

Applegate Food Pantry thanks you

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

Our pantry has been very busy this past year and fortunately, we received a lot of help from the local community. We are very grateful to Craig and Amber Hamm of the Ruch Country Store for their continued support and generous donations of food every week. The Applegate Garden Club and Ruch School are also big food pantry supporters as well as too many individuals to name. And, of course, we have about a dozen dedicated volunteers who actually do all the work required to make the pantry operate.

We used to have weeks when only 8 to 12 families would show up, but now it is a rare week that we serve fewer than 30

families. In the last two years, we have seen a huge increase in need, so we continue to ask the community to help us provide food for the hungry in our community. You can write a check made payable to "Applegate Access" and send it to:

Arlene Aron
1684 Humbug Creek Road
Jacksonville, OR 97530

You also can donate food directly to our pantry. We are located behind Ruch School and are there on Thursdays at 2:15 pm.

Thank you in advance—we all appreciate your generosity!

Arlene and Claude Aron
541-846-0380
www.eyelandgallery.com

Accidental Ensemble to perform in Jacksonville and Applegate

To celebrate Valentine's Day and the coming of spring, The Accidental Ensemble will perform at the Jacksonville Library on February 10 at 7 pm, and at the Applegate Library on March 4 at 3 pm. Our repertoire will include a few love songs, old and new, that will rekindle the spark in our hearts.

We are all local Applegate singers: strong of voice, a cappella in style and small in number. Our selection of music

is eclectic, with four-part harmony and essentially madrigal in nature. Above all, we simply love singing together.

Our performances will begin on time and will last about an hour. They are free of charge, and refreshments will be provided following each performance.

Please join us in support of either or both of our local libraries.

Joan Peterson
541-846-6988

Update on Applegate Dam Hydroelectric Project

Construction of the Applegate Dam hydroelectric plant was scheduled to begin in January this year. However, according to a Symbiotics representative, the project has been delayed by at least six months while Symbiotics reworks the design of the intake structures at the base of the dam to accommodate the Army Corps of Engineers' requirements. Stay tuned...

Margaret della Santina
541-899-9950
mperrow@sonic.net

APPLEGATE OUTBACK: MY OPINION

Cowboy coffee

BY BOB FISCHER



Camp cooks who can pull off authentic morning mud are getting scarce as Oregon Trail ruts. Cowboy coffee is pure chuck wagon art and an exact science. The *Dictionary of the American West* defines

cowboy coffee as "the brew you make on the range strong enough to float a horseshoe."

If you want to brew coffee like a real cowboy, here is the way all my hunting and fishing buddies build a brew. You want to use a pot that's been making coffee for months or years, and has never been washed. Between brews, you keep part of the old grounds and, for a new brew, add some new grounds and then some water. Boil it, add some cold water to settle the grounds down, then pour.

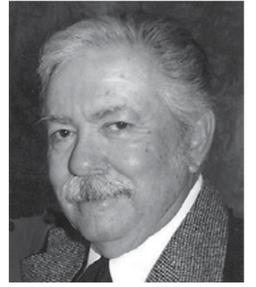
The obvious appeal to cowboy coffee is

that the creation of it is "any way you want to make it." I have watched other methods:

breaking a raw egg into the pot, or dropping in several marble-size rocks, or using the centrifugal force of several full-circle arm swings. Anything to get those coffee grounds to sink.

My recipe has been tested over years of fireside mornings, and it goes like this: fill the pot with cold water and toss in five or six handfuls of grounds. Bring the water to a brisk boil, then take the pot off the fire. If you have time, let the grounds settle on their own for a few minutes. Tap on the pot with a spoon and the last few grounds will drop. If your camp companions are restless and waiting, then throw in a horseshoe. If it doesn't sink, "drink" it!

Bob Fischer
541-846-6218



Bob Fischer

"Men, chocolate and coffee are all better rich." —Unknown

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Hours 7am to 3 pm daily
7 am to 7 pm Fri. & Sat.