**April Member & Board Meetings**

This month’s meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 8 beginning at 6 pm, at Amity High School in Amity (503 Oak Street). Marie Buckley, great-great granddaughter of Louis LaBonte, will make a presentation about her family. The Board of Directors will meet at 5:15 pm on April 15 at the First Federal Board Room in McMinnville.

**March Happenings**

Last month during our General Membership Meeting, Volunteer Research Librarian and YCHS Board member Marjorie Owens spoke about President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s 1930s New Deal program and how it affected Yamhill County. You will find a recap on page 2 under YCHS March General Meeting. On February 29, staff and volunteers at our historic Lafayette site hosted the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce Greeter’s event, which brought nearly 60 McMinnville business leaders to see the artifacts and exhibits in our three buildings. Thanks to everyone who helped with the logistics, planning and house cleaning!

**April Farm Fest 2008 - April 12 & 13**

Put on your overalls and join us at the McMinnville site for this year’s Farm Fest activities on April 12 and 13! Mules and draft horses, vintage tractors and plows, and human-powered equipment will all be on hand to demonstrate Yamhill County farming practices. Besides living-history activities, the ‘Answer Man’, Charlie Chegwyn will be available to respond to visitor questions about farming machines of yesterday and today. The Kiwans will provide visitors the opportunity to purchase refreshments and the Yamhill County Farm Bureau will provide safety information about moving farm equipment. Grandma and Grandpa - Mom and Dad - get your camera ready for some great photo opportunities! Bring the kids along to experience breaking sod pioneer-style. They will also have the opportunity to get close to, touch and climb into the seats of vintage farm machinery. So, don’t miss out on the fun – mark your calendar now for Farm Fest 2008!

**Become a Yamhill County Historical Society Member Today!**

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<th>Membership Levels (July 1 – June 30)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Individual $15</td>
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<td>Friend $30</td>
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<td>Community Builder $250+</td>
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Membership entitles you to:
- The West Side newsletter
- Free admission to the Museum & Library
- Access to genealogical and historical files
- Access to the new McMinnville facility
- Monthly potluck and program for members
- Notification of events and summer picnic

Make checks payable to Yammhill County Historical Society.

Mail this form with payment to YCHS, P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127.

**Questions? Call Membership Coordinator Gloria Lutz at 503-972-7563 or email glutz@onlinemac.com**

The Yamhill County Historical Society is a nonprofit tax exempt educational and public service corporation established to protect, preserve and share the history and heritage of Yamhill County.
Dear Friends,

Unlike real estate agents, dentists, or mailmen, local historians do not have to retire. Local history might actually be good for longevity. Local historians come in all sizes and colors, and certainly according to the mood of the historian and the community, it is in no one's interest to shuffle local historians into retirement. Some local historians fit the outmoded stereotype of dotty old ladies (and men) in tennis shoes, you will still notice shoes that are not in fashion these days, and what was old fifty years ago is looking pretty young today. We live in interesting and fortunate times. So the real question is not how much did that stuff we have accumulated? Most collectors regard their collections as significant and hope that they will remain in the community to inform futurists. Part of our legacy should be mentoring those who will follow us. Too few of us bother to draw in the next generation.

We are not retiring sorts. We can go on and on but we must be effective when we reflect the past, the goal and therefore be responsible for the materials we use and create. Enjoy your hobby, whatever it is, and pass on the pleasures of collecting to the next generation.

Sincerely,
Shirley Venhaus

YCHS March General Meeting

At 200 pm on March 9, 2008, President Shirley Venhaus welcomed 44 Yamhill County Historical Society members to the General Membership Meeting held at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in McMinnville. After a delightful meal, Venhaus reported on a wonder-ful event for the McMinnville Church’s 150 year event, asked new members to introduce themselves, and recognized member birthdays and anniversaries for the month of March. After introducing Development Consultant Mike Scoggins to the membership, Venhaus asked Joanne Watts to talk about genealogy workshop, scheduled for March 15 at the Log Cabin in Lafayette. Treasurer Ken Williams then gave the Treasurer’s report, which is available upon request. Executive Director Katherine Huit also gave a brief report of the SW Durham Lane activities, which is also available upon request. Next, Program Director Barbara Knutson introduced Marjorie Owens who presented the afternoon program titled FDR and His Programs.

The presentation began with a discussion about the 1929 Stock Market failure, and Franklin D. Roosevelt’s pledge to try to improve the nation’s economy. Using a large visual aid filled with acronyms like AAA, CCA, NYA, PWA, FHA, CWA, RFC, RDA, WPA, SRA, and so on, Owens told the story of how FDR’s New Deal Programs helped Yamhill County. She shared a scrapbook, provided by Member Eleanor Mitchell, that contained images and written information about a local Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp near Mitchell’s home in Yamhill. She also told about buildings constructed through several of the New Deal Programs, including the Grand Ronde Catholic Church, city infrastructure projects, and the building of recreational camps near in Amity, and the building of recreational facilities around Oregon, including Carlton’s swimming pool - the first heated pool in the County! New Deal Programs also made school construction projects possible throughout the County, including Amity Grade School (now the Middle School), Dayton High School, Delton Elementary, Linfield’s Northrup Library, and Faulkner School in Sheridan. New Deal funds helped build McMinnville’s Post Office and provided for local clean-up projects around the County. Overall, members received excellent information about FDR’s New Deal Programs and how they helped Yamhill County during the Depression. Thank you Marjorie!

At the close of the meeting, members learned that Marie Buckley will present April’s program on the subject of the Louis LaBonte family. President Venhaus adjourned the meeting.

Welcome New Members!

Individual: Karen Stewart
Families: Merilyn Ragg
Arnie Hollander & Susan Watkins
Gerald & Jackie Patner
Russell & Kathryn Miller

Friends: Nancy Knikerbocker Halford
Marian Peterson
Leonard Rydell
Ken & Kellie Whiting

Supporters: Sally Godard and Ronald Olsar
Walter & Heather Trumbo
Nita Wiebke

Community Builder: Carol VanHouten, CPA

Thank you Renewing Members! Ken and Pat Myers

Planning a vacation? Please notify Gloria Lutz (503-472-5130; e-mail: glutz@onlinemac.com) or write to YCHS, PO Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127. She can forward newsletters to your temporary address or hold them until you return home. Otherwise, your newsletter comes back to YCHS and we have to pay additional postage!

March Happenings

(Continued from page 1)

Thanks to the crew: Dave Cruickshank, Bob Frazier, Steven Huit, Chuck Kadell, Ray Kaiser, Mel Kelchner, Wendell Martin, Dave Roberts, Mark, and Kim Sheridan, Alan Steikne, Alan Tessman, Cliff Watts and his dog Bud.

New construction crews continued work during the month of March on the roof and walls of the Restoration Shop and Exhibit Hall portions of the Agriculture and Timber Building. On March 7, the Sawmill Building got a roof. Ken Gross led volunteer roofing crew members Dave Cruickshank, Steve Huit, Chuck Kadell, Ray Kaiser, Don King and Jon Steikin in undertaking the task. Don King and Alan Tessman belong to the volunteer team that is restoring 1910 Debauch Sawmill. Stay tuned for updates!

MCB Newsletter 5

March 7, 1908

Oregonian.

Sheridan - The Years After the War

Commercial Bank

Philip Henry Sheridan does not seem to have experienced controversy with his own conscience. He seemed to see the nation in terms of his military service. Once assigned to a task, he completed it as ordered as best he could given the tumultuous military and political environment. His physical strength has surpassed most ordinary men. Accoun ts of his life, riding and living as a prior general, not only running out of energy to perform the physical and mental tasks of managing battles after being deprived of sleep and having ridden extraordinary distances are amazing.

On November 1, 1883, Sheridan became Commanding General of the U.S. Army, a role he held until shortly before his death. On June 1, 1888, through an Act of Congress, he achieved the same rank as Generals Grant and Sheridan – the equivalent of a four star general in today’s army. At age 57, Sheridan’s health failed him and he suffered a series of heart attacks.

Few politicians have influenced the course of this nation in so many arenas as Philip Sheridan, and have had such a lasting legacy for so many, both inside the nation and around the world. Buried at Arlington National Cemetery, ironically the former plantation of General Robert E. Lee, Sheridan is, after all, the man who brought Lee to bay by his determination and horsemanship in his relentless pursuit of his foe in the spring of 1863. The modern world has ever time rejected slavery as a result of the War of Secession and few people in world history did so much to free so many as Philip Henry Sheridan. Since he has preserved the nation’s first national park, it is truly fitting that Oregon is developing a park in his memory.

Editor’s note: We mistakenly wrote that Sue Sherman’s article that appeared in the February issue of The West Side was the final installment in her series about General Phillip Sheridan. The article published above is, indeed, a installment. We regret the error.

Sue Sherman was born and bred historical type military horses and tracks equestrian genealogy. She recently acquired a descendant of General Grants horses. As an historian and writer of military equestrian history, she has done many articles published in magazines including Law Enforcement Technology, Past Value World Magazine, At A Gallop Magazine, and Guided Horses Magazine. She is currently researching and writing a book about the horses of the War of Secession.

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Did You Know?

It’s tax time. Did you know that by planning wisely you can enrich your family, enrich charity and reduce your taxes? The Internal Revenue Service now allows up to $2 million from one’s estate to pass tax-free. Charitable Deductions, Bequests, naming a charity as a beneficiary of your IRA’s Retirement Plan, or creating a Charitable Trust are examples of ways you can accomplish your giving goals. See a charitable gift planner or your tax consultant for further information.

Visit www.ymhofs.org to learn more.

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With the advances in technology, how many of us recognize the huge changes underway on the continent. Prospectors invaded traditional hunting grounds and had no qualms about shooting native people who got in their way. Those making policy at the time saw reservations as the best hope of securing native populations and protecting them from speculators, prospectors and ranchers who flooded into the west after the Civil War. Whether a cold-hearted policy by the U.S. government or an attempt to prevent further Native Americans facing an inevitable change to their culture is open for debate; however, the mismanagement of the reservations resulted in additional – yet avoidable tragedy. Tribal cultures saw women taken as prisoners and often treated as slaves – such as Sacagawea. As Native Americans came to the reservation that part of their culture ended and a new era for Native women's rights began. We do not know how much of Sheridan's early years in Yamhill County influenced his future thinking; however, one may recall that Sheridan lived with a Native woman for several years while living here. He commented years later that when he saw Native people dressed in non-traditional clothing and shopping in the towns created by settlers he felt they were achieving equality, although they paid a terrible price over the years. Promoted to lieutenant general on March 4, 1869, Sheridan went to observe the Franco-Prussian War. He found himself in Chicago during the Great Fire in 1871 and organized relief efforts there. Impressed by Sheridan's activities, Chicago's mayor asked him to assist in restoring order to the city. Sheridan lost his entire collection of professional and personal papers in the fire – a huge loss in documentation about Sheridan's role and influence in shaping our Nation's history. Sheridan had a deep love of the Yellowstone area, a fact that has gone mostly unnoticed over the years. With a foresight rarely recognized by modern historians, Sheridan advocated military control of the park and its preservation. In 1886, observing mismanagement of the park, he sent a letter to the 1st Cavalry, which operated it until the National Park Service took over in 1916.
### April 2008 Happenings

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<td>Member Meeting* 6 pm</td>
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<td>Events Committee Mtg* 4 pm</td>
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<td>Farm Fest* 10 am - 3 pm</td>
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<td>Farm Fest* 10 am - 3 pm</td>
<td>Board Meeting 9:15 am First Federal Board Room*</td>
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<td>Earth Day</td>
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<td>Lafayette Museum open</td>
<td>Planning Committee Mtg* 9:15 am First Federal Board Room</td>
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<td>Locations</td>
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<td>Lafayette Museum open</td>
<td>First Federal Board Room</td>
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#### April 2008 Happenings Details

**April 12 & 13, 2008**

10 am – 3 pm
Highway 18 & SW Durham Lane

### Century Farm & Ranch Program Applications Available

Applications are now being accepted for the 2008 award year of the Century Farm & Ranch Program, a statewide recognition program honoring farmers and ranchers who have worked the same land for at least 100 years. The program, celebrating its 50th year, is administered through the Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation and is partially funded by the Oregon Farm Bureau, the Oregon Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, various county farm bureaus, agriculture-based organizations, and individuals.

Family farmers and ranchers throughout Oregon are encouraged to apply by the June 1 deadline. Successful applicants receive a personalized certificate, with acknowledgment by the Governor and the Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture. A durable metal road sign to identify the family's farm or ranch as having historic Century Farm status is also available. Each family will be honored during a special ceremony and reception at the Oregon State Fair in September.

Since the start of the program in 1958, 1,076 farms and ranches have been registered. Oregon has one of the oldest agricultural heritage programs of this type in the nation. This year, the program inaugurated its Sesquicentennial Award, presenting it to 14 families who have continuously worked their land for the last 150 years.

To receive the application guidelines and the official form, please contact Glenn Mason, Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program Coordinator at (503) 297-5892 or centuryc@juno.com or you may download the application guidelines from the Department of Agriculture website at: [http://oregon.gov/ODA/cfr.shtml](http://oregon.gov/ODA/cfr.shtml).