The Historical Society Research Library has been closed since March 20, 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. We are in the office on Wednesday and Thursday but we keep the door locked. Wear a mask and knock if you want to come inside and talk.

We sent the last Historian by email, but this is your paper copy because the annual ballot is enclosed. This is also the ANNUAL MEETING because we will not meet in person.

President’s Year End Commentary

2020 a year to remember! A year we saw history repeated with a world pandemic that mirrored the pandemic of 1918 Spanish flu. We should have celebrated the 100 year anniversary of women’s rights this year.

Quarantining and social distancing have changed how we operate and function. With all events canceled except the graveyard tour, we have stayed strong.

A special thanks to all members that have joined in to help maintain the Museum and property. Members have pulled weeds, pruned and painted, leaving the bandstand and property looking amazing. Great teamwork.

Excited about using technology to help expand our presence with Facebook. The upcoming use of Zoom to expand members ability to join in on meetings from home.

We will never forget the impact that 2020 made in our lives. We not only saw history being made but we lived it and survived.

Ken Bell, President

We have a date
These are tentative dates....events may be cancelled ,
Oct 24, Graveyard Tour
The graveyard tour is at the Schmidt House at 6PM.
Dec 19, Christmas Open House

What’s inside?

- Help us when you buy from Oregon Books, Fred Meyer or Amazon
- Board of Directors
- Our Computer Guy’s Advertisement
- Raffle Time
- Brady Project
- Donations
- Spirits of the Past
- Sustaining donations
- In Memory of
- Living History Players
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

**Board for 2020**

**President/Hist. Sites**
Ken Bell

**Vice President**
Leta Neiderheiser

**Treasurer/Executive Secretary**
Martha Metcalf

**Secretary/Publishing**
Joan Momsen

**Events**
Sharon Allen

**Living History Players**
Cindy English

**Properties**
Glenn Hearrell

**Research Library**
Patricia Heumann

**Directors-at-Large**
Joan Dougherty
Jim VanDelden
Jan Greenblatt
Kathy Marshall
Rick Marshall
Pam Petrusha
Linda Fuidge

**Shamrock Technologies**
Sean Malloy

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

**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.

Our I.D number is NPO#94511

**Camping on the property still a problem**
Vandalism is getting to be a problem and also our name and green grass lead people to believe our historical Schmidt House and the Research Library next door are public property, somewhat like a city park. That is not the case. We pay money to have the property policed and cleaned up after some people use the gardens, porches and bandstand as camp sites (bushes as restrooms and cooking on porches, etc) and party sites. We are considering putting up a wrought iron fence, similar to ones used in the Nineteenth Century, to protect our property. The house and barn are over 120 years old and we do not want more damage. We do not wish to dip into our investments and savings, because we survive on the interest without touching the principal. Many people who bequeathed money to the society stipulated we never touch the donation, but use only the interest. With interest being the way it is now, there is not a lot to be used for extras, such as a fence, lawn mowing and weeding. We are doing what we can, when we can. Any more suggestions since this article was included in last email edition of newsletter. Thanks to those who replied the first time around.

**Something to think about.**
JCHS is self-supporting and we make money to operate the Society but 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 Father’s Day, Birthdays, Christmas 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.

You may order by mail and we will send or deliver your order when it is filled. Remember we are not open but we check the office weekly.

**Raffles will resume in the future**
There is a basket raffle across the street at the Weekend Brewery on our behalf.

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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

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

DONATIONS 5/29 THRU 9/30/20

Sean Malloy
Ken Bell
Joan Momsen
Jan Greenblatt
Sharon Allen
Carol & Richard Gajdosik
Frank Boothby Family
Jeanette Dickson
June Cougle
Gale Shoemaker
Leta & Joe Neiderheiser
Markley & Marilyn Johnson
Dennis Eckstein
David & Susan Corsi
Carol & Richard Smith
Carol & Gilbert Meek
Lynda Demsher
Alan & Frances Miller
Jodi Wainwright
J.A. Coutant
Michael & Suzanne Peil
Oregon Books & Games
Jim & Karen VanDelden
Donna Tellyer
Our Living History Players and other JCHS volunteers are not about to let this COVID-19 virus get us down. A group of volunteers have been tending to the Schmidt grounds, mowing, weeding, making sure sprinklers work, etc. And recently a team decided to paint the bandstand/gazebo, the bench, and even the sign on the front of the Schmidt House! Everything looks fresh and clean and LOVED!

And, as if that is not enough, Ken and the Events team are detailing plans for a modified Graveyard Tour on Sat., Oct. 24. The GYT will take place in the backyard of the Schmidt House – which will be decorated in Cemetery style. Chairs will be placed properly socially distanced from each other. The performers, our wonderful Living History Players, will perform individually on the Gazebo in a “Theater in the Round” approach. There will be only one performance at 6:00 pm prompt. Hopefully we will have about a dozen players and they will give 5 minute performances each.

Many of our LHP and Event volunteers are still hesitant to participate in this event due to the risk of the Corona virus and – rightly so that they are placing their health needs first. However, a few brave and hardy souls are willing to carefully participate on Oct. 24.

Those considering performing for this year’s GYT are: Sharon Allen – Event Coordinator and portraying Margaret Savage, Anthony Jarvis as James Savage, Rick Marshall as Elijah Davidson, Irv Vodovoz as Dr. Loughridge, Ken Bell as Glen Wooldridge, Linda Fuidge as Marie Kienlin, Julia Intravartolo as Mary Harris, Dennis & Lynne Hotchkiss as Postmaster Nathan Dodge and his wife Mary, Joan Momsen as Lona Belle Blakely, Leta Neiderheiser as Cynthia Applegate, Nedra Mitchell as Indian Mary and Edith Decker will be Suffragist Beth Conklin. If you want to join our Merry Band of GYT players, please contact me or Sharon Allen ASAP.

Again, we realize that we can only have 100 people involved in this event so it will not be a big moneymaker due to the health and safety limitations imposed by the Governor. We will require masks, social distancing, and will only sell tickets at the front door of the Schmidt House. If there are changes in the COVID-19 status that will affect our event, we will of course cancel. We want to offer the public an opportunity to attend a safe event and to remind the community that JCHS is alive and well!

Cindy – 541-660-5587 or Sharon – 541-441-2732