

YCHS's Sesquicentennial Event



Save the Date Saturday, February 14, 2009

Kick off for
Oregon's 150th birthday party
Come and bring a new friend

Know Your State Quiz

1. What Oregon singer did Tony Bennett call "Father of Rock and Roll?"
2. What Oregon politician ran for vice president of the U.S. in 1860 as a Pro-Southern Sympathizer?

Answers can be found elsewhere in this newsletter

Christmas Parade

Again, the Yamhill County Historical Society was represented in McMinnville's Christmas Parade. Dave Cruickshank pulled the covered wagon with his vintage 1941 Allis Chalmers tractor. Oregon Vineyard Supply (OVS) supplied a brand-new generator so we could put lights on the tractor and the wagon. Matt Weber's 4-5 grade students from the local Adventist Christian School helped pass out flyers. Tim Craig from Los Angeles even got into the act. He grew up in this community and was back for family festivities and joined us in the parade. Our flyer was advising folks of our upcoming Sesquicentennial celebration. It truly was a festive time.

2008 Special Volunteers Recognition

A 2008 Special Volunteer Recognition Honor goes to Ruth Killius and Karen Lowery, who are members of the Yamhill County Historical Society and Yamhill County Genealogical Society. These dependable ladies are always in attendance at the research library on their designated Wednesday or Friday. They have also made weekly trips to the Oregon State Archives to copy additional records.

The thousands of early Yamhill County vital statistic records have been indexed into convenient reference notebooks, with record originals, or copies, being easily accessible to all researchers.

Also, Karen Lowery has been diligently updating all early Yamhill County marriages, because new found marriage records were located. The years now covered are 1844 to 1924, and are found in the index notebook.

Ruth Killius retrieved three tall wood shelves units this fall from the Yamhill County Courthouse surplus sale, then her male family members cut them to fit both research libraries. Ruth, also developed a publication for sale entitled "Bicycle Registrations of 1899."

These hard-working ladies have been graciously cooperative in assisting guests and volunteers by providing research materials. Both societies are fortunate to have them as devoted volunteers.

Louise Heindl, Volunteer Coordinator

Christmas Crazy Bazaar a Success!

The Society participated in McMinnville's Crazy Christmas Bazaar held at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds, November 28-30th. Thanks to Milly Armstrong for organizing the YCHS's involvement which brought in \$1059.85. The following helped make it a great success: Louise Heindl, Shirley McDaniel, Lois Brooks, Jean Sartor, Farrel Furst, Nancy Mahi, Evelyn Hummel, Rose Mary Moore, Lorna Grauer, Leotta Bush, Tonia Beebe, Karen Lowery, Nancy Thornton, and Eleanor Mitchell.

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503-662-3528

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Program Director

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503-843-2069

Newsletter Editor

Tami Spears
tami@spearsintl.com

Research Librarian

Marjorie Owens
503-843-3081

Education Coordinator

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503-472-7563

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Historic Lafayette Site

605 Market Street/PO Box 484
Lafayette OR 97127

Museum Hours:

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday

10 am to 4 pm

Or by appointment

Phone: 503-864-2308

yamhillhistory@online.com

McMinnville Site

11275 SW Durham Lane
McMinnville, OR 97128

2008 YCHS

Tax ID # 23-7090047

www.yamhillcountyhistory.org

President's Letter



2009 will be a time for lots of interesting changes and continued events for YCHS. Election of the new board members was held in December. At the January board meeting (January 8th) officers will be elected by the board and will be announced and sworn in at the January general meeting (January 11th).

The oversight committee will continue raising money for the completion of phase one at the Durham site. The success of this campaign will determine the scope of activities that can be held there.

A work crew is planning on closing up the ends of the two large building for security and weather reasons. Signs are being prepared for the new location to let people know of our presence and up-coming events. Plans are already being made for the Oregon State Celebration February 14, 2009 at both the Lafayette and Durham sites. Events such as Farm Fest and Harvest Fest will also need volunteers.

The Lafayette site volunteers continue to work and plan for events. New file cabinets have been installed for more historical files. Please make plans to visit the museum soon to see all the new items for sale in the gift shop and see the progress made with additional exhibits.

Don't forget the meetings are scheduled on Sunday for the next three months.

See you then,

Shirley Venhaus, President

2009 Directors Elected To The YCHS Board

For the first time, ballots to elect new directors for the board were mailed to the members who were asked to return the ballots by December 1, 2008. Members returned 135 ballots to elect the following individuals (each receiving more than the required majority vote):

Lea Burcham; Kim Courtin; Carolyn Meeker; Karen Sitton-Saxberg;
Bob Vertregt and Ken Williams.

Each new member will be given a packet that contains a copy of the restated by-laws, a copy of Robert's Rules of Order and other papers that explain their duties and past history of the society.

We welcome these new directors who will join the remaining board members who will stay on to complete their terms. Returning board members are: Bill Roll, Eileen Lewis, Shirley McDaniel, and Shirley Venhaus, past president, who will serve for one year as an advisor.

All our directors for 2009 will meet prior to the regular board meeting. At the January general meeting, retiring directors will be thanked for their service and new directors will be installed.

Thanks to all of you for voting and mailing in your ballot. It is through active membership like this that our society will be beneficial to all.

Pat Williams and Farrel Fuerst have agreed to take over the coffee duties at our general meetings that Ken Knutson handled for so many years.

Vice-President Letter

President Shirley Venhaus is currently visiting with her grand daughter in Tennessee who is with child and will be presenting Shirley with her second great-grand child. Best wishes to Shirley, grand daughter, and soon to be great-grand child.

Well, the end to another year is fast approaching and a new year will soon be here.

In looking back over the past year much has been accomplished due in part to a core of dedicated volunteers who want to see the Historical Society succeed and prosper.

The volunteers at the Lafayette site have been hard at work on the inventory, making bonnets, aprons and toys for the expanded gift shop in the log cabin, and for the Christmas Bazaar. This has been well received and has the ladies excited.

Another group of volunteers are working on accessions and updating our records of the inventory so we have better record keeping and are in compliance with the regulatory agencies.

We have bats in the belfry, or rather the log cabin. We have called upon the expertise of the log cabin chinker to determine the access these critters have and to eliminate this access point.

We have been tagged, or rather spray painted, on the shed next to the log cabin. The Sheriff's Department responded and met with the volunteers explaining the significance to the tagging and the consequences of leaving it there. A person has been contacted to paint

over the markings. Ah, life in the fast lane.

We lost our Executive Director and will miss her expertise in museum management, handling of artifacts, and record management.

Harvest Fest was a great success and exceeded everyone's expectations. The vendors were overwhelmed and had to send out for resupplies several times to keep up with the demand. Needless to say the committee is excited and is looking toward next year.

The Durham Lane site is nearly closed in with the exception of the center section which only has the iron frame in place awaiting the roofing, siding and doors. The contractor has been working long hours to complete the project. A committee has been formed and is co-chaired by Waldo Farnham, (Farnham Electric) and Dr. Charlie Walker (Past President, Linfield College), who are overseeing the fund raising and completion of the project.

As we enter into new areas and expansion of the museum, there will be opportunities for more volunteer involvement. Now is your chance to be heard and to say that you did had a hand in the development and expansion of the Yamhill Valley Historical Center / Museum.

We Wish You All A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year

Bill Roll, Vice-President

Newsletter Archive Help

Shirley and Marjorie are in the process of assembling 1996 thru 2008 The West Side newsletters for binding. We are in pretty good shape with the exception of 8 missing issues. If you have any of the following issues, please contact Shirley or Marjorie at your earliest convenience.

November 1998
 May and December 2002
 Summer 2003
 November 2006
 May and June 2007
 January 2008

January General Meeting and Potluck

Date: Sunday, January 11, 2009
 Time 2:00 Potluck
 Time: 2:30 Program
 Program: Author Charlene Brown. She is the Author of Elizabeth's Golden Land, a novel inspired by a true story called Fancy Work, about the William Booth murder.
 Location: 7th Day Adventist Church, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd., McMinnville

DON'T FORGET...

Besides free admittance to the museum, your membership now allows you a 10% discount on Gift Shop items.



January 2009 Happenings

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Locations 1/8: Board Meeting, 4-6, 1st Fed. Board Room 1/11: 7th Day Adventist Church, 1500 Old Sheridan Rd. McMinnville Program: Author Charlene Brown				1 	2 Lafayette Museum open	3 Lafayette Museum open
4	5	6	7 Lafayette Museum open	8 Board Meeting 4-6	9 Lafayette Museum open	10 Lafayette Museum open
11 YCHS 2:00 P.M. General Meeting	12	13	14 Lafayette Museum open	15	16 Lafayette Museum open	17 Lafayette Museum open
18	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	20	21 Lafayette Museum open	22	23 Lafayette Museum open	24 Lafayette Museum open
25	26	27	28 Lafayette Museum open	29	30 Lafayette Museum open	31 Lafayette Museum open

If it is icy or snowing
the museum will be closed.

Quiz Answers

1. Johnny Ray. His ashes are scattered in the Hopewell Cemetery where his parents are buried.
2. Joseph Lane

YCHS Upcoming Events

- Feb. 8, 2009—2:00 P.M. General Meeting, potluck and program Celebrating Oregon's statehood. 7th Day Adventist Church.
- Feb. 14, 2009—YCHS Sesquicentennial Celebration at Lafayette and Durham sites.
- March 8, 2009—2:00 P.M. General Meeting, potluck and program by Phil Schreiber about his family's history.

YCHS—General Meeting—December 9, 2008 McMinnville

Yamhill County Historical Society Annual General Meeting - December 9, 2008 held at the 7th Day Adventist Church in McMinnville.

The meeting was called to order by President Shirley Venhaus who presided over her last meeting as President. She thanked the membership for their support during the years of her leadership. 47 members and guests signed in.

Ken Williams gave the blessing, followed by the flag salute. Guests were introduced. December birthdays and December Anniversaries were observed. Included were: Colin Armstrong's 85th birthday, and Colin and Milly's 61st anniversary on December 7th; and Tami and James Spears' 15th anniversary.

Treasurer Ken Williams report: The General fund at \$9,000 is ahead of the budget by \$4,000. The Building Fund: Work has been stopped until more funds are obtained. (\$225 thousand has been pledged at this time) A Fund-Raising Committee is working hard to get pledges. The Center Section will be the next part to be completed as pledge funds come in. We will then be able to hold activities at the Durham Site. The Lafayette Museum is endowed and is able to continue with the many activities that are currently going on at that site. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented, with many thanks extended to Kenneth for his continued good work.

The minutes of the November 11th General Meeting were read. Patsy Miller moved, Milly Armstrong seconded, a motion to accept the minutes as

read. Motion passed.

Reports: Milly Armstrong reported the three day holiday sale at A-Dec building at the Fairgrounds took in \$1,060. Thanks were given to the volunteers who worked the sale and to the volunteers that donated and sorted the items.

Tonia Beebe reported the nominations committee members, the nominees, and the election results. New Directors are: Kim Courtin, Ken Williams, Karen Sitton Saxberg, Carolyn Meeker, Lea Burcham, and Bob Vertregt.

Marjorie Owens - the museum report: The museum will be open Wednesday, Friday and Saturday for the rest of the month, with the exception of Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve and weather permitting. If schools are closed, so will the museum.

Jean Sartor reminded members that the gift shop at the museum will be open for holiday shopping.

Pat Williams and Farrel Fuerst headed the set-up committee for this meeting.

The Mavericks were introduced and provided us with a holiday musical/sing-a-long program enjoyed by all.

Next board meeting will be on January 8th, 4:00 at First Federal Board room.

Next general meeting will be Sunday, January 11, 2009 at 2:00 at the 7th Day Adventist Church.

Shirley McDaniel, Secretary Pro Tem.



Thank You New and Renewed Members!

New members:

Senior/Student/Educator:

Jack Squires

Individual:

Suzi Lorence

Family:

Leah and Chris Harper

Senior Family:

Tony and Carolyn Meeker

Members that have renewed:

Senior/Student/Educator:

Lynda Ott

Family:

Cliff and Pam Watts

Planning a Vacation?

Please notify Gloria Lutz (phone: 503-472-7563; email: glutz@onlinemac.com or write to YCHS, PO Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127). She can forward newsletters to your temporary address or hold them until you return home. Otherwise, your newsletter comes back to YCHS and we have to pay additional postage!!

The Community of Pike

Pike is located four miles northwest of Yamhill, Oregon. It is on the north side of the North Fork of the Yamhill River—close to where Turner Creek empties in to the river.

It gets its name from the previous home of many of the early settlers to the area Pike County Missouri. The county was named for Zebulon Montgomery Pike (1779-1813) —The Captain in charge of the expedition that explored the mid-western part of the Louisiana Purchase. He was killed by an explosion during the war of 1812.

Pike, Oregon never had a post office. The community developed around the saw mills in the area. There were saw mills there prior to 1860. The community of Pike is on the William Dodson Donation Land Claim.

A manuscript at the Yamhill County Museum is a Day book for 1861-62. It tells of J.W. Hines and G.C. Robison buying E. M. Silver's sawmill. (This may have been the old Harris mills.) Other saw mills that would have effected the area were--- Consolidated Lumber mill—that ran a railroad line south of the North Fork of the Yamhill, Flora Logging Company, H-P Lumber Co. and Shaw Mill. The Tillamook Burn of 1933 and 1939 destroyed much timber and shut down many saw mills in the area.

The Belt House was built in 1868 on Elijah Dodson's Land. It was built by C. Obey who was married to Lucretia Turner. The Belt Family bought the land in 1890.

The Pike School—District 52-- was organized between 1873 and 1876. The school directors were C. Obey, John Simmons and William Shepherd. The original school was north of the present school and was used until 1934 when a new school was built. That school was open until 1949 when the district consolidated with the Yamhill School District.

(The following are quotes from notes of Louise Tupper who consulted with her friend Gladys Pritchett. My comments are in parenthesis. They both lived in the area during the 1930's)

~ Pike Church and Cemetery

I was to three funerals in the church (it was at the end of the main road through the cemetery. The road divided the community burial ground from the Odd Fellows Portion. The church was probably a community church)

~ Rosella Pritchett's—1938

~ Thomas Robertson's---1934

~ Henry Obey's—1942

The church had little leather song books and a large chandelier— but no electricity.

The write up in Pike Cemetery says the church was razed in 1958 but I thought it was gone before that. I thought the George Belt bought it before that.

(The cemetery has grave stones that date back to the 1850's)

--Pike Store-- there were several hop fields in the valley and up on Mt. Richmond. I was told that Lester Huntley first had a stand where the road turns up to the cemetery. The original road went up over the hill and later was put through where it goes now.

The store was built first and then the house. The store was located between the 2 houses on the left. The house across the

road was the Martin house.

When Mr. Huntley died, Verna Huntley Robertson and her husband Clifford bought out her brother and sold it about 1944 to Charley Shepherd who kept it a few months then sold it to Penningtons who sold it to Earl and Ruby Boland. The Bolands closed the store about 1952 and sold to Clifford and Marlene Hacker. They tore down the store and built a new home on Hacker Road —across from the community hall. They sold the Pike House to Paul and Marjorie Rinehart.

--The Pike Community Hall was built in 1932 and the spring of 1933. The Happy Hour Club perhaps started the idea. They needed a place to hold meetings and a place indoors for their once a month dinners. The community wanted dances. The school needed a stage for their plays and for graduation ceremonies. The property was donated by Lester Huntley with provisions that if it sold, the money would go to his heirs— Verna Huntley Roberson and Ernest Huntley. Some of the lumber for the hall was salvaged from the Bishop Scott School and the community provided the rest. (The hall was built during the depression and the residents were delighted to have affordable entertainment—dances, card parties and other events close to home. The hall was sold to a private individual in 1975. The money it brought was divided between the Huntley heirs and the cemetery.)

The Hisler and Parson's Mill—known as H. P. Lumber Co. — had a mill pond, the saw mill, a large covered open place for the people's cars. There was about 2 ½ miles of plank road to reach the mill. I called Gladys Pritchett and we counted the families and decided there were about 12 houses and the cook house where parties, dinners and dances were held —before the community hall was built. During the depression while the mill was shut down people lived in the houses free of rent.

Miles Mill—Mr. William Shaw either ran the mill or leased it. There was a tram-way that brought the logs down the hill. It was very dangerous. There was a large mill—6 square bunk houses that each housed 4 men, a large cook house and one house. Roscoe and Louise Tupper —for insurance reasons lived there from July 4, 1934 until August, 1937. The mill was dismantled after 1938.

At one time there was a mill across the road from the Pike Store—even perhaps before the store was built. There was a saw mill on the river on the Cold place--now called The Pritchett Place). There were two mills on The Tupper Place; one on the logging railroad known as Younkers Landing. —it was owned by three brothers—Pete, Henry and Mike Younkers, and an older mill—which was called Shaw and McDay-- had been on our place. The old brick was still there when we bought the property in 1937.

Belt Road takes one up on the Pike Butte. The Indians had kept it burnt off for a lookout. Indian circles for teepees were found on Obey and Tupper's places. Also Indian arrowheads have been found on the Obey place.

This is a rough map of the area during the 1930's. The Pike—I think—was the only home which wasn't a farm.

Submitted by Nancy Thornton

Yamhill County Historical Society & Museum Collections

A museum can mean different things to different people but hopefully more than just a place to get out of the rain. A museum is as big as the Smithsonian or as small as "The World's Smallest Museum". Yup, that's what they call their museum and you can visit them in Superior, Arizona.

The public face of every museum can be found in its exhibits which provides the visitor insight into the significance of their existence. The Smithsonian's mission, as the "Nation's Attic", covers every aspect of every "...ology" know to humankind. And anyone passing through Superior, Arizona, will apparently find a "showcase of artifacts of ordinary life".

As any museum increases its influence in the community, more become aware of it and take advantage of the opportunity to contribute. This may be in volunteering their time and talents or in monetary contributions. However the greater expectation is that the museum becomes a place to entrust the heritage of a family and the memorabilia collected over the generations.

All too often, that heritage - that memorabilia entrusted, extends beyond the scope or the intent of a museum's collection. Also, the growth in its collection all too often begins to impact the ability to comfortably store and protect the artifacts and archives entrusted to it. The difficulty faced by the museum is, once an artifact is accepted into the Collection, the museum is legally bound to insure its protection and preservation.

For the Yamhill County Historical Society and our own museum, our mission has been to protect, preserve and share the history and heritage of Yamhill County. With the development of the Heritage Center on Durham Lane west of McMinnville, our mission is

expanding beyond just Yamhill County. The roots of the rich history of Yamhill County can extend beyond our own little piece of heaven in the Northern Willamette Valley.

As you look at your own family's collection of history, we hope you will entrust its preservation to our care. We would only ask that you carefully consider what best fits into the heritage of the Yamhill Valley, directly or indirectly. Please consider that although you may want something to "stay in town", it may be a better fit and more appreciated in any one of the other regional museums in Oregon.

We will be happy to help you with that process and can offer several ways of addressing questions you may have but please understand that like you, we have only so much room in our garage. There may be times when we will have to say "thanks, but no thanks" but please, don't take it personal.

There are several ways which will allow you to donate items related to the history of the Yamhill Valley and its people. This includes a direct gifting for accession into the collection or the designation of a future gifting. The latter allows you to hold on to a family heirloom for your continued enjoyment and at the same time commit to a future donation. We can also provide help in determining if your donation is a candidate for the YCHS collection or recommend a better home.

If you have any questions, please contact the Lafayette Museum on 503.864.2308 on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays or leave a detailed message at other times. Feel free to e-mail questions about donations to collections@yamhillcountyhistory.org
Submitted by Mickey Anderson

Fancy Work

Charlene Brown, our January guest speaker, has written a fascinating book about the Willamina Booth/Branson crime of 1915. The book, Fancy Work, pieces together the facts of the crime much as a quilt might be made. Ladies of that time often did their "fancy work" or needle work during "idle" times even with watching the murder trial. The result was the Murder Quilt which can still be seen today at the Oregon Historical Museum. As to the outcome of the trial you'll have to read the book but if you like a good mystery and appreciate the craft of quilting, you'll enjoy this book.
Jean

Spring Farm Fest Donations

YCHS will again be selling items at the Farm Fest, April 18th. Items we will be seeking are vintage linens, such as quilts, table cloths and dresser scarves. We will also be looking for small older items such as kitchen utensils, glassware, crockery, small furniture items, embroidered tea towels, jewelry and books. If you are downsizing, please consider donating the above items for the benefit of YCHS.

Louise



Yamhill County Historical Society & Museum

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Become a Yamhill County Historical Society Member Today!

Membership entitles you to:

- The West Side newsletter
- Free admission to the Museum & Library
- Access to genealogical & historical files
- Access to the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center
- Monthly potluck & program for Members
- Notification of events & summer picnic

Annual Membership Levels (July 1—June 30)

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|---|--|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Family
\$25 (age 65+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Basic) \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$55 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$125+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community
Builder \$250+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Benefactor \$500+ |

Make Checks payable to: **Yamhill County Historical Society.**
Mail this form with payment to: **YCHS, P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127.**

Questions? Call Membership Coordinator Gloria Lutz at 503.472.7563 or email: glutz@onlinemac.com

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The Yamhill County Historical Society & Museum is a charitable 501 (c) (3) organization, tax i.d. #23-7090047.