

# THE “F” FACTOR:

## A FEW FUN FACTS ABOUT WHERE WE FLY

### THERE'S GOLD IN THEM THAR HILLS

**M**ore than a hundred and sixty years have passed since the California Gold Rush of 1849. Today, with the price of gold far exceeding \$900 an ounce, gold prospecting is hot again. But if packing up your shovel and heading to California to strike it rich doesn't pan out, you can still



**Comprised of crystallized gold that shimmers in the light, this rare 13 pound “Fricot Nugget” is the largest remaining intact mass of crystalline gold from California’s Gold Rush era.**

get a feel for prospecting at the California State Mining and Mineral Museum in Mariposa. This popular tourist town is home to one of the most stunning pieces of gold on display in this California State Parks showcase. Comprised of crystallized gold that shimmers in the light, this rare 13 pound “Fricot Nugget” is the largest remaining intact mass of crystalline gold from California’s Gold Rush era.

The “Fricot Nugget” was discovered in 1865 by William Russell Davis when he was mining the Grit Claim at Spanish Dry Diggings in El Dorado County, California. Davis owned the gold piece for several years, until it was sent to New York where it was bought by Jules Fricot, a Grass

Valley, California resident. Fricot displayed the nugget at the Paris Exposition in 1878. It disappeared for nearly 65 years until a State Division of Mines employee discovered the specimen was in a safe deposit box in a bank at Angels Camp, Calaveras County, California. Although the bank manager had one of the most extensive gold collections in California and knew the Fricot family well, he had no idea this famous specimen was in his own bank! The State Division of Mines employee persuaded the owner of the “Fricot Nugget,” Marie E. Berton, to donate it to the California State Gem and Mineral Collection in memory of her father, Jules Fricot.

The California State Mining and Mineral Museum collection contains mining artifacts, rare specimens of crystalline gold in its many forms, as well as beautiful gem and mineral specimens from California and around the world. The town also allows gold panning in Mariposa Creek, which runs through the town.

### GRACE NOTE WINDCHIMES

**E**veryone is familiar with windchimes especially the inexpensive ones sold in department stores or garden centers. They're usually made out of glass, wood, metal or some other object that when banged together creates a very high, un-tuned pitch that grates on the ears like fingernails on a chalk board.

Windchime aficionados refuse to acknowledge cute noisemakers or garden mobiles as the real McCoy. Like a connoisseur of fine wine, they know real windchimes are perfectly tuned and built with the same kind of care and attention to detail as given to a musical instrument. They are durable enough to withstand the outdoor elements for many years and are made with materials that resonate sweetly, develop harmonious overtones and create a whole new aural dimension in one's environment.

In the small town of Mariposa, California, you won't find a stop light but you will find some of the most beautiful-sounding and well-built wind chimes in the world. Grace Note Windchimes has been handcrafting windchimes for over 20 years. These aren't just any windchimes; believe it or not, there is actual mathematics that goes in to the tuning, the harmonics and resonance of the chime tubes. But what sets them apart from the rest is the unique pinned

Mariposa, California



suspension device combined with superior materials and craftsmanship. All of the chimes are tuned in the key of C, with corresponding notes and chords engraved on one side of each aluminum windplate. They will even custom engrave a personalized message, logo or greeting on the other side.

Classic wind chimes are handcrafted from thick-tempered aluminum tubing, with a soft brushed finish. Each chime features recycled composite lumber strikers that are environmentally friendly and also create softer contact sounds when applied to wind chime tubing. The strikers won't dry or crack and require no maintenance.

The chimes are made to last a lifetime but in the off chance you have an issue, the company offers a no hassle, ten year warranty. They also make no qualms about the chimes losing their shiny brilliance over the course of time but no worries... Grace Note Chimes is the only company that will refurbish them with a new sting, knocker and polishing. The cost is minimal and it looks brand new once again.

If you are looking to bring balance and harmony to your garden and home you can't go wrong with a windchime from Grace Note Windchimes. **P&P**

**CONTACT INFO:**

**Grace Note Windchimes**

**3883 Highway 49 South | Mariposa, CA 95338 | (800) 228-4463**

**NEW!** Our Seasonal Harmonizing Chimes



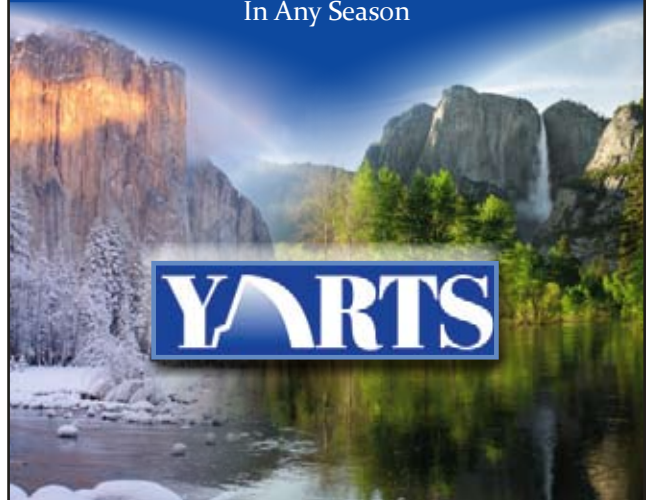
**GRACE NOTES CHIMES**

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