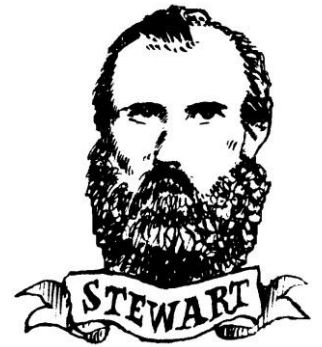




E CLAMPUS VITUS

Chapter Ten

Wm. Bull Meek - Wm. Morris Stewart
"Fathers of the Northern Mines"



HEWGAG-MONITOR

Joel Borstad

Original art by

"All the news that fits"

Volume 40, No. 2

Nevada City, California

Newsletter by GNR "Lugnut" KC Clayson May, 2025

2025 Spring Party @ Hammon Grove May 3rd

Thank you to everyone that attended the Sweethearts ball. We had a great time this year with plenty of vittles and more cheesecake than you could shake a stick at. If you missed it this year you missed a great party! Raffel was off the hook, the future PBC wore his fingers to the bone prepping tickets.

May The 3rd be with you as NGH Nick "Sea Chicken" Garn and his officers invite you to celebrate another year of chapter 10 clamping.

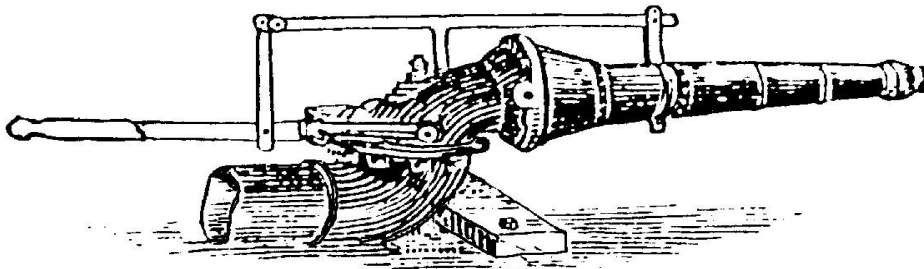
Seemingly Decorum is expressly advertised as we would like to be able to use as needed. All the usual NO-NOs apply, including very serious admonitions from the Grand Council about illicit drugs and guns. Leave your dogs, bad attitudes, eggs and fireworks at home. Fires will be allowed in designated fire pits only! Oh!! Did we mention.... LEAVE YOUR DOGS AT HOME. THEY ARE NOT WELCOME!

Check out the Hawkers new swag while you're at it

Turn your PBCs over to our Big Irish Initiation Team led by the hangman Shawn "Gingervitus" Hart upon arrival, but no later than 10:10 AM. Once turned over to us, clean and sober, LEAVE THEM TO US. PBCs will receive a short history lesson on ECV and WBM/WMS Chapter Ten. The Initiation will leave them tired and dirty, but all will survive to Clamp another day! **Candlelight Initiation candidates welcome and they will be given special treatment (wink, wink)! Get them there before 10:00 am for best results.**

Prices for this year are set at \$50 prepay and \$60 day of for Redshirts and \$ 100 for PBC/Retread. We will also be offering reduced entry of \$30 for a no drink/ no food for those just swinging by

Save \$5 and buy your shirt in advance for \$20. \$25 at doins



Meetings take place at 7:30 now at the Rough & Ready Grange.

14550 Rough and Ready Hwy.
Rough And ready, CA 95975

HEWGAG-MONITOR
P.O. box 405
Nevada City, CA. 95959



Coming Events 2024 CY 6030

- May 2-4 - Spring Doins - Hammon Grove
 - June 14th - Humbug day - Malakoff Diggins
 - July 4th - 4th of July Parade - Nevada City
 - Family Picnic- TBD
 - September 21st - Constitution Day Parade - Nevada City
 - October 3-5- Fall Doins - Scotts Flat
- Stay tuned for Family Picnic news

Everything else in between is still unknown. Stay tuned to ecv10.com for up to date-ish information

Interested in becoming a Director? Come to the Rough And Ready Grange on the last Friday of the month at 7 PM.



A short History of E Clampus Vitus - Andy Rogers and William Morris Stewart, (part 2)

Appeared May, 1989

In 1957, the Grand Council of Venerable Clampatriarchs of E Clampus Vitus was, according to then-Sublime Noble Grand Recorder Dr. Al Shumate, "amazed," to say it gently, "to find that the E.C.V. Corporation was on the State 'subversive' list and no longer had any legal standing." This was at the time when a Loyalty Oath was required of most any person or corporation doing business with the State. In perhaps typical fashion, the papers with the Loyalty Oath were either lost or thrown away by the Officer(s) of E Clampus Vitus, Incorporated. In any case, Andy Rogers, Noble Grand Humbug of the successor Chapter to the original group in Marysville which had incorporated in 1915, failed to return the papers to the State. There are TALES that the clenched fists of the sign of the Well Jackass and the RED shirts being worn in the mountain chapters may have also had a part in the loss of Incorporation status of E Clampus Vitus. These were the days of the height of the Cold War and Communist subversives were suspected, by many, of infiltrating the very fibers of our nation in order to attain the final Communist victory over Capitalism.

The Grand Council was also informed that Andy Rogers and an attorney had been to Sacramento and were trying to obtain a new ECV Corporation. Edgar Jessup, head of the Marchant Calculator Company, was the President (now known as the Sublime Noble Grand Humbug) of the Grand Council at the time. A man with a keen sense of order and responsibility, Jessup was very upset with the loss of incorporation. Also still most active at the time was Carl Wheat, one of the original "re-founders" of E Clampus Vitus in the 1930s who was a lawyer and one of California's more famous historians and author of the six volume tome; *Mapping The Transmississippi West*. Carl was not a particular fan of Andy Rogers, who had in 1952 published a poorly written, poorly printed booklet; *A Hundred Years of Rip Roarin' Rough and Ready*. Andy had little support from the officers of the Grand Council, due to the loss of the incorporation.

The Grand Council at that time was composed of many Yerba Buena members, and that chapter had an imposing ceremony of Initiation of new members. Andy, on the other hand, was known to sit at a table on the street in Nevada City or Grass Valley and "take in" to ECV anyone with the money to join. He also held "meetings" at will, and was, seemingly, running a one-man show as far as William Bull Meek Chapter was concerned. As a result, Andy had little support from the rest of the members of the Grand Council, either.

The problem with the Incorporation was straightened out with some legal work by Ralph Cross, an attorney and owner of an Alameda County ranch. Cross had personally paid the fines to reinstate the ECV Corporation and get it off the subversive list. The minutes of the May, 1957 Grand Council meeting indicate that Ralph was granted the title "Hon. Re-incarnator of E. C. V., Inc." by unanimous vote of the Council. The minutes also indicate the public action of the Council in authorizing Edgar Jessup to appoint a committee to investigate the William Bull Meek Chapter.

Then, on April 13, 1958 in Petaluma, President Jessup presided at the first official meeting of the Clamproctors of E Clampus Vitus Inc. since the Memorial Day weekend of 1957. Charters were granted to several new Chapters, including: James D. Savage in Fresno, another in Monterey, with a name to be decided later, and one in Oakdale to be known as Estanislao Chapter. (Interestingly, but not germane to this article, is the news that Matuca Chapter was granted permission to change its name to the Bret Harte Chapter, and Las Plumas Del Oro Chapter was granted permission to change its name to James Beckwourth "if and when their members so indicate by majority vote.") In other action that day, the proctors unanimously voted to allow a new chapter in Nevada City, since the William Bull Meek Chapter had moved its operating headquarters and its principal activities to Rough and Ready. As a result of all this activity, the Committee appointed to investigate the William Bull Meek Chapter the previous year at Murphys was dissolved.

During the time from May, 1957 to April, 1958, what had happened to cause the Grand Council to take the action of dissolving the committee to investigate the William Bull Meek Chapter? Why had Andy Rogers moved his base of operations to Rough and Ready?

The disgruntled, "anti-Andy," Clampers of Nevada County had made plans to form a new chapter, one which would supposedly be more responsive to the goals of E Clampus Vitus. There were historical sites and buildings that needed recognition, many uninitiated citizens who needed to be taken in, and Andy had been operating a relatively "closed corporation," in their eyes. Gathering historical data and utilizing the talents of people connected with the newspaper business in Nevada County, along with the participation of some of the members of the local law enforcement agencies, as well as some Nevada County officials, they planned a series of meetings to form the new William Morris Stewart Chapter.

The William Morris Stewart organizers had announced their meeting in October of 1957, and despite protests from Andy Rogers in the form of public announcements in the newspaper, had gone ahead with the process of electing officers and setting up the new chapter without the

blessing of the Grand Council, but they apparently felt that all would be approved in time, due to the state of affairs in the William Bull Meek Chapter. Andy's protests did not stop the organizational meeting, and he withdrew his "operation" to Rough and Ready and points around western Nevada County and Yuba County.

The October 24th, 1957 meeting went on, and Tom Walsh, a hotel keeper from Washington, Nevada County, was elected Noble Grand Humbug, with Peter Ingram, publisher of *The Union*, a Nevada County newspaper, in the position of Grand Noble Recorder. On November 13th and 16th, notices of an organizational dinner to occur at Seaman's Lodge in Nevada City on Sunday, Nov. 17th, appeared. "An Italian feed by chefs George Pello and Jack Brickell (would) be served."

On Jan. 9th, 14th, 17th and 18th, large newspaper ads were taken by the new group announcing the chance to become a Charter member in a "new chapter of an organization that is steeped in our local history." The event was to take place in North San Juan on Sunday, January 19th, 1958, with Charter Initiation by James W. Marshall Chapter No. 49 of Hangtown, with a Grub Gulch consisting of Hors-d'oeuvres, tossed salad, roast beef and gravy, brown beans, baked potatoes, French rolls, coffee and ice cream. Prospective members were advised: "Be there - we'll take care of the rest."

A later newspaper article informed readers that 38 PBCs were taken in and that the total membership swelled to over 130. The initiation team was led by "Eldon Zueger, state director of ECV and past Grand Noble Humbug of James Marshall Chapter... and L. Vernon "Duke" Aaserude, retiring Grand Noble Humbug of Las Plumas del Oro Chapter..."

For years, it has been common knowledge that there were only four Noble Grand Humbugs of the William Morris Stewart Chapter of E Clampus Vitus. Present Chapter 10 records indicate that Tom Walsh was the first, in 1958. This is where it gets confusing, so hang on. The Charter for the new group had not been issued by the Grand Council yet, and at a meeting described as "Election of Officers to be held on Wed., May 14th at Seaman's Lodge, and reported upon on May 16th, "John Walker, of Rough and Ready, was unanimously elected Grand Noble Humbug" in the first official election of permanent officers. Other officers elected were: Elza Kilroy, Clampatriarch; Jack Brickell, GNR; and Gene Beck, Keeper of the Gold Dust. Plans for a June 8th meeting were made, at which time the Charter would be presented. The confusing part of all this is that "John Walker" has not been acknowledged as having been Noble Grand Humbug in Chapter 10 records. It had always been known that there were four Humbugs in the short, illustrious life of Wm. Morris Stewart Chapter. Only one of those four is still among the living; Tom Walsh, the first NGH (1958), having gone to the Golden Hills many years ago, and Peter Ingram (1959) and Dan Pello (1960) more recently.

Your editor undertook a phone trip to determine the answer to this question: Were there actually five NGHs of William Morris Stewart Chapter? A call to Bob Wyckoff, the sole remaining living NGH of the Chapter did not shine any light on the subject. His recollection begins with the beginning of his association with the Chapter in 1960, when Dan Pello was the Noble Grand Humbug. Be this as it may, the next newspaper article to be found is undated, but is probably from Monday, June 9th, 1958. The article indicates that State Senator Swift Berry, "director of the E Clampus Vitus and past Grand Noble Humbug of James Marshall Chapter, ECV of Placerville, officially notified William Morris Stewart Chapter of the issuance of its charter the previous afternoon, highlighting the 'Charter Doings' of the newly organized group in Nevada City." The article goes on to state that there were 26 new members (PBCs) in attendance and that the Initiation was conducted in Seaman's Lodge and was presided over by State Sen. Swift Berry and officers of the new Chapter, "including Grand Noble Humbug, Johnny Walker." 120 Clampers of WMS partook of a wine-barbecued chicken dinner. Caterer Dean McCauley was "complimented on the feed which was deemed the best Grub Gulch of any Clamper doings attended by the members, several of whom have membership cards dating to 1931."

On September 28th, 1958, William Morris Stewart Chapter held an initiation and meeting in the town of Washington, Nevada County. Contemporary flyers and newspaper accounts of the event give a short Thompson and West sketch of the history of the town, and even announced that 25 PBCs had been signed up before the event, but no list of officers is given. We even know the menu planned by the Pello brothers: "tossed Washington salad, relishes, ravioli au Pello, roast turkey Waldorf, garlic bread Italianno and coffee for the repast following Slippery Gulch." It is obvious that the early WMS Clampers ate well, a custom in which present day Clampers heartily concur.

To Be Continued in the next Hewgag

William Bull Meek - William Morris Stewart Chapter Ten, E Clampus Vitus®

Noble Grand Humbug Nick Garn and the Board of Directors

are pleased to announce our Spring party.

Sat., May 3rd, 2025

At Hammon Grove in Browns Valley

NGH Nick "Sea Chicken" Garn will be Hosting the party for all Redshirts in good standing.

DFDK Might Mouse will be Checking cards and making sure our PBC's are 21 and over.

Please bring your Poor Blind Candidate SOBER and turn over to our

Hangman Shawn "GingerVitus" Heart no later Than 10:10AM on Saturday.

Clamp chef Boogie will be cooking some burnt crisp Bovine and some other vitesticles that are sure to settle your tape worms.

Libations will be flowing thanks to our new libationist Kevin "DR Death" Krikorian with a splash and a gash Bloody Mary. If you haven't earned your "Redwings" come visit the two Bill's Bar.

The prices for this annual Rite of Spring are \$50 prepay and \$60 day of for redshirts. PBCs / Retreads are \$100

Shirts available for pre order at \$20. Make your purchase by 11:59 on April 26th to guarantee size (otherwise you will get a random size)

All the usual NO-NOs apply, including very serious admonitions from the Grand Council about illicit drugs and guns.

Leave your dogs, bad attitudes, eggs and fireworks at home. Fires will be allowed in designated fire pits only!! All

Official Chapter Hawkers are welcome, but check in with XNGH/GDR Kyle Ball or GNR KC "Lugnut" Clayton

Turn your PBCs over to our Crack(ed) Initiation Team upon arrival, but no later than 10:10 AM. Once turned over to us, clean and sober, LEAVE THEM TO US. PBCs will receive a short history lesson on ECV and WBM/WMS Chapter Ten. The Initiation will leave them tired and dirty, but all will survive to Clamp another day! **Candle light Initiation candidates welcome and will be given special treatment. They must wear a white shirt and a sacrificial necktie.**

For more info about PayPal, go to: ecv10.com/spring-doins

Dont forget to feed the Sick Jackass if you can't make it! It costs big bucks to get this out to you! \$5 will buy a lot of Jackass food! We regularly remove addresses from our mailing list for non-participation.

ECV 10 P.O. Box 405 Nevada City, CA. 95959

Get your reservations to the Recorder by Thursday, April 25th, 2025! Make checks payable to ECV 10.

Here's my (our) Advance Reservation gold dust for our Annual Spring One Day doin's! Rites of Spring.. tra..la!
Advance Reservation Prices.....\$50 for each Redshirt. \$100 each PBC.\$30 visitation. \$20 shirt

Clamper's Name _____ Chapter _____ Shirt _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ ZIP _____ Phone (_____) _____

email _____

NEW!! Make your reservations on line with PayPal! Go to ecv10.com/spring-doins for details!

For PBC Applications and more info, go to ecv10.com and explore a bit.

(Copy the back side of this sheet for each person. Everyone must fill out the release form!)

EVERYONE MUST FILL OUT THIS ENTIRE FORM AND INITIAL AND SIGN WHERE INDICATED.

THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ORDER OF E CLAMPUS VITUS®

Agreement and Release from Liability

1. I, _____ acknowledge that I voluntarily request to accompany the

(print your name here)

Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus® for the purposes of raising funds for constructing and/or dedicating various plaques and/or monuments to major and lesser events of Western history, especially Nevada and Yuba Counties.

2. I AM AWARE THAT THE MEETINGS OF THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ORDER OF E CLAMPUS VITUS® SOMETIMES OCCUR IN THE WILDERNESS, AND THAT DRIVING FROM MY POINT OF DEPARTURE TO SAID MEETING (HEREINAFTER CLAMPSITE) MY PARTICIPATION IN THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AT SAID CLAMPSITE AND DRIVING BACK TO MY POINT OF DEPARTURE ARE POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS AND HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES. I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN THESE ACTIVITIES WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE DANGER INVOLVED, AND HEREBY AGREE TO ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY AND DEATH, AND VERIFY THIS STATEMENT BY PLACING MY INITIALS BELOW. _____ **INITIAL HERE**

3. As consideration for being permitted by the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus® to participate in these activities, I hereby agree that I, my assignees, heirs, distributes, guardians, and legal representatives will not make a claim against, sue, or attach the property of the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus® or any of its officers or members for injury or damage resulting from negligence or other acts, howsoever caused, and by any member, agent, or officer as a result of my participation in or travel to and from the CLAMPSITE. I hereby release the Ancient and Honorable of E Clampus Vitus® and any of its officers or members from all action, claims or demands that I, my assignees, heirs, distributes, guardians, and legal representatives now have or may have for injury or damage resulting from my above-described participation at the CLAMPSITE. _____ **INITIAL HERE**

KNOWING AND VOLUNTARY EXECUTION

4. I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE ORDER OF E CLAMPUS VITUS®, ITS OFFICERS AND MEMBERS AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL. Executed at ___Hammon Grove___ (City), ___California_ on the ___3rd___ Day of ___May___, ___2025___

Releasor _____
(Signature required)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

PBC's name (if any) _____

PBC must be Twenty One (21) Years or Older.(Please include this form and a completed PBC application for each PBC.)

E Clampus Vitus® Ch 10

P. O. Box 405

Nevada City, CA 95959

Check here if this is a new address _____

I am an XNGH or NGH of Chap. _____

I am interested in becoming an Associate member of Chapter Ten. _____

Year I joined Chapter 10 _____

My original sponsor was _____

Clampers please note

SPONSOR AGREES TO TURN PBC OVER TO HOCO CREW ON TIME AND IN GOOD SHAPE, AND TO LEAVE ALL INITIATION ACTIVITIES IN THE HANDS OF THAT CREW.

CLAMPER _____

If you have moved or have not received a newsletter in a while – Update your damn address. We have had too many returns