

# The West Side



Newsletter and Journal of the Yamhill County Historical Society

## Farm Fest 2010

Saturday, April 10, 2010

10:00 am—3:00 pm

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center  
11275 SW Durham Lane, McMinnville, Oregon

### Farm Fest Activities

- Vintage agricultural equipment and mules prepare the soil for planting a crop of wheat.
- Tractor Parade at 10:15 am
- Agricultural and Historical Displays
- Kids area with Hands-on Activities.
- Food and Music
- Preview of Farm Equipment items to be Auctioned on April 24th.



Join us later this year as we harvest the crops at Harvest Fest—August 7 and 8, 2010  
**For further information call 503.472.7563**

## Heritage Center Happenings



### Schoolhouse Display Construction

Every Wednesday the sawyers in our sawmill continue to prepare the siding for the three-sided display of our one-room schoolhouse that will be in the warehouse. Vern Duncan has donated portraits of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. We are still in need of the other items that were mentioned in last month's newsletter. We are buzzing right along.

### Restoration Shop

Our versatile volunteers (same as those working in the sawmill, blacksmith shop, etc.) are restoring the steam tractor, two John Deere combines, and an Allis Chalmer B tractor. Come and help them or watch. They are also organizing and sorting items in preparation for the auction April 24<sup>th</sup>. They are a bunch of busy Beavers (OSU type).

### Carpentry Skills Needed

The Yamhill County Cultural Coalition provided money so that we could make display standards. We have the material just waiting for a couple of people that like to use a skill saw, swing a hammer, or use a drill. Directions will be freely given by those versatile volunteers mentioned above.

## March General Meeting and Potluck

- ★ **Date:** Sunday, March 14, 2010
- ★ **Time:** 2:00 pm Potluck, 3:00 Program
- ★ **Program:** YCHS's Education Outreach
- ★ **Program—Present and Future**
- ★ **Location:** 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville

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## Presidents Letter

I hope everyone had a wonderful Valentine's Day! All those who attended our February 14<sup>th</sup> general meeting certainly had our usual good food and company. Nancy Thornton gave us an especially interesting program on Ewing Young.

Several YCHS members have advised me of a need to review our By-Laws, which were adopted on November 11, 2008. As you know, **our current By-Laws are the laws we must abide by.** The By-Laws, XII. Section 1, state that "amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed in writing and filed with the Secretary of the Board of Directors by any three Members of the Society". ( Secretary Theresa Berthelsdorf, 14600 SW Muddy Vly Rd, McMinnville, Or. ). **The Board wants to ensure that all of our member's rights continue to be protected.**

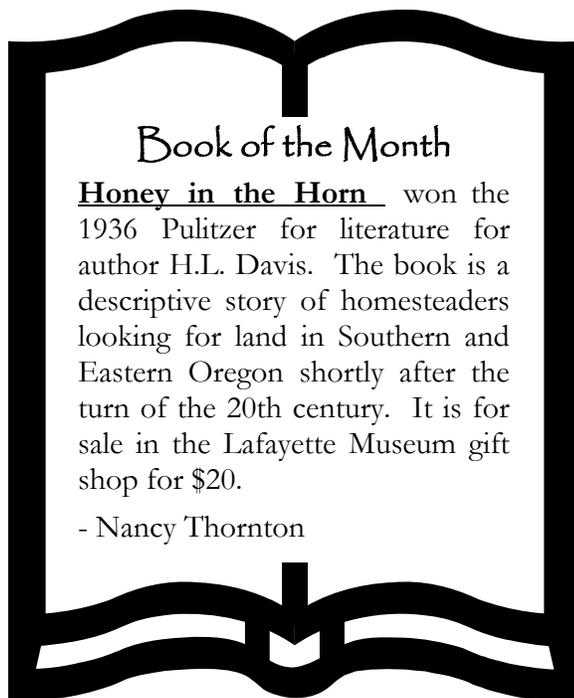
Under Robert's Rules of Order any changes to our By-Laws would require a two-thirds vote and previous notice to our members to make any changes. If three or

more of our members submit in writing amendments to our current By-Laws to the Secretary of the Board, the issue will be referred to our Governance Committee for study. Any amendments proposed would be presented to our members in writing and in advance of a vote taken at a General Meeting of YCHS.

Cliff Watts, Chairman of the Property & Development Committee, and his wife Pam, have signed up seven new YCHS members since our last newsletter! Tami Spears and Shirley Venhaus each have pledged to recruit four new members. Please let me know when you bring new members into YCHS and we will print it in our newsletter.

We hope to see you at our next General Meeting at the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church in McMinnville on March 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.! Gloria Lutz will be doing the program.

Carolyn Meeker, President



## Book of the Month

**Honey in the Horn** won the 1936 Pulitzer for literature for author H.L. Davis. The book is a descriptive story of homesteaders looking for land in Southern and Eastern Oregon shortly after the turn of the 20th century. It is for sale in the Lafayette Museum gift shop for \$20.

- Nancy Thornton

Historic Lafayette Museum

605 Market Street/P.O. Box 484 Lafayette, OR 97127

Hours:

Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday 10 am to 4 pm  
Or by appointment 503-864-2308

## Advertise in the Newsletter

To help the historical society offset the expense of publishing this newsletter, we are now offering advertising space to local Yamhill County businesses. If you are interested in placing an ad, please contact the Newsletter Editor Tami Spears at [tami@spearsintl.com](mailto:tami@spearsintl.com).

We certainly do appreciate the business people who support the Yamhill County Historical Society. **Please support our advertisers,** these are local people who can benefit you with their service/products and help the historical society as well.

Heritage Center

11275 SW Durham Lane McMinnville, OR 97128

Hours:

Saturday—10 am to 3 pm

## Board Meeting Summary ~ February 10, 2010

Eleven members of the YCHS board attended the meeting 4:00 on February 10.

~The museum report raised some concerns about keeping the Lafayette museum open throughout the summer due to lack of volunteers. Many historical societies are having difficulties in these economic times. Kim Courtin suggested evening hours that would allow people who work during the day to volunteer, and Carolyn Meeker suggested that board members may have to take up the slack by volunteering several hours a week.

~Ken reported that as of the end of 2009, we had over \$3,000,000 in assets, and all our bills are paid. Ken says that YCHS is definitely underinsured for our amount of exposure. Last year 1300 children attended Pioneer Days and 2600 people attended the Farm and Harvest Fests. There are also valuable artifacts and equipment. So Ken is getting quotes from three different insurers and will present more info at the next meeting.

~The logo that is on our stationery is now our official "brand" and will be used in the newsletter, on our website, and in all our advertising.

~It had been suggested that the newsletter only be printed six times a year instead of ten, in order to save costs. Each issue costs \$288 to produce. The board voted to continue to print ten a year as a service to members, and to allow some advertising in the newsletter to offset costs.

~Shirley Venhaus is going to get three or four quotes for a fresh coat of paint for the church in Lafayette. She thinks we can sign up for the matching funds grant again by next year to do this project.

~The annual YCHS member picnic will be Sunday, August 15, 2010 at the Heritage Center on Durham Lane.

~Meeting Dates for the rest of the year were established as follows:

March 10, Board Meeting 4:00  
 March 14, General Meeting 2:00  
 April 13, General Meeting 6:00  
 April 14, Board Meeting 4:00  
 May 11, General Meeting 6:00  
 May 12, Board Meeting 4:00

June 9, Board Meeting 4:00  
 July 14, Board Meeting 4:00  
 August 11, Board Meeting 4:00  
 September 8, Board Meeting 4:00  
 September 14, General Meeting 6:00  
 October 12, General Meeting 6:00

October 13, Board Meeting 4:00  
 November 9, General Meeting 6:00  
 November 10, Board, 4:00  
 December 8, Board Meeting 4:00  
 December 12, General Meeting 2:00

*Respectfully submitted by Theresa Berthelsdorf*

## Lafayette Site News

### Volunteers Night Out

Recently several volunteers at the Lafayette site enjoyed a "night out." We gathered at Zippy's Pizza restaurant in Yamhill for a volunteer meeting to discuss future plans and projects at the museum. When the pizzas arrived, the meeting quickly adjourned. Later we attended a folk music concert performed by Nancy Thornton's very talented grandchildren, Kodira, Ben and Joe. They entertained a large crowd at the Yamhill Methodist Church in Yamhill. By the way, Kodria performs in a folk music group and the CD is available our the museum.

### Did You Know.....

In the month of January, the Research Center provided help to 35 visitors. That is about three visitors on each day we are open. In addition, Marge Owens answers between five and ten email requests each week. We

also provided 13 tours of the Lafayette facilities to both groups and individuals. We keep busy!

In March, we are going to start opening up to the public on Wednesdays. Our hours will be from 10-4 Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

### Strange Noise

Recently, visitors to the Lafayette site may have noticed an unusual noise coming from the upstairs of the log building. Volunteer, Ursula Doud, has decided to drill out the lock on the very stubborn file cabinet that we have been unable to open. Do you suppose the noise is coming from in there? Good luck, Ursula. If you don't find the source of the noise, let's hope you find a million..... If anyone can suggest an easier way, we know Ursula would appreciate the help.

Jean Sartor



### Indian Artifact Display

We invite you to visit the museum to view our Native American artifact display. The Orville and Rose Bernards's collection is on display along with most of the museum's collection of stone tools and arrowheads. Our basket collection and other fragile items remain on display in the log building. These collections are an important part of Oregon's early history.



# March 2010 Happenings



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Lafayette Museum open 10—4	4	5 Lafayette Museum open 10—4	6 Lafayette Museum open 10—4 Heritage Center open 10—3
7	8	9	10 Board Meeting Lafayette Museum open 10—4	11	12 Lafayette Museum open 10—4	13 Lafayette Museum open 10—4 Heritage Center open 10—3
14 YCHS 2:00 P.M. General Meeting 	15	16 Property Development Committee Meeting	17 St. Patrick's Day Lafayette Museum open 10—4 	18	19 Lafayette Museum open 10—4	20 Lafayette Museum open 10—4 Heritage Center open 10—3
21	22	23	24 Lafayette Museum open 10—4	25	26 Lafayette Museum open 10—4	27 Lafayette Museum open 10—4 Heritage Center open 10—3
28	29	30	31 Lafayette Museum open 10—4	<b>Locations:</b> 3/10: Board Meeting — Lafayette Museum 3/14: General Meeting — 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville		

## YCHS Upcoming Events

- April 10, 2010—Farm Fest
- April 13, 2010—General Meeting
- April 14, 2010—Board Meeting
- April 24, 2010—Auction
- May 1-30, 2010—Pioneer Days
- May 11, 2010—General Meeting
- May 12, 2010—Board Meeting
- June 9, 2010—Board Meeting
- July 14, 2010—Board Meeting
- August 7-8, 2010—Harvest Fest
- August 11, 2010—Board Meeting
- August 15, 2010—Annual Member Picnic
- September 8, 2010—Board Meeting
- September 14, 2010—General Meeting
- September 18, 2010—Treasures in the Attic
- October 12, 2010—General Meeting
- October 13, 2010—Board Meeting
- November 9, 2010—General Meeting
- November 10, 2010—Board Meeting
- December 8, 2010—Board Meeting
- December 12, 2010—**ANNUAL MEETING**
- January 9, 2011—General Meeting
- January 12, 2011—Board Meeting





A committee has been formed to develop a program to bring our local history to life. Karen Sitton-Saxberg, Tami Compton-Spears, Theresa Berthelsdorf, and Gloria Lutz, are laying the ground work for this project. We are getting assistance from Don Hurlless and Marilyn Worrix. The plans right now are to have speakers talk about a particular part of Yamhill County's past and then tour the site on a Saturday afternoon. While the speaker is filling our brains with secrets of our county, we are filling our tummies with pizza and beverages. Future tours will be: Third Street Unveiled, Dayton's Infamous Blockhouse, Sheridan and the Murder Quilt Tour, The Chinese Underground, Graveyards After Dark, Hotel Oregon where the "Walls tell the tales", The Ebenezer Chapel, The Haunted Lafayette Church, and hopefully The Trent Farm. More information will be forthcoming next month.

## General Meeting Summary ~ February 14, 2010

President Carolyn Meeker called the meeting to order, Trudy Dick gave the invocation, and Ken Williams led the flag salute. Due to a special Valentine's Day event at the church, we had our potluck quickly, and moved the business meeting to another room down the hall. It was later voted to use this room for future meetings, as the acoustics are better, and the seats comfortable. It was Shirley McDaniel's birthday so we all sang "Happy Birthday" to her. We had four guests in attendance, Ruth Croft, Heather Fogarty, Ann Redmond, and Gail Liams. Carolyn announced that Cliff and Pam Watts had signed up seven new members. Ken's treasury report indicated assets of over \$3,000,000. at the end of the year, and all bills paid. Marjorie reported that the Lafayette museum is now open again on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10-4. The time taken while the museum was closed on Wednesdays allowed the volunteers to make improvements to the upstairs room, which is now an efficient workspace. Jean has been keeping track of visitors counts and will make a report on this in our newsletter.

Joanne Watts introduced our program speaker, Nancy Thornton, who spoke about Ewing Young. (First, Nancy encouraged us all to visit the Lafayette museum, and most importantly, remember to sign in!) Ewing Young was born in Tennessee and farmed there and in Missouri before taking part in a 1822 wagon train to New Mexico. For almost ten years, he pioneered trapping in the southwest. In the Spring of 1830, Young led the first American trapping expedition to reach the Pacific Coast from New Mexico. As he trapped and worked his way back to Taos, he became a wealthy man. In 1934, he met Hall J. Kelley, who convinced Young to travel with him up to the Oregon territory. They arrived at

Fort Vancouver that October, and Young settled down on a 50 mile claim in the Willamette Valley. He set up a saw mill and a distillery. In 1837 there were very few cattle in the area and they were rented out to families. What cattle there were had arrived by ship. Ewing Young, as leader of the Willamette Cattle Company, traveled to California and drove back 630 head of Longhorn cattle along the Siskiyou Trail. In 1841, Young died with no apparent heirs (a son did show up in Oregon years later). Because he had many assets and creditors, some form of government was needed to deal with his estate. Dr. Ira Babcock was selected as supreme judge with probate powers to deal with the estate, and the activities that followed his death eventually led to the creation of a provisional government in the Oregon Country. A Liberty ship was named after Young, but closer to home, we know Ewing Young Elementary School in Newberg. On May 6, 1846, an acorn was planted on Young's grave near his cabin site by Miranda Bayley and Sidney Smith. The Ewing Young Oak is located 1/4 mile north of Highway 240, 4 miles west of Newberg. It was dedicated in 1999 and you can visit it today.

Kenneth Holmes of Linfield College has written a definitive book called "*Ewing Young- Master Trapper*" if you would like to learn more.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40. Next month's meeting is Sunday March 14 at 2:00 at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in McMinnville. Gloria Lutz will present the program; YCHS's education outreach program present and future.

*Respectfully submitted by Theresa Berthelsdorf*

Article from The Oregonian December 11, 1950  
Essentials for Living Were Few in Days Before Electricity.

**Life Was Rugged, Simple, Exciting**

The people who settled Oregon, coming across the plains by covered wagon, didn't have much in the way of luxury or even in home equipment or tools as the pictures on this page reveal. They couldn't bring much along, for their wagon had to carry food and other essentials for the three to four month journey, leaving little space for other things. Many started with bigger wagons than the one pictured, but the Oregon trail was strewn with non-essentials tossed aside to make the load lighter for foot-sore oxen or team.

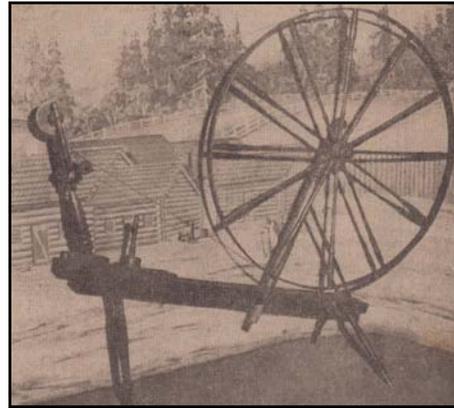
Yet with the few articles herein pictured and a few additions they were able not only to get along, but carve out homes and live in considerable comfort. Life was, if rugged, simple. The people worked hard, ate heartily, slept well. When they sickened, they died, or lived to bequeath a rugged constitution to their descendants.

In the pictures on this page may be seen the beginnings of Oregon home life and industry. The pictures are all of authentic pioneer Oregon objects now in custody of the Oregon Historical society in the Public auditorium. All had seen much use before they became museum pieces.

**TO OREGON!** T. H. Blair came to Oregon in this wagon in 1845. The cover and part of the bed are restorations but running gear and tar bucket are original. This was lighter construction than many emigrant wagons.



**HOME INDUSTRY**—There was an old spinning wheel like this in the "parlor" of many homes in the pioneer days of Oregon. Some models had foot treadle, but this one was turned with a stick poked between spokes. This wheel was made in Yamhill, 1858.



**KITCHENWARE**—These articles, candle mold, spider, coffee mill, potato masher, butter ladle and spoon were standard equipment in pioneer kitchens. The spider, stood in hot ashes for fireplace, was used for all kinds of cooking.

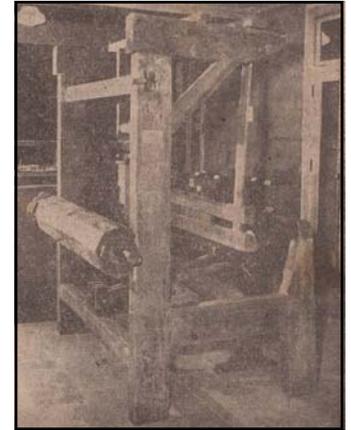
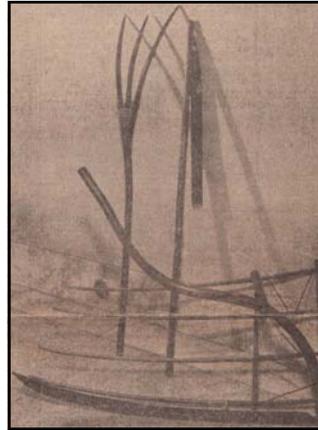
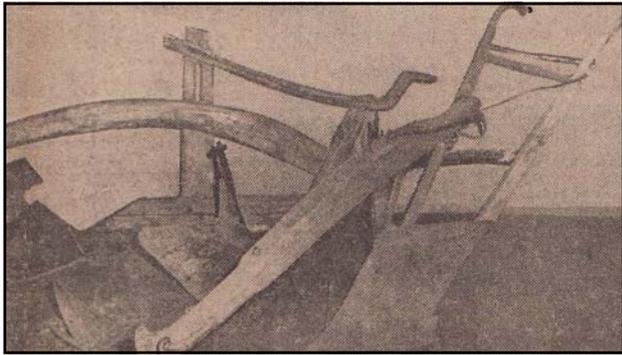


**GUEST ROOM**—Overnight guest in Oregon home century ago might have found accommodations like this if host was well-to-do, otherwise he got a place on the floor to spread his blanket. Four-poster had rope springs but real feather mattress. "German vessel" was real elegance. Early Oregon was noted for its hospitality.



Essentials for Living continued...

**SOIL STIRRERS**—Oregon was new and standardization of product was far in the future when Nathan Blair of Sheridan made this left-handed plow. Time about 1850.



**OLD YET NEW**—some things don't change much. This visg, owned by Dr. McLoughlin, still usable.

**FOR THE HARVEST**—When Oregon's wheat industry started these were harvest tools: cradle for reaping, fork, flair for thrashing.

**TEXTILE MILL**—this hand-operated loom was built by L. D. Heater near Silver Creek in 1854. Woolen industry grew from such devises.



*From the December 11, 1950, The Oregonian*

Thank You New and Renewed Members!

New Members

**Senior Family**

- Judy Yost
- Bonnie and Jim Mann
- Richard McJunkin and Eve Silverman

**Individual**

- Kory Knutz

Renewing Members

**Family**

- Perry and Dianne Pinkerton

**Planning a Vacation?**

Please notify Gloria Lutz (phone: 503-472-7563;

email:

[glutz@onlinemac.com](mailto: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!!

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 ★ **you help the society save money on printing and postage.**  
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- 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+ |

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Questions? Call Membership Coordinator Gloria Lutz at 503.472.7563 or email: [glutz@onlinemac.com](mailto:glutz@onlinemac.com)

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