



AMERICAN MULE MUSEUM
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NEWSLETTER 2013

NEW KIOSK PANELS AT BISHOP CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

New kiosk panels have been constructed and installed at the Bishop Chamber of Commerce center on Main Street in Bishop by the park. The three new panels are on the back side of the building adjacent to the parking area. Mule Packing in the Sierra, Mule Days Historical Photos and a panel about the future Museum make up the three displays.

The next project for the Museum kiosk committee is constructing a kiosk display at the Laws Railroad Museum. This kiosk will be built near the Wagon Barn with display panels of Freightling in the Eastern Sierra. By Mule Days, this new kiosk will enlighten visitors of the rich history of mules in the Eastern Sierra.

Another kiosk is planned for the Fairgrounds near the Mule Days Office and will document the over 3,000 year old history of the Mule.



FOUNDING MEMBERS NAMED GRAND MARSHALL'S OF THE MULE DAY'S 2012 PARADE

Lou and Marye Roeser, both Founding Members of the American Mule Museum and Institute, are literally founding members. Lou sparked on the wise idea to educate the world about the incredibly smart creature; the mule. While taken for granted, this sturdy and reliable animal has moved America forward from obscurity to the great nation it is today, playing a pivotal role in the country's advancement.

As the AMM moves forward in fundraising efforts to build the museum. Both Lou and Marye have played a necessary role as both orchestrators of the museum building process, while providing the spark it needs to move forward.

Both were honored this past year at the Bishop Mule Day's annual event, as Grand Marshall's of the parade. Having owned and operated Mammoth Lakes Pack Station for many years, and having worked at various pack stations on the Eastern slope, they are both well intimated in the inner workings of the mule. The Board of Directors of the American Mule Museum congratulates both Lou and Marye Roeser!



SUCCESSFUL SILENT AUCTION NETS NEEDED FUNDS TO BUILD MUSEUM



The 2012 Bishop Mule Days event turned out to be successful in more ways than thought possible. When the Mule Days Board of Directors graciously allowed the American Mule Museum to showcase a stunning array of silent auction items at the 2012 event, no one knew how successful the fundraising opportunity would provide the museum.

Spearheaded by Ruby Allen, co-owner of Rainbow Pack Outfitters, many items were donated by museum board members, local and Mule Days vendors, as well as friends of the museum. Items ranged from antique books and collectibles, sought after tack, to stunning art work by well known artists such as Marye Roeser, who served as the 2012 Grand Marshall in the Mule Days Parade, along with husband Lou Roeser.

Allen herself was surprised by the tremendous response from the visitors of the Mule Days event. "It (the silent auction) turned out better than I expected, and was a great way to add to the Mule Days event as well. We hope to make this an annual fundraising effort, with the goal of creating a valuable and educational museum to showcase the American Mule. We are thankful to the Mule Days Board, in particular president Sam Dean, for making this possible."

The Museum received many comments from the public regarding the high quality of items donated, and the fun opportunity it provided, not only to participate in the funding of the museum, but the ability to purchase those hard to find unique equine or non-equine treasures.

Allen also noted that there are donation opportunities for those wishing to add items to the silent auction.

Looking toward another successful silent auction means high quality, unique or rare items are always needed. Favorite items are jewelry, belt buckles, leather items and quality tack. To make arrangements for a donation, please call 760-873-8877. Limited storage area is available, and pick up of items can be arranged in advance, best if arranged just before the silent auction.

NEXT YEARS SILENT AUCTIONS MAIN ATTRACTION

We are honored to announce that Ericksen Saddlery will be donating a one of a kind, handcrafted American Mule Museum saddle for next years silent auction.

E.P. "Rick" Ericksen has been making saddles for nearly 40 years.

Ericksen's Saddlery is located in the heart of the beautiful Madison Valley. This is prime hunting country. Our saddles and all of our associated tack are tested under actual hunting and trail riding conditions. We ride and use all of our products, and are constantly on the look out for ways to improve our products. All products are made, one at a time, by hand, with attention to detail.

We encourage you to check out Ericksen Saddlery's website at www.ericksensaddlery.com



BARNYARD CONCERT SUCCESSFUL!

The 2012 Bishop Mule Days barnyard concert raised a lot of foot stompin', as well as needed funds for the American Mule Museum (AMM). Atop an antique flat bed truck, Pete Watercott and Neil Gelvin set the barn to foot and hoof stompin' to their incredible traditional fiddle and guitar music. An occasional bray or two from 4 footed onlookers did not deter from the rhythm. Decorated with sunflowers and hay bales, the afternoon setting in the barns area of the Tri County Fairgrounds, was appropriate for this free event.

Thanks to the Mule Days board of Directors, especially president Sam Dean, the concert was made possible. While free, the concert still provided an opportunity for fundraising, as young museum advocates worked the crowd for donations, selling of \$25 Founding Member pins, and complimentary Pete Watercott CD's with every \$20 donation.

The CD entitled, "Pete sings Curly (Fletcher)" was a hot item, as Watercott, a local icon to the Owens Valley area, is well known to horse drive and pack trip guests as a fiddling master. Almost 50 CD's were generously donated by Pete. These CD's can still be obtained by contacting Pete via his email site: www.Fiddlinpete.com. View his other works and learn more about him at this site.

The American Mule Museum board of directors is grateful to Pete and Neil for providing this fun and free venue, for the Mule Days crowd. It proved to be a success for both mule lovers and those seeking to build a museum to honor the American Mule.

Ruby Allen, AMM event coordinator, was pleased with the concert turn out, and hopes to hold future fundraising concerts, and already has ideas that will add to the event. Stay tuned!



JOINT BOARD MEMBERS

Museum Officers and Board members are also on the Mule Days Committee Board. Sam Dean was president of Mule Days in 2012 with a huge responsibility for a successful event. Bob Tanner, MC Hubbard, Denton Sonke, Lee Roeser, all serve on the Mule Days Board with others serving on the Committee. They can all be commended for their hard work in producing another successful Mule Days. Lou and Marye Roeser were Grand Marshals riding on a stagecoach of George Lane's. Bob Tanner and Bobby Tanner had their 20 mule team in the parade and the shows with the borax wagons from Death Valley. Lee and Jennifer Roeser's 10 Mule pack string opened each arena show with the show of flags and the Star Spangled Banner sung.

MEREDITH HODGES SUPPORT MULE MUSEUM

Meredith Hodges is the owner of the Lucky Three Ranch in Loveland, Colorado where she raises and trains exceptional mules with outstanding athletic abilities. She has been an exhibitor, supporter and vendor at Mule Days for many years. She created the character of Jasper, the Mule and has written a number of books in the series illustrated by Bonnie Shields, another participant at Mule Days. At this year's celebration of Mule Days, Meredith gave a very generous donation to the American Mule Museum. She is a great supporter of the rich long history of the largely unknown mule and interested in preserving that history and the integrity of mules and donkeys. The Museum is very grateful to Meredith and we thank her very much.

We encourage you to visit Meredith's website's at www.luckythreeranch.com and www.jasperthemule.com





We here at the American Mule Museum encourage you to get connected with the museums social media.

Check us out on the web at www.mulemuseum.org and don't forget to friend us on facebook. Just search for American Mule Museum.

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