



March 2011

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NOTICE:
March Potluck and
General Meeting

- Date: Sunday, March 13, 2011
- Time: 2:00 pm Potluck, 3:00 pm Program
- Program: History of the Donation Land claim of the Trappist Abbey property by Father Martinus
- Location: 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville

Secrets of the Past:
Lafayette's History and Longtime Curse

1 - 3
SATURDAY
MARCH 26

~ Entry \$7 ~

Come join us at the
Lafayette Community Center
133 SW Adams St.
(Commons Park)



◆ Slideshow ◆ Photo Display ◆ Local historian shares stories from the past ◆ Lafayette Museum Tour

Join a YCHS Email Distribution Group!

Tour Email Distribution Group

The YCHS Tour Committee is putting together an email distribution list for people who are interested in attending the society's "Secrets of the Past" tours and lectures. By joining this group, you will receive Evite invitations and email reminders about the tour committee's upcoming events. Help us stay connected, join the "Secrets of the Past" tour email distribution group today! If you are interested in joining, please email Tami Spears, tamispears123@gmail.com

Newsletter Email Distribution Group

Help save the society printing and mailing costs and join the newsletter email distribution group. By joining this group, you will receive a full color version of our monthly newsletter via the email address you provide. Not only will your version be in full color, your issue will arrive almost a full week before the mailed version would arrive in the post. If you are interested in joining, please email Tami Spears, tamispears123@gmail.com

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President's Letter

Dear Members,

If you missed the general meeting this month you should be aware that the members voted to have our April meeting on the second Sunday at 2:00 pm at the SDAC in McMinnville. I hope to see you there!

Lois Brooks told us that she had a nice visit with Eleanor Mitchell and that she is feeling better. We miss you Eleanor! We also missed Mr. and Mrs. Lester Herring at the meeting. Lester has been recovering from a stroke and his wife had a pace-maker put in a while back. We all hope that they are doing well and that we will see them soon.

We had a very interesting program by Jennifer Sokol Blosser and Tom Catrall who talked about the YCHS Photo Department. They told us about the process they are using to preserve historic photos of Yamhill County and showed the audience many interesting photographs of the area. As usual, the program

committee did a great job in setting up our program! We very much want to thank Chair Joanne Watts, and her fellow committee members, Marge Owens, Nancy Thornton and YCHS Vice-President, Shirley McDaniel for their excellent programs.

In the near future, we hope to have some of our volunteers take classes (either online or in the classroom) on various methods of museum procedures. These volunteers could then instruct other volunteers in these procedures.

My favorite topic lately has been "Heritage Bricks!" We now have \$6,000 in brick donations and, if the trend holds, we should have enough funds in the next few months to proceed with the Flag Pole Project at the Heritage Center. Please keep those orders coming in!

Carolyn Meeker, President
acmeeker@frontier.com
(503) 835-8481

YCHS Book Report

Father Martinus, from the Trappist Abbey, has written several interesting booklets pertaining to our area. His latest, Folklore of the Trappist Abbey Forrest, is a well researched chronicle of the early history of our area. This booklet is on sale at the Historic Lafayette Museum Log Cabin for \$5. Nancy Thornton

COORDINATORS

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Nancy Thornton

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Gloria Lutz

Heritage Center Contact:

Cliff Watts

Lafayette Director:

Marjorie Owens

Membership Coordinator:

Gloria Lutz

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Tami Spears

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Tami Spears

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Jean Sartor

Research Librarian:

Marjorie Owens

Volunteer Coordinator:

VACANT

Website Coordinator:

James Spears



New Members		
<u>SENIOR FAMILY</u> Russell Heater	<u>INDIVIDUAL</u> Sarah Miller	<u>SR./STUDENT/EDUCATOR</u> Linda Witham Dorothy Adams Jeane Reeder
Renewing Members		
<u>SENIOR FAMILY</u> Bonnie Meyer	<u>SR./STUDENT/EDUCATOR</u> Nancy Halford	
<p>Planning a Vacation? Please notify Gloria Lutz (503) 472-7563; 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!!</p>		

Lafayette News

Retired Books Fair

This is the time of year (cold and rainy) when I appreciate a good book to read. How about you? Our “retired books” shelf is overflowing with books. We are also ordering new titles for our regular sales inventory for both adults and children. If you have read a good book that others may enjoy, please share as we always appreciate your recommendations.

Nancy has received a new book from a friend, Michael Payne, Rings of a Forester. It is about the logging industry here in Yamhill County. It will be available soon in our book store.

Spring is just around the corner and so is Farm Fest.



Historic Photo of the Poling Church

Look for our “Retired Books Fair” at the event in April. You might even find us at the next general meeting in March.

Poling Church Update

The Poling Church, which houses our main artifacts collection, is showing its age. At 100+ years there are signs of age: cracks, sags, peeling paint, and structural concerns (not unlike many of us). Our Board of Directors have formed the Poling Church committee to assess the findings of several inspection reports. This committee will make recommendations to the full board as to how to proceed. We will keep you updated on the progress. We hope to keep the historic Lafayette building in good condition for the next 100 years.

Jean Sartor, Publications Chair

Blacksmith Shop News

The YCHS Blacksmith Shop is gearing up to produce several wonderful items to be sold in our gift shop and at society events like our Farm and Harvest Fest. Here are some pictures of items being considered. There will be more items produced as time goes on.

The committee invites you to come watch or help whitewash the new shop on Saturday, March 5, at 9:00 am.

Thank you, Steve Gossett and the blacksmith committee!



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Accession/Preservation

Lafayette:

Ursula Doud

Accessions Heritage Center:

Tony Meeker

Activities and Events:

Tami Spears

Audit:

Matt Dunckel

Blacksmith:

Steve Gossett

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Kim Courtin

Computer:

Tom Catrall

Education:

Gloria Lutz

Farm/Harvest Fest:

Cliff and Pam Watts

Freezer:

Anita Vander Meide

General Meeting Programs:

Joanne Watts

Governance:

Carolyn Meeker

Grant Review:

Kim Courtin

Handmade Holiday:

Phyllis McBride

Landscaping:

Gloria Lutz—Heritage Center

Garry Coats—Lafayette

Newsletter:

Tami Spears

Photographic Project:

Jennifer Sokol Blosser

Property Development:

Cliff and Pam Watts

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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

Tax ID #23-7090047

info@yamhillcountyhistory.org

www.yamhillcountyhistory.org


Yamhill County Historical Society
& Oregon Draft Horse Breeders Association
Presents

Farm Fest 2011 Plowing Competition

April 9, 2011 11 am–3 pm

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center

11275 SW Durham Lane, McMinnville, Oregon
(Intersection of Highway 18 & Durham Lane)

 Experience old-time farming as 18-20 teams of draft horses and mules demonstrate their plowing skills and compete for awards

 *Parade of Teams and Awards 2:00 pm*

PLUS...

 *Sawmill, Blacksmith & Horseshoeing Demonstrations*

 *Tours of Heritage Center Museum*

 *Kids Area with Hands-on Activities*

 *Food, Music & More!*

***\$3 per person,
children 12 and under free***



Come back for the harvest and old-time family fun!
Harvest Fest—August 13 and 14, 2011

March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	3	4 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	5 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3 Whitewash Blacksmith Shop
6	7	8	9 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Board Meeting 4 pm	10	11 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	12 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
13 General Meeting 2—4 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS	14	15	16 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	19 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
20 Spring Begins	21	22	23 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	24	25 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	26 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3 <i>Secrets of the Past Tour 1-3</i>
27	28	29	30 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	31		

Event Locations

- ◆ March 5—Whitewash Blacksmith Shop
Heritage Center
- ◆ March 9—Board Meeting—Lafayette Museum
- ◆ March 13 —General Meeting— 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville
- ◆ March 26—Secrets of the Past: Lafayette's History & Longtime Curse—Lafayette Community Center—133 SW Adams St., Lafayette (Commons Park)

Upcoming Events

- ◆ April 9, 2011—YCHS Farm Fest
- ◆ April 10, 2011—General Meeting—**DATE CHANGE**
- ◆ April 13, 2011—Board Meeting
- ◆ May 10, 2011—General Meeting
- ◆ May 11, 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?

- ◆ More time in a day...
- ◆ Large four drawer, fireproof, lockable file cabinet or a similar sized fireproof safe to be used at the Heritage Center.
- ◆ New faster computer for the Lafayette site.
- ◆ Bookends and book display stands for the Lafayette site.

- ◆ Office supplies—glue sticks, white card stock, paper.
- ◆ Leaf blower for Lafayette site.
- ◆ Six inch black reader board letters for the Heritage Center reader boards.
- ◆ Mobility cart(s) for the Heritage Center.
- ◆ Copy paper for both the Lafayette site and Heritage Center copy machines.
- ◆ Website designer to design a new YCHS website (contact James Spears tjspears@gmail.com)

We greatly appreciate your help!

Contact: Tami Spears (503) 583-2064 or 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



Cold Case File for the Gravestone-lover

I was reading an old obituary for Patrick Joseph Fay, who died at his home about seven miles south of McMinnville. Mr. Fay had died at 104 years old, which was truly amazing in his time. The obituary had been handwritten as October 2, 1935. When I went to find his gravestone at the St. James Cemetery, I was surprised to see that his gravestone had a date of death chiseled in as 1936. But then, one was hand written, while one was cast in stone, so to speak. I decided to check further, just to be sure. I went to Macy's Funeral Home and checked the original documents that were filled out at the time. They have a lot of information,

but the date of death is blank. I went to the Yamhill County Historical Society death records to break the tie. The certificate of death shows the date of death as October 2, 1935. Just like the handwritten record on the obituary. The year cast in stone was WRONG!

My Aunt Theda, who is a major genealogy freak, told me the first thing I needed to know about genealogy research, "Don't believe anything you read unless you recheck it with another source."

Gail Howard, YCHS Gravestone-Lover

Thank You, Jennifer and Tom

I would like to say how much we appreciate Jennifer Sokol Blosser and Tom Cattrall for their hours of work on the photo collection and for the program at the general meeting. We are fortunate to have them donating their time to the society.

Shirley Venhaus

The Settlers' Reunion

YCHS is currently organizing a program to piggyback with the May "Pioneer Days". It will be called the Settlers' Reunion, and will be held on Saturday, June 4, this year.

We are looking for anyone who would like to be included in this program. If you have a skill that you would like to demonstrate, or you have a product from the 1860-1880 time period that you would like to sell, we need you. Quilters, spinners, weavers, silversmiths, blacksmiths,

whittlers, chair bodgers, wheelwrights, seamstresses, embroiderers, potters, and candle makers are some of the things that we would like to see for this program.

If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, contact Phyllis McBride at 503-516-1652 or email at pinokeeo@gmail.com.

Phyllis McBride, Settlers' Reunion Chair

Secrets of the Past a Success!



Karen Sitton-Saxberg

On January 22, 2011...Flash, we had another tour held at the Third Street Pizza in McMinnville. "Trains, Planes & Sunken Ferries"

was the title of the lecture led by Kory Knutz. Approximately 60 people were in attendance. The picture presentation gave the history of the first railroad and its importance to the whole county. There were stories of the ferries and all the mishaps that they had. Information was shared about the first plane and the first car in the county.

In attendance was Gordon Zimmerman, who told a story about his family and the book he has written, *A Song of Yamhill*. He has presented copies to the museum for sale. Thank you, Gordon.

Gary Brooks presented a wonderful display of a railroad yard in Willamina. Thank you, Gary.

On March 26 the tour will be "Lafayette's History and Longtime Curse" which will be held at the Lafayette Community Center. We hope to see you there.

Karen I Sitton-Saxberg, Tour Committee Chair



Don Hurless, Gloria Lutz, and Theresa Berthelsdorf attending the admissions line.



Kory getting ready for the presentation (adjusting the microphone).



Invest in a piece of Yamhill County History

Imagine a new brick pathway inviting visitors to the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center. You, your family, or honored loved ones name can become a part of Yamhill County history.

These engraved Heritage Bricks will be incorporated in various architectural projects, such as walkways, walls, and the base of a flag pole to be erected at the Heritage Center. For a donation of \$100, your brick will be engraved to your specifications and become a permanent part of the Heritage Center, creating an amazing tribute to our ancestors, town fathers, loved ones and Yamhill County families. With your donations, you partner with us in building the future of our society.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

\$100 per Brick

BRICK #1

BRICK #2

Inscription (one character per box—include spaces and punctuation in boxes)

Amount for Bricks \$ _____ Additional Donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to: YCHS
Detach and Mail to: YCHS Attn. Heritage Bricks P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127

Brick Inscriptions

Each brick may be inscribed with up to three lines, and up to 17 spaces on each line.

You may choose the wording you wish.

Typical inscriptions have included...

- ◆ In Memory of (or In Honor of)
- ◆ Family names
- ◆ Past or current business names
- ◆ Historic event
- ◆ Living or past family members

Inscriptions that are deemed inappropriate by the YCHS Property Development Committee will not be allowed.

Tax Deductible

The Yamhill County Historical Society is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, and as such, all donations to the society (including the Heritage Bricks) are tax deductible.



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

Become a Yamhill County Historical Society Member Today!