

Brooks Historical Society Newsletter

Oct. 2015 Vol. IV

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

Annual Meeting Nov. 7

Come join us at the Brooks Historical Society annual meeting Saturday, Nov. 7 at 10 am at the Masons Lodge in Brooks, Oregon. The Lodge is located just north of Brooks at 9222 Highway 99E, Brooks, Oregon.

The agenda includes:

- Introductions
- Annual reports
- Elections of officers
- Plans for next year

Potluck lunch to follow.

Please bring side dishes and desserts. Brooks Historical will provide the meat dish, punch, soda, coffee and water, as well as plates and silverware.

Marilyn and Carl Barner enjoy the 2014 annual meeting.



Election of 2016 Officers

*(Officers have a 1 year term,
Directors have a 3 year term)*

The slate of nominees recommended by the Nominating Committee:

Louis Sowa— President (re-elect)

Dan Groah—Vice-President,

Dorene Standish—Treasurer
(re-elect)

Marilyn Barner—Corresponding
Secretary (moving from Dir.3)

Vicki Cunningham— Recording
Secretary (re-elect)

Bob Brown Director 1

Frank Cunningham (one year term
to finish term)—Director 3

June Gibson (three year term)—
Director 4

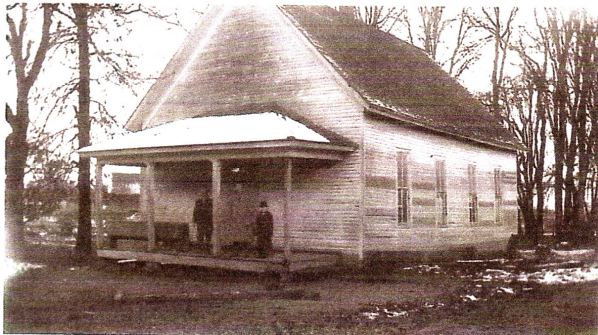
Continuing Director 2, Leah Duda.

Our bylaws allow nominations of officers from the floor during the meeting, provided written permission from the nominee has been obtained.



Manning's Corner by Louis Sowa

Before there was a Deweyville there was Manning's Corner. I wrote an article about Deweyville for the January 2015 issue of this newsletter.



Manning School

Before 1938 the local school was Manning School, Dist. 13, which was located in the oak grove on the northeast corner of Highway 99E and Waconda Rd. (There is even earlier history of school district 13 in the Parkersville/Pioneer/Manning's book in the Brooks Historical Museum.)

The Manning family lived in a house that used to be on the southeast corner of that intersection. Myron Harper said he started as a janitor at the Manning School when he was ten.

Pioneer School, District 13, was opened in 1938. (*Manning School was closed— ed.*) Alice Jones Barnett told me that they decided on Pioneer for the name because the cemetery nearby was Pioneer Cemetery. Myron Harper continued as janitor at Pioneer for at least most of the time Pioneer was used as a

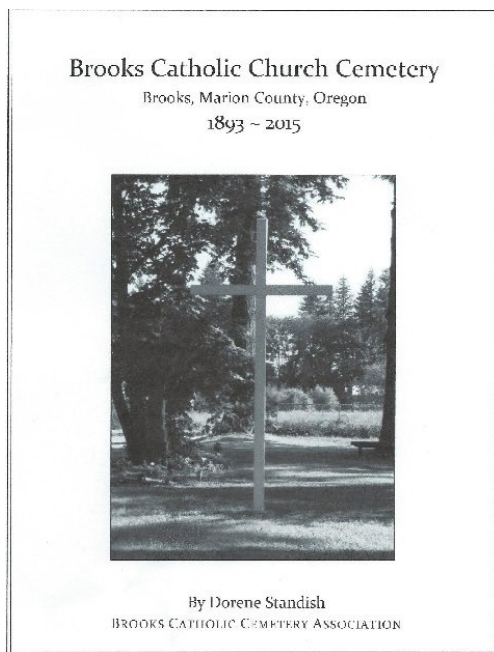
school. Jane Orange Harper became the secretary. According to the Harper family the land for the Pioneer school was donated by Harrison Jones with the understanding that if the property were to no longer be used as school it would revert to the Jones estate. The Gervais school district wanted to sell the property but I understand the actual ownership has not been resolved.

My family started the process of buying our farm on the northeast corner of Highway 99E and Waconda Road in 1942. There was a road all around the property except for Pioneer School. I say we *started the process* of buying the farm because we made payments on the down payment for two years before we could move in 1944. The mortgage was obtained from Mr. Wadsworth, president of the Bank of Oregon in Gervais. After a dispute with the city fathers of Gervais about growth Mr. Wadsworth moved the main office to Woodburn. In the 70's, after several more branches were opened, the Bank of Oregon was bought by Key Bank.

Lena Carney, one of the BHS founders, visits during Steam-Up.



Brooks Historical Member Writes a Book



On October 9, 2015 the book *Brooks Catholic Cemetery 1894 – 2015* by Dorene Standish of Brooks, a long time member of Brooks Historical Society, will be published. It is an account of most of the lives of the ninety three people buried in the cemetery, from the community of Brooks. Their histories reflect the heart and soul of a group of people shaped by their heritage and the times and place in which they lived.

The little cemetery on the knoll continues to serve the local community as descendants of original settlers continue to be buried among their pioneer ancestors.

The book has been 15 years in the making and will be available for sale at Brooks Historical Society Depot Museum.

Author, Dorene Standish, is a founding member of Brooks Catholic Cemetery Association which has owned and maintained the cemetery since 2008. The Association has maintained the cemetery since 2001. Dorene is a descendant of Edward and Salome LaFlemme who first set aside this knoll for establishment of a cemetery in 1892. The LaFlemme's transferred this plot of land on October 6, 1894 for use as a Catholic cemetery for Brooks Church of Assumption. On October 9, 1915 a fire destroyed the church and it was not rebuilt. The book is being published on the 100th anniversary of the fire.

A grant from Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries recently provided new markers for unmarked historic graves. An exhibit about the cemetery will be featured at Willamette Heritage Center in Salem in early 2016. The cemetery is located at 6421 Brooklake Road NE, Brooks, Oregon 97305 .

Winner of the Airplane Quilt at the Steam-Up was Katy Harmon of Vancouver.



Brooks Historical Society

1 (503) 390-0698

3995 Brooklake Rd. NE
Brooks, OR 97303

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9265
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)

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

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