

EVENT: January meeting
WHEN: Jan. 11, 1977 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: First Christian Church McMinnville 1300 Brooks
PROGRAM: Pending

Come and bring a friend, potluck at 7:00 P.M., business meeting and program at 8:00

A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

The Constitution of the Yamhill County Historical Society in part states that our purpose is to disseminate historical information, arouse interest in the past, preserve records relating to Yamhill County history.

We've probably all experienced the disappointment of letting an interesting bit of family or neighborhood history slip away before it's permanently documented.

So that in part is the job of all of us: to keep that history from being forgotten. I regard that as a really exciting job--and I am truly looking forward to serving as president of the Historical Society. Believe me, I know it must be a joint effort and I sincerely request the assistance of you all.

I thank you for your trust. I shall do my best. Best wishes for the New Year.

Elaine D. Rohse, President

MUSEUM NEWS

Hope you all had a nice holiday.

The museum will be closed during January. If weather permits we will open Sunday, February 6. The staff needs a rest.

Our book sales have been great. There are a few more. If you haven't picked up your copy they are at the museum and over the county as before. Many thanks for your cooperation.

We have some new officers. Please cooperate with them and help all you can. We also have several new members.

After Jan. 31, call for appointments. 472-7935

Roma Sitton

RECOLLECTIONS OF A PIONEER--FOUNDING OF MCMINNVILLE
(continued from last month)

(These are the recollections of Sebastian C. Adams which appeared in an old McMinnville newspaper dated January 10, 1887. This was about 30 years after the founding of the town.)

The college building was erected that summer, by the contributions of its founders which was mostly confined to the persons above named. I became its president, its corps of professors and faculty for about one year. The college fever having measurably died away, I was authorized to negotiate a transfer of the grounds, building, and institution to the Baptist Church, upon the condition that that body would guarantee to keep up the school with at least one competent professor, and with a corps of teachers, commensurate with the demands of the institution. This, so far as I now remember, they have faithfully done.

How well I remember the horse back ride, and the interesting incidents connected with it, which I made to the Soda springs near Lebanon, on the Santiam, where the Baptist association was being held, and the conference and arrangements made with the staunch and representative men of that body, through the assistance of my old-time and beloved friend, Henry Warren.

(continued on the back)

FOUNDING OF MCMINNVILLE continued

I can still see in vivid memory the bright and rosy countenances of the many boys and girls, as they came from the scattered and distant cabins near the timber, across the virgin and unobstructed prairie to the new "college". Their names are still engraven on the tablets of memory. I could give the names of those who stood at my knee, and obtained their knowledge of the alphabet, and who now are perhaps husbands and mothers, and pillars in society, and perhaps far along in the meridian of life.

Many of them, like Henry and Sarah Baker and Margaret Malone and Blakely Newby, have gone to join the great majority on the other shore.

The second building in town was bought of T.J. Shadden, I think, by Dutch Beary, and on large wooden wheels was drawn into town by several yokes of oxen, and used as a store and dwelling by Solomon Beary, and which perhaps still stands as it was first placed, to the west, and adjoining my half block.

The next summer, in 1856 or 57, Gov. Geo. L. Woods erected a small house just west of the corner of the college lot, and hung out his shingle as "Atty at law". I also erected a good sized house on the southeast corner of my lots, which was soon occupied by Dr. J. McBride and his family. I also erected a house on the N.E. corner of my property in which I opened a store of assorted merchandise from a large stock of drugs, books, ladies and gent's goods of every description, down to chain pumps and grind stones.

Before building and opening the store however, I built a house on the corner directly east of the store, which was soon occupied by W.S. Hussey, Esq., and in which occurred one of the saddest and most distressing scenes I ever witnessed. But enough for the present. If further rambling reminiscence of the early days of McMinville are desired, I will cheerfully transcribe them from the tablets of indelible memory.

S.C. Adams

Marysville, Ohio. Dec. 31st, 1886