The Schmidt House construction started in 1899. The dear old house is still in good shape, but it takes effort and money to keep it that way. This is just a brief report on what's new.

Last summer we struggled with enormous water bills in an attempt to keep the lawns green. All the water that was put on the lawns was deemed waste water so our sewage bills were extremely large. The way to fix that was to have a water meter just for the irrigation system so sewage charges would not apply. Tuesday, May 21, 2019, the process was begun to install a second water meter for the irrigation system. When it is all finished, we hope the water bills will be much less. We will keep you posted.

The week before Easter, the second annual Easter Egg Hunt was held. We had four to five dozen kids under 10 searching for plastic eggs with candy inside. We had an area for children under 5 and another for the older kids. We had not mowed the lawn for a month and it looked unkept, but it provided great places to hide eggs. Within a week afterwards we had the lawn cut down and the gardens looked great with all the blooming trees and roses. I.M. Bunny, our very own President, Ken Bell, oversaw the egg hunt and posed for photos with many children, including a newborn infant. Parents commented that the small egg hunt was great for the little ones because there was no crowd to overwhelm them.

We have a leak where the chimney passes through the house and are working on finding out what the problem is. A roofer is going to check the flashing when he has time. We have asked several roofing companies to make a bid, but no one replied for almost two years. After several months we found one who will inspect the chimney and roof and tell us what needs to be done, but with summer coming, he is busy but promised to look as soon as he can.

If you drove by after mid-May, the windows of the Schmidt House may have looked dark. That was because we had grey cloth covering some of the windows to make the inside darker and dreary for our Spirits of the Schmidt House tours. Check out our Winter newsletter, which was mailed in February, for the details. (All our newsletters are on-line). This newsletter may or MAY NOT arrive in your hands before the June 1, date of the tours.

Sincere Gratitude for Donations

2/11/19 thru 5/24/19

Sustaining Members

Gerald Schulte
Gail Murphy
Terry & David Ruiter
Judith Basker
Donna & Charles Baird
Robert Moore
Marilyn & Kenneth Irving
Norman Parker
Dan Toone & Olivia Lam Toone
Ann Kistler
Jerry Sullivan
Frank Sprinkle

Additional donations on back page.

We would like to thank all those who donate for the support of the Josephine County Historical Society. Donations are received in many ways and all are important to our Society. Some donors add a bit when they pay dues. Others send us a check each month or year or whenever they have the funds. Some have a bit deducted each month from their checking account. Others give when they can. We appreciate all of you.

We also would like to thank all the living history players who give various presentations. These individuals go as individual or in groups to give historic presentations around Southern Oregon. Keep up the good work!
Board for 2019

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We have another multiple raffle. Prizes will be awarded in August. There will be a dozen winners and we, as usual, will phone the first name drawn, wait an hour or so and call the next name. The first one to come to the Research Library will get the largest choice and so on until all the prizes have been claimed. We have several dolls this time, the tallest over 3 feet tall. Your raffle ticket may win a Christmas gift for a grandchild. Get your tickets now.

A very special thanks to Jean Boling for paying for storage for some bound copies of the Courier. She did this monthly for over ten years. The books are now safely back at the Josephine County Historical Society.

Shamrock Technologies
Sean Malloy
2555 N.W. Highland Ave.
Apt. A
Grants Pass, OR 97526
541-761-0001

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Amazon can help us
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:
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Oregon Books
150 NE E Street
Grants Pass, OR 97526
541-476-3132

Remember the Historical Society’s Research Library and Bookstore is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 am to 4 pm.

JCHS is self-supporting and we make money to operate the Society and we have limited money-making possibilities. Membership is vital. The membership dues go a long way to help support our Society. Our bookstore also contributes to our survival. Think about graduations, Father’s Day, Birthdays and upcoming single occasions for which you might need a gift. A membership for a year to one of your friends or relatives might just be the thing that helps them appreciate local history.

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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 below, honoring Brady Adams.

In Memory of Marilyn Luttrell
1936-2019

Marilyn Luttrell was President of the Josephine County Historical Society in 1996 and 2008. Marilyn passed away July 18, 2019. Marilyn was born in Oklahoma City on July 18, 1936. She came to Oregon via California in the early 1970s, worked hard to improve her new home.

Many things bear her mark because she was involved in the Merlin community. Without Marilyn, some things we take for granted, might not have been established or saved, such as the Haines Apple Tree.

She was one of the people who helped with the establishment of Merlin Community Park, the Merlin Parade, the Applegate Trail Interpretive Center in Sunny Valley and getting the third bridge in Grants Pass named in honor of Debs Potts.

She was the Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year in 1997 and served on many boards and committees including the Grants Pass Historic Building and Sites Committee.

When she heard that old buildings could be repurposed and relocated to serve other needs, she procured the donation of the house which now is the Josephine County Historical Society Research Library and helped oversee the remodeling of the 1930s house into a functioning research library. She loved Josephine County and did all she could to preserve local history,

Below, Marilyn Luttrell stands by and celebrates the saving of the historic Haines Apple Tree.
Letters Received

Dear Joan,

Thank you so much for honoring my dear “Gram” Pauline Meade Shier by writing such a nice article in the Daily Courier. She was such a blessing in her families lives and did so much for me and our community. I can’t tell you how much it means to know she is still remembered and appreciated by the organization she dedicated so much of her life to.

With Sincere Gratitude,
Melanine (Murray) Leonard

DONATIONS
2/11/19 thru 5/24/19

Sharon Allen
Jean Boling
Joan Momsen
Jan Greenblatt
Sean Malloy
Sharon Allen
Carol Steele
Bernie Beck
Janet Lane
Beverly DeYoung
Phyllis Mcgil
LaRita DeYoung
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James & Karen VanDelden
Carol Loros Oaks
Crystal Hookland
Phil Warren
Betty Robinson
Virginia & Harold Mitchell
Leon Hunsaker
Virginia Ford
Greg Walter
Whitfield Smith
Carol & Gilbert Meek
Don Bellville
Melissa Trauner
Sharon Allen for Boatnik Parade
Newcomers for Joan Momsen presentation
Wilderville Church for Leta Neiderheiser presentation
Eagle Point Friends of the Library for Leta Neiderheiser presentation
Pacifica Gardens for Leta Neiderheiser presentation
Gold Diggers Guild for Suffragettes presentation

Living History Players Are Flexible

We are fortunate to have Living History Players who are versatile and flexible. In this past few months, our Leta Neiderheiser has learned all about Martha Messinger for the celebrations at Pacifica and about the strong opinions of Suffrage Ladies. She became one of the primary players, along with Joan Momsen and Joan Dougherty, in a delightful Suffrage skit. We presented that skit for the Three Rivers Hospital Auxiliary and also for the Southern Oregon Historical Society’s Gold Diggers Founders’ Day celebration. Additionally, Rick and Kathy Marshall, Sherry Bullock, and Darlene and Stan Olds supported the historic Wolf Creek Inn’s Easter activities by giving tours and adding “color.” Jan Greenblatt and Joan Momsen portrayed Anna and Flora Schmidt for students from the New Hope School.

We enjoyed our 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt where Mr. I. M. Bunny (Board President Ken Bell) charmed the little children once again. We just finished concentrating our efforts for the Boatnik Parade as a way to promote our newest event, the “Spirits of the Schmidt House.” As it turns out, a parade float becomes an event unto itself, so we have all been very busy.

We will be posting photos soon,

Cindy English, LHP Director
Linda Fuidge, Events Director

We won the Councilmen’s Trophy,
Boatnik Parade
2019
Third Overall