

Happy Camp News: by Judy Bushy

Happy Camp has begun to turn into a winter wonderland of cheery holiday lights as the evening grows dark. It's been beautiful! There are some faithful yard and home decorators who have always decorated through the years, but their numbers have declined in recent years. However, this year it looks like the gaiety of the season has returned. The lights are great fun to see. My husband, Dan, came home from the meadows one evening last week remarking how many homes were wearing their holiday cheer. Since we have nearly three weeks to go, it looks like there will be more.

Looking back at last week's article, I apologize for not naming Tanner and Lavine who also were a big help on the Happy Camp Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Thank you to their grandma, Nell Sakota, who reminded me of their help. I really appreciate your tips and corrections when I need them, I want to get it right but sometimes I do goof! I appreciate when you let me know.

Saturday was the big day of the Holiday Bazaar, and we were happy to be able to find a parking place

when we arrived at the Happy Camp Grange. First off, it was great to see that the Grange had a new roof over the entry, especially since it was raining.

Next were the beautiful new doors which we admired. Then, inside the Grange there were tables of beautiful handiwork. Annie Buma was there with her handmade tables and frames. I'd seen the table on Facebook, but to see it in person was to be impressed by how beautiful it was!

Leatherwork was there. Mike Pinkus had all kinds of things made of leather, his leather work is beautiful.

Next to the leatherwork were things made of wire, beautifully crafted all of them. Connie Rasmussen had bath-salts of interesting fragrances, as well as other goodies. Potato bags and potholders were things we really needed. Virginia had made afghans and they were beautiful too. David and Melissa Culbert had assorted homemade cookies, all ready to eat. They also had beautiful artwork that Melissa paints, from a welcome sign (with buck) to a fanciful fairy door on cement. Bousfields had

cards, even with stickers. They had many things to put you in Christmas cheer. Abbye Tower had pies and baked goods for the Happy Camp Volunteer Fire Department and they had a raffle as well. Grandpa walked Brooklyn who was napping while Abbye minded the booth.

Iris and Amber had a whole tree of gingerbread boys and girls and the children were having fun selecting the ones that they wanted to take home with them. They also had pumpkin roll samples which were delicious. Chris M, had jars of jams and jellies and even jellybeans. He also had necklace cords with a key, perfect to give that special sweetheart the key to your heart.

Meanwhile in the kitchen, Ruth Bain, Debbie Whitman, Carol Sharp and others dished up hot homemade potato bacon soup and mushroom soup with tomato which came with a roll and coffee. That good warm soup certainly hit the spot. We noticed the Grange improvements, entryway, new front door and even the well-polished floor, but they had hungry people to feed so we didn't get a long conversation.

Lunch was available at the Happy Camp Grange, and later in

the evening there was dinner at the Happy Camp Elementary School. The gathering was for the Tri-Tip Dinner and Father Daughter Dance. The Father Daughter Dance was the sixth annual fundraiser for the elementary school cheerleaders. This exquisite evening is for all ages, and grandfathers and uncles can also come with granddaughters and nieces, and some moms also join the party. It is the opportunity to dress up and share a wonderful night for young girls to bond with a father-figure. The special event creates memories to last a lifetime and memorable pictures were taken by an on site photographer. The theme was "Let the Lights Lead you into a Magical Night."

All ages were included, in fact a very young dancer that was on Daddy Zach Tower's arm was the winner of the Best Dressed award at the Father Daughter Dance. Wasn't too many years ago that Abigail Eadie Tower and her dad won the best dressed award at an earlier Father Daughter Dance.

There will be more fun at the elementary school this month with a winter performance. There will also be winter break Dec. 22 - Jan. 5.

If you haven't gotten your real live Christmas tree yet, don't forget that the Happy Camp District of the Klamath National Forest (KNF) has tree permits for you to hike out in the woods and get your own KNF tree!! Stop by the Forest Service Office and get your permit and take your family on a memorable outing to find the prettiest tree. There are also trees for sale up Indian Creek if you prefer to have them already cut.

Don't forget next Saturday there will be the Christmas Parade by the Happy Camp Volunteer Fire Department. Be sure to be at the Kingfisher's parking lot for sign ups by 5 p.m. as the parade begins at 5:30 p.m. Be sure to dress warmly and be "well lit" as it is dark at the time for the parade. Email philipparashis@gmail.com or call Erik Haskell 508-7355 to enter the parade for \$5. There will be hamburgers, hotdogs, chili, popcorn, Pepsi, cider and hot cocoa for sale at the Forest Service parking lot after the parade. You won't want to miss the special visitor from the North Pole.

Have a great time this week preparing for the holiday celebration!

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