

Fall Pioneer Days

Sixty-four students from private schools in the McMinnville area took part in Fall Pioneer Days in mid October. The theme of this fall version was preparing for winter.

Students planted winter wheat when the mud was not too heavy on their shoes. Bill Moore guided the students in planting a segment of the landscape on the north side of the new buildings. That area also proved to be mighty muddy. Daffodils were planted along the edge of the property line and Highway 18. Early next spring, look for their pretty yellow heads as you are heading toward the coast. The **McMinnville Garden Club** has donated money toward putting in the landscape. You will hear more about their generous contribution as we move into spring and summer of



Photo by Tom Cattrall

2010.

One of the activities headed by Al Cronk was to make cedar shingles that will be used to make a one-room schoolhouse display inside the warehouse. We received a grant from **Oregon Cultural Foundation** to be used toward the education program. We decided to make a display of a one-room school. When we get the larger school built out on the grounds, we will take this



Photo by Tom Cattrall

display, including the shingles the students made, and incorporate it into the new/old structure.

Other activities included Cynthia Christensen demonstrating how to press apples for apple cider. Marjorie Owens showed the girls how to make cornhusk dolls. While the girls were learning that skill, the boys were watching the men saw lumber in the sawmill. The students also had time with the covered wagon and making dipped candles. They harvested the pumpkins, potatoes, corn, and sunflowers that



Photo by Tom Cattrall

“pioneer” students planted last spring.

There were a lot of grins and dirty shoes as they headed back to school.

Gloria Lutz

◆ Ad Space Coming Soon ◆

Heritage Center Opening

Starting Saturday, November 7th the Heritage Center will be open each Saturday from 10—3. Volunteers are needed for 2 1/2 hour shifts. We need fire watch people and guides. Call Cliff Watts (503.435.9700) or Chuck Kadell (971.241.3246) for more details.

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Historic Lafayette Site
605 Market Street/PO Box 484
Lafayette OR 97127

Lafayette Museum Hours:

Wednesday & Saturday
10 am to 4 pm
Or by appointment
Phone: 503-864-2308

Heritage Center Hours:

Saturday
10 am to 3 pm

info@yamhillcountyhistory.org

Heritage Center
11275 SW Durham Lane
McMinnville, OR 97128

2008 YCHS
Tax ID # 23-7090047

www.yamhillcountyhistory.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fall is upon us and I hope that you all had a safe Columbus Day—those of you that had the day off.

The weather was great for the general meeting at the Heritage Center, Durham Lane site. This was the first such meeting at this location. There will be more when there is more heat!! It was great to see all of those that showed up, especially the Watts' family who were here to celebrate Glenn and Joanne's 60th anniversary. Afterwards everyone was invited to view the site. The ladies of Treasures in the Attic are at it again. I think that they are having too much fun.

Stay tuned for the next Treasures in the Attic event.

Programs for the general meetings are open for next year. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or would like to serve on the committee, please contact one of the board members.

At next month's general meeting, let's see who has the SCARIEST Halloween story!! One this year and one from the *Past*.

Till next month, *Happy Halloween!*

Bill Roll, President

Heritage Center Keys

To all who have access to the keys to the buildings at the Heritage Center:

After opening the lock box to get the keys, and unlocking the door, please replace the keys and the front of the lock box back in the case on the building. Make sure when you leave that all doors are closed and locked. We have a security person on site, but we must take responsibility of locking up these buildings when we leave.

Lafayette Site Update

Building Improvement:

The Miller Museum and Research Center, better known as the Log Building, is looking pretty spiffy. A new coat of sealant on the exterior along with freshly painted signage and improved landscaping hopefully sends a message to the community we are proud of our museum and all that it offers. Recently the sign on the barn building was removed thanks to David Venhaus. The building will be used for badly needed storage now that many of the farm items have been moved to the Durham site. We are always grateful for the Miller family endowment which helps maintain our unique building.

Interesting displays:

The Bernard family has donated their Indian artifact collection which consists of many stone tools and nicely mounted arrowheads. Thanks to Kim Courtin and her family, you can enjoy this large collection now on display in the Poling Church. In the

future our own collection will be on display in the church as well.

The wedding dress display will end soon and thank you to all the members who volunteered their own dresses along with our own collection.

New Book:

We are pleased to offer a new book, "A Barefoot Boy from Oklahoma - The Dewey Sullivan Story" by Vera Sullivan. It is life story of a well-known teacher and coach from our own county. Don't forget your member discount when purchasing this book!

New Hours:

Starting in November the Lafayette site will be open 2 days a week, Wednesday and Saturday from 10:00 to 4:00. Please call if you have any questions about the change - 503-864-2308.

We are looking forward to seeing you, Marge, Louise and Jean

Tools and Items Needed for Restoration Shop

We are starting to set up the Restoration Shop so we can begin restoring and cleaning up equipment and need your help. If you or anyone you know has any of these items to donate or would like to make a cash donation to be used towards purchasing shop equipment, please contact me. Thank you. Cliff Watts (503) 435-9700

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 225 Amp Arc welder • Oxygen acetylene set and tanks • Drill presses • Bench grinders • 3/8" and 1/2" hand drills • Drill bits • Steel work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • benches • Jacks and stands • Extension cords (heavy duty) • Drop lights • Rags • Brooms • Scoops • Steel – flat, angle, channel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolts and nuts – all sizes • Bolt bin • Storage bins • Lockers for coveralls • Hand tools (do not need to be complete sets) • Hand tool boxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air hose and tools • Roller tool boxes • Chains – all sizes • Ropes – all sizes • Hoists • Pallet Racking/heavy storage shelves • Bench vises 	<p>Other:</p> <p>Golf cart and power wheel chair to be used to transport people around the property.</p>
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Yamhill County Maps

Phyllis McBride of Pino-kee-o's Toys made a scale model of Yamhill County from 1843 to the present. In 1843 Yamhill County was one of only 4 counties in the Oregon Territory. These maps depict the sizes of each county and the progression of our counties through time. She donated all of this to the Historical Society. It is a work of art. We are using it in our educational program, but it isn't limited to that. Come to the Heritage Center and see it. It is located in the warehouse.



Thank You New and Renewed Members!

New Members Senior Family

Richard Ewing
McGranahan
Gil & Sharon DePuy

Individual

Shannon Hunley

Senior/Student/ Educator

Jacqueline Salkield
Joan Shiozawa
Jacqueline L. Mindling

Senior/Student/ Education

Donald L. Hurless
Don Longnecker
Sharry Houfek

Renewals Friends

Patrick Koch

Family

James & Tami Spears

Senior Family

Rockne & Sally Foshaug

Individuals

Kim Courtin
Darrel Jones

Senior/Student/ Educator

Marie Schwalb-Boomer
Hazel Dailey

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!!



November 2009 Happenings



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3	4 Lafayette Museum open	5	6 Lafayette Museum open	7 Lafayette Museum open
8 YCHS 2:00 P.M. General Meeting	9	10	11 Veteran's Day 	12 Board Meeting	13	14 Lafayette Museum open
15	16	17	18 Lafayette Museum open	19	20	21 Lafayette Museum open
22	23	24	25 Lafayette Museum open	26 	27	28 Lafayette Museum open
29	30	Locations: 11/8: General Meeting — 7th Day Adventist Church, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd. McMinnville Program: Nancy Thornton. "Girl From Yamhill." Beverly Cleary 11/12: Board Meeting —Lafayette				

YCHS Upcoming Events

- December 10, 2009—4:00 pm Board Meeting, Lafayette
- December 13, 2009—2:00 pm General Meeting, Program: Dennis Brooks—"Santa Claus—Ron Eberale" Location: 7th Day Adventist Church, McMinnville

2010 BARN CALENDARS

The 2010 Yamhill County Barn Calendars are now available at \$20 each. The pictures are excellent quality thanks to Marilyn Affolter's professional and creative skills. Available at the Lafayette Museum or contact Shirley at (402) 343-0567.

YCHS OFFICIAL BALLOT ♦ BOARD MEMBER

There are 6 positions open on the board. Please vote for 6 candidates.

THERESA BERTHELSDORF

Theresa lives on a farm in Muddy Valley with husband Victor and their dog, Daisy. The farm has been in the family since 1960, only living here for three years, but loves the area and see the Historical Society as a wonderful resource of the community.

MATT DUNCKEL

Owns Dunckel & Associates surveying company. Long time member of historical society.

JOHNNY EDWARDS

I have been a resident since 1997, and been a member of genealogical society since 1993 in pursuit of family history. I am also a member of the Historical Society. I have been on the board of the genealogical society and President 3 times. However; I do have a busy schedule, with work and family. I live in McMinnville.

DON HURLESS

Semi-retired electrician, jack of all trades, also. Long time family ties to community. Grandfather built houses in town and father owned electric company.

PHYLLIS MCBRIDE

Toymaker, mostly historic reproductions of old toys, games and puzzles. Collects antique woodworking tools.

TAMI SPEARS

Historical Society Newsletter Editor and active community volunteer. I have been a McMinnville resident since birth. My family first came to McMinnville in 1883 to start the First National Bank of McMinnville. I inherited the history/genealogy gene from my Grandfather, Frank Wortman (Charter member) and my Great Aunt, Dorothy Wortman-Gunness. I would like to carry on the family tradition of becoming fully immersed in the Historical Society.

SHIRLEY VENHAUS

Real estate salesperson for Prudential Properties. Past President. Been a member since 1994. Serving also on the board. Would like to continue with this group as they pursue the vision of the future.

WRITE IN

Please return this ballot by December 1, 2009 to P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, Oregon 97127.

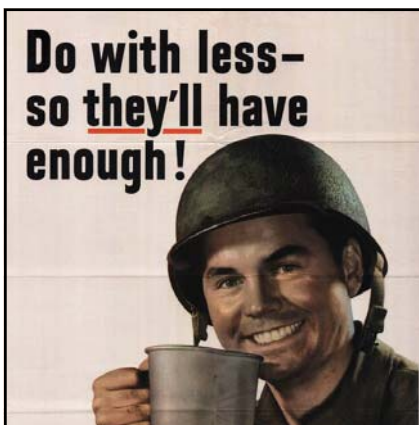
Remembering WWII



National WWII Memorial

Many veterans of the world conflict known as WWII have a reluctance to tell of their experiences in a war that happened over six decades ago. They have their reasons and we can respect that. Those that were involved in battle situations truly went through frightening, life threatening situations that they would rather forget. There were many who did not survive to tell their stories. Those who did survive and are willing to tell their stories should do so. The stories need to be recorded for future generations in the hope that those who died in the conflict will not have died in vain. Therefore those who survived should record their experiences. World War II was truly a WORLD War. Most of the peoples of the planet earth were involved in some manner whether they were in the military, factory workers, farmers, housewives, teachers, students, on and on. Everyone in some way worked to bring the horrible conflict to a successful conclusion. Those who were in the military during World War II are now aged 84 years and older. In another 10 years most now living will have passed on.

My own contribution to the war effort was rather insignificant when compared to many that I know and have known over the intervening years. But I did spend two and a half years in the US Navy and fortunately survived to be able to enjoy a peaceful life over the years since then.

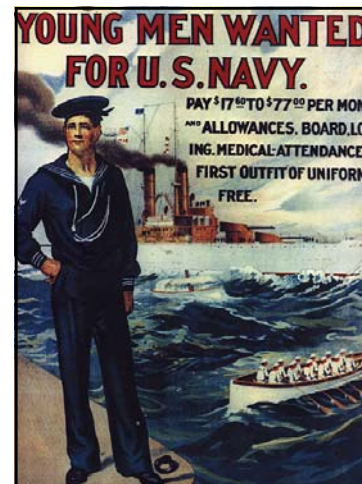


During the war years, our family was touched as all families in the nation were. We endured war time restrictions such as rationing of the daily necessities of life, many things not available at any price, price controls on

what could be purchased *if* you could find it, blackouts, etc. etc. And of course the demands of the military for men and boys to man the guns, to sail the ships, to fly the aircraft, drive the trucks and all the other jobs that it was necessary to do to bring the war to a successful conclusion. At one point during the war, three of the five of our family were in the US Navy, my father, my brother and myself. That left my mother and younger sister to endure the privations brought on by the war, to hold the family together with much letter writing and visits, the loneliness of family being scattered, and of course the anxiety for the safety of loved ones. My father once said that the war years were harder on my mother than on any of us. And I'm sure he was right.

As every male was required to do, I registered for the military draft when I turned 18, which was June 28, 1942, one and one half years after Pearl Harbor was attacked.

During my freshman year at Pepperdine College in Los Angeles. I decided to join the Navy since I wasn't really interested in being drafted into the Army. The Navy allowed me to finish my first year at Pepperdine.



On July 1, 1943, I went into uniform and went to the University of Redlands in the Navy V-12 program. About March 1944 I was transferred out of the program and sent to Navy boot camp at San Diego. While there, I was asked what schools I would like to go to for further training. My answer was "Photography School at Pensacola". When asked for a second choice, I answered that I didn't have a second choice.

Strangely enough, I was sent to Photography School at Pensacola, Florida! After four months, I graduated with a rating as a Photographer's Mate Third Class (PhoM3/c).

On July 1, 1944, at the exact middle of Photo School, Evelyn and I were married at the minister's home in Pensacola. We had become well enough acquainted that year at Pepperdine that we decided we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together. As of today's date, October 7th, 2009, a little over 65 years later, our commitment to each other has not changed.

Remembering WWII Continued...

After Photo School, I was sent to Aerial Gunnery School at Jacksonville, Florida. I was not given a choice. From there I was sent (again, no choice) to the Naval Air Station at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida for operational training as part of a



WWII Aerial Gunner Wings

three man crew on Navy TBF (Torpedo Bombers). My position on the TBF was turret gunner. I faced to the rear in the turret and had a 50 caliber machine gun. In recent years I have concluded from reading old letters, that both of these assignments were because of my photographer's rating.

My experiences at Ft. Lauderdale were enjoyable. The negative part was that my new wife and I were separated by about 2500 miles. She was back in Los Angeles attending Pepperdine. Needless to say, we both wrote lots of letters. No e-mail in those days or cell phones!

After air crew training at Ft. Lauderdale, I was given a 30 day leave and of course went back to California and Los Angeles. Then reported to a re-assignment base at San Diego – presumably to be assigned to a TBF squadron out in the Pacific War Zone.

After about a month, a request came through for 12 sailors with Photographer's ratings to go to the Eastman Kodak Laboratory in Honolulu. We were to operate a new 16mm color movie film processing machine. I was one of the twelve.

As it turned out, my Photo rating got me into the TBF program and also got me out. Which probably saved my life. Until 1976, I had met only two people that had served as turret gunners on TBF's. Strangely enough, I met both of them at the same time in a downstairs restaurant in London, England! And neither of the three of us had met before that day! President George Bush (Sr.) was a TBF pilot but he was shot down and both of his crewmen were lost. Since 1976, I have met a very few more at Evergreen Aviation Museum.

Our group of 12 left San Diego as the only passengers on an Escort Aircraft Carrier, CVE 74 USS Nehenta Bay, which was loaded with replacement aircraft destined for the Pacific War Zone. We got off at Pearl Harbor about two days after the death of President Roosevelt, which was April 12, 1945.

After about a month at the Eastman Kodak Lab in Honolulu, we were all transferred to a mass production photo lab at Pearl Harbor known as JICPOA (Joint Intelligence Center, Pacific Oceans Area). The movie film processing machine never showed up!

At JICPOA we joined a large crew of men on rotating shifts, processing aerial camera film from the Pacific War Zone.

Soon after August 6, 1945, the date the first atomic bomb was dropped, JICPOA Photo Lab was no longer needed and was shut down. By the middle of August, World War II was finally at an end. I was transferred to the photo lab at Barber's Point Naval Air Station out on the southwest end of Oahu to await rotation back to Continental USA.



Then the game was to count "points" to try to determine when we would travel towards home and out of the service. To my surprise, I was on a ship headed to San Diego about six months sooner than I expected. I was out of the navy and back home with Evelyn and my family 2 days before Christmas 1945.

So ends a 2½ year period of my life that I wouldn't trade for anything but wouldn't care to repeat. Every day, I feel grateful that I was never really in harms way and thus survived the war which many, many people did not do. We should (must) always remember their great sacrifice.

Lester M. Herring

November

General Meeting and Potluck

Date: Sunday, November 8, 2009

Time: 2:00 pm Potluck, 3:00 Program

Program: Nancy Thornton. "Girl From Yamhill"
Beverly Cleary

Location: 7th Day Adventist Church, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville

Wanted:

Wigs of all types for our displays. Please contact Jean Sartor at the museum (503) 864-2308 on Saturdays.





Yamhill County
Historical Society
& Museum

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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:

- | | |
|---|--|
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| <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

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

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