

PRESTON COMMUNICATOR

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Wine Tasting and Tour Saturday, August 25, 2018, 4 to 7

Taste the fine wines of Amador County and experience the history of the majestic Preston Castle. Attendees will sample fine wines, poured by 15 different wineries, from commemorative Preston Castle wine glasses.

Sip a glass of wine, enjoy some good food, and listen to live music on the patio where the food will be served, and in the wine cellar of the Castle where the wineries will be pouring. You will also be able to take a self-guided tour of the unrestricted areas of the Castle where docents will be available to answer your questions.



This is our 14th annual Wine Tasting and Tour and it continues to be one of Amador County's premier wine events, and is always a sellout, so get your tickets now! Advance sales only, \$45 online. Please, 21 and older. No refunds.

Please note the new date and time for this year's event!



If anyone wishes to add or change anything in the newsletter, please let us know at info@prestoncastle.com or at the next meeting. We always enjoy hearing from our readers! Past issues are available at www.prestoncastle.com - click on "News".

Murder Mystery GladHeAteHer - June 15 & 16

GLADHEATEHER, written by Richard Forster, was about a demented Roman emperor who felt he could attain immortality in a most unusual way. The grotesque comedy was full of everything: An Emperor (Tony Travale) with many moments of insanity; a murdered wife (Julie Hall-Sweaza) who gained her revenge by leading a revolt as a reincarnated General; two Gladiators (Jeremy Armstrong and James Dorris), one with intelligence and a big heart and the other with a voice and a smile that would kill (literally); a court jester (Anna Fantasia) who knocked 'em dead with her wit and a very active Roman woman (Jamie Armstrong) out to please all and find eternal love; the conceited sister-in-law (Yvonne Funderburgh) looking to gain power through the military; and the two slaves to the Emperor (Rod Burton & Richard Forster) who gave their all to satisfy his wishes. The Director, Donna Munson, did a fantastic job ensuring a great production, and technical expert Ryan Mick made special effects look easy.

Great food was provided by the Jackson Rancheria's Culinary Team and served up by the Castle's faithful volunteers. No one went thirsty as our refreshment volunteers were on hand. The prop team led by Dave Munson and Tim Bergeron created a great set.

The Murder Mystery provides a great time to attendees and allows them to support the rehabilitation of Preston Castle at the same time. You can be a part of the 2019 Murder Mystery production which is already being developed.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Wine Tasting and Murder Mystery.....	1
Events for 2018, Tours	2
ParaCon, Book	3
Executive Director, Landscaping, Paving.....	4
President's Message, Annual Meeting.....	5

Don't Miss Our 2018 Events

Join us for one or all of the Preston Castle Foundation's remaining events in 20178. For more information and to order tickets, visit www.prestoncastle.com, or call 209-256-3623.

ParaCon at the Castle

Friday, August 3, Saturday August 4

See page 3 for details.

Photographer's Day

Sunday, August 19, 4 pm to 8 pm

Participants are allowed four hours to explore the non-restricted areas of the Castle. This gives you the time you need to setup shots without rushing to keep up the pace of our normal informative historical tours. Note that this date includes twilight/evening light. Tickets: \$40 each.

Wine Tasting & Tour

Saturday, August 25, 4 pm to 7 pm

See page 1 for details.

Preston Castle Haunt

Friday, October 12,

Saturday, October 13,

Friday, October 19,

Saturday, October 20,

Friday, October 26,

Saturday, October 27

all starting at 7 pm

This year's Haunt will be bigger and better, and you will see some new areas of the Castle. The Haunt will be 6 nights. Gates open at 6:45 pm, with the first entry into the Haunt at 7 pm.

Visit www.prestoncastlehaunt.com for more information.

Olde Tyme Christmas

Saturday, December 8, 10 am to 4 pm

Travel back to olden times at the beautiful Preston Castle and find lots of interesting arts, crafts, jewelry, baked goods, and other gift items. You may take a self guided tour of the historic Preston Castle, 10 am to 2 pm. For Vendor information, visit www.prestoncastle.com, or contact Donna Munson at: djdmunson@gmail.com

Historic Tours

It has been an exciting season for historic tours. Preston Castle has been undergoing some guest friendly changes inside and out. The most noticeable for the tour guest is the staged rooms that are now found throughout the Castle. Several of our volunteers have adopted rooms and staged them with period appropriate furnishings and accessories. These rooms have been dressed with love. Our volunteers are amazing and are dedicated to the preservation of this beautiful building.



The tour model has also gone through a transformation this season. Due to the increase in visitors, changes became necessary. Tours now consist of both self guided and guided tours. Self Guided tour ticket sales (\$15, \$10 age 12 and under, free age 5 and under) are from 10 am to noon on Saturday tour days. Tourists can wander around the Castle until 1 pm assisted by tour docents and informational placards.

There are three guided tours available that are capped at 15 people per tour. Guided tours go out at 1:00, 1:30 and 2:00 each tour day. Trained historic tour docents lead these tours that last about an hour. Prices for guided tours are \$20, \$15 age 12 and under, age 5 and under are free. These changes have made tour days more manageable and less demanding. Happy volunteers are fun volunteers. Come join the fun, schedule your tour or sign up to volunteer today!

Make note that August 18th is the last public tour day of the season, except there will be self-guided tours on December 8, as part of the Olde Tyme Christmas event.

Paranormal Conference

Castle Spirits, the official paranormal team of Preston Castle would like to invite you, our supporters and friends to our fourth annual benefit Paranormal Conference (Paracon). We have some fantastic speakers and some of the most notable experts in the field such as Patrick Doyle from Ghost Mine, lecturer and author Ross Allison, recognized for his studies throughout the world, and Nicole Strickland, expert on the history and mystery of the Queen Mary, to name a few. We are excited to have so many diverse presenters and will host a haunted locations panel representing haunts from throughout the United States.

Our merchant room will have some of the best vendors of jewelry, metaphysical and the paranormal... and food trucks will be on hand to satisfy any craving.

This year we are proud to team with Spooked in Seattle to provide a tour of the beautiful Lone Cemetery, where Ross Allison will thrill you with the legend and lore of tomb stone symbols and death rituals.

paracon continued

We are also proud to announce TV personality Mark S. Allen will be our Master of Ceremonies, as well as speaking about his latest film project that involves Preston Castle.

The pinnacle of paracon will be the investigations of the Castle to take place on both Friday and Saturday nights. We hope that you will be able to join us. For ticket information, visit prestonparacon.com

Three different ticket packages are available:

\$40 - Visitation (Vendors and speakers both days)

\$100 - Apparition (Vendors and speakers + investigation of Preston Castle)

\$125 - Full Possession (vendors and speakers + investigation of Preston Castle and an invitation to our meet and greet with the speakers on 8/3 - Friday evening)

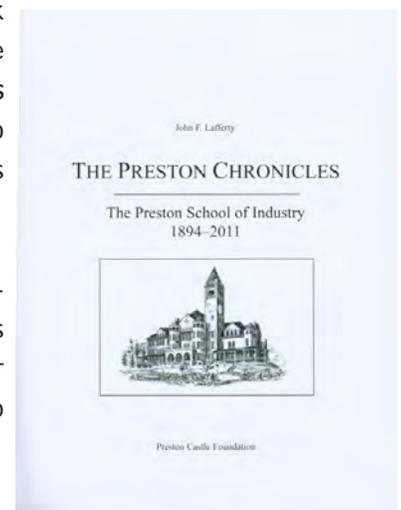
New this year, guests can choose to add a Tour of the Lone Public Cemetery.

To purchase tickets, visit <http://www.prestonparacon.com/>

Preston Chronicles Featured

John Lafferty's comprehensive history of the Preston School of Industry, "The Preston Chronicles", was recently selected as the Book of the Week by the California State Library. The Book of the Week program is part of the State Library's efforts to expose the public to the variety of resources available to them.

The PCF has both hard-back and softback copies of the book available for purchase in the Gift Shop on public tour days.



New Executive Director

Hi all! My name is Cari Stouffer and I have the overwhelming privilege of serving as the Preston Castle Foundation's first Executive Director. I've "done a lot of time" at Pres-



ton when it was operational as my father, Dave Skaggs, was the Protestant chaplain there for 30+ years up until its closing. My family and I went to church there in the institution and I participated in the volunteer programs for the youth.

I left Lone for 6 years to obtain my bachelor's and master's degrees back east. While there I found the best boy I could find and dragged him back to Lone and married him.

I'm excited to bring all the help I can to the foundation and to learn all the different facets of the job. I never cease to be amazed at how dedicated and hardworking everyone is.

Landscaping

The landscaping committee has been working hard to clean up and beautify the grounds for the busy summer tour and event season. Here are "before" and "after" photos.



Paving Project

The Preston Castle Foundation finished the second year of phased paving improvement projects in late spring this year. The main parking lot from the front gate all the way up the hill past the front of the Castle has been paved. No more dust storms with every passing car and testing your ability to survive the bumpy road. The paving included striping for parking and the installation of proper disabled parking and ramps to the main sidewalk in front of the Castle.



looking out the front of the Castle

The project was completed by Dave Bunfill Paving Service. Dave did an excellent job. The project was completed in four days during the week so that it did not disrupt the Saturday tours.



Gladheather Cast



Wine Tasting and Tour

President's Message

The Preston Castle Foundation is half way through a very exciting tour and special events season. We had "Plays on the Patio", a series of one act plays and monologues that we partnered with Main Street Theater Works to produce. The event was a wonderful hit with the audience and we are already planning its return in 2019. In June the uproariously funny Murder Mystery Dinner "Gladheateher" was performed by our own team.

The Murder Mystery was accompanied by the incredible dinners provided by the Culinary Team of the Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort.

Ahead of us yet are several more events. The annual Wine Tasting and Tour event will occur on August 25th with wine, music and food. The annual Paranormal Conference, "Paracon", will be occurring at the Castle on August 3rd and 4th. The "Haunt" will occur on October 12, 13, 19, 20, 26 and 27. The last special event of the year is "Olde Tyme Christmas" occurring on December 8.

Of course the Castle is open for tours on most Saturdays through August 18. There are self-guided tours in the morning from 10-12. Then guided tours at 1:00, 1:30 and 2:00 PM. Tickets for self-guided tours are sold at the door and tickets for the guided tours are sold in advance on our website prestoncastle.com.

Our incredible team of volunteers has been working all spring and into the summer on a number of safety and security upgrades at the Castle. All of this work has been to better protect the Castle from damage and make visits to the Castle safer for our guests.

There is still time to get involved in helping with our efforts to "Save the Castle". Contact us at info@prestoncastle.com if you are interested in volunteering in any number of efforts. We have openings for tour guides, cashiers, landscaping/gardening, maintenance, repairs, etc. All of the special events can use additional volunteers to make them work smoother.

And last, but not least, please join me in welcoming our brand new, and first ever, Executive Director - Cari Stouffer.

Karl Knobelauch, President

Annual Meeting and Election of Directors

The Preston Castle Foundation Annual Meeting of Members was held on June 6th to elect Directors for two-year terms. Thirteen people comprise the Board of Directors. Following the election, the Board elected its officers for 2018 - 2019.

Thanks go to all the candidates who ran in the election. The upcoming term promises to be exciting for all. The full Board of Directors:

Karl Knobelauch - President
 Jerry Funderburgh - Vice President
 Barbara Murray - Treasurer
 Jamie Armstrong - Secretary
 Jim Bennett
 Rod Burton
 Anna Fantasia
 Richard Forster
 Sybil Griffith
 Mary Martel
 Ryan Mick
 Donna Munson
 Bill Thiry



SAVE
 THE
 CASTLE