

STCHS and Library News



From the President's Desk

Harriet Codeglia

It seems all the non-profit organizations in our area are looking for volunteers. STCHS is no different. Several of our long-term volunteers have moved away or are no longer available. So we need you.

Our museum is a stopping place for people from all over the US and the World. Our volunteer docents have the pleasure of being “ambassadors” for both the museum and the Groveland area. As of now, we are only open from 10 until 2 Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We would like to extend those days/hours and need help to do so. The job entails learning about and sharing the history of Big Oak Flat and Groveland, meeting, greeting and educating visitors. We can teach you what you need to know, and we only ask for one to two shifts a month. You can do that!

We also need volunteers to assist with grounds clean up, and helping us maintain and preserve the Gamble block (the stone building and yellow house in Big Oak Flat).

Email us at gygmstchs@gmail.com with the subject “volunteer”.
Or leave a message at the museum 209 962 0300.

In other good news, STCHS will be resuming the public speaker series shortly. These events were held for years in the community hall, but we have decided to resume in the Groveland Community Resilience Center (CRC). Have a good theme for a speaker? Let us know.

Check the STCHS website: www.grovelandmuseum.org or on Facebook.

On the website, you can purchase our book “Groveland and Big Oak Flat”, check for upcoming events and even sign up for membership.

STCHS is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the local history and educating others about it.

Catherine Santa Maria

Catherine has served as Treasurer on the STCHS Board of Directors for over 10 years. She brings her vast experience in banking and management to keep our books, investments, insurance and tax records in perfect order. Then in her spare time, she serves on the Tuolumne County Planning Commission. Her history with the Commission:

I was appointed to the Planning Commission on February 15, 2021 and am currently the Chair of the Commission. My term will expire on February 15, 2025. The Tuolumne County Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on the first and third Wednesday of every month. Planning Commission Business and staff only, begins at 6:00PM with the public hearing immediately following. The meetings are held at the Tuolumne County Administration Center, 4th Floor, 2 South Green Street, Sonora, California.

The planning commission is a permanent committee made up of five or more individuals who have been appointed by the board of supervisors. The planning commission plays a central role in the planning process in three important ways. First, it acts as an advisory board to the board of supervisors on all planning and development issues. Second, the commission assures that the general plan is implemented by reviewing development applications on a case-by-case basis. Third, the commission functions as the decision-making body for many proposals. However, any planning commission action can be appealed to the board of supervisors which can uphold the commission's decision, overturn it, modify it, or send it back for further study.

Thank you, Catherine, for all you do for STCHS and the community at large.



Patricia Gibson

Patricia is the Secretary for the STCHS board, and also the chairperson for the membership committee and the Labor Day Country BBQ fundraiser, coming up September 1.

She has long been interested in Genealogy and helps many folks doing their familial research. Recently, she accepted a position on the Divide Cemetery Board. Here are her words:

I recently completed a project of migrating the STCHS genealogy database from the website <https://stchsgenealogy.com/> to [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com/). (The program that comprises the website is no longer supported and as of 1/1/2020 this site will remain, but no longer be updated.) When I did that, I researched and restored all female (approximately: 5,000) subjects to their maiden names, as they had previously been input with only their married names. I also completed a project to update the Find-a-Grave website for the Divide Cemetery in Groveland, California.

(<https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2140579/divide-cemetery>) I researched and updated, when available, all maiden names, added links to both sets of parents, added plot numbers, etc. In the end I was able to eliminate more than 20 duplicate memorials and make more than 2,700 accepted edit suggestions to improve the research for fellow historians. I did this in parallel with the [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com/) database bringing gravesite information up to date.

There is a book published by STCHS in 2005 entitled: Oak Grove Cemetery District Divide Cemetery Burials to 2004, for which Bonnie P. Stevens was the Project Coordinator. The History Resource Center (HRC) has plans to meet and decide if and how to further this updating project. Some topics include: photographing graves, adding more recent burials, etc. For anyone who does not have access to [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com/), the HRC can assist you in finding information once we return from the Covid-19 Shelter in place orders. Feel free to reach out to us at: hrcgroveland@gmail.com.

Patricia Gibson



2024 Wine Tasting Cruise a wonderful success!

The 18th Annual (with a year off for COVID) Wine Tasting Cruise was held May 18. What a perfect day for a boat ride on the Lake, a taste of wine, and appetizers from local providers. The weather was excellent, the participants very happy, and the volunteers were wonderful. All seven wineries provided excellent wines.

This unique event is the chief fundraiser for STCHS and again in 2024, it did not disappoint.

STCHS thanks the generous homeowners who allow us to use their homes, the gallant boat drivers and first mates (including the two PML taxi drivers), the wine pourers, food preparers and servers, the volunteer “dock workers” who offer a steady hand so no one takes an unplanned swim, the loaders and packers of supplies and the fabulous cookie bakers. MarVal gives us a wonderful discount, as does the Meat Market. Thank you too to Pine Mountain Lake for allowing us to use the jetty at the marina, and the boat taxis. Our sponsors for the event are Helping Hands, Visit Tuolumne County, The Grill donates food as well and this year, we added a new food donor, Evergood Foods.

A special thank you goes to the wonderful wineries who donate their delicious wines. We truly cannot do this event without ALL of you.

Let’s do this again – Saturday, May 17, 2025!
Save the date!



Boy Scout Troop 81

In late April, Boy Scout Troop 81 from Patterson, California, toured several historic gold mining regions, including Groveland. We toured them through the museum and then watched them clean all the leaves and debris from our Arrastra. They did a great job. Thank you, Troop 81!



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Dotty Davis
Paul and Patricia Gibson


In memory of Dick Collier

Dotty Davis

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GROVELAND YOSEMITE GATEWAY MUSEUM
Southern Tuolumne County Historical Society

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Email: thegrovelandmuseum@gmail.com
Website: www.grovelandmuseum.org



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**The museum is currently open
Friday, Saturday & Sunday from 10am - 2pm**

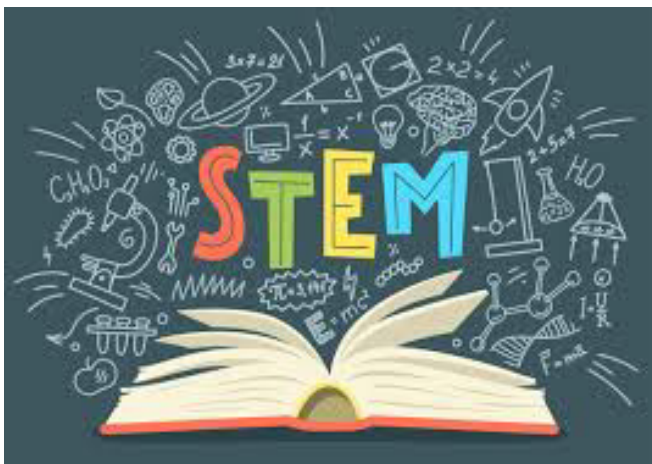
STEM at the Library and other fun things!

By Barbara Connelly, Groveland Librarian

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and math. On the 1st Saturday of every month we conduct a free STEM Club in the Groveland Library Meeting Room at 2 pm for children ages 6-12. On June 1 we will learn about Hydraulic Machines and how they work. We will make a machine that can lift, can grab, or can press. Other fun STEM projects we have done are Sun Prints, Roller Coasters, and Robots!

We also have fun time at our library at Storytime and Crafts for preschoolers age 0 to 5 every Friday morning at 10:30am. Volunteers read to the young children 0-5. Come meet other new parents and have fun creating crafts after Storytime with your child. Your child earns a punch every time you come and after 10 punches he/she gets to pick a free book.

Just around the corner is our Summer Reading Program. It starts June 12 and goes for 6 weeks every Wednesday at 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm. We meet downstairs in the Library. Each week we will have a fun craft, games and treats. Help your kids keep up their reading skills during the summer.



THEIR FAVORITE BEER

By Jim Phillips

STCHS Board Member Emeritus

In the summers of 1938, 39 and 49, when I was 8,9 and 10 years old, I would come from my then home in Oakland to stay with my uncle in Groveland for two or three weeks. His name was Sylvester (Syl) Phillips, and his wife was Lois Pool Phillips, both Groveland natives. They lived in the blue house behind the then Post Office. Uncle Syl kept a couple of horses there, so I always had a horse to ride. In the summer of 1939. I rode out to the Joe Ferretti ranch with Uncle Syl to drive 30 or 35 head of cattle from Joe's ranch to the Phelan ranch (where the PML Golf course, Tioga High School and the Grill are located).

It was a hot June day, and we were all thirsty after the 6-mile ride back to Joe's ranch after turning the cattle loose. Syl and Joe were talking about how nice a cold beer would be and they talked about the unmistakable flavors of their favorite brands. Syl declared that Acme beer was the best, Joe touted Golden Glow brand as unmistakably the best. They were each adamant that they could easily tell the difference between the two brands or any other beer brand. At Joe's ranch, we put the horses away, jumped into two pickups and headed for Groveland on the dirt road. We went into the Iron Door Saloon, sat down at the bar. Syl ordered his Acme and Joe his Golden Glow and I was treated to a Hires Root Beer for ten cents, twice the price in a grocery store. The innkeeper poured the beers into glasses and removed the bottles. Syl and Joe sipped their beers the left the bar to visit some friends. When they were not looking, I switched their glasses so that when they returned, Syl would get Joe's Golden Glow and Joe would get Syl's Acme beer. When they returned, they continued to sip their beer. Guess what! There was no indication that either one could tell the difference from their original glasses of favorite beer. I never told them about the exchange of beer glasses!

**Thank you, Jim,
for all the stories and support
all these years!**

Commemorative Patio Bricks

These personally engraved bricks are a lasting way to remember a birthday, anniversary, a special occasion, or a loved one, while showing support for the ongoing programs of STCHS and the Museum. They are set in the Memorial Patio to the right of Museum entrance. The patio is never closed!

Contact the museum at gygmstchs@gmail.com to purchase a commemorative brick, or come into the museum Friday, Saturday or Sunday from 10 until 2.



STCHS
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