

Mineral King Chronicle



Photo by Joe Hubbell



Letter From the Director

LISA MONTEIRO



Hello readers and MKPS supporters,

As the days of summer begin to wind down, I am enjoying reflecting on what has been a great season for our organization. From our informative and fun Picnic in the Park, the enriching History Happy Hour with John Crowe, to working on repairs for the Honeymoon (Point) Cabin, we have had a summer season filled with great achievements and memorable moments.

Looking ahead, we're eagerly finalizing our exhibit schedule and are on the hunt for grants to bring our exciting projects to fruition. One innovative piece of equipment we're particularly excited about is the introduction of the Tour-Mat Eco-Box. This hand-powered, environmentally friendly audio interpretive device promises to enhance visitors' experiences in the Honeymoon Cabin. The Eco-Box, which operates via a hand crank and requires no batteries, is a perfect fit for our 'uncontrolled' outdoor environments, embodying our commitment to sustainability and innovation. We will be able to record stories and interpretive material that visitors can then hear by turning a crank.

This Saturday, we're gearing up for our Music in the Mountains event and we're excited to hear Ted Nunes and Allan Benton play in such an incredible setting. Also, make sure you mark your calendars for September 15th and get your tickets before it sells out, when we will host a grand piano concert at Mooney Grove Park. This joint fundraiser, benefiting both MKPS and the Tulare County Museum, is going to be a first for this area and we can't wait for everyone to experience it.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. I hope you have a great end of summer!

Warm regards,

Lisa Monteiro

Retro T-Shirts

Orders Due by 8/16/24

We're bringing back the embroidered Mineral King shirts for a limited time! You can order them now on our website. Scan the QR code below to head to our online gift shop and purchase yours today.



Michael Botkin modeling one of the original shirts at this year's Picnic in the Park.



Close-up of embroidery. View of Farewell Gap and Crowley Cabin. Artwork by Jana Botkin.

Scan to visit our online gift shop and place your order.



Walt Disney Pilgrimage

Students from Western Michigan University's Lee Honors College are participating in the "Disney Pilgrimage" and were able to visit the Mineral King Room on August 5. Laile Di Silvestro had a fun slideshow about some debated points of the ski resort. Sandi had items from our archives on display.

The Pilgrimage visits locations from Walt Disney's life from birth to death:

Day 1: Chicago

Day 2: Marceline

Day 3: Kansas City

Day 4: San Francisco

Day 5: Mineral King

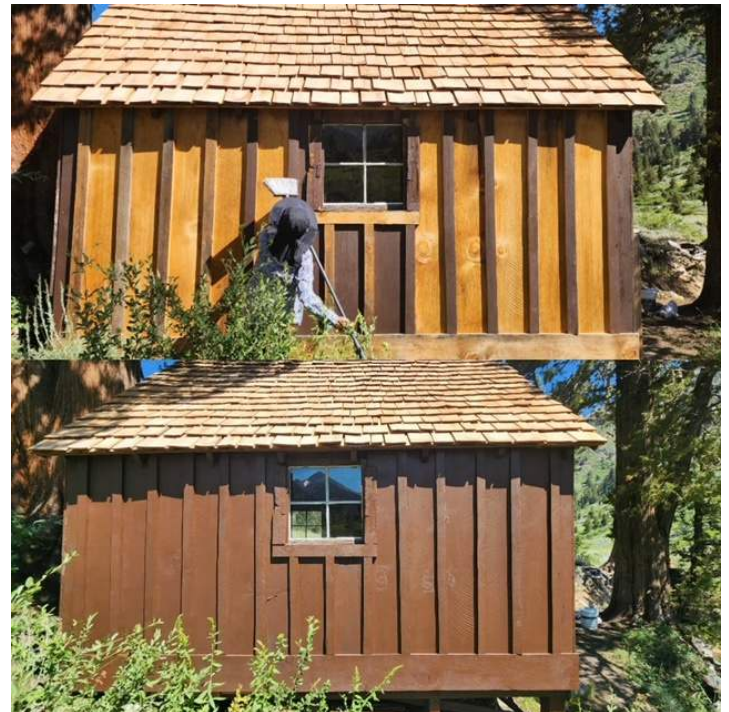
Day 6: Valencia/Newhall/Los Angeles

Day 7: Disneyland

Day 8: Burbank and Glendale



Honeymoon Cabin Repairs Underway!



Thank you to everyone that donated to our repair campaign, we raised \$4,095! This money includes all of your generous donations and a grant from the Tulare County Historical Society for \$1,350.

Mineral King Memories

A Boy and His Dog - 1931 or 1932

By Don Pinkham

From a 1997 edition of the MK Chronicle in 1997

On my fifth birthday, Pinkham Grandparents brought me the most marvelous present in the world. What little boy does not wish for a puppy? He was a Fox Terrier, a popular breed in those days. I wonder what happened to their popularity. You hardly ever see them nowadays. He was my buddy and companion; I called him "Pete", which soon affectionately became "Petey." Smarter (naturally) than a whip, proving it many times. Dad had an Irish Setter that liked to dig frantically at gopher holes in the lawn. Petey would sit and watch him until he gave out and then would take over and in no time at all come up with the gopher. He just let the other guy do all the hard work, and then step in and quickly finish the job. Well, enough of that background let's get on with the story.

Most of the people staying in the cabins in the "Beulah" area and around the store knew one another well, and several lived in Exeter. One morning, one of the mothers decided to hike to White Chief for the day, taking a few sandwiches for sustenance. Mother and I went as well as Alice Crowley Jackson and at least one of her daughters (possibly Marilyn). There were several others in the party, but my memory fails as to who they were. Of course, my buddy Petey had to come along. No way he was going to be left behind.

For whatever reason, I was "tail end Charlie" in the string of hikers. Petey stayed back there with me as long as he could stand it, but he just had to get out in front eventually. Every now and then he would stop and let everybody go by until he saw me. He was just checking! Then he would get back up front. When we got to White Chief Flat we got to work on the sandwiches, and I noticed that Petey was in an investigating mood as usual. The flat was covered with snow, and it was melting out underneath, leaving a nice gap between the snowbank and the earth. Well, he just had to see what was in there! We didn't think much about it until it was time to return, and he was nowhere to be found. I called and called to no avail and was getting that desperate feeling. Finally, the mothers decided that we had to go back down to get back in time, and we would have to hope for the best about Petey. I guess I became a worry wart at an early age right then and there.

After we had gone down the trail for about half an hour, here he came!!! I guess he satisfied himself on his inspection tour, and finding himself alone on his return, just followed his nose back to where we were. He wasn't lost, and if he could have spoken, I'm sure he would have told us so. All's well that ends well.



Don Pinkham and his dog, Petey

2024 Membership Renewals

If you have not done so already, now is the time to send in your 2024 membership dues. We are grateful for your support!

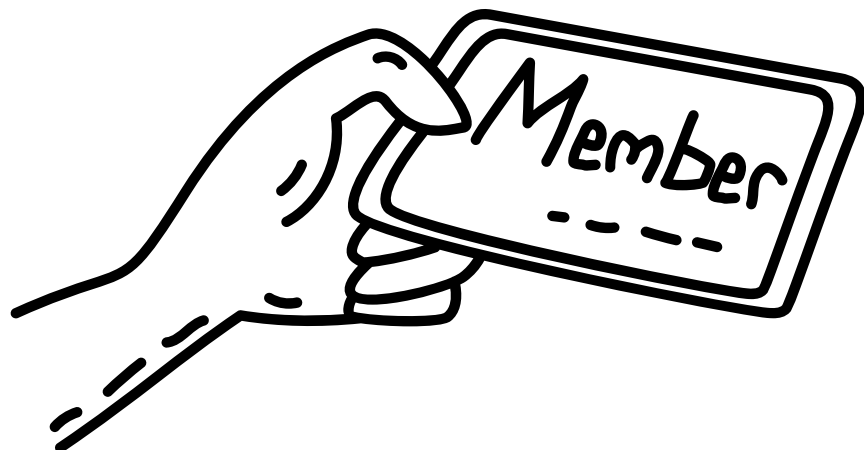
Support from membership income has allowed us to work on many exciting projects. In the last year we were able to accomplish the following highlights and much more:

- Opening of the Native Voices exhibit in the Mineral King Room.
- Significant progress in our collection digitization; you can now view our collection by visiting our website's Research and Collection page:
<https://mineralking.org/research-collection>.
- Completion of the New England Tunnel and Smelter exhibit outside the Mineral King Room at the Three Rivers Museum.
- Recording and adding new oral histories to our "Mountain Memories" collection.
- Premiering the latest video in our series, Packing in the Sierra, which can be seen on our website and YouTube channel.
- Completion of all objectives set in our 2019-2023 Strategic Plan and the creation of our new 5-year Strategic Plan.

Memberships can be paid on our website www.mineralking.org/membership

Or you can mail a check to:

MKPS
PO Box 86
Three Rivers, CA 93271



JOIN US



Scan to pay online



Curator's Corner

SANDRA STRYD

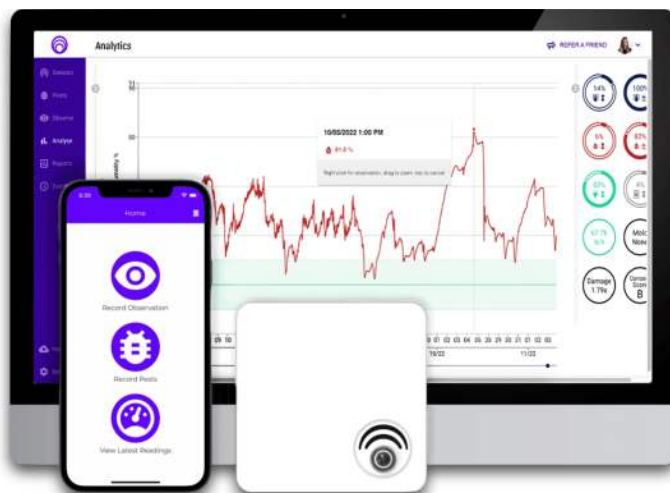
Grant funding conservation tech!

We are excited to announce the installation of advanced monitoring sensors in our Seatrain, which houses our collection that is not on display. This sensor system is the result of the Groundworks Grants – California Cultural Heritage Disaster Preparedness Project from the California State Library, with funding from the State of California and in partnership with the Northeast Document Conservation Center. These state-of-the-art sensors are designed to provide real-time monitoring and data on crucial environmental conditions to ensure the optimal preservation of our artifacts and archives.

Key Features:

1. **Temperature Monitoring:** Our sensors continuously track the temperature inside the Seatrain to alert us of any fluctuations that might damage sensitive items.
2. **Humidity Control:** Maintaining appropriate humidity levels are vital for the preservation of various materials. The sensors will alert us to any changes, allowing for immediate corrective action.
3. **Mold Detection:** Mold can be a serious threat to historical artifacts. The sensors are equipped to detect early signs of mold, enabling swift intervention to prevent its spread.
4. **Data Trends:** The sensors not only provide current data but also record any significant swings in temperature and humidity. This historical data helps us understand trends and make informed decisions about the environment within the Seatrain.

These enhancements represent our commitment to the conservation of our collection and the protection of our cultural heritage. By leveraging advanced technology, we aim to provide a stable and safe environment for all items in our care.



Fundraiser Tickets on Sale Now!

Mineral King
PRESERVATION SOCIETY

TULARE COUNTY MUSEUM
at Mooney Grove Park

THE MINERAL KING PRESERVATION SOCIETY & THE TULARE COUNTY MUSEUM PROUDLY PRESENT:

IN A LANDSCAPE

Classical Music in the Wild™

scan for more info

Tulare County Museum
27000 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15th, 2024

3:00 - 4:00 PM - Check-In
4:00 - 5:30 PM - Concert

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[f](https://www.facebook.com/MineralKingPreservationSociety) [i](https://www.instagram.com/MineralKingPreservationSociety) /MineralKingPreservationSociety [InALandscape.org](https://www.inalandscape.org)

Photo by Arthur Hitchcock for IN A LANDSCAPE

We hope you will join us at Mooney Grove on September 15 to help raise money for MKPS and the Tulare County Museum!

The pianist, Hunter Noack, is an incredibly talented musician and this show is a unique way to experience classical music and history!

Scan the QR code in the poster to the left to purchase tickets.

Scan below for a preview of his 2024 series of concerts:



Questions? Call or email lisa@mineralking.org (559)561-1000

In Memory...



Jim Barton
1924 - 2024

"Between every two pines
is a doorway to a new world."
— John Muir

In memory of Robert James "Jim" Barton, whose remarkable century of life embodied an incredible spirit of adventure. From his early days on the family ranch to his service as a Park Ranger and educator, Jim's legacy is a testament to his enduring love for nature and community. His memory will continue to inspire us as we remember the impact he has left on so many on our lives and his beloved Mineral King.

Picnic in the Park

You can watch a recording of this year's Picnic in the Park on our YouTube channel now.
Scan the code below to watch.

Thank you to Michael Botkin for sharing your stories of living in Mineral King during the winter months in the early 1980s.





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Thank you to the Three Rivers Historical Museum for
printing our newsletters at a discounted rate.



Mineral King Preservation Society

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