

## **UNVEILING CEREMONY**

**FOR STATE HISTORICAL MARKER NO. 715  
'ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY'**

**AND COMMEMORATION OF THE LIFE OF GEORGE DAVID MADEIRA  
WILL BE HELD IN VOLCANO, AMADOR COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

**ON JANUARY 21, 2006**

**ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE INVITED**

**The Marker currently in place on Shake Ridge Road, four miles from downtown Volcano, is historically inaccurate and is incorrectly located. The ceremony on January 21 is to unveil a new monument with revised inscription and a new location.**

**George David Madeira, who died on January 21, 1922, was a miner in Volcano 1852-1862, and again 1879-1881. He imported a telescope from Europe and constructed a small observatory in Volcano. The observatory functioned 1860-1862. It was the first astronomical observatory in the state. He published the first astronomical research report from California. Lick Observatory is, in part, a result of his activities. He went on to a varied career in geology, mineralogy, mining, and journalism.**

**The planned program is as follows:**

<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Volcano Town Hall</b>	<b>displays, coffee, congeniality</b>
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Volcano Town hall</b>	<b>speaker--Marshal F. Merriam "George Madeira--Astronomer and Life in Volcano"</b>
<b>11:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Monument</b>	<b>unveiling, short speeches</b>
<b>12:30 p.m.</b>	<b>St. George Hotel</b>	<b>lunch (advance reservation required) after lunch speakers--Madeira family "George Madeira--Stories and Discussion"</b>
<b>afternoon</b>	<b>unstructured</b>	<b>Madeira family activities site visiting</b>

**LUNCH AT THE ST. GEORGE HOTEL**  
**Volcano, Amador County**  
**21 January 2006**

**A special lunch has been arranged at the St. George Hotel for Madeira descendants and others attending the Unveiling Ceremony. Because the St. George would not normally be open for lunch on this day, and is not open for casual walk-ins, we must inform the hotel in advance about the number coming and their menu preference.**

**The lunch will consist of three courses, a salad to start, a main course, a dessert to end. For the main course there are two choices (one of them vegetarian). The choices are: (1) chicken; (2) pasta. The cost to participants will be \$15/person in either case.**

**We will assemble at the St. George for the lunch at about 12:30 p.m. We have a room to ourselves and will be able to stay for several hours, if it seems desirable.**

**Please fill out and return the form provided, together with payment. If you return the form and then find you cannot attend your money will be refunded if you notify us by January 16th. If you do not return the form and then appear on January 21st wanting to attend the lunch it may or may not be possible to get you something to eat.**

---

## ACCOMODATIONS

For those coming from some distance I am enclosing Amador County Visitor's Guide, which lists hotels and motels. This Guide contains a map. Approximate travel times to Volcano on a January morning (when roads may be slippery!) are

Pine Grove to Volcano	15 minutes (maybe 10)
Pioneer " "	20 minutes
Jackson " "	30 minutes
Sutter Creek" "	40 minutes

The roads into Volcano have some fairly steep grades, especially the road from Pine Grove. The road surfaces are shaded by tall trees and following a cold night can remain slippery until late morning. Allow time and drive with care!

## LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Various local attractions are listed in the Guide. Two that are very close to Volcano are

- Indian Grinding Rock State Historic Park (on Pine Grove-Volcano road)
- Black Chasm National Natural Landmark (on Pioneer-Volcano road)

The big local attraction, as measured by number of visitors, is the Indian Casino in Jackson. An underground gold mine (inactive) can be toured at Sutter Creek.