The Great McMinnville Jail Break of 1911

Shortly before dawn on Monday April 3, 1911, constable Norman Terry was routinely patrolling the streets of McMinnville when he saw flames erupting from the vicinity of City Hall (then located on what is now the Northwest corner of Second and Cowlis Street). Rushing to the scene he found the jail ablaze. The bell to call out the volunteers was located on the adjacent fire hall tower, and Terry moved quickly to pull the rope. However flames had already been drawn up the tower and the burned rope parted on his first tug. Shouting at a passerby to run a block south to the Baptist Church and ring their bell, Terry immediately returned to the jail to rescue the single prisoner incarcerated within. To his surprise he found the cell door knocked off its hinges and no one in sight. Merrill Ruffner had been arrested earlier Sunday evening for disorderly public conduct. Normally he would likely have been released the following day, but on this occasion it appears he was unwilling to wait that long. A quick inspection of the scene revealed someone with a sledgehammer or similar tool had sheared off the cell door hinge pins allowing it to be forced open. Evidence found

Continued on Page 9
**Letter from the President**

A loud round of applause is in order for all the volunteers working at Farm Fest. Despite truly atrocious weather, rain - hail - serious wind, the event managed to function very well and attracted 1344 people coming through the gate. Although that was not up to the peak numbers we have had in the past with better weather, it looks like the revenue is still going to net nicely in the black for us once all the income is totaled. We even picked up about 22 brand new members at the gate. Thanks to Cliff Watts and others on the Heritage Center Operations Committee installing wi-fi service able to reach out to the front gate ticket booth, we were able to process credit cards right there including for the new membership applications.

An especially raucous round of applause is in order for the media coverage that was obtained. Pam Watts, our Farm Fest Committee Chairperson, rounded up a plow team, blacksmiths and a sawmill crew to show up early during the week before the event and greet reporters and cameramen for live broadcasts from the site. You can see those yourself as videos if you would like. They were posted on our Facebook site. Particularly fun to watch was a reporter trying to convince some plow horses to plow even a semi straight row for him. Let’s just say it was somewhat less than perfect, but we admire his sportsmanship for trying.

There was also some excellent advance coverage in print. I especially liked Starla Pointer’s article and photos in the News-Register regarding all the background crew that doesn’t always get the recognition it should.

We most likely will have final results regarding Farm Fest in time for the wrap up meeting May 11. If you have any thoughts regarding how to improve the event, either attend the meeting at the Heritage Center and share them or e-mail them to me at president@yamhillcountyhistory.org.

A new feature at the Heritage Center you might enjoy will be Country Dancing on Sunday afternoons with live music between 3 and 5 pm starting on April 23. Come out and swing.

Just as a reminder, the next general membership meeting is not on a Sunday. It’s coming up May 9 at the Heritage Center, which is a Tuesday at 6 pm. It’s to honor all our volunteers. Please be sure to attend.

You might also be interested to know the Society participates in events held by others. It is one other way we can help promote ourselves. One coming up that should be fun is that we’re sponsoring a float in the Alien Days Parade. If interested in assisting getting the float ready, contact our Volunteer Chairperson, Dave Rucker. By the way, you can find contact information for most of the key Society personnel here in this newsletter or on our new website.

An event where we have had a Society presence was Lemonade Day in McMinnville put on by the Chamber of Commerce. We have had a lemonade stand in the past, one kid-run with the idea that it not only earns money, but teaches young entrepreneurs about business. It is my understanding that no team has stepped forward this year. If anyone is interested in doing so, contact me asap. The event is May 6.

Charles Hillestad
YCHS President
Phone: (503) 687-1730
Email: charleshillestad@cs.com

Submitted: April 15, 2017
Committee Reports:

- **Activities and Events**—Raylinda Price gave a preliminary report on Farm Fest. There were about 1344 visitors. Numbers were slightly down due to weather. Overall success. Suggestions for changes or improvements should be directed to Pam Watts. Cynthia Christensen reported that we will be present at Ag Fest in Salem.

- **Heritage Center Operations**—Cliff Watts reported that the Heritage Hall should not have permanent murals on its walls. If there is a need, they should be on canvas so they could be moved to fit the current display or function/event.

- **Insurance Committee**—Todd Holt reported that the new insurance policy is now in effect with Philadelphia Insurance.

- **Media Committee**—Michael Hafner reported that the website continues to be tweaked. He is working on obtaining digital copies of all the past General Meetings from McMinnville Media. The cost was estimated at $273 to digitize and provide copies. Michael will see if they will offer a non-profit discount, donate or waive the fee. Tami Spears reported that the Facebook Page is back online and will be managed by her, Raylinda, Michael and Sarah.

- **Merchandise Committee**—Tami Spears provided a budget for 2017 YCHS merchandise to include hats, t-shirts, pennants and mugs. The budget was passed unanimously. Tami will work on an extensive policy and procedure for all aspects of the merchandise from storage, display and selling of merchandise. This will be presented at the next board meeting. Tami also reported the need for a YCHS Branding policy to secure the proper use of the YCHS Brand.

President’s Report:

- YCHS was awarded a grant for the completion of the ADA entrance on the back of the kitchen area. YCHS was nominated for an award from the Willamette Heritage Center.

Treasurer’s Report:

- Todd Holt provided the treasurer’s report which is on file in the record book in Lafayette.

Unfinished Business:

- Fireproof storage in Lafayette will start once the building is cleaned out next month.
- Email redirects—These will be created as needed.
- Organization Chart—Dave, Roy, Charles and Tami have created a working model and will finalize to present to the board soon.

New Business:

- International Museum Day—Raylinda will take on this project for 2018.
- Computerized documents need to be searchable. Alex and Tom will work on this issue.
- Mac Hub is a donation site that will earmark proceeds to certain groups. YCHS should be added to their list to receive benefits.

Respectfully submitted,
Alex Botten, Secretary
Submitted April 15, 2017
Starting April 23, 2017

4th Sundays at the Heritage Center

LIVE MUSIC
by Joe Justin and Janet Kay

MUSIC & DANCING
3:00-5:00PM

$7 Adults
$5 Children 6-12
Kids under 6 FREE

Preserving our Past, Enriching our Future

LIVE PERFORMANCE AT
YAMHILL VALLEY
HERITAGE CENTER
11275 SW DURHAM LN
MCMINNVILLE, OR 97128

www.YamhillCountyHistory.org
### CALENDAR of EVENTS

#### MAY 2017

**3 Wednesday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm

**5 Friday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm
Heritage Center Open 10:00am-3:00pm

**6 Saturday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm
Heritage Center Open 10:00am-3:00pm

**9 Tuesday**
General Meeting - Heritage Center - 6-8pm Potluck and Volunteer Celebration

**10 Wednesday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm
Board Meeting - Lafayette Museum - 5:30pm

**12 Friday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm
Heritage Center Open 10:00am-3:00pm

**13 Saturday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm
Heritage Center Open 10:00am-3:00pm

**17 Wednesday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm

**19 Friday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm
Heritage Center Open 10:00am-3:00pm

**20 Saturday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm
Heritage Center Open 10:00am-3:00pm
Blacksmith Shop Open

**24 Wednesday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm

**26 Friday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm
Heritage Center Open 10:00am-3:00pm

**27 Saturday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm
Heritage Center Open 10:00am-3:00pm

**28 Sunday**
Live Music at the Heritage Center 3:00pm-5:00pm

**31 Wednesday**
Lafayette Museum Open 10:00am-4:00pm

### FUTURE DATES to REMEMBER

- 3rd Saturday’s—Blacksmith Open
- 4th Sunday’s—Live Music at the Heritage Center 3-5pm
- August 9—Board Meeting
- August 19-20—Harvest Fest
- September 10—Vintage Base Ball Game
- September 16—Treasures in the Attic
- October 8—General Meeting & YCHS’s 60th Anniversary
- October 15-30—Fall Pioneer Days
- October 28—A Night at the Museum
- November 11—Veteran’s Day Event
- December 2,3—Handmade Holiday

### VISIT YCHS

**HISTORIC LAFAYETTE MUSEUM & RESEARCH LIBRARY**
605 Market Street, Lafayette, OR 97127
Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm
Or by appointment (503) 864-2308

**YAMHILL VALLEY HERITAGE CENTER**
11275 SW Durham Ln.
McMinnville, OR 97128
Wed., Fri. & Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm

**Mailing Address:**
Yamhill County Historical Society
P.O. Box 484
Lafayette, OR 97127

www.yamhillcountyhistory.org ♦ Email: info@yamhillcountyhistory.org
volunteercoordinator@yamhillcountyhistory.org ♦ Facebook Group: yamhillcountyhistory.org/fb
A Trip to Yamhill County

Pacific Christian Advocacy—April 1, 1865

This is an early account of a trip to Dayton, McMinnville, and Lafayette by the editor of the Advocate. Fifteen years before this, there was practically nothing on the site of Dayton; ten years before, McMinnville had only the flour mill and the miller’s house on its site. Lafayette was the oldest of the three towns having been laid out in the fall of 1846 and designated the county seat in January of 1847. In 1848 there were only two buildings in Lafayette but because of the gold rush, by 1850 it was a lively little town.

A recent trip to Yamhill County was made in obedience to the call of Reverend N.A. Starr who is the preacher in charge of the Dayton and Lafayette Circuit. On Friday afternoon the UNION steamed up the Yamhill River four or five miles above its juncture with the Willamette and landed us at Dayton on the left bank of the river. Thus far the Yamhill is navigable all year round but because of the gold rush, there is practically nothing on its left bank. All is at the right bank.

Surrounding Dayton is a commodious church which is free from importation. We have a very neat and commodious church which is free from debt, also three acres of ground on which there is comfortable parsonage and a few fruit trees in bearing. There are but few church members in this place, yet the citizens are church going, respectful, and kind to their minister. As there was an appointment for religious services at McMinnville, eight miles distant on Friday evening, we set out for that place in a spring wagon drawn by a pair of excellent horses—reach the place of our destination just at dark and found a kind cordial reception at the residence of Reverend Mr. Chandler of the Baptist Church. We had met Brother C. many years ago and were glad to renew the acquaintance. He has labored faithfully in this country and for a number of years at McMinnville where his labors have been blest in the accomplishment of great good. He also labors in other communities.

McMinnville, though not large, is a model town. There are two churches, and yet but one congregation, which is composed of the members and friends of four different denominations. The Methodist, Baptist, Reformed (Christian), and Cumberland Presbyterian have church organizations and their several ministers hold services in turn. The prayer meeting is one, and the same is true of the Sunday School. An excellent spirit seems to pervade the community, and more harmony and genuine Christian fellowship than is apparent there, we have seldom seen. There is a good academy taught under the principalship of W.J. Johnson, A.B., a graduate of Yale College. There is not a liquor store or grog shop in the place. The surrounding country is rich and beautiful.

Agriculture in Art Winners

Youth: Animals
Brooke Kinion - Best Friends - 1st place
Dusty Lukinich – Fowl Play – 2nd place

Youth: Farm
Brooke Kinion – Sunset Silhouette – 1st place
Colin Oathes – Middle of Nowhere – 2nd
Brennan Zeeb – Next Harvest – 3rd

Youth: Winery
Samantha Clements – Winter Barrel Bliss – 1st

Adult: Animal
Kim Pecyna – Big Red – 1st, Best in Category
Charles Hillestad – Sharecropper Tenants – 2nd
Charles Hillestad – Soon To Follow His Hat – 3rd

Adult: People
Charles Hillestad – Wood, Catgut and Experience – 1st, Best in Category
Charles Hillestad – Just the Right Color – 2nd
Charles Hillestad – Never Stop Fiddling Around – 3rd

Adult: Farm
Kim Pecyna – Winter’s Rest – 1st, Best in Category
Larry Kurtz – Bees & Clover Minglin’ – 2nd
Larry Kurtz – Escaping the Barn – 3rd

Adult: Winery
Rick Sorensen – Spring Spray – 1st, Best in Category
Rick Sorensen – Winter at Yamhill Valley Vineyards – 2nd
Rick Sorensen – Spring at White Rose Estates – 3rd

Notes By The Way

Continued on Page 8
Farm Fest 2017 was another great success! In spite of wind, rain and hail, over 1,350 people came through the gates including new visitors, members, volunteers, vendors and exhibitors.

We want to thank the 100+ volunteers who helped make Farm Fest happen, and we would like to give a big shout out to:

- The Oregon Draft Horse Breeders Association for putting on the plowing competition (biggest on the West Coast!)
- The Blacksmith, Sawmill and Steam Engine teams for their demonstrations.
- Mel and Debbie Kelchner and the food team for feeding this big crowd.
- Cynthia Christensen and Terry Nelson for coordinating the Pioneer Kids’ activities and the McMinnville Dance Team for helping.
- Karen Sitton Saxberg and Jan Oschner for coordinating vendors and exhibitors.
- Steve and Andrea Singleton and the Yamhill Valley Camera Club for coordinating the “Agriculture in Art” photography competition.
- The Amity Volunteer Fire Department for providing first aid service if needed (and we are glad they didn't have any requests).
- Tony Meeker, Richard McJunkin and the Amity FFA for facilitating our parking.
- The musicians and square dancers who provided music and dancing.
- Kristie Buxton at the ticket booth and the rovers and greeters transporting and welcoming our guests.
- Wayne Beckwith and his mules, Duane Van Dyke and his horses, Tony Meeker, and the blacksmith and sawmill team who arrived before daylight two mornings the week before Farm Fest so Channel 8 and Channel 12 could broadcast segments live from the Heritage Center for their early morning shows.
- The Farm Fest Committee and all who helped with many other details and spent hours setting up and cleaning up!

Pam & Cliff Watts, Chairpersons, and Raylinda Price, Events & Rentals Coordinator
O ur world is a strange place full of incredible things. We take a lot of that for granted. We’ve seen all the weirdness of our world for so long that we no longer feel that sense of amazement it deserves. There was a time, though, when the things we now consider normal were completely unknown. The people who got to experience these things for the first time had no idea what they were about to see—or how to explain it to everyone back home.

Written by Mark Oliver
For Listverse.com
And found http://listverse.com/2017/02/01/10-hilarious-first-descriptions-of-things-we-take-for-granted/

1 Very Hairy People

A n explorer thought gorillas were just very hairy people. About 2,500 years ago, Hanno the Navigator became one of the first Europeans to see a band of gorillas. He had been sent off to explore Africa and had gotten used to bumping into strange and exotic tribes. So when he found an island full of gorillas, he figured that they were just the funniest-looking group of people yet. Hanno wrote that he’d found “savage people, the greater part of whom were women, whose bodies were hairy, and whom our interpreters called Gorillae.”

He and his men tried to introduce themselves to the gorillas, but the gorillas weren’t too communicative. Instead, the apes just threw stones at the humans and ran away. Hanno’s men caught three of the gorillas and tried to talk them into going back to Carthage with the men. Unfortunately, Hanno said, the gorillas “could not be prevailed upon to accompany us.” When the gorillas got violent, Hanno and his men killed them. Then Hanno went a little crazy. “We flayed them,” he wrote, “talking about what he thought were human beings, ‘and brought their skins with us to Carthage.’”

2 Saturn’s Ears

G alileo said Saturn had ears. Galileo was the first person to spot Saturn’s rings. This happened, though, in 1610, and telescope technology still had a long way to go. When he looked at Saturn, Galileo wasn’t looking at one of those crystal clear images we see from NASA. He was looking at a blurry light and making out what he could. And so it’s understandable that he thought he was looking at a star with ears.

It actually took him three years of analysis to decide that Saturn had ears. At first, he figured he was looking at three stars that were just very close together. “The star of Saturn is not a single star, but is a composite of three,” Galileo wrote, “which almost touch each other, never change, or move relative to each other.”

Two years later, he got a bad angle and couldn’t make out the rings anymore. Not realizing that he was just having a problem with his telescope, Galileo was sure that the other two stars had magically vanished. “I do not know what to say in a case so surprising, so unlooked for, and so novel,” he wrote. “Has Saturn swallowed his children?”

When they showed up again the next year, Galileo changed his view. After three years of observation, he now knew that Saturn was not three evanescent stars. It was a single celestial body—and, Galileo declared, it had “ears.”

Trip to Y.C. Concluded

We preached to the people four times and the congregations were large.

On Sunday morning we worshiped in the M.E. Church in Lafayette. This is the seat of Justice for Yamhill County. It is situated on the Yamhill River, three miles above Dayton, and is reached by steamboats nearly all the year. The site is not beautiful, being rather low and flat at least it seems so now. The church is good and free of debt; the congregation was good. The courthouse is a substantial brick structure, the lower portion of which is occupied as a jail, and just now they have prisoners charged with horse stealing. It is believed the authorities are gaining information which will enable them to ferret out and bring to justice a large band of rogues who have been doing a heavy business in horse stealing. One man is retained in the prison to give evidence. The jail is guarded every night by armed men and threats have been made to break open the prison and liberate the thieves.

Having shared the hospitality of our good friends, Brother and Sister Bird during our stay in Lafayette, we returned on Monday to the patronage at Dayton, having reached the conclusion that the Dayton—Lafayette Circuit is not a safe place for an invalid preacher to visit, as Brother Star gets all the service out of his friends that is possible. Thus far it has been a year of prosperity to that field of labor. We are very greatly obliged to the officers of the steamers Senator and Union for their kindesses toward the editor of the Advocate.

Henry C. Benson D.D. April 1, 1865
at the scene also left little doubt the fire was no accident. Assuming it to have been set as a diversion to permit Ruffner to slip out of town unnoticed during the confusion, Police Chief Peterson ordered deputies to cover all the roads and check the two departing early morning trains. When these measures failed to locate the escapee, “wanted” wires were sent to law enforcement agencies throughout the state. In addition to the standard references of height, weight, hair color, etc., the description given for the fugitive also mentioned a large gold tooth and noted he was last seen wearing an expensive looking blue suit of clothes.

The entire jail building and fire bell tower were totally destroyed and the bell itself was rendered useless because of severe heat cracks. Next door, the fire station and city hall offices above it suffered lesser damage but would still require extensive repairs, as was also the case with the adjoining Water & Light building. Ruffner now faced serious arson charges and an angry City of McMinnville administration was prepared to press for a maximum sentence of 15 years in the penitentiary.

On Tuesday April 4th, word reached Chief Peterson that a person closely answering Ruffner's description right down to the gold tooth had been apprehended at the Ashland train depot. However, since the suspect was clad in overalls and the jail beds were “crummy” (a term used at the time to indicate presence of lice) and he did not wish to become infested by remaining incarcerated. Further stating he had found an axe in his cell, he told how he alone had beaten the pins from the door hinges so that he could remove himself from the vicinity of the insects. He said his original intent was to remain on the premises, but realizing he might still be charged with escape, decided to sneak out of town instead. The letter ended with mention of a Redding bank having been burgled the night before and a closing remark of “I don’t know where I’m going but I’m on my way”. This was the last anyone in McMinnville was ever to hear from Merrill Ruffner.

Over the next few weeks it was learned Ruffner was also wanted elsewhere, which probably was the real reason for his not wishing to remain in the McMinnville jail for any length of time. Additionally he must have had at least one accomplice as it would have been impossible for him to shear the hinge pins with an axe from inside his cell.

Apparently the claim of acting alone was intended to direct suspicion away from someone still in town, although a thorough investigation of known associates never uncovered any real suspect. The fire was found to have originated in the bedding causing speculation at the time to be equally divided as to whether it had been set as an escape diversion or a protest against alleged “crummy” jail conditions. Only Ruffner could answer this for sure, but by now time has closed the case.

Written by John White May 1996

McMinnville jailhouse in 1892. Courtesy of Oregon State Archives

The entire jail building and fire bell tower were totally destroyed and the bell rendered useless.
3 Surfing, the ‘Most Supreme Pleasure’

When James Cook made it to Hawaii in 1778, he and his crew became the first Europeans in history to see someone surf. They watched native men on surfboards and in canoes ride the waves—and they thought it was the greatest thing they had ever seen. William J. Anderson the ship’s surgeon, gushed about it. He had watched a man paddling a canoe instead of riding a surfboard, but the man was certainly riding waves.

“He went out from the shore, till he was near the place where the swell began to take its rise,” Anderson wrote, “and watching its first motion very attentively, paddled before it, with great quickness, till he found that it overtook him, and had acquired sufficient force to carry his canoe before it, without passing underneath.”

Anderson loved it. “While he was driven on, so fast and so smoothly, by the sea,” he wrote, “I could not help conclude that this man felt the most supreme pleasure.”

4 The Metal Armored Rhinoceros

The best-known picture of a rhinoceros showed it in metal armor. When he drew a rhinoceros in 1515, Albrecht Durer had never seen one. A rhinoceros was making a tour around Europe, but Durer didn’t get the chance to see it himself. Instead, Durer just read a few descriptions and figured that he had enough of a handle on it to draw it.

He sketched the image you see to the left and wrote on it proudly, “This is an accurate representation.” A rhinoceros, Durer declared, “is the color of a speckled tortoise and is almost entirely covered with thick scales. It is the size of an elephant but has shorter legs and is almost invulnerable.”

His image had the rhinoceros actually wearing a metal breastplate like a medieval knight. He’d thrown an extra horn onto its back and added scales on its legs. Sure, it wasn’t 100 percent accurate. But for centuries, his picture showed up in books and schools, accepted as the definitive anatomical drawing of a rhinoceros.

5 The Platypus was a hoax

The first written description of a platypus comes from George Shaw in 1799. Someone had sent him a specimen from Australia to examine. Looking at a duck-billed platypus for the first time, Shaw was pretty sure that these people were just conning him.

“It naturally excites the idea of some deceptive preparation by artificial means,” Shaw wrote about the animal, which he described as an “otter in miniature” with a duck beak “engrafted on the head.”

Shaw didn’t believe it was real until he had given it ‘the most minute and rigid examination.” He wrote up a full report on the platypus, concluding that it likely dug, swam, and ate aquatic plants. Then Shaw completely gave up on figuring out anything else about the weird creature in front of him.

“That,” a befuddled Shaw wrote, “is all that can at present be reasonably guessed at.”

6 Kangaroos in America?

The first description of a kangaroo came from the wrong country. “An extraordinary animal inhabits these trees,” begins the first description ever made of a kangaroo. “The muzzle is that of the fox, while the tail resembles that of a marmoset, and the ears those of a bat. Its hands are like man’s, and its feet like those of an ape. This beast carries its young wherever it goes in a sort of exterior pouch, or large bag.”

It’s a normal enough description of a kangaroo except for one thing. It was written in 1511—nearly 100 years before the first European landed in Australia. The writer, Peter Martyr, was describing a creature he had seen firsthand. It had been brought to him by the crew of Vicente Yanez Pinzon, a man who had accompanied Christopher Columbus and who—by all records—had never gone to Australia.

Martyr wrote this in a letter to Cardinal Ludovico d’Aragon. Martyr also stated that the cardinal had analyzed the creature. They never give the animal a name, but Martyr’s description certainly fits the kangaroo: “This animal never takes its young out of this pouch, save when they are at play or nursing, until the time comes when they are able to fend for themselves.”

Does this mean that Pinzon reached Australia? Or does it mean that there were kangaroos in Central America? It is not 100 percent clear, but there is even more proof that a kangaroo made it to Europe before Janszoon’s trip. On a piece of paper, sometime around 1580, a Portuguese writer sketched a kangaroo inside the letter “D.”
Dear Members,

THANK YOU for being a Yamhill County Historical Society member! Your contribution to the Society goes directly towards our activities, events, educational programs, building improvements and daily operations, all of which greatly benefit our community. We ask for your membership in the YCHS so we may continue with the valuable activities and events to increase and support our existing membership, and to foster potential visitors and new membership in our community.

Thank you for your continued support of the YCHS. You are important to us! It’s members like you that make all the difference.

RETURN THIS ENTIRE FORM WITH YOUR REMITTANCE

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Members receive The West Side newsletter (10 issues per year), free admission to the Lafayette Museum and Library, access to genealogical files, access to the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center, monthly potluck and program for members, invitations to special events, and 10% off photo orders and gift shop purchases.

The membership year runs from January 1 (or date of new membership) to December 31.

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
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<td>Senior/Student/Educator</td>
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CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: ____________________________  Address: ____________________________
City: ____________________________  State: ______  Zip Code: ______
Phone: ____________________________  Email: ____________________________

☐ I would prefer to receive the YCHS newsletter via: ☐ Email  ☐ Postal Mail

☐ I would like to volunteer to help with activities of the YCHS. Please contact me.

☐ Please click here if you do not wish to have your name and contact information released 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.

Please make checks payable to YCHS and return with this printed form to:
YCHS, P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127

Questions? Call Membership Coordinator Carlene Kadell (503) 474-0480 or email: amity1956@yahoo.com
Yamhill County Historical Society was founded in 1957 to encourage an appreciation and understanding of the events, customs, and traditions of the Yamhill County community by protecting, preserving and sharing its history and heritage. The society operates and maintains museums, historical properties and research facilities, advocates for preservation, and presents educational and public services in accordance with its mission.

**COLLECTIONS:** Yamhill County Historical Society’s collections include genealogical materials, letters and documents from the late 18th century on, documents from schools, businesses, and other community organizations, and well over 5,000 photographic images. The Lafayette Museum and Heritage Center collections include furnishings, household artifacts, tools, agricultural and manufacturing equipment, dairy, logging and other transportation vehicles, a steam engine, quilts, textiles, historically significant landscaping showcasing native plants and other items that illustrate the history of Yamhill County.

**FACILITIES:** YCHS operates two facilities: a museum and research library, and the Heritage Center. The Lafayette Museum and Research Library contains the historic Poling Church and log cabin which house an exhibit hall and research facility. The Heritage Center includes a one-room schoolhouse, exhibit hall, activities building, blacksmith shop, sawmill, space for educational programs, meeting and event spaces. Both locations are open year-round on a regular schedule.