

# The Historacle

The Official Newsletter of the Talent Historical Society

Volume 31 Issue 1

March 2025

## **Postcard Captures Moment in Time in Talent**

By Tiffany Dunn

In 1910, Fred Huber, a twenty-eightyear-old laborer, worked in our local orchards and resided with his wife, Elizabeth, and their 1-year-old son, Guile, in Talent. Fred was born in Melrose, Jackson, Wisconsin, to German parents on February 21, 1882. The Huber family lived in a rented house in town. They were fortunate as Fred had not experienced any unemployment that year. The household of three lived and worked in our burgeoning agricultural community. But by July 1911, our little family was back living in Melrose, Wisconsin. How do we know? By July 12, 2011, his mother wrote a short postcard to Fred from Talent.

The Talent Historical Society (THS) Museum recently acquired this postcard. On the front of the postcard is an image of the train depot in Talent, and on the other side is a short note from a mother to her son and his family. Not only is this postcard significant because it records the name of Fred Huber, whose short time in Talent was almost lost to time, but it also mentions a news-worthy event from Talent's history. Did you catch it? It appears that Fred's mother started writing her postcard on July 12, 1911 while it was postmarked on July 26, 1911. How do we know her whole postcard wasn't written on July 12th? She mentions, "We had a big fire last night. Pool hall and Burggess Hotel burned." The Ashland Tidings published the following on July 27, 1911," The fire alarm was rung here about 1 o'clock yesterday morning. The fire was at Talent, where the Garvin & Thurber two-story building and the Talent Hotel, also a two-story structure, were burned. Both buildings were located in the very center of the business section and it was only by the strenuous efforts of a bucket brigade that the flames were kept from spreading to adjacent buildings. The fire loss is estimated at \$6,500.



Back of postcard written to Fred Huber Photo credit: THS digital archives

The fire broke out about 12:30 in the Garvin & Thurber building, known as the Old Valley Hotel. The blaze originated on the second floor, which is used as a dance hall. So far as known no one had been upstairs during the evening, which makes the origin of the blaze difficult to account for. The lower floor is used as a billiard and pool parlor, conducted by Garvin & Thurber. Players there had left the place only a short time before the discovery of the blaze. The heat from the burning building ignited the Talent Hotel at a distance of thirty yards. This is a residence property, owned by John Budgeon and conducted as a hotel. Most of the furniture of both properties was saved. The loss on the Garvin & Thurber building is placed at \$5,000; on the Talent Hotel, \$1,500. As soon as the fire was discov-

Continued on page 3

## Postcard Transcription By Ron Medinger

Addressed to: Fred Huber in Melrose Wis jacken Co Postmarked: Talent, Oregon Jul 26 4PM 1911 Depot of Talent Ore July 12, 1911 Dear Son - I will write a card and let you know that I am glad you are going to Wis. again. I will write to her this after-noon. We had a big fire last night. Pool hall and Bugg[illegible] Hotel burned. Write soon and let me when you are going to Omaha. I hope you have my letter and answer it soon. With Best Wishes to you both, and Guile Your loving Mother

Mother
I got this card from my little neighbor woman

## 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 Wednesday and Sunday 12:00PM to 4:00PM

General Business/MailingAddress: 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/

#### **Blogspot:**

talenttowninflames@blogspot.com

The Historacle is published quarterly.

Editor: Tiffany Dunn Assistant Editor: Crystal Dunn info@talenthistory.org

You may submit your written work about historical Talent to be considered for publication in this newsletter. Our research library is ready for you to get started on an interesting local article! We are especially interested in tales from early to middle 20th Century.

### **Memberships Since Last Issue**

New Members:

Ausland Group Aaron & Rebecca Mueller William Olsen Tracy Gault

Renewals:

David Hodson

Dan & Linda Jackson Kurt Bailey & Nancy Wiley Robert L. Jacobs James W. Maize Jr. Maureen Flanagan Battistella Ron & Stella Medinger Don & Melissa Braaten Page One/Debra Moon Mike & Tammy Dalton Darren & Renee Reedy John Enders Myke Reeser Diane Glendenning Greg Goebelt Gerlinde Smith Allen Hallmark Gayle F. Stubbs Ross Sutherland Dave Harvey Arn & Karen Wihtol

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#### **Talent Historical Society Board of Directors**

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Emmalisa Whalley Webmaster

Outreach & Volunteer Coordinator Debra Moon

Myke Reeser **Board Member** Tiffany Dunn Newsletter Editor

The Talent Historical Society Board Meeting is held monthly on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Museum Building at

105 North Market St. in Talent.

## **Postcard Captures Moment in Time in Talent**

#### Continued from page 1

ered a general alarm was sounded in the little town and a bucket brigade was formed. By hard work the barder shop of J.F. Norman, which was within the path of the flames, was saved. The business block across the street from the burning buildings threatened to burst into flames from the intense heat, but was saved through the application of water. Several windows in R. L. Burdic's general store were broken, but no further damage was done in this business block. When the alarm was sounded in Ashland several parties who have property in Talent drove to that town in automobiles, remaining until the fire was extinguished. It is the general belief that the fire must have been started by defective electric wiring."

Let's first turn our attention to the pool hall mentioned in the postcard. In the Ashland Tidings's article we learn that the pool hall was the old Valley Hotel and the lower floor was used as a billiard and pool parlor. This building is pictured to the above right (center of photo) and is mentioned in both the postcard and the newspaper article.

Fred's mother also wrote that the "Bugg[illegible] Hotel burned," while the Ashland Tidings reported that the Talent Hotel burned. In the 1910 United States Census we find, a John Budgeon was living in Talent, and his occupation was noted as "Hotel Ruler." In the 1911 Jackson County, Oregon, Directory, John Budgeon was listed as the proprietor of the Talent Hotel. In the 1912 directory, John was listed as a laborer with no mention of the hotel. It would seem that both the postcard and the newspaper article are referring to the same building. John Budgeon died on March 28, 1922 and is buried in Stearns Cemetery.

Please note this was not the same building as the Talent Hotel operated by J. H. and Emma Lacy in the 1920's on West Main Street.

#### References

Year: 1910; Census Place: Talent, Jackson, Oregon; Roll: T624\_1281; Page: 8a; Enumeration District: 0115; FHL microfilm: 1375294

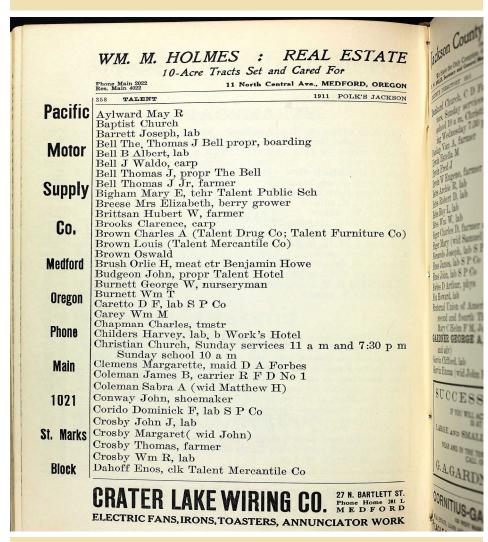
Talent Businesses. https://wrightarchives.blogspot.com/2010/03/talent-businesses-6-apr-1884-beutiful.html

Year: 1910; Census Place: Talent, Jackson, Oregon; Roll: T624\_1281; Page: 5b; Enumeration District: 0115; FHL microfilm: 1375294

Ancestry.com. U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.



Hotel and pool hall in downtown Talent before July 26, 1911 fire Photo credit: THS digital archives



On the 17th line, John Budgeon is listed as proprietor of the Talent Hotel Photo credit: THS digital archives

#### Talent Poker Tour #57

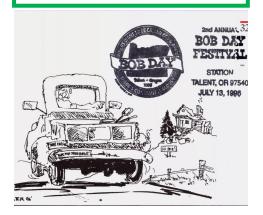


Chris Livingston
Talent Poker Tour-LVII Champion

Thanks to everyone who came to our tournament on November 23, 2024 and congratulations to our winner Chris Livingston. We had a total of 39 players in this tournament and from that field, Chris came out on top with his fourth TPT title! Congratulations are also due to Cherie Brooks who won 2024 Player of the Year, and Jon Peters who won 2024 Terminator of the Year.

The first tournament of the 2025 season was on March 29<sup>th</sup> and details will be in the next newsletter. The tournament is open to THS members only, with a membership level of Family or above and preregistration is required. The No-Limit Texas Hold'em tournament features a buy-in of \$50.00 with all entry money paid back out as cash prizes. Refreshments and snacks are 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.



#### **Bob the I-5 Llama**

By Willow McCloud



Bob the Llama in full effect Photo credit: Willow McCloud

A version of this article was originally published in the Talent News and Review.

Let me introduce you to a fun little local icon that many of you probably have seen but might not know his story. His name is Bob. He is affectionately known as the I -5 Llama. Bob gained his name for obvious reasons after Bob Marley of course. Bob is a wild llama with no desire to be anyone's best friend, in fact so feral that no one has been able to get close enough to him to see if Bob could really be a Roberta. Bob and his mother showed up in the field behind Laurel Hill Golf course over 20 years ago around 2004. The mother and little llama just appeared one day; nobody came forth to claim the two. So it was there in the cattle field just south of exit 40 in Gold Hill / Central Point they would call their new home. Mama Llama died a few years later and Bob was left a solo llama in the field of cattle, a property that includes Laurel Hill Golf Course.

The golf course was built in 1977. It was the vision of and creation of Harvey Granger Russel's Granddad. With nine challenging holes of golf and a picturesque driving range, Laurel Hill was built from the love of family and love for the game and offers a challenging enough experience for experts and is short enough not to intimidate a begin-

ner. The giant trees all around the course really give it that Oregon feel. I have always felt my best around tall pines. I love the feel of the little club shop and restaurant. This is also where you can go purchase Bob merchandise, meet 2 other treasures; Boots and Tater Tot, and kick up your feet in a rural setting and take it all in.

When the descendants, Angela and Russell took over the golf course in 2011, Bob had been there about seven years. By this time Bob's presence was popular among avid I-5 commuters, as he really sticks out as he grazes in the field or along the fence line. He was a llama that I just started checking in on every time I drove by without even knowing when the habit started, he was like a destination star to look for, I just called him the Lonely Llama or sometimes the Uno Llama but come to find out through reading Bob's Facebook page (yes Bob has his own Facebook page) many regulars over the years had named him. He/ She has many different identities to many different people.

Bob does not wish to be visited too close, he does not wish for treats, he does not want his hair cut, he prefers his southern Oregon Trusta /Rastafarian look, his hair is dreadlocks but again this is his own choice and not from any type of neglect. Bob might seem bored and lonely but he's actually working to pay his rent.

He is the guardian of the field and does his job well. He has been seen fighting and chasing other wildlife out of the field

Some Llamas are great at guarding livestock against predators. Llamas are instinctively alert and aware of their surroundings. They have an obnoxious alarm sound that is much like a loud rusty hinge. They have no fear in running at the enemy kicking and spitting and can easily kill a coyote, but they are not an attackanimal just really good at guarding if that is how they are raised. In Bob's case he has was raised as a wild child and does this job very well.

When I was in the golf shop buying my Bob mug there was a gentleman there buying a mug as well, Gary from Williams. He said he drives by Bob every day to and from work and he has seen him chasing 3 bull elks out of the pasture, that was his Bob story. There are so many more stories like this and different Bob scenarios it really needs to be a short documentary film while we still have Bob to look forword to on our I-5 commutes. I suggested to Angela she should have a guest book and collect Bob stories, and I have a feeling this might be available

soon. Because of Bob's overwhelming popularity and to relieve the stress of all the phone calls asking about Bob, if he is ok, or if he has not been seen for a couple days concern would grow fast, etc. So, the Grangers gave him his own face book page on August 30th, 2024. Word got out fast and today in just over 4 months he has 4.7 thousand friends. 172 in the last week. He is more on stage than ever now. I wonder if this old man gets the vibe he is not alone. It feels like the movie the Truman Show. In October, a passerby noticed Bob on the ground and instantly thought he was dead; she grieved and later wrote an obituary of sorts on the Jackson County Scanner page. Rio Gilinsky wrote. "This might be kind of a strange post to some, but I'm hoping this eventually finds the landowners of this lot (photo taken headed SB I-5 at MM40). I have been driving by this plot for years. Every time I pass, I look at your cattle "guarding" llama who never actually appears to be guarding anything but rather overlooking the freeway and contemplating life. Your llama has kept me entertained for years and I kid you not he (or she) lives in my head rent free. I

literally think about this llama several times a week even if I am not on the freeway. I obviously don't know you, or your llama. But I just wanted to say I'm sorry for the loss of this super cool animal. I was so sad to see him peacefully "resting" in his favorite spot last week. My trips to town will never be the same." \* Later she updated her post with relief that Bob was alive, has a name and his own FB page.

Llamas typically live 15-25 years with some known to live 30 years or more. Llamas can form social relationships with humans through early positive interactions but in Bob's case he's just not that kind of guy. I had a very special moment with him when I took the attached picture. He was feeling curious. I told him he was super loved and never alone. His crooked little ear twitched and his big brown eyes were all mine for 2 minutes on a Thursday.

Next time you're on the freeway make sure to look for Bob, he's easy to spot. If you are feeling like an adventure or playing golf. This gem of a golf course will make you feel way farther away from Talent then you are, a nice little day get away and long distance visit with Bob.

## **Bob Day Past and Present**

By Tiffany Dunn



Parade of Bobs Photo credit: THS digital archives

Have you heard? Bob Day is back! This festival originally put Talent on the map in the 1990s. On June 14, 2025 from 10:00am to 3:00pm you and your favorite Bobs are invited to our Bob Day reboot. The proceeds from this event will support the historic town hall restoration project in Talent. The activities will spill out of the THS Museum and into The Commons.

Let's backup to the origins of Talent's

Bob Day. Judie Bunch, a THS Museum volunteer worked as the manager of the Ashland Marketplace that was held behind the Plaza shops in the 1990s. She was reading a Chamber of Commerce newsletter that claimed 75 Bobs had recently attended a meeting and Judie was inspired. In August 1993, she hosted a trial run of Bob Day at the Marketplace to spice up a hot, sluggish sales day.

Judie kept thinking and talking to folks about Bobs. She reasoned, "Most Bobs are good guys who go about their days doing what needs doing without much notice. Bob Day would bring them all together to have fun and they'd be praised for being the fine fellows they are."

Judie called upon her friends, Chris DeSmit, Joyce Seely, and Sarah Spring and set about to fill Talent with Bobs on July 15, 1995. Local news outlets picked up on the enthusiasm. The Associated Press spread the word about Bob Day throughout Oregon, Washington and far beyond.

None of the original organizers had computers, email addresses, or social networking experience. They wrote letters, licked stamps, and used the telephone. They invited famous and everyday Bobs, Bobbys, Roberts, Robertas, Bobbies, Robins, (well, you get the idea) from around the country. One of CNN's top reporters, Bobbie Battista, reported to the world that she had been invited to Talent, but had to decline. Captain Kangaroo (portrayed by Bob Keishan) also kindly declined.

Bob Days included all sorts of general fun. There was a proclamation, a thingamabob contest, a short Parade of Bobs, a Bobby-Q, a BOB formation, and contests.



Bobby Sherman Look-a-like Winners Photo credit: THS digital archives

# The Talent Historical Society Receives Grant Funds to Employ Local Artists for Monthly Educational History Presentations

by Debra Moon

For the second year in a row the Talent Historical Society (THS) has received grant funds from both Jackson County Cultural Coalition (JCCC) and Pacific Power Foundation (PPF) to pay performer fees to add music, drama, dance, and visual arts to monthly presentations on Talent's local history events, Night At The Museum, which are free to the public. THS is very grateful to these two funders for their generosity.

Last year, in 2024, some of the productions featured these topics and performers: History of the Wobblies (Workers of the World) in Southern Oregon; George Mann, singer and songwriter, performing union organizing songs of the early 1900's; a big event in September, a celebration of local heritage, with two bands, a dancing troupe, a display of historical photographs, and tours of the Talent Museum; a performance of songs about Hobos, Miners, and Cowboys; a talk about a collection of cabin replicas made by local resident, Jewel Lockard, and a viewing of 15 of the model cabins; a performance and cultural presentation by local dance troupe, Ballet Folklorico; and a Dia de los Muertos commemoration. The Old Time Fiddlers were going to present their history and perform their music in November, but it was postponed due to the "bomb cyclone" that hit the very day of their event.

These events made learning about local history more entertaining and fun for all. The addition of music, art, and drama drew larger crowds than usual and was a factor in THS's increase of membership from 165 at the beginning of the year to 214 at the last report in December.

This coming year, with the extended funds from JCCC and PPF, more special performances are in store. Here are some of the highlights for upcoming events. The Old Time Fiddlers will be rescheduled. A very special dramatization has been planned. THS Board Member, Debra Moon, has written a script for a "Radio Drama" about Talent history that will first be performed for an audience on the stage in the museum, then recorded and aired over local radio, KSKQ. Jan Wright, author of Oregon Outcast, has helped with the script, and Debra put quite a lot of research into it. Jeff Westergaard, a DJ at KSKQ, will



The BOB Formation during an original Bob Day in Talent Photo credit: THS digital archives

produce the drama. Costumes and props have been purchased with the 2024 funds. The drama is the story of how the settlement of Talent began, and reveals the conflict between the native inhabitants and the settlers that beset them all at the start. A native drumming group will perform and also talk about their traditions with drumming. Another amazing and entertaining event will be the return of Bob Day, an event in Talent's history that was both unique and popular. The idea was to gather as many Bobs as possible (Roberts, Bobbys, Robertos, etc.) and celebrate these good

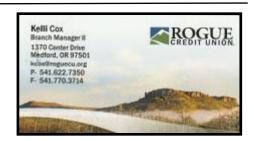
guys who normally just go about their jobs in the community. It started smaller, but eventually, Bobs came from across the nation. THS is bringing the celebration of Bobs back to Talent.

So, there are many wonderful performances and events to look forward to again in 2025. This is a great way for the community to learn our local history. Watch for announcements of Night At The Museum events in the Talent News and Review, on the THS Facebook page, and on flyers around town.

Thank you so much JCCC and PPF for your support!!









#### From the Archives

Originally published in the Fall 2013 Talent Historical Society Newsletter, with additional research conducted by Tiffany

### A Truncated History of One of Talent's Grocery **Stores**

White's Grocery, previously known as the Wolter's store was once located on the corner of Market Street and Wagner Avenue. It had two entrances: one directly to the cold storage unit called Valley Lockers, and one to the grocery store itself. The old Wolter's building was erected soon after the 1911 fire which destroyed much of the then bustling Talent business district. Apparently, Wolter (who had several economic irons in the proverbial fire) sold the building to White, who later sold the store to Duke and a fellow by the name of Clayton. They sold the store to Granville Brittson. Brittson later sold the store to Rick Allen.

After some time of operation, Allen sold the store to two men, and they listed the store for sale as Brother's Market, due to their Christian fellowshp. The two ran the store for three to five years, but experienced financial difficulties, so the store went back to Rick Allen's ownership, and the two men returned to California. Allen eventually tore down the old store, used the space as a parking lot and then sold the store in 1996 to Ron Ridgway who named the grocery store Tarks Market.

Because the grocery was a locally owned, family store, the Ridgways decided to make every member of their family



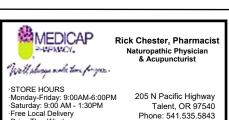
The Wolter's Building Photo credit: THS digital archives

part of the operation, beginning with the name of the store: T (is for Tipton), A (is for Arron), R (is for Ron), K (is for Katlyn), and S (is for Sue). In late 2012 the Ridgways sold the store to Rav's Market.

The Wolter's building which was rebuilt after the 1911 fire was a three walled structure facing Wagner Avenue, and housed a bank. Its fourth wall was the wall of White's Grocery. That space was empty for quite some time, and was used for a basketball court. The post office moved into that old bank structure after having been in two other locations previously. (It has now moved again to its present location near the railroad tracks on Wagner Avenue.)

Further construction to the west created a block building with about one foot of space between it and the then post office.

When the post office moved from there, Rick Allen turned that space into additional freezer space, and changed the entry into the freezer unit to the east side of the post office space. The entry to the store was then placed on the northwest corner of the remodeled building immediately off the new parking lot. By removing the wall of the freezer space and all the piping involved, Rick made a much larger display space for groceries than had previously been possible. All of the former glass windows on Wagner Avenue to the Old White Grocery were blocked off with pumice block.



Fax: 541.535.6362

Drive-Thru Window

Compounding











## Happenings at the Museum

By Tiffany Dunn

#### 2024 Annual Meeting

The 2024 Annual Meeting was held on January 5, 2025 at the THS Museum. The previously nominated officers were voted upon by voice. The 2025 officers are President: Willow McCloud, Vice President: Tessa DeLine, Treasurer: Ron Medinger, and Secretary: Aida Taracena. (Please note Aida Taracena has since submitted her resignation and it was accepted by the THS Board. Her service on the Board is greatly appreciated.)

President Willow McCloud reviewed the annual report which included a brief history of the THS, a listing of open volunteer positions, and a calendar style accounting of society events from July 2023 through June 2024. In addition, the financial review was distributed and a preview of 2025 events was discussed.



The Annual Meeting Photo credit: Crystal Dunn





## Talent Art Walk Visits the Museum

On January 24, 2025 The THS Museum opened its doors to local artists and art lovers. This was the first of the year's quarterly Talent Art Walk events. It took place from 5:00pm to 7:00pm and the THS Museum was one of the official stops.

Folks brought their flashlights, lanterns, cell phone lights, or dressed in lights to illuminate their way through downtown Talent's numerous exhibits. The event brought together community members, local artists, business owners, and nonprofit organizations.

It was a great opportunity for folks interested in art to come in and see not only the artists and their presentations but also the historical exhibits. There were a few artists stationed at the Museum featuring chalk-like graphic work and photography.

Some of the other stops art lovers enjoyed included: Art Bop, Talent City Hall, Gather Café, Goldback and Iruai Wine Room, Project Space, Talent Beauty Spot, Talent Maker City, The Talent Gallery, and Trium Wines. The next Talent Art Walk is scheduled for April 25, 2025 at 5:00pm and we will have our doors open for art and history lovers.

Talent Art Walk Photo credit: Crystal Dunn

## Happenings at the Museum



The Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association Photo credit: Tiffany Dunn

#### Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers

On February 25, 2025 the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association graced the THS Museum with lively music. We even moved some of the chairs out of the way so the dancing could commence. The performers came with the mission of preserving and celebrating oldtime music and sharing its history.

Oregon fiddle music is a mixture of many styles from many regions of the United States, Ireland, Scotland, and England. The instrumentalists play by ear and memory making every performance unique.

Between songs, they shared the colorful history and mythology of the lyrics; some of them dating from the beginning of the 18th century and earlier. The lead fiddler would signal the end of each song with a high kick which always resulted in a laugh from the audience.

### Pioneer Stories by Carole Nielsen

Carole Nielsen, author of several historical books and numerous articles in Wild West Magazine, shared a lively presentation about Southern Oregon pioneers on March 26, 2025. Carole inherited her passion for Old West history from her parents. She has lived in Southern Oregon since 1947 excluding three years she lived in France.

She shared wonderful photos with the audience that beautifully illustrated her detailed pioneer stories. Carole and her husband have traveled to over forty countries and their wealth of shared experience was evident during the presentation.

Some of her books are now available to read in the library at the Museum.

Pioneer Talk Photo credit: Crystal Dunn



The Talent Historical Society is a qualified Oregon Nonprofit participant of the Oregon Cultural Trust. For more information, please go to:

culturaltrust.org.





# Renewal of Life After Fire Bird Reports from the Greenway

by Emmalisa Whalley

Emmalisa Whalley, THS Board Member and volunteer Bear Creek Burn surveyor, is part of a team surveying the return of the birds to the Greenway after the Almeda Fire. She is an excellent photographer, providing us with amazing photographs of our birds and producing a bird calendar available for 2024 on the THS website, <a href="www.talenthistory.org">www.talenthistory.org</a>. This article is a summary of recent observations, but if you are interested in the complete survey data, contact Klamath Bird Observatory, <a href="https://klamathbird.org/">https://klamathbird.org/</a>.



Great Blue Heron Photo credit: Emmalisa Whalley

Two recent surveys covered in this summary were from Mingus Pond in Central Point and Suncrest in Talent. Surveys are conducted within an hour of sunrise. Both were done with the starting temperature at 40 degrees and dense fog which limited visibility and the number of birds seen.

On the Mingus Pond survey, in December, we were enclosed in fog the whole time. The most numerous birds on this Survey were the large group of Can-



Common Raven
Photo credit: Emmalisa Whalley

ada Goose that were in both transects and a pure white domestic goose the group had adopted. There were plenty of Golden-Crowned Sparrows and a few European Starlings although the numbers were lower than in other Survey transects. There is a small pond in this section and there were Mallards and Geese that were utilizing this water. At the bigger pond there was a bit more variety with Wood Ducks, Green-Winged Teals, and a Wilson's Snipe. There was also a family of Long-Billed Dowitchers, six of them, that were working the edges of the pond looking for food. There was an American Kestrel who likes to use the freeway sign as a lookout spot and a Peregrine Falcon sitting high up in a tree overlooking everything. A Great Blue Heron was sitting on a branch up in one of the trees near Bear Creek. The highlight for me in this section was the Long-Billed Dowitchers and getting close enough to get a pic-

On the Suncrest survey in January we were in fog again. The most numerous

birds were European Starlings. We had Acorn Woodpeckers, Downy Woodpeckers and Northern Flickers in the trees surrounding us as we walked the path. There was also a singular Fox Sparrow, a Song Sparrow, a few White-Crowned Sparrows and many Golden-Crowned Sparrows on the ground foraging. A Belted Kingfisher made an appearance overlooking Bear Creek, watching for some food, those are always one of my favorites to find. There were also Mourning Doves, Eurasian Collared-Doves, a Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, California Scrub



Long-Billed Dowitcher
Photo credit: Emmalisa Whalley

-Jay and a single Common Raven. The raptors we spotted was a group of four Red-Tailed Hawks and an American Kestrel. The highlight from this section was seeing a male Common Merganser on Bear Creek near a Mallard.

Altogether, on the December Mingus Pond trip 296 birds were sighted from 28 species.

The total of birds that were counted in the January Suncrest survey was 193 from 24 species.

## **Volunteer positions available at the Talent Historical Society include:**

Board Members
Board Secretary
Librarian
Accessions Intake Data Entry
Article Contributors for the Historacle
Museum Cleaners
Museum Docents

If you would like to help us keep our museum open and healthy and have an interest in any of these positions, please contact us by emailing info@talenthistory.org or leave a message on the museum phone at 541.512.8838.

## 2025 Talent Tomato Order Form

(When filling out this form, please print clearly)

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email address:
How many Talent Tomato plants would you like to order?
plants in 4" pots at \$4.00 each
plants in one-gallon pots at \$9.00 each
home delivery at \$10.00 per address
Total due for order is:
Please mail this completed form, with payment, to: Talent Historical Society PO Box 582 Talent OR 97540
Order form and payment must be received by May 5 <sup>th</sup> .
Plants being picked up at the museum will be available on Saturday, May 10 <sup>th</sup> , between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at 105 North Market Street in Talent, OR. Plants being delivered will arrive on Friday afternoon, May 9 <sup>th</sup> , or Sunday, May 11 <sup>th</sup> , to any home or business in the Rogue Valley, with Zip Codes ending in 501, 502, 503, 504, 520, 524, 525, 526, 527, 530, 535, 537, 539 & 540, by volunteers from the Talent Historical Society.
I agree to the above terms:
Customer Signature Required
Do not write below this line. For Talent Historical Society use only.
Date form received:
Received by:
Amount received: Form of payment: Cash Check Card



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





May 10, 2025

9:00am-2:00pm

Don't forget each tomato plant purchase gets you entered into the Talent Tomato Quilt Raffle!



June 14, 2025

10:00am-3:00pm

Our Night at the Museum presentations will resume later in the year.

Museum Hours: Wednesday & Sunday

12:00pm to 4:00pm

