

# The Plaques of E Clampus Vitus: Bartle's Camp

The Plaques of E Clampus Vitus--  
Humbug Chapter No. 73

The fourteenth in a continuing series of articles prepared by Bill Wensrich  
"If you ain't plaque'n, then you ain't Clampin'"

Located along a wagon road that later became part of a route named Military Pass Road, Bartle's Camp grew in importance. Serving as a stage and freighting hub, the camp supported critical communications and supply needs for two nearby military outposts, Fort Crook and Fort Jones. In 1983, E Clampus Vitus commemorated the old stage stop with a stone historical monument. You can view the plaque in Bartle 17 miles east of McCloud, California on Highway 89.

When the Bartle's Camp historical monument was erected, Don Snyder was presiding Humbug of local ECV Chapter Number 73. This was his plaque; he was the "go-to guy." Snyder got the rock monument

built at the old stage stop with the help of Todd Dole and Russ Wars. Russ was the rock guy who built the ECV Klamathon monument the year before.

Bill Wilson, the Vice Humbug at the time, coordinated the weekend Doin's function where all attending Clampers camped overnight on the nearby McCloud River property of California's famous William Randolph Hearst's Bavarian Castle. Almost 80 redshirts enjoyed the ECV festivities that weekend. They witnessed the initiation of worthy candidates into the Ancient and Honorable Order including one Hearst Castle property caretaker. The Friday evening party must have been a humdinger going on into the wee hours because I'm told only twenty five people participated in the plaque dedication ceremony.

Military Pass is a long gap between Mount Shasta and The Whaleback point of reference to the north of Bartle. Military Pass Road was officially named by Siskiyou County in the 1940s. County staff believed the road, between Fort Crook and Fort Jones, was first

used by the army to protect newly arriving emigrants on their way to Shasta Valley. This road, next to what we call today Bartle's Camp, was part of many other nineteenth century wagon roads that followed routes first used by Indians and then fur trappers traveling on foot or horseback. At that time in the 1850s and 1860s, there was a stage station on the McCloud River in the Bartle area and was referred to as the McCloud Station.

Bartle's relationship to the nearby military forts can be better understood using information provided by the Southwest Shasta Historical Group.

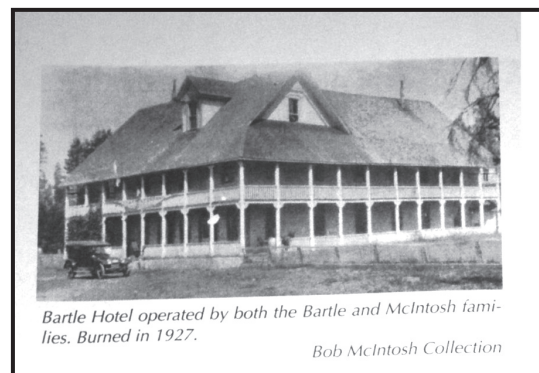
Established in July 1857 for the protection of immigrant settlers, Fort Crook was named by one Lt. Gardiner. The Fort bore the Crook moniker because Gardiner believed Lt. George Crook to be a man of compassion. Crook regarded Indians as human beings, a group of people he treated as men rather than animals.

On the county road between Glenburn and Dana in northeastern Shasta County you can find the 1934 rock memorial to old Fort Crook which once stood beneath Soldier Mountain

Lookout in Shasta National Forest.

Fort Jones, strategically located for operations against Indians, was built in 1851 and occupied until 1858. We can conclude that Bartle's support role for the Dragoon Companies occupying both forts was brief. The closure of Fort Crook in 1869 likely led to the demise of the early Bartle's Camp.

Later, the advance of the railroad brought more people to the area and the place we now call Bartle realized a slow renaissance evolving from ranch and old stage line to a place of hotels servicing nearby sawmills, timbermen, ranchers, cattlemen, sportsmen and travelers.



## Today in History: by The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, June 6, the 157th day of 2018. There are 208 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:**  
On June 6, 1968, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy died at Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles, 25 1/2 hours after he was shot by Sirhan Bishara Sirhan.

**On this date:**

In 1523, Gustav Vasa became Sweden's new king, Gustav I.

In 1654, Queen Christina of Sweden abdicated; she was succeeded by her cousin, Charles X Gustav.

In 1799, American politician and orator Patrick Henry died at Red Hill Plantation in Virginia.

In 1809, Sweden adopted a new constitution.

In 1918, U.S. Marines suffered heavy casualties as they launched their eventually successful counteroffensive against German troops in the World War I Battle of Belleau Wood in France.

In 1925, Walter Percy Chrysler founded the Chrysler Corp.

In 1933, the first drive-in movie

theater was opened by Richard Hollingshead in Camden County, New Jersey. (The movie shown was "Wives Beware," starring Adolphe Menjou.)

In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy, France, on "D-Day" as they began the liberation of German-occupied Western Europe.

In 1966, black activist James Meredith was shot and wounded as he walked along a Mississippi highway to encourage black voter registration.

In 1978, California voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition 13, a primary ballot initiative calling for major cuts in property taxes.

In 1982, Israeli forces invaded Lebanon to drive Palestine Liberation Organization fighters out of the country. (The Israelis withdrew in June 1985.)

In 1994, President Bill Clinton joined leaders from America's World War II allies to mark the 50th anniversary of the D-Day invasion of Normandy. A China Northwest

Airlines passenger jet crashed near Xian (SHEE'-ahn), killing all 160 people on board.

**Ten years ago:** The Dow industrial average dropped 394.64 points to 12,209.81, its worst loss in more than a year. Crude futures soared nearly \$11 for the day to \$138.54 a barrel. Actor Bob Anderson, who played young George Bailey in "It's a Wonderful Life," died in Palm Springs, California, at age 75.

**Five years ago:** Director of National Intelligence James Clapper moved to tamp down a public uproar spurred by the disclosure of secret surveillance programs involving phone and Internet records, declassifying key details about one of the programs while insisting the efforts were legal, limited in scope and necessary to detect terrorist threats. Russian President Vladimir Putin and his wife, Lyudmila Putina, announced they were divorcing after nearly 30 years of marriage. Esther Williams, 91, the swimming champion turned actress, died in Los Angeles. Longtime soap opera

actress Maxine Stuart, 94, died in Beverly Hills, California.

**One year ago:** Bill Cosby's chief accuser, Andrea Constand, took the stand at his sexual assault trial to tell her story publicly for the first time, saying the comedian groped her after giving her three blue pills that left her paralyzed and helpless. (The jury deadlocked, resulting in a mistrial, but Cosby was convicted in a second trial.) George and Amal Clooney welcomed twins Ella and Alexander. Saudi arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi, 81, once one of the world's richest men who was implicated in the Iran-Contra affair, died in London. Scooter Gennett hit four home runs, matching the major league record, as the Cincinnati Reds routed the St. Louis Cardinals 13-1.

**Today's Birthdays:** Singer-songwriter Gary "U.S." Bonds is 79. Country singer Joe Stampley is 75. Jazz musician Monty Alexander is 74. Actor Robert Englund is 71. Folk singer Holly Near is 69. Singer Dwight Twilley is 67. Playwright-actor Harvey Fierstein (FY'-ur-steen)

is 66. Comedian Sandra Bernhard is 63. International Tennis Hall of Famer Bjorn Borg is 62. Actress Amanda Pays is 59. Comedian Colin Quinn is 59. Record producer Jimmy Jam is 59. Rock musician Steve Vai is 58. Rock singer-musician Tom Araya (Slayer) is 57. Actor Jason Isaacs is 55. Actor Anthony Starke is 55. Rock musician Sean Yseult (White Zombie) is 52. Actor Max Casella is 51. Actor Paul Giamatti is 51. Rhythm and blues singer Damion Hall (Guy) is 50. Rock musician Bardi Martin is 49. Rock musician James "Munky" Shaffer (Korn) is 48. TV correspondent Natalie Morales is 46. Country singer Lisa Brokop is 45. Rapper-rocker Uncle Kracker is 44. Actress Sonya Walger is 44. Actress Staci Keanan is 43. Actress Amber Borycki is 35. Actress Aubrey Anderson-Emmons is 11.

**Thought for Today:** "To win without risk is to triumph without glory." — Pierre Corneille (KOHR'-nay-uh), French dramatist (born this date in 1606, died 1684).

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