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Fall Greetings Everyone ! And a beautiful Fall it has been.

Our last work party of the year will be October 24. We plan to do some final minor repairs to the Weden outhouse and we will remove our bulletin board. And if we can drive in on the new road, we plan to dig water bars on some of the trails and do some other miscellaneous work in the Town site area. The Forest Service has been extremely careful and easy to communicate with during the entire cleanup operation and they have left some of the exposed buildings and timbers in better shape than when they started. We want to express our gratitude for this.

As a final update for everyone on progress from the Hazmat cleanup, work on cleaning the mine tailings is mostly finished and the repository closure should be finished this year too. A closure is not anticipated for next summer. But the Forest Service will be onsite next year doing revegetation and signage. Closure to the public might be lifted this year but it depends on the weather.

There is much better exposure to see the United Companies Concentrator and some of the bunkers and trestles. Some of the trestles leading to the Concentrator had to be removed due to the concentration of toxic metals embedded in the wood. Although most of us have strongly disagreed with the need for the entire cleanup, I have to say the Forest Service employees and the contractors involved in the operation have been exceptional; they have helped us where possible, given us access when they were not obligated to, and in general, have done an excellent job.

One important post-cleanup item we are addressing is the issue of removing all the outhouses at Monte Cristo. I think it is safe to say the Forest Service employees agree with us that all outhouses should remain and be pumped on an annual basis. However, due to budget constraints, they feel compelled to remove all the outhouses either now or when they fill up. Their plan is to replace them with "backcountry" toilets which they want to simply place in the woods. These are simply toilet seats placed over a small hole in the ground, exposed to the elements. The Weden outhouse and the Haps Hill outhouse are still functioning but we don't know for how long. There are plans for the large vault toilet at the main camp ground to be hauled out when the heavy equipment is taken out soon this year. We have sent a letter to the district Ranger asking that this be delayed. There may be funding to keep it in place for several more years until we can find a permanent solution for keeping it. The Forest service will be working in the area for three more years, monitoring the cleanup. That plus the hundreds of visitors per day on nice weekends will render the back country toilets useless, as everyone knows. So we are currently working hard on this issue. Please send your feedback on this issue to the Forest Service now.

For the upcoming work party on October 24, please bring rain gear, appropriate clothing for doing light construction and brushing. Also bring your and lunch food and water. Some of us will be working on removing the MCPA bulletin board, some will continue on to the Weden outhouse. And if we can use the new road, some of us may travel in to the Town site for work there. This will be our last work party for the year.

We are planning again, for our Winter Social. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, February 6 at 5:30. Our program this year will be a very nice slide presentation of the Monte Cristo area, both from the old days and from the present. A postcard will be mailed to our members with all the pertinent information on it. Anyone from past Town site programs and all Forest Service staff are also invited. The presentation will be given by David Cameron and Louise Lindgren.

Hope to see everyone at the Winter Social February 6th !

Kal Klass, MCPA President

Historical Essay

Noted Edmonds genealogist Betty Gaeng found this information about Monte Cristo discoverer Joseph Pearsall while she was doing research in San Joaquin, California archives. Prior to this we had no knowledge of his life either before or after his years here, and I thought you might enjoy reading what she discovered and sent to us. Guinn's book is written in the style and format of the popular subscription histories of the period, with submissions often personally submitted. *David Cameron*

He is listed in both the 1900 and 1910 census records. In 1900 he was in Alaska at a place called Little Manoose Creek. He was living with three mining partners. In 1910 he is shown as Joe Pearsall, a farmer on his general farm in Newman, Stanislaus County, California. He was single and living alone.

JOSEPH L. PEARSALL. Prominent among the prosperous business men of Stanislaus County [California] who have achieved success in mining operations is Joseph L. Pearsall, residing about four miles north of Newman. Active, keen-witted, far-sighted and capable, he has accumulated a competency through his own persistent and energetic efforts, and is now enjoying life as proprietor of a small but valuable and productive ranch. A native of New York State, he was born in 1855 in Chenango County, which was also the birthplace of his father, the late David Pearsall.

One of the most brainy and progressive men of his day, David Pearsall was born, lived and died in Bainbridge, N.Y. He was a farmer by occupation, but was also actively interested in other leading industries of the place, being a lumberman, a millwright, a real-estate dealer, a speculator and one of the most able and influential politicians of that section of the state. He was an extensive landholder, and in his various undertakings was uniformly successful. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Manning, also was born in New York State, and is now a resident of Bainbridge. She bore his four children, three sons and one daughter, Joseph L., the special subject of this sketch, being the oldest child.

After completing the course of study in the common schools, Joseph L. Pearsall was graduated from the Bainbridge Academy. Leaving home in 1879, he embarked in mining pursuits in Colorado, locating first in Leadville, and afterward in other parts of the state. He subsequently spent a short time as a miner in the Wood River Valley, Idaho. Going to Washington in 1889, Mr. Pearsall discovered and located the Monte Cristo mines, which proved rich in mineral deposits. Selling out his interests in that locality, he went to the Frazer River country, British Columbia, in 1894, and was there engaged in prospecting and mining for four years. Becoming interested in the mining operations in Alaska, Mr. Pearsall visited the region in 1898, and engaged in prospecting in the Nome and Yukon districts, locating the Mattie Gibson Mine, which has paid well. He was successful in his operations, and is still interested in the copper producing mines of the Valdez District. On his present home place, Mr. Pearsall has forty acres of land, twenty acres of which he has sowed to alfalfa, while on the other twenty acres he raises olives.

Fraternally, Mr. Pearsall stands high in Masonic circles, and has done much to promote the good of the Order. He is a member of Seattle Lodge, F. & A.M.; of Seattle Chapter, R.A.M.; of the Eastern Star; and of the Washington Lodge of Perfection No. 1, of Seattle, Wash. He belongs to Newman Lodge, I.O.O.F. Politically, he is one of the leading members of the Republican Party, and in 1904 was a delegate to the Stanislaus County convention. Mr. Pearsall has never married, being probably too much engrossed with business matters to attend to domestic affairs.

Source: Guinn, Prof. James Miller, A.M. History of the State of California and biographical record of the San Joaquin Valley, California. An historical story of the state's marvelous growth from its earliest settlement to the present time. Chicago; Chapman Publishing Co. 1905.

Joseph L. Pearsall was born 29 April 1855 in Chenango County, New York. He died 24 October 1916, and he is buried at Saint Peter's Churchyard, Bainbridge, Chenango County, New York, near his parents David and Mary Pearsall.

Source: Find A Grave.

Betty Lou Gaeng

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THANK-YOU!

C.D. ORDER FORM

This is a C.D. with pictures from Monte Cristo, up to 100 years ago. Cost: \$20.00 -Includes Shipping

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail To: **MCPA**

c/o Kal Klass

3815 E Garfield St.

Seattle, WA 98112

Thank you for your order!



Monte Cristo Preservation Assoc.
PO Box 471
Everett, WA 98206-0471
www.mcpa.us

**Next Work Party has been
moved to Sat. Oct 24th**

«FirstName» «LastName»
«Address1»
«City», «State» «PostalCode»