



*The Cobblestones of Historic Events  
Pave the passing Years' Pathway*

C O L F A X  
A R E A H I S T O R I C A L S O C I E T Y

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**COLFAX SPRING MEMORIES**



**Time to get the skates  
out**

**Jack, Mary, Neil MacIntyre  
(unknown child in front)**



**Mary Ladd (MacIntyre)**

**HUBLEY HOUSE STILL  
PROVIDING PHOTOS**  
ABOVE PHOTO FOUND DURING  
RECENT WORK ON THE HUBLEY  
HOUSE

**INSIDE THIS  
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**CALL FOR ARTICLES**

Dear Members, We need your help with articles or photographs for Cobblestones.

Please send articles or photographs to our editor Teri Murch at [teri@LiveInColfax.com](mailto:teri@LiveInColfax.com) Include "Cobblestones" in subject field.

Articles can be in the most basic of text files. If you do not have email, please ask someone to type it for you and send it to Teri.

Photographs should be at highest resolution for best print quality. Teri can scan

them if you leave them at the museum and call her at 530-798-0215.

Next deadline for Articles is June 1st. Thank-you



**FROM COLFAX, CALIFORNIA,  
WITH LOVE  
APRIL 16TH 7PM AT MEMORIAL HALL**

The April 16<sup>th</sup> Colfax Area Historical Society guest speaker will be Dee Rein, Chairperson of the Colfax "Operation Mom", a group of loving and concerned mothers, wives, family members and friends of US military personnel currently serving in combat zones, primarily Afghanistan and Iraq. "Operation Mom", originally formed during the

dark days of World War II, is a self-supporting volunteer organization dedicated to providing our service personnel with health and welfare items not normally available through the military supply system. One of the items provided by our own Colfax "Operation Mom" has been directly responsible for saving many

lives and injuries. What is it? Come and see.

**Presented by:**  
Dee Rein  
Chairperson  
Colfax Operation Mom



**Note:**  
Sorry Cobblestones did not get out in time for this program. Thank-you to everyone that came. For more information on Operation Mom or to volunteer to help pack boxes contact:  
Dee Rein 530-320-4954 or e-mail at  
OperationMomPC@colfaxnet.com

They meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Colfax Veterans Memorial Hall 6pm

*Sweet perfume of  
springtime  
blooms fill the  
air. The first  
strawberries with  
their intoxicating  
scent breaking us  
out of Winter's  
spell*



**RECIPE FROM THE PAST**

They say the kitchen is the heart of the home and that certainly was true in the 1860's. It was a constant job just to keep the woodstove going to say nothing of the bread to be made, water to be pumped and heated, food to be preserved.

Springtime brings the hope & promise of a good harvest starting with berries. How can you resist that first batch?

Time to take a break from all that work with an:

**Old Fashioned  
Strawberry Shortcake**

Make your favorite sweet biscuit recipe. While they are cooling down, wash & slice a basket of strawberries. Sprinkle with sugar to your taste and let marinate for an hour or so to

bring out the juices. Whip up 1/2 pint of whipping cream to soft peaks, adding sugar and small amount of vanilla to taste. Slice biscuits in half, place one half on a plate, mound strawberries on top, with a spoonful of juices, top with a big dollop of whipped cream, then angle the other half of the biscuit on top. Go sit out on the porch and enjoy.

**VISIT OUR MUSEUM**

April displays will honor Grace Hubley, photographer and graduate of Colfax Elementary School, charter member of Colfax Garden Club, and survivor of the Great San Francisco 1906 Earthquake. Hubley was listed by Camera Craft as among the best women photographers in the

West.

We are lucky to have a group of dedicated volunteers that keep the Colfax Area Heritage Museum open 7 days a week, from 10am-3pm. Please stop by for a visit. Visitor count this year-to-date is ahead of last year.

Some of the books we have for sale in our Gift Shop:  
*Colfax Connection* \$20.00  
*Kilgos of Colfax* \$ 3.00  
*Earthquake and Fire* \$15.00



**BITS & PIECES**

**Bull and the Bear Come Home**

After several years in Grass Valley being restored by Mel Henderson and company, Colfax's old friends "The Bull and The Bear" are coming back. Mel has arranged with Pene Todd to do the final work in the freight depot museum. Permission is being sought to locate them at the end of the depot next to the access ramp. The critters will have to be caged, not to keep them in but to keep two legged varmints out.



**Bull & Bear Find a New Home**

**2009 CAHS Program Dates**  
**February 19**  
**April 16**  
**July 16**  
**October 15**

**Exhibit of Interest at:**  
**The California Railroad Museum**  
**THE RAIL SPLITTER AND THE**  
**RAILROADS: Lincoln, the Union**  
**and the Golden State**  
 May 9, 2009 - Feb 15 2010  
[www.csrmmf.org](http://www.csrmmf.org)

**Celebrate National Train Day**  
**May 9**



**HELPING MAKE A CONNECTION TO COLFAX'S PAST**

*"Shared Memories are the String that Connects Us to the Past"*

Our website ColfaxHistory.org has gotten several requests this past winter from people searching for their families connection to the Colfax Area.

I am going to include the requests here in hopes that someone will remember some tidbit I can pass on to help them connect with their past.

I would also like to ask if there is anyone out there that would enjoy being involved in the research to please contact me. It would be great if you have an email account but not absolutely necessary.

It is a great way to meet people, learn more about area history and the families really appreciate your efforts.

-Teri Andrews-Murch  
 Editor/Webmaster

**Request #1**

**Irish Immigrant Letters**

*My name is Bryan Lamkin and I'm a Professor of History at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, California, where I specialize in United States history, with a research focus in antebellum Irish immigration. I am involved in a book project in which I'm creating a database of letters and diaries written by nineteenth-century Irish immigrants living in the American West.*

*Do you know if you have any diaries or letters in your collection written to/from/by Irish immigrants in the nineteenth century, or where I might find such letters or diaries?*

*Any help you could give me would be greatly appreciated.*

*Cordially,  
 Dr. Bryan Lamkin  
 BLamkin@apu.edu*

**Request #2 From Australia**  
**Alexander McLennan**  
**William McLennan**

*I am doing family history research and a family member is noted as being buried in the Colfax District Cemetery. His name is*

*Alexander McLennan. He was born on 16 June 1886 and died in March 1966. His family is from Australia. He had a brother, William who also was living in Chicago Park and he was born on 18 Dec 1882 and died in May 1969. He may be buried there too. I am wondering if you would point me in the right direction to find out more information.*

*Many thanks, Anne*

*I have since discovered that William was married to Iva and had a son, Robert. They lived in Butte, Montana for some time and he was very involved with a wool company and his occupation is listed as a wool expert. Alex is listed as an engineer living in Verdi, Nevada in the world war 1 draft. I have reached a stalemate at the moment.*

*-Anne*



Continued on page 5 Requests

## 2009 GRACE HUBLEY AWARD

Steve Coverston has received the 2009 Grace Hubley Award, an art commission. He'll be present on April 10 at the Colfax Area Heritage Museum for the local unveiling of his *graphite au aire* drawing titled Sunset Terrace, an illustration of the historic 1880's Hubley House located on Ben Taylor Road.

The drawing will be on exhibit at the museum following the event.

In 2002, Steve Coverston received the Governor's Historic Preservation Award at the State Capitol from Governor Davis in recognition of the Colfax calendars he and his students have created over the years. He is

currently Head of the Fine Art Department at Colfax High School.

Helen Wayland, Museum Director, says "Steve Coverston is the exceptional teacher who touches lives, opens the world to students and their family. He is one you remember, one who gives beyond the class room and one who put Colfax on the map, when the class received the governor's award for historic preservation."

A primary goal of the Grace Hubley Foundation is to commission or acquire artwork from local area artists for the purpose

of celebrating and helping ensure these works are available for appreciation by the general public.

The Grace Hubley Foundation is a nonprofit organization named for a Colfax local of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Born in Pennsylvania in 1877, Hubley moved to Colfax with her family as a young child. As a young adult in San Francisco, she became a professional listed as "one of the best women photographers in the West" by Camera Craft Magazine. Over 8,500 of her glass negatives currently reside in the Colfax Area Historical Society's Archives. The 1880's Hubley House was part of a larger homestead and orchard built by her grandfather and run

by her father who was predominant in the Colfax Fruit Growers Association.



The Foundation works closely with the Colfax Area Historical Society. The Society efforts have been responsible for both preserving the Hubley negatives as well as recently saving the Hubley House from potential demolition.

Event coordinator Nancy Hagman says the whole community is invited. For more information go to the web [gracehubleyfoundation.org](http://gracehubleyfoundation.org) or contact [info@gracehubleyfoundation.org](mailto:info@gracehubleyfoundation.org).



*What treasures  
are hiding behind  
the covers?  
Let's open the  
book and see...*

## CLARA BARTON OF THE RED CROSS

Did you miss the Rummage on the 2-3 of April? The women of the Methodist Church hold a very interesting sale. Always something you just got to have! This time I found a booklet. I was just straightening the books, not looking for anything to buy, and there it was! I spotted a Scholastic Booklet that sold originally for 85 cents in 1974, with the title "Clara Barton". This time it was selling for 25 cents. It was a paperback. Here is **why** I bought it:

My father was born in **November 1885**. His father, **John Herbert Bickford** ran sheep in the High Sierras around what is called White Rock Lake, above Webber Lake. He and my grandmother had a cabin at White Rock Lake. They worked with Mr. Mills in the sheep business. It was a log cabin and it lasted a

long time. I have a photo of most of the logs fallen with my Father, my brother, and my son Patrick standing near the ruins in 1948. To get to the story. In the summer of **1886, Clara Barton** made a trip to California. At that time the road went past Webber Lake....not where it is now over by Donner Lake. **Clara Barton** arrived in the area, and being from the same part of the USA that my grandmother had come from...**Clara** visited my Grandmother, **Franciner Reed Bickford**, in her log cabin at White Rock Lake. My father was around 8-9 months old, and needed to be rocked as he was not walking. Clara rocked my father that day, while visiting with my grandmother. That is reason I bought the booklet at the Rummage Sale on April 3<sup>rd</sup> this year.

I could add more infor-

mation about my grandparents spending the summer at White Rock Lake. When they arrived there, no fish were swimming in White Rock Lake, so my Grandfather, a real big tall man, had another man who was there help him carry a **wash tub** full of fish from Independence Lake up the hill between two horses and then dump them in White Rock Lake.

I have often wondered how they balanced that wash tub without loosing the fish! That is some of the stories I have heard from my **father, J. Arthur Bickford** who was born and raised on the Bickford Ranch west of Penryn, My dad was a cattleman and continued to live there in the winters, and moved his cattle to the Summer Ranch on Hwy 89 during the Summers.

by Myrtle Bickford Findley



## CAHS MEMBERSHIP JOIN US!

### Objectives:

To support and promote educational and research activities and interest in the history of the Colfax area; to promote and establish a local museum; to work with other Historical Societies and local groups; to discover, collect and make accessible to the public historical facts and objects; to mark places and building of historical interest in the Colfax area and cata-

log such markers in an orderly manner; to register historical landmarks and buildings' to accept gifts and donations from the public and other organizations and to raise funds to accomplish all the above.

### Meetings:

General Meetings: 4/year

Executive Board: 4/year

Location: 99 Railroad Ave

### Membership and Annual Dues:

Regular (single) Member :	\$10.00
Family (including children:	\$15.00
Junior (not included in Family:	\$ 5.00
Business (includes ad in <i>Cobblestones</i> )	\$25.00
Non-profit Organizations	\$25.00

Additional contributions are always welcome  
Dues apply to fiscal year, July 1 to June 30 and are tax-deductible. Members receive a membership card and *Cobblestones*.

Make checks payable to: Colfax Area Historical Society  
Send with your name, address, phone #, email address and amount enclosed to : POB 185, Colfax, Ca 95713

Requests cont from pg 3

### Requests #3 Knudsen Family

*Hello, my name is Kriss Bader. I have been researching our Knudsen family for a while now. They have been very difficult to trace. I have some background on them but have not been able to find much. On one of your links I found a morsel that has inspired some \*hope\* again! Daneville School showed that Knudsen children attended there. If you can offer any help I would really appreciate anything. I can give you more information if you are interested. I am willing to pay expenses if necessary. Thank you so much ,  
krissbader@pacific.net*

*From: "krissbader"  
<krissbader@pacific.net> Hi Teri! Thank you for the interest in our search for the Knudsen's. We appreciate your help a lot!! Maybe there is someone who will remember something. Anything is*

*worth a try. I have been searching all the data bases I can find and come up with nothing so far. This is what we know. They lived in Colfax (or near surrounding area). Mother's name was Gine or Gene. Father was Neils or Niles or Niels Knudsen. Both born in Denmark 1864. We don't know how or when they arrived in America or California. Six children: Elsa May, Neils William, Christopher, Fredrick, Earnest, ad Delbert. Born between 1886 and 1898-99. On August 4, 1895 the father was killed in a railroad accident. In late 1898 or early 1899 the mother tried to burn house down with some or all of the children inside. Earnest and Delbert were sent to different orphanages and we don't know what happened to the other 4 children. Gine was sent to a "hospital" in Stockton for many years. Christopher died December 27, 1906 also from a railroad accident. Four are buried in old Colfax cemetery. Niles, Kris H., Earnest and Gine. Only Gine's grave is unaccounted for. The death certificate does say*

*she is buried there however. This is a sad mixed-up family for sure. My mother-in-law is 89 and I am trying to find out answers for her and verify what she was told. Any help or direction would be appreciated so much. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Kriss*

### Can you help?

If you have any information about these people or families., please contact them directly via email and CC [teri@LiveInColfax.com](mailto:teri@LiveInColfax.com) OR call me and I will pass on the information to the families.

When we research the past we find out more about the history of our community and the people that lived here. I hope some of you will enjoy taking on some of these requests.

### ALEX McLENNAN

Alexander McLennan, 78, of Chicago Park died Tuesday of last week of self-inflicted gunshot wounds. Funeral services were held Thursday at 11 a. m. at the Colfax District Cemetery under the auspices of Colfax Post, American Legion, Quinn's Sierra Chapel handled the arrangements.

McLennan was a native of Australia, a retired fruit rancher. He had been a resident of California for 55 years and a resident of Chicago Park for 17 years.

He is survived by a brother, William McLennan of Chicago Park, and a sister, Mrs. H. Atkins of Australia.

A little research &  
I Found this in the  
Colfax Record  
April 7 , 1966

WE'RE ON THE WEB AT  
WWW.COLFAXHISTORY.ORG

**COLFAX  
AREA HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 185  
Colfax, CA 95713



Visit our Museum Located  
in the Depot  
99 Railroad Street

10am—3pm Daily



**SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESS MEMBERS**

Bakbraken Acres P.O. Box 193 Chicago Park, CA 95713 530-272-5257	Mike Basich Painting 23850 Spring Valley Road Colfax, CA 95713 346-2466	Colfax Market Main Street P.O. Box 717 Colfax, CA 95713 346-7029	Winner Chevrolet 1624 South Canyon Way P.O. Box 1867 Colfax, CA 95713 346-8313	VFW Ladies Aux. Post 2003 P.O. Box 1213 Colfax, CA 95713 (Pres.) 636-4242	Ann Maurine Frink 309 S. Auburn Street P.O. Box 182 Colfax, CA 95713 320-0160 <a href="mailto:annmarifri@aol.com">annmarifri@aol.com</a>
Rev. Jan Brim P.O. Box 203 Meadow vista, CA 95722 878 4725	Colfax Record Gloria Beverage P.O. Box 755 Colfax, CA 95713 346-2232 346-7029	Colfax Max 555 S. Auburn St. Ste. E Colfax, CA 95713 346-7404 <a href="mailto:jason@colfaxmax.com">jason@colfaxmax.com</a>	Colfax Elem. School Dst. 24825 Ben Taylor Road Colfax, CA 95713 346-2202	Kurtis H. Fox, M.D., Inc. P.O. Box 1199 Colfax, CA 95713 346-2281	Colfax Garden Club P.O. Box 1801 Colfax, CA 95713 346-8149 <a href="mailto:jewellde-lapp@yahoo.com">jewellde-lapp@yahoo.com</a>
Colfax Area Chamber of Com.- 99 Railroad Ave Colfax, CA 95713 346-8888 <a href="mailto:railcar@colfaxarea.com">railcar@colfaxarea.com</a>	Colfax Vision Center Russell Worrell 333 South Auburn St. Ste. 1 Colfax, Ca 95713 346-2269 <a href="mailto:rsworrell@foothill.net">rsworrell@foothill.net</a>	Golden Drift Historical Society P.O. Box 253 Dutch Flat, CA 95714 389-2617	Fitness 4 Life P.O. Box 2774 Grass Valley, CA 95945 346-1046	Puzzle People 22719 Tree Farm Colfax, CA 95713 346-7173	Giovanni's Restaurant 450 Gladycan Road #42 Colfax, CA 95713 346-7400
Colfax Carwash 1001 S. Auburn Street (Mail) 1170 Pinecroft Rd. Colfax, CA 95713 346-1803 346-2184 <a href="mailto:bbbrendat@dishmail.net">bbbrendat@dishmail.net</a>	John Demorest, DDS P.O. Box 1659 Colfax, CA 95713 346-2214 <a href="mailto:johnlisa@earthlink.com">johnlisa@earthlink.com</a>	Judy's Stylz for You Bob and Judy Neher 520 So. Auburn St. Ste A Colfax, CA 95713 346-6800	Placer County Hist. Soci- ety P.O. Box 5643 Auburn, CA 95604	Mother Lode Realty Jan Sibley P.O. Box 661 Colfax, CA 95713 346-2276	Hanford's Catering P.O. Box 1236 Colfax, CA 95713 888-7145 <a href="mailto:patty@hanfordscatering.com">patty@hanfordscatering.com</a>
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