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CHOCOLATES
GONE NUTS



OAKDALE, CA ~ COWBOY CAPITAL

RODEO
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RE-GEP

### **Chocolates Gone Nuts**

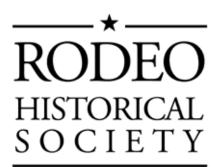
The Annual Oakdale Chocolate Festival will be held on Saturday. May 17, from 9am-6pm and on Sunday, May 18, from 9am-5pm. This is a major event for our community and will bring over 60,000 visitors to Oakdale. The Cowboy Museum will be inside the festival grounds and open both days. If you haven't been by to view our new exhibit "The Tales of the Yosemite Back Country, Mather Saddle & Pack Station, operated by the Barnes Family since 1929," this would be a great time for you to stop and visit. In addition, the Congressional Gunfighters of America will be in the courtyard in front of the Cowboy Museum. This is an award winning professional western reenactment troupe that performs at major city events, state fairs, rodeos, parties, movies, TV shows and more. They were a big hit last year entertaining audiences with shows throughout the weekend in front of the Museum and also walking around the festival grounds.



Chocolates Gone Nuts is a perfect theme for this year's festival. With the abundance of almond and walnut trees in our area the festival embraces our rich agricultural bounty. The Oakdale Chocolate Festival is fun for all ages. There will be arts and craft booths, the classic car show, live band performances, kids area and of course CHOCOLATE!

### Californian's on Ballot

News from the Rodeo Historical Society which is housed inside the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, is that two former rodeo cowboys from Oakdale have made the ballot for consideration of induction this September. Former Bull Rider and veterinarian Ed LeTourneau an Oakdale High School Alumni, Saddle Bronc Riding legend Bill Martinelli, and rodeo announcer



and Ropers Sports News owner Bob Feist from Lodi, will be three of nine in the living category that hail from the Golden State. Others you may know are: Doug Brown, Bobby Delvecchio, Dennis Reiners, Bob Robinson, John Payne and Randy Bernard. In the posthumous category, 1958 World Champion Team Roper Ted Ashworth will also be on the ballot. Ted was born in the Yosemite Valley and grew up in the Mariposa and Merced area. Members of the Rodeo Historical Society are eligible to vote and will receive a ballot. There will be four inducted in the living category and four in the posthumous category. Not a member? Well, that's easy, just go to www.loverodeo.org and complete the membership application. Ballots will be mailed out soon. The induction ceremony will take place on September 27, in Oklahoma City, OK.

## Fairwell Jackie



It is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to Cowboy Museum Director Jackie Conner who will be moving to Dallas, TX later this month. This decision did not come easy as Jackie has been a resident of Oakdale since 1974. "It's hard to say goodbye to the many friends that I've made and the town I love," said a tearful Jackie. But after years of avoiding the request of her family to move to Dallas to be closer to them, she finally made that

decision. Jackie has served on the Cowboy Museum's Board of Director's since 2008 and has been an instrumental part of our team. She has helped on many committees and is always the first one to volunteer to help no matter what the job entails. Jackie worked in the education field for 51 years. She was employed by Stanislaus County Dept of Education as a Psychologist from 1973 until her retirement in 2004. She continued with contract work with the County as a School Psychologist through 2012. The western lifestyle has always been a part of Jackie's life. She joined the Oakdale Saddle Club in 1977 and has served as Secretary for over 20 years. She has been the Club's Historian and also worked on various rodeo committees. Jackie is a founding member of the Oakdale Cowboy Museum. Best of luck to you in "Big D," Jackie. We'll miss you.

# Rodeo Week Re-Cap









The 2014 Rodeo Week is now history and we are pleased to announce it was a busy and successful week. The Local Roping, sponsored by the Cowboy Museum, kicked off the week of activities leading up to the rodeo. The winning team of brothers Alan and Mike Pettit of Oakdale were presented with Silver belt buckles. While the roping was just getting underway, the Cowgirl Luncheon Committee along with volunteers from the Oakdale District 5 High School Rodeo Team, were putting the finishing touches on the set up for 464 ladies. They did a great job and we are very appreciative of their help.

Our Cowgirl Honoree this year was a very surprised Bonnie Larson Fogarty. Bonnie grew up Oakdale, graduated from Oakdale High School and California State University, Chico. She didn't get submersed into agriculture until she met and married Oakdale rancher Bill Fogarty. Bonnie quickly adapted to the ranching lifestyle. Recently, Bonnie and Bill have worked with the California Rangeland Conservation Coalition and hosted a tour of one of their family ranches this past year. Bonnie and Bill also traveled to Washington, D.C. with the coalition to bring the message to those in Congress on the value and importance of ranching. Bonnie is a well deserving recipient of this recognition.

As always, special thanks go out to the Cowboy Servers who did a great job of serving beverages, lunch and helping with our auction. Thanks to our exhibitors, Shellie's Western Creations, Cowboy Toffee, Conlin Supply and Le Boucherie Salon & Boutique, which offered a varied line of women's apparel and something for the sweet tooth. We truly appreciate our sponsors, The Jim Wheatley Family, Century 21 M&M & Associates, Delta Sierra Beverage, American AgCredit, 7-Up Bottling Company, Noah's Water, Oakdale's Grocery Outlet and Oak Valley Community Bank.

Our Annual Chamber of Commerce Mixer and Queen Coronation was held on Thursday April 10. Congratulations to Elizabeth Stall, the 2014 Oakdale Rodeo Queen. The event was very well attended by local merchants, family and friends of the queen court and other members of the community. Guests enjoyed a complimentary buffet catered by The House of Beef and enjoyed listening to the music of Mel Sanguinetti, Fred Stepp, Greg Rivera and Barbara Findlay.

### **Back at the Ranch**

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www.oakdalecowboymuseum.org



OAKDALE, CA ~ COWBOY CAPITAL

**Cowboy Museum Directors:** 

Jeff Appling, Dave Brown, Cal Cadmus, Jackie Conner, Dan Holman, Jacob Lynn, Liz Mount, Doug Murdock, Eric Partenheimer, Pat Taylor, Clarie Telles, Jean Western-Cole

Museum Staff:

Executive Director: Christie Camarillo Museum Assistant: Lindsey Giles

#### AN EXHIBIT TO CELEBRATE

THE 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOSEMITE LAND GRANT ACT 1864, SIGNED BY ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Tales of the Yosemite Back Country

### MATHER SADDLE & PACK STATION

Operated by the Barnes Family since 1929

Year long exhibit opens January 29, 2014



Presented by the Oakdale Cowboy Museum in partnership with Yosemite National Park



Oakdale Cowboy Museum 355 East F Street Oakdale, CA www.oakdalecowboymuseum.org

