The other day I happened to sit next to a large shaggy brown dog as I was awaiting the bus and because he looked like a friendly dog. I nodded and said, “Good morning.” He seemed surprised that I had spoken to him but readily returned my greeting, speaking in perfect English. I noticed that the paper in which he had seemed engrossed before I spoke to him was the Wall Street Journal which was puzzling to me since I had never before known of a dog that read any kind of newspaper, much less the Wall Street Journal. Usually a dog’s association with a newspaper is evidenced when it is young and incontinent or has been caught stealing the morning gazette from the next door neighbor.

Feeling that my holding a meaningful conversation with a dog was a rarity, I thought to pursue the relationship further so I asked, also in perfect English, “What do you make of the political situation these past few weeks?” “Well,” he said, folding his newspaper and stuffing it under his left front leg, “I don’t spend much time or thought in following the international or national involvements, but stick more to what’s happening around us— for instance in our own town. Now take fire plugs. There should be a plug on every block, especially where there are few trees or fences; these sadists who elect to electrify them should go to jail.

And another thing, why so many dog catchers? And why must a dog’s master purchase a license for him while humans and stray cats run amok in the streets; the last time I bit the mailman I had my tag revoked for a month, my master paid a heavy fine and was ordered to purchase a new pair of pants for the post office department.”

As you can imagine, by now I was regretting ever having spoken or asked his opinion on anything international, national or local, so changing the subject I asked, “Does your master ever teach you to do tricks like fetching a ball or bringing his slippers?” Well, I could see immediately this was the wrong course to take when he jumped to his two hind feet and stalked to the bus which had now arrived at the curb, belching carbon monoxide.

Having become intrigued with my new found friend, I tried and was successful in getting into a seat beside him and was hoping to resume our discussion. However, I immediately regretted my move when my nostrils were assailed by a strong aroma of sheep dip intensified because of the poor ventilation of the bus. Evidently his master had chosen to bathe him that morning to inhibit an infestation of fleas.

I have since decided that in the future, should I encounter a strange shaggy brown dog awaiting a bus, I will make every effort to ignore him even if he attempts to pursue the relationship.

It was Charles Dickens who wisely said, “Let sleeping dogs lie.” Perhaps he was on to something.
This has been a busy summer and going into fall doesn’t look like it will slow down. We are going into a major construction period on the museum complex.

Here is a run down on what is happening over the next several months:

PUBLIC RESTROOMS

Final approval from the Tulare County Board of Supervisors was completed on August 13th. This was needed to formally hire a contractor for the project. Now comes the date to start construction. It is estimated that work will start in early September. We will have a ground breaking event, called ‘The Royal Flush’, to celebrate the long awaited construction.

BAHVEL SALOON

The flooring is done and we have the wood for the framing. We are looking for old barn wood to do the siding. If you know of any old barn wood that is just waiting to be a part of our museum, please let us know. The saloon is 8’x16’ with a door (with window) and a window so you can look inside. The original saloon was built just 35’ from the current sight in 1895 and lasted until July 1, 1919.

BLACKSMITH SHOP

Yes, I said blacksmith shop! Watch for details about this exciting addition. Funded by a special grant not connected to our funding drive for the barn. The shop will be a separate building from the barn. The photo is the original Kaweah Colony shop. It would be nice to copy the original with some changes to make sure it is functioning as a working blacksmith shop.

BARN

This will be the “center piece” to the Museum Complex and once the restrooms are in place we will begin construction. We are working on additional grant requests to supplement what we already have in the bank.

We don’t want to just be a ‘little’ museum on the hill but a part of the Three Rivers Experience, but it doesn’t just happen and certainly doesn’t happen without support from our membership and the community.

Please take a moment and think about how you could help with a matching donation as described to the right.

Thank You
As you can tell by the photos we had a great time at the 2019 Hot Dog Festival. The heat index stayed down and didn’t hit the 100 mark under after 2pm and by 4pm closing it reached 102. Better than the forecast predicted.

Our cooks were busy all day: 256 full meals including Root Beer Floats; an additional 129 floats and soft drinks; 159 single hot dogs; 14 chili bowls and 36 Frito Boats.

Of course the Festival would not work without the first responders and support groups that take part in the event every year. We are so very happy that the following groups were able to participate.

FIRST RESPONDERS
Tulare County Fire & Sheriff’s Dept.
CALFIRE, Three Rivers crew.
NPS Rangers & Sequoia Parks staff.
American Ambulance, Visalia.
US Army Corp of Engineers, Lake Kaweah.
California Highway Patrol.

SUPPORT & INFORMATION
N.O.A.A., Hanford
Sequoia Parks Conservancy
Three Rivers FireSafe Council

OUR LOCAL SPONSORS
Bank of the Sierra
Valley Oak Credit Union
Three Rivers Village Market
Culligan Water, Lindsay
Watson’s Health Foods, Visalia
A & W Root Beer, Visalia
USACE, restrooms

The Hard Work Paid Off
We are happy to report that the proceeds from the 2019 Hot Dog Festival netted just over $1800 each, for the Three Rivers Historical Society and the Three Rivers Volunteer Firefighters.

2019 HOT DOG FESTIVAL

Lot’s ‘n’ Lot’s Of visitors and locals enjoying the hot dog day!

Of course we had to have the A&W Root Beer Truck

Tulare Co. Fire Chief, Charlie Norman came by to help the fire fighters cook. Thanks Charlie

Sometimes you just need a nap after all that food

One of our visitors enjoying the booth from Sequoia Parks Conservancy

CALFIRE invited Smokey the Bear and is having a great time with our local Sheriff, Kyle Stark

Two things I would like to show here are:
The local CALFIRE crew came by and cleaned up our antique fire trucks two days before the festival.

AND

The National Park Service fire crew, who are always a great part of the festival could not make it this year because they were watching over the prescribed burn in Sequoia and part of their crew was sent to other locations.

Like all our first responders, we look forward to seeing you at the next Hot Dog Festival, Saturday, July 11, 2020
Established - December 1991
Museum Opened
October 2000
501(c)3 Non-Profit
Organization

Board of Directors

Tom Marshall, President
Nancy Brunson, Vice-President
Dody Marshall, Treasurer/Secretary
Susan Wolff, Docent Coordinator
Rusty Crain, Director
Bob Burke, Director
Jackie Tuttle, Director/Facebook
Kim Kauling, Director
Louise Jackson, Director
Julie Britten-Bruns Director
Daryl Bruns, Director

Finance Committee
Nancy Brunson
Rusty Crain
And another community leader to be announced

Oct 5, 4pm to 7pm
Drive Thru BBQ at the Museum

Oct 8-9-10, all day each day
California Native-American Days. 4th Grade field trip

Dec 7, 5pm to 7pm
Community Caroling at the museum.

2019 IMPORTANT DATES

Gift Shop
Have you sent in that membership renewal yet? It’s what keeps us going every month of the year.

And don’t forget—you can renew on line through our gift shop

https://squareup.com/store/3rmuseum

New memberships are welcome too, so grab that mouse!