

PRESTON COMMUNICATOR

Spring 2010
Volume 4, Issue 2

Preston Castle Foundation, PO Box 488, Ione, CA 95640
prestoncastle.com ♦ info@prestoncastle.com ♦ (209) 256-3623



California Preservation Foundation Workshop in Ione

The California Preservation Foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of California's diverse cultural and architectural heritage.

With over 1,500 members, it is the state's leading voice for historic preservation, as well as its most valuable source for preservation-related assistance.

On March 10, the CPF held a Workshop at Evalynn Bishop Hall, on Public-Private Partnerships and Rehabilitation of Historic Properties. Several members of the Preston Castle Foundation participated in the workshop along with numerous city and county leaders from throughout Amador County. Speakers presented historic rehabilitation success stories and experts discussed topics ranging from historic preservation building codes to the uses of Historic Preservation Tax Credits. Lunch was provided by the Preston Castle Foundation.

The Preston Castle and its surrounding property were the focus of a special strategy session at the end of the workshop. Financial Consultants and Tax experts discussed potential financing plans that could be used to facilitate the rehabilitation of the Preston Castle site.

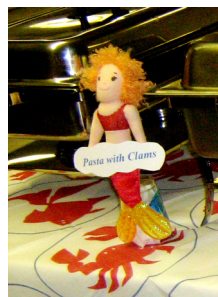
Overall, the Workshop provided very valuable information to your Preston Castle Foundation.

After the Workshop, attendees were treated to a guided tour of the Castle.

Seafood Feast Saturday, April 17

It's not too late! Tickets are still available for this year's Seafood Feast, but they are going fast. This is not your usual crab or spaghetti feed. For only \$35 you can indulge yourself with a feast of tilapia, salmon, oysters, clams, calamari, and shrimp scampi. Wine, beer, cocktails and soft drinks will be available for purchase. A silent auction and raffle will also be included. Purchase eight tickets and we will reserve a table for you. Doors open at 6pm, dinner at 7pm at Evalynn Bishop Hall, Howard Park, 600 S. Church Street, Ione.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.prestoncastle.com or at Clark's Corner in Ione, Curves in Ione, and The Celtic Knot in Jackson. Or you can call 209-256-3623.



New Event!

Tea Party -
see Page 2



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CPF Workshop and Seafood Feast	1
Tours/Docents and Annual Meeting	2
Don't Miss Our 2010 Events	2&3
Building Projects and Workdays	3
AAUW Home Tour	3

If anyone wishes to add or change anything in the newsletter, or would like to get copies of past issues, please let us know at info@prestoncastle.com or at the next meeting. We always enjoy hearing from our readers!

Castle Tours and Docents

Castle Tours began on Saturday, March 6th and will continue on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays through October. Each tour is led by a volunteer docent. Training was held February 27, 2010 for docents, who learned the history of the Castle and received a tour. The Chief of the Ione Fire Department and his High School Cadets also gave a demonstration on fire response and demonstrated the use of fire extinguishers.

Ten new docents joined this year for a total of 30 docents. Anyone interested in becoming a docent can call Yvonne Funderburgh at 408-858-9183.



Also check the Preston Castle website for more information on tours, including private tours and Overnight Ghost Tours. The ghost tours are becoming popular. Participants spend a night in the Castle with an experienced Paranormal Research Group of ghost hunters, having only a flashlight and paranormal investigation gear for comfort.

Annual Meeting and Board Election – June 2, 2010

Elections will take place at the Annual meeting of members, to be held June 2, 2010, for the Preston Castle Foundation Board of Directors. This year there are seven openings for Board members. The Board has 13 members who serve a two-year term and can be re-elected, with seven members elected this year and six members elected next year. Those members whose terms expire in June are: Richard Forster, Carol Hambaugh, Kim Kozlowski, Marie Nutting, Sheila Pember, Allan Trimble, and one vacant seat.

If interested in running for the Board, nominating someone for the Board, or want more information about the responsibilities of a Board member, please call Sheila Pember at 209-257-1786, Allan Trimble at 209-274-6533 or Marie Nutting at 209-274-6533.

Don't Miss Our 2010 Events

Join us for one or all of the Preston Castle Foundation's events in 2010. For more information and to order tickets, visit www.prestoncastle.com, or call 209-256-3623.

Children's Tea Party – Sunday, May 2 1 pm to 3 pm

Spring is in the air, flowers are blooming and the days are bright and sunny. What better way to spend a lovely Sunday afternoon than to bring your child to the Castle for an outdoor tea party. Tables will be set up in the Castle's courtyard next to the garden. Refreshments will be served to include light finger foods, tea and fruit punch. The theme will be the Mad Hatter with prizes for the best Hat(s).

Tickets are \$5 (age 10 and under) and \$10 (over 10) and can be purchased online at www.prestoncastle.com, or you can call Yvonne at 408-858-9183.

Photographer's Days

**Saturday, May 22, 10 am to 2 pm and
Saturday, September 25, 4 pm to 8 pm**

On Photographer's Day you can roam the castle on a self-guided tour. Visitors are allowed four hours to explore the non-restricted areas of the castle. This gives you the time you need to set up shots without rushing to keep up the pace of our normal informative tours. Note the Sept. 25 date includes twilight/evening light. \$30 per person.

Golf Classic

**Thursday, June 3, 11:00 am registration
Castle Oaks Golf Course, 1000 Castle Oaks Dr, Ione**

Get the golf clubs ready – the 5th Annual Preston Castle Golf Classic is coming June 3rd. This ever-popular tournament will once again be held at the Castle Oaks Golf Course in Ione. Registration starts at 11 am, followed by a putting contest and lunch, with a shot-gun start at 1 pm. There will be prizes for Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive, and of course the always popular "Beat The Pro". This year there is an exciting change. Following the tournament, participants and guests will proceed to the

Continued on Page 3

2010 Events

Continued from Page 2

beautiful Preston Castle for dinner on the patio. Fare will include carved sirloin steak, assorted mixed sausages, BBQ chicken breast, garlic mashed potatoes, grilled vegetables, Caesar salad, rolls and apple pie. Tickets for the tournament and dinner are \$120 and can be purchased online at www.prestoncastle.com.

Sister Swing - Music Event **Saturday, July 10, 6 pm to 10 pm**

Sister Swing is a fresh, exciting trio of singers which has captured the sound of the girl groups of the 1930s and 1940s, and brought it to the 21st century. Tickets \$25.

FreeZeout - Music Event **Saturday, August 28, 6 pm to 10 pm**

Popular local Classic Rock Band in their first ever show at the Castle.

Wine Taste & Tour **Saturday, September 11, 3 - 6 p.m.** **Preston Castle, Palm Drive, Ione**

Taste the fine wines of Amador county and tour the historic Preston Castle. Experience the history of Preston and feel the sensation of the past. Attendees will sample fine wines from commemorative castle wine glasses and enjoy a variety of hor'dourves while listening to live music.

Halloween Haunted House **Saturday, October 30**

Holiday Bazaar **Saturday, November 13**

AAUW Home Tour in Volcano

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold its 38th Annual Home Tour on April 17, 2010, from 11am to 4pm, in Volcano, and will feature four homes and several historic sites. Tickets are \$22, or \$25 on tour day. Proceeds from the tour benefit scholarships. Visit the AAUW website at www.aauwamador.org for more information or contact Lani at 209-245-6052 or chapman@volcano.net.

Building Project Updates

The Building and Grounds Committee has many projects to keep volunteers busy. The project on stabilizing the 4th floor of the castle is progressing. Bids have been received and a proposal for the Board is expected by the April Board meeting. The roof on the Colonial sprung a couple of leaks this winter, and the Board has decided it needs to be replaced to preserve the building and make it more attractive for a potential tenant. A seismic retrofit is also needed, but will have to wait for future funding. The PCF has received \$2,000 from the Jackson Rancheria for the installation of two fire hydrants in front of the Castle. Thank you Jackson Rancheria!

In sum, Committee Chair Howard Coote is not likely to turn down any offers of help for these and other projects at the Castle. For more information on how to volunteer and help preserve the castle, call Deborah Pulskamp at 209-763-1038 or go online at www.prestoncastle.com.

Workdays at the Castle

Many volunteers showed up March 13 for a workday at the Castle. Thanks to a few hours of work and many helping hands, a lot was accomplished to ready the Castle for the 2010 season.

Of special interest was the uncovering of the dip bath downstairs that had been filled with debris. The bath resembles a mini swimming pool and was used for processing newly arrived wards. Be sure to see this new area on your next tour of the castle. Outside, the garden was weeded, new agapanthus flowers were planted and the grass was trimmed. And an upstairs apartment window was opened to allow viewing of the inside of the unique spiral water-slide fire escape.

This was spring cleaning at its best – thank you for all who participated.

Your help at future workdays will be greatly appreciated!