

# PRESTON COMMUNICATOR

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## Johnny Cash Tribute and BBQ – July 18, 2009

It's not too late to sign up for the Johnny Cash Tribute and BBQ Dinner at the Preston Castle on Saturday, July 18 at 5:30 p.m.



This event is not to be missed! You will be entertained by singer James Garner, who will take the audience through a musical journey of Johnny Cash's biggest hits. Sit in the shade of the castle walls, tapping your toes and singing along with the train-like rhythm of Johnny's greatest hits.

Plus, you will feast on a BBQ dinner of mouth-watering Tri-Tip, home-made beans, salads, French bread and dessert. And you can tour the castle's outside farm museum.

Gates open at 5:30 p.m. with a no host bar. Tickets are **\$35** and can be purchased online at [www.prestoncastle.com](http://www.prestoncastle.com) or at the Celtic Knot, Jackson and Clark's Corner, Lone. For more information phone (209) 256-3623.

So come to the castle July 18<sup>th</sup> for good music, good food and a good time! Funds help save the castle!

## September 12<sup>th</sup> Wine Taste and Tour

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 12, 2009 for the 5th annual Preston Castle Wine Taste and Tour. This is your chance to taste the fine wines of Amador County and tour the Castle. Experience the history of the Preston Castle firsthand while sampling fine wines from many of Amador County's outstanding wineries. Attendees will receive commemorative castle wine glasses and enjoy a huge array of gourmet appetizers. Doors open at 3:00pm. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased online at [www.prestoncastle.com](http://www.prestoncastle.com) or by calling (209) 274-4112.



## Castle Lights

Have you seen the Castle at night lately? If not, you're in for a surprise – the Castle glows. Preston Castle Foundation (PCF) volunteers have been hard at work installing eight large flood lights that light up the front and west end of the Castle.

All the lights are on timers that come on at dark and turn off three hours later. After dark, the Castle looks impressive, a glowing monument that can be seen for miles.

The PCF lighting project also included the reconditioning and installation of street lights. Five original lights were reconditioned and installed, along with an additional seven replicas. New electric service panels and new wiring completed the project.

To offset the cost of the lighting project, PCF sold sponsorships to each light. The next step is to create the plaques that will honor those that sponsored a light. The plaques will be attached to the lights for future generations to see.

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](mailto:info@prestoncastle.com) or at the next meeting. We always enjoy hearing from our readers!

## 2009/2010 Board of Directors Election

The election of the PCF Board of Directors took place at the June board meeting. Six vacancies were filled to round out the 13-member board. Congratulations to all those elected, including the current officers who were re-elected for 2009/2010. They are: President – Marie Nutting, Vice President – Jerry Funderburgh, Secretary – Carol Lipchik and Treasurer – Kim Kozlowski.

Below is a list of the full PCF Board with the members' term of service. All are enthusiastic and committed to volunteering their time and energy to Save the Castle!

<u>Board of Directors</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Howard Coote	2010
Jerry Funderburgh	2011
Yvonne Funderburgh	2011
Bob Henricus	2011
Doug Hawkins	2010
Dale Hofstetter	2011
Kim Kozlowski	2010
Carol Lipchik	2011
Marie Nutting	2010
Donna Ogelvie	2011
Kim Smith	2010
Alan Trimble	2010

## PCF's Homecoming Float

The Lone Homecoming Picnic always includes a Sunday morning parade. This year, the parade included a float created by PCF volunteers. PCF Vice-President Jerry Funderburgh put his engineering skills to construct a two-dimensional replica of the Preston Castle. Board member Yvonne Funderburgh and other PCF volunteers spent many hours painstakingly painting the mini castle and creating Styrofoam embellishments to bring the creation to life. The float was a work of art as it moved down Main Street with parade participants PCF President Marie Nutting, Mike and Deborah Pulskamp, Andy Augilera and Carol Lipchik. Congratulations to those who helped in this adventure because the float took second place and won the PCF a \$100 award.

## Wedding at the Castle

On June 27<sup>th</sup> the Forster family of Lone celebrated their daughter's wedding reception at the Castle. The patio was decorated with beautiful flower arrangements on each of 48 tables covered in white table cloths and gold netting. The flower garden was beautiful with the flowers all in bloom. The area was lighted with hundreds of overhead lights strung on long lines from the Castle to poles around the outside of the patio. The Castle walls were up-lighted with flood lights which gave the Castle a beautiful glow after dark. The guests were treated to a delicious dinner and refreshments and then they danced the night away to the Dave Russell band. The Preston Castle Foundation members wish the new bride and groom many years of happiness and lasting memories of their Castle wedding.

Interested in holding an event at the Preston Castle or arranging a special tour? Contact the Preston Castle Foundation at (209) 256-3623 or via email at [info@prestoncastle.com](mailto:info@prestoncastle.com).



## Castle Happenings

The Castle is open for guided tours on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month, March thru October. We are half way through the tour season and are doing more than twice the tours we did last year. Advertising in B&B's, local businesses and tourist sites has paid off. Thank you, Marketing Committee. In addition, business is picking up on other special tours and events at the Castle.

### The 49er Trail Treasure Hunt

The spring started with a new event in Amador County, The 49er Trail Treasure Hunt. Attendees traveled to historical sights on the 49er trail, solved a puzzle and took pictures to prove they were there. The Castle was one of the locations included in the hunt.

### Photo Shoots

We have many private photo shoot bookings throughout the year. This year, for the first time, we opened the Castle to the first 100 amateur photographers. The Castle was open for two days, one during the daytime and one at twilight. We sold out the day shoot, and had about 85 people for the twilight shoot. Many of the photographers returned with family and friends for the second shoot. The final photo date this year will be September 26. Join us!

## Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Volunteers are the backbone of the Preston Castle Foundation (PCF) and the Castle itself. If it weren't for the volunteers, where would the Castle be today? That's why the PCF Board wanted a way to thank those who have taken time away from their busy lives and dedicated it to the various projects at the Castle and the surrounding grounds. What resulted was a huge appreciation dinner for all those dedicated volunteers who have helped the PCF in ways big and small.

PCF Board members Howard Coote and Donna Ogelvie took charge of putting the event together. In Howard's words, "After giving the dinner idea considerable thought and conferring with those who have done dinners for 100 to 150 people, I felt the cost would be minimal in

### Paranormal Events

Our Paranormal Events started slowly until the half-hour show *Ghost Adventures* aired on the Travel Channel. Now we are sold out twice a month the rest of this year and taking bookings for 2010. The spirits must be talking.

### News Stations & Film Groups

We have had three news stations out for brief tours of the Castle. These tours aired on various news programs, ranging from 2 minutes to 30 minutes. One program featuring the Castle will air in August on KVIE Channel 6.

A local college student, Caroline Taylor, filmed a movie titled *Engagement to Murder* with scenes at the Castle. In addition, the Imagination Theater (at the El Dorado County Fair Grounds indoor theater) will be showing *Dracula* in February 2010. They filmed scenes for the beginning of the play with horses running in the fields around the Castle. Scenes throughout the play were filmed in and outside of the Castle, throughout the night. That should be a fun one – the Preston Castle Foundation volunteer who observed the filming did not sleep all night.

comparison to the dedication of our volunteers." Donna and Howard worked hard to organize a memorable evening. Volunteers gathered at Donna's home on June 13, 2009, for an outdoor barbecue in a fabulous setting overlooking the Buena Vista Buttes, with a postage stamp view of the castle from afar.

Many people stepped forward to make the dinner a success. Special thanks to Donna Ogelvie and her family for their hospitality and funding for the event. In addition, thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Don Page and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Breverly, the chefs for the evening, for creating tasty food that guests gladly stood in line for. Finally, a big thanks to all of you, the PCF volunteers, for all your help throughout the year.