

F A L L / W I N T E R 2 0 2 0

Johnsville Historical Society

A Nonprofit Organization Dedicated to Preserving the
Gold-Mining History of Johnsville, California



Progress on the JHS Digitization Project

We are excited to report that after many twists and turns, the JHS project to safeguard and digitize our collection of historical materials is well underway! As of the end of the summer, all the items in the collection were catalogued, sorted, and stored in archival-grade containers. We've also safeguarded them from furry winter creatures who, it turns out, will eat just about anything.

This project has been a significant undertaking. In January and February of this year, we interviewed three graduate students from the University of San Francisco Museum Studies Program and found two who were well qualified and enthusiastic.
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We're Going Digital With the Newsletters in 2021: Please Sign Up Now!

Starting next year, distribution of the Johnsville Historical Society (JHS) newsletter will shift from snail mail to email. Not only will this save money on postage, it also will be better for the environment by eliminating the use of paper and ink. To make sure you continue to get this newsletter, **please send your email address to JHS Treasurer Kim Zwick at kzwick@pacbell.net**. No email address? Don't worry. We'll still mail paper copies of the newsletter upon request to those who do not have an email account.



Progress on the JHS Digitization Project

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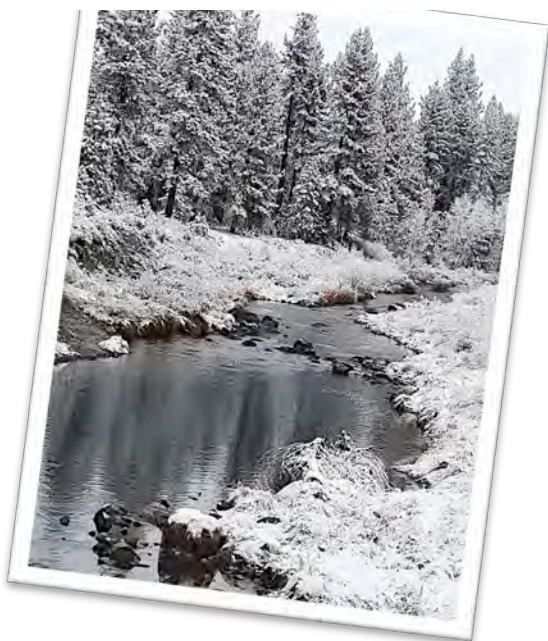
Unfortunately, after COVID-19 restrictions went into effect in March, neither was able to travel to Johnsville. We eventually found an exceptional individual to accession the collection: Johnsville frequenter Jordan Zwick. Although the project started later than we had planned, it moved with alacrity under her capable stewardship.

The project benefited from critical input from two museum professionals, Marcia Eymann and Alida Bray. JHS engaged Alida for a full day of consultation, and from there it became clear that our goal to photograph and scan the collection and then upload it to a website was too ambitious for one summer.

Here is where things stand now: This summer, we were able to fully sort the collection to determine which items to keep. We limited accession to items covering a span of 50 years, from 1870 to 1920; to those that originated in Johnsville, Jamison City, or Eureka Mills; and to items that are either related to mining or the lifestyle of the miners and their families, including three-dimensional objects, letters, documents, maps, and photographs. Jordan then assigned an accession number to each item and entered it into a searchable Excel database. Items were also stored in museum-quality sleeves, folders, and boxes. Those items not accessioned have been set aside to sell at a future JHS antique sale.

The goal is to complete the project in the summer of 2021. At that time, we will digitally scan and photograph the collection and upload digital images either to the JHS website or to another online site dedicated to the collection. And we are hoping we will be able to have our annual antique sale next summer, so you will have an opportunity to see and purchase some of the items that didn't make it into the permanent collection.

We are grateful to Jordan and Alida for their hard work and advice—and to all of you who have donated historical materials and provided financial support. Thanks to all involved!



Thank You, David Daun

David Daun, along with his wife Jane Daun and other Johnsville residents, founded the Johnsville Historical Society (JHS) in 1983. For the past 37 years, David has led the efforts to restore and maintain the historic St. John's Church (now headquarters of JHS); preserve and display historic artifacts and documents within the church; publish histories of Johnsville's early settlers; organize fundraising events, including ice-cream socials, live concerts, rummage sales, and bake sales; run JHS board meetings; and so much more. There would not be a Johnsville Historical Society without David.

But all good things must come to pass, and David decided to retire from JHS at the end of August 2020. Fortunately, he still plans to be actively involved with JHS, especially with the labor-intensive digitization project described in this newsletter. No one loves Johnsville more passionately than David. He and Jane have worked tirelessly on behalf of the Johnsville community, and we owe our beautiful community asset—the restored St. John's Church and the historical collection—to David.

Thank you very much for everything, David. We are so grateful for all of your wonderful contributions.



This painting of St. John's Church in Johnsville, graciously donated by artist Helen Valborg, was recently presented to David as a thank you gift on behalf of JHS and its members. At left, David and Jane Daun.

Fall / Winter Donations

Please Support the Johnsville Historical Society

We greatly appreciate our Johnsville Historical Society supporters! We could not continue with our projects without your financial support and your generous donations of historical documents. As the year 2020 comes to a close, we'd like to remind those who are interested in including JHS in their estate plans, or who would like to make a contribution, that JHS is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation and all gifts and donations are tax deductible. **To make a donation, receive a copy of JHS financial statements, or for answers to questions you might have about donations, please contact JHS Treasurer Kim Zwick by sending her an email at kzwick@pacbell.net.**

To learn more about donating to nonprofits, please consult with a tax professional or visit the nolo.com website for reference material. Thank you.

In Memoriam

John Moulds



John Moulds in the newly restored St. John's Church in Johnsville, California

John F. Moulds, a judge and beloved husband, father, and grandfather, passed away peacefully in early summer in Sacramento after a long struggle following a stroke and the effects of vascular dementia and Alzheimer's. He was 82.

John and his wife, Elizabeth, bought a home in Johnsville in 1990 with two other families. But they had been coming to Plumas County with their two boys, Donald and Gerald, to camp, hike, and fish since the early 1970s. John was the past president of the Johnsville Historical Society and was instrumental in the restoration of the Johnsville Church.

In his professional life, John served for more than 30 years as a U.S. Federal Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of California in Sacramento before retiring in 2013.

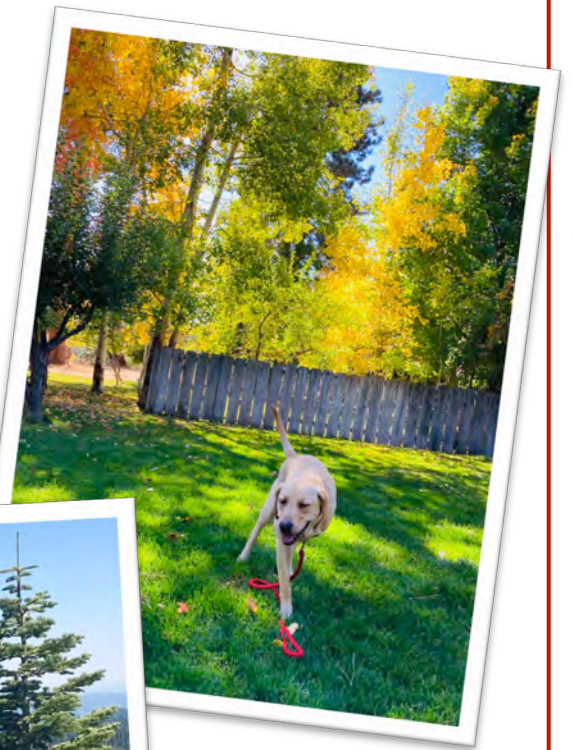
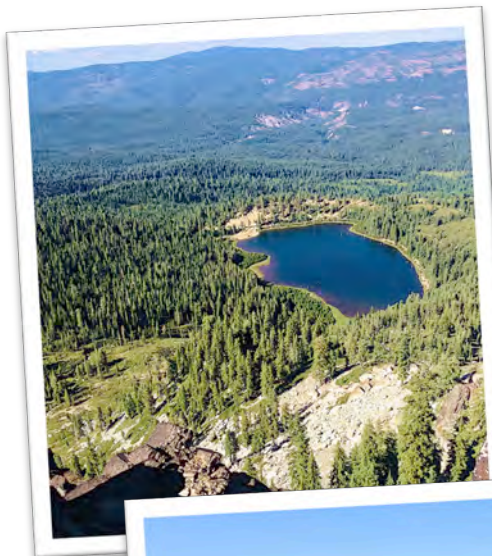
John loved travel, cooking, gardening, photography, fly-fishing, and a dry gin martini with a lemon twist. He was an adoring husband, father, and grandfather with bright blue eyes and a wry sense of humor. He will be remembered for the countless acts of generosity that made everyone around him feel supported and loved.

John is survived by his wife of 55 years, Elizabeth (Betty) Fry Moulds; two sons, Donald Moulds of Sacramento and Gerald Moulds of Ben Lomond; two brothers, Gaylord Moulds of Sacramento and Bob Moulds of Nashville; and two granddaughters, Hannah and Mia Moulds, both of Sacramento. He is also mourned by countless other family members, friends, and colleagues.

Recent Donations

This summer, JHS received two donations of historic Johnsville material. Long-time JHS member **James White**, a descendant of an early Johnsville family, donated the White family's oil lamp and gold scales, which had belonged to his grandfather, **Samuel James White Senior**, who was born in July 1876. The White family has been an ardent supporter of the JHS and we greatly appreciate all the historic family artifacts they have generously donated over the years.

Another donation came from **Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman**, the daughter of **Larry Fites**, who was one of the founding members of JHS. Larry was an avid collector of anything related to Johnsville's history, which included mining stock certificates, written histories, historical photographs, newspaper articles, mining claims, and many mining plot documents relating to the Johnsville area's mining history.



Do You Know Me?

JHS recently acquired the photo of this cute tyke enjoying a slice of watermelon in the Johnsville area. We believe he is a descendant of the Woodward Family, but we're not positive.

Do you know who this child is? And where and when this photograph was taken? If so, please send the information by email to Rebecca Forée at ForeeCommunications@gmail.com.

If we learn the child's identity, we will share it in a future JHS newsletter, along with the name of the person who solved this mystery!



JHS Board Members

- Kathryn Osher, President
- Kim Zwick, Treasurer
- Katie Agnew, Board Member
- Rebecca Forée, Board Member
- Dave Holmes, Board Member
- Don Moulds, Board Member
- Robin Murray, Board Member
- ~
- David Daun, President Emeritus

Thanks for your support!

Is it time to renew your annual JHS membership?
Or perhaps you'd like to give the gift of membership
to a family member or friend? If so, please send a check
made out to JHS, along with your name and email
address (or the recipient's name and email address) to:
JHS, 260 Colfax Avenue, Grass Valley, CA 95945.

Annual membership fees:

\$25 Individual * \$50 Family * \$100 Patron

\$150 Business * \$250 Founder

Questions? Contact Kim Zwick at kzwick@pacbell.net.

