

The Jumping Frog Jubilee of 1865

It was the summer of 1865 and Calaveras County was a booming, roaring, mining frontier camp. The roads were bad and travel was slow, and so the miners did not go far for amusement.

This was the setting for Mark Twain's first published work, "*The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*" — the story of a gambler named Jim Smiley.

Jim, a miner and gambler, paraded the streets with a basket under his arm, boasting about the ability of a certain frog. The local gambling houses, taverns and their proprietors all were acquainted with Jim's tales.

About this time, two slickers from New York arrived in town just ahead of an arrest warrant. They made their rounds to the gambling halls and such. On one of those occasions, they had the fortune of meeting Jim Smiley and were subject to Jim's boasting. The New Yorkers poked and prodded at Smiley until a contest and wager ensued.

Old Jim was easily distracted and left his prize frog, Dan'l Webster, in the care of the strangers who quietly filled Jim's frog with buck shot. So you can guess the rest: the city slickers' frog out-jumped poor Dan'l, and Jim lost \$40 in gold.

Mark Twain, an up-and-coming American humorist who lived just across the Stanislaus River at Jackass Hill, was a frequent visitor to the Calaveras County mining camps.

Local legend has it that he heard the tall tale from Ross Coon, the proprietor of the Angels Hotel. Some believe Twain was encouraged by Greek Mythology. Whatever the inspiration, Mark Twain inspired an 90-year-old tradition, the Calaveras County Fair & Jumping Frog Jubilee.

"The most outrageous lies that can be invented will find believers if a man only tells them with all his might." - Mark Twain

Calaveras County Fair & Jumping Frog Jubilee



Of special interest to visitors attending the famous Annual International Jumping Frog Jubilee is the unique setting and the wonderful Calaveras County Fair atmosphere. Don't fail to witness this internationally-known celebration, which is based upon Mark Twain's immortal, "*The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County.*"

Four days of continuous fun in the heart of the Gold Country!

Fun Jump Schedule

Located at Rosie the Ribiter's Fun Jump

\$5 entry fee per jump

KIDS ONLY JUMP FREE ON THURSDAY

Thursday, May 16

Noon to 4p.m.Kids 12 and under jump free
Frog Break—2p.m.—2:30 p.m

Friday, May 17

Entry Booth Open: 9:30 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.

Noon - 4 p.m.....Fun Jump
Frog Break—1:30p.m.—2p.m.

Saturday, May 18

Entry Booth Open: 9:30 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.Fun Jump
Frog Break—1:30p.m.—2p.m.

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Sunday, May 19

Entry Booth Open: 9 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

9 a.m. New teams Frog Jump Bull Pen in the Frog Spa
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.Fun Jump

Visit our Frog Spa located under the Main Stage!

See how the Jumping Frog Jubilee pampers its amphibian friends.

Open Thursday at 12:30 p.m. and
10:30 a.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Competitive Jump Schedule

Located on the Main Stage

\$5 entry fee per jump

KIDS ONLY JUMP FREE ON THURSDAY

Thursday, May 16

Noon to 4p.m.Kids 12 and under jump free
Frog Break—2p.m.—2:30 p.m
4 p.m. Meet the Champs in the Frog Spa

Friday, May 17

Entry Booth Open: 9:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

NoonJump Start Challenge
1 p.m. - 2 p.m.Open Jumping
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.Teams Challenge

Saturday, May 18

Entry Booth Open 9:30 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.Jump Start Challenge
11 a.m. - NoonKids & Junior Qualifying Jump
Noon - 3 p.m.Teams Challenge and Open Jumping

Sunday, May 19

Entry Booth Open: 9 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.Teams Challenge and Open Jumping

2 P.M.MICHELLE LAMBERT

**3 P.M.JUMP CHALLENGES FOLLOWED BY-
INTERNATIONAL FROG JUMP FINALS**

For a complete Calaveras County Fair & Jumping Frog Jubilee Schedule,
visit www.frogtown.org • 209-736-2561