

## Lafayette Site News



Moving Day! Re-organization of the upstairs floor of the Lafayette Research Center has begun. We are expanding our accession work area. New shelving will be added for additional storage of artifacts.

Room is being made for our new photo scanner which will allow us to preserve our historical photo collection and also make prints available to the public.

Welcome new volunteer Peter Howland. Peter is a former employee of Linfield College as a director of development research and alumni donor records. Peter is a native of Corvallis, attended Linfield College and has been a McMinnville resident since 1988. He will be volunteering at the Lafayette Research Center.

## Heritage Center Happenings

Just a few of the things happening out at the Durham site!

- **The Heritage Center is now open on Saturdays, from 10:00 am- 3:00 pm.** Invite your family and friends, tell your neighbors, and help us bring more folks out to learn about the Heritage Center, its progress on the building and site plans, and agricultural equipment on display. If you'd like to volunteer to help on a Saturday, call Cliff Watts at 503-435-9700. Shift times are 10:00-12:30 and 12:30-3:00.
- The Heritage Center Property Development Committee has been formed and is working on a master plan for the Heritage Center facility, developing goals for short and long-term operations, and ideas for funding of these projects, maintenance and operations. It is believed that "hands-on" displays and events will create an active learning environment for families and provide reasons for people to want to return to the Heritage Center to learn and experience more history! At this time both the Development committee and the Facilities Committee are combined. Cliff Watts is chairing this committee made up of the following members: Pam Watts, Ken Williams, Vince Haworth, Waldo Farnham, Ursula Dodd, Shirley McDaniel, Chuck Kadell, Al Cronk, Marjorie Owens, Shirley Venhaus, Karen Sitton-Saxberg, Tami Spears, Carolyn Meeker, and Gloria Lutz.
- A new committee is forming to develop policies and procedures for usage of the facility, including events and maintenance.
- Farm Fest plans are underway for Saturday, April 10,

2010, and Harvest Fest for Saturday and Sunday, August 7-8, 2010, from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm each day.

- A farm auction will be held Saturday, April 24, 2010, starting at 10:00 am. All are invited to this first-ever farm auction to help raise funds for operating costs at the Heritage Center. Check the YCHS website starting in February for a listing of items to be included. Invite your friends and neighbors. We will have some one-of-a kind items for the farmer, collector, or yard art designer. We have many duplicate farm implements and items donated by Ray Kauer which will be included in the sale, and we are taking other farm equipment and farm items if you would like to donate.

The blacksmith shop is now closed in. Chuck Kadell has spearheaded this project. He and other volunteers are putting the finishing touches on it.

In all aspects of thinking and planning, the volunteers working on the Heritage Center property development, operations, and events, along with the YCHS board, are striving to stay focused on the YCHS mission and in "preserving our past and enriching our future." Communication is key to this effort, and we invite your participation and input. If you would like to volunteer for any of the upcoming events, help on a Saturday, or get involved with a new event or other idea, please contact us.

Cliff Watts, Property Development Chair  
503-435-9700

## Board Meeting Summary ~ December 9, 2009

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Officers

##### **President**

**Bill Roll '10**  
503-868-7311

##### **Vice President**

**Shirley McDaniel '10**  
503-662-3528

##### **Secretary**

**Kim Courtin '12**

##### **Treasurer**

**Ken Williams '10**  
503-835-3110

#### Directors

**Marjorie Owens '09**  
503-843-3081

**Eileen Lewis '10**  
503-835-7531

**Bob Vertregt '10**  
503-472-7265

**Carolyn Meeker '12**  
503-835-8481

**Karen Sitton-Saxburg '12**  
503-435-1256

##### **Past President**

**Shirley Venhaus**  
503-434-0567

##### **Corresponding Secretary**

**Nancy Thornton**  
503-852-4342

##### **Membership Secretary**

**Gloria Lutz**  
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

##### **Lafayette Museum Hours:**

Friday & 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

•Volunteer report: Louise reported that we have signed up with HandsOn. This is an organization that serves Yamhill, Polk, and Marion counties. It is a clearing house for people who would like to volunteer for various organizations. You can find more information at [www.HandsOnMWV.org](http://www.HandsOnMWV.org).

•Treasurer report: Forming the budget for next year is underway.

•Museum report: Marjorie reported that artifacts and some cabinets will be moved to the Durham site this month.

•Membership report: Gloria reported that we have 301 members.

•Education report: Gloria reported that schools have been notified of the upcoming Pioneer Days. It will be during the month of May.

•Collections report: Kim reported that three donations have been completed. Work space is expanding and photograph storage is being revised.

•The board approved the purchase of a walk-in freezer. A grant from the Oregon Heritage Commission will pay for a portion of it. This will be used to rid our collection of insects that have infested some artifacts.

•Elections: Theresa Berthelsdorf, Matt Dunkel, Don Hurless, Phyliss McBride, Tami Spears, and Shirley Venhaus were elected to the board.

•Cascadia Consulting has begun work on a business plan for the society.

•The board gave direction to the Development Committee with the following unanimously approved statement: "The Board of Yamhill County Historical Society encourages the Development Committee to plan for the Heritage Center completion of existing buildings and future land use with the vision of a one-site museum."

Summary submitted by Shirley McDaniel, substitute secretary

## Cascadia Consulting Partnership

The YCHS Board of Directors, the Oversight Committee and the Development/Facility Committee have agreed to hire Cascadia Consulting to develop a business plan for our society. This plan is a very important part of the continued success of the development of the Heritage Center. It is necessary to show how the Heritage Center will be completed, maintained and opened to the public. This plan will help with the capital campaign. It will assure the public that we have addressed

all aspects of running a first-class museum.

With the cooperation of the YCHS, Cascadia expects to have this plan completed in approximately three months.

Following this, we are looking forward to Cascadia's assistance in writing major grants that are available.

Know that the board and the committees continue to work toward a "one site museum" with consideration for all parties involved.



★ Coming Soon ★

Historical Prints For Sale

The Historical Photo Collection is being scanned. Prints will be made available for sale to the public. Stay tuned for future updates.

## Grants

For 2010, YCHS has received five grants totaling \$13,483 to help with various projects.

Two grants were received for oral history entitled "Connecting History." High school students are pairing up with people that experienced the Great Depression or those that served during war time. Students interview these folks and record their remarks on video cameras. With the grants, we purchased 18 video cameras with tripods and three recorders. Radio Shack sold this equipment to us at their cost. Roth's Supermarket sold us the bags at their cost to carry the equipment. Marcia Rau made the cutest little bubble wrap bags in which to carry and protect the cameras. Both Newberg and McMinnville schools share the equipment.

One grant from **The Oregon Community Foundation** is designed to further volunteerism among teenagers in Newberg. Christine Richardson, history and English teacher at Newberg High School, is leading this oral history project.

The other grant from **Trust Management Services** is funding the oral history project at McMinnville High School. Francesca Morrison is the lead teacher on this project. Students have been interviewing seniors from the community as well as residents at Hillside.

When the students have completed the interviews, the recordings will be edited and put on CDs to be viewed at the museum. Students will also produce books that will be distributed. Look for an Open House next fall.

We recently were notified that we received a grant from the **State of Oregon Heritage Commission**. This grant will help purchase a walk-in freezer to rid us of



some of the bugs that have infested some of the wood and clothing in our collection. Once the freezer is operational, it will be made available to the public at a fee. Stay tuned for information when that is available.

We also received a grant from the **Yamhill County Cultural Coalition** to make display standards. At this time we have the frame for these standards and have used them for the education program's timeline. These frames will now become more versatile because they will be finished with pegboard so that we can display more items. We had asked for funds to purchase mannequins; however, Shawn Rollins donated mannequins so that we did not have to buy any.

The last grant to be mentioned is one we received for the education program. The **McMinnville Education Foundation** will fund the buses for all McMinnville fourth graders to come to Pioneer Days next May.

Grant writers—Bill and Jane Moore, Gloria Lutz

### Thank You New and Renewed Members!

**New Members**

**Family**

Robert & Julie Johnstone

**Senior/Student/  
Educator**

Charles & Sue Mitchell  
Clifford Solberger

**Individual**

Margaret Root  
Dianne Gorveatt  
Gail Howard

**Renewals**

**Community Builder**

Oregon Mutual Insurance

**Supporter**

Jay Shue & Karen  
Swenson

**Senior/Student/  
Educator**

Peggy Evans  
Larry Bonsack

**Family**

Barry & Steven Saxberg

**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!!





# January 2010 Happenings



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Locations:</b> 1/6: Board Meeting — Lafayette 1/10: General Meeting —PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING, 2050 Lafayette Ave., McMinnville						2 Lafayette Museum open Heritage Center open
3	4	5	6 <b>Board Meeting</b>	7	8 Lafayette Museum open	9 Lafayette Museum open Heritage Center open
10 <b>YCHS 2:00 P.M. General Meeting</b>	11	12	13 <b>Property Development Committee Meeting</b>	14	15 Lafayette Museum open	16 Lafayette Museum open Heritage Center open
17	18 <b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b> 	19	20	21	22 Lafayette Museum open	23 Lafayette Museum open Heritage Center open
24	25	26	27	28	29 Lafayette Museum open	30 Lafayette Museum open Heritage Center open
31						

## YCHS Upcoming Events

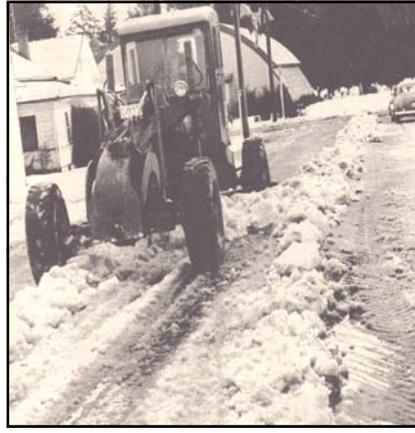
- January 10, 2010— General Meeting, Program: “Special School Memories in Your Life.” This is an opportunity to take five minutes and share an experience you had while attending school. This will be followed by an update on YCHS’s educational program.  
 Location: Public Works Building, 2050 Lafayette Ave., McMinnville
- February 14, 2010— General Meeting, Program: “Celebrating Ewing Young” by Nancy Thornton. Location: 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville
- April 10, 2010—Farm Fest
- April 24, 2010—Auction
- May 1-30, 2010—Pioneer Days
- August 7-8, 2010—Harvest Fest



## Article from the News-Register December 23, 1964 County Hit By Worst Flood In History As Rivers Rise



First Came The Snow



Then Came Warm Rain



And Finally The Flood

Rapidly melting snow and heavy rains followed in the wake of a record cold snap in the Willamette Valley this week to send the South Yamhill River and its tributaries over their banks in what is believed to be Yamhill County's most disastrous flood in history.

Floodwaters began inundating Sheridan, Willamina and Grand Ronde in the early morning hours Tuesday and the water continued to rise throughout the day.

Homeowners and businessmen began sandbagging in a desperate effort to hold back the water from the rampaging river, but county and civil defense officials reported that hundreds of homes in low lying areas of the three communities were flooded by two to three feet of water by noon.

Law enforcement officials and civil defense workers moved into the area early Tuesday morning and began evacuating a few of the residents from flooded areas. Patients were evacuated from the Sheridan Convalescent Home.

Jack Coleman, Yamhill County Civil Defense Director and executive secretary of the Yamhill County Red Cross, said that most residents remained at their homes in an attempt to hold water damage to the minimum.

Later in the day elements of the National Guard from Forest Grove were dispatched to the flooded area with heavy vehicles to aid in the evacuation of residents should it become necessary.

Coleman said food, beds and bedding were rushed to the area and shelters set up at Chapman School in Sheridan and at Willamina High School.

By mid-morning officials had closed Highway 18 near Sheridan and reported that the town was accessible by four-wheel drive vehicles only and

Willamina could be reached only by boat.

Water was running from one to three feet deep in sections of downtown Sheridan. Many of the businesses were reporting four to six inches of water on the floors.

Reports were scattered from Willamina, but indications are that that city was hit harder yet. Law enforcement officials said the main business district was under some two to three feet of water by midday.

Coleman said Tuesday evening that the Grand Ronde area was isolated and out of contact throughout most of the day, but that a civil defense unit with radio had gotten into the area over back roads late in the day.

As of Wednesday morning only one bridge was reported out in the area. The Gold Creek bridge west of Willamina broke loose from its footings and began floating downstream. Officials feared for a time that the heavy wooden beamed structure would take out other bridges down river, but it broke up after lodging against the Wallace Bridge above Willamina.

Yamhill County Sheriff's office reported Wednesday morning that several other bridges were threatened Tuesday. Logs jammed behind Wallace Bridge during the day and threatened to wash it out but were removed in time.

The approach to an unidentified bridge near Sheridan was reported washed out and officials feared the bridge might go at any time.

South Yamhill River was reported to have crested at Willamina and Sheridan Tuesday evening, but officials reported a second crest during the early morning hours Wednesday. Water was reported receding Wednesday

## 1964 Flood story continued...

morning, but officials said boats were still being used in some sections of Willamina and Sheridan. Sheriff's deputies entered the Grand Ronde area by boat Wednesday morning to survey the damage and offer assistance.

Reports of flooding in other areas of the county were scattered. At least one family was evacuated from the Dayton area Tuesday night. Officials said Wednesday morning that there is some chance of flooding in the Grand Island area during the day when the Willamette River reaches its crest. Most of the schools in the county were closed Tuesday and Wednesday because of high water along bus routes. Sheriff's deputies kept the Carlton Lake dam under observation throughout most of the day. They reported large amounts of water going over the dam but indicated the dam itself was in no immediate danger of going out.

State Weather Bureau officials said the widespread flooding was the result of a combination of factors.

A prolonged cold spell, with temperatures dipping as low as five to seven degrees, froze the ground to a considerable depth. Then a moist air mass moved over the state resulting in heavy snow falls throughout most of western Oregon.

Early this week a warm air mass moved in bringing heavy rains which caused a rapid melting of snow.

### Bad Water

Rain swollen rivers coupled with melting snows are flooding and contaminating many of the rural water supplies, according to Melvin Cross, Yamhill County Health Department Sanitarian.

The public is advised not to use any well for drinking water if it is submerged in flood waters, until these waters have gone down enough to allow an inspection of the well.

For those who must use flooded wells, it is suggested that four to five drops of household bleach, such as Purex or Chlorox, be added to each gallon of water. If this is not available, boiling for at least 10 minutes will do just as well, Cross said.

Anyone needing additional information or assistance should call the Sanitation section of the Yamhill County Health Department.

The frozen ground was unable to absorb the water and streams across the state began rising rapidly.

Most of the flooded streams were expected to crest sometime Wednesday, ending the immediate threat of further flooding.

Then residents can begin the heartbreaking task of digging out.

## Articles From the January 1910 News Reporter Happenings of Interest

The deficit of the last year in the postal revenues of the United States amounts to \$17,441,719.

The Australian legislature has voted \$200,000 for assisted passages for immigrants.

It is now proposed that congress appropriate \$5000 annually to maintain a box for the president and Mrs. Taft at the grand opera.

Mrs. J. G. Turk, of Vernon, Cal., is holding at bay the Union Oil Company, which is seeking to lay a pipe line across her property.

Mayor McCarthy of San Francisco has announced that he will make a clean sweep of all the commissions of that city.

Cable advices report a violent earthquake in the French island of Martinique. Mount Pelee, a volcano on the island, is reported active.

More than \$41,000,000 in interest and dividends for the last six months were distributed to Boston people

the first of the year.

Mrs. Russell Sage has donated \$600,000 to Yale University to meet the entire cost of securing 50 acres of land.

The seventh annual meeting of the Western Retail Lumberman's Association will be held in Portland February 14 to 16.

The new law against the manufacture of intoxicants became effective January 1, and for the first time in the history of Tennessee it is against the law to manufacture liquors in the state.

A California syndicate has just signed a contract with the Japanese government to deliver 10,000,000 barrels of California oil yearly for the next ten years.

The "wet" forces of Lincoln, Nebraska are laying their plans for an active campaign looking to the reestablishment of saloons when the referendum is taken early in the spring.



Yamhill County  
Historical Society  
& Museum

P.O. Box 484  
Lafayette, Oregon 97127

**Dated Material**  
**Return Service Requested**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit #3  
Lafayette Oregon  
97127

*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/<br>Educator \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Family<br>\$25 (age 65+)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Basic) \$30         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$55                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$125+            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community<br>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](mailto: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.