



ELIZABETH 'POSEY' GRUENER



Born in 1909 in Cuyahoga, Ohio, Posey attended private schools, including a boarding school in Italy, before attending Bryn Mawr College. She married Theodore Gruener in 1933 and together they created a home with their two children, Rika and Danny, in Ketchum Idaho.

Posey was a mix of complexity and kindness. Like everyone, she had her share of tribulation and sorrow, yet she left an indelible mark on her community. She loved the people of Ketchum. This display aims to share part of Posey's story with a hope that her love will be remembered.

It was said that Posey knew the names of every young person in town and was interested in each of them. When she heard a family was having a difficult time, she'd add them to her account at the grocery store so they could get the food they needed. When a school activity didn't have enough funding, Posey would make sure there was a donation with enough for what they needed.

Many residents confirm that she paid to have the Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood built as well as a wing of the Moritz Hospital. Although both have since been remade, it is undeniable that she wanted the community in Ketchum to thrive.

CANYON RUN



FB Photograph posted by Steve Harrison

HEMINGWAY
V.
GRUENER

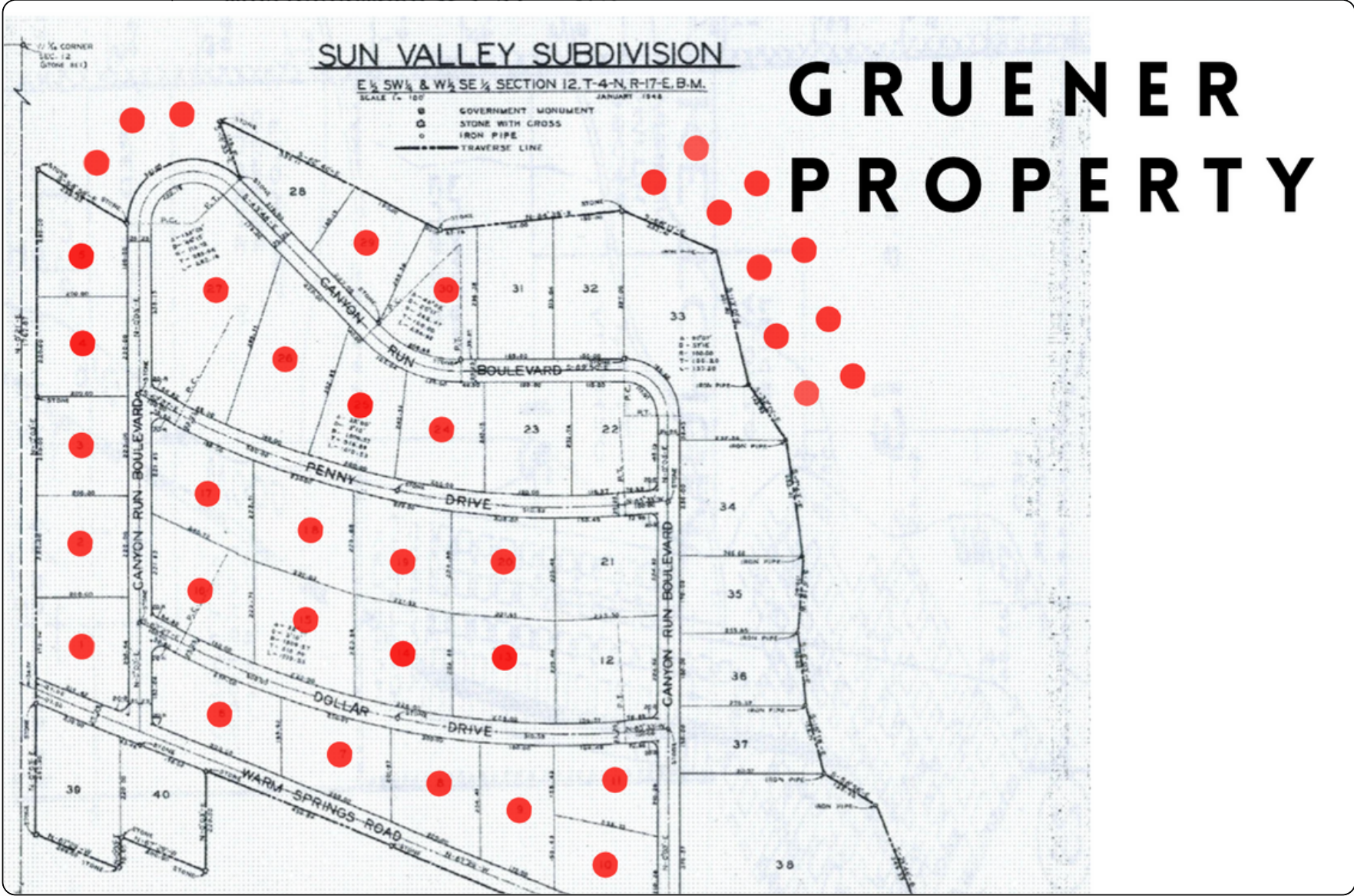
In the 1950's Posey & Ted built a home on a large parcel of land that spanned from Warm Springs Road up to Canyon Run, which at the time was open green space. She was originally neighbor's with Henry J. "Bob" Topping, Jr. and eventually with Mary & Ernest Hemingway.

Mary Hemingway hoped to buy a couple of acres from Posey, to which they agreed. However as a lawyer was drafting the agreement Mary asked them to add an additional parcel. When Posey noticed the addition she explained that the extra land would cost a bit more. Mary protested and their disagreement eventually needed the Idaho Supreme Court to settle the matter. Since an agreement could not be made and both ladies refused to give way, the court returned Mary's money and the land remained Posey's. The suit was nothing scandalous but does show the grit of these two powerful women.

Posey's house was demolished years after her death and the Gruener property was divided and sold. The Hemingway house stands today, donated by Mary and cared for by the Ketchum Library, which remains an insightful gift of history.

No. 10447

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FB Photograph posted by Cindy Heuston Herrenschmidt



CHALET VENGREEN

In December [1949], before Sun Valley reopened, the Shah of Iran came to ski, inspired by Sun Valley Serenade, Otto Lang took him to an abandoned mining community in Boulder Basin north of Ketchum where an old cabin was fixed up, two new outhouses were built, and they skied using a snowcat. The Shah was a good skier and returned several times.

[EXERPT FROM "SKIING SUN VALLEY: A HISTORY FROM UNION PACIFIC TO THE HOLDINGS"AUTHOR: JOHN W. LUNDIN]



Posey & Ted owned and operated their beloved Chalet Vengreen. Many community events were held here, including a wedding at one point. They made brochures offering lodging as well as snowcat ski trips from the Chalet.

They may have been among the first private lodging and tour companies in Ketchum. The family hosted many guests, including the Shah of Iran when he came to town to ski.

CHALET VENGREEN BROCHURE

From the large window of the Chalet living room you have a dramatic view of Boulder Mountain and the other jagged peaks which give the Sawtooth Mountains their name. Here you enjoy the solitude and grandeur of the Sawtooth National Forest.

The first months of spring are an exhilarating time to tour this wilderness, noted for its fish, game, and rugged scenery. Although the mountains are blanketed in snow, the bright sunshine reflected from the vast, open snow fields makes the dry midday air comfortable.



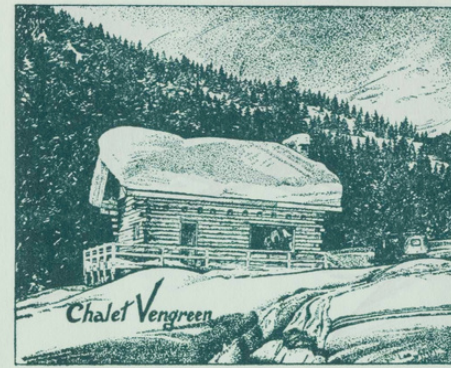
Sno-Cat Trips

These trips may start near Sun Valley where guests will be picked up by automobile.

Various tours from a short afternoon to all day may be arranged.

For full information as to Sno-Cat trips and Chalet Vengreen write:

Vengreen Idaho Co.
Box 74, Sun Valley, Idaho
or
Box 155, Ketchum, Idaho
or phone Ted Gruener
Ketchum 4411



Chalet Vengreen
in the
Sawtooth
National Forest
Idaho



Spring Ski Tour

This spring make your skiing vacation an unforgettable adventure by an overnight ski tour into the majestic Sawtooth Mountains.

The Chalet Vengreen, situated in the heart of one of the best skiing areas anywhere and 15 miles from Sun Valley, provides luxurious accommodations for individual small parties who wish to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

Your party is picked up by auto at a convenient location and driven north on the Galena road. At Baker Creek the journey is continued to Chalet Vengreen in a comfortable Sno-Cat. The route follows Baker Creek a short distance and then strikes into the woods and on up to the Chalet which stands alone at the edge of heavily wooded Newman Creek . . . surrounded by high ridges and 10,000-foot mountain peaks.

The Chalet is built of pine logs and is furnished with handcrafted tables and chairs. It is equipped with an electric plant, up-to-date kitchen, central heating in addition to fireplace and Franklin stoves, together with tile bathrooms.

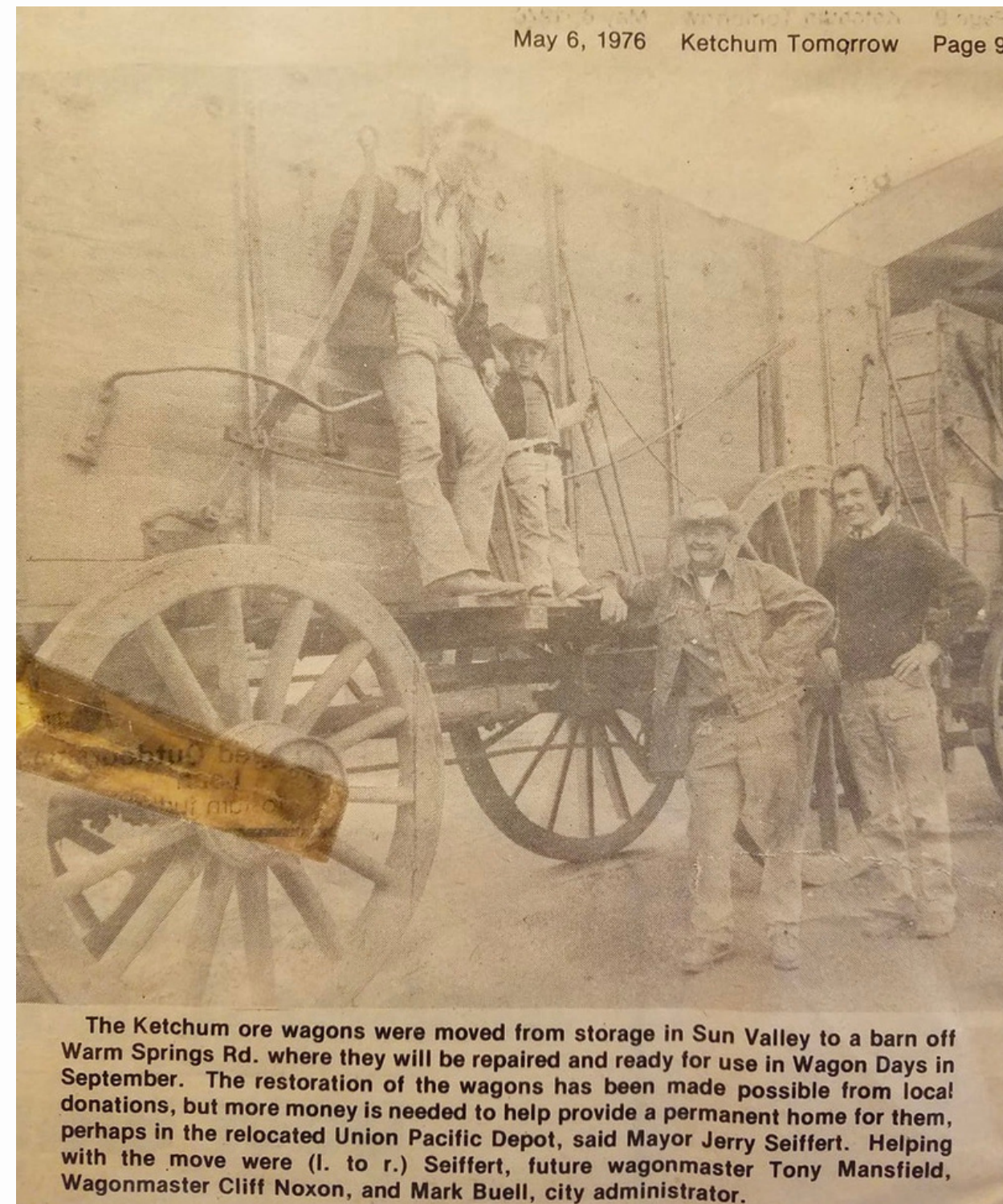
High above the Chalet is Vengreen Peak with miles of open ski slopes and wooded trails.



In the crisp white morning after breakfast the party can go by Sno-Cat up to 8,100 feet. Then on skis the party can climb toward the sky line.

From the summit of Vengreen Peak there are many ways of skiing down—spring snow conditions are usually excellent with snow surfaces varying from corn to powder on the north slopes.

WAGON DAYS



FB Photograph posted by Irene Mansfield



The Wagon Days committee needed a place they could safely keep and restore the wagons used in the parade each year. Posey happily offered her big red barn to house and care for the wagons until the committee was able to raise the funds to build The Ore Wagon Museum where they reside today.



(ABOVE)
George Spence driving Posey (and grandchildren) in Sunday's Parade.

(LEFT)
Pictured in the Wood River Journal Sept. '76.



THE ALPINE

Posey was an owner of the Alpine Club alongside other notable Ketchum families for years before eventually becoming the sole owner. During those last years she had matchbooks made with 'Posey's Alpine Place' printed on them, but even then it was always called The Alpine.

People say that Posey had a special spot inside where you could find her most days. She would tap her cane to get people's attention and give instructions to young couples to get out on the dance floor. In the same manner you could also get a smack from her cane for nearly anything (not saying hello, sending a late thank you card, etc.).

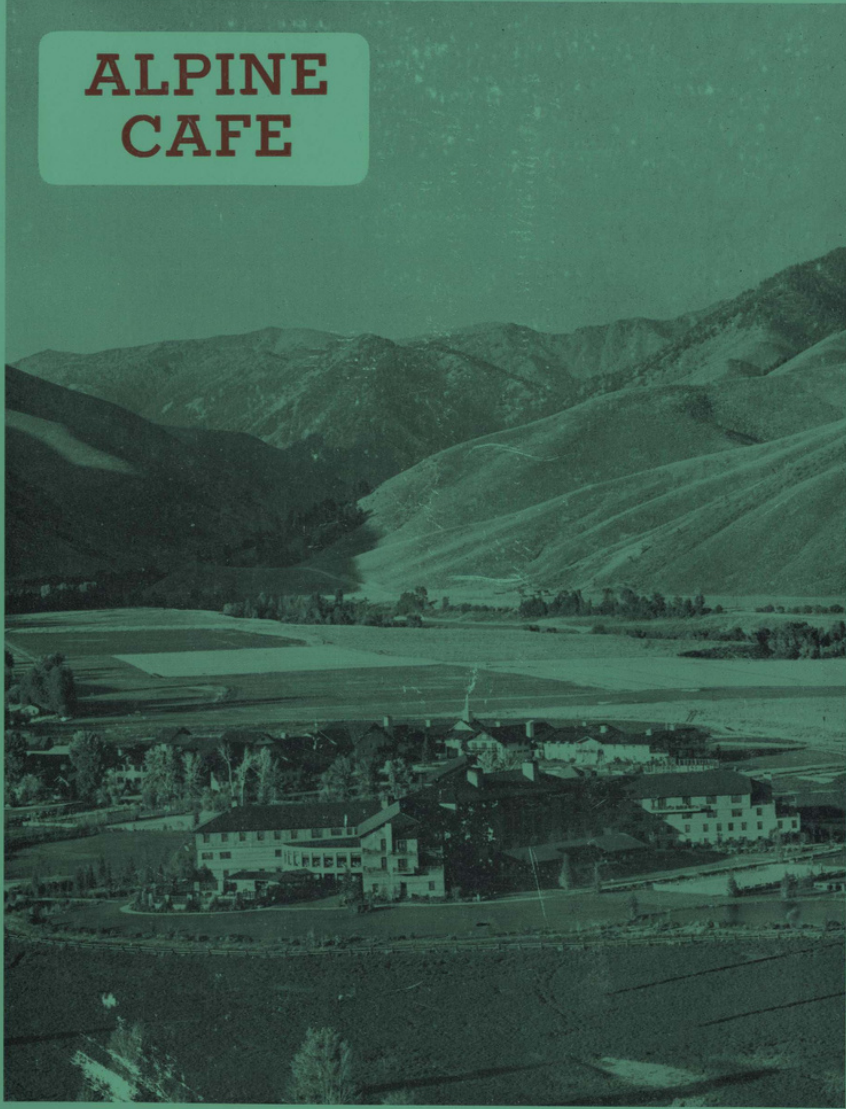
She was a character and part of a wonderful mix of people who created a place in time that we still long for and love to remember.



FB Photograph posted by Margaret Kelly

THE ALPINE CAFE

ALPINE CAFE

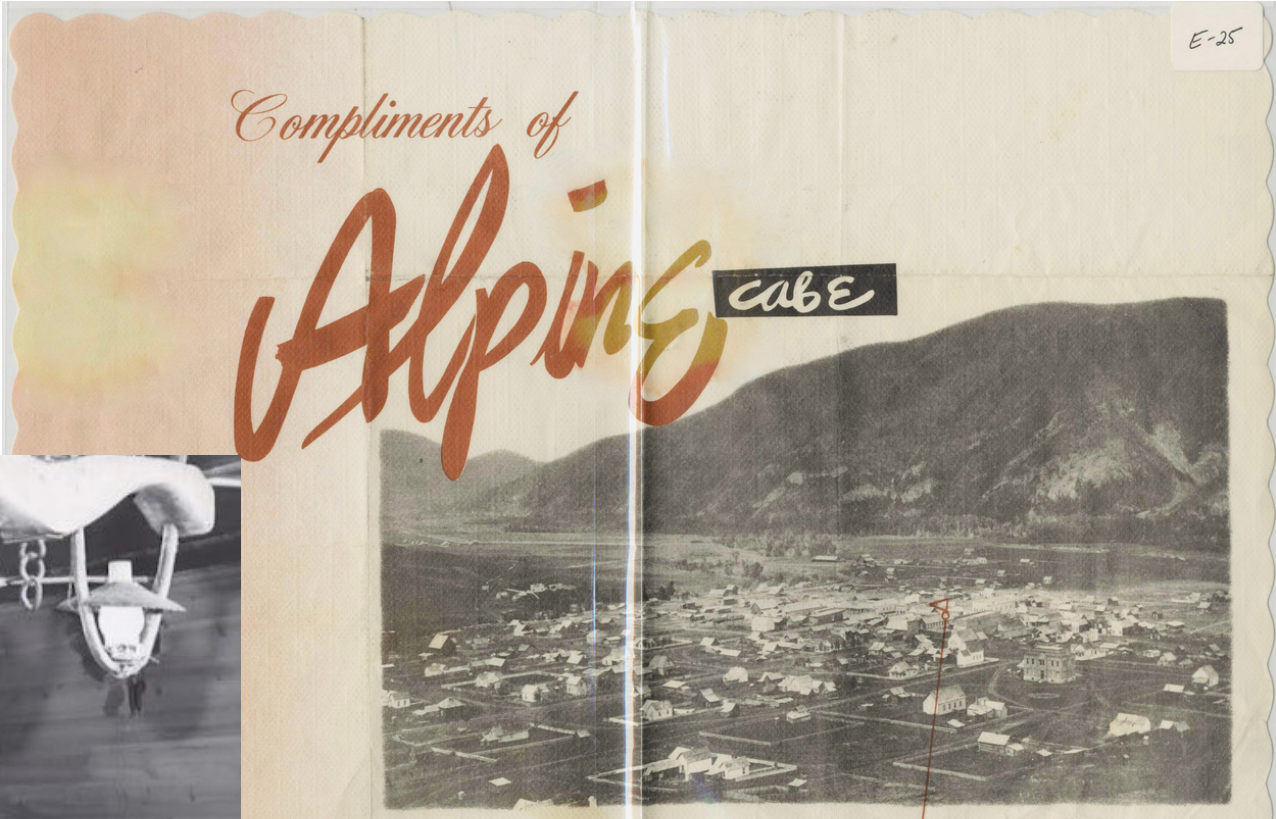


SUN VALLEY . . . SUMMER SCENE

● The Mecca for the Tourist and Sportsman, located in the Scenic, Colorful Sawtooth Mountains. Thousands of people visit this Famous Resort yearly, and make it their Headquarters during the Rodeo, Ski Meet and Ice Carnival. Excursion trains on the U. P. R. R. help bring the ever increasing number of pleasure seekers.



FB Photograph posted by Walter Cochran



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ALPINE CAFE

BREAKFAST MENU

NO SUBSTITUTIONS	CLUB BREAKFASTS PLEASE	ORDER BY NUMBER
No. 1 - Choice of Cereal with Cream, Toast and Coffee		25c
No. 2 - Hot Cakes with Syrup and Coffee		25c
No. 3 - Cream Waffle with Syrup and Coffee		25c
No. 4 - Ham with One Egg and Coffee		35c
No. 5 - Choice of Fruit Juice, Stewed Prunes or Apple Sauce, Wheat Cakes, Ham, Coffee		55c
No. 6 - Choice of Fruit Juice, Bacon and Two Eggs, Coffee		60c
No. 7 - Waffle with Ham or Bacon, One Egg and Coffee		45c

FRUITS:

Sliced Peaches	20	Stewed Prunes	15
Canned Grapefruit	20	Jelly	15
Sliced Pineapple	20	Orange Juice	15
Canned Apricots	20	Tomato Juice	10
Canned Pears	20	Sauerkraut Juice	10
Sliced Orange	15	Grapefruit Juice	15
Kadota Figs	20	Grape Juice	15
Sliced Banana, Cream	20		

CEREALS:

Cream of Wheat	15	Oatmeal	15
Prepared Cereals	15		

EGGS AND OMELETTES:

Two Boiled or Fried	30	Plain Omelettes	40
Two Scrambled	30	Ham or Cheese	50
Two Shirred	35	Eggy Omelette	45
Two Poached on Toast	35	Spanish Omelette	55
Poached Eggs, Vienna	65	Minced Ham and Pepper	50
Ham, Bacon or Country Sausages with Two Eggs	50	Mushroom Omelette	60
Side Order Ham, Bacon, Sausage or Two Eggs	50	Bacon Omelette	50

TOAST AND ROLLS:

Buttered or Dry Toast	10	Cream Toast	50
French Toast with Jelly	35	Cinnamon Toast	15
Milk Toast	25	Butter Roll	10
Milk Toast, Half and Half	40	Doughnuts (Two)	10

WAFFLES AND CAKES:

Wheat or Buckwheat Cakes	20	Cream Waffles	20
Waffle Stripped with Ham, Bacon or Sausages	40	Three Hot Cakes Stripped with Ham, Bacon or Sausages	40

We Serve Exclusively . . .

FARNLUN DAIRY

PURE MILK - RICH CREAM

Daily Deliveries in Ketchum

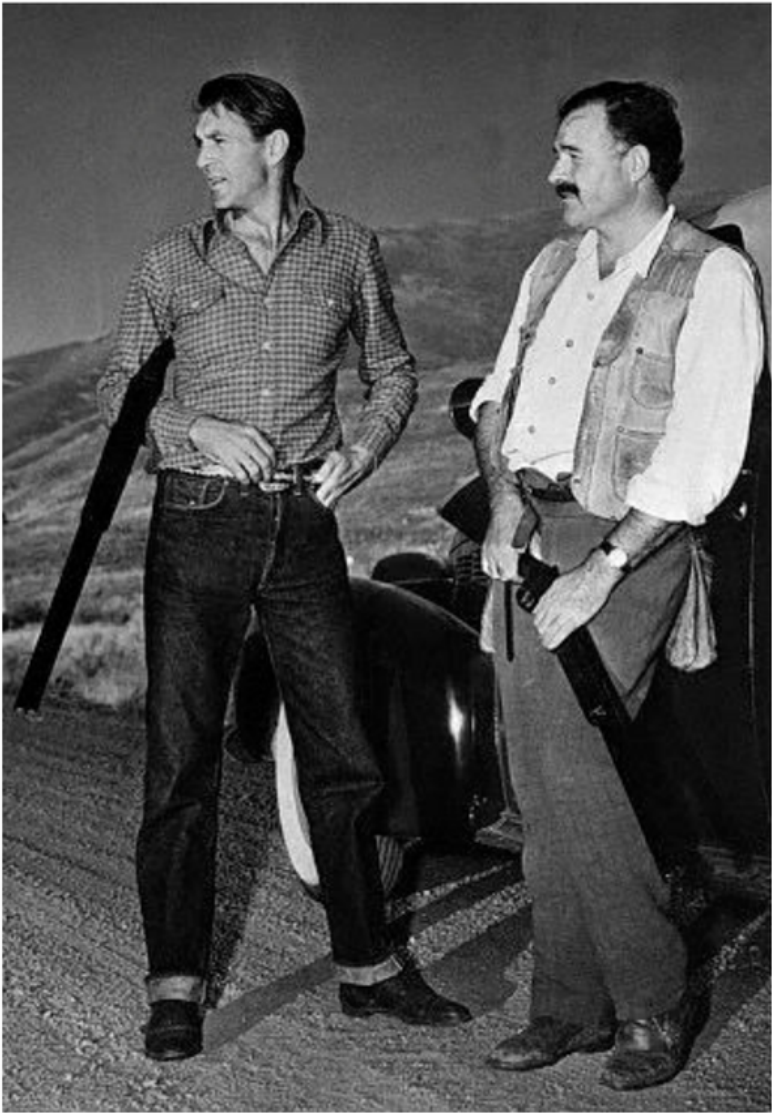
THE ALPINE CLUB

They would go to the Alpine to eat, to talk, and sometimes to gamble. Mary Hemingway described it as “very gay and fun.” the poker games adding a frontier zest to everything.

“All the bars had a few poker games going, and our favorite place of course was the Alpine, which was run by a friend of Ernest’s,” said Mary. “It had a big bar with roulette and poker and of course slot machines.”

The Hemingways were not chronic gamblers but, when conditions warranted staying inside, they’d usually head for the Alpine. “When we patronized it, it would mostly be on a rainy day when we couldn’t go hunting,” Said Mary. “We’d go and gamble maybe fifteen or twenty dollars in the afternoon. That was about it. When I finished with my twenty, I went home.”

Mary isn’t really sure just what Ernest’s limit for losing was. “I don’t know what kind of stakes he gave himself: sometimes he’d come back triumphant. But he was never a serious gambler. It was not one of those compulsive things for him at all.”

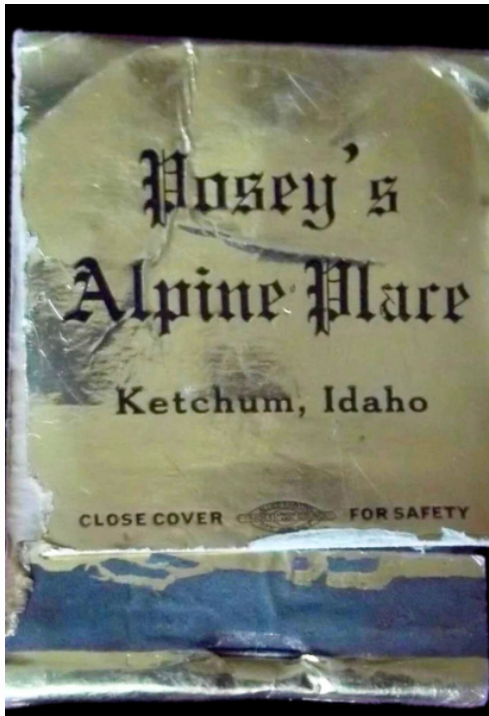


COOPER AND HEMINGWAY



G M H

G: Posey Gruener
M: George Merrill
H: Lou Hill



Matchbook

(Front)
Posey’s Alpine Place
Ketchum, Idaho

(Back)
The Alpine
Ketchum, Idaho

POSEY BROUGHT A UNIQUE LIGHT TO HER COMMUNITY.
WALT WITMAN SAID IT THIS WAY,

“THAT THE POWERFUL PLAY GOES ON,
AND YOU MAY CONTRIBUTE A VERSE.”

O ME! O LIFE! BY WALT WITMAN



SHE ADDED HER MEANINGFUL VERSE.