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NOTICE:
- September Potluck and General Meeting

- Date: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013
- Time: 6:00 pm Potluck, 6:30 pm Program
- Program: Ewing Young presented by Geary Linhart
- Location: HERITAGE CENTER, Hwy 18 & Durham Lane, McMinnville

Treasures in the Attic

Appraisal Fair & Antique Market

Yamhill County Historical Society’s

SEPTEMBER 14-15
Saturday and Sunday 10am-4pm

- Antique and Collectible Vendors
- Quilt Show
- Live Music
- Treasure Chest Raffle ($500 value. Tickets 2 for $5)
- GREAT Quality & Variety

What’s hiding in your Attic?

Appraisals
($5 donation per item, limit 3 items per person)
Local experts to provide oral appraisals

- INDOORS
- FREE PARKING
- FREE ADMISSION
- FOOD

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center
11275 SW Durham Lane, McMinnville (Hwy 18 and Durham Lane)

For more information contact (503) 835-8481
President's Letter

YCHS Members,

I hope that all of you have had an enjoyable and safe summer so far. As I write this, preparations for Harvest Fest are in high gear. By the time you read this I expect that we will be recalling another successful event at the Heritage Center. I hope that you had a chance to enjoy it. We again thank Pam and Cliff Watts for organizing the affair and the many volunteers who contribute so much to its success.

As you know, your membership in the YCHS is renewable on July 1st of each year. We have received many of your membership renewals recently, however, by my estimate there are many that have not yet renewed. If you have not renewed as yet, now is the time. Please send your renewal so that you may continue to enjoy your membership in the YCHS.

Our next General Meeting will be at the Heritage Center on September 10th at 6:00 pm. Sarah Miller has taken on the responsibility for the General Meeting programs and has a distinguished speaker to talk to us about Ewing Young Treasures in the Attic, which was so successful the last time we did it, will be held at the Heritage Center on September 10th at 6:00 pm. Sarah Miller has taken on the responsibility for the General Meeting programs and has a distinguished speaker to talk to us about Ewing Young.

Treasures in the Attic, which was so successful the last time we did it, will be held at the Heritage Center on September 14th and 15th. We need additional volunteers to help with this event. Please contact Carolyn Meeker if you can volunteer some of your time. There will be more information on this elsewhere in this newsletter. Come out and see what folks bring for appraisal and don’t forget to bring those items for which you have always wondered about their value.

Since our last update we’ve accomplished a lot at the Heritage Center. Have you seen the new signage on the building? It looks great and certainly helps identify the Heritage Center. Plans for lighting of the signs are currently underway. There is new concrete around the Flag Pole creating a plaza and enhancing the entry to the Heritage Hall and the Hutchcroft School is now painted. Work will begin immediately after Harvest Fest on a front stoop and ADA ramp for the schoolhouse as well.

The Miller Museum in Lafayette continues to run smoothly thanks to Marjorie Owens and all of her helpers.

I have spoken of our need for a new Treasurer in the past due to Kim Courtin’s term limit in that position. We did not find a new person for the Board in that position, however, John Lewis agreed to take on the Treasurer position and Kim has moved to the Secretary position. We have hired a bookkeeper to handle our day-to-day financial transactions.

In July we submitted an application to the Ford Family Foundation for a grant to help complete the Heritage Hall and have been invited to step two of that process. We are currently working on that and are looking forward to the opportunity to further our efforts on the Heritage Hall.

Thank you for your support.

Steve Leonard
YCHS President
Phone: (503) 472-6908
Email: sleonard15@frontier.com
Submitted: August 15, 2013
Committee Reports: All committee reports are filed in the record book with the minutes in the Lafayette Log Cabin.

- **Business Plan Review Committee**—Steve reported that revisions to the draft Ford Grant application are proceeding and the application is close to being submitted.

- **Computer Committee**—A new computer has been purchased.

- **Education Committee**—Cynthia reported that the committee is working on a realignment of the Pioneer Days program to fit changing State standards. The committee is considering the potential of a Pioneer Day Camp.

- **Heritage Center Committee**—Cliff Watts reported that preparations for a private party and Harvest Fest are ongoing. A reproduction of a caisson is now on loan at the Heritage Center. The concrete plaza is complete. The garden shed is being completed and the parking lot drainage is complete.

- **Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery**—A bid was accepted with C&D Landscaping for annual ground maintenance of the cemetery.

- **Lafayette Site Committee**—A landscaping contract with C&D Landscaping has been approved with Gary Coats acting as the point person. Some thirty k-5 students from Grand Ronde toured the museum. The Lafayette Museum will be closed during Harvest Fest and Treasures in the Attic events.

- **Property Development Committee**—Expenditures were approved for the drainage pipe and for the construction of the porch and ADA ramp on the Hutchcroft School.

President’s Report:

- Steve Leonard reported that Tony Meeker is compiling an application to the State to allow the YCHS to request free surplus state and federal property such as office equipment. Steve suggested that we should have a contact person. The State registration agency for historical trees has denied an application and referred the applicant to the YCHS. If an application is received it will go to the Board for consideration. The Oregon Historical Society has sent two membership cards. The cards are available for anyone who wished to participate in any OHS activity. The Counter Cultural Coalition has matching grants available for almost any worthy project, event or activity. To assist with grant applications, they are conducting three workshops; Sheridan’s new museum, 8/10 at 10am, McMinnville Library, 8/14 at 6:30 pm and Newberg, First Federal, 8/27 at 7pm. Let Steve know of any potential applications for a matching grant.

Secretary’s Report:

- John reported that the sorting of files for retention/disposal is ongoing and he is preparing an index by category for the document filing.

Treasurer’s Report:

- Kim Courtin presented the treasurer’s report, which is filed with the committee reports in the record book in Lafayette. Kim reported that the training of the new bookkeeper is going well.

Unfinished Business:

- Steve discussed the urgent need to find/recruit a permanent Treasurer. John Lewis agreed to take on the position and Kim will take on the Secretary’s position.
- The Gift Acknowledgement Policy has been finalized.

New Business:

- A potential Committee Chair Workshop was discussed. Steve, John, Kim and Karen will work on a committee structure. John will compile a list of official YCHS committees for board review.
- Cliff Watts will chair the 2014 board nominating committee.

Respectfully submitted,
John Lewis, Secretary
**Time to Renew Your Membership!**

Thank you to all of you who have already paid your dues for 2013-2014…..to those who have not paid yet, please renew your membership as soon as possible so you don’t miss a single issue of the newsletter. Dues are due by July 1 of each year. Membership runs from July 1 to June 30 of each year.

With your renewed membership in the Yamhill County Historical Society, you will continue to receive 10 issues of The West Side newsletter, unlimited access to both the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center located at 11275 SW Durham Lane, just outside of McMinnville on Highway 18, plus the Historic Lafayette Site Museum located at 6th and Market Street in Lafayette, which features the Stoller Research Library which houses all of the Society’s genealogical and historical files.

Members also receive 10% off of photo orders and gift shop purchases, along with the opportunity to attend membership meetings featuring fun and informational speakers. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to participate in exciting events like Farm Fest in the spring and Harvest Fest in the fall. Both feature fun-filled hands-on activities for all ages! The society has many other exciting events you can attend like Treasures in the Attic this September and Handmade Holidays in December.

Your membership dues help with expenses for insuring our two sites and keeping them up and running for your use and enjoyment.

Remember, the Yamhill County Historical Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit educational and public service organization and your membership is tax-deductible.

If you are going to be away for an extended period of time, please let me know, as the Post Office will not forward our newsletter. It costs us more to get it back than it does to mail it to you….or you can receive your newsletter via email and never miss an issue!

You supported our efforts in the past. Please renew your membership TODAY and help us continue making a difference in not only Preserving our Past, but also Enriching our Future!

Thank you for your continued support.

**Carlene Kadell**  
YCHS Membership Coordinator  
amity1956@yahoo.com  (503) 474-0480
## September 2013

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<td>9</td>
<td>10 GENERAL MEETING 6:00 pm Heritage Center</td>
<td>11 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 BOARD MEETING 5:30 pm PATRIOT DAY</td>
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<td>13 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4</td>
<td>14 TREASURES IN THE ATTIC Lafayette Museum CLOSED</td>
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### Observations by Nancy Thornton

These last days of summer I see Garage Sale signs sprouting on Utility Poles. They are as hard for me to ignore as a box of See’s Chocolates.

I have everything I need and am to the age that I should be simplifying my life

But…

What’s more energizing than the hope of finding a treasure?

Especially if it is also a BARGAIN!

Happy Hunting… Nancy Thornton

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**Event Locations**

- September 10—General Meeting 6:00 pm—Heritage Center
- September 11—Board Meeting 5:30 pm—Lafayette Museum
- September 14-15 — Treasures in the Attic — Heritage Center

**Upcoming Events**

- October 8—General Meeting
- October 9—Board Meeting
- November 12—General Meeting
- November 13—Board Meeting
- December—Handmade Holiday
- December —ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—Heritage Center 2:00 pm
- December 11—Board Meeting

**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

**Yamhill Valley Heritage Center**

11275 SW Durham Ln.  
McMinnville, OR 97128  
**Hours:**  
Saturday 10–3
From Slow Settles The Dust In Oregon
by Norris H. Perkins

A Dastardly Murder

John’s brother, Joel, had a tragically short but amazing career. Only 23 on his arrival in Oregon in 1844, he very soon was clerk of Yamhill County. He laid out and named Lafayette, after Lafayette, Indiana, at the Yam Hill River falls which he owned, seven miles from the Willamette, on the Great California Trail, the old Indian trail to California. The Yamhill could be forded there. 82 Yamhill County residents signed his petition to make Lafayette the county seat. In 1846, Governor Abernethy signed the bill passed by the Provisional Legislature, making it the county seat when it had only a couple of houses. Abernethy also thanked the Perkins-Olds-Johnson clan for helping bring justice to the Oregon Territory. As a family link, Governor Abernethy’s only son, William, married our Grandfather Gray’s sister Sarah and they had 13 children. They were married by the famous geologist, Rev. Dr. Thomas Condon.

Joel left for the California gold fields in 1848 with several relatives and others. He set up a trading post at or near Sutter’s Fort on the Sacramento and returned to Oregon in June, 1849. At 29, Joel married 14 year old Laura Hawn, daughter of Jacob Hawn, postmaster at Yam Hill Falls, the first postmaster in the entire county. Laura had crossed the plains at age 8. It was common for young girls to marry at 12 or 13 in those days, sometimes to make it possible for the couple to obtain a square mile donation land claim. Joel took his bride south and built the first ferry on the Rogue River in 1851 and built the first house in the Rogue Valley at the present site of the city of Grants Pass. To keep in good with the Rogue Indians he had one of their chiefs live with him. He commuted on horseback to Lafayette, his base of supplies, a 450 mile round trip. Lafayette was an important supply source of grains and foods for the Californians, explaining why in 1850 it was busier than Portland. Spanish pack trains passed through there carrying much flour from John Perkins’ grist mill at Pike to the mining camps in Southern Oregon and Northern California. By 1853, there was regular stagecoach service between Lafayette and Portland. Joel and his sister Elzina’s husband, Dan Johnson, were the biggest taxpayers in Yamhill County in 1853.

Joel, remarkably, took his wife and daughter to El Monte in the eastern Los Angeles Valley when only Spaniards and Mexicans were there. His son Daniel was born there in 1855. On July 24, 1856, with his wife and two children, and his employee and friend, John Malone, driving 49 horses and mules, with business to do in Lafayette, they were just south of the Oregon-California boarder in the Siskiyous. On that day, when rounding up the animals, drinking, shot Joel through the body and smashed in his skull with the rifle barrel. Malone hanged himself with his jail chains in the Jacksonville jail. A motive was never established. Laura bore Joel’s third child after his death, remarried, raised another family and lived to old age.

Joel was only 35, showing promise of a spectacular career. It was a serious loss to Lafayette, where Joel’s great energy and initiative might have thwarted the political skullduggery that later routed a new railway and moved the county seat to McMinnville in 1888. For years, brother-in-law Dan Johnson held open house in Lafayette for some of the important beginnings of Oregon’s political life when Lafayette was known as the “Athens of Oregon” for the thundering eloquence of Logan Pratt, William Burnett and Judge Matthew Deady. It was also the home of Abigail Scott Dunway, editor, writer, and co-worker with Susan B. Anthony in the cause of women’s suffrage.

The murder was an awful shock to both sides of the family. Laura and her children shared an excellent inheritance because Joel, by the early 1850’s, with Dan, had acquired property at the corner of Yamhill and Front Streets in Portland. It included a warehouse on the waterfront, which was rented to an early forerunner of the Meier and Frank store. The property was owned by the family for nearly 50 years.
State FFA Officers help at Harvest Fest!
State FFA Officers along with Steve Cone and Charlie Chegwyn. The officers’ names are Luke Wildhaber, President, Sarah Rutledge, Vice President, Jessica Roland, Secretary, Aaron Morland, Treasurer, Remington Frazier, Reporter and Jake White, Sentinel. They were learning how to sew sacks. Note the Advance Rumley (1927) threshing machine, the Peerless steam tractor (1917) and the International Harvester (1928) truck loaded with bags in the background. They visited Harvest Fest on Sunday, volunteering in the parking lot, helping with children and driving tractors in the tractor parade.
Membership Categories

NEW MEMBERSHIP

RENEWING MEMBERSHIP

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.

Membership runs from July 1 to June 30 of each year.

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

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