



THE TWILIGHT OWL

Terry Douglass, Editor

2015 Season: Issue 8



COLUMBUS DAY DROP IN DINNER

TWP Clubhouse
Saturday, October 10
7:00 PM

PREZ SADE AND HIS COHORT OF PREDECESSORS
DO TEX MEX

RSVP requested for count purposes
Drop ins happily accepted

Please RSVP by OCT 5 if possible to pbennett@ghclaw.com

\$15 for Adults; \$5 for Children under 10

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FINE EVENING



Water off: Monday October 19th



Last garbage pickup: Tuesday, October 20th

MEMORIES OF SIXTEEN SUMMERS IN TWILIGHT AND SANTA CRUZ PARKS 1912-1928

ORAL HISTORY OF HOPE RANDOLPH HACKER

Submitted by Joanne Lucey Ainsworth

While volunteering at the Mountaintop Historical Society I came across a binder filled with photocopies of newsletters produced by the Ulster & Delaware Railroad Historical Society affiliated with the National Railway Historical Society. The newsletters are titled the "Rip Van Winkle Flyer" in honor of the first train on the new railroad, THE RIP VAN WINKLE FLYER. The following are excerpts from an oral history conducted with Hope Randolph Hacker and printed in issue number 16, March 1990 of "The Rip Van Winkle Flyer." Hope Randolph spent 16 summers between 1912 and 1928 in Twilight and Santa Cruz Parks living at first in Santa Cruz Inn and then in her family home near her cousin Sarah Robb's cottage (now Swanson).

Well, in my day, when I was young, there was a musical group called the Lord Jeff Serenaders from Amherst College, and they were five boys. There was a pianist, a drummer, a saxophonist, a violinist and something else. I think there were four or five, I can't quite remember. And every night of the week when I was 16 and 17, there was a dance. Of course, there was no dance Sunday and the band had Monday night off. Anyway, there was a dance at TWILIGHT INN always on Wednesday and Saturday nights. Then Thursday night the dance was at SANTA CRUZ INN. SQUIRREL INN and LEDGE INN also had a night but I can't remember which night was which. You went to a dance nearly every night. Of course there was no liquor in those days. I walked from the cottage to the party and I had to be home by 11:30! The dance was over by 11:00 and I had to be in the house by 11:30. That was the rule of my mother's house.... I was never allowed to go to dances at SUNSET INN and yet I was allowed to go out every night - a group of us went somewhere nearly every evening. But we were never allowed to go to SUNSET. Why? You didn't ask in those days. It just wasn't considered quite as "nice.". Now that's snooty I know, but that's the way it was. It was just "verboden." The Parks kept very much to themselves socially. The people that we knew in the Parks just didn't go, in my time, to SUNSET INN. ...

What was a typical day like in TWILIGHT PARK? When I was having a good time in the twenties, why, a typical day I'd get up and have breakfast at the Inn [SANTA CRUZ] at eight o'clock and then come home and do chores around the house. At ten o'clock, I'd walk almost a mile, better than half a mile, down to the tennis courts. There'd be a gang of us there - a group of maybe ten boys and ten girls who went around together. I'd knit as I walked along. That sounds silly now but I'd knit a sweater a mile a minute. We'd play tennis and then I'd walk home to have lunch - that took maybe fifteen or twenty minutes. In the afternoon, maybe we'd walk by SUNSET INN and out to Clum Hill. When we did Clum Hill, it was about, oh, and hour and a half walk. We'd sit in a field there and talk. Then we would go down to the Ulster and Delaware RR and come back on the railroad track. Invariably, a train would come along at about 4:00 or 4:30 and we'd have to get off. I remember there was always a parlor car at the end. Generally one passenger car, and a baggage car and a parlor car. At least that much, maybe more. We'd get off to the side and wave to the people on the train and then get back on the tracks. It was the shortest way home on the railroad track. Then that evening, maybe we'd go over to the TWILIGHT INN and dance.

....the dances, I remember, now I could be wrong, that they started at 8:30 and ran to about 11:00. At SQUIRREL INN, the dances were held in their Music Room. You always went with a boy. There were always about an even number of boys and girls and generally two or three extra stags. Then there were couples, too. But we never paid any attention to them. That was a different kettle of fish. You'd dance with the boy who brought you and then somebody would cut in and you'd dance with him for a while and then somebody else. And you always left with the boy who brought you. But you never sat, you hardly ever sat down at all evening. You just kept dancing - except when the band had to quit. They generally stopped and had some sort of refreshments for fifteen minutes. And, as I said I had to be home within a half hour. Mother always stay awake until I got in the house. My brother, who was just a year younger than me was supposed to sort of chaperone me and he was a dear. He wasn't going much to parties at that point and didn't have a girl of his own. But it was good fun. We had a nice time.

TO BE CONTINUED IN SUBSEQUENT ISSUES OF THE "THE OWL"

Twilighters and friends cheered on the winning
Haines Falls Fire Department entrant
Parade of Greene County (and beyond) First Responders
Saturday, September 12
Palenville



The campers have it right! The season is coming to a close.

