

Almond
Festival
Time!

FEBRUARY 22, 2015



BLACK HISTORY DAY
FEBRUARY 14, 2015 AT
GUINDA GRANGE



BOOK LAUNCH:
THE HISTORY &
STORIES OF THE CAPAY
VALLEY



The Meffords of Capay:

TGCVHS NEWSLETTER



Guinda Commons

The restaurant-bar that is today **Guinda Commons**, which was established March 2013, has a lengthy Capay Valley history:

According to the January 28, 2014 article in the San Jose Mercury News: *“The Commons fits anyone's idea of a roadside tavern that was once a way station for 1920s-era hunters. Owners Richard and Lori Day-Reynolds fell in love with the building, as well as the valley, when they first visited in May 2012. They immediately decided to sell their barbecue restaurant in Portland and move to Guinda. Lori says: ‘There was something in these hills that took my worry meter and turned it way down...’”*

The rich history is obvious in the interior of the Commons which includes the

Guinda — still working to stay a vibrant community: Post Office, The Corner Store, a woodworking shop, Grange Hall and restaurant!

large bar, reportedly imported in the 1870's and moved here from Esparto.



Lori & Richard have heard an oral history of the place that includes: The original name was **Bennett's Rustic BBQ**. They've been told it was a hunting lodge in the early days. The location included a gas station that was deactivated several decades ago.

Next, it was **Lou & Edna's**. Edna's grandson is owner of Stingrayz Marina in Knights Landing—with many great stories of the Guinda of his youth and still owns property in Guinda. Check out stingrayzmarina.com

Marian and Frank Nichols operated the business as **Nichols Rest Stop** for 18 years in the 1980's & 1990's. Frank & Marian still live in area and manage the Western Yolo Grange Hall on Forrest Avenue up behind the historic Corner Store.

Next came **Fat Boy's**, 1997-1999 (owners unknown); and then **Murray's Bar & Grill** 1999-2002—Jim & Roberta Murray still live in area. And then it was **Ibarra's Restaurant** 2002-2012; Estachio Ibarra died last spring, but his widow & daughter still live in area.

Today: **Guinda Commons**, where Richard applies his Tennessee heritage to cooking and serving the best smoked meats, hearty soups and other house-made sides. Great slaw—not too sweet!! Lori makes pies and other tasty baked goods from scratch. They stock a wide selection of beer, hard ciders and local wine. There's a large patio out back with a stage for live music events.

*Keeping a
Community
Vibrant...*



Built in 1920s by Lynn Bennett & family and friends (Dick Schneider, wife Andee, and others). Vernon Nichols built the rock fireplace. [see photos above from 1937, courtesy of Barbara Bennett Vanderpol]

GUINDA COMMONS
7624 Highway 16,
Guinda, CA.
weekdays:

11 am- 8 pm,
Saturday & Sunday
10 am to 8 pm
530-796-0758

Email:
folks@guindacommons.com

As stated on their website guindacommons.com : “The ‘commons’ in our name isn’t an accident; we think every community deserves to have a great place to meet up and spend time together.” They hope that Guinda Commons—housed in a building that has been a community gathering place for decades—will continue to serve that same purpose for Guinda and the surrounding area for many years to come.

Photos and History courtesy of Lori & Richard Day-Reynolds

1915-2015 – CAPAY VALLEY’S HISTORIC ALMOND FESTIVAL IS CELEBRATING ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY FEBRUARY 22, 2015! MADISON TO RUMSEY, FESTIVITIES GALORE!

Come make a day of it in the Capay Valley—be sure to make it all the way up to Rumsey to see it all! Here’s a collage of the 2014 Rumsey Hall event—where I always have my booth for *The Greater Capay Valley Historical Society*—now featuring the new BOOK: *The History & Stories of the Capay Valley*

