

The West Side

Newsletter and Journal of the Yamhill County Historical Society

November 1998

HARVEST FESTIVAL

President, Shirley, was here, there and everywhere keeping the party going, greeting guests and catching her breath when she got a chance. Many helpers were on hand to assist on Saturday, October 17 at our annual Harvest Festival open house.

Lila J., resplendent in a new pioneer dress and bonnet, tended the registration table all day and reported that 127 people signed the guest book – some also had families. Delores R. borrowed a hat from the museum and added white flowers to set off her period outfit to a "T". An antique brooch at the throat finished Lois B's old time dress. Peggy R. did kitchen duty and tended table in her long skirt and Maxine W's costume brought a Spanish influence to the day. Crafters displayed their beautiful work and demonstrated their skills on the second floor of the log museum where quilters also made progress on their project. Bob and Shirley K., Barbara K. hosted at the church building along with Olive J. and other faithfuls. There were over 100 signatures in that building. Ed Roghair held sway of the barn.

Morning entertainment was toe tapping music by a trio of fiddlers called "Swing Shift." Bob and Marie Bailey of Amity and Fred Hardin from Dallas also sang and told jokes that brought smiles to their listeners.

A set of square dancers from "Braids and Braves" demonstrated their skill. The group consisted of Dave and Jodene Hughs, Laurent and Barbara Gallipeo and Bill and Thelma Otto. The 4th couple came from the audience. About 30 fourth and fifth grade children from Wascher School performed country-western singing, dancing and dialogue in pioneer costumes – girls in long dresses and sunbonnets and boys with cowboy hats and red bandannas – oh, was that a real mustache? We thank the teachers and helpers, Carolyn Stastny, Gloria Lutz, Kim Townsend, Amy Batch and Debbie Fessenden. The presentation and behavior were great.

If you missed it, make it a priority to attend next year. Especially missed at this event were the Whites and Elma Shuck.

Shirley, have your feet recovered?

by **Twila Byrnes**

JIM LOCKETT SLIDE SHOW

Using slides from a collection begun a number of years ago by Ruth Stoller and Ione Kilgore, augmented by some of his own, Jim Lockett presented an engrossing October program of early county history which drew a crowd of over 70 members and guests. The pictures varied from buildings, farm and logging scenes, and towns and other locales, to portraits of pioneers who first settled here.

Jim entertained the group with anecdotes and historical facts about early arrivals, some of whom had descendants in the audience. Among these first settlers were Daniel Matheny of Wheatland Ferry fame; George Gay, builder of the county's first brick house; Mary Hess (she kept her money sack in her garter); Jacob Cooper, author of three Yamhill Books; Abigail Duniway, promoter of women's rights; James McBride, father of fourteen and the man behind Seward's purchase of Alaska; Absalom Hembree, hero; and Matthew Deady, the "honest teamster" and "whiskey judge" who laid the basis for Oregon law. His knowledge of their backgrounds made Jim's program very informative and interesting.

The slides were made mainly from pictures in the museum files and were used by Ione and Ruth in the early 80's for school presentations. Jim, after becoming the recipient, organized and added to them, and will place them, with the projector in the museum for all to enjoy.

Written by **Lois Brooks**



JOHN WHITE

Volunteers are a special lot – warm people who come in all sizes, ages and background experiences. They choose a program cause or institution and give of their time, skills and resources in helping that cause reach its full potential.

We have many such dedicated people working at the Yamhill County Museum – a working team of people giving freely of their time and skills to the preservation of historic materials and information in the county.

I could name many faithful volunteers but would like at this time to spotlight John White.

Through John's efforts order was made out of chaos of books and loose materials in organizing the Stoller Library. He has given visibility to the museum through research and publication of articles pertaining to the historical background of early towns in the county.

He has assumed the responsibility for writing and publishing the monthly West Side newsletter and journal; researched and published pertinent material on Historic homes; coordinated with plans for easy movement of people for Historic Homes tour, and faithfully yet quietly been an active supporter of the museum.

The Historical Society has become one of the chief interests of his life ever since he became a member. Surely no one since Ruth Stoller has devoted more time and thought on Yamhill County history than John.

(Written by **Elma Shuck** in December, 1996)

Adding a note: In all this time John has never FOUND ROOM to print this in the newsletter so this is our chance! Since that writing he has also become a board member.

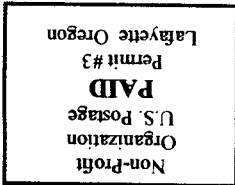
John had heart surgery (quadruple bypass and heart valve repair) on October 13 in Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland. He is now recovering at home and says "Things look good for the long haul!"

LOIS BROOKS SAYS "THANKS"

Once again our generous members came through with delicious goodies for the Harvest Festival and they deserve many thanks. Twila Byrnes, Barbara Hinman and Peggy Roghair are to be especially commended for keeping the table laden with beautifully arranged trays; their efforts are truly appreciated, as is the help others provided. Twila and Barbara, aided by Lee Johnson, cleaned up afterwards.

And when she wasn't dancing, playing the organ, or singing, our president wiped up my messes (you missed one, Shirley), and was always about helping in whatever way was needed. Thanks to all.

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



YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 484
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November 1998 Calendar of Events

Tuesday November 10th, 5:00 PM

Board of Directors - Amity Methodist Church - Amity

Tuesday November 10th, 6:30 PM

Potluck Dinner & General Meeting - Amity Methodist Church - 203 Nursery, Amity

Bring your own Table Service - Guests Always Welcome

Program Phil Schreiber will tell about the **Schreiber Family** and the history
of the **McCabe Church**

THE PRESIDENT SAYS --

Just a quick note to thank everyone who helped make the Harvest Festival a success. Most of the volunteers worked one shift Saturday -- ALL DAY. To those who always go the extra mile, "Thank you!!"

We missed you John and Betty and all the other friends who were unable to attend.

Please contact me if you want to help with the cutter sleigh project for Christmas. I would like to have it looking nice and in place before Thanksgiving.

An extra thank you to Olive Johnson and Mark Fery for the Newsletter this month.

See you at the November meeting.

Shirley Venhaus