Yamhill County Museum, 6th and Market Street, Lafayette, Oregon

OFFICERS, 1985

President Doris White
Secretary Mildred Renne
Financial Secy. Evelyn Nieman
Treasurer Mike Boundy
Historian Ruth Stoller
Museum: Roma Sitton, M. Winters
Board: Austin Bowen, Ed Roghair
     Harvey Stoller, L. Schreiber
Newsletter M. Roghair

MEETINGS: First Tuesday of each month
MUSEUM HOURS: Saturdays and Sundays, 1 - 4, or by appointment, phone 472-7935

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 1985

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 9, 7 o'clock (note change to evening)
LOCATION: Community Christian Church, 2831 N. Newby, McMinnville
POTLUCK SUPPER: Bring own table service.
PROGRAM: Dorothy Wortman Gunnesa

MUSEUM NOTES: Note we return to evening meetings. Those who do not drive esp. enjoyed the daytime meetings during the winter months. . . Tourists are picking up and some asking for copies of old photographs. . . We still have copies of G. F. Walker's A Slice of Country Life for sale; the account of his life as a small boy during the early part of the century when his parents owned a store at Buell. Also have the Yamhill County School Books. Are about sold out of OLD YAMHILL. We have a new printing of our note paper, 10 to a package. . . With the museum's heat bill running to $300. a month, it takes our savings. It has been suggested we put plastic over the windows. . . The tool building needs some work soon, and volunteers are welcome! There is always work to do to keep up the displays. Have just finished the show case from McM. Baptist Church. Quite a job to get shelves made and in place. Now to fill. Our floor space is about full. . . The little house on the property is being vacated again.

Roma Sitton, curator.

The Historical Society has rec'd a $200 gift from the Yamhill Co. Farmers Union. According to its president Erma (Mrs. Chris) Andersen, herein lies a part of our county's history: There were several F.U. locals in the county, one of which was the Carlton local. Ernest Moe who lives on Poverty Bend Rd. was a member of a committee that raised funds by having dances in the 30's & 40's. Later the locals merged, becoming the Yamhill Co. Farmers Union, which is a branch of the Nat'l Farmers Educational & Cooperative Union with headquarters in Denver and representation in Wash., D.C.

Historical society talks to Careousel Care residents

Representatives of the Yamhill County Historical Society on March 15 spoke to the Resident Council of Careousel Care Center.

Roma Sitton, curator of the society's museum in Lafayette, YCHS president Doris White and Ernest Selburne displayed pictures, antique quilts and household utensils. White brought along an antique butter churn and cream from her farm, and treated nursing home residents to tastes of fresh butter.

Sitton will display family antiques in Careousel's front lobby showcase. The antiques will be on display through April 15.
The Yamhill County Farmers Union established Farmers Co-Op Oil of Yamhill County, and also the Carlton Creamery, which is now the Farmers Co-Op Creamery. This organization has further demonstrated its concern for worthy causes with a generous contribution to the Hospice of Yamhill County.

HISTORICAL NOTES: PIONEER DAYS, by W. L. Toney

I came to Oregon in 1847, arrived in Vancouver 20th of November of that year. There was no U.S. soldiers in Oregon at that time, no one but pioneer settlers and the Hudson Bay men which were British subjects. I got some work at Vancouver from that company that winter and (took) provisions as pay for my labor.

I came to Portland next spring and went to Yamhill, got a job of making rails for Jessie Henderson. The same spring of 1848 or summer went to South Yamhill with my father and family and Owen P. Turner, my brother-in-law. We all (took) Donation Claims between Deer Creek and South Yamhill River.

In the spring of 1849 I was accompanied by my father, James Toney, Ab Faulknor and Tom Graves. On the 3rd day of March we were in Portland. Here we met Governor Lane and three U.S. officers who were his escorts across the Plains. They came to San Francisco on horseback and (took) a boat for Portland. When they arrived at the mouth of the Columbia river the tide was so low they could not cross the Bar. They hired some Indians to bring them to Portland in an Indian canoe.

There was a crowd of people gathered at the Hotel which was run by a Mr. Lawnsdale who had prepared a flag and pole on the bank of the river to greet the first Territorial Governor. They were expecting to see the canoe coming up the river. But they were surprised when they saw the U.S. men walking up an Indian trail from the bank of the river. They had rowed up under the bank where they could not be seen. Some one shouted "There they are" and Mr. Lawnsdale ran to raise his flag. His feet slipped from under him and he lit on his back. The ground had a light sprinkle of snow. But Mr. Lawnsdale finally succeeded in raising the flag and greeting the Governor.

They had been in the canoe all night without food or rest since they left Fort George (Astoria), so the first thing Governor Lane asked for was a bottle of brandy. As the Provincial Government was strickly probitional, it was some time before the brandy could be found. There being only about 20 houses in Portland at that time. But it was procued before breakfast could be served.

- to be continued -

Ruth Stoller