

The West Side

Newsletter and Journal of the Yamhill County Historical Society

May 2003

The Willamina Shetterlys

Maxine Williams was our guest speaker at our April meeting in Willamina, and her presentation on her family's origins was exceptional! Her Grandfather was John Shetterly, the fifth son of Benjamin & Katheryn, who were Pennsylvania Dutch. He was born in 1847 and grew up and spent much of his adult life in the east, moving to Oregon in 1903. Maxine has researched her family to great lengths, and uncovered some of the reasons why her parents seldom spoke of family history, but that's a whole 'nother story. John's first marriage to Sadie ended in



divorce and he married Maxine's grandmother Luella shortly thereafter.

Her father Kenneth was born before the turn of the last century. He had opened a confectionary & candy store by 1917 in Willamina, and the family later moved temporarily to Albany. After the 1924 Willamina fire, the family returned to help rebuild the town. Kenneth opened a hardware store, and he was well known and respected throughout a large area in the Yamhill Valley. In later years he ran for state office at one time, and was defeated by a narrow margin. Maxine is one of seven children—she was born in 1918.

Maxine's interest in family history began relatively late, but after doing extensive research, she wrote down all the pertinent facts in 1994, so others will not have to dig so deep to uncover the Shetterly roots. Her research took her back East to dusty records in county archives to learn what she had not been told by her parents. We all enjoyed Maxine's telling of the Shetterly family history and thank her for all her hard work.

From our President:

Dear Members, last month we were fortunate to receive several very generous donations and grants. Thanks to all who voted for the Yamhill Co. Historical Society on your ballot at First Federal: we received a check for \$560. Thanks also to Delores Robertson for her personal donation. She mentioned that it was just a drop in the bucket but to us it was pure gold. We also received the 2003 Oregon Museum Grant of \$278. I do love opening those letters!!

In the April Newsletter I listed some of the projects the Society is working on. It is great to note that we are actually getting some of these taken care of and working on others. Farnham Electric continues to work on the electrical rewiring of the church. The back 2 rooms are completed and work will soon begin on the main part of the building. I am hoping to see several of you at the Mormon History Center on Saturday, April 26th. Lots of work has gone into this event and I hope it is well attended.

We still need chairpersons and volunteers to help with the re-sale event in June. Please, Please?? The few nice days we have had sure make a person want to work in the yard. Color is appearing everywhere. What a great time of the Year!! See you at the Amity Grade School!

Respectfully, Shirley V.



Restored Work Room: What used to be the kitchen in the back of the church is being turned into a comfortable work room for the volunteers. Thanks to Bob Carter and his trusty hammer and saw the floor is now level, and the holes have been patched in the walls. Paul Knowbloch replaced the windows with new ones with vinyl, that open & shut, and even have screens. Farnham Electric rewired with great lights, light switches and plug-ins. It is so wonderful to have all of these essential things. It has been suggested that we find a boy scout who is willing to scrape and paint the room. Someone has donated carpet. We have the room dividers to partition off the electrical in the one end. Add shelves and some storage units and it is ready for use. Now when you want to volunteer at the museum you have a nice place to work. Thanks to everyone who has made this possible!

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

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MUSEUM HOURS

September 1 - May 31:
Sat-Sun 1 to 4 PM

June 1—August 30:
Fri-Sat-Sun 1 to 4 PM

or

By Appointment

605 Market Street
Lafayette Oregon
Phone: 864-2308

New Email:
yamhillhistory@
onlinemac.com

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YCHS

Board Meeting Highlights

The April Board meeting was called to order on April 8th in the Willamina Free Methodist Church, with nine Board members and officers present. Correspondence Secretary Marjorie Owens reported that Kristoffer Malloy, the young scout who did the work in front of the log cabin with native grasses, is soon to be awarded his Eagle Scout badge. Financial Secretary Lila Jackson reported three renewals. Treasurer Carol Reid reported the months' income of \$1,326 and expenses of \$1,622. She stated the new bookkeeping program is very helpful. She is looking into a little problem with the telephone bill as well as determining which long distance plan we are currently on. It was moved and approved to ask volunteers in the museum facilities to keep a log of long distance calls made so we can better track our costs. Volunteer Chair Eileen Lewis reported that volunteers are working out the coordination for the event entitled "And They came by Ships", being held April 26, 2003. Eileen also said she wants to retire from this position due to lack of time. **Old Business:** Shirley updated the Board on the status of the covered wagon, being kept at the fairgrounds: apparently some on the county fair board are under the impression the wagon belongs to the fair, and that if it were moved to our facility, it would only be on loan (this is not in keeping with our bylaws). Shirley will keep looking into this. She reported on the status of various grants. The taxes for the Nomadic Teacher program will be separate from our YCHS account, and there was a request for better bookkeeping on that program. Frank reported he needs a little more information on some of the grants our society is benefiting from, and Shirley told him she'd try to get him the additional data. Bob Carter has leveled up the floor in the back room in the Church, and new windows will be installed and the gap in the floor will be addressed. The windows will cost \$235 with no labor charge. Wilson Carpet will donate carpeting for this room. Volunteers for the "And They came by Ships" event include Eileen Lewis, Kathy Peck, Julie Amen, Marjorie Owens, Jo McIntyre, Robert DeForrest, Myrna Hanson and Farrel Fuerst. The Preservation Committee has received some of the items ordered. It was the consensus of the Board that the bills for these items be paid promptly. The lowest bid for fixing the windows in the Church was \$902, which includes the use of jail work release inmates in taking down the storm windows. A bid of \$3,960 for all electrical work in the Church is being reviewed. Shirley McDaniel has expressed a desire to serve on the Board and the Board agreed that

Shirley will be a good addition to the Board and unanimously approved her appointment. **New Business:** The Barn Calendar Project is in need of work to meet deadlines. Audit results are in and our finances appear to be in order: Ken Williams hopes to have a detailed report to us in May. We received a grant from the Oregon Heritage Commission for \$278. We also received a \$560 check from First Federal based on their customer balloting program and \$500 from Delores Robertson for needed repairs to our buildings. We need to give some thought to insulation in the Church and we are still addressing a water (drainage) problem in the basement of that building. If we were to install a dehumidifier it will require a separate, larger electrical circuit. Shirley will apply for a "Save Americas Treasures" grant, which will pay for paint and other work on the Church. She will also find out more about the Energy Trust through PGE: this relates to more efficient lights and thermostat. Twila Byrnes reported on the visit of The Obsidians to our facility, who left a \$213 donation.

NOTE: Please check your mailing label and let us know if it is incorrect ! This will let us keep our records and your delivery of the newsletter current.

Obsidians Visit

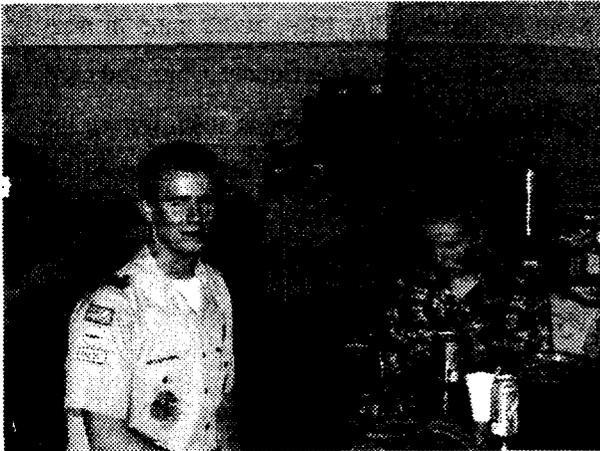
Visitors from Obsidians, Inc., of Eugene arrived at the museum at noon on April 8th. There were 34 visitors, plus the bus driver, led by Ray Jensen. A truly friendly group of senior citizens who ate their sack lunches in the log building and enjoyed a cup of hot coffee we had ready for them.

Ed answered questions in the Barn. Lois took care of the Miller Museum and assisted one of the ladies who was excited to find family information in the Stoller Library files. Twila pointed out the phonograph 'again' for one particular lady who just "simply loved" those old records.

Mr. Jensen left a generous gratuity from the club and many individuals also left donations. We thank them—a delightful day with truly delightful people.

-Twila Byrnes, Lois Brooks & Ed Roghair-

Honorees and Guests at April Meeting



Kristoffer Malloy with younger brother Daniel



Member Donis Fern was joined by her son, Pat, from Oregon City.



Carol and Mack Reid celebrated 25 years of marital bliss!

Preservation Committee: the preservation committee had their regular meeting on the 3rd Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the Log Museum. The showcase for Bridenstein wedding dress will be ordered, thanks to research by Elma Shuck. Assorted protective storage supplies have been received at the Museum in preparation for use with our photos & postcards. Now the group is in need of volunteers to make use of them. The film for the windows in the church has also been received. The next step in this process is to replace the broken glass in all of the windows. The amount for this will be reduced to approximately \$1000 with the help of the county work crew and the volunteers removing the Plexiglas, cleaning and doing some painting. The next project to be added to the preservation list is the quilt collection. Now is the time for those who have offered to help to step forward. We really need people to work on all or any of these. The museum will be open for workers on Tues & Thurs. from 1:00pm to 3:00pm, Wed & Fri. from 8:00am to 4:30pm. Also regular hours of Sat. & Sun 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Come by any time. Please???



Renewals: we are pleased to welcome the following renewing members: Gene Sartar, Barbara Mitchell, Donis Fern, Ruth McKibben & Tim Black, Sylvia Bryan, Eileen Lewis, Barbara Corff, Betty Brown, Barbara Koch.

Another Plea for Help

To our volunteers: the message keeps coming across loud and clear—communication is a key component to most successful endeavors, and our organization is no exception. Notebooks containing notes on the visitations as well as the display, restoration and relocation of artifacts is kept near the phone in the Ruth Stoller research library and on the desk in the Church facility. Your willingness to assist visitors, and to organize, clean and straighten up our displays is greatly appreciated, but concern is growing among volunteers regarding items which suddenly disappear from display and are sent to unknown cubbyholes or drawers without letting others know. Please locate these notebooks and do your part in helping others know what is happening during your watch.

Wilson Carl Inadvertently Starts Town of Carlton

by Jim Lockett

Wilson Carl (1827—1897), an 1853 emigrant, was another Yamhill County pioneer. Being 26 when he crossed the plains, it's surprising that he was not married with several children. He was a bright, energetic young man who, early in life, had to make his own way. His adolescent years were difficult. At age 10, he lost his father. A year later, he lost his mother, so his major concern was survival.

His parents were Jacob F. and Eliza Wilson Carl. Both were natives of New Jersey. Desiring to improve their lot, they, with their nine children, moved to Ohio. Within three years both parents were dead. Life would be difficult from now on, so Wilson and the other children were scattered among their mother's relatives. After arriving in Oregon, he completely lost track of his family.

Not wanting to waste his teenage years, he became skilled in both shoemaking and carpentry. He worked in these jobs for fifteen years before he heard about free land in Oregon! Restless and determined to go to Multnomah County, Oregon, he arrived with the clothes on his back and willing hands.

Dr. Joel Knight, who took Wilson under his wing, saw that he reached Portland safely. The whole area was in a building frenzy so he soon had a carpentry job in Milwaukie, Oregon.

By 1855, this rugged pioneer realized that "Yam Hill" (County), in the Willamette valley, was where he really wanted to be. He immediately found a job in Amity, building a house for Solomon Allen. Then the McMinnville College Board of Trustees, seeing Carl's skill, hired him to build the two seventy-foot wings of the college located at First and Cows. This would become McMinnville College and eventually Linfield College.

Getting established

That next year, Wilson Carl asked pioneer Jona-

-than Stout for his daughter Mary Jane's hand in marriage. She was a native of Noble County, Ohio, and most likely an emigrant on the 1843 wagon train. During the first two years of their marriage, Wilson continued his carpentry trade while he and Mary Jane lived on Sebastian Adam's farm east of present day Carlton, Oregon. Soon, they purchased this property and settled into farming.

Later, when Mary Jane became ill, they sold the farm and moved to a drier climate in California. It wasn't long before they returned to be near her family. Not only was California beneficial to Mary Jane's recovery but Wilson acquired substantial resources; enough to buy 256 acres of prime farmland seven miles northwest of McMinnville. He worked this farm for thirty years, doubling its size and concentrating on hay and grain. He was also very interested in stock and acquired Clydesdale horses and Durham cattle.

The Carl's home was an ideal spot for over-nighters going to the coast. It became known as the "Mountain House" and was a regular stop for the stage. In 1868, Wilson was appointed postmaster of Mountain House, serving in that capacity for three years.

By 1872, the railroad ran between Portland and St. Joe, Oregon. Wilson Carl got tired of hauling his produce all the way to St. Joe. He made a trip into Portland to visit the offices of the railroad and convinced them to make a "flag stop" closer to his ranch. This change was welcomed by the farmers in the area and soon the train was stopping almost every trip at, what was called, "Carl's Stop." A depot was built and it officially became Carl's Town, then "Carlton" in 1876—the same year of the United States Centennial. The 1880 census showed seventy-two Carlton residents. The story of how Carlton got its name made us realize how many Yamhill County towns were given "hometown" names. Here are some: McMinnville -

(W. T. Newby, McMinnville, Tennessee); Lafayette (Joel Perkins, Lafayette, Indiana); Dayton (Christopher Taylor, Dayton, Ohio) and Newberg (Sebastian Brutscher, postmaster, after his home town in Germany). Others were named for significant people like: Sheridan (Phil Sheridan); Carlton (Wilson Carl) and Willamina (Willamina River, after a lovely lady, Willamina Maley, an 1845 emigrant). Lafayette was once known as Yamhill Falls. And, of course, Yamhill was named after Yamhill County which came from the YAM HILL tribe.

The name for Amity, Oregon has an interesting origin. The story comes from the book "Old Yamhill," by Ruth Stoller and others. It seems that Ahio Watt, emigrant of 1848 and Joseph Watt's brother, was the key player in this drama. As he was packing to go to the California gold fields, a group of residents in the area, including Dr. Johnson, Jerome Walling, Enoch Garrison and Solomon Allen, asked Ahio to give up his trip and start a school. These people had their own idea of where the school should be located: not wanting their children to walk very far and a school near their place would increase the value of their property. For some time they had been unable to agree on the location of the school. Well, Ahio told them he would stay if they would compromise and build right away. So, not wanting Mr. Watt to get away, they put their heads together, came to an agreement and immediately set about building the school. Because of the *amiable* behavior of these men, Ahio Watt decided to name the building "Amity School." The town that developed there was named after the school.

Wilson and Mary Jane had four sons to carry on the Carl name. William was a contractor in Carlton for several years before moving to Garibaldi, Oregon. George had a car repair business in Carlton and Edwin farmed the home place after his father's death.

(This place stayed in the family and became one of Yamhill County's century farms in 1959). The only son to leave the area was A. W., who purchased a farm in Washington State.



Wilson Carl 1827—1897

From Hines book "History of Oregon," we find this tribute to Wilson Carl: "...the years of toil and hardships...before emerging into...the ways of prosperity, have told on Mr. Carl. His life, however, has been eminently successful, both as regards financial matters, and also with reference to enjoying the esteem of his fellowmen."

Volunteer Chair needed

Eileen Lewis has served as our volunteer chair for several years and has somehow managed to keep our facilities staffed with volunteers. This is a challenging position and she finds time no longer permits her to keep up with the demand. If you've been looking for something to do in your spare time, please consider assuming this position.

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Effective May 31, 2002

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Friend	\$50+
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter	\$100+
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Builder	\$250+
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Benefactor	\$500+

Please make checks payable to the Yamhill County Historical Society. Annual membership gifts are tax deductible.

Members receive the Westside newsletter and access to our research library free of charge. We are an all volunteer organization, and are constantly on the lookout for new helpers. If you can assist us in any way, financially or with your time or talents, it will be greatly appreciated. If you are not sure if you have paid your membership dues, please contact Lila Jackson at 472-8510. Alternatively, check your mailing label, which should show this information also. (The month and year indicate your "paid through" period according to our records.)

**YAMHILL COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Meeting Notice

Board of Directors:

Tuesday, May 13, 5:00 pm

Monthly Meeting & Potluck:

Tuesday, May 13, 6:30

**Both at the Amity Grade School
On Rice Lane**

This meeting will feature Father Martinez, with Our Lady of Guadalupe Trappist Abbey, discussing the history of the Amish community and it's Mennonite beginnings. Please join us for dinner; bring potluck fare and your own eating utensils.

We Hope to See you There!