

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 1985

Remember, your 1985 dues are due. Please make checks payable to:

Yamhill Co. Historical Soc.
c/o Evelyn Nieman
1501 S. Baker Sp. 49
McMinnville, OR 97128

\$ 3.00 per individual A good buy!

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

Date: Tuesday February 12, 1985 12:00 Noon
Location: Christian Church Fellowship Hall 5th and Church, Dayton, Oregon
Potluck: Bring your own service
Program: Carl Francis will be giving an interesting talk on history of the Dayton area

MUSEUM NEWS

We have had more visitors the past few weeks. That's good! I have just learned that many people think that the museum belongs to Lafayette. That's not true. It belongs to everyone in the county. Because Lafayette was the county seat for many years and the fact that many pioneers of 1843 located there, it's a very historical place.

We just received a showcase from the First Baptist Church of McMinnville. Mr. Cooke and another gentleman brought it to us. They moved three other showcases to make room for it. Thanks for the help! It had no shelves so I have to get brackets made and have glass shelves made. Book sales are picking up. Remember, they make great birthday gifts and gifts for other occasions. Call for appointments anytime. 472-7935.

ROMA SITTON

1985 Officers

President: Doris White , McMinnville
Vice-Pres.: Tom Bunn, Amity
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THE A.R. BURBANK DIARIES

I have been rereading the Burbank diaries and find them as interesting as the first time I read them. Mr. Burbank had a store in Lafayette for many years and also owned a farm just east of the town of Lafayette. He usually recorded the weather, farm prices, the business climate and the political scene, as well as local developments. Here are some excerpts from the diary that trace his life in the West, most of which was spent in Lafayette. He did spend about ten years in Washington at a place called Monticello near the mouth of the Cowlitz River.

MAY 30, 1853. Arrived at Portland (by boat from San Francisco).

JUNE 2, 1853. Started up the valley of the Willamette on a boat, Steamer EAGLE. I left Mrs. Burbank in a boarding house in Portland. I went to Oregon City, Dayton, and Lafayette, then went on to Dallas and Corvallis on horse. Then back by land to Portland. Saw much of the valley. Went to Lafayette on a small steamer, HOOSIER. Returned on 11th to Portland. Left Portland on the 15th inst. and arrived in Lafayette on the 18th June 1853 via the river. Moved wife and baggage and set up housekeeping on arrival (had previously bought a house and lot in Lafayette).

JULY 1, 1853. Purchased one-half of stock of merchandise and storehouse of Randall and Hussey.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1855. Hussey & Burbank have been over two years in merchandising. Closed stock and stopped business.

FEBRUARY 3, 1856. I have just returned home from Salem, Territorial Capital, where I have been for the last two months, attending as member of Territorial Assembly from Yamhill County, O.T.

AUGUST 1, 1856. I have been acting as Deputy Commissary of Washington Territory Department, Yakima Indian War.

DECEMBER 1, 1856. I have been acting agent and treasurer of Pacific Telegraph Co. since March of this year.

APRIL 5, 1857. Past winter a hard one for Oregon, 1855 was an unpleasant one, 1854 was a mild winter.

NOVEMBER 30, 1857. On the 29th of September I bought property in the city of Portland, O.T. and moved there on October 25-27.

NOVEMBER 1, 1858. On the 29th day of September 1858 I went to Monticello, W.T. and closed a trade for a large store and 3 acres of R.C. Smith by deed by Thomas Roe. (Ed. This was an ancestor of our own Tom Roe.) I fitted up the House for a hotel. On the 27th and 28th of October 1858 we moved down from Portland and on November 1st opened hotel in Monticello, W.T.

AUGUST 1, 1859. I have been elected to our Territorial Council. Our Assembly meets at Olympia, our Territorial capital.

Submitted by RUTH STOLLER