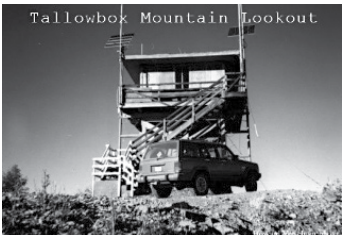


SARGE

FROM PAGE 1



Above: Tallowbox Lookout in 1940.
Below: Tallowbox Lookout before it burned down.

of water were provided for Sarge and stored on the north side of the cabin, he discovered that keeping them on the north side kept them cooler. There was also a portable TV in the cabin, but he never made use of it. He preferred to meander in nature.

Each day he would have to sit and watch for smoke. When he spotted signs of smoke he would have to determine its location and then send out legal data showing fire's position. From Tallowbox he was able to determine the township of the fire. Occasionally he could determine the quarter township which meant that he knew the exact location of the fire. Then, the engines would all rush to the fire. Generally, the first engine on site obtained the liberty to name the fire.

This was Sarge's life for seven years; even his dog grew up on Tallowbox. Two years ago in November, the lookout was set on fire. The fire was from vandalism. Some local people shot the batteries of the Applegate Broadband, located at the lookout station, which caused it to erupt into flames. Rebuilding of the lookout was discussed, but instead, technology took over. There is now a four-way camera on the mountain that shows the surrounding area through a monitor located on Table Rock Road. People use what they are seeing on the monitor to watch for fires, instead of having an actual person located on the mountain.

The job as a fire lookout at the Tallowbox is missed, said Sarge. But he also says that it may be a good thing that technology has finally caught up to aide us in our fire observations. Now, Sarge just enjoys spending his time in the Applegate with friends. Sarge helps many of the people of this community in any way he can, young and old. He helps veterans and even gives everybody at the Applegate Store a box of chocolates on Valentine's Day. He does all of this without asking for anything in return. He is a true American and Applegate asset, is proud of his country and has a great heart. We could all learn from his unselfishness, kind heart, and strength by giving to those in need. Sarge has helped shape this community.

Tasha Knowlton • 541-951-1021
pinkapple@oigp.net

COMMISSIONER

FROM PAGE 1

all of the impacts of a decision), and the importance of local agriculture (look at what his family has done for the local wine industry - we need to recognize that agriculture crops and other local values can change and improve over time). Mark is especially supportive of local agricultural endeavors and strongly suggests that if we are as well, then we need to buy local!

Of course, I also brought up wildfire and fuels management issues and found that while Mark doesn't personally feel his home in Jacksonville is at-risk, he is fully aware of the high fire hazards we face in southwest Oregon, especially after experiencing a field fire next to the winery in Ruch a couple of years ago. Mark realizes how important land use issues are in the wildland-urban interface, but wasn't as familiar with the work of our County and Applegate Community Fire Plans as I had hoped he would be (I guess I haven't been working hard enough). And, he does have concerns about smoke from burning slash rather than utilizing it, and we had a good discussion around the options available to both federal and private landowners that quickly had him admitting that it's a more complicated issue than he had thought.

During these conversations, one theme seemed to continually come up from Mark: the need to consider the long-term impacts of any decisions you are contemplating. Whether it's granting a variance on a single piece of property, or engaging in long-term regional planning, Mark told me it's important to ask tough questions. Look at the long-term as well as the short-term consequences, so that you get "the most value for every dollar." While Mark noted that Jackson County has done a better job than other counties in the area in planning for both "up" and "down" years, he said we still need to watch so that "we don't eat our seed corn."

Friend and neighbor, Lyn Hennion, suggests that perhaps Mark learned "from grape-growing and wine-making how little decisions now (can) make a big difference later on." I got that impression as well, and maybe that's how he developed what I saw as a philosophical, well-balanced approach to life.

After an hour and a half of candid discussion with Mark Wisnovsky, I was impressed.

Sandy Shaffer • 541-899-9541
sassyone@starband.net

SAVE THE DATE—*Applegater* Fundraiser
to be held 4/25/10 from 3-7 pm at the
Applegate River Lodge & Restaurant

Applegater now online!

The *Applegater* is now publishing a web site that is a companion and expansion of the content and services that the printed *Applegater* newspaper provides.

Highlights of what this website will offer include:

- **Index and viewable/downloadable issues** of the *Applegater* starting from March 2008.
- **Expansion of content and pictures** of selected articles that appear in the printed paper.
- **Community calendar** that non-profit organizations and Gater advertisers can post special events (sorry, no classes) by contacting our webmaster via email.
- **Community services directory** with contacts, current activities and bulletins for all our major community services such as police, fire, library, BLM, etc.
- **Directory of local businesses.**
- **Listing of web sites** that pertain to the Applegate Valley.
- **Changing collection of images** of scenery and activities within our beautiful valley.

We encourage you to log on to www.Applegater.org.

Be sure to add the Gater web site to your favorites!

Joe Lavine, Webmaster
joelavine@hotmail.com

Spring masthead photo credit

This issue's photo of two geese with their goslings by Barbara Holiday.
See page 12 for more info.

Applegater

ISSUE	DEADLINE
Summer	June 1
Fall	September 1
Winter	December 1
Spring	March 1

ADVERTISERS!

We can help you reach
your market —
Grants Pass, Medford
and the
Applegate Valley.
Call Ruth Austin
541-899-7476

WANTED: Sales People

The *Applegater* is looking
for a person(s) to sell
ads in Grants Pass and/
or Medford areas.
Commissions are a high
25% to 30% per sale.
Contact JD Rogers
541-846-7736.

WHO WE ARE

The Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the publication of the *Applegater* newspaper, which we feel reflects the heart and soul of our community. Make your contributions to either the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. or to the *Applegater*.

Our Mission

The nonprofit Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc., (AVCN) provides the many rural and diverse communities of the Applegate Watershed with a communications vehicle, the *Applegater* newspaper, free of charge to all watershed residents. Our quarterly paper presents constructive, relevant, educational and entertaining reports on a wide variety of subjects such as:

- natural resource issues
- ecology and other science information
- historical and current events
- community news and opinions

AVCN encourages and publishes differing viewpoints and, through the *Applegater* newspaper, acts as a clearinghouse for this diverse community. We are dedicated to working together with community members to maintain and enhance the quality of life that is unique to the Applegate Watershed.

Acknowledgements

The *Applegater* is published quarterly by the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc. and is funded by donations from our loyal readers and advertisements for local businesses.

Special thanks to Carole Moskovita for layout; Margaret Della Sanitina, Jodie Feighner, Sue Maesen, Joan Peterson and Paul Tipton for editing; P. R. Kellogg and Kay Clayton for proofing; Susan Bondesen and Patsy King for transcription and Lisa Crean for bookkeeping.

Board of Directors

Greeley Wells, Chairman
Joseph Lavine, Webmaster
Lisa Crean, Treasurer
Linda Fischer, Secretary
Hal Macy
Michael Riding
Paula Rissler
J.D. Rogers, Editor

Editorial Board

J.D. Rogers, Editor
Chris Bratt
Linda Fischer
Jan Perttu
Rauno Perttu
Sandy Shaffer
Greeley Wells
Connie Young

All articles, stories, opinions and letters that appear in the *Applegater* are the opinion and property of the author, and not necessarily that of the *Applegater* or the Applegate Valley Community Newspaper, Inc.

PROTECTION OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL

The *Applegater* requires that any and all materials submitted for publication be the intellectual property of the author unless otherwise credited.

Letters to the Editor cannot be more than 450 words. Opinion pieces and unsolicited articles cannot exceed 600 words. Community calendar submissions must be to the point. All submissions must be received either at the address or email below by June 1 for our next issue.

The *Applegater*
c/o Applegate Valley
Community Newspaper, Inc.
7386 Highway 238, PMB 308
Jacksonville, OR 97530

Email: gater@Applegater.org
Website: www.Applegater.org