

# SOUTHERN OREGON HERITAGE

*Today*

Winter 2004 Vol. 6, No. 1





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**SOUTHERN OREGON HERITAGE TODAY**

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**ON THE COVER**

Before moving from Kansas to Southern Oregon in 1887, Reuben Peyton was a trick shot and fancy roper in Wild West shows. Peyton Bridge, near Lost Creek Reservoir, is named for the old showman and pioneer.

SOHS #1453



# A Message from Our Director

## DEAR SOHS MEMBER AND FRIENDS:

As we begin a new year, I want to thank all of our members who have stood with us during this past year of turmoil and uncertainty. Following the settlement of the lawsuit with Jackson County, we are now moving ahead with a number of important initiatives designed to ensure our stability and financial health for years to come, and to show just what it is we do so well.

For those of you who haven't seen our latest major exhibit at the History Center, "Celebrating Flight: A History of Aviation in Southern Oregon," I urge you to do so. This exhibit—which features aviation artifacts, historic photographs, model airplanes, hands-on demonstrations, oral histories of local aviators and much more—has been put together with the collaboration and support of many local community members and organizations with an interest in aviation history. It's a must-see exhibit, and is co-sponsored by the Jackson County Airport Authority, KOGAP Enterprises and Horizon Air. The Dorland Robinson exhibit has been moved to the History Center mezzanine.

Meanwhile, the SOHS Board of Trustees has unanimously decided to look into the potential options, including the lease or sale, of the History Center in downtown Medford, as well as the possible move of our headquarters to the Medford Carnegie Library. That historic building is set to revert to city of Medford ownership in the spring. There is much that is unknown about the potential costs of renovating the old library, and it will be months before decisions are made regarding such a move, but we are at the table in those discussions.

On the fundraising and development front, the staff is working closely with the Board to develop a financial plan that includes membership expansion, grant applications, corporate partnerships and support, and a planned giving program for those members and/or major donors who wish to support the Society now or after they pass on. With the anticipated continued decline in taxpayer support, the Society must make a transition to a member-, donor-, corporate- and foundation-supported organization.

On the expenses side, we continue to streamline our operations, relying more on volunteers and less on paid staff as we move into the future. We plan to focus our programs and services where we do the most good and reduce—or eliminate entirely—those programs or services we can no longer afford to offer or that have marginal impact in the community.

Let me also thank the many former Society members who in recent weeks have responded to our effort to regain them as supporters and members. Member support is crucial to our future success, and we have begun a focused effort to recapture the loyalty of lapsed members, to sign up new members, and to convince current and longstanding members that they might more actively support our ongoing programs and services through the Annual Contributors Fund drive. Many of you have responded in a loud and clear voice, and we thank you.

Finally, I want to express the Society's deep appreciation to the Arts Council of Southern Oregon for awarding the Society with the Educational Organization Award in 2003 for our promotion of history and an appreciation of the past over many decades. We are honored to be a recipient of the award. (See photo, page 23).

  
 John Enders  
 Executive Director



Wild West Show trick shot and fancy roper Reuben Peyton wore this Native American costume. The coat was made by the Pawnees, the pants by the Cheyennes, and the hat by the Sioux. The deep yellow color of the buckskin was obtained by using mulberry bark during the tanning process. To make the leather soft and pliable, women of tribes chewed the buckskin. (Cover shows Peyton wearing these garments ca. 1887).

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# Central Point

By Carol Harbison-Samuelsan

Central Point in the late 1950s.

SOHS #11617

## Situated in the center of the Rogue Valley

rests the city of Central Point. Located at the intersection of two important wagon roads, the settlers determined the town was destined to become an important community. Some of the citizens actually thought the town should become the county seat. By 1910 a promotional brochure described Central Point as a thriving town of about 1300 people. The town was said to have doubled in size during the previous three-year period. By the time the aerial view of the downtown area was taken the population had only increased by 367 residents. Today, the city's population is approximately 14,120.

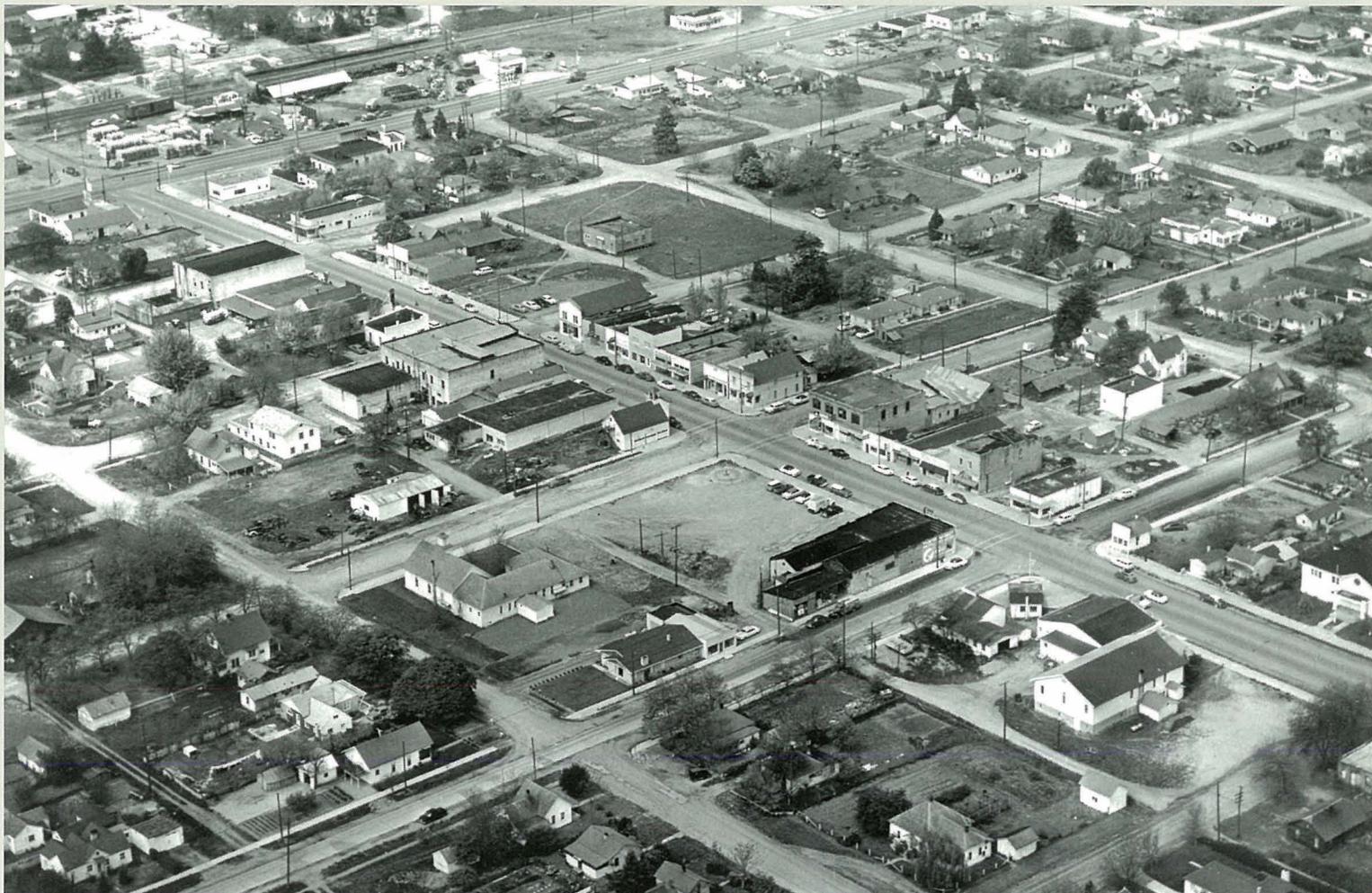
The story of the settlement and growth of Central Point can be found in books written by local authors. However, to best understand the appeal of the city one should take an opportunity to speak with longtime residents. For years dedicated citizens have celebrated the town's history and recorded memories of growing up in the area. One story mentions boys whittling in a schoolyard until Professor A. J. Hanby caught them and made them rake up all of the shavings. Another citizen reminisced about the first automobile. Its appearance was said to have caused quite a sensation among the young men of the community. Rose Neale Hodgson remembered roller-skating in an old building

near the location of the Grange Co-op tower. The building she mentioned was the old railroad freight depot. A resident named Tom Hodgson said, "I could take my shotgun and dog and just walk out the door and hunt china pheasants all across the street."

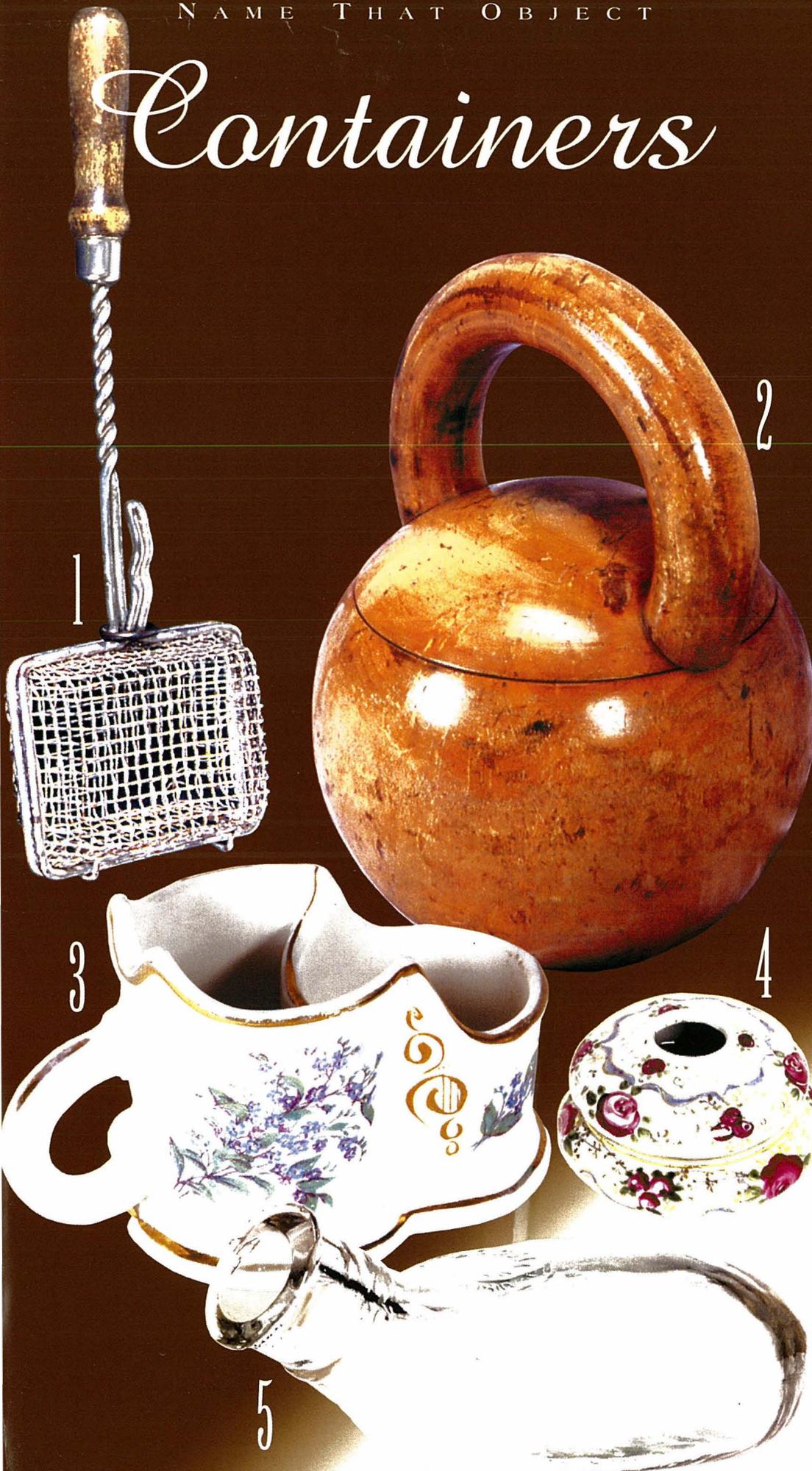
In 1936, Mrs. W. J. Freeman delivered an old newspaper clipping about Central Point to an employee at the office of the local newspaper, *The American*. The following article best described the way many of the residents feel about their town: "The casual passer-by may, in his ignorance, dismiss Central Point from his attention with the fleeting thought that here is a nice quiet little town where people are lucky to have a gorgeous view in whichever direction they may choose to look. But to those who are privileged to become intimate with the place and its environments, comes the awareness that there is an ancient authority emanating from the town, which is situated in the heart of one of the most important communities in the state of Oregon."

Perhaps the word "rests" no longer applies to the rapidly growing community of Central Point! 🏠

*Carol Harbison-Samuelsan is the Society's library manager and photo archivist.*



# Containers



**Guess**, if you can, what these objects are from the Southern Oregon Historical Society's collection. Each represents our past - a time when things were done the "old-fashioned way."

*Answers are on the lower right corner of this page.*

## CLUES . . .

### One

This small object was used from the 1920s - 1940s. It has a hinged, wire mesh basket attached to a wire support and a wood handle. What did it save?

### Two

This item is made of wood and measures about 10 inches high. It has a handle and a lid with a small hole in the top to extrude something. Do you know what?

### Three

This item was used everyday in one particular room of the house. It has two compartments and dates from the 1920s. This object has not gone completely out of fashion. It measures 2.5 inches tall by 6.5 inches wide. What is it?

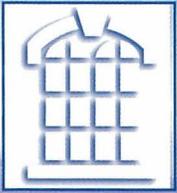
### Four

This dainty, two-piece, white China container is decorated with red roses, blue ribbon, and touches of gold. The donor used it during her school days. HINT-It has a hole in the top and sat on a lady's dresser. It held something that might later be used during periods of mourning. The object measures 3.5 inches across. What is the object and what was it used for?

### Five

This item is a small glass bottle with fluid ounce levels marked on the side and measures 8.5 inches in length. These types of bottles have been in existence since before the 1880s with more than 1.5 million sold annually by 1885. What type of bottle is it and what would it have contained?

1. shaving mug 2. yarn 3. soap scraps 4. hair receiver 5. baby bottle



# Exhibitions



Celebrating  
**FLIGHT**

A History of Aviation  
 in Southern Oregon

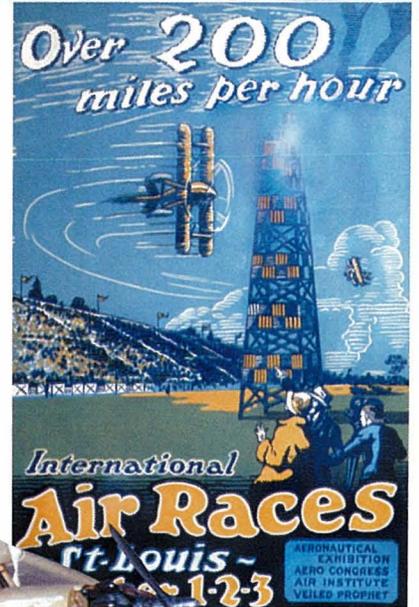
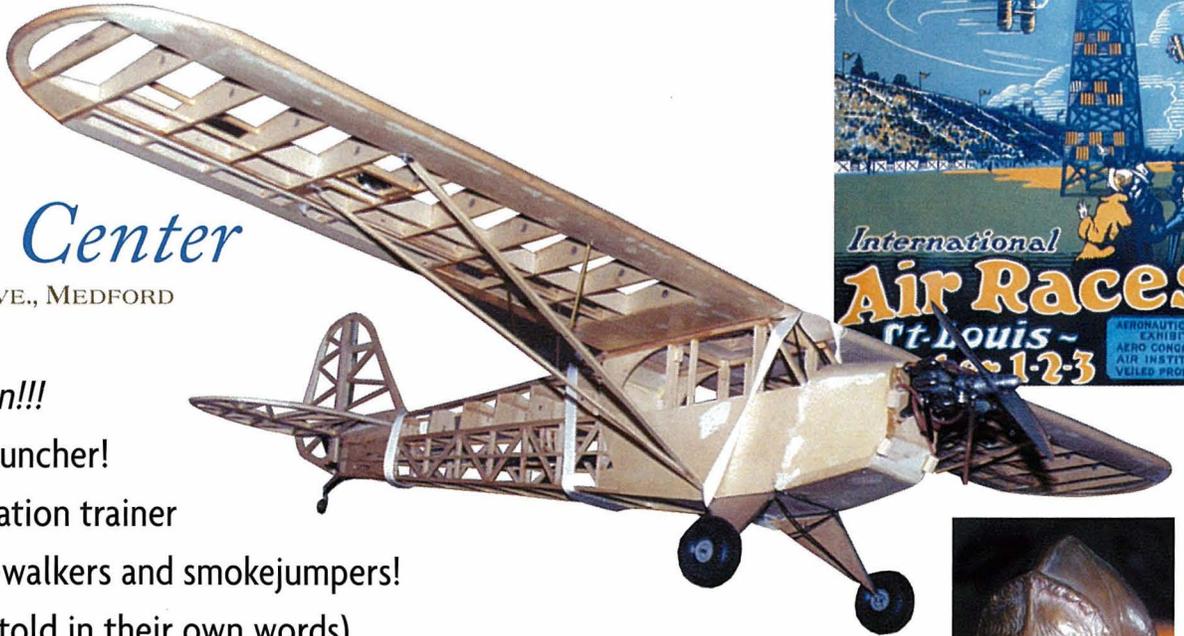
## *New Exhibit!*

The Southern Oregon Historical Society announces a major new exhibit at the History Center. The exhibit opened December 5 for members and guests, Dec. 6 to the general public. Come see and hear:

## History Center

106 N. CENTRAL AVE., MEDFORD

- Tons of flying fun!!!
- Paper airplane launcher!
- Real flight-simulation trainer
- Lots about wing-walkers and smokejumpers!
- People's stories (told in their own words)
- Historic film footage and many photos of a bygone age
- Airplane engines, propellers, log books, and other historic aviation artifacts



*Sponsors include Horizon Air, KOGAP Enterprises, and the Jackson County Airport Authority.*



# Jacksonville Museum

5TH AND C STREETS, JACKSONVILLE

## “HISTORY IN THE MAKING: JACKSON COUNTY MILESTONES”

An abundance of artifacts and photographs, from Chinese archaeological material to an early cellular telephone, tell the county's story. Not everything is behind glass—a working 1940s jukebox plays vintage automobile songs; a DVD player shows historic film clips.

## POLITICS OF CULTURE: COLLECTING THE SOUTHWEST

This exhibit presents extraordinary examples of pottery and textiles from the American Southwest.

## MINER, BAKER, FURNITURE MAKER

Explores the development of the Rogue Valley and the impact the industrial revolution had on the settlement of Oregon.

## CRATER LAKE: PICTURE PERFECT

Can the majesty of Crater Lake be captured on film? In celebration of this national park's centennial, the Jacksonville Museum presents an exhibit of attempts to capture its essence. Peter Britt's first 1874 photo of Crater Lake marks the beginning of this exhibit. Other sections include early colorized photos, picture postcards, and park improvements. Of special interest is the most controversial Crater Lake image, believed by many to document a visit by Theodore Roosevelt. Examples of how the Crater Lake name and image have been used to sell products ranging from butter to a hospital round out this exhibit.

## Children's Museum

5TH AND C STREETS, JACKSONVILLE

Everyone enjoys exploring the home and work settings from the 1850s to the 1930s through “hands-on-history.”



## LASTING IMPRESSIONS: THE ART AND LIFE OF DORLAND ROBINSON

Artist Dorland Robinson (1891-1917), a Jacksonville prodigy, produced an exceptional body of images. The diversity of media she worked in, from charcoal and pastel to oil and watercolor, is presented in this largest ever exhibit of her work.



FEATURE

# Bill Bowerman:

N O S E C O N D P L A C E

By Bill Miller



“There are no free passes to success.”

**B**efore Bill Bowerman became world famous, before he invented “jogging,” and years before he would co-found the Nike Corporation, he was a 5 foot 8 inch, 145 pound skinny kid with an attitude.

“I was a mean little kid,” Bowerman later told a reporter. His early life was less than idyllic. Born in Portland, Oregon, to a prominent political family on February 19, 1911, he quickly found himself in a single-parent home. His Republican father, Jay Bowerman, was an Oregon State senator, first elected in 1904 from Gilliam County. Oregon Governor Frank W. Benson, who would die one year later of kidney failure, resigned his office in June 1910. Jay Bowerman was appointed acting Governor for the last six months of 1910. Before Bill was three years old, his father left the family and married another woman.<sup>1</sup>

Those early years were seldom discussed though Bill must have been a handful for his mother. He was enrolled at the Hill Military Academy in Portland, where he stayed until 1925. The family moved and he transferred to Medford High School for

his freshman year. It truly was a turning point in his life.

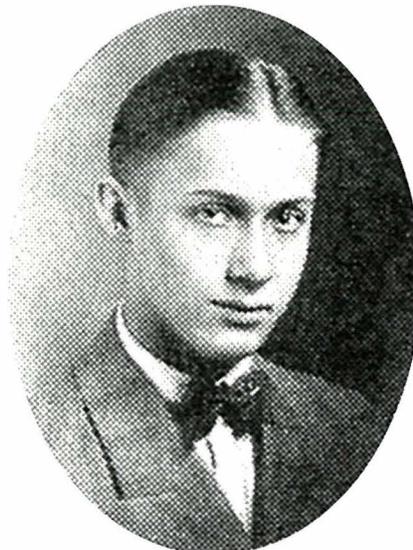
Bowerman gradually turned the chip on his shoulder into productive activity. Medford’s legendary high school football coach, Prince “Prink” Callison, gets most of the credit. Callison was a strict disciplinarian and a good judge of football talent. When Bowerman came out for the team in his sophomore year, Prink kicked him off and sent him to the junior varsity squad. Bill was too light and knew he had to muscle up. He also had to change his ways, because Callison didn’t like smart-alecks.

Bill was a reporter for the school newspaper, “Hi-Times,” for four years and by his senior year (1928-29) was editor. As a sophomore he joined the staff of the high school yearbook as assistant sports editor, and by graduation was also editor of that

publication. He sang with the Boys Glee Club and played clarinet in the band and even found time to spend four years on the Student Council. With his success in sports and the new-found approval of his peers, his attitude turned positive and his energy level was always on high.<sup>2</sup>

Bowerman loved sports. In the spring he played basketball and in the fall it was football. He was probably sorry that Medford didn’t have track or baseball teams. In Bill’s junior year, the basketball team was runner-up to the state champs and one year later claimed the title outright.

In the fall of 1927, Bill made the varsity football team and a year later was the team’s starting left end. Bowerman had grown into a 6 foot 2 inch, 190 pound senior. His teams won 17 games in those two years and were never defeated. Both years they claimed the State Football Championship. The teams



Opposite: a self-proclaimed “average” runner, Bill Bowerman became one of track’s great teachers as coach of the University of Oregon track team (1949-1972).

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES, UNIVERSITY OF OREGON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Bowerman, in this 1927 sophomore portrait, always felt that the turning point of his life was the four years he spent at Medford High.

THE CRATER 1927 YEARBOOK

## Benson 0–Medford 39

*The final game of the season was played at the Multnomah stadium before the largest crowd that ever witnessed a Medford football team in action. This game was the final game of the season with the winner to be undisputed state champions. Medford had already won this title outside of Portland but decided to stake everything on the final game.*

*The first touchdown was made in five minutes and from then on the Medford score continued to grow until at the end of the game Medford had tallied 39 points and the opponents had garnered none.*

*Biancone, who was reputed as being able to beat Medford single handed, was held to 3 yards gain. The Medford backs worked at maximum efficiency and the line is not to be forgotten for its prowess.*

*Thus ended the greatest football season that Medford high school has ever enjoyed. The tiger flag of red and black has not floated over a defeated Medford football team in six years which makes us believe that we now hold the best football record ever established in the state of Oregon.*

*The Crater, 1929*

were so impressive, fans began to call them the “Black Tornado.”<sup>3</sup>

In 1929, Bill headed for Eugene, playing four years on the University of Oregon’s football and basketball teams. While there he met the man he said had the most impact on his coaching career: the track coach, Colonel Bill Hayward. Not particularly fast and with a peculiar hitch in his stride, Bill soon earned the nickname “Hopalong,” while running the quarter mile for Hayward. Hayward was so inspirational that Bowerman decide to try coaching.<sup>4</sup>

In the fall of 1934 he took his first job at Portland’s Franklin High. Bowerman said he wasn’t the school’s first choice. “They had someone else in mind to coach track, but he didn’t know how far around it was on a quarter-mile track.”<sup>5</sup>

When the Medford coaching position was announced the following spring, Bowerman’s name wasn’t even mentioned among the eight chief applicants, but he got the job. He returned the football team to Prink Callison’s modified Notre Dame system of single wings and forward passes, eventually accumulating 59 wins, 13 losses and 8 ties over nine seasons (1935–41 and 1946–47).

There was a grass football field being setup at the high school and Bill made sure

that a 440-yard track was built around it, even personally searching for cinders to cover it. In 1936, after a nearly fifteen-year absence, Bowerman reintroduced track competition to Medford. He was convinced that track “is a remarkable developer of football and basketball stamina and speed.”<sup>6</sup>

That summer he married Barbara Young, of Altadena, California, and while on his honeymoon sought instruction on the proper care of turf fields. No sooner had the couple settled in Medford than Bill called for the start of football practice.

Bill joined the Army at the outbreak of World War II, and because he had learned to ski in the Siskiyou he was assigned to the 10th Mountain Division. The division entered combat on January 28, 1945, in the North Apennine Mountains of Italy. After the war he returned to Medford, coaching for two years before returning to the University of Oregon.<sup>7</sup>

What followed were the years most people know about—track coach, shoe innovator, and millionaire. The skinny boy with an attitude had grown up, driven and positive, with piercing eyes, a crushing handshake and a never accept second-place outlook.

Six months after he retired, Bill Bowerman, age 88, fell asleep and peacefully passed away. It was Christmas Eve, 1999. 🏠

### ENDNOTES

1. Robert Sobel and John Raimo, ed. 1978, *Biographical Dictionary of the Governors of the United States 1789 – 1978*. Westport, CT: Meckler Books, Vol. 3, p. 1272. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 28 September 1999.
2. Nike Corporation, [www.nike.com/nikebiz.html](http://www.nike.com/nikebiz.html), accessed 1 February 2003.
3. The Crater 1929, Yearbook of Medford High School, p. 21.
4. All football statistics from: *75 Years of Medford Football*, Medford Line Backers Club: 1987.
5. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 20 November 1935. University of Oregon Archives, [www.libweb.uoregon.edu/speccoll](http://www.libweb.uoregon.edu/speccoll), accessed 27 March 2003.
6. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 28 September 1999.
7. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 21 June 1935; 20 November 1935.
7. *Eugene Register-Guard*, 26 December 1999.



## FOOTBALL • 1928

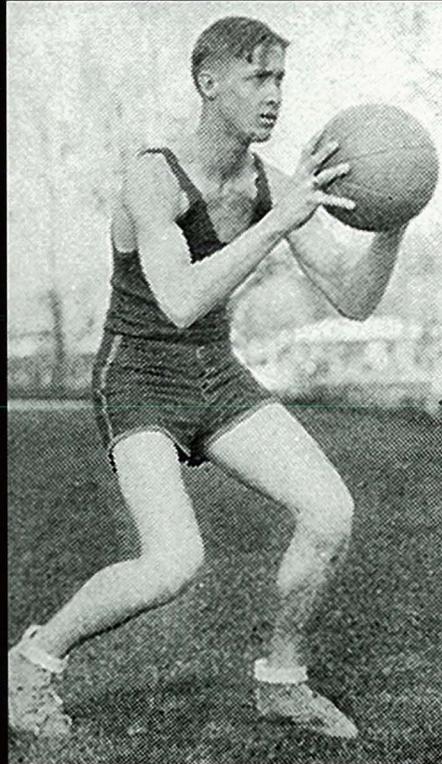
Medford 12–Alumni 7  
 Chemawa 7–Medford 39  
 Marshfield 6–Medford 44  
 Salem 6–Medford 42  
 Klamath 0–Medford 31  
 Corvallis 7–Medford 50  
 Ashland 7–Medford 25  
 The Dalles–Medford 42  
 Benson–Medford 39

Above: Playing left end, Bowerman helped the "Black Tornado" to the 1928 State football title.

Above right: The Medford team was State basketball champions for the second time in 1929. Bowerman played forward.

Far right: Bowerman was an all-round student. In addition to sports, he edited the school newspaper, played in the band, sang with the Boys' Glee Club. 1929 senior portrait.

THE CRATER 1928 AND 1929 YEARBOOKS



## BASKETBALL • 1929

Alumni 37–Medford 27  
 Klamath 23–Medford 39  
 Klamath 27–Medford 48  
 Salem 22–Medford 34  
 Salem 22–Medford 20  
 Ashland 17–Medford 39  
 Ashland 11–Medford 41  
 McLaughlin 24–Medford 36  
 The Dalles 23–Medford 37  
 Astoria 14–Medford 35

Astoria 14–Medford 35

*The Astoria Finns slipped into second place in the Oregon State basketball tournament when Medford defeated them for the first time.*

*The Astoria team was one of the fastest teams ever seen in an Oregon tournament and played clever ball throughout. They had played the semi-final game the night before with Washington High of Portland, so were rather tired.*

*Medford shut out its northern competitor in the first quarter and continued to build up its lead until at the end of the game it had a 21-point lead. Medford's wonderful condition and close guarding were the main factors in its victory. This final game gave them the title of "Oregon State High School Basketball Champions" for the second time in our history.*

*The Crater, 1929*





Bowerman, left, began his coaching career at Medford in 1936. He and assistant Ed Kirtley taught football, basketball, and track.

*THE CRATER* 1936 YEARBOOK

Below: Bowerman was as tough on himself as he was with his teams. Here, in the early 1960s, he leads his team on a cross country run.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES, UNIVERSITY OF OREGON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Opposite: Bowerman talks about breath control with an unidentified "Duck" runner in the late 1960s.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES, UNIVERSITY OF OREGON LIBRARY SYSTEM



“Play hard, play fair, but play to win.”



# Drone Loan

By Steve Wyatt

## In our workaday lives

we all may occasionally feel like a drone—a worker bee, engaged in mundane work.

Or, perhaps a very different kind of drone—one that is catapulted into the air and remotely controlled while being used for target practice, the kind of un-piloted airplane drone pictured here.

This red and silver aluminum airplane drone is on loan to the Southern Oregon Historical Society from Joseph Berto. It can be seen in the History Center in the latest exhibit, *Celebrating Flight: A History of Aviation in Southern Oregon*.

Built by the Ventura Division of the Northrop Corporation, this type of drone is well known to military aviators in training for target practice. The story behind its development, which parallels the history of the radio-controlled model airplane, is literally the stuff of Hollywood.

Credit for its invention usually goes to Reginald Denny (1891-1967), an actor who appeared in 200 movies and stage shows between 1919 and 1966. Denny was also a model airplane enthusiast and owned a hobby shop on Hollywood Boulevard. He would probably be the first to admit that he was just one of the people who worked on the development of the drone in the 1930s.

Early pre-radio control model airplane hobbyists such as Denny simply watched their plans fly in circles until running out of gas. Kenneth Case, an acquaintance of Denny's, raised the bar when he developed a rudimentary model plane radio control system. When Denny saw this system he envisioned the drone and partnered with Walter Righter, a Cal Tech graduate and engine designer, to assist on the project. Denny used his

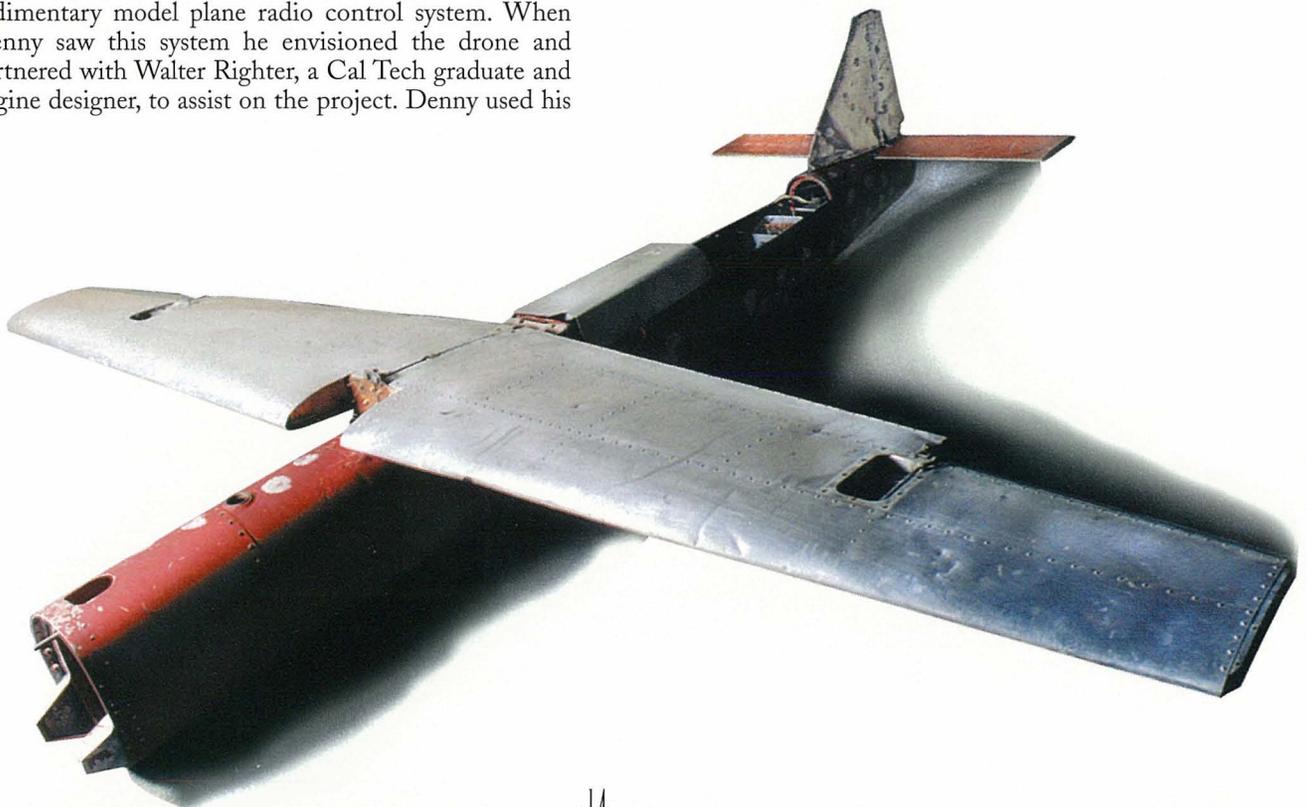


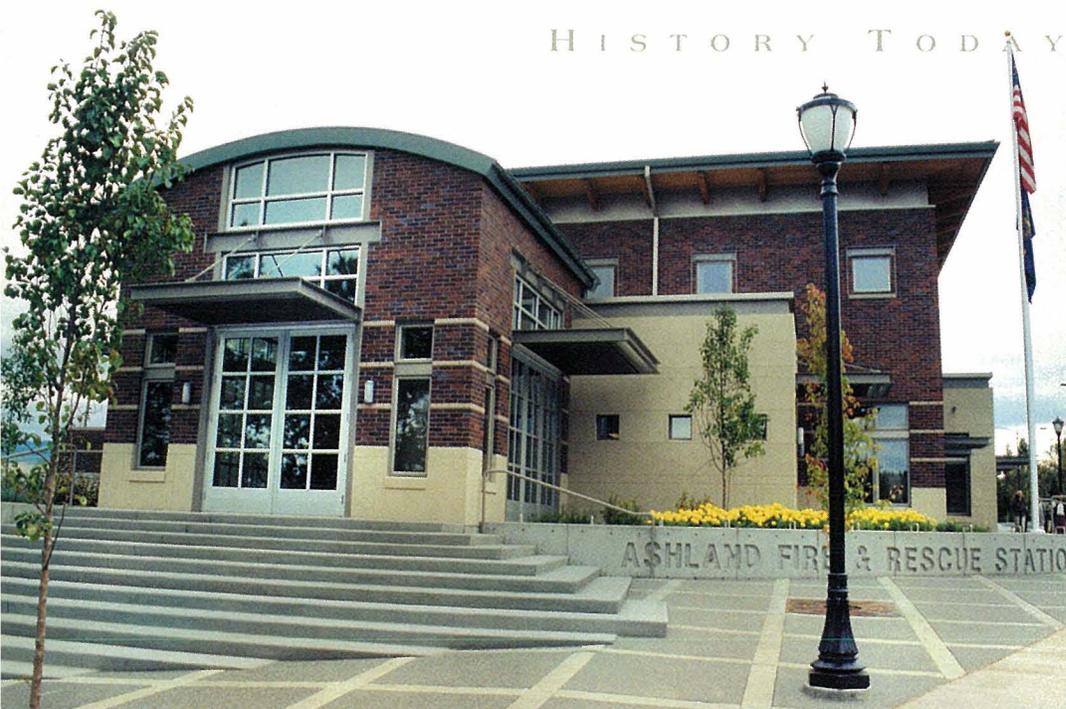
celebrity status to promote the use of drones in the military. At two demonstrations before military leaders in the late 1930s, their plane crashed. Despite the mishaps, the military saw potential in target aircraft and negotiated an \$18,000 contract with Denny, Case and Righter for drone production.

The partners formed the Radioplane Company and within a year had refined their design and produced three working drones. With the U.S. entry into World War II in 1941, production at their Ventura, California, factory was soon in the thousands. One of their assembly line employees was Norma Jean Baker (Marilyn Monroe). In 1952, the Radioplane Company was purchased by the much larger Northrop.

Northrop made the utilitarian looking drone featured here. It appears to be a Model FD2R-5. This flying target has a wingspan of eleven feet, six inches and a range of 210 miles, with a maximum speed of 223 miles per hour.

The Society's newest exhibit, *Celebrating Flight: A History of Aviation in Southern Oregon*, was made possible thanks to the generous assistance of many community members, and the loan of this drone and other aviation-related items. 🏠





Left: Main entrance of Ashland Fire Station No. 1.

Above: Opening celebration, on October 11, 2003. Fun for the entire family!

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANA L. JACKSON

# Ashland Fire Department History: Front and Center

By Steve Wyatt

## Ashland firefighters

have a past; this is for certain. If you want to learn a little bit about their past and see some fascinating historical artifacts, plan a visit to the new fire station.

The sparkling new facility opened its doors to the public in July. It was built on the site of the previous fire station (a converted gas station) and a local coffee house, the former Blue Mountain Cafe. The new 15,000-square-foot state-of-the-art brick fire station has a four-bay garage for fire trucks and other equipment, along with dormitories, classrooms, and a new communications system that automatically turns on the lights and shuts off the kitchen stove when an alarm is received.

History was front and center in the planning of the new facility. A concerted effort was made to prevent the department's past from being forgotten. In fact, the past takes over the spacious new lobby, which is virtually a mini-museum of Ashland Fire and Rescue history. The city retained local historian Kay Atwood to research and design an exhibit on the history of the fire department for the new building. In 1977, she literally wrote the book on the subject, *The Ashland Fire Department: A History*.

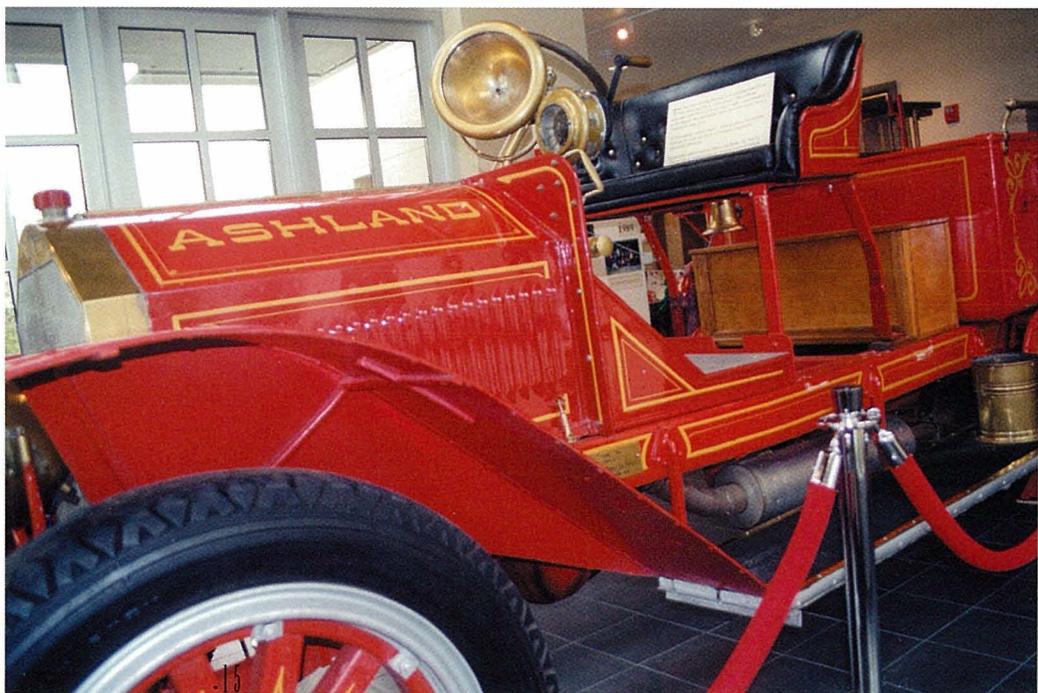
The pride of Ashland Fire Department, a 1913 La Frane Fire Engine dominates the lobby of the new station surrounded by, fire related artifacts and information panels courtesy of the Southern Oregon Historical Society.

Atwood wrote and researched the text of the fire department exhibit. Southern Oregon Historical Society employees Matt Watson, exhibits curator, and Steve Wyatt, collections curator, prepared signage and labeling and historic photo reproductions, and fabricated plexiglass cases for the artifacts. The Society also lent a case full of Ashland fire department artifacts from its collection for the exhibit.

The largest and most eye-catching artifact in the exhibit is the city's 1913 La France fire engine. It was Ashland's first

engine, and remained in service until 1938 when it was put to work in Talent. It later fell into private hands, was fully restored and later re-purchased by the city of Ashland.

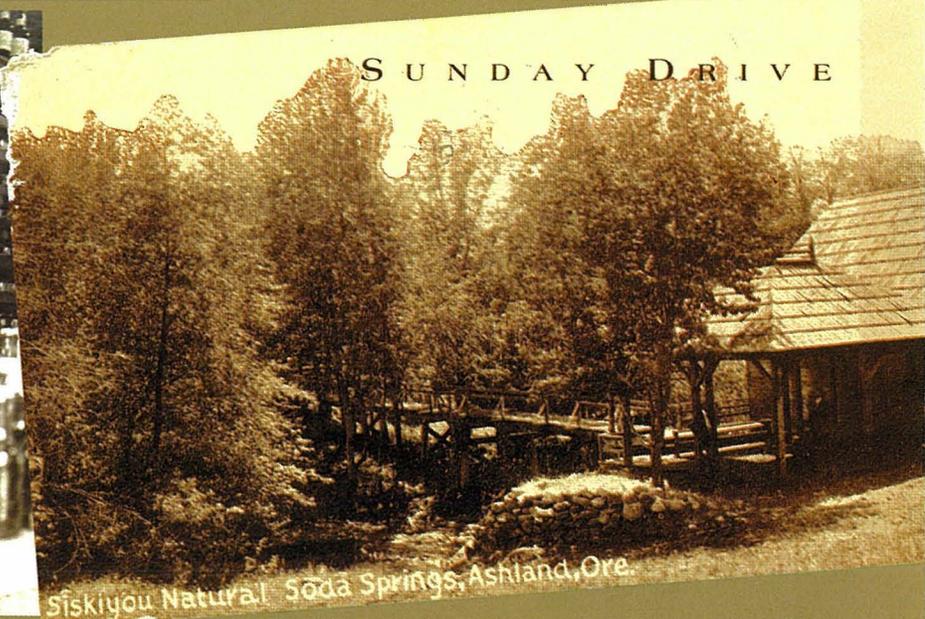
A visit to the new fire station at East Main Street and Siskiyou Boulevard is a must for anyone wanting to know more about the community of Ashland, its history and its fire department. There could be no better place to learn about fire protection—then and now. 🏠





Chance of scattered showers with clearing periods today. Occasional light rain tonight and patches of morning fog.

SOHS #18636, FEB. 1972



# Siskiyou Soda Springs

By David Scafani

## The Soda Springs are located on Emigrant Creek

just a few miles east of Ashland, Oregon. The medicinal waters reportedly were used by local Indian tribes for centuries.<sup>1</sup> Early settlers began using the springs in the 1850s, and in 1870, Dr. Calwell, an Ashland dentist, built a twenty-room house called Soda Springs House. It soon became a popular retreat for family picnics as it was only a two-hour ride from Ashland by buggy or wagon on the stage road between Ashland and Linkville (Klamath Falls). The Soda Springs House became a scheduled stop for the stagecoach.

John Marshal Wagner bought the property and operated it as a hostelry for visitors from all parts of the West Coast. In 1886, a post office was established at Wagner's Soda Springs with J.M. Wagner as postmaster. In 1887, the completion of the Oregon and California Railroad through Southern Oregon improved the access for visitors.

In order to expand his business, Wagner developed a bottling works in 1891. The spring was concreted to a depth of five feet and fitted with a bottomless copper tank that could rise and fall with changing gas pressure. This gas was used to recarbonate the mineral water in the bottle. The maximum bottling load was about 450 quarts or nine cases before the pressure became too low. At 90 psi, some bottles exploded sending glass fragments flying, much to the amusement of visitors who liked to watch the process.

The Soda Springs bottling plant pioneered the use of crown top bottles in Southern Oregon. Unembossed amber

crown top bottles were shipped from St. Louis, Missouri, to Ashland stacked like cordwood in a boxcar. The first embossed pint bottles were ordered from Illinois Glass and were ice blue in color. Later embossed pints were made at the Holt Glassworks in Berkeley, California, until it was destroyed in the San Francisco earthquake of 1906. These pints came in amber, aqua, flint, and a clear glass that turns purple in sunlight. All of the Holt bottles were marked 338 H on the base.

Most of the bottled water was consumed locally and was delivered by wagon or John Wagner's converted stagecoach. The stagecoach had special leather bracing to reduce bumps and protect the bottles from breakage.<sup>2</sup> These deliveries went to Hilt, Hornbrook, and Ashland. The railroad delivered from Ashland to Medford, Jacksonville, Grants Pass, Portland, and San Francisco.

Changing tastes and habits led to a decline in the demand for mineral water as a medicinal treatment, and state prohibition in 1916 dealt the final blow to using it as a mixer with liquors. Soda Springs closed sometime after 1913, but John Wagner continued to sell mineral water for a few years from his home in Ashland. The old soda springs house burned in 1926, but the site is still a peaceful and beautiful spot to visit. 🏠

*David Scafani is a retired teacher, and the author of "The Bottles of Jackson County."*

Siskiyou Bottling Works employee Ed Baer, circa 1907.

COURTESY OF JUANITA MAYFIELD

Above left: bottle labeled "Siskiyou Natural Mineral Water Soda Springs Ore."

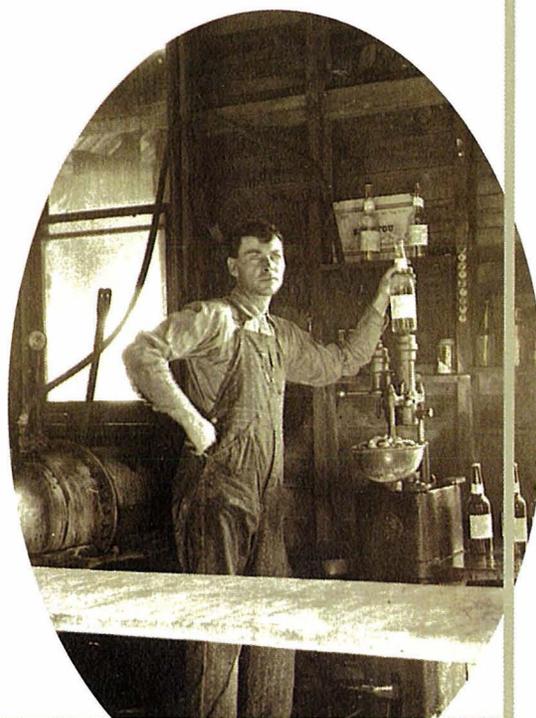
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Above center: Siskiyou Bottling Works employee Hugh Posier, circa 1907. Right: Siskiyou Bottling Works postcard, Ashland 1913.

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### ENDNOTES:

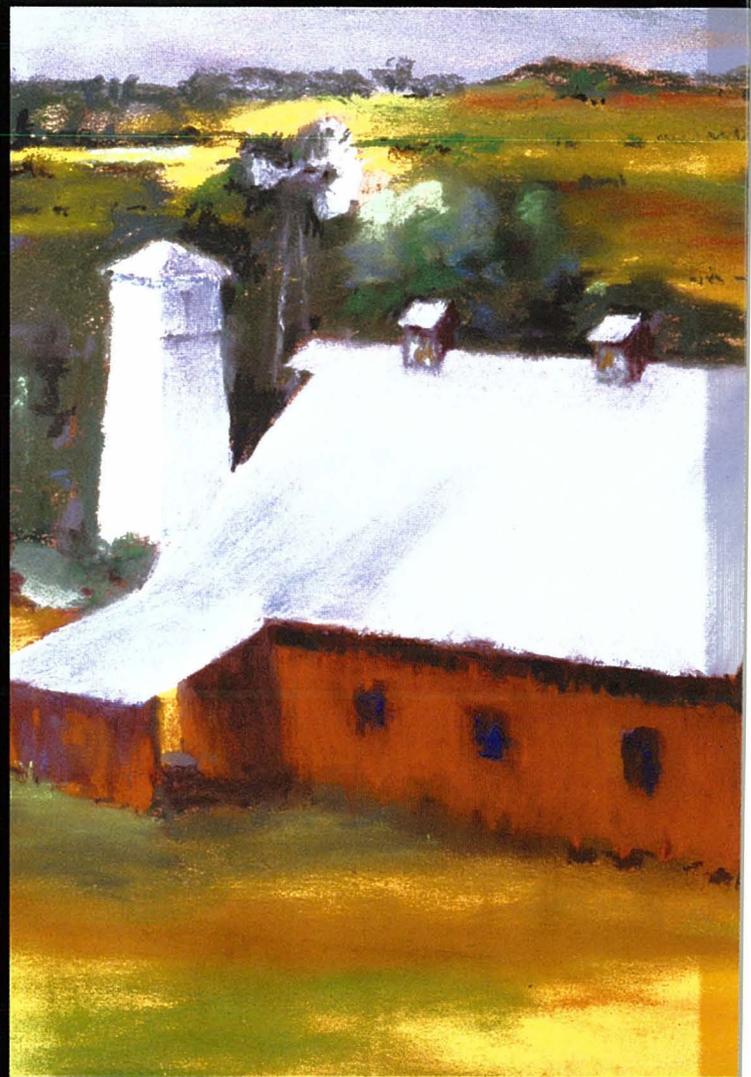
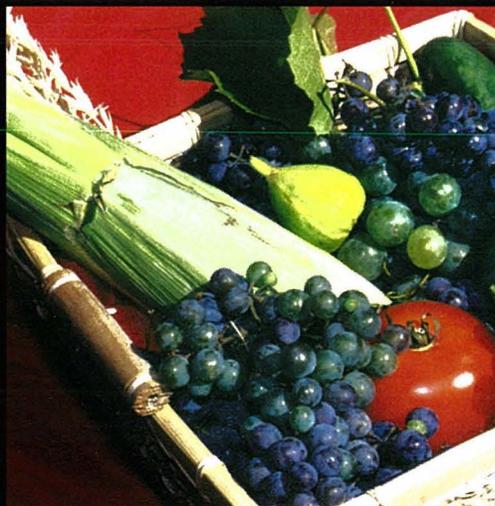
1. *Ice Cold Soda Pop 5 Cents*, Ron Fowler (Dolphin Point Writing Works, Seattle, 1981, 1998): pp. 65-67.
2. Southern Oregon Historical Society Oral History #61-117-6.

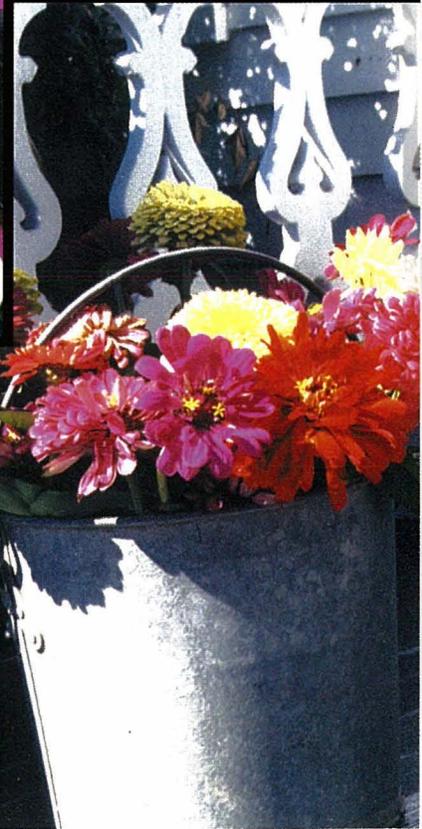
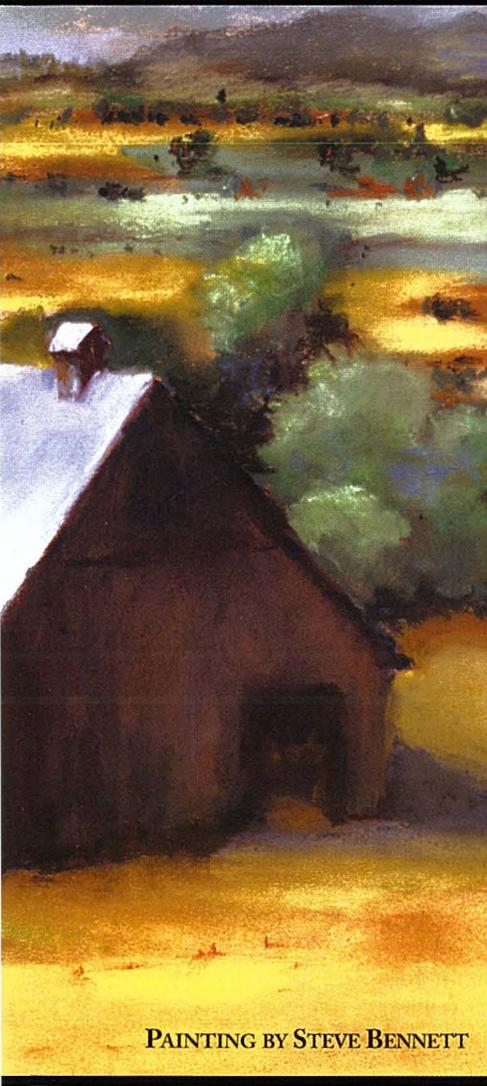
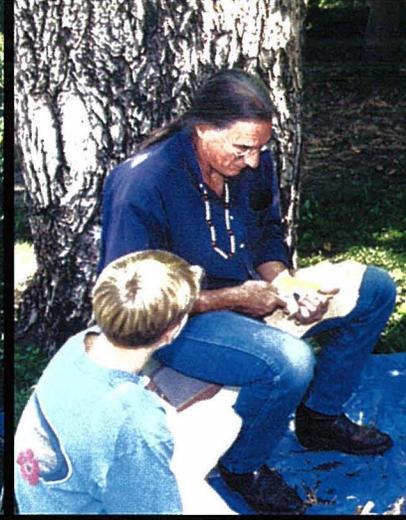


# Harvest at Hanley Farm

2003 photo album

More than 600 people enjoyed the second annual *Harvest at Hanley* celebration held on September 20, 2003. The day was a great success, raising funds for Hanley Farm restoration and making friends for the Society. Outback Steakhouse provided a barbecue. Activities included tours of the historic farmhouse and barns, Native American demonstrations by Tom Smith and regalia by Agnes Baker Pilgrim, music by Siskiyou Summit, square dancing by several groups of Rogue Valley square dancers, and games and face-painting for children.





# The Lily Glen: Barn Again

By Steve Wyatt

Flames may have reduced the landmark



Lily Glen barn to ashes but if one local group has its way this barn will rise again and be a hub of activity just as the old barn was. Each year hundreds of equestrians and others from around the West came to Lily Glen, east of Ashland, to ride horses and take advantage of the park.

A group known as the Rebuild Lily Glen Committee is currently soliciting funds and public input on what the new barn will be like. It is still early in the process but the consensus seems to be the replacement barn will have as many design elements similar to the original barn as is feasible. At the same time, it is hoped it will be more user friendly to groups with diverse interests.

The original landmark Lily Glen barn, off Dead Indian Memorial Road near Howard Prairie, burned to the ground in September. Sadly, wooden barns such as the Lily Glen are rapidly disappearing, often replaced with generic looking metal structures.

Most accounts have it that the barn was built in 1898 by the Lindsays on their Howard Prairie homestead. Back then Howard Prairie was more commonly known as Grizzly Prairie. The Lindsay family consisted of Margaret, a native of Scotland who was described as "a short woman as broad as she was tall who was blessed with good humor, rollicking laughter and a thick Scottish brogue," and her sons, Charles and William. Margaret named their ranch the "Lilyglen" (variously spelled as one word or two) after the abundance of mountain lilies that grew nearby.<sup>1</sup> By 1907 they had cleared and fenced some thirty-five acres, had constructed a large barn and a substantial house on their land.<sup>2</sup>

In 1912, the Lindsays found themselves defending the Lily Glen in court. Government land office officials believed they were not entitled to ownership because they did not reside on the place. Margaret Lindsay countered that she lived there continuously except during a period of illness. Ultimately, the Secretary of the Interior ruled in favor of the Lindsays and they received title to Lily Glen. The *Medford*

*Mail Tribune* editorialized on the verdict, "The decision met with universal approval among the citizens of the Dead Indian country where the hardships incident to the life of the homesteader are thoroughly understood and appreciated and any other decision in this case would have operated a gross injustice to the claimants."<sup>3</sup>

The Lindsays had 300 Angora goats for mohair, and Red Poll cows. The cream from the cows was delivered to Ashland with their Clydesdale horses. William Lindsay became postmaster when a post office was established on the ranch in 1904. The post office closed in 1909. Despite the closure of the post office, the Lily Glen ranch was a popular stopping place for travelers coming from the Rogue River Valley to summer at Lake of the Woods or Fort Klamath. Joaquin Miller, the noted poet, is known to have visited the ranch on several occasions and hunted for deer and bear with the Lindsay brothers. The Lily Glen ranch grew from a 160-acre homestead to an 1800-acre spread complete with a small sawmill powered by a steam engine that came by ship around the horn of South America.<sup>4</sup>

When Margaret died in 1917, the ranch was divided between brothers Charles and William and renamed "The Lindsay Ranch." Charles lived at the ranch until 1940 when he sold out. In 1946, the three sons of William established Lindsay Lumber Company, which initially ran a diesel/electric sawmill on the ranch. They dismantled their sawmill in 1959 when construction began on the dam that formed Howard Prairie Reservoir. The new lake submerged much of Lilyglen's acreage. The brothers continued to market logs from the ranch into the late 1960s.

When plans for the Hyatt Lake dam became solidified, title of much of the ranch was transferred to the Bureau of Reclamation.

In 1963 the Bureau leased the barn and 40 acres of land to the Jackson County Parks Department.<sup>5</sup> According to a newspaper account from the time the barn had been

neglected for some twenty years. It then became the centerpiece of the county's Lily Glen Equestrian Area. Equestrians from all over the West Coast are drawn to this facility's corrals, horse trails, picnic tables, camping and group camping facilities. The barn hosted the annual "Lilyglen Horse Trials" from 1982 to 1997. This event attracted nationwide attention. Several riders who competed there went on to the Olympics.<sup>6</sup>

Had it not been for volunteers the barn could have been lost in the midst of its heyday. In January 1993, four feet of snow piled up on its steep gabled roof. A twenty-foot section caved in. Volunteers worked to clear the accumulation off, thus saving the rest of the barn. Darlene Donnelly, Martha Brooks, and the Royal Crest Riding club went to work raising the estimated \$20,000 needed to repair the roof. Neighbors, horseback riders and history minded organizations, including the Southern Oregon Historical Society, chipped in to bring the Lilyglen barn back to life. SOHS contributed \$5000 towards the needed repairs.<sup>7</sup>

On September 7, 2003, ten years after the barn was saved from snow, it was taken away by fire. The fortunate few will remember the first hand experience of visiting the barn—an encounter with a unique functioning piece of Southern Oregon history. If the efforts of the Rebuild Lily Glen Committee and other concerned citizenry are successful, the new barn will serve the needs of equestrians and others even better than the old barn. New history will be made. 🏠

#### ENDNOTES

1. Bernice Gillespie, "Lilyglen Was Famed Mountain Ranch," *Ashland Daily Tidings*, 23 Feb 1963.
2. "Homesteaders in Dead Indian Win Contests," *Medford Mail Tribune*, 29 July 1913.
3. Ibid.
4. *Asbland Daily Tidings*, 23 Feb 1963.
5. Ibid.
6. Bill Choy, "Barn's Loss Hest Neighbors Hard," *Medford Mail Tribune*, 09 September 2003.
7. Brad Linder, "Life in the Past Lane, Barn Again!" *Table Rock Sentinel*, March/April 1993, pg. 23



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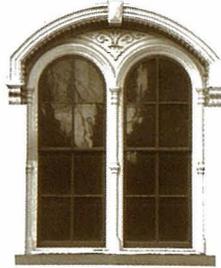
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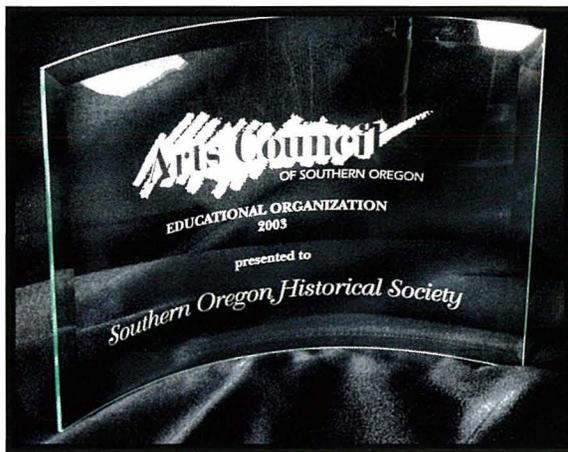
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Welcome back to the many people who have re-joined the Society as members in the past few months. We appreciate the vote of confidence your renewals represent. Please know that the staff and Board and volunteers are working diligently to be worthy of your trust and to fulfill the Society's mission effectively yet frugally.

And welcome to the new members who have joined recently. **Thank you for believing that History Matters!**

Sincerely,  
Richard Seidman  
Development Coordinator

In November, the Arts Council of Southern Oregon honored the Southern Oregon Historical Society with its Educational Organization of 2003 Award. The Arts Council expressed particular appreciation "that hands-on educational programs for children are at the heart of SOHS activities."



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