



JACKSON COUNTY Library Services

Applegate Library

March is the month for our spring membership drive. Listen up all of you library patrons. If you haven't yet become members of Friends of the Applegate Library (FOAL), now is your chance. You can either join FOAL or renew your annual membership by mailing in a check for \$15 made out to Friends of the Applegate Library and address the envelope to Carol Hoon, Treasurer, P.O. Box 3257, Applegate, Oregon 97530.

We are not mailing out newsletters this spring as we have in the past. We are saving our money for the new storage building that will replace the building that burned to the ground last summer. We want to express our thanks to the generous people who donated money to the building fund after our cry for help in the last *Applegater*. We are making progress, but we are still seeking donations. If you renew your membership, you might also add a few dollars to your check for the building fund. Please specify the amount you are donating as separate from the \$15 membership fee. Or you can just write a check out for the building fund if you are already a member of FOAL. We have calculated that with 3,000 people living in the community of Applegate, if everyone just donated one dollar, we would have \$3,000. How about dropping by the library with your dollar (or more!).

We have already sponsored two holiday programs, one for Christmas, and the other for Valentine's Day. We have had wonderful attendance and a lot of community support. Although we planned these events as fund-raisers, they have turned out to be "fun-raisers" with our sing-alongs, poetry and community spirit. Thanks to all of you who have come to our

programs and have enjoyed the socializing, refreshments and songs.

Carol Hoon and Kirsten Shockey are organizing a knitting circle, which will meet in the library meeting room every first Friday of the month beginning March 1. We will get together and share patterns, skills, knowledge and creativity. Bring your projects and be inspired! Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Carol Hoon at 541-787-7261.

The libraries of Jackson County are getting ready for their summer reading programs. Check out the website for the county at www.jcls.org for more information. Also check out the Patron's Corner and find many interesting databases that can be downloaded for free. For instance, there is a database for genealogy, Blue Book information, languages, and homework help. Also, you can now download music with a system called Freegal. It's free and legal music, and it's the latest thing available from your library. You are able to download three songs per week at no charge.

Be sure to come into the library during the month of March to see the Crater Rock Museum presentation in the display case. You won't want to miss it.

Lucia Smith, our storytelling volunteer, has retired and moved farther away from Applegate. We are looking for new volunteers to come to the library to read to the children one day per week. Please come in and talk to Phyllis if you are interested in volunteering for this exciting job.

Continue to visit our library to find out about the latest news, information and programs. You will be surprised at how much is going on. We are more than just a library!

Joan Peterson • 541-846-6988

Ruch Library

Come and celebrate spring and the beginning of the gardening season at Ruch Library! We have books to inspire, inform, and help you select the best plants, garden furniture, and landscape designs to suit your needs.

We can help you use Freegal to download music from our vast store of music, and Library2Go, for free downloadable books. Once again we are offering free computer classes. Basics II covers word processing, digital photo processing, file management, and graphic design. These classes run March 21 - April 11. Then, beginning April 25, we will be starting a four-class Basics III class, where you can learn about advanced word processing, spreadsheets, computer management, and Internet services. Our classes are held on Thursdays from 1 to 3 pm, and preregistration is encouraged. Call Ruch Library to sign up now.

We have moved some books around

and now have a cozy Young Adult area where you can sit in the sun and read, study, work on a computer, play chess, or quietly visit with friends. We encourage teens and preteens to come in and check it out! Be sure and stop to see our window displays from Crater Rock Museum while you are here.

Jackson County Summer Reading Program is looking for presenters to offer programs for children that fit within the theme "Dig into Reading," covering underground animals, archeology, gardening, dirt, mining, dinosaurs, rocks, etc. The programs would run between June 10 and August 10, and small stipends are available. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity (in Ruch and Applegate—or beyond!), please contact your local library for more information.

We look forward to seeing you at the library!

Thalia Truesdell
Ruch Branch Manager
541-899-7438

FEATURED ADVERTISER

Each issue, the Applegater features one of our valued advertisers. Here is the story of McKee Bridge Restaurant in Applegate, Oregon, one of our long-time advertisers.

McKee Bridge Restaurant

BY SALLY BUTTSHAW

First there was the historic McKee Bridge, built in 1917 to provide transport to Medford for the copper that was mined on the other side of the Applegate river in the little town of Copper, now submerged beneath the waters of Applegate Lake.

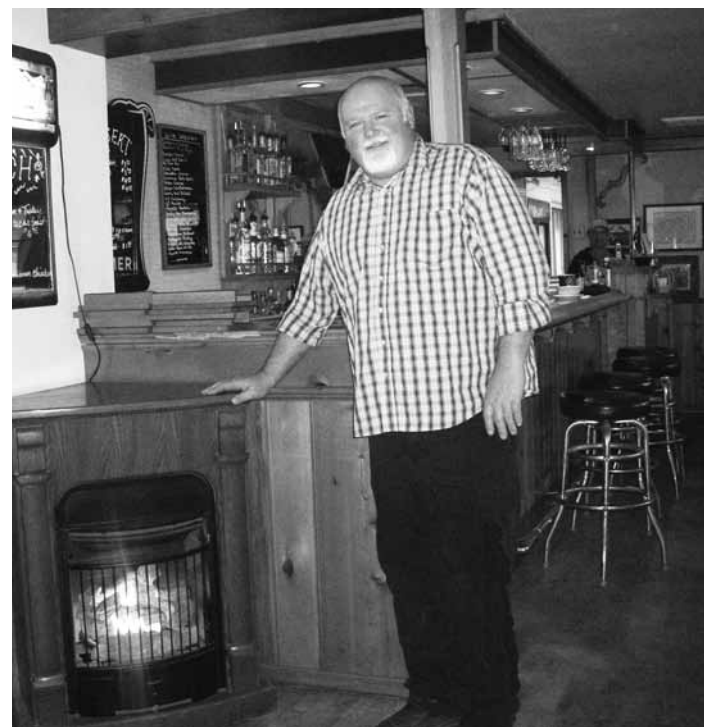
Then, in 1938, the McKee Bridge Restaurant opened, and it is now the oldest continually operated restaurant in southern Oregon. Owned and operated for the past nine years by Preston and Maggie Shreve, this is a wonderful place to grab a bite

for breakfast, lunch or dinner. The food is mostly homemade, everything from egg dishes and juice to their ever-popular fried chicken. Prime rib is the feature on Fridays and Saturdays.

When I stopped in on a dreary January afternoon, the roaring wood fire in the dining room was a welcome sight. And I have to say, the onion rings were fantastic, as were the chocolate chip cookies! But then I was too full to try something from the dessert menu, which featured four pies that day.

McKee Bridge Restaurant also features a full bar with TV screens and a nice wine selection.

Community events are hosted, from



*Preston Shreve warming himself in front of the fireplace at McKee Bridge Restaurant, which he and his wife Maggie operate.
Photo by Sally Buttshaw.*

pinocle on Wednesday, and bingo every other Sunday, to occasional Saturday night entertainment. In the dining room, paintings by local artists adorn the walls and are offered for sale. There is also a convenience store with beer, wine, milk, snacks and more.

Be sure to stop by this hidden gem on the way to Applegate Lake or when you are in the Ruch area. Located at 9045 Upper Applegate Road, the restaurant is just south of the Star Ranger Station. Restaurant hours are 8 am - 9 pm on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays; and 10 am - 9 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Sally Buttshaw • 541-646-8418

Friends of Ruch Library Update

Greetings from Friends of Ruch Library (FORL)! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and have jumped into this new year with vigor. We want to thank each and every person who volunteered time and donated funds to our most recent Saturday Hours campaign. Thanks to the support, we are happy to announce that the Ruch Library Branch will be open on Saturdays in 2013.

With that in mind, it is time to move our focus to making sure we have the funds secured to make extended hours a reality for Saturdays in 2014 as well. To that end, we have news to share with you.

First, we are set to kick off our membership drive that will run from March 5 to April 5, and we hope to have many new Friends to welcome to our annual meeting on April 6. Next, we have new Ruch Library t-shirts designed by a local artist available for pre-order, to be picked up at the annual meeting. Order yours now. Contact Donna Epstein at downtede@aol.com for information. In May, we will be in our usual spot in the post office at Buncom Day. Become a Friend and join us.

Membership is just \$10 per year for individuals and \$18 per year for families.

Membership gains you a vote at the annual meeting, advance notice of events, discounts at the A-Frame bookstore, a first choice preview at our annual fall book sale, and a welcome letter and bookmark. Even if you have donated to extended hours, it is important to join as a "Friend" with membership in order to take advantage of these benefits.

FORL is in need of volunteers to help coordinate events, sell books in the A-Frame, assist in fund-raising, and to become board members. Gaining new volunteers and board members is vital to our continued success in supporting the Ruch Branch Library. Ask a librarian at the Ruch Library, or visit us at our monthly board meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm to find out how to volunteer.

We look forward to your membership and your attendance at our annual meeting on April 6.

Have a wonderful year!

Donna Epstein, Chair
Friends of Ruch Library
downtede@aol.com
Shonda Siler, Secretary
Gerri Leinfelder, Marketing
Tina Drake, Treasurer

