

Shoshone Museum Reader

Produced for our Members by the Shoshone Museum Assn.

Spring 2011

Shoshone Museum Association
P.O. Box 38
Shoshone, CA 92384
(760) 852-4524



ERNEST HUHN RESIDENCE

The Ernest Huhn residence was constructed in 1951 during the post World War II "building boom" in Shoshone. The present store, motel, town office, and post office buildings were also built around this time.

Ernest Huhn was a beloved figure in Shoshone for almost 3 decades. Originally from Germany, he had fled to escape the Kaiser's army. Apparently while his unit was on a day long march, he realized that they were half way between camp and the French border when they stopped for lunch. Since the officers would not take roll again until evening, he continued on and was safely over the border by the time his absence was noticed.

He traveled around the world for several years eventually ending up in North America around 1905. He later spent time prospecting in Siberia where he was rescued by the Coast Guard cutter, the Bear, after the ship that was supposed to pick him up was lost at sea.

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SHOSHONE MUSEUM TRAVELING EXHIBIT AT ASH MEADOWS

Domestic artifacts from the Shoshone Museum collection were exhibited at the Ash Meadows, "Time Travelers" event on December 11, 2010. Items included "Shotgun" Kitty Tubb's coffee grinder, a sad iron, and an evaporative food cooler. Volunteers Susan Sorrells, Mary Burke King, and Sue and Judy Palmer were on hand to demonstrate the operation of a treadle sewing machine and assist over 30 children with a hand sewing project. The event was held to celebrate the completion of the facilities at Longstreet Spring. Frank King did a wonderful reenactment of Jack Longstreet complete with an authentic Longstreet haircut!



Susan Sorrells with an evaporative food cooler and Kitty Tubb's coffee grinder from the Shoshone Museum collection



Grantham and Saunders family photograph

Ernie Huhn at the Warm Spring
Grantham Talc mine in 1947

SCULPTURE GARDEN GROWING!

An eclectic sculpture garden is taking shape at the corner of Highways 127 and 190 in Shoshone next to Cafe C'est si Bon. Olancha sculptor, Jael Hoffmann-Lish, has numerous exquisite examples of her metal work on display. More of her art can be viewed at jsculpt.com. Other attractions include collections of found objects and a sustainable desert garden. Future plans include a small-scale green energy demonstration project to capture solar and wind power.



"Hexis" (a Greek word meaning "disposition due to habit") by Jael Hoffmann-Lish

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He also prospected in Nevada and worked in a gold mining operation at Battle Mountain.

In the early 1920s, he moved to Shoshone where he spent the rest of his life. His first home was a tent located just north of the present motel.

In 1932, Huhn and Louise Grantham located several talc mining claims in Warm Spring canyon. By the time the mine was operating at a profit, Ernie's health was beginning to fail. However, the income from this operation provided him with a comfortable income of about \$600 a month. He died 6 months after his house was constructed and was buried in the Shoshone cemetery.

Winter Speakers at the Shoshone Museum

- Jan 14 - **Interpreting the Mining History of Death Valley** - Sarah Craighead, Superintendent, Death Valley National Park
- Jan 28 - **Ernie Huhn: Gold, Poker, and Talcum Powder** - Judy Palmer, Shoshone Museum
- Feb 18 - **Our Local Mining History**- George Ross, Junior Huffman and Brian Brown, Shoshone Museum
- Mar 11 - **The Ashford Brothers of Shoshone** Susan Sorrells, Shoshone Museum
- Mar 25 - **Present Day Mining in the Kingston Mountains** - Mark Miller/Walt Logan, US Iron

All talks are at 7:00 pm in the Mammoth Room
light refreshments will be served

Talks are free, donations greatly appreciated

Echoes from the Archives



As the Shoshone Museum has grown over the years it has become a place where locals and visitors alike can learn about the past from the exhibits and also from the history talks and the excursions. In the last year however the museum has found several new and important partners in interpreting the history of our the area. As you can see from our winter newsletter one of these partners is the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. Under the direction of Alyson Mack the Refuge has been sponsoring a series of programs called "Let's Explore." These programs not only educate the visitor about the history and natural resources of the area but also welcome them to become a part of the event. These programs have been very successful and well-attended by people from the neighboring communities as well as from Las Vegas and other surrounding larger cities. On December 11, 2010 at the Time Travelers event in Ash Meadows, over 75 people attended. The purpose of the event was to illustrate to the visitors how the environment provided the necessities of life. This was done by going back in time and reenacting the lives of several of the residents of Ash Meadows in the early 1900's, such as friends of Kitty Tubb, Stella Fairbanks Brown and

WINTER MUSEUM HOURS:

Open 9 :00 am-4:00 pm Daily

The Mission of the Shoshone Museum Association is to tell the unique story of the Amargosa region and to preserve its cultural and natural history.

Jack Longstreet. Fun was had by all and at the end of the day many of the participants expressed a greater appreciation of our heritage and of the beauty and wealth of the land. Our other new and important partner is the Beatty Museum. The residents of Beatty successfully secured funding to upgrade their building and exhibits and to employ an Executive Director. They are in the process of automating their records including accessions using the software PastPerfect. They also have acquired several new historic sites such as the Underground Church and are giving tours to these sites and others as well around Beatty. Since the heritage of the towns of Shoshone and Tecopa is intertwined with that of Beatty, through the history of the Native Americans and pioneers and also through the history of



Mary Burke King and Frank (aka Jack Longstreet) King pose beside treadle sewing machine at the Ash Meadows Time Travelers event

Upcoming Events

SMA Membership Form

Membership Dues

Individual	\$15
Family	\$25
Business/	\$50
Nonprofit	
Cougar	\$300
Mammoth	\$500
Donation:	\$ _____

Make checks payable to: Shoshone Museum Association.
Mail to: P.O. Box 38 Shoshone, CA 92384
OR
Pay by phone using your Visa or Master Card!
(760) 852-4524

Name: _____

E-mail for events: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Returning Member: ___ New Member: ___

- Jan 7-8 Star Party, Tecopa Hot Springs Resort
- Jan 8 Dr. Elizabeth Warren, Pahrump Museum
- Jan 14 *Interpreting Death Valley Mining: Sarah Craighead
- Jan 15 Tecopa Basin Tour
- Jan 15 "Celebrating Image and Word" - Tecopa Art Gallery
- Jan 22 Stewardship Saturday - Ash Meadows
- Jan 28 *Gold, Poker, and Talc, Ernest Huhn Story: Judy Palmer
- Jan 30 Open Mike Readings - Tecopa Artist Gallery
- Feb 4-5 Star Party, Tecopa Hot Springs Resort
- Feb 11 "This Land is Your Land" Public Lands Workshop
- Feb 12 Phil Huff, Pahrump Museum
- Feb 18 *Local Mining History: G. Ross, B. Brown, Jr Huffman
- Feb 26 Shoshone Ice Age Tour
- Feb 26 Mary B. King & Gregg Woolard - Tecopa Art Gallery
- Feb 26 Stewardship Saturday - Ash Meadows
- Mar 4-5 Star Party, Tecopa Hot Springs Resort
- Mar 11 *The Ashford Brothers of Shoshone: Susan Sorrells
- Mar 12-13 Death Valley Chamber of Commerce Art Show
- Mar 12 Dumont Dunes Hike
- Mar 12 Mark Williams & Harry Ford, Pahrump Museum
- Mar 25 *Mining in the Kingstons: M. Miller and W. Logan
- Apr 9 Carl Moore, Pahrump Museum

please call the Shoshone Museum for more information
 760 852-4524 (*Shoshone Museum events)

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