

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS 1992

- PRESIDENT Lois Brooks
662-3788
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- FINANCIAL SECRETARY Mary Ogden
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- BOARD MEMBERS Harvey Stoller,
Ed Roghair, James Vincent,
and Robert Kuykendall



- PUBLICITY Elaine Rohse
- NEWSLETTER Margaret Roghair

MUSEUM, Lafayette, OR, since 1969
Hours - Sat & Sun 1 to 4 pm
(or by appt: 662-3788, 864-2589)

NOVEMBER YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1992
NEWSLETTER

MEETING Tuesday evening, November 10, at the Community Christian Church,
2831 N. Newby, McMinnville.

POT LUCK 6:30; bring own table service. Visitors always welcome.

PROGRAM Member Charles Poling, descendent of the famous Poling
family, will tell about his cousin, Clark Poling, who was
one of the four chaplains at the sinking of the Dorchester.
The 50th anniversary of this tragic event is this coming
February 3rd.

MESSAGE FROM OUR SOCIETY'S PRESIDENT

Remember to bring an old school textbook if you have one to the November potluck. And go to the court house in McMinnville to see the showcase of old Yamhill County school pictures, textbooks, and other school supplies from earlier days, which will be there during November. Since American Education Week is in November, our display will fit right in.

John White found a notice about the U.S. Bank's used office furniture giveaway, so on October 17 Barbara Knutson and I met him at the Portland warehouse along with representatives of over 500 other tax exempt organizations, at 8:00 a.m. Since our number was 415, we didn't have a chance to get the two priority items on our five-item wish list, but we did get a library table, a set of metal shelves, and a typing table for the museum. Thanks John and Barbara, for going and also for bringing back our things.

Some of the regular museum volunteers plan to visit the Linn County Museum in Brownsville and the East Linn Museum in Sweet Home, probably before the next meeting. East Linn is considering an addition to their museum and we may be able to get information and ideas from them.

Remember to pay your dues to Mary Ogden, P.O. Box 273, Amity, Oregon 97101, if you haven't already. And it's not too early to pay for 1993. \$5. per year per individual.

This is the rest of the letter, written from Lafayette, Oregon in October 1850, by John Ward who had just completed his journey over the Oregon Trail. It is addressed to his wife and children.

My dear wife and children I should like to hear from you as soon that you receive this letter and whether you are coming or not. Then I should look out a situation for you. My address is John Ward, Lafayett, Yamhill County, Oregon Territory. My best respect to all the neighbors and acquaintances. My love to you and all the children and grandchildren--I remain your forever loving husband.

John Ward

I wish to send you a journal of travel which I can and I found it a very safe and good road. You go from home to Rock Prairie and from Rock Prairie to Rockford and from there to Rock Island and from there to Bloomington and Martin's Ferry, then to Cainesville and cross the Missouri River at Winter Quarters, and then you travel on to Fort Larabey and not cross the Platte River there. Keep up the North side of the river til you come to the crossing of the river when they cross from the South side to the North side. You will save time and trouble. Be carefull of the cattle so they don't get any allickl (alkali) to drink, as any standing water will kill them in a few hours, until you get to Fort Hall. You better have a hundred poinds of the fattest pork you can get for to feed the cattle with, (when) you come to where there is allickl, to kill the posin. The provisions you will have to bring, I will mention to you, two hundred poinds of bread stuff per each person, fifty pounds of rice for the family, 50 pounds of sugar, 25 lbs. of coffee, 1 bu. of white beans, beggy's(?), 50 lbs. of land dried beef, some vinegar and kian pepper, pain killer, bring two spiders with covers and one ax and all the necessary articles you most need. In warm weather you must take kian pepper and warm water and sugar.

John Ward

John Remington from Michigan, and Shemittens left me on the Green River --Geroge Bacon being sick, and I found out the next day. Then George Bacon left me there after I done so much for him. I used him so kind, as my own children. I crossed the Casca(d)es with my team alone. I happen to be in good company, and helped me along the best kind.

John Ward