



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

COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, December 11, 1979, 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: Multi-purpose room, Yamhill High School, Yamhill, Oregon

POTLUCK: Bring your own table service

PROGRAM: Gordon Dromgoole, a member of the Zimmerman family, speaking on Zimmermans and other families who came early to Yamhill.

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MUSEUM NEWS

The museum is drawing lots of new families that have just moved to the area. We were happy to have two young couples last Sunday, the fourth and fifth generation of Poling's. Their grandfather was Dan Poling. They have some photos they will loan for us to copy.

Mr. Floyd Bunn of Grand Ronde has joined and told us about the old houses and business establishments in Lafayette early days. He also has photographs we may copy.

We hope to get records of the old property and of the early settlers. We have received a large collection of Indian baskets and two musical instruments.

There is a greater need for more space and show cases. I need someone to help by donating the adding of another shelf to two of our cases and repair of another one.

One group of scouts came this past week. We need to encourage more clubs and schools to visit. We have books OLD YAMHILL, county maps, donation land claims, stationery with church history, 1959 Centennial Newspapers, several school desks. We are open Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. or by appointment for groups - call 472-7935.

Roma Sitton

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At this last meeting of the year, and because it is Thanksgiving time, I just want to say that I have been really thankful that Ruth Stoller has written so many really interesting bits of history for each newsletter. That Roma Sitton has sent good reports of the museum for each month. That Marie Winters has been such a good co-worker with Roma at the museum as well as mostly just the two of them addressing, folding, and getting almost 400 newsletters on their way each month. Yes, and there are others that made this job o.k. - the fine secretary, Mildred Renne, the treasurers, Ione Kilgore, etc., etc. & typist, J. Jones.

Elsie Warmington

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The people of Yamhill have always been vitally concerned about the education of their children. As long ago as 1867 a corporation was formed that called itself the North Yamhill Education Society. Within the next year or two an academy building was erected. It was called Fairview Academy and stood about where the present elementary school stands today. The Yamhill Reporter for November 17, 1871 carried the following announcement about the school:

Fairview Adademy, North Yamhill, Oregon.
All the branches usually taught in an academy will be pursued at this institution under able and efficient management. Terms reasonable.

D.M.C. Gault, Principal

According to the Yamhill Reporter, this building was sold, in 1880, to the public school district of North Yamhill. A later article, in the same year, tells about the addition of a belfry to the old academy building that was to be about twenty feet high. It was this building, replaced by a new school in the 1890's that Lizzie Perkins (in a news article in 1959) says was still standing as part of the KP hall in Yamhill.

In 1886 another academy was built by Frank Hauswirth. This was the Pleasant Hill Academy built somewhere near the present Methodist Church in Yamhill, and was meant to serve as a high school for children who wanted to prepare themselves for college.

Frances Hauswirth was a native of Hungary born in 1828. He came to the United States in 1852 and to North Yamhill in 1859 where he worked as a carpenter, building many of the first houses in the town. He then went into general merchandizing, invested in real estate, and became a fairly wealthy man. He married Naomi Laughlin, daughter of James Laughlin, and had three children. It was when the two older children were ready for high school that he built the Pleasant Hill Academy.

THE DAILY REPORTER of McMinnville recorded the progress of the building. October 5, 1886 - - Frank Hauswirth is building a neat school house on his premises for the use of a select school which is to be taught by Prof. Williamson, who I understand, is worthy of the position.

October 13, 1886 - - Hauswirth's school is nearing completion.

The select school is being taught in Laughlin's hall at present.

Jan. 1, 1887 - - North Yamhill has two good schools - 1 public and 1 private. The high school is a venture inaugurated by Frank Hauswirth and has proven a substantial benefit thus far. Prof. Williamson, a graduate of the state university of Columbus, Missouri is the instructor. There are over 20 pupils enrolled in this department. The building will be a handsome one when completed. It has adjustable blackboards all around the room. It is the intention to give the young people of that neighborhood the benefit of a higher education and if necessary prepare them for college. This institution should receive the most liberal support of the citizens.

February 24, 1887 - - North Yamhill. Our private school under the management of Prof. Williamson has proved a success so far and gains in popularity everyday. It is doubtful if there is a place in the state that can boast its equal.

March 10, 1887 - - Frank Hauswirth of North Yamhill is the kind of citizen we like. He got ashamed of the old school house over there and built a new one at his own expense, even hired a teacher to teach in it.

The editor's statement about the old school seems to have been out of order because, from everything I can find on the building of the new school by Hauswirth, this is not why he built the school. It was not to replace the old one, but to provide further education.

Ruth Stoller

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