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'EXPLORING OUR HISTORY'

1993    APRIL    MAY    JUNE    1993

CREEKS and ROCKS in the TRINIDAD AREA

By: **Glenn Saunders**

Who said we have had a drought ... with all these creeks that meander through our trees and woods to the ocean?

Beginning at Clam Beach, we have the lagoons which were the original gold dredge ponds that were mined for gold. It has been told the gold dust was so fine that mining wasn't a very profitable operation.

Little River (River of the West) was named by the Spanish in 1775. They originally thought the river extended to the Great Salt Lakes of Utah and that was the reason so many ships came to this area.

Gastman Creek, up by 2nd Avenue in Westhaven; McConnaha Mill Creek, named after my Uncle's mill on the creek in the 1930's. Mill Creek was the original and former water source for the City of Trinidad.

As a boy, I can remember fishing these creeks many times. We would cut a small branch, tie some line on and dig fresh worms from the garden, and come home with 50 to 60 beautiful cut-throat trout. Were they ever good!

Dead Man Creek, near Baker Ranch, was allegedly named after a dead Indian found in the creek.

Luffenholz Creek was named after a German Count or Baron who, they say, spent all of his wife's money!

Parker Creek was named after Robert Parker, one of the founding fathers of Trinidad.

From: President Ned Simmons:

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Trinidad Museum Society will be held in the Museum Center building on Trinity street on **Sunday, April 18th** at **2:30 p.m.** At this meeting, Board of Directors for the coming year will be elected -- and financial and committee reports will be given.

T-M-S Docents will host an "open house" and refreshments will be served. All T-M-S members and guests are invited to attend.

Guest speaker for the Annual meeting will be **Scott Shannon** of Arcata who will give a talk on the current status of the River Otters in Trinidad Bay which have been of great interest and enjoyment to our community.

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New Season for The Museum Center

The starting date for the Museum to be open-to-the-public will be **April 23**. The open-schedule will again be **Fridays, Saturdays** and **Sundays**, from **1:pm** to **4:pm**.

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There will be an organizational meeting of the **T-M-S Docents** at the Museum Center building, **Wednesday, April 7th** at **10:a.m.**

We hope other members reading this notice will attend, to learn how you can participate in this community effort and become a docent for T-M-S.

One Mile Creek is a short creek running through Ruprecht's property. Martin Creek, a local Indian family; Hobson Creek, Hobson Ranch on Stagecoach Rd; McNeill Creek (where Larrupin Cafe is located) on site of McNeill family ranch and wagon stage stop.

Schnaubelt's Creek, at Egg Point, where Schnaubelt had his mill before he was "Murdered by Capitalism," as per the epitaph on his grave monument in the Trinidad cemetery.

Penn Creek and Beach Creek both run through Patrick's Point State Park, named after family farms originally in that area. Also, Sandy Creek at Patrick's Point.

Now, for the famous rocks in our greater Trinidad area:

Princess Rock, where allegedly an Indian Princess jumped off the rock in despair over her lover;

Camel Rock (or Double Rock), Prisoner Rock, Monkey-Face Rock and Pilot Rock in Trinidad Bay;

Blank Rock, Spanish Rock, Flat Iron Rock, Wash Rock, Madonna Rock, at the mouth of Mill Creek on the beach;

Coon Island, Green Rock, The Sisters, The Turtles and Redding Rock - and Strawberry Rock (east of Hiwy 101).

Snow Cap Rock (so named as it was white with bird doo); Cone Rock, Split Rock, and Candy Rock (named for the song "Big Rock Candy Mountain").

Wedding Rock at Patricks Point State Park was so named in the 1930's when Viggo Andersen, the first caretaker at the park, took Verda Norton as his bride. They were married at this impressive location by my father, Mose Saunders, who was the local Justice of The Peace at the time. My Dad had lost a limb in W.W. I and had a prosthesis. Members of the wedding party carried him over the brush to the scenic point as no trail existed at that time. The marriage stood "rock solid" for over 50-years until their deaths several years ago.

Today, Wedding Rock is the location of many weddings each year. Hundreds of visitors walk out to one of the most scenic and panoramic views on the north coast.

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Working as a volunteer docent is a great way to meet visitors from all over the world, and to share with them many of the things we love about Trinidad. Volunteer commitment is only 3 hours per month!

If you would like more information on becoming a volunteer docent, please call **Anne McCrory** at #677-0152.

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**Trinidad History Class**

Ned Simmons will present a History of Trinidad -- 500 years in 2 nights -- at the T-M-S Center building, on Wednesday and Thursday evening, **April 21st and 22nd**, at seven P.M.

The classes will be free, however, there will be a copy-charge for the xeroxed material. Hope to see you there.



**Incorporation of Trinidad**

There are doubts and inconsistencies regarding the date of incorporation. Some pioneers said it was 1850, but a letter from the California Secretary of State, dated February 14, 1957, said: "While we have nothing official to support our record of incorporation of Trinidad, our record shows the date **November 7, 1870** ... while a part of the former Klamath County."



**Members:** Please **LOOK** at the date on your mailing label ... Are you **due** for renewal in April? An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. If you are **past-due** (January), we hope you will renew at this time. Your tax-deductible memberships & contributions are the major support of your museum ... we sincerely appreciate your continued support.

