

Ewing Young Tree



Jack and Cookie Root hosted a party in the shadow of the Ewing Young Heritage tree. (Root's thorough bred farm is a small part of what was Ewing Young's estate.)

The event celebrated the passage of SB625 which recognizes Ewing Young's legacy and designates February 9 as Ewing Young Day in Oregon.

Milly Armstrong, her daughter, Gay Welliver, Louise Heindl, and Nancy Thornton represented Yamhill County Historical Society at the affair.

Ewing Young was a pivotal person in the Oregon country becoming part of the United States. He came to the Oregon country in 1834. By bringing horses and later cattle to the area, setting up a Yankee owned sawmill, a grist mill, and a trading establishment, he broke the monopoly that the Hudson Bay Company had on the settlers.

Ewing Young claimed 50 square miles of land—from the Willamette River to Wapato Lake—with the dream of developing a "California Style" rancho. At the time, this was the most western positioned farm on the North American continent.

Ewing Young died February 9, 1841. He left no will. The local people had no knowledge of any heirs. The settlers of the area met at Champoeg to decide how to settle his estate. They voted for an American provisional government.

In May of 1846, Ewing Young's friend, Sydney Smith and fiancé Miranda Bayley, planted an acorn on Ewing's grave. It grew to be the oak that covers the site.

In 1999, at the dedication of the Ewing Young Heritage tree, its circumference measured 14' 8" and its spread was 88'.

Nancy Thornton, August 13, 2009

Invention Survey

In your lifetime, what do you consider the most important invention? Please send your thoughts to me (contact information below). We will put together a summary and publish it in a future *West Side*.

Please share:

Age: __ 1-19, __ 20-29, __ 30-39, __ 40-49, __ 50-59, __ 60-69, __ 70-79. __ 80+

The invention _____

Why do you think it is the most important? How has it changed mankind?

May we quote you? ____ yes ____ no

Gloria Lutz
2140 NW Willamette Dr.
McMinnville, OR 97128
glutz@onlinemac.com

October General Meeting and Potluck

Date: Sunday, October 11, 2009

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

Program: Karen Sitton-Saxberg

Location: Yamhill Valley Heritage Center—
Hwy 18 and Durham Lane

Check out our website:

www.yamhillcountyhistory.org

James Spears is maintaining our website
and keeping it current.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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503-472-7563

Newsletter Editor
Tami Compton-Spears
tami@spearsintl.com

Research Librarian
Marjorie Owens
503-843-3081

Education Coordinator
Gloria Lutz
503-472-7563

Volunteer Coordinator
Louise Heindl
503-662-4218

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

Museum Hours:
Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
10 am to 4 pm
Or by appointment

Phone: 503-864-2308

info@yamhillcountyhistory.org

McMinnville Site
11275 SW Durham Lane
McMinnville, OR 97128

2008 YCHS
Tax ID # 23-7090047

www.yamhillcountyhistory.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Treasures In The Attic was a great event and gathered a good amount of interest, as lots of people always wanted to attend an Antiques Road Show. This was our local rendition of that event. Our thanks to the many volunteers and local dealers who contributed their time and talents to this event.

As we are now entering into fall and all of the associated events are gearing up, I am reminded that elections for board members is nearing. Now is your chance to become part of that process as we need not only nominees for the board, but also people to assist with the election process. If you are interested in a position, or know of someone who would be a good candidate or would like to volunteer, then contact Karen Sitton-Saxburg, 503-434-2189, kissit@onlinemac.com.

Time is of the essence as the ballots need to be included with the November newsletter,

which is prepared on October 15th.

Even though there are still four months left to this year and preparations for the upcoming holidays and the history associated with them, thoughts of next year are being formulated and plans are in the works. If you are interested in being part of any of these activities, now is the time to let it be known and be part of a great experience and the knowledge associated with it.

THANK YOU to all the volunteers who helped this year. Without your help and dedication this would not have been possible. It is through your efforts that the museum is able to move forward. Again, THANK YOU!

See you all at the General Meeting, October 11th, 2 pm at the Heritage Center on Durham Lane.

Bill Roll, President

Update on YCHS's Board Activities

The Board of Directors has been very busy this year. The following are just a few highlights of their activities since January:

- Hired part-time CPA Carol Van Houten to handle the more extensive IRS-Form 990 and additional financial reporting.
- Liability insurance on buildings and collections was researched and obtained.
- Committee reports are given monthly including Treasurer, Membership, Museum, Education, Correspondence, Volunteer, Accessions, Oversight, Events and Activities.
- Approved construction of a blacksmith shop at the Heritage Center.
- Joined Chamber of Commerce and President Bill Roll attends Friday morning Greeters.
- Arranged full-time security at the Heritage Center.
- Compiled a policy book as a reference tool for procedures.
- Worked with several committees and volunteers to develop operating procedures for Heritage Center. Recently formed a new Development Committee to work on an annual review of the Strategic Plan and to create a new Business Plan, both of which are vital when applying for grants.

- Currently working on phoning membership to advise of activities and share volunteer opportunities.
- Working on revising logo so all advertising, mailings & correspondence are consistent.
- Revised procedures on approving activities, events, and projects so that all items have Board approval and budgeted funds.
- Each month the Board handles requests from the membership and from the community at large in addition to monthly operational and procedural duties.

The Nominating Committee is currently looking for at least three new board members to serve this next year. Please contact any of the board members if you are interested or know someone who would like to participate. The current members are as follows: President Bill Roll, Vice-President Shirley McDaniel, Treasurer Ken Williams, Secretary Kim Courtin. Directors; Marjorie Owens, Carolyn Meeker, Karen Sitton-Saxberg, Eileen Lewis, Bob Vertregt, and Past-President Shirley Venhaus

Kim Courtin, Secretary

Yamhill County Historical Society Annual Meeting—September 8, 2009

The September Annual Meeting was called to order by Vice-President Shirley McDaniel. Twenty-eight members and guests were in attendance. Ken Williams gave the blessing and Shirley McDaniel led the Flag Salute. A moment of silence was held in remembrance for the passing of members including Ray Kauer, Barbara Knutson, and Dorothy Gunness. Ken Knutson introduced his guest from Germany, Maleu Rogper. Bonnie Bohlig was also introduced as a new member and active volunteer at the Lafayette Museum.

The minutes from the May General Member Meeting were read and accepted as presented.

Treasurer Report: Ken Williams stated we have moved up and switched to double entry accounting. As of August 31st all bills have been paid. Individual fund balances were stated: General Fund \$6646, Building Fund \$41,516, Pioneer Cemetery Fund \$20,856, Miller Fund \$35,919, Reserve Savings \$70,817, Reserve/Reserve CD \$62,787, which means the Society's net worth, including property, is \$3,372,057. The Capital Campaign has \$32,150 plus pledges of \$204,496 for a total of \$236,646. The balance remaining to be raised to complete the building is \$563,300.

Marjorie Owens stated Donna Hulett made the quilt which is being auctioned and Donna will draw the winning ticket at Treasures in the Attic on September 19th. Gloria Lutz said the newsletter deadline is September 15th. Harvest Fest was a smashing success, and she thanked the committee members. The Garden Club will donate \$2500 right away for landscaping at the Heritage Center, and has plans to donate more money. Fall Pioneer Days is being planned for parochial schools who

will help plant the new landscaping. The theme will be "Preparing for Winter" and activities will include harvesting pumpkins, as well as making corn husk dolls and candles. Gloria has spent \$2200 of the oral history grant money to purchase tripods, cameras, and memory cards to be used by McMinnville and Newberg High School students this fall. Channel 11 would like to broadcast our meetings but we need someone who is willing to learn how to run the camera, so please contact Gloria if you are interested in helping.

With the passing of Barbara Knutson, we need a program chair willing to work with a committee to plan the upcoming meetings. Barbara had programs set through the end of December, so this person would only need to plan five programs. If you are interested, please contact Marjorie Owens.

Program: The speaker for the program was Wayne Herring, a retired teacher from Dayton. He displayed several examples of his bottle collection. He also discussed how the bottles were made over time and showed examples of those bottles which were used in Yamhill County. He added some interesting finds and details about what was considered to be "trash," which he now considers as "treasures." He even shared where he finds these bottles and the procedures used including historical maps and pictures. For more information or to get information about bottles you might own, you can contact him at (503) 864-2009 or herring@verizon.net. Overall, it was a highly informative and interesting program which concluded after eight o'clock.

Kim Courtin, Secretary

Yamhill County Historical Society Summer Volunteer Report

Total hours, June—345. This month the Lafayette site noted an increase of visitors due to cessation of school and out-of-state vacations.

Total hours, July—657. Special events at the Heritage Center site and community events, such as the McMinnville's "Who's on Third", and preparation for the August Harvest Fest greatly increased volunteer hours. There were not enough volunteers to participate in the Yamhill County Fair, Derby Days, or other community festivals throughout the county. We were invited to participate with the Marion County Historical Society in Salem, the Champoeg Historical Society, and McMinnville's Thursday Market. We were not able to do that because we did not have enough volunteers.

Total hours, August—795. Six YCHS volunteers participated in Carlton's "Walk In The Park" and greeted visitors to the covered wagon display. The Harvest Fest, the following weekend, had 65 volunteers sign in. Some volunteers from the food court, the harvesting crew, and the children's area did not sign in, so most likely there were very close to 100 volunteers. Also, the Yamhill County Genealogy Society had a coffee/tea, donut/cookie table, so their hours are included in this total hours figure. (Three-month hour total: 1797)

The Lafayette site has received many compliments on the blooming flowers and spruced-up landscaping. Many thanks to

Kathy Burden and Nancy Mahi of the Yamhill County Genealogy Society for this positive appearance. Ursula Doud, persistently, has weeded the areas and Dave Venhaus added the bark dust. A new tall wood fence has been added to the back of the property for privacy and appearance.

Farrel Fuerst volunteered for the monthly general meeting, coffee/tea, kitchen set-up last spring. So, please, take time to thank her and help with the table, chairs, general kitchen and room clean-up.

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEER; Our new member Bonnie Bohlig was raised in the orange groves of south California in Tustin. She later attended Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon where she majored in journalism. After college she lived and worked in Yosemite National Park for about four or five years. She eventually moved back to Southern California and resided in Laguna Niguel the last 22 years. In 2007 she moved near Seattle and then to McMinnville the first part of 2009. Her hobbies are historical preservation, gardening and reading historical fiction and nonfiction. Bonnie is currently at the Lafayette site completing the photo computer entry and will be composing local historical YCHS newsletter articles in the future.

Louise M Heindl, Lafayette Volunteer Coordinator



October 2009 Happenings



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|-----|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Locations: 10/8: Board Meeting 10/11: General Meeting—***Yamhill Valley Heritage Center—Hwy 18 and Durham Lane*** | | | | 1 | 2 Lafayette Museum open | 3 Lafayette Museum open |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Lafayette Museum open | 8 Board Meeting | 9 Lafayette Museum open | 10 Lafayette Museum open |
| 11 YCHS 2:00 P.M. General Meeting | 12 | 13 | 14 Lafayette Museum open | 15 | 16 Lafayette Museum open | 17 Lafayette Museum open |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Lafayette Museum open | 22 | 23 Lafayette Museum open | 24 Lafayette Museum open |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Lafayette Museum open | 29 | 30 | 31 Lafayette Museum open HALLOWEEN |

YCHS Upcoming Events

- November 8, 2009—2:00 pm General Meeting, 7th Day Adventist Church, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd. McMinnville
- November 12, 2009—4:00 pm Board Meeting, Lafayette
- December 10, 2009—4:00 pm Board Meeting, Lafayette
- December 13, 2009—2:00 pm General Meeting, 7th Day Adventist Church, McMinnville

WANTED

New, or used, if working: a time-clock with punch cards. This item to be used at the Durham Lane site by the volunteers. Contact Cliff Watts or Chuck Kadell. Thank you.

A Treasured Volunteer

Because our newer members may not know how much Barbara Knutson contributed to the historical society over the years, I would like to tell about a few of those things in her memory.

She took over the job of vice president/program chairman from Bob Kuykendall (who was also very adept at finding speakers for the potlucks), in January, 1989, and faithfully fulfilled that position until her death. She volunteered at the museum for a long time with her Aunt Alice Brandt and when Alice could no longer come, Ken Knutson accompanied her.

On Harvest Festival days, Barbara played gospel hymns for hours on the old pump organ and folks visiting the church would stop and sing along.

When the society decided to take our chances on getting used furniture from the bank give away in Portland, Barbara offered to pick me up and drive me to Portland to meet John White. We had to be there when it was still pitch dark and I have no night vision. She couldn't stand in the rain and wait all morning with John and me. She was still recovering from hip surgery, but she sat patiently in the car until our number was called.

When a group of us went on a field trip to Brownsville and Sweet Home to find out how the three museums there managed, she was one of the drivers.

In the summer of 1991, we inherited a small house in Amity from Anthony Thompson. Barbara devoted many hours and made innumerable trips to Amity and Salem acting as our representative in the settlement of the estate, all at her own expense.

It's interesting that the speaker for this year's December meeting will talk about Ron Eberall. In either 1991 or 1992, Barbara called Ron and invited him to play Santa Claus and tell of his experiences at the Christmas potluck. He said he'd like to but was physically unable. He died not long afterward.

The society has been fortunate to have her, as Barbara was a treasure who will be truly missed.

By Lois Brooks



What an Opportunity!!



Channel 11, McMinnville area's local television station, would like to run our YCHS programs from our general meetings on their channel. We need someone that would be willing to attend the monthly meeting and record the event on the equipment Channel 11 would provide. They will provide the training. Is there someone in your household that is pretty savvy with electronic equipment? They might be the ideal person. If you or someone you know finds this an interesting adventure, please contact Gloria Lutz at 503.472.7563 or glutz@onlinemac.com.

Calving Time

My contribution to calving is checking the fields at first light to see that every one is still ok.

I take the ATV to circle the pasture to get my count.

A cow tries to find seclusion when it is time to give birth, so the one you don't see is the one that needs to be watched.

While I'm counting, I am observing my world and enjoying the uniqueness of this day. Each morning has different cloud formation and mist patterns. Each sunrise is original.

In early morning the chicory flowers are scrunched up like a folded umbrella while the Queen Anne's lace blooms are scattered doilies in the field.

The cows mostly are resting; contentedly chewing.

We have a new bull this year, so we have a contrast of black and red. Scampering jet calves circling red mothers.

It was nose dripping cool this morning—a relief after last week's heat wave!

Nancy Thornton, August 8, 2009

In honor of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of
Glen & Joanne Watts

you are invited to an open house celebration

Saturday, October 10, 2009

1:30 - 4:00 pm

(2:00 Welcome, program, and cake cutting)

Valley View Retirement Village/Rock of Ages
Activity Building, 15600 Rock of Ages Road,
McMinnville

Please bring a memory to share or include in the
Anniversary Book
being compiled to commemorate this happy occasion!

For more information or to RSVP, call Cliff & Pam Watts
503-434-0490.

If you're not able to attend but would like to share a
memory or photo, please mail to
16600 SW Christensen Rd.,
McMinnville, OR 97128
or email pwatts@onlinemac.com.

Membership Advantages and More



Preserving our Past, Enriching our Future

Being a member of the Yamhill County Historical Society has many benefits for all. Joining says that the historical society has the support of the community. That is beneficial when applying for grants and garnering other financial help.

Other reasons for being a member:

- Pride in our history
- Pride in our community
- Pride in our accomplishment through time
- Networking with like-minded people
- Free research assistance
- 10% discount on purchases at the Lafayette site
- Being involved with your community
- Catching the vision
- Helping fund events such as our wildly successful Farm and Harvest Fest and the Children's Pioneer Days
- Your membership is tax deductible

We very much appreciate all of the new members and renewals that have been coming in all summer.

If you would like to receive your newsletter, *West Side*, via email, please send me your email address. All of my contact information is on the back of this newsletter. The advantages of receiving your newsletter via email are that you get it quicker, it is in color, and you save YCHS money on printing and postage.

If you are changing your address or are going south for the winter, please let me know. The postage per returned newsletter is \$1.32! That's a lot.

If there is a highlighter mark on your address label, that means your dues are due.

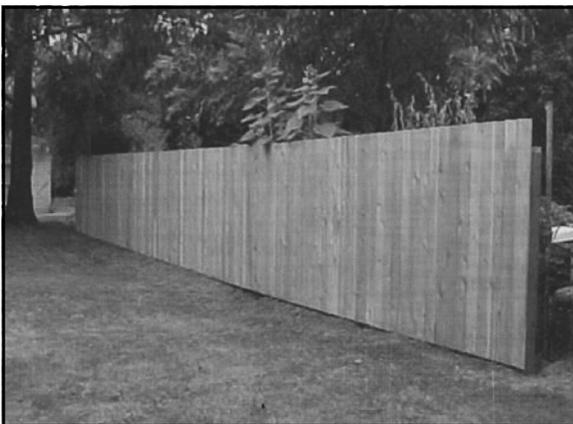
By Gloria Lutz, Membership chair

Fences Make Good Neighbors

Sixty-three feet of six foot tall fencing has been installed in the back of the museum property in Lafayette. Add to this sunflowers that are peeking over the fence and you have a nice addition to the grounds.

Money for this fence was made available from a grant received from "Prudential Cares Foundation." This is an affiliation of Prudential NW Properties.

by Shirley Venhaus



Summer Canning

Mother often told us of the day she became engaged. She and Papa took her excitement and good news to each of his sisters' houses and asked them if they had any spare fruit jars as the apricots were ripe.

All of my growing up years, summer was canning time.

Beginning in July, we were involved in the summer ritual. The season would start with cherries. They were easy as they just were sorted and stemmed. They snuggled easily into the jars.

Apricots had to be halved and the pits removed. They were small enough to layer orderly into each container.

Peaches had to be peeled. That took more time but if one dipped them in boiling water, the skins slipped off smoothly.

By pear time, the canning crew was conditioned for work. Pear peeling is a slippery, time consuming task.

Apples can be stored most of the winter so we usually just made sauce as it was needed. Often Papa would peel a cooker full.

We got fruit where we could---Utah doesn't produce the quantity of fruit that Western Oregon does. We procured our fruit where we could find it. Grandma's friend Mrs. Dio sometimes had some. Mrs. Pidrini---on 21st South had a small orchard---her daughter Amy was in my class at school. Bountiful had many orchards and road side fruit stands. Looking for fruit made a nice Sunday drive but it was considered a long trip in those pre-freeway days. If someone had windfall apples, we were delighted to gather them and felt that they made very flavorful sauce.

Mom conscientiously canned fruit the way she had been taught in Domestic Science Class. She sterilized the

jars and carefully set them upside down on a clean towel before she got to the actual canning operation. She told us to be quiet while she was measuring and counting out the cups of sugar. Everything was timed accurately.

We were the peelers. Our kitchen had a linoleum-topped work table. Who ever was available would sit by the table to process the fresh fruit. Often Grandma and Grandpa were there to help. We'd peel, pit and visit while we worked.

Most of the canning was preserving fruit in jars. Papa took a jar of Mom's fruit in his lunch box every day. Mom would make jam if she had access to strawberries, raspberries, plums or apricots. She used Certo for pectin. It came in a brown bottle that had a skinny neck. Mom put a dab of butter in the jam kettle so the jam wouldn't foam. If Mom could get small cling peaches, she put a clove in each little whole peeled peach and made pickled peaches.

Grandma and Grandpa would gather wild fruit in the canyons---elderberries, currents and chokecherries. She made jam and jellies from this fruit. One year grandma received a blue ribbon at the state fair for her variety of wild fruit jellies.

Grandma also made sweet pickles. They were stored in a crock in her cellar.

Other than pineapple and fruit cocktail (we called it tuttie-fruitie), I don't remember every buying any commercially canned fruit.

Nancy Thornton, August 8, 2009

Thank You New and Renewed Members!

Welcome New members:

Friend

Jeannette Voss

Family

Krista & Duncan Scott

Thank you for renewing:

Supporter

Tonia Beebe
Daryll & Kim Alt
Bill Roll

Friend

Sally Godard & Ronald
Olisar

Senior Family

Ed and Cherie Ellingson
Garry & Marilyn Coats
Richard & Ruth White
John & Marjorie Reuling
Frank & Barbara Nelson
Bob & Rosemary
Vertregt
Gary & Elizabeth Crowell

Individual

Debbie Clark
Joan Davenport

Senior/Student/ Educator

Betty Sherman
Stan Shipley
Gloria Lutz
Don Porter
Don Rivara

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!!



Yamhill County Historical Society & Museum

P.O. Box 484
Lafayette, Oregon 97127

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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:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student/ Educator \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20 |
| <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

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Phone (Home): _____ (Cell): _____ (Work): _____
 Email: _____

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