



# The Historacle

The Official Newsletter of the  
Talent Historical Society

Volume 24 Issue 2

June 2018

## Talent in the 1930's - A Snapshot in Time

By Belinda Klimek Vos

So what was it like to live in Talent in the early 1930's? While the town of Talent was officially incorporated in 1910, how had it changed in 20 years. A January 1911 fire destroyed the main business district on Wagner and I streets and though much was rebuilt, it changed the landscape forever. The map at the right shows the streets and businesses in Talent in June of 1930 and was produced by the Sanborn Map Co.

The Sanborn Map Company was a creator and publisher of maps of US cities and towns. The Sanborn Maps were originally created for assessing fire insurance liability in urbanized areas in the United States. The maps include detailed information about buildings in approximately 12,000 US towns and cities. The last Sanborn fire maps were published on microfilm in 1977, after US insurance companies stopped using maps for underwriting.

While the map shows the buildings, what about the people that lived in those houses and worked at those businesses. The faces and lives of people aren't represented by the map. Fortunately, we have an article taken from the *Talent Flash* that gives us a fascinating glimpse of not only what the city looked like back then, but also what it might have been like to live in Talent in the early 1930's. So, settle back and enjoy a stroll back in time.

*Let's now take a walk around Talent in this March of 1934.*

*Talent has a population of about 150 people, there are no paved streets at all. Only Hiway 99 which splits the center of the business district, is paved, and just barely. The main part of the city streets are covered with crushed granite and chuckholes. Everybody has an outside*



*The original of this 1930 Sandborn map of Talent can be viewed at the Talent Historic Society museum. The details are interesting and informative.*

*privy, no indoor plumbing or sewer system yet. We have a real train depot where the mail is delivered twice daily. Dances are held every Saturday night at the City Hall, admission for the gents was two bits. Our Fire Department is a*

*two-wheeled cart pulled by volunteer firemen. We have two churches, the First Baptist and the Methodist. Every Sunday morning they rang their bells at*

*Cont'd on page 4*

# Talent Historical Society

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 and holiday Mondays 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](mailto:info@talenthistory.org)  
Web Page: [www.talenthistory.org](http://www.talenthistory.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/talenthistory/](http://www.facebook.com/talenthistory/)

*The Historacle* is published quarterly.

Editor/layout:  
Belinda Klimek Vos

## Museum Hours: Saturday, Sunday & Holiday Mondays

### 1:00 to 5:00 pm

#### Memberships since Last Issue

##### New Members:

Edward Kahut	Stephanie Jones
Ronald Weekley	

##### New Lifetime Memberships:

Brent Thompson	Janice A. Napoleon
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##### Renewals:

Roger R. Roberts	Linda Hale
Bruce Snook	MaryAnn Gayton
Allen Hallmark	Doris Myers
Ruby Whalley	Richard Corrigan
John & Judy Casad	Paul Larson
Kent Patrick Riley	John Abbott
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Gary Rockfellow	

##### Renewing Business Members:

Wagner Creek Cemetery Assoc.

##### Renewing Business Sponsorships:

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##### Additional Donation:

Ruby Whalley	Allen Hallmark
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Richard Corrigan	Paul Larson
Gary Rockfellow	

#### Honorary Lifetime Memberships

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

Summer has arrived and with it another successful Talent Tomato Sale but also a request for support for your Talent Historical Society. Over the past few years, the Talent Historical Society has become more financially stable with the help of our dues paying members and other financial supporters. But this has all been accomplished by a very small group of dedicated people working tirelessly.

Now I am appealing to you for your help. What can you do? Attend the next THS Board Meeting on June 12th and let's talk! Our Board Meeting is from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Museum at 105 North Market St. in Talent and is open to everyone.

Think you will forget about this by June 12th? Email me right now at [r.medinger@talenthistory.org](mailto:r.medinger@talenthistory.org) and I'll remind you of the upcoming Board Meeting as it approaches. Go ahead. Send that email now!

We're not asking you to take responsibility for the entire Talent Historical Society, but if you've got a few hours you can offer each month, you could make a world of difference in the history of your town.

## Talent Tomato Sale

Our annual Talent Tomato Sale on May 12th was a big success. We had a great day talking with everyone and sharing the Talent Tomato spirit. In fact, it was such a success that we were sold out of plants by 11:30!!

If you missed out on pre-ordering the Talent Tomatoes and would like a notification email next spring when we start accepting pre-orders, just send us an email at [info@talenthistory.org](mailto:info@talenthistory.org) and we'll add you to the notification list.

We hope you enjoy a summer worth of good eating and that we'll see you again next year!! Thanks so much for your support.



## Tuesday Evening at the Museum

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

Local Historian Ben Truwe narrated the 1915 promotional film "Grace's Visit to Rogue River Valley," on March 27th.

On April 24th we presented an encore video presentation of "Clarence and Genevieve Holdridge - A Talent Couple" to get us ready for the upcoming Talent Tomato sale. Clarence was the local farmer who discovered the Talent Tomato in his field.

Talent resident, Matt Witt specializes in fine art, nature, and social justice photography and will showcase his work at our July 24th talk. His work emphasizes wilderness, wildlife, birds, desert beauty, the coast, lakes, mountains, and the sun and moon.

On August 28th, Jan Wright will lead a walking tour of historic buildings in Talent. Meet at the museum at 6:30 to begin the walk. We will have our booklet "Walking Tour of Historic Talent" available for purchase.

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.



*Dave Hodson, one of our most loyal Talent Tomato customers, picking up his plants.*

*Continued from page 1*

*the same time, competing for the attention of the faithful. Archie Edmondson, a tough ex-guard from Alcatraz is the Town Marshall, kids stay clear of him and he carries a gun. He gets \$50.00 a month wages, enough to support his family. Let's start our walk at the corner of Hiway 99 and Main at the Chevron Station operated by Joe Spitzer. Just south of the station is Tryon's Mercantile where the Talent Post office is in a small addition on the north side. Mr. Tames is the postmaster. In the main part of the store, Mr. Tyron has everything in stock from ribbons to horse collars and hardware. Right next to Tryon's is Ray's Market, where Ray Schumacher, later to become County Assessor, and his wife, Laura, operate the store. They live in the back, as most other small businessmen do now. Next we see a small one-room café operated by Esther Cochran. Esther has fine pies, coffee and chili, all you can eat for 25 cents, and finally we can see the pool hall with it's smell of beer and tobacco, which is simply known locally as "Long's". It is operated by Charley Long, a gruff man with a heart of gold who hung a sign on the back bar that said plainly "if your kids need shoes, don't buy booze" and a pair of children's shoes was attached to the sign. He also has several slot machines, pool tables and punch boards for the adventurous who could afford to gamble. Just across the hiway located in the old Odd Fellow's building is Boyd's market, the proprietor is Bill Boyd who once engaged in a highway-separated shouting match with his competitor, Ray Schumacher, over the price of coffee! North of Boyd's we can see the cement building where Mose Crawford has a repair shop. Next door is another grocery store, Park's Grocery, ran by an elderly couple, Mr. and Mrs. Parks. The next building, a small structure, was a barbershop operated by Mr. McMahon. Next door and on the corner of the Valley View and Hiway 99 is another café owned by Mr. Tames. Surrounding the café is the Talent Auto Court with several one room cabins rented to the occasional tourist. Directly across the street is a two story home occupied by the Earl Withrow family... and that, dear readers, is*

*downtown Talent here in 1934!!!*

On the corner of John St. and Main St. was the Ames building. At one time this large brick building was the biggest store in Talent, but by 1934 it was empty.

The Great Depression is considered to have begun with the fall of stock prices on Sept. 4, 1929 and then the stock market crash known as Black Tuesday on October 29, 1929, and lasted through much of the 1930's. Along with the rest of the nation, Oregon fell on hard times with bank failures, bankruptcies, business foreclosures and high unemployment worsening conditions in the region's struggling agricultural and lumber sectors. After WWI, Oregon's economy had floundered because of defunct shipyards, glutted markets for agricultural goods, and weakness in the construction industry. Oregon's lumber industry depended on California markets for much of its livelihood, and it suffered greatly when prices and demand declined in California. By August of 1931, Oregon mills were operating at only 38% of capacity. Delinquent county and local taxes meant financial collapse, businesses could not meet their payrolls, and there was not enough money to fund community services.

Talent's experience was no different from the rest of the state, and the citizens suffered greatly. To say

times were tough, seems a paltry statement to describe the gut wrenching reality of people's lives during those years. And yet, life went on. People were born, people died and life in Talent had its daily routines and events.

The *Talent Flash* article helps flesh out those routines. It adds names and behaviors to just a list of businesses; what they sold and hours of operation. It personalizes the map and allows us to imagine what it might have been like to walk around Talent in those days.

I have my own personal connection to Talent in the 1930's. My Grandparents, Marcel and Julie Klimek, homesteaded on the north fork of Anderson Creek in 1918, having immigrated from Moravia a few years prior. There they build a log cabin and quickly filled it with children. My Grandmother had seven children in nine years. But, there came a time when those children needed to go to school, and the decision was made to buy a house in Talent.

According to the warranty deed, on Jan. 6, 1927 they purchased a house and property from Elizabeth Leaming (Widow) located on what is now 207 Bain St in the village of Talent. They paid \$400.00. The property extended from Bain St. south to the back of the Methodist Church with the parsonage to the east and the school across the street. Lots were much bigger in those days and houses were farther apart. The 1930 census lists them as living on First St in



*The Klimek family at their home in Talent in about 1931.*



Talent, Oregon.

In 1934, my Father would have been 14 years old and the Talent described in the *Talent Flash* article was his Talent; what he experienced when he was growing up. In conversations with him about this time period, he confirmed what the article said. He described the house they lived in as a "shack" and told me that the three older boys slept in a canvas tent as there was no room in the house for them. There was no heat and it must have been mighty uncomfortable out there in a tent during an Oregon winter. He said they had an outhouse in the back yard and there was a well on the property. My Grandmother had a garden and kept chickens and they always had a milk cow.

They kept the homestead property and moved back up there in the summer. Their main source of income was firewood. Everyone heated with wood and the Klimek's would cut timber all summer, stockpile it on their Talent property and then sell it through the winter. I can only imagine that cash was in short supply to those calling Talent their home during the Great Depression, but heating and cooking was done with wood, so it had a fairly high priority. Somehow the family managed to survive.

My Grandmother spoke no English, only Czech, and so would send the boys to the store to buy supplies. I wonder which store they went to: Tyron's Mercantile, Ray's Market, Boyd's Market or Park's Grocery. I was amazed that such a small town could support four grocery stores. One thing to consider, though, is that Talent has always had a large rural population. While there may have been only 150 people who lived within the Talent city limits, the surrounding countryside would have shopped there as well.

The ad for Ray's Market appeared in the May 31, 1934 issue of Ray's NewsFlashes. Ray Schumacher, owner of Ray's Market, employed Mae Lowe to create and edit a newsletter for his business. Later, in December 1937, Ray's Market ceased publication, and Mae Lowe began publishing a similar publication named News Flashes. It continued on in various formats until September 1989.

In the same 1934 newsletter, an editorial appeared outlining Talent's

# RAY'S MARKET

## SATURDAY SPECIALS.

<p style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">GROCERY DEPARTMENT</p> <p>JELLO.....5¢ pkg</p> <p>SUGAR.....10 lb. bag..50¢</p> <p>FLOUR, KLAMATH HARD WHEAT 49 lb. bag.....\$1.69</p> <p>FLOUR, KLAMATH, GOOD 49 lb. bag.....\$1.39</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">VEGETABLE DEPARTMENT</p> <p>SPUDS..50 lb. #2.... 39¢</p> <p>BRINER'S BERRIES 2 boxes..... 15¢</p> <p>LEMONS, SUNKIST doz. 28¢</p> <p>LETTUCE, large heads, 5¢</p>	<p style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">MEAT MARKET</p> <p>FINE STEAK.....15¢</p> <p>ROASTS..... 9¢</p> <p>STEWES..... 6¢</p> <p>LAMB CHOPS.....15¢</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">BAKERY DEPARTMENT.</p> <p>THAT GOOD HOME MADE BREAD</p> <p>STILL...3 loaves...20¢</p> <p>Many other treats at popular prices.</p> <p>WE CARRY ICE, MEDFORD QUALITY AND PRICES.</p>
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past and detailing the duties of its citizens.

### Memorial

*Talent, one of the oldest settlements of Jackson County. For years just a "cross road", its pioneers did their full share in developing the country in which we now find peace and safety.*

*Yesterday was Memorial Day, a day on which for a brief moment we honored the dead, our own immediate relatives and friends who have departed, and our sturdy pioneer fore-fathers who nobly toiled and died for this country and its upbuilding.*

*Talent is a good place in which to live. The citizens as a whole are a group of home loving, moral, law-abiding people. They desire to raise their children to maturity with clean, trained minds, and with proper respect to the things good people hold sacred.*

*It is our duty to cultivate the social atmosphere conducive to such development - to support the institutions, the school, church, and*

*social organizations that are important factors in the lives of each of our citizens. It is our duty as good citizens to actively oppose any influence or factor that tends to tear down character or lead to demoralization. For such influences Talent has no room.*

The brick schoolhouse was the most impressive structure in town, and was located across Wagner Ave. (now St.) and down a bit from where the Klimek's lived. There were 17 students in my Dad's fourth grade class in 1930; 13 boys and only 4 girls. Quite a large number when you think of it. More than half of the boys, Klimek's included, wore overalls as this was the least expensive garb and could easily be passed down. I also notice that the girls all have short hair. As always, class photos were taken in front of the main front door of the school building.

My Grandfather had apprenticed as a blacksmith in the "old country" and had a

*Continued on page 8*

## From Our Facebook Page

To read all the THS posts and information, "like" us on Facebook

Find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/talenthistory/>

Or go to [www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) and type Talent Historical in the search bar at the top of the page. Then from the options shown, choose Talent Historical Society

In a daily post, we are following pioneer Welborn Beeson's diary entry from 150 years ago. (currently 1868)

Follow our Facebook page for the latest news and updates from the Talent Historical Society.

As always, we share the posts of Welborn Beeson's diary from 150 years ago (1868).

As spring 1868 approaches, we find Welborn missing his Illinois home.

*Mar 16 Monday. fifteen years have now passed with oblivion since I bid a last adieu to my early home and place of birth. Friends of my Childhood Many and varied are the scenes that I have witnessed since then. and many new acquaintances and associations have been formed, but still a lingering wish to once more behold the old homestead and once familiar place, is with me yet, although I presume old Friends have forgotten I ever lived in Deer Park, LaSalle Co, Illinois. I believe the memory's of childhood are held most dear in the human heart than any found in later year's. I now feel as if I had no tie binding me to any particular spot on earth. Wherever my Dear little family are there home is. My Dear Mothers grave also has attractions for me to linger near. It has been raining to day. Logan and I have done but little Kate has been washing Mr O Fling has come back to his school. He and Mr Blood took dinner here to day. Kate is tired and so am I.*

Kate occasionally writes in Welborn's diary as well and expresses her love for him.

*Mar 18th Wednesday. Emmet is 6 Months old to day. Kate went visiting to Sam Robisons and Howells, been beautiful day. Logan and I hauled wood & plowed little for Alfalfa. little Emmet is six months old to day we had a very pleasant visit, but we missed Dear Dear Papas company very much. Oh Dear Welborn you don't know how Dearly you are loved by your little family and every day makes you dearer to us.*

Welborn's deep affection for his son, Emmet, is revealed in his constant comments filled with praise for his little boy.

*Mar 19 Thursday. another beautiful Spring Morning. I planted potatoes and cabbage and onions, Logan plowed in Orchard I sowed some alfalfa. I am going to sow Oats in the Orchard. the school girls brought a bouquet of flowers for My Kate, the first of the season. Katie put short dresses and shoes on little Emmet He looks longer with them, he does grow so fast and is so smart.*

I always enjoy hearing of all the trivial events that make up anyone's life. It's what makes Welborn's diary so extraordinary; newspaper wallpaper, a new crib for Emmet and a new baby in the neighborhood.

*Mar 21st Saturday. Cloudy day I helped Kate in the house I put up a Mantle piece and papered the room some, with newspaper. Logan has done but little. Howel had my colts & wagon to go to Ashland. He & Will Patterson brought a new crib down for Emmet, It is very nice rather to large. Katie is pleased with it as she is with everything I got for her. Mrs Lane had a baby last night. R. T. Baldwin & wife was up to Howells to day. I have four hens sitting. Mr Holton brought my mail up a lot of books etc etc I sent New York for.*

Politics are a part of pioneer life as well and Welborn's trip to Jacksonville is an interesting one.

*April 7 Tuesday. Bob Robison came by with me to Jacksonville, on horseback. We had a fine time we got shaved and hair Cut. Been most beautiful day. Politics seem all the rage in the town. The democrats seem to split on their Choices for Sheriff. I hope the republicans will gain the day. It is beautiful Moonlight night. Katie and Emmet are well I got 1/2 lb of tea and a dollars worth of sugar. Ivan Applegate, James Stirling, James Thornton were in town make out a deed to Thornton in favor of the Toll gate.*

In April, Welborn embarks on a work detail with several other men to build a water ditch in Ashland.



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Deeming it too far to go back and forth from Wagner Creek to Ashland each day, he decides to stay in Ashland for a period. Oh, the conveniences we take for granted these days. Now, it's only a few minutes drive between the two towns.

*April 14th Teusday. I went to Ashland to work on the ditch there were 13 men at work each day a good deal. I rode up on Lon, but it is to much to go back and forth I shall stay up there after this. Minnie Anderson stays with Kate. Morland is ploughing for corn It is beutiful growing weather everything is shooting up fast. Mrs Coolidge is very sick, she has Dr Caldwell waiting on her. Little Emmet can sit along, on the blanket, he gets smarter every day. Peaches & plums out in full bloom.*

Kate does her best while Welborn is away, but finds it difficult to keep up with diary entries.

*April 21st Tuesday. Dear Welborn it is not because I have forgotten you or the diary book that I did not write any but every evening I would have to hold little Emmet and do other little chores, the Dear little fellow is crying so I cant write much to night I have been washing and scrubing today. I am very tired and sick. Emma stayed with me after I got done washing Emmet and I took a walk. oh Dear Welborn do come home and stay with us always for you are loved Dearly*

*by your little family, little Emmet is crying so I will have to close. I love you Dear Welborn.*

Welborn continues to work on the ditch and a neighbor is seriously ill.

*April 22 Wednesday. for the past week or more I have been at Ashland digging a water ditch to convey water to supplie West Ashland, there are 34 shares on the ditch and I have two shares. I staid at Ashland, and Minnie Anderson staid with Kate. I came home on Saturday Emma Young, Katie and I went to Holtons to visit Ira & Lucy. in the evenig, We went to Coolidges Mrs Coolidge is very sick and has to have some one sit up with her every night. Dr Caldwell is attending her, we took Emma home in the wagon on Monday I went up to dig on the ditch and come back to Coolidges to set up with Mrs Coolidge, and Teusday I went back and worked on the ditch,, we are building a large ditch. I came home last night,, found my little family all well. It is cloudy this morning and I am not very well, Mrs Young And Hannah Robison called to visit Kate. Hannah had two boys and Mrs Young one and ours made four.*

We are reminded that travel by stage is the norm for those going to California.

*May 5th Teusday. A beutiful day. I*

*went across Bear Creeck to look for my horses found all but three hand, got my dinner at Mr Roberts, called at R Baldwins, home at sundown, found Katie and Emmet better. Veronica Robison started on the stage to morrow morning for California to meet her husband. Van Dorn got back to the vally to day from California The Ivory brothers started for California yesterday. I Williams has sold his cattle to Mapes. a great deal of stock is being driven out of the Vally but there is no sale for horses. Grass is exelent up across the creeck.*

Once again, politics is on Welborn's mind.


*May 16th, Saturday Ira came down and went to Jacksonville with me in the buggy I attended the County Convention, and find there is as much Corruption and intrigue in the republican party as there is in the democratic ranks. Ira came home with me and eat supper. The girls had a most excellent supper for us. an old Gentlemen by name of Langdon was here to stay all night He is 75 years old, and is an old soldier of 1812, and loves to tell of incidents of the times of his young days. Well we will have to go to bed, we are all some better to night. Emmet is better some, Em & Kate are full of fun.*

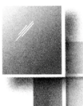
And so Welborn, Kate and little Emmet Beeson move into summer 1868 as life on Wagner Creek continues.

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small forge in the back yard as well. The article mentions the two competing churches ringing their bells at the same time each Sunday. It must have been quite loud at the Klimek house, as the Methodist Church connected to their property.

There was also mention of the mail arriving by train. The train depot was a very important part of life in those years as it connected Talent with the outside world. In the early 1930's, Charlie Skeeters logged the ponderosa pine off of the Klimek homestead and took the timber to the Talent train yard to be loaded onto train cars, presumably to be shipped to a mill to be cut into lumber.

As the 30's moved forward, change was in the air. The winds of war were in the air and Talent's young men were about to find themselves scattered around the world; their small town innocence lost forever including my Father and his brothers.

The Klimek family changed as well as they moved to 41 acres of property across from Rapp Rd. and the highway. My grandmother finally had her good farm land that she'd always wanted, and they had a much bigger house. But, they were still a Talent family and remained there for many years to come.

Growing up during the depression molded a whole generation of Americans. They were never quite trusting of the government and tended to just want to keep their money hidden in the mattress. Understandable, given what they had been through. And for the children who grew up through the depression, those memories of hard times lasted a lifetime, influencing their lives and spending habits forever. I'd like to think that weathering those tough times in Talent at least provided a bit of buffer from the ravages of the economic nightmare. They may not have had much, but they survived and went on to live their lives always appreciating a good meal and a roof over their heads.

My family was one of those who lived through those years in Talent. My Father was always matter of fact as he described his youth and the hardships the family faced. It was just the way it was. At best, history teaches us to appreciate what we have in our own era, and to respect those who have come before. I know I do. As I write this article and Oregon spring rain patters against the window panes, I think of my Dad having to sleep in a tent all winter long and feel very appreciative indeed!



*Talent's brick school house with Wagner Ave./St. at the right. About 1931*



*Mildred Roger's 4th Grade class in front of the Talent School building. Middle row: 3rd from left - Richard Klimek, 4th from left - Marcel Klimek. Top row: 2nd from right - Wilson Klimek 1931-32 school year*



*Talent Train yard. Willy & Richy Klimek. The Ames building at right. Early 1930's*



## Accessions

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

Various toys and photo belonging to Forest Ward donated by Harriet Viola Talbott

Two business stamps from Ty's Shell Service Station in Talent donated by Lonelle Stephens.

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

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## Talent Poker Tour

Thanks to everyone who came out to our last tournament on March 31th, and congratulations to winner Chris Livingston. Our next tournament will take place on Saturday, June 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.

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](mailto:info@talenthistory.org) or call the museum at 541.512.8838 for additional information.



*Chris Livingston  
Winner of Talent Poker Tour XXXVII*



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## Talent Hotel/Ellis Beeson House

101 West Main Street ca. 1910

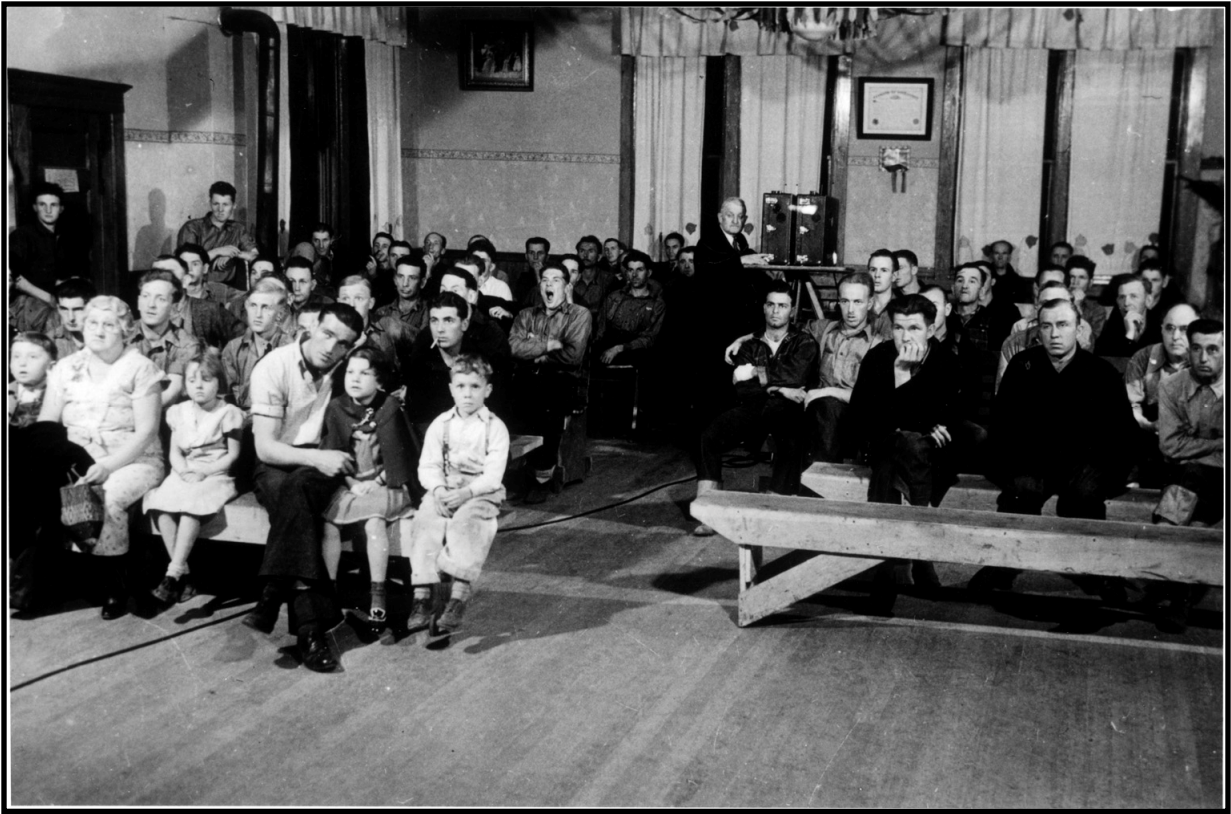
With its unusually complicated roofline and prominent corner location opposite the original Talent Depot site, the Talent Hotel/Ellis Beeson House is a well-known local landmark. The dwelling was constructed sometime around November 1910. J. H. and Emma Lacy operated the Talent Hotel there for a short time. John Lacy retained the property through the '20s, but by 1930 it was owned by W.F. Hart who served at least one term as Talent's mayor. In 1948, it was purchased by Ellis Beeson, a third generation member of the prominent pioneer Beeson family, who lived there until at least 1986. While the structure is architecturally significant in Talent for its idiosyncratic, almost gothic rooflines applied to a basically rectangular house, based on the photo above, it appears these features were not part of the original construction.

*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](http://store.talenthistory.org). Purchase price is \$2.00 and includes descriptions of 20 properties of significant historic value that are located within the city limits of Talent.*

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## 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](mailto: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.



*A special showing of the movie Show Boat for the Federal Relief Camp in the Talent Community Hall about 1936 brought in those looking for entertainment. Though Talent once boasted an opera house and now has the Camelot Theater, it has never had a formal indoor movie theater. (SOHS No. 11767.)*

From "Images of America - Talent" by Jan Wright of the Talent Historical Society, page 126. 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.



The Talent Historical Society is a qualified Oregon Nonprofit participant of the Oregon Cultural Trust, and we encourage your support of this innovative, uniquely Oregon organization. For more information, please go to [culturaltrust.org](http://culturaltrust.org).

## Museum Hours:

Saturday,  
Sunday &  
Holiday  
Mondays

1:00 to  
5:00 pm

## Beeson Book on Schedule

Jan Wright's book on John Beeson's life, tentatively titled "Oregon Outcast" is on schedule to be published in September. The manuscript has been completed and it is now in the editing process.

Jan will be giving a talk at our October 23rd Tuesday Evening at the Museum presentation detailing her experience in writing the book.

The book will also be available at Talent's annual Harvest Festival in October with the book being available for purchase and to be signed by the author.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to make this important project possible. We look forward to reading John Beeson's story and having the work as part of our permanent collection.

A John Beeson exhibit at the museum is also planned for the future.



# 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
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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

Thank you!

Thank you!

## 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
Belinda Vos	Newsletter Editor
Emmalisa Whalley	Webmaster
Anthony Abshire	Board Member
Bob Casebeer	Board Member

**Native Storyteller in Residence: Thomas Doty**

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.



Talent Historical Society  
P.O. Box 582  
Talent, OR 97540

## Upcoming Events

June 12	THS Board Meeting	6:00 pm	At the Museum
June 30	Talent Poker Tour	1:00 pm - ?	At the Museum
July 10	THS Board Meeting	6:00 pm	At the Museum
July 24	Tuesday Evening at the Museum	6:30 - 8:00 pm	Matt Witt Photography
Aug. 14	THS Board Meeting	6:00 pm	At the Museum
Aug. 28	Tuesday Evening at the Museum	6:30 - 8:00 pm	Jan Wright - Talent Walking Tour

### 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!!

<http://www.amazon.com/?%5Fencoding=UTF8&tag=talent-histosoc-20>

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.