The following comes from Thelma Crain’s book, “Sunbeams & Buzzards” and is currently out of print but available in our gift shop.

**Raisins:**

Living alone can sometimes become quite tiresome. I know. I’ve tried it. Time rests heavily unless one decides to adopt some form of diversion for relief. There are those who have taken up knitting, painting, reading, etc. while others have been content to sit and whittle or just rock away their tedium. Many senior citizens have found pleasure and relaxation participating in card games. I have never opted to seek refuge in these because, to me, they represent exertion of one’s mental powers and tend to confine one’s mind to one activity for too long a period of time, allowing little space for idle visiting, an activity at which I feel I excel.

Recently when I was wondering where I could find something with which to amuse myself, I opened a kitchen cupboard and found high on a shelf a forgotten box of unopened seedless raisins. They must have been up there for several months because I noticed that they rattled when I shook them. Too old for making cookies, I thought, and was about to drop them into the trash can when I got to wondering how many raisins there were in the box. One way to find out would be to count them and, in turn, this would be a relaxing way to spend the afternoon.

I began by covering the kitchen table with newspapers and dumping out the box, but I soon realized that it was difficult to see the raisins against the dark print, so I transferred them to a white tea towel and was ready to begin. All went well for a short time but I soon found that contending with the frequent ringing of the phone and doorbell, I got mixed up with my counting and had to start over. I began to think that perhaps I would rather be counting something else like rice as it is not as sticky on my fingers, but the only rice I had in the house was baked in a rice pudding and was probably more sticky than the raisins and besides I did not know if the raisins in the pudding should be counted with the rice or the raisins.

Anyway, I got tired of counting anything and checked back in the cupboard where I found a half box of Cheerios inhabited by moths. I thought these might make a nice necklace, so I strung some of them on colored yarn and thought they looked so good, I made a matching bracelet. However, when I washed the dishes, the cheerios got wet and fell off but I still had the colored yarn which was still colorful and looked attractive.

When I was walking home from the Post Office the other day, I met my neighbor who is always finding fault with something or other and gives advice quite freely. She pointed out to me that my left shoe was untied and I told her it was none of her business and perhaps I wanted it that way. I hurried home, bolted my door, pulled down the shades, and tied it.

This very same person spends much of her time at her window keeping aware of everything that goes on so she can comment on it. Last Sunday when I left for church, I had to walk cross-legged to my car so she could not discover that I had my shoes on the wrong feet again.
On to another event and that would be our “Living History Day” We are very pleased to have the Buffalo Soldiers group showing life as the first caretakers of Sequoia Park in the late 1890’s. Tri-Tip Bar-B-Q lunch will be served and we will again have original ‘Arts & Crafts’ and don’t forget to get your photo taken. So come on down, enjoy some history and Tri-Tip BBQ with beans and cornbread.

Sometime in October we will be giving Paul Bunyan a shower and preservative rinse. The Park Service is helping with scaffolding around our largest artifact. This is all coming together thanks to a grant we received from The Bank of the Sierra.

Editor’s Corner

I would like to apologize to you, our members, and to Sara Elliott and The Kaweah Commonwealth. It seems that the article about Three Rivers Schools printed in our last newsletter was misleading. Prior to Tom’s article ‘Schools of the Three Rivers Area’ he described it as “Recently Dody Marshall put together an outline of the Three Rivers Schools..” He said that only because there were no other identifiers on the document and he knew that I had printed out the pass-out sheet information from my computer and use them in the Museum to share information and history about the schools of Three Rivers. Unfortunately in my enthusiasm to convey this history and information I did not identify from whence the information came. As Sara strongly explained to me in her email, she had spent 6 months collecting the information and I should have “asked her permission” and/or identified the source. She is right and I apologize. I was not aware that I was being “unprofessional,” nor was my intent to “plagiarize.” My only wish has been to show how much I appreciate Three Rivers and her/his/its history by passing along the, to our visitors, bits and pieces of information and history.

Dody Marshall

NOTE TO OUR READERS

GO TAKE A HIKE...........

For those of you who enjoy hiking the back country of the Sierras, we have just what you need. Recently we obtained copies of the “Pacific Crest Trail” map which shows the entire trail from Mexico to Canada.

Stop by the museum for your copy or email us and we will mail one out to you if you are out of Three Rivers.

history@3rmuseum.org

A FRIEND IS LOST.... BUT NOT FORGOTTEN!

Year after year and event after event you would ‘always’ find this man at the Lion’s Roping Arena with a smile on his face and ‘always’ ready to shake your hand.

When we had an event at the museum he would come by and offered help or suggestions.

We have lost a cornerstone of Three Rivers and he will be duly missed......

Robin Kauling
MUSEUM & EDUCATION—WORKING TOGETHER

Museums try hard to work with schools in education for students of various ages and the one that has been very successful for Three Rivers Museum is our “California Native American Days.”

Schools from Exeter (both public and private), Woodlake, Lemon Cove and of course Three Rivers took part, including some home schoolers.

Four years ago we sponsored this event, put on by the Owens Valley Career Development organization. It is for 4th grade students and gives them an overview of life for our Native-Americans prior to the first settlers.

That first year we had about 125 4th grade students come through in one day. Last year we added a day and in the two day event we had about 300 4th graders.

The word has gone out and this year we added another day to make it a 3 day event with about 500 4th graders, in groups of 10 learning about Indian life at 9 different stations from Acorn grinding to Hut building and more. Each 1/2 day session will start with a real blessing of the event performed by one of the elders of a tribe.

On Sept 18th a consultant with the Tulare County Office of Education was here to film the event. The museum will be given a copy of the complete documentary for our archives.
Living History Day, Saturday, Oct. 4th 10am to 4pm

Demonstrations about country life in the 1880’s

Meet the Buffalo Soldiers (1st caretakers of Sequoia Park)

Original Arts & Crafts