



OCTOBER 2013

Volume 45, Issue 8

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## Mystery of the Ochocos by Dorothy Kliever

One of Oregon's unsolved mysteries came to light in 1930 during Franklin Roosevelt's administration when the Forestry Service sent a forest ranger into the pine timber of the Ochoco Mountains of Central Oregon to estimate the number of board feet in the largest of all pine forests in the United States. The ranger, who spent many days traipsing the forest, walked through areas that few white men had ever seen. Only deer and elk hunters had ventured there in those days. In a clearing on the east slope, he discovered a rotting log with six horse skeletons tied to it. The skeletons were complete with saddles and bridles, and it was obvious that whoever had left the horses meant to return. Why hadn't they?

Many ideas were advanced about the skeletons though it was generally believed that the horses had belonged to six masked men who, in 1863, rode into Canyon City, Oregon at dusk and stole all the gold from the miners' sluice boxes. They hid out that night and the next day rode into Dayville where they stopped long enough to rob the bank.

A posse set out in hot pursuit though lost their trail in the Ochoco Mountains and obviously did not discover the six horses tied to a log. The masked bandits vanished as if swallowed by the earth, and that may, in fact, be what really happened to them.

In those days people took excellent care of their horses, and good saddles were expensive. No matter how bad



*Stain's Pillar is said to have been visible from the clearing where the skeletons of 6 horses tied to a log were found. A fortune in stolen gold bricks is thought to be in the area.*

a man was, he took adequate care of his horse, and the bandits would have turned their animals loose if they hadn't meant to return. And if the robbers had changed

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**NOTICE:**  
OCTOBER Potluck and General Meeting

- **Date: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2013**
- **Time: 1:30 pm Potluck, 2:00 pm Program**
- **Program: Moore's Valley by Margie Owens, Farrel Furest, and Nancy Thornton**
- **Location: HERITAGE CENTER, Hwy 18 & Durham Lane, McMinnville**

## Dues are due...dues are due...dues are due...



Thank you to all of you who have already paid your dues for 2013-2014....to those who have not paid yet, please renew your membership as soon as possible so you don't miss a single issue of the newsletter. Dues are due July 1 of each year.

Thanks for your continued support.

*Carlene Kadell  
Membership Coordinator*

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

Steve Leonard (2013-2015)  
503-472-6908  
sleonard15@frontier.com

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Cliff Watts (2012-2014)  
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**Secretary**

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503-864-4525

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503-883-9588  
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**DIRECTORS**

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Rick Fieldhouse (2013– 2013)  
Todd Holt (2013– 2015)  
Kory Knutz (2011-2013)  
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**Pioneer Days Coordinator:**

*Terry Nelson*

**Publications Coordinator:**

*Jean Sartor*

**Research Librarian:**

*Marjorie Owens*

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

**VACANT**

**Website Coordinator:**

*Tom Cattrall*

## President's Letter



YCHS Members,  
For starters, please welcome our new Board Members. Todd Holt has been appointed to the vacancy left when

Katie Baker resigned. He is from Lafayette and is an Oregon native, born in Newport and was a dairy farmer for over fifteen years, is now in the transportation industry and is active in the community. Rick A. Fieldhouse has been appointed to the vacancy left by Jo McIntyre. He is from Newberg with an education in History and non-profit financial management. He is also a member of the Newberg Historical Society and currently volunteers as the curator of the George Fox University museum.

I don't need to tell the many of you who attended Harvest Fest that we had another great event at the Heritage Center. There were more than 1400 people in attendance including a large number of children. Financial performance was on par with previous years. Thank you to all the volunteers who make Harvest Fest possible.

At the September General Meeting we heard an excellent presentation by Gary Lindhardt on Ewing Young, who some say is the real father of the State of Oregon. We also voted to change the General Meeting calendar from that prescribed by the Bylaws to more

convenient Sunday afternoons for October and November and moved the annual meeting one week so as not to conflict with Handmade Holidays. You can find the dates and times on the calendar in this newsletter.

As we have in previous years, we are participating in Yamhill County Cultural Coalition's 2013 Cultural Campaign. Expect to receive a mailing from them in November. We encourage you to support it and the Oregon Cultural Trust. Donors write one check and they distribute it to as many Cultural Partners as you select, and Donors' contributions qualify for an Oregon Tax Credit when matched to a gift to OCT.

Treasures in the Attic was held on September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Please read the article recapping the event in this newsletter. It was another huge success put on by our Activities and Events Committee.

Lastly, the folks at Lafayette continue their good work of keeping that facility humming. They are, however, short on help these days. If you can help support our efforts in Lafayette 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: September 15, 2013*



*Photo's by Tom Cattrall*

## Board Meeting Recap ~ September 11, 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.

- ♦ **A&E Committee**—The events, rental forms and policies are being updated. There is one rental in October.
- ♦ **Computer Committee**—Tom Cattrall will be the contact person for the domain registration. John discussed the email changes and will be testing it out over the next month. The first step will be the procedure for responses and how to archive email records.
- ♦ **Heritage Center Committee**—Harvest Fest brought in about 1400 people to attend the event. The crop needs to be sold and should bring in two to three thousand dollars.
- ♦ **Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery**—C&D Landscaping will be doing a spray application onsite. Don Hampton, a local Scout Master, has offered to take on the cemetery as a community project. Grant information was shared with a deadline of October 3.
- ♦ **Lafayette Site Committee**—A&E has updated the alarm system. A Yamhill-Carlton senior will come out every Saturday to volunteer as part of an internship. Lafayette is short on help and needs more volunteers.
- ♦ **Landscaping Committee**—The board authorized the committee to be able to choose the spring and fall color of plants and to spend up to \$110 each time. This will be funded by the Flagpole/Brick fund.

### President's Report:

- ♦ Steve Leonard shared the letter which was sent to the Oregon Historical Society regarding the Murder Quilt Reproduction Project. Steve also shared a letter received from Laura McMasters and Tom Alfsen regarding an outline of their goals in cataloging the Native American artifacts donated to our society. A vote was taken and approved at the General Meeting to move the date of the Annual General Meeting to the third Sunday in December. The October, November and December

General Meetings will all start at 1:30 pm. Steve reviewed the resolution dated August 18 to bind our D&O Liability Insurance for a term of three years. Pam Watts presented a \$1,000 check from First Federal Community Rewards program. We are in the second step of the Ford Grant. The society will research the use of interns. A project needs to have a clear start to finish as well as a volunteer on hand to mentor the intern. The clothing logo was discussed. It was decided by consensus to use the approved logo on all future items purchased for resale.

### Secretary's Report:

- ♦ Conflict of interest forms have been given to the new board members.

### Treasurer's Report:

- ♦ John Lewis presented the treasurer's report, which is filed with the committee reports in the record book in Lafayette. John stated he has set goals for his term in office. They include preserving the integrity of the records, documenting procedures to minimize time, produce management account reports for all committees, and to work on getting a funding coordinator to help committees to develop funding/budgets each year.

### Unfinished Business:

- ♦ Board nominees were reviewed. Headshots and short biographies need to be given to Tami Spears for notification in the newsletter.
- ♦ Steve presented an updated organization chart which was adopted as a working document to be developed with committee chairs.

### New Business:

- ♦ YCHS has been asked to participate in the Yamhill County Cultural Coalition fundraising activity.
- ♦ A letter was received from Carrie Martin, a possible grant writer for YCHS.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Courtin, Secretary*

## 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 Cattrall*

**Farm/Harvest Fest:**

*Cliff and Pam Watts*

**Freezer:**

**VACANT**

**General Meeting Programs:**

*Sarah Miller*

**Governance:**

*Carolyn Meeker*

**Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery:**

*Kory Knutz*

**Lafayette Site Committee:**

*Cynthia Christensen*

**Landscaping:**

*Gloria Lutz—Heritage Center*

*Garry Coats—Lafayette*

**Miller Museum:**

*Marjorie Owens*

**Outreach Committee:**

*Kory Knutz*

**Photographic Project:**

*Tom Cattrall*

**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*

# Yamhill County Historical Society's Treasures in the Attic



*G&R Antiques (Ginny David, owner, had a particularly nice setup)*

The Yamhill County Historical Society's *Treasures in the Attic* had more than 200 people attending the event on September 14-15. The event was held in the Activities Building at our Heritage Center located just outside McMinnville on Durham Lane.

This event has not been held for the past two years. In the past, it was mainly an appraisal fair, sort of our version of the *Antiques Road Show* as seen on OPB. We had five appraisers who donated their time this year for both days of *Treasures in the Attic*. We very much appreciated the donation of their valuable time. The appraisers were Pat Carlson from Newberg, Ron and Donna Miller and Fred Ringer from McMinnville, and Carroll Nigg from Salem. In renewing this event, the *Treasures in the Attic* Committee decided to expand the activities to include antique vendors, food, a quilt show, and live music.

Mel Kelchner, his wife Debbie, daughter Samantha, and his sister B.J. provided the hotdogs and hamburgers for hungry visitors. Music was provided by Chris and Larry Cummings of the *Baker Street Band* in McMinnville. Tressa Matlack, from Sheridan, played the piano, and our own Kory Knutz, (assisted by Bernie, his faithful Lab) also played the piano. Many visitors commented on the great music and how much it added to the sense of "fun" at the event!

Jean Sartor helped with the popular quilt show. She included several quilts, brought over from the Miller Museum in Lafayette, with the names of many Yamhill County pioneer families stitched into the designs.

Tom Cattrall, Louise Heindl, Joanne Watts, Farrell Fuerst, Nancy Thornton, and Kim Courtin all helped with the YCHS Booth which sold historical photos and items that had been donated for sale.

YCHS members Theresa Berthelsdorf and Karen Sitton-Saxberg had vendor booths at the event. Theresa was a great help as a member of the *Treasures in the Attic* Committee by taking care of the advertising for the event, putting up posters and much more!

Pam Watts handled the publicity for the event, and her husband, Cliff (along with my husband, Tony) helped get the Activities Building ready for the event. Many more YCHS members helped by volunteering for the event, including our YCHS President, Steve Leonard.

*Treasures in the Attic* brought in more than \$2,400 and I want to thank everyone who participated whether by volunteering or attending the event this year!

Carolyn Meeker  
*Treasures in the Attic* Chair



*Cynthia Christensen and Sarah Miller*



*Theresa Berthelsdorf and Tonia Beebe*



*Appraisal table with people sitting at the benches waiting their turn*



*YCHS Booth with Jo McIntyre (back to camera) Kim, Marge, and Jean at table.*

# October 2013

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 Ctr. Open 10-3
6	7	8	9 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 BOARD MEETING 5:30 pm	10	11 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	12 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
13 GENERAL MEETING 6:00 pm Heritage Ctr.	14 COLUMBUS DAY	15	16 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	17	18 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	19 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Ctr. 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 Ctr. Open 10-3
27	28	29	30	31 HALLOWEEN 		

### Event Locations

- ◆ October 9—Board Meeting 5:30 pm—Lafayette Museum
- ◆ October 13—General Meeting 1:30 pm—Heritage Center

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ October 9—Board Meeting
- ◆ October 13—General Meeting
- ◆ November 10—General Meeting
- ◆ November 13—Board Meeting
- ◆ December 7 & 8—HANDMADE HOLIDAY
- ◆ December 11—Board Meeting
- ◆ December 15 —ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—Heritage Center 1:30 pm
- ◆ December 11—Board Meeting

### Historic Lafayette Museum

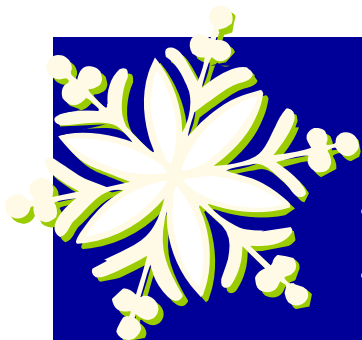
605 Market Street  
P.O. Box 484  
Lafayette, OR 97127

**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



# Fourth Annual Handmade Holiday Bazaar

**December 7 & 8 ♦ 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

It's time to start thinking about our **FOURTH ANNUAL Handmade Holiday** event, to be held December 7-8, 2013.

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>YCHS Booth</u>
- Items and/or baskets of items to be auctioned at the event.	- Candles, breads, jams, jellies, cookies, etc... We would like these items to be boxed and fancy wrapped.
<u>Christmas Tree Decorations Needed</u>	
- Christmas tree decorations are needed for the trees that will be in the silent auction.	

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

## *Mystery of the Ochocos continued...*

horses there in Burglar's Flat, why didn't they take the saddles and turn the animals loose so they wouldn't starve?

No one in the nearby town of Prineville saw any masked men that day though strangers were a common sight. Six strangers together would have been noticed, however. Perhaps they split up or were even residents of that community, which would explain why the posse lost their trail. Gold is very heavy, and the horses would have tired quickly carrying the amount of gold the bandits had stolen—\$40,000 in gold brick from the bank and the dust from the sluices. Unless they changed horses or had a well-concealed hiding place, the posse would have overtaken horses winded from such a ride, but the posse continued on to Shaniko without finding a trace of the masked men.

The mystery of six horses left in a clearing near Stein's Pillar at a place now called Viewpoint has never really been solved though research of the area tells us that there was a gold mine near Viewpoint in those days called The Four Dutchmen. It was owned by four California men who left it one summer and never returned. They'd had assays made of the gold they found there, so there is a record of the mine's existence. That mine shaft has never been discovered. Is it because the masked robbers took refuge in the mine shaft and it caved in on them? Is there a fortune in gold hidden in a caved-in mine shaft waiting to be discovered in the tall pine-covered slopes of the Ochoco Mountains?

# October Word Search: Cemetery's of Yamhill County



AGEE  
 AMITY  
 BELLEVUE  
 BRIGITINE MONASTERY  
 BROOKSIDE  
 BUCK HOLLOW  
 CATE  
 CHEHALEM MOUNTAIN  
 DEER CREEK  
 DUNDEE  
 EBENEZER CHAPEL  
 EVERGREEN MEMORIAL  
 FENDALL  
 FERNWOOD PIONEER  
 FRIENDS  
 GAR  
 GIBBS

GREENCREST  
 HAPPY VALLEY  
 HEMBREE  
 HIGHLAND  
 HILLCREST  
 HOLMES  
 HOPEWELL  
 HUSSEY  
 IOOF  
 LAFAYETTE PIONEER  
 LAUREL  
 MALONE  
 MASONIC  
 MCBRIDE  
 MCMINNVILLE OLD  
 MORGAREIDGE  
 MOORES VALLEY

NOBLE  
 NORTH YAMHILL  
 OAK GROVE  
 ODELL  
 PIKE  
 PIONEER  
 PLEASANT HILL  
 ROSELAWN  
 SAINT JAMES  
 SHERIDAN  
 SOUTH YAMHILL  
 TAYLOR  
 UNITED BRETHREN  
 VALLEY VIEW  
 WALLACE FARM  
 YAMHILL CARLTON  
 YOCOM



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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](mailto:amity1956@yahoo.com)

YCHS Membership Application