

THE GOLDEN FLAKES

The Golden Flakes is the official publication of The Gold Discovery Park Association

Opening Soon!

The much anticipated and long awaited time for the completion of our NEW Marshall Gold museum is upon us! It was late March when Superintendent Barry Smith received the call saying that the trucks would be rolling out west to bring the story of the California Gold Rush to life, once again, in our new museum displays, cases, signs and exhibits.

Think of the irony of it all! The trucks rolling west remind us of the first stream of real life gold seekers who would create the story that we are now here to retell. Here at Marshall Gold Discovery SHP, we boast that we are the most important state park west of the Mississippi because of the impact the gold rush had on our nation and the world. When those wagons streamed west in the 1850's they were carrying the original "stuff" (now called artifacts) we have gathered to put on display to keep this story alive.

The company awarded the contract for the museum was Split Rock Studios out of St. Paul Minnesota.

District Interpretive Specialist Terri Lopez was the Project Manager. Together with our staff and their team, all involved did a remarkable job.

The museum will be open soon with a "grand opening" slated to be held during Gold Rush Live in October. In the meantime, take a look inside as this issue features the new museum with lots of pictures of the process to completion of the project.

By Jennifer Steward



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Contact Info:

530-622-6198

marshallgoldgdp@gmail.com

www.marshallgold.com

Gold Discovery Museum & Mercantile

Hours
10 am - 4:00 pm
Daily

Board of Directors

Dennis Amaral
(President)

Bill Bennett
(Secretary)

Gale Tanquary
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Brenda Carroll
Don Sauer

Executive Director

Jennifer Steward



Superintendent's Message



Bring on the heat... school season has officially ended and we survived. Thank you to everyone who assisted in another successful year.

Volunteers not only lent a hand with our

scheduled interpretive programs and blacksmith shop, but also opened daily, the Mill Workers Cabin. This was much to the surprise of the teachers, who were delighted by the hands on woodworking and interpretive demonstrations. Opening up the cabin has been contagious; during the Memorial Day Weekend, volunteers also opened the Schoolhouse and the Monroe House for visitors. I cannot begin to tell you how this changes the park and adds to the visitor experience. Keep up the great work!

As far as change, we are so close to opening our new museum exhibit for all to see. In the meantime, we have been allowing small, supervised groups to interact with the exhibit and provide feedback. Reviews have been overwhelmingly positive! We find visitors sometimes spending well over an hour enjoying the new exhibits. Just like watching the excitement of someone finding gold for the first time, the same can be witnessed when visitors walk into the new exhibit. The success has been truly a group effort and a big win for the park.

Moving forward through the summer and preparing for Coloma Gold Rush Live in October, we will be busy working on projects throughout the park. In addition, if you find yourself with any spare time this summer, come out and join in on the fun.

Superintendent Barry C. Smith -- MGDSHP

Meet Our Park Staff **Bill Dietchman**

Meet one of our rangers - Bill Dietchman. Previous to coming to Marshall Gold 2 1/2 years ago, Bill worked at Auburn State Park. Bill was born and raised in Palo Alto, CA, then moved to Boulder City, NV in junior high. After high school he went



to UNLV and Stanford (where he received his BS in Biological Sciences. Other "fill in the gaps" jobs Bill has had: a commercial river guide and instructor, worked as a National Parks Service lifeguard at Lake Mead, he's worked in the medical and legal fields, he's worked in his church with high school students youth program, and then for a short period as a part time Sr. Park Aid and then as Seasonal Park Interpretive Specialist.

In 1991, while finishing his BS degree, Bill took a CA State Park Student Assistant position at the American River District working on the Interim Resource Management Plan. While there Bill took weekends to help train the new whitewater ranger in rafting and guiding - tasks that introduced him to some of the ranger related duties at Auburn. After finishing the "plan", Bill began working as a Park Interpretive Specialist – Seasonal. There, they developed a remarkable river based interpretive program that initially catered towards commercial river guides and later, to educators who could get continuing education credits. This 5 day program down the North and Middle Forks of the American River brought 20+ presenters in a wide range of expertise like: botany, gold rush history, pre-history, hydrology, geology, interpretation, and more. This gave the river guides better interpretive tools to use when helping their client (the public) gain an understanding of our river canyons. While working at Auburn, applications for the CA State Park Ranger Academy opened up, so Bill applied and graduated as a ranger in February 1995.

Bill's first Ranger assignment began was at Red Rock Canyon State Park (located about 25 miles north of the town of Mojave) where he worked for two years. After that Bill went on to work at Auburn State Recreation Area patrolling the park on both whitewater raft and 4 wheel drive; ran some special events and was in charge of the Whitewater Recreation Office (WRO) where we handled up to 40 outfitter concession contracts.

(Continued on page 11)

Meet Our Park Volunteers

Terry Cree



Terry Cree received the “up for anything” volunteer award at the Volunteer Appreciation dinner in 2017, and as we introduce you to this volunteer, you’ll understand why! Terry, who has been a Marshall Gold volunteer for nearly six years, originally came from the plains of Kansas. His hometown, which was founded in 1857, also has a rich history. Terry says his town’s claims to fame are being the birthplace of publisher William Allen White as well as being the founding city of Memorial Day.

Terry spent seven years in the Military (four in Germany and two instructing electronics) After that, he embarked on a cross country adventure which landed him in the Silicon Valley in 1980. He came to the area in 2002 when his job relocated to Sacramento and then his involvement with The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (serving as the District Grand Master), brought him to El Dorado County. At that time, the IOOF Hall in Coloma still had an active chapter meeting in the building. After twenty two years, Terry retired which meant spending considerably less time commuting. Before long he found himself looking for other ways to fill his schedule. A 2012 move to Coloma proper brought him to the park! When he began looking for what he’d like to interpret, it was his interest in photography along with having some old photography equipment that led Terry to interpret photography during the 1800’s. One of Terry’s passions is sharing his knowledge with the public so he found telling people about the progression of processing photos and answering questions, and giving the public a bit of “hands on” experience, delightful.

While out “in the field” he also takes great enjoyment in spotting German tourists so he can practice a language skill he learned in the 1970’s while stationed in Germany - enjoying their facial expressions at the same time! Last year, volunteer coordinator Jerrie Beard, approached Terry with a new interpretive idea. He soon became the docent in charge of the “Scams and Schemes” of the Gold Rush. He soon fabricated a “Gold Detector” and bottled up some Gold Grease along with Dr. Pinkham’s Swamp Root medication which he took to the streets during our Living History events. The satisfaction of interaction with our guests here and the association with like minded fellow volunteers make a very rewarding experience

Other hobbies and interests include being an avid Duplicate Bridge Player - rapidly approaching the Regional Master Level. He also has a motorcycle collection and a couple of classic cars which are mostly in project status.

Terry smiling over his huge ice cream sundae (at right) says, “My how time flies when you’re having fun. Keep smiling people wonder what your up to.”





PRESENTING The NEW Museum

After five long years, our new Marshall Gold Museum room is nearly completed and opening soon! The long awaited and much anticipated museum is beautiful. Visitors will be delighted to make their way through the exhibits to learn all about the story of The California Gold Rush!



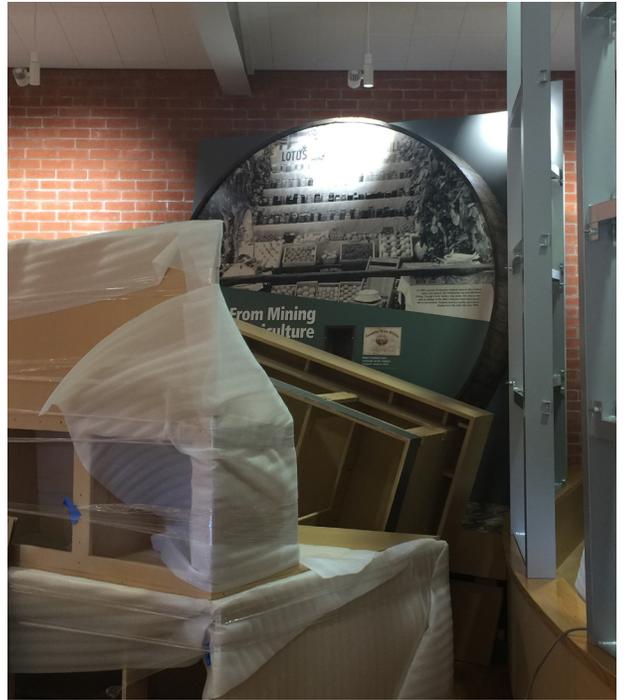
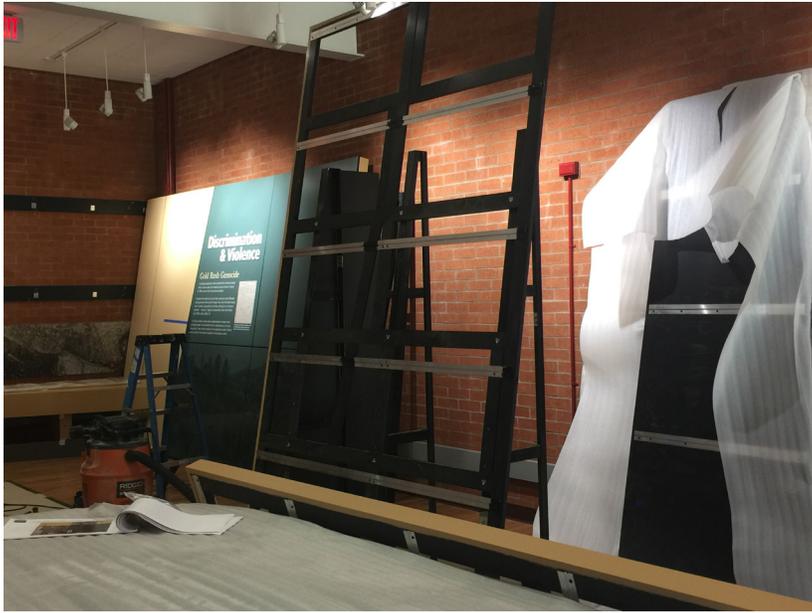
Marshall Gold staff were there when the truck rolled in carrying the makings of our new exhibits. As you can see, they were just a little excited!



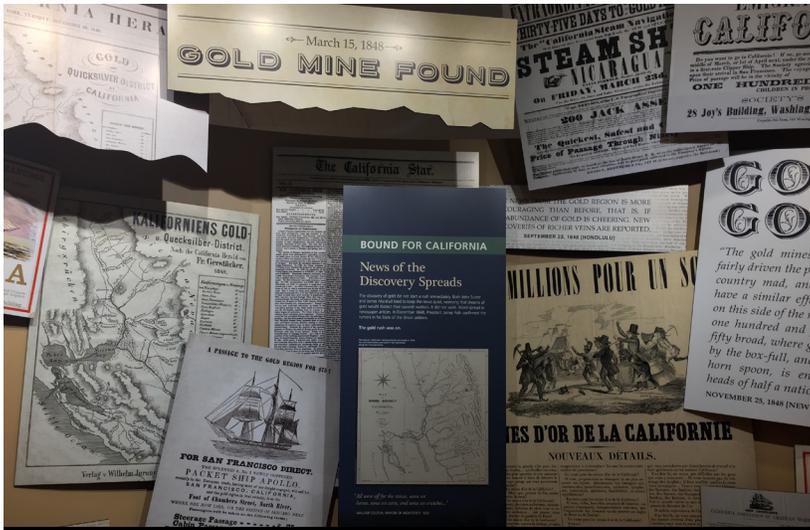
Before the arrival of the exhibits, a curved wall had to be built for the entrance



Signs, stands, cases - All carefully packaged and ready to assemble

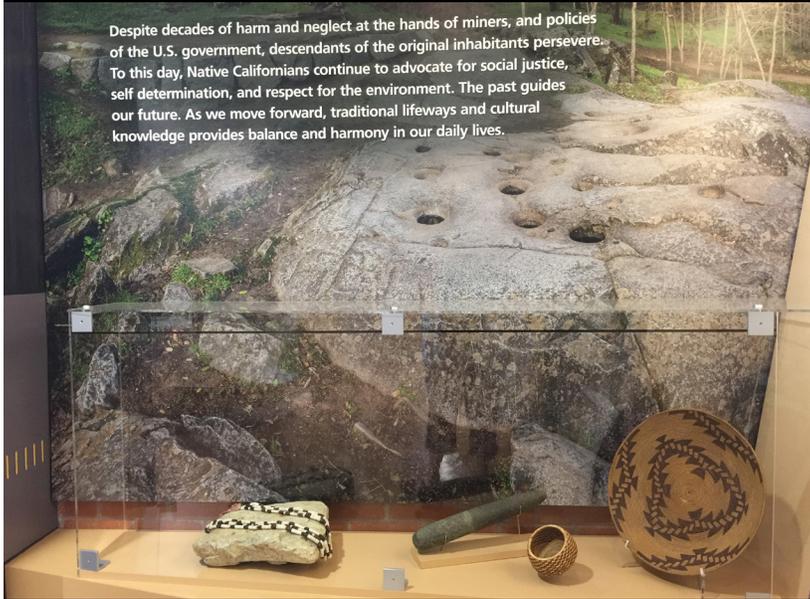


Uncratering the STAGECOACH



As You Enter...

Despite decades of harm and neglect at the hands of miners, and policies of the U.S. government, descendants of the original inhabitants persevere. To this day, Native Californians continue to advocate for social justice, self determination, and respect for the environment. The past guides our future. As we move forward, traditional lifeways and cultural knowledge provides balance and harmony in our daily lives.



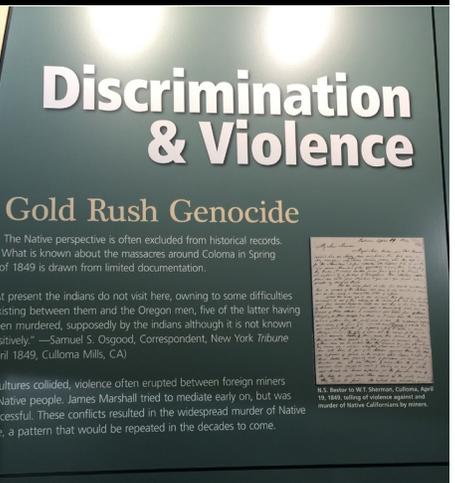
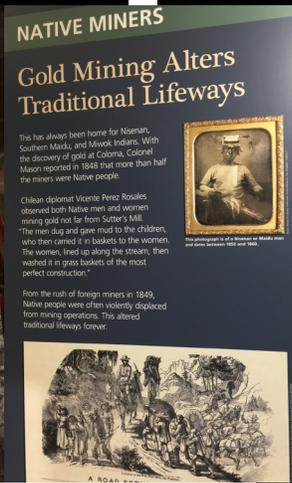
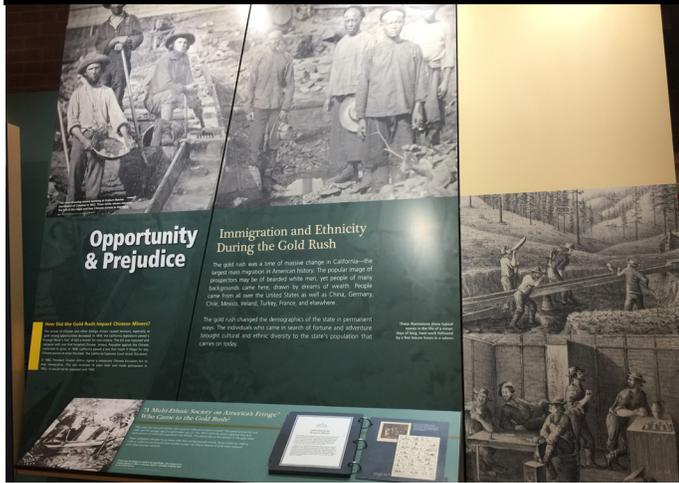
Turn Left - The Impact on Native Americans



Turn Right to Learn about Geology



Discrimination & Violence





TRAVEL
BY

SHIP
HORSE
STAGECOACH
FOOT



Traveling to CALIFORNIA



**Traveling to California
By Ship, Horse, Stagecoach, and Foot**

When gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill, Americans had two ways to California. They could go by ship, or they could cross by land using mules and wagons.

The quickest route from the East Coast was to sail to the port of Veracruz. From there, travelers either walked across the Isthmus of Panama or crossed the deserts of Mexico. A longer route went around the tip of South America. By land, visitors could travel either the Oregon-California Trail, which went north, or the Santa Fe Trail, which went south.

A voyage by ship took five to eight months of seasickness and boredom. An overland route averaged six months in dangerous conditions and all kinds of weather.

This 1849 map shows routes across the Isthmus of Panama. Ships from the East Coast arrived at the mouth of the Chaparral River. Travelers trekked across the Isthmus to Panama City.

This cartoon by Nathaniel Currier shows people eager to get to California by ship, by...

Traveling to CALIFORNIA



A trunk filled with children's items

Artifacts have been carefully chosen to tell each part of the Gold Rush story. Pictured above are some of the items travelers coming West may have brought with them in their trunks: clothing, accessories, jewelry, toys, games, books & daguerrotype photos



Display Case Exhibits



Brandon Moore holding Marshall's gun (right)

"IT IS NOT LIKE HOME TO ME"

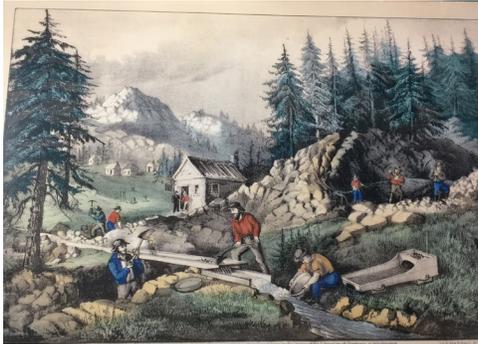
The Life of a '49er

Many miners arrived in California having spent their life savings to travel here. They discovered that mining was hard and monotonous, filled with long days and lonely nights.

Eating a poor diet lacking in fresh fruit and vegetables, miners got sick from scurvy as well as other diseases like malaria and fever. They lived in canvas tents or pooled their resources with friends to build log cabins. They cooked over open fires. As Sheldon Shufelt wrote in a March 3, 1850, letter to his cousin: "We do our own cooking, washing & mending & some of it is in good style too, but after all it is not like home to me."



This 1872 painting, Sunday Morning on the Mines, shows a variety of leisure activities. Those on the right are playing dominoes while those on the left are partaking in wine. The painter, Charles Christian Hall, was a German immigrant to California.



PICTURED RIGHT -

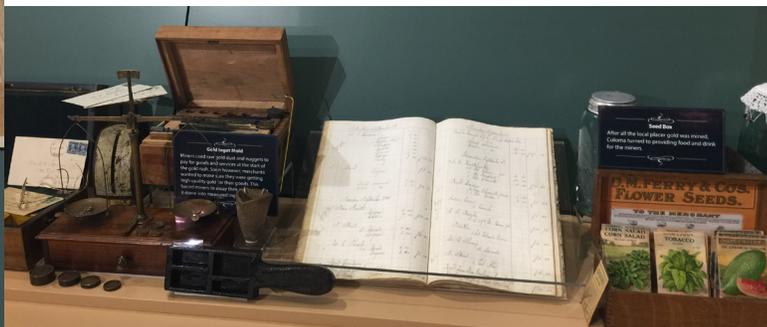
Park Aides: Ben, Alex, Stuart, Sean pose as 49ers gold panning and using a rocker

(shown on a video monitor)



Gold Rush Business Booms

As Coloma grew and transformed from the sawmill site with a few tents to a town, it needed to accommodate the needs of miners and travelers coming into the valley. New growth of additional boarding houses, hotels, and saloons allowed for many individuals to start or expand their businesses. Due to the distance and time it would take a miner to travel to Sacramento and be away from his claim and making his earnings, many business owners could charge exorbitant prices for the goods and services that were in demand. In fact, more fortunes were made during the gold rush by merchants and entrepreneurs than by miners.



By 1852 there were all kinds of businesses in Coloma. Those providing goods and services to the miners, were the ones profiting.

Plan a Visit to See the New Museum Soon!

Bringing Diversity to California

No other state experienced such fast growth. The gold rush changed the population and culture of California. The idea of "going west" took hold.

Miners came from all over the world and stayed, adding to the state's diversity. California continues to be known for its diversity as people still come from all over for new opportunities.

THE PEOPLE OF COLOMA

COLOMA 1865

Meet the People of Coloma

Who were the people who made Coloma what it is today? After the town found gold, the discovery of the boom changed in 1865, Coloma had a population of 200, mostly miners and their families. By 1866, the town had grown to nearly 1,000 people. The discovery of gold in Coloma, and soon made up a quarter of all production.

Two of Coloma's original miners remained in town by 1865. Those who did become important players in the business community. These former small-time miners to make Coloma for years to come.

What Happened to James Marshall?

James Marshall was a prospector who discovered gold in the area around Coloma. He was the first to discover gold in the area around Coloma. He was the first to discover gold in the area around Coloma.

Click on a picture to learn about a person from Coloma

The back side of the curved entry wall shows the timeline of The Gold Rush. You can see the gold bricks stacked up showing just how much gold was taken out of the river and surrounding areas of the Mother Lode.



First to the Fortunes

The first people to arrive at the gold fields were already living in California and Oregon. Native Americans made up nearly half of the earliest miners. They often worked for other people—some as forced labor. Experienced methods of mining including panning using a batea, or wooden bowl, and grinding ore using an arrastra.

Word of gold spread quickly. In June, a ship from San Francisco docked in Hawaii with news of the discovery. By November, reports had reached New Zealand.

The '49ers Arrive

The gold miners who arrived in 1849 were called "49ers." They brought California in a massive wave of immigration. They brought with them American technology by ship from the East Coast, including an arrastra. Those brought tools for the mining up to the river.

Other early gold miners came from South America, Australia, France, and China.

California (like the woman pictured here) were people of Spanish ancestry born to Mexican-controlled California. Many turned to gold mining after Marshall's discovery.

In 1848, about 6,000 miners took \$245,000 in gold. They recovered gold through placer mining. They dug gold out of crevices in bedrock and panned for gold in the stream.

\$10 million

From Mining to Agriculture

Remaking Coloma

After its gold rush fortunes dimmed, Coloma reinvented itself as an agricultural center. Fruit orchards, farm fields, and vineyards replaced gold as the main business in town.

The vines of the Coloma Vineyard date back to 1852, when they were planted by Maria Althoff and Robert Crummett, a German and a Scotman. The winery was built by Althoff, and upon his death came into the hands of Crummett. The vineyard and winery in Coloma valley during this time were equal in quality to any foreign wine.

Vino Bekeart Coloma Vineyard





~ You're Invited ~

All are welcome to attend
The Gold Discovery Park Association
board meetings held in The Weller House at
5:30 pm. the 3rd Tuesday each month.

*(It is suggested that you call ahead in the event a
meeting has been changed or cancelled - 622-6198)*

We value your input, questions, ideas, & concerns

Send correspondence to:

GDPA P.O. Box 461
Coloma, CA 95613 or
Email: marshallgoldgpa@gmail.com

Association by-laws were set up
as a non-voting membership
but you DO have a voice!

Articles ~ News ~ Recipes
WELCOME

Newsletter submissions are welcome
& due by August 15th
PLEASE SUBMIT TO:

jennifer.steward.gdpa@gmail.com
Editor - Jennifer Steward

New circulation dates effective this issue:

Jan Feb March - April May June
July Aug Sept - Oct Nov Dec

Cut out
Membership Application

and send to :

GDPA
P.O. Box 461
Coloma, CA 95613



**Welcome to the place where the spirit
of California was born!**

The Gold Discovery Park Association

is proud to be the cooperating association for
Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park

WHO WE ARE: We are a private, non-profit corpo-
ration governed by a board of directors and a set of
by-laws. We are funded through, grants, memberships,
donations, sales of merchandise and fundraising
events. Your membership contribution directly supports
the interepretation, education and volunteer programs
at the park.

WHAT WE DO: We sustain a variety of programs for
children and adults, contribute to projects that preserve
our historic buildings and help maintain park facilities.
In doing so, we support the mission of the California
Department of Parks and Recreation of providing top
quality visitor experiences.

WHERE WE ARE: We operate the Gold Rush Mer-
cantile inside the Gold Discovery Museum and sell
a variety of educational and interpretive items, a fine
selection of California and Gold Rush -era books, gifts,
jewelry, souvenirs and toys.

Gold Rush Mercantile
530-344-1895 www.marshallgold.com

Annual Membership Form

(Membership year Jan1 - Dec 31)

\$20 - Individual

\$30 - Family

(2 adults & children under 18)

(Seniors 62+ receive 20% off memberships)

Member Benefits:

- Receives 12 page color newsletter in the mail
- 30% discount at The Gold Rush Mercantile
 - Tax Deduction

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____



Introducing...Emily Bertram
 our newest ranger! After many exciting, adventurous jobs (wildland firefighter, a hotshot, an arson investigator) Emily joined the ranger academy in 2008. She's worked at Mendocino District and Santa Cruz District (Big Basin Redwoods) She says she is thoroughly enjoying learning the nooks and crannies of the park and is becoming quite proficient at gold panning!



Bill Dietchman continued

Bill says the staff and management here are excellent; the volunteers and docents are wonderful and he has a great appreciation for them. The park is so full of history that Bill enjoys being able to help improve the park experience for current visitors and for future generations. "Working at MGDSP is like opening up a treasure chest full of historic treasures to be learned, studied and shared.", Bill stated.

Outside of work, Bill enjoys whitewater rafting, sailing, camping, travel, time spent with family and friends, learning, reading, and research and would like to spend more time in the "arts" in the future. Bill is blessed with a wife of 37 years, 3 children and 5 grandchildren!



**Another School Season
 ~ Come & Gone ~**

Each year from mid- March to mid- June, our park is inundated with 70,000 4th graders. It's a lively, busy time when the park is all a-buzz with the sound of school children who have gold fever, park staff in full swing teaching them about the Gold Rush, and for the many volunteers who dedicate their time to help out around the park. It's also a VERY busy time for The Gold Rush Mercantile and The Gold Discovery Park Association bring in much needed revenue (which stays IN OUR PARK) to support the plans, projects, and programs of the park!



2nd Annual National Night Out

Sponsored by Marshall Gold Discovery SHP & the GDPA
 Tuesday, August 7, 2018
 6pm to 9pm

Come out and enjoy a summer evening by the river meeting local service agencies (police, fire department etc.) and learn how they benefit our community. Food & activities and games for children!



Summer Library Hours

June, July, and August the library will be open on Thursdays from 10am-2pm. If you want to come in another time, contact Sara SK (she's gone until late June) brainwork@mindspring.com If the library is closed and you have library books to renew or return, staff/volunteers can help you at the museum desk. You may also request a renewal (for June), to: Marshallgold.Library@parks.ca.gov



P.O. Box 461
Coloma, CA 95613

We're on the Web
We're on Facebook!



www.marshallgold.com

"Dedicated to the interpretation and conservation
of Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park."

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday June 9th	Living History Day 10:00- 2:00
Tuesday June 18th 5:30	Board of Directors Meeting Weller House
Saturday July 14th	Living History Day 10:00 - 2:00
Tuesday July 17th 5:30	Board of Directors Meeting Weller House
Tuesday August 21st 5:30	Board of Directors Meeting Weller House

** Living History Day is held "weather permitting" so please call before making the trip!