



THE GOLDEN FLAKES



The Golden Flakes is the official publication of The Gold Discovery Park Association

The Park The People The Projects

It's been over three years now since Barry Smith came to Marshall Gold. He will tell anyone that he came here a kickin' and a screamin' but, the truth is, now you couldn't tear him away. At first, Barry wasn't sure this park was going to be a good fit but it didn't take long for him to fall in love with the park...the people...the projects.

He's not going to like this, (because he doesn't handle the praise of the people very well) but I believe it's fitting for all of us here at Marshall Gold to thank our Superintendent for his leadership, vision, and friendship. It is obvious to park staff, volunteers / docents AND park visitors that, in the short time he has been here, Superintendent Smith has turned this place into a sort of a "Disneyland" where it can be said of our park it is "The Happiest Place on Earth".

By nature, Barry is very organized and once he gets his staff rolling on a project, shelves get lined with organized bins and the garbage dumpsters get worked overtime! He has organized a system we use for events which is affectionately known as "the binder" - where you can find any piece of information you could ever want or need!

Superintendent Smith understands the process for getting things done and has created and listed by priority many / most of the needed projects. Barry submits the necessary paperwork (PEF Project Evaluation Forms) to the district so that if / when funding becomes available, the projects are what he calls "shovel ready". The list is getting shorter as things get done.

And, our superintendent does not merely tell his staff what needs to be done, he leads by example, rolling up his sleeves and working alongside everyone: raking, shoveling, putting up tent flys...whatever needs to be done. And all the while thanking and encouraging everyone constantly saying "It's a work in progress that we are all making happen." And while he doesn't like to take the credit, we hail a BIG "thank you" to Barry Smith for his love for the park, the people, the projects.

Not only does Barry offer great oversight to the park, he's also quite a joker and an all around fun guy. What a great family we have here at Marshall Gold Discovery Park!

By Jennifer Steward

Volume 56, Issue 84,85,86



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www.marshallgold.com

Gold Discovery Museum & Mercantile

Hours
10 am - 4:00 pm
Daily

Board of Directors

Dennis Amaral
(President)
Bill Bennett
(Secretary)
Gale Tanquary
Dick Williams
Brenda Carroll
Don Sauer

Executive Director

Jennifer Steward



Superintendent's Message



As I sit down every few months to write a superintendent's message, I often times look for something to inspire. I usually do not have to go far, as there is always an improvement being made, a fun story to share,

and/or a future project that stirs excitement in everyone. I believe when we are able to put all these things together, this place becomes magical, less about work and more about the true joy of making a real difference.

One thing we realized early on...how can we fix and repair when we do not have the tools to get the job done? It seemed like an uphill battle, but one tool at a time we have slowly transformed the Carpenter's Shop into a solid working shop that will ensure success. With the purchase of a sawmill last spring we began developing an amazing story...milling dead timber cut in the park into true cut lumber so we can now use the park's natural resources to repair and build projects throughout the park. Carrying the story even further, we will soon be able to plane and shape our lumber into various forms for technical projects. Come check it out for yourself. The potential is limitless!

Again, I usually do not have to go far to find inspiration, and the Carpenter's Shop is one of many inspiring stories throughout the park. It does not matter what core program we discuss, we can find a story, continued improvement, and a dream that creates excitement in everyone. Simply put, magic is made here, and it is everywhere.

Superintendent Barry C. Smith -- MGDSHP

Meet Our Park Staff

Jill Biasca



Meet one of Marshall Gold's Senior Park Aides - Jill Biasca. She's already been working at the park for close to three years!

Jill and her older brother were raised by their father in San Jose. Later, in her high school years, she "acquired" three step siblings. Jill played soccer and softball her entire childhood. She calls herself an over achiever and you can see why when you hear that she graduated high school with a 4.6 GPA. She says she was a huge geek who constantly had (and still has) her nose in a book.

Jill graduated with a degree in Plant Sciences from UC Santa Cruz. Other jobs before coming to the park include working as a baker, barista and a farm hand on both vegetable and dairy farms. She's even milked cows in Switzerland - something most people cannot claim to have done!

Jill enjoys her work here at the park because there's something new to learn every day! Jill says, "There is so much to know and understand about the gold rush era, and I have had so much fun both doing my own research as well as listening to others share their knowledge. We get to share this knowledge with visitors from around the world and there's so much to say and so little time to say it when you stop to consider that these most people only come to visit the park for a matter of hours. It is difficult to pick and choose what to share; you want to get out the basic time line of important facts, but you also want to share the fun and relevant side stories that help inspire visitors to want to learn more on their own."

In her spare time Jill knits and crochets (mostly stuffed animals), paints and draws and is, in fact, our resident sign maker here at the park. Other hobbies include: reading, gardening, and spending fair amount of time in the kitchen cooking. Oh, and playing with her three cats





Meet Our Volunteers Dick Williams

Still just a kid at heart, if you've met Father Christmas at our Historic Holiday Houses event, then you've met Dick Williams! Along with being an active docent, Dick also currently serves on the board of directors for the GDPA. But Dick's memories of the park go way back to his early years as an 8 year old scout. He has fond memories of Coloma while growing up visiting the park with his family back into the 50's and 60's. Dick moved out of state in 1965 but when he returned some thirty years later, he recalls returning to the park and feeling like it was "old home week". Then around 2004 his church pioneer group began visiting on a regular basis. In 2009 Ranger Mark Mikalski suggested they take the docent training program. It was around that time that the group received permission to open the Mill Workers Cabin for various activities.

Dick enjoys conducting presentations at the cabin presenting the history of the original sawmill and worker's cabin and weaving stories of Coloma pioneers and the gold discovery- something Dick says is always a pleasurable occasion. He loves to see the light in park visitors eyes when they catch the vision for what happened here.

Dick's ancestry comes from the English and Welsh. It was some of these ancestors who helped develop a cattle trail originating near Elko, Nevada crossing over the Sierras into the San Joaquin Valley. Many years ago Dick had the honor of helping organize an international committee that studied the early travels of the trappers throughout Canada obtaining much of his research from the historical Hudson Bay Company archives. Dick says, "I suppose you could describe me as a fella always wanting to see what was over the hill".

Dick attended college in Sacramento and earned a BA in Sociology with specialization in Law Enforcement, however his business path led into the food industry both in production and management levels. He married Sandy - his childhood sweetheart - and together they have some wonderful kids. They have two sons from Sandy's first marriage and one son and three daughters from Dick's first marriage. Two of their daughters are adopted and are Native Americans. Dick is proud of the fact that years ago, he was formally adopted into the Oglala Tribe of the Sioux Nation.

Since the park is always involved with repairs and maintenance of buildings and the surrounding park grounds, financing is a major factor in protecting various building sites from further decay. Educating the general public and seeking out those individuals and or, businesses that are willing to assist in the re-hab transformations is always a challenge. Dick says, "This is the work we do as a GDPA association and I'm proud to be a part of it." Dick has always loved the peaceful setting seeing the deer in the early hours or in the evening and wishes he lived closer to the Park so he could spend more time as a volunteer. It's a true labor of love .





~ You're Invited ~

All are welcome to attend
The Gold Discovery Park Association
board meetings held in The Weller House at
5:30 pm. the 3rd Tuesday each month.

*(It is suggested that you call ahead in the event a
meeting has been changed or cancelled - 622-6198)*

We value your input, questions, ideas, & concerns

Send correspondence to:

GDPA P.O. Box 461
Coloma, CA 95613 or
Email: marshallgoldgdp@gmail.com

Association by-laws were set up
as a non-voting membership
but you DO have a voice!

Articles ~ News ~ Recipes **WELCOME**

Newsletter submissions are welcome
& due by November 15th
PLEASE SUBMIT TO:

jennifer.steward.gdpa@gmail.com
Editor - Jennifer Steward

New circulation dates effective this issue:

Jan Feb March - April May June
July Aug Sept - Oct Nov Dec

Cut out
Membership Application

and send to :

GDPA
P.O. Box 461
Coloma, CA 95613



**Welcome to the place where the spirit
of California was born!**

The Gold Discovery Park Association

is proud to be the cooperating association for
Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park

WHO WE ARE: We are a private, non-profit corporation governed by a board of directors and a set of by-laws. We are funded through, grants, memberships, donations, sales of merchandise and fundraising events. Your membership contribution directly supports the interpretation, education and volunteer programs at the park.

WHAT WE DO: We sustain a variety of programs for children and adults, contribute to projects that preserve our historic buildings and help maintain park facilities. In doing so, we support the mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation of providing top quality visitor experiences.

WHERE WE ARE: We operate the Gold Rush Mercantile inside the Gold Discovery Museum and sell a variety of educational and interpretive items, a fine selection of California and Gold Rush -era books, gifts, jewelry, souvenirs and toys.

Gold Rush Mercantile

530-344-1895 www.marshallgold.com

Annual Membership Form

(Membership year Jan1 - Dec 31)

\$20 - Individual

\$30 - Family

(2 adults & children under 18)

(Seniors 62+ receive 20% off memberships)

Member Benefits:

- Receives 12 page color newsletter in the mail
- 30% discount at The Gold Rush Mercantile
- Tax Deduction

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____



Farewell

After her faithful service to the Gold Rush Mercantile and the park, Leslie Kochan has stepped into retirement. We will all miss

Leslie's sweet smile and cheerful outlook but she's promised to come back from time to time so we look forward to that. Leslie and Mark are now enjoying time with their new granddaughter and other endeavors they now have more time to explore.

In Leslie's absence we've been fortunate to have Joanna Archie join our Mercantile team. Joanna has lived in Coloma her entire life and says the park and the river have always been her playground. Joanna was attracted to this job because of how close it is to home and offered her the opportunity to gain experience in both business and life while still allowing her room to keep pursuing college where she is working at getting her AA degree in Art.

Already she's found how much she enjoys meeting different people of different cultures who come into the Mercantile from around the world. Being a native born "Colomian" (as she calls herself), Joanna likes being able to tell people little stories about Coloma that they might not hear elsewhere or find in a textbook and to be able to educate children about a little slice of history that would further interest them in history - which happens to be one of her favorite subjects!

Joanna's hobbies are reading, writing, painting, walking, swimming, sculpting, sleeping and spending hours watching her favorite sitcom - The Golden Girls. Her idea of a perfect day is curling up with a warm blanket, a steaming cup of sweet tea, a good book, and listening to the sound of the rainfall.

Joanna's goal is to one day attend the art university in San Francisco (following in her grandmother's footsteps who also attended art college in San Francisco). She hopes to one day become a concept artist—one who puts ideas to paper and 3 dimensional designs—and hopefully to be working for a major filming or gaming industry and have the proud moment of seeing her name at the end of the credits listing all who were a part of creating the piece of artwork. Joanna says she's been scribbling down ideas since she was sixteen and, "If dreams come true maybe I can put my ideas to paper and one day millions of people will be reading my books and pay to see my art."

She's proud to be a second generation Colomian—as she is the descendant of the Coloma Hoopers, Davises, and the Italian Papinis. In fact, her family all still live on the same piece of property her great-grandfather purchased in the 1800s.



Coloma: The Melting Pot Gold Rush Live 2018

Marshall Gold Discovery
State Historic Park

October 13-14
10 AM - 4 PM



Join us for the culmination of a year of exploring the diverse peoples and cultures that came to Coloma during the gold rush. Visit docents and staff of Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park as we recreate an 1850-style tent town.

Assay/Claims Office	Saloon/Gambling Hall	Mining Camp	Live Music
Blacksmith	Gold Panning	General Store	Bakery
Carpentry Shop	General Delivery	Children's Games	Doctor

PLUS! Gold Panning Contest. The FUN begins 10 a.m. each day

Food and refreshments available for purchase

**Marshall Gold Discovery
State Historic Park**

Coloma, California

Hwy 49 between Placerville & Auburn

\$8 per vehicle day use fee.

Dog-free event except service animals.

Info: 530.622.3470

Gold Rush Live is just around the corner! Mark your calendar and plan to come out. We are in the last days of planning and it promises to be a wonderful event...truly, it gets better and better each year. This year we have many interpreters coming out as well as some vendors.

TREASURED ITEMS PRESERVED

As the American River Conservancy gears up for their very special event in June 2019 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Wakamatsu Colony, the park is also gearing up for our contribution to the event. Back in 2001 the Veerkamp family decided that State Parks (more specifically Marshall Gold) would be the best place to keep some treasured items that once belonged to the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony, so they donated them to the park. These items included the Colony banner and a Tanto (small dagger set). These items had been kept safe with the Veerkamp family over generations. The Veerkamps, played a major role in the story of the Wakamatsu, with Francis Veerkamp purchasing the property and a farmhouse there after the colonists had stopped farming due to their financial backing drying up.

For many years the banner and Tanto were kept down in the Sacramento Archives until the new Statewide Museum Collections Center (SMCC) was designed as the home for State Parks to keep their valuable collections. These items were brought out once a year and put on display when the Wakamatsu would host an event. Now, with this great event coming up it was decided that both the banner and the Tanto could use some cleaning and conservation as a lasting way to protect them when they are displayed. Park staff along with help from staff at SMCC decided that once the preservation was complete, they would be placed in an artifact friendly frame for the banner and case for the Tanto (which are being built specifically for these pieces) so they can be viewed from all sides when displayed. The Tanto too needed a good cleaning and a small piece that had broken off over the years that needed to be reattached.

Both the work on the banner and Tanto has all been funded by the GDPA who heartily agreed that this was a very important project to protect these priceless items from falling into disrepair resulting in their loss. Both items are in the conservation process as we speak! We all look forward to seeing the end result to see them properly displayed at the Wakamatsu event next June! The value of the work the GDPA (our wonderful Cooperating Association) does to raise funds for projects can be seen and appreciated especially at times like this. The association understands the park mission of protecting and preserving what we have for our future generations and we are grateful for their continued support. We will keep everyone updated as the work is completed and we are able to display these items once again. Remember to save the date for WakamatsuFest150 which will be held June 6-9, 2019. If you are interested in helping volunteer for this event please contact Holly Thane at (530) 622-3069 or holly.thane@parks.ca.gov. For questions about the event in general please contact Melissa Lobach at the American River Conservancy at (530) 621-1224 or wakamatsu@ARCConservancy.org.



Article by Holly Thane

A Sawmill - A Wise and Wonderful Investment

Many much needed projects are moving forward because Marshall Gold has been able to purchase a Wood-Mizer sawmill. The addition of the mill has given our park the ability to make use of the massive stock pile of downed trees. The mill is able to cut logs up to 36" around and 20' long. Park Maintenance and volunteers have already begun to cut and stockpile lumber which is being used for different projects.

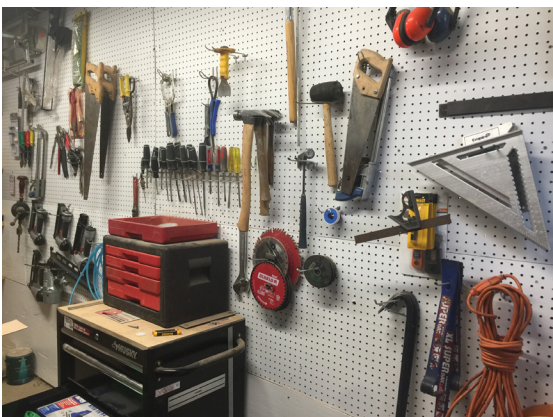
Superintendent Barry Smith frequently invites state parks representatives from District and other state parks to tour our park. In doing so, he is able to not only impress them with the progress and improvements which are being made here, but also to give them insight into some of the areas where we have needs.

A piece of equipment, like the sawmill, can be used as well for district purposes. Folsom has recently requested some full dimensional lumber for one of their projects which we were able to cut on our mill and supply it to them.

In the past, the GDPA has worked together with MGDSPH to make arrangements to transport logs to be milled by someone who lives locally and owns a sawmill. With our own mill, we no longer need to pay for the milling of lumber. Superintendent Smith says that we have already milled the equivalent of the cost of the mill.

Milled lumber temporarily stored in Residence 21





Renovation & Reorganization

The carpenter's shop sits below the road near the Blacksmith shop. Here is where all the wood working projects take place. If you have stepped inside the carpenter shop in the past you would have viewed a much different scene. Park staff found it challenging to work in a shop that was cluttered and unorganized as well as lacking in the proper tools and machinery. They didn't realize just how limited they were until Pat and Barry stepped in to make needed improvements. Under the direction, drive, and vision of both Pat Metcalf (head of Maintenance) and Superintendent Barry Smith - the shop has taken on new life. Bob Silva says, "We've seen more happen in the past three years than we did in the first seven I've been here!"

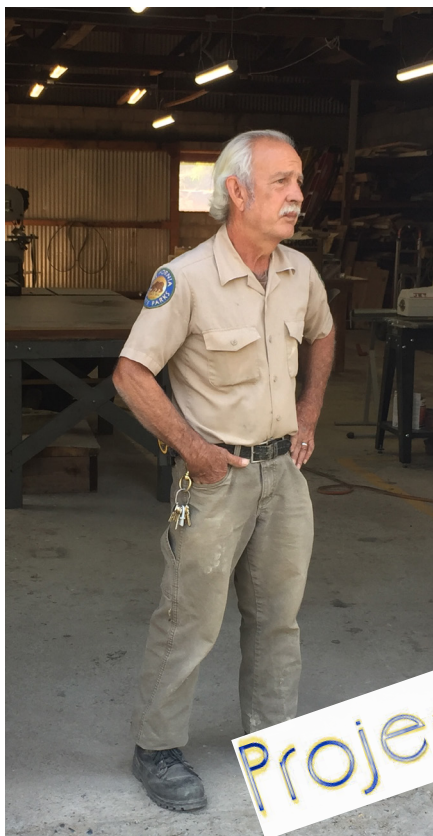
As you can see by the photos, the shop has undergone some great improvements. Everywhere you look you can see that tools, paint, and different items used for projects are all neatly organized on shelves, toolboxes, and pegboard walls. The area is open so they can freely move about while working.

The improvements are a work in progress and sort of evolving as they realize what they need or think of ways they can improve the shop. Instead of feeling frustrated (like their hands are tied), they can move ahead with projects. Some of the tools and equipment the park has added to the carpenter shop are: a vacuum dust collector, an air compressor, drill press, drum sander, a resaw (which is an overgrown band saw) and a router. The electrical in the building has also been upgraded as well as the lighting. As funds become available and approved by State Parks, next on their "wish list" are a joiner and a moulder / planer.

These tools help our guys do things from fixing fencing, decks and steps, siding on buildings, - to building rough sawn furniture like the tables you see over in the gold panning area (thanks to volunteer Don Sauer) and the fine cupboard display in the Gold Rush Mercantile (thanks to Dave Teves) ...and that's just a small list of projects! In fact, Dave is currently working on two large slab signs for CGRL for the entrances to Tent Town.

Barry, Pat, Bob & Dave are still working on future solutions to make the shop more comfortable to work in during times of extreme weather. They have a woodstove in one corner as well as a swamp cooler, but they'd like to possibly insulate the ceiling and a whole house fan.

With a big smile on his face, Dave exclaimed when speaking of the shop, "Miracles have been happening."



Like Bob Silva, Dave Teves has also been with Marshall Gold for about ten years. He is the main woodworking guy in the Maintenance Department. Dave is in his element here in the carpenter's shop. He says he's had an interest in woodworking since high school when he wanted to finish the body work on the wood frame of his 1928 Chevy. He was, instead, sent to the metal shop where he learned to be an automotive machinist and later became a heavy equipment mechanic. Now, skilled in many areas, Dave is enjoying doing what he loves and has created some amazing pieces for the park!

A few examples of some of the various projects taking shape around the park: pictured (above middle) the new steps trailing down behind the Blacksmith shop. Compare these to the old steps off the back of The Monroe House which have yet to be replaced. The new steps and rail are on the list of upcoming projects which will add safety and stability to the structure. And pictured (upper right) is the new fence built around the Post Office.

The carpenter shop has a new electrical panel box and hose reel (middle center). Park staff have been working hard to decipher old maps and have discovered where the irrigation pipes are located. A new water main has been installed with a rough sawn wood enclosure surrounding it. (Middle right) Barry Smith shows us the "before" and "after" tables in the gold panning area. Thank you Don Sauer for your time and talent in making these new tables! All of these projects are done with lumber milled on our new sawmill.



LIBRARY NEWS

The library open hours are now
TUESDAYS from 10am-2pm.

Sara SK and Marlene
are both available on Tuesdays. Sara
also comes in by appointment at other times,
if you just let her know what time works for you.

Remember that we have a loaning library,
and every staff member and volunteer/docent
is able to get a library card and borrow
from our Loaner collection.

To see our entire collection online, go to:

<http://opac.libraryworld.com/opac/signin?libraryname=MARSHALL%20GOLD%20DISCOVERY%20SHP>

You can search the collection in various ways,
and list the results in various ways too. See
our Loaner books by putting "loaner" in
the search box. Let Sara know if you would
like a tutorial for using our online catalog
and she'll be happy to provide one.

Sara says "I am in the final stages of polishing
our catalog records and am continually adding
loaner books as I do so. I am open to
suggestions for adding to our collection;
thanks to the GDPA we have a
book-buying budget."

We owe Sara a BIG "thanks" for the wonderful
job she does and the love and care she puts
into our library!

Sara.Schwartz.Kendall@parks.ca.gov



New Merchandise

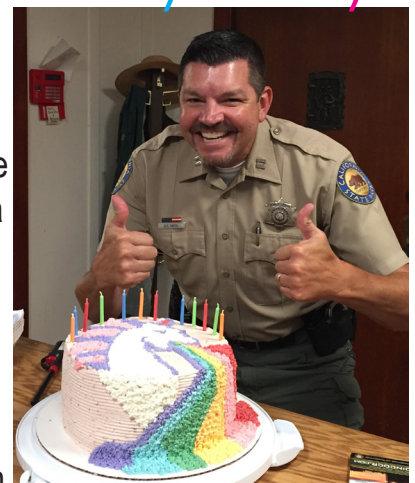
Every year or two some
of the ladies from The
Gold Rush Mercantile
make the trip to a souvenir
gift show to scout out
new merchandise that
fit the kinds of items we
sell in our museum gift shop.

Operations Manager Maureen
Brown, Gale Tanquary, and
Jennifer Steward attended
a gift show in Seattle in August
and found some great new
things to carry. Stop by the
store and take a look at
some of our new items
including some fun
Christmas ornaments, trail
mix, soaps and creams.



Happy Birthday Barry

Thanks to "Mo" Brown
(awesome baker and
pastry chef), it has become
a sort of tradition to bake a
cake each month to
celebrate park staff birth-
days. It should come as
no surprise that the gang
decided to surprise Barry
Smith with none other than
a Unicorn cake on his birth-
day this past summer.
Apparently there is a "uni-
corn thing" going on at our
park. You'll have to stop in
an inquire about that! The
cake was made using typical
unicorn colors complete with
Skittles pouring out.





P.O. Box 461
Coloma, CA 95613

We're on the Web
We're on Facebook!



www.marshallgold.com



"Dedicated to the interpretation and conservation
of Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park."

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday September 22

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 4:00

**Thursday - Sunday
October 11-14**

**COLOMA GOLD RUSH LIVE
Hwy 49 Coloma**

Saturday November 10

Living History Day 10:00- 2:00

Tuesday November 20 5:30

**Board of Directors Meeting
Weller House**

Saturday December 8 & 9

**Christmas in Coloma
Hwy 49 Coloma**

Tuesday December 18 5:30

**Board of Directors Meeting
Weller House**

**** Living History Day is held "weather permitting" so please call before making the trip!**