

Brooks Historical Society Newsletter

July 2015 Vol. III

<http://www.oregonpioneers.com/marion/BrooksHistoricalSociety.htm>

MISSION STATEMENT

The objective of the Brooks Historical Society and Depot Museum is to educate and stimulate an interest in and knowledge of the history of Brooks, Oregon, and the surrounding areas.

Changes to the Museum

In keeping with our heritage as a working railroad station, the Depot Museum has been rearranged so that the freight office through which most visitors enter has a clearer traffic pattern.

Visitors may admire the new displays of equipment from the old Freight Office.

To carry out the theme of our June Brooks Historical Celebration of French families in the area, there is a map of landowners from 1878 with French families' locations pinpointed.

In the back room, enjoy a continuing exhibit featuring the French Prairie Heritage Rose Garden, as well as our continuing displays of artifacts from home and farm life of the past.

Stop by for a great breakfast, lunch or snack at our food vending tent during APMA events, and admire the new signs by Leah Duda and Frank Cunningham.



A new feature is our doll size quilts for display and sale, particularly during the Great Oregon Steam-Up and Quilt Show.. We have over 20 quilts on display now, and welcome even more contributions. Thanks to all the creative quilters who have donated their unique designs for our sale.

Steam Up "Garage Sale"

A successful sale during the Swap Meet on June 27, has inspired Brooks Historical to offer a "Sale Table" during the Steam Up. To donate salable items for our "Garage Sale" during Steam Up, contact Vicki Cunningham, 503-390-6697, before the end of July. Steam Up is the last weekend of July and the first weekend of August.



Kalapuyan Relics

from "The Kalapuyans" by Harold Mackey, Ph.D.

The Pudding River Kalapuyans, (Ahantchuyuk)* lived in the central Willamette Valley east of the Willamette River before the arrival of white immigrants. These Indians disappeared to disease and reservations. But they left evidence of their occupation in the form of stone and sometimes bone tools.

Many have been found while farming. Many farm houses display a hanging frame of these relics, or at least have a few in a drawer.

One day while pulling onions on the Hayes Lake Labish property, my mother found a beautiful blue and white stone knife.

When my grandfather, George McIlwain cleared new farming acreage, he and his family found many broken and a few stone utensils. He lined his driveway with mortars and pestles.

After years of working the land, the discovery of relics lessened. Occasionally, one was found while doing farm work. As a kid on the farm, I would hunt the plowed fields after rains had settled the dirt, and find a few, (mostly pieces). Today, farming can go from plowing to planting in a few days. So relic hunting isn't the same as when I was a kid.

Many of these stone tools were made of material not readily available in the mid-valley. Mortars and pestles were usually a lava basaltic rock,

which could be obtained in the hills. Knives, spear points and arrowheads were fashioned from chert, flint, jasper or agate, much of which could be found in far river gravels. Some of the cutting artifacts were made of obsidian, which to me suggest trade with eastern Oregon Indians.



A mortar and pestle found on the Egan Farm off River Road—on display in the Brooks Depot Museum.

Recent donations and loans

Thanks to Paul Duchateau for the donation of 100 lbs of precooked gourmet burger patties from Bruce Pac meat company for our food vending booth. The family also loaned us a large gas grill for the booth, an upgrade from our old cooking system.

Thanks to Vickey Winn for the loan of two doll beds to display our doll bed quilts for sale. Thanks to Dan Groah for the new sign sandwich boards for our food booth.

French Families Celebration- June 20



Over 40 people enjoyed local French family histories and French Canadian Trapper fiddle music by **Mischief** at our “*French Families Live through their Heirs*” celebration on June 20. A recording was made of the talks and music, and should be available for sale soon. Check our website!



People moved from a tent outside the museum with talks, family charts, and music, to the De-zotell Building for more talks and displays, and to the Brooks Depot Museum for local artifacts and maps.

The Depot also had (and still has) local family history collections for sale, including Gervais, LaFlemme, Dorian, Belleque, LaFollette and de Gobin.

Many thanks to the Adelman Peony Gardens for the lovely peony blooms that created a festive atmosphere



Upcoming Events

Sat. July 18 NW vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum Swap Meet and Car Show.

July 25-26 and August 1-2 Great Oregon Steam Up and Quilt Show

August 8 Tractor Pull

Sat. August 22 Pacific NW Truck Show

September 19 Family Day

Wanted:

A 6to 18 inch canoe and/or stern-wheeler boat made out of metal or natural materials, to represent water transportation in the early days of this area. It will help illustrate our display on changes in transportation through the years, and how those changes affected our settlements, and our economy. Call Vicki at 503-409-0857

Brooks Historical Society

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Mailing Address:
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Brooks, OR 97305



Brooks Historical Society

Membership

Adult Member ----- \$15.00

Student Membership ----- \$ 5.00
(Elementary and High School)

Business Membership ----- \$35.00

Donation ----- \$_____

Name:

Address:

City/State/zip:

Phone

E-mail

Checks should be written to:

Brooks Historical Society

Mail to:

PO Box 9265

Brooks, OR 97305

Videos, Books, & Research Collections for

sale: Visit our website at [http://](http://www.oregonpioneers.com/marion/BrooksHistoricalSociety.htm)

[www.oregonpioneers.com/marion/](http://www.oregonpioneers.com/marion/BrooksHistoricalSociety.htm)

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BHS Officers and Board

President - Louis Sowa

Vice-President - Bob Brown

Treasurer - Dorene Standish

Recording Secretary - Vicki Cunningham

Correspondence Secretary - Texie Lou Hilyer
Price

Board - Position 1- Mary Ray

Position 2- Leah Duda

Position 3- Marilyn Barner

Position 4 - Dan Groah

Meetings

The Brooks Historical Society meets at the Brooks Depot Museum at 10 am the first Saturday of the month.

Directions to the museum at Antique Powerland:

From I-5 - take Exit 263 -- go west approx. 1/4 mile to; Antique Powerland, 3995 Brooklake Road, Brooks, OR 97303

Interested in Antique Powerland?

Visit antiquepowerland.com