For your information, the Josephine County Historical Society is still open, but not to the public. Most of our board and office staff are in the dangerous age for Covig19, so we are not exposing them to the general public.

You may phone, leave your number and we will get back to you in 7 to 9 days. You can go to our website to see some information and even our facebook is updated once-in-a-while. When you pay your dues, you are helping us. If you are not a member, join today. Go to our website or just mail us a check. Check last page of this newsletter.

Check out the highlights for all 10 pages:
Page 2  Board of Directors
Page 4  Old photos
Page 6, 7 Removal of old Mormon Church (Len’s Studio) on 4th and J.
Page 8 and 9 More old photos and Toka information
Page 10  Brady Project
Page 10 Members needed

Yes, we are still here. Phone for info. Give us a week to check the phone messages.
Board of Directors for 2020

President/Historic Sites
Ken Bell
Vice President
Leta Neiderheiser
Treasurer/Ex. Secretary
Martha Metcalf
Secretary/Publishing
Joan Momsen
Events
Sharon Allen
Finance
Rick Marshall
Living History Players
Cindy English
Properties
Glenn Hearrell
Research Library
Patricia Heumann
Directors-at-Large
Joan Dougherty
Jim Van Delden
Jan Greenblatt
Kathy Marshall
Linda Fuide
Pam Petrusha

We are not open for public walk-in traffic. When things get back to normal, we hope we can give guided tours of the Schmidt House each day we are open. Our normal hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 am to 4 pm. Until things get back to normal, we will remain closed except under very special circumstances. We will allow people to visit the Research Library by appointment. Phone and leave a message and within a week, we will get back to you. Thanks for your patience.

We will research things for you for $20.00 per hour. You may pay on-line. Usually we can find if we have available research items within that hour and then let you know what needs to be done to complete the research.

You can phone and leave a message or you can go to our Webpage or email us. We will get back to you in 7 to 9 days. E-mail address on last page.

The grass is still growing and the flowers are still blooming at the Josephine County Historical Society.
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

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/communityrewards. Our I.D number is NPO#94511

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
Photos seldom seen in 2020

Above is a photo of the Sugar Pine Door and Lumber Company. This photo was taken late in the 19th Century.

To the right is a photo of Charles Demaray, former mayor of Grants Pass and the namesake for Demaray Drive. Demaray was the receiver of the Coast railroad and Demaray Drive is built on the bed of the railroad, shown under construction above Demaray’s photo.

Below is a photo of Grants Pass along Front Street, now G Street. The railroad is to the far left, just out of the photo. circa 1886
All activities on hold until further notice.

Josephine County Historical Society
512 SW Fifth Street – Grants Pass, OR 97526

What can our Society do for you?

Let the Josephine County Historical Society’s Living History Players come and entertain you and your group or organization. Our players re-enact people who lived in Grants Pass and/or Josephine County and helped shape this area we all love. We have many interesting people from Indian Mary to Elijah Davidson who discovered the Oregon Caves; from local doctors, miners, and farmers to saloonkeepers.

Our presentations are about half an hour to an hour long. We ask a donation of $50.

Call 541-479-7827 or go to our website: www.jocohistorical.org for more detailed information and to book one of our players.

Our Living History Players, newsletter contributors, officers, and Board of Directors volunteer their service in the interests of preserving the history of our beautiful county.

Your Josephine County Historical Society is a non-profit. We rely on the generosity of our members and benefactors. Tax-deductible 501(c)3 # 936015456
The old Mormon Church on the corner of 4th and J Street was torn down in July. The Schmidt House and the JCHS Research Library are across J Street on the corners of 5th and J and 5th and K. It was used as a training site for local fire departments before being removed. Below see the holes in the roof made by firemen training. The steeple was saved. Does anyone know who donated the steeple in 1947?

The view is really different from the corner of 4th and J. When all the permits are issued, two apartment buildings are being planned.
The view is really different from the corner of 4th and J. When all the permits are issued, two apartment buildings are being planned. The space is now an empty lot. The view above is from the front entrance. Remember when it was Len’s Photo Studio? The view below is from the alley. All was removed in two weeks. It has not served as a church for over 50 years.
Waiting for a parade in 1955.

Dredge on Grave Creek.

First Court-house in same place the current one sits.
Old GPHS TOKAS (yearbooks) Available

Did you or your parents or grandparents graduate from Grants Pass High School? We have several old yearbooks...The Toka (named after the Tokay grape and pronounced the same way). Did you move and misplace yours? Did you only get one and your sister claimed it? Do you want to see what grandma did in high school. We sell them for $25. each. Some are written in by the friends of the original owner. They are getting scarce as time passes. We also know where you might get one that we do not have. So if you would like a copy of the ones listed below, phone Wayne Morrow (541) 479-5709 and deal with him. He also sells them for $25.


We have several more listed below, that we have at the Historical Society, so phone us (479-2728) if you want one of these. They may be gone if you do not act quickly.

1914, 1915, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1938, 1940, 1943, 1945, etc...Check. You never know when one will be sold or another will be added to our extras. We have a most of the Tokas from 1980 back to the beginning for our reference library and members are able to access those to look and see what family members looked like a generation ago.

All raffles, presentations and other activities are postponed until further notice.

Grants Pass Airport.
Notice the service station, now a bar and restaurant in the lower right corner. This is the only remaining building in the area.
Reminder:
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.

**Join online:**

[www.jocohistorical.org](http://www.jocohistorical.org)

Buy books and photos online too.

---

We could use some new board members. If you are a member and would like to serve on the Board, call our office for further details. If you are not a member, you may join at anytime. To be on the Board of Directors, you need to attend three consecutive board meetings and on the third visit the Board will invite you to serve. You will then serve until the November election when your name will be placed on our annual ballot.

Board members serve for two years and attend one monthly board meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:45 pm in our board room in the barn located behind the Schmidt House Museum. Meetings last about 90 minutes. There are many committees that you might wish to chair, but we only ask you to attend the board meetings for a few months to see if you wish to get further involved in our activities. Volunteers are also needed. Living History Players could use a few more actors. Come and see us and discuss the possibilities.

---

**Brady Project**

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](http://www.jocohistorical.org)

Be sure to note “Brady” on your check or website donation. The Brady Project will be a memorial statue of Brady and his grandchildren, as shown below.