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Digging Jacksonville

Archaeology Showcases Southern Oregon's Chinese Heritage

Medford, Oregon (January 11, 2016) -- Southern Oregon's 19th century Chinese heritage was hidden for more than a hundred years under the streets and buildings of Jacksonville, Oregon. As a complement to the Society's 2016 exhibit, *Courage in the Golden Valley: Chinese History in Southern Oregon*, archaeologist Chelsea Rose will reveal artifacts and enigmas of Jacksonville's mid-1800s Chinese community in two new programs offered by the Southern Oregon Historical Society.

At the next *Tales from the Collection* event, archaeologist Chelsea Rose will present SOHS objects and findings from Southern Oregon University's archaeological digs to describe the daily life of Chinese workers in Jacksonville, Oregon in the 1890s. This remarkable *Tales From the Collection* event is at the downtown Medford History Center on Saturday January 23, 2015 from 10 am – 12 noon. The Library and Archives at the SOHS History Center will be open for free research from noon-2p following the Tales event. *Tales From the Collection* events are free and open to the public.

And if you want to exercise the body and expand the mind, get moving and register for *Underground Jacksonville*, a walking tour of the town's archeological digs with archaeologist Chelsea Rose on Sunday February 7, 2016 from 11 am – 1 pm. Chelsea Rose is the author of the popular *Jacksonville Review* column on local archaeology, and is on the staff of Southern Oregon University's Laboratory of Archaeology.

Underground Jacksonville is the first event in the Society's new historian-led *Healthy History Hikes* co-sponsored by SOHS and the Ashland YMCA. Historian Larry Smith will lead the March 6th hike along the Jacksonville mining trails and on April 3rd, Forest Service Archaeologist (ret) Jeff LaLande will lead a hike along the Gin Lin Trail in the Applegate. Registration for each *Healthy History Hike* is \$5 for SOHS and Ashland YMCA members, and \$10 for non-members. Water and power bars will be provided. Call SOHS at 541-773-6536 x202 or email officemgr@sohs.org for more information and to register.

These events complement and extend the Society's 2016 annual exhibit, *Courage in the Golden Valley: Southern Oregon Chinese History*, from February 6 – April 17, 2016 at the Rogue Valley Mall. The exhibition retells the story of the Chinese experience through the Chinese community's own objects and voices. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

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