

# Brooks Historical Society Newsletter

January 2020

<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.

Check out the BHS  
Facebook page.



## February 15 at the Capitol -- Oregon's Birthday Party!

Join Brooks Historical Society and others for a celebration of the 161st anniversary of statehood, complete with fiddlers, representatives from Oregon's tribes, blacksmiths, costumed interpreters, activities for the entire family and, cupcakes! FREE



The event is Oregon's Birthday Party, at the Oregon State Capitol building, Saturday, February 15 from 10 to 2. Visit our Brooks Historical table for details on our upcoming events, and a chance to make your own button "spinner" as children did long ago. Learn more at the event page at [www.oregoncapitol.com](http://www.oregoncapitol.com).

## Brooks Historical Society's Annual Celebration Day Saturday, June 20, 2020

The theme of 2020 BHS celebration will be the Aftermath of the Great Flood of the Willamette Valley 1861. featured will be Mark and Donna Hinds in a 30 minute program in period dress portraying invented characters from that era.

BHS Members will have supporting displays and programs. More information will be available by our April newsletter

## And for June 19, 2021 (18 months from now)

The class of 2021 will be the 100th class to graduate from Gervais (Union) High School. Brooks Historical Society is planning to celebrate with a 100-year reunion on the weekend of June 19, 2021 at Powerland Heritage Park in Brooks.

Put this date on your calendar and plan to come. Put this on your Facebook page, tell other graduates, spread the word.

If you question whether or not we have your name, address, phone number and email address, please send it to Miss James (Jeannine) at [jjames@oregonsbest.com](mailto:jjames@oregonsbest.com), or Karen Staab at [karenstaab1954@gmail.com](mailto:karenstaab1954@gmail.com)

## Chief Quinaby

*By Dan Groah*

In a previous article, I wrote about Chief Concomly because there is a paved road north of Brooks that connects 99E with River Road with that name. There is also a paved road south of Brooks named after Chief Quinaby. According to J. Wesley Sullivan in his introduction to the pamphlet I used to research the chief, the Oregon Electric Railroad selected Indian names for the railroad stations along the line. The railroad station formerly on Quinaby Road was the Quinaby station.



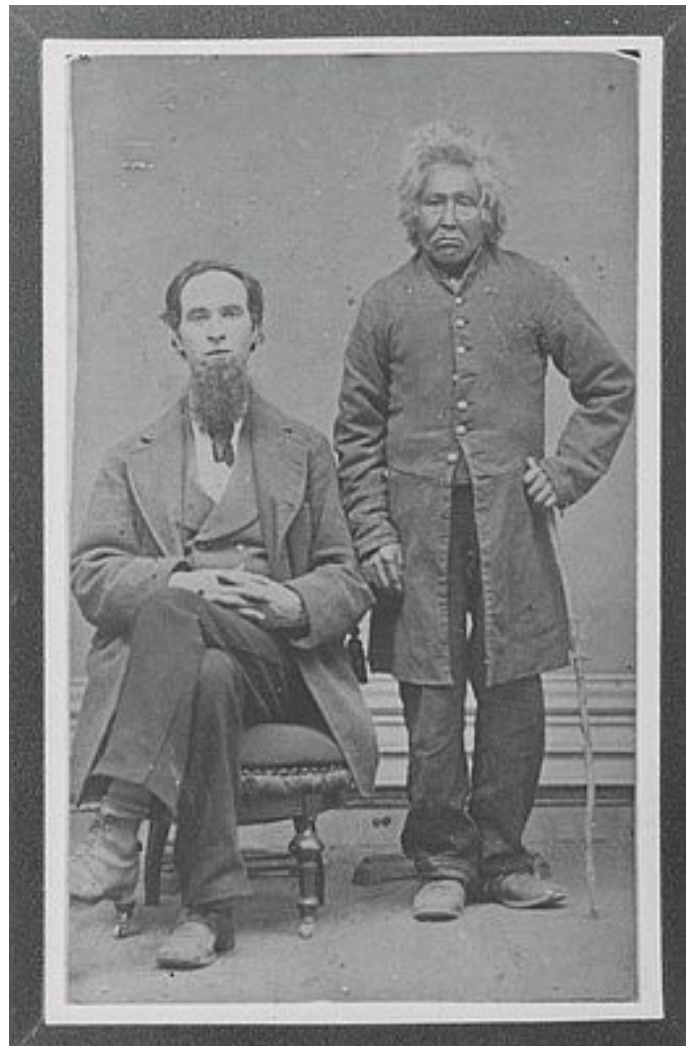
*Quinaby Station on the Oregon Electric RR*

Supposedly, Chief Quinaby's mother was a Chemawa Indian and his father was a Chemeketa. They all were members of the Kalapuyan Indian tribe that populated the Willamette Valley. At that early time Quinaby's family had a camp on Mill Creek near what is now Salem.

In 1854, the Indian bands were moved to the Grand Ronde Reservation. Quinaby, had many white friends in Salem and was allowed unlimited leaves to visit. He established a camp on what is now Bush's Pasture Park. In later years, he set up a residence along Mill Creek where he lived with his wife on Judge Waldo's land. By this time, some other Kalapuyans had migrated back to Sa-

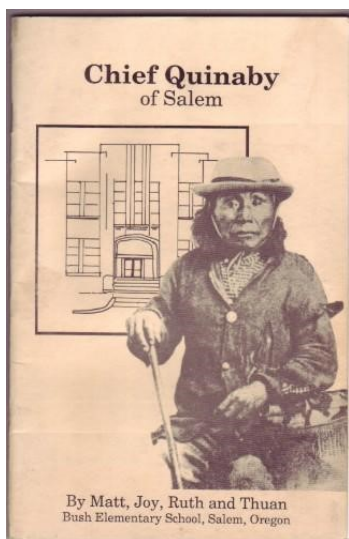
lem. Quinaby and his friends were ardent gamblers, and they would gamble most nights. Along with the gambling, they would chant and bang war clubs on logs. This racket kept the judge and his family from sleeping. Waldo tried to remove Quinaby, but the wiley chief laid down a guilt trip on him by reminding him that Quinaby had been a friend of the whites when other Indians could have driven the then few whites out. So Judge Waldo let him stay, noise and all.

The story of Quinaby's death is somewhat varied. Some say he died during Thanksgiving 1878. Another version says he passed away Christmas day in 1883. These accounts do agree that Quinaby stuffed himself at several holiday celebrations



*Chief Quinaby standing with unidentified man.*

and was found expired near his newest camp on Pringle Creek. This site where he was reportedly buried became the school grounds of Bush Elementary School.



*Credit for my research goes to four sixth grade students of Bush Elementary who with their teachers help wrote a pamphlet called "Chief Quinaby of Salem," still available through Abe-Books.*



## The 41<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division and Local Boys

In the 1950s and the 1960s there was a military draft in place in the United States. Some of the young men in the Brooks area chose to enlist in the military reserves rather than get drafted in the regular Army. The armory building in Salem housed a company of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade of the 162 regiment which was one of the regiments of the 41<sup>st</sup> Infantry division of the 6th US Army. The 161<sup>st</sup> and 162<sup>nd</sup> were reserve units and not regular Army.

In a way, we were draft dodgers but only because we saw a way to complete our military obligation while still maintaining civilian lives. This of course was legal and not like the young men who went running to Canada when the Vietnam war heated up. At this time there were only military advisors in Vietnam and no regular U.S. troops.

The Salem 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade company was a brigade headquarters company. While we were all trained in basic infantry tactics, we were mostly a company of radio operators, clerks and truck drivers. After six months of basic training in the regular army at Fort Ord California, we came home to weekly night meetings and two weeks of training in Washington state at Fort Lewis or the Yakima firing center.

There is an informational display on Highway 26, the Sunset Highway, at the rest area between Portland and Seaside. Because the 41<sup>st</sup> nickname is the Sunset Division, this is perhaps an appropriate location. The unit patch worn on uniforms was a colorful representation of the setting sun in the colors of red, gold and blue. Unfortunately, in the 1980s all military services went to a camouflage mode on uniforms and the Sunset patch is no longer colorful.



*Badge of the 6th Army, 41st Infantry Division (Sunset Division) on display in our museum.*



## Recent Donations

Marilyn and Carl Barner donated thirteen Post, Look, and Life magazines from 1963 to 1965 for museum files, or for sale to benefit the museum. Thank you!



## Brooks Historical Society

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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)**

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### BHS Officers and Board

President - Frank Cunningham

Vice-President - Dan Groah

Treasurer - Dorene Standish

Recording Secretary - Vicki Cunningham

Correspondence Secretary - Marilyn Barner

Board - Position 1- Louis Sowa

Position 2- Leah Duda

Position 3- Sharon Shelton

Position 4 - Carl Barner

### 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 Powerland

**Heritage Park:** From I-5 - take Exit 263 -- go west approx. 1/4 mile to: Powerland Heritage Park, 3995 Brooklake Road, Brooks, OR 97303. We are in Building 6.

**Interested in Powerland Heritage Park?**

Visit [antiquepowerland.com](http://antiquepowerland.com)