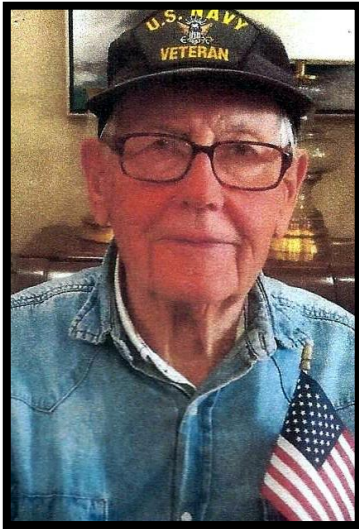


The Ridge Route Rambler

We're nuts  about history.

Editors: Chandra Sargent Mead and Bonnie Ketterl Kane

REMEMBERING A DEDICATED FOUNDING MEMBER



A recent photo of Curtis proudly wearing his Navy hat

When Curtis Newman passed away on May 1st, our museum lost one of those who had helped with every phase of the development of our facility. His parents, Roy and Ester Newman, were living in Bakersfield when they found our mountain communities back in 1925 or 26. They had registered their names at a real estate booth at the Kern County Fair and were the winners of a "reduced price lot" in the new Lake of the Woods subdivision (as was everyone who registered!), so they came up to see about it, picked out and bought a lot. The Newmans are known to have built the first cabin, just one room, in Lake of the Woods. (see Spring 2017 RRR)

Curtis was born in 1928 and wrote about those early days in Lake of the Woods as follows:

"My folks built a cabin at Lake of the Woods in 1926 and until 1937 we came up from Bakersfield for long periods in the summer and shorter visits occasionally for the rest of the year – with no electricity or water. Dad did construction work, so could work wherever we settled and there was plenty of building going on up here and in Bakersfield. He would haul timber from the upper sawmill on Mt. Pinos.

In early 1937, we expanded the cabin and moved to the area permanently. I started school at the Cuddy place with four other kids. I would ride my horse 'Smarty' to the ranch and put her in the corral with other horses. After school, I would go back and put the bridle on (I rode bare back, being too small for a saddle) and rode home. As there was no water or electricity at Lake of the Woods, we moved into Frazier Park in late 1937 and I attended the 'Lebec School' in Frazier Park through eighth grade – where I met my future wife, Alma Hensley."

After serving in the Navy in World War II, Curtis joined his father in the construction business, constructing many buildings locally. He was the building inspector during the construction of the upper building of the Frazier Park School, as well as for the additions to the Mettler and El Tejon Schools. They built the Burbank Girl Scout Camp Lodge at the top of Cuddy Valley, the Seventh Day Adventist Church, the Moose Lodge and others, all in Lake of the Woods.

When Curtis & Alma were married in 1950, they lived in the little family cabin in Lake of the Woods – still without water and electricity. Alma's family was well known in the area as her mother, Ruby Hensley, served as the Frazier Park postmistress for many years. Curtis & Alma moved away from the area for about 25 years, returning in 1987 to build a beautiful home in front of the original little cabin, both of which remain on the property to this day.

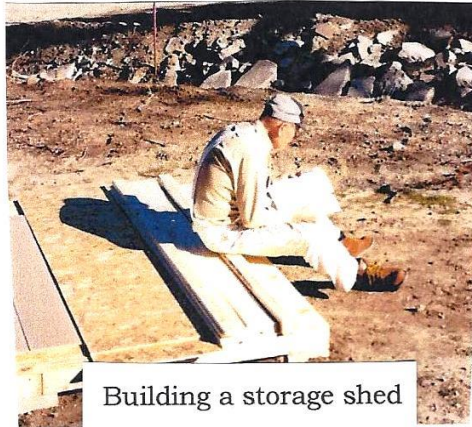
Curtis and Alma Newman (who passed away in 2014) and their parents played a significant role in the founding of our local communities and of the Ridge Route Communities Museum & Historical Society. Curtis oversaw the moving of the original Cuddy log cabin, the first log cabin built in these mountains, piece by piece, to the Museum grounds, and did much of the work to restore it himself. Alma served as the treasurer of RRCM&HS. May they be long remembered.

The family has suggested that memorial contributions in Curtis's name may be made to the Ridge Route Communities Museum & Historical Society or a charity of choice.

A TRIBUTE TO ONE OF THE BEST!!
Curtis Newman



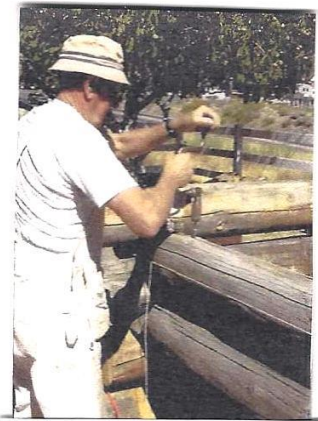
First curator
of the museum



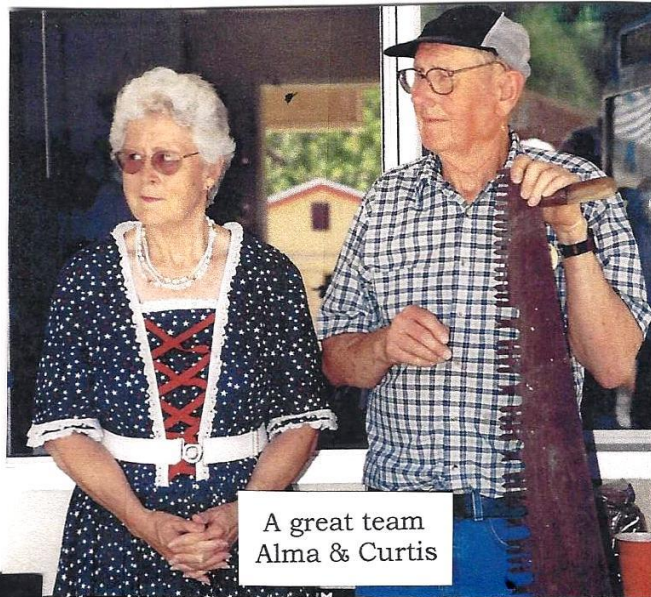
Building a storage shed



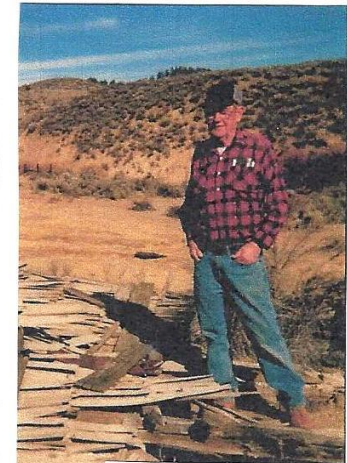
Making shingles
for the Cuddy cabin



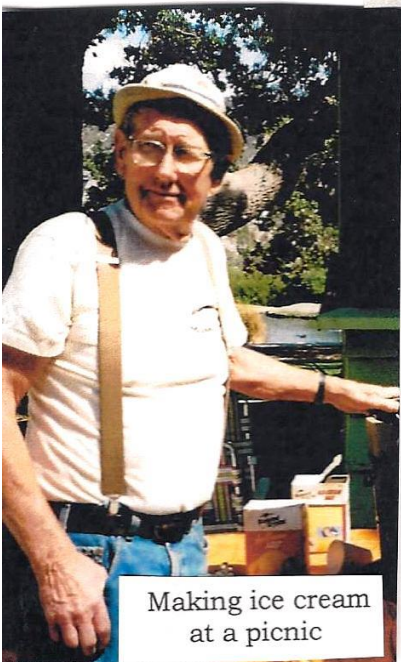
Carefully reconstructing
the Cuddy Cabin



A great team
Alma & Curtis



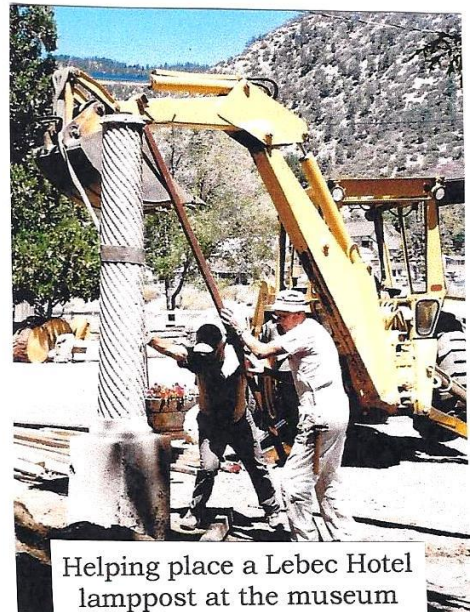
Curtis looking over
the ruins of a
pioneer cabin



Making ice cream
at a picnic



Cleaning a taxidermy
collection given to the museum



Helping place a Lebec Hotel
lamppost at the museum

THE LATEST FROM THE RIDGE ROUTE PRESERVATION ORGANIZATION

By Michael Ballard

"So far, Summer 2020 isn't shaping up to be what, well, many of us hoped it would be. Things are still moving at least, just a bit slower for the Ridge Route Preservation Organization. We are still working with the USFS to get repairs done and get the utility companies to repair any damage to the roadway they have caused.

In late June, a group of board members took a trip over the Ridge Route from Castaic to Gorman to assess the roadway. To be honest, there was a lot of good news along the roadway to be had. Since the last of the major winter storms have passed, it looks like the roadway has not suffered any major damage. Most of the roadway, with little exception, was easily traversable by a standard automobile. Some sections needed a bit more maneuvering, but were still quite manageable.

The date for our next clean up the Ridge Route event is still unknown. We are presently waiting for the USFS to give us the green light for volunteer events. As it stands, August is likely out for sure. We hope to have something done before the rains begin, but we shall see.

Other ongoing projects include getting the roadway opened, replacing the signage at the markers, and setting up a You Tube channel, are progressing, just slowly. The markers won't be replaced until the roadway is opened. Funding for opening and maintaining the roadway is still unknown at present. The current crisis, health and budgetary, may well impact this more than we'd like. I feel it only delays it. We will push for legislation to force the roadway to be opened if need be.

The gates are still closed and locked. If you find a gate open, do not expect the gate at the other end to be open. Travel is still restricted to non-motorized travel beyond the gates."

The Museum had hoped to have Mike Ballard present a program in April, which had to be postponed, We are hoping to try again this fall.



(photo courtesy of RRPO)



**RIDGE ROUTE COMMUNITIES MUSEUM
ANNUAL FUNDRAISING**

GREAT AMERICAN



LABOR DAY WEEKEND

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 5, 6, 7: 9 a.m. TO 4 p.m.

3515 PARK DR., FRAZIER PARK, (BEHIND THE POST OFFICE)

**IN LIGHT OF THE PANDEMIC, SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASKS
WILL BE REQUIRED; SANITIZER WILL BE AVAILABLE, GLOVES
ENCOURAGED**

**IF YOU CAN HELP OUT
BY DONATING ITEMS,
PLEASE LEAVE THEM ON THE PORCH AT THE
MUSEUM ANYTIME OR CALL FOR PICKUP (245-7747)**



PLEASE SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT US!!!

Frazier Mountain Real Estate
3400 Mt. Pinos Way – PO Box 635
Frazier Park CA 93225

Celebrating 40 Years
of Serving the
Mountain Communities
– 1977-2017 –

Phone: 661 245 3755
Website: www.fmre.com
CalBRE #00999018




Richard Atmore, Jr.
President

R.A. ATMORE & SONS, INC.
Natural Resources Division

2977 Sexton Canyon Rd., Ventura, CA 93003
Tel: 805-644-6851 • Fax: 805-642-2127
E-mail: rich@raatmore.com
www.raatmore.com

Snedden Ranch
P.O. Box 129
Maricopa, CA 93252
(661) 747-5646



PETER PORAZIK, D.D.S.
FAMILY DENTISTRY

2045 Lebec Road
P.O. Box 506
Lebec, CA 93243
(661) 245-1434 • Fax (661) 245-2730
E-mail: peter@porazik.com
Voice Mail: (661) 644-5456
Web Page: http://www.porazik.com

"Office hours by appointment"

LEBEC MANUFACTURING
Since 1985

DAVID CARLSON
(CELL) 661-406-5816

PO BOX 759
LEBEC, CA. 93243
(SHOP) 661-248-6670
(FAX) 661-248-6677
(Email) davecar67@att.net
Metal Fab./Welding/Jobshop
(web)www.webbing-cutting.com



aranch45@gmail.com
(661) 817-3483
www.RidgeRouteRanch.com
P.O. Box 777 Frazier Park, CA 93225

Directions:
Follow Us:
facebook Instagram
@RidgeRouteRanch

Large Venues, Weddings
Horse Events, Film
Locations, and more...



**The Mountain
Enterprise**

Gary Meyer — Publisher

advertising@mountainenterprise.com
www.MountainEnterprise.com
PO Box 610 • Frazier Park CA • 93225

661-245-3794

THANK YOU TO
SCOTT & BARBARA ROSEN
OF FRAZIER MOUNTAIN
INTERNET
FOR THEIR SERVICES & SUPPORT

Frazier Park LUMBER
AND
ACE Hardware

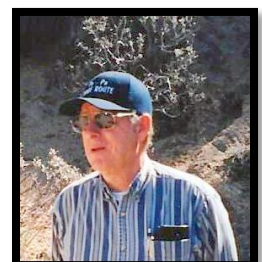
MANY THANKS TO

Tejon Mountain Village 

FOR THE PRINTING OF OUR NEWSLETTER

HARRISON SCOTT HONORED

In our Winter 2020 issue, we mentioned Harrison Scott, who founded the RRPO. He has advocated for the preservation of the old Ridge Route Road for many years, as well as written books & articles on the road. The Conference of California Historical Societies has announced their recognition of "Scotty" with an Award of Merit. The award ceremony, which was scheduled for June in San Bernardino, has been postponed until 2021.





Ridge Route Communities
MUSEUM
& Historical Society

Personal & Business Memberships

Membership	Cost	Rambler	Discount*	Adt Rambler	Online Ad†	Travel Mug	Tickets**
Senior (62+)	\$15	•					
General	\$25	•					
General Gold	\$50	•					1
Lifetime	\$500	•				•	1
Lifetime x2	\$750	•				•	2
Business							
Silver	\$50	•		•			
Gold	\$100	•		•	•		1
Platinum	\$250	•		•	•	•	2

Annual Event, Exhibit & Acquisition Sponsorship Opportunities

Events	Cost	Events	Cost	Events	Cost
Speaker	\$50	Cuddy Cabin	\$500	Prehistorio	\$1,000
Tea	\$75	Gas Station	\$750	Chumash	\$3,000
Patio Evening	\$100	Chumash Exhibit	\$1,000	Bell Tower	\$6,000
Tour	\$150	Landscaping	\$2,000	East Side Property	\$20,000
Tour w/ Lunch*	\$300	Irrigation	\$3,000	Barn Property	\$100,000
Destination Dinner*	\$500	Lebeo Hotel Patio	\$4,000	2 nd Exhibit Hall	\$100,000
Speaker	\$50	Cuddy Cabin	\$500	Prehistorio	\$1,000

* Discount on purchases of in the museum store.
 † Business Card ad in our quarterly Rambler newsletter.
 ‡ Online Ad post our social media or a post on our website (with link).

* Special Events

We're nuts  about history.

Museum membership, sponsorship, & gifts are tax deductible;
 please check with your tax preparer or CPA for details. FIN 77-0431597

Membership Options

Personal

- \$15 Senior (62+)
 \$25 General
 \$50 General Gold
 \$500 Lifetime
 \$750 Lifetime Couple

Business

- \$50 Silver
 \$100 Gold
 \$250 Platinum

Sponsorship

Events & Exhibits

- \$50 Speaker
 \$75 Tea
 \$100 Patio Evening
 \$150 Tour
 \$300 Tour w/ Lunch
 \$500 Destination Dinner
- \$500 Cuddy Cabin
 \$750 Gas Station
 \$1,000 Chumash
 \$2,000 Landscaping
 \$3,000 Irrigation
 \$4,000 Lebeo Patio

Acquisitions

- \$1,000 Prehistorio
 \$3,000 Chumash
 \$6,000 Bell Tower
- \$20,000 East side property
 \$100,000 Barn property
 \$100,000 2nd Exhibit Hall

Mail-in Form

Name / Company _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Newsletter Format: Email US Mail

Return to

Ridge Route Communities Museum & Historical Society
 PO Box 684, Frazier Park, CA 93225

For more information
 please contact us
 at 661-245-7747 or
info@ridgeroutemuseum.org

Ridge Route 3515 Park Drive
 Communities Frazier Park, CA 93225
 Museum 661-245-7747
 & Historical ridgeroutemuseum.org
 Society Fri-Sun 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

COVID-19 Update

We are closed until further notice due to the
 shelter-in-place order for the COVID-19 virus.

Not being open for the past many weeks has caused us
 to see a shortfall in our income. We would be very
 grateful for donations to help offset this shortfall.

SINCEREST THANKS!

In March, we sent out an email about our closure due to the COVID-19 outbreak, and also included it in the Spring newsletter, asking for your help while we're closed. Little did we know at that time how much it would be needed.

We sent along an envelope with our last newsletter. And some of you took advantage of the opportunity by sending in a donation (Dee & Rich Brito, Rodney & Elaine Byrd, Kevin & Lori Woten, Phyllis Fenger, Therese Melbar, Candace Huskey-Brown and the Hennens). Several folks sponsored events (Dr. Christy for an Evening on the Patio, Donna Turner for a Tea, Ken Putnam for a Speaker). Our first exhibit sponsor (the gas station) was Tony Waters of Ventura! We had our first Gold Member sign ups (Dr. Juliana Christy, Wess Hansen, Donna Turner, Mona Engvig, George & Elizabeth Gomez, Harold & Rannie Maas and Lucia Hennen). Three members renewed their memberships for the next two or even three years.

So, we still don't know when we'll be able to open again, or be able to put on events, but it is members like you that will make it possible. Thank you so much!

HELP!!!!

As long as we're not open, here's how you can continue to help:

RENEW your membership early, or

SPONSOR an event or exhibit, or

BUY from our website. During our current stay-at-home life style, wouldn't it be a great time to read up on our local history? You won't believe what an interesting past those who have lived here before us have left for us. Or come buy a bargain at our Labor Day Yard Sale, or

DONATE, just because!



Museum Location: 3515 Park Drive, Frazier Park, CA
Museum Hours: Fri. Sat. & Sun. Noon-4:00; Summer Noon-5
Museum Phone: 661-245-7747
Museum Website: www.ridgeroutemuseum.org
Museum Email: rrchs@frazmtn.com or info@ridgeroutemuseum.org

RIDGE ROUTE COMMUNITIES MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O.BOX 684
FRAZIER PARK, CA 93225

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR
LABEL FOR MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL DATE!**