

... a look into the

# TAHOE HERITAGE FOUNDATION



Volume 8, No. 2

December 2005

## *Nevada Air National Guard Continues its Support of the Tallac Site*

THIS YEAR THE PROJECT WAS THE REPLACEMENT OF THE ROOF ON THE BALDWIN MUSEUM

For eighteen years the Nevada Air National Guard, 152nd Civil Engineering Squadron has been in partnership with the Tahoe Heritage Foundation and the United States Forest Service working to restore and maintain the Tallac Historic Site. Each year, usually in the Fall, the members of the Squadron come to the Site for a one week stay. The Site Director prepares a prioritized list of projects for the team to work on during the visit; the Tahoe Heritage Foundation provides food, housing expenses and some supplies. The tasks are supposed to be similar to tasks that the Guardsmen would need to accomplish while setting up a base for the Air Force. The time that group spends at the Site is training time for them. This is a win-win situation. The Engineers improve their skills, and the Tallac Site receives an improved infrastructure.

Over the years the Guardsmen have worked on beach paths, walkways and bike paths, perimeter fencing, garden fencing, water delivery systems, bases for bear proof trash cans and most recently the irrigation system for the new native plant gardens. This year the group came in early summer to start replacing the roof on the Baldwin Museum, and again in the fall to continue the project with plans for completion next spring. Their Commanding Officer, Kevin Kanuf, took this opportunity to visit the site to see the work that the 152nd Civil Engineering Squadron had completed on the Baldwin roof and also all of the other projects the crew has completed in the past.

One day during this roofing project, long-time museum and garden volunteer, Barbara Craven, was in the museum when a young boy and his father came in. The father was patiently sharing the history depicted in the exhibits with his son when the boy asked Barbara what the donation box was...a clear-sided box with money inside...not a history exhibit. Barbara, who had been a primary school teacher in her earlier life, explained that visitors put money into the box to pay for materials for projects like the roof replacement that was going-on outside. The boy stepped out to watch the Air National Guard roofers and then asked his father for some money for the donation box "for the roof." The father willingly helped his son learn about philanthropy by handing him a small donation to put in the box. Barbara then suggested that the boy step outside again and pick out a couple of shingles that "he had paid for." After doing so, the boy promised to return to watch "his" shingles age.



In the photograph to the left maybe you can guess which two shingles Barbara's young visitor choose to call "his." You, too, can help provide support for and take pride in the many Air National Guard projects on the Tallac Historic Site. The Garden Committee has already proposed the next project to follow the completion of the Baldwin roof. Work is underway to restore the Arboretum—and an irrigation system is needed before more plants can go in. If you would like to make a donation in support of the garden project, please mark the "gardens" box on the donation card.

## *Notes From Taylor Creek...* BY M. ST. MICHEL

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!

This was a good year for our Interpretive and Environmental Education Programs. It all started last January with our Ski with a Ranger Program at Heavenly Resort. We have been working with Heavenly on this program for the last 10 years, conducting guided and roving interpretation on the ski slopes. Because of the success of this program and our relationship with Heavenly, they also became a partner in our Winter Trek Snowshoe Program. Since we haven't been able to use Valhalla for the last couple of years (too expensive), we have been looking for a more permanent location for Winter Trek. Last winter the City of South Lake Tahoe and Heavenly Resort were both instrumental in making Winter Trek a success. After the buses dropped the students off at the City's Transit Center, we conducted a short orientation, grabbed our snowshoes, and walked over to the Gondola for a ride up to the mid-level deck. Here we talked about watersheds, weather, and recreation use on National Forest Lands. We then continued on up to the top of the Gondola where the students would start their snowshoe trek. Students, teachers and parents all had an incredible day, thanks to Heavenly Ski Resort!

Our summer season got off to a late start, with winter weather lasting well into June, and the number of visitors seem to reflect that all summer. None the less this was one of the best sales year we have had in a long time. Thanks to Jean Norman and Phylise Walker, we had fully stocked shelves with lots of new titles that increased revenues. With the completion of the new Lake of the Sky Amphitheater, our evening programs resumed; Mark Twain was once again seen speaking on stage and Pat Winters appeared with her traveling bats! Next year we hope to resurrect our Tales From Taylor Creek Series and include more performing arts programs.

Fall was upon us before we new it and we were right into the Kokanee season. We had a successful Salmon Festival, thanks to THF, Tahoe Wildlife Care, Tahoe Wild Bear Council, California. Fish and Game, Lahontan National Fish Hatchery and everyone else that helped put. Our Kokanee Salmon Environmental Education Program was a big success mainly because the Kokanee cooperated this year, with lots of fish still in Taylor Creek in early November, and thousands of 2nd and 3rd grade students learned about life cycles through observations of the Kokanee. Taylor Creek has now become one of the best places for locals and visitors to come in the fall to enjoy the outdoors at Tahoe. While most other facilities around the lake shut down for the year after Labor Day, the Forest Service kept the Stream Profile Chamber (SPC) and Visitor Center open during October. Visitors were able see the spawning run of the Kokanee, enjoy the great fall colors along the Rainbow Trail, and get out one last time before winter sets in. A big bonus for having the Visitor Center and SPC open in October was a significant increase in donations and sales, which helps the Forest Service and the Tahoe Heritage Foundation fund projects and programs throughout the year.

## *Report From the Tallac Historic Site...* BY ALLIE WENZL

TALLAC HISTORIC SITE YEAR AT A GLANCE

With the help of our various community partners, including the Grape & Garden and South Lake Tahoe Garden Clubs, Nevada Air National Guard, Lake Tahoe Historical Society, and Tahoe Heritage Foundation, many changes were made throughout the summer months. These ranged from replacement of Baldwin Museum roof to the restoration of the Twin Cabins grounds. The gardens at the Baldwin Estate were alive with bloom through the summer with the help of all of the garden volunteers. The expansion of the original garden area is now in its design phase and will be the focus of the garden activity next year. The Pope Arboretum had received some irrigation on the waterfall side of the garden and several ferns and other plants have been installed on the waterfall rock formation as well as at the base. The Twin Cabin lawn received a major overhaul this year with the development of new flowerbeds and the installation of a new lawn area.

This summer, our interpretive programs were quite successful, with over 1900 visitors on Pope House tours. Our children's programs were well attended as were our Lucky's Legacy tour and the Afternoon with Anita program. The 20th Annual Great Gatsby Festival was well attended and operated smoothly. The Baldwin Museum and Dextra Cottage did see a lower visitation than in recent years, probably due to the late start for summer. The Women of Tahoe exhibit was completed this summer; we extend a big thank you to the Lake Tahoe Historical Society and the Soroptimist International, South Lake Tahoe Chapter.

## *Mr. & Mrs. Andrews and Friends Visit Vatican*

This past summer, the staff at Tallac Historic Site were delighted to see Adolphus Andrews, Jr. and Emily Andrews on one or more of their many trips to the Vatican Lodge. Mr. & Mrs. Andrews also brought several guests along, including Susan Grau, who was the generous donor of the wall cloth in Mr. Pope's room. Every time Mr. & Mrs. Andrews visit the Vatican Lodge we are able to shed more light on how the interior looked and how each room was used for different activities. Mrs. Andrews' visits remind us that, although the majority of us may see the Pope Estate as a historic house, it was the place where she and her family spent their summers.

In July, Mr. & Mrs. Andrews came to see the progress on the installation of the wall cloth in Mr. Pope's Office. The pattern chosen for Mr. Pope's Office was taken from a portion of the original pattern, mimicking a toile design. The piece of the original wall cloth was used as a sample and sent to a mill to provide an accurate representation of the pattern. The reproduction of this particular pattern is quite complicated, mainly because of appropriate color matching (twelve colors in all). The fabric is shipped to us in large rolls and then is cut to specified measurements, depending on the dimensions of the room. The installation process took about two weeks, and was completed solely by Tallac volunteers.

Along with the donation of the wall cloth, the Andrews also are donating period furnishings for Mr. Pope's Office. With the addition of the period furnishings and the new wall cloth, the room will soon be in the final stage of restoration.

The Pope living room has received a "face lift" as well, with the USDA Forest Service purchasing furnishing for the room and removing the pool table from the north section of the room. The next phase of the living room restoration will occur this Spring and will be the replacement of the flooring on the north side of the livingroom and the reproduction of the window coverings. This next phase was made possible by Mrs. Frances A. Dillingham, who made a generous contribution for these restoration projects.

Each time Mr. and Mrs. Andrews visit and we walk through the house I am reminded of the how far the restoration of the Pope House has come in the past twenty years. It is because of the generosity and encouragement of Mr. & Mrs. Andrews and friends that the Pope House restoration continues to be successful. Both the USDA Forest Service and Tahoe Heritage Foundation are grateful to those individuals who volunteer, donate, and support the preservation and restoration of the Pope House.



*New wallcloth in Mr. Pope's Office*



*Allie visits with Emily Pope Andrews*

## Letter from the President

The last year has been one of very different and exciting challenges, and the work accomplished is expected to establish a foundation for important future growth and projects for the Foundation.

The Foundation has formed a successful partnership with the California Tahoe Conservancy and with the Tahoe-Baikal Institute to assist them in fulfilling their important missions, and in so doing, preserve and protect some of the Tahoe heritage existing in the historic Fredericks cabin on Fallen Leaf Lake. Ownership of that property was acquired by the USDA Forest Service, which has issued a long-term special use permit to the Tahoe-Baikal Institute to promote the study and preservation of the Lake Tahoe environment. The California Tahoe Conservancy has provided the Foundation a generous grant to provide for the planning of a significant upgrade and improvement to the Fredericks cabin facilities, in order to not only increase the potential for the Tahoe-Baikal Institute activities, but also to provide the opportunity for additional and complementary uses of the property and facilities. The Foundation is pleased to work with both of these groups to assist in this important project, and looks forward to other opportunities where it can both fulfill its mission as well as assist other nonprofits for the betterment of the Tahoe environment.

On another front, the Foundation's Board has taken steps to allow the Foundation to become a membership organization. This is in response to the numerous inquiries and requests from volunteers, community members, and others interested in providing ongoing and continual support to the Foundation. The Board has responded by creating membership opportunities to allow participation and annual financial contributions according to any individually desired level of participation. The Board feels that this will not only allow for the growth of community and personal support, but will also provide the opportunity for increased fundraising capability. As all of you know, the continuing financial health of the Foundation is essential in order for it to continue its mission. The Foundation is increasingly forced to compete with other worthy causes and interests for attention and support.

This year has also seen a continuation of the pressure placed on the Tahoe environment by the escalating real estate market and recreational use of the Tahoe Basin. These modern forces will continue to increase the demands on the limited Lake Tahoe resources and, accordingly, make the mission of the Foundation that much more important. We hope that all of our friends and supporters will continue to help us achieve the Foundation's mission, and to help preserve and protect Lake Tahoe's treasured resources.

We are looking forward to completing some ongoing projects in 2006, and in continuing to assist the USDA Forest Service in its continuing efforts to preserve the unique remaining heritage of Lake Tahoe. We thank you for all of your assistance and support. Please share your interest in the Foundation with your friends and neighbors, and urge those interested to contact us and participate as they are able.



President

**Look for us on our web site: [www.tahoheritage.org](http://www.tahoheritage.org).**

**Our activities will be kept current there.**

Tahoe Heritage Foundation • P.O. Box 8586, South Lake Tahoe CA 96158 • voice 530.544.7383 • fax 530.544.7778  
e-mail: [thf@tahoheritage.org](mailto:thf@tahoheritage.org)

**Tahoe Heritage Foundation**  
**Membership Drive 2006**

YES! I want to be a member of Tahoe Heritage Foundation and help preserve the cultural heritage and natural history resources of the Lake Tahoe Basin through restoration, interpretation and education.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

- \$35 Member
- \$60 Friend
- \$100 Historian
- \$250 Interpreter
- \$500 Naturalist
- \$1000 and up – Preservationist

**Member:** Newsletter; Membership Card

**Friend:** Newsletter; Membership Card; unsigned Gatsby Poster

**Historian:** Newsletter; Membership Card; 10% Bookstore Discount

**Interpreter:** Newsletter; Card; 10% Discount; signed Gatsby Poster

**Naturalist:** The above plus Donor Log Plaque

**Preservationist:** The above plus Pope House Tour/Reception (dates TBA)

- I've enclosed my check payable to Tahoe Heritage Foundation
- Please charge my Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_ exp. date \_\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like this donation to be used for (please check one):

- Tallac Historic Site Garden Restoration
- Angora Fire Lookout Restoration and Interpretation
- Planning for Environmental Center at Fredericks Site on Fallen Leaf
- Visitor Center Interpretive Programming
- Unrestricted, to be allocated by the Board of Directors as needed

Return to : **Tahoe Heritage Foundation**  
**PO Box 8586**  
**South Lake Tahoe, CA 96158**

*Tahoe Heritage Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization.  
All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*