At the turn of the century there were very few Catholic families in the neighborhood of Yamhill. The nearest church was St. James in McMinnville, Oregon, eleven miles away.

Apparently along about this time the main roadway to McMinnville was graveled, but most of the roads into the countryside were just dirt roads with occasional gravel in the worst spots, and now and then some “corduroy.” Horseback riding was the easiest means of travel but families had to get about in a hack or wagon pulled by a team of horses. This was not too bad in the summer months, but next to impossible during the rainy season.

Hence most families could not attend Mass although some tried to take care of the baptisms. Some living closer to town and the graveled road did occasionally during nice weather get to St. James to Mass. Mrs. Mikkelson (nee Margurita Barnes) remembers that she would sometimes stay overnight with the Brentano girls and go with their family to Mass on Sunday. They would go in a wagon, take along their lunch, eat over there and come home in the afternoon.

In 1907 the Catholic Extension Society dedicated its first Chapel Car—St. Anthony’s. The railroads hauled the chapel car for free as it traveled through the West as a “church on wheels.” St. Anthony’s was an old Pullman railroad car reconstructed on the inside, capable of seating about sixty people, contained an altar and back of the altar was a little combined library and sitting room, and two of the usual berths. Further back was a small kitchen. This Chapel Car 1907-1919

A Real Ghost—Amity Popcorn 1892

Few people in this day and age of the world believe in real ghosts, but facts are convincing. Last Wednesday evening while driving by moonlight from Sheridan to Amity, our horse suddenly stopped and seemed to be frightened at an object which presented itself in the middle of the road and all the urging, coaxing, yelling and scolding that could be brought to bear proved of no avail, more thoroughly convincing us of the presence of a real ghost. After being held at bay for some time and finding we had to talk ghost talk or camp, we sprung from the buggy with a Popgun and furiously battled in the air with the ghost which had by this time seemed to grow ten times its original size. We floored the monster and made our escape leaving the ghost lying in the road helpless. If anyone wishes to see the ghost they will have to look through a dangerous hole in the culvert about one mile east of M.S. Chapin’s place where someone is very likely to have serious trouble unless that roadmaster gets around soon and does some repairing.

Amity Popcorn, October 7, 1892

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
President’s Letter

Dear YCHS Members,

I would like to welcome all of our new and renewing members and thank you for your support of the Yamhill County Historical Society. For those who are new to the Society, we have two museum sites, one consisting of the Miller Museum and the historic Polling Church located in Lafayette and the other (our new museum, the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center) located just south of McMinnville on Hwy 18 at Durham Lane.

If you have not yet renewed your membership, you will find a membership form in this publication and we urge you to renew your membership as soon as possible. We value your support and, in fact, could not function without your continued membership.

It is election time again and you will find brief profiles in this newsletter of the candidates who the Nominating Committee has put forward for the four open seats on the YCHS Board of Directors. Our bylaws state that each candidate is to be elected for one three year term and may be elected for one successive term of another three years.

Ballots will be mailed out by November 1st to all YCHS members and the ballots must be returned, BY MAIL, no later than December 1st, 2011. Our bylaws require that the ballots MUST be returned by mail and arrive no later than December 1st. Of course, that means that they may not be hand delivered.

As members, you may discount all or any of the candidates put forward by the Nominating Committee by writing in another name of your choice. There will be complete instructions included with your ballot as well as a preaddressed envelope for the return of the ballot. The returned ballots will go to the office address of the Society’s attorney.

The new Directors will be announced at the Annual Meeting on December 11th at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in McMinnville at 2:00pm.

I would like to give a special “thanks” to the members of the Nominating Committee for their work. The committee was chaired by board member Steve Leonard and the other members were board member (and Vice-President) Shirley McDaniel and Jean Sartor.

Remember, we are still promoting the Heritage Brick program and there is still room to get your brick placed on the base of our new Flag Monument!

Carolyn Meeker
YCHS President
Phone: (503) 835-8481
Email: acmeeker@frontier.com
Submitted: October 14, 2011

 FUNNY BUT TRUE EPIGRAMS

To celebrate Halloween, here are some funny actual epitaphs found around the world:

Ruidoso, New Mexico Cemetery:
Here lies Johnny Yeast
Pardon me for not rising.

London, England Cemetery:
Ann Mann
Here lies Ann Mann,
Who lived an old maid
But died an old Mann.
December 8, 1767

Uniontown, Pennsylvania:
Here lies the body of Jonathan Blake
Stepped on the gas instead of the brake.

Hartscombe, England:
On the 22nd of June
- Jonathan Fiddle -
Went out of tune.

Enosburg Falls, Vermont:
Here lies the body of our Anna

Done to death by a banana
It wasn’t the fruit that laid her low
But the skin of the thing that made her go.

Nantucket, Massachusetts:
Under the sod and under the trees
Lies the body of Jonathan Pease.
He is not here, there’s only the pod:
Pease shelled out and went to God.

Sliver City, Nevada:
Here lays Butch,
We planted him raw.
He was quick on the trigger,
But slow on the draw.

Have a Happy Halloween!

Carolyn Meeker
YCHS President
Phone: (503) 835-8481
Email: acmeeker@frontier.com
Submitted: October 14, 2011
Board Meeting Recap ~ October 12, 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—Cynthia Christensen reported that DeMoss will re-assess and re-bid for work on the gutters, roof and trees. The stairway to the back of the Poling church has been removed for safety and lattice was put up to block the entrance. The committee is reviewing other repairs needed for the church and log cabin.
- Photo Committee—Tom Cattrall reported that the committee is working with the McMinnville City Library and the Friends of the City Library on a potential book about McMinnville.
- Computer Committee—Tom Cattrall reported that classes on the Past Perfect computer program the society uses will start in November or December. Those who would like to learn our computer system are encouraged to contact Tom and sign up for a class.
- Activities and Events Committee—Tami Compton-Spears reported that the committee has developed hourly rental fees for the Activities building at the Heritage Center. The committee added the following statement to the A&E policy and procedure: All private events and vendor contact information is the property of the YCHS. All contact information will be stored with the A&E information at the Lafayette site and must be filed within 30 days of the event.
- Heritage Center Accessions and Restoration Committee—The Heritage Center Restoration and Accessions committees have now been combined into one committee.

President's Report: An artist would like to loan the YCHS a horse sculpture. Further research is needed on the cost of moving the donated school house to the Heritage Center site.

Unfinished Business: A policy was approved on criminal background checks on board members.

Respectfully submitted, Jo McIntyre, Secretary pro tem

Joe Meek’s Pumpkin Soup

This recipe is a modern adaptation of the early one that called for “a piece of pumpkin the size of your two hands.”

Heat a quart of milk with 3 cups of cooked mashed pumpkin, a tablespoon of sweet basil, 1/4 cup of minced onions, 2 tablespoons of butter, and salt and pepper to taste. Cook in a double boiler for a half hour, strain, and serve, garnished with croutons. Serves 6 to 8.

1 quart milk 1 tablespoon sweet basil
3 cups cooked mashed pumpkin 1/4 cup minced onions
2 tablespoons butter Salt and pepper

When Dr. McLoughlin wrote his London headquarters that the pumpkin seed he had requested had not arrived, he was burning, and not because he craved pumpkin pie! He wanted the crop for pig food. The seeds apparently came shortly after, for many early pioneers, including the famous trail blazer Joe Meek, were soon eating pumpkin in their nutritious stews. Another early pumpkin incident apparently caused another slow burn. Joe Meek, who was to provision a pack trip, did so with nothing but a couple of pumpkins. His companions weren’t amused. Whether or not the pumpkin was made into soup, history does not relate.

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

Respectfully submitted, Jo McIntyre, Secretary pro tem
It's time to start thinking about our annual Handmade Holiday event, to be held December 3-4, 2011. We will be having our annual Silent Auction, the hourly Santa’s Walk (hourly giveaways), and a YCHS booth. The committee would like to ask for the following donations:

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<th>Silent Auction</th>
<th>Santa’s Walk</th>
<th>YCHS Booth</th>
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<td>- Items and/or baskets of items to be auctioned at the event.</td>
<td>- Hourly giveaway items. Small items for all ages.</td>
<td>- Candles, breads, jams, jellies, cookies, etc… We would like these items to be boxed and fancy wrapped.</td>
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We will also be needing a few volunteers, so if you would like to sign up, please contact Karen Sitton-Saxberg DH2kissit@onlinemac.com (503) 434-2189 or Kathy Burden kerb1941@aol.com.
November 2011

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**November 9, 2011**—
Board Meeting—
Lafayette Miller Museum

**November 13, 2011**—
General Meeting—7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Road, McMinnville

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**Upcoming Events**

- December 3, 4—YCHS Handmade Holiday Bazaar
- December 11—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- December 14—Board Meeting

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**Event Locations**

- November 9, 2011—Board Meeting—Lafayette Miller Museum
- November 13, 2011—General Meeting—7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Road, McMinnville

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**NOTICE:**

November Potluck and General Meeting

- **Date:** Sunday, November 13, 2011
- **Time:** 2:00 pm: Potluck, 3:00 pm: Program
- **Location:** 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville

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**This Morning’s Walk**

I noticed the soft new grass that’s sprouted since our rains;
Detoured to throw in a burn pile;
Picked a bouquet of gladiolas;
Kicked a puff ball;
Shook apples from a tree;
Admired delicate Queen’s Anne’s Lace’;
Became aware that the sun now rises south of Muffin Mountain;
Paused to admire the cascades in the creek;
Turned my nose up at a banana slug;
Scrubbed my boots in dewy grass;
And retrieved the morning paper.

I am blessed to live in Moores Valley.

Nancy Thornton

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**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

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**Yamhill Valley Heritage Center**

11275 SW Durham Ln.
McMinnville, OR 97128

**Hours:**
Saturday 10—3
2011 YCHS Board Candidate Biographies

In December, the YCHS will be having our annual election of board members. There are four positions open on the Board of Directors. The following four candidates have been nominate by the YCHS Nomination Committee.

Kim Courtin
Kim is serving her second term as the YCHS treasurer and first term on the board and served previously as secretary for the Society. Kim is a bookkeeper for a large international company and is working on a BS degree. She is also involved in several other community organizations and concerns.

Carolyn Meeker
I am serving my first term of three years on the YCHS Board of Directors. I have served as president from 2010 to the present. Previously, I served on the Oregon State Arts Commission for six years serving two terms as chair. I have also served as honorary chair for the county United Way campaign, county chair for Mother’s March Against Birth Defects, and served on the board of Lutheran Family Services. I hold a BA in Fine Arts from Linfield College. My husband was born in Yamhill County and I have made my home here since 1965 except for six years living in New York. It would be an honor and a privilege to serve a second term on the YCHS Board of Directors and I would appreciate your vote.

Karen Sitton-Saxberg
My name is Karen I Sitton-Saxberg, and I am a descendent of the first wagon train of Sitton’s from the 1840’s. A gardener by love, a farmer by trait. My love of history comes from my grandmother Roma Sitton. I am a museum volunteer at the Lafayette site, A&E committee, Pioneer Cemetery, Tour Committee Chair. Business of hair as a job for over 40 years, and owner for 25 years. I have been on the YCHS board of directors for the past three years and would love to continue.

Cliff Watts
Cliff is an active YCHS member at the Heritage Center location and involved as Chairman of Farm and Harvest Fest, Property Development, Accessions & Restoration committees, as well as a member of the Oversight Team and Activities & Events Committee. He is also active in displays, maintenance and tours at the Heritage Center. Cliff has been a resident of Yamhill County since 1965, and he and his wife Pam have been involved in the community for many years. With the help of Cliff’s parents Glen & Joanne Watts and their daughter, Janelle, her husband Ian, and granddaughter Isla (who live in Spokane), the whole family contributes to the success of the annual Harvest Fest celebration.
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.

Name ____________________________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________________________
Cty ___________________________ State ________ Zip ______________________
Phone ___________________________ Email ______________________________________

$100 per Brick

BRICK #1

Inscription (one character per box—including spaces and punctuation in boxes)

BRICK #2

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.

Name:
Address:
City: ____________________________  State: ________  Zip Code: ____________________________
Phone (Home): ____________________  (Cell): ____________________
(Work): ____________________  Email: ____________________

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

Please mail this form with payment to:
YCHS
P.O. Box 484
Lafayette, OR 97127

Make checks payable to:
Yamhill County Historical Society

☑ 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!