December 2011
Volume 43, Issue 11

Inside this issue:
President's Letter 2
Al Cronk 2
Board Meeting Recap 3
ShopforMuseum.com 3
YCHS Crossword 4
Calendar of Events 5
Lafayette Buzz 5
An Excellent Location 6
Brick Order Form 7
Membership Form 8

NOTICE: DECEMBER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and Potluck

- Date: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2011
- 2:00 pm: Potluck
- 3:00 pm: Program
- Purpose: Election of YCHS Board Members
- Program: Share Christmas Stories, special food, traditions or decoration. Audience participation encouraged.
- Location: 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd, McMinnville

Second Annual Handmade Holiday Bazaar

Saturday
December 3rd
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sunday
December 4th
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FREE ENTRY WITH FOOD DONATION
Yamhill Valley Heritage Center
Hwy 18 and Durham Lane, McMinnville

LOCAL ARTISTS
FUDGE, JAMS, AND JELLIES
HANDMADE POTTERY
SOAPS ♦ TEXTILES
JEWELRY ♦ WOOD CARVERS
SANTA’S WALK

GREAT GIFTS FOR EVERYONE
SILENT AUCTION
A GREAT HOLIDAY TRADITION

Help those in need this holiday season by bringing non-perishable food to donate to the YCAP Food Bank.
Most needed food: Canned Fruit, Canned Meals (chili, stew), Canned Vegetables, Dry Beans, Packaged Meals, Pasta, Rice, Soup, Spaghetti Sauce, Tomatoes Sauce, Tuna, Peanut Butter, and Condiments (flour, sugar, salt, ketchup, salad dressing, etc.)
President’s Letter

Dear YCHS Members,

The YCHS has lost a valued friend and talented volunteer with the passing of Al Cronk. His humor and smile will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him, and his dedication and work at our new Heritage Center will be hard to replace. We offer our sincere condolences to his wife, Sandy, and his family.

After achieving our first goal, the Flag Monument at the Heritage Center, we have now entered phase two of the Heritage Brick Program. The funds raised in phase two will be directed towards the construction of concrete pathways and the space around the base of the Flag Monument. These spaces will facilitate those people attending our events or touring the museum who need the assistance of walkers, wheelchairs, or baby strollers. These areas will be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

We have now raised a total of $27,738.97 in our Heritage Brick Program and have a balance (after paying for the Flag Monument) of $10,935.77. With Christmas just ahead, you might be thinking that a Heritage Brick would just be the perfect gift for someone you want to honor.

Our second annual Handmade Holiday will be held on December 3-4 at the Heritage Center. This year, Kathy Burden and Karen Sitton-Saxberg are co-chairing the event and there will be roving carolers and food booths (new this year) and many volunteers will be dressed in period costume. Local artists and craftsmen will be selling their work as well as candy and baked goods. It will be fun for the whole family with the Activities and Events Building gaily decorated for the holidays, so come out and help us celebrate.

Carolyn Meeker
YCHS President
Phone: (503) 835-8481
Email: acmeeker@frontier.com
Submitted: November 16, 2011

Al Cronk 1932-2011

Al Cronk was a volunteer who spent a great amount of time helping other volunteers at the Heritage Center. He not only donated his time but his expertise. He was a forester who knew his wood inside and out and could turn a chunk of wood into a piece of art.

You will find many examples of his efforts at the Heritage Center. The big wooden sign out at the corner of Highway 18 and Durham Lane was one of his latest efforts. He was in the process of building benches the McMinnville Garden Club donated to the society. He designed and was in the process of building the large signs that will go out at the entrance to the museum. The sign that now hangs over the window at the sawmill was done by him. When a vintage John Deere combine needed new spindles and shafts, Al spent hours making and fitting them. Asked one day if he could build a split rail fence to back some of the landscape, he had it in place the next day! He always provided cedar for the Pioneer Days activities. The kids would split it into shingles and we will be using it to roof some of our small out-buildings. He also provided the tools for the kids to use. The list goes on.

Al helped many other organizations as well. As Dave Cruickshank so aptly put it, “A big man, a big voice, a bigger heart.”

Submitted by Gloria Lutz
Board Meeting Recap ~ November 9, 2011

The following recap is a condensed version of not yet approved minutes from the board meeting.

All approved board meeting minutes will be filed at the Lafayette Miller Museum.

Committee Reports: All committee reports will be filed in the record book with the minutes.

♦ Lafayette Site Committee—The trees have been trimmed and bids are being solicited for work on the log building. The gutters and downspouts on all three buildings will be cleaned. Work will begin soon on the church steps.

♦ Activities and Events Committee—Handmade Holiday posters now available for volunteers to post. Karen Sitton-Saxberg has requested that all committee chairs put together some items for the silent auction.

President’s Report: Carolyn reported that there is money left from the first phase of the heritage bricks. Vince Haworth will give an estimate on the concrete apron in front of the activities building. We need to consider adding an annual budget for purchasing flowers and new flags for the flag monument. We are researching costs to move the Hutchcroft School to the Heritage Center site.

Secretary’s Report: Theresa suggested that we become members of a website called www.shopformuseums.com which would provide free publicity, and a percentage of sales would go to the society.

Unfinished Business: The Audit Committee is reviewing the difference between a full audit and a financial review.

Respectfully submitted, Theresa Berthelsdorf, Secretary

Shop for Museums

ShopforMuseums.com is a website where you can shop with your favorite online stores and, at NO EXTRA COST TO YOU, have a portion of your purchase amount be donated to the Yamhill County Historical Society. To get involved, follow these 3 easy steps…

1. Register with shopformuseums.com
2. Choose a museum to support (YCHS)
3. Select a store and start shopping!

ShopforMuseums.com’s mission is to be the primary source of online fundraising for museums and related organizations. They accomplish this by providing, through convenience and exclusive discounts, the opportunity for people to generate donations for their museums of choice whenever they shop online. ShopforMuseums.com seeks to create a new level of cooperation among retail merchants, museums and their supporters, while emphasizing the importance of fundraising.

A word from the founder “As museums increasingly find themselves fighting for limited charitable and governmental resources, it became obvious that museums need new avenues to improve financial independence. ShopforMuseums.com became a simple way to raise awareness of the need for financial support while providing an easy way for anyone to donate to help their favorite organization. Please join us in celebrating the importance of museums and help to preserve their place in our society for years to come.”

You can help YCHS this holiday season by purchasing your gifts through ShopforMuseums.com.

Observations

Now, we are back on Winter Standard time. Evenings arrive early.
I have to hurry to have the wood box filled and my mole traps checked before dark.
The fog begins its invasion around 4—blanketing the valley.
The colors of the landscape diminish and fade.

The air cools and the shadows grow.
By 5 the yard light is glowing.
It is time to lock up.
And get cozy for the night.

I hope that you have an interesting book to entertain you these long dark evenings—
Nancy Thornton

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Accession/Preservation
Lafayette:
Ursula Doud
Accessions/Restoration
Heritage Center:
Tony Meeker & Cliff Watts
Activities and Events:
Tami Spears
Audit:
Matt Dunckel
Blacksmith:
Steve Gossett
Budget:
Kim Courtin
Computer:
Tom Cattrall
Farm/Harvest Fest:
Cliff and Pam Watts
Freezer:
VACANT
General Meeting Programs:
Joanne Watts
Governance:
Carolyn Meeker
Grant Review:
Kim Courtin
Lafayette Site Committee:
Cynthia Christensen
Landscaping:
Gloria Lutz—Heritage Center
Garry Coats—Lafayette
Miller Museum:
Marjorie Owens
Newsletter:
Tami Spears
Parade Outreach:
Rebecca Riggs
Photographic Project:
Jennifer Sokol Blosser
Property Development:
Cliff and Pam Watts
Publications/Gift Shop:
Jean Sartor
Sawmill:
Don King
Secrets of the Past Tours:
Karen Sitton-Saxberg
Steam Equipment:
Vern Yeager
Treasures in the Attic:
Shirley Venhaus
YCHS Crossword Puzzle—Yamhill County

Across
1. What is the name of the first automobile in Yamhill County?
4. Leader of the Oregon Women’s Suffrage League.
8. Who put the Gypsy Curse on the city of Lafayette?
10. Who is the founder of Lafayette?
17. Dundee was originally called this.
18. Who is responsible for the train stopping in Carlton?
19. What moved from Lafayette to McMinnville in 1888?
20. What Oregon Governor grew up in Sheridan?

Down
2. What local Monastery is famous for chocolate?
3. Where was the coal mine located in Yamhill County?
5. What Yamhill County Pioneer family has a tree named after them?
6. Founder of Dayton and was the Superintendent of Indian Affairs in 1853.
7. What US President has connections with Newberg?
9. What is the main function of the Lafayette Site?
11. What is the name of the first mill in Yamhill County?
12. What local Abbey is famous for fruitcake?
13. In 1899, Yamhill County imposed a one dollar tax on everyone who owned one of these.
14. Who is Yamhill’s famous author of children’s books?
15. What Amity man handled the State’s money?
16. Other than logging, what was the main industry in Willamina?

FIND THE ANSWERS TO THIS CROSSWORD IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF THE WEST SIDE
The Lafayette volunteers hope you enjoy the holidays.

Historic Lafayette Museum

605 Market Street
P.O. Box 484
Lafayette, OR 97127

Hours:
Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday 10—4
Or by appointment 503-864-2308

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center

11275 SW Durham Ln.
McMinnville, OR 97128

Hours:
Saturday 10—3

Upcoming Events
- January 8, 2012—General Meeting
- January 18, 2012—Board Meeting
- February 12, 2012—General Meeting
- February 8, 2012—Board Meeting
- March 11, 2012—General Meeting
- March 14, 2012—Board Meeting

Event Locations
- December 3, 4—Handmade Holiday Bazaar—Heritage Center, Hwy 18 and Durham Lane, McMinnville
- December 11, 2011—ANNUAL General Meeting—7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Road, McMinnville
- December 14, 2011—Board Meeting—Lafayette Miller Museum

December 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HANDMADE HOLIDAY BAZAAR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Pearl Harbor Remembrance</td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4</td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Board Meeting 4pm</td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4</td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Hanukah Begins</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4</td>
<td>Lafayette Museum CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Begins</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Hanukah Ends</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lafayette Museum Open 10-4</td>
<td>NEW YEAR'S EVE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lafayette Buzz

Our Sweet Escape. The Lafayette Site will be closed in January for our annual “house cleaning.” This year we will be focusing on the church. Gutter cleaning, moss removal and basement repairs as well as reorganizing the collection are on the agenda. Watch for our “grand re-opening” in February. Lafayette will also be closed December 24 and January 1. If members or friends would like to visit or do research in January, they will need to call ahead for an appointment as we will be happy to accommodate them.

We recently had a request for the book, From Yamhill to Tillamook by Stage. The customer was interested in the route taken by the early stage line. He has published several books on various hiking trails throughout the northwest. Check out his website www.foresthiker.com.

New books to put on your Christmas shopping list available at the Lafayette Museum. Up the Steps of the Capital by Barbara Roberts. A successful story of the only women governor from Sheridan. Two Boys by Laurel Adams. A historical novel set in a small town during WWII. Laurel Adams used McMinnville as the setting for the town. Follow two boys and their military experiences.

The Lafayette volunteers hope you enjoy the holidays.
An Excellent Location

A few Reasons Why Amity is the Best Point In The Valley For the Location of a Flour Mill and a Bank.

Midway between the metropolis and capital, stretching in a westerly direction from the Willamette, lies what is known as the Yamhill Valley, named in honor of the beautiful stream of water which flows through it. This valley lies in the heart of the great Willamette Valley, properly termed, “The Garden Spot of the World,” and has been suitably re-named “The Garden Spot of Oregon.” It embraces an extensive area of unquestionably the best farming and fruit raising land in the state, and is superior to any other portion of the country in the general conditions of the climate and health.

Along the north side of the Yamhill Valley lie McMinnville, Yamhill’s county seat, and Bellevue, and near the west end is Sheridan and Willamina, all prosperous villages and well located, while along the south side are Ballston, Perrydale and McCoy, three prosperous Polk county villages, and in a beautiful, healthy and convenient location in the center of this beautifully valley lies our little city, Amity. Surrounded on all sides by ever increasing prosperity, it has a future brilliant even in the most extreme seclusion, and in a picture molded 20 years hence in accordance with the indication of present appearances, who can describe it?

The country surrounding Amity bears yearly a large harvest of all the principle cereals, fruit, hops and ere many years roll by will be turning into market a good average corn crop.

Amity’s growth has so far been slow, keeping in pace with the growth of the country and she is today in a better condition and on a more direct road to prosperity than any village in the country.

At Bridwell station one mile east of Amity, on the Southern Pacific railroad is the largest grain shipping point in Yamhill county, and is connected with Amity by a fine gravelled road which in the winter is void of mud and always in shape for transportation of the heaviest loads while at Amity proper is also located a large grain warehouse on the Oregon & California railroad, shipping annually a large amount of grain.

The nearest flouring mill is at the county seat on the north edge of the valley which also contains the nearest bank, these two institutions being all there is to draw custom from us, and many farmers living much nearer the county seat as well as other towns near by patronize Amity merchants, on account of their honest, upright dealings and ability to offer better inducements than those of their sister towns and also on account of the condition of the highways leading to our village; no dust in summer nor mud in winter, such a condition not existing for any town near enough to in any way conflict with Amity’s progress.

Besides the patronage of our own locality to a mill and a bank here, there would be that of all the above named villages except those that have them Sheridan and McMinnville, and the village of Willamina, which is located in a position that Sheridan would receive its trade. All the rest would patronize Amity and if left to appoint the location, would select our city, it being the easiest reached and most centrally located. All but one of these towns handle grain, each having large warehouses and all located on R.R. lines and their patronage would be a grand item.

In the Yamhill Valley are yet thousands of acres of vacant land, of a very desirable character for homeseekers, which though being quite rapidly taken up yet offers grand inducements. Homeseekers coming to view our little village, seldom look farther for a location, being always well pleased with our pleasant and healthy location, brilliant educational facilities and institutions of morality and a genial, accommodation, and progressive class of citizens.

We feel safe in saying that a matter of but a short time lies between now and the advent of a good bank and flour mill for Amity, which will awaken a boom that will cease only when she occupies the position she has long deserved that of the leading city in size, wealth and general ability in Yamhill county, which position she would have held from the beginning but for an over ruling spirit of mossbackism which is now a thing of the past.

Amity Standard, October 7, 1892
Invest in a piece of Yamhill County History

Imagine a new brick pathway inviting visitors to the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center. You, your family, or honored loved ones’ names can become a part of Yamhill County history.

These engraved Heritage Bricks will be incorporated in various architectural projects, such as walkways, walls, and the base of a flag pole now erected at the Heritage Center. For a donation of $100, your brick will be engraved to your specifications and become a permanent part of the Heritage Center, creating an amazing tribute to our ancestors, town fathers, loved ones and Yamhill County families. With your donations, you partner with us in building the future of our society.

Brick Inscriptions
Each brick may be inscribed with up to three lines, and up to 17 spaces on each line.

Typical inscriptions have included…

♦ In Memory of (or In Honor of)
♦ Family names
♦ Past or current business names
♦ Historic event
♦ Living or past family members

Inscriptions that are deemed inappropriate by the YCHS Property Development Committee will not be allowed.

Amount for Bricks
$ 

Additional Donation
$ 

Total Enclosed
$ 

Make checks payable to: YCHS
Detach and Mail form to: YCHS Attention Heritage Bricks
P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127
Yamhill County Historical Society Membership Application

Membership Yes! I want to support the Yamhill County Historical Society’s efforts to preserve the county’s rich history. Members receive The West Side newsletter (10 issues per year), free admission to the Lafayette Museum and Library, access to genealogical and historical files, access to the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center, monthly potluck and program for members, invitations to special programs and events, and 10% off photo orders and gift shop purchases.

Please mail this form with payment to:

YCHS
P.O. Box 484
Lafayette, OR 97127

Make checks payable to:

Yamhill County Historical Society

☐ Senior/Student/Educator $15  ☐ Family (Basic) $30  ☐ Community Builder $250+
☐ Senior Family (age 65+) $25  ☐ Friend $55  ☐ Community Benefactor $500+
☐ Individual $20  ☐ Supporter $125+

☐ By filling out this form, the member(s) give(s) the Yamhill County Historical Society the right to release their name and contact information to other members, to the Yamhill County Cultural Coalition, and/or for the purpose of obtaining grant funding. Member information will never be sold or released for any other purpose unless written consent is provided by the member. If the member does not wish to have their name and contact information released, please check here.

Questions? Call Membership Coordinator Carlene Kadell (503) 474-0480 or email: amity1956@yahoo.com

Become a Yamhill County Historical Society Member Today!