

THE BODIE TIMES

PROTECTING BODIE'S FUTURE BY PRESERVING ITS PAST

THE NEWS OF BODIE, MONO LAKE & GROVER HOT SPRINGS
BodieFoundation.org

VOLUME X

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NUMBER 1

Railway Windows Installed



Photo by Alexandra Neeb, CA State Parks

Bay Area District Restoration Work Specialist Tim Wood installs a new window at the Bodie railway office.

**By Alexandra Neeb
Sierra District Chief of Cultural
Resources and Partnerships**

After several years, the Railway Terminal building at Bodie State Historic Park finally has second floor windows once again. Last September, Capital District Restoration Work Supervisor Tim White, Bay Area District Restoration Work Specialist Tim Wood, Sierra District Park Maintenance Aide Melinda Meyer, and Sierra District Cultural Resources Chief Alex Neeb reinstalled 10 windows that were reconstructed or replicated during the May 2023 Historic Wood Windows training at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park.

The Bodie rail office windows were essentially reduced to bits and pieces, so while some could be repaired, many had to be reconstructed. Following the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties, the project aimed to reuse as much of the existing sashes as possible and used the remaining pieces to have replacement in-kind Douglas fir milled to the

See Railway Windows, Page 7

Executive Director's Report Busy Bodie Season Ahead

**By Jessica Schneider
Bodie Foundation
Executive Director**

At the time of this writing, Highway 270 into Bodie has just opened, and the season is off to a much earlier start than last year! We are working on getting the Museum bookstore open, Stamp Mill tours going, Private Tours booked and Photo Workshops up and running. We hope to see you in and around Bodie for one of our many programs and events happening throughout spring, summer and fall.

This Year's Events

Our Ghost Walks aren't completely full for the year: If you haven't already reserved a spot, grab yours before they sell out! We added an extra night this year, so there should be room for everyone.

Our long-running event, FOB Day, has been split into two days (and two separate events) to accommodate kids going back to school earlier. The daytime events of the past FOB Day will now be the Living History Day on July 27. Friends of Bodie Dinner will still be August 10, but will now only be an evening dinner and interpretive event as a thank-you to our members.

The Pony Up! Fundraising Dinner will be at the Bridgeport Ranch Barns and Terrace on July 13. This date will be warmer and lighter than it was last year. We are looking forward to dancing the night away after a great

See Executive Director's Report, Page 3

Welcome To New Board Member, Rangers



Maureen McGlinchy

Maureen McGlinchy joined the Bodie Foundation Board of Trustees in Fall 2023. She has lived in the Eastern Sierra for 12 years, having moved to Mono City with her husband and two daughters in 2012. She has loved raising her girls in this quiet spot between Mono Lake, the Bodie Hills and the Sierra.

Maureen is the Hydrology Modeling and Membership Specialist for the Mono Lake Committee and is excited to bring her knowledge of Mono Lake to the Board.

She first visited Bodie in 2002, while working as a summer seasonal employee in Yosemite National Park. She loved the feeling of immersing in Bodie's history; it was such a

different experience of American history than in New Jersey, where she grew up. By now, she's toured nearly all of her visiting East Coast relatives around the park.

Maureen holds degrees in Natural Resource Management from the University of Connecticut and Forest Ecology from Oregon State University. At the Mono Lake Committee, her focus has been on the hydrology of the Mono Basin. She also maintains the organization's membership database.

Maureen enjoys skiing with her family, trail running with her dogs, reading on the couch with her cats, and daily crosswords.

Ian Jones

Ian Jones is the new Mono Lake Ranger. He was born and raised in Los Angeles and moved to Davis, CA for college. After graduating in 2019, he worked for California State Parks as a park aide in Bodie for two seasons. He was then accepted into the State Parks Ranger Academy and graduated in 2021.

His first post was working in the northern coast of California patrolling several redwood parks and coastal beaches near Crescent City,

CA. He then transferred to Mono Lake in the winter of 2024.

Working in the Eastern Sierra as a seasonal employee inspired him to explore all the area had to offer, both in and out of the park. "I'm excited to be back in the area full-time to keep on the adventure. In my spare time I enjoy hiking, fishing, rock climbing and photography. Feel free to say hi if you see me patrolling around the lake or in Bodie!"

Simone Durand

Simone Durand is a new ranger charged with protecting Bodie SHP. She is originally from the great state of Massachusetts but has lived in California since she was 10 years old.

During the summer of 2020, she completed her BA in Psychology at Sacramento State University and was simultaneously accepted into the California State Parks Ranger Academy at Butte College.

After completing this academy, she spent a little over two years in the redwoods along the northern coast of California before transferring here to Bodie. She looks forward to meeting everyone and working together to make Bodie an even better place to visit.

Tickets Still On Sale For 2024 Ghost Walks

There are still spots available for the 2024 Bodie Foundation Ghost Walks.

The dates are: June 29, July 20, Aug. 31, and Sept. 28. The park is also open until 10 p.m. for the public on these four nights.

The walks include the Ghost Walk Town Tour, the Stamp Mill Tour, and the Cemetery Tour. Tickets are purchased on our website, bodiefoundation.org/bodie-ghost-walks.

THE BODIE TIMES

THE NEWS OF BODIE, MONO LAKE and GROVER HOT SPRINGS

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— Executive Director's Report

Continued from Page 1

catered dinner and live auction. Bring a friend, or the whole family. It is sure to be a great night out on the town in Bridgeport.

Summer Projects

We are still working with State Parks to stabilize the Methodist Church. We only have \$6,000 left to reach our goal of \$75,000 to fund the entire project. We are so grateful to all of you who have donated (many more than once!). The focus of this year will be getting the contract out to bid and getting work done before snow flies again.

The Fouke House, which is in dire need of emergency stabilization, is on the State Parks stabilization docket this season as well. As a reminder, the Fouke needs an internal frame to which crews will attach each outside wall and the roof. We only have \$17,000 raised for this project which will likely cost us \$40,000. If you are looking for a place to help Bodie, this would be the area we could use funding the most.

Stage 1 of the Cemetery drainage project will begin as soon as the road opens for the season. This is a three-stage project, and Stage 1 will redirect the heavy flow of water that rushes through the cemetery, eroding gravesites and creating large ditches where visitors walk. The California Conservation Corps (CCC) crew will clear the ditch uphill of the cemetery and then bring in fill-dirt for the ditches and bases of gravesites. Of course, there will be a State Parks archaeologist on site to supervise any work done on or around graves. After drainage is fixed, the next stage will be to alter grade of the pedestrian walking path up to the cemetery from the road. Ideally, this path will be ADA accessible, but this will take

a significant amount of dirt work to achieve. Likely this stage will occur in 2025 or later. For us to complete all cemetery projects necessary to keep gravesites in good shape and the cemetery accessible to all, we need your help with funding! If you're interested in learning more about the Bodie Cemetery project, contact me at jessica@bodiefoundation.org.

Find Out More

Check out our pages to learn more about ongoing projects at Grover Hot Springs and Mono Lake Tufa State Natural

Reserve.

If all goes according to plan, we should have a very productive season in Bodie, both with interpretation and stabilization.

Remember, when you participate in a Bodie Foundation event or program, it goes toward our stabilization and interpretation goals in Bodie. Whether you are visiting the museum bookstore and buying a t-shirt, going on a Stamp Mill tour, attending our Pony Up! Fundraising Dinner, or renewing your membership, it all helps.

2025 Calendar Winners Announced



The 2025 Bodie Calendar is now on sale for \$14.95 at the Bodie Foundation's online store, bodiefoundation.org/store and at the Bodie Museum store. A team of judges viewed the over 200 entries and narrowed it down to our winning photos. Thank you to everyone who entered, and congratulations to the winners. The wonderful cover photo of the night sky over buildings on Main Street was taken by John Fisanotti.

Other calendar winners are Eric Draper, Carol Silveira, Kenneth Mark, Carey Schneider, Lori Hibbett, Ashley McCausland, Jeff Dean, Mike Walker, Bill Wages, Kristy Andrews, Kathy Triolo, Dave Hodge, Matthew Maloney, Richard Stanford and Gigi Dean.

Entries for the 2026 calendar contest can be accepted starting in late fall at bodiecalendarcontest.com.

Groups Seek Protections For Phalaropes

Editor's Note: Thank you to the Mono Lake Committee for this article.

On March 28, 2024, the Center for Biological Diversity led a diverse coalition of scientists and conservation groups, including the Mono Lake Committee, in filing a legal petition with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) seeking protections for the Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) under the Endangered Species Act. Wilson's Phalaropes are ever-popular visitors to Mono Lake, swooping in synchronized formations among Mono Lake's tufa towers and feasting on the lake's flies and shrimp in preparation for hemispheric migrations. The phalaropes inspire the Mono Lake Committee's work to restore Mono Lake to health and renew our commitment to ensuring that the decade-overdue management lake level of 6,392 feet is achieved.

And yet Wilson's Phalarope numbers in North America have fallen by 70% since the 1980s. The future of the species at Mono Lake is interwoven with Great Salt Lake in Utah and Lake Abert in Oregon. Forty to sixty percent of the world population of Wilson's Phalaropes—and up to 90% of the adults in the world—typically stage for fall migration simultaneously at these three lakes each year.

Mono Lake enjoys a measure of established, though as yet unfulfilled, protection. But its sister salt lakes—and thus Wilson's Phalaropes—are in a more dire situation. Great Salt Lake fell to its lowest level in recorded history in 2022, with salinities pushing high enough to threaten ecosystem



Photo courtesy of Ryan Carle

A Wilson's Phalarope swims on Mono Lake. A coalition of scientists and conservation groups are seeking protection for phalaropes under the Endangered Species Act.

collapse. Lake Abert functionally dried up at the same time.

The petition, which highlights the challenges facing Great Salt Lake, includes extensive discussion of Mono Lake's importance for the birds. The press release announcing the filing includes a quote from me:

"Thanks to citizen action that stopped the destruction of Mono Lake, we can still see tens of thousands of phalaropes winging in graceful formations among Mono Lake's tufa towers and feasting on the lake's flies and shrimp," said Geoffrey McQuilkin, executive director of the Mono Lake Committee. "As we work to implement the lake's landmark protections, the presence of phalaropes shows we can make a difference. Their epic migratory journeys are inspiration to protect saline lakes across North and South America."

The petition provides a 100-page review of the existing science on Wilson's Phalaropes and their status, making a compelling case for action. The petition asks USFWS to protect them as "Threatened" under the

Endangered Species Act. A response and subsequent USFWS analysis are likely to take years. Thus, initiating the process is important, and consideration for listing will expand scientific resources and add to the urgency of protecting saline lakes.

"This petition on behalf of the Wilson's phalarope is an act of love," said author and co-petitioner Terry Tempest Williams, observing that saline lake protection "can no longer be seen as a local issue or a state issue but a global one — with the phalarope's epic migration from Argentina to Utah and back again signaling (as the brine shrimp and brine flies do) the interdependence of all life."

Mono Lake, as the petition notes, is critical habitat and yet "is too small to sustain the entire population of Wilson's Phalaropes using saline lakes, should Great Salt Lake and Lake Abert disappear as habitat." In other words, should those lakes be lost, Mono Lake will lose the Wilson's Phalaropes.

See Phalaropes, Page 6

Enjoy Pools, Summer Hikes At Grover

By Adam Washam
Senior Park Aide
Grover Hot Springs SP

Another year is starting once again at Grover Hot Springs State Park.

Reservations for the pools can be made 48 hours to three weeks in advance by going to ReserveCalifornia.com and clicking on the “activities tab” at the top of the Home Page.

Four 1 1/2 hour sessions are available Thursday through Monday. Fees are \$10 per adult and \$5 for kids aged 16 and under. A parking fee is charged to park at the pool within the state park of \$8 or \$7 for seniors aged 62 and over.

We allow 40 people per session. Any unsold tickets are sold day-of, in person, at the campground entrance station starting at 9 a.m. The pools are closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The pools are also closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, and for two weeks in September for repairs.

Since the 2021 Tamarack Fire, our meadow and surrounding hillsides are in a period of recovery. You can still find Incense Cedars, Jeffrey Pines, Ponderosa Pines, Sierra Junipers and Quaking Aspens as you walk along several trails which leave the park and go into the higher elevations these include: a flat and easy stroll around the meadow on our newly-constructed, ADA accessible boardwalk; a moderate hike to a waterfall located on Forest Service land, and longer, more strenuous hikes uphill to Burnside Lake or Charity Valley.

Our summer campground is now on a reservation system starting May 10. Reservations can be made 48 hours to six months in advance by going to ReserveCalifornia.com or by calling 1-800- 444-7275. We



Beautiful scenery awaits those hiking trails at Grover Hot Springs State Park.

Photo by Adam Washam

accommodate tents, campers, vans, 24-foot trailers (measured from the back bumper of the tow vehicle to the back bumper of the trailer) or 27-foot motor homes.

Day use fees are \$8 a car or \$7 for kids aged 16 and under.

In addition to our self-guided Junior Ranger Adventure Guides and our Litter Getter program, our organized interpretation programs start the third week in June when visitation is high. Junior Ranger topics include Mountain Lions, Bears, Bobcats, and Compass Orienteering. Last year, we also had programs on Beavers and Geology. It all depends on what our new employees pick as topics.

Campfire programs cover subjects such as: Songs, The History of Alpine County, Grover Family History,

Mountain Lions, Bears, and Bobcats. The U.S. Forest Service and “Smokey Bear” try to come out twice a month starting in July. We are hopeful that we can once again schedule our “Search and Rescue Dog Team Demonstration,” each month, which was a big hit last year.

If staffing issues are resolved, we would like to have staff lead organized hikes once again, such as “Tree Identification Walk,” and “Hike to the Waterfalls,”

With spring here, and summer and fall right around the corner, we look forward to providing the public with a great experience full of fun, learning and laughter. We want to help visitors create good memories as they experience all Grover Hot Springs State Park has to offer.

— Phalaropes

Continued from Page 4

This is not the first time the Mono Lake Committee has supported listing of an endangered species at Mono Lake. The Mono Lake brine shrimp (*Artemia monica*) is an endemic species found nowhere else on earth, and in 1989 the USFWS began consideration for listing the brine shrimp in response to the tremendous impacts of water diversions on Mono Lake. The State Water Board in 1994 promised habitat protection for the species by establishing the management level of 6,392 feet above sea level for the lake's health, pausing further USFWS action.

Without people calling for action, Mono Lake would today be far too salty to support flies and phalaropes. Instead, as we work to ensure Mono Lake's recovery, the annual presence of phalaropes shows that implementing real water solutions can meaningfully change the future for people, phalaropes, and saline lakes everywhere.

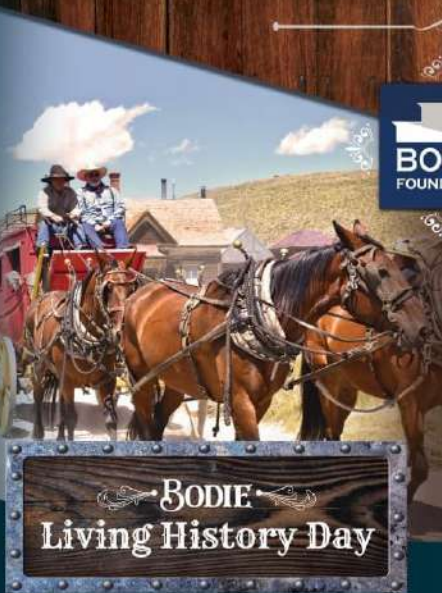
Ray Robles Passes



The Bodie Foundation staff was sad to learn of the death of long-time community member, Ray Robles on February 18, 2024. If you attended a Friends of Bodie Day in the last five

FRIENDS OF BODIE DAY

Now Two Separate Events, On Two Separate Dates




BODIE
FOUNDATION

BODIE
Living History Day

SATURDAY, JULY 27
9 AM – 6 PM

This day of family fun includes children's activity booths, interpretive events, music and special tours all day with people from Bodie's past. Enjoy the sights of horses and wagons traveling Bodie's dusty streets.



FRIENDS OF BODIE
MEMBER DINNER

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10
STARTS AT 6 PM

A formal after-hours dinner in Bodie will be prepared for our members, followed by a historic presentation throughout town (minimal walking involved). To become a member, please visit our website (below).

Why the Change?

After many evolutions of the Bodie Foundation's "Friends of Bodie Day," we as the Foundation board, staff, and State Park staff have realized the need to alter the format of our event.

We've received significant feedback that many children have not been able to attend our August 10 Friends of Bodie Day "Park Hours" due to a return to school. Bodie Living History Day will take place July 27, 2024 from 9am to 6pm, replacing the daytime, park-hours portion of FOB Day (previously the second Saturday in August).

To honor and thank our Bodie Foundation members, we are continuing the tradition of a "Friends of Bodie" event on the second Saturday in August. This AFTER-HOURS, MEMBERS ONLY event will mirror the past evening events. We hope to see you at one or both events this summer!

We look forward to sharing the magic of Bodie with each one of you.

For more information, become a member or donate, please visit bodiefoundation.org/donate

years, you ate his food, as he catered that event. He was also a fishing guide, restaurant owner, worked at Ken's Sporting Goods, and was a very funny, kind soul who loved to share a beer and the latest on the fishing conditions or the water level of Bridgeport Reservoir.

According to an obituary in his hometown newspaper, the *Ventura*

County Star, he was one of the original founders of the Bridgeport Fish Enhancement Foundation (BFEF). Donations can be made to BFEF in his memory.

Always smiling, very few people even knew about the cancer he had been fighting until after he had passed. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

— Railway Windows

Continued from Page 1

same profile.

Twenty sashes were painstakingly reassembled, reglazed, and rehung.

As is common with many historic buildings, the window openings weren't exactly level or straight, so a bit of gentle cajoling and careful wood planing was required to make the windows fit.

During the week before Memorial Day 2023, 15 State Parks staff members joined together for the historic wood window repair class at Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park. The class worked on 10 wood double-hung windows from the second floor of the 1881 Bodie Railway terminal building. This class was originally planned to be held on site at Bodie, but excessive snow and road repairs last spring kept Bodie closed until July 1.

Students had the opportunity to work on repairing a weight-and-pulley style wood window from start to finish. Tim taught the class how to cut pieces to profile, assemble window sash, cut restoration glass to size, and reglaze window panes - all using hand tools only.

The class was developed and led by Tim White with assistance from North Coast Redwoods District PMA Janette Parsons, former Bodie Maintenance Worker Mike Whitsel, and Sierra District Cultural Chief Alex Neeb.

It was a week filled with new techniques, good weather, bad puns, and most importantly, major progress on an ongoing project that finally saw the finish line.

Many thanks to Tim White and the training section for putting this class together.



Photo by Tim White

Newly installed windows with wavy restoration glass reflect the sunlight.



Photo by Tim White

The class photo poses with one of the completed windows. Top row L-R: Shaun Owens, Bryce Wild, Erica Franco, Melinda Meyer, Dustin DiMauro, Thomas Vogt, Jason Constant. Bottom Row L-R: Alex Neeb, Daniel Nino, Janette Parsons, Tim Wood, Ian McWherter, Ben Soler, Charles Patacsil, Annie McCausland, Ryan Canutt, Jose Gonzalas, Mike Whitsel.

Daniel "Mac" McIntyre

As *The Bodie Times* went to press, we learned the sad news that longtime volunteer and former BF Board of Trustees member Mac McIntyre had died. Look for a complete article about his contributions to Bodie in the fall issue of *The Bodie Times*.





Bodie Foundation

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visitmonolake.org.

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Photo by Susan Dunham