

2026 Reunion Schedule – Virginia City

- All activities start, unless noted, at the Virginia City Community Center ('Gym') at Idaho & Van Buren streets.
- Stop by the Registration Table to sign-in, pick-up clothing, and pay for meals, confirm tours.
- Bring auction items to the Registration Table before Saturday at 10 a.m. Silent Auction bidding starts at 1 p.m. Saturday and ends at 6:45 p.m. There will not be a Live Auction this year.
- Hospitality Table: Drinks, snacks, and first aid. Info Table: Handouts, maps, and puzzles.
- Children's Activities: See table indoors with crafts & games and find outdoor fun on grass across the street.
- The 2026 Reunion page at www.christenot.org/2026-reunion/ has info & links to tourist activities.
- Bring: Silent Auction items. Snacks/beverages for hospitality table. Cash or checks, but we can take cards.

Thursday, July 16

Noon Help set-up tables, chairs, displays.

1:00 p.m. Float the Madison River, meet at Varney Bridge Fishing Access Site. Important details on back.

3:00 p.m. Registration table opens at Gym.

6:00 p.m. Fellowship Dinner: Bring your own and we'll eat together in the Gym. Family Introductions.

Friday, July 17

Breakfast & Lunch - On your own. Take sack lunch to Mill.

8:30 a.m. Registration table opens at Gym. Bring auction items.

All Day Gym open. Chat with cousins, view displays, tour the area.

9:00 a.m. Christenot Mill Work Party, meet Paul Jordan outside the Gym. Important details on back.

9:30 a.m. Tour of Upper Ruby Valley, meet Andrea Surfleet inside the Gym. Important details on back.

Lunch On your own.

6:00 p.m. Catered Dinner – Gym

7:00 p.m. Welcome Remarks, Family Introductions.

Program – 'Christenot Wagon Train' – A One-Act Play with Family Actors.

Program – 'The Christenot Family in Madison County: Honoring 30 Years of Reunions & Research'

Visiting, tidy up the Gym.

Saturday, July 18

Breakfast & Lunch - On your own. Take sack lunch to Mill.

8:30 a.m. Registration Continues, bring auction items to Registration table by 10 a.m.

All Day Gym open. Chat with cousins, view displays, tour the area especially interpreters at Nevada City.

9:30 a.m. Christenot Mill History Tour, meet Laura Clark outside Gym. Important details on back.

Lunch On your own.

1 p.m. Silent Auction Bidding Begins, ends at 6:45 p.m.

5:30 p.m. Whole Group/Family Line Photos. New Location to be Announced.

6 p.m. Catered Dinner - Gym

6:45 p.m. Silent Auction Ends – Collect items after the evening Program.

7:00 p.m. Welcome Remarks, Family Introductions.

Program – 'Preserving the Christenot Mill: Honoring Past & Present Helpers'

Visiting, collect/pay for Silent Auction items, tidy up the Gym.

Sunday, July 19

9:30 a.m. Tour of Upper Ruby Valley, meet Andrea inside the Gym. Important Details on back.

Pack up, clean Gym, say goodbye.

Noon Gym Locked

TBA: A family meeting will be held Friday or Saturday evening to discuss the location of the next Reunion. The Christenot Legacy Council will hold an officer election. The Council consists of one member to represent each family line to ensure equal voice for all. It's not meant to prevent other people being involved, but to ensure the bare minimum. Everyone interested in being active with any aspect of our Christenot quest are encouraged to join the group meetings, usually quarterly, and bring your ideas.

Important Details about Tours:

Float the Madison River – Thursday, July 16th – 1 p.m.

- Meet at [Varney Bridge Fishing Access Site](#) with floatation device & Montana Conservation License.
- Purchase license beforehand at fwp.mt.gov/buyandapply/conservation-license.
- Review maps to Access Sites and floating tips at www.christenot.org/2026-reunion/ or QR code below.
- **Confirm** with David Jordan, 541-646-8768, so plans for vehicles can be made.
- Exit at [Ennis Fishing Access Site](#).

Christenot Mill Work Party – Friday, July 17th – 9 a.m. at Gym

- Meet Paul Jordan outside the Gym to convoy and sign volunteer agreement with the BLM.
- Bring lunch, water, hat, gloves, chairs, and vegetation control tools. Wood preservative will be applied to all wooden parts of the Mill and vegetation removed by hand & weed tools. Bring some tools!
- It takes about an hour and an elevation gain of 1,800 feet to reach the remains of the Mill that are 8 miles southwest of Virginia City along curvy gravel roads. The Mill is at 7,650 feet. [Google Map here](#).
- We'll convoy to the Mill. Sturdy passenger cars may work on the first seven miles to Summit City, but for the last mile we'll make sure everyone is in an all-wheel drive vehicle with high clearance.

Tour of Upper Ruby Valley: Homesteads and Gravesites – Friday, July 17th – 9:30 a.m. at Gym

- Meet Andrea Surfleet inside the Gym. Car tour to Upper Ruby Valley, 30 miles away.
- First stop at [Nevada City Cemetery](#) at Alice Newbary's grave, then drive to Home Park and Puller Springs to learn about Homesteads and Mines. Visit [Charles Christenot's grave](#) with territorial view at Upper Ruby Cemetery.
- Lunch at [Chick's Restaurant/Bar](#) in Alder. Guided tour ends. See handout for suggested drives after lunch.

Christenot Mill History Tour – Saturday, July 18th – 9:30 a.m. at Gym

- Meet Laura Clark and Nick Shrauger outside the Gym to convoy to the Mill.
- It takes about an hour and an elevation gain of 1,800 feet to reach the remains of the Mill that are 8 miles southwest of Virginia City along curvy gravel roads. The Mill is at 7,650 feet. [Google Map here](#).
- We'll convoy to the Mill. Sturdy passenger cars may work on the first seven miles to Summit City, but for the last mile we'll make sure everyone is in an all-wheel drive vehicle with high clearance.
- Bring lunch, water, hat, and chairs. Restroom: Bucket with toilet seat and privacy tarp will be available.
- Some may hike to the Oro Cache Mine site up from the Mill. This is a steep 1/3-mile scramble in mature trees with dense underbrush for an elevation gain of 400 feet to the top of the ridge.

Tour of Upper Ruby Valley: Homesteads and Gravesites: Sunday, July 19 at 9:30 a.m. from the Gym

Car tour to Charles Christenot's grave at Jack Creek Cemetery (Upper Ruby Cemetery), view family lands, and return.

Contacts

Andrea Surfleet – 805-458-7764 – atsurfleet@gmail.com

David Jordan – 541-646-8768 – Float

Paul Jordan – 503-551-9467 – Mill Work Party

Laura Clark – 209-304-5255 - Mill History Tour

Nick Shrauger – 406-539-3360 – Mill History Tour

Brad Thurber – 443-542-3996, Cande Recke – 406-788-7058



2026 Reunion



Pay for Reunion purchases with a card.

Anytime Tours – Maps Provided

Nevada City: Interpreters in costumes giving demonstrations weekend days.

See Alice Wilton Newbary's grave in the Nevada City Cemetery.

See South Boulder Cemetery to see burial site of Martha and Mary (Christenot) Patrick.

Virginia City Museums: J. Spencer Watkins Memorial Museum, 219 West Wallace Street.

Thompson-Hickman Museum, 217 Idaho Street, lower level. Find Martha's dress.



Upload photos to this Google Album

Closest Grocery Stores: Madison Foods in Ennis, Walters Family Foods in Sheridan

Hospital with 24 hour ER: Madison Valley Medical Center – 305 N Main St., Ennis