

TAHOE HERITAGE FOUNDATION



...preserving a window to the past

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Fall 2011

Antique Classic Boat Society Celebrates the Pope Family's Tahoe Legacy

On July 30th 2011 the Tallac Historic Site hosted an event that will be remembered for years to come. That evening the Antique Classic Boat Society- Northern California/Lake Tahoe Chapter (ACBS) hosted a dinner at the Site, in cooperation with the Tahoe Heritage Foundation (THF) and the U.S. Forest Service, that saw over 150 guests enjoy a delicious meal and listen to speeches by Pope family members filled with memories of their time living in the Pope house.

This dinner served as a capstone to a wonderful weekend that celebrated the Pope's maritime legacy on Lake Tahoe. The 4th annual South Tahoe Wooden Boat Classic, a weekend event featuring a boat show at the Tahoe Key's Marina, showcased the White Smoke, a triple cockpit Sea Lyon runabout commissioned by George A. Pope in 1930. The boat was owned by the family for years but has since passed on to the Tahoe Maritime Museum. Thanks to the Museum's restoration efforts the boat was ready again to grace the blue waters of Lake Tahoe.

This dinner was the first time in many years that the Tallac Site hosted such a large and grand event. Taking place on the lawn to the east of the Pope house guests sat at tables placed so they could see the speakers who stood on the steps of the Pacheco Guest Cabin. Guests had the pleasure of hearing from three different Pope family members who had lived in the house before it transferred to the U.S. Forest Service. Peter and George Pope, sons of the late George A. Pope, both spoke of their memories of the White Smoke and living in the home. Patricia Pope, the surviving wife of George A. Pope, also spoke of her memories of living in Tahoe and of how pleased the family was with the restoration of the house and grounds. Over thirty members of the Pope family attended the event, along with a few Baldwin family members; all who attended expressed gratitude and pleasure at the state of their former homes and hoped for the continued success of the Tallac Site.



The occasion was a magical evening and served to help reconnect the Pope family members to their former home; it also helped bring the needs of the Tallac Site to the attention of many local groups. In association with this event the ACBS generously donated \$2,500 to THF for the continued restoration of the Pope Estate. This amount will go a long way toward helping THF fund the repairs necessary to keep the buildings looking as grand as they do now. Restoration of these buildings is a very costly enterprise, many of the buildings will need to be reroofed in the near future, and a number of the porches are in need of repair as well. We welcome you to help in the same spirit as the ACBS; please see the inserted donation card.

Taylor Creek Visitor Center 2011...BY JEAN NORMAN

THE FOREST SERVICE NEEDS AND ENJOYS ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH TAHOE HERITAGE FOUNDATION (THF)

As the Interpretive Services Supervisor at Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, I have worked closely with THF for nearly a decade. Taylor Creek Visitor Center operates a huge operation for 5 months each summer and fall. We couldn't do it without THF's help. For example, THF supported our college internship program again this summer/fall to the tune of \$11,340 for the stipend pay for 5 interns (3 in the summer and 2 in the fall). THF is our conduit to receive funds to help the site, like South Tahoe Rotary Club's bench and picnic table donations this past spring or creating new Kokanee Salmon Mascots for our annual Kokanee Salmon Festival (donations received from Tahoe Mountain Milers running club). See photo. Taylor Creek Visitor Center sees over 100,000 visitors each year with nearly four times that number enjoying our many interpretive trails to the beach, along the Rainbow Trail or to the underground Stream Profile Chamber. This summer, our interpretive staff offered 186 programs to nearly 5,000 visitors during July and August. During the Kokanee Salmon spawning period in October, our interpretive staff offered 79 school programs to over 2,000 elementary school children. All this wouldn't have been possible without the support of our Interpretive Association—THF. THF can support our site from profits made from book sales and from donations from individuals and businesses. Thank you THF and those donors that help support us each year at Taylor Creek Visitor Center.

Taylor Creek Visitor Center is closed for the season, but don't forget what's just around the corner—the Winter Trek Conservation Education Programs for 5th graders. This snow shoe program get students outdoors, to the top of Heavenly Mountain Resort, and teaches them about winter animal adaptors, how to identify their tracks, the importance of snow, and demonstrates proper snow shoe skills. This 12 week program is made possible with the support from THF—purchasing new snow shoes or new bindings or other needed supplies. Our old snow shoes need new bindings costing \$60/pair. We hope to get support to purchase 10-15 more pairs of bindings. Again, thank you to Tahoe Heritage Foundation for being a strong partner with the US Forest Service. We couldn't do it without you!

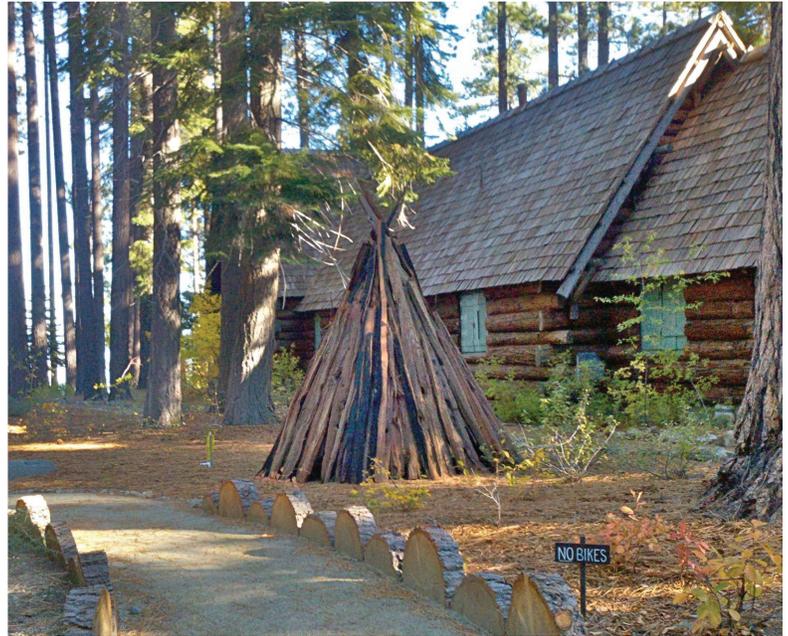


The Mission of Tahoe Heritage Foundation is to preserve and protect the cultural heritage and natural history resources of the Lake Tahoe Basin through restoration, interpretation, and education. The interpretation and education components give us the chance to participate in some of the fun moments...trekking through the snow on traditional snowshoes with Winter Trek classes and dancing with the new Rocky and Sandy Salmon at the Kokanee Festival. The new salmon costumes were provided by a Tahoe Mountain Milers donation to Tahoe Heritage Foundation last year, and we hope to upgrade the snowshoes with new donations this year.
Thank you from THF.

New Washoe Tending and Gathering Garden Established at the Tallac Site

BY JACQUELINE DUMIN

Thanks to a partnership between the U.S. Forest Service, the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, Tahoe Heritage Foundation, and the Generation Green program, the Tallac Historic Site has a new feature- a tending and gathering garden. Located on the west side of the Baldwin Museum the garden has been a multiyear effort between all of these groups. During the summer of 2010 some smaller trees were removed to allow more sunlight to enter the area and plans were created for new trails. In 2011 the work really progressed when additional trees were removed, the paths were created and signage was planned. The last steps will hopefully occur during 2012 when the fifteen planned species of plants will be transplanted into the garden and signage will be finalized.



Additionally, during 2011 members of the Washoe tribe spent a day erecting the Galis-dungal (winter house) seen in the accompanying photo. The doorway on the Galis-dungal always faces to the east and the structure is made with cedar bark planks and supported with Lodgepole poles. The tending and gathering garden provides the members of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California with an opportunity to continue their traditional land and food stewardship practices. This 0.25 acre site will house fifteen plants that were used by the Washoe people for food, medicine and other items when they camped around Lake Tahoe. Ultimately, a walking tour brochure will be available for folks passing by to pick up, and learn more about the plants and their traditional uses.

Hazard Trees Threaten Historic Buildings

The Tallac Historic Site is located in an old growth wooded area on the shores of Lake Tahoe. While the trees of this area are interpreted as part of the historical setting, they also sometimes pose a hazard to the buildings and visitors. In 2011 at least 5 hazard trees have been identified at the Tallac Site. These trees are located close to historic buildings and pose a risk of falling and destroying them. Please consider donating to THF in order to remove these trees and ensure the safety of the historic buildings for decades to come. Because these trees are very old and large, each tree can cost as much as \$1300 to remove, so every donation, no matter how small, helps tremendously.

Who was "Lucky" Baldwin? ---

Comstock millionaire, flamboyant California and Nevada pioneer, notorious libertine and womanizer, founder of Santa Anita race track, hotelier, stock speculator, rancher, race horse owner and real estate developer -- the California pioneer you may have never heard of. Elias Jackson "Lucky" Baldwin owned 6,000 acres between Lake Tahoe and Fallen Leaf Lake.

This year the Tahoe Heritage foundation was pleased to reprint *Lucky Baldwin: The Story of an Unconventional Success*. The book is in the cover color and design as C.B. Glasscock's 1933 hard back original and can be purchased at the Baldwin museum at the Tallac Historic site, which was once Lucky's granddaughter's summer estate. Anyone who loves Tahoe should have this book

Letter from the President

Another year passes and you are stuck with another of my rambling statements about Lake Tahoe and the historic site. Sorry, but not only is it my job (volunteer of course) but my pleasure to brag about the job others are doing.

On behalf of the Tahoe Heritage Foundation board, we are pleased to once again send you this newsletter and wish all those who request and read this letter a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Those of you who visited the Historic Tallac Site and Visitors Center this year, thank you from the Board of Directors of Tahoe Heritage Foundation, the United States Forest Service and the volunteers for making this a truly enjoyable year. If you were not fortunate enough to go to the site this year, we encourage you to visit the Historic Tallac Site and Visitors Center next year. At this time we are preparing to make next year an even better experience.

This summer's activities were memorable. The following are some of the events:

- The 4th Annual South Tahoe Wooden Boat Classic was held on July 29th and 30th. The featured attraction was the boat used by the Pope families named the "White Smoke". The events of the weekend included the visit of several members of the Pope family to the Site. All who attended enjoyed sharing the stories of their life by the shore of our beautiful lake.
- In addition, during the summer, there are always numerous activities for all generations and this year was no exception. The Pope and Baldwin mansions offered tours, the children's activities were daily events and the Visitors Center offered a wide variety of speakers and even some wild animals, excluding the bears.
- The annual celebration of the Great Gatsby Festival in August again reminded those of us fortunate enough to attend of life in the roaring 20's. From the authentic costumes, including the fashion show, to the vintage automobiles and motorcycles, we were all treated to the spectacle of life without cell phones, social networking and note pads.
- October in Tahoe this year was spectacular, not only from the weather, but the colors and of course the migration of the fish. The attendance figures at the annual Kokanee festival at the Visitors Center and Taylor Creek indicated that the event was very successful this year. The Kokanee Festival showed why the Visitors Center and complex is among the very best attractions a family can enjoy while visiting or living in Lake Tahoe. Along with the annual run of the Kokanee, the visitor and local alike also view the other wildlife and even an occasional bear.

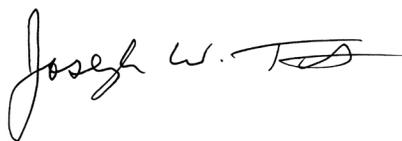
We are not limited to summer activities. The Winter Trek program put on by the USFS allows the school children the opportunity to snowshoe over the Heavenly terrain.

In addition, our main office has changed. Not only have we moved to another suite in the Keys Marina, but our office procedures and personnel have changed. Due to the change in our accounting methods, Joyce Harris is no longer with us. All of us on the Board thank Joyce for her dedicated service to THF and wish her all the best of luck in the future.

Lastly, the Tallac Site would not function without the volunteers. They put in countless hours around the site. Most of the volunteers who assist the USFS in caring for the grounds and facilities return year after year. The site could not be such a wonderful place to visit without their loyalty and dedication to the facility.

This is all made possible by your support, donations, gifts and in purchasing merchandise at the historic sites and the Visitors Center. This commitment that you have given is incentive to all of us to make your visit to the Tallac Site and the Visitors Center at Taylor Creek the best possible.

I have said it in my past letters, but I sincerely thank the other members on the board of directors and the employees of the USFS that I work with all year for all their hard work and dedication to the goals and objectives of the Tahoe Heritage Foundation.



Joe Tillson, President

Look for us on our web site: www.tahoheritage.org which will be updated early next year.

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