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# FRIENDS OF BODIE NEWSLETTER

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Volume 9 Issue 1

Spring 1999

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## Executive Secretary's Message

So here we are...March 1999! What? Did I miss 1998?

Have you ever noticed when you can't think of anything to say or write how the weather becomes the topic of conversation? The other articles in the newsletter have done such a great job of covering things this year that my thunder has been drowned out by the pat-pat of the computer keys.

### Winter

Did anyone happen to see winter this year? It all but missed Bodie 'til...you guessed it...February 1st. Then the snow came. We were expecting another one like 1998 when we finally opened the Bodie Road on May 18th. Instead we topped out this year with a maximum of two feet on the ground. Then the warm weather returned. State Route 270 is open as of March 25th. I must admit there were those of us glad to see a mild winter. However...it is snowing and blowing as I write.

### Getting Started

With the road open and the 1st of April upon us...visitation has gone from about three a day to 300 a day. Our first two seasonal employees start work on April 1st. They will begin the process of clearing up the mess the Rangers made during the winter, ordering books and sales items for the summer season, preparing and scheduling school groups for the beginning of the spring interpretive program and cleaning the museum.

### Interpretation and Projects

A big project for this year will be moving the maintenance shop out of the Red Barn and down the canyon to the north of the townsite. The vacated rooms will become an audio-visual (AV) room, artifact storage, and interpretive work area. Construction will begin this summer on the AV room. The video, *Bodie: Ghost Town Frozen in Time* will be shown here instead of in the County Barn. Our thanks to Barron Hilton who is generously funding the AV room for the Friends of Bodie. Some of you may recall that Mr. Hilton also contributed to the production of the video *Bodie: Ghost Town Frozen in Time*.

Although visitation to the park was down last year, we did provide more interpretive walks, talks, and tours to more people than in years past. Returnees did enjoy seeing into other hidden areas of the Standard Mill and portions of the newest acquisition to Bodie State Historic Park. We owe a lot of this to the dedication of Walt

Stone and Chris Spiller. Summer 1998 was Chris' first season working for the Friends of Bodie in a mostly interpretive position.

### Collections Management

Judy Polanich, our new Sierra District Curator submitted two projects to the Sierra State Parks Foundation Board of Directors this winter. The first is duplication of historic photos so the originals can be protected and the copies used for reference. The second project is a museum work party to clean artifact displays in the museum. The photo duplication is in progress now, and the museum work party will begin sometime in the Fall when the park begins to quiet down and seasonal housing is available.

Speaking of the museum...next time you visit you may notice some new lighting hanging from the ceiling. During the Fall of '98 Andrew Holm spent three days crawling around in the attic, running flex cable, and teetering on ladders to revamp the museum electric wiring. The system is now more user friendly, safe, and we can actually see behind the stage and in our book storage areas. Thanks Andrew.

When you visit the museum...say hello to Julia. She is returning for her 6th season and does a great job handling...just about everything.

### Stabilization

We are still 'in the money' for stabilization of buildings with funding from the Environmental License Plate funds. Another package was submitted for 1998/99. Actual work will probably begin during the summer of 2000. We are hopeful that the on-going stabilization program for Bodie can truly be on-going.

### Friends of Bodie Day

We will be making plans for Friends of Bodie Day very soon. It is scheduled for August 21st. If you have any ideas or would like to help... let us know.

I know a lot more went on in 1998...but...for someone who could not think of anything more to talk about than the weather at the beginning of this ...I've probably done well.

Thank you to all of our members, donors, and volunteers. We appreciate you helping us to keep Bodie "the wildest camp in the West."

## From Where I Sit Notes From the Museum Desk

The Bodie museum saw 86,307 visitors pass through the doors last year. This number is down from the previous year, but with snow on the ground until late May, this number was generous.

Last summer the museum was visited several times by new district curator Judy Polanich to make sure everything is in order. On one visit Judy and her assistant cleared loose debris from several of the display cases. They also conducted specialized cleaning of the two hearses on display.

During the fall an overall cleaning was carried out by a group of photography student volunteers from San Clemente High School. They did a great job!

The sales area continues to expand. For the first time, the sales area offers fiction based in Bodie. The Valley of the Peacemaker trilogy by W. E. Davis includes *The Gathering Storm*, *The Proving Ground*, and *The Refining Fire* with characters and historic events taken from the history of Bodie and Mono County. *Geology of the Mono Basin* is an easy to understand book on the geologic formation and history of Mono Lake and the Bodie Hills published by the Mono Lake Committee. New for children is the illustrated *A Pika's Tail* telling of the life of a pika like those living above Bodie. Back in print after lengthy absences are *The Highest School in California* and *Poag's Guide to Shopkeepers and Shootists of Bodie*. *The Highest School* tells about the teachers and attendance throughout Bodie's history. *Poag's Guide*

is an updated and expanded version of his previous book about the businesses in downtown Bodie during the boom era. New to us this summer was Mark Twain's classic *Roughing It* telling of his adventures at Mono Lake; and at Bodie's sister city in Nevada, Aurora.

For the first time at Bodie copper, nickel and a limited edition silver medallions are available. The silver coin commemorates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Standard Consolidated Stamp Mill.

The video *The Goldseeker* previewed at the 1996 Friends of Bodie Night is now available, as well as music by the Black Irish Band and Wild Mountain Tyme, the groups that played at the 1998 Friends of Bodie Night.

Don't forget the Bodie Color Photo Calendar. There are still a few 1999's left at a bargain price, and the 2000 calendar will be available in early spring.

The museum sales area is moving into the future with credit card service. Available in May, you will now have a new payment option. This will also allow for phone in mail orders for faster and more convenient service.

Your next visit to the museum will be even brighter thanks to the effort of volunteer Andrew Holm. With Friends of Bodie purchasing supplies and great help, a new lighting system has replaced the old lights. The old wiring dated from the 1930's and was unreliable and a fire hazard. The new system improves visibility, ends the fire danger and maintains a somewhat historic look in the historic Union Hall.

## New Friends of Bodie Day A Success

The largest ever Friends of Bodie event was held this year as a membership drive with activities lasting all day and into the evening. The day began with several Bodie photographers displaying their works in the County Barn. The photos were available for viewing or for purchase with a portion of the proceeds going to Friends of Bodie.

Also available that day were four prominent authors. W. E. Davis (*Valley of the Peacemaker Trilogy*), Roger McGrath (*Gunfighters, Highwaymen, and Vigilantes*), Jan Pierson (*Goodbye God, I'm Going to Bodie*), and George Williams (*Rosa May, Guide to Bodie*) were available for signing and discussion of their books.

Later in the afternoon there was live period music by the Black Irish Band of Sonora and Wild Mountain Tyme of the eastern Sierra.

After the park closed, Friends of Bodie were able to stay for a light catered supper.

After dinner an open discussion was hosted by Cooperating Association Liaison and Supervising Ranger J. Brad Sturdivant.

The evening finished with two living history presentations given by volunteers Joanne Allen and Dave James on reminiscences on life in Bodie by Mildred Hoover, and the hazards of working the Stamp Mill respectively.

There are still a few of the limited

edition T-shirts sold to commemorate the evening available for \$10.00 each. If you are interested contact the park.

We hope to see everyone at next year's event on August 21, 1999.

## Mono Lake on the Rise

By Jan Carle  
Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve

The El Niño winter had its effect on Mono Lake during the winter of 1997/98. The lake rose about two feet from its level of the previous year, and is now about where it was in 1973. The State Water Resources Control Board ordered a rise in the lake in 1994, allowing previously diverted streams to fill the lake until the elevation is 6,382 feet above sea level. Four wet winters in a row have caused the lake to rise faster than anyone expected.

Tufa towers previously high and dry on land are now rising out of lake water. It is an interesting time to visit and see all the recent changes. The Mono Basin Visitor Center is open throughout the winter, Thursday through Monday from 9 to 4. Guided walks are offered all year long at 1 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays at the South Tufa Area. Another recent development is the installation of three state of the art chemical toilets at South Tufa.

Bodie is now on the World Wide Web.

The official web site is:

[www.ceres.ca.gov/sierradsp/bodie](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/sierradsp/bodie)

Our e-mail address is :

[bodie@qnet.com](mailto:bodie@qnet.com)

## Tours Prove Popular

This past season, 13,757 visitors took advantage of the park's tours, talks and videos offered from May through October.

During the peak season, (mid-June through Labor Day) five (and sometimes six) tours of the Standard Consolidated Mill were offered daily as well as a daily Ridge Tour. On certain days, extended Ridge Tours were offered, to allow visitors to spend a little more time in the Bodie Mining District, the newest area of the park.

Besides free daily history talks during the peak season, park staff opened up the county barn for free weekend showings of the video, *Bodie: Ghost Town Frozen in Time*. The 12:15 p.m. showings were well attended and visitors seemed to enjoy this new event.

Mill Tours drew the most numbers with 7,000 going on the tours. Ridge Tours were not as well attended as hoped with 600 signing up. Friends of Bodie Interpreters Walt Stone and Christine Spiller did the bulk of these tours. Also doing mill tours, history talks and introductions of the video, were Park Aides Jill Lachman, Ron Matty, Sonnet Pierce, Heather Baldry and Student Conservation Association Interns Jane Huston, and Jennifer Sellers. Volunteers Ed and Joanne Allen, Dave James and Rangers John Hughes and Mark Langner also did tours and talks.

For the 1999 season, we plan to

keep the same number of mill tours and continue with history talks and video showings in the peak season. Ridge tours will be conducted five days a week. Tours will start Memorial Day Weekend.

New this season are private mill and ridge tours. You and your friends can arrange for your own tour of the mill or the ridge by calling at least two weeks in advance. Call the park for specific information on these tours or pick up one of the interpretive brochures at the park.

## Volunteers in Action



Joanne Allen giving a Mill Tour.  
Picture by C. Spiller

### Summer Tour Schedule

Standard Mill Tours: \$3 per person. Daily at 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 1 p.m. & 3 p.m.  
Ridge Tour: \$3 per person. Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday at 3:30 p.m.  
90-minute Ridge Tour: \$5 per person. Fridays: 4-5:50 p.m.  
History Talk: Free. Daily, 2:15 p.m.  
Bodie Video: Free. Weekends only at 12:15 p.m. at County Barn, near the museum.

## Hey It's Good To Be Back Home Again...

Years before Bodie became a State Historic Park and a National Historic Landmark, a lone private watchman was kept busy protecting the town from treasure hunting collectors. What we'd call theft now, was approached as more of a treasure hunt free-for-all in the 1940s and 50s. Many irreplaceable artifacts departed town in the pockets and trunks of enthusiastic visitors.

Fortunately, folks are rediscovering some of the lost treasures "collected" from Bodie. As attics and garages are cleaned, as people move from one house to another, as objects are inherited and passed along, Bodie artifacts are turning up. Aside from the *somewhat* believable Bodie Curse (see sidebar page 7), many people feel that what once belonged in Bodie should be returned to Bodie where everyone can enjoy, appreciate and learn from it.

The park has received a diverse assortment of Bodie memorabilia this summer:

- A 500-pound metal shaper that was, somehow, removed from the Standard Mill machine shop.
- The Bodie Miners Union records from 1889 to 1903 that were borrowed from the Miners Union Hall in the 1940s.
- An orange and white leather firefighters helmet from the Bodie Fire Brigade.

- A huge type setting table from a Bodie newspaper which found its way back to Bodie after a residence in a Mammoth Lakes home and a Bishop antique shop.
- A pair of rustic trunks from a Bodie boarding house run by the donor's grandmother.
- Branding Irons
- Portable weighing scales
- Clock from the school house
- Numerous on site finds.

Bodie State Park is interested in additional donations of genuine Bodie artifacts. Each item we receive is an additional piece of the historic jigsaw puzzle of the lives and times of Bodie. If you have an item you would like to donate back to the Park please give us a call. Who knows, in addition to a good feeling for a good deed (and perhaps a good house cleaning), maybe your donation *will indeed* bring you a turn of good luck.

### PARK HOURS

Or as posted

- 8 am – 4 pm End of Day Light Savings to March 1<sup>st</sup>
- 8 am – 5 pm March 1<sup>st</sup> to Day Light Savings
- 8 am – 6 pm Day Light Savings to first Sat. prior to Memorial Day weekend
- 8 am – 7 pm First Sat. prior to Memorial Day w/e thru mid-September
- 8 am – 6 pm Mid-September thru Columbus Day weekend
- 8 am – 5 pm After Columbus Day weekend to end of Day Light Savings

## **Thomas Leggett Brings Electricity to Bodie**

In four short years, Thomas Haight Leggett made his mark on Bodie. During his time as Standard Consolidated Mill and Mine Manager from 1891-1895, Leggett was successful in coaxing more gold and silver out of old tailings at the Standard Consolidated with the relatively new cyanide process. But Leggett is most remembered for bringing electricity to Standard Consolidated for operation of the mill.

The Standard Mill's steam engine required almost 20 cords of wood a day in Leggett's time. At a cost of \$10 a cord, he found the company faced very large fuel bills. In his paper, read before the American Institute of Mining Engineers in February 1894, Leggett stated monthly fuel bills of the 20-stamp mill often amounted to \$2,000.

"In casting about for a remedy, I found that L.L. Nunn, at Telluride, Colorado, had, in 1892-93, put in a power transmission about three miles long using the Westinghouse single-phase synchronous system to operate a small mill," Leggett told an interviewer in 1922. "Finding water-power 13 miles distant from Bodie we concluded that if power could be carried three miles it would be fairly safe to try it for 13."

The water-power, or hydroelectric plant, was located on Green Creek in the Sierra Nevada near Bridgeport. Today, only a few foundations and the dynamo pond remain.

In his early investigations, Leggett made a decision that guaranteed him a place in history.

"On consulting the General Electric Co.'s representatives at San Francisco, I found the development of power-transmission by electricity was in such an early stage that they were still wedded to the direct current, and little as I knew about electricity, I felt the uncertainty of the methods they proposed."

He then consulted with another engineer and made the decision to use alternating current. "This resulted in tying up with the Westinghouse company which took the contract to carry the power for that distance--13 miles--using a 250-kw generator at the water power end, direct-connected with Pelton water-wheels under 300-ft head, without transformers, the current being generated at 3,000 volts and carried on No. 1 bare copper wire to Bodie."

When the switch was thrown, this was one of the first long-distance transmissions of alternating current in the United States.

By 1893, the mill was running on electricity most of the time but it wasn't until summer 1894 that the steam engine and boilers were totally disconnected. Leggett mentions "difficulties" in protecting the motor and the generator from lightning and static electricity in the high elevation of Bodie. The lightning rod atop the Standard Mill testifies to some of those difficulties.

Leggett was born at Flushing, Long Island, in 1859. He was a graduate of the class of '79 at Columbia School of Mines. He came to Bodie from a position at the Darien Gold Mining Company, located on a peninsula 150 miles southeast of Panama on a plateau about 2,000 above sea level. (cont. on next page) Leggett found the rainy climate bad for

his health and didn't stay as long as he hoped.

After resting at home for six months, he took the position at Bodie. In the 1922 interview published in the San Francisco Mining and Scientific Press, Leggett stated Bodie had a climate described as "nine months winter and three months late in the fall."

### Bodie Tunnel Mine Update

Progress is slow on opening the mine. An agreement between the Bureau of Land Management and the Friends of Bodie is in the works. The state parks will not be part of the agreement, as the mine opening is on BLM land and the FOB will actually finance the development of the mine and operate the mine tours.



July 4th Parade in Bridgeport. Left to right: Julia Hayen, Heather Baldry, Ron Matty, Denise Lydestron, Dave James, unknown volunteer, Allison James, Sonnet Pierce and Slim Osborne was the driver.

### The BODIE CURSE

"I'm not usually superstitious but..."

Several times each month the Park receives a small package in the mail and a short, usually unsigned, letter that begins with some variation of the above. Inside the package is a rusty nail, a tiny button, a piece of purpled glass or some such souvenir item that was taken from Bodie. Some folks are lifting the burden of a guilty conscience by returning something that was stolen from the park; taking *anything* from the park is illegal. But many others are more than a little worried about the infamous Bodie Curse.

Rumor has it that items taken from Bodie carry with them the heavy weight of Bad Luck. Many folks take the Curse quite seriously and attempt to escape it by returning pilfered items to the Park. Letters describe misfortunes that range from humorously slapstick to severely tragic. The returnees claim ill tidings of ruined romances, financial downturns, automotive mishaps, ill health, family troubles and general bad karma – all due to the item they stole from the town. On display at the Bodie Museum is a binder containing of some of the more interesting letters we have received.

### Bodie Bottled Water

Starting the summer of 1999, bottled water with the Bodie label will be sold at the park. Should we have a new label each year? A label contest? What do you think? Let us know.

## Letter to Jack Shipley (Bodie Jack) from Mr. Zady Kriel

Dear Mr. Shipley:

I received an interesting booklet on Bodie. You have quite properly concentrated on the 19th century history, but the brief resurrection in 1936-37 deserves some mention.

The Harveys who lived in the Mc Millan House, #51 were my parents, Clyde and Annis. Clyde was 42, an auto mechanic, electrician and welder in Berkeley when he went bankrupt. Friends in Nevada told him that a Mr. Von Klipstein from L.A. was trying to revive the cyanide mill at Bodie, to work the tailings. Mr. Bleckenstaff, the first superintendent, put Clyde in charge of keeping the engines and pumps running. (For a time, the company tried to pump water out of the Red Cloud Mine, but this proved impossible.)

The mill ran 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in three shifts, but Harvey was on call any time anything went wrong. He learned as he went along; Blickenstaff left, replaced by a Mr. Peters, an engineer from San Francisco.



Post Office in 1937 at Bodie with postmans snow sled. Can you guess which building this is today?

Meanwhile, Annis had cleaned, painted and papered the McMillan House. The company had one of the men repair the roof and provided an oil-burning heating stove. There was a living room with guest couch, a bedroom, a kitchen, and a lean-to pantry uninsulated, in which a side of beef could hang all winter; frozen steaks and roasts to be cut with a hacksaw. Outside, down a path with head-high snow walls, was the back house.

When my parents left Berkeley for Bodie, I found myself a housework job for room and board and continued at University. Christmas vacation, 1936, I took the Greyhound to Bridgeport and rode the postman's sled to Bodie. (See picture lower left. Can you guess which house was the Post Office?)

We had a kerosene lantern under our laprobe to keep our feet warm. I found the guest couch in the Harveys' living room comfortable, what with the oil stove and several comforters, but the storm howled outside. I watched snow blown through the keyhole six feet into the room, and round spots of frost on the wallpaper marked nailheads in the walls.

In 1937 the Harveys moved to a flat in the Hoover House (the other half of the duplex was occupied by the assayer Fitzsimmons and his wife Audrey).

Other people who worked at Bodie at this time were Connie Cane, Bill Bacon, one of the Bells, and Spence Gregory (on rare the occasion he was needed), all local people. There was a group of workers from Jackson and other parts of the California motherload, there was the extensive Grimes family from a

remote section of Appalachia, there was the Maher (sp?) family from Alabama who kept the store and post office, and in 1937 the son of Von Klipstein the promoter, who brought his young citybred bride to a house rewired, plumbed and redecorated (I'm sorry I can't recall which house).

Regarding #32, Sam Leon Bar: If this is a 1937 reference, you already know about the Chinese Sam, who ran a profitable (for him) poker game downstairs and a discreet house of prostitution upstairs. He was well liked by everyone in town.

The Union Hall was the site of impromptu dances (there was no Miners Union, nor any other, in the 1930's). There was an up-right piano, played by one of the wives, and the crew generally produced a banjo, a fiddle or a guitar. The hardwood floor was kept in good condition, benches lined the walls and everyone came, even children, except the shift on duty at the Mill.

Next door the Morgue was kept locked, but you could see through the window a marvelous antique hearse, with black plumes at four corners, and a stained canvas stretcher. In the cemetery were wooden headstones, long since scoured clean of the lampblack paint, which had nevertheless protected the wood it covered, leaving the letters and numbers raised and legible. In 1936 or '37, Mr. Miller (of the boarding house) died and Clyde and Annis went to his funeral. It snowed, and the wind played havoc with the floral

pieces.

You mention that it invariably snowed on Washington's birthday. In the thirties, any local inhabitant would bet any amount that it would snow on the 30th of May, and find ready takers from any tourists on hand, surrounded as they were by dry sand, sagebrush and cloudless sky. I was present when it did (snow) so in 1937 and again in 1963 when I visited the new Historic State Park with my son Hans. Knowing the climate of Bodie, I am willing to believe that the locals still have a sure thing.

Clyde and Annis Harvey died, each at 84, in 1979 and 1983.

Best Regards, *Zady Kriel*

## **New Cemetery Brochure**

Cindy Hughes has completed a brochure on the Bodie Cemetery. It is available for \$1.00 at the Museum. All proceeds go to maintenance and stabilization of the cemetery

## **Think of the Friends of Bodie in Your Will**

You can make a lasting contribution towards protecting Bodie State Historic Park by naming the Friends of Bodie in your will. The Friends of Bodie/ Sierra State Parks Foundation is a non-profit corporation with a current business address of P.O. Box 266, Tahoma, CA 96142. Consult your attorney regarding bequests.

## **Stabilization in Bodie Or Why Doesn't It Fall Down?**

Often during a visit in any but the coldest conditions you will hear the sound of a hammer ring across the Bodie Bowl. Visitors are confused because they understand that Bodie is a ghost town and is not being restored. This is true, but much covert work is needed to maintain the buildings in their state of arrested decay. Simply, this means that the buildings will never be restored, but kept in the condition they were in when Bodie became a state historic park in 1962.

Most frequently this means a new roof and foundation to help protect and support the structure. Historically most of the houses were built on supports over a rock foundation. Additional supports are added to keep the building from sinking into the ground. Usually other repairs are needed to the interior as well.

Last year the stabilization crew at Bodie worked on four buildings. The Kirkwood House had the roof and foundation worked on as well as a porch, a chimney and several doors rebuilt. The McMillian West house was made weather tight, another primary goal in the building stabilization of Bodie. By making sure all of the holes are repaired, the building is protected against further deterioration, as well as protecting any artifacts inside the building. A sleigh barn across from the museum was worked on during the fall. Foundation supports were installed and parts of a wall and the roof replaced based on photographs from 1958. When working on the Pat Reddy house, a map of the properties on Bonanza St. (aka Maiden Lane or Virgin Alley) was found and removed to storage for conservation.

The first building in the new acquisition of land in the historic mining district was worked on this summer as a joint project between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Bodie State Historic Park Staff. The materials were purchased by BLM with

Bodie supplying the staff and skill although the BLM archaeologist was seen swinging a hammer. The BLM Wildland Fire crew from Conway Summit also volunteered a day to work on this project. We hope this is the first of many such joint projects between Bodie and BLM.

This Fall saw the departure of three staff from the maintenance crew. Maintenance Supervisor Jack Cameron transferred to Mt. Diablo district. Maintenance Mechanic Charles Fell transferred to the Empire Mine district after eight years at Bodie. Mike Whitsel, Maintenance Worker I, departed Bodie for the Empire Mine district also after 12 years as a seasonal employee at Bodie. We wish them all the best in their new endeavors.

The Friends of Bodie would like to thank the following people for their generous contributions over the last year.

Barron Hilton

New Life Members of Friends of Bodie

Danny Cypert  
Cynthia Burrell  
Curtis Shepard  
Richard Peterson  
Wes Staney  
John Houghton Jr. & Susan Stull  
Gary Medina & Teresa  
Gonzalez

Memorial Donations

Mrs. Evelyn Tracy  
Mrs. Fern Gray Tracy

We also want to thank all the members that continue to renew their memberships every year. It is contributions like yours that make the Friends of Bodie possible.

### **Poetry**

Bodie is frequently the inspiration for creative endeavors from painting, photography and song to poetry. See the next page for two fine examples of poetry.

## EVALYN by Roderic Mac Duff

She was only a child named Evalyn  
Three years she had played in the sand  
And the rocks and sage around Bodie  
That hard and desolate land

She befriended a miner named Charley  
A drunkard the "good" townsfolk say  
But that didn't bother sweet Evalyn  
As she followed his footsteps each day

Snow was still on the ground that April  
But spring thaw was well on its way  
As Charley and sweet little Evalyn  
Walked along Green street that day

Then Charley thought he saw paydirt  
And his pick he swung over his head  
But Evalyn who was standing behind him  
Was struck and lay pitifully dead

'Twas something he just couldn't live with  
"An accident" the high sheriff did say  
So Charley left that cursed town in the morning  
And he took his own life the next day

A tombstone was erected for Evalyn  
With an Angel so young and so fair  
Seated on top of the marble  
With the short life of Evalyn carved there

What's this! The Angel is pointing  
To the wound on Evalyn's head  
And those who have seen the tombstone  
Many a sorrowful tear they have shed

So you who are hearing my story  
And know of this town and its sights  
Say a prayer for The Angel of Bodie  
That she may sleep well tonight

And please also say one for old Charley  
The miner who took an innocent life  
He's the ghost who roams these old mountains  
And who's moans speak of sadness and strife

Now that you've learned of sweet Evalyn  
Reflect on the story I've told  
Forget not The Angel of Bodie  
And this wind blown land of gold.

## BODIE by E.R. Case

I've walked these streets of Bodie,  
While this town was still a ghost,  
I drank my beer in that old saloon,  
With a skeleton as host.

My guide that day was a mining man,  
Who'd lived here as a boy,  
And the tales he told were beyond belief,  
But a pleasure, and enjoyed.

He told me of when all the kids would steal,  
The food offerings which had been left for the dead,

From the ancient tower in the Chinese Joss house,  
Which was located just 'round that bend,

He said that often when somebody died  
From gunshots they got in the street,  
They were then buried right there where they lay,  
No marker at their head or feet.

No one thought to mark old Body's grave,  
When he cashed in his big pile of chips,  
His gravestone now sits on an empty grave,  
With no body in repose lying under it.

The church building stands on its hallowed ground,  
Not a trace of the old paint remains  
It's still a welcome and comforting sight,  
Strong, and it's aura maintains.

The current museum in the Miner's Hall,  
Was established long ago by my guide,  
He wandered through these deserted old houses,  
Confiscating everything in his sight.

He placed them all here for the public view,  
He never did charge any fee,  
But hen he would talk to us hours on end,  
His guests, just like you and like me.

The firehouse stands on Main street still,  
Across the street, Wells Fargo,  
Which stood quite near the Leon Bar,  
Where miners dumped their cargo.

The Morgue's still there on Main and Green,  
Lit's much the worse for wear,  
But since the clients are now all dead,  
I don't think they really care.

Dechambeau's Hotel and Post Office,  
Has been converted to a bar,  
And this is where I had my beer,  
Quite near where I parked my car.

Today no one's allowed to park there,  
It's restricted, if you will,  
You have to park a mile away,  
Down the street from old Boot Hill.

I remember my kids when they played at roulette,  
With our guide who gave buttons for money,  
He spun the big wheel then picked up their cash,  
They went broke so fast it was funny.

He taught them a lesson, he said with a grin,  
One they could profit by learning,  
Gambling is bad and will cost you a bundle,  
Not a shortcut to add to your earnings

I loved this old town just the way that it was,  
Not changed to this new modern way,  
The fact it's a park may be good for its health,  
But no ghosts walk these streets of today.

"Goodbye God, I'm going to Bodie",  
Is the saying which belongs to this town,  
I'm glad that I knew it before this sad change,  
With its ghost of great fame and renown.

## FRIENDS OF BODIE MAIL ORDER LISTING

Send mail orders with payment to:  
 BODIE STATE HISTORIC PARK  
 P.O. BOX 515, BRIDGEPORT, CA 93517

Make checks or money orders out to "**Friends of Bodie**". Prices include sales tax and postage.  
 Orders from outside U.S.A. add \$3.00 per book to the regular price, and send Postal Money Order.  
 \* If you are a Friends of Bodie member you may order using the FOB discount price.

<b>BOOKS</b>	<b>REGULAR PRICE</b>	<b>DISCOUNT PRICE *</b>
Bodie Brochure (English)	2.00	2.00
Bodie Brochure (German)	2.00	2.00
Bodie Cemetery Brochure	2.00	2.00
Aurora	8.50	7.20
<u>Bodie 1859 -1900</u>	16.50	13.70
Bodie and Esmeralda	6.50	5.50
<u>Bodie Bonanza</u>	16.50	13.70
<u>Bodie Boom Town, Gold Town</u>	8.50	7.20
Bodie SHP Resouce Mgmt. & General Development Plan	8.00	6.90
California Historical Landmarks	15.50	12.90
California State Parks, A Visitor's Guide	18.75	15.50
California's Eastern Sierra - A Visitor's Guide	20.75	17.10
Fieldcard - Birds of the Sierra Nevada	4.25	3.60
Fieldcard - Mammals of the Sierra Nevada	4.25	3.60
The Gathering Storm ( <i>trilogy</i> )	15.25	12.70
The Proving Ground	15.25	12.70
The Refining Fire	15.25	12.70
Geology of the Mono Basin	8.50	7.20
<u>Ghost Town of Bodie</u>	10.75	9.00
Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of California	17.50	14.50
Goodbye God, I'm Going to Bodie ( <i>children's fiction</i> )	12.50	10.40
Great Bodie Activity Book ( <i>children</i> )	6.00	5.20
Guide to Bodie	13.50	11.30
Gunfighters, Highwaymen & Vigilantes	18.75	15.50
Highest School in California	6.50	5.50
Man From Mono	14.50	12.10
Mark Twain: His Adventures in Aurora & Mono Lake	10.50	8.80
Mining Camp Days	16.50	13.70
Mono Diggings	16.50	13.70
Mono Lake Guidebook	11.50	9.60
Nevada Ghost Towns	18.50	15.30
Nine for California ( <i>children's hardback</i> )	19.50	16.10
Paiute, Prospector, Pioneer	12.75	10.80
Photographing Bodie	9.50	8.00
A Pika's Tail	12.75	10.60
<u>Poag's Guide to Shopkeepers and Shootists of Bodie</u> ( <i>children</i> )	19.75	16.20
Rosa May	14.50	12.10
Roughing It	9.50	8.00
Sagebrush Country	17.75	14.70
Soiled Doves	15.50	12.90
Stoke's Beginning Guide to Western Birds	10.50	8.80
<u>Story of Bodie</u>	15.50	12.90
Story of Early Mono County	15.00	12.40
<i><u>Underlined books specifically Bodie History</u></i>		

Trip to Bodie Bluff	7.50	6.40
Women of the Sierra	15.50	12.90
<b>Historic Bodie Newspaper Reprints (Set of 3)</b>	5.00 set	4.30
<b>Postcards:</b> Set of 5 (Town, Church, Wheel, School & Miners' Union)	2.50 set	2.50
<b>Posters (Please note your selection)</b>		
Angel, Miner's Union Hall, or View up Green Street	10.50 each	9.00
<b>1880 Map of Bodie</b>	6.50	5.70
<b>Calendar:</b> 1999 color calendar with 16 images of Bodie	10.00	8.60
2000 color calendar with 16 images of Bodie	13.00	11.00
<b>Pins:</b> Bodie Main St.(green or buff)	4.50 each	3.70
<b>Medallions:</b> Bronze: Bodie or CA Sesquicentennial	5.00 each	4.40
Nickel w/ gold flake: CA Sesquicentennial	8.00 each	6.80
<b>Bodie video:</b> "Bodie -- Ghost Town Frozen in Time"	33.00	27.00
"The Goldseeker"	23.00	19.00

## New Bodie Theater

The Bodie Maintenance shop is relocating down the road past the picnic area to what we call the 270 Shed. This should take place during the summer of 1999, and the main work area will be converted to a enclosed, heated theater. This was made possible by a \$20,000.00 donation by Mr. Hilton. We will show the movie *Bodie: The Ghost Town Frozen In Time*, and show mill tour videos and other videos for disabled persons.

## Monument Moved

The monument located across the street from the Miners Union Hall was moved last summer to the parking lot by the volunteer group E Clampus Vitis at the request of the Parks Department. This is to maintain an historic appearance in the town of Bodie. Thanks Clampers.

## Would you like to work and live in a ghost town for the summer?

**Bodie State Historic Park**, near Bridgeport, California, hires seasonal visitor services and maintenance park aides and museum staff each summer season. **State housing may be available on site.** Bodie is located in the beautiful Eastern Sierra and is a short distance from Yosemite National Park, Mono Lake and many hiking and backpacking areas.

Bodie was known as one of the wildest mining towns and at one time boasted a population of nearly 10,000. The park receives about 200,000 visitors a year from all over the world. There are opportunities to use German/French language skills. Applications will be accepted on the Standard California State Application (STP678), available at most California State Offices. **Applications are due NO LATER THAN MARCH 1** of the year you wish to work. Submit to Bodie State Historic Park, P. O. Box 515, Bridgeport, CA 93517. You may contact Bodie at (760) 647-6445 or FAX (760) 647-6486 for information about the following positions.

### Visitors Services Park Aides

**\$7.30/hour**

#### Purchase of state uniform required

These positions will be under the supervision of the Supervising Ranger. Positions vary from 3-6 months.

### Business Manager

**\$7.45 to \$8.75/hour**

This position will be paid by the Friends of Bodie under the supervision of the Supervising Ranger and Unit Ranger. The position will be responsible for operation of the museum sales area, greeting visitors to the museum/ visitors' center, and clerical duties as necessary. Position will be approximately 8 months (April 1 to November 30).

### Maintenance Park Aides

**\$7.30 an hour**

#### Purchase of state uniform required

These positions will be under the supervision of the Maintenance Mechanic or Worker I. Positions vary from 3-6 months.

### Museum Assistant

**\$7.30 to \$8.15**

This position will be paid by the Friends of Bodie under the supervision of the Supervising Ranger, Unit Ranger and Business Manager. The position will be responsible for operation of the museum sales area, greeting visitors to the museum/ visitors' center, and clerical duties as necessary. Position will be approximately 5 months (mid-May to mid-October).

## Workers and Volunteers

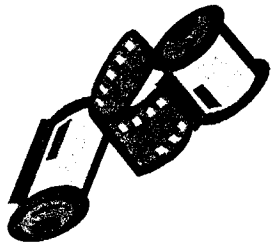


Dave James and Sonnet Pierce in costume. Dave gave many History talks and helped with July 4th weekend and Friends of Bodie Day. Sonnet started as a volunteer intern for SCA (Student Conservation Association), then became a paid park employee.

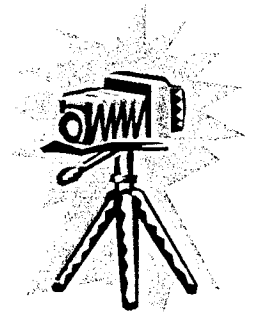
## More Volunteer Pictures



Ed Allen leading a tour at the Mill. He and his wife Joanne gave tours for a month on their vacation last summer. They are a very dedicated and knowledgeable couple.



## BODIE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS 1998



The Bodie photography workshops, offered through The Friends of Bodie, provide unique photographic opportunities and instruction. During these workshops the participant will have the opportunity to photograph Bodie at sunrise, sunset, and selected building interiors. A large portion of the proceeds from the workshops goes to The Friends of Bodie to help fund management, protection, and interpretation at Bodie.

The leaders of these workshops are professional photographers and experienced workshop leader. The workshop leaders, tentative dates, and fees are listed below. **For further information and registration please contact the workshop leaders.**

**Jan Ray**, 10411 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. Hesperia, CA 92345, (760) 947-6734  
**Dates:** Aug. 28-30  
**Fee:** \$325

**Bob Cumming**, 14090 Flower Street #4, Garden Grove, CA, 92843, (714) 638-9744  
**Dates:** Sept. 13-15, Sept. 16-18  
**Fee:** \$200

**Thomas Morse**, P.O. Box 30866, Santa Barbara, CA, 93130, (805) 682-3398  
**Dates:** July 25-29, Aug. 1-5, Aug. 22-26, Sept. 7-10  
**Fee:** \$465

**Noella Ballanger & Associates**, P.O. Box 457, La Canada, CA, 91012, (818) 954-0933  
**Dates:** May 6-7, Oct. 7-8  
**Fee:** \$330

**Jill A. Lachman Photography**, 2536 Tahoe, Hayward, CA 94545, (510) 330-4183  
**Dates:** Oct. 3-6, Oct. 9-11  
**Fee:** \$250

**Daniel McIntyre**, 31921 Camino Capistrano #119, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675  
(714) 493-5943  
**Dates:** July 9-11, July 13-15, Aug. 13-15, and Aug 16-18  
Call Mr. McIntyre for workshop costs.

**Phil Raymond, Photo Insight**, P.O. Box 1572, Boulder Creek, CA 95006, (408) 338-7262  
**Dates:** June 24-28  
**Fee:** Contact for availability and cost.

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### PHOTOGRAPHERS' DAYS

The Friends of Bodie will be hosting a Photographers' Day one day each month during the summer. They will be on the 3rd Saturday of each month starting in May and ending in October. During this day photographers are allowed to enter the park 1/2 hour before sunrise and stay until 1/2 hour after sunset. Limited to 50 people per day. Cost is \$30 (\$20 for FOB members).

**Reservations are required.** For further information and reservations contact Bodie at (760) 647-6445 or E-mail at [bodie@qnet.com](mailto:bodie@qnet.com)

I believe Bodie has a future and I want to be a part of it! Enroll me as a Friend of Bodie in the category checked.

Name _____	<b>Membership</b>
Address _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Copper
City _____ State _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Silver
Zip _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Gold
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 W.S. Bodey
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Life
	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal

Donation, without membership.

Please send information on how I can volunteer my time.

**Bodie State Historic Park  
P.O. Box 515  
Bridgeport, CA 93517**