Do You Remember
Article is from the Sequoia Sentinel, Sep 1, 1972

The following article is taken from the Sequoia Sentinel just as it was written with the exception that I changed Mr. to Mt.

You can call yourself an old-timer if you remember the sign on the old bridge which read “$5 fine for riding or driving on this bridge faster than a walk.”

◆ Remember the flood of 1906.
◆ Remember the first local telephone line, connecting Britten’s Store, Jason Barton, A.G. Ogilvie and Armin Grunigen.
◆ Remember the first automobile in Three Rivers, owned by Arch Robertson, Superintendent of Mt. Whitney Power Co. A Buick.
◆ Remember Adam Bahwell’s Saloon, located near where Jessie Bequette lives now.
◆ Remember when Jason Barton called the figures and Mont Barton played the fiddle for the dances in the Old Taylor Hall on the North Fork.
◆ Remember when you could buy a pair of levis for six bits in Britten’s store.
◆ Remember when nobody had locks on their doors in Three Rivers and motorcycles were unheard of here.
◆ Remember when Billy Austin ran a blacksmith shop on the corner across from Fred Ogilvie’s home.
◆ Remember the first Sulphur Springs school house located where the Ray Fry home is now.
◆ Remember when Ira Blossom (the first settler in Three Rivers) carried the daily mail from Three Rivers to Hammond in a spring wagon drawn by two horses, one black and the other white.
◆ Remember when a troop of U.S. Cavalry came each summer to administer law and order in the Sequoia National Park and when the colored soldiers, under the command of Captain Young, gave a song and dance show on the bridge for the entertainment of the neighbors.

Respectfully submitted
By Bob Barton
It has been a long haul but with the support of the Three Rivers community the Tulare County Board of Supervisors has set aside $250,000 for our public restrooms. We still have a few things to work out in the agreement between the Historical Society and Tulare County but overall it is doing just fine.

The restrooms are phase 1 of our barn project. We felt that it would be better to get the public restrooms up and running and then go into phase 2 which will be the barn itself. Construction on phase 1 is expected to start in December or January with completion in late April or early May 2019, ready for next years tourist season. Phase 2 will start shortly after that. This will give us more time to do fund raising for phase 2.

Let’s talk about phase 2. We already have a healthy start with our building fund but it is going to take a lot more and that is where our fund raising is most important. A lot of ideas are coming in from our survey on the membership renewals. The top three fund raising ideas so far are: Appraisal Faire, Old Time Country Fair and Dinner or Brunch with silent and live auction.

Our goal for the past four years has been to build a barn to hold antique wagons and information about the first settlers of Three Rivers, an area building to hold community events and of course public restrooms. We knew the restrooms should be first so now it is time to raise those funds for the barn. The map shows the restroom building in red between the barn and Hwy 198 with the handi-capped parking in green. You will also see the barn (phase 2) in front of the restrooms. The Bahwell Saloon replica that we will be building this fall as a community “Saloon Raising Party” will take place on a Saturday (more about that later).

Well #2 in blue is going to be set up this summer as our main water source for all buildings. The old well #1 is being converted to fire suppression usage. The Heritage Trail in dark brown.

From the beginning in 2000 when the Society purchased the main building site, the Society has worked hard to develop an environment that visitors would enjoy throughout the Museum property.

The Native-American Village in 2009; purchase of the Bequette property in 2012; the Heritage Trail in 2015; the addition of the Mineral King Room in 2016; the restoration of the Bequette House in 2017; ongoing change of exhibits in the main building and now our future projects besides the barn are the Bahwell Saloon and the Gazebo. What’s next?
THREE RIVERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MISSION STATEMENT
“Preserving the past for future generations”

The Three Rivers Historical Society is an educational and research institution whose primary functions are to collect, preserve and exhibit materials relating to our region. The Society is dedicated to providing opportunities for the community to understand and experience the past through the presentation of exhibits and displays, lectures, demonstrations, special events and participatory programs.

What does it really mean? Well, let’s take a look at the wording in this statement.

- **Collect, preserve and exhibit.** The museum and two storage areas are full of items that come in almost every month from local residents. It doesn’t stop coming and we look forward to it all. Of course at times we have to say no because it is not history from our region, but in some cases we find where it belongs and contact another museum.
- **Opportunities for the community to understand and experience the past.** Our volunteer staff is always developing ways so that adults and children can learn more about Three Rivers, including our library that is ‘full’ of books for all ages to research and just sit and enjoy.
- **Displays, lectures and demonstrations.** We try to change out our displays in certain areas so visitors can enjoy another visit. Our lectures for now are presented by the Mineral King Preservation Society about our Kaweah River area. And of course demonstrations like our ‘Living History Day’ are always something to enjoy.
- **Special Events and Participatory Programs.** You couldn’t get more involved than the “Hot Dog Festival” or our Holiday Caroling. Up next will be a ‘Bahwell Saloon’ building Saturday this fall, so anyone can help in building another exhibit of our past.

July 1, 2018 starts another fiscal year for the Society and it is going to be a BIG year.  
**We May Be Growing But We Are Still Small Town Friendly!**

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**A Wedding Story As Only A Child Could Do...**

A little boy was in a relative’s wedding. As he was coming down the aisle he would take two steps, stop, and turn to the crowd (alternating between bride’s side and groom’s side).

While facing the crowd, he would put his hands up like claws and roar...so it went, step, step, ROAR, step, step, ROAR all the way down the aisle. As you can imagine, the crowd was near tears from laughing so hard by the time he reached the pulpit.

The little boy, however, was getting more and more distressed from all the laughing, and was also near tears by the time he reached the pulpit.

When asked what he was doing, the child sniffed and said,  
“I was being the Ring Bear…”

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**Make A Difference In Your Community! Join Us At The Museum**
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Established - December 1991
Museum Opened
October 2000
501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization

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EAGLE MOUNTAIN CASINO TRIP
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22
9 AM - 4 PM

DONATION:
$25 PER PERSON
MUST BE AT LEAST
18 YRS. OLD

EAGLE MOUNTAIN CASINO WILL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION
EACH GUEST RECEIVES $25 FREE PLAY, AN $8 MEAL COUPON
AND A TICKET FOR A FREE RAFFLE

ADDITIONAL TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THREE RIVERS HISTORICAL MUSEUM OR FROM BOARD MEMBERS

2018 Events

HOT DOG FESTIVAL
July 14 - 10am to 4pm
At The Museum

EAGLE MOUNTAIN BUS TRIP
August 22 - 9am to 4pm
Tickets available at Museum and Board Members

NATIVE-AMERICAN DAYS
September 25-26-27
Public Welcome To Observe

Drive Thru BBQ Dinner Night
October 6, 4pm-7pm
At The Museum

FESTIVAL OF TREES
November 28, 3:00pm Preview
November 29, 5:00pm, dinner & auction

COMMUNITY CAROLING
December 1, 5pm-7pm
At The Museum

Have you checked out the Museum Gift Shop lately?
Like the Museum, there is something going on, all the time.
Shop in the Museum Or On-line at https://squareup.com/store/3rmuseum