

October 2008

The West Side



Newsletter and Journal of the Yamhill County Historical Society

Preserving our Past, Enriching our Future

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center Update

Take a trip to the Durham Lane site and view the progress on the buildings. Chuck Kadell, Donnie King, Alan Tessman, and Alan Steinke have the saw mill enclosed and they will soon be set up for demonstrations.

The siding and most of the roof is in place on the 45,000 sq. ft. Agricultural/Timber Exhibition building. Only the center one story office/gallery is incomplete. A Durham oversight team is being formed to help with site planning and fund raising. Watch for more information on this project.



JoAnn Fabric Donates a Sewing Bee

Diane Beveridge, manager of JoAnn Fabrics and Crafts Store in McMinnville, has donated fabric and notions to the museum. We have about 100 yards total of calico, solid colors, and muslin.

The YCHS Sewing Circle will be making period clothes for children to try on when they are visiting the covered wagon.

We will also make bonnets, aprons, quilted potholders, and pioneer dresses to sell at the museum. We are getting ready to celebrate Christmas and Oregon's 150th birthday.

In addition, we will create kits containing pre-cut fabric and instructions. All you do is start stitching! The YCHS Sewing Circle is seeking quilt-blocks for this project. If you would like to join us, donate blocks, and/or help sew (or maybe your forte is cutting out), please call Louise Heindl, Volunteer Coordinator at 503.662.4218 or Gloria Lutz 503.472.7563 or email glutz@onlinemac.com.

The next time you are in JoAnn's, tell them thank you for their generosity.

Celebrate Oregon's Sesquicentennial

As Oregon prepares to celebrate 150 years of statehood on February 14, 2009, many activities are underway. One of those activities is The Oregon Encyclopedia.



On October 18th, Portland State University and the Oregon Historical Society invite the public to "open their minds to Oregon!" Come and contribute your knowledge of local history and culture to The Oregon Encyclopedia—a dynamic on-line resource that will engage Oregonians in learning about all things Oregon. Learn about the web site, meet the project team, and bring your ideas. The Oregon Encyclopedia will include information about Oregon history, art, architecture, literature, anthropology, ethnology, folklore, and more. Find out how you can be a part of this exciting project.

This event is co-sponsored by the Oregon Council for the Humanities and the McMinnville Public Library. This is the only Yamhill County location visited by the project organizers:

McMinnville Public Library
225 NW Adams St., McMinnville
Saturday, October 18 from 2:00- 5:00 p.m.

For more information visit:

www.oregonencyclopedia.org

*** New Museum Hours ***

The museum is now open three days a week!
Wednesday, Friday and Saturday
10 AM to 4 PM

We still need volunteers on those three days to help with research requests and tours. Please call Louise Heindl if you can help.

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Historic Lafayette Site

605 Market Street/PO Box 484
Lafayette OR 97127

Museum Hours:

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday

10 am to 4 pm

Or by appointment

Phone: 503-864-2308

yamhillhistory@online.com

McMinnville Site

11275 SW Durham Lane
McMinnville, OR 97128

2008 YCHS

Tax ID # 23-7090047

www.yamhillcountyhistory.org

President's Letter



I was reading the letter from the Director, David Wilson, Director of the Tigar Historical Association. He was emphasizing the importance of the small museum. These are his words: "A visit to a small museum can be an indescribably rich experience. About 75% in the U.S. are small institutions, usually staffed by volunteers and perhaps a few paid employees. If we fail to help the small museums, we are literally risking the fabric of our own heritage. Whatever the precise numbers, it is clear that small museums help anchor the cultural life of villages, towns and smaller cities across the U.S. It is amazing to me that so many individuals have displayed such devotion to step forward as volunteers and enable a community museum to provide their time, plan exhibitions and care for the precious artifacts and documents. The enormous time involved just to accession the items in a collection is very challenging. Without (sic) the strong support of the community, the entire small museum process could not flourish."

Thank you, David. Now you can see the importance of volunteers at our museum. You can also understand why we are seeking more help to continue the programs, especially accessions. Visitors are requesting that we stay open more than 2 days a week. Therefore you will note that we are now open on Friday also. This requires more volunteers to help. Please give us a call. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely, Shirley Venhaus, President

REMINDERS: Be sure to carefully read the revised By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation sent to you several weeks ago. If you have any questions, now is the time to get them answered. We will vote on these issues at our general meeting Tuesday, October 14, 2008.

SUNDAY GENERAL MEETING: The General Meetings will be held on the second Sunday of January, February and March. Please note this scheduling change.

VOLUNTEERS: Please give some serious thought to helping at the Lafayette Museum. One day a month is a great way to learn about the museum and all the fun things happening there.

YCHS SUMMER PICNIC: The summer picnic was held at the Crystal Dawn Smith Rilee Foundation Parrett Mountain 400 acre farm. It was a wonderful gathering, good food, beautiful scenery, great wagon rides, and a gracious hostess—Elizabeth Rhodes—Crystal's granddaughter. We have been invited to return for next summer's picnic, scheduled for August 15, 2009. We look forward to scheduling future joint activities with Parrett Mountain Farms.

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING: The program was presented by Janet Graves Smith who read from the letter/diary of 1917—Hiking the Oregon Coast. The Bennet and Lux families started their hike in Astoria and finished in Yachats. They camped, swam in natatoriums, and stayed in hotels along the way. Thelma Lux McKibben of Sheridan was along for the hike but was not born for another six months. It was nice having her as guest at our program.

Bench Dedicated to Long-Time Volunteer

Many of you remember Dan and Annita Linscheid. Annita passed away suddenly just over a year ago. Earlier, she had been the society's secretary for several years. She took excellent minutes and made sure there was a summary of the board meetings in each issue of *The West Side*. Dan was the editor of the newsletter for many years, and Annita was in charge of printing it at the time of her death. She saved the society thousands of dollars over the years by printing the newsletter at the museum.



Perhaps her greatest contribution to the society, however, were her accomplishments in the preservation of our artifacts. She and Dan were responsible for installing and setting up the Past Perfect software program on the computer, which several volunteers were trained in, so we could enter data into the system for recording and tracking the artifacts. Several thousand artifacts were entered into this system.

Annita and Kathy Peck headed the textile preservation program, in which numerous volunteers assisted with the sorting, labeling, packing and storing of our thousands of textiles. Annita put in hundreds of extra hours in the evenings to make sure the rest of us had work to do when we arrived at the museum, and she and Kathy researched many museums and systems to come up with the very best one for our museum.

Then she started us on the photographs, abstracts and other records. Those of us who worked Fridays on preservation looked forward to those days because we so enjoyed working with her. She had such enthusiasm for the museum and she treasured the artifacts. Her goal was to make sure they were preserved in the best way possible, and that the whole system was organized.

The historical society was extremely fortunate to have Annita Linscheid as long as we did. There may be people who love the museum as much as she did, but no one loves it more. Those of us who worked with her on Fridays wanted to remember her in a visible way, so we

bought a bench, put it together and with the board's permission, installed it outside the museum. The plaque has her name on it and reads as follows:

Week after week

You gave of your time

To make this museum a better place.

Future generations will benefit

And your efforts can never be erased.

We also planted rose bushes along the barn in her memory because she loved flowers.

A Visit From Long-Time Friends

On a recent Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Marquis stopped at the Lafayette museum. It had been awhile since their last visit and they were especially interested in the Log House. Long time society members may remember Mr. Marquis as the nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Miller who provided the funding for the construction of the Log House and established an endowment fund for its maintenance.

They were pleased to learn the log building had become a busy research center with information and services available to the public. As we toured through the museum, many of the Miller photos and artifacts sparked memories for Mr. Marquis, and I enjoyed learning more about the family. Our quilt collection and how we care for our quilts was of special interest to Mrs. Marquis.

It's always enjoyable to share our museum with others especially when they make those family connections. It reminds us all of our roots, and we can be grateful for the generosity of the Miller and Marquis families.

By Jean Sartor

Jingle Bells

It's not too early to be thinking about the holidays. Visit the museum and you'll find several books for young readers that would make great gifts. The stories feature adventure about families coming west on the Oregon Trail. We're also selling those popular hand-made wooden toys that you saw at the Harvest Fest. Watch for new items to come including children's sunbonnets and some really HOT potholders. You can also pick up our 15 month Yamhill Barns calendars for 2009. If you are member, enter the contest. Simply name the location of all the barns correctly and win a fabulous prize!



October 2008 Happenings

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Locations 10/11: Family History Conf. : LDS Church in McMinnville. 8-3:30 Baker Creek Road 10/13: Sod Busting: Durham site 10/14: 7th Day Adventist Church. 1500 Old Sheridan Road. McMinnville			1 Lafayette Museum open	2	3 Lafayette Museum open	4 Lafayette Museum open
5	6	7	8 Lafayette Museum open	9	10 Lafayette Museum open	11 Lafayette Museum open Family History Conf.
12	13 Sod Busting For 7th Day Adventist School	14 Board Meeting 4:00 YCHS General meeting 6:30 Potluck	15 Lafayette Museum open	16	17 Lafayette Museum open	18 Lafayette Museum open The Oregon Encyclopedia 2-5 See p. 1
19	20	21	22 Lafayette Museum open	23	24 Lafayette Museum open	25 Lafayette Museum open
26	27	28	29 Lafayette Museum open	30	31 Lafayette Museum open 	

October General Meeting and Potluck

Tuesday, October 14, 2008
6:30 Potluck
7:00 Program
Program: Marjorie Owens, "Yamhill County Murders"
Location: 7th Day Adventist Church, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville

YCHS Upcoming Events

- Nov. 11th 6:30 pm—General Meeting & Potluck.
Program: Black Pioneers. 7th Day Adventist Church
- Dec. 9th 6:30 pm—General Meeting & Potluck.
Program: Frank Dummer and a sing-along. 7th Day Adventist Church
- Jan. 11th 2:00—TBA
- Feb. 14, 2009—YCHS Sesquicentennial Celebration

Historic Lafayette Site

Volunteers are so important. The following information shows just how important. The total number of June, July, and August volunteer hours at the Lafayette site were 217 hours as well as 70 hours off site with attendance at community events such as Carlton's Walk In the Park. Also included is the Durham Lane site for the purpose of YCHS promotion and marketing plus signing up new YCHS members. The hours for the accessions section (donor donations) are not included.

Those participating were the following: Gloria Lutz, Chuck Kadell, Ursula Dodd, Cynthia Doane, Louise Heindl, Reita Lockett, JoAnn Watts, Farrel Fuerst, Doris Cruickshank, Lorna Grauer, Marjorie Owens, Kathy Burden, Jean Sartor, Nancy Thornton, Milly Armstrong, Diane Nuxoll, Mary Jo Capps and Teresa Berthelsdorf. Also, assisting at the Yamhill County Fair were Frankie Meyer, Mary Lou Beach, Leota Bush, and Wanda Johnson.

The YCHS Lafayette site will to be open Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10AM-4PM beginning Sept 10th. We need consistent volunteers, otherwise Friday will be eliminated. School tours are usually held on Friday so we need docents for this day. The Yamhill County Genealogical Society, also located at the Lafayette site, will have volunteers assisting on all three days in both research libraries.



Louise Heindl, Volunteer Coordinator, Lafayette Site

Thank You New and Renewed Members!

New members:

Individual:

Robert Lee
Don Christopher
Sharon Leopold
JoElayne Johnson
Violet Brown
Paul Clark

Family:

Fred & Linda Plews
Gary and Carolyn DeBlois

Friends:

Neil & Jane Brady

Supporter:

Virginia Lucas

Community Builder:

Don & Laura Christensen

Members that have renewed:

Individuals:

Judith McAllister
Allen County Public Library
Tim Marsh
Reita Lockett
Lorna Grauer
Christine Hedgecoke Kikes
Barbara Steers
Betty Vanosse
Trudy Dick

Family:

Henry & Nancy Mahi

Kathy George

Friend:

Dr. Gary Crowell

Planning a Vacation?

Please notify Gloria Lutz (phone: 503-472-7563; email: glutz@onlinemac.com or write to YCHS, PO Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127). She can forward newsletters to your temporary address or hold them until you return home. Otherwise, your newsletter comes back to YCHS and we have to pay additional postage!!

Museum Visitors

Steve and Jan Lehmann from Windsor, California were recent visitors at the museum in Lafayette doing research on the Absalom Jefferson Hembree family. They are part of the group developing a museum in Windsor in the house of Atlas Thompson Hembree, son of Andrew Jackson Hembree. Andrew was the sixth born child of Absalom and Nancy Hembree. They were excited to find the records to connect the two families.



Yamhill County Historical Society & Museum

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Lafayette Oregon 97127

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Lafayette Oregon
97127

Become a Yamhill County Historical Society Member Today!

Membership entitles you to:

- The West Side newsletter
- Free admission to the Museum & Library
- Access to genealogical & historical files
- Access to the Yamhill Valley heritage Center
- Monthly potluck & program for Members
- Notification of events & summer picnic

Annual Membership Levels (July 1—June 30)

Please Check One:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student/
Educator \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Family
\$25 (age 65+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Basic) \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$55 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$125+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community
Builder \$250+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Benefactor \$500+ |

Make Checks payable to: **Yamhill County Historical Society.**
Mail this form with payment to: **YCHS, P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127.**

Questions? Call Membership Coordinator Gloria Lutz at 503.472.7563 or email: glutz@onlinemac.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Cell): _____ (Work): _____

Email: _____

The Yamhill County Historical Society & Museum is a charitable 501 (c) (3) organization, tax i.d. #23-7090047.