

# Press Release



8 July 2009

## **The Old Redwood Highway Tour**

*A driving tour on the historic stagecoach road between northern California and southern Oregon*

One of the most interesting and scenic backcountry driving experiences in northern California and southern Oregon is the old Redwood Highway, a historic stagecoach and wagon road that was used in the 1800s to bring supplies from the port town of Crescent City to Oregon gold mining camps near the communities of Kerbyville and Jacksonville, Oregon. The distance from Crescent City to Kerbyville, was about 60 miles and crossed the Oregon-California border near Oregon Mountain.



In late August of 2009, the Lions Club of Del Norte County, California and Josephine County, Oregon will be setting up safety check points and displays along the historic route to assure that any one who wants to drive the old stagecoach road will get through and out safely. Several non-profit organizations will be assisting at different check points along the historic road. About half of the route is on paved roads and the other half on graded gravel roads. It takes 2-3 hours to make the trip from Crescent City to Kerbyville.



The tour is organized as a commemorative activity for Oregon's 150th anniversary (1859-2009).

The number of vehicles participating in this community sponsored tour will be limited to seventy five (75). Anyone who would like to participate in the tour should register on the [Highway199.org](http://Highway199.org) website. There is no charge for participating but donations to nonprofit organizations are welcome.

*The route as it appears today.*

The tour route begins at the parking lot of the Elk Valley Casino on Howland Hill Road in Crescent City and will be open from 8:00 – 10:00 AM. The reason for the limited time frame is to assure participants can get through the route before the hottest part of the day. It is expected that the last vehicle will arrive in Kerbyville by 1-2 in the afternoon. Safety check points will close and displays will be taken down as sponsors follow the last registered vehicle through the tour route.

One of the activities along the tour route includes an opportunity to taste wines from the valley's four wineries.

The tour ends at the historic Kerbyville Union School, which is currently occupied by the Oregon Art Guild, Rogue Community College, and Kerbyville Masons. A home cooked BBQ lunch will be hosted by Western Star from 11:00-2:00. The cost is \$7:00 per person. Other activities include performances by the Rogue Living History Players, history demonstrations, displays of Model

T cars like those that traveled over the old Redwood Highway and other displays on the region's history and geology and local art work. Kerbyville Museum, located within walking distance of the Kerbyville School, will also have special events and displays.



Updates on the event will be posted on the Highway199.org website. Questions about the route or other details about the event can be sent to the Highway199 website contact link.

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Contact

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Attachments:

Event Flyer

Map of the tour route

*Photos of the tour route and historic photos are available on request.*



*Kerbyville, early 1900s*