

Applegater

Photo by Virginia James

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Almost there! McKee Bridge Historical Society receives two grants

BY ROBERT VAN HEUIT

The McKee Bridge Historical Society (MBHS) received two grants in October 2013: \$10,000 from the Kinsman Foundation and \$20,000 for a Preserving Oregon grant from the State Historic Preservation Office.

To restore McKee Bridge, the MBHS still needed to raise \$56,200 in matching funds for a restoration federal grant that was awarded to Jackson County in August 2012. Jackson County accepted the grant

with the commitment of MBHS to raise the matching funds. With the two grants noted recently received and generous contributions by supporters of McKee Bridge, we have raised almost \$50,000. We have also applied for a grant from ESCO Foundation for \$10,000.

In addition to the matching funds, we need an estimated \$10,000 to repair the western approach to the bridge so it will safely support a large crane needed during

the repair operations.

The McKee Bridge Board of Directors recognized the need for an intensive fund-raising effort to raise the matching funds for the restoration grant. In 2012 and 2013, board members Paul Tipton and Dale Petrsek attended the Oregon Nonprofit Leadership Conference in Medford, Oregon. They made contact with many charitable foundations. Paul was able to assemble the grant applications we sent to Kinsman, Preserve Oregon and ESCO. Obviously, he did a terrific job writing the grant applications since two are already approved and a third is pending. We all thank Paul for his hard work and successful effort.

In January of this year, \$12,000 was sent to the county to be used as matching funds for the engineering phase of the work. Oregon Bridge Engineering Company (OBEC) was selected to design

the repair and commenced work in the spring of this year. They expect to complete that design work in the next few months and after state review, the project is expected to go out for bids in March or April 2014 with construction to be done between June and October.

We're almost there! We still need about \$10,000 for the approach repair, which is not part of the grants.

If you feel moved to help get us over this last hurdle, please send your contributions to McKee Bridge Historical Society, P. O. Box 854, Jacksonville, OR 97530.

Thank you for your support. Applegaters are the greatest!

Robert Van Heuit

President

McKee Bridge Historical Society

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Election results

Thank you from the Applegate Valley Fire District

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Applegate Valley Fire District #9, I would like to thank the volunteers, the staff and, most importantly, the voters, for the successful passing of our recent operating levy.

The passing of the levy indicates that you, the public, understand the need and are willing to support your fire district, not only with your time but with your tax dollars. Your fire district board takes the responsibility of overseeing the district very seriously and strives to make sure your tax dollars are well spent.

Our job is made easier by the caliber of the fire chief, staff and volunteers. As a team, they provide the expertise, dedication and time to make this the finest fire district any community could ask for!

Thank you for supporting your district with your vote. We will continue to provide the best service possible and spend your tax dollars wisely.

Ed Temple

President

Board of Directors

Applegate Valley Fire District #9

541-899-1050



Applegate Valley Fire District Board of Directors and committee members celebrate the passing of the fire district's levy on election night. Photo: Brad Barnes.

Notes from a Rogue entomologist

There's a new stink bug in town

BY RICHARD J. HILTON

Discovering a new insect species in a region can be exciting, but when the insect is an exotic pest species, the knowledge of the damage that can follow quickly turns excitement into action. In some select cases, an exotic pest can be eradicated. This happened just recently in Cave Junction, where Japanese beetles were discovered. Japanese beetles are serious pests of turf, ornamentals, and many crops throughout the East and Midwest. In this instance the introduction was traced to a location where new arrivals from an infested area had brought in potted plants with larval beetle grubs in the soil. Luckily the infestation was caught at an early stage and good trapping and control methods were available allowing the eradication to be successful. After two years of multiple treatments, the beetle population appears to have been eliminated entirely.

Another insect-eradication effort of local interest is underway in Northern California. The European grapevine moth, a major pest of grapes in Europe, was



The brown marmorated stink bug, an exotic pest recently found in our region. Photo: purdue.edu/newsroom (John Obermeyer).

discovered in the Napa Valley in 2009. Unfortunately, by the time the California infestation was discovered the affected area was already large. Due to the importance of grapes and the potential negative impact of this pest, a massive trapping and control effort was initiated. Over 100,000 moths were trapped in the Napa Valley in 2010, and moths were found in 11 counties in California. However, in 2012, following a concerted program of quarantine, control, and trapping, only 77 moths were trapped, and only in Napa County. This year, there are over 11,000 traps deployed in Napa County; as of mid-summer, just 36 moths had been caught.

It would be quite remarkable if this

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