



A Man and the Mountain

Conference Program

On behalf of the Mount Shasta Sisson Museum, the Cal Humanities in partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities, and a host of community sponsors and organizers, we are glad to welcome you to this unique conference of historians, artists, activists, and authors that share an intrigue of Joaquin Miller and his extraordinary experiences in the region in the early 1850's. As a participant we hope that you will engage with the presenters, enjoy the luncheon and dinner socials, and delve deeper into the remarkable series of events that led to a young boy's ascent into manhood amid the tumult of the Gold Rush era in Siskiyou County.

Schedule of Events

Thursday, October 10

Welcome and Registration 3:00 – 5:00

- Ease on in with a welcoming smile, warm hospitality, and a conference program
- Meet conference hosts, enjoy beverages and snacks, and share conversation

Featured Event

A guided tour of the remarkable museum exhibit: Two opportunities - 3:00 to 3:45 or 4:00 to 4:45

A Man and the Mountain: Messages From Joaquin Miller's Shasta Years

Join the venerable Bill Miesse in a behind-the-scenes look at why the story is important, and how it had to be done with respect to the past and present.

No-Host dinner and conversation, 6:00, Trinity Café, 622 N. Mt. Shasta Blvd.

Featured Evening Event

Community Stories Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum 7:30 p.m.

The film presents interviews with community members who relate their stories about Mt. Shasta and how Joaquin Miller's words are still relevant today to the people of the Mount Shasta Region. Mark Oliver, the award-winning filmmaker, will be on hand to answer questions after the screening.

Friday, October 11

Morning Coffee Get-Together (Optional) 8:00, Mount Shasta Pastry, 610 S. Mt. Shasta Blvd.

Registration 8:30 - Ongoing

Welcoming Messages 9:00

Jean Nels, Executive Director, Mount Shasta Sisson Museum

Chris DeHart, Conference Coordinator

Conference Overview

Bill Miesse

A Rogue and a Writer

Opening Presentations, 10:00 – Noon

Floyd Buckskin Ahjumawi Oral History and Joaquin Miller in Pit River Country

Linda Wallace “Why Grizzly Bear Walk On All Fours” – retelling from JM’s The Great Grizzly Bear

Break

Gail Jenner Miners, Mines, and Early Life in Siskiyou County

Robert Boyle Spirit of the West

No-Host Lunch, local restaurants, Noon - 2:00

Guided Tour of Sisson Museum 1:30 –2:00

Guided Tour of Mount Shasta Fish Hatchery 1:30 - 2:00

Afternoon Presentations 2:00 - 5:30

Richard Silva In the Footsteps of JM in North County

Steven Hermann Poetry and Praise of Mt. Shasta and its Native People

Break

Anne McTavish Using Maps to Examine Land-Use Conflict Between Natives and Settlers in Northern California in the 1850’s.

Tom Stokely Devastation of the Native American tribes and the use of water resources in the region – Joaquin Miller to present.

Break

Alan Mainwaring Joaquin Miller Re-Visited, Poetry and Prose Reading

Mark Oliver Joaquin Miller's Muse

No-Host Dinner and conversation, 6:00, Phuket Thai Café, 1328 S. Mt. Shasta Blvd.

Featured Evening Event

Dancing Salmon Home, Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum 7:30 Donation: \$5.00

This film is an inspiration to all, an affirmation of native people's rights and a quest for environmental integrity. Produced and hosted by Will Doolittle and Chief Caleen Sisk of the Wintu Tribe, *Dancing Salmon Home* will describe what happened when the salmon ran in abundance up the Sacramento River, how the federal government seized land to make way for Shasta Dam, and the recent valiant efforts of the Winnemem Wintu tribe to restore a symbolic and traditional resource to their lives...with the help of new friends half-way around the world.

Saturday, October 12

Morning Coffee Get-Together (Optional) 8:00, Seven Suns Coffee & Café, 1011 S. Mt. Shasta Blvd.

Conference Overview – 9:00

Bill Miesse A Rogue and A Writer

Opening Presentations, 9:30 – 10:45

Julie Cassidy Recasting Joaquin Miller in the Shadow of Mt. Shasta; in the year 1857

Dennis Freeman Joaquin Miller as the Voice of the Gold Rush

Break

Keynote Presentation 11:00

Margaret Guildford-Kardell History in Plain Sight: Joaquin Miller and the Real Black Bart

No-Host Lunch, local restaurants, Noon - 1:30

Afternoon Presentations 1:30 - 5:00

Mike Grifantini Joaquin Miller's Dangerous Escapes

Tom Wolf Joaquin Millers's Artists

Steven Hermann Joaquin Miller's Vision of Spiritual Democracy ; integrating his dualisms into a unity of American character.

Break

Susan Nuernberg

Jack London: Following in the Footsteps of Joaquin Miller.

Kathy Morter

Mt. Shasta Ski Area Decision – A Tale of Awe, Bringing Joaquin Miller's words into the present day

No-Host dinner and conversation, 6:00, Cooper's Bar and Grill (Best Western Tree House Inn), 111 Morgan Way

Featured Evening Event

World Music Concert for Joaquin Miller Sisson Museum 7:30

Musicians and vocalists perform an array of 1850's folk and classical music representative of the non-dominant cultures who came to the California Gold Rush, and specifically to Siskiyou and Shasta Counties, during Joaquin Miller's sojourn of 1854 - 1860: Music of China, Hawaii, Portugal, England, Ireland, Canada, Mexico, Chile, etc.; and of their hosts, the Native Americans.

Dessert and beverages too!

Sunday, October 13

Two Cabins Tour

Guided Tour/Hike, 9:00 – 2:00

Guest Presenters (in order of appearance)

Floyd Buckskin

Floyd is a member of the Ahjumawi Band of the Pit River Tribe and attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He has written many papers through the years on topics such as archeology, astronomy, and Native American art.

Steven B. Herrmann, Ph.D., MFT

Steven is an internationally known Jungian psychotherapist, teacher, and writer. He lives and writes on the border of Joaquin Miller Park in Oakland, California and is the author of two books, *William Everson: The Shaman's Call*, and *Walt Whitman: Shamanism, Spiritual Democracy, and the World Soul*. Dr. Herrmann has presented papers on American poetry and religion at the Friends of Walt Whitman in Washington D.C., Unitarian-Universalist Church in Kensington, and Robinson Jeffers Association in Asilomar, California. He is finishing a third book, soon to be published, *Visions of Spiritual Democracy* and has penned an unpublished essay on Miller, as meditation and memoriam for Mount Shasta's centennial of the poet's death.

Gail Jenner

Gail is a published author/researcher of Siskiyou County, including *History of the State of Jefferson*, *Black Bart*, the *Poet Bandit*, *Historic Inns and Eateries of the State of Jefferson*, and, most recently, *Postcards from the State of Jefferson*. Gail is a frequent contributor to Jefferson Public Radio's *As it Were* series, and Jefferson Backroads and appeared on the History Channel's presentation of *How the States got Their Shapes*. In 2002 she was awarded the WILLA Literary Award for *Across the Sweet Grass Hills*.

Robert Boyle

Robert is a Marine Consultant, Chief Engineer USCG license with more than a million miles at sea. In 2008 he began researching his Great Aunt, Gertrude F. Kanno and genealogy in general. He is a third generation San Franciscan, grew up in Santa Rosa and now lives in Paradise, California and Lake Tahoe, Nevada. He lives with his wife Denise Downing and two dogs, Millie and Floyd.

Richard Silva

Richard has devoted much to mapping different immigrant trails including Southern Route to Oregon - Applegate Trail, Nobles Pass Trail, Lassen Trail, Lockhart Wagon Road, Siskiyou Segment Old California Trail, 1848 Burnett Trail (Oregon to California Trail). Kelsey Pack Trail and others. All this work has been digitized and shared with agencies and universities. Richard has written several books, and has giving tours on historical areas in California and Oregon. He became interested in Joaquin Miller with the discovery of a 1863-1890 ledger book from a store in Hawkinsville CA, that had Miller's name and transactions recorded in it.

Linda Wallace

Linda is a former teacher who specialized in writing. She currently writes a weekly column for the Mt. Shasta Herald. She lives in Mt. Shasta with her husband and two sons.

Anne McTavish, MA. Geography, San Francisco State University

Anne's thesis, "The Role of Critical Cartography in Environmental Justice: Land-Use Conflict At Shasta Dam, California," was a case study that examined how the Winnemem Wintu were put on the map, taken off the map, and struggle to regain their place on the map. Drawing on research for her thesis and readings about Joaquin Miller, Anne will discuss how maps reflect the land-use conflict of the 1850's.

Tom Stokely, B.A.Degree in Biology and Environmental Studies, with honors in Biology from U.C. Santa Cruz
Tom is a Water Policy Analyst and Director with the California Water Impact Network. He Retired as Principal Planner with the Natural Resources Division of Trinity County in 2008 after over 23 years as a planner in various capacities, including dealing with Trinity River and Central Valley Project salmon and steelhead issues. He has been a member of the California Advisory Committee on Salmon and Steelhead Trout since 1990, and is a past Chairman and Vice--Chairman. Tom currently lives and works in Mt. Shasta, California.

Alan Mainwaring, Graduate of Universities of Warwick and Bristol and British National Film School.

He was born in Wales, Britain and immigrated to Hollywood in 1976, where he wrote several screenplays. After stints in Santa Cruz, and San Francisco he moved to Mt. Shasta in 1987 where he produced and acted in plays such as *A Christmas Carol*, and *Owl and Pussycat*, plus produced films such as *Under Milkwood*, *Siskiyou Portraits*, and *Time Remembered*. Alan enjoys nature, hiking, camping, poker plating, meditation, movies and the teachings of Vitvan, Sri Aurobindo and Eckhart Tolle.

Mark Oliver, MFA University of California, San Diego

Mark is an artist and filmmaker who has received numerous grants and awards for his work. His latest film, *Where is our water from?* is currently on tour. In 2012, he completed a sculpture dedicated to Joaquin Miller and in 2011, he completed the award-winning documentary *From the Quarters to Lincoln Heights*. In 2009, his film *Viajero*, which was also inspired by the poet Joaquin Miller, took 3rd prize in Genova, Italy. In 2007, he directed the film, *Voices between the Mountains*, funded by the California Council for the Humanities. His films and video installations have been exhibited in the US and abroad; some venues include Dan Diego Black Film Festival, Los Angeles Film Festival, ART CONCEPT, St Petersburg, Russia, Instituto de America, Santa Fe, Spain, Cold Creation, Barcelona, Spain, TNT, Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, CA, Tekfest, Rome Italy, Museum of Fine Art, Santa Fe, NM, and American Center, Paris, France. Mark lives in Mt Shasta with his wife and two daughters.

William Miesse, B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Evergreen State College and an M.A. in Environmental Education from Humboldt State University

In 1993, Bill compiled and wrote *Mount Shasta: an Annotated Bibliography*, as a catalog for over 1,500 volumes in the Mount Shasta Collection at the College of the Siskiyous Library. In 2008, he wrote *Sudden and Solitary: Mount Shasta and its Artistic Legacy, 1841-2008*, co-published by Turtle Bay Exploration Park and Heyday Books. He deals in books and art, and in 1987, he gave his first presentation on the books and life of Joaquin Miller.

Julie Cassidy, MA in Anthropology from Chico State University

Julie has been an Archaeologist and Tribal Relations specialist with the Shasta-Trinity National Forest for the past 30 years and has written and presented numerous times throughout those years on topics of local history and prehistory. Selected research projects include: *Separating Fact From Fiction: Joaquin Miller's Life Amongst American Indians in Northern California*, a paper presented at Joaquin Miller Conference, Shasta College October 15, 2005 [Revised 12/06] including a similar paper presented at the Joaquin Miller Conference, Ashland, OR. and another paper, *Were the Sacramento River Wintu the First Watershed Stewards?*, presented for the 23rd State of Jefferson Meetings, Klamath Falls, Oregon, February 25, 1999.

Dennis Freeman, B.A. Degree in History, CSU, Sacramento, Master of Library Science Degree, UC Berkeley, 1979
Library Director at College of the Siskiyous Library, 1983-2011.

As library director, he created the Mount Shasta Collection, a local history collection focused on the Mount Shasta volcano and the surrounding region, which is widely inclusive of related topics. Now retired, Mr. Freeman continues to volunteer as a curator and research librarian assisting those using the collection.

Margaret Guilford-Kardell, U.C.B., University of Tennessee.

Author of the extensive on-line chronological bibliography of the works of Joaquin Miller and co-author of the seminal *Occasional Papers* by which many of today's *Wintu* now claim their ancestry. Margaret first visited Siskiyou Co. at the age of 5 and she now returns at age 92 to share with the audience what her years in Shasta Co. and her study of Joaquin Miller have revealed about the influence Miller's autobiographical novel, his poetry, and his journalism have had upon the understanding of the Gold Rush and of the *Wintu* Indians with whom he lived.

Mike Grifantini, B.S. in Wildlife-Fisheries Biology, and M.S. in Forest Ecology

Mike grew up in Siskiyou County and gained an early interest in history by listening to his grandparents tell stories about the "old days." One side of his family were early homesteaders in the Scott Valley and the Yreka areas and another side were Italian immigrants 100-years ago. All portrayed the "old days" as fun, interesting, and full of hard work! His career has run the gamut from federal service, to private consulting firms, and to large multinational timber management companies. Currently, he teaches at Shasta College (in Environmental and Natural Resources) and consults regarding habitat improvement projects and the protection of endangered wildlife species.

Tom Wolf

Tom is a Professor of Art History at Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York. He has written extensively about Woodstock, New York, as an art colony and about Asian American artists. He is currently curating an exhibition of the work of the painter, Yasuo Kuniyoshi, for the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Susan Nuernberg, Ph.D.

Susan is professor emeritus of American Literature at Univ. of Wisconsin Oshkosh. She has published books and articles on Jack London and served as president of the Jack London Society and Vice President of the Popular Culture Association. She is now a docent at the Jack London State Park in Glen Ellen, CA.

Kathy Morter, B.S. Natural Resources, A.B.T. Leadership in Human Systems

Kathy served as District Ranger of the Mt. Shasta Ranger District from 1992-98. She worked for the US Forest Service and BLM since 1976, often moving throughout her life, experiencing a diversity of landscapes and people in 14 communities in eight states. She retired from the Forest Service in Idaho in 2002, having no idea how the Mt. Shasta ski area decision was received by local communities. She returned to Mount Shasta to live and explore including a renewed state of awe by the majesty of the mountain, and the special place it holds in the hearts and spirit of many who behold it. Kathy enjoys weaving together conversation, reading, traveling, designing spaces, cooking, gardening, camping and hiking.

Conference Planners, Hosts

Jean Nels, Executive Director, Mount Shasta Sisson Museum, and

Julie Cassidy
Chris DeHart
Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum Volunteers

Bill Miesse
Mark Oliver

Dennis Freeman
Jim McChesney

Sponsors



Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum

**Black Bear Diner
City of Mt. Shasta
Gutierrez-Marrone Family
Tri-Counties Bank**

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