Once again the saying "It pays to know the right people" was true. Having grown up in the Swan Lake Valley, Verland Huff and his helpers knew the right people and made arrangements for our tour of Swan Lake from the east side around to the south.

Most of the people had already formed their car-pooling before leaving town. As we gathered off Pine Flat, past Mel Kendall’s shop, Monday May 23, 1988, more pooling was managed so that 104 people could travel in 22 vehicles. The day was perfect for this tour. You may remember it had to be postponed last year because of the very dry season and fire danger.

The recent rains this year kept some of the dust down and the day itself was just the right temperature. Excitement and anticipation was apparent as we waited with Kodaks, video cameras and tape recorders in hand in preparation for the start of the tour.

Quite a number of people had never had the opportunity to travel around the valley. Many contacts were made and much history gathered by Verland and his partner, Jim Flowers, and as a consequence a number of people who had once lived in the valley; who still live in the valley and or were descendants of some of the original homesteaders were on hand to help tell family histories. Some traveling many miles for the opportunity to once again visit and renew memories.

As we drove down the road, our first stop was the Liskey homestead site where we were told the story of John and Carolyn Liskey coming from Germany to Beatrice, Nebraska and later moving to Swan Lake in 1886. Maude Liskey, wife of Jack, and daughter, Maxine Wirth, added to the history related by Verland. She mentioned giving to the Collier Park an old steam engine that was used in one of the mills and later used by them to heat water to scald the turkeys when they were raising them between 1940 and 1942. Maude still has the beautiful letter of "thanks" written by Cap. Collier.

The Arnetts homesteaded close to the Liskeys and Merlin Arnett was with us to point out the area and to tell about his father who lived to be 98 and his uncle, Lawrence Arnett who lived to 97 years old. While Merlin was growing up he spent his summers on his Uncle Lawrence’s place with his cousins, helping to herd the cows in and out to the pasture.

Merlin told us about the sawmill and the log chute off the north side of Schoener Mountain that shot logs down to the OC&E spur and the cars waiting there. This was near the south school house. His cousins attended that school.

The Arnetts had a sawmill that was run by an old Avery Separator which they took all over. When they took it to Crescent City one time some person in that area bought the Avery steam engine and took it to the Silverton, Oregon area. It can still be seen up there. But while the Arnetts had the sawmill they cut the timbers for the old Klamath Temple building on Pine Street near 10th.

In the early days people would chop ice on Swan Lake and put it into special ice cellars where it would keep until early summer. Casey Arnett had one such cellar.

As Swan Lake receded wire grass began to grow. The ranchers vied for area from which they could cut the grass for hay.

The next stop was the Schmor homestead. The Schmors came from Germany to Beatrice, Nebraska and moved west with the Liskeys and the Asoskis to the Swan Lake Valley in 1886. Henry and Justine Schmor didn’t do much farming but had cattle which they pastured out in the lake bed.

Betty Sparks Gubsen, granddaughter of the Schmors (also Verland’s cousin) came from near Roseburg, Oregon to tell us some of the history she remembered. She had not been back to Swan Lake in many years.

It seems her grandfather, Henry, came to this country before marrying. He was already in business and when he left Germany he made arrangements with a young lady, that as soon as they were financially able to get her to this country, she would come and they would be married. The young lady was probably a friend of Betty’s grandmother because when she changed her mind and decided not to come, Betty’s grandmother said she would come. When she got to New York, however, she apparently didn’t have enough money to go as far as Nebraska.

So she worked in New York until she had earned enough money to travel on to Beatrice. She was only 16 at the time of her marriage to Henry Schmor. He was 10 years older. One child, Henry Jr., was born in Beatrice but Mary, Betty’s mother, and the rest of the children, Maggie, Anna and John, were born in the Swan Lake Valley. Grandma Justine Schmor could read and speak both German and English.

Betty’s great uncle Herman lived on the (cont. page 2)
homestead in a little cabin and was a very shy man. The children loved him and dashed over to see him first thing when they came to visit at the Schmor home. They were fascinated by the big old trunk in which he kept his money that always smelled of moth balls.

Verland mentioned Bill Haglestein for whom Haglestein Park is named. A few years before his death, he was touring around the valley with a friend. He told him that he used to hike across the hill (from around the area of the park) to visit the Schmors to dance and come to parties.

Mark Huff, Verland's uncle, married Anna Schmoo. Their son, Archie Huff, was chief of police in Klamath Falls at one time.

While at the Schmor place, Chet Hamaker told us about the sawmill his uncle, Earl Hamaker and Andy Collier had together there until near 1920. The lumber was hauled to the Oregon spur.

The valley had telephone service as early as 1924. This helped to eliminate the old cowboy ranchers.

We were warned about rattlesnakes before moving on toward the Lone Rock Ranch. O.C. Applegate or Captain Applegate as everyone called him, homesteaded at Lone Rock. His brothers, Jesse and Lindsay, homesteaded on the north and west sides of Swan Lake. That was back in 1869. The Applegates, at one time, were the second largest contributors to the tax rolls in Klamath County.

Verland Huff and his helpers had prepared a drawing of Lone Rock Ranch to enable us to see what a nice place it had been. With lots of water and green grass and cattle grazing, surrounded by hills and timber, it is a picturesque location.

The winters of 1889-'90 to '92 were extremely hard ones and were followed by the dry years that have played havoc with it now. The combination drove many from their land.

The Huffs lived at Lone Rock Ranch from the summer of 1925 until it was sold in 1932. Mrs. Huff raised turkeys and they were allowed to range out. When they encountered a rattlesnake, four or five of them would surround it and start making a "perking" sound. Mrs. Huff kept a sharp hoe handy and when the turkeys started their alarm system, she and Verland raced out to decapitate the rattler. During the summer of 1927 twenty eight snakes lost their heads due to the turkeys sounding the alarm.

Lone Rock got its name from the one large rock in the field near the road. The Indians drew circles on the rock and the lichen has etched them there permanently.

From there we drove to our lunch area where in the shade of the trees we had a nice catered luncheon. Can you imagine! The girls from "Have Kettle Will Cook" did themselves proud even in the "boonies".

Our next stop was at the old Louis Stiles place. The granddaughter of Louis was with us and shared a few of her memories with us.

The homestead was a timber claim and was settled in 1901 by Fred Goeller of Klamath Falls. A descendant of Lindsay Applegate, Jeane McCall Macbeth, a retired teacher from Klamath Falls, was with us on the tour. Her mother came from San Francisco after the earthquake of 1907 to visit her friends, Bessie, Evelyn and Elsie Applegate at Brooklynide Ranch. It was there she met the son of Theresa Applegate McCall whom she later married.

An accident or something caused the ranch to burn once again between 1927 and '28. The land has changed ownership several times over the years. In 1931 the Marshalls leased the place and then purchased it in 1932. Bill and his brother built a cabin for whoever was feeding the cattle to stay in.

There are also two barns there now, both brought from the Jensen Antelope Valley Ranch when Christine's brother Cornelius died, by the Lost River Ranch in 1977. They numbered every timber and every board
and moved them down to Brookside and set
them up again. The big barn is exactly
the same except for the shingles on the
roof and the two big sliding doors. The
little log barn was made a little taller
when it was rebuilt.

Ivan Applegate was the first to introd-
uce the Black Angus cattle to the valley.

Did you know there is no outlet to Swan
Lake? It used to be that Swan Lake, lower
Klamath Lake, Tulelake and everything
above 4,300 feet was all one lake. Now
it has receded through the cut at Keno
and there is no outlet here. Even though
it floods all the time, there is no alkali.

After getting back to the highway we
gathered at the Rogers home to see the log
cabin they had brought from Bear Flat and
set up again on their property. Our host
and hostess served cool refreshments and
cookies to the hot and dusty which were
certainly appreciated.

What a perfect ending to a perfect day!

---Mae L. Smith---

A group of 12, with the blessings of
Weyerhaeuser, recently drove out in search
of some of the trail markers put in by the
Klamath Historical Society on the Applegate
Trail, the Southern Oregon Wagon roads
and some historical sites. Twelve were found
and in need of paint. There are many
others to be located yet and checked for
vandalism and paint but they are in an
area where rattlesnakes are prevalent this
time of year.

Here are some of the ones you could
readily find while out for a drive. On
Highway 97 south at the Oregon-California
state line:

"The Applegate Trail Crossed in 1846 And
Later Years The California Oregon State
Line Gap 1/4 Mile East."

In the parking lot of the Keno Store is
the Whittle Ferry marker...

"Whittle Ferry Site Below Present Bridge
First Applegate Trail Ford--1846 One Mile
Below Bridge."

Between Hayden and Parker Mountains on
Highway 66 is the Weyerhaeuser Camp 4
historical marker....

"A logging Camp Located Near Long Prairie
and Meadow---1937 - 1956."

Another one easy to spot is at the Keene
Creek Reservoir down the Greensprings and
in Jackson County. The Applegate Trail
itself was covered there when the reservoir
was put in.

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Evening Herald Sept. 25, 1913....

The W.C.T.U. proclaims that they are going
to battle the trend toward indecency in
women's clothing. Quote..."So hardened
have we become to present styles that a
new kind of exposure becomes almost
commonplace. A tight skirt no longer
draws our attention, neither does a slit
that reveals the ankle."

!!!!!!!!!
We are glad to welcome Pamela "Pam" Smith who transferred from the County Clerk's Office to the Klamath County Museum in April of this year with the rank of Office Assistant 2, when Kathleen Wood took a job at OIT.

There is a lot to learn when you start working at a Museum and lots of questions to answer when visitors come, but Pam is a very capable person. It didn't take her anytime at all to fit right in.

Pam was born and grew up in Glendale, California. After high school, she worked as a Nurses Aid at Montrose Convalescent Center. In 1969 she worked in the clerical field during the day and nursing at night.

In 1980 Pam and son, Rick, moved to Klamath Falls where she worked at the Klamath County Convalescent Center as a certified nursing assistant until February 1982.

In 1982 Pam married Bruce Smith. Bruce is a heavy equipment operator who was born in Klamath Falls.

In order to further her skills, Pam took a course at OIT in Speed Writing in 1983 for which she received 2 credits. From September 1983 until coming to the Museum, Pam worked at the County Clerk's Office starting as Office Assistant 1. She was re-evaluated and promoted to Office Assistant 2 in 1986.

Pam likes to cook and really enjoyed Home Ec. in high school. Other interests are camping, traveling, when possible, and collecting rocks. Another talent was bowling before she broke her leg a few years ago.

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**L O S T W A G O N T R A I N**
*(Elliott Cut-Off 1853)*

**R E U N I O N O F D E S C E N D E N T S**

Of Immigrants, Rescuers and Roadviewers

To commemorate the 135th Anniversary of the arrival of these pioneer travelers, the Lane County Historical Museum, the Lane County Historical Society and the Lane County Friends of the Museum are co-sponsoring:

A "Celebration" of the Immigrant's Arrival

A "Gathering" of their Descendants

A "Sharing" of Family Information

A "Recognition" of Don and Leah Collins Nenefee's dedicated years of research and documentation of this unique part of Lane County and Oregon history.

When: Saturday, September 24, 1988

Where: Lane County Historical Museum

740 West 13th Avenue

Eugene, Oregon 97402

What: Registration........ 11:30 - 12:30

Welcome.................. 12:30

Potluck.................... 12:45

Program................... 2:00

Are you interested? Send to the Lane Co. Historical Society Museum.... P.O. Box 11532 Eugene, Oregon 97402 immediately for a sheet of instructions and registration instructions.

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**M U S E U M N E W S**

CASCADE WOODCRAFTERS have had a successful month of showing their beautiful hand made wooden items. Every Saturday during June, a group from the club set up their tools in the museum lobby and entertained visitors and taught others how to use a wood lathe, operate a scroll saw, and how to use hand carving tools...including antique tools from the museum collections. We thank you all for sharing your talents and giving your time to further interest in woodworking.

During the month of July, a display touring all three County Museums will be shown at the Midland Visitors Center. This should stimulate interest in a longer visit in Klamath County when tourists see the variety and wide range of opportunities awaiting them here.

The Baldwin Museum staff and volunteers (some who are there as often as staff members) are as busy as a swarm of bees. The General Store is open for viewing, causing people to "remember when". The Library is open although work is still being done, and, the Dry Goods Store is taking shape with filling the cases and choosing exhibit items. Next door, the Doctor's office is receiving a face lift. Many reasons to schedule a visit to the Baldwin to see what's new.

In Fort Klamath, staff is working on plans for renovating the Fort Klamath Jail which was moved from town to the park several years ago. Clean-up work has begun and exhibits are being assembled.

August will bring a display of quilts from the University of Oregon at the County Museum to correspond with a Quilt Show at the Baldwin sponsored by the Country Crafters. This event is on the calendar for August 6th and 7th.

Two weddings are planned for the month of September at the Baldwin. We have already had several "affaires" this spring, including a 40th Wedding Anniversary complete with period costumes.

---Pat McMillan---

Visitors to the Baldwin also enjoy seeing the '30's kitchen which is now in use. It brings back memories to a lot of people.

The Friends of the Museum meeting has been postponed until August....3rd Tuesday. See you then!!

Klamath County Historical meetings will begin again in September.....4th Thursday......7:30 pm in the Museum Meeting Room. Everybody be ready with suggestions for future programs!!!
A MOBILE HOME...1917-18 STYLE

Many interesting stories of the families who settled in Swan Lake in the early days were related to those attending the tour but time could not begin to allow for all the stories to be told. We found this portion of the John and Philomen Liskey story interesting and worthy of some space in our newsletter.

The Liskey family had come into the valley in 1886 when John was just one year old. Philomen came in to take up living on a homestead in 1916. A friend of hers in California had persuaded her to come with her to Oregon to investigate the possibilities of taking up a homestead in a little off the beaten path place called Swan Lake Valley.

Philomen recalled that the homestead was not very impressive and she didn't intend to stay there. While her friend put in a crop of rye, she just put in her time enjoying herself.

One of the ways of enjoying the new way of life was to attend the various country dances. Eventually she met John and they were married in December 1917. So went those intentions of just staying a year to "prove up" and then leaving that valley.

Shortly after their marriage, she and John sold the Swan Lake ranch of his to his brothers, Dave and Dan and in 1920, moved to take up lease lands on the newly drained lands of Tule Lake. No homes had been built on the lease lands so before they made the move, John planned a make-shift home for them. It was a home he could build in Swan Lake and take with them wherever needed as they moved about on the lease lands.

This improvised home was simply a header-bed wagon walled up on the sides to form a room, with roof attached. A header-bed wagon is built with high racks ---high on one side and low on the other to facilitate the loading of the grain as the wagon pulls up to the threshing machine or stack.

Inside this little room on wheels, John installed a stove, a bed and a drop leaf table.

When they were making the journey to their new place on the lease lands of Tule Lake, they enjoyed all the comforts of home. Wood was kept handy to keep a fire going in the little stove and John got a great pleasure out of the stir that this strange contraption caused as it went down the road with smoke streaming from the stove pipe.

While John farmed on the lease lands, Philomen started a real pioneering business of her own. She started the first turkey farm in the country. From 350 hens she soon had a flock of over 3,000.

However, this was given up when homesteaders began to crowd the lease land area and John hankered for more elbow room.

They moved to the west side of Tule Lake on lease lands later to become a part of Tulana Farms. They took their cherished wagon home along, and it then served a new purpose. The wagon home was loaned to the school district which was newly formed so that the school teacher could live in it until better quarters were provided.

By the early thirties, the Liskeys had made yet another move. This time it was to the land along the northern shore of Lower Lake. The wagon home proved its worth again as they lived in it until their house was built.

Neighbors really "neighbored" in the days of early settlement of the lease lands and Philomen years later recalled that in spite of the inconveniences of that little wagon home, those were days recalled with fondness because of the simple pleasures they had together with friends...sometimes six or seven could squeeze in around the table, and no later social affairs could quite match the goos times of those wagon-house days.

---Janis Kafton---
The last Newsletter was completed just
before this trip so this article is late.

TRIP TO THE LAVA BEDS
Monday March 29, 1988

The Klamath County Museum was the site
of an early morning breakfast, the start
of the second day of the Modoc War Sympo-
sium. This followed the Sunday night
talks at OIT which opened the program for
the Symposium. Around 135 attended and
the Museum register showed names from
several states besides Oregon. "Van"
Landrum had spent over a week refurbishing
the Modoc exhibits and adding new pictures.
Susan Leding, Steve Hess and "Red" Smith
were busy putting in 3 new basketry dis-
plays in preparation for the visitors.

During the breakfast, Caroll Howe spoke on
the Modoc War, Nightfire Island and his
books on the subject which we have avail-
able at the Museum Gift Shop.

Following the breakfast everyone drove
to the Fairgrounds at Tulelake, California
to leave their vehicles and board school
buses for the tour through parts of the
Lava Beds. It took 4 buses plus some cars
for the group of between 225 to 250. It
was very nice to leave the driving to the
experts and be able to watch the bird life
in the reserve as we rode along.

Our first stop was Hospital Rock where
we climbed the paved path to the top to
listen to Gary Hathaway, Lava Beds History
Interpreter and others interpret the rea-
on for and the results of the Modoc War in
1873. As we stood on top of this hill with
a cold breeze blowing, you could say it
was a "4 layer" day and those not well
layered suffered from the cold.

The next stop was Canby's Cross where
Gen. canby was murdered on April 11, 1873
by Captain Jack. It was the point of view
of most Modocs that if they killed the
leaders in the Army the war would end and
things could return to normal for them.
It was said that Captain Jack disagreed
with this point of view but was forced by
his followers to preform this act.

A carpenter on the Fairchild Ranch
built the cross in two sections. It was
put together as near to the site as poss-
able and erected. Rocks, including the
one always transported by the army and sat
on by Gen. canby, were piled around the
base. The sign on the arm of the cross
was lettered after it had been erected
making the letters rather uneven.

The next stop, near noon, was at Gillem's
Camp. The dedication of the plaque, list-
ing the names of 93 war dead, Modocs, U.S.
soldiers, scouts, civilians and volunteers,
followed. Rev. David Turnmire, Tulelake
Presbyterian Church and Father John Nolumby,
Tulelake Catholic Church made the dedica-
tion speeches after Francis "Van" Landrum
unveiled the plaque. There were many
stories told by authors of Modoc War books,
historians both native Americans and other
Americans.

Gillem's Camp had been set up in advance
with a field kitchen and mess tents for
the "1873 Army-style meal" of stew, hard-
tack (pilot bread), coffee and wild plum
cookies. The chow line was long but
people visited and exchanged information
as they gradually made their way in the
line up.

Lunch over and explorations finished,
each group gathered again at their bus
to head for Stronghold and a walk through
the paths and Lava rock. More history
stories were told to prepare our minds
for this walk through history—to give
us the feel of being an indian in those
days. Captain Jack's cave and that of
Shacknasty Jim were pointed out to us.

The buses returned to the Tulelake
Fairgrounds where a panel of experts spoke
and snacks were furnished by the Tulelake
Chamber of Commerce. A reception and
dinner was held to complete the Symposium.
Richard H. Dillon, author of "Burnt-out
Fires", and other award-winning books on
American History, was a speaker.

CNN television, representing the Los
Angeles Times covered events Monday.

----Mae Smith----