



AMIA

THE ANDERSON MARSH INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION

*Promoting education & interpretive activities of
Anderson Marsh State Historic Park*

PO BOX 672, LOWER LAKE, CA 95457 (707)995-2658 WWW.ANDERSONMARSH.ORG SPRING/SUMMER 2011

AMIA remains committed to Anderson Marsh State Historic Park

**By Roberta Lyons,
President AMIA**

The Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association (AMIA) has been busy over the past many months, working hard along with our new State Parks sector superintendent, Bill Salata, to clean up the ranch house and grounds, train volunteers, and keep the park open on a limited basis for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike.

The news that Anderson Marsh State Historic Park is on the list for park closures was not unexpected but still hugely disappointing. Currently state officials and the California State Parks Foundation are working to come up with a way to allow some parks to remain open by creating operational

(Continued on page 7)



Gae Henry, left; and Henry Bornstein, far right, attended the March 22 Park Advocacy Day in Sacramento to educate legislators and testify about the value of Anderson Marsh State Historic Park. While at the conference the two Lake County residents met with the President of the California State Parks Foundation (CSPF), Elizabeth Goldstein and CSPF board member, Manuel Grace.



Pat Ikes and Bound To Ride is a popular band that plays the Old Time Bluegrass Festival.

Musical Line-up set for 6th annual Old Time Bluegrass Festival

By Don Coffin, Old Time Bluegrass Festival musical director

The 6th Annual Old Time Bluegrass Festival at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park, presented by the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association (AMIA), is just

(Continued on page 8)

Ranger's Report

By Bill Salata, State Park Superintendent II

June 2011 AMIA CAL report, to the AMIA members and Anderson Marsh SHP supporters

I would like to thank all of the AMIA members for your support and dedication to the Clear Lake Sector. I attended the Bluegrass Festival and Christmas events in 2010 and am looking forward to the upcoming Bluegrass Festival in 2011.

The past year has been somewhat successful regardless of our impending park closures. I will be discussing the Anderson Marsh unit closure in depth along with District Superintendent Linkem at the association meeting on June 9, 2011.

Some of the things we have accomplished at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park over the past year include: analysis of Cultural Heritage Collections (CHC) from prehistoric archaeological site CA-LAK-589, aka Lewis Ridge.

From 1985-1992, the CHC, a volunteer organization, did systematic surface collection and some excavation at this site which is the most important archaeological site within the Anderson Marsh Archaeological District.

This work resulted in the collection of 275,722 artifacts. No report was produced from these efforts. Our district archaeologist recently received a grant for \$15,000 to complete this report and project. We have completed several days of artifact and accessioned item identification and cleaned much of the ranch house and garage.

We have an inmate crew and park maintenance staff at Anderson Marsh the week of June 6 to work on fire breaks, trails, and ranch house grounds keeping. We will continue with the on-going site steward program.

We will continue to identify accessioned items in the ranch house and garage.

A brief unit administrative history of Anderson Marsh State Historic Park

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park is a California State Historic Park located at the southeast corner of Clear Lake, at the formation of Cache Creek, on Hwy 53 between the cities of Lower Lake and Clearlake, in Lake County, California. The park's prime resources, the Native American features and the wetland habitats were the chief reasons the Department of Parks and Recreation acquired the property, which also contains the Anderson Ranch complex. Anderson Marsh SHP is a nature preserve, which protects the habitat of a tule marsh, itself an integral part of the Clear Lake ecosystem. The marsh offers food and breeding habitat for mammals, fish, birds and amphibians. The park protects several additional habitats including freshwater marsh, oak woodland, grasslands, and riparian woodland.

One of the largest groups of people in prehistoric California, the Southeastern Pomo, knew this land as home. Today, descendants of those people still live nearby. Anderson Marsh's archaeological sites hold clues to the lives of the Pomo, with some sites over 10,000 years old. The cultural resources of the site prompted California State University, Sonoma archaeologist John Parker to conduct a field survey in 1976 that began a campaign for the creation of Anderson Marsh SHP.

In 1982 the State of California acquired Anderson Marsh and the DPR began evaluating what steps could be taken to include the property in the State Parks system. On October 15, 1983 the park was dedicated in a ceremony which included the park's first ranger Floyd Lemley and new DPR Director William Briner. The 3,000 guests that attended the

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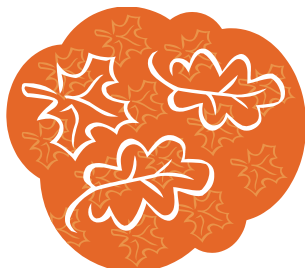


Logo contest winner announced

The Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association is pleased to announce the winner of the 2011 Old Time Bluegrass Festival Logo Contest. Victoria Stahlman of Lower Lake High School won the \$100 prize with her entry. Her submission will be used as the logo for the 2011 Old Time Bluegrass Festival.

The Logo Contest was open to all students attending any High School in Lake County, as well as Lake County 9-12 graders being home schooled. Submissions were judged by the quality of the art work and the suitability for appearing on T-shirts, posters and other promotional materials.

All original art work will be on display with other art at the Art in the Barn display during this year's 6th annual Old Time Bluegrass Festival to be held rain or shine from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 10, 2011.



Ranger's Report

By Bill Salata, State Park Superintendent II

(Continued from page 2)

dedication visited Indian village sites, hiked nature and archaeological trails, rode the stagecoach, and took boat tours.

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park is named for John Still Anderson who bought the 750 acre ranch in 1885. Anderson, his wife Sarah Laidlaw Anderson and their six children moved from Scotland to California in 1884. Through purchase and homesteading, Anderson soon added 1,300 more acres and enlarged the ranch house. The ranch remained in the Anderson family until 1964 when the property was purchased by an investment company.

Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association was formed in 1984 by park staff and volunteers. The organization promotes educational and interpretive activities at the site and plays an important role in funding projects that the state would otherwise be unable to provide. These include conservatory work, construction, trail work, interpretive displays, rehabilitation of facilities and historic objects, purchasing interpretive items, acquiring furnishings, and providing interpretive information. AMIA has sponsored many fundraising annual events over the years including the Blackberry Festival, Tea & Musicale, Native American Days, Heritage Days, Christmas at the Ranch, and more recently, Old Time Bluegrass Festival, and Old Fashioned Day in the Park.

Bill Salata
State Park Superintendent II
Clear Lake Sector, Northern Buttes District

ANDERSON MARSH NEWS

is published by the
ANDERSON MARSH INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION

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Students enjoy learning at Anderson Marsh State Park



Don Coffin and Dennis Hadley donated their time and talent to instruct students at the April Children's Museum of Art and Science event that was held at Anderson Marsh State Park. CMAS has been presenting an art and science camp every year at AMSP. Many volunteers from CMAS, AMIA, and the Redbud Audubon Society, as well as local schools participated.



Gae Henry points out some interesting features of the historical Anderson Marsh State Park ranch house.



Gae Henry and Henry Bornstein, AMIA board members and State Park volunteers, meet with a group of students before leading a tour of the historical ranch house at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park during the April children's art and science camp there.



Participants of the CMAS art and science camp learn about games played by early Native Americans.



Henry Bornstein talks to youngsters about the historical telephone at the ranch house.

AMIA Christmas



David Neft of Middletown plays every year for the Anderson Marsh Christmas event. He is pictured here with Cal Randall.



Trey and Calista Lockwood were just two of the many youngsters who had a great time visiting with Santa Claus at the last Christmas at the Ranch open house presented by Anderson Marsh Interpretive Assoc.



(Left) Students from Lower Lake Elementary School had a great time decorating the tree in preparation for the 2010 Christmas at the Ranch event, a tradition held for many years at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park which is now threatened with closure.



A tradition at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park has been for students from Lower Lake Elementary to come to the ranch house the week before the event and help decorate the tree. Last Christmas, 2010, a group of students from Mrs. Mock's third grade class at Lower Lake Elementary came to the ranch house.



The man behind the music

By Nancy Langdon

The Old Time Bluegrass Festival at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park has become a successful community event thanks to the time, energy and expertise of a man by the name of Don Coffin.

His background in the music industry spans 30 years. Before moving to Lake County in 2002, Don spent a good part of his life in Sonoma County playing and teaching music, as well as organizing musical events. When he moved to Lake County, he became reacquainted with a local musician, our own Anna McAttee! Anna and Frank asked Don to join the AMIA board of directors. After the termination of the Blackberry Festival, he brought the idea of a Bluegrass Festival at the Park to the table. Don thought that as long as the event followed the historic theme and stayed within the boundaries of the "living history aspect," the state might put their stamp on the idea. It passed the test and

Don is now working on the lineup for the sixth annual Old Time Bluegrass Festival at Anderson Marsh.

Don makes mention of the slew of volunteers, and sponsorship drives that continually support the preservation of the park, but he is the man behind the music. He says he utilizes local talent first, then looks for groups to invite that will "fit" or have "a touch of star status" to spark the interest of out-of-county residents. Throughout the year he attends different events, such as the Far West Folk Alliance convention to search for artists to include. Sifting through stacks of sample CD's, Don makes the contacts, selects musicians and schedules music on the Festival's two stages and workshops. With the constant threat to shut down the park looming, he aspires to work toward keeping Anderson Marsh State Historic Park open and available to the public.



Don Coffin

Don is a busy man. Currently, he plays in two bands, "The Hot Frittatas," who have produced three albums and make regular appearances in Sonoma County and a local Irish band called "Uncorked."

He also hosts The Bluegrass Traveler/Hitchhiker radio show Thursday and Saturday mornings on KPFZ Lake County Community Radio, FM 88.1, gives music lessons and repairs guitars in his wood shop.

AMIA thanks Don for all that he does. His commitment to keeping our Lake County history alive makes the Old Time Bluegrass Festival possible.



***"Descendents
of the Anderson Family
after a Ranch House Tour
(former Ranger Tom Nixon,
center rear, led the tour)."***

***For information about Bluegrass Festival tickets, call (707)995-2658 or
please go to www.andersonmarsh.org/Bluegrass/AMIA-Bluegrass.htm***

AMIA remains committed to Anderson Marsh State Historic Park

(Continued from page 1)

agreements with either park Interpretive Associations, or other entities.

Meanwhile, AMIA is committed to continue to support the park, and will be presenting the annual Old Time Bluegrass Festival on Sept. 10, 2011. The festival is an important fundraiser for AMIA, which dedicates most of its earnings to projects at the Anderson Marsh State Park.

Thanks to park docents and volunteers Gae Henry, Henry Bornstein, Tom Nixon, Billy Gear and Harry Lyons, nature walks and tours of the house have been held the second Saturday of every month and will continue at least through the summer.

On April 16, Gae and Henry who are both State Park docents and board members for AMIA spent most of the day giving house tours for students attending the Children's Museum of Art and Science (CMAS) science camp that has been an annual event at the park. Other volunteers, including park docents and Redbud Audubon members, led students on walks through the park. AMIA Board Members Don Coffin and Anna McAtee gave the students a hands-on experience of the music that the Anderson family might have played to entertain themselves back in the 19th Century on those long winter nights in Lake County



Members of the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Assoc. (AMIA) attended a California League of Parks Association (CALPA) conference held in Mendocino in May. CALPA is a networking organization for state park associations, such as AMIA, and advocates for state parks. Associations share a common interest in promoting and protecting all state parks and the annual CALPA conference presents interesting and helpful programs and speakers. Attending this year's conference, from left were: Roberta Lyons, president of the board for AMIA; Henry Bornstein, treasurer; Frank and Anna McAtee, board members; Gae Henry, secretary; Don Coffin, board member, and Susan Littlefield. The group are pictured on the "Skunk Train," which was a scheduled event for the conference.

AMIA invested in a bat exclusion and bat remediation project on the old ranch house. The ranch house has been severely impacted by bat habitation for many years. A professional company was hired to humanely "exclude" the bats and then later remediate the bat guano as much as possible. AMIA will fund the continuous monitoring of the house to make sure the bats don't move back in and hopefully will be able to fund a project to eliminate any lingering odor.

The Christmas open house held in December of 2010 was a huge success, with lots of parents and their youngsters coming by to see Santa and enjoy an informal tour of the old ranch house. The 2010 Old Time Bluegrass Festival went very well and AMIA raised about \$6,000,

which was used mainly to pay for the bat exclusion project.

Sector supervisor Bill Salata has organized two "clean-up" days at the ranch where AMIA volunteers and State park workers have cleaned up the ranch house quite a bit. Bill is committed to improving Anderson Marsh State Park. A new state park interpretive specialist, Denise Rist, has also been working at the ranch house inventorying items and organizing the collection.

This year's Old Time Bluegrass Festival is scheduled for Sept. 10, 2011 and AMIA volunteers are working hard to make it a successful and fun event. Once again, funds raised by the Bluegrass Festival will be used to improve and preserve Anderson Marsh State Historic Park and to work toward finding a way to keep the Park open to the public.

Musical Line-up set for 6th annual Old Time Bluegrass Festival

(Continued from page 1)

around the corner and the lineup this year is great. The Festival will be held this year on Saturday, September 10, 2011 from 9:30 am to 6:30 pm. Festival organizers are planning for this year's event to be bigger, better and more fun than ever, with continuous music on two stages.

Grammy award winner Laurie Lewis will be returning to the Festival, this time with her Right Hands bluegrass band. She has generously agreed to also give a vocal harmony workshop. The Stairwell Sisters, a huge favorite at the first Festival, are also coming back and will be finishing the Festival off with a country dance. The lineup includes Fur Dixon and Steve Werner, The Mighty Chiplings, The Two Rock Ramblers, Pat Ickes and Bound to Ride, 3 Deep, The Cobb Stompers, The Clearlake Clickers and The Ko-nocti Fiddle Club.

Workshops will include beginning guitar with Jim Williams, Flat-picking guitar with Steve Werner, Mandolin with Don Coffin, Fiddle with Andi Skelton, harmony singing with Laurie Lewis, and banjo with Pat Ickes and Doc Jewel. There will also be a children's song workshop and children's activities all day.

As well as great Bluegrass performances and workshops, this event features a great selection of handmade arts & crafts, a variety of food from local vendors, a beer and wine garden serving Lake County wines and an "Art in the Barn" exhibit and sale. Save the date, September 10th, for the most fun you can have in Lake County. Come and support AMIA and the other community groups and schools who use the Bluegrass Festival to help raise needed funds. For tickets call (707)995-2658 or visit us at www.andersonmarsh.org/Bluegrass/AMIA-Bluegrass.htm.

Bluegrass in the past...



Rita Hosking was at the 2010 Old Time Bluegrass Festival.



The second grade class from Lower Lake Elementary earned a good sum by selling lemonade at the 2010 Bluegrass Festival. Their booth is a good example of the many benefits the festival brings to the community.



Children's activities were an important feature at last year's annual bluegrass festival.



Over 1,000 people enjoyed the 2010 Old Time Bluegrass Festival at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park.



The Clearlake Clidders have performed at every bluegrass festival since its inception six years ago.



Sheep Thrills spinners, Karen Jenkins and Michele Basso enjoyed showing their craft at the 2010 Bluegrass Festival. Sheep Thrills is a weaving and spinning guild.

Vendors asked to apply

By Anna McAtee

Do you want to be a vendor or know of someone who would like to be a vendor at the upcoming Old Time Bluegrass Festival? Food and craft vendor applications are available on our web site at www.andersonmarsh.org. (Use the Bluegrass Festival link.)

We recommend applications be submitted early, and that fees are submitted with the application. This is a juried event and space is limited. Food vendors are required to obtain a permit from the County of Lake prior to the Festival. Craft vendors must submit a picture of their craft items for review so we can ensure beautiful, quality items.

Sponsors are still needed for upcoming Bluegrass Festival

Sponsors are still needed to help fund the September 10, 2011 Old Time Bluegrass Festival at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park. The Festival is sponsored by the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association (AMIA) and is enjoyed by the whole community. AMIA is grateful for the current and past support of individuals and businesses that have contributed to making this wonderful event possible.

The Festival features continuous music all day on two stages, musician workshops, local food and craft vendors, an Art in the Barn exhibit, a Beer and Wine Garden, and a Children's Activity area.

Current projects conducted by AMIA include: giving nature walks and ranch house tours, training new volunteers to help with the work at the park, hosting school field trips, bat-proofing the historic ranch house, grounds clean up and restoration, and continuing as an advocate for our State Park. With the Park being threatened with closure, AMIA is depending on the generosity of our Lake County community to help us do what is possible to keep this valuable community treasure accessible to all, adults and children alike.

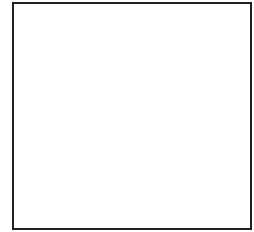
<u>\$150 – West Virginia Reel Sponsor</u>	<u>\$250 – Missouri Flat Picker Sponsor</u>	<u>\$500 – Arkansas Traveler Sponsor</u>
2 VIP Passes to the Festival	<i>All the benefits of West Virginia Reel Sponsor (above), plus</i>	<i>All the benefits of Missouri Flat Picker Sponsor (above), plus</i>
Business name printed on event programs	business banner displayed at Festival	2 more VIP Passes to the Festival (4 to- tal) and business name printed on Event Posters
Business name & link on Festival web site		
Tax Deductible		
<u>\$750 – Tennessee Waltz Sponsor</u>	<u>\$1,000 – Blue Moon of Ken- tucky Sponsor</u>	
<i>All the above benefits of Arkansas Traveler Sponsor (above), plus</i>	<i>All the above benefits of Tennes- see Walker Sponsor (above), plus</i>	
2 more VIP Passes to the Festival (6 total) and Recognition at the Event	4 more VIP Passes to the Festival (10 total) and Special Recognition at the Event	

Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association (AMIA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to promoting educational and interpretive activities at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park and supporting the preservation and use of Anderson Marsh State Historic Park. [Tax I.D. No. 68-0050224]



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WWW.ANDERSONMARSH.ORG



ANDERSON MARSH INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION

Is dedicated to the preservation of all facets of the park. New members are always welcome! Come Join the Fun!

2011 AMIA Membership Application

MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE is August 31, 2011 for this year's festival

Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Special Interest (music, education, history, ecology,
archaeology, other): _____

AMIA members receive two (2) newsletters a year, special invitations to attend events being held at the park and the satisfaction that comes from supporting a community treasure and working to preserve it for future generations.

Membership Categories:

- \$20 Mink** – 10% discount at AMIA Booth at Bluegrass Festival
- \$40 Otter** - 1 Bluegrass Festival T-shirt Voucher
- \$60 Cougar** – 1 Bluegrass Festival T-Shirt Voucher plus 1 Free Pass to Bluegrass Festival
- \$80 Pond Turtle** – 1 Bluegrass Festival T-Shirt Voucher plus 2 Free Passes to the Bluegrass Festival
- \$100 Wild Turkey** – 1 Bluegrass Festival T-Shirt Voucher plus 4 Free Passes to the Bluegrass Festival

Please send your check and completed application to

AMIA

P.O. Box 672

Lower Lake, CA 95457

Or join online by visiting us at
www.andersonmarsh.org.