



May 2011

Volume 43, Issue 5

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Pioneer Days

Yamhill County Historical Society's educational program is gearing up for Pioneer Days. We will have 12 days in May and early June in which over 900 students have signed up to experience history. Students will make candles, learn to play music and have pioneer recess, attend school as it was in 1880, plant a garden and some landscape, learn about the covered wagon and the pioneers who came in it, and watch a blacksmith. Boys will learn about working with wood, and girls will learn to do household chores.

There are about 10 leaders for the activities, and we need about 10 extra volunteers each day. If you would be



interested in helping, please contact Gloria Lutz at (503) 472-7563 or email glutz@onlinemac.com. It is a fun opportunity.

Gloria Lutz, Education Coordinator

NOTICE: May Potluck and General Meeting

- Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2011
- Time: Potluck starts at 6:00 pm and the Program starts at 7:00 pm.
- Program: The Morris Family from Yamhill. Family treasures on display.
- Location: 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville

Vintage Quilt and Button Show

The Hoover-Minthorn House Museum in Newberg is having their annual Mother's Day Vintage Quilt and Button Show. The Yamhill County Historical Society will have several quilts from our collection on display in the show. The show will run through the month of May.

The Hoover-Minthorn House
115 S. River St.,
Newberg, OR, 97132
(503) 538-6629

Hours:

Wednesday through Sunday, 1—4 pm

Jean Sartor



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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503-835-8481

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503-662-3528

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Shirley Venhaus
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Volunteer Coordinator:

VACANT

Website Coordinator:

James Spears

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Carol Reid
(503) 472-9631

President's Letter

Dear YCHS Members,

We have had a very busy April so far this month! Farm Fest was held at the Heritage Center on April 9 and was a smashing success this year thanks to our many hard working volunteers. This year we had advance publicity about the event due to the PR work of Pam Watts and others, which resulted in a nice article in the *Oregonian* and two very fine articles that appeared in the *News Register*.

Karl Klooster wrote an article for the *News Register* that was very helpful in advancing our Heritage Brick Program. This program will fund the Flag Monument at the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center and other work at the site after that project is completed. Since I described this monument in the last two President's Letters, I will not do so at this time. I would like to say a

big "thank you" to Karl for helping us out by writing the article in the *News Register*. In the week after the article appeared, we had eleven brick donations come in. This week we had nine more brick donations bringing our total to \$12,250. On behalf of the Yamhill County Historical Society, I want to thank Karl Klooster, the *News Register*, the *Oregonian*, and the people of Yamhill County for their support of this project.

On a sad note, long time YCHS member and former president of the society, Maxine Williams has recently passed away. She had many friends in the society and will be missed.

Carolyn Meeker, President
acmeeker@frontier.com
(503) 835-8481
Submitted: April 15, 2011

YCHS Book Report

Jump Off Creek by Molly Glass is a well-researched novel of a woman's efforts to establish a land claim in the Blue Mountains of Oregon. \$12.95 at the Log Cabin.

Nancy Thornton



Welcome and Thank You!

New Members

SENIOR FAMILY

Mark & Donna Hinds

SR./STUDENT/EDUCATOR

Tresa M. Matlack

John Burdan

Bernice M. Owen

INDIVIDUAL

Rosemary Moore

William Seely

Lara Fritz

FAMILY

Wes & Peggy Hoagland

Doug & Shane Fritz

FRIEND

Blake Matlack

SUPPORTER

Waldo Farnham

Renewing Members

SUPPORTER

John & Nancy Nyberg

INDIVIDUAL

Don Porter

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!!

Board Meeting Recap ~ April 13, 2011

The following recap is a condensed version of not yet approved minutes from the board meeting.

First Order of Business: Katie Allwander was “sworn in” and welcomed as a new board member to complete the term of Phyllis McBride.
Committee Reports: All committee reports are filed in the record book with the minutes in the Lafayette Log Cabin.

- ♦ Poling Church—Karen Sitton-Saxberg discussed the main issues of the church. The items in the annex will need to be removed and stored before the annex can be removed and replaced. The committee recommended that this needs to be done as soon as possible. A specific plan will be made with costs and drawings so work can be done.
- ♦ Pioneer Cemetery—The committee recommends that boundaries need to be clearly established and action be taken to clean up the cemetery before the middle of May. Kory Knutz will get started on the clean up, and Matt Dunckel will check on

neighbors and plot lines.

- ♦ Activities and Events Committee – The Settlers’ Reunion Event has been postponed until 2012 due to unforeseen events.

Treasurer’s Report: Kim provided her financial report and gave an in-depth report on the YCHS depreciation figures.

Unfinished Business:

- ♦ Information has been sent to Cascadia for a grant request to be written by them.
- ♦ The annual survey of conflict of interest for board members was renewed.
- ♦ An amendment to the Accessions/Management Policy about short-term loans is under review.
- ♦ Property development bids for the automatic door opener for the Heritage Center were reviewed.

Respectfully submitted, Shirley McDaniel, acting secretary

The Book Corner

Books that escaped the Treasures in the Attic sale are available for purchase at the Lafayette Research Library. Most book prices range between \$5 and \$20; some have a higher suggested price.

Listed here are but a few of a wide variety of books covering many topics for old and young alike! You are invited to browse and perhaps make a find.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT’S LETTERS TO HIS CHILDREN

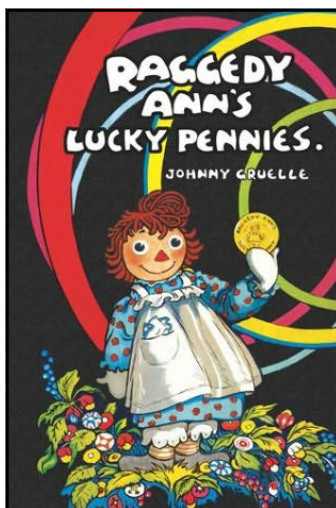
Illustrated; topics are wide-ranging from the Spanish War to guinea pigs.

FISHING THE OREGON COUNTRY by Francis H. Ames (1966)

Hardcover, 324 pages.

NORTHWEST DISCOVERIES by Marilyn McFarlane, Travel Writer
Paperback.

RAGGEDY ANN’S LUCKY PENNIES by Johnny Gruelle (1932) Beautiful illustrations .



PLANTS AND ANIMALS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST by Eugene N. Kozloff (1978)

SIR TOADY LION

by S. R. Crockett (1897)
Illustrated stories for Old Boys, Young Boys, Good Boys, Bad Boys, Little Boys, Big Boys, Cowboys and Tom Boys.

FOOTPRINTS OF FOUR CENTURIES or THE STORY of the AMERICAN PEOPLE by Hamilton W. Mabie (1895)
Hardcover, illustrated.
Suggested price: \$69

RED GAUNTLET by Thackeray (1901)

THE WITCH’S HEAD

by H. Rider Haggard (early U.S. edition, circa 1900-1920)
Fantasy about the evil influence of an African witch’s head.
Hardcover, spine cracked.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Accession/Preservation Lafayette:

Ursula Doud

Accessions Heritage Center:

Tony Meeker

Activities and Events:

Tami Spears

Audit:

Matt Dunckel

Blacksmith:

Steve Gossett

Budget:

Kim Courtin

Computer:

Tom Cattrall

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

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



Duane Van Dyke and award

Farm Fest Plowing Competition a Great Success!

Over 1400 people visited the Heritage Center on April 9 for the annual Farm Fest event, which showcased 16 teams of draft horses and mules in a plowing competition. Oregon Draft Horse Breeders Association members brought Shires, Clydesdales, Belgians and other large horses and mules to plow the ground. Duane Van Dyke, coordinator of the plowing competition, won the Supreme Plowperson award with his Shires. In addition to the plowing, demonstrations occurred throughout the day in horseshoeing and in the blacksmith shop and sawmill. Guests viewed displays by the Historical Society and Genealogy Society, asked questions and learned more about organization offerings and activities. Kids enjoyed participating in activities, and great food was offered by the Farm Fest food committee and Boy Scout Troop 260. Thanks to all who helped with planning and helping the day of Farm Fest, and thanks to Joe V. with "On the Go with Joe" (the early morning show on Channel 12) for helping promote the event! Stay tuned for plans for Harvest Fest 2011 on August 13 and 14!



Mrs. Fay and Longhorn



Duane Van Dyke and Nick and Nellie



Horseshoer

What was Sheridan like in 1894?



Main Street, Sheridan, Oregon 1885

Sheridan, Oregon—Sheridan is located in Yamhill County, within one and one-half miles of the northern boundary line of Polk County. It is reached by a spur of the narrow-gauge system of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company.

This spur connects with the main line of the narrow-gauge system running from Portland to Airlie at Sheridan Junction, seven miles distant from Sheridan. A mixed passenger and freight train makes one round trip between Portland and Sheridan daily. In addition to the mains of communication afforded Sheridan by rail, a daily stage line, carrying both mail and passengers, runs from Sheridan to McMinnville, the seat of Yamhill County and 14 miles distant from the former town.

Sheridan is incorporated and contains a present

population of 400. The Yamhill River, which is not navigable to Sheridan, divides the town. A wooden bridge spans the stream connecting the main street of the town on either side of the river. The usual mercantile lines of business are represented at Sheridan by a number of small stores which seem to be well patronized. A flouring mill with a daily capacity of 100 barrels is located at this point. The section of country immediately tributary to Sheridan is fertile and the farmers are prosperous.

A good public school system is maintained at Sheridan. The school is presided over by a principal and two assistants and the average attendance is about 100 scholars. Three church denominations worship in buildings of their own. These are the Methodist, Baptist and Congregational. The town supports one weekly paper, *The Sun*, has one bank, two hotels, and two well stocked livery stables.

The Oregonian's Handbook of the Pacific Northwest, c. 1894

May 2011 - Pioneer Days

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Holocaust Remembrance Day	2	3	4 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	5	6 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	7 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
8 Mother's Day	9	10 General Meeting 6-8	11 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Board Meeting 4 pm	12	13 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	14 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
15	16	17	18 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	19	20 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	21 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
22	23	24	25 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	26	27 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	28 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
29	30 Memorial Day	31				

Event Locations

- ♦ May 10, 2011—General Meeting—7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville
- ♦ May 11, 2011—Board Meeting—Lafayette Museum
- ♦ May —Pioneer Days—Yamhill Valley Heritage Center

Upcoming Events

- ♦ June 4, 2011—Board Meeting
- ♦ July 3, 2011—Ice Cream Social
- ♦ July 13, 2011—Board Meeting
- ♦ July 23, 2011—Dragging the Gut Festival
- ♦ August 10, 2011—Board Meeting
- ♦ August 13—14, 2011—Harvest Fest
- ♦ September 13, 2011—General Meeting
- ♦ September 14, 2011—Board Meeting
- ♦ September 17, 2011—Treasures in the Attic

Ice Cream Social - You're Invited!

You're Invited!

Step back in time to 1853 and join the fun Sunday, July 3, 2011, as we celebrate the establishment of Yamhill County with an Ice Cream Social and picnic. The Yamhill Valley Heritage Center (Hwy 18 and Durham Lane) will be the site of this family extravaganza held from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Period costumes optional.

Bring your family picnic and enjoy free birthday cake honoring Yamhill County's 158th anniversary. Admission is \$1.00 per person for non-YCHS members (don't forget your membership cards.) Event and ice cream tickets are \$0.50 each with some requiring multiple tickets.

Planned events include:

- ♦ Athletic games for kids and adults with prizes for the winners
 - ~ three-leg races of teams consisting of one adult and one kid
 - ~ gunny sack races for kids
 - ~ tug-o-war for both age groups
 - ~ horseshoe pitch
 - ~ and much more.
- ♦ A game and puzzle area for the non-athletic
- ♦ Pie-eating contest
- ♦ Cake walk for adults, cupcake walk for kids
- ♦ Picnic basket auction (not all will include a picnic lunch)
- ♦ Pie auction - bring your best homemade pie

- ♦ Music - don't forget your instruments for a jam session and sing-a-long
- ♦ Tour the museum site

Volunteers to help with these events are greatly appreciated as well as donations for the cupcake and cake walks. Don't forget your best pies for the auction. Auction proceeds will be used for future events and operating expenses of the Historical Society. Please let us know if you can help. Contact Katie Allwander (503) 516-0547 or gammykatie@gmail.com or JoAnne Watts (503) 474-7168.

Katie Allwander, Committee Chair

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

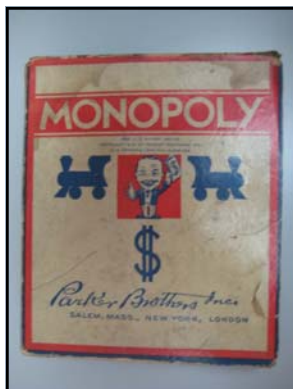
Yamhill Valley Heritage Center

11275 SW Durham Ln.
McMinnville, OR 97128

Hours:

Saturday 10—3

Games I Played In My Youth



Our sympathies go out to Ken and Pat Williams for the loss of their son and Carolyn and Tony meeker for the loss of their niece.

NOTICE:
Settlers' Reunion Postponed

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Settlers' Reunion event will not take place this year. Stay tuned for future updates on this important event. We anticipate that by next year, it will be in full swing.

Phyllis McBride,
 Settlers' Reunion Chair

Since I was born in November 1936, most of my carefree play time was during the 1940s.

In winter we would roller skate in the basement and even ride smaller tricycles. We had to detour around the coal bin and be careful if Mom had clothes drying on the clotheslines, but it was a warm, dry place to be. At one time we had a sand box down there. Papa had brought home a magnet, and I enjoyed dragging it though the sand collecting metal "whiskers" on it. There was also a large carton of old clothes, curtains and hats that we found limitless ways to play "dress-up".

The board games that I remember were checkers, Monopoly, and Chinese checkers. If we were sick enough to miss school, mom insisted that we were bed fast. We thought it was a special treat if papa was home so he could sit on the bed and play checkers with us.

Grandma and Grandpa often played cards with us—Crazy 8, Hearts, Canasta and Rummy. The loser had to put the card table away.

When the weather was good, we played outside. We had a slide, a teeter totter, a play house, and a merry-go-round in the back yard that Papa had made for us. We played lots of cowgirl games—shooting caps guns, looking for "bad guys" and exploring.

There was a gully east of our house. It was a place to pretend, take sack lunches, play in the creek and in winter to go sledding.

There were more boys than girls on our street. They played football—with the street for their play area. Their games were rowdy. Though we watched them, we stayed out of the way.

We rode our bikes everywhere. Papa made us a "scooter." It was a T-shape with the top bar able to pivot and the long side wide enough to lie

on. The wheels were three double wheels from old roller skates. One rode it like they would a sled, and the wheels would clatter as we rolled over the cracks in the sidewalk.

We had home made wooden guns that shot inner tube strips for ammunition.

Summer evenings were hot, and houses didn't have air conditioning. We often played outside after dark. Some of our games were "Statue"—where we twirled a person round and round by holding on to their arm. We would let them go to see how they would land. "Blind Man's Bluff" is a game to try to identify who you caught in the dark. "No Bears are Out to Night" is a version of hide and seek where the bear hides in the dark and you attempt to get past him and back to the same designated place.

We had many calmer games—hop scotch, jacks, skip the rope, Mother May I and Simon Says.

When we got tired, we'd just lay on the warm pavement or in the back yard and watch the stars. There were few yard lights to interfere with our view. Except for occasional searchlight penduluming across the sky, we could watch for shooting stars and contemplate the heavens.

Since Toni was close to my age, we played together most of the time. We weren't afraid to go anywhere in the neighborhood in the dark. Our parents knew that we were "around." We weren't watched like kids are today. As long as we were in hearing distance and came when they hollered out the door that it was meal time or bedtime, we could go where we wanted.

Nancy Thornton

Dear Ancestor

<p>DEAR ANCESTOR</p> <p>Your tombstone stands among the rest; Neglected and alone. The name and date are chiseled out On polished, marbled stone. It reaches out to all who care It is too late to mourn. You did not know that I'd exist You died and I was born.</p>	<p>Yet each of us are cells of you In flesh, in blood, in bone. Our blood contracts and beats a pulse Entirely not our own. Dear Ancestor, the place you filled One Hundred years ago Spreads out among the ones you left Who would have loved you so. I wonder if you lived and loved</p>
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I wonder if you knew
 That someday I would find this
 spot,
 And come to visit you.

Author Unknown
 Source: Genealogy Poetry and
 Prose

Gail Howard, YCHS Gravestone-lover



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)



Brick Inscriptions

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

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.

Amount for Bricks

\$ _____

Additional Donation

\$ _____

Total Enclosed

\$ _____

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



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 #103
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

Become a Yamhill County Historical Society Member Today!