

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS

- PRESIDENT Miriam Blair
472-9140
- VP/PROGRAM Barbara Knutson
- SECRETARY Eunice Noyes
- FINANCIAL SECRETARY Mary Ogden
- TREASURER Gil Ogden
- HISTORIAN Ruth Stoller
- BOARD MEMBERS Harvey Stoller,
Ed Roghair, James Vincent,
and Robert Kuyhendall



MUSEUM, Lafayette, OR, since 1969
Hours - Sat & Sun 2 to 4 pm
(or by appt: 864-2589; 472-9140)

- PUBLICITY Elaine Rohse
- NEWSLETTER Margaret Roghair

DECEMBER YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1993
NEWSLETTER

MEETING Tuesday, December 14, at the Lafayette Senior Center.
 POT LUCK NOON. Bring own table service. Visitors always welcome.
 PROGRAM Share a Christmas memory; show a Christmas joy!
 Everyone can take part.

Note from the Society President: Don't forget that the museum has books for sale for Christmas. These are for anyone interested in Yamhill County History or just history in general. We have OLD YAMHILL, the HISTORY OF ITS TOWNS AND CITIES; SCHOOLS OF OLD YAMHILL; CEMETERY LISTINGS (three volumes); and FROM YAMHILL TO TILLAMOOK BY STAGECOACH.

The new officers will be installed at the December meeting and will take office on January 1st. Actually, the current officers (Barbara Knutson, Vice-president and Eunice Noyes, Secretary) have agreed to serve a second term. Lila Jackson has been nominated and elected as Financial Secretary, to replace Mary Ogden. James Vincent has also agreed to continue as a Board Member for another term of three years.

Also at the December meeting, there will be a report by the Bylaws Committee. We would like to have as many members present as possible to discuss possible changes.

DUES ARE DUE!!!!!!! \$7.50 PER YEAR should be given to Mary Ogden, Financial Secretary, at the December meeting, or mailed to her, PO Box 273, Amity 97101. After January 1, 1994, the same information applies to Lila Jackson, 2430 N. Baker, McMinnville, OR 97128.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!!!!!!!!!

EARLY DAY MCMINNVILLE
by Julia Lee Johnson Ramsey

(Julia Johnson, daughter of Dr. H.V.V., was about five years old when the family moved to McMinnville from the Stringtown (Middleton) area of Washington County. In 1877 she married George Snyder in McMinnville. After his death she married William M. Ramsey. Margaret Ramsey, a former member of our society, was their daughter. In later years Julia Ramsey (she died in 1942) wrote these reminiscences:)

When we came to McMinnville in 1863 there were two stores and a flour mill. Mr. Pettigrew had one store at the corner of Baker and Third streets. "Dutch" Berry (Beery) had another in the same block west on Third Street.

Mr. Pettigrew was a single man and a singular one. Educated for the ministry he was never ordained. He sold his store to Sargent and Morris. Then he built or bought a little house on what is now Star Mill side. He had two horses and spring wagon with two seats and often drove for hire.

He went with us on a trip to the coast once to carry some of the party. One Sunday Aunt Clara took Abie and Belle and me and we went out to a huckleberry patch. There was nothing to do but listen to the wild waves and that gets tiresome. Mr. P. said "Why girls, I am surprised that you would go out to pick berries on Sunday!" He sat around till we came back with some huckleberries in pint cups. Then he came rubbing his hands together and smiling, "Got some huckle berries, girls? Got some huckleberries?" We did not divide with him. Aunt Clara settled him. He did not want to drive his wagon on the beach for "the sand would wear the paint off". He lived many years by himself in his little house. Had an old hen he called "old Blue".

The mill was built by W.T. Newby but was run by Robert Kinney when we came. Mr. Kinney was a very fat man, his wife a tiny little woman. They lived where the Public Library now stands. They had a large family. The youngest, a girl, was the same age as Allie Hughs--about a year older than me.

Two vacant lots on Third and C were used as a barn lot by Hon. Henry Warren. A horse came and reached his head over the fence to me. This corner is now occupied by Maloney's Beauty Parlors. Father bought the corner and built a drugstore which was the first in town. Johnson & Yeargain was the firm name and they also had the Post Office.

The mail came once a week from Portland on horseback and mail day was a great day. When the mail arrived Mr. Yeargain mounted a box or table and read off the names. Letters first and then papers. Very few people took newspapers in those days.

I went to school in the old college building. Thomas Story taught all the grades.

(to be continued)

RS