

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY MAY 10, 1983 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Yamhill-Carlton High School Cafeteria (drive behind school)
POTLUCK: Bring your own service
PROGRAM: History of the Yamhill area

MUSEUM NEWS

This will be the last news report until August for the September meeting. Have a nice summer! Our summer hours will begin June 11 and run until September 11. Hours will be 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.. We will need some volunteers to operate from time to time.

On Sunday April 17, an antique Ford car club came for a visit. A total of 12 old cars and 25 people showed. The group was from Salem and were having a fine outing. We also had a couple from Washington looking for family records and one gentleman came to purchase a book and left a \$10.00 donation.

Maybe you don't know that we have a "Memorial Fund" book that we keep on record for our members or friends that have passed away and who we wish to remember. We also have a Birthday memorial. These donations are tax deductible and their funds are appreciated.

We have had a donation of a large show case. It is in storage now until we can rearrange the museum. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dyer of Portland.

Clubs may call for appointments in early weekdays. Phone me at 472-7935 .

ROMA SITTON

SCHOOLS OF OLD YAMHILL

If you would like to order our newest book, send a check for \$11.00 (\$10.00 for the book and \$1.00 for postage) to:

Roma Sitton
Rt. 2 Box 173
McMinnville, OR 97128

HISTORY NOTES

Our historical society now has a copy of the diaries of John Brown who lived just east of Rex from 1859 to 1865. During these years John also spent time working and living at Dayton and in the diaries mentions many early Yamhill County families. The original diaries are in the Oregon Historical Society library.

John Brown was born in Ohio on November 15, 1828 and was the son of David and Ann Brown both natives of Ireland. The family moved to Iowa in 1837 where they lived until they emigrated to Oregon in 1852. In addition to the parents and John there were at least five daughters, two of them married, who made the journey to Oregon. The family remained in Oregon for two years and then went to California. John returned to Oregon in February of 1859, but the parents and their three unmarried daughters did not return until July of the same year.

In August 1859 John bought the John Shilling donation land claim which was located at Chehalem Gap. His parents and sisters moved there with him. The site of the farm is now a part of Washington County, but at the time that John Brown purchased the claim, it was considered a part of Yamhill. In both the 1860 and 1870 census the family is listed in Yamhill County. All the land transactions, including the sale of the property by the Brown family in the 1870s, are recorded in the Yamhill County courthouse.

John Brown was a cabinet maker and, not only made furniture for some of his neighbors, but in 1860 worked as a furniture maker for Daniel Chaplin in Chaplin's sash and door factory at Dayton.

The last pocket diary is for the year 1865. Most of that year John spent away from the farm--his health was not good. For a while he worked at his trade in Portland and then moved to Milwaukie where he spent time with a married sister and with the Luelling family. Sometime in 1866 he again went to California, probably for his health. There is just one entry for the year 1866 in the back of the 1865 diary. It is dated July 22 and reads: "I am now at Meadow Lake City, Nevada County, California, 9000 feet above the level of the ocean in the region of eternal snow and rich mines of gold and silver".

John Brown died September 2, 1866 somewhere in California. Sometime before 1870 his mother also died, and shortly after 1870 the rest of the family left the farm and moved to Forest Grove.

Submitted by RUTH STOLLER

YAMHILL CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 484
Lafayette, OR 97127

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