



January 2011

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## Handmade Holiday A Success!

Our Handmade Holiday has come and gone, but it will not be forgotten for some time, at least from my point of view. We had a lot of fun, raised awareness in the community and did some great things along the way.

The decorations were just short of spectacular. A big thanks to Karen Sitton-Saxberg for her festive creativity.

We had 21 vendors, all with something just a little different than the normal. There were beautiful scarves, handcarved puzzles, bells made from recycled oxygen tanks, signs that pointed every which way and had much to say,

ornaments made from recycled light bulbs, medieval pottery, historic toys, and much more. Photography was in abundance as well.

Our hourly giveaway was a huge success and kept spirits high throughout the entire weekend.

Christmas trees decorated by Karen Sitton-Saxberg and the Amity and McMinnville Fire Departments were auctioned off on Sunday. Thanks to all who participated.

Our raffle turned out to be the highlight of our Sunday afternoon, with many large prizes, some of which included a helicopter ride, several wine



*Carolyn and Tony Meeker, Karen Sitton-Saxberg, and Tami Spears all dressed up for the weekend festivities*

tours, a bed and breakfast deal, theater tickets, and food and

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### NOTICE: January Potluck and General Meeting

- Date: Sunday, January 9, 2010
- Time: 2:00 pm Potluck, 3:00 pm Program
- Program: Weather Disasters in Yamhill County by Marjorie Owens
- Location: 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville



### Members

I have had several inquiries about what that number is after the member's name on the newsletter's label. That is my attempt at letting you know when your dues will be due. If you have an eleven after your name, your dues will be due in July 2011. If you have a twelve after your name, your dues are paid up until July of 2012. We will be sending out a renewal notice in May or June to remind you.

If you would like to help the society save

money, you can always sign up for your newsletter to be sent via email. That helps us save on printing, postage and volunteer time.

Also, if you are heading south for the winter, please let me know, and I will hold your newsletters until you get back, or you can give me your winter address. It costs the society 50 cents for every newsletter returned to us.

Gloria Lutz, membership chair

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

Carolyn Meeker  
503-835-8481

**Vice President**

Shirley McDaniel  
503-662-3528

**Secretary**

Theresa Berthelsdorf  
503-842-2616

**Treasurer**

Kim Courtin  
503-864-4525

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Kory Knutz  
Phyllis McBride  
Jo McIntyre  
Karen Sitton-Saxberg  
Tami Spears  
Shirley Venhaus  
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*Gloria Lutz*

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**Research Librarian:**

*Marjorie Owens*

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

**VACANT**

**Website Coordinator:**

*James Spears*

## *President's Letter*

Dear Members,

This year serving as your president has gone by very fast for me and probably for all of you as well. At the annual meeting on December 12, three new board directors were welcomed and Shirley McDaniel was reelected to serve another three years. We are happy to welcome Cynthia Christensen, Jo McIntyre, and Kory Knutz as our new directors and to welcome back Shirley McDaniel. Shirley has been our vice-president this past year.

In saying "hello" to our new board members, we are also saying "good-bye" to Ken Williams and Bill Roll. Ken served as our treasurer for three years, and Bill served as president in 2009. We would like to say a big thank you to these two for their past work for the YCHS. Of course, I am certain they will both continue to support the organization in various capacities.

I have served on several boards in the past, and I must say that the YCHS Board of Directors is the hardest working and most dedicated of any on which I have had the privilege to serve. It has been inspiring to see the level of dedication depicted by all of the hardworking volunteers who work diligently to continue the success at both the Lafayette site and our new Durham Lane site.

The Yamhill County Historical Society has had the benefit of wide spread support in our community in the form of generous donations of time and money from our citizens. If the level of support that you, as an individual, can give to the YCHS is only to maintain a membership in this organization, that support is very much appreciated and important to the continued success of the society. However, if

you feel you want to contribute your time and talents to the YCHS at a higher level, please contact me or anyone in our organization and let us know how you would like to help.

Our Heritage Brick program is continuing to grow with new brick donations coming in including three orders from out-of-state. There is still time for you to "buy a brick" and deduct the donation from this year's taxes. The bricks are \$100 each and you may have up to three lines inscribed (etched) on each brick, with up to 17 characters on each line.

Congratulations to Phyllis McBride, one of our hardworking directors, on chairing the "Handmade Holiday" event held on December 4 and 5 in the Activities Building at the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center. It was the first time for this event. Everyone involved, and there is a long list, helped to make it a success. I would like to especially thank Karen Sitton-Saxberg for doing such a wonderful job with much of the decorating which turned the space into a holiday festival. The Amity and McMinnville Fire Departments decorated Christmas trees which were auctioned off in a silent auction. We want to say a very special thanks to them for their participation. Karl Klooster wrote a wonderful article in the December 11 edition of the *News-Register*. He ended the story by saying, "Based on its successful launch, the Handmade Holiday Bazaar will likely become an annual fixture on the Yamhill Valley Christmas scene."

On that note, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season!

Carolyn Meeker, President

## *Become a Volunteer—Join a Committee*

We need you. One of the most important things in our society is our volunteers. Volunteers are our life force and are crucial to the ongoing work of our society. Do you like to do paperwork? Organize and make lists? Get your hands dirty? Work on machines? Research antiques? Work with figures and budgets? Plan events and fundraisers? Please consider volunteering with one of our standing committees. There are numerous opportunities from onetime small projects to leadership opportunities. There truly is something for everyone. On page three to the right, you will find a complete list of the society's committees and the chair person. If you are interested in joining a committee, contact the chair person. Each committee would be more than happy to welcome new members.

# Volunteerism—U.S. vs. Kazakhstan

Dear Readers,

I volunteer for another nonprofit organization, AFS (American Field Service) which is a high school exchange student program. Each quarter the exchange students are asked to write stories about what they are learning during their stay in the United States. I wanted to share with you what I think is a very interesting article from a Kazakhstan exchange student who is currently living in the Portland area. Please enjoy the following article.

Tami Spears, Newsletter Editor

My attention was drawn by the volunteerism. Do you think volunteerism is widespread in many countries? Unfortunately, no. What makes people work for free? I was thinking about this question every time I saw American volunteers in Kazakhstan, who were teaching kids English. For three months of my experience as an exchange student, I see many differences between people in my country and here. One of them is social involvement. People in the U.S. try to make things better, they are enthusiastic about organizing activities that are useful for them and also useful for other people. Fundraising was new for me when I was participating in it with my dance team at school in the US. In my country it's more complicated. In Kazakhstan nobody does fundraising; it's easier to ask parents for money for things such as dance costumes. The same thing is with the library fundraising book sale that I observed in the US. In Kazakhstan, our school libraries are paid for by money from the government budget. Why don't we add extra money by selling books? We make it too complicated. People say, "Why should we spend our time raising funds when the government is going to provide it?" People in the U.S. seem more independent from their government. The government may provide funds, but people also organize to try to solve their social problems by themselves.

When I lived in Kazakhstan I never thought I would do volunteer work, because I thought, "It's a waste of time. It is not profitable for me." But I volunteered as a student leader at Outdoor School in the US. I taught 6<sup>th</sup> graders for the whole week. I never knew how difficult it

would be to teach kids, to get their attention, to make them be involved with you, and to share your knowledge through teaching skills. You cannot understand this unless you do it. It was hard and at the same time nice to feel myself responsible. At the end you just feel good that you did something useful for someone and they are grateful for you. In Kazakhstan we don't have the opportunity to volunteer at Outdoor School. We have camps that kids are expected



*Azhar from Kazakhstan*

to pay for. Camp counselors are paid by the government to work in the camps.

I also volunteered at the Food Bank, which works with the church, and provides everything that people need. In Kazakhstan, on Fridays people usually go to the mosque, where they give money, food, and clothing to the people who work in the mosque, who distribute it to the poor. The difference is, in the US you have a Food Bank. I was surprised when I knew that the majority of the budget of Food Bank is raised by the financial contributions of common people. It burns me

inside. Why don't we, in Kazakhstan, have community involvement and a sense of community empowerment: the feeling that we can make a difference in our community? I can't say that we don't have volunteerism at all. We have many individuals who help the homeless, but at the same time they think they don't have enough time, strength and patience to join their individual work to the community, to organize and spread it. In Kazakhstan, many people think, "First, we need to solve our individual problems." But our individual problems are endless.

Volunteerism seems to be a part of the culture in the US. People take it as part of their civic duty. Using my observation I can say without any doubt that every third citizen of the U.S. has volunteered at least once in his or her life. I was surprised to see 8-10 year old kids volunteering. They are going to continue this cultural value of volunteerism.

Many things I have observed have influenced my opinions about life. I asked some volunteers why do they do this? The reply was always the same: it's just their desire to help people. My observations have already affected my perspective about volunteerism. I'm planning to get together with other students, who have also been to the US and observed what I observed and start volunteerism of my own when I'm back home, because it is up to us, to improve our lives and the lives of people around us. We are always rushing along to earn more money, to save time, to improve our lives, but we cannot make our lives better, while around us there are homeless, unemployed and hungry people.

- Azhar from Kazakhstan

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Accession/Preservation

#### Lafayette:

Ursula Doud

#### Activities and Events:

Tami Spears

#### Accessions Heritage Center:

Tony Meeker

#### Audit:

Matt Dunckel

#### Blacksmith:

Steve Gosset

#### Budget:

Kim Courtin

#### Education:

Gloria Lutz

#### Farm/Harvest Fest:

Cliff Watts

#### General Meeting Programs:

Joanne Watts

#### Governance:

Carolyn Meeker

#### Grant Review:

Kim Courtin

#### Handmade Holiday:

Phyllis McBride

#### Landscaping:

Gloria Lutz

#### Newsletter:

Tami Spears

#### Photographic Project:

Jennifer Sokol Blosser

#### Property Development:

Cliff Watts

#### Publications/Gift Shop:

Jean Sartor

#### Restoration Shop:

Cliff Watts

#### Sawmill:

Don King

#### Secrets of the Past Tours:

Karen Sitton-Saxberg

#### Steam Engine:

Frank Schurman

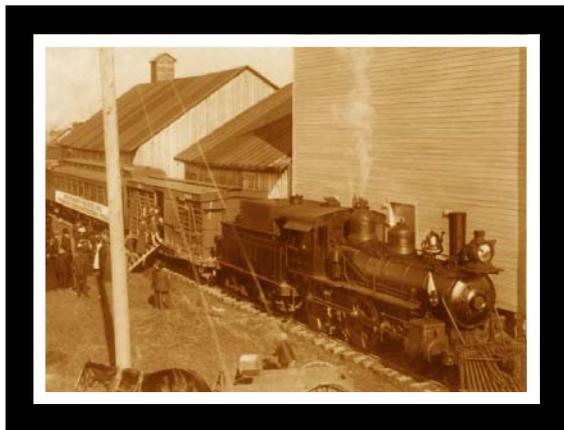
#### Treasures in the Attic:

Shirley Venhaus

Tax ID #23-7090047

[info@yamhillcountyhistory.org](mailto:info@yamhillcountyhistory.org)

[www.yamhillcountyhistory.org](http://www.yamhillcountyhistory.org)



Yamhill County Historical Society Presents  
*Secrets of the Past:*  
*Trains, Planes, & Sunken Ferries*  
 SATURDAY, JANUARY 22  
 11 - 12:45 p.m. ♦ \$7 Admission  
 ~  
 Third Street Pizza Co.,  
 433 NE Third Street, McMinnville, OR  
 ~  
 ♦ Slideshow ♦ Photo Display ♦ Local historian shares  
 stories of the hardships of transportation in its infancy ♦  
 Food available for purchase ♦ No-host bar

## Handmade Holiday Continued

gift baskets.

Thank you to those who brought food for the YCAP Food Bank. We collected enough food to make 135 meals for those in need in the Yamhill County.

All in all, it was a great weekend, and I am looking forward to putting on our second annual Handmade Holiday in 2011.

Phyllis McBride, Handmade Holiday Chair



Decorations by Karen Sitton-Saxberg



The Amity Fire Department and young volunteers decorating their Christmas trees



Volunteers Milly Armstrong and Shirley Venhaus

# January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Lafayette Museum Closed Heritage Center Closed
2	3	4	5 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	6	7 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	8 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
9 General Meeting 2-4	10	11	12 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Board Meeting 4 pm	13	14 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	15 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
16	17	18	19 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	20	21 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	22 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3 Trains & Planes Tour 11-12:45
23	24	25	26 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	27	28 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	29 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
30	31					

### Event Locations

- ♦ January 9—General Meeting— 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville
- ♦ January 12—Board Meeting—Lafayette Museum
- ♦ January 22—Trains, Planes, & Sunken Ferries Tour—Third Street Pizza, 433 NE Third Street, McMinnville

### Upcoming Events

- ♦ February 9, 2011— Board Meeting
- ♦ February 13, 2011— General Meeting
- ♦ March 9, 2011— Board Meeting
- ♦ March 13, 2011— General Meeting
- ♦ April 9, 2011— YCHS Farm Fest
- ♦ April 12, 2011— General Meeting
- ♦ April 13, 2011— Board Meeting

## YCHS Wish List

Every nonprofit organization has more needs than they have resources to fill. The YCHS plays an important role in our community, and we hope our members, giving donors, and prospects will extend a helping hand. Giving back to the community can benefit us all. This wish list is a great way for YCHS to publicize our needs. Can you help?

- ♦ Six inch black reader board letters for the Heritage Center

- reader boards.
- ♦ PA system for the Heritage Center buildings. (conduit has been laid between all buildings).
- ♦ Mobility Cart(s) for the Heritage Center.
- ♦ Copy paper for both the Lafayette Site and Heritage Center copy machines.
- ♦ Paperclips
- ♦ Postage Machine
- ♦ 12 person conference table.
- ♦ Heater(s) for the Heritage Center Activities building.

- ♦ General office supplies.
  - ♦ A backup drive for the computers at the Lafayette Site.
  - ♦ Website Designer to design a new YCHS website (contact James Spears tjspears@gmail.com)
- We greatly appreciate your help!
- Contact:** Tami Spears  
Newsletter Editor  
(503) 583-2064  
tamispears123@gmail.com

### 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

## Photo Committee Report



Jennifer and Tom at the Handmade Holiday photo booth

This past month has been very productive for the photo department. Most of our efforts have centered around readying our wares for retail sale at both Pacific Frame and at the Handmade Holiday event. Our initial order with Pacific Frame should be completed this week. The *News-Register* has also been notified that they will be carrying our photos, so we hope to see a mention of that in one of Karl Klooser's articles.

In addition to continuing our ongoing cataloging and scanning of our collection, Tom and I are helping inventory the photographs and items in the upstairs storage closet this month. We are also in the process of moving original photographs out of the Poling Church so that we can make reproductions of them for display. As you know, there are multiple issues with the church at the moment. One of these is humidity control. Ideal humidity conditions for photographs, manuscripts, and most linens would entail humidity being in the low 40% range. I recently visited the church to find the humidity at 82%, which leaves photos and papers of all kinds wet to the touch. Today the humidity was lower, in the 60% range, thanks to

the increased heat in the church. This is not the case, however, on the back porch area where the old newspapers are stored. Today they were wet to the touch and mold growth is obvious in some of those stacks. Because Tom and I do not feel that we can lower the humidity in the entire building ourselves, we are taking the initiative of saving the photographs and having reproductions of those wonderful images up for viewing instead. We do believe it is important that people be able to see these images, but we do not want them to be ruined.

We also have filled a publisher's digital image request. These funds will be used for booth rental at the next Turkey Rama in July. We think that we could really do well in terms of sales at that event and will have more items printed and available by that time. We are excited, thinking of things to come!

Happy Holidays to you all.

Jennifer Sokol Blosser and Tom Cattrall, Photo Committee

**A special thanks to the Program Committee for another fantastic year!**

**Joanne Watts,  
Shirley McDaniel,  
Marjorie Owens,  
and Nancy Thornton**

## A Review of our Landscaping at the Heritage Center

With a generous donation from the McMinnville Garden Club, we were able to get our landscaping of the Heritage Center underway. After Rob Stevenson developed a landscape plan, the Pioneer students began planting the native plants. What the students couldn't get done during Pioneer Days, Boy

Scout Tyler Tuckett completed to earn his Eagle Scout badge. An unplanned pruning by wayward sheep at the end of the summer should make the red alder take on a new look next spring.

Gloria Lutz, Landscape Committee

## Eileen Crawley's Passing

Eileen Crawley, longtime member of YCHS, passed away on December 2, 2010.

Eileen worked for Montgomery Wards for 3 years and Oregon Mutual for 20 years, retired for nine years, then worked part time for the City of Amity. Eileen move to Amity in 1961, where she lived out the remaining years of her life.

She was a member of Home Extension Club, Amity Valley Women's Club and past president of Amity Women's Improvement Club. In

addition she volunteered for many years at the Amity Public Library.

Eileen leaves to mourn her passing four daughters, Eileen Lewis of Amity, Connie Hooker of McMinnville, Gerry Bryant of Petaluma, CA and Pauline Schultz of Amity; 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Eileen, thank you for your service to our community. You will be missed.



Eileen Crawley

# Looking in the Educational Rearview Mirror

A flurry of children's activities rocked the Heritage Center this year. Throughout the year, we had approximately 1320 students ranging in age from kindergarten to college visiting the Heritage Center to learn about pioneer life, Yamhill County history and our agricultural history. That is not including all the children that came out during Farm Fest and Harvest Fest to plant and harvest wheat. The education coordinator visited Carlton Schools in the spring and helped the children make an old-fashioned toy that

Phyllis McBride had supplied. McMinnville High School completed an oral history book that was initially sponsored by YCHS. Their teacher, Francesca Morrison, sent a copy of An Interview with History to every high school in the state of Oregon with directions on how they can produce the same kind of book.

With over 100 volunteers through the course of the year, we were able to enrich the lives of many, many youngsters.

Gloria Lutz, Education Coordinator



Pioneer Days



# Secrets of the Past Tour Committee—A Year in Review

In 2010, YCHS saw the creation of our very own "Secrets of the Past" tour committee. Members Karen Sitton-Saxberg, Gloria Lutz, Theresa Berthelsdorf, Tami Spears, Don Hurlless, and the very talented speaker and pianist Kory Knutz got together to create two outstanding tours, "Secrets of the Past: Third Street Unveiled" and "Secrets of the Past: Dayton's Infamous History."

The Third Street Unveiled tour was held on April 17 at the Moonlight Theater inside Third Street Pizza in McMinnville. Kory Knutz presented a Powerpoint slideshow which helped bring to life stories from Tales From the Past written by Jim and Reita Lockett. We had over 40 attendees. After the presentation, Kory took a very eager group of attendees on an unscheduled tour of Third

street. The second tour, held on June 19, found the committee in Dayton, discovering the city's infamous history. Speaker Kory Knutz led a tour group around Dayton that starting at the Blockhouse Café and headed to the pedestrian bridge where the committee had placed photos taken in the same spot in the late 1800's. Kory talked about the history of Yamhill County's ferries and short-lived narrow gauge railroad. The group progressed through town learning about the Fort Yamhill Blockhouse, the Gabriel-Will residence built in 1885, the Smith-Jones residence locally know as "The Ghost House" built in 1859, and many other historical buildings. The tour ended at the Joel Palmer house where a presentation was given about the history of Joel Palmer while the group sipped wine. Chef and owner Christopher

Czarnecki provided the group with his signature culinary delight, mushroom risotto. We had over 25 very happy attendees.

The tour committee is working hard on the 2011 tour schedule. The target is to have six tours planned for January, March, May, July, September, and November. The proposed topics are "Trains, Planes, and Sunken Ferries," "Lafayette and its cures," "One Room Schoolhouses," "The Murder Quilt," Carlton Tour, Yamhill Tour, Sheridan Tour, and possibly a "Graveyard Tour Where History Comes Alive."

If you would like to be added to the tour contact list so the committee can email or call you about upcoming tours, send your contact information to Theresa Berthelsdorf at [theresasky@embarqmail.com](mailto:theresasky@embarqmail.com) or (503) 842-2616.



Dayton's Blockhouse



Mary Jo Capps and Don Hurlless



Gloria Lutz and Theresa Bertelsdorf



Preserving our Past, Enriching our Future

P.O. Box 484  
Lafayette, Oregon 97127

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

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

## 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, 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 Gloria Lutz at 503.472.7563 or email: [glutz@onlinemac.com](mailto:glutz@onlinemac.com)

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