



Gay Nineties Parade in 1940.



Gay Nineties Parade Band in 1948.

Come to the Stonyford Rodeo Parade

Come to Stonyford on May 6, 2017, at 10 a.m. and see the Stonyford Rodeo Parade. This is a delightful small-town parade of the type that the late Charles Kuralt used to feature in his "On the Road" segments on CBS News. Rodeo action begins at 1 p.m.. This parade has a rich history.

The antecedent to this parade dates back 78 years, to April 1939. In March of that year, a group of Stonyford men met at Charlie Butler's store and decided it would be fun to have a parade in which people dressed in 1890s clothing and paraded down Market Street in old wagons and buckboards. Thus began the "Gay Nineties" parade that became an annual event for the next twenty years, until 1959. In 1943 a rodeo was added and a group that became the Stony Creek Horsemen's Association was formed and incorporated to manage the parade and rodeo. The rodeo continued beyond 1959, until the present day.

In 1940, the parade's second year, 2,000 people crowded into this little mountain settlement to attend this parade and the picnic that followed. According to newspaper reports clipped and gathered in a scrapbook located in the Stonyford Museum, between 1500 and 2000 people attended these weekend events every year until the parade's demise in 1959. While the parade died in '59, the rodeo continued and grew from its one-day amateur event to the two-day PRCA event that it is today. Now, more than 5,000 people turnout every year for this fun weekend.

In 1985, the parade was reborn and has continued until the present day. People no longer dress in old costumes, however, but old wagons sometime appear and old cars are a staple. Colorful floats, lovely ladies on beautiful horses, and lively children ensconced in a train of brightly painted barrels make their way along the mile or so parade route. All wave and throw candy to the crowd. Come early and get a good parking place somewhere near the Stonyford Store, from which to view the parade; bring a folding chair. Also, come early and get a good breakfast for \$7 at the fire hall, which is at the end of the parade route, next door to the rodeo and camping grounds.



Kids in Barrels in the 2016 Parade



Corkhill Ranch Wild Bunch in 2016

Tickets are available now at our website: www.stonycreekhorsemen.org. Or, you can get them at any of these area locations: Stonyford General Store, Stonyford; Carl's Feed, Willows; Boot Barn, Chico, Anderson & Yuba City; Bucke's Feed & Grain, Orland; Marie's Lakeshore Feed, Clearlake; Rainbow Ag, Lakeport; Ace Hardware, Arbuckle; AgriSource (Parts Dept.), Maxwell; and Hust Bros., Colusa (formerly, Colusa Motor Sales).

Pre-rodeo tickets purchased online or from any of the businesses listed above are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 7-12 years and older— children 6 years and under are free. Tickets purchased at the gate are \$15 and \$7. So get'em early and save money!

We have a few VIP (Top) seats available for Sunday-s Rodeo at \$16.00 each. For information, call Mary at 530-963-3140.