From the Current newspaper, April 14, 1950
Clarence W. Fry, who retired from the Park Service December 31, 1949, presented the new commissioner, Earl Stone, with a gavel made from a piece of wood from the General Sherman Tree. The gavel originally belonged to Fry’s father, Walter Fry, former U.S. Commissioner of the Parks. Clarence felt it would be his father’s desire that the gavel become a permanent part of the office equipment of the Commissioner of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

From the Sun, Herald, Echo, November 2, 1983
How did Three Rivers really get its name? Another viewpoint! Now this came to us from a fairly reliable source who chooses not to be named. There are really four forks of the Kaweah River, the north, south, middle and east forks. But it seems that a story has been handed down from Helen Carter, who would be well over 100 years old if she were still living. She remembered as a young girl driving cattle from the valley up into the mountains. The cattlemen would meet at the corner of what is now Ben Maddox and Main Streets in Visalia. They would start out with their respective herds and rendezvous where ‘the three rivers meet,’ which is near the Kaweah Park Resort. Hence, the area and fledging town evolved, Three Rivers. Our source also seems to think there might be other versions or hypotheses. If so, please report to use so that best “truth” may prevail.

From the Current Newspaper, April 1, 1955
Roping and Barbecue (that’s the way the article spelled it)
A crowd in excess of the 3500 persons who attended last year is expected at the Roping & Barbecue on Sunday. Lion president Sunny Hardison, accompanied by many faithful Lions, has been working hard to complete the new permanent grandstand and other improvements. Lee Maloy, roping chairman, Fred Noval booths and concessions, and Bill Hart, publicity, have made big contribution toward the success of the affair.

Ropers from all over the country, many of whom have won world champion titles will participate again this year, as will Ben Johnson of Hollywood movie fame. Stan Simpson of KONG will be the announcer.

The Visalia New Car Dealers, demonstrating their good will, are to provide a dazzling display of new automobiles. This will be the first spring showing of several models in Tulare County.

The Chamber of Commerce is serving the Barbecue with Pansy Kirk officiating. All efforts are being made so there will be no waiting in line. New tables have been made and the 4H girls will help keep tables wiped off and clean. The cost of the Barbecue will be $1.50 for adults and 75cents for children. Serving will begin at noon and desert is not included.

Pony rides will be available for youngsters and refreshments of all kinds will be on sale. The Lady Lions will sell their super hamburgers and hot dogs, according to ways and means chairman, Lidabelle Wylie.

Parking will be inside of the airfield. Admission is 50 cents==children free.
I have to tell you about Carroll Barns. If you are not familiar with the name, he carved Paul Bunyan that is standing in front of the museum. He also did the statue in front of the College of Sequoias campus in Visalia. Carroll Barns lived in Three Rivers until a move to Sebastopol, CA in the 70’s. When he passed away in the 80’s his family donated his works at his home to the Sonoma County Historical Society. In October 2013 I received a call from the Sonoma County Museum telling me that they are re-organizing their storage and would like to transfer ownership of Carroll Barns collection from Sonoma County to Three Rivers Historical Society. Well, we jumped at the chance to have the Barns collection, about 75-100 pieces of either completed works or works that Carroll Barns started and did not finish. On December 16 we drove to the Santa Rosa Museum and brought back the entire collection. We are now going through the works, doing some cataloging and looking for space. We plan on having a month long exhibit in June starting with a very special evening introducing the collection. So, keep watching for the announcement.

**SPEAKING OF COLLECTIONS**

In addition to the Carroll Barns collection, a donation of a 100+ year old fright wagon from the original Thorn Ranch. The problem we have is transportation for the wagon from its current location in Three Rivers to the Museum park. It is going to take a flat bed trailer for movement but first we need a fork lift or back hoe that can pick up the wagon place it on the trailer and then place it at the Museum.

Do you know someone that is willing to donate a few hours of time and equipment to move our new (old) fright wagon. If we don't move it soon we run the risk of it going some place else.

**BOY SCOUTS OF THREE RIVERS COLLECTION**

While looking through some of the old “Current” newspapers I would find articles about Boy Scout Troop 23 of Three Rivers. Here at the Museum we have a lot of material about the town and its people but NO information about the Boy Scouts. Being an “old” Eagle Scout myself I would like to put together a display of Three Rivers Boy Scout information and history. So if you were a Boy Scout and/or have articles and/or pictures I would really like to have them or scan them.

Don't worry girls, we are going to ask for your Girl Scout information soon.
ANCIENTS
I’m trying hard and hope to find
Some records that were left behind
By people, who I think might be
Branches of my Family Tree.

For some of them I’ve searched for years;
Searched first with joy and then with
fears
But always hoping for a clue
To help me start my search a new.

Perhaps someday I’ll take a look
And find the past is like a book
That’s filled with names, which, if I had ‘em
I’d trace my lineage back to Adam.

POOR POOCH
There was a little Dachshund once
so long he had no notion
How long it took to notify
his tail of his emotion

And so it was, that when his eyes
were filled with woe and sadness,
his little tail kept wagging on,
because of previous gladness.

COW TALK
Ike Hey, look at that bunch of cows!
Mike Not bunch, herd.
Ike Heard of what?
Mike Herd of cows.
Ike Sure I’ve heard of cows
Mike I mean a cow herd
Ike Well, what do I care if a cow heard?
I didn’t say anything I’m ashamed of.

OLD MOTHER HUBBARD
Went to her cupboard and
found a can of salmon only.
BAKED CANNED SALMON
Break one 16 ounce can of
salmon into large flakes and
arrange in greased baking dish.
Sprinkle with salt and pepper—
dot with sprinkle with salt and
pepper—dot with one
tablespoon butter—top with one
lemon sliced thin. cover and
bake in hot oven, 400 for fifteen
minutes.

Volunteers Needed
Recently Dody sent a letter to the Kaweah Commonwealth

Three Rivers may be a typical small town or village,
but to a person who was raised in a much larger town Three
Rivers is very unique. It appears that there is a larger number
of artists, talent and volunteers per capita then any other town,
and to me that is remarkable – especially the volunteer part.

There might be towns with more artists, but the
number of people who give of their time to help others is
remarkable. It is said that this is a community made up
primarily of seniors and retirees with a few young and middle
age families in the mix. That may be why the number of
volunteers is so high – however, that also raises the question,
“why isn’t the number higher?” Some of the volunteers (both
senior and young/mid-aged adults) work for a living, but still
find time to volunteer in their off hours.

Many of the seniors are retired and volunteer because
they want to help the community or just do something useful.
Even though there is a goodly number of volunteers already in
service there is still a need for more volunteers, and there are
still many who could volunteer but don’t. Reasons? “I don’t
know what to do;” “I don’t know how to do it;” “I don’t know
who to talk to;” “I’m not knowledgeable enough;” “I’m too
shy around people;” or “I don’t want to be bothered. It could
interfere with my plans should I decide to travel, etc.” Been
there, done that. Personally, I was volunteered for what I
do. Yes, in reality I am basically a shy person. Then I
thought, “If these visitors were guests in my house what
would I say and how would I treat them.” This seemed to
make the ‘job’ a little easier.

At the Museum we had a teenage volunteer who
was quiet and meek when she started her community
service here, and by the time she graduated from high
school and moved away, she was outwardly friendly,
relaxed, and confident. I can’t say enough good things
about the volunteers of Three Rivers. Some of course are
more dedicated than others, but they all have the same
interest at heart – to help others and the community.

Many of the non-profit organizations are in great
need of volunteers. The Three Rivers Historical Museum
is one of them. So, if you would like to meet interesting
people and learn a little more about the area while
helping the community, please consider being a
volunteer.
| JAN-DEC 2014 | **1st Saturday in Three Rivers**  
Just like it says! The 1st Saturday of each month the village of Three Rivers artists and shops including the Museum are open with all types of gift ideas. |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| MAR | **Three Rivers Studio Tour 2014**  
March 21-22-23, 2014, Friday-Saturday-Sunday  
Head for the hill’s and start your tour at the Museum.  
For additional information go to [www.threeriversartstudiotour.com](http://www.threeriversartstudiotour.com) |
| APR | **Author’s Reception and Book Signing**  
*April 5, 2014, Saturday, 3pm to 7pm*  
Join us for a fun filled evening with a number of published authors that live and write right her in the Three Rivers area. |
| APR | **Lions Team Roping**  
*April 24-27, Thursday-Sunday*  
Our artifact for the month of April is a display of Cowboy pictures, featuring local talent. Look through our ‘Cowboy Corner.’ |
| JULY | **Hot Dog Festival & Craft Show at the Three Rivers Museum**  
*Saturday, July 12th 10am to 4pm*  
Supporting the Three Rivers Volunteer Firefighters & Museum  
Demonstrations by Tulare County Fire, Cal Fire and National Park Svc Fire  
Lunch includes Hot Dog with all the fixings, Corn on the Cob, A&W Root beer Float |
| SEP | **California Student Indian Day**  
*Thursday & Friday, September 18-19*  
Native-Americans will instruct 4th grade students on Indian life with hands on demonstrations on basket weaving, acorn floor preparation and more. About 340 students came through the Three Rivers Historical Museum in 2013. |
| OCT | **Living History Day– Our Frontier Town**  
*Saturday, October 4th 10am to 4pm*  
Activities to be announced. |
| NOV-DEC | **Open House & Holiday Gift Shop Time at the Three Rivers Museum**  
*November 1st through December 24st*  
The gift shop at the museum will have specials and Holiday cheer for everyone. |
| DEC | **Three Rivers Community Caroling**  
*Saturday, December 6th 5pm to 7pm*  
Join in on the caroling at the Three Rivers Museum for a real Community Caroling event with a large campfire (built and maintained by our volunteer firefighters) old fashion s’mores and more! |
WHAT KIND OF SPELLING IS THAT?

When we take stories from books, magazines or articles from the past we put it in exactly like it appeared in the original publication, including old-English and missed -spelled words.

Can you find the mistake we put in this newsletter. I'll give you a hint: wagon.

REMEMBER WHEN

From the Sequoia Sentinel, March 9, 1973

Remember when hippie meant big in the hips, and a trip involved travel in cars, planes or ships?
When pot was a vessel for cooking things in, and hooked was what grandmother's rugs may have been?
When fix was a verb that meant mend or repair, and be in meant merely existing somewhere?
When neat meant well-organized, tidy and clean, and grass was a ground cover, normally green?
When groovy meant furrowed with channels and hollows, and birds were winged creatures, like robins and swallows?
When fuzz was a substance, real fluffy, like lint, and bread came from bakeries and not from the mint?
When roll meant a bun, and rock was a stone, and hang-up was something you did with the phone?
It's groovy, man, groovy, but English it's not.
Me thinks that our language is going to pot!

Groovy Man, Peace, I'm off to Woodstock!
Here's your March-April 2014 Newsletter

Artifact of the Month for MARCH
Tiffany Ink Well and Pen Holder

Artifact of the Month for April
Heidi Wells and Friends

MUSEUM HOURS
October 1—March 31
9am to 3pm daily

April 1—September 30
9am to 5pm daily

Hours are subject to closure depending on available docents

CALLING ALL AUTHORS
Three Rivers Historical Museum will host an Authors’ Reception and Book Signing on Saturday, April 5 from 3pm-7pm
Local authors, please call 561-4085 for details.