



Yamhill County Museum, 6th and Market Street, Lafayette, Oregon

COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1978, 7 p.m.

PLACE: SHERIDAN VFW HALL

POTLUCK: Bring your own service AND LOTS OF GOOD FOOD. (We're asking guests.)

PROGRAM: will pertain to the Sheridan area.

AND we're having a birthday party. Yamhill County Historical Society is celebrating its 21st year since being founded in 1957. Charter Members of the Historical Society will be honored at this meeting. A special effort will be made to contact all Charter Members. If we should miss any of you please consider this a special invitation to be at the November meeting.

MUSEUM NEWS

I hope that each of you has been studying each measure on your ballot. The issues seem more complicated each election.

We had a good many visitors on October 22 at the Museum. On October 14 we were host to the Willamette Valley Museum group with a potluck lunch and business meeting after which they toured our new Museum Farm Tools. The next meeting of the group will be in January. Mr. Marsh brought us 20 donation land claim maps. We also received our share of the Museum Tour Guide for 1978-79. There are now 20 museums in this group.

We have a display in First National Bank window and City Library representing our pioneer ancestors and our historical past, and to acquaint people with the Historical Fund Levy (Ballot Measure #13) and hopefully obtain its passage. Please look them over. There is much more at our County Museum. Come and visit! It is now open Saturday and Sunday, 1 - 4:30 p.m. (Phone 472-7935 for special tours.)

ROMA SITTON

The Yamhill County Museum recently has been given some very old original records of District #7 (the Briedwell School) by Avis L. Ford, Portland. Mrs. Ford is a daughter of John Sanders who with his father, Joseph, was active in the affairs of #7 from its beginning until the family moved into Amity in 1894. The records date from 1854 to 1872.

The last Briedwell School is still standing about a mile and a half west of Amity on the Amity-Ballston road. This has been the site of #7's schoolhouse for well over a hundred years.

In 1867 #7 was called the Garrison School and was probably standing very near where the present school stands. A letter written by the teacher, dated Oct. 5, 1867, to the County School Superintendent, says, "I am teaching in what is usually denominated the Garrison schoolhouse 1½ miles from Amity on the Grand Round Reservation road." Included in the papers from Mrs. Ford is the school register kept by this teacher, J. B. Reed, for the school year ending Oct. 12, 1867.

During the 1850's children were sent from Jackson County, Marion County, Multnomah County, and Sauvies Island to live with relatives so that they could go to this little public school.

RUTH STOLLER

CHARTER MEMBERS of our Historical Society (in order of registration Oct. 21, 1957, to January 1, 1959) were:

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Wortman, McMinnville
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Braly, Albany
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Sparks, Lafayette
Claude Brower, McMinnville
Judge R. E. Renne, Newberg
Bert Wepster, Sheridan
Mrs. Gertrude Goodrich, Dayton
Mrs. Ernestine Shields, Amity
Mrs. Patricia Shawver, Dayton
Mrs. Neita Lewis Terry, Lafayette
Mrs. Ernest Shelburne, McMinnville
Mrs. W. D. Warmington, McMinnville
Mr. Lawrence Schreiber, McMinnville
Mrs. W. H. Brandt, Sheridan
Rev. Robert S. Kuykendall, Yamhill
Mrs. Josephine Wascher, Lafayette
Mrs. Dorothy Gunness, McMinnville
Hervey Hoskins, Newberg
Rev. & Mrs. James M. Alley, Amity
Mr. & Mrs. Soren Sorensen, Amity
Miss Virginia Case, McMinnville
Dr. Margaret Ramsey, McMinnville
J. G. Penland, Dayton
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Stephens, Dayton
Mrs. Raymond Williams, Carlton
Mrs. Mamie Randall, Dayton
C. E. Terry, Lafayette
Mrs. B. O. Handley, McMinnville
Miss Lydia Cone, McMinnville
Mrs. Mildred Allen, Portland
Sen. Carl Francis, Dayton
Mrs. Thomas R. Roe, Gaston
Mrs. Oka Zimmerman, Yamhill
Mrs. Elois Demeray, Dayton
Mrs. Helen Sherman Cohen, Willamina
Mrs. Velma C. Ault, Willamina
Clifford A. Elliott, McMinnville
Peggy O'More Blocklinger, Amity
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence J. Bryan, McMinnville
George Manning, McMinnville
Tom Parsons, McMinnville
Mrs. Edith Holdridge Watts, Dayton
Mrs. E. D. (Gladys) Hamel, Lafayette
Mrs. Mildred Williams, Amity

Officers that first year, 1957-58 were: President, Robert Kuykendall; Vice President, Dorothy Gunness; Secretary, Neita Lewis Terry, and Treasurer, Soren Sorensen.

Directors were Frank Wortman, Eugene Marsh, James M. Alley, Mrs. W. H. Brandt and Patricia Shawver. The Society had 44 county members and 24 affiliate members.

Old Poling Memorial Church is a "fitting and proper" home for our Museum.

The church was built under auspices of Rev. C. C. Poling, who came to Lafayette in 1888 while he was presiding elder of the old Evangelical Association. In 1889 he was instrumental in acquiring the old Yamhill County Courthouse and established Lafayette Seminary in it. The county seat had just been moved to McMinnville and the old courthouse was left vacant.

In about 1892 the present church building was started with Rev. Poling doing much of the building himself. It was formally dedicated in 1893. After the church was built it served as the chapel for Lafayette Seminary which was just across the street.

The church was built in the style of so many village churches of its day. The steeple was finished in strips of various shaped shingles and when it was painted each strip of shingles was a different color than the one below.

The Poling family was a remarkable family. C. C. Poling had two Ph. D. degrees and was considered an outstanding preacher. His wife was the first woman in the Evangelical church to be ordained a preacher.

A special invitation is issued to all Charter Members to attend the November 14 meeting at which time they will be guests of honor and blow out candles on our birthday cake.

Although we will try to contact each charter member by letter, we would appreciate your getting the word to those listed above, if they are not on our mailing list, to make them aware of our birthday celebration.

ELAINE ROHSE, President