

The Historical Oldtimer

The Electronic Newsletter

of

Josephine County Historical Society

512 S.W. 5th

Color? What Color?

The board decided to repaint the Research Library about the same color it had been. Actually, it is a tone or two lighter because the color we chose was a paint chip from the first Persimmon paint job that had faded with time. Most probably would not notice the difference. Only two colors were used this time instead of three. The beige and deep maroon trim was covered with white. It really stands out. The old front door which was stained a light brown, was painted white as well as the metal hand-rails along the edges of the concrete ramp to the porch. Some may not notice the change, but we do. It is cleaner and brighter. It is also readily identified. We usually say orange instead of the actual paint color because everyone recognizes orange whereas persimmon is not as recognizable as orange. Drive by and take a look.

Remember you can enlarge the print of this newsletter on your computer to make it easier to read.



The Historian was mailed up until the pandemic hit. The *Oldtimer* was electronic, We now have just one newsletter and this is it. Five issues are sent by e-mail and the October issue is mailed with the ballot for officers.

Volume 3 # 4 , August 2024

Newsletters issued in :

February(1), April,(2) June,(3) August(4), October(5) and December(6).

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE!

Find us at-
Www.josephinehistory.org
Checkout what we have to offer! Visit our site to read Sundays Make History (New articles will be posted each month.) Check out our bookstore and keep up to date on JCHS happenings.

We Have A Date at the Schmidt House Museum.

Pioneer Spirits Come
Alive

Oct. 19, 2024

Presentation from the
Gazebo in backyard

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Christmas Past

Dec. 14. 2024

Tour of the Schmidt House.

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As a member, you can stop by the Research Library (office) and use our research facilities when we are open just to look up something in the past you have wondered about.

WATER, WATER, WATER, WATER

We would like to thank our garden crew. The Schmidt House Museum lawn and plants look terrific', even more so than when the Schmidt Sisters lived in the House. Both the Schmidt Sisters, Anna and Flora were career working women and never married. They loved their home and the surrounding garden, but they could not give all their time to the upkeep, so they had beautiful patches of tall perennials instead of lawns. The flowers would wither in the winter but come back tall and beautiful, filling the outside areas with a variety of three foot tall flowers. They had a well and kept things well irrigated.

Today the tall flowers have been replaced by lawns and perennial border plants so the yard is more useful for gatherings. The Gazebo was not part of the Schmidt yard, but added by the Josephine County Historical Society so there would be an outside space for Society activities. Floors were added to the barn so items of historical value could be stored safely. The center of the barn is our meeting area where the Board meetings are held, pies cut for the Pie Social, food served for events and shelter if needed for outside activities. No food is allowed in the Schmidt House.

The outside area can be rented for weddings or other gatherings. We now do our October Graveyard presentation in our own back yard instead of a cemetery. One show, one seating and less walking.

The well ceased providing sufficient water years ago so we use the city water system. In the warm (hot) weather of summer, more water is needed., The Schmidt House and the lawns and the Research Library are on separate water meters.

Water bills vary and sometimes the amount is unexpected, but that's life. Following is a partial list of water costs for June and July 2024. Not all the details are given but you can look at your water bill if you live in the city and see that there are several fees listed . Water is almost never used in the Schmidt House Museum so we have an irrigation charge but no waste water charge because the water goes on the lawn and other plants and not down the drain.

Schmidt House :

July 10th irrigation charge was \$295.10.

The total with all the incidentals was \$452.62.

August 7th irrigation charge was \$299.64.

The total with all the incidentals was \$473.16.

The Research Library water bills for everything was

July 10, 2024 \$138.94

August 7, 2024 \$137.30

Bills for June 6, Totals were:

Schmidt House \$134.35

Research Library \$ 97.34

Enjoy the green lawn in the summer-time and thank the yard crew for the attention they give the yard



We had our annual pie social and Darrel took these photos. We did not have as many people as usual but a good time was had by all who attended. If you know these folks, then you have identified them. If you do not know them, here are most of the names. Top left the band **Rock Steady** played from 4 to 6:45, free to the Society, but were given leftover pies. Top right are two volunteers: Kathy Marshall and Leta Neiderheiser. Second row, first pic is Sharon Allen in her 1950's waitress costume and Valerie Hall dressed as her mother looked in the 50s. The picture to the right is the "crowd" enjoying the pie. Below we have Jeanne Johnston, Darrel's wife handing out plates and Curt Hull, Valerie's husband scooping ice cream. See, you can volunteer as a couple and work separately if you wish. We can always use volunteers.



Pie Social photos by Darrel Johnston.

Board for 2024

President

Jodi Wainwright

Vice President

Sharon Allen

Treasurer/Executive Secretary

Martha Metcalf

Secretary/Publishing

Joan Momsen

Events

Linda Fuidge

Living History Players

Taylor Roberts

Parliamentarian

vacant

Board Development

vacant

Grounds

Darrel Johnston

Buildings

Ken Bell

Directors-at-Large

Curt Hall

Lyn Snell

Kristin Bell

Valerie Hall

Jan Greenblatt

Jim Van Delden

Leta Neiderheiser

Evan Strickland

Shamrock Technologies

Sean Malloy

2555 N.W. Highland Ave.

Apt. A

Grants Pass, OR 97526

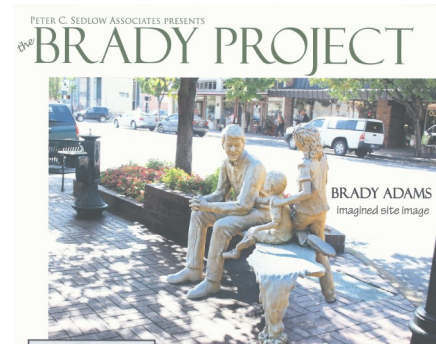
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If you shop at Amazon, please sign up asap. It only takes a few moments and we get a bit of money from your purchase. It costs you nothing. Sign up:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/936015456>



The Josephine County Historical Society a 501 (c) 3 organization is the fiscal agent for the Brady Project. We collect the donations and pass them on to the artists. We do not keep any of the funds received. If you wish to donate, send checks to:

Josephine County Historical Society

512 SW 5th St., Grants Pass, OR. 97526

You may donate on the JCHS website

www.jocohistorical.org

Be sure to note "Brady" on your check or website donation. The Brady Project will be a memorial statue, as shown above, honoring Brady Adams.

Oregon Books

will give members a discount if you show your JCHS membership card, and will donate 5% of the sale back to the Historical Society.

Oregon Books

150 NE E Street

Grants Pass, OR

97526

Phone Darrel to volunteer: 615-618-1603

Saturday August 17, we will "clean up" the small yard of the Research Library from 9am to Noon. Bring your clippers and maybe a sack or bucket to carry your clippings to the debris barrel. Prior gardening experience not required. If you goof, it will grow back. Well, it will grow back anyway but it has been a long time since we have seen the ground in some areas.



Top: Band ID. If you wish to hire a good group. Also a table of pie eaters. Middle row shows the winners on left and pies on the right. Bottom left, Linda the one who was in charge of it all. Good Job Linda. Bottom Right, Half a pie is better than no pie at all.

Taylor and Jason Roberts manned the pie cutting station at the back of the barn for the Pie and Ice Cream Social. They were busy making the crucial decision of which pie would come out next and trying to keep track of what flavors were being served. This might be one of the most difficult jobs because all of the pies are there for the taking and nobody can see you. Did they steal a piece? They have not yet admitted guilt, but they were caught by the fridge, forks in hand, holding a slice of apple pie.



This is a photo of Jan Greenblatt and Joan Momsen, ticket sellers with decades of experience. Joan has her mask showing a group of kittens hanging from her left ear. One never knows when the smoke is going to close in. Oops, I can rephrase that or just explain. Joan's mask is hanging from her ear, not a group of kittens. The mask shows a bunch of kittens. And in reference to a previous article, notice the well groomed area behind the two who, believe or not, total 171 years of experience. Joan collected the money and handed out tickets for pie and Jan handed out the bottled water. We made a little money and lots of pies and friends. Excess pies were sold at the end of the evening, so many folks went home with an entire pie.

2024 Pie Contest Winners

Fruit:

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|-------------------|
| 1st | Marylou Hansen | Apple Pie |
| 2nd | Sharon Delay | Apple Pie |
| 3rd | Sue Exley | Double Cherry Pie |

Berry

- | | | |
|------|----------------|---|
| 1st | Sharon Delay | Black Berry Pie |
| 2nd: | Susan Corsi | Delightful Blueberry |
| 3rd | Dottie Doehrer | Blueberry/ Pineapple
Pena Colada Pie |

Custard

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|---|
| 1st | Mary Quick | Fancy Custard
(pecans, raisins and
coconut) |
| 2nd | Marylou Hansen | Walnut Pie |
| 3rd | Mary Quick | Fudge Pie |

Children

- | | | |
|-----|------------|---------------------|
| 1st | Jenna Duca | Classic Key Lime Pi |
|-----|------------|---------------------|

Nine contestants made 16 pies. Thanks to Joan Dougherty for receiving and labeling the pies and taking these photos.

First Prize Winners as listed to the left, shown below. Jenna, Marylou, Sharon and Mary.,





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JCHS' electronic newsletter

Martha Metcalf, Executive Secretary

Joan Momsen, Publisher

Josephine County Historical Society

512 S.W. 5th Street

Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

541-479-7827

The Josephine County Historical Society is a non-profit with no governmental connection. **We are not part of county government.**

We are self-supporting thanks to our membership and benefactors.

We invite you to join the Society. You do not have to attend meetings, but we can use your volunteer services in many ways. Phone us and ask.

Membership Dues per year are:

Single \$20

Family \$30

Business \$55

Donations accepted.

Do you like to Sit?

We are not a lending library. We are not part of the county government. We charge non-members to use our research library. But as a member, you can come in and just sit and read all sorts of interesting papers and books. We would be glad to have your company for an hour or so. We are open 10 to 4 on Tuesday through Friday and the library is air conditioned.

Board Members

We would like to introduce our Board Members and request they send a short article about themselves. Since I am doing the newsletter and no one else replied, I will give a short view of myself, Joan Momsen.

Joan was born in Josephine General Hospital on Easter Sunday, 1942. She attended local schools, Riverside, Washington, Roosevelt, Dimmick, Fort Vannoy, GPHS, and Rogue Community College. She has a Bachelor's in Education and a Master's in General Studies. If Southern Oregon University, had been an university, when she attended her Master's would be equivalent to a Master's in Political Science. So much for titles. She taught social studies at GPHS for 28 years after having substituted in all districts for 5 years.

Previously to going "back to college" at age 29, she worked for the local Greyhound Bus depot for 15 years as a ticket clerk and bookkeeper. While working at Greyhound, she was elected Queen of the Oregon Caveman twice and travelled with them for four years. She could write a book about herself, but chose to write history books about Josephine County in the 16 years she has volunteered. Come check out the books, buy one and help the Historical Society. She (I) will even autograph it for you.

Just Joan

Do you have any old photos of Josephine County that you would like to donate to the Josephine County Historical Society? If they do not mean anything to you, they may fill in the gaps of our photo collection. Think about it. If you have photos but do not want to give them to us, bring them in and we will scan them and you can keep the originals. And how about your personal history? Write it down, bring us a copy and we will file in our "family files" for future reference years from now. If you do not tell your story, no one else will. People come into the Research Library all the time looking about someone from the past who lived in Grants Pass, but most common folks do not have a written history on file. Do it today. You can even email to us, we will make a file, print your email and you will be put in our family file.

jchsimages@gmail.com.