

TRINIDAD MUSEUM SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Summer 2024

400 Janis Court
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trinidadmuseum.org

Contributors: Patti Fleschner, Alexandra Cox, Dennis Koutouzos

New Exhibit in Photo Room ORICK OVER TIME

The new exhibit in the Photography Room is "Orick Over Time." David Zuber, who was born and raised in Orick, and Trinidad Museum Director Mary Spinus Kline, were high school classmates, and it was their collaboration which inspired the exhibit of over 30 Orick area photographs. Zuber's grandparents settled in the area in the early 20th century. His mother, Gloria Zuber, was born and raised at Stone Lagoon and attended the Little Red School House. His father, Albert Zuber, was raised in Orick and worked in the world of logging. The family ran The Little Red Hen Cafe and Motel at Stone Lagoon from 1927 to 1979. The Zubers were avid collectors of local memorabilia, newspapers, postcards and photographs and David inherited this interest in local history. He is

completing a book on the history of Orick. A future book signing will take place at the museum. David Zuber was guest speaker at the museum's annual meeting on April 28, when he shared stories about the people and places he remembers. Photographs, including Orick schools, rodeos, boat races, the 1964 flood, mills, Redwood Creek, lagoons, lodging and more, are on view from the collections of Ron Barlow, Irene Dorman Davison, Michael Durrer, the Dimmick, Brindle and Zuber families and Debbie Puzz McBride. Debbie Puzz McBride and her siblings lived at the Little Red Hen in their youth. Her mother, Denise, operated the Drive-In restaurant there in the early 1960s and her step-father, Pat Grazioli, managed the bar and rental cabins. Debbie Puzz McBride's colorful painting of the Little Red Hen resort on Stone Lagoon is on loan for the exhibit, curated by Zuber, Mary Spinus Kline, Alexandra Cox and Patti Fleschner.



Orick sign strung over the town. Orick Inn on the left, 1930s. (Barlow Collection)



Orick Boat Club Dock, at Freshwater Lagoon, 101 Redwood Highway, Orick, A.R. 873



Street scene in Orick, California, looking south on Redwood Highway

Top Left: Freshwater Lagoon, c.1950s. (Art Ray Photograph)
Bottom Left: Orick Inn, early 1900s. (Dimmick and Zuber Collections)
Top Right: Orick street scene. Postcard 1930s. (Dimmick Collection)



The old mining Town of Trinidad.
The first Town incorporated in
The State of Calif.
DeVaal Photo no 61



View of Trinidad from Head dated circa early 1920's. Shows 2nd Trinidad School, which burned down 1945. The Trinidad Town Hall was built 1917. Holy Trinity Church is shown which was built 1873. The Templars Hall is shown as well on Hector Street. Trinidad Hotel burned down in 1955. Also in the photo is Pinkham's Saloon, the first Saunders Market and the Saunders home. This Edward Street block burned in 1928. Remaining redwood houses from Tsurai Village are shown above Old Home Beach.

Note; Trinidad was incorporated in 1870, however it was not the first incorporated municipality in California. Sacramento had this distinction in 1850.

Using these landmarks, the date for this photograph was determined to be the early 1920's. **What is your guess on when this photo was taken?**

A Retrospective: Trinidad Museum 2009-2024

A Dream Comes True

Bruce Pettit first dreamed of Trinidad having a museum in 1980. On February 3, 1983 Pettit and charter members Axel Lindgren Jr. and Charles Fleschner incorporated the Trinidad Museum Society. Shortly after, the first museum opened at 529 Trinity St, the site of today's Moonstone Crossing Winery, and was filled with donations of historic objects, photographs and private collections. By 2000, Museum collections had outgrown the building. In stepped Lee and Molly Susan Anderson, descendants of the Sangster-Watkins-Underwood family, who offered the 1899 family home to the Museum. All we had to do is move the house from its location on Ewing St, near the University's Marine Laboratory. In 2004, the Glenn and Janis Saunders family provided a site for the new museum when they donated three acres below their home to the Trinidad Coastal Land Trust in anticipation of completing a museum, native plant garden, library and park. In the five years that followed, history enthusiasts raised \$325,000, sawed the house in two, moved it to the new location, reassembled the pieces, and renovated the home. Volunteer museum members, gardeners, contractor Charley Netzow, architect Glenn Stockness, and garden designer Nancy Rehg completed a project that had been anticipated since 1980. Trinidad Museum opened in the 1899 Sangster-Watkins-Underwood home on September 26, 2009.



Garden Crew 2009. L-R: Ron Johnson, Virginia Waters, Ashley Fleschner, Tim Johnson & Jill Mefford.



Scott Baker. Building Committee 2006.



Ned Simmons (1939-2011). Artist, poet & historian.



Rebecca Knierim, Registrar & Archaeologist 2009



Board of Directors when museum opened in Sept. 26, 2009. L-R: Virginia Waters, Ron Johnson, Scott Baker, Roberta "Allie" Lindgrin, Tom Sharp, Joan Berman, Jill Mefford, Ned Simmons & Patti Fleschner.



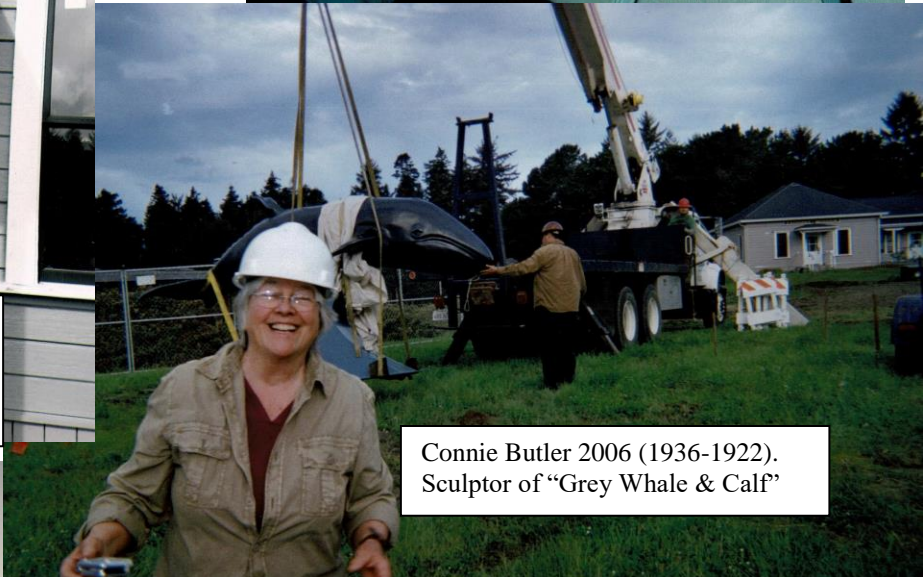
Directors 2009. L-R: Ron Johnson, Roberta "Allie" Lindgrin, Jill Mefford & Joan Berman.



Dean Heyenga (1942-2021). Fundraising event 2005 "Rembrandt Rejects".



Trinidad Trust Fund 2009. Richard Johnson, Cynthia Johnson, Kirsten Trump, Donna Lin (1954-2012), Ned Simmons, Roberta "Allie" Lindgren, Chi Wei Lin (1936-2027) & John Calkins. Donated technology.



Connie Butler 2006 (1936-1922). Sculptor of "Grey Whale & Calf"



Ned Simmons & Scott Baker 2009



Tom Sharp in Photography Room 2010.



Coleen Kelley Marks & Ron Johnson. "Made for the Trade" Opening 2012



Scott Baker, Axel Lindgren III, Joe Lindgren & Roberta "Allie" Lindgren standing by Tsurai Village diorama honoring Axel Sr. & Georgia Lindgren 2009.



Katie LaSala 2011. Museum Intern, curator, and then Board Member.



Members of the Lindgren family moving the Axel Lindgren Jr. canoe from the old museum building to the new museum 2009.



Shoshoni Gensaw Hostler 2024. Board Member. Wearing Queen James Cap.

Matthew Marshall, Arlene Hartin & Joan Berman at 2010 Martha Kemp Botanical Drawing fundraising event sponsored by Green Diamond.



Axel Lindgren Jr. (1918-1999)



Stacie Marshall at 150 year commemoration of 1873 Holy Trinity Church in 2023



Wilda Lindgren Gallaci, 5th generation descendant of Tsurai Village.



Howdy Emmerson plays harp at Trinidad Art Night 2023.



Nina Groth with her father, Bruno Groth's, *Snow Owl* sculpture 2022.



Alexandra Cox, Curator and Registrar 2021.



Carita Dooley & Alexandra Cox at opening of Orick Over Time 2024



Jill Mefford, Mary Spinas Kline, Ingrid Bailey, Native Plant Garden Team 2023.



Jill Mefford & Charley Netzow 2011 Saunders Park opening.

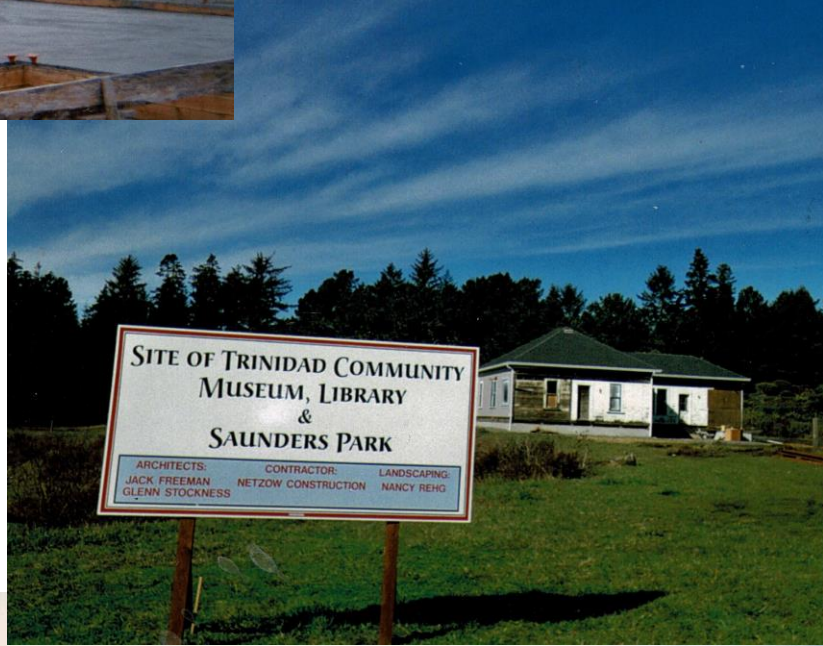
Trinidad Branch, County Library under construction 2012



O&M Co. installs Connie Butler's Grey Whale & Calf 2009



SITE OF TRINIDAD COMMUNITY MUSEUM, LIBRARY & SAUNDERS PARK
ARCHITECTS: JACK FREEMAN, GLENN STOCKNESS
CONTRACTOR: NETZOW CONSTRUCTION
LANDSCAPING: NANCY REHG



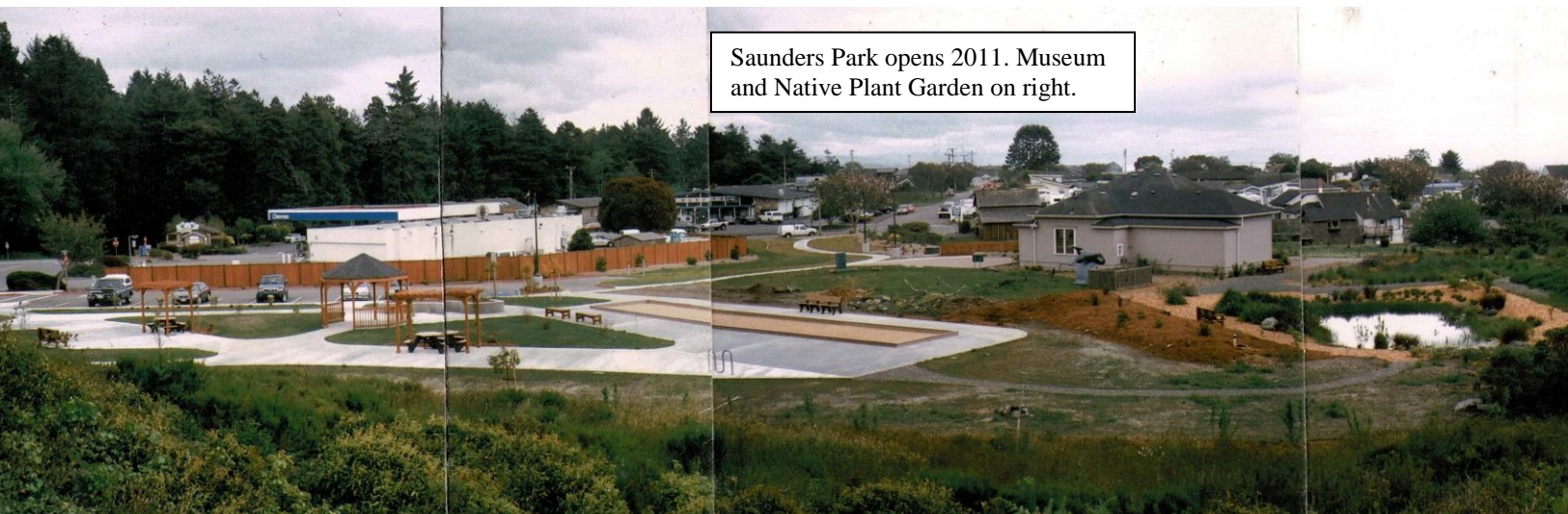
Saunders Park opening 2011. L-R: Mitch Ward, Gail Saunders, Janis Saunders (1929-2017), Glenn Saunders (1924-2015), Marta Saunders, Steve Saunders, Raquel Saunders.

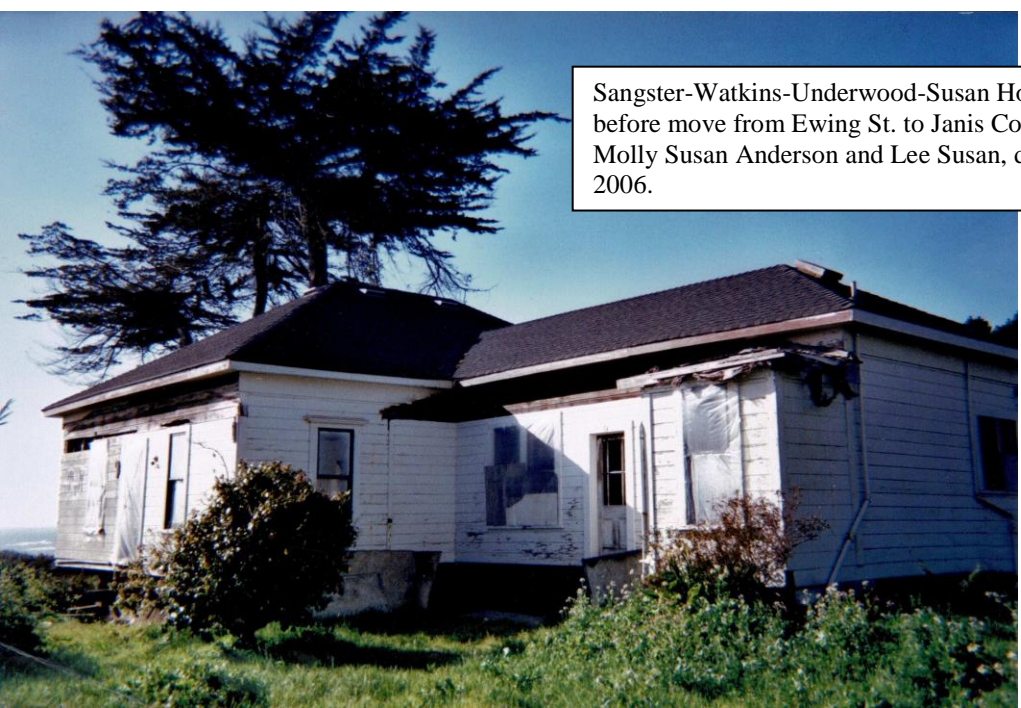


Charley Netzow installing Trinidad Museum sign 2009



Saunders Park opens 2011. Museum and Native Plant Garden on right.





Sangster-Watkins-Underwood-Susan Home before move from Ewing St. to Janis Court. Molly Susan Anderson and Lee Susan, donors, 2006.



Museum after the move, 2006.



The museum is a partner with Bureau of Land Management/California Coastal National Monument. First project was kiosk map on left 2006. Photo taken in 2020.



Gavin Scott and Ingrid Bailey installed redwood cants along garden pathways. Decomposed granit pathways courtesy of the Ben B. Cheney Foundation 2021.

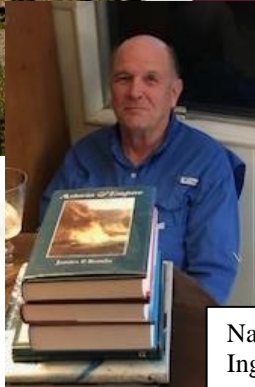




Grand opening Trinidad Museum Sept. 26, 2009



Natural History Room. Mary Spinas Kline, Ingrid Bailey and Jim Webb.



1871 Trinidad Head Lighthouse. Jim Baker, Joan Berman, Scott Baker, Patti Fleschner, Tom Sharp, accept Fresnel electric lens donation from Coast Guard 2013.



The last Fog Bell House in CA 1898



CWO Curtis Barthel (BOSN), USCG, 2013 Electric Fresnel Lens donated to museum

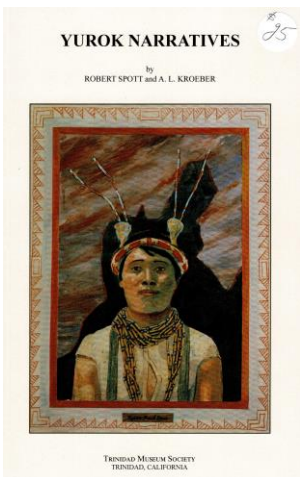
Thomas S. Hannah Remembering Sam and Lizzie Smith



Thomas S. Hannah (1930-2023), Humboldt County educator and historian, was a long-time friend and contributor of essays, photographs, books and remembrances to Trinidad Museum. Both of his parents, Shirley Hannah and Maggie Day Hannah, were legendary teachers in Trinidad and at Humboldt County's most rural schools. When Thomas was a teenager, he transported his mother up difficult terrain to her teaching post at Morek along the Klamath River. At a highly impressionable age, Thomas developed a deep affection and respect for his mother's Yurok friends, Lizzie and Sam Smith, who taught him many life lessons about resilience, endurance, and respect for life in all forms while fishing and meandering along the river. Thomas wrote after Sam Smith died in 1949:

"Sam, without knowing it, had a major influence on my life. Through our association, I was exposed to a way of life that had been reduced to little more than a shadow that loses itself in the sunset. Sam was wise. He knew that man away from nature became hard. He knew that lack of respect for growing, living things soon led to the lack of respect for humans too. Kinship between earth and sky and the four and two-legged creatures was a vital and necessary combination. He had mastered the philosophy of patience without a trace of either self-pity or of bitterness to dull the purity of his cheerful endurance. He looked upon us as sophisticated people-smart but not wise. He often said, 'We know many things and much of it is false.' He knew nature which was always true. His were qualities of character that last forever. He was kind. He had courage and self-restraint. Even though all had been taken from his people, he never expressed resentment because of the inhumane and insensitive treatment. Sam had the mind of a philosopher and the soul of a child. His life had purpose. He knew how to live in a balance and state of grace with his Higher Power. It was a rare privilege and a once in a lifetime experience to have known him."

Yurok Narratives by Robert Spott and A. L. Kroeber Back in Print



With this book, the Trinidad Museum Society is pleased to republish a third significant book about Yurok culture. Like our earlier reprints, *The Four Ages of Tsurai* (1991) and *Yurok Geography* (1993), *Yurok Narratives* has long been unavailable. A collaboration of Robert Spott, a Yurok man, and A.L. Kroeber, a white cultural anthropologist, the book includes Spott's narratives of his life and Kroeber's commentaries on the values that he saw and valued in that life.

Robert Spott as a boy was primed to carry his culture into a forever-changed world for the Yuroks. His life (1888-1953) spans transportation by dugout canoes and pack trains to the Atomic Age, years of tremendous challenges. Intelligent, sensitive, literate, and of high social rank, Robert Spott came of age on the Battlefields of World War I. Hard-working, knowledgeable, and active in his culture, he earned the respect of his people through an era of cultural assimilation.

Much publicity is given to Ishi (1861-1916), the last of the Yahi tribe, and his relationship with Kroeber, illustrating the plight of Native Americans. The life of Robert Spott and his association with Kroeber embodies another legacy of adaptation, achievements, and pride.

The 1996 cover painting of Robert Spott displaying Brush Dance regalia is by Ned Simmons (1939-2011), artist, historian and a long time board member of Trinidad Museum. The painting is now in the Trinidad Coastal Land Trust collection.



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Trinidad Museum Society* Support

If you haven't already joined the Trinidad Museum Society, we encourage you to do so. Our membership year, like our fiscal year, runs from February 1 to January 31.

Memberships

- \$35 Member
 \$50 Sponsor
 \$100 Patron
 \$250 Benefactor
 \$1,000 Lifetime membership

Special Gifts

In addition to becoming a member of the Trinidad Museum Society, we hope you'll consider giving a gift to recognize someone special or to support some aspect of the Museum.

- Amount \$ _____
 Native Plant Garden
 Exhibits
 Building Maintenance
 In memory of _____
 In honor of _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Mailing Address _____

e-mail Address _____

Museum Directors: Patti Fleschner, president (baycity@sonic.net or 707-677-3816); Scott Baker, vice-president; Dennis Koutouzos, treasurer; Virginia Waters, Secretary; Mary Spinass Kline, Shoshoni Gensaw-Hostler, Carita Dooley, Jim Baker.
 Docents: Mary Spinass Kline, Maggie McCune, Martha Sue Davis, Susan Wagner, Cathie Childs, Carita Dooley, Larella Moore, Sara Long, Michelle McHenry & Patti Fleschner

*Trinidad Museum Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, tax ID# 68-0042645