

# THE SOUTHERN OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY



MAKING HISTORY TOGETHER

## BELLY UP TO THE BAR, BOYS! SALOON CULTURE IN EARLY JACKSONVILLE

By Carolyn Kingsnorth

An undeniable “fact” of the 19th Century is that where there were gold miners, there were saloons. Gold rush Jacksonville reputedly had as many as 36 saloons as entrepreneurs followed the miners to the fledgling town after the discovery of gold in the winter of 1851-52. That figure more likely represented the number of drinking establishments in the entire county, in the days when every remote store and trading post also offered a barrel of cheap whiskey.

[This is misleading. I’m going to send an e-mail to Carolyn suggesting clarification.]

By the summer of 1852, over 3,000 prospectors were claiming and excavating every creek bed in the region. And less than two months after James Clugage and James Poole publicized their Daisy Creek gold claim, Appler & Kenney, packers from Yreka, had opened a tent trading post catering to this “eruption of miners.” Appler & Kenney’s “bazaar” maintained a



SOHS 01937

*Jacksonville's Marble Corner Saloon about 1910. During the gold rush era, the saloon with its papered walls, mirrors and expensive decor was the grandest place many young men had ever seen.*

minimal stock of tools, clothing and tobacco, and a liberal supply of whiskey per A.G. Walling’s History of Southern

Oregon— “not royal nectar, perhaps, but nevertheless the solace of the miner in heat and cold, in prosperity or in adversity.”

W.W. Fowler constructed the community’s first building near the head of Main, the only street in the embryo city. It was a canvas-topped log house, probably a store or saloon. Mining

*(Continued on page 2)*

*Bottles from the SOHS collection. In early days only the finest whiskeys were shipped in bottles. Saloons either served directly from the cask, or bottle shaped decanters to fill glasses.*



*Masthead: George Wright, one of the great Southern Oregon yarn tellers featured in this issue..*



SOHS Photo

## A DRINKING MAN'S TOWN

One of Jacksonville's oldest existing commercial structures, dating from 1860, was a saloon. In the early 1880s Jacksonville was still a wide-open town, with no less than eleven saloons and a brewery still in operation—twice the number of drinking houses as comparably sized rival Ashland. But times were changing. By 1898, only the brewery and four other drinking establishments, including the Marble Corner and the Table Rock, appear on Sanborn maps. By 1910 the brewery had closed, but the saloons held on. However, with the coming of Prohibition ten years later, all public sales of alcoholic drinks ended.



*The Table Rock Billiard Saloon, shown at upper left, dates to 1860 and is among the oldest surviving structures of early Jacksonville. Map shows distribution of Jacksonville saloons in 1883.*

### Saloon Culture (Continued from page 1)

camps tended to last only as long as the promise of gold, so it's unlikely Fowler would have invested money in a place to live.

According to Walling, "Saloons [soon] multiplied beyond necessity; monte and faro games were in full blast, and the strains of music lured the 'honest miner'... into many a dangerous place where he and his money were soon parted." By March of 1852, Miller's & Wills' "round tent" was the miners' destination of choice. The tent was a combination of saloon and gambling hall. Monte was the principal game, easily understood and patronized by seventy-five percent of the population.

The influx of miners was followed by gamblers, courtesans, and con men of every kind, "the class that struck prosperous mining camps like a blight."

Their favorite place of activity was the most notorious landmark in the early mining community—the El Dorado Saloon. By late spring of 1852, this wooden structure occupied the corner of California and Oregon streets. Stories of murders, prostitution, gambling, theft, and the like surrounded the El Dorado until its demise by fire in 1874.

Flanking the El Dorado was a conglomeration of frame buildings, sheds, and outbuildings including a bakery. As early as the mid-1850s, the Table Rock Bakery not only sold baked goods but also provided space for a butcher shop, groceries, and supplies. In 1860, Herman Helms and John Wintjen razed their old wooden bakery building and constructed the brick Table Rock Saloon.

The saloon was also Southern Oregon's

first museum. Helms collected fossils and oddities to attract a clientele that stayed for his lager. For many years the saloon functioned as an informal social and political headquarters, home to business deals, court decisions, and even trials.

Across Oregon Street, where the Orth Building now stands, were at least two more saloons. The Palmetto Bowling Saloon was in operation no later than 1853, providing weary prospectors with a lively combination of recreation and relaxation. It was sold in November of that year along with its assemblage of mirrors, tables, benches, lamps, decanter, and stove and renamed the New England Bowling Saloon. Neighboring it was the two-story Classical Revival-style Beard's House. Supposedly built in 1852, it also housed the original Eagle Brewery, later renamed the City Brewery and operated by Viet Schutz, one of the many German-speaking settlers. It's mentioned as early as March of 1852.

When John Orth razed these properties in 1872 to make way for his modern two-story brick building, the *Democratic Times* particularly lamented the loss of the City Brewery. However, by 1856 Viet Schutz had constructed the largest brewery in Jacksonville on west California Street just below the current Britt Gardens. In addition to the brewery, it featured a bar and elaborate dance hall. In 1874, prominent attorney Colonel Robert Aubrey Miller wrote the following:

*"Oh! Dear Walter, I like to recall  
The pleasure we had at Viet Schutz  
hall..  
The fun that we had I'll never forget  
Nor will I ever those days regret...."*

A second Eagle Brewery named after its predecessor was in operation as early as 1856 two blocks south on Oregon Street. Joseph Wetterer, a native of Baden, Germany, had acquired the property and by 1857 added the Eagle Saloon. The New State Billiard and Drinking Saloon was also in

(Continued on page 3)



## Saloon Culture (Continued from page 2)

existence—a long-lived Jacksonville drinking establishment located for many years at the corner of California and South 3rd streets where Redmen's Hall now stands.

By 1858, the Franco-American Hotel was operating at the southeast corner of Oregon and Main. It soon became the leading hotel, bar, and stage stop in Jacksonville, noted for its "table d'hôte," and attracting a regular clientele of miners, residents, and travelers. It was one of many hotels...and virtually every hotel had a bar.

In 1863 Cornelius Beekman moved his banking and express office to the

northwest corner of California and 3rd streets. The Express Saloon then occupied Beekman's former location, catercorner across the street. The saloon closed in 1868 but was soon replaced by another saloon, the Pioneer Bit House. Following the 1874 fire that destroyed much of the south side of California Street, another saloon and variety store occupied the space.

From 1864 to 1871 a saloon known as the Bella Union existed on the site of the current Bella Union Restaurant and Saloon. Operated by Prussian native Henry Breitbarth, it offered its customers billiards and liquors.

By the 1890s, the corner of California and North Oregon housed the Marble Corner Saloon, presumably named for

the marble works located across Oregon Street. Featuring a marble-tiled entry, the saloon served city patrons until well into the 20th Century.

Other saloons, bars, and breweries have come and gone in the interim, many of them victims of Prohibition.

Now a different kind of gold reigns, and Jacksonville has become the "Gateway to the Applegate Wine Region" with wine and beer tasting rooms and saloons proliferating, most restaurants having a bar, and several wineries and tasting rooms located within a mile of town.

The more things change, the more they stay the same....

## THE TRAVAILS OF WHISKEY

*"Then he got out his bottle of whisky and said that whether he lived or died he would never touch another drop.."*

*Roughing It, Mark Twain*

Whiskey was considered an essential drink in the Far West. Large quantities were shipped to San Francisco on sailing vessels in the 1850s, forwarded to Crescent City and other ports, eventually reaching Jacksonville on muleback. An account of an Indian raid on a mule train headed for Jacksonville from Crescent City in 1855 took note of the loss of two casks of the precious liquid.

The best grades of whiskey, aged in oak barrels, originated in Scotland and Kentucky and sold for twice the cost of more ordinary fare. But even this was often blended or "rectified," and the work of rectifiers was taken for granted. A tongue-in-cheek account of such tampering was reported in the Jacksonville *Sentinel* in the early 1860s under the title "Rot Gut." It explained that "in



*Harper's Weekly, March 1876*

*Whiskey loomed large in the 1870s because of a nationwide tax-fraud scheme that went all the way to the White House. This Thomas Nast cartoon portrays a disheveled Uncle Sam, with a barrel tap in hand, promising to probe the matter to "the very bottom."*

Cincinnati whiskey was being rectified with the aid of "of tobacco, soapsuds, arsenic, strychnine, and several other palatable ... ingredients ... which rectified article is declared to be decidedly superior to the original." Hyperbole notwithstanding, the addition of ingredients such as pepper, caramel and prune

and tobacco juice was a highly developed art form. A popular instruction book of this period explained how a judicious blend of pepper and other ingredients could do away with the curing process entirely.

Thinning whiskey with water, sometimes by as much as 50%, was a common practice of dealers and saloon owners.

Whiskey also was the occasion for grand scale tax graft. The issue came to a head with the exposure of a nationwide "Whiskey Ring" in the mid-eighteen seventies. Investigators learned that almost fifteen percent of the taxable revenue from whiskey production was being diverted into political coffers.

Though efforts were made to sell whiskey as a "ladies' drink," there were few followers, and the majority of women eventually aligned with the temperance movement, which led to prohibition of of whiskey sales in 1918.

# GEORGE WRIGHT'S LEGACY

by Pat Harper

George Wright, who lived from 1896 to 1981, left a legacy in writing. Hundreds of thin volumes of his writings dating from the 1930s into the 1960s, penciled on brown shopping bags and meticulously sewn together, were recently donated to the Southern Oregon Historical Society Research Library and are currently being transcribed by volunteers.

Wright was a man of many skills. He worked as a rancher who raised horses, cows, and pigs. He was sometimes a range rider and/or a deputy sheriff. George was also a writer, an occasional poet, a sociable man, a thoughtful man, and a friend to many people. His interest in guns perhaps exceeded his need for them, and he was a staunch believer that "guns didn't kill people, people did."

Although George's parents lived just south of the California border near Camp Creek, his father had also acquired Oregon property at Cold Spring Flat, through a preemption land claim. George frequently ran away from home to stay with his Uncle John Wright on the Oregon property. In the sixth grade, George quit school and moved permanently to Cold Springs, even though his father wanted him to become more educated. In later life George said, "People ask me today if I'm sorry I didn't go to school and get an education. I tell 'em I didn't need an education for what I wanted to do."

George's education came from relatives and friends, and he read and listened to radio. A surprising number of guests traveled to Cold Spring for business, for agate hunting, and just for visits. George's journals prior to 1942 covered mostly news of his neighbors and his daily chores, such as caring for horses,



SOHS 20992

George Wight displays the No. 6 Newhouse trap that was used in a failed attempt to capture the notorious grizzly known by local ranchers as "Reelfoot."

killing rattlesnakes, and selling livestock.

Although his records of births, deaths and marriages were usually just factual, when Mrs. A. B. Madero passed away, he noted that "with her passing we have lost a good friend and neighbor."

Beginning in 1942, George devoted his journals to war news. He rarely recorded his opinions, but this was his April 20, 1943, entry: "Just 54 years ago today a son-of-a-bitch by the name of Adolf Hitler was born and I hope he is in Hell by this time next year." In 1978, just three years before his death, George was interviewed for a Forest Service publication called Six Interviews. The following excerpts are quoted from the transcript. George's phrases may be considered inappropriate by today's standards, but they convey his voice and thoughts.

Indians: I felt sorry for 'em, they weren't treated right, they were treated horrible

by the white man, and I guess most of the trouble, a good big part of it anyway, was caused by the white man. In them days a white man lived with a squaw he was just a squawman, he's a good guy, but he's just a squawman. The squaw wasn't looked down on, she was a squaw and people thought nothing about it, but if it was a white woman then hell's to pay, all the rest of the women in the country would jump on this one white woman, but a squaw they didn't pay any attention to. . . .

Now my aunt, Aunt Ida, who I was talking about praying for the Indians, half Indians, they look like Indians, but they're only half. My aunt married Fred Frain...He was a Shasta...they wasn't welcome at a dance or gatherin's or anything. . . . None of the Indians, and of course he was classed as an Indian.

This is Shasta [Indian] Country, more or less. Up to the top of the mountain, Siskiyou Summit or whatever, probably the line. 'Cause the Shastas and the Rogues had a meeting place somewhere up on the summit—on the Siskiyou. They met and traded. It's right on top, within a few yards from the top. It's right along close to the old stage road. As near as I could tell by riding over the highway, Interstate 5, why it goes over right pretty close to the old stage road.

The Rogues and the Shasta fought some. They didn't get along. 'Specially the Shastas, and the Modocs. The Shastas was a peaceful set of Indians—you didn't have much trouble with 'em.

Old Kitty Ward: She married, well, she lived with a white man. Used to be a big cattle man, he had plenty of money, everything. Somebody get sick, why she was right there to take care of them, help anybody. Good hearted, gave everything she had. Put a pack on her back and go out and gather acorns, guess she naturally had to do it every year. But they had plenty, they didn't have to do that. She was an old-timer, she had tattoos on her chin. Three lines.

(Continued on page 4)





Undated sketch of George Wright in the SOHS Archives.

#### George Wright (Continued from page 4)

They called 'em hundred an' eleven. They had three marks here and they called them a hundred an' eleven Indians. The women was the only ones with tattoos you know. The Indians were treated bad by the white man. You hear nowadays on the radio and the newspaper what a great country we got and how we made the country and all that stuff, but actually it did belong to the Indians.

Religion: ...never belonged to a church, never been to a church in my life....I think, well, hell, what can a church do for me?... we all have rules and beliefs, including myself. ...I try to picture things and have certain kind of beliefs, my own invention. Whether it's soul, or whether there's anything or not, I couldn't say.

Evolution: I believe in evolution and I

find a lot of people that do. I can't explain it, I'm not educated, I never went to school much....I guess people were pretty dumb at one time. They just crawled around maybe and ate bark and weeds and stuff. Finally they got to figure out that maybe they could take a rock or something and bust open a clam open on it. Finally they got to using their fingers; and as their fingers developed they had to think. Their brains developed and so it just kept a-goin' up 'til now, slowly but surely, to what we are now, and that isn't saying an awful lot ...

Climate Change: I can see a small change in the climate, the weather patterns and so forth....A thousand years from now I'll see a bigger change and there'll be a bigger change. It'll be ten times more change than I've seen now.

In later life George was known as "The Mayor of Agate Flat," according to his friend Sharon Olson. She described him as "a tall, thin man with a hawk-like nose and eagle eyes that bored through you." She wrote, "Once he

told me, 'Some writers have said I'm grizzled; do you think I'm grizzled?' " As George's eyes bored through her, Sharon reluctantly said, "maybe a little grizzled." Sharon described George as honest, with an immense love for the land and the people on the land. She considered his writings a legacy to be treasured.

#### End Notes:

Six Interviews: Frances Pearson, Gladys Cunningham, Waldo Nye, Dave Neville, George Wright,

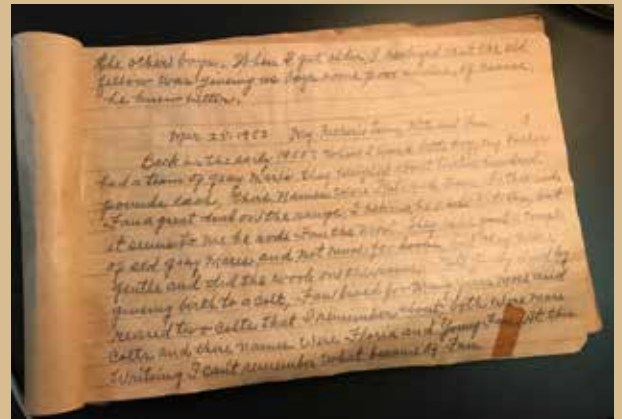
Prospect Group Interview, Rogue River National Forest, Medford, Oregon, 1978, pp. 101-114.

SOHS Manuscript 1388, George Wright diaries, memories, weather records and miscellanea.

Olson, Sharon, Sketch of George Wright. SOHS Manuscript 1388

**Volunteers have begun transcribing George's writings, and anyone interested in assisting with the project could contact Kira Society Lesley at [archivist@sohs.org](mailto:archivist@sohs.org)**

Among the SOHS holdings are George Wright's notebooks, which he assembled using brown paper and twine. George carefully noted dates on his books, and named them with series titles, including "My Early Memories," "The Long Ago," "Diary," and others.



SOHS Photo



## Windows In Time

April 3 & 10—*The Historic Holmes House*— Susan Hearn

May 1 & 8 — *Central Point: A Crossroads Through Time* — Alice Mullaly

June 5 & 12 — *A Century of Fellowship: the University Club* — Ron Kramer

## Monthly Pub Talks

April 2 — *Jumping into History* — Paul Fattig

May 7 — *Survivors of War: Indian Women in Jacksonville* — Pat Harper

June 4 — *From Gold Mines to Woodland Trails* — Larry Smith

**Windows in Time** are free monthly lectures held at the Medford Library and Ashland Library on the 1st and 2nd Wednesdays from noon to 1pm.

**First Tuesdays' Pub Talks** are free informal presentations held at 4 Daughters Irish Pub, 126 West Main. Talks begin upstairs at 7pm.

# WHAT'S IN A NAME: GEORGE WRIGHT'S GIFT TO US

by Jeff LaLande

Born in 1896, Wright spent much of his working life as a cowpoke and “wrangler” in the area we know today as the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. Riding his horse through that challenging landscape, Wright came to know first-hand its rugged canyons and steep ridges as well as anyone possibly can. As he put it, in a 1963 introduction to his wonderful collection of local place-name history, “My horse was my pal and my saddle my home.”

By the mid-1950s, Wright had begun “batching it” in his small cabin at Agate Flat, right on the state line at Agate Flat. It was at Agate Flat, where he would spend the rest of his days, that George Wright he jotted down his recollections of the region’s place-name history -- of places such as “Robbers Rock,” “Little Good Water” spring, “Spider Camp,” and “Devils’ Backbone” ridge. If Wright didn’t know the actual origin of a particular place name, he was careful to say so.

What follows are a few of George Wright’s place-name memories, for locations on the Oregon side of the line:

**Bald Mountain:** Due to the lack of timber on its summit, Bald Mountain was the settlers’ original name for what we now know as “Soda Mountain”. Although “Soda” has replaced “Bald” on maps, Wright said, “Maps or no, it is Bald Mountain to me, and that is what I am going to call it.” He recalled the area’s original range as full of good grass, but that after the sheepmen drove their flocks “there year after year...the grass was killed out” and replaced by “weeds.”

**Camp Creek and Jenny Creek:** Camp



John Craig/BLM

*A view across the rugged Siskiyou wilderness with Pilot Rogue in the foreground and Mt. Shasta in the distance. This was the country that George Wright knew well.*

Creek originates in Oregon on the south slopes of Soda, er, Bald Mountain, and Jenny Creek starts near today’s Howard Prairie reservoir. They both drain directly into the Klamath River south of the state line. During the region’s 1850s conflict between Native people and the invading Whites, a company of Army soldiers from Fort Jones, southwest of Yreka, rode up the Klamath’s canyon in pursuit of some Shasta Indians. The troopers camped at the mouth of what was dubbed Camp Creek, and a few days later, while crossing Jenny Creek, one of their heavily laden pack animals-- a female mule, or “jenny” -- fell and drowned in that rain-swollen creek.

**Corral Creek:** The name of Corral Creek, which heads on the south slope of Chinquapin Mountain and joins Jenny Creek near Pinehurst on Highway 66, dates to the early 1860s. A posse of local stockmen, on the trail of three cattle rustlers, found the trio’s holding corral hidden along that stream, hence the name. The rustlers were later caught and hanged from trees near Keene Creek. George Wright’s uncle, William A. Wright, told his nephew that “the bones of the rustlers and pieces of their clothes and ropes were still there” when he “first started to ride the range in 1866.”

**Agate Flat:** Although Wright tolerated the new name “Agate Flat” and even called it that on occasion, he much preferred the name that he’d known it by since boyhood, “Cold Spring Flat.” George spent the final decades of his life on his 40-acre Cold Spring homestead. His Uncle Bill, who had built a shack there many years before, had recalled seeing “seven grizzly bears” at Cold Springs Flat “on one day during the late 1860s.” The jumbled pile of rocks left from the fireplace of his uncle’s old cabin remained visible well into George’s Wright’s final years.

George Wright’s little memoir from the 1950s is his gift to us today. In it he reflected that “the so-called good old days are gone, so are the grizzly bears and the old timers who killed them.” In his memoir, Wright expressed obvious sadness at how the large-scale logging of the Postwar years was changing the face of the land. “What a fine country this must have been,” he wrote, “before the white man came and killed and destroyed all the good things the Indians had; the fish and game and bunchgrass and all the rest is gone.”

**End Notes:**

George Wright. “My Early Memories – Place Names and Events.” 1963 (typescript on file, SOHS Research Library).



SOHS Photo

*This past year the Society's Hanley Farm programs served over 900 school children. A new SOHS Education Committee will help us better adjust our offerings to classroom needs.*



SOHS Photo

*In 2019 SOHS will evaluate options for repurposing the 26,000 sq. ft. History Center.*



## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: INTRODUCING THE STRATEGIC PLAN**

*We have been building history together for a long time! The Southern Oregon Historical Society was founded in 1946 by individuals who cared about our regional legacy. For more than seventy years it has protected and shared this legacy through a broad range of programs and services.*

*The past two years have been a time of growth and change. The SOHS Board of Trustees and members have transformed the Society into a primarily volunteer-based operation, achieved a balanced budget, and built a foundation to reinvigorate connections with the community.*

*The Society has taken significant steps towards continued growth and reconnection with the community, including obtaining Jackson County approval establishing Hanley Farm as a Living History Museum; completing major Hanley Farm infrastructure improvements; writing successful grants; negotiating new working partnerships with organizations such as Jackson County Library Services, the City of Central Point, and the Family Nurturing Center.*

*The Strategic Plan that follows is the result of a half-year effort involving nearly 100 members of our community. We are pleased to share this work with you. Through our common effort we will continue to make history together!*

*With gratitude,*

*Doug McGeary, SOHS Board President*



## THE SOUTHERN OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2019 AND BEYOND

### OUR MISSION: SHARING A COMMON HERITAGE

The Mission of the Southern Oregon Historical Society is to bring history alive by collecting, preserving and sharing the stories and artifacts of our common heritage. Through its interpretive programs, collections and publications, the Society strives to educate the public and generate an appreciation of regional history for present and future generations.

### OUR VISION: MAKING HISTORY ACCESSIBLE

We are a well-managed, financially stable organization whose collections, programs and venues make us one of the premier heritage resources of the Pacific Northwest.

We are a caring and welcoming organization that assures that the heirlooms and memories of the past will not be lost to future generations.

We keep history alive by working together to share these treasures with our community and individuals of all ages.

### OUR STRATEGIC GOALS: RESPONDING TO THE COMMUNITY

*Community conversations conducted between July and October 2018 highlighted the need for SOHS to:*

1. Improve community awareness of the Society.
2. Increase public access to our collections and archives.
3. Expand our educational outreach.
4. Strengthen our financial stability.



SOHS Photo

*SOHS cares for one of the largest collections of historical art and artifacts in the Pacific Northwest. Our goal is to make this heritage available to the public.*



SOHS Photo

*Of our current active 620 memberships, 125 are held by families. Our goal is to increase these numbers by 15% within three years.*





SOHS Photo

*To improve access to our holdings, the society will begin showcasing our collection in public venues through 2019.*



SOHS Photo

*SOHS envisions significantly increasing our number of research library patrons in each of the next three years.*



*Each of the society's Strategic Goals builds upon the other.*

### THREE-YEAR OBJECTIVES: CHARTING OUR COURSE

*In response to these challenges the Society will focus its energies during the next three years to:*

1. Strengthen our membership, volunteer, and sponsorship base.
2. Increase awareness and use of the SOHS Archives through tours, classes, programs and outreach.
3. Maintain quality educational programs that involve the SOHS Library, the Collection, and Hanley Farm.
4. Expand our media presence.
5. Broaden our educational outreach.
6. Reach out to underserved populations.
7. Initiate planning for a permanent SOHS museum and learning center.
8. Offer sponsored exhibits to the general public.
9. Develop one or more successful signature events.
10. Conduct a successful capital campaign.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

*In pursuing these three-year objectives (2019 through 2022), the Southern Oregon Historical Society seeks to achieve the following outcomes:*

1. Reduce outstanding debt to less than \$300,000. *(Objectives 1, 9 & 10).*
2. Increase SOHS Research Library patrons served per year from 1,270 to 1,600. *(Objectives 2 & 3).*
3. Expand our support base from 150 to 250 active volunteers. *(Objectives 2 & 3).*
4. Increase memberships from 620 to 800 with 25% as sustaining memberships. *(Objective 1).*
5. Offer one or more annual fundraising activities with targeted earnings of \$50,000. *(Objective 4 & 9).*
6. Obtain sponsorship support for 80% of the Society's public programs. *(Objectives 5, 6, 7 & 8)*

## ACTION PLANS FOR 2019: NEW PATTERNS, FRESH COLORS

*To achieve these outcomes, the Society will implement the following Action Plans during 2019:*

1. Strengthen community partnerships to enhance current programs.
2. Conduct analysis on re-purposing the SOHS History Center.
3. Support phase two of the Hanley Living History Farm restoration/deferred maintenance program.
4. Expand SOHS exhibit development and outreach.
5. Expand Society membership through “friend-raising” efforts with face-to-face contacts, living-room group conversations, and special events.
6. Increase endowments and institutional funding.
7. Increase awareness of the Society’s presence with improved outreach, marketing, and use of social media.
8. Create a standing education committee to develop programs serving K-12 and college-level students and teachers.
9. Complete plans for a 2020-2021 capital improvement campaign.

*The full Strategic Plan with specific implementation schedules and financials can be found on the Society website at [sohs.org/strategicplan](http://sohs.org/strategicplan)*



SOHS Photo

*Major infrastructure improvements at Hanley Farm are an integral part of the 2019 Strategic Plan.*



SOHS Photo

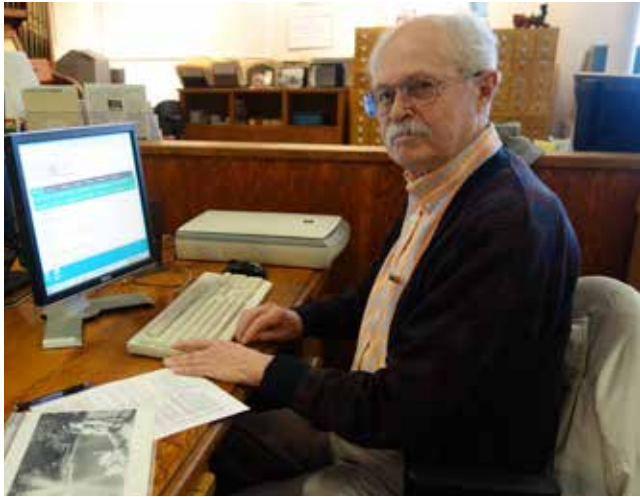
*Engaging new partners: Community volunteers work with SOHS Board member Sharon Feil to rebuild a rail fence at Hanley Farm.*





## MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

### MIKE TRUMP, PROJECT VOLUNTEER



SOHS Photo

Mike Trump has been cataloguing SOHS's massive photo collection since 2011. That's the year he and his wife Norma moved to Medford from Cloverdale, California. Before moving, Mike and Norma had worked at the Cloverfield Historical Society, and when Volunteer Coordinator Vicki Bryden heard that Mike knew how to use PastPerfect museum software, she jumped on the opportunity to get him into the library!

SOHS boasts a collection of over 60,000 photos. It is one of our most-used resources, so having photos properly catalogued and accessible is crucial. Over the decades, however, SOHS has acquired photos in different formats, and SOHS staff has sorted them according to different strategies. For the past eight years, Mike has been coming in every week and working through boxes, photo by photo, to make sure that our online photo index matches our physical holdings. In addition, Mike ensures that photos are connected to their proper accession record in PastPerfect. This is important not only for maintaining record-keeping standards, but also because the accession record often has more information than the index listing alone.

Another of Mike's responsibilities is

*Mike has been a mainstay of our effort to make our thousands of photographs easily accessible to the public.*

ordering all the photos by their negative number and creating a typed catalogue of each box's contents. Ever wondered who created those photo lists in the front of each photo box?

It was Mike! When a volunteer goes to find a photo, the guide to the box saves a lot of time.

Doing the same project for several years may sound tedious, but Mike insists he still enjoys it. There's a lot to be done, he says, and the photos are always interesting. Project volunteers, as opposed to library research volunteers, have a bit more flexibility, because they do not have to handle research requests from folks who walk in, nor do they have to work on the same day every week.

You can find Mike here every Wednesday, quietly working. This kind of behind-the-scenes contribution is absolutely vital to the research library's daily functioning, and to increasing the accessibility of our vast collections.



## Hanley Farm Annual Heritage Plant Sale

**Sat-Sun April 27-28**  
**10am-3pm**

**[SOHS Members Only: Sat. 9-10am]**

**In 2019,  
Add  
Some  
History  
To Your  
Garden!**

Visit the annual Heritage Plant Sale featuring over 70 varieties of heritage plants from anemones to yarrow, asters to quince. Old roses, lilacs, peonies, hellebores, iris, herbs, pollinator plants, and heritage tomato varieties will be on sale. Enjoy refreshments or lunch, children's activities and wagon rides. Visit the Shakespeare Garden, Historic Hanley House, and more. Raffle: Two beautiful strawberry pots.



**For additional information go to**  
**[www.sohs.org](http://www.sohs.org)**

Hanley Farm, 1053 Hanley Rd. Central Point, OR



106 N. Central Ave., Medford, OR 97501

NON-PROFIT  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 164  
Medford OR



SOHS Photo

*An intent young miss hangs clothers during  
Living History Days at Hanley Farm.*



## CURRENT RESIDENT OR

## From the History Center



### ORDERING PHOTO SCANS

*By Kira Lesley*

One of the library's most common requests is for digital scans of our images. To provide an idea of the kind of photo orders we receive, here is a small sampling of orders we've completed since the winter quarterly was mailed:

- photos of early German immigrants for a book on Southern Oregon brewers
- images for a scrapbook that a granddaughter is making for her grandmother

- a local judge decorating his chambers with old pictures of the courthouse
- a state representative sprucing up her Salem office
- owners of a vacation rental decorating their cabin with scenes

from the 1964 flood

- a series of Swedenburg family portraits for an installation on Swedish immigrants to Oregon, being held at Portland's Nordic Northwest Society holding an exhibit in Portland



SOHS Photo

At \$15 per digital photo, plus publication or display fees where applicable, photos are both modestly priced and provide revenue to support library operations. In addition, we also work with local media to provide images for newspaper and television stories

*Pat Harper examines an early twentieth century photograph in the SOHS Library Archives.*