

# Silverton Country Historical Society

*Established in 1974*  
*Over Forty Years of History in the Making*



Museum and Office  
428 South Water Street

## SCHS Annual Meeting Saturday, January 20, 2018 at Geer Crest Farm



Erika Toler shared the story of Geer Crest and the Waldo Hills Community Club with SCHS members and guests at the annual meeting.



Pen and ink drawing of 'Country Boy' with basket of eggs and image of Ralph Geer's farmhouse in the background. Drawing done by Homer Davenport but not signed. It can be viewed at the Silverton Museum.

## Curator's Corner

We opened for 'business' March 3rd and I am excited to once again have the museum ready for visitors. Recently Chris put together a beautiful display in the living room display case of vintage machines that so many



of us used. There are typewriters and adding machines from various business in Silverton. I am really excited about this display since the students that come on school tours will have never seen these machines being used. How many of you remember that typing class in high school and the phrase we all needed to learn to type in so many minutes; 'the quick brown fox jumped over the'? (Yes, I have forgotten the rest) Well, these students have never used any of these machines and I am eager to see if they can make the connection



to their 'iPads' or laptops.



Recently at our annual meeting and again at the regular board meeting several of our board members brought up the fact that they had stopped by museums as they were on day trips. Ruth Kaser suggested that if any of us were on the coast to stop into the museum at Walport that is home to the construction of the bridge that spans the Alsea River. My husband and I have visited that museum and it is really well done. She mentioned several other stops and how much they enjoyed learning about the local area that each of these museums could impart. At the regular board meeting Fred Parkinson added to what Ruth had encouraged folks to do and mentioned that he had stopped at the museum in Sandy, Oregon on the way back from a day trip to Timberline Lodge. The Sandy museum is beautifully done and a must if you are able to visit the area. The reason that I bring these visits up is that so many times I am reminded that without these special places to see our history and hear from those who volunteer at these special places, our history would be lost. They keep our history real to so many who come to visit them every year.

That being said, in the Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Statesman Journal there was an article on the Deepwood Museum and Gardens in Salem. The headline 'Museum Mecca' stood out with the subtitle 'Museums offer art, science, history that's perfect for rainy-day fun.' We don't offer all that Deepwood does; however, our small museum does live up to that subtitle. That evening I attended an event at Willamette University featuring Eva Schloss who is a survivor of the Holocaust and the step sister of Anne Frank. It was amazing and in her own words she echoed what we all know to be true, 'the past is never to be forgotten even though those who live it are no longer here to discuss it'. At the very end she announced that her own story is to be heard in the Jewish Museum in New York City where there is a hologram of herself asking herself questions. That brought quite a laugh, but in all sincerity what a gift this will be to all of those who visit. Once again, I have to thank each and every one of those of you who support and volunteer to continue making our museum a place for learning. AND visit the many wonderful museums as you travel about!

*Judy Lowery*

### Five More Pedestal Plaques Installed!!

As you make your way around downtown Silverton, be on the look out for the latest addition of pedestal plaques. Recently added were plaques representing Eugene Field School, The Opera House, Mac's Place, Digerness store at First and Oak, and the 1915 High School on Park and First Streets.



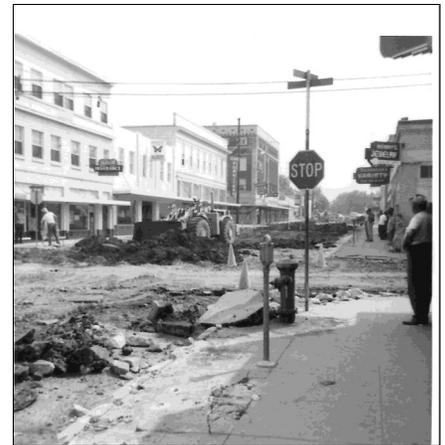
Dave Laycock and helpers installing Mac's plaque



The Opera House



Bob and Marilyn Dedrick with the Eugene Field plaque they sponsored.



Great pictures of road repair on First Street between Main and Oak! See what you find when you clean house? And we have more. Taken in the 1950's by Bill Hanson.

## New Board Member — Corey Christensen

We are very pleased to welcome Corey Christensen...and his family....to our Historical Society Board. Corey was born and raised in Klamath Falls, Oregon. His parents grew up in Ojai, California and were high school sweethearts. After his father- a minister, and his mother, a teacher, moved to Colorado they finally rooted themselves in the small lumber mill town of Klamath Falls. His mother and father still live in the Klamath Basin. Corey's great grandfather, Emil Christensen, immigrated to the United States on a boat arriving from Denmark. He is laid to rest in Klamath Falls along with Emil's parents and Emil's son and daughter in law, Corey's grandparents.



Corey is married to Shana Christensen (formerly Brody) who was born and raised in Silverton. Shana's parents arrived to the Silverton area after moving from the east coast/midwest. Shana and Corey have two children, Brant - age 2, and Sephora Rose- age 3 months.

When Corey and Shana had their first date his wife took him to Silver Falls State Park and Los Girasoles, a perfect date! It was on that day Corey knew he wanted to live in Silverton, regardless! Corey has traveled all over this country, even living in other parts of it, and there is no-where else that feels like home to him. Oregon. Especially Silverton!

Corey received his Bachelor of Arts in Music and Theatre for Youth from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. He now owns and operates SoundStream Music here in Silverton. He has been fortunate enough be allowed to teach music and theatre from a young age. His first job in high school was teaching drama for afterschool programs in Klamath Falls.

His administrative experience comes from arts management, volunteer management, grant writing and research. He has a passionate drive for arts education and positive mentorship. Puppetry is also a large passion of Corey's. While working as a puppeteer for Blue Sky Puppet Theatre in Washington D.C. he was honored to perform for the Obama Administration's' Children's Inaugural Ball. Corey's other passions include backpacking, fishing, snowboarding, community service, and playing with his band "The Basinbillies". Corey is excited to be a part of Silverton Country Historical Society and wants to dive deeper into lore and history of beautiful Silverton Oregon and surrounding area.

Welcome Corey!!



Pictured here is a photo album that was left at the Chamber office a while back. It was found at the reservoir. Anybody recognize the photos? The album is here at the Museum if someone can claim it.



*We are sorry to share the passing of Historical Society members,  
Catherine T. Walker in September, 2017 at the age of 100.  
and  
Sallie Kelly-Nielsen, who passed away on January 6, 2018.*

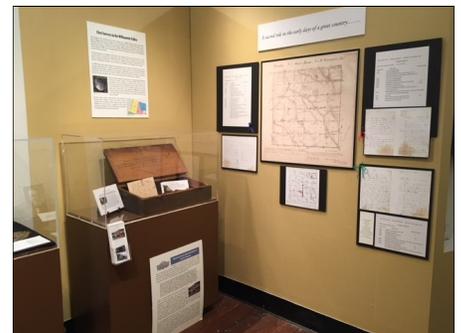
### Cleaning Day at the Museum!

You think this fantastic museum just accidentally happens to look so good? Guess again! Pictured below are Judy's helpers who grab cleaning supplies, vacuum cleaners and dust rags to make the place look super spiffy for the hordes of visitors that we are expecting. Come check us out.....there have been some changes since last year. Pictured below are Fred Parkinson, Nellie Graves, Judy the "slave driver", and Linda McKay. Not pictured are Ruth Kaser and Chris Schwab. Now, normally they don't look this happy while cleaning, but.....  
 A little incentive never hurts!



### Willamette Heritage Center — Special Exhibit Arrival: Stories of Migration, Immigration and Journeys in the Mid-Willamette Valley—Saturday, January 27 - April 21, 2018

Getting ready for the exhibit at Mission Mill is always exciting....and a lot of work. Here are Judy and Jim and Erika Toler setting up displays on the Geer Family and the part the Geers played in surveying the region. We hope you can go visit it.





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*Celebrating Over 40 Years in the Community*

**WWW.SILVERTONMUSEUM.ORG**

**Thank you to our new and renewing members,  
our generous donors and to anyone who has  
given anonymously to the Museum or any of its projects—**

Carrie Caster	Marvin Thompson	Gail Joseph
Judy Lowery	Herb and Bee Lay	Andrew Ulven
Jeff and Cindy Lampa	Kirsten and Tom Bartlett	Nellie Graves
Jim and Erika Toler	Fred and Ruth Kaser	Chris Schwab
Tavis Bettoli-Lotten	Jean Tomison Kennedy	Thomas Stewart
Tom Dill and AnnMarie Neil		
Becky Harrison and Daniel Cowan		
Corey Christensen, SoundStream Music		

**We are so grateful for the support of all our members and donors!!**



*Happy Easter card  
sent to  
Miss Elma Hutton  
1908*

**Your S.C.H.S. Board**

Victor Madge	President
Norm English	Past-Pres.
Gus Frederick	Vice-Pres.
Chris Schwab	Secretary
Tracy Duerst	Treasurer
Judy Lowery	Curator
Kathy Hunter	Membership
Ruth Kaser	
Fred A. Parkinson	
Mark English	
Russ Gould	

**If you received an  
overdue notice with your  
newsletter, we appreciate  
your prompt response.  
Thank you!**

***Your Museum is open for the year!! Come see us any Saturday or Sunday from 1 to 4 pm***