



November 2011

Volume 43, Issue 10

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## St. Anthony's Chapel Car 1907-1919

At the turn of the century there were very few Catholic families in the neighborhood of Yamhill. The nearest church was St. James in McMinnville, Oregon, eleven miles away.

Apparently along about this time the main roadway to McMinnville was graveled, but most of the roads into the countryside were just dirt roads with occasional gravel in the worst spots, and now and then some "corduroy." Horseback riding was the easiest means of travel but families had to get about in a hack or wagon pulled by a team of horses. This was not too bad in the summer

months, but next to impossible during the rainy season.

Hence most families could not attend Mass although some tried to take care of the baptisms. Some living closer to

girls and go with their family to Mass on Sunday. They would go in a wagon, take along their lunch, eat over there and come home in the afternoon.

In 1907 the Catholic Extension Society dedicated its first Chapel Car—St. Anthony's. The railroads hauled the chapel car for free as it traveled through the West as a "church on wheels." St. Anthony's was an old Pullman railroad car reconstructed on the inside, capable of seating about sixty people; contained an altar and back of the altar was a little combined library and sitting room, and two of the usual berths. Further back was a small kitchen. This Chapel



town and the graveled road did occasionally during nice weather get to St. James to Mass. Mrs. Mikkelson (nee Margarita Barnes) remembers that she would sometimes stay overnight with the Brentano

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**NOTICE:**  
**DECEMBER ANNUAL**  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
and Potluck

- Date: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2011
- 2:00 pm: Potluck
- 3:00 pm: Program
- Purpose: Election of YCHS Board Members
- Location: 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville

## A Real Ghost—Amity Popcorn 1892

*Few people in this day and age of the world believe in real ghosts, but facts are convincing. Last Wednesday evening while driving by moonlight from Sheridan to Amity, our horse suddenly stopped and seemed to be frightened at an object which presented itself in the middle of the road and all the urging, coaxing, yelling and scolding that could be brought to bear proved*

*of no avail, more thoroughly convincing us of the presence of a real ghost. After being held at bay for some time and finding we had to talk ghost talk or camp, we sprung from the buggy with a Popgun and furiously battled in the air with the ghost which had by this time seemed to grow ten times its original size. We floored the monster and made our escape leaving the ghost lying in*

*the road helpless. If anyone wishes to see the ghost they will have to look through a dangerous hole in the culvert about one mile east of M.S. Chapin's place where someone is very likely to have serious trouble unless that roadmaster gets around soon and does some repairing.*

Amity Popcorn, October 7, 1892

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

Carolyn Meeker  
503-835-8481

**Vice President**

Shirley McDaniel  
503-662-3528

**Secretary**

Theresa Berthelsdorf  
503-843-2616

**Treasurer**

Kim Courtin  
503-864-4525

**DIRECTORS**

Cynthia Christensen

Matt Dunckel

Kory Knutz

Steve Leonard

Jo McIntyre

Karen Sitton-Saxberg

Tami Spears

Shirley Venhaus

Bob Vertregt

**COORDINATORS****Corresponding Secretary:**

*Nancy Thornton*

**Education Coordinator:**

*Gloria Lutz*

**Heritage Center Contact:**

*Cliff Watts*

**Lafayette Director:**

*Marjorie Owens*

**Membership Coordinator:**

*Carlene Kadell*

**Merchandising Coordinator:**

*Tami Spears*

**Newsletter Editor:**

*Tami Spears*

**Publications Coordinator:**

*Jean Sartor*

**Research Librarian:**

*Marjorie Owens*

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

**VACANT**

**Website Coordinator:**

*James Spears*

**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

*Carol Reid, President*  
(503) 472-9631

## President's Letter

Dear YCHS Members,

I would like to welcome all of our new and renewing members and thank you for your support of the Yamhill County Historical Society. For those who are new to the Society, we have two museum sites, one consisting of the Miller Museum and the historic Polling Church located in Lafayette and the other (our new museum, the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center) located just south of McMinnville on Hwy 18 at Durham Lane.

If you have not yet renewed your membership, you will find a membership form in this publication and we urge you to renew your membership as soon as possible. We value your support and, in fact, could not function without your continued membership.

It is election time again and you will find brief profiles in this newsletter of the candidates who the Nominating Committee has put forward for the four open seats on the YCHS Board of Directors. Our bylaws state that each candidate is to be elected for one three year term and may be elected for one successive term of another three years.

Ballots will be mailed out by November 1<sup>st</sup> to all YCHS members and the ballots must be returned, **BY MAIL**, no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Our bylaws require that the ballots **MUST** be returned by mail and arrive no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>. Of course, that means that

they may not be hand delivered.

As members, you may discount all or any of the candidates put forward by the Nominating Committee by writing in another name of your choice. There will be complete instructions included with your ballot as well as a preaddressed envelope for the return of the ballot. The returned ballots will go to the office address of the Society's attorney.

The new Directors will be announced at the **Annual Meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup>** at the **Seventh Day Adventist Church in McMinnville at 2:00pm.**

I would like to give a special "thanks" to the members of the Nominating Committee for their work. The committee was chaired by board member Steve Leonard and the other members were board member (and Vice-President) Shirley McDaniel and Jean Sartor.

Remember, we are still promoting the Heritage Brick program and there is still room to get your brick placed on the base of our new Flag Monument!

Carolyn Meeker

YCHS President

Phone: (503) 835-8481

Email: [acmeeker@frontier.com](mailto:acmeeker@frontier.com)

*Submitted: October 14, 2011*

## Funny But True Epitaphs

To celebrate Halloween, here are some funny actual epitaphs found around the world:

London, England Cemetery:

*Ann Mann*

*Here lies Ann Mann,*

*Who lived an old maid*

*But died an old Mann.*

*December 8, 1767*

East Dalhousie Cemetery,

Nova Scotia:

*Here lies Ezekial Aikle*

*Age 102*

*The Good Die Young.*

Ruidoso, New Mexico Cemetery:

*Here lies Johnny Yeast*

*Pardon me for not rising.*

Uniontown, Pennsylvania:

*Here lies the body*

*of Jonathan Blake*

*Stepped on the gas*

*instead of the brake.*

Hartscombe, England:

*On the 22nd of June*

*- Jonathan Fiddle -*

*Went out of tune.*

Enosburg Falls, Vermont:

*Here lies the body of our Anna*

*Done to death by a banana*  
*It wasn't the fruit that laid her low*  
*But the skin of the thing that*  
*made her go.*

Nantucket, Massachusetts:

*Under the sod and under the trees*

*Lies the body of Jonathan Pease.*

*He is not here, there's only the pod:*

*Pease shelled out and went to God.*

Sliver City, Nevada:

*Here lays Butch,*

*We planted him raw.*

*He was quick on the trigger,*

*But slow on the draw.*

Have a Happy Halloween!

# Board Meeting Recap ~ October 12, 2011

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

All approved board meeting minutes will be filed at the Lafayette Miller Museum.

**Committee Reports:** All committee reports will be filed in the record book with the minutes.

- ♦ **Lafayette Site Committee**—Cynthia Christensen reported that DeMoss will re-assess and re-bid for work on the gutters, roof and trees. The stairway to the back of the Poling church has been removed for safety and lattice was put up to block the entrance. The committee is reviewing other repairs needed for the church and log cabin.
- ♦ **Photo Committee**—Tom Cattrall reported that the committee is working with the McMinnville City Library and the Friends of the City Library on a potential book about McMinnville.
- ♦ **Computer Committee**—Tom Cattrall reported that classes on the Past Perfect computer program the society uses will start in November or December. Those who would like to learn our computer system are encouraged to contact Tom and sign up for a class.
- ♦ **Activities and Events Committee**—Tami Compton-Spears reported that the

committee has developed hourly rental fees for the Activities building at the Heritage Center. The committee added the following statement to the A&E policy and procedure: All private events and vendor contact information is the property of the YCHS. All contact information will be stored with the A&E information at the Lafayette site and must be filed within 30 days of the event.

- ♦ **Heritage Center Accessions and Restoration Committee**—The Heritage Center Restoration and Accessions committees have now been combined into one committee.

**President’s Report:** An artist would like to loan the YCHS a horse sculpture. Further research is needed on the cost of moving the donated school house to the Heritage Center site.

**Unfinished Business:** A policy was approved on criminal background checks on board members.

*Respectfully submitted, Jo McIntyre, Secretary pro tem*

## Joe Meek’s Pumpkin Soup



This recipe is a modern adaptation of the early one that called for “a piece of pumpkin the size of your two hands.”

Heat a quart of milk with 3 cups of cooked mashed pumpkin, a tablespoon of sweet basil, 1/4 cup of minced onions, 2 tablespoons of butter, and salt and pepper to taste. Cook in a double boiler for a half hour, strain, and serve, garnished with croutons. Serves 6 to 8.

- |                              |                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 quart milk                 | 1 tablespoon sweet basil |
| 3 cups cooked mashed pumpkin | 1/4 cup minced onions    |
| 2 tablespoons butter         | Salt and pepper          |

When Dr. McLoughlin wrote his London headquarters that the pumpkin seed he had requested had not arrived, he was burning, and not because he craved pumpkin pie! He wanted the crop for pig food. The seeds apparently came shortly after, for many early pioneers, including the famous trail blazer Joe Meek, were soon eating pumpkin in their nutritious stews. Another early pumpkin incident apparently caused another slow burn. Joe Meek, who was to provision a pack trip, did so with nothing but a couple of pumpkins. His companions weren’t amused. Whether or not the pumpkin was made into soup, history does not relate.

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Accession/Preservation Lafayette:**

*Ursula Doud*

**Accessions/Restoration Heritage Center:**

*Tony Meeker & Cliff Watts*

**Activities and Events:**

*Tami Spears*

**Audit:**

*Matt Dunkel*

**Blacksmith:**

*Steve Gossett*

**Budget:**

*Kim Courtin*

**Computer:**

*Tom Cattrall*

**Farm/Harvest Fest:**

*Cliff and Pam Watts*

**Freezer:**

VACANT

**General Meeting Programs:**

*Joanne Watts*

**Governance:**

*Carolyn Meeker*

**Grant Review:**

*Kim Courtin*

**Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery:**

*Joanne Watts*

**Lafayette Site Committee:**

*Cynthia Christensen*

**Landscaping:**

*Gloria Lutz—Heritage Center*

*Garry Coats—Lafayette*

**Miller Museum:**

*Marjorie Owens*

**Newsletter:**

*Tami Spears*

**Parade Outreach:**

*Rebecca Riggs*

**Photographic Project:**

*Jennifer Sokol Blosser*

**Property Development:**

*Cliff and Pam Watts*

**Publications/Gift Shop:**

*Jean Sartor*

**Sawmill:**

*Don King*

**Secrets of the Past Tours:**

*Karen Sitton-Saxberg*

**Steam Equipment:**

*Vern Yeager*

**Treasures in the Attic:**

*Shirley Venhaus*

## St. Anthony's Chapel Car Continued..

Car was sent out under George Hennessey as Superintendent, and eventually came to Oregon.

This excerpt from the "Personal Notes on St. Anthony's Chapel Car (in 1910)" written by Harriet D. Munnick, gives us a child's reaction:

*"I was about twelve years old, my chum Joanna a little younger, when the St. Anthony's Chapel Car came to Oswego for a week or so. Joanna coaxed me to attend an evening service along with her older sister and brothers.*

*The cart looked like an ordinary passenger coach and had been shunted onto a siding at the north edge of town. Inside, however, it looked more like a long, thin church. An altar had been built across the front end, the seats remained as they had always been except for the addition of little kneeling benches between. Decoration was at a minimum, yet in spite of the ordinary car aspect, the atmosphere, even to a Protestant child, was other-worldly. Train coaches*

*were no novelty to us, but a moving church was something else. A church crossing bridges bodily, dashing through forests along with the birds that kept pace with it, and lighting like a bird was well, at a little village among the wheat fields was a new concept. There was something medieval about it that appealed tremendously to the imagination."*

In 1909 or possibly not until 1910 the St. Anthony's Chapel Car came to Yamhill for services, and at last the Catholic families could go to Mass. Emanuel Linke remembers attending Mass in the Chapel Car as the first Mass he had ever attended. He remembers attending several masses after the first one. Also Margurita Mikkelson, nee Barnes, remembers attending Mass in the Chapel Car, but she doesn't remember that it came "too often." She remembers her mother giving her a nickel on Sunday to put in the collection. A goodly sum for a child in those days! The Rev. H.J. McDevitt was the priest

in charge of St. Anthony's Chapel Car at the time.

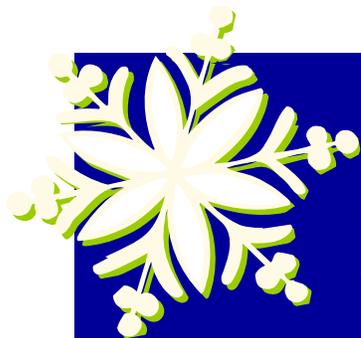
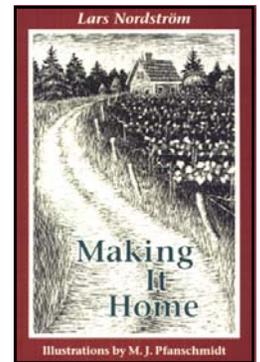
*From The History of St. John's Parrish—Yamhill, Oregon*

### Catholic Church Extension Society, St. Anthony

The dedication of the first Catholic Church Extension Society chapel car, St. Anthony, occurred on June 16, 1907. It was a wooden 1886 Wagoner car, reconditioned by Pullman Company vice president Richmond Dean. St. Anthony's work in Oregon resulted in forty-three missions in the Archdiocese of Portland and forty-one in the Diocese of Baker. It had seen the completion of eleven churches in the archdiocese and nine in the Baker diocese, with several others under construction.

## YCHS Book Report

***Making It Home*** by Lars Nordstrom is an entertaining blend of bucolic life, biography, organic farming and poetry. Each chapter is complemented with an interesting wood print. Available at the Log Cabin for \$15. Nancy Thornton



# Second Annual Handmade Holiday Bazaar

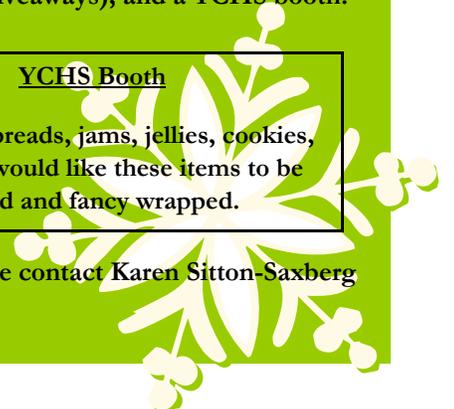
It's time to start thinking about our annual Handmade Holiday event, to be held December 3-4, 2011.

We will be having our annual Silent Auction, the hourly Santa's Walk (hourly giveaways), and a YCHS booth.

The committee would like to ask for the following donations:

<u>Silent Auction</u>	<u>Santa's Walk</u>	<u>YCHS Booth</u>
- Items and/or baskets of items to be auctioned at the event.	- Hourly giveaway items. Small items for all ages.	- Candles, breads, jams, jellies, cookies, etc... We would like these items to be boxed and fancy wrapped.

We will also be needing a few volunteers, so if you would like to sign up, please contact Karen Sitton-Saxberg DH2kissit@onlinemac.com (503) 434-2189 or Kathy Burden kerb1941@aol.com.



# November 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
6 	7	8	9 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Board Meeting 4pm	10	11 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 VETERANS DAY	12 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
13 General Meeting 2-4	14 Columbus Day	15	16 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	17	18 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	19 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
20	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
27	28	29	30 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4			

### Event Locations

- ◆ November 9, 2011—  
Board Meeting—  
Lafayette Miller Museum
- ◆ November 13, 2011—  
General Meeting—7th  
Day Adventist, 1500  
Old Sheridan Road,  
McMinnville

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ December 3, 4—YCHS  
Handmade Holiday  
Bazaar
- ◆ December 11—  
**ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**
- ◆ December 14—Board  
Meeting

### NOTICE: November Potluck and General Meeting

- **Date:** Sunday, November 13, 2011
- **2:00 pm:** Potluck
- **3:00 pm:** Program
- **Program:** A Salute to our Veterans
- **Location:** 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville

## *This Morning's Walk*

I noticed the soft new grass that's sprouted since our rains;  
Detoured to throw in a burn pile;  
Picked a bouquet of gladiolas;  
Kicked a puff ball;  
Shook apples from a tree;  
Admired delicate Queen's Anne's Lace'  
Became aware that the sun now rises south of Muffin Mountain;  
Paused to admire the cascades in the creek;  
Turned my nose up at a banana slug;  
Scrubbed my boots in dewy grass;  
And retrieved the morning paper.

I am blessed to live in Moores Valley.

Nancy Thornton

### 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

## 2011 YCHS Board Candidate Biographies

*In December, the YCHS will be having our annual election of board members. There are four positions open on the Board of Directors. The following four candidates have been nominate by the YCHS Nomination Committee.*



*Kim Courtin*

### Kim Courtin

Kim is serving her second term as the YCHS treasurer and first term on the board and served previously as secretary for the Society. Kim is a bookkeeper for a large international company and is working on a BS degree. She is also involved in several other community organizations and concerns.



*Carolyn Meeker*

### Carolyn Meeker

I am serving my first term of three years on the YCHS Board of Directors. I have served as president from 2010 to the present. Previously, I served on the Oregon State Arts Commission for six years serving two terms as chair. I have also served as honorary chair for the county United Way campaign, county chair for Mother's March Against Birth Defects, and served on the board of Lutheran Family Services. I hold a BA in Fine Arts from Linfield College. My husband was born in Yamhill County and I have made my home here since 1965 except for six years living in New York. It would be an honor and a privilege to serve a second term on the YCHS Board of Directors and I would appreciate your vote.



*Karen Sitton-Saxberg*

### Karen Sitton-Saxberg

My name is Karen I Sitton-Saxberg, and I am a descendent of the first wagon train of Sitton's from the 1840's. A gardener by love, a farmer by trait. My love of history comes from my grandmother Roma Sitton. I am a museum volunteer at the Lafayette site, A&E committee, Pioneer Cemetery, Tour Committee Chair. Business of hair as a job for over 40 years, and owner for 25 years. I have been on the YCHS board of directors for the past three years and would love to continue.



*Cliff Watts*

### Cliff Watts

Cliff is an active YCHS member at the Heritage Center location and involved as Chairman of Farm and Harvest Fest, Property Development, Accessions & Restoration committees, as well as a member of the Oversight Team and Activities & Events Committee. He is also active in displays, maintenance and tours at the Heritage Center. Cliff has been a resident of Yamhill County since 1965, and he and his wife Pam have been involved in the community for many years. With the help of Cliff's parents Glen & Joanne Watts and their daughter, Janelle, her husband Ian, and granddaughter Isla (who live in Spokane), the whole family contributes to the success of the annual Harvest Fest celebration.



# 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' names 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 now 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**


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

**BRICK #2**




### 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 Carlene Kadell (503) 474-0480 or email: [amity1956@yahoo.com](mailto:amity1956@yahoo.com)

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