Seiber’s Corner - A Landmark in Talent

By Debra Moon

This story is taken from a text that was dictated by Al Seiber in 2005. It is the story of the Seiber family moving to Talent and building the Market and the Farmer’s Market Café. Al begins his story in 1953 when he and his wife, Helen, owned a grocery store in Florence, Oregon.

“So, on Christmas vacation, which was coming right up, Helen and I closed the Florence store with a big sign on it, "Closed for Vacation," and we went cruising around the country to find a suitable location for a new store.”

Al and Helen Seiber drove through Bend and then down to Medford looking for their new business location. They were eating at a café in Talent right across the street from what would become Seiber’s Corner, but at the time, it was just a big lot with a tiny house on it. They asked the café owner, Jack Hale, about who owned the lot, and Jack informed them that it was a Mr. Harvey Peterson. Al negotiated a good price for the lots with Mr. Peterson, but the house had a renter who wouldn’t pay rent and who wouldn’t move. Al thought he knew how to solve that problem, so he said, “Well, you sell it to me. I’ll take care of it.”

Helen went back to Florence to run their store there, and Al stayed in Talent with a big sledgehammer. He began knocking down walls in the little house to remodel it as a new store with a living area in the back. When the tenant’s bedroom wall disappeared, he was out in the open, so he moved out pretty quickly. Al was determined to build up his business there. This is Al’s story:

“Well, I bought a two-and-a-half ton Chevy truck, and went over to Florence and got a nucleus of a new store from my spare parts in Florence. One thing I brought back with me was a Shopsmith. That was an all-around tool that I could just do everything with. I could drill and sand and saw and do precision sawing.”

Al drew up the plans for his new building on big sheets of butcher paper, which all good grocers had plenty of in those days. He made the living quarters nice and cozy with a fireplace, two bedrooms and a bathroom. Some parts were the original little house and some were newly built. He included the storefront and a storage area for the market. While Al was building, he made his sleeping quarters in a walk-in refrigerator from his Florence store. Al suffered from a neuritis in his right arm while he was doing all that sawing and hammering, which was quite painful. It cost him some sleep too, but he kept at it until Seiber’s Shopping Center was completed.

“With that two-and-a-half ton truck, I would make periodic trips to Florence and bring some more of our equipment over. Helen…and I agreed we were getting along just great. We agreed that we ought to have another little bouncy baby. So we worked on it on our trips over there, and sure enough, Helen got pregnant and that was just great with us. The store was taking shape, doing real well, and I had the fixtures pretty well set in and arranged it would actually be another grocery store… I decided the opening date would be June the 16th, 1954, of our new store, and we’d call it Seiber’s Shopping Center.”

Al Seiber was a pretty good businessman, and he had a good relationship with grocery suppliers from his store in Florence. He kept the same suppliers, and they gave him good deals. He appealed first to working men in the community, but soon their wives were dropping in to buy items too.

“About June the 10th or 11th, Helen sold the Florence store. So she moved over there to our new quarters, just happy as a baby, but pregnant. I met all of the salesmen who were going to supply us with groceries and stuff, and I gave them the same kind of a story that I gave the Florence salesmen. I laid out what I

Continued on page 4
The Talent Historical Society researches and preserves the history of the Talent area in Southern Oregon. We offer a collection of historical archives to help local residents and visitors become better acquainted with our area’s rich history.

We are members of the Jackson County Heritage Association; a group of heritage nonprofits dedicated to the collection, preservation, and interpretation of Southern Oregon’s cultural history.

We operate a museum and meeting place located at:

105 North Market Street
Talent, Oregon

The museum is open Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

General Business Address:
P.O. Box 582
Talent, OR 97540

Phone Number: (541) 512-8838
Email: info@talenthistory.org
Web Page: www.talenthistory.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/talenthistory/

The Historacle is published quarterly.

Editor/layout: Ron Medinger

---

**Memberships since Last Issue**

**New Members:**

Carey Brink & Todd Hoerer
Barbara & Dick MacMillen

Ray Eddington
Patrick Weaver

**Renewals:**

George & Collen Baylor
Don & Melissa Braaten
Don Burke
Karen Carr
Tim & Judy Cebulla
Jerry Deubert
Dave & Ann Galligan
Nelda Hanscom
Ron & Jackie Wagner

Steve Isaacson
Thomas & Jane Lane
Doris Myers
Roy James
Ruth St John
Freddie & Christina Taulani
Arn & Karen Wihtol
Chuck Zickfoose

**Lifetime Memberships:**

Marla Cates & Jan Ritter
Bud & MaryLouise Gleim
Edwin McManus & Family
George Kramer
Matt & Antoinette Lichtenstein
Lunette Gleason-Fleming
John Wahl
Janice A. Napoleon

Margay Garrity
Al Nijenhuis
Michael Mills
Jack Latvala
Wanda Perdue
Poppie Beveridge
Brent Thompson
Jim Bradley & Patricia Remencuis

**Additional Donation:**

Nelda Hanscom

---

**Honorary Lifetime Memberships**

Bob Casebeer  Jan Wright  Susan Moulder  Katherine Harris
President’s Message by Ron Medinger

My friend, Belinda Vos.
When I joined the THS Board in October of 2014, I found one of the things the board needed was additional board members. I visited with my friend of over 25 years, Belinda Klimek Vos. I knew Belinda was interested in history and, being a native Talentinian, it seemed like a natural fit.

When we first talked, she said she wasn’t really interested in joining the board, but she would be willing to help in some way. I asked what she might be interested in. When she mentioned the Historacle, our newsletter, my heart jumped with joy!

Having known Belinda for so long, I knew that whenever Belinda took on a project, the results would be top-notch!

Belinda ended up joining the board and has been instrumental in many projects and improvements we’ve made in the last few years, but she really showed how she could shine with the Historacle. We’ve got some big shoes to fill and we’ll try out best.

Thank you, my friend, for being here and helping us shine!

Tuesday Evening at the Museum

The Talent Historical Society continues it series of presentations held on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

On Dec. 18th we held our traditional Holiday Social and Annual Meeting which featured appearances by both Santa Claus and special guest Kyle Moon. Kyle is a musician, singer and songwriter and one of the founding members of the band “Fish Out of Water” www.fishoutofwaterhq.com

Chelsea Rose, historical archaeologist and research faculty member at Southern Oregon University Laboratory of Anthropology gave a presentation on January 22nd about the years long archeology digs performed at the Peter Britt Homestead in Jacksonville. She talked about various excavations, artifacts and key findings from the site.

Southern Oregon winter weather threw us for a loop on the day of our February Tuesday Evening at the Museum. A fair amount of snow during the afternoon and somewhat treacherous driving conditions forced us to postpone the presentation for that evening until March 26th.

Willow McCloud will be giving her presentation on “Remembering History in our Backyard” on March 26th at the Museum. This photo show features memories of past life in our Rogue Valley. She has accumulated these photos over the past four years while exploring little known areas and hidden gems.

On April 23rd, Debra Moon will offer the fascinating story of the Hooker Oak in Chico, California, which was featured in the 1938 film Robin Hood, starring Errol Flynn.

Our Tuesday Evening at the Museum for May 28th is still to be scheduled, so check back on our Facebook page and at talenthistory.org for information on that upcoming event.

All talks are held at our museum at 105 North Market Street, Talent, unless otherwise noted. The meetings are free and open to the public, and you need not be a member to attend. Due to Fire Code restrictions, attendance will be limited to the first 72 attendees.

Talent Tomato Song Released!!!

At our Holiday Party in December, Kyle Moon, the son of our newest Board Member, Debra Moon, introduced the new Talent Tomato Song. It was a big hit. The lyrics were written by Kyle and Debra. Then Kyle put the lyrics to music and performed the song for the members attending the Holiday Party.

This fun little ditty praises the Talent Tomato and thanks those who kept it alive. It puts us in the mood for our upcoming spring T-Shirt and plant sale, which is the Talent Historical Society’s biggest fundraiser of the year.

Don’t miss out when the T-shirts and tomato plants come up for sale!
The Talent Tomato Song

Well, thank you Mr. Holdridge and Mr. James
For keeping tomatoes at the top of their game
Greenleaf Industries and the THS
Making tomato dreams come true
Grab a tomato, when the time comes to
Take a big bite, you just might
Be surprised…
It’s the best tomato. It’s grown nearby

The Talent Tomato, the secret’s in the seeds
The Talent Tomato is what everybody needs
The Talent Tomato is the winner of awards
The Talent Tomato is grown in our backyards

Well, thank you Mr. Holdridge and Mr. James
For keeping tomatoes at the top of their game
Greenleaf Industries and the THS
Making tomato dreams come true
Grab a tomato, when the time comes to
Take a big bite, you just might
Be surprised…
It’s the best tomato. It’s grown nearby

The Talent Tomato, the secret’s in the seeds
The Talent Tomato is what everybody needs
The Talent Tomato is the winner of awards
The Talent Tomato is grown in our own backyards

Songwriter/Musician - Kyle Moon

≈≈≈ Talent Tomato Sale ≈≈≈
May 11th, 2019 - 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
105 North Market Street in Talent
thought was a good stock for an up and coming grocery store that was going to open late in the morning and stay open late at night, to get all the late trade from the people that worked. They cooperated with me. They all laid out a list and I had a lot more stuff than I had at Florence, so they agreed that they would ship the stuff into the store and I could pay them the following week when they came to take some other orders. Well, that was alright with me, but I used up quite a lot of my money. So I borrowed from Helen's sister's husband, a guy named Woody Kramer. He was a pilot I had flown with down in Pensacola and I liked him a lot, and he liked me, and he was now in the banking business there in Minnesota. And he loaned me $2,000. And that was enough to cover what extra money I needed to stock the store. So that was an auspicious start.

"We got a bunch of bannors to string up around the parking lot, and some A-frames with advertising on them on butcher paper about our big opening, and we really had a grand opening. All the salesmen cooperated by giving us stuff to give away to our new people that we knew would come out of curiosity to see what kind of a store we had.

"Well, there were two other stores in town. One uptown in Talent, and one just a block and a half from us, right on the highway also. It was called Ideal Market. And the one uptown Talent was called The Talent Market. And here was Seiber's Shopping Center. Well, we really got off to a good start, because those stores opened at 9:00 and closed at 6:00. Well, I opened at 11:00 and closed at 11:00, so they had lots of time to do the shopping at Seiber's Shopping Center."
simply hanging it in the walk-in cooler and aging it.

“I could put out some very good steaks. So, I had a pretty good meat business, a good beer business, wine business, and the wives started coming in too, and buying their fresh lettuce and now and then I’d have a real special. The vegetable guy would bring me tubs of bananas that were banana fingers. That meant they weren’t in hands, they were just single fingers, and I’d put out a roadside reader board, "Bananas, 5 cents a pound". Well, those shoppers going toward Medford would stop in and they’d buy 10 or 12 pounds of bananas at a time.”

Al Seiber’s store was competitive with the other stores in the area. He kept his beer ice-cold and his prices right, and he did a very good grocery business. It was rumored that he inherited money when his father passed away. However, that was not true. Al and his siblings had to all pitch in to pay for his father’s funeral. Al’s money was what he had earned at Seiber’s Shopping Center.

CREATING THE FARMER’S MARKET CAFÉ BUILDING

Ever the bargain hunter, Al Seiber found a place where he could get lumber seconds for free. Vick Pace was a good customer at the market and he was getting seconds from the Magnolia Lumber Yard in Ashland, but he couldn’t use all of them. He knew that Al had a big truck parked in back of the store so he said, "If you’ll come up to the lumber yard up in Ashland here, you can haul away all of that stuff that you want, and anything you’re using for building, why, you can have it for free." Vick loved Al’s cold beer, and he loved to stop into the market and visit with Al. They were good friends for many years.

While Al was selling the fruit and vegetables, he also sold canned olives with a Seiber’s label on them and other items carried by other Farmer’s Markets. However, he wasn’t getting any more good deals on the fruit and vegetables, and so decided to re-do the Farmer’s Market and take Vick up on his offer of free lumber.

Al decided to do some more “engineering” (which was actually his own diagramming on the big butcher paper). He planned to put a beauty shop, an office, and a café in the former Farmer’s Market building. He began planning and building for this new enterprise around 1956.

“Since I had some real faithful suppliers and I approached them to borrow some money in a backhanded way. I went to the milk people, Jorgensen’s Dairy, I had he and Mrs. Jorgensen come out and look at the store, and I had Nebergall’s from Albany, their manager came up and looked at the store, and I had again the bread people, and so on, and my usual method of paying these people was they would supply the groceries one week, and I would pay them the following week. So I asked all of these people if I could delay paying them one week, so I would be one week late, that I would actually catch up paying them as I went on doing well in the business. And they all just said it was a hell of an idea. One of them even said, Jorgensen the milk man, he said, “Well, I wish that all my customers were only one week late.” And same way with the meat people and the bread people. Not the beer people though. Theirs was cash on the barrel head.

“There I had funding for my drawings for the new Farmer’s Market building...I hired two wonderful middle-aged women to tend the store while I was hammering together this project out on the back part of my property that paralleled the highway. It was going to be a pretty nice enterprise.

“Well, there was lots of work I couldn’t do. But Harvey Petersen was an electrician, and he assured me that he would come by and inspect all of my electrical wiring and electrical boxes and so on in the building, all I’d have to do was call him and he would come down and inspect them—cause he lived right there in Talent—and he also gave me all the required plans, how I’d route the wiring and so on, and that took care of the wiring, but I had no way of pouring the cement slab. And so I had the people who deliver the concrete tell me what they would need, and so I had a concrete floor in that building, but I didn’t do it. They did it. They smoothed that floor and put in the fastenings I would need to fasten the studding onto the concrete, and they all pitched in and helped me. Besides, my suppliers were helping me with the cash to do this with

The café equipment was no problem. Al had found a café on the other side of Hilt, right over the Siskiyou’s at the very edge of California that was going out of business. He went down and bought the used equipment from them. He came back with a dishwasher, stools, counter tops, and tables, all for a very reasonable price.

“So, I had the equipment for a restaurant and all I had to do was build this restaurant so it was attractive. So I drew out the plans, I had the inward slanting windows so the patrons in the restaurant wouldn’t have to put up with the sun reflecting through the windows into their faces. And it was beautiful, just spectacular. Still standing right there right now,

Continued on page 8
Follow our Facebook page for the latest news and updates from the Talent Historical Society. And thanks to all our followers!!!

As always, we share the posts from Welborn Beeson’s diary from 150 years ago. (1869)

We start off with a Christmas party at Beeson’s house that turned rowdy - Dec 26 1868 ...about one o’clock Booth got pretty tight and knocked a boy name of Wise down then he Commenced to abuse me and kick at me. I then knocked him down and pounded him some, and then he was not Satisfied but he tried it again so I ordered him away, he would not go so I shot at him with my revolver but Bob Robison knocked my arm, up and I missed him, He run then and did not come back to bother. It frightened all the women and made everybody feel bad, but the Music started up and the ball rolled on as if nothing had happened although It is the principle talk at present. It and Small Pox are the topics of the day, the folks all went Home...

Dec 28th ... T G. Owens, came to Subpoena Me to go to town as witness for the State against Steven Booth in the Case of Assault and Battery on the boy, Andrew Wize, so I went to Town and the trial came off and Booth had ten dollars fine and the Costs of Suit amounting all to 41.00 to pay, for hitting the boy. If I had sued him it would have been More, but he seems to be sorry for the way he acted, and so I shall do nothing with it if he lets me alone. I have to stay in town to night I am going to sleep in the Stable and have my own blanket

Dec 29th I got four dollars I greenbacks for Witness Fees...

The danger of living on the frontier became evident when smallpox presented itself - Jan 5th 1869 ... was taken quite sick got home one o’clock and had to lay down. Kate gave me a wet sheet pack and a warm bath. I have a very high fever, symptoms of small pox very strong, feel better after bath.

Jan 6th Still very weak, and feverish not able to go out of doors but have sit up nearly all day...Morland is afraid to come into the house for fear I have the Small pox, and I should not wonder if I have got it, but hope not. It is such a disagreeable disgusting disease, but still by hydropathic treatment It loses a great deal of its terrors. It is still raging at Jacksonville I hear. ... I feel the fever coming on to me again Oh! how Bad It is to be sick and some people are invalids all their life Oh! How bad it is...

Jan 7th Thursday up early felt better, and started to Jacksonville on the Applusa ... When near to to Town we saw a large placard, with letters in large print warning all that Jacksonville had the pestilence the small pox, and forbidding strangers to stay in Town, we went into town but the few people we saw seemed like the remnant of a funeral that had been shaken by an earthquake. there are number of cases of small pox but the panic is in excess. I came out and went down the vally and found the people nearly all badly ...

Jan 8th I hung my pork up to smoke, and chored around then went up to Ashland they are all afraid of the small pox up there they have bills posted up to warn people not to stop in Ashland. ... I don’t feel very well. It is astonishing how foolish the people all are to get into such a panic about the small pox. If they would only use ordinary precaution to obey the laws of nature and Hygiene, even if they happen to take the disease it would not harm them so much has, it will if they take such strong Medicine well I hope we shall avoid the diseases.

Jan 9th ... Small Pox news still raging. Mr Goddard up from Gassburg says every body frightened there, not allowed to stop in the place, says the red headed preacher is coming up here to preach to morrow, and he wants me to tell him not to preach for fear of small pox. News from California State small pox was bad. great excitement. It is every man for himself and the Devil for us all. Mr Thatcher called he had some Vaccine to his house, last night, he has wife and George, Frank & Hattie... More Small Pox reports all around.

Jan 14 ... Horace Greely and Ole
Michelson and Company have gone up Wagner Creek a hunting and to avoid the Small Pox which is still raging in Jacksonville very bad, several of the gamblers and miserable Squaw men are dying of with it.

Jan 23 ... John Colman came with his wife and Mrs Lizzy Sargent, they were after Vancie Matter, but we had none my arm has taken but I rubbed off the scab today. Emmet has not taken at all... Jan 25 Up early and started for Big Butte Creek saw Mill, traveled all day and got there at four O’clock in rain, was kindly welcomed by William Sutherland and wife after they found I was not from Jacksonville, they having like all others a great terror, of Jacksonville people on account of the Small Pox. found them all well... Jan 27 ...news that Mrs Stearns had the Small Pox but I guess nothing of it. Jan 30 I saw Uncle Davey [Stearns]. He says Mrs. Stearns has the small pox and is very sick indeed. The disease is really getting close to us, and It behoves us to be very careful, but no use to get frightened and scare ourselves to death. Jan 31... I took a loaf of white bread up to Mrs Stearns and laid it on the fence, and called Uncle Davie out, he was pleased to get it. Mrs Stearns is some better, broken out all over with scabs the Doctor was up to see her. Mr Williams took Mrs Sam Duncan up to nurse Mrs Stearns...

Feb 1 ... Mrs Stearns no better, I expect She will die... Feb 4... Iss Williams came and told us Mrs Stearns was dead. John Obenchain and I, Bob Robison & Sam, went and dug the grave, got done after dark. We built bonfires and set the stumps on fire to light them as they brought the body, there is no to bury her but Orson, Uncle David and John Stearns and Jessie Huggings who has had the small Pox. It will be a lonesome mournful procession Oh! this pestilence is dreadful, I am really afraid my own dear Kate and Emmet may get it and then It will be a home thrust...

Feb 5 Fine day, again everything passes on Just the same as if Mrs Stearns was not dead, she soon will be forgotten. I plowed forenoon for Oats, afternoon went to Ashland to get some nesariy. It is astonishing how this disease is causing business to cease, nothing being done, and every body excited and almost crazy. News has come that Coln W. G. 'T Vault died of the Small pox last night and so they go...

Feb 7 ... I went to Gassburg and to John Hoakanoose met G Naylor there he gave me some Vancie matter from Etta Naylor when I got home I vaccinated all of us. I hope we will be prepared for the Small pox If it really should come, but I hope it won’t... Feb 10... News came George Stearns is some better of the Small pox... Feb 12... Carlos Goddard came to get us to go and dig the grave for poor George Stearns who died this Morning...buried him by side of poor little Emma Stearns that we buried years ago. Poor old David is left with out any family...

Need a special gift for someone with an interest in Talent history?

How about a copy of the new John Beeson book written by Jan Wright? This fascinating and important biography brings alive the story of John Beeson who moved to Talent, Oregon from the Midwest in 1853. Drawing on extensive diaries, letters, and other documents from the time, Wright describes Beeson the human being, from his courage and determination to the problems his crusade created for his wife and son he left behind in Oregon. During his lifetime, John Beeson (1803–1889) was called the Indian Apostle, Father Beeson, the Alpha and Omega of the Indian cause, a monomaniac, a depraved liar, vile, fanatical, and venerable. Because of his insistence on justice for the Indians, he was politically disqualified for residency in Territorial Oregon. His passion for justice and human rights in the face of adversity still resonate today.

This 234 page book covers Beeson’s story and includes many photographs and can be purchased for just $19.99 at either the THS Museum during regular business hours or thorough our online store at: www.talenthistory.org. Don’t miss out on enjoying this riveting book about one of Talent’s most important citizens.
and a couple of weeks ago I went down and saw it again and had dinner with the present-day tenants. But the downside of being a burgeoning, expanding businessman, was neuritis. I was hammering this building together, making it just the way I wanted it, and the old neuritis set in. So, I did run into some painful times.

"But when I had it finished, I had some very viable businesses there. I couldn’t run a restaurant, so I leased the restaurant to people that could run it. And I couldn’t run a beauty shop, so I put the beauty operators together in there and supplied them with equipment and they got going good, and then I sold them the business, and would just rent the place to them. Same way with that office space there. I had a bookkeeper in there, and I just rented him the space. So we had some real good rentals coming in. Beauty operator rentals, bookkeeper rentals, and café. The café was the best rental of them all, because it really kept customers coming. They’d come to the café, come to the store, pick up my specials, and all in all, I was doing just real well."

People in Talent remember it as Seiber’s Corner. Suzanne Seiber transcribed the text that her father, Al, dictated. She shared this typed text with our community, along with photos of her family. Al Seiber passed away in 2006 at age 89, a year after recording this story. Helen was very active in the community in her later years. She served on the board of the Talent Historical Society. She passed away in 2009 at age 89.

SEIBER’S CORNER TODAY

The family owned six lots on the corner of New Street and Highway 99 until two years ago. The lots extended from the highway back to Seiber Street. One lot was sold to David Powell and his wife and will become SNIP, a new clinic for neutering and spaying pets.

The Lawrence family rented from the Seibers for American Transportation Technology Corporation’s (ATTC) business office/retail store. They manufactured The Water Eliminator® which removes water from fuel and the Circuit Chaser® which checks a heavy-duty truck’s electrical system. Matthew Lawrence purchased the property when it came up for sale in 2017. The family loves Talent and wants to develop businesses on the property that will benefit the community. Kerry Lawrence, Matthew’s father, runs Foresight Realty, in part of the building that used to be the market. He works with buyers and sellers of both commercial and residential properties specializing in land acquisition and focusing on sustainable development. Kerry’s office is also a mini-museum displaying, among other things, old handmade tools used in fruit orchards. Rhonda Lawrence, Matthew’s mother and one of ATTC’s officers, will be opening a shop in the rest of the old market building where she will be restoring vintage clothing and costumes. The Lawrence family also owns the building that was the café and beauty shop. They rent to Quality Paperback Books and to Talent Chiropractic.

Joe and Coralee Eaton are the owners of Quality Paperback Books, which resides in what used to be the café. It was a bookstore owned by Gary Brewer for 23 years before the Eatons began renting it. They bought the bookstore business from Gary Brewer and have been running it for six years. They buy, sell and trade books and have over 4,000 titles in their collection. In 2013 they also opened an online store. Coralee helped research the information used to write this story.

Joel Goldman became the first chiropractor in Talent in 2005. His office is now in the part of the building that was Betty Roy’s beauty shop. Joel provided the image of a painting of Seiber’s Corner done by Betty Roy. He also gave us the information about the lovely mural of Talent, which has replaced the Grocery and Meats sign on the side of the market. It was done by Jed Greene in 2005.

Jan Wright, board member of Talent Historical Society, also provided a photo of the storefront and some information about the family from the Talent Museum archives. More information is available on Seiber’s Corner and on the Seiber family in the Museum library. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this article.

It’s Talent Tomato time!

It’s that time of year, Talent Tomato season is here. You’ll want to pre-order your Talent Tomato plants now to make sure they are ready and waiting for you on May 11th, Talent Tomato Sale Day.

You can order by stopping by the museum on Saturday or Sunday from 1:00—5:00 p.m. and filling out an order sheet, or you can visit our online store at store.talenthistory.org and order them there! Pre-orders must be paid for at time of submission.

Pre-orders can be made anytime until end of business day May 5th. This is to allow us to process your orders and have your plants ready for you on May 11th.

Plants are available in two sizes, a 4” pot costs $3.00 and a gallon pot costs $7.50.

Seiber’s Corner today. Photo by Debra Moon.
Accessions

The following items have been donated to us and have been added to the Museum collection:

1983 Talent Middle School Bulldog yearbook purchased by the Society.
Bee smoker and 1944 VE Day Cache envelope donated by Ron Medinger.
Ceramic Owl figure made at Lee’s Ceramic Studio in Talent donated by Leslie Rowden.
1971 Calendar from the Drive In Market of Talent donated by Nick Medinger.
Patchwork quilt made in the Rogue Valley donated by Gerlinde Smith.
1993 First Day Cover celebrating opening of new Talent Post Office donated by Ron Medinger.
Bottle of glycerin from Gier’s Drug Store in Phoenix donated by Lunette Gleason-Fleming.

Thanks to all of these folks for thinking of us. We appreciate your donations.

Talent Poker Tour

Thanks to everyone who came out to our last tournament on December 29th, and congratulations to winner Jerry Deubert. Our next tournament will take place on Saturday, March 30th starting at 1:00 pm at the Museum. The tournament is open to THS members only, with a membership level of Family or above and pre-registration is required.

The No-Limit Texas Hold’em tournament will feature a buy-in of $30.00 with all entry money paid back out as cash prizes. Refreshments and snacks will be available for a modest cost. This is a no alcohol/no smoking event.

Contact info@talenthistory.org or call the museum at 541.512.8838 for additional information.

Bates Service Station

200 Talent Avenue  ca. 1930

This single-story wood frame structure represents one of the earliest identified resources in the Talent area built specifically in response to the Pacific Highway. In 1913, Jackson County became a leader in the use of automobiles to replace rail service. The present structure likely incorporates that earlier structure, augmented by two service bays. The property was acquired by Robert and Sylvia Logan, and shortly thereafter was purchased by Loyal and Sylvia Bates. In 1938 the main route of the highway was moved east, away from this service station. The station is a rare surviving example of an early gas station. Although no longer used as such, the building retains its original canopy and wooden posts. The multi-paned windows and exposed beams are typical of the form and are classic elements of early automobile-related design.

Taken from our “Walking Tour of Historic Talent” Booklet. The booklet may be purchased at the museum or at our online store: store.talenthistory.org. Purchase price is $3.00 and includes descriptions of 20 properties of significant historic value that are located within the city limits of Talent.

DON’T MISS OUT!

Would you like timely email reminders about upcoming events at the Talent Historical Society? If so, contact us at: info@talenthistory.org or call and leave a message at (541) 512-8838. Or just drop by the museum and leave us your information. We’ll email notices out including all the information about upcoming events.
William Hewitt owned and operated this Talent Shell Station on the corner of Suncrest and Highway 99, which he cleverly located to catch traffic from Colver Road, Highway 99, and Talent Avenue.

From “Images of America - Talent” by Jan Wright of the Talent Historical Society, page 83. This book may be ordered through our online store or purchased directly at the Museum. The price is just $14.95. This must have book documents Talent’s early history through images and text and is published by Arcadia Publishing as part of its Images of America series.

---

**Historacle’s best friend has retired.**

Belinda Klimek Vos has retired from the Talent Historical Society Board and as Editor of the Historacle. Belinda wrote most of the stories we all enjoyed reading so much and will be missed tremendously.

Belinda started as the Editor/Writer of the Historacle with the June 2015 issue and has continuously improved the quality of the newsletter since then. Until we can find a suitable replacement, the newsletter will continue as a cooperative effort including several board members talents.

Born and raised in Talent, Belinda has an encyclopedia’s worth of knowledge in her memories of Talent. She compiled and wrote the Klimek-Koneck Family History, which is available in the THS Research Library.

She also wrote a wonderful composition called, “Wildflower Wanderings” that was self-published in a very limited quantity. “Wildflower Wanderings” tells the stories of Belinda and her husband Bob traveling through southern-western Oregon and down into California visiting all sorts of flora along the way. While Bob is responsible for the beautiful photographs and Belinda the text, she reveals another talent with her illustrations of plants and wildlife. They are stunning.

Belinda will continue to pursue other passions including raising and tagging Monarch butterflies with her grandchildren, gardening and travel with her lifelong love, Bob.

If you’ve enjoyed Belinda’s tenure as the talent behind the Historacle and would like to tell her so, please post a comment on our Facebook page, email us at info@talenthistory.org or just call and leave a message at the museum (541-512-8838), we’ll make sure she gets it!

On behalf of the entire THS Board of Directors, thank you Belinda!
The Talent Historical Society Membership Application

The Talent Historical Society was founded in 1994 as a non-profit organization dedicated to collecting, preserving and interpreting the history of the Talent area in Southern Oregon. By becoming a member of the Society, you provide valuable support of the Society’s ongoing work.

To become a member, please select a membership level, complete the form below, and return the completed form along with your membership payment. All memberships, regardless of level, are greatly appreciated.

Name ___________________________ Date __________________

Mailing/Street Address ____________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip __________________________

Phone ___________________________ e-mail __________________

Member Type: [ ] New [ ] Renewing

Membership Level: [ ] Junior (12-18) - $10 [ ] Individual - $20 [ ] Lifetime Individual - $200
[ ] Business - $50 [ ] Family - $30 [ ] Lifetime Family - $300
[ ] Individual/Family Sponsorship - $100 or more
[ ] Business Sponsorship - $100 or more
Donation in addition to membership: $ __________________

Amount Enclosed: $ ____________

Dues include our quarterly newsletter: The Historacle
Check if you want it sent: electronically by email in lieu of paper. [ ]
or by regular mail via post office [ ]

[ ] If you would like to volunteer to help in any way, please check the box, and we will contact you.

Please make checks payable to: Talent Historical Society
Send completed form along with payment to: Talent Historical Society
P.O. Box 582
Talent, OR 97540

Talent Historical Society Board of Directors:

Ron Medinger President - Membership Chair
Willow McCloud Vice-President - Art/Design Chair
Jan Wright Secretary - Historian
Theodora Blom Treasurer
Emmalisa Whalley Webmaster
Debra Moon Board Member
Bob Casebeer Board Member - Emeritus

The Monthly Talent Historical Society Board Meeting is held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the museum building at 105 North Market Street, Talent, Oregon.

All interested persons are invited to attend.
## Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 12</td>
<td>THS Board Meeting</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>At the Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 26</td>
<td>Tuesday Evening at the Museum</td>
<td>6:30 - 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Willow McCloud - Remembering History in our Backyards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 30</td>
<td>Talent Poker Tour</td>
<td>1:00 pm - ?</td>
<td>At the Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 9</td>
<td>THS Board Meeting</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>At the Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 23</td>
<td>Tuesday Evening at the Museum</td>
<td>6:30 - 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Debra Moon - Historic Hooker Oak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Talent Tomato Sale</td>
<td>8:00 am - 2:00 pm</td>
<td>At the Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>THS Board Meeting</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>At the Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>Tuesday Evening at the Museum</td>
<td>6:30 - 8:00 pm</td>
<td>To Be Announced</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Something YOU can do to help!
If you do any shopping on Amazon.com, use the link below to enter the Amazon website. The price doesn't change, but the Historical Society receives a donation from each purchase. Any purchases you make will help support the Talent Historical Society and its projects. Thanks!!

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-1125614

### Just a reminder that you can check the top, right hand corner of the address label on this issue of the Historacle to see when it’s time for you to renew! The date will tell you when your membership expires.