



May 2012

Volume 44, Issue 5

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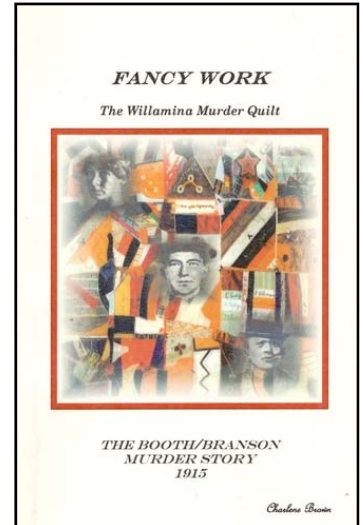
## Making a Murder Quilt Replica

It was the talk of the West Valley. A steamy tawdry love triangle with an unusual ending for all involved. Charlene Brown has written a fascinating book on the Booth/Branson murder story which took place in 1915 in Willamina.

The lovers' trial was held in McMinnville. Interest ran high and several Willamina ladies attended the trial. They brought along their "fancy work". The result was a crazy quilt 60x80 of 20 blocks embroidered with

names of witnesses and townsfolk. It was auctioned off to raise money for the legal fees. The quilt is housed at the Oregon Historical Society. Several quilt makers have expressed an interest in reproducing the murder quilt.

For more information, read the book Fancy Work. Stay tuned for updates on the progress of the reproduction of the quilt. Call Shirley Venhaus (503) 434-0567.



### NOTICE: May Potluck and General Meeting

- Date: Tuesday, May 8, 2012
- Time: 6:00 pm Potluck, 7:00 pm Program
- Program: Buchanan Cellars
- Location: 7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd, McMinnville

## Lydia's Cabin

Have you read Molly Gross's book The Jump-Off Creek? This novel was chosen by a committee from McMinnville for this year's Mac Reads. It is a story of a very independent woman (Lydia) from Pennsylvania who rode a train to La Grand, Oregon in the 1890s. She bought some acreage and a cabin in the wilderness. It tells of how she lived. The historical society was asked to participate. We chose to build her cabin. Led by Cliff Watts,

Tony Meeker, Matt Dunkel, and Mel Kelchner built Lydia's cabin in the Heritage Center's Activities Building. It is made from lumber milled at our sawmill. It is complete with a dirt floor and rats. During Farm Fest, Alic Darnton, a reference librarian at McMinnville Public Library, played the part of Lydia and answered questions. We will have the cabin up at least through Harvest Fest in August. Come see it!



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

## President's Letter

Dear Members,

The general consensus of the folks I talked to at Farm Fest was that it was the best event yet! We had a record crowd of over 1,500 people (this is an estimate because the official count has not been released at this time) and the weather cooperated with a sunny day and almost no wind.

Many of our volunteers were dressed in period costume for the event which fit right in with our antique wagons, quilts, and other artifacts. The plowing contests with the mules and draft horses were popular with the attendees as was the chili, hotdogs, hamburgers, and other good food served up by volunteers Mel Kelchner, his wife, and daughter Samantha.

Another hit with the kids who came to Farm Fest was Amelia. Amelia is a small goose, but not just any goose. She is a six year old Brown China Goose. While most geese are not known for their gentle temperaments and good manners, Amelia exhibits both a tender nature and a remarkable sense of decorum. Amelia happens to adore people! Her owner, or perhaps I should say companion, is YCHS Board Director Cynthia Christensen. Cynthia takes Amelia to various YCHS events where people of all ages enjoy the opportunity to pet

the obliging fowl. Cynthia even credits Amelia with saving a young gosling (not her own) from drowning. I am told that when Amelia is not working the crowd at YCHS events she spends her time grazing in Cynthia's chestnut orchard. You may find the feathered heroine hanging out at the Heritage Center during our upcoming Pioneer Days in May.

We need 28 more Heritage Brick donations to be able to complete the next section on the base of the Flag Monument. We hope to have this section installed before Harvest Fest which will be on August 18th and 19th this year. If you wish to make a donation of a Heritage Brick there is a form to fill out which can be found at the Lafayette Museum.

A big thank you to all of our volunteers, and especially to the Farm Fest Committee, and Pam and Cliff Watts for making the event such a success this year. Mrs. Barbara Kauer was one of the people who came out for the fun and said she thought it was even better than last year.

Carolyn Meeker  
YCHS President  
Phone: (503) 835-8481  
Email: [acmeeker@frontier.com](mailto:acmeeker@frontier.com)  
*Submitted: April 15, 2012*

## YCHS Sawmill OPEN!

***NOW OPEN second Saturdays from 10am to 3pm.***

In addition to sawmill demonstrations during Farm Fest and Harvest Fest, the YCHS Sawmill will be operating on Saturdays—May 12, June 9, July 14, and August 11 from 10am to 3pm. Bring family and friends and watch the operations of an old-time sawmill up-close! Also see the logging display created and set up in the Restoration Shop.

Thanks to Don King, Allan Tessman, Chuck Kadell and others for sharing your knowledge and passion about the sawmill with all of us!

## Raffle to help the Steam Engine!

***Help keep the Steam Engine Running...***

You could be the lucky winner of a Pressure Washer! Keep your house and equipment clean, and help maintain the 1912 Peerless Steam Engine! It has been restored and looks great—let's keep it running! Tickets are \$1 each, with the drawing to be held Sunday, August 19, at 3pm at Harvest Fest. Winner does not need to be present to win.

***Vanguard Heavy Duty CleanSweep Cold Water Pressure Washer, Model Series 161400 produced by Briggs & Stratton, 9hp, CAT Pumps 4SF Triplex Plunger, 4 gallons per minute, gently used, works well.***

If you would like to purchase tickets or help sell tickets, please contact Pam Watts (503) 434-0490 or [pwatts@onlinemac.com](mailto:pwatts@onlinemac.com). Every ticket sold helps!

## Board Meeting Recap ~ April 11, 2012

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

**Committee Reports:** All committee reports are filed in the record book with the minutes in the Lafayette Log Cabin.

- ♦ **Museum Publications/Store Report**—Sales have skyrocketed this year.
- ♦ **Cemetery Committee**—Matt Dunckel is mapping the outer perimeter of the cemetery. Kory Knutz is obtaining bids for weed control.
- ♦ **Blacksmith Shop Committee**—Shop manager Ike Bay requested additional tongs, which have been ordered. He has several new apprentices at this time.
- ♦ **Photo Department Committee**—The new civic group Yamhill Enrichment Society (YES) has started to purchase prints. Carolyn clarified that people who buy prints may only use them for a single purpose.
- ♦ **Audit Committee**—Matt and Kim reported that the committee would like to add 3 or 4 new committee members.
- ♦ **Activities and Events Committee**—Tami reported that the Treasures in the Attic will be postponed to 2013. The committee is working on an alcohol policy based on the state and county policies. This will be presented to the board for consideration.
- ♦ **Property Development Committee**—Cliff mentioned that the committee is working on putting bathrooms in the Administration Building and will soon remove the temporary facilities.

Discussions continue on the possibility of the addition of painted murals on the outside of the buildings at the Heritage Center

### President's Report:

- ♦ Carolyn reported that we are still receiving brick orders. A grand total of 228 brick spots remain to be sold. When sold, the proceeds will pay for sidewalks on the grounds between buildings at the Heritage Center.

### Treasurer's Report:

- ♦ Kim presented her very thorough 11-page report, which is filed with the committee reports in the record book in Lafayette. Kim noted that the new policy of not charging admission to the Log Cabin and Poling Church, while encouraging free-will contributions, has resulted in much more income and community participation at these sites than before.

### Unfinished Business:

- ♦ Hutchcroft School— Some details regarding legal descriptions of property where the building now stands needs to be ironed out. Fundraising brochures will be distributed soon. A substantial amount of money has been donated by an anonymous donor. Thank you!

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jo McIntyre, Secretary Pro-tem*

## Nada Dyer and Ken Knutsen

The historical society recently lost two members who contributed a great deal to the group in different ways, Nada Dyer and Ken Knutsen.

Nada Dyer, who lived in Portland, did not attend the meetings or volunteer at the museum, at least during the time I have been a member. But among the things she did for us was donate the first copy machine we had, and she and her mother, Roma Sitton,

always paid for all the church note cards we kept on hand and sold. Later she gave the case which contained some of her childhood things (she grew up in Yamhill County) as well as items belonging to Roma's family. When Roma died, Nada donated all her private museum collection which Roma had collected in an upstairs bedroom of her house on Poverty Bend Road and the fireproof file containing her

scrapbooks.

Ken Knutsen did attend the meetings regularly after he retired and also volunteered at the museum with Barbara. But I think we all remember him best as the fellow who made delicious food for the potlucks and who preceded Farrel as the faithful coffee maker and cleaner-upper.

Lois Brooks

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Accession/Preservation Lafayette:**

*Ursula Doud*

**Accessions/Restoration Heritage Center:**

*Cliff Watts*

**Activities and Events:**

*Tami Spears*

**Audit:**

*Matt Dunckel*

**Blacksmith:**

*Jo McIntyre*

**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:**

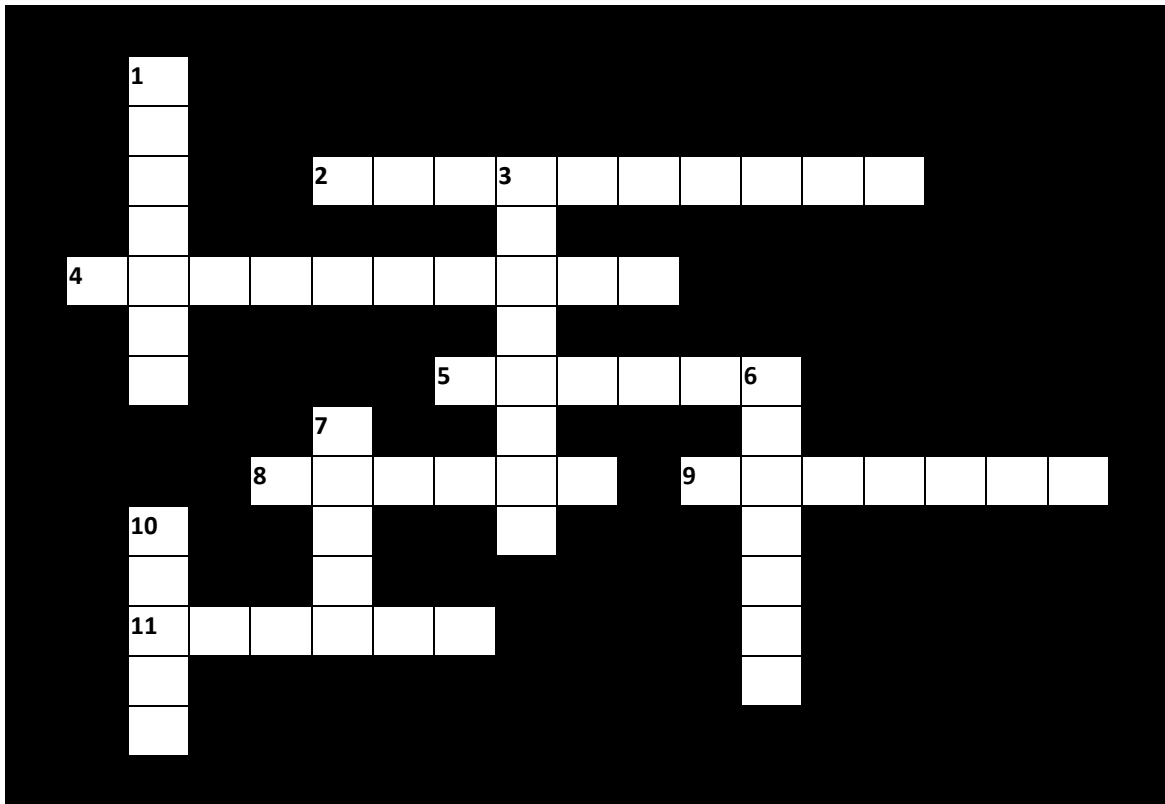
*Vern Yeager*

### YCHS GENEALOGY

*Louise Heindl*

*(503) 864-2308*

## YCHS Crossword Puzzle—Newberg—Two Towns in One



### Across

- In 1865, Adams Cooper started a sort of combined \_\_\_\_\_ shop and saloon at what is now the east end of the cement bridge in Newberg.
- In 1836 the first commercial enterprise on or near the site of Newberg which can be credited to Ewing Young was a \_\_\_\_\_.
- In 1834, Ewing Young came to Chehalem Valley with 600 Spanish \_\_\_\_\_ which helped to break the Hudson Bay Company's monopoly on this animal.
- The Hudson Bay Company used the prairies to the east and south of Newberg to recruit these animals for the Southern Fur Brigades which started from the Newberg area in the 1820s.
- The first mention of Newberg came with the establishment of the Newberg post office on November 5, 1869 with Sebastian Brutscher as postmaster. The post office was named after Brutscher's home town in what country?
- The first General Store started in 1855 at this Newberg landing.

### Down

- In 1838 Ewing Young built the first \_\_\_\_\_ in Oregon on the Chehalem Creek.
- What is the name of the town that sat at the present site of Newberg and was founded by Joseph B. Rogers in 1848, a full 33 years before the town of Newberg was surveyed and platted?
- This road, leading to the Friend's Cemetery, is on the line between the Rogers and Everest Donation Land Claim.
- The Newberg area (Chehalem Valley) was one known as Wild \_\_\_\_\_ Prairie because of all these wild animals roaming the area.
- Newberg's \_\_\_\_\_ street is the dividing line between the Joseph B. Rogers and Deskins land claims.

***FIND THE ANSWERS TO THIS PUZZLE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE WEST SIDE***

# May 2012—Pioneer Days

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 GENERAL MEETING 6-8	9 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Board Meeting 5:30pm	10	11 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	12 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Center Open 10-3
13 MOTHER'S DAY	14	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 MEMORIAL DAY	29	30 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	31		

## Event Locations

- ◆ May—Pioneer Days—Heritage Center
- ◆ May 8, 2012—General Meeting—7th Day Adventist, 1500 Old Sheridan Road, McMinnville
- ◆ May 9, 2012—Board Meeting—Lafayette Miller Museum

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ June—No General Meeting
- ◆ June 13, 2012—Board Meeting
- ◆ July—No General Meeting
- ◆ July 1, 2012—Annual YCHS Ice Cream Social
- ◆ July 11, 2012—Board Meeting

## Tell Your Story

“Tell Your Story” is a project that we tried for the first time at Farm Fest. Dr. Michael Huntsberger’s Mass Media class at Linfield manned the camera equipment while Shirley Venhaus led the interviews. We were asking people to tell a story from their life with emphasis on one of the main topics: agriculture, transportation, daily life, civic life and commerce, and women’s roles. These interviews will be made into DVDs. The society will get one copy, the person interviewed will get a copy, and Linfield will get a copy. Linfield will use their copy to research their chosen topic for the Yamhill Enrichment Society (YES). We plan to continue doing this during Harvest Fest in August. More information coming up in future *West Side* newsletters.

## April Crossword Answers

*Theme: Preserve Oregon’s Heritage—Playing Cards*

*Across: 3. Footwear, 6. Bridge, 7. Shipwrecks, 8. Timberline, 9. Oregon, 10. Logging, 12. Mosier, 13. Lighthouse, 15. Blimp, 16. Astoria.*

*Down: 1. Hop, 2. Italian, 4. Vista, 5. Petroglyphs, 11. Celilo, 12. Mazama, 14. House.*

## 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



# Farm Fest 2012 & Plowing Competition



By Tom Cattrall

Farm Fest 2012 was a great success, with 1,600 people gathering on Saturday, April 14, to participate, watch the plowing competition, and enjoy the activities. It was beautiful weather and folks of all ages attended, including many families. In addition to 19 teams of draft horses and mules participating in the plowing competition, several new activities were added this year which were helpful in bringing people from near and far to the Heritage Center.

More than 50 quilts from the Historical Society's collection were displayed in the Activities Building, Restoration Shop and Administration Building areas. People loved seeing these quilts and it added a beautiful look to the décor. Five artists depicting rural scenes and farm animals showcased their art. Special thanks to Terry Peasley, Marilyn Affolter, John Stromme, Clare Carver and Chris Cummings for sharing their time and their talent! Live music in the food area had people clapping their hands and all ages dancing. The blacksmith shop and sawmill had activities throughout the day, and people had a lot of interest in watching these happenings. The 1912 Peerless steam engine fired up and took a couple of turns around the lot. The large and small animals in pens were popular in allowing children (and adults) to get up close with the animals! In conjunction with the McMinnville Library "Mac Reads" program, Gloria Lutz and others created a replica of Lydia's cabin from the book Jump Off Creek and people were able to appreciate just how life was for our pioneers.

The covered wagon trailer provided the site for guests to share stories about their

lives. With the help of Linfield College's mass media department, people were able to share stories relating to agriculture, transportation, civic life and commerce, the role of women, or daily life at home. A DVD was given to them, with a copy being kept by Linfield and the YCHS for future use. This will be offered again in the future -- watch for more details!

Thanks so much to all the people who helped with Farm Fest -- we estimate that over 150 people participated in helping make it such a successful day! Special thanks to the Oregon Draft Horse Breeders Association for being involved, the teamsters with their animals, the cooks who provided the great food, the quilters, lace makers and spinners, the artists, the sawmill and blacksmith experts, the horseshoer, the volunteers in the booths, and all the people who helped set up, man and take down the displays! Thank you also to the VFW and Mary Corrigan who made our opening flag ceremony special.

Farm Fest is an opportunity for the Yamhill County Historical Society to showcase our agricultural roots, invite people to view the Heritage Center and raise monies for its operation, and to preserve and share our history with others. Thanks to all who help make our history come alive! We look forward to your help and a great attendance at Harvest Fest on August 18 and 19 when we get out the farm equipment and harvest the crop!

Pam & Cliff Watts, Chairmen

**HARVEST FEST SAVE THE DATE and plan to attend!**

**August 18 and 19 at the Heritage Center. If you would like to help with planning, contact Pam or Cliff Watts.**

**Pam (503) 434-0490, pwatts@onlinemac.com or Cliff (503) 435-9700**



By Tami Spears

## Farm Fest Children's Activities

Eight girls from McMinnville High School's Dance Team with Coach Gina Regalado volunteered to help with Farm Fest. These girls took charge of the children's activities. They helped our young guests plant seeds, make button buzzers, pretend like they were mules in harness, get in the covered wagon, and supervised the nail pounding station. We could not have done those activities without their help.



By Tom Cattrall



By Tami Spears



By Tami Spears

# Hutchcroft School Project



After school was closed in the district. Eleanor Mitchell photo.

In our last newsletter you may recall an article discussing the history of the Hutchcroft School, a one-room schoolhouse west of Yamhill that served as the school for District #15 from 1877 through the 1930s. For those of you who may have attended the YCHS General Meeting in March you would have heard in the presentation by Cynthia Christianson about this school house as well.

So why is this particular schoolhouse so important to the YCHS? The Hutchcroft School is currently located on the Whitlow property on Rocky Ford Road, west of Yamhill. It is the only one room school remaining in near original condition in Yamhill County. As with many of the old buildings in our county, the building has outlived its usefulness at its current location and must be removed. The current owner, Mr. Raymond Whitlow, has offered the building to the Yamhill County Historical Society to further our goal of the preservation and sharing of our heritage. The opportunity to preserve this schoolhouse at our Heritage Center would make it the first building to be placed in the proposed Pioneer Village.

The Society has conditionally accepted the donation of the Hutchcroft School based upon the completion of the financial goals for Phase I in a timely manner. Phase I of this project includes moving the Hutchcroft School building from its present site to the Heritage Center and making it structurally sound at a cost of approximately \$45,000. The funding for this phase of the project must be in place before we can proceed. We hope that will be late this summer.

Once Phase I is complete, we will have more time to accomplish Phase II, which will include restoration and use in the society's educational programs. This work will follow over the next two or three years. There are substantial additional costs for Phase II and fund raising will continue.

As you know, YCHS is a non-profit, educational, and public service organization established to protect, preserve and share the history and heritage of Yamhill County. Saving this school could be an excellent opportunity to further these goals. The Hutchcroft School Committee has been formed to work with the Property Development Committee to develop this project.

**We need your help in the form of donations.** All funds received as a result of this request will be used for the Hutchcroft School. We have already received approximately \$20,000 towards Phase I. The Society needs your support and involvement for this project to succeed. Contact via email [HutchcroftSchool@gmail.com](mailto:HutchcroftSchool@gmail.com) to receive more information. Alternatively you may call one of the listed Committee members.

Shirley Venhaus (503) 434-0567, Cynthia Christianson (503) 421-5303, or Steve Leonard (503) 560-2676

Should you wish to help, please fill out the pledge form and mail it to the Yamhill County Historical Society.

## Hutchcroft School Project Donation Form

*I want to help the Yamhill County Historical Society advance their mission of historical preservation and education by acquiring the Hutchcroft School. I understand that my gift or pledge will be used exclusively for this project. If the school fund does not reach the minimum necessary (gifts and pledges combined), my gift of \$100 or more will be returned or my pledge will be void. Gifts of less than \$100 will be redirected to the Yamhill County Historical Society education program. We hope to move the school late this summer. Funding must be in hand before we begin.*

*Please find enclosed my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to support the Hutchcroft School Project.*

AND/OR

*I pledge to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to support the Hutchcroft School Project.*

Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Printed  
Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:

\_\_\_\_\_

Email:

\_\_\_\_\_

***Please mail donations and/or pledges along with this form to:***

***Yamhill County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127  
Make checks payable to YCHS.***



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

### Membership Categories

NEW MEMBERSHIP       RENEWING MEMBERSHIP

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.

- Senior/Student/Educator \$15       Family (Basic) \$30       Community Builder \$250+
- Senior Family (65+) \$25       Friend \$55       Community Benefactor \$500+
- Individual \$20       Supporter \$125+

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would prefer to receive the YCHS newsletter via:     Email     Postal Mail

**Please check here** if you do not wish to have your name and contact information released 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.

Please make checks payable to YCHS and return with this printed form to:  
YCHS, P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127

Questions? Call Membership Coordinator Carlene Kadell (503) 474-0480 or email: [amity1956@yahoo.com](mailto:amity1956@yahoo.com)

**YCHS Membership Application**