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# Footprints

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Placer Pacers' Newsletter, PO Box 142, Auburn, California 95604

July 2010

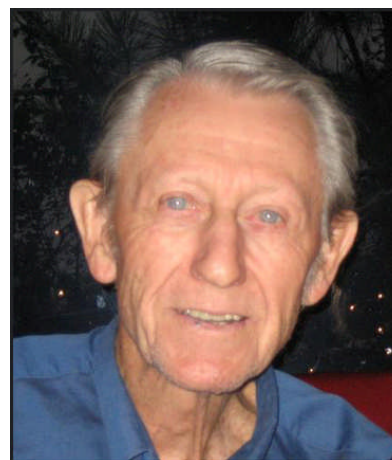
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*Lillian Esther Webber*



*October 28, 1933 - June 14, 2010*

*Gerald G. Ahmann*



*May 9, 1926 - July 2, 2010*

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## Don's Discourse

### *Déjà vu All over Again*

Here it is July 2010 and I feel like it is October 1990. That's when I last took office as President of the Placer Pacers. It's been 20 years. And in fact we, the Placer Pacers, will celebrate our twenty years anniversary with a big event in Auburn in September. We are

having three (3) walks that will start at the Auburn Dam Overlook (now called the American River Overlook). These walks will start on Friday, September 24 and continue through Sunday, September 26. One walk will go along the American River Canyon, come up into town and through the Gold Country Fairgrounds.



The second walk will be a new walk created by Roger Conant that incorporates parts of previous walks around the Auburn area. The third walk will begin at the American River confluence and go up to Lake Clementine. In addition to these walks, the Placer Pacers will be serving hamburgers and hotdogs at the start/finish on Saturday and Sunday from noon until 2PM. On Saturday, we will have an anniversary cake at the start/finish as well.

I hope that all the Placer Pacers can participate in this great event, here in our home town area. I will go back through old rosters and try to invite people who have been members in the past as well. Maybe we can persuade some of them to come back to the fold when they see how much fun we are having. On another note, and speaking of fun, we had a great time at the Placer Pacers walks at Fallen Leaf Lake. The weather was great, we had a great turnout, and there were 81 people at our dessert potluck on Saturday evening. If you didn't make it, you missed some great walks. The Tahoe Trail Trekkers joined us this year, putting on a new walk at Emerald Bay that had fantastic views, but was a tough walk. Don

# Club Elections

## They're Nondenominational

The annual, because the Placer Pacers' constitution says so, election of club officers was conducted at the June 8 Club meeting, and the outcome was pretty much (exactly) as anticipated. Don Ratliff is the new Placer Pacers President – again (He was the Club's very first President 20 years ago). Betsy McDevitt was elected Vice President, Carmen Krizl is our new Secretary, and Pat Lucero is our Treasurer (probably again, as she has held every Club officer position more than once).

Pat Conant is the new Historian. Pat Lucero volunteered to serve on the Awards Committee. An appeal was made for help with the publicity. So, if you have an interest (or not) in that area, please step up and let your light shine.

# Dues Overdue

## It Happens Every Year

It's late for payment of annual club membership dues...but not *too* late. The Club membership year runs from July 1 through June 30. Help your membership chairperson, A.J. Bohanon, and the Club by sending in your membership renewal **now**, before she gets riled up.

If you are unsure, new members especially, give AJ a call, 530-637-4633 or 530-652-0430, or send her an email at [ajbo@basicisp.net](mailto:ajbo@basicisp.net).

Individual Memberships are \$10.00 for one year, and \$15 for Family Memberships. If you are paid up but would like to extend your membership, you may do that too. Just send in a check for the correct amount, and you will be glad that you did.

With your membership comes great fellowship, monthly meetings, a monthly newsletter...usually, discounts on event participation (Three Dollar Williams available from the Club Treasurer only at Club meetings), and sundry other good things.

Make checks payable to Placer Pacers and mail to Placer Pacers Membership, c/o A.J. Bohanon, 1007 Sage Road, Colfax, CA 95713. You may also sign up with A.J. at one of the club meetings or outings.

## Placer Pacer Wonderings

### Crazy Horse

The migration of California Volkssporters to the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Volkswalk (hike) onto the outstretched arm of the Crazy Horse Monument began on Memorial Day, as Placer Pacers and friends sallied forth from points west, including

Pollack Pines, Rescue, Roseville, Newcastle, Davis, Sacramento, and Cherry Valley, included John Cappello, the newly elected CVA V-P South, and his wife Terry, Jean Lucas, Doug Rathgeb, Don & Marilyn Ratliff, Bette & Ron Haskell, Judy Stroud, Myrna Jackson, Kathy Englehardt, Grace & Wayne Holloway, Charlie Fowble, Betty Howland, Mike Vogel, JoAnn & Dave Plez, and Qeldas & Vaughn Pickett.



Walks along the way included the Salt Lake City Temple Square (Capitol) Walk and the Cheyenne Capitol Walk. Some folks walked in Buffalo, Atlantic City and Devils Tower in Wyoming, while others walked in St Joseph, Missouri and points west along the old Pony Express trail. The Haskells, Capellos, Holloways and Judy Stroud arrived in Custer, South Dakota on

Thursday and drove the 109 miles from Custer to take in the Devils Tower walk on Friday. All were in place on Saturday morning to trek to the outstretched arm of the Crazy Horse monument.



Sunday morning, while others were "resting", and the rest of the 10,985 Crazy Horse Volksmarchers were making the trek to the arm, Grace & Wayne took in the

Custer Mickelson Trail North walk along the Custer Party's 1974 route into the Black Hills. In the afternoon they visited Mt Rushmore with the Haskells, Capellos and Judy. (It should be

mentioned that cell phone coverage was...uh, weak in Custer, leaving coordination with other Californians difficult if not impossible, so



joint ventures were somewhat limited.) On Monday, John & Terry and Grace & Wayne drove up to Deadwood for the walk in that historic town. Although we did pass the site of Wild Bill Hickok's

demise, we opted not to climb up to the cemetery to see his and Calamity Jane's graves.

Those who had not already departed, left town on Tuesday, chasing their own adventures, some heading home or taking a circuitous route through Bismarck, Pierre



and Helena on the way to the Columbia River Gorge.

Oh, the food at the Cowboy Dakota, Bavarian and Wrangler Restaurants completed our quest for the fourth F...like in Fun Fitness Friendship Food. You just gotta try the buffalo burger...anywhere. (I loved this trip.)

Let's see how we can figure Crazy Horse into next year's caravan to the 2011 American Volkssport Association biennial convention in Des Moines, Iowa.

## Fallen Leaf Lake

The Placer Pacers' biennial two walk sally of the Lake Tahoe and Fallen Leaf Lake environs was held as planned on the weekend of June 26-27, with Jan & Oscar Timmons once again (why change a good thing) hanging on as the Walkmeisters.

Following the success of the Mountain Magic weekend of last year, the Club once again "partnered" with the Tahoe Trail Trekkers who hosted a walk to Vikingsholm.

The guided night walk was followed by the World Infamous Dessert Gorgie as promised.

Jan submitted the following report.

### **WALKING FALLEN LEAF 2010**

#### **Number 11 by the Pacers**

**By Jan Timmons**

Our adventure started on Thursday, when we packed the RV and Oscar drove the beast to South Lake Tahoe. The weather was fine when we arrived but gradually clouds started drifting in fast. We started getting worried when we heard the rain drops on our metal roof of the RV. Friday morning arrived and we were getting ready for the 1 pm pre-walk, while it was raining fairly hard. We looked at the clock at noon and started to panic. We drove to the Sno Park for the start location after receiving a call about the port-a-potty. The driver was temporarily lost but 'thankfully for technology' he had a cell phone and found the proper spot. The rain had tapered off to a slight sprinkle, then a mist. It was so cool and wonderful, great for the 4 hour flagging process ahead.

Don, Marilyn, Pat, Roger, Bruce, Betsy, Judy, Oscar, Sparkie, (6 lb AD, almost a dog) & I (Jan) all

started up the long hill with our flagging. (I have heard a comment about Sparkie, that they did not think there was anything at the end of the leash!) We marked the trail to Fallen Leaf campground, and had to make a detour to Judy's campsite, the checkpoint spot. We finished that part then proceeded to the area across the street to Lake Tahoe. The chalk markings seemed to work very well, because it is easy to pull our flagging down by intruders, but the chalk remains. We finished in record time of 4 hours because the weather was so nice and we had more energy. (By Sunday we would be running low on energy.)

On Saturday, while the walkers were walking the day walk, Don, Roger, Oscar and I set off to mark the guided night walk. We started up the road the same way as the day walk but then we made a turn off just after leaving the road. We walked along our usual trail and it was getting wetter and wetter. We finally came to a place where it was not passable, very swampy and decided that we were unable to walk the area. The lupines were not yet blooming; mostly buds, so the beautiful meadow of flowers was late because of the late snow. We had to scratch that option and go back to the day walk.

The day walk made a turn off and the night walk continued straight along Fallen Leaf Lake. The trail, thankfully, looked ok; nice and dry. There is an area of vernal pools that could be swampy and we were worried about the trail. When we arrived it was surprisingly very dry. Hard to understand why one area is a swamp and the other is bone dry. We were glad that our walk could continue. We walked through Camp Richardson. I carried Sparkie, (not allowed), and walked to the bike trail.

On the actual night walk I heard that they used the walkie-talkies and the staff at Camp Richardson heard us from a scanner that we were meeting at the rest rooms. He told that group to leave, I don't think they caught the other group. One year it was the dog, now it is people at the restroom. Not very accommodating since there were campers at their location and you are allowed guests. Looks like cell phones are the way to go for next time. Maybe if we all wear camouflage clothing, including Sparkie, we might not get noticed.

One flower that was so spectacular this year was the Snow Plant. The red flower pops out of the ground in strange areas. They are usually gone when we do our walk. The Mountain Pride, the flower for this walk, was not seen. I did see the flower on the Emerald Bay Rubicon Trail walk hosted by the Tahoe Trail Trekkers. Very nice walk. We also toured the Vikingsholm Castle along the trail. The owner, Mrs. Knight inherited \$10 million from her late husband around 1922. Nice guy! Pat Lucero met

Alex Zeller who did some wood carvings for her Castle, and he worked on the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo, which took one year.

I have to mention the dessert fest on Saturday. It seems to be a favorite activity, (we always love to eat, isn't that why we walk?) We moved the tables thinking we would have 35 people, and then when everyone was arriving we had to add more tables to the area. The total count was 81 dessert loving people, more than the night walkers. We had fun and we had lots of good treats. Maybe next time I will add some salads to round off the brownies and pies. We had fruit also for the non sweet eaters too. We were tempted to grab some champagne at the wedding at the Camp Richardson Lodge, where we used the restrooms (without an incident.) We enjoyed the music and the tipsy people!

Aside from the mosquitoes attacking, I think everything went well. The Pacer leadership is a well oiled team with precision. We have a change of leadership and we hope more Pacers will help with the walks. We work hard but the rewards are great, (we had muffins and dessert fest leftovers).

We had 193 total walkers, more walkers than 2008, (gas prices and fires), but less than 2006. Let's get our numbers up in 2012! It seems like everyone who walked had a great time!

## Club Events

### Placer Pacers Hosts Exceptional Events

The Placer Pacers are noted Nationally for their events, having earned the American Volkssport Association's Trailblazer Award in 2009. The selection of quality and interesting trails, well marked and/or with faultless directions and friendly, competent, motivated and helpful staffed Start, Finish, Specialties tables, and Checkpoints, sets the standard for conducting events.

#### Auburn

The Placer Pacers' twentieth anniversary walk is scheduled in Auburn, the location of the Club's first walk, on September 24-26; three days for three walks. The start point will be the Auburn Dam Overlook. The walks are the Canyon, Town and Confluence to Lake Clementine. There will be a barbecue and cake. Don & Marillyn are the Walkmeisters.

#### Apple Hill

The annual "happening" at Apple Hill continues on the weekend of the second Sunday of November, the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, under the able Walkmeistering of Bette & Ron Haskell and gracious support of Brad Visman and Boa Vista Orchards. Distances of 5, 10

and 13 kilometers will be offered, primarily on narrow paved roads past Christmas tree farms, and several of this area's World Famous apple orchards and bake shops, where you may find calories galore. Brad and Boa Vista Orchards donates the cider for the spiced hot cider at the checkpoint, and has done so for 25 years. Please be good guests and Volkssporters, buy their fruit and pastries.

### Rocklin

Rounding out the year is the Christmas walks in Rocklin on December 18. Judy Stroud and Marillyn Ratliff have volunteered to be the Walkmeisters. Consideration is being given to having one start window, in the afternoon, which will accommodate both the day and evening walk. Such tactics would reduce the manpower requirement while still offering a great walking opportunity. Consideration is also being given to offering only one walk. This may be the last year for this walk. The lights are getting dimmer.

### Next Year - 2011

You may firm up your 2011 walk schedule by inking in Hidden Falls (Apr 2-3), Silver Lake (Jul 29-31) Apple Hill (Nov 12-13), and Rocklin – or somewhere - Dec 10). All the present Year Round Events will be continued in 2011. A third event will be added to Roseville (Sculpture Walk). The Friendship Walk schedule is under construction and will be heading your way one of these months.

## Next Meeting

You never know what surprise awaits you at a Placer Pacer meeting. Brian Johnson was at the June meeting and received his trophy for being Club President two years ago. The next Placer Pacers



business meeting will be at 7 PM, July 13, 2010, at the Round Table Pizza Restaurant in Auburn Town Center, 370 Elm Avenue, a block north of Interstate 80. Come early for your favorite table, to eat and make gossip.

**Rescue Wisdom:** If you're riding' ahead of the herd, it's good to take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.

**“Lord, you pick ‘em up and I’ll put ‘em down.”**