

Real Christmas Memories of My First BB Gun

By Peter Kilkus

The most watched Christmas movie is not A Wonderful Life anymore. It hasn't been since 1983, the year of A Christmas Story—the now classic film about nine-year-old Ralphie Parker's thwarted desire for a forbidden Christmas present: an official Red Ryder Carbine Action 200-Shot Range Model air rifle with a compass in the stock and this thing that tells time. A sleeper of a movie, it forever changed the cozy, sentimental holiday-movie genre.

This movie is one of my favorites since it so directly reflects my own experience as a young boy fighting to get my first bb gun. My mother was against it and actually said I might shoot my eye out. But she never thought I'd learn how to shoot wooden matches out of it to land and burst into flame on my neighbor's shingle roof.

When we think of pre-1983 holiday movies, we think of plum puddings like Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol; the 1942 Irving Berlin musical Holiday Inn and its 1954 cousin, White Christmas; the rather dark 1946 Frank Capra drama starring James Stewart, It's a Wonderful Life; Miracle on 34th Street the following year.

So when A Christmas Story premiered, in 1983, we suddenly had a new kind of holiday movie, one that acknowledged - even relished - the "unbridled avarice," the commercialism, the disappointments, the hurt feelings, and all-around bad luck that, in reality, often define the merry season.

In other words, what real Christmas was like in real families. It brought a bracing blast of satire and realism, wrapped up in a hilarious, pitch-perfect tale of a middle-class family negotiating the perils of Christmas, through the eyes of a 9-year-old boy.

Though the movie did respectable box office, it disappeared in just a few weeks. But over the years its popularity grew, and 14 years after its release, it had become such a holiday staple that TNT began running it in a continuous loop at Christmastime.




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What's the most popular Christmas wine? 'I don't like Brussels sprouts!'

What do you call a bunch of grandmasters of chess bragging about their games in a hotel lobby? Chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.



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December, 2018



2018: The Year In Review Through Lake Berryessa News Headlines

January 2018: "Holes In History" at Lake Berryessa: Simple Incompetence, Fervent Ignorance, Malicious Arrogance

TEN YEARS of lost opportunities! A generation of children and families have missed some of the best experiences of their lives! It's time to start fulfilling expectations, not digging new holes. If all goes well, the present schedule shows an optimistic date of July, 2018 for concessionaire selection and negotiations.

February 2018: February 2017 >>>>>February 2018: What A Difference A Year Makes!

The County received nine responses to the Request for Information and Interest for the redevelopment of five resorts. Next Steps: April, 2018 - MPA Authorization; May, 2018-RFP Release. As of 2/8/18 the lake has stabilized at 431.1 feet - 8.9 feet below Glory Hole. No rain since January 26.

March 2018: No Drought Worries. Lake Berryessa Is Full! Summer 2018 Will Be Interesting In More Ways Than One.

Once again the Lake Berryessa community is holding its breath in a spirit of cautious optimism. The Managing Partner Agreement between Napa County and Reclamation is to be completed in April. Summer 2018 should see concessionaire selection and contract negotiations proceeding.

April 2018: Easter Sunday Falls on April Fool's Day: A Spirit of Renewal Combined With A Sense of Humor Bodes Well For Lake Berryessa!

No Update From Napa County. No News From the Bureau of Reclamation. The Managing Partner Agreement (MPA) is still scheduled for completion during April. The Request for Proposal (RFP) is still scheduled for release in May.

May 2018: No on Measure C! When Good Science Goes Bad...Or Doesn't Go Anywhere At All.

Despite applehood and mother pie statements about the environmental benefits of oak woodlands, this initiative is simply an anti-winery, anti-vineyard, anti-growth measure. It will have the unintended consequence of negatively affecting Lake Berryessa and other rural property owners.

June 2018: The Lake Berryessa Senior Center & Community Hall! Become A Member Show Your Vote of Confidence In The Future.

The Center is committed to providing older adults, families and children with a friendly, supportive environment for social interaction, recreational activities, educational opportunities, community involvement, and access to public services. And it is also a full-service meeting and event facility.

July 2018: Revitalizing Lake Berryessa - Idling Towards Home

First the excitement of watching Napa County begin the process in early 2017. Then the ray of hope when the county received nine responses to its RFII. Then the doldrums of Napa County negotiating a Managing Partner Agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation, followed by the engine failure somewhere in the process.

August 2018: Beating A Dead Horse With A Stick OR Beating A Horse With A Dead Stick? BOR Betrays Berryessa AGAIN!

It's been a long time since the original promise of a "seamless transition" followed by years of total chaos leading to the destruction of our lake community. Is the Bureau of Reclamation a dead horse no longer functioning, or is the influence of Napa County just a dead stick when encountering bureaucratic inertia?

September 2018: Napa County Frustrated by Bureau of Reclamation Stalling Tactics as Talks on Resort Redevelopment "Continue"

There has been no progress regarding the completion of a Managing Partner Agreement (MPA) between Reclamation and Napa County. The original date for an MPA was January 2018 with the selection of new resort concessionaires to occur during this summer. Now there is no proposed completion date.

October 2018: Congressman Thompson Tours Lake Berryessa with Interior Department Officials. Atlas Fire 1-Year Later.

Thompson and federal officials toured Lake Berryessa. The Steele Fire destroyed homes and dreams after flames broke out suddenly on Saturday, July 28. The fire swept uphill in dry conditions and had burned several houses at the top of the ridge on Headlands Drive in less than an hour.

November 2018:Another Bureau of Reclamation Time Warp Moment! The "2020-something..." Lake Berryessa Revitalization Schedule

"Is it progress if a cannibal uses a fork?" After more than two years of painfully slow progress, the Board of Supervisors has yet to finalize a Managing Partner Agreement (MPA) with the Bureau of Reclamation. Reclamation has a 20-year history of delays and bureaucratic bungling that led to the present situation at the lake.

December, 2018: Bureau of Reclamation Produces Another Lost Year at Lake Berryessa

No Managing Partner Agreement. No Request For Proposals. One Year Interim Contract Extension For Dirt Camping. Reclamation response to Lake Berryessa crisis: hollow promises. Reclamation 2018 major accomplishment: money for new HQ roof & new boat!



2 BOR Berryessa Field Office
2018 Accomplishments

Concessions

One-year extension of Interim Concession Contracts at Steele Canyon, Spanish Flat and Putah Canyon Concession Areas (11/13/18)

Transition and Renewal of Contract Agreement - Pleasure Cove Marina was purchased by Suntex Marinas. Reclamation is working with Suntex management to ensure proper future planning, contractual amendments, and contractual obligations.

Camping has remained highly desirable at the Lake Berryessa concession areas. Most weekends were 100% full except for those affected by the fire and smoke. Overall visitation at the lake was down in 2018 due to those conditions.

Visitation

2017- 650,000
2018- 450,000 (estimated)

Government Operations

The Lake Berryessa Field Office (LBFO) initiated a proposal to implement the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) which would allow Reclamation to charge entrance fees for previously free facilities.

Three public scoping meetings were held in Fall 2018. The scoping period remains open through January 21, 2019. The Regional Director will make the final implementation decision. If implemented, Lake Berryessa facilities will begin charging day use and boat launching fees at Oak Shores Day Use Area and Capell Boat Launch in spring 2019. As a recognized fee site, Reclamation will also be able to sell and honor a number of passes to federal public lands.

Facilities

Received an additional funding amount of \$400k to replace two of the 5 tile roofs at the administrative complex. The two roofs scheduled for

replacement are the administrative and maintenance buildings.

Pursued ongoing partnership with Tuleyome to complete construction of the North End Trail, and 7.5 miles of other hiking facilities at the lake.

Rangers

Rangers are acting as point of contact for updating the shade shelter rental information for Booz Allen Hamilton, the contractor maintaining the web site Recreation.gov. Recreation.gov is your gateway to explore America's outdoor and cultural destinations across the country.

People can purchase tours and tickets, search for camping and lodging, and reserve day-use facilities or purchase permits for limited use experiences.

Developed a birding VIP program to monitor herons, eagles, and wood ducks. Four volunteers observed nine eaglets in five nests this season.

Greeted 906 travelers on State Route 128 at the Monticello Dam Program.

Presented education programs at Oak Shores Day Use Area to more than 200 students.

Staffed information tables at Napa and Solano Ag Days for local elementary students. Contacted more than 600 students.

Participated in World Environment Day at Markley Cove with 96 volunteers and organized Coastal Cleanup Day with a record number of 106 volunteers.

Presented Waterways Education Programs to 625 elementary students at Lake Solano County Park.

Participated in the 2017 Winters Salmon Fest. Contacted 253 participants. Led free fishing days and a C.A.S.T. for Kids Event.

Led ranger-guided kayak programs for the public and UC Davis students.

Initiated ranger-guided hikes and bike programs on the North End Trail.

Attended Yolo Bypass Duck Days.

Spoke with 225 participants. Attended job fairs at Pacific Union College.

Natural Resources

Acting Natural Resources staff is active while administration is filling the permanent position.

Working with staff at Mid-Pacific Region. Secured \$65,000 for new boat to conduct survey work/patrols in managing aquatic invasive species.

Attended prescribed fire workshop.

Coordinated with other staff on North End Trail improvements.

Met with Napa County Open Space District regarding Berryessa Vista Trail improvements.

Held multiple meetings with Fire Chief Aaron Latta regarding prescribed burns.

Fire Management

Reclamation employees dealt with relocations, detours, or smoke exposure from the Atlas, County, Steele, and Snell Fires in FY2018

Installed Oak Shores Day Use Area's first Fire Danger sign to help raise awareness of the risk for wildfire throughout the fire season.

Working with the Concession Managers, Reclamation ensured that no fires were permitted during Red Flag warning days. Thank you to them for keeping our lake safe.

It will be required for resorts to ban all fires on Red Flag days in 2019. To avoid starting fires with sparks, make sure trailer chains are secure and are not dragging!

Partnerships

Thank you to Napa County Sheriff's deputies for ongoing coverage and training provided to LBFO.

Thank you to CalFire for ongoing efforts in an ongoing fire season.

Thank you to Tuleyome for continuing to see our North End Trail project through to completion.

Historical Perspective

At the November 14, 2018 Community Forum Meeting, Reclamation was not willing to discuss the future schedule for negotiation completion and a final Managing Partner Agreement (MPA) with Napa County.

They claim they are dedicated to a positive outcome but refuse to agree to a 55 year contract term - yet. What is really needed is for them to agree to a 55 year contract, release an RFP, and see who bids. Detailed contract negotiations can resolve any other minor issues. Without knowing who will bid, the present process is non-directional wheel spinning.

Reclamation suggests that the next Community Forum Meeting to potentially discuss the MPA process may be scheduled for January or February, 2019 - no guarantee.

Previous Revised RFII Schedule - January, 2018

September 26, 2017: RFII released.

October 2, 2017 : ~~Questions, Round 1~~, (Cancelled)

October 5, 2017: ~~Responses to Questions~~, (Cancelled)

October 6, 2017: ~~Registration - Site Visit 1~~ (Cancelled)

October 11, 2017: ~~Site Visit/Field Day 1~~ (Cancelled)

October 13, 2017: ~~Registration for Site Visit 2~~
(Rescheduled due to Atlas Fire)

October 18, 2017: ~~Site Visit/Field Day 2~~
(Rescheduled due to Atlas Fire)

October 24, 2017: ~~Questions, Round 2~~
(Rescheduled due to Atlas Fire)

November 1, 2017: ~~Responses, Round 2~~
(Rescheduled due to Atlas Fire)

November 20, 2017: ~~RFII Submittals Due~~
(Rescheduled due to Atlas Fire)

December 8, 2017: Registration for Site Visit

December 13, 2017: Site Visit/Field Day

December 20, 2017: Questions Due

January 10, 2018: Responses to Questions published

January 31, 2018: RFII Submittals Due

Tentative dates: MPA development and RFP process.

April, 2018: MPA Authorization

May, 2018: RFP Release

June, 2018: RFP Due

Summer/Fall 2018: Concessionaire Selection & Negotiations

Editor's Note: It is now December, 2018!

The History of Christmas Cards

The custom of sending Christmas cards was started in England in 1843 by Sir Henry Cole, who had helped set-up the new Post Office and wondered how it could be used more by ordinary people.

Sir Henry had the idea of Christmas Cards with his friend John Horsley, who was an artist. They designed the first card and sold them for 1 shilling each, about 8 cents today!

The card had three panels. The outer two panels showed people caring for the poor and in the center panel was a family having a large Christmas dinner! Some people didn't like the card because it showed a child being given a glass of wine! About 1,000 or fewer were printed and sold. They are now very rare and cost thousands of dollars to buy!

Before 1840 only very rich people could afford to send anything in the mail. As printing methods improved, Christmas cards became much more popular and were produced in large numbers from about 1860. In 1870 the cost of sending Christmas cards, dropped to half a penny in England. This meant even more people were able to send cards.

Christmas Cards appeared in the United States of America in the late 1840s, but were very expensive and most people couldn't afford them. In 1875, Louis Prang, a printer who was originally from Germany, but who had also worked on early cards in England, started mass producing cards so more people could afford to buy them.

Mr. Prang's first cards featured flowers, plants, and children. In 1915, John C. Hall and two of his brothers created Hallmark Cards, which is still one of the biggest card makers today!



How Jesus Got His Name (Non-traditional version)

When the three kings came to visit newborn Jesus, one of them slipped on the straw and twisted his ankle.

"Jesus Christ!" he yelled in pain.

Mary looked questioningly at Joseph and said,

"That actually sounds a lot better than Chester, doesn't it?"

Onion Headlines

When Its Owner Suffered A Heart Attack, This Hero Dog Dialed A Wrong Number

Scientists Confirm: Nobody Knows What The Heck Cats Are Trying To Achieve

Scientists have determined the most secure password to be B760920909&2

Local Online Relationships Expert Has Presumably Never Seen A Woman In Real Life

After Visiting Rescue Horse Farm, Dale Earnhardt Jr. Inspired to Open Junkyard for Retired Race Cars

Plastic Surgery Recipient Not Surprised, Despite Appearing Otherwise

With Church Attendance in Decline So Too is Childhood Trauma

Phrase, "I'm Not Racist In Any Way, But..." Used Before Uttering Racist Statement For Ten Billionth Time In Human History

Local Man Who Has Never Successfully Done Anything Is Anxiously Waiting To Tell You How You're Doing It Wrong.

Man Claims To Have Had Normal Conversation With Kanye West

California Office of Labor Standards Mandates Employees Get 5 Minute Screaming Breaks For Every 2 Hours Worked

Loved Ones of Man Who Will Rather Die Than Start Jogging Misunderstand How Serious He Is

Meticulous Man Spends 90% Of Free Time Performing Manufacturer Recommended Maintenance On Possessions

Woman Amazed She Found Perfect Partner Just When She Was Getting Desperate Enough To Accept Anything

Woman's Children Officially Old Enough To Pony Up For Good Christmas Gift This Year

'Becoming A Mother Has Been The Most Thrilling Experience Of My Life,' Reports Woman Fleeing Hospital With Stolen Baby

The Lake Berryessa News

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there would be no Lake Berreyssa news.

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Lisa Loves Her Christmas Gift From Grandpa

"Thank you Grandpa for the violin you gave me last year for Christmas. I've never got such a brilliant gift!"

"Really?" asks the surprised Grandpa.

Lisa says, "Oh yeah - every time I start playing, mom gives me 2 dollars so I would stop!"

6 Lake Berryessa's Monticello Ski Club Wins Prize at the Annual Downtown Napa Christmas Parade

by Lucie Hock, MSC Treasurer

It all started back in August when Carol Dunn told us that she always wanted to be in the Napa Christmas Parade. We were all on the dock and we casually said, "let's do it this year". I don't think that any of us really believed that it would happen, but as the weeks went on we actually started to talk about it more and the more and we started to prepare.

Our participants were: Lonny Lopez, Michele Matson, Mike and Carol Dunn, Troy Grinbergs and Stacie Grinbergs, Frank and Lucie Hock and, of course, Gio Dunn, Kalyssa Grinbergs, Siena Dunn and Trevor Grinbergs.

And after one trial run decorating the boat in the court at our house one evening a few weeks before the parade, we were all in. Before we knew it, it was November 24th and time for the parade.

On the day of the parade, and after weeks of preparing, it took all of us four hours to prepare the boat with 10' lighted candy canes, fog and bubble machines and hundreds of LED lights. Speakers along the boat trailer and inside the back of the truck provide great Christmas music too.

At first it seemed almost overwhelming, but the hard work was fun. And then we raised the Lake Berryessa MSC Flag! This new flag will fly at the ski dock in 2019.



Lonny was in charge of the generators, music and the fog and bubble machines. He did an amazing job. At one time, right in the middle of the parade we lost power. You could hear a thousand people saying, "AWWWWWWW". Lonny had the power back up and the music blasting and all the lights back on in less than a minute. The crowd cheered! You were really amazing Lonny. Thank You!

I have to give this special tribute to Troy Grinbergs. Troy worked endless hours on the huge lighted candy canes, the lighted wreath that hung between the candy canes. He provided out bubble and fog machines, amazing LED lights for underneath the boat, and the list goes on and on. "Everyone" worked really hard, but Troy was the star of this parade!

Trevor and Gio were our water skiers. Troy took wood skis, put some wheels on them, lighted them up with LEDs and they were ready to go. These guys were amazing. They held onto their lighted ski ropes and rode



these boards behind the boat all the way through the parade. The crowds absolutely loved it!

The crowds were so amazed by the boat and the skiers. We were told it was the first boat ever in the Napa Parade and this was their 55th year! People were screaming, hooting, whistling and applauding. It was amazing to be a part of this!

And here is the best part. Out of MORE THAN 50 PARADE FLOAT ENTRIES, we won FIRST PLACE and the \$500.00 PRIZE MONEY for the BEST LIGHTS IN THE WHOLE PARADE!!!! Yay!!!

To see the whole story with more great photos go to:

www.lakeberryessanews.com/lake-berryessas-monticello.html

And check out the MSC web site at: www.monticelloskiclub.com



10 Tips From the Napa County Sheriff's Department For Using ATMs Safely

1. Always pay close attention to the ATM and your surroundings. Don't select an ATM at the corner of a building — corners create a blind spot. Use an ATM located near the center of a building. Do your automated banking in a public, well-lighted location that is free of shrubbery and decorative partitions or dividers.
2. Maintain an awareness of your surroundings throughout the entire transaction. Be wary of people trying to help you with ATM transactions. Be aware of anyone sitting in a parked car nearby. When leaving an ATM, make sure you are not being followed. If you are, drive or walk immediately to a police or fire station, or to a crowded, well-lighted location or business. If you feel you are in danger, call 911!
3. Do not use an ATM that appears unusual looking or offers options with which you are not familiar or comfortable.
4. Do not allow people to look over your shoulder as you enter your PIN. Memorize your PIN; never write it on the back of your card. Do not re-enter your PIN if the ATM eats your card — contact a bank official.
5. Do not wear expensive jewelry or take other valuables to the ATM. This is an added incentive to the assailant.
6. Never count cash at the machine or in public. Wait until you are in your car or another secure place.
7. When using a drive-up ATM, keep your engine running, your doors locked and leave enough room to maneuver between your car and the one ahead of you in the drive-up line.
8. Maintain a supply of deposit envelopes at home or in your car. Prepare all transaction paperwork prior to your arrival at the ATM. This will minimize the amount of time spent at the machine.
9. Closely monitor your bank statements, as well as your balances, and immediately report any problems to your bank.
10. If you are involved in a confrontation with an assailant who demands your money, COMPLY.

One night a Viking named Rudolph the Red was looking out the window when he said, "It's going to rain." His wife asked, "How do you know?" "Because Rudolph the Red knows rain, dear."

December 2018 Horoscopes

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): After months of soul-searching, you finally decide to write your memoir, but it winds up taking only three days.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): Police will immediately rule you out as a suspect in the Case Of The Impressive, Well-Spoken, Sexy Bandit.

Aries (3/21-4/19): It's not the hammer of life that's going to beat you down this week, but the hammer of Gene Dubrowski, a local roofer.

Taurus (4/20 - 5/20): The blood of legends will soon run in your veins, thanks to your purchase of a home legendary-blood transfusion kit.

Gemini (5/21 - 6/21): They said they'd be right back after those important messages, but the messages weren't all that important and it's been almost 14 years.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): Your life takes a sudden aggressive and violent turn when you start asking yourself how General Patton would handle workplace conflicts.

Leo (7/23-8/22): The love of your life will leave you this week when you confuse John Candy and Chris Farley for the 200th time.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): You will be nominated for a Nobel Prize in the poultry sciences when years of effort finally prove your controversial "To Get To The Other Side" theory.

Libra (9/23-10/22): Your worldview is shaken when Anne Rice announces publicly that vampires are probably imaginary.

Libra (9/23-10/22): Several of your closest friends may bring up a number of your personal flaws this week, which will make some at your funeral slightly uncomfortable.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Years of bad blood between you and the colonel finally boil over, resulting in the bloodiest moonshine war your part of the suburbs has ever seen.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): Wisdom says that God will not give you more than you can handle, but then again the Lord Almighty never got his Crocs caught in a revolving door.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): A genie will grant you a million dollars if you go an entire week without thinking of the word "hoopty."

Starbucks' Menus Are Getting Shorter And Shorter

"The sooner a guest finds their item, the happier they will be," said Gregg Rapp, a menu engineer. When it comes to coffee shop menus, less has become more. Those long lists of drinks, bean varieties, teas, non-caffeinated beverages, sizes and prices are shrinking, and Starbucks is leading the way.

The coffee chain known for offering everything that you could possibly want inside of a cup has tidied up its store menus. Upon entering any given Starbucks, you'll look above the barista to find a trimmed list of select drinks priced out at the Grande (medium) size and a corresponding calorie count. You might also find a few photos of seasonal beverages or an illustrative breakdown of a new offering.

According to a spokesperson for Starbucks, the move to focus only on core and select seasonal beverages was rolled out this past spring in an effort to "simplify the ordering experience for our customers."

However, it wasn't a complete spring clean. The chain still offers its usual size range (Tall, Grande, Venti) and every drink that used to be featured — but you'll only see the prices and offerings in the Starbucks app, which now accounts for 14 percent of store transactions.

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Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal
life. Amen.

The Eightfold Path of Buddhism
Right understanding: Understanding that the
Four Noble Truths: Suffering exists.
Suffering arises from attachment to desires.
Suffering ceases when attachment to desire
ceases.

Right thought: Determining and resolving to
practice the principles of mindfulness so we
behave ethically in this life.

Right speech: Avoiding slander, gossip,
lying, and all forms of untrue and abusive
speech.

Right conduct: Adhering to the idea of
nonviolence (ahimsa), as well as refraining
from any form of stealing or sexual
impropriety.

Right means of making a living: Not
slaughtering animals or working at jobs that
force you to violate others.

Right mental attitude or effort: Avoiding
negative thoughts and emotions, such as
anger and jealousy.

Right mindfulness: Having a clear sense of
one's mental state and bodily health and
feelings.

Right concentration: Using meditation to
reach the highest level of enlightenment.

The Golden Rule
The most familiar version of the Golden Rule
says, "Do unto others as you would have them
do unto you." The concept occurs in some form
in nearly every religion and ethical tradition. It
can also be explained from the perspectives of
psychology, philosophy, sociology, human
evolution, and economics.

One ethical tradition (outside of a formal
religion) which supports the Golden Rule is
Humanism.

Humanists try to embrace the moral principle
of the Golden Rule, also known as the ethic of
reciprocity, which means that people should
aim to treat each other as they would like to be
treated themselves - with tolerance,
consideration and compassion.

Humanism is a rational philosophy informed
by science, inspired by art, and motivated by
compassion. Affirming the dignity of each
human being, it supports the maximization of
individual liberty and opportunity consonant
with social and planetary responsibility. It
advocates the extension of participatory
democracy and the expansion of the open
society, standing for human rights and social
justice.

Free of supernaturalism, it recognizes human
beings as a part of nature and holds that values
- be they religious, ethical, social, or political -
have their source in human experience and
culture.

Humanism thus derives the goals of life from
human need and interest rather than from
theological or ideological abstractions, and
asserts that humanity must take responsibility
for its own destiny.

"...being a Humanist means trying to behave
decently without expectation of rewards or
punishment after you are dead." Kurt
Vonnegut

Why did the elf push his bed into the
fireplace?
He wanted to sleep like a log.

What do you call a reindeer that suddenly
forgets how to fly?
The deerly departed!

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Lavender, Roses!
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Lake Level as of 11/29/18
With the recent rains, the lake has stabilized during the last week at 422.5 feet - 17.5 feet below Glory Hole. One month ago the lake was at 423.0 feet - 17 feet below Glory Hole - only a 6 inch drop in one month.
Last year at this time the lake was at 430.0 feet, 10 feet below Glory Hole. That was down from its high of 443.6 feet on 2/21/17 following the big rains of 47.6 inches that drove the lake to 3.6 feet ABOVE Glory Hole. This year the lake only reached 434.1 feet on 4/16/18, 5.9 feet below Glory Hole, on only 14.9 inches of rain.

It was a bit of a slow rain start this year, only .47 inches at Monticello Dam on 10/3/18 with no rain for almost a month after that until .8 inches on 11/22/18. Last year the first rain was .21 inches on 10/20/17 and had reached 3.4 inches on 11/29/17.

We've now reached 2.1 inches at Monticello Dam. Last year was a below average rainfall year. Forecasters are predicting a wetter then normal year for 2019.

Rain Year (7/1 - 6/31)	First Rain	Total By 1/1 (At Dam)	Season Total (At Dam)
97-98		10.77"	46.26"
98-99	11/10/98	7.18"	23.46"
99-00	10/30/99	6.5"	26"
00-01	10/20/00	4.54"	24.7"
01-02	10/29/01	15.73"	23.38"
02-03	11/7/02	19.34"	31.6"
03-04	10/31/03	12.01"	25.64"
04-05	10/19/04	15.55"	36.36"
05-06	9/26/05	17.4"	40.56"
06-07	10/3/06 - .22"	5.36"	12.7"
07-08	9/19/07 - .1"	4.48"	25.32"
08-09	10/3/08 - .2"	6.6"	23.96"
09-10	9/14/09 - .24"	6.5"	26.41"
10-11	10/18/10 - .21"	12.62"	37.92"
11-12	10/4/11 - .2"	3.04"	19.56"
12-13	10/22/12 - .73"	17.97"	20.65"
13-14	9/22/13 - .43"	1.88"	13.69"
14-15	9/19/14 - .11"	13.34"	19.56"
15-16	10/2/15 - .68"	6.23"	24.57"
16-17	10/4/16 - .04"	8.8"	47.55"
17-18	10/20/17 - .21"	3.41"	14.89"
18-19	10/3/18 - .48"		

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region

Free Public Facilities: Oak Shores/Smittle Creek Day Use Parks are open on the west shore. Go to www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/Berryessa for details. Oak Shores and Smittle Creek offer nice hiking opportunities and more than 100 picnic sites equipped with BBQ grills. Two hand launches for non-motorized car-top boats are also available. 707-966-2111

Putah Canyon Recreation Area
Boat launching, day use, RV & tent camping
707-966-9051
www.royalelcparkmanagement.com/Lake_Berryessa.html

Monticello Shores Recreation Area
Closed

Berryessa Point Recreation Area
Closed

Spanish Flat Recreation Area
Boat launching, tent & RV camping, day use, RV dump station.
707-966-0200
www.spanishflatcamping.com

Steele Canyon Recreation Area
Boat launching, tent & RV camping, day use, RV dump station.
1-877-386-4383
<http://www.goberryessa.com/campground-at-steele-canyon>

Pleasure Cove Marina
Boat launching, day use, camping, boat rentals, house boating, lodging, full-service marina, wet slips, fuel.
707-966-9600
www.goberryessa.com

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707-966-2134, 707-966-9010
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10 Miles to Pope Valley
15 Miles to Rutherford
16 Miles to Napa
9 Miles to Winters
Gas in Winters =>

Note: No auto gas available between Winters and Napa or at Lake Berryessa!

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