

7-20-73



YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BULLETIN OF THE YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Edited by: Ray Albright, Rt. 1 Box 277 Dayton

Membership in the Yamhill County Historical Society is open to all. We earnestly solicit your active participation in the activities of the society.

Membership dues are: \$2.00 per calendar year
Life Membership, \$50.00
Payment may be made to the Financial Secretary:
Mrs. Wm D. Rutherford
Rt. 2 Box 157A
McMinnville Ore. 97128

Museum Located at 6th and Market St. in Lafayette is open:

Friday and Saturday 1:00 to 5:00 P.M.
Sunday 1:30 to 5:00 P.M.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday evening of each month except in July and August.

OFFICERS

President...Dr. G.A. Odgers	Treasurer...Dr. J.A. Jonasson
Vice Pres...Charles Teegarden	Financial Sec..Mrs. W.D. Rutherford
Recording Secy..Mrs. Mildred S. Renne	Membership Sec.Mrs. Ivan Shields

YAMHILL FALLS, O. T.

by
Ruth Stoller

The articles on early Yamhill County postoffices that Mr. Albright has written for the past three bulletins have been so interesting, perhaps a follow-up on at least one of them might be in order.

The first postoffice in Yamhill County, YAMHILL FALLS, was on the present site of Lafayette -- and not a mile below as Lewis McArthur has stated in his book on Oregon Geographic names. The Yamhill Locks were built about 1900 and from that time, until the dam at the locks was finally removed in the 1960s, the falls were under water. Evidently, people who might have remembered where the falls were, were not consulted and the assumption seemed to be that the spillway of the dam was the Yamhill Falls. The Yamhill Falls are actually just below the Lafayette commons and are only a few feet high. But they had been a landmark for many years, both to the Indians and the early day trappers and traders.

In 1846 Jacob Hawn, a millwright by trade, purchased from Joel Perkins a mill site at the Yamhill Falls. His purchase also included some land just west of what later came to be known as the Lafayette Commons. His plan was to build a mill using the falls for power. During the next couple of years he was busy building mills for other men, and then came the gold discovery in California. Jacob Hawn joined the rest of the gold-seekers. When he returned in 1849, instead of building a mill, he built a hotel on the block just west of the Commons. The hotel was known as Hawn's Tavern and was quite the center of activity in the fast-growing town of Lafayette. Some of the early school classes met there, and so did the District Court. It was several blocks from the ferry landing and the boat landing, which was the nucleus of Joel Perkin's town of Lafayette, and near the western edge of the platted town. So when Jacob Hawn applied for a postoffice, he gave it the name of his mill site.

A Jacob House is given, in the postoffice records, as the first and only postmaster of the YAMHILL FALLS postoffice. But this was evidently a matter of not being able to read Jacob Hawn's signature correctly. I have seen Jacob Hawn's signature on early documents when it looked more like Jacob House than Jacob Hawn.

DUES ARE DUE

If your dues are not paid for 1973 why not mail them in today. Our Financial Secretary's address is on the front page of the Bulletin.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to thank Clarence Neal of McMinnville for the time he spends helping with the printing of this newsletter, his assistance is greatly appreciated.

Ray Albright Editor

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSCAST, March 1973

Event.....March Meeting
 When.....Tuesday, March 13, 7:00 P.M.
 Where.....Sheridan Legion Hall
 Speaker...Ruth Stoller

Come, bring some good Yamhill County eatables, and several prospective members.

WELCOME to our new members: Dr. and Mrs. S.D. Beckham, Barbara Hibbs Blake, Mr. and Mrs. V.E. Forrest, Leonard L. Litscher, Mr. and Mrs. H.W. Long, Phyllis Newhouse, Frances S. Riley, and Tom White.

1972 Affiliate Members of the Oregon State Historical Society:

Ray Albright, Rex Burgess, Robt. I. Carter, Jack V. Dyer, Nada Sitton Dyer, Miles Eaton, Dorothy Gunness, Mrs. Dale W. Jones, Elton Jones, Marvin Moore, Dr. G.A. Odgers, Nancy Owens, J.G. Penland, Mrs. R.E. Renne, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Roe, W.D. Rutherford, Henry Schainck, Dorothy Schutz, Erma Shelburne, Helen K. Sloop, Mrs. Harvey Stoller, and Mrs. C.E. Terry.

WE HOPE that all of the above have renewed their affiliate memberships for 1973 and that others will join. The affiliate fee is \$7.00 payable to our Financial Secretary.

LIFE MEMBERS of our Society: Ruth Stewart Roe, Thomas Reuben Ros, Mrs. John Y. Richardson, Elsie Smith Warmington, Charles Nauffts Teegarden, Ethel Wilson Teegarden, Roma Garse Sitton, Franz Ridgway, Laurence Edgar Scheiber, Freda Emily Schreiber, Rudolph August Schaad, Elizabeth Walters Schaad, Marie Bristow Winters and Robert Sitton Kuydendall.

We'd gladly welcome others!

"JUNIOR" MEMBERSS, persons under eighteen years old, \$1.00 a year. Why not give your grandchildren memberships? Who'll be the first?

THE LANDSCAPING OF the Museum grounds is underway thanks to Ernest Shellburne who removed the old evergreens and the McMinnville Women's Garden Club who initiated their project by planting five shapely trees on the afternoon of February 17.

THE ATTENDANCE AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING was good but we missed some of the "faithful." We hope that they or theirs weren't ill. You'll be especially welsome on March 13.

PROPOSED EXPENDITURES FOR 1973:

Museum: Building Repairs.....	\$1,000	
Insurance and Liability.....	200	
Equipment.....	300	
Utilities.....	750	
Supplies and postage.....	125	
Caretaker.....	900	
Contingency.....	500	
payments on property.....	900	\$4,675

SOCIETY: Affiliate Memberships to State.....	168	
Postage.....	100	
Supplies.....	100	
Rentals for meeting places.....	80	
Oregon Corporation Commissioner.....	5	
Contingency.....	200	\$ 653
		<u>5,328</u>

RECEIPTS January 9 - February 13:

Dues.....	\$328.00
Museum Fund.....	3.00
Cottage Rent.....	85.00
Coffee Money, Jan. 9.....	8.06
	<u>\$424.06</u>