

Run 2 the Gold Country
 –The way justifies the end
 Sat. Oct. 30, 2010
 Danny & Debi Robinson
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 925-634-6632 Home

IT WAS GOLD that brought droves of adventurers to this area in the mid-1800s, but today it's the thrill of the ride, the contrast in scenery, the nostalgia of the rich heritage and great friends.....

Starting Location: Oakdale- Hwy 120
 between Escondido & Oakdale.
 Oakdale Cheese Specialties
 10040 Hwy 120
 Oakdale 95361
Time: 9am. Depart 9:25am



WARNING: Do not use GPS for this address... it will take you the wrong way!!
 The cheese factory is set on back of property-left side of Rd. There is a church with a white cross directly across

Here I lay me down to sleep-
 To wait the coming morrow-
 Perhaps success- perhaps
 defeat-And everlasting
 sorrow-Yet come what will,
 I'll try it once-My condition
 can't be worse-And if there's
 money in that box-Tis munny
 in my purse.- Black Bart
 the P 08



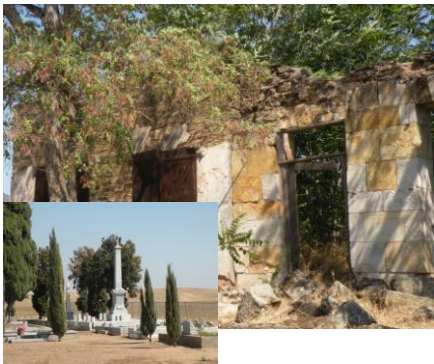
This bit of doggerel was written by one of America's more colorful poets and was found in an empty express box following the robbery of a California stagecoach in 1877

We begin our trip from **Oakdale**, the cowboy capitol of the world, towards **Milton**- the same town the stage was going to when Black Bart robbed his last. In 1848 Gold was discovered along the Stanislaus River. With the stampede to the mines, the railroad was extended from Stockton to what is now called Oakdale. The Oakdale rodeo was the first outdoor rodeo in the Western US....

Milton, the town, is a Historical Landmark (#262). The completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad, in 1871 marked the birth of Milton. This town was the first in Calaveras County to have a railroad. Freight and passengers continued their journey to other parts of the county by wagon and stagecoach.

His last holdup was in late 1883 on the line from Sonora to Milton, near Copperopolis. The strongbox was more secure than most and Black Bart cut his hand working on the lock. Finally opening it, he found \$4,800 in cash. At this moment a rider arrived and the driver, borrowing the newcomer's gun, fired at the highwayman. Black Bart scooped up the money and rode away, leaving behind his bloodstained

While on our journey we will cross county lines-Calaveras/Tuolumne. Other towns sprang up all over Western Tuolumne County. . .anywhere someone found a piece of gold. Many of these towns, such as Campo Seco, which we will pass through and has the largest living Cork Oak Tree in Cal, are now no more than a whisper in the wind. Some, like Jacksonville are under several feet of water after the Hetch Hetchy project began in the early 1900s. Some towns barely survived such as Stent and Chinese Camp.



Copperopolis CA - A Lucky Penny - The history of Copperopolis is closely tied to the Civil War. The 19 million pounds of copper mined in the 1860's made Calaveras County **second** in national production of this ore. Mining, workshop sites, and other historical artifacts from this era remain alongside buildings that have been restored by the perseverance and ingenuity of some townspeople.

Mokelumne Hill – *Boom, Bawdy & Busted*- Founded in 1848, "Moke Hill", as the locals call it, was among the richest of the digs. Claims in some areas were confined to sixteen square feet and many fortunes were made. It was the county seat in the early days and, although it held no exclusive rights, it was known as one of the most violent, bawdy towns in the Mother Lode.

Although we will make a stop to stretch our legs, we will travel from Oakdale to Jackson, where we will have about a 2 hr “Bio, Lunch, Shopping” break. This stop will be about 1-1/2 hrs into the trip... (11-11:30-ish)

We will then make

our way towards Muneri Vineyard, outside Murphy’s for a taste of the vine and “straightening of the body”.

We will pass through Murphy’s and Angel’s Camp without stopping on our way to Jamestown. We hope to reach our final destination between 4-4:30. The shops close at 5pm. We want to provide a little shopping time before dinner.

Murphys CA- Queen of the Sierra

The picturesque village of Murphys is known today for its many natural attractions including caverns for public viewing. Daniel and John Murphy settled in the area in 1848. From a small tent, the Murphy brothers did some very shrewd trading and sold supplies at inflated prices (much like today ☺), **while using the local Indians for labor on their claims.** Rumor has it that both brothers were millionaires before they turned twenty five.

Stevenot Brand was sold and the owner has begun a new brand with his grandfather’s name.



Fifteen miles up the mountain, A.T. Dowd put Calaveras on the international map when he discovered the huge groves of Giant Sequoia Redwoods. Because their fame grew so quickly, by 1855 the Sperry & Perry Hotel-now known as Murphys Historic Hotel & Lodge-had been built to accommodate the multitude of travelers. **The old hotel register contains names such as Mark Twain, Horatio Alger, Ulysses S. Grant, and Charles Bolton, aka Black Bart.** Murphys has a climate that closely imitates that of some superb wine regions in France. There are now seven wineries that have staked their claim within a four mile radius of Main Street.



Angels Camp CA –Angels &Amphibians

Angels Camp, aka the "real" City of Angels **and the only incorporated city in all of Calaveras County**, was named after shopkeeper Henry Angel of Rhode Island who started a trading post here in 1848.

Several good strikes were year over 4,000 miners Angels. The source of gold kept the gold industry town is honeycombed with



made by early miners and within the were working the surface gold of played out quickly but hardrock mining flourishing in Angels until recently. The tunnels from the many successful mines.

In 1864, Mark Twain wrote ***Celebrated Jumping Frog*** Camp became linked with

Camp is also the home of World Class Ski Racer and two time World Cup Champion Kyle Rasmussen of the U.S. Ski Team.

his first successful short story, ***"The of Calaveras County"*** and Angels frogs apparently for all time.



The train stops here ... **Jamestown**

The first discovery of gold in Tuolumne County occurred in August of 1848 at Woods Crossing, one mile southwest of Jamestown. A prospector named Wood is given credit for discovering the rich fields that for a time, with only a knife and pick as tools, reportedly yielded between \$200 and \$300 a day in gold to Wood and his companions. Many of Wood's companions left the area early on to seek their fortunes elsewhere. Wood was no different, he continued on his way, ever prospecting, and in April of 1849 was murdered by marauding Indians on the Middle Fork of the American River.



The first merchants to arrive here did very well trading with the local Indians. They would buy gold dust from the Indians, ***paying them the gold's weight in beads, raisins and other items.*** One man obtained \$6,000 worth of gold for a small lot of beads that cost \$2.50 in San Francisco.

Woods Creek turned out to be one of the most important gold streams of the area. Located between the Tuolumne and Stanislaus rivers in the midst of an auriferous region of the Sierra foothills, the surface diggings were among the richest in the county, only those of Columbia proving richer.

The big strikes drew many miners to the area, all eager to stake their claims and make their fortunes. One such man was Colonel George F. James who heard the news in San Francisco. Packing up his *possibles*, he headed for the mines, arriving at Woods Creek toward the end of 1848. As the physical aspect of mining held little attraction to the lawyer, James set up his tent a short distance from Woods Crossing and commenced operations of his combination trading post/hotel/saloon. Before long, a sizable camp had grown up around the trading post.

When it came time to choose a name for ***James treated the entire camp to influenced the christening, as the name***



the camp, ***legend has it that champagne, which may have chosen was "Jamestown."***

Dinner: Around 5:15/30pm
AZZO's- Fine pasta, pizza and more
18228 Main St
Jamestown
209.984.1173

[http://w http://www.azzosrestaurant.com/index.html](http://www.azzosrestaurant.com/index.html)

Please RSVP to Danny and Deb by 23rd for reservations...

925.596.1823 Deb's Cell

Leaving the area to go home- Dan & Deb will go south on 49/108 to O'Brynes Ferry, which passes through Tulloch Res and Copperopolis to HWY 4. Then West to 99/5
Didn't get enough today??.. Black Oak Casino is close by ☺...

Lodging in Jamestown

Hotel Bed & Breakfasts

[Homestead at Table Mountain](#)

17307 Table Mountain Road

Jamestown, CA 95327

(209) 984-3712

(800) 634-8447

[Jamestown Hotel Bed & Breakfast](#)

Jamestown, Cal 95327

(209) 984-3902

[National Hotel Bed & Breakfast](#)

Jamestown, Cal 95327

(209) 984-3446

[The Palm Hotel Bed & Breakfast](#)

10382 Willow St.

Jamestown, Cal 95327-0677

(209) 984-3429

[The Royal Hotel Bed & Breakfast](#)

Jamestown, Cal 95327

(209) 984-5271