toward this project, or if you have items you would like to add to our collection, please reach out to us!

I would like to put out a call to anyone that may be interested in submitting to our new blog as well. I added the blog to our website as a way to give a glimpse into Mineral King to those at home during these times. So far contributions have come from historians, outdoor enthusiasts, artists, and more, and our site is averaging three hundred visitors per week. Many of you have even sent in your membership payments online through the website as we are now also able to accept credit card payments by phone. If you haven't renewed your 2020 membership, now is a great time to do so. Membership income helps to cover costs for programs, exhibits, and building expenses.

Thank you all so much for continuing to support MKPS. I am excited about our future and the work being done to preserve and promote Mineral King, and the surrounding southern Sierra and its place in history.

Visit our website:
MineralKing.org



STAY UP TO DATE!
 FOLLOW US ON
 FACEBOOK AND
 INSTAGRAM!

SEARCH FOR "MINERAL
 KING PRESERVATION
 SOCIETY".



New sign up at the office!

NEW BLOG ON THE WEBSITE

OUR NEW BLOG IS A SPACE TO SHARE PERSONAL EXPERIENCES IN MINERAL KING, HISTORICAL TALES, ART INSPIRATION AND MORE. THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXERPT FROM A PIECE SUBMITTED BY TYSON BAKER, A LOCAL OUTDOOR ENTHUSIAST. READ THE FULL STORY AND MORE AT WWW.MINERALKING.ORG/BLOG, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO OUR BLOG PLEASE CONTACT LISA AT LISA@MINERALKING.ORG

I left Visalia and headed towards Mineral King for a spontaneous backpacking trip with two friends of mine, Bruno and Connor. The adventure began with loading up a tiny Toyota Prius with all of our gear piled in the back and heading east up Highway 198. The car ride was filled with jokes and conversation about the adventure we were about to embark upon.

Entering the gate to Mineral King gave us a sense of relief from the real world. It offered the chance to get away from work, social media, and the rush of everyday living. We stopped at the Silver City Resort, just before the trailhead, and grabbed a quick bite to eat. We stayed and talked for a bit and then said our goodbyes to the friendly staff, who reminded us to stop in on our way back for some pie. We walked out with pie on our minds, but as we got back in the car, our thoughts quickly shifted to the adventure that awaited us. We headed to the trail, picking up our wilderness permits along the way.

At the trailhead, we geared up for the three-and-a-half-mile hike to our first camp destination in the valley of White Chief Canyon. Halfway through the trail, still acclimating to the altitude, we started to laugh at how out-of-shape we all were. Nevertheless, there is nothing greater than being in the backcountry and taking in all that Mineral King has to offer. Arriving in the valley of White Chief, we stood in awe of the 11,000 ft peaks towering around us, and the streams created from fresh snow melt flowing into one, unconfined river. We dropped our packs and started exploring the snow caves, mines, and trees that had fallen from the harsh winter snow. After a few hours of wandering around, we decided to set up camp. We chose a spot far off the trail—sheltered behind a huge rock in the valley, and close to a nearby river so that we would have access to water for cooking.

That night, after setting up our tents and sleeping bags, we planned out what we were going to do the next day. The consensus was to hike over White Chief Peak and drop down into Eagle Lake. As the sun set, we cooked dinner and chatted well into the night. At nightfall, Connor practiced night photography while Bruno and I sipped on some warm coffee and looked up at the stars. The moon shone bright as we began to get tired and crawling into our sleeping bags, we were set for an epic journey the following day. We woke up early after a long, cold night under a full moon. With the sun quickly rising, we packed our bags and ate breakfast in a rush while preparing for our climb over the mountain. Oatmeal and instant coffee never tasted so good!

TO CONTINUE READING PLEASE VISIT MINERALKING.ORG/BLOG



MINERAL KING PRESERVATION SOCIETY'S

33RD ANNUAL

Picnic in the Park

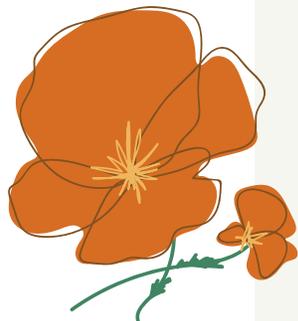
JULY

18TH

12 PM

Pack a picnic and join us for an afternoon in Mineral King. Enjoy your lunch, good company, and a presentation by John Elliott. Bring a folding chair or blanket.

ACROSS FROM THE MK RANGER STATION



THANK YOU TO THE THREE RIVERS HISTORICAL MUSEUM FOR PRINTING OUR NEWSLETTER!
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL AND SAVE ON PRINTING AND SHIPPING COSTS FOR MKPS AND TRHM PLEASE CONTACT US AT LISA@MINERALKING.ORG



MKPS, MKDA, AND THE NPS

Do you know that the management of the historic district happens by a cooperative effort between the National Park Service at Ash Mountain, the Mineral King Preservation Society, and the Mineral King District Association? Representatives from each group have been meeting monthly for several years to discuss and resolve issues affecting preservation, permits, and the NPS.

It is beneficial that each of these groups bring their own perspective to the table. It has resulted in cooperation, compromise, and building trusting relationships between the entities, as well as benefitting all users of Mineral King.

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