



DECEMBER 2013

Volume 45, Issue 10

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**Fourth Annual
Handmade Holiday Bazaar**

Saturday **Sunday**
December 7th **December 8th**
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **12 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

FREE ENTRY WITH FOOD DONATION

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center
Hwy 18 and Durham Lane, McMinnville



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

- **Date: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2013**
- **Time: 1:30 pm Potluck, 2:00 pm Program**
- **Program: Crazy Quilts from the YCHS Collection by Sarah E. Miller**
- **Location: HERITAGE Center, Hwy 18 & Durham Lane, McMinnville**

Oregon Trail—1920's Style

In 1851 my great-grandfather moved his family from Missouri to Oregon, settling near Eugene. In 1922 my father moved his family from Oregon to California. Why, I'll never know.

I was five, my brother, Paul, was two, and our party included our California grandparents who had driven up to scout the route and to shepherd us on the trip south.

We had an Overland, my grandparents, a Hupmobile, both open touring cars with imitation leather seats and flapping side curtains with cracked isinglass peepholes. The roads encountered were not all that much different, in some instances, from the ones Great-Grandfather had coaxed the oxen over some seventy years before.

It was August. The highway that became 99 was under construction. The many detours took us through farm yards and badlands, over corduroy roads, wagon ruts, and Indian trails. When we came to a river we had to wait for the ferry. This might delay us mere minutes, or up into the next day. But, back then, if you were in a car, delay was the name of the game.



Auto Camp near Eugene, OR

Actually, the detours weren't much worse than the main road, in some stretches the old stagecoach road. At Wolf Creek Pass, teams of horses were on hand to tow the Model T's up the mountain. Our little caravan made it on its own, but the laboring teams ahead set our rate of speed.

Intermittent rains further slowed us down, as Papa had to stop often to get out and give the windshield a swipe of the rag kept for that purpose.

Continued on page 6

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

Steve Leonard (2013-2015)
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Cliff Watts (2012-2014)
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Secretary

Kim Courtin (2012-2014)
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Treasurer

John Lewis (2013-2015)
503-883-9588
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DIRECTORS

Cynthia Christensen (2011-2013)
Matt Dunckel (2013-2015)
Rick Fieldhouse (2013– 2013)
Todd Holt (2013– 2015)
Kory Knutz (2011-2013)
Shirley McDaniel (2011-2013)
Karen Sitton-Saxberg (2012-2014)

Past President

Carolyn Meeker

COORDINATORS**Corresponding Secretary:**

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Education Coordinator:

Cynthia Christensen

Heritage Center Facilities**Manager:**

Cliff Watts

Lafayette Director:

Marjorie Owens

Membership Coordinator:

Carlene Kadell

Newsletter Editor:

Tami Spears

Pioneer Days Coordinator:

Terry Nelson

Publications Coordinator:

Jean Sartor

Research Librarian:

Marjorie Owens

Volunteer Coordinator:

VACANT

Website Coordinator:

Tom Catrall

President's Letter



YCHS Members,

By the time this is published Thanksgiving will have passed and Christmas is now rapidly approaching. We

will soon be holding our Handmade Holidays event. Please stop by the Heritage Center on December 7 or 8 and see what is forthcoming for this year. Our vendor list has doubled in size since last year and the Christmas decorations are going up.

I am sad to report the loss of two of our members, both on November 9. Alan Tessman suffered a heart attack in late October and was in a care facility when he passed away. The Tessman Sawmill will stand as part of his legacy by which we can remember him. Margaret Legard of Buchanan-Cellers also passed away. You may remember her from a presentation she did at one of our General Meetings a while ago where she described the efforts that went into getting the Buchanan-Cellers building on the Register of Historical Buildings.

For those of you who missed our November General Meeting we commented that the Ford Family Foundation grant application seems to be progressing and that we are entering the budgeting phase of our

committee restructuring plan. We also voted to change the date of the General Meeting in April from Tuesday to Sunday, April 13th.

It was time to draw the winner of the Treasures Chest and contents that Carolyn and Tony Meeker put together for the Treasures in the Attic. First, thank you to all who purchased raffle tickets, it was a great fundraiser, and to Carolyn and Tony for donating the trunk. The winner was Karen Sitton-Saxburg. We also had an excellent presentation by the Society for Creative Anachronism. We learned about their activities in recreating western cultural history during the period approximately 600 to 1600 AD.

Please remember our Annual Meeting. It will be at the Heritage Center at 1:30 on December 15th. You will hear the officers' annual reports and the results of the election for the Board of Directors.

I have commented a couple of times on the need for additional volunteers at our Lafayette site. If you can help support our efforts there please contact Marjorie Owens. I'm sure she would appreciate the call.

Thank you for your support.

Steve Leonard

YCHS President

Phone: (503) 472-6908

Email: sleonard15@frontier.com

Submitted: November 15, 2013

Going To Be Temporarily Away???.OR Have You Moved Recently???

If you answered "YES" to either question, please make sure you notify Carlene Kadell, your Membership Coordinator, so she can make the correction in our records. The Post Office will not forward our newsletters, so if we don't have your current address, we have to pay more to get the newsletter back than it cost to mail it to you.....even if you are out of town for longer than a month, that information is helpful to us. Thank you.

Carlene Kadell, Membership Coordinator
amity1956@yahoo.com

Board Meeting Recap ~ November 13, 2013

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.

- ♦ **Activities & Events Committee**—The committee is working on updating all of the forms. Pam Watts will be the new chair starting in January.
- ♦ **Education Committee**—Cynthia Christensen reported that they are currently at Ag Fest in Albany.
- ♦ **Handmade Holiday Committee**—Karen stated that there are currently over forty vendors registered and they will be using all three buildings. The layout and decorations will be completed before Thanksgiving. December 7 is Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Karen will obtain the names from the memorials at the American Legion Hall to put on a tree. It was suggested that people could add names to the tree with a donation.
- ♦ **Heritage Center and Property Development**—Cliff Watts reported that parking lot drains have been installed and are working. Heaters have been installed and are undergoing performance troubleshooting. The 2014 budget was discussed as well as the option of getting water and power to the outlying buildings. The facility is being prepared for Handmade Holiday. The speakers and membership badges will now be stored at the Heritage Center for the General Meetings. Cliff will have Bob start the heaters on the mornings of the general meetings to ensure the building is at a comfortable temperature.
- ♦ **Lafayette Site Committee**—Many of the wood bookcases are leaning. John, Steve and Rick will coordinate installation of brackets to stabilize the bookshelves.
- ♦ **Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery**—Todd Holt reported that he received the box of cemetery records. He will check to see if the spray worked. The boy scouts will work on the clean-up.
- ♦ **Nominating Committee**—Ballots have been sent by mail. Arrangements have been made to tally the ballots. Election results will be announced at the December Annual General Meeting. Newly-elected board members will be sworn in at the January board meeting.

President's Report:

- ♦ The updated budget has been received for the Ford Grant. YCHS has been approached to participate with historic equipment in a February event at the Stoller Winery. Rick Fieldhouse will research the possibility of the society using a voicemail service.

Secretary's Report:

- ♦ Kim reported that she will be stepping down as Secretary after the first of the year. A new Secretary will be chosen at the January board meeting. The annual report will be given at the December Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

- ♦ John Lewis presented the treasurer's report, which is filed with the committee reports in the record book in Lafayette. John is working on aligning the financial record with the organizational chart so there have been some adjustments with the order of accounts. The 2014 draft budget will be presented at the January board meeting. The Audit Committee will need to work on obtaining bids for audits. A new Audit Committee chair is needed.

Unfinished Business:

- ♦ Committee Organization—John is obtaining charters and budgets from committees.

New Business:

- ♦ Scanner—The society has an immediate need for a scanner for electronic document storage. Funds were allocated for its purchase.
- ♦ Conference Line—It was thought that a conference line could be used for Board Members to attend meetings remotely. Rick will contact the phone company regarding conference lines and voice mail.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kim Courtin, Secretary
Submitted November 18, 2013*

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Accession/Preservation Lafayette:

Ursula Doud

Accessions/Restoration Heritage Center:

Cliff Watts

Activities and Events:

Carolyn Meeker

Audit:

Kim Courtin

Blacksmith:

Jeff Monahan

Budget:

John Lewis

Business Plan & Grant

Review:

Steve Leonard

Computer:

Tom Catrall

Farm/Harvest Fest:

Cliff and Pam Watts

Freezer:

VACANT

General Meeting Programs:

Sarah Miller

Governance:

Carolyn Meeker

Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery:

Todd Holt

Lafayette Site Committee:

Cynthia Christensen

Landscaping:

Gloria Lutz—Heritage Center

Garry Coats—Lafayette

Miller Museum:

Marjorie Owens

Outreach Committee:

Kory Knutz

Photographic Project:

Tom Catrall

Property Development:

Tony Meeker

Publications/Gift Shop:

Jean Sartor

Sawmill:

Don King

Secrets of the Past Tours:

Karen Sitton-Saxberg

Steam Equipment:

Vern Yeager

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Nancy Mahi, Co-President

(503) 472-9272

Kathy Burden, Co-President

kerb1941@aol.com

YCHS GENEALOGY

Louise Heindl

(503) 864-2308

Looking for a Unique Gift this Holiday Season?...



How about the “gift that keeps on giving”.... You can give someone a membership to the Yamhill County Historical Society, and you will both benefit. You can deduct the gift on your taxes, and your friends and family will receive numerous benefits all year long, just like you do....make check payable to Yamhill County Historical Society and mail it to P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127.

Thank you for your continued support.

Carlene Kadell, Membership Coordinator

Have you considered buying a Heritage Brick for your friends, family, grandchildren, great-grandchildren? We still have two sections left to fill on the Flag Monument. We still need about 33 bricks to fill the next section and then 99 to fill the last section on the monument.

After the monument base is filled with donated Heritage Bricks, the Property Development Committee will identify another project where future brick donations can be used. Won't you invest in a piece of Yamhill County History? A Heritage Brick would make a great gift this Holiday Season.

Carolyn Meeker, Heritage Brick Committee

Treasure Chest Raffle Winner

Karen Sitton-Saxberg was the lucky winner of the antique treasure chest (and the “treasure” hidden inside) which was raffled at the November YCHS General Meeting. One of the “treasures” she found in the chest was a lap quilt made by Sarah Miller. Other items in the chest included a box of Belgian chocolates, a basket of assorted goodies, a box of scented candles and other nice things.

The idea of the raffle for the antique chest and hidden treasure was conceived as a fund-raiser for our annual “Treasures in the Attic” event which was held in September at the Heritage Center on Durham Lane. The raffle brought in over \$600 in ticket sales.

Karen has generously decided to “pay it forward” and has re-donated the antique chest and its contents to the Yamhill County Historical Society. Additional “treasure” will be added to the chest and it will, again, be raffled as part of the upcoming “Handmade Holiday” event. Handmade Holiday will be held on December 7-8 at the Heritage Center. It will undoubtedly be the best Handmade Holiday yet!

Carolyn Meeker, Past Chair “Treasures in the Attic”

Willamette Valley Ag Expo



The YCHS had a booth at the Willamette Valley Ag Expo in Albany for three days in the beginning of November. We used the covered wagon trailer as a backdrop, and a video of Farm Fest was running all day. We had the Co-Op tractor, the covered wagon and several artifacts on display. There were a lot of photos in the trailer that Tom and Gloria put together. Over 400 people went into the trailer to see the photo display. We also brought two pedal tractors and the kids loved riding them around the expo. The volunteers who participated were Allan Stankie, Chuck and Carlene Kadell, Cynthia Christensen, Dave Cruickshank, Gloria Lutz and myself.

Tony Meeker

December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	5	6 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	7 HANDMADE HOLIDAY Heritage Ctr. 10—5 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4
8 HANDMADE HOLIDAY Heritage Ctr. 12—5	9	10	11 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 BOARD MEETING 5:30 pm	12	13 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	14 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
15 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1:30 pm Heritage Ctr.	16	17	18 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	19	20 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	21 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
22	23	24	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26	27 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	28 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	JANUARY 1 	JANUARY 2	JANUARY 3	JANUARY 5

Event Locations

- ◆ December 7&8 — **HANDMADE HOLIDAY** See times above —Heritage Center
- ◆ December 11—Board Meeting 5:30 pm—Lafayette Museum
- ◆ **December 15—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** 1:30 pm—Heritage Center

Upcoming Events

- ◆ January 8—Board Meeting
- ◆ January 12—General Meeting
- ◆ February 9—General Meeting
- ◆ February 12—Board Meeting
- ◆ March 9—General Meeting
- ◆ March 12—Board Meeting
- ◆ April 9—Board Meeting
- ◆ April 13—General Meeting



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

Oregon Trail—1920's Style



Above: We didn't need picnic tables, but running boards never should have been phased out. This shows the Overland (with missing isinglass) and Hupmobile. I'm the kid in the washbowl hat.

The Hup, however, was equipped with a marvelous device. It was called a Wind Shield Wiper. When the windshield misted over all Grandpa had to do was reach up and push the scraper gadget from left to right. Then, when he had again been driving blind for awhile, he pushed it from right to left.

Worse than the rain was the dust, raised by the road equipment and panting cars in front, which forced us to inch along squint-eyed. Unlike rain, dust never dried up, but settled on the automobiles, the travel gear, and on ourselves.

Veils and dusters had gone out of style but touring ladies still wore special outfits. These were khaki (dust color) for obvious reason and consisted of a high-necked, long-sleeved shirt, calf-length skirt, and matching hat. Grandma, who for some reason was a more classy dresser than Mama, wore a Divided Skirt. This affair buttoned down the front but could be worn unbuttoned, displaying what we today might describe as a very full pair of pants. In those days women never wore pants, so this had to be called a skirt. Flappers wore knickers and all women wore union suits, step-ins, bloomers, or teddies—the very cat's pajamas—but never pants or panties.

Flappers' boy friends wore breeches (mutton-legged above the knee, circulation stopper below), contained in leather puttees. Papa and grandpa wore their second best trousers.

Pangs of hunger, as now, forced regular stops but in 1922 there was no McDonald's. The food for that entire trip rode with us in three grocery cartons. One box held tin plates, cutlery, skillet, and coffee pot, and the other two, cold cereal, canned milk, coffee, sugar, homemade bread, bacon, eggs, fresh and canned fruit. We feasted on meat loaf, fried chicken, ham, cake, and pie—the relatives had given us a find send-off. We didn't know about refrigeration, remained blissfully unaware that before the journey was over some of those victuals should have landed us in the nearest hospital.

A blanket spread on the ground formed our table. The bare dirt made a good enough seat for Paul and me, while the grownups sat on the running boards, the most useful automotive accessory ever devised.

Just when we were, for a change, making pretty good time, there was sure to be a blowout or puncture, or one of the drivers thought it

time to pull to a stop and poke a stick down the gas tank. If it came out dry we had to hunt up a refill.

Some towns boasted one of those newfangled blue and white service stations with the flagpole in front, making our mission easily accomplished. More often we had to ask around for the nearest tank wagon. Then, at some general store or feed store, we waited until the proprietor had time to wheel out the gasoline. At twenty-two to twenty-six cents a gallon, that trip cost a fortune. The following year the price dropped to a more reasonable eighteen cents.

Unless we'd had extra car trouble, the mileage racked up each day depended on the distance between auto camps—no Holiday Inn. Auto camps were usually found among groves of trees and should have provided oasis after the day's drive, during which we might have covered as much as 130 miles. Unfortunately, there was a drawback. With a few exceptions, the sanitary facilities bore no more resemblance to those of today's Interstate rest stops than a Stanley Steamer to the newest Cadillac. They were probably two-holers but we seldom checked. Get within twenty feet and we took to the woods.

With the Overland and Hup settled in camp spaces, Papa and Grandpa unrolled the tarp from the top of the Overland and pegged it down about six feet from the side wheels. This made a dandy bedroom for our parents. Paul and I slept in the front and back seats of the car. Grandpa and Grandma traveled in style—they had a brought tent.

All four grownups spread their bedrolls on the army cots that rode behind the board clamped from fender to fender of the Overland and when it came time to setting them up the men began cussing. The cots unfolded easily enough, and the first brace went in okay, but getting that second one adjusted was worse than trying to park a Mack truck in a space designed for a roadster. Army cots had to be surplus from the American Revolution and the reason there were so many of them around was that no self-respecting soldier would use one. The hard ground was more comfortable—Valley Forge was more comfortable!

Another restless night, another rainy / dusty / muddy day. We chugged up the switchbacks north of Ashland and crossed the state line. California! The storied land Grandma had told us so much about. It looked just like the part of Oregon we had been seeing, but not nearly as nice as the Oregon we called home. Finally, after a total of six days' travel, we reached our new home south of San Francisco.

Three years later, I'm told, we made the trip in reverse, driving back to Oregon to visit the kin. We sped over the completed highway at thirty-five miles an hour and took only four days. We purchased fresh food supplies along the way and stayed the night at auto courts—tiny cottages with one or two rooms, besides the kitchen, bath and a garage.

The mud, dust, and ferries were gone and the Overland had a brand new Wind Shield Wiper but, strangely enough, I don't remember that trip.

I don't even remember much about traveling that route last year. We could have had our choice of restaurants and motels, but we ate only one meal along the way and didn't stop for the night. Now, you see, the trip takes only one day.

Little Known Tales from Oregon History Oregon Trail—1920's Style by Marjorie H. Gardner



Preserving our Past, Enriching our Future

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Lafayette, Oregon 97127

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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.

Membership runs from July 1 to June 30 of each year.

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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

- I would like to volunteer to help with activities of the YCHS. Please contact me.
- Please click 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

YCHS Membership Application