

COLLIER MEMORIAL STATE PARK



NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF COLLIER
46000 Highway 97 North • Chiloquin, OR 97624

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

COLLIER MEMORIAL STATE PARK



Donkey engines came in many different styles like this double-drum donkey. They could relocate under their own power by being tied to trees and winning themselves forward, even though they weighed about 10 tons. It must have been something to see them in operation....rumbling, belching monsters in the woods!

Upcoming Events

Logger's Breakfast, Sunday, September 12, 2010, (9:30 AM - 12:30 PM), Collier State Park. An outdoors dining adventure under the pine trees along scenic Spring Creek. Breakfast, "Loggers Style" will be prepared on an antique logging camp stove. There will be special entertainment. The park is looking for event committee members. Call Jim Beauchemin at (541) 783-2471.



When Cap Collier and his brother Andy donated 150 acres to the State of Oregon for a state park, their gift preserved a legacy of history and scenic beauty for countless generations. The land along Spring Creek showcased the Collier dream of having people touch base with their pioneer roots, the area's intensive

logging history, and with the land that has sustained them.

Do you like the out-of-doors? Do you like history and working with interesting people? Do you like accomplishments that last a lifetime? Then joining the Friends of Collier Memorial State Park is for you!

With your Friends membership comes the

newsletter packed full of articles about Park activities, special upcoming event notifications, and a chance to work with a fun-loving bunch of people who guide this grand old Park into the future.

Come join the adventure of preserving the timeless legacy at Collier Memorial State Park.

COME JOIN THE FRIENDS AND JOIN THE FUN!

Friends of Collier State Park Logging Museum Membership Application and Annual Renewal Form



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Yes! I am interested in helping with:

Logger's Breakfast: _____

Living History Days: _____

Park Maintenance: _____

Logging and Milling Equipment: _____

Cataloging: _____ Other: _____

Dues:
\$5 Annually
per Individual
or Family

FRIENDS OF COLLIER MEMORIAL STATE PARK NEWS

SUMMER 2010

James Beauchemin

Park Manager

46000 Highway 97N

Chiloquin, OR 97624

541-783-2471

www.collierloggingmuseum.org

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Dolbeer Donkey Restoration Project almost finished

Developed in the 1880's, Dolbeer Donkeys were the first practical application of steam engines used in the woods to pull big timber onto landings. They were noisy, dangerous machines but were essential to getting the work done. Collier Park Logging Museum is fortunate to have one of the few remaining Dolbeers on display. It is now being restored. Park Ranger Chris Young is coordinating the restoration crew – Mert Menge, Ben Patterson, and Dave Rambeau. Chris participated with the metal work and welding.

The biggest challenge was rebuilding the sled that supported the machinery. The wood had rotted and was falling apart. Retired logger and chainsaw artist, Mert Menge, took precise measurements of it, then cut all of the dovetail notches so that the new log sled fit together just perfectly. "It was very difficult," Mert said.

Park employee, Ben Patterson, a retired Air Force sheet metal, fabrication and paint shop foreman, drilled the wood sled and installed the rods and cross members supporting the Dolbeer donkey. Ben also used blacksmithing skills he's acquired to create some new hardware and restore some of the original hardware. "We tried to keep the integrity of the original parts," he says.



Mert Menge works on building the new donkey sled.

Park Manager, Jim Beauchemin says, "I'm pleased with the outcome of the restoration involving this unusual and rare piece of logging history. The combined skills of our staff and volunteers have brought this unique and interesting project together. We are thankful for everyone that participated!"

Living History Day

at Collier State Park

Sunday, June 20, 2010

9 am - 5 pm

Belching steam engines, grinding gears, pioneer demonstrations, the roar of old engines, and the chinking of horse's harnesses will fill the air and delight children and adults alike!!

THIS IS A GREAT FAMILY ACTIVITY !!

For more information, contact:
Park Staff (541) 783-2471

Long time volunteer, Micki Piper, is honored



Micki Piper has been making pioneer aprons and bonnets and providing them at her cost to the Logging Museum Gift Shop for years. "I must have made 75 to 100 of them so far," she says with a merry gleam in her eye. Sales benefit the park. A lifelong artist, she also painted the end of the water tank that sits right next to the entrance gate with a brightly colored Spring Creek scene.

Spirited, full of life and fun at 87 years old, Micki Piper loves Collier Park's Logging Museum. A lifelong art teacher, when she and her husband, Ed, retired and made a new home for themselves in Chiloquin, Oregon, one of the first things she did was sign herself up as a volunteer at the Interpretive Gift Shop when they asked. Under the tutelage of another faithful Collier Park volunteer, Sonny Dehlinger, she learned how to order merchandise and understand the "business" of running a high traffic store – 88,000 visitors a year come to see Collier's Logging Museum, with many poking their heads into the Gift Shop. She and Sonny worked together for 4-5 years filling in on Monday and Tuesday, the days not covered by Park Hosts who man the Gift Shop the other five days of the week.

When Sonny retired, the responsibility for stocking the Gift Shop was Micki's. Whenever needed, she would make an order for review by Park Manager, Jim Beauchemin, and off it would go for timber-industry and pioneer history themed goods and books.

She semi-retired at 80 and turned over her records feeling certain, "if something happened to me, nobody would know what to do!" Today Micki stills helps with ordering, but not nearly so much.

What she still loves to do is participate in the Annual Living History Days event held each June at the park. She mans the little store in the Pioneer Village, adding personal artifacts to the display including her great-grandfather's books and his 5-rung ladder back rocking chair (pictured above). She then gets a big kick out of explaining to visitors how all the objects they see were used.

Micki's family were loggers so she feels especially at home at the park. We are grateful she has been here to help us for so long!!!



**COLLIER PARK
LOGGER'S BREAKFAST**
Come and enjoy "good ol"
authentic Loggers Food

- Hay Wagon •Music
- Live Equipment

September 12th – 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Adults \$10, Children (under 12) \$5

Plan on attending Collier's 16th Annual Living History Day, Sunday, June 20!

This year, several thousand visitors will again be treated to the roar and thunder of some of the Park's premier antique steam engines in operation. Caterpillar tractors, small engines, functioning drag saws, a shingle mill and a sawmill will also add to the day's attractions. There will also be a chainsaw sculptor, an authentic blacksmith, pioneer skills demos such as spinning, weaving and rug hooking, horse drawn hay rides, yummy food concessions and locally produced arts and crafts.

Park personnel and knowledgeable volunteers will be circulating throughout the museum all day to discuss the fascinating artifacts

on view. Mountainmen reenactors will also be joining the party. They encourage participation in the tomahawk throwing demonstration on the lawn next to the Park Office.

Live entertainment is never better than under the towering Collier Park pines and includes cowboy poet Michael Barker; the Singing Logger, Steve Martin; and two lively performances by the Klamath Tribes Youth Dancers. The Cascade Cloggers will show off their skill and bands BrainStorm, Linkville Ramblers, and Mood Swing will liven up the activities. Don't miss it!

Collier Park seasonal hosts, Dave and Sheryl Rambeau, bring unique talents to the park.

They both worked for many years at the University of California Forest Research Station in California – he as an equipment operator, she as an administrative assistant. Before that, they ran a water well drilling company together for years. All of this time, they have been doing logging and timber industry-themed interpretive tours too. When they retired a couple of years ago they decided to be park interpretive hosts.

So you can imagine the glee felt by park management when the Rambeau's picked Collier Park from all the volunteer hosting opportunities offered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation department– for two years in a row, now, no less!

"I mostly work doing restoration in the logging museum," says Dave who is also handy for about any maintenance job needed throughout the museum and campground areas. "Restoration of one of the museum's four Donkey engines was assigned to me last year. The 10-ton Dolbeer needed a new set of log skids put under it because the wood had rotted. Volunteers built the new skid. I mounted the machine. Our hope is to restore it to steam operation, making it one of the few in existence that works," he added.

The Rambeau's travel 10 months of the year, living in various park camp-



Sheryl and Dave Rambeau sit near the Dolbeer Steam Donkey he has helped restore. To hear them tell how the giant piece of equipment was used in the woods is completely riveting as they polished, skilled speakers.

grounds in their self-contained RV. They also plan a tour of British Columbia on their own later this year.

Sheryl Rambeau is a whiz at organizing office procedures and setting up archives. Her main job at Collier is to research the history of each new logging artifact that is donated. "My job is to track down what the artifact is, what it was used for, where it was used, and if possible who used it–what they did with it," she says. "Then I do the paperwork– the gift agreement that establishes the value for the records and for tax purposes.

Sheryl says, " I also owned a little rural weekly newspaper for 10 years in Georgetown, California. I do historical research as an avocation, specializing in California gold rush history. I have been a docent in California state museums, do a lot of public speaking, lead a lot of tours, and visit a lot of schools talking about a variety of historical subjects." Lucky, then, is the Collier Logging Museum visitor who finds either Dave or Sheryl helping them understand how the different pieces of equipment were used, something they both thoroughly enjoy bringing to life. Sheryl has also prepared a docent guide for use internal-

ly and is hopeful she can find time to organize a historical photo digitization project before they have to leave in June.

Park Manager, Jim Beauchemin, says of the Rambeaus, "They are fantastic hosts with unique skills that fit our museum needs and offer outstanding historical interpretation to fortunate museum visitors."

EQUIPMENT WANTED:

*Do You Have Old Logging
Equipment or Historic
Logging Photographs?*

We are interested in your old logging, milling machinery and pioneer related artifacts and equipment that we might not have. Your original photos can be returned after we make a negative.

Donations are always welcome!
For more information, contact:

**James Beauchemin, Park Manager
Collier Logging Museum
(541) 783-2471**