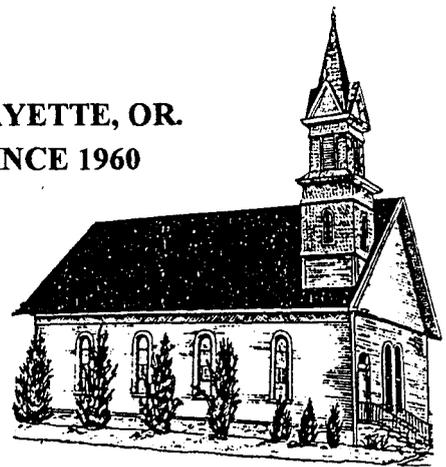


**YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER**

MAY 1995

LAFAYETTE, OR.  
SINCE 1960



**MUSEUM HOURS:**

Summer Hours begin June 14,  
Wednesday thru Sunday, 1 - 4 o'clock.

Summer Picnic to be announced at meeting.

**OFFICERS 1995**

PRESIDENT.....	Shirley Venhaus	472-7328
VP/PROGRAM.....	Barbara Knutson	843-2069
SECRETARY.....	Betty White	665-5376
FINANCIAL SEC'Y.....	Lila Jackson	472-8510
TREASURER.....	George Williams	472-4547
CORRESP. SEC'Y.....	Dolores Robertson	538-0767
BOARD MEMBERS:	Ed Roghair	472-6909
	James Vincent	472-7239
	Robert Kuykendall	662-3354
	Harvey Stoller	864-2589
HISTORIAN.....	Jim Lockett	472-5005
LIBRARIAN.....	Olive Johnson	472-6070
NEWSLETTER.....	Margaret Roghair	472-6909
PUBLICITY.....	Elaine Rohse	472-6827

**MEETING** Tuesday, May 9, at Willamina's Rebekah Lodge, one block S. of Main St. Turn at the Free Methodist Church (D St.?), and go south one block.

**POT LUCK** Supper at 6:30, followed by program.

**PROGRAM** Carla Burdon will give readings of her husband's great-great grandfather, from the Civil War period.

**Dear Members & Friends:**

First of all, my apologies to Peggy Roghair for always being so late with my letter for the newsletter. I take all credit for incorrect or misspelled names.

Have you noticed what nice coverage we are getting in the News Resister? Our thanks to: Starla, Steve and Charlie.

The last day Marietta Rankin will assist in the rug making classes will be Saturday, April 29th. We thank Marietta for all the hours she has given us. She also donated two braided rugs to the Society. We also appreciate all who have volunteered to help with this program. We have lots of rags available for your use at the Museum. Braiders may be bought at Boersmas for \$6 a set.

If you have not given your volunteer sheet to Maxine Williams, please do so. If you have not received a sheet contact Maxine. Not only does this help in setting up volunteer programs, it also allows us to make more accurate reports on the number of volunteers we have and the work they do. Thank you.

We thank Olive Johnson for opening the museum on April 5th for the staff of the Washer Elementary School in Lafayette. Most of the students have been to the museum but the faculty had never had the opportunity to look around.

On Sat., April 15, Verl & Dorothy Miller visited the Log Museum. They participated in an oral history interview. Verl took a nasty fall. We hope he has fully recovered.

Sat., May 6th will be cleaning and moving day at the museum. The Log Museum Committee and anyone who wishes to help should meet at the museum at 9:00am with boxes for packing. At 1:00pm we will have several able bodied gentlemen to assist with the heavy work.

We are still looking for people who will organize and quilt at the museum every Saturday and Sunday when possible.

The Oral History program needs more volunteers to do the recording. It is very easy. We have the release forms and a suggested question sheet. At the rate we are going some of these people who have information on the history of Yamhill County better live very long lives.

If any of the new members wish to know areas we could use help in, please contact me. I can assure you there is a job for everyone. You are really needed.

The next regular board meeting will be at the Log Museum 3:00pm, Tuesday, May 9th. The Potluck is at the Willamina rebekah Hall same day but at 6:30Pm

Sincerely,  
Shirley Venhaus

The following was extracted from the August 31, 1876 'YAMHILL REPORTER' then published weekly at McMinnville:

## McMinnville Villainized

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**Bangasser & Dielschneider, W. H. Boyd and Wells-  
Fargo the victims with Hartman Bros. "on dit."**  
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"Saturday evening last, the 26th inst., was an eventful one within the limits of our usually quiet and orderly little town. "A big robbery in town" was the first sentence that reached our ears. Heading toward the "centres of doom" we found that the unwelcome intelligence was all too true. The first place to be reached on our pathway was that of W. H. Boyd, druggist, and Wells Fargo agent. Here we found a safe badly "unsafed". It was a small sized Lillie, and the robbers (there were evidently a number of them) had apparently gone into it quite easily, first calculating with exact precision where they would find the lock bolts and then chiseling through the thin plating to lay them bare. This done they pried back the two bolts—one at the bottom and one at the top of the door—with a jimmy, and their task here was accomplished.

"At Bangasser & Dielschneider's store a similar scene to that at Boyd's presented itself. The safe in this store was a small sized Hall, and it looked as if it had been bucking a second class volcano and had got badly scattered by the "crater". The knob had been knocked off by a sledge hammer, leaving an apperture [sic] through which a punch was introduced and the lock forced through inside. That "settled the hash" here. The robbers helped themselves to its contents, amounting to \$1170, of which \$120 were greenbacks, about \$45 in silver and the rest was gold. They also took a case of ladies' shoes from the store. They used several blankets in their operations about the safe, which they left spread upon the floor, and here also some of the tools were found.

"The loss at Boyd's amounts to \$312.70—classified as follows: W.H. Boyd, \$147.50; Wells-Fargo, \$110.20; Mrs. Brown, \$45.00—currency; Union Lodge, F.&A.M., \$10. This safe was owned jointly by Messrs. Boyd and E.R. Hawes, our Hardware merchant.—Hawes apprehended that all was not going right and removed his money from the safe. His fears were founded on the poisoning of Boyd's watch dog, which occurred a week or so before the robbery, and he then explained his prediction

which we see has proven correct.

"The burglars gave Hartman's brick a trial but did no damage further than twisting the iron shutters on one of the windows quite badly. Here they left a sledge hammer, an axe and an empty champagne bottle.

"Who ever did this work were evidently experts in the business and planned the scheme with such accuracy as only one could who was thoroughly acquainted with the places despoiled [sic]. Boyd's house was entered by the back door, Bangasser's at the front—Neither place was very strongly barricaded, but this fact would be encouraging to one who was not well enough acquainted to know that there was nobody occupying the rooms during the night. The boldness of the miscreants was certainly remarkable considering that there were people sleeping but a few feet from each place where they operated, but as there are noises at all times of the night, at the livery stable and among the butchers, people do not usually pay any attention to them. The boldness of the thieves is explained to our mind by the probability that they were aware of all this themselves.. Mr. Burns was aroused during the night and reconnoitered his premises, shotgun in hand, but failed to see any body. He thinks the robbers were then in Boyd's store. Mr. Campbell was awakened and started once to get up thinking there was trouble among Hawthorne's horses, but did not come out however as the disturbance was hushed.

"Several parties were suspicioned [sic], and diligent search has been made for some trace of the robbers but so far without avail. To be robbed of all their money just at this season of the year, when it is just about all our businessmen can do to "make their ends meet" without any such drawback, is indeed a misfortune, and they deserve [sic] our cordial sympathies and encouragements. This country is over run by a gang of black legs and vagrants, and it behooves us to hold an espionage on the characters who come floating about, without the least thing in the world to do, with no visible means of support, and still living off the fat of the land.

(JW)

**YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 484  
Lafayette, OR 97127**

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