President’s Message for 2019

I wanted to introduce myself and the future that I see for JCHS. My name is Ken Bell, I moved to Grants Pass, Oregon in 2003 and have been involved with the historical society since 2013. I have always had a passion for history and enjoy learning and preserving our past. As president I will conduct the meetings and hope to issue in some new and exciting events that will help us to grow with new memberships. Our board members are dedicated to the preservation of the history of our great county, but we need to grow and find events that will bring in new members. 2019 is going to be an exciting year with spring just around the corner, when we will have our 2nd annual Easter Hunt with Boatnik parade to follow in May. I look forward to meeting members and discussing new ideas in the upcoming months. Please reach out by phone or email with any suggestions you may have. We can continue to reach out with our traditional activities and hopefully add some new. Historical Society 541-479-7827 or email me directly at qballbell@hotmail.com

Ken Bell, President 2019, JCHS

Sincere Gratitude for Donations

Donations 9-7-18 thru 2-10-19

Sustaining Member Donations
Ed & Cindy English, Ray & Marilyn DeBolt, Arlette Butler, Robert Hardy, Larry & Ranae Thornton, Barbara Erickson, Ross & Annette Roe George Kramer, Anthony & Celeste Guillory, Louise & Stephen Martin, Dick Holliday & Mary Slater, Michael Murphy, Joan Momsen

In Memory Of
Sally Milbank Thomson IMO her parents Margaret & Mayor Morris Milbank Louise & Stephen Martin IMO Edna May Hill K. Stanley Martin IMO Edna May Hill

Living History Player Presentations
A special thank you to all our Living History Players who make our Graveyard Tour and Open House for Christmas Past so very special.
Board for 2019
President/Hist. Sites
Ken Bell
Vice President/Finance
Richard Marshall
Treasurer
Martha Metcalf
Secretary/Publishing
Joan Momsen
Events
Linda Fuidge
Executive Secretary
Martha Metcalf
Living History Players
Cindy English
Parliamentarian
Darrell Stafford
Properties
Glenn Hearrell
Research Library
Patricia Heumann
Directors-at-Large
Joan Dougherty
Jim VanDelden
Jan Greenblatt

Read the above. We have some new officers, some recycled officers and many old standbys. (Old in the sense of longevity, not age.) If you are a member and would like to serve on the Board of Directors, phone or email us and ask about the time and obligation needed to serve.
541-479-7827

Something to think about!
There are still members and citizens at large, who think JCHS is part of the county government and fully funded. We are not! We are independent of all government and are a private non-profit organization and have to raise all the money we use for survival. Membership dues and our book store really help with our funding. Think about Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, birthdays and any occasion where a gift is the thing to give to recognize the occasion. That gift could be a year’s membership ($20) to the society or one of our books. You can do all of this on-line, but we would love to see you come into the Research Library and see what we offer. As a member, you know the importance of History. Help us survive. Donate or buy something.

Some people were really lucky and had their name drawn twice for the December 18th Raffle Here are the winners, first names only (all first names do not have the same last name, although some won twice.)
Dee, Pat, Jim, Billie Jean, Louise, Louise, Pam, Leta, Michael, LuLu, Ward, Billie Jean, Pam, Jan, Jan and Shar.

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

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

Fred Meyer Community Rewards also help. Sign up now or take the time to renew. If you shop at Fred Meyer, you have probably received a notice to renew.
www.fredmeyer.com/community/rewards.
Our I.D number is NPO#94511

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
541-476-3132

The Historian
Easter Egg Hunt

For the second year in a row, we will host an Easter Egg Hunt at the Schmidt House Grounds on Saturday, April 13, 1:00 p.m. sharp. The event, for children 10 years and younger, is free and will be held rain or shine. Our very own Mr. I. M. Bunny will be there too. Come on down and join in the fun. If you want to be on the Easter Egg Hunt Committee and help fill and hide eggs, call Linda at 541-479-5398 or the JCHS office 541-479-7827.

How many members have been here long enough to remember all the presidents of the Society?

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 also 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.

Brady Project

Save this date: Sat., June 1, for Spirits of the Schmidt House

The Schmidt House will be open Saturday, June 1, from 1-4 pm for tours, but there will be some unexpected activity. Spirits of some of the family members are making an appearance that day. The public is invited to tour the Schmidt House and to quietly and carefully listen in on some of the conversations among those who once lived in or visited this charming home. Do not be afraid as these are friendly Spirits who wish to share their stories. This is a Spring fundraising event for JCHS. Fee is only $5 per person. Mark your calendars now to attend this interesting new event. If you wish to help with this event, call Cindy (541-476-8712), Linda (541-479-5398), or the office (541-479-7827).

It is almost spring and time for another raffle to raise a little extra cash to pay a utility bill or two. This will be another one with at least 10 prizes. No numbers, no tickets to hold on to, just your name and phone number goes on the “ticket” that is placed in the jar at the historical society. We will phone the winner and he/she will come to the office and pick one of the prizes. The first winner will have the largest choice and so on until we get down to 4 or 5. Even the last name drawn will have a choice of a prize. Stop by and get as many chances as you can afford. We appreciate it. This one will end in August.
Living History Players Update

As we start a new year, we are booking presentations for the Living History Players. We already have dates with the Kiwanis Club and a lovely little church in Wilderville. We enjoyed doing the Victorian Christmas presentations for several of the retirement homes in December.

The Living History Players also participated in the December First Friday and the Grants Pass Christmas Parade which was great fun. We hope to do that again this year.

To that end, we are looking for seamstresses!! We need several long skirts made for our Players in various sizes. The skirts are extremely simple with elastic waists. For Christmas we would like to have red or green or Christmas Plaid! We also need simple long black skirts. If you can spare some time to sew for us, we are happy to provide fabric, patterns, thread and elastic!!

Please contact Cindy at 541-476-8712 or e-mail: cindyenglish@charter.net.

Costume Closet

All of which brings us to our Costume Closet. We have a closet that houses clothes specifically for our Living History Players and our volunteers. The clothes range from pioneer to the 1950s with emphasis on pioneer (1850) through Victorian/Edwardian (1885-1910). We are always looking for clothes/costumes in these time periods in sizes small (for our Junior Docents) through extra-large. We especially need long black skirts and black long-sleeved, high necked blouses at this time for an upcoming event.

Men’s and boys’ clothes are always needed in all size ranges. Men need dark pants, long-sleeved white (usually) shirts, vests, and frock coats (although tuxedo coats will work) for dress up or suede blazer-style jackets or dark dusters. If you have any of these items in your closet and would like to donate them to us, we would be very grateful.

We also have a need for derby hats and top hats for men and wide-brimmed hats (black or straw) for ladies.

We would like someone to volunteer to help manage the Costume Closet.

Please contact Cindy as listed above.

Do you have a local historical story to tell? If you would like to have it published in Sundays Make History, send it to me in Word. It should be about 1400 words. We will discuss it via email. The Grants Pass Daily Courier makes the final decision as to what is printed.

jchsisages@gmail.com