

# The West Side

Newsletter and Journal of the Yamhill County Historical Society

March 2003

## Crystal Rilee

Our February General Meeting Program was presented by Crystal Rilee, from the eastern end of our county. Crystal related her early childhood memories and told us how the various pioneering families from that area were related. She displayed several thick genealogical albums which also contained photographs and stories of her ancestors.

Crystal also told of her upbringing and memories of life in Newberg and on Parrett Mountain, as well as her employment with the United States Government during the 1940's, and later with the Newberg Post Office.

A number of antique photographs and historical artifacts were also displayed by Crystal and her granddaughter, Elizabeth Rhode.



Parrett Mountain was called Wild Horse Mountain in earlier times, and Crystal is the last remaining Parrett living on the mountain. The mountain lies about 2 miles easterly of Newberg and extends into Washington & Clackamas counties. It was named for the Parrott brothers, who were born in England and who settled in this vicinity in 1853. There are several spellings of the Parrett name, due to the fact that in early days, some family members could not write and were thus at the mercy of the officials who tried to write down their name. Later generations who have investigated the matter in England use the form Parrett. The Parrett's were related to the Everest's, and other pioneer names from the Newberg area.

Born June 24, 1915, Crystal is still very active on her farm on the mountain. She takes care of 36 graves at an old cemetery in the area on Memorial Day.

With often hilarious euphemisms, Crystal related her perspective on her life and memories. We thank Crystal and Elizabeth for all the effort that went into this presentation.

## **From our President**

Spring is upon us, even though the calendar doesn't quite agree. With all the bad weather in other parts of the country it makes me appreciate Oregon and all it has to offer.

The Board would like to thank Ed & Peggy Roghair for their years of service to the Society and to Ed for being a Board Member. Wouldn't it be interesting to figure out the hours they have given times the hourly wage the state says volunteers are allowed. We look forward to continued help from Ed with the farm equipment collection.

We are blessed with many generous people in the Society and the Community. It was with great excitement that I read a letter we received last month from the Oregon Community Foundation concerning a trust that had been set up for the Historical Society. Verl & Dorothy Miller gave us the Log Building and now they have endowed us with annual funds to maintain and keep in good repair the three buildings in our complex. If any of you have been working in the Church lately you are probably aware of the problems we have there. Right now one problem is running water in the basement and it isn't even plumbed!! Repairs in this building are a major priority. We appreciate all of your kindness and we do thank you. Sincerely, Shirley

## **HISTORIANS ASKED FOR HELP WITH CULTURAL TRUST INVENTORY**

Following recent appointment by the Yamhill County Commissioners, the nineteen members of the Cultural Trust Coalition are hard at work and need your help. The group is charged, by the state legislature with inventorying all the arts, humanity and heritage resources in the county. The next job is to develop a plan that will address countrywide needs for greater participation in these areas. And all of this by September!

In order to distribute the inventory as widely and quickly as possible, the committee will hold March meetings throughout the county and establish distribution sites including libraries, schools, senior centers and post offices. A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11 at 2:30 p.m., at the McMinnville Senior Center, 2250 McDaniel Lane. The Oregon Cultural Trust was created by the legislature in 2001 as a long-term funding plan to preserve and strengthen Oregon's arts, heritage and humanities. At the state level, the Cultural Trust is staffed within the Secretary of State's office and directed by a governing board of ten directors. Past President of Linfield College, Dr. Charles Walker and Marilyn Dell Worrix of McMinnville are members of that board.

The Trust raised funds through three sources of funding: private contributions, which receive a tax credit when made to non-profit cultural organizations and the Cultural Trust; (continued inside)

*The Yamhill County Historical Society is a nonprofit tax exempt educational and public service corporation established to protect, preserve and share the history and heritage of Yamhill County*

<p><b>OFFICERS - 2003</b></p> <p><u>President</u> Shirley Venhaus 472-7328</p> <p><u>VP/Program</u> Barbara Knutson 843-2069</p> <p><u>Secretary</u> Annita Linscheid 843-2625</p> <p><u>Treasurer</u> Carol Reid 472-9631</p> <p><u>Financial Secretary</u> Lila Jackson 472-8510</p> <p><u>Corres. Secretary</u> Marjorie Owens 843-3081</p> <p><u>Board of Directors</u> Eileen Lewis 835-7531 Francis Dummer 864-2637 Dan Linscheid 843-2625</p> <p><u>Volunteer Coordinator</u> Eileen Lewis 835-7531</p> <p><u>Librarian</u> Olive Merry Johnson 472-6070</p> <p><u>Newsletter</u> Dan Linscheid 843 -2625</p> <p><u>Car Pool Coordinator</u> Joanne Watts 835 -5893</p> <p><b>MUSEUM HOURS</b></p> <p><b>September 1 - May 31:</b> Sat-Sun 1 to 4 PM</p> <p><b>June 1—August 30:</b> Fri-Sat-Sun 1 to 4 PM or By Appointment</p> <p>605 Market Street Lafayette Oregon Phone: 864-2308</p> <p>New Email: yamhillhistory@ onlinemac.com</p> <p>Websites: YCHS is at http:// sites.onlinemac.com/ history &amp; historic photo gallery is at www.co.yamhill.or.us.</p> <p>© 2003 YCHS</p>	<p><b>Board Meeting Highlights</b></p> <p>The meeting was called to order by President Shirley at 5:00 PM in the Seventh Adventist Church, McMinnville. The following directors and officers were present; Lila Jackson, Barbara Knutson, Marjorie Owens, Eileen Lewis, Dan Linscheid, Francis Dummer, Carol Reid, Shirley Vanhaus, Annita Linscheid, and Green Thumb employee Kathy Peck. The minutes of the January board meeting were approved.</p> <p><u>The Treasurer's Report</u> was submitted by Carol Reid. January income was \$2,706.82 with expenses of \$814.69 for a net income of \$1,892.15. <u>Financial Secretary</u> Lila Jackson reported one new member and three renewals. <u>Correspondence Secretary</u> Marjorie Owens had no correspondence to report. <u>Volunteer Chairperson</u> Eileen Lewis reported that every thing was on track.</p> <p><u>OLD BUSINESS</u> Shirley reported the covered wagon project is falling into place, Gloria Lutz has submitted applications for grants to cover expenses. We can extend the barn building thirteen feet with no variances. This would be a 38 x 13 ft. structure with a cement floor, electricity and an electric door opener, plus a door between it and existing barn. Frank made the suggestion to check on insulation now as it would be much cheaper and easier to install during construction. Dan will prepare a letter to send to Don Rivara, regarding the an agreement concerning the Hewitt files and genealogical volumes in our keeping at the Museum. It was suggested to pay The Newberg Graphic for our half of the thirty copies of 'A Pictorial History of Yamhill County' for a total of \$524.25 that are on sale at the museum. The ten new copies of 'Slow Settles The Dust' will be sold for \$25.00 each. We recently ordered ten more Willamina history books.</p> <p>Barbara will order the plaque for church. Preservation committee approved \$1,000 to start several projects, including ordering acid free sleeves for photos, and U.V. protection shades for windows in the church. This committee will meet again on February 17th at 10:30 in the log building. Shirley reported the visqueen is now in place in the basement of the church, and new gutters have been installed at a cost of \$225.00. Shirley is also going to look into the problem and solution of water draining into basement.</p> <p>Carol Reid requested more information on how to handle the Nomadic Teacher account. It was brought to our attention we might be required to go outside our membership for an audit rather than a member or members of our society do it. Shirley has gotten two bids on the electrical work in the back room. Shirley will get a third bid. Bob Carter has agreed to do the required carpentry work in the back room.</p>	<p><b>(Board Meeting Highlights, cont.)</b></p> <p>Dan will continue with the new additions to the newsletter. He will also try to put together a simple and easy to understand explanation on the Cultural Trust to maybe include in a future newsletter . We need chairpersons for the Recycle Sale, Harvest Fest, and Holiday Happening .</p> <p><u>NEW BUSINESS</u> A new Museum is being established in McMinnville. We would like to lend them our support in their efforts. Wally Brosamle will update progress on his Yamhill-Tillamook Toll Road project in the general meeting this evening. Ed Roghair has resigned from the Board or Directors but will continue to help out in the barn museum. We will be receiving 4.5% of the Miller Foundation on a yearly basis. It was moved and approved to join the Oregon Musuem Association for two years. Frank agreed to work on a system to keep track of Special Funds and make it a simpler and more user friendly process. We will ask Gary Hiskey to prune Heritage Tree located on Sheridan prison grounds: the work has been approved. Speaker for March will be Viola &amp; Lloyd Nisly of Dundee at the County Public Works Auditorium, on "The Oregon Trail from the Air".</p> <p>Respectfully Submitted, Annita Linscheid, Sec.</p> <p><b>Cultural Trust Inventory (cont.)</b></p> <p>funds received from the sale of certain state-owned surplus lands, and the revenue derived from the sale of special "Cultural Trust" license plate, which will be available soon.</p> <p>Each year, up to 42% of the funds received in the Cultural Trust is distributed and the balance is maintained as a growing, permanent endowment. One third is given to statewide cultural agencies, one third is distributed to all Oregon counties and to federally recognized Oregon tribes, and one third is awarded as competitive matching grants for Oregon nonprofit cultural organizations. In December 2002, the first time the tax credit plan was available, over 1.6 million dollars were received by the Trust.</p> <p>It's easy to see why this innovative concept is getting national attention! But, there's still a lot of work to do throughout the state and right here in Yamhill County. Please help by picking up an inventory form for yourself, if you represent a resource in the arts, humanities or heritage area, attend the McMinnville Senior Center meeting, March 11, or check the newspapers for other meetings around the county. Please return completed forms to the Senior Center, any county library, or the County Commissioner's office by April 1. THANK YOU.</p>
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At a Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting in August of 1933, Dr. E.E. Goucher was the guest of honor. Many other physicians from Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties were in attendance to pay tribute to his more than 50 years service in the area. This tribute was made during celebration of the Doctors' 75<sup>th</sup> birthday.

E.E. was born March 18, 1858 to Dr. and Mrs. George W. Goucher near Healdsburg, Sonoma county, California. He was inspired by his father, who was born in Virginia and practiced medicine in the south for a number of years before catching the gold fever in 1849. His father's luck as a miner was only average, but the need in the area for his training and experience as a doctor soon called him into service in Alameda, Santa Clara and Sonoma counties. By 1864 the family had relocated to Yamhill County, where George practiced out of his Amity home until his death in 1893.

Elmo E., the second eldest of five children, received his first training from his father. He had attended public schools in California as well as Polk and Yamhill Counties. He later attended Willamette University when it was located in Portland, graduating from the 'Medical Department' in 1881.

After receiving his diploma, he was hired by the Northern Pacific Railroad and served for about a year for their line construction in Idaho and Montana, during which he and some of his patients endured a smallpox epidemic. He later stated that the West was truly 'Wild' in 1882. During that year he treated patients in a 40' x 60' tent. With temperatures sometimes dropping to 30 to 50 degrees below zero. His pneumonia patients recovered in that tent hospital, even though sometimes it was so cold that their beards were covered with frost.

He then returned to Yamhill County, and opened up an office in McMinnville a year later. E.E. was also an inventor, having developed a device for keeping kinks out of desk telephone wires. He received numerous patents for his various inventions over the years.

He was a modest man, but at the 1933 celebration, many doctors and former patients stepped up to the podium to tell of his skill and experience. These testimonials disclosed that E.E. developed the technique for removal of the gall bladder. The operation was first successfully performed on a woman in her home in Carlton. The Doctor related that since ether was so highly flammable, the room was first heated to a comfortable temperature, and the fire extinguished before placing the lady under the influence of the anesthetic.

This was in the day before telephones, so fast runners or horseback riders were dispatched with urgent requests for the good Doctor's skill. Graveled roads were unheard of in those days, and the Doctor's 'cart' was really a two-wheeled buggy, connected by two wooden rods to a horse. The large wooden wheels were painted red. When emergency calls demanded that he 'race the stork' or respond to some other severe malady, the motion of the horse was transmitted via the wooden rods to the seat and to the driver. In these situations, a stiff neck was a likely result, but the Doctor did not complain.

For nighttime emergencies, he had a coal oil lamp attached to the front of his cart to light up his path, little better than no light at all. The mud was many times axle-deep, and E.E. was on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

He was required to know every nuance of the medical and surgical specialties, and he excelled in keeping up on the latest discoveries and techniques. During his 50 plus years' service in the area, he brought hundreds of babies into the world. He could set broken bones and amputate limbs when required. Tooth extraction was another of his duties in those days.

From bottles in his physicians toolkit he could prepare a gargle for the sore throat. His patient mortality rate was low during his practice. He kind, sensitive yet experienced demeanor inspired confidence in his patients, and he was usually addressed as "Doc" by his clientele.

Well informed and a vociferous reader, E.E. retained an excellent memory, and could recite from the great poets and noted essayists of the past without pause. He enjoyed a reputation as one of the Willamette Valley's most skilled physicians, and with that reputation came a very large practice.

E.E. was also very interested in horticulture, and he owned a very productive fruit farm in the county. He served on the Pension Board for the county, and was also a charter member of the McMinnville Elks Lodge, the Masonic Lodge, and also rose to Grand Noble in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge of McMinnville.

In December of 1933, the Doctor was taken ill while on a visit at the Elks club. Within a week he passed away, leaving behind his wife, Hattie (Sherman) Goucher, and daughters Norma Porter of Santa Clara, California and Rua Goucher of Salem. On his passing, many of his former patients and associates from around the valley gathered in McMinnville to express loss at news of his death. Many could personally testify to having enjoyed the benefit of this amiable and skilled physician while on sickbeds in their own homes. When he died, many of his patients still owed him money, but the Doctor had always been more interested in practicing medicine and surgery to aid the suffering than in collections. Practically everyone in Yamhill County knew the "Doc" E.E. Goucher, and his loss was felt throughout the entire Willamette Valley as well as in Tillamook county, where he had also attended the sick.



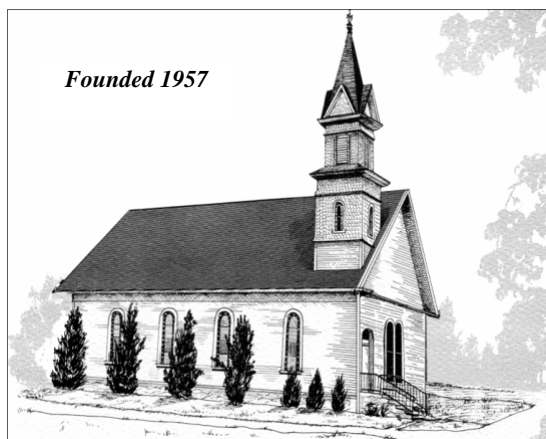
Our thanks go out to Curators **April Wooden, Bob & Charlene Brown** for allowing us to scan several dozen historical photos of Willamina & Grand Ronde to display on our website. Please visit the **Willamina Museum** at 188 SE 'D' street, from 1-4 pm on weekends and plan on taking a couple of hours to enjoy their many artifacts and displays.

# YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 484

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## **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES**

**Effective May 31, 2002**

□ Individual	\$15
□ Family	\$25
□ Friend	\$50+
□ Supporter	\$100+
□ Community Builder	\$250+
□ Community Benefactor	\$500+

Please make checks payable to the Yamhill County Historical Society. Annual membership gifts are tax deductible.

Members receive the Westside newsletter and access to our research library free of charge. We are an all volunteer organization, and are constantly on the lookout for new helpers. If you can assist us in any way, financially or with your time or talents, it will be greatly appreciated. If you are not sure if you have paid your membership dues, please contact Lila Jackson at 472-8510. Alternatively, check your mailing label, which should show this information also. (The month and year indicate your "paid through" period according to our records.)

## **YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

*Meeting Notice*

**Board of Directors:**

**Tuesday, March 11, 5:00 pm**

**Monthly Meeting & Potluck:**

**Tuesday, March 11, 6:30**

**Both at the Yamhill County Public Works  
Department Auditorium, 2060 Lafayette  
Ave., McMinnville.**

Our January meeting will feature member Viola & Lloyd Nisly, of Dundee, will present "The Oregon Trail from the Air". Please join us for dinner; bring potluck fare and your own eating utensils.

*We Hope to See you There!*