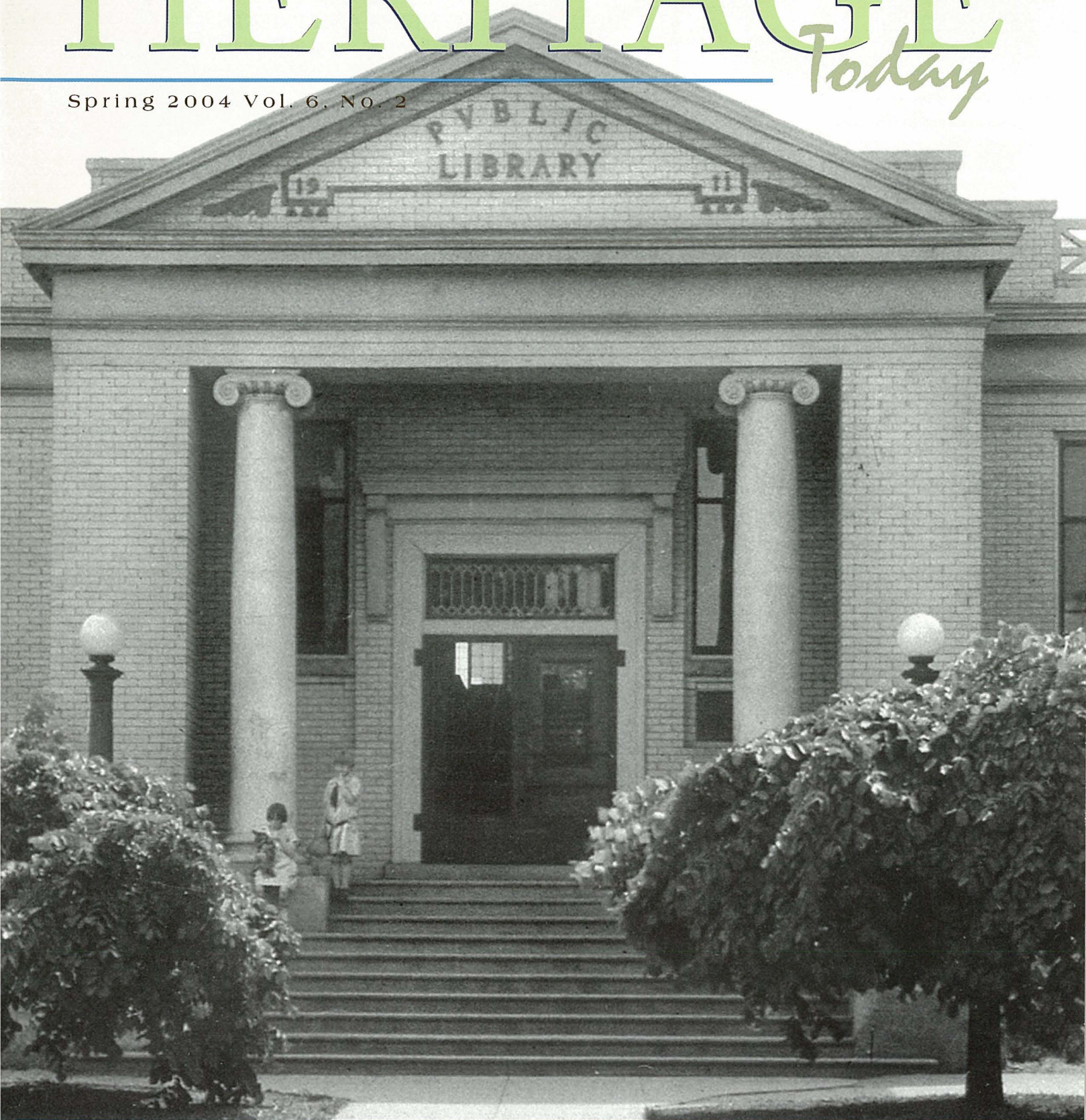


SOUTHERN OREGON HERITAGE

Spring 2004 Vol. 6, No. 2

Today



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SOUTHERN OREGON HERITAGE TODAY

Published by the Southern Oregon Historical Society
106 N. Central Ave., Medford, OR 97501-5926
(541) 773-6536 • www.sohs.org

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Printing, CDS Publications

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ON THE COVER
The Medford Carnegie Library, which opened in 1912, has always attracted children as well as adults.
SOHS #7975 (DETAIL)

Corrections and additional facts:

• Winter 2004 Vol. 6, No. 1, p. 12-13.
Unidentified "Duck" runner has been properly identified as Dyrrol Burleson.
This information correctly dates the "late 1960s" image to *early 1960s*.



From the Director

DEAR SOHS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

What a year of changes! From last spring to this spring, SOHS has moved away from a contentious public budget process and toward serious long-term planning for the future. Several new Trustees have joined the board. And a Ad-hoc Development Committee has begun meeting to help the staff devise long-term fundraising and membership development strategies for the Society.

The Society has put its downtown Medford headquarters up for sale, and is continuing discussions with the city of Medford about the future of the historic Carnegie Library and its possible use as a community/cultural center and SOHS headquarters. There is some support for using the Carnegie Library as city office space, but we believe its history and role as a cultural hub for the community should continue.

When the History Center building sells, our intention is to put most of the proceeds into a permanent Endowment Fund the interest from which would help finance Society operations. We also continue to streamline our staff and programs to bring them more into line with a smaller, yet more visible, role in the community.

And the Society has exciting plans for the coming months:

We will be hosting a traveling Oregon Historical Society exhibit on the history of Mexicans in Oregon, and complimenting the exhibit with artifacts and programs in cooperation with the local Latino community, starting May 1.

We are busy planning a return of Peter Britt to Jacksonville, and plan to open a new Britt Exhibit at the Jacksonville Museum this summer.

Plans are underway to reopen our Living History program at the Beekman House, from Memorial Day to Labor Day, thanks to grants from several groups as well as the City of Jacksonville.

And plans are underway to reopen to the public Hanley Farm on the First Weekends of June-September.

Our Annual Meeting is planned for 5 p.m., Saturday, June 5, at Hanley Farm.

We are helping organize the annual Oregon Heritage Conference, this year to be held in Ashland, May 6-8.

And, last but certainly not least, my hats off to the staff, volunteers and families of the 2,500 students who went through the 2004 Children's Heritage Fair in Jacksonville which concluded in mid-March. The Children's Heritage Fair has been operating for 19 years now, and involves most SOHS staff and many volunteers. Thanks to all who participated this year and helped make it another resounding success.

As I said above, it has been quite a year for SOHS. The organization, staff and volunteers clearly are undergoing a lot of change. With change come challenges, and we are meeting those challenges – financial, organizational, strategic – head-on. Our goal is to ensure that this Historical Society remains vibrant, relevant and meaningful for another 60 years, and that more and more residents of our valley see the benefits of belonging to our organization. A happy Spring to all of you.

John Enders
Executive Director



The Medford Carnegie Library.

PHOTO BY MAGGIE JAMES

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Wings and Words:

Voices from the Past and Present

By Jacqueline Leighton

The Southern Oregon Historical Society's

exhibit, "Celebrating Flight: The History of Aviation in Southern Oregon" provides a great opportunity to see the Society's oral history program in action: Local aviators are recorded reflecting on their military experiences, business activities, or their favorite hobby. It's a good chance for aviators or non-aviators alike to hear, read and see what it was like to fly.

In conjunction with the exhibit, thirty-four individuals shared their aviation experiences with SOHS oral history interviewer Pat Clason. The interviews include both childhood experiences and adult activities. The speakers were barnstormers, airline stewardesses, or Purple Heart recipients. Each interview explores an aspect of aviation that creates a diverse image of flight in Southern Oregon.

Some of the interviews aid us in understanding artifacts on exhibit at the History Center. Such is the case with retired United Airlines pilot Steve Fusco (OH #629.29) and the use of lighted beacons:

In an effort to keep the airplane as low as possible so that people were comfortable (in an unpressurized aircraft), there was a light line established between Eugene and Medford. It consisted of a series of rotating beacons spaced ten miles apart and by using the beacons as stepping-stones and flying directly from one to another we could fly down the valley even on a very dark night as long as we had visual reference to these beacons.

Other interviews describe how changes in our national security affect Southern Oregon, including with Oregon Air National Guard historian, Diana Junker (OH #629.12):

Our mission used to be "state first"... The lines are being blurred between what the active duty Air Force is and Air National Guard. When you just look at these people and what they do, there's no difference.

Overwhelmingly the most common themes among the interviewees are the joys and challenges of flight. Stan Fern (OH #629.28) shares this story:

[Mercy Flights had several planes.] There was the old twin Beech that they called 'Iron Annie', and it was a really neat old airplane. And they had the 'Bamboo Bomber', Cessna built it, and it had two radial engines on it, and Chuck [Swingle said], "If this thing catches on fire, it will burn out before we get to the ground, so don't worry about the emergency landing." (Laughter) It was all made of plywood.

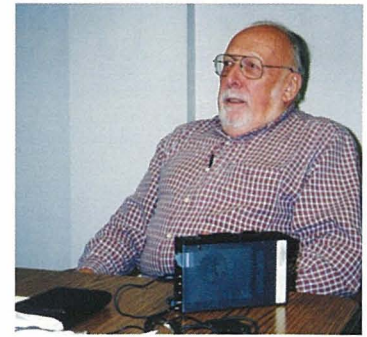
Many hair-raising stories are included in the interviews. Come enjoy and share, for certainly there is a airplane story within you too. ✈

Jacqueline Leighton is a program associate and the Society's oral history coordinator.

Above, Pat Clason, a retired BLM employee, volunteers with the Society's oral history program.

PHOTO BY AUTHOR

Left, this beacon light, on display at the Society's "Celebrating Flight" exhibit, is on loan from retired United Airlines pilot Steve Fusco.



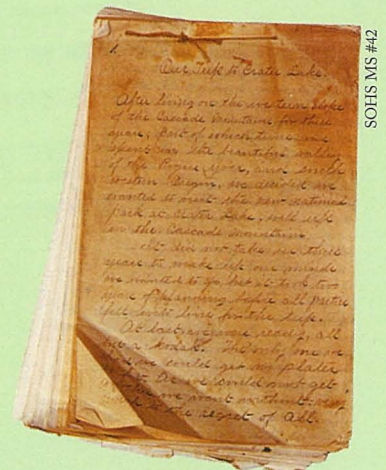
"...I had the best part of this project: being able to meet and talk to all these people"

PAT CLASON, ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM VOLUNTEER

What is "oral history?"

It is difficult to create a concise definition of oral history. In simplest terms, oral histories are collected spoken memories and reflections preserved for future use. Audio or video recordings capture the unique qualities of human speech and mannerisms. The Southern Oregon Historical Society's oral histories are recorded on audio tapes which are then transcribed into unedited text documents. Our collection of approximately seven hundred transcribed interviews captures a broad range of topics reflecting our region's historic, social, artistic, and business cultures. The collection of tapes and transcripts is available through the Society's Research Library.

Consider collecting your own family stories. We each have a unique view of our world that is worthy of being told and retold. For more information, call Jacqueline Leighton, 773-6536, ext. 263.



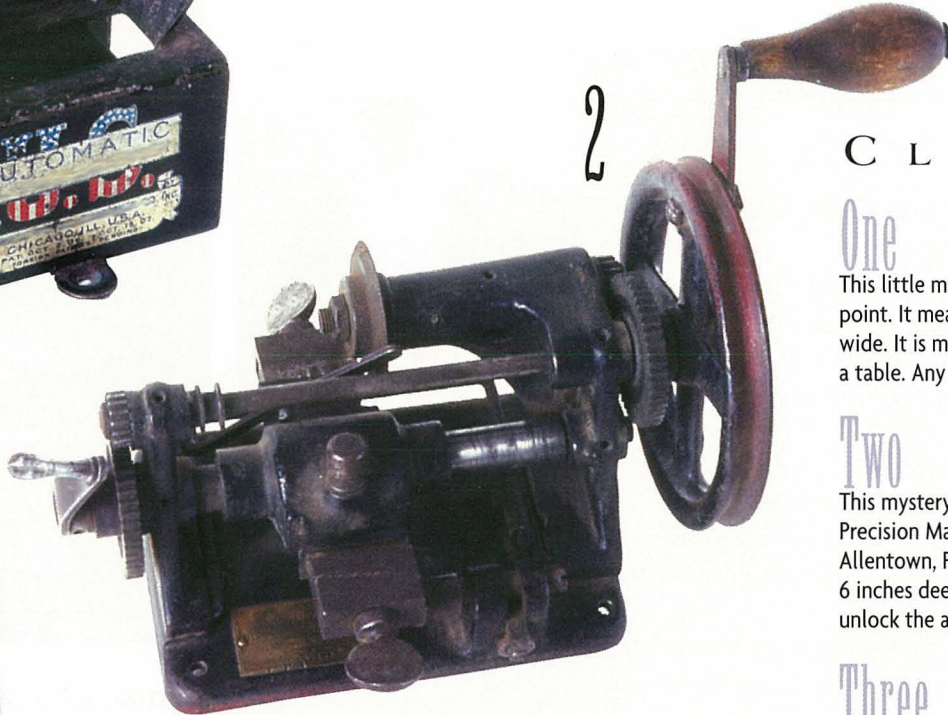
Machines

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

Answers are on the lower right corner of this page.



1



2

CLUES . . .

One

This little machine really could make a point. It measures 5 inches high and 3 inches wide. It is made of metal and was bolted to a table. Any ideas?

Two

This mystery machine was built by the Precision Machine and Tool Co. in Allentown, Penn. It measures 12 inches wide, 6 inches deep, and 5.5 inches high. Can you unlock the answer?

Three

Do you know what task this mechanism performs? When the trigger is released, the plunger pushes forward. Here's a clue: It has something to do with cheese! It measures 3.55 inches tall and 1 inch wide. What is it?

Four

This machine was used on fabric in the home. It is made of black painted and pinstriped cast iron, with two corrugated adjustable cast brass rollers, a wood crank, and two long cast iron slugs to be heated. The object measures 9 inches wide, 7 inches deep, and 10 inches high. What is it and what was it used for?



3



4

1. pencil sharpener 2. key maker
3. camera self-timer 4. ruffle flutter



Exhibitions

History Center

106 N. CENTRAL AVE., MEDFORD

New Exhibit!

OUR WAYS: HISTORY AND CULTURE OF MEXICANS IN OREGON

The Southern Oregon Historical Society proudly announces the opening of a new exhibit this May: "Our Ways: History and Culture of Mexicans in Oregon."

The exhibit, created by the Oregon Historical Society's Folklife Program, highlights many facets of the history and culture of Mexicans in Oregon, over the past four centuries. The exhibit includes samples of Mexican art, such as mosaics, weaving, and beadwork, and illustrates how Mexicans in Oregon contributed to early invention and agriculture.

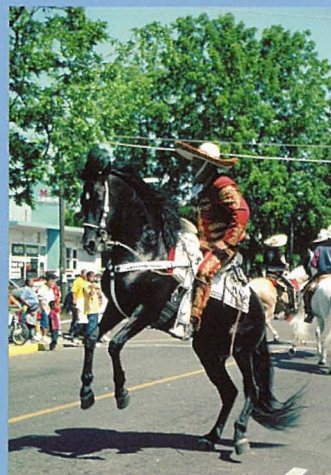
The Mexican presence in Oregon dates to the 1600s with the early Spanish explorers, who introduced mule pack trains and trained Oregon's early buckaroos. In 1821, the northern limit of Mexico's claim was established at the 42nd parallel, the present Oregon/California border. In the past century, Mexican workers help us alleviate the labor shortages brought on by World Wars I and II. Now, Latinos compose more than eight percent of the state's population, with people of Mexican heritage being the largest segment.

"Our Ways" will be on display from May through August. The Society will supplement the Oregon Historical Society's exhibit with artifacts from the local community and our own collection, and with performances and cultural programs by local Hispanic groups.



Dagoberto Morales in traditional Pürepecha clothing holding his hand-woven statue of Virgin of Health.

OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Pedro Muñoz from the Rancho los 3 Potrillos in Mollala, demonstrating horsemanship.

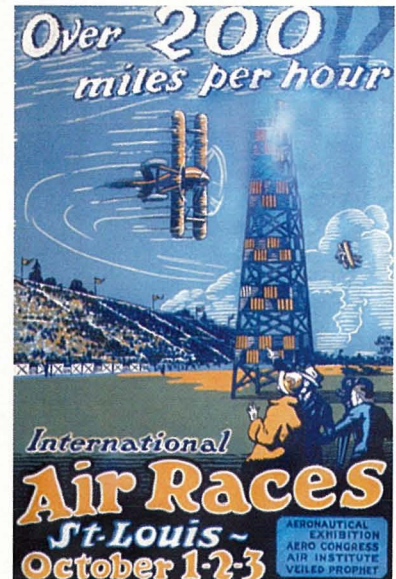
OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Workers picking potatoes, central Oregon, October 1943.

OR HI #73286

CELEBRATING FLIGHT: A HISTORY OF AVIATION IN SOUTHERN OREGON

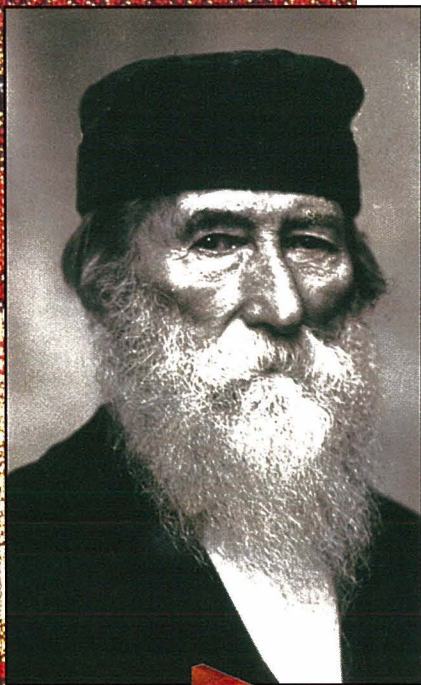
The Society's newest major exhibit, "Celebrating Flight" opened in December to coincide with nationwide centennial celebrations of the Wright Brothers' first powered flight at Betty Hawk. Come see airplanes and models, historic photographs and vintage film clips, a real flight-simulation trainer, oral histories of local aviation pioneers, and much more. Admission by donation; free to members.



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, which continues in the History Center mezzanine.





Peter Britt exhibit coming this summer at the Jacksonville Museum!

Come experience historic Jacksonville through the eyes of photographer and Renaissance man Peter Britt.

Get to know this man of many talents: pioneer photographer, amateur meteorologist, horticulturalist, viticulturalist, and gifted painter.

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 country'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, in addition to Native American artifacts from the State of Jefferson.

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 the lake's 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 President Theodore Roosevelt. See the Crater Lake name and image have been used to sell products ranging from butter to a hospital.

MINER, BAKER, FURNITURE MAKER

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

Children's Museum

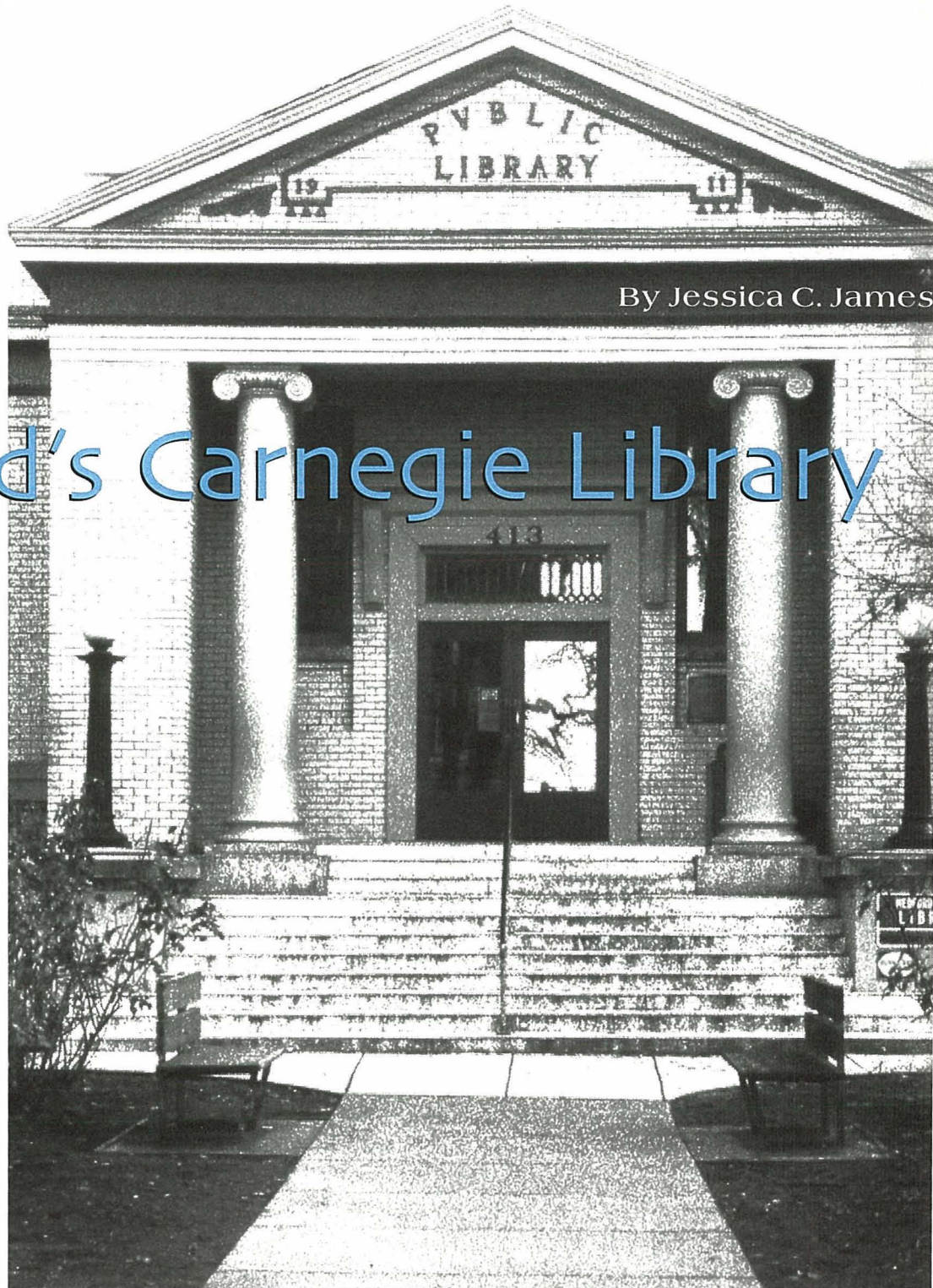
5TH AND C STREETS, JACKSONVILLE

Everyone enjoys exploring the home and work settings from the 1850s to the 1930s through "hands-on-history." Come see the Society's new exhibit, "The Celestials of Golden Mountain," focusing on the history of the Chinese in Southern Oregon.





Medford's Carnegie Library



By Jessica C. James

EDITOR'S NOTE: As the Jackson County Library System prepares to move its main branch out of the downtown Medford Carnegie Library and into a modern new structure a few blocks away, *Southern Oregon Heritage Today* decided to take a look at the origins of the 1912 building. Andrew Carnegie, who became the biggest manufacturer of steel in the United States, and the nation's richest man, was a much-maligned representative of the "robber baron" industrial oligarchy in the early 20th century. By his mid-thirties, however, he had decided to give away a large portion of his wealth, much unlike what Microsoft Corporation founder and CEO Bill Gates has done in recent years. Carnegie eventually became the largest financier of public libraries, and his name is virtually synonymous with cultural philanthropy. In the following article by Jessica James, readers will see how this library went from being a dream in the minds of some Medford residents to a place on the National Register of Historic Places. - JE

Andrew Carnegie



C. C. Beekman

Andrew Carnegie: From Poverty to Riches

Medford's Carnegie Library, "the oldest publicly-owned building that has been in constant use in downtown Medford,"¹ is one of 772 Carnegie libraries in the United States that have been continuously used as a library. It is one of 2,509 public libraries built around the world with money provided by Andrew Carnegie - 1,689 of them in the United States.² But Carnegie didn't start out a wealthy man, or a philanthropist.

Opposite: Carnegie Library today.

PHOTOS BY MAGGIE JAMES

This page: At one time, Andrew Carnegie was the richest man in the world, and he gave much of his wealth to future generations. Cornelius C. Beekman, a local banker, was one of the wealthiest men in Jackson County. Beekman and Carnegie are forever linked through the history of Medford's library.

DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN PORTRAITS
SOHS #9830

In 1848, Andrew Carnegie, then thirteen years old, immigrated with his family to the United States from Scotland. Surrounded by poverty in his younger years, Andrew worked first as a bobbin boy earning \$1.20 a week, later as a telegraph messenger, then as a telegraph operator where, at age seventeen, he was paid \$20 per month.³ With hard work and luck, Carnegie quickly rose to become a man of skill and success. In 1853, Thomas A. Scott, superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad, hired Carnegie as his personal secretary. By 1859, Carnegie had become the railroad's superintendent. He used his earnings to make wise investments in companies such as the Woodruff Sleeping Car Company, predecessor of the Pullman Company.

Eventually, Carnegie entered the steel manufacturing business. He became the world's largest producer of steel, and in 1901 he sold his company to J. P. Morgan for \$480 million, retiring as the richest man in the world. But Carnegie's company, as did many of that era, came to be associated with poor working conditions, low wages and child labor. Though Carnegie once had been a victim of poverty himself, he did little during his early years to better the life of his laborers. A union strike at one of his plants resulted in several deaths and many injuries and the destruction of the union. Carnegie had come to be considered by many in the country as an archetypal "robber baron." His money was "tainted," and many doubted the seriousness of his "good" intentions.

While in his thirties, however, in an essay titled "Wealth," Carnegie publicly announced his that it was his responsibility to use his wealth for the betterment of others. In 1881 Carnegie built his first library, in his hometown of Dunfermline, Scotland. Carnegie himself, in his younger years, had benefited from the goodwill of another man, Colonel James Anderson, who opened his personal library to working boys. In Carnegie's words, Anderson had opened up to him "the intellectual wealth of the world."⁴

C.C. Beekman: the Andrew Carnegie of Jacksonville

In 1850, two years after Carnegie immigrated to America, Cornelius C. Beekman traveled from New York to the Pacific Coast. Recent discoveries of gold drew he and many others westward. Beekman carried "express" (gold dust, parcels, and letters) for Cram Rogers and Company, until it went out of business in 1856. Beekman then bought Cram Rogers' stables and operated his own express route for about seven years. He soon expanded his business to include banking. Beekman's bank was the first in Southern Oregon and, when he opened, was one of only two banks in the entire Oregon Territory (now Oregon and Washington.) In 1863, Beekman moved his business from a building he shared with Dr. C.B. Brooks to its present location at the corner of Third and California streets in Jacksonville. Like Carnegie, Beekman also was an investor. He bought land, sold insurance, was an express man and stagecoach agent, and, at one time, owned the famous Opp Mine. Soon Beekman was one of the wealthiest men in Jackson County.⁵

Like Carnegie, Beekman also was a generous contributor to his community. He gave money for school buildings and Jacksonville's Presbyterian Church, and donated property in Medford for the Episcopal and Presbyterian churches. He was a regent of the University of Oregon and helped to fund prizes for oration contests, and established the Beekman Essay contest for high school graduates. He did so in collaboration with the Oregon Historical Society, which chose historical subjects for the essays.⁶

When C.C. Beekman died in February 1915, he was respected as the most informed local historian in Southern Oregon.⁷ Years earlier, in 1878, he had run for governor of Oregon, losing by just seventy votes.⁸ In 1950, the *Portland Oregonian* noted that Beekman had been one of the state's most influential citizens over the past century.

When Beekman arrived in Jacksonville in the 1850s it was a prosperous mining and trading center, "the leading metropolis in Southern Oregon,"⁹ and the county seat. It was, according to some, "at least as large and of greater business importance than Portland."¹¹ Yet when the Oregon and California Railroad Company connected Southern Oregon to the rest of the nation, the rail line bypassed Jacksonville. Instead of bringing the railroad to the doorsteps of Jacksonville's thriving businesses, and providing the town opportunities for greater economic growth, the Oregon and California Railroad instructed surveyors to place the railroad five miles east of the town. The railroad decided to place its main rail depot where Medford now sits, after being offered 240 acres in the center of the Rogue Valley on ground at the middle ford of Bear Creek. Owners of that land were Conrad Mingus, Charles W. Broback, Iradell J. Phipps, and C. C. Beekman. The land was deeded to David Loring, trustee for the railroad, who surveyed and laid out the town. It was then deeded back to P. P. Prim, serving as trustee for the four original landowners, except for that part of it that was required for the rail line and depot, along with every alternate town block. (The Oregon and Transcontinental Railroad received the alternate blocks.) Prim then deeded the remaining land back to its original owners.¹² The new town, called Medford, was dedicated in the winter of 1883-4.¹³

Soon, the city boasted churches, hotels, livery stables, saloons, and schools. On February 24, 1885 the town was incorporated; its population was 400. By 1900, it had grown to 1,791 and included orchards and packinghouses, a post office, F. Hubbard Agricultural Implements, Haskins Drug Store, banks, homes, and other shops. By 1906, Medford was the commercial hub of the Rogue Valley,¹⁴ and by the end of the decade its population had grown to 8,840,¹⁵ the city had five and a half miles of paved streets, eighteen miles of concrete walks, an opera house, and 350 automobiles.¹⁶



"We need the library now more than ever since we are in danger of submergence in a tide of materialism."

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE, 1911

CITY OF MEDFORD ORIGINAL
TOWNSITE PLAT

SOHS #4809

The *Medford Mail Tribune*, on February 12, 1909, contained an address to the City Council from Mrs. Alford on behalf of the club requesting help in clearing Block 77 so the club could ask Andrew Carnegie for a \$20,000 grant for a library. The water tower that had formerly stood on the land was not used after 1908, and was torn down in 1910.

By 1911 Medford was booming; 20 business blocks and 602 homes were built that year.²³ Ninety-eight buildings were erected within eight blocks of Front and Main streets.²⁴ The *Medford Mail Tribune* stated, "We need the library now more than ever since we are in danger of submergence in a tide of materialism." Not everyone shared the same desire for a Carnegie Library, however. Some criticized Carnegie because he "made his money by exploiting the public."²⁵

Despite some opposition, enough votes were received August 2, 1910, to allow for a tax of one-fifth mill to maintain a Carnegie Library. On December 21, 1910, an application was sent to Andrew Carnegie's secretary, James Bertram, requesting a Carnegie grant of 20,000.²⁶ (Carnegie usually calculated \$2 to \$3 per person when funding libraries.²⁷ For Medford, \$20,000 was computed at \$2 per person, based on a population of 10,000.) Requirements for the Carnegie grants were that the community demonstrate a need for a public library, have a building site, and show tax support of ten percent of the grant amount.²⁸ In January 1911, the application was accepted, dependent upon all stipulations being met.²⁹ The allocation of \$2,000 of the City's budget was approved for the support of a library, and soon a structure of "classic design" was planned for the city park site.³⁰

Local architect J. A. McIntosh drew up the plans for the new library, based on a classic Grecian design, to make one think of literary classics.³¹ On August 24, 1911, Alfred Ivey was granted the contract for construction, for \$19,360.³² After completion, Miss Elizabeth Robinson was appointed the first librarian of the Carnegie Library, and on February 8, 1912, the Medford High School Band played for the dedication of what once was only an inspired dream of the ladies of the Greater Medford Club. W. L. Vawter gave the main address, and Mayor W. H. Cannon formally accepted Medford's Carnegie Library.

Besides providing books for the reading public, the library also provided a meeting room for women, children, and men "with non-political agendas." The basement served as a museum, and housed a collection of stuffed birds from Florida, Cuba, and the Philippines, donated by Dr. Porter.³³ A few years later, in 1919, the Medford Library came under the operation of Jackson County,³⁴ and the library's books became available to the population of the entire county.

Unfortunately, when funding libraries, Carnegie often did not consider the inevitable impacts of population growth; many of his libraries were too small within a few years of their opening.³⁵ Medford shared this dilemma.³⁶ An addition to the

structure was completed in 1952, nearly 40 years after construction.³⁷ The library, it was noted, suffered from overcrowding "by both books and people."³⁸

By 1977, the Jackson County Library Board had decided to tear down the Carnegie Library in order to build a larger building.³⁹ Two years later the board requested that the City of Medford give them the deed for Block 77 as they needed "a more secure hold on the land in order to construct a new library."⁴⁰ The request was granted with a condition that the property ownership revert to the city should the county decide to put the land to a use other than a library.⁴¹ County citizens soon grew divided over the planned demolition of the Carnegie Library. Some favored the removal of the structure, while others, recognizing the building's historic value, resisted its destruction. In 1980, the building was nominated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1981, a bond issue for a new library as well as renovation of the old Carnegie Library failed. The National Register application was approved, and the building continued to be used as the county's central library.⁴² 🏠

Jessica James is a lifelong Southern Oregon Historical Society volunteer and a student at Rogue Community College.



Carnegie Library Facts

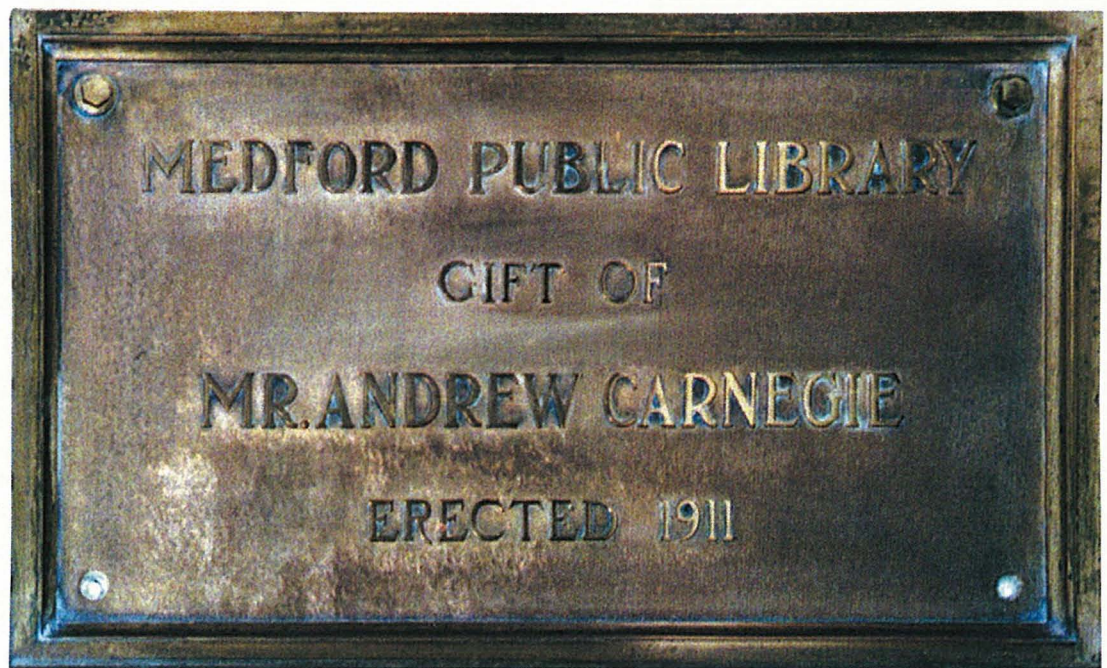
- Between 1881 and 1917, Andrew Carnegie paid for 1,689 public libraries to be constructed within the United States.
- In 1911, Carnegie established the Carnegie Corporation of New York to promote “the advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding.”
- By 1917, Carnegie had given \$68,333,973 for library buildings all around the world. Today, that is equivalent to about \$966 million.
- Thirty-one Carnegie public libraries were established in Oregon.
- Before Carnegie died in 1919, he had given away \$350,695,653.

Opposite: Carnegie Library with attached gazebo, circa 1920.

SOHS #7975

Right: There were only a few public libraries in the world when Carnegie began building them. He built a 2,509 public libraries throughout the english speaking countries in the world.

PHOTO BY DANA L. JACKSON



ENDNOTES

1. 1980, National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination From Medford Carnegie Library.
2. Theodore Jones, *Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy* (Washington, D.C.: Preservation Press, 1997), pp. 2-3.
3. *Ibid*, pp. 5, 105 and 159.
4. *Ibid*, p. 5.
5. *Jacksonville Democratic Times*, 21 February 1874; a list of Jackson County taxpayers who pay upwards of \$50 in taxes.
6. SOHS, Beekman Living History Training Manual.
7. Richard H. Engeman, "Cornelius C. Beekman," Beekman Living History Training Manual.
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9. Southern Oregon Historical Society, *Land in Common: An Illustrated History of Jackson County*, Joy B. Dunn, ed.; 1993; p. 43.
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19. Medford Board of Trustees, 29 August 1889, Vol. 1, p. 244; *Jacksonville Democratic Times*, 5 September 1889, p. 2:3; Medford Water Department Pamphlet 1927.
20. Medford Southern *Oregonian*, 4 April 1908, p. 5:1.
21. *Ibid*.
22. *Ibid*.
23. Wolfe, op. cit.
24. Baker, op. cit.
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27. Jones, op. cit., p. 28.
28. *Ibid*, p. 26.
29. National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination From for the Medford Carnegie Library.
30. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 5 Jan 1911.
31. Wolfe, op. cit.
32. National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination From for the Medford Carnegie Library.
33. Wolfe, op. cit.
34. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 26 October 1979.
35. Jones, op. cit., p. 106.
36. Baker, op. cit., p. 9.
37. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 12 October 1979.
38. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 23 July 1964.
39. George Kramer, "Medford's Carnegie Library," *Table Rock Sentinel*, May/June 1990.
40. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 12 October 1979.
41. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 26 October 1979.
41. Kramer, op. cit.

Jacksonville:

A Village Survives Changing Times

By Carol Harbison-Samuelson

The ravages of time haven't stolen the colorful and romantic history of Jacksonville.

The enduring heritage of the Gold Rush town of Jacksonville has captured the hearts of many over the years. From the early days of the wild mining excitement, to the settlement era and on to the modern era, many have appreciated Jacksonville's village-like atmosphere, with its historic brick buildings and older wooden structures. The muddy trails of Table Rock City (Jacksonville's original name) have disappeared, replaced with tree-lined paved streets, but descriptions of the town written in 1885, 1905, and 1926 might well have been written yesterday.

Mr. J. F. Davis described his trip to Southern Oregon in an article for the *Oregonian*. A portion of this newspaper article regarding Jacksonville appeared in

the *Oregon Sentinel* on Saturday, April 4, 1885. Mr. Davis stated, "A more picturesque place it has scarcely ever been my fortune to behold. It is nestled in a cove at the foot of the hills in an enchanting landscape. The houses are neat and attractive, and the business portion of the place boasts a number of brick buildings, among which are the U.S. Hotel and a commodious courthouse. There are a number of vineyards in the vicinity, which produce grapes equal to any grown in California. Fruit of every variety lines the hills, while from the background overlooking the village is seen the fertile farms of the Rogue Valley spread out like a map below us."



Left, contemporary Jacksonville. Photograph taken from the Jacksonville cemetery.

PHOTO BY DANA L. JACKSON

Right, looking northeast over historic Jacksonville, circa 1883. Note the Courthouse cupola towering over wooden dwellings before city ordinances required brick structures, to withstand fires that burned many older buildings.

SOHS #6152

The same article said, "I must not fail to mention a visit to the beautiful residence of Mr. Britt, where we were kindly shown his rare flowers and shrubbery. I was pleased with the collection in his hothouse, which included some very rare specimens of great beauty, and which do much credit to Mr. Britt's taste and diligence. His orange and lemon trees were laden with fruit, and he kindly cut off a lovely orange with a portion of the branch attached, which I brought home with me as a relic of my visit and proof positive of the claims that have been made for the semi-tropical climate enjoyed by the favored inhabitants of that part of Oregon. I left Jacksonville and its people with regret."

In 1905 the *Rogue River Courier* published an article titled, "Jacksonville, One of Oregon's Old Towns—Pictured by One Who Visited There as a Delightful Place in Which to Live." The last paragraph reads, "We found Jacksonville a town of marked beauty and fine climactic conditions, quite exempt from fogs, making it the ideal place for the health seeker and the lover of nature."

By November 1926 the front page of the *Sunday Oregonian*, published in Portland, dedicated a full page to a story written by Helen Colvig Cook of Jacksonville. The article, titled "Jacksonville Mourns Loss of County Seat and Courthouse," included a photograph of the grand old "Hall of Justice" now known as the Jacksonville Museum. One part of the story begins, "Courtroom Social Center. Not only a hall



of justice has the courtroom served, for being the most imposing and important structure in Southern Oregon, it was used in the past for all the large social and civic gatherings which the town and county had. It has been the scene of famous Fourth of July celebrations and those wonderful pioneer reunions, community Christmas trees, grand balls and even formal weddings. Its old walls have resounded with the eloquence of some of the ablest jurists on the coast, and many a sensational trial has been conducted there. Murderers have listened to their doom and innocent people have been freed within its portals. But no more will the life and stir of intense interest animate its old frame. Its doom is sealed,

and it, too, passes into the limbo of Jacksonville's memories."

One of the last paragraphs in Cook's story may explain why the little town has survived. "Towns, like people, have distinct personality, and Jacksonville attracts with its dignity, its peacefulness and contentment. Out of its hectic early life it has sifted the useless and only retained the things that endure. Things that make life worthwhile, after all. And these it will hand on as a heritage to those who live within its boundaries." 🏠

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

Left, historic Jacksonville in 1896. Original photograph was taken by photographer Peter Britt. Thanks to Britt's skill of keeping records and photographing Jacksonville, an abundance of information shows how Jacksonville has been preserved over many decades.

SOHS #12742A

Right, historic Jacksonville as seen from this circa 1883 view from Peter Britt's home, the current location of the Britt Festivals.

SOHS #13981



OOPS!... In February 1966, this Volkswagen sports car wound up topsy-turvy. Circumstances surrounding the event were not recorded.

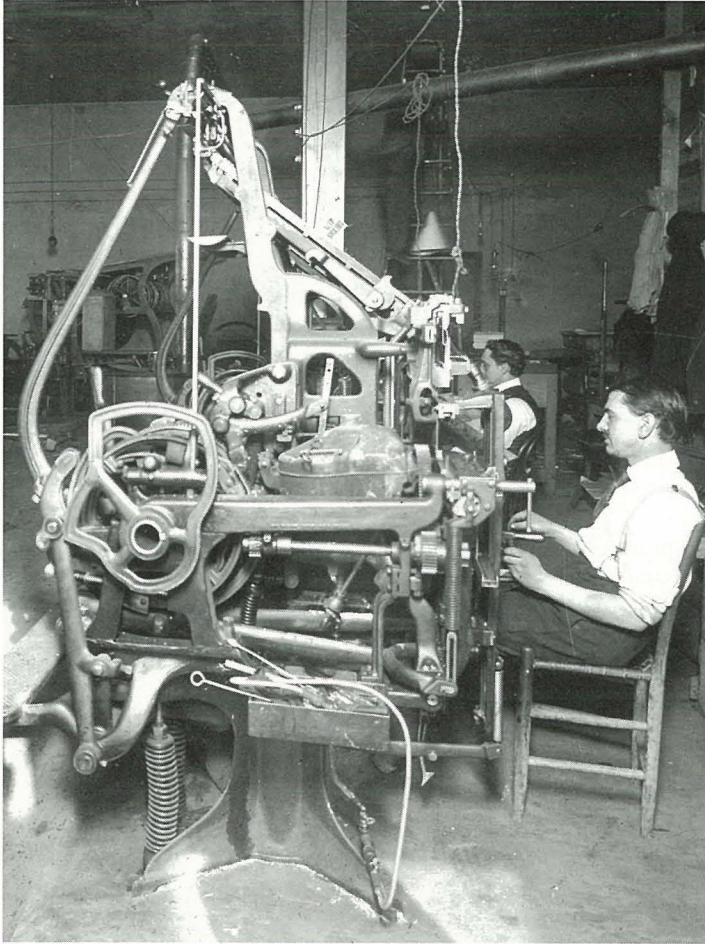
MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE PHOTO,
SOHS #18660



Newspaper Headlines to Turn Your Head...

Collected by William Alley

The following newspaper headlines from the *Medford Mail Tribune* and other newspapers, appeared in print between 1898 and today.



Medford printing press, circa 1915.
SOHS #5911

Drowned Man Dead

Marines Gay as Liner Sails

Trout Do Not Cause Cancer

Bombs in Pants Ruins Business

Normal Head Speaks Friday

Doc Snell Beats Los Angeles Boy

Wyoming Mayors Hit Saloons

Mexican War Alarms Mexicans

Hogan Injured in Fight With Fish

Murdered Painter Appears Alive

Lack of Concern Causes Apathy

Phoenix Horse Commits Suicide

Mouth of Sandy May be Enlarged

Asks Divorce From Hubby She Killed

Augustus Heinze Weds Vampire Girl

Deaf School Head Will Have Hearing

Long Dead Hubby Comes Suddenly Alive

Horse Kicks Man and Dies the Next Day

Cow Attends Church and Creates Trouble

Denver Women Vote for Wet Congressman

Cuts Off Nose So He Can Pay Wife Alimony

Radio Stations Will Now Try Broadcasting

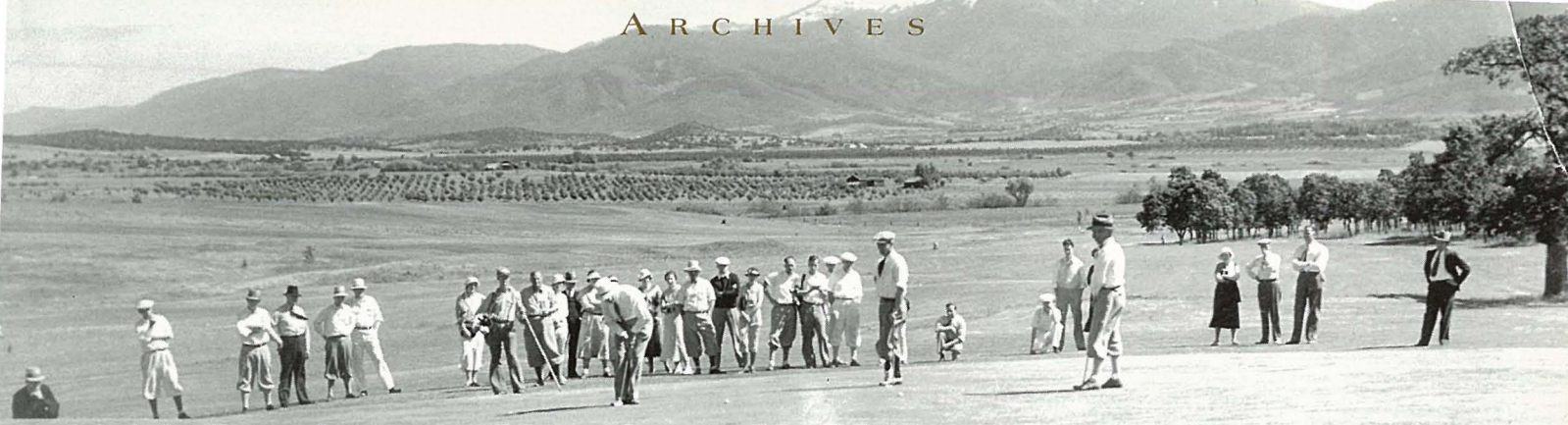
Ashland Also Bans Children Under 16 Years

High Students Signing Up For Early Debates

Death Penalty for Americans Asleep On Job

Man's Finger is Grafted on Nose, Works Perfectly

Cupid Suffering Severe Setback From Depression



1929 Landmark Match in Medford

By William Alley

One of the largest galleries the Rogue Valley Country Club

ever had gathered on November 22, 1928, to enjoy a thrilling round of golf on a picture-perfect afternoon. The featured foursome was made up of two local favorites, amateur champion and course designer Chandler Egan and Jack Hueston, the club's resident professional, pitted against two of the world's best golfers, five-time PGA champion Walter "The Haig" Hagen and U.S. Open champion Johnny Farrell.

According to the play-by-play in the *Medford Mail Tribune*, the match was indeed a close one. The champions held a one stroke lead until the eighth hole, and then regained the lead until the fifteenth, when the local boys again took a one-stroke lead. Hagen's birdie on the eighteenth, however, tied the match at the end. On an individual basis, however, local favorite Chan Egan held the lead, finishing up with a one-under-par 69, followed by Hagen with a 70, Farrell with a 71, and Jack Hueston, the club pro, with 74.¹

A more personal account of this landmark match at the local links can be found in the collections of the Southern Oregon Historical Society. Among those watching from the gallery was Alice McClure Getchell, wife of Delroy Getchell, president of the Farmers and Fruitgrowers

Bank. Mrs. Getchell, her husband, and son Bayard were all avid golfers and members of the club. Mrs. Getchell followed the match, keeping score on her own country club score card, which she mailed later that day, along with her own description of the match, to Bayard, then a student at the University of Washington. This letter and the scorecard (which, by the way, has some minor errors in the scorekeeping) are among the many papers in the Getchell Family/Farmers and Fruitgrowers Bank collection, MS #645.

Alice Getchell's account provides intimate details of the match not found in the pages of the newspaper. "Mr. Hueston 'blew' the first few holes," she wrote her son, "but after he had finished the sixth hole his wife went up to him and said 'You're swinging way around. Snap out of it' and as you can see by the card he played fine golf from then on." She goes on to describe her conversation after the match with Farrell, whom she

describes as "charming," and shares some tips on the proper swing on a tee shot.²

Being a family of enthusiastic golfers, the Getchell family papers contain additional items documenting the history of the Rogue Valley Country Club. All of these items are now preserved in the archives of the Southern Oregon Historical Society. ■

William Alley is a certified archivist and historian.

ENDNOTES

1. *Medford Mail Tribune*, 22 November 1928.
2. Mrs. Delroy Getchell to Bayard Getchell, 22 November 1928, SOHS MS #645, box 5.

Above, Rogue Valley golf course, circa 1929.
SOHS #11877

Below, letter from Mrs. Delroy Getchell to her son, Bayard, and score card, 1928.
SOHS MS #645

ROGUE VALLEY GOLF CLUB

HOLE	YARDS	PAR	BOGEY	HANDICAP	Hagen				Farrell				Hueston				Chan	Wt. L. H.O.
					Self	Partner	Opp.	Opp.	Self	Partner	Opp.	Opp.	Self	Partner	Opp.	Opp.		
①	400	4	5	8	4	4	7	5	10	135	3	3	18	3	2	4	3	
②	320	4	4	16	4	3	5	4	11	375	4	4	11	4	5	4	4	
③	430	4	5	5	4	5	7	4	7	185	3	4	7	3	3	3	4	
④	210	3	4	6	3	3	6	4	14	380	4	5	14	4	5	4	4	
⑤	400	4	5	9	4	4	4	4	3	415	4	5	3	4	5	1	4	
⑥	450	5	5	2	5	5	6	4	15	360	4	4	15	5	5	4	4	
⑦	375	4	4	12	4	4	4	4	13	380	4	5	13	4	4	4	4	
⑧	165	3	3	17	3	4	2	3	10	375	4	5	10	4	4	4	4	
⑨	450	5	5	1	4	4	4	4	4	395	4	5	4	3	4	4	4	
OUT	3200	36	40		35	36	45	36		IN	3000	34	40		34	36	35	3
										OUT	3200	36	40		35	36	45	3
										Total	6200	70	80		69	71	80	5

REPLACE DIVOTS

HANDICAP

NET SCORE

PLAYER _____

ATTESTED _____

DATE _____

This Card measures Six Inches When opened. (Stymie Measure)

MRS. DELROY GETCHELL
1121 SOUTH OAKDALE AVENUE
MEDFORD, OREGON

Dearest son,
This was a beautiful
summer afternoon and
a good big gallery
of "The Haig" and Johnny



PHOTO BY MAGGIE JAMES

Talent Historical Society

By John Morrison

[Editor's Note:

The following speech was presented by John Morrison at the annual membership meeting of the Talent Historical Society. Mr Morrison is the THS president.]

A very warm welcome to you all. And thank you for joining the 2003 Annual Membership Meeting of the Talent Historical Society. The THS Board of Directors holds this meeting each fall. It's our chance to let you know what we have done in the past year, and for you to let us know what you were doing. (...)

As always, we who share a love and appreciation of history and its importance

recognize that, as we gather here, we are looking back not just on one year, but on a hundred years – and a thousand years.

Human history – even Talent's small part of it – is measured in centuries. More than ever, we are aware of being a tiny part of the infinite sweep of time when we move from one day – one year – one century – to another.

As I look to the future, I have no doubt that the one certainty we all face is change – and the pace of that change will only seem to increase. This is true for all of us – young and old.

On my mother's eighty-fifth birthday last week I was struck by how the inevitability of change affects us all, and how different my mother's early years were compared with those of my children.

For many of this new generation the future is a source of excitement, hope and challenge. For others, however, the future is a cause of understandable anxiety.

There are many of my age – or the age of the majority of us here today – who worry that this fast-paced world is leaving them behind. The sheer rate of change seems to be sweeping away so much that is familiar and comforting. But I do not think that we should be over-anxious. And certainly not fatalistic.

We *can* make sense of the future – if we recognize, preserve, understand, and share the lessons of the past. I'm sure we have all heard the saying, "Those who fail to learn from the past are doomed to repeat it." England's notable Prime Minister Winston Churchill, taking a more positive view, said, "The further backward you look, the further forward you can see."

It is within this context, then, that we must persevere in the vital works of the Talent Historical Society and others like it around our valley and across the nation.

Local historical societies are the cornerstone in shaping a coherent and accurate historical record. They collect the grassroots materials from which the great narrative of human and natural events is framed. They collect transactions of public bodies, local histories, memoirs and personal observances of all kinds, vital statistics, laws, ordinances, public debates and discussions, works of literature and journalism, however humble, records of political and commercial activity, the arts and culture. (...)

Written history is always a product of the writer's talent,

research, study and, yes, perspective. Yet it is in many ways just as much the result of the hard work of historical societies such as ours as they preserve and protect the archival trail of human history, locale by locale.

It is here, by persons such as yourselves, that the varied strands of our shared history are woven together – that we can more effectively address the challenges and opportunities ahead, bringing the lessons of the past to bear on the aspirations for a better future.

Yes, we know that history does not protect us from all current and future folly. But this tragic failure does not take from us history's essential importance – that we draw from our history affirmation of those constant and unchanging values which have stood the test of time and experience.

Fairness and compassion, justice and tolerance, heroism and self-sacrifice – these are the landmarks from the past which can guide us – all of us – through the years ahead.

These timeless values tell us above all about the way we should relate to people rather than to things – thinking of others, not just of ourselves.

In the past year we have seen our local historical societies come under assault by those who would dismiss the value of our work and take from us the resources to get it done.

Through the efforts of the Southern Oregon Historical Society, and that of all the other local societies and most especially the outspoken leadership of our own THS Past President Lynn Newbry, all was not lost. Through a compromise with the Jackson County Board of Commissioners, we will, for the present at least, receive continued, though greatly reduced, funding.

This, then, is our challenge for the future and more specifically the coming year. It means we must change the way we operate. We no longer have the luxury of a stable source of income. We must donate more time, more energy and more creativity to finding ways to fund our mission.

We must – each and every one of us – at every opportunity – impress upon those we meet the importance of the preservation of Talent's history, and the ways they might help. (...)

Despite the funding difficulties with the county, it has been a good and productive year. We have seen the arrival of new members, a new executive director, presented or sponsored a number of excellent programs, and completed a much-needed reorganization of our offices.

We have also taken a role as a partner in the city's Civic Center Design process, which will result in the THS eventually finding a new beautiful permanent home in the new Civic Center.

But we need your ideas and direction in shaping a new future for our historical society. When an idea comes to you on how we might do something better, call us – call me – and we'll get to work on it. If you have extra time, we can always use volunteers. We need new members. If you have an idea on how we can attract more, share it with us. And then, by next year, we'll have a "historic" success story to tell you that we have all shaped.

So with that let me once again say thanks for being here, let's enjoy the rest of the program. ■



Honorary Lifetime

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent L. Armstrong, *Medford*
Francis and Mary Cheney, Ben B. Cheney
Foundation, *Tacoma, WA*
Robertson E. Collins, *Jacksonville*
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Heffernan, *Medford*
Ms. Jean W. Jester, *Sandy*
Marjorie O'Hara, *Ashland*
Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Rowlett, *Ashland*
Mrs. Mary Tooze, *Portland*

Lifetime

Kay and Al Alsing, *Ashland*
Connie Battaile, *Ashland*
Bruce and Vicki Bryden, *Medford*
Mary Delsman, *Riverside, CA*
David & Gladys Fortmiller, *Talent*
Patricia Cook Harrington, *Central Point*
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. DeArmond, *Central Point*
Judi Drais, *Medford*
Yvonne Earnest, *Medford*
Mr. and Mrs. H. Walter Emori, *Jacksonville*
Gladys A. Fortmiller, *Talent*
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gardner, *Canyon City*
Mr. and Mrs. John Hamlin, *Medford*
Mr. Tom Hamlin, *Medford*
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hight, *Medford*
Mr. Robert A. Johnson, *Medford*
Edward B. Jorgenson, *Medford*
Robert L. Lewis, *Jacksonville*
Dr. Eugene I. Majerowicz, *Los Angeles, CA*
Alice Mullaly, *Central Point*
Zoe Dell Nutter, *Xenia, OH*
Ram Offset Lithographers, *White City*
Marilyn L. Sibley, *Gold Hill*
Davis Young, *Medford*

New & Rejoining

DECEMBER 1, 2003 - FEBRUARY 29, 2004

LIFETIME • \$2,500

Zoe Dell Nutter, *Xenia, OH*

HISTORIAN CIRCLE • \$1,000

Brian & Janice Griffith, *Medford*

CURATOR • \$200

Stanley Stark, *Medford*

BUSINESS • \$250

David Greenhalgh, *Minuteman Press, Medford*

PATRON • \$100

Linda & Thomas Basgen, *Medford*
Lindsay Berryman, *Medford*
Willard Brown & Judith Ginsburg, *Ashland*
Jacksonville Booster Club, *Jacksonville*
Jeannine Cantrall, *Jacksonville*
Dr. Mario & Edie Campagna, *Medford*
Bernie & Shirley Croucher, *Jacksonville*
Bill Dickey, *Portland*
Pat Fahey, *Grants Pass*
Robert & Barbara Fasel, *Medford*
Norma Garrison, *Medford*

Reeve & Lyn Hennion, *Jacksonville*
Steve & Sandy Hess, *Medford*
John Holmes, *Bellevue, WA*
Gerald Latham, *Medford*
Mike & Mary Mahar, *Medford*
Dr. Robert & Heather McIntyre, *Medford*
Katherine Olsen, *Jacksonville*
John & Nadine Purcell, *Ashland*
Betty Root, *Medford*
Stephen & Mary Ryder, *Medford*
Steven & Sharon Swartsley, *Medford*
William & Angela Thorndike, *Medford*
Tom Treger & Ruth Rabinovitch, *Medford*
Sam Whitford & Kurt Bernhardt, *Ashland*
Harriet Winton, *Medford*
Colette & Allan Wright, *Medford*
Robert & Marcia Zellman, *Jacksonville*

PATRON/PIONEER • \$100

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R. A. & W. J. Herndobler, *Ashland*
Victoria & Curtis Hinsley, *Flagstaff, AZ*
John & Pam Sanderson, *Henderson, NV*
David & Kathleen Thompson, *Jacksonville*
Ron & JoAnne Weatherford, *Salem*
Charles Wiley, *Medford*
Donald & Patricia Wright, *Los Altos, CA*

FAMILY • \$50

Joyce & Harry Abrams, *Cave Junction*
Alan & Kelly Joy Anderson, *Medford*
Paula & Robert Assali, *Medford*
Frank Bash, *Austin, TX*
Robert & Bonnie Beall, *Hillsboro*
Richard & Mary Boucher, *Jacksonville*
Carolyn & Katherine Brafford, *Ashland*
Paula Brown & Patrick Flannery, *Ashland*
Leo & Nancy Champagne, *Ashland*
David & Wendy Close, *Medford*
Richard Cottle, *Ashland*
Jon & Gini Deason, *Medford*
Mary Ellen DeLuca, *Talent*
John & Anne Dennehy, *Medford*
Grocery Outlet, *Medford*
Marianne Fuller, *White City*
Philip & Shirley Gates, *Talent*
Duane & Jan Gleaves, *Medford*
Sarah & Warren Hagen, *Ashland*
Don & Cory Hamann, *Butte Falls*
Lois Harrison, *Medford*
Patt Herdklotz & Kim Yasutake, *Ashland*
Ernest & Patricia Himmelman, *Prospect*
Ralph & Margaret Hunkins, *Talent*
Edward & Ruth Jolly, *Medford*
Dr. Robert & Marilyn Kaufman, *Medford*
Jim & Dona Key, *Medford*
Kim Kezer & Bill Kezer Family, *Medford*
Yvonne Kitchen, *Talent*
Harvey & Liz Koester, *Medford*
Michael & Melissa Kroeker, *Quincy, CA*
Peter & Natalie Lastiwka, *Medford*
Kathleen Leary & Fredrick Schneider, *Ashland*
Winston & Cynthia Lora, *Medford*
Henry Martin, *Grants Pass*
Jerry & Nell Mathern, *Jacksonville*
Tim & Maggie McCartney, *Ashland*
Warren & Audrey Merz, *Jacksonville*
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Sheila & Steve Mullins, *Ashland*
W. B. & Marie Myers, *Medford*
Al & Nancy O'Connor, *Medford*
Norman & Ellen Oldson, *Medford*
Mac & Peggy Peffley, *Jacksonville*
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Jill & Tim Price, *Medford*
Lynn Putnam, *Medford*
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Karl & Helen Slack, *Ashland*
Michael Smith & Nora Leestma, *Gold Hill*
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Dick & Midge Thierolf, *Ashland*
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Jerry & Nancy McGrew, *Jacksonville*
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Shiena & Culley Polehn, *Medford*
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Evan & Dorothy Pruitt, *Central Point*
Dr. John & Betty Jo Reynolds, *Ashland*
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Sheila & Warren Straus, *Jacksonville*
Steven & Jocie Wall, *Jacksonville*
William & Patricia Walls, *Central Point*
Wayne & Erlene Wyatt, *Central Point*

INDIVIDUAL • \$35

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Michael Burrill Sr., *Medford*
Amanda Casserly, *Ashland*
Cindy Coash, *Phoenix*
Dana & Pat Collins, *Medford*
Joan Collins, *Ashland*
James Corcoran, *Mill Creek*
John Cova, *Grants Pass*
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John Crawford Jr., *Portland*
Bernice Curler, *Central Point*
Margaret Deuel, *Medford*
Laura & Dr. Kent DeYarman, *Central Point*
Dorothy & Robert DeYoung, *Medford*
Pauline Dickey, *Medford*
Larry Diltz, *Medford*
Viola Donahue, *Rogue River*
William & Jean Dreher, *Medford*
Charles Eckels Jr., *Jacksonville*
Kathleen Everitt, *Shady Cove*
Thomas Foster III, *Ashland*
Peter Gandesbery, *Ashland*
Kathleen Garton, *Sunriver*
Karl Geidans, *Medford*
Steven Gillispie, *Seattle, WA*
Claudia Gillispie, *Renton, WA*
Dr. Susan Marie Gleason, *West Covina, CA*
Gene Gressley, *Jacksonville*
Patricia Grieves, *Medford*
Joyce & Ron Hailicka, *Butte Falls*
Ann Hamilton, *Medford*
Joan Handwerk, *Medford*
Merle & Marie Harper, *Trail*
Hank & Dodie Hart, *Medford*
Alice Hatch, *Rogue River*
Carroll Hauptert, *Medford*
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Dale & Judith McCay, *Medford*
Alice McGee, *Jacksonville*
Susan Milburn, *Talent*
SOACC, *Talent*
Norman Misk, *Jacksonville*
Virginia Morgan, *Medford*
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Nancy & Neil Murphy, *Grants Pass*
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Jack & Virginia Paine, *Gold Hill*
LaDonna Parson, *Medford*
Joe & Stephanie Peterson, *Ashland*
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Donna Roberts, *Gresham*
Norman & Barbara Roduner, *Klamath Falls*
Florence Rohrs, *Shady Cove*
Dorothea Schulz, *Jacksonville*
Sylvia Sue Scott, *Medford*
Linda Scovill, *Jacksonville*
William & Jean Seibert, *Medford*
Vera Sherman, *Medford*
Fran Short, *Central Point*
Sue Smead, *Medford*
Robert & Sallie Smith, *Ashland*
John Statler, *Medford*
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Membership Matters!



Dear Friends,

The Southern Oregon Historical Society is a member-supported organization, and as you can see from the long list of donors on this and the adjoining page, SOHS members have been very generous indeed in recent months. Several hundred people have joined or renewed their membership, and 115 of you responded to our Annual Contributors Fund appeal for an additional donation.

Your contributions were put to work immediately, helping to fund the Children's Heritage Fair, the development of new exhibits at the Jacksonville Museum and History Center, coordination of National History Day local events, and ongoing collections and cataloguing efforts.

Without your support, the Southern Oregon Historical Society would not be able to keep history alive in these various and dynamic ways. Thank you! As always, if you have feedback or suggestions on how the Society can serve our members more effectively, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Richard Seidman

Development/Membership Coordinator

Become a member!

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Continued from page 20.

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The Collections

Thank you to the many people and organizations who have contributed to the collections over the last three months.

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In Memoriam

Longtime SOHS supporter Hank Henry passed away in December. Born Charles Allen Henry, Jr., on February 16, 1923, in Fort Worth, Texas, he is survived by his wife of forty-nine years, Nora and his three children and five grandchildren. An ex-Marine and lifelong broadcaster, Henry joined KMED-TV as a television newsman and commentator. In 1982, he was elected Jackson County Commissioner. He retired twelve years later.

Children's Heritage Fair

By Stephanie Butler

Your contributions are hard at work.

For the past 19 years, thousands of fourth graders, their teachers and chaperones have traveled to historic Jacksonville to attend the Southern Oregon Historical Society's premiere hands-on educational program, the Children's Heritage Fair.

.....
Annually, Heritage Fair teaches Southern Oregon history and culture to about 2,500 Jackson County fourth graders.

For four, action-packed weeks, buses arrive at the Jacksonville Museum, the Children's Museum, the historic Beekman House and the Jacksonville Cemetery at 9 a.m. to begin a half-day event in which local history comes alive.

Activities include panning for gold, searching the cemetery to learn about some of Jacksonville's earliest residents, grinding wheat or having a one-on-one conversation with "Mrs. Beekman." She interprets her family's overland journey to Oregon, and life with C.C. Beekman, Jacksonville's first banker.

Each activity provides an opportunity for children to interact with one another and costumed interpreters, volunteer guides and staff as the children absorb the rich cultural and social history of their forbears in Southern Oregon.

Tom Smith, cultural interpreter for the Society, interprets Native American history and culture through storytelling and interactive demonstrations of flintknapping and acorn grinding. Smith says, "You can't go forward without knowing where you came from." This philosophy is the foundation of the Children's Heritage Fair and sums up the benefits of continuing to support and offer this kind of educational program to our community. It also means that the Southern Oregon Historical Society has helped to educate nearly fifty thousand children about their ancestors and their community's history in the past two decades. 🍷

Stephanie Butler is the Society's education and programs coordinator.



Hanley Farm and Beekman Living History Program Reopening this Summer!



Starting in June, historic Hanley Farm will reopen to the public over the summer months. In a new program called "First Weekends at Hanley Farm," the farm and farm house will be open with public programming on the first weekends in June, July, August and September. Wagon rides, house and barn tours, children's games and other events will be planned throughout the summer.

One of the Society's most popular programs, and a strong tourist draw for the town of Jacksonville, the Beekman Living History program takes visitors back in time to show them what life was like for the region's early settlers.



"FIRST SUNDAYS" IN JACKSONVILLE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE!

Join the Society to celebrate our local history as we introduce a new program to thank our supporters when the **C. C. Beekman house**, the **Jacksonville Museum** and the **Children's Museum** are **open free** of charge on the first Sunday of each month from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.

Available for Special Occasions

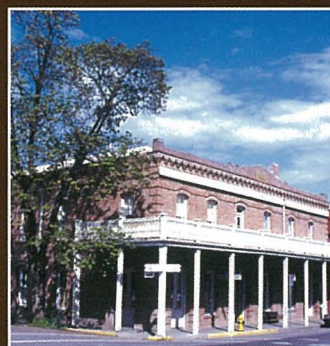
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Southern Oregon Historical Society Mission: to collect, preserve, research, and interpret the artifacts and documents that connect us to the past. Through exhibitions, historic sites, a research library, educational programs, publications, and outreach, the Society creates opportunities to explore the history that has shaped Southern Oregon.



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