

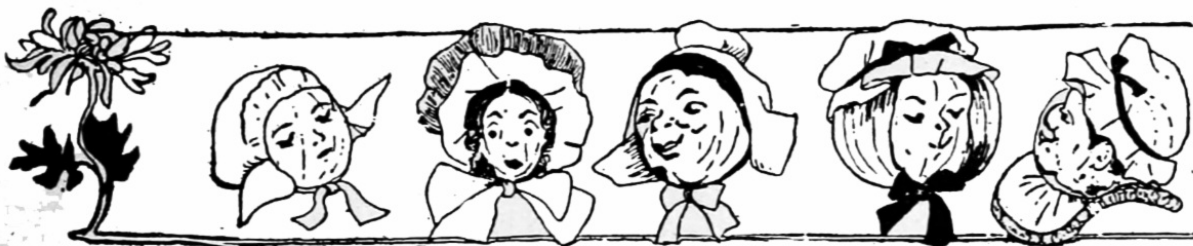
# *Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation*

October Newsletter, 2019

The origins of what is today called Halloween (also Hallowe'en) are shrouded in folklore, controversy, and murky traditions and rituals. Halloween evolved from semi-religious gatherings and matchmaking to secular community gatherings featuring spooky story telling and various games (bobbing for apples and dressing in costumes and disguises). The Halloween we think of today with children in costumes and trick or treating didn't really emerge in the United States until the urbanization of the population took hold in the 1930's and 1940's. Since the U.S. population prior to that was primarily rural, small rural towns were particularly community oriented and grasped at any good excuse for a party.

In the early 1900's, Halloween was a time to have an elaborate party with decorations, invitations, and parlor games. Halloween and the eve of All Saint's Day (November 1) is one of the most delightful opportunities for entertaining. On such a night there should be nothing but laughter, jollity, and mystery.

## **1900 - A Halloween Party**



The following is from The Amador Ledger, November 2, 1900

*The evening preceding All Saint's Day, Wednesday evening last, was duly celebrated at the M. E. (Methodist Episcopal Church) Parsonage. Rev. and Mrs. Morrow and Miss Nettie Morrow doing the honors of the evening in a manner indicative of great experience in the superb art of entertaining. About eighty young people were present, forty of whom were young ladies. About 12*

*o'clock or thereabouts, said forty damsels were permitted to peep into the magic mirror and see their matrimonial fate. It was an hour of great suspense but the expectant lassies carried out the programme to perfection, each one of them giving out a delightful little scream when the man appeared. The mystic ring of the magic cake fell to Miss Lonigo, the dime to Miss Littlefield, thimble to Robt. L. Kerr, and the button to Miss Hilda Clough. The old maid, happy marriage and widower racket, engineered by Deputy County Clerk Breese brought the house down repeatedly. The only millionaire present was captured by Miss Lottie Breese. The evening was rich in enjoyment and all present pronounce the members of Rev. Morrow's household, royal entertainers.*



**The Amador Dispatch carried the following on October 17, 1902**

*The Halloween Social to be given by St. Augustine's Guild will be held in Judge Brown's vacant store room on Court Street, Oct. 31st. The ladies will serve a hot supper with dishes in keeping with this special season and the young people will have charge of the social features which will embrace games and pastimes ever dear to the heart of the young at this season. Admission will be free.*

**In 1900, the population of Amador County was 11,116. There were two weekly newspapers, Amador Dispatch and Amador Ledger. Some of the ads published that year include: "The Bank of Amador County, incorporated in November 1895, with capital stock of \$50,000, is renting safe deposit boxes for 35 cents a month; The Globe Hotel, corner of Main and Court Streets in Jackson had "Good Meals" for 25 cents; Knight & Co. Foundry and Machine Shop, Sutter Creek, builders of water wheels of the latest and most improved patterns and all kinds of sheet iron pipe; and, Ursula Parlor, N.D.G.W. (Native Daughters of the Golden West) had their Second Annual Masquerade Ball, Tickets (including supper) were \$2.50".**





***Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation "Witches"  
you a Safe and Happy Halloween!***

**The Sutter Creek Community Benefit Foundation is co-sponsoring the Main Street Theatre Works fall production. MSTW is a professionally-oriented, rural theatre company.**

**This will be MSTW's 9th re-creation of a broadcast from 1938 The Mercury Theater On The Air radio series, which originally featured Orson Welles and his company members. Don't miss this 2-day only radio show event.**





*Main Street Theatre Works presents:*

*A live radio show reenactment  
of the original 1938  
Mercury Theater On The Air broadcast*



*Charles Dickens*

# *A Tale of Two Cities*



*Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00pm • Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2:00pm*

*NEW LOCATION ~ Sutter Creek Historic Grammar School,  
110 Broad St, Sutter Creek (behind Sutter Creek Primary School)*

*\$25 ticket includes dessert bar, coffee/tea, and the show  
Tickets available at Hein & Co., Jackson and*

*MSTW.ORG*



*To read past SCBF newsletters, visit our website [suttercreekfoundation.org](http://suttercreekfoundation.org)*

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