



Grass Valley Elks Lodge – Citizen of the Year 2009-2010 – Everette Burkard.

theUnion June 12, 2010

ER Ed Bourne has selected Everette Burkard for this prestigious award that will be presented at Taco Night Monday, June 21. For more information, please call (530) 273-9228. Everyone is welcome to attend this awards ceremony, with food and beverage available for purchase. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and the presentation will be at 6 p.m. in the downstairs dining hall of the Elks Lodge. No reservations required.

Everette Burkard, long time resident of Rough and Ready has worked tirelessly to create a unique fundraising and promotion arm for the Rough and Ready Chamber of Commerce. The Rough and Ready FruitJar Pickers are an eclectic group of musicians and life long learners of fun that have cornered the market on enthusiasm. Their music, under the leadership of Everette, has, with donations, restored the “Blacksmith Shop,” supported the monthly breakfast for the Grange, created the best chili cookoff in the foothills and along with a terrific parade, provides an orchestra for the Historical Annual Performance of the Secession of Rough and Ready from the Union. Their annual play is scheduled for Sunday, June 27, at 10 a.m. in Rough and Ready.

Everette's FruitJar Pickers are the envy of every community and the focus of many television and magazine interviews. They warmly welcome fans from around the globe; one group of four visitors said “They're never gonna believe this in South Africa.”

Everette has been a musician all his life and with the loving support of his late wife turned music into “community spirit.” With his leadership he has brought 400 to 500 visitors each month to the historic town of Rough and Ready. He has brought music to all gatherings in Rough and Ready, adding musical fun, singing and silliness and thereby enhancing each organizations' ability to attract an audience. Whether it be the Grange, Fire Department Breakfast, Annual Chili Cookoff or the all day celebration of the Historic Secession Days, Everette and the Rough and Ready FruitJar Pickers are there to entertain. In addition, Everette has brought a small musical FruitJar Picker group to play every Sunday at each of the Senior Care Homes in Nevada County. Everette, along with his late wife “Faye,” visited senior members of the community, helped where needed,

fixing food, giving cheer and support or getting a gang together to repair porches, roofs, plumbing. In addition, he gave rides, took casseroles and delivered “Meals on Wheels”, every Monday.

His spirit of giving back has created a reality for a “Picker Palace” which has been home to the Rough and Ready FruitJar Pickers for over seven years. Although the Picker Palace must be re-located to another location making way for a new Rough and Ready Firehouse, the Pickers remain the envy of every community.

We are honored to call Everette Burkard friend and community leader and the Grass Valley Elks, Citizen of the Year 2009-2010.