



August 2011

Volume 43, Issue 7

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**NOTICE:**  
Brainstorming  
Session/Workshop

- Date: Wednesday, August 31, 2011
- Time: 5:00 pm
- All Committee members and volunteers are welcome to come to this brainstorming session. There will be food!
- Location: Yamhill Valley Heritage Center 11275 SW Durham Lane, McMinnville, Oregon

Yamhill County Historical Society  
Presents

Harvest Fest 2011

August 13 & 14, 2011  
10:00 am—3:00 pm

**ADMISSION:**  
Adults \$3  
Kids 12 & under FREE  
Free for YCHS Members

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

Experience Farming History at Harvest Fest

Enjoy a day of “farm fun” at the Heritage Center. In addition to watching the old-time harvest of the oat crop, viewing the vintage items on display, and visiting with friends, here are a few more things to enjoy:

- Flag pole monument dedication on Saturday during the opening ceremonies at 10am
- Tractor Parade at 1pm each day, featuring over 30 Allis Chalmers tractors as the featured tractor this year plus all the other tractors in the parade!
- Slow Tractor Race at 1pm each day – it’s the tractor that goes the slowest in the race and still keeps running... cheer on your favorite!
- Blacksmith demonstrations at 11, noon and 1pm
- Sawmill demos going on throughout the day
- Pioneer kids’ activities, including playing pioneer games, dressing up, sitting in the covered wagon, and petting animals
- Great old time music on Saturday and Sunday by The Mavericks, Marie Bailey and her violin and fiddle students, George and Carolyn Stastny, and The Grape Stompers cloggers.
- Yummy root beer floats, ice cream, homemade cobbler, fresh corn on the cob, and pulled pork sandwiches, hamburgers, sausages, and hot dogs.

Help us make history come alive and have a great crowd at Harvest Fest by inviting your family, friends, and neighbors to join us on August 13 and 14!



For more information, call Pam or Cliff Watts 503.434-0490 or email [pwatts@onlinemac.com](mailto:pwatts@onlinemac.com)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS****OFFICERS****President**

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503-835-8481

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*Gloria Lutz*

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(503) 472-9631

## President's Letter

Dear YCHS Members,

I am very happy to announce that with the support of our members and other citizens of Yamhill County, we have raised over \$20,000 with our Heritage Brick Program! We need just 34 more brick donations to completely fill two of the six sides of the hexagon base of the Flag Monument. The program has already funded the Flag Monument construction which is now being erected by Haworth, Inc. at the Heritage Center. Future funds generated from this project will be used for ADA approved sidewalks at the Heritage Center.

I would like to offer a heartfelt "thank you" to all of you who have already supported this project and remind those who may want to donate a brick, or bricks, that there is still time to do so. I would also like to thank Karl Klooster who wrote an article for the *News Register* supporting the project and First Federal for awarding us a \$1,300 grant. All of the Heritage Bricks that are donated will be used on the base of the Flag Monument until that space is filled.

This letter is being written before Harvest Fest takes place but *The Westside* will not be published until after the event. There is quite a crew of devoted volunteers who work very hard to make this event happen. I will only mention two of them at this time, Pam and Cliff Watts, otherwise known as the "dynamic duo." I will have more to say about Harvest Fest next month.

## Impact of a Volunteer

During Pioneer Days, there were 787 hours by 67 different volunteers that helped guide the children through the challenges of experiencing history. The following is an email I received from one of the teachers.

*I wanted to thank all of you for the wonderful Pioneer Day experience. It was wonderful and the weather cooperated beautifully. The experience was tremendous with so much talent. However, for our children the biggest benefits I witnessed were the connections my students made with many of your volunteers, especially the older men. Many of my students do not have people who have the time to sit and talk or share. I was amazed to see some of my hardest boys stand and listen to the mule*

Our first Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social was held on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Heritage Center. By all standards it was deemed to be a success, particularly for a first time event. The committee chair for this event was Katie Allwander and we all appreciate her hard work. Katie had an excellent group of volunteers helping her with this event.

The YCHS Board of Directors appointed Steve Leonard to serve out the term left by Don Hurless' resignation. While we all miss Don's wry humor, we want to welcome Steve to the Board. Steve is a former airline pilot, grew up on the north shore of Massachusetts Bay and, after living in several states, came to McMinnville in 1991 to work for Evergreen International Aviation. He flew and managed the B-727 operations, advancing to the B-747 and Director of Operations and, finally, Chief Pilot. Steve and his wife, Joni, will be a wonderful addition to our organization.

Since I am still acting as Membership Chair, I will remind all of our members who have not renewed your membership that we hope you will do so now! We depend on your support to fulfill our mission to collect, preserve, and share the history and heritage of Yamhill County!

Carolyn Meeker  
YCHS President  
Phone: (503) 835-8481  
Email: acmeeker@frontier.com  
*Submitted: July 14, 2011*

*skinner for 15 minutes (something I have a hard time managing). It wasn't as much what he taught them as that he took the time to do so which spoke volumes to my kids. My most challenging boy named that time as his favorite experience of the field trip. I also noticed the same thing when the men were digging and planting with my students. Working along side a child and imparting wisdom is a wonderful experience to behold. Thank you for letting me watch as your volunteers did just that.*

This says it all. Thank you volunteers! You never know when you will make an impact on an individual's life.

Gloria Lutz, Education Coordinator

## Happenings at the Heritage Center

The steam tractor is up and running...the crew gave rides at the ice cream social on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and this week passed their first inspection with the State of Oregon.

Volunteers have been repairing a model 2420 International tractor to running condition. It will come in handy with the loader and bucket. They've also been working on a potato planter and binder.

The sawmill volunteers are doing maintenance on the sawmill. We could use some donated logs for future demonstrations.

Many hands have been sweeping, mowing, cleaning up, weed-eating and rearranging equipment in preparation for Harvest Fest on August 13 and 14.

An average of about 5 groups of people have been touring the Heritage Center on Saturday. Many have been enjoying Joe Grab's donation of his tools and three tractors. The Heritage Center is open every Saturday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Donny and Donna Jo King planted a patch of FLAX this spring. It is now blooming and looking good.

The new flag pole base...



Chuck Kadell

## An Honor for a Teacher

The Oregon American Legion has named Francesca Morrison their Teacher of the Year for her efforts in guiding her social studies students through the interviewing process and writing of the book [An Interview with History](#).

## Another Oral History Book

The second of our two grants for oral history is complete. This book, [A Moment in the Past](#), was started by Newberg High School and completed by Dayton High School interns. This book is available for purchase at the Lafayette site.

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### Accession/Preservation

##### Lafayette:

*Ursula Doud*

##### Accessions Heritage Center:

*Tony Meeker*

##### Activities and Events:

*Tami Spears*

##### Audit:

*Matt Dunkel*

##### Blacksmith:

*Steve Gossett*

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*Tom Catrall*

##### Education:

*Gloria Lutz*

##### Farm/Harvest Fest:

*Cliff and Pam Watts*

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VACANT

##### General Meeting Programs:

*Joanne Watts*

##### Governance:

*Carolyn Meeker*

##### Grant Review:

*Kim Courtin*

##### Heritage Center Restoration:

*Cliff Watts*

##### Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery:

*Joanne Watts*

##### Landscaping:

*Gloria Lutz—Heritage Center*

*Garry Coats—Lafayette*

##### Newsletter:

*Tami Spears*

##### Photographic Project:

*Jennifer Sokol Blosser*

##### Poling Church:

*Marjorie Owens*

##### Property Development:

*Cliff and Pam Watts*

##### Publications/Gift Shop:

*Jean Sartor*

##### Restoration Shop:

*Cliff Watts*

##### Sawmill:

*Don King*

##### Secrets of the Past Tours:

*Karen Sitton-Saxberg*

##### Steam Equipment:

*Vern Yeager*

##### Treasures in the Attic:

*Shirley Venhaus*

## Education Report—Pioneer Days



Dr. Dave Pfendler made a human yoke for our Pioneer Day students to use. He used the Chinese yoke we have at the museum as a model. Here Cynthia Christensen is heading to the pump for water. Students would carry water so they could wash clothes (with soap Joanne Watts made) on a washboard. After they were finished, they would dump the water on the shrubs. Al Cronk found the buckets and purchased them for us.



The third year of Pioneer Days is completed. There were 907 students ranging in age from 6 years to 18 years. The vast majority were 8-9 year olds. There were 14 schools spanning 12 days during May and the first two days of June. We had a school from Keizer and one from Corvallis. The rest were from Yamhill County. The students paid \$1 to attend. The feedback from the teachers was very positive.

We had 67 different volunteers. The teachers kept saying in their parting comments that the volunteers were so knowledgeable and patient with the students. In the blacksmith shop, we had help from those that volunteer at Fort Vancouver. They had to travel from as far away as Battle Ground, WA. They came in costume. We had one volunteer who came from Cornelius for just 1.5 hours to help Cynthia Christensen. She did that 6 different times! We had 787 volunteer hours just at the site.

Students attended an 1880 one-room school, learned about the covered wagon, made candles, visited the blacksmith shop, planted the Heritage Center landscape, and learned how to use spoons and limber jacks to make music. They also danced. The students were divided by gender. The girls learned domestic chores led by Cynthia—planting a garden, cleaning wool, hauling water to



wash clothes, gathering eggs from her fowl, sewing, and learning about clothing and taking care of children. The boys made shakes, used a cross-cut saw and draw knife, ground corn, made ropes, learned about mules, cultivated manure (using a shovel) into the soil so the girls could plant flowers and perennials. The boys also dug the holes and put in the poles for the hanging baskets we have out front.

It was very successful, thanks to all of the volunteers. Preparations for Fall Pioneer Days is underway.



Gloria Lutz, Education Coordinator

## Hopewell Cemetery Grave Hound

I do so much volunteer work for findagrave.com that I spend lots of time in graveyards. I was recently at the Hopewell Cemetery. You may know that there is a “working” church up there. When I drove up a couple of weeks ago, I went around to get my camera out of the truck. Before I could react, a small dog jumped into my truck. When I finally coaxed him out of my truck, he made a quick run around the cemetery and came back to me, wagging and waiting for action. Using my usual weird sense of humor, I asked him “are you a grave hound?” I told him there was a family I’d looked for about three years and they didn’t seem to have the headstones. I asked him if he knew where they were. I told him the name was

“FISH.” He went running off with me following. Finally he sat down at a grave. The name was Fisher! Using Lorna Grauer’s book, I found that they were supposed to be in the same row. Not bad for a grave hound with no map and no book!

I talked with the minister later and he said he’d been on the phone and the dog got out. I told him that he might want to be sure someone didn’t drive off with the dog. He said that it had already happened. The Cemetery Association had been out and a member didn’t realize he had the dog in his truck until he arrived at his home. The dog loves trucks and apparently thinks he belongs in them.

Gail Howard



Grave Hound

# August 2011

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 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	11	12 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	13 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Harvest Fest! Heritage Center Open 10-3
14 Harvest Fest! Heritage Center Open 10-3	15	16	17 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 Brainstorm Session 5 pm			

### Event Locations

- ◆ August 10, 2011—Board Meeting—Lafayette Museum
- ◆ August 13 and 14, 2011—Harvest Fest! - Yamhill Valley Heritage Center, 11275 SW Durham Lane and Hwy 18, McMinnville
- ◆ August 31, 2011—Brainstorming Session/ Workshop— Yamhill Valley Heritage Center, 11275 SW Durham Lane and Hwy 18, McMinnville

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ August 10 —Board Meeting
- ◆ August 13—14 — Harvest Fest
- ◆ September 13 —General Meeting
- ◆ September 14 —Board Meeting

## Needed for County Fair August 3-6...

The Yamhill County Historical Society will be having a table at the Yamhill County Fair on August 3-6. We need volunteers to help staff the table. Possible shifts are 12-2, 2-4 and 4-8. Entry to the fair is free for those staffing the table and you can park at Karen Sitton-Saxberg's business "Hair-it-Is" across the street also for free. If you are interested, please contact Karen Sitton-Saxberg at (503)434-2189 or DH2kissit@onlinemac.com.

## Treasures in the Attic Postponed

Due to unforeseen circumstances the 2011 Treasures in the Attic has been postponed. We look forward to the 2012 event.

Shirley Venhaus

### Historic Lafayette Museum

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

**Hours:**

Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday 10—4  
Or by appointment  
503-864-2308

### Yamhill Valley Heritage Center

11275 SW Durham Ln.  
McMinnville, OR 97128

**Hours:**

Saturday 10—3

## *Ice Cream Social a Hit!*



On Sunday, July 3, the Yamhill County Historical Society celebrated the birthday of Yamhill County with an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social. The actual birthday is July 5, 1843, so this year we are 168 years old! The Social was a great success, due to the hard work of many volunteers, and generous support from our donors. The

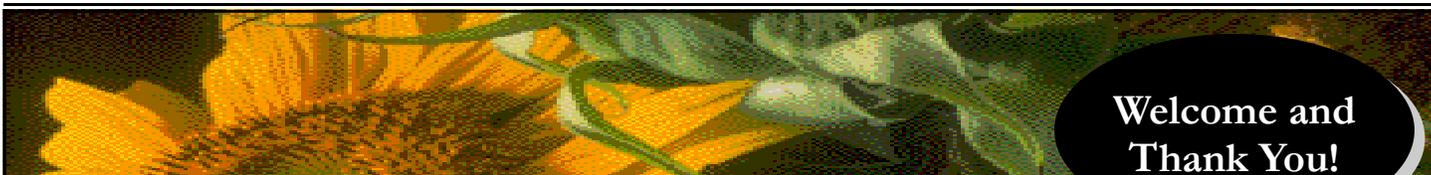
Ice Cream Social committee would like to thank the manager of our local Albertson's store, Ryan Dunn, who provided 50 Mrs. Smith's apple pies for the pie eating contest. The kids really enjoyed that! A special thank you goes out to Karen Sitton-Saxberg, who spent many hours baking the birthday cakes and making the excellent homemade ice cream. Katie Allwander, as head of the committee, put in many hours in planning and preparation for this fun event. Donna Nelson served as a terrific auctioneer, directing the bidding on the pies and baskets donated by many YCHS committees and individuals. The Steam Engine, Saw Mill and Blacksmith committees were open and busy, and lots of kids got rides on the steam engine, too. Glenn Watts gave informative tours of the Exhibit Hall. The Yamhill County Dairy Princess and the Yamhill County Women for Agriculture group served ice cream, Marjorie Owens served cake, and many YCHS volunteers helped out with all the various activities. Too many to name all of you, so many thanks to everyone who participated in this exciting and fun event!

Theresa Berthelsdorf



## *Generous Donation*

Greenlands Landscape Supplies, located in McMinnville, has donated three units of compost for the landscape at the Heritage Center. It has been used as a mulch around the native plants that students have planted. We are very appreciative of their kind donation.



**Welcome and Thank You!**

**New Members**

<p><b><u>SENIOR FAMILY</u></b>                  Mark &amp; Donna Hinds                  Clint &amp; Geneva Caldwell                  G. Wm. &amp; Lois Oldham                  Robert L. Amy &amp; Mary Bowen                  Ruth W. McKibben Black                  Nila &amp; Goodman Stoner                  Dorothy H. &amp; Paul Congleton                  Jim Stonebridge                  Joseph H. &amp; Darlene M. Rudnick                  Neil &amp; Judith Kunze</p>	<p><b><u>SR./STUDENT/EDUCATOR</u></b>                  Tresa M. Matlack                  John Burdan                  Bernice M. Owen                  Stan Shipley                  Gail Edwards-Peterson                  Dean W. Tessman                  Barbara J. Riverman                  Mike Chilton</p>	<p><b><u>FAMILY</u></b>                  Wes &amp; Peggy Hoagland                  Doug &amp; Shane Fritz                  Freda &amp; Sal Padilla                  Steve &amp; Joni Leonard</p> <p><b><u>INDIVIDUAL</u></b>                  Rosemary Moore                  William Seely                  Lara Fritz                  Raymond L. Palmer</p>	<p><b><u>FRIENDS</u></b>                  Blake Matlack                  Skip &amp; Claudia Huwaldt</p> <p><b><u>SUPPORTER</u></b>                  Waldo Farnham                  Brian &amp; Margaret Bowman</p> <p><b><u>COMMUNITY BUILDER</u></b>                  Ed &amp; Candy Gormley</p>
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**Renewing Members**

<p><b><u>SENIOR FAMILY</u></b>                  Virgil &amp; Sally Moon                  Kenneth &amp; Patricia Myers                  Chuck &amp; Patti Burgess                  Ron &amp; Ruth Ann Stoner</p>	<p><b><u>SR./STUDENT/EDUCATOR</u></b>                  Edna Troyer                  Marietta Rankin                  Vince Bogard                  Sue Buel                  Margaret J. Brixey                  Frank Schurman                  James E. Vincent                  Betty Sherman</p>	<p><b><u>FAMILY</u></b>                  Gil &amp; Sharon Depuy                  Jack &amp; Merrilee Dowty                  Will &amp; Barbara Cleek                  Frank &amp; Lila Meyers</p> <p><b><u>FAMILY</u></b>                  John &amp; Nancy Larsen                  Laura &amp; Bob Stephens                  Dan &amp; Peggy Vega                  Cynthia &amp; Lyle Christensen                  James &amp; Tami Spears                  Everett L. &amp; Winona G. Swain                  Stephen H. Cone</p>	<p><b><u>FRIEND</u></b>                  Douglas &amp; Janet Nicoll                  Jean &amp; Harold Sartor                  Richard L. &amp; Jean E. Green</p> <p><b><u>SUPPORTER</u></b>                  John &amp; Nancy Nyberg                  George &amp; Carolyn Stastny                  Eugene Stockhoff                  Tony &amp; Carolyn Meeker                  John &amp; Gail Price                  Edward C. Young</p>	<p><b><u>FRIEND</u></b>                  Ken &amp; Pat Williams</p> <p><b><u>INDIVIDUAL</u></b>                  Don Porter                  Gary Manning                  Peter Howland                  Pat Engle                  Don Hurless                  Allen County Public Library</p>
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**Planning a Vacation?**

Please notify Carolyn Meeker (503) 835-8481; acmeeker@frontier.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!!

*Lost and Found by Nancy Thornton*

The other day, I unlocked the gate on the bridge and went for a walk.  
 When I went to unlock the bridge the next day, the key was gone.  
 Today, I retraced my rout—the mile west.  
 I found coyote tracks.  
 I found oxalises—carpeting the ground shoulder to shoulder.  
 I found a deer trail hidden among the ferns.  
 I found a tree that would be a bigger stretch to hug than Santa Claus.

I found Canary Grass that was taller than my head.  
 I found scouring rushes with dew drop on each delicate branch.  
 I found moss cushioned stumps.  
 I found white dandelion heads—tousle topped with morning dew.  
 It was a refreshing walk—but I didn't find my keys!  
 Where are they hiding????

I hope that you don't lose things as often as I do.  
 Nancy Thornton



Preserving our Past, Enriching our Future

P.O. Box 484  
Lafayette, Oregon 97127

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U.S. Postage  
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McMinnville, Oregon  
97128

## Yamhill County Historical Society Membership Application

**Membership Yes!** I want to support the Yamhill County Historical Society's efforts to preserve the county's rich history. Members receive *The West Side* newsletter (10 issues per year), free admission to the Lafayette Museum and Library, access to genealogical and historical files, access to the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center, monthly potluck and program for members, invitations to special programs and events, and 10% off photo orders and gift shop purchases.

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

**Please mail this form  
with payment to:  
YCHS  
P.O. Box 484  
Lafayette, OR 97127**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student/Educator \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Basic) \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Builder \$250+    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Family (age 65+) \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$55         | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Benefactor \$500+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20              | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$125+    |  |

**Make checks payable to:  
Yamhill County  
Historical Society**

By filling out this form, the member(s) give(s) the Yamhill County Historical Society the right to release their name and contact information to other members, to the Yamhill County Cultural Coalition, and/or for the purpose of obtaining grant funding. Member information will never be sold or released for any other purpose unless written consent is provided by the member. If the member does not wish to have their name and contact information released, please check here.

Questions? Call Membership Coordinator Carolyn Meeker (503) 835-8481 or email: [acmeeker@frontier.com](mailto:acmeeker@frontier.com)

**Become a Yamhill County Historical Society Member Today!**