



JANUARY 2014
Volume 46, Issue 1

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NOTICE:
January Potluck and
General Meeting

- Date: January 12, 2014
- Time: 1:30 pm Potluck,
2:00 pm Program
- Program: The George
Fox Victory Bell by
Rick Fieldhouse
- Location: HERITAGE
Center, Hwy 18 &
Durham Lane,
McMinnville

Murder Quilt Project

Have you heard about the Murder Quilt of Willamina? Perhaps you have read Charlene Brown's book, *Fancy Work*. She shares the true story of a rather sensational murder that took place in Willamina in the early 1900's. During the murder trial, several of the local ladies decided to make a quilt to be raffled off as a money raising project to help with expenses. They each made a block which made up the bed-sized quilt. It was used for many years by the winner and then donated to the Oregon Historical Society. Due to its fragile condition, it is rarely loaned to other museums.

Several of us have wished that the quilt had a home right

here in Yamhill County. It is part of our history. Shirley Venhaus had the idea and we rounded up some local quilt experts willing to take on the job of reproducing the quilt. Professional quilt instructor, Peggy Gelbrich joined the group. With tubs of donated fabric, the gals were on their way. We meet once a month to share our progress and lend support. Charlene Brown, our historian, always brings several stories and interesting facts about the trial from her research. The group recently visited OHS and had an opportunity to view the quilt up close and personal. Very different from the photos we were using.



Murder Quilt

It has proven to be an interesting journey through local history as we work to reproduce this antique quilt.

Wish us luck!
Jean Sartor

Madame Marie Dorion

A Western Woman for all Seasons

Madame Marie Dorion, Indian bride of two successive French Canadian fur traders, faced the tragic slaying of both husbands by hostile tribes with courage and determination. She eventually settled into a peaceful life in Oregon's Willamette Valley with her third husband, another French Canadian.

A remarkable woman, she has been honored from St. Louis, Oregon, to St. Louis, Missouri. Buildings, dams and even a college dormitory have been named after her. Several

plaques along the way have been put up to recognize her exploits. A member of the Iowa Nation, she has become one of the best-known and most respected Indian women in history; probably second only to the famous Sacajawea, who accompanied Lewis and Clark.

The Iowas were an unusual tribe among the Plains Indians. Not only were they noted for their physical strength but also for their positive relationships with French trappers, Jesuit missionaries and other new arrivals from Europe. Out of this atmosphere came Marie Dorion. Her history is especially

important to the Northwest because she lived out her life here in the Willamette Valley.

She was born around 1790. Her known story begins with her marriage (less than 15 years later) to Pierre Dorion, a rough French Canadian guide and trapper. They had their first child, Jean-Baptiste, in 1805. A second, Paul, arrived in 1809. She loved her husband and sons, and was determined to stay by their side. The first big test came in 1810.

Wilson Price Hunt was planning to lead an overland trip for John

J a c o b

Continued on Page 4

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

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

Vice President

Cliff Watts (2012-2014)
503-835-1393
cwatts@onlinemac.com

Secretary

Kim Courtin (2012-2014)
503-864-4525

Treasurer

John Lewis (2013-2015)
503-883-9588
jjaklewis@aol.com

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

YCHS GENEALOGY

Louise Heindl
(503) 864-2308

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Nancy Mabi, Co-President
(503) 472-9272
Kathy Burden, Co-President
kerb1941@aol.com

President's Letter



YCHS Members,

Our Handmade Holidays event was quite a success with a large number of vendors and a steady flow of visitors. The cold weather was a challenge but didn't impede the Christmas spirit. Thanks to all of our volunteers who made this happen and particularly Karen Sitton-Saxberg and Kathy Burden who led the effort. I hope you were able to stop by and have had a wonderful holiday season and a Merry Christmas.

The ballots for our annual election of Board members have been counted and the results announced at the Annual Meeting on December 15th. All the candidates were elected to the Board for 2014. Please welcome new board members Jo McIntyre and Sarah Miller, and returning Board Members Cynthia Christensen and Rick Fieldhouse. They will be sworn in during the January board meeting and all of the board members that can attend will be at the January general meeting where you can meet them.

A few months ago the Hutchcroft School Committee applied for a grant from the Yamhill County Cultural Coalition for funding to assist in building the cupola / bell tower and chimney that will substantially complete the restoration of the schoolhouse. We are pleased to report that the YCCC granted our request. They will be

funding approximately one half of the cash costs of that project. The balance of funding will come from the YCHS Hutchcroft School fund. We already have a school bell, and some volunteer labor will round out the effort. Thanks to Ursula Doud for organizing this grant application and the follow-through required.

We have met with a Ford Family Foundation representative and provided additional information on the Heritage Hall project. We will not know the results of our application for some time but are encouraged by our continuing communication with them.

In January Carolyn Meeker will be handing the leadership of the Activities and Events Committee to Pam Watts. Thank you Carolyn for the leadership that you have provided to the A&E committee. Pam will be an excellent person to continue with those efforts. Thank you Pam for taking this on.

I should also note that Todd Holt has taken on the management of the Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery. He has already made progress in organizing the care of the cemetery. If you can assist, I'm sure Todd would be happy to hear from you.

Thank you all for your support of the YCHS.

Steve Leonard
YCHS President
Phone: (503) 472-6908
Email: sleonard15@frontier.com
Submitted: December 15, 2013

COORDINATORS**Computer Coordinator:**

Tom Catrall

Corresponding Secretary:

Nancy Thornton

Freezer Coordinator:

VACANT

Funding Coordinator:

VACANT

General Meetings Program Coordinator:

Sarah Miller

Heritage Brick & Flagpole Coordinator:

Carolyn Meeker

Heritage Center Facilities Operations**Manager:**

Cliff Watts

Lafayette Activities Coordinator:

VACANT

Lafayette Operations:

Marjorie Owens

Membership Coordinator:

Carlene Kadell

Newsletter Editor:

Tami Compton-Spears

Outreach Coordinator:

Cynthia Christensen

Pioneer Days Coordinator:

Terry Nelson

Research Librarian:

Marjorie Owens

Visitor Service Coordinator:

Heritage Center—VACANT

Lafayette—VACANT

Volunteer Coordinator:

VACANT

Board Meeting Recap ~ December 11, 2013

The following recap is a condensed version of not-yet approved minutes from the board meeting. All committee reports are filed in the record book with the minutes at the Lafayette Site.

Committee Reports:

- ♦ **Activities & Events Committee**—Pam Watts will become the new chair after the first of the year. It is requested that Pam attend the next board meeting.
- ♦ **Business Plan & Review Committee**—Annual Membership Drive is needed. More defined procedures are needed for rental space.
- ♦ **Education Committee**—Cynthia Christensen stated that they are preparing for the Portland Ag Show with a focus on the dairy industry. The event will be January 28-30. There will be a full size cow statue, dairy equipment, and portable walls with pictures.
- ♦ **Handmade Holiday Committee**—Karen Sitton-Saxberg reported that the event was very good and had a steady stream of visitors over the two-day period. Evaluations are being reviewed. Several vendors have already signed up for next year. Many volunteers helped make the event a success and many of the volunteers were not members.
- ♦ **Heritage Center and Property Development**—Cliff Watts reported that the committees are working on their annual budgets. A list of priorities are being worked on and will be ready after the first of the new year.
- ♦ **Lafayette Site Committee**—The museum will be closed during the month of January. The furnace will be serviced soon.
- ♦ **Nominating Committee**—The ballots have been counted and the records will be kept with the minutes. The original ballots will be kept for three months and will then be destroyed according to policy. The board members will be sworn in at the January meeting. Kim will prepare board books for the newly-elected members. The full board will be recognized at the January General Meeting, so all board members are requested to attend.

President's Report:

- ♦ YCHS will be displaying historical equipment at the Dayton/Amity joint venture being held in February at the Stoller Vineyards as part of a fundraising event in conjunction with the Ford Family Foundation.
- ♦ The Ford Foundation grant is progressing with a possible presentation date in February.
- ♦ Committee charters must be submitted to Steve Leonard.
- ♦ E-Commerce capabilities will be researched by Tom Cattrall and

Rick Fieldhouse.

Secretary's Report:

- ♦ Kim will ensure that all records are transferred to electronic format and the reports will be completely indexed through the end of the year. She will also make sure that the incoming secretary has all information necessary to carry on the duties of the office. The electronic information will be saved on disk and given to the registered agent as well as being placed on the downstairs computer at the Lafayette site.

Treasurer's Report:

- ♦ John Lewis presented the treasurer's report, which is filed with the committee reports in the record book in Lafayette. The proposed budget draft will be presented at the January board meeting. Expected cash flow next year covers operating costs if the expected revenue projection comes true. This is a sustainable position but doesn't allow a build-up of reserves. A discussion is needed about future funding sources for additional expenditures.

Unfinished Business:

- ♦ Voicemail and conference calling—We currently have voicemail and three-way conference calling. Rick will research options and pricing of our current phone/internet/conference calling options.

New Business:

- ♦ Yamhill County Cultural Coalition has approved our grant proposal.
- ♦ 2013 Audit Review—Steve has received quotes for an audit review. Kellie Mencke will be retiring.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kim Courtin, Secretary
Submitted December 15, 2013*

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Accessions Lafayette:

Ursula Doud

Accessions/Restoration

Heritage Center:

Cliff Watts

Activities and Events:

Pam Watts

Audit:

Jo McIntire

Blacksmith Shop:

Jeff Monahan

Budget:

John Lewis

Business Plan & Grant Review:

Steve Leonard

Education Committee:

Cynthia Christensen

Farm/Harvest Fest:

Cliff and Pam Watts

Governance:

Carolyn Meeker

Handmade Holidays:

Karen Sitton-Saxberg

Heritage Center Development & Operations:

Tony Meeker

Hutchcroft School:

Steve Leonard

Insurance Committee:

Tony Meeker

Lafayette Development & Operations :

Karen Sitton-Saxberg

Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery:

Todd Holt

Landscaping:

Gloria Lutz—Heritage Center

Garry Coats—Lafayette

Miller Museum:

Marjorie Owens

Photographic Project:

Tom Cattroll

Publications/Gift Shop:

Jean Sartor

Sawmill:

Don King

Secrets of the Past Tours:

Karen Sitton-Saxberg

Steam Engine:

Vern Yeager

Treasures in the Attic:

Carolyn Meeker

Madame Marie Dorion Continued...



Astor, bound for the mouth of the Columbia River and Fort Astoria. He contracted with Pierre Dorion to serve as guide and interpreter. When Pierre reported for work, he had his wife and two sons with him. Hunt objected vigorously, but to no avail. Pierre wouldn't bend. Behind the scenes, it was actually Marie who wouldn't bend. Pierre ordered her to stay behind in St. Louis, but she wouldn't hear of it. If he

was going, she and the boys were going.

The cavalcade consisted of scouts, trappers and adventurers. They crossed the Great Plains with confidence and excitement, accompanied by 85 horses to carry them and their equipment.

But the fall of 1811 found them in the rugged Snake River country, short of food and facing unfriendly Indians. They split the party, each taking one side of the Snake in an attempt to find a way through. But on both sides, they were turned back by the terrible terrain of Hells Canyon; they soon resorted to killing their horses for food.

By the time they reached the mouth of Burnt River, only one of their 85 horses remained: Marie's. She stubbornly refused to see it slaughtered. Somewhere near the present town of Haines, the Dorion family dropped behind the main party, following Indian custom, so Marie could give birth. The third child lived just two weeks.

The Dorions and their two sons later joined the rest of the party in the Grand Ronde Valley, rendezvousing with friendly Indians and securing fresh horses.

The party crossed the Blue Mountains in the winter of 1811-12. They were welcomed by the Umatilla tribe and found thick grass for their horses along the Umatilla River. In the spring of 1812, the party pushed on to Astoria where the Dorions settled in their new home near the fort.

The following year, the family returned to the Snake River with John Reed and a party of trappers. Pierre was serving as a hunter for the group, Marie as a cook and dresser of pelts.

One night a tragedy struck that tested Marie's unusual courage. The Snake River Indians attacked! Marie and her two children escaped by hiding in the brush, but Pierre was killed. Only one of the French Canadians survived, but badly wounded. Marie put him on a horse and got him away from the scene, but he died the next day.

Winter was coming. Marie and her sons, now eight and four, were facing it without friends, companions, food or resources. All they had with them was a lone horse.

Some historians have them turning west and following the timberline south of the Grande Ronde Valley, trying to make contact with the friendly Umatillas. Snowfall was heavy in the Blue Mountains that year, compelling them to stop and set up camp.

Marie killed the horse and dried the meat. It saw them through for 54 days. When the meat ran out, she wrapped the boys in warm blankets and set out on foot to get help. She eventually reached a camp of friendly Indians and enlisted a party to rescue her sons. The boys were plucked from their winter snow camp on April 3, 1813.

What is now Marie Dorion Historical Park is thought to be the place where she might have emerged from the Blues. More likely, though, she had set up camp on Meacham Creek and made her way out via Squaw Creek; apparently crawling much of the way. The family then made its way to the Walla Walla Valley where Marie met and married another French Canadian, Louis Venier of the Northwest Fur Company. They had a daughter in 1819, by which time Marie would have been about 29. However, he too, ended up being slain by hostile Indians.

Marie next married Jean Toupin, a French Canadian interpreter working out of Fort Walla Walla. She had two more children by him. In 1841, they moved to the Willamette Valley to claim property of their own, spending the rest of their lives there. She became good friends with Louis and Kilakotah La Bonte, Yamhill County's first settlers. The families first met back in Walla Walla.

One of her daughters married George Gay, who built the county's first brick house.

Marie was known for her love of children and her empathy for the needy. Widely liked and respected, she was affectionately known as "Madame Dorion."

The burial record of St. Louis Church near Gervais, assumes her age to be about 64 at the time of her death. This is entirely plausible, as she bore three families, starting in 1805.

The Catholic Church in St. Louis planned to bury her as "Marie Iowa Dorion Venier Toupin." However, at her husband's request, the marker simply reads: "Madame Marie Dorion."

Tales From the Past by Jim and Reita Lockett

YCHS Wish List

As a volunteer organization, we depend on the kindness of our community to help us carry out our mission to protect, preserve and share the history and heritage of Yamhill County.

Here is our current wish list. Your donation of new or gently-used items will be greatly appreciated.

Membership

- ◆ New members are always welcome!
- ◆ Volunteers with computer skills

Lafayette Landscaping

- ◆ Rakes
- ◆ Shovels
- ◆ Garden hose
- ◆ Hand tools

Lafayette Accessions/Office

- ◆ Fireproof filing cabinets (2-4 cabinets are needed)

Heritage Center Landscaping

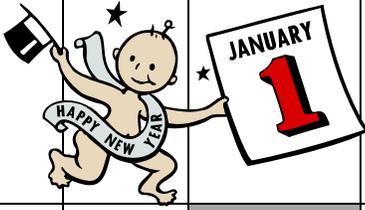
- ◆ Bark chips and/or compost (please

contact Gloria Lutz
glutz@onlinemac.com or (503) 472-7563

Cash donations are always welcome!

If you can donate these items, please contact Marjory Owens at the Lafayette Museum (503) 864-2308, Wednesday, Friday or Saturday to arrange a time for delivery.

JANUARY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Lafayette Museum CLOSED	Lafayette Museum CLOSED Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
5	6	7	8 Lafayette Museum CLOSED BOARD MEETING 5:30 pm	9	10 Lafayette Museum CLOSED	11 Lafayette Museum CLOSED Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
12 GENERAL MEETING 1:30 pm	13	14	15 Lafayette Museum CLOSED	16	17 Lafayette Museum CLOSED	18 Lafayette Museum CLOSED Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
19	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21	22 Lafayette Museum CLOSED	23	24 Lafayette Museum CLOSED	25 Lafayette Museum CLOSED Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
26	27	28	29 Lafayette Museum CLOSED	30	31 Lafayette Museum CLOSED	
			Portland Ag Show			

Event Locations

- ♦ January 8, 2014—Board Meeting 5:30 pm—Lafayette Museum
- ♦ January 12, 2014—General Meeting 1:30 pm—Heritage Center
- ♦ January 28-30, 2014—Portland Ag Show

Upcoming Events

- ♦ February 9, 2014—General Meeting
- ♦ February 12, 2014—Board Meeting
- ♦ March 9—General Meeting
- ♦ March 12—Board Meeting
- ♦ April 9—Board Meeting
- ♦ April 13—General Meeting

Lafayette Buzz.....

Happy New Year from your friends at the Lafayette Museum and Research Center. Again, this January we will be closed to the public for the entire month. We will be busy cleaning shelves, display cabinets, etc. We will be organizing and updating valuable research files along with our extensive photo collection. Moving furniture and displays as well. Planning goals and ideas for the coming year. We welcome all ideas and suggestions to make our research center and museum more user friendly.

Please call and make an appointment if you

need to visit the museum during January.

I work with the best volunteers, always ready to stop and help our visitors whether it is a request for research information or a tour of our museum.

With Marge's guidance and these great volunteers, we provide a worthwhile community service. Thank you to all those friends!

We will see you in February.

Jean Sartor, Publications and the Lafayette Ladies

Historic Lafayette Museum

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

Hours:

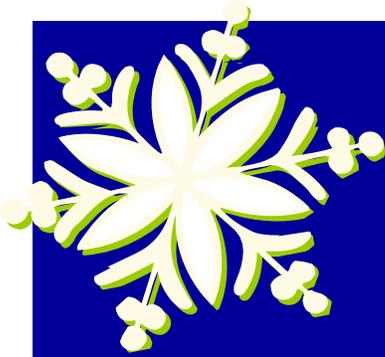
Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday 10-4
Or by appointment
503-864-2308

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center

11275 SW Durham Ln.
McMinnville, OR 97128

Hours:

Saturday 10-3



Fourth Annual Handmade Holiday Bazaar HUGE SUCCESS!



Handmade Holiday Bazaar for 2013 was very successful. Our success was due to many people. Starting with more great vendors, to access to the buildings and set-up earlier. We had many new volunteers, that helped with set-up and working at the event. Thank you to the cookie and bread bakers, money takers, food makers and server. We had a great group of 4-H kids who worked at the event. Also everyone in between. But a special thanks goes to the guys at the museum that are always there to help me.



Thank you, thank you!
Karen Sitton-Saxberg
Kathy Burden





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

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.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student/Educator \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Basic) \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Builder \$250+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Family (65+) \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$55 | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Benefactor \$500+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 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