

ACCESS ADVENTURE/Anywhere Wild! July 2008 Update

Dear Friends,

The **Humbug Hoedown** in Plumas County was the second Anywhere Wild! trip for Access Adventure this year. We set up our camp at the Yellow Creek Campground located in the Humbug Valley. Nestled in the trees, near the creek and with accessible facilities, it was perfect for our volunteers and horses. In addition, to our beautiful mares, Reba and Ruby, Deena Kirby brought her new team, Beauty and Trudy, for their first Access Adventure wilderness experience. Two of Deena's friends and their horses enjoyed trail riding in the valley. Everyone, including the horses, enjoyed Yellow Creek for recreation and for cooling off after a day on the trail. One evening Bev Oogle, our campground host, and several musicians joined us. We enjoyed telling tales and singing around the campfire. On Saturday, we were introduced to Richard Burrill, an anthropologist and author of several books on Ishi, and Native American culture. We hope to include Richard's writings in future environmental education sessions for our youth programs.

Each time we load up the horses and trolley for a wilderness trek we anticipate that there will be moments of excitement and danger. After all, "Wild" is part of our name! At the Sanctuary Forest in Humboldt, campers were surprised at the creek by a curious bear, on the road from the campsite in Ft. Hunter Liggett we spotted a mountain lion taking an evening stroll. The wildfires burning in California were evident in the smoky skies above the valley. Incredible brilliant red-orange sunsets, followed by clear skies and twinkling stars above, were among the highlights of the trip. Grayson Sorrels, a retired fireman for the Forest Service, and trip organizer, was invaluable as an expert on the dangers of wildfires so we were confident that we were safe. By Saturday afternoon the fires burned on, putting a red glow on the horizon. Smoke thickened in the valley. The Forest Service recommended that campers be prepared to evacuate. Concerned about the safety of our campers and animals we decided it might get too wild and it was time to pack up and head home.

The Hoedown was an adventure to remember. The valley is perfect for carriage drives to the historic sites and on trails through heavily wooded areas - truly California at its best! Check out our website Special Events Calendar for photos from the trip.

Attached is an invitation to join us for the **Redwood Rendezvous, July 23-27**. This year we expect to see old friends and meet new ones as we travel the backroads of Humboldt County .

September 7-13th: Access Adventure and the Sierra Club offer an exciting accessible adventure in the Sierra. Trip and reservation information are attached. Space limited – sign up now!

Please save September 27th for "Celebrate Adventure", the Walk with Rock, our annual fundraiser. We are seeking volunteers, participants, donors and sponsors for the event. We need your help! Details will soon be available on our website www.access-adventure.org.

Contact information for Access Adventure: email info@access-adventure.org or call 707-432-0152. If you wish to be removed from our mailing list please let us know.

Michael Muir and the Volunteers of Access Adventure