

Brooks Historical Society Newsletter

October 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.



BHS Annual Meeting November 7

Welcome all to the Brooks Historical Society Annual meeting at 10 am November 7. The meeting will be held at the Masonic Lodge, just north of Brooks, at 9222 Highway 99E.

The agenda will include

- Introductions
- Annual Reports
- Vote on proposed change to the bylaws eliminating Board Directors' term limits
- Elections of Officers

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will forego our usual potluck lunch. Commercially prepared coffee and dessert plus soda and water will be provided. You are welcome to bring your own lunch, if you wish.



Christmas at Powerland!

Brooks Historical Society and the other museums of Powerland Heritage Park are pleased to announce an alternate celebration for Christmas, a Christmas Drive Through Event. Entry will be by donation.

Over several evenings, we will provide a route through Powerland where you can see innovative light displays. We are thrilled to be able to offer this opportunity in a fun and safe manner.

Check out the [BHS Facebook Page](#), and the [Powerland Heritage Park](#) website for full details as they develop..

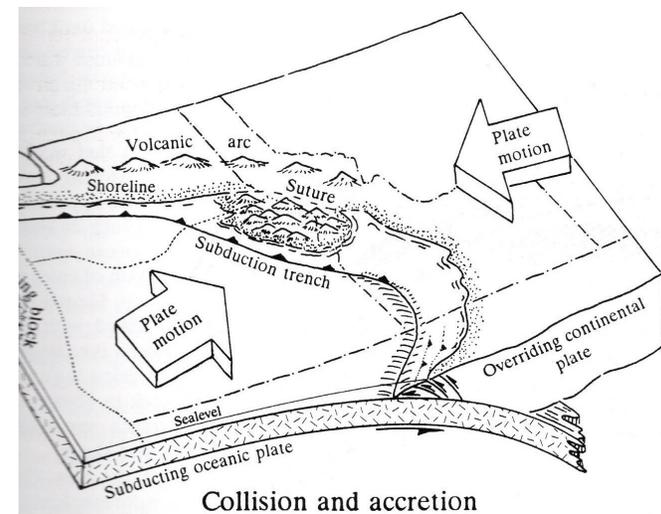
Please note bathrooms will be available throughout the route but not sanitized on a regular schedule. Visitors must remain in their vehicle at ALL times and follow the indicated one-way route through Powerland. Entry is by donation.

Historic Geology of Lake Labish and the Surrounding Area

In writing history, a writer has to consider where (or when) to start. The novelist, James Michener, would go way back in time. When writing his novel, **Centennial**, on western expansion in Colorado, Michener pre-dated the early fur trappers and settlers. He even wrote about central Colorado before the indigenous people came. In chapter one, we don't see buffalo on the plains. We see diplodocus, stegosaurus and probably a T-Rex.

The historic area where Lake Labish would be at the time of dinosaurs, never saw animals kicking up the dirt as they roamed. This was because there wasn't any dirt. Only pre-historic ocean. If you wanted to read a book on a sandy Pacific beach, you would have to go to Boise. If everything west of Idaho was ocean water, how did Oregon and the land that would contain Lake Labish get here?

Geologic discoveries since the 1960's have given us **plate tectonics**. That is continents of light granite rock can move over the top of ocean basins of heavy basalt

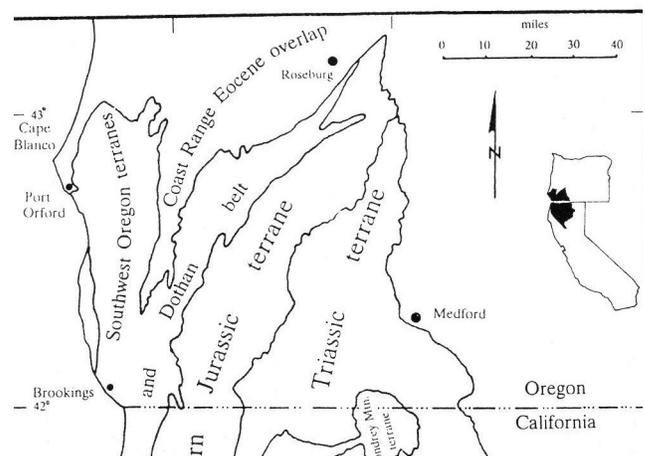


lavas. The oceanic plate, being heavier dives below the approaching continental plate. This is called **subduction**. While

descending, the movement can lockup but not the pressure. When the movement does reoccur, it is sudden, and a subduction earthquake happens.

As they move, oceanic plates often carry land masses called **terrane**s. These structures are too large to be swallowed under the continental plate. These terranes become attached to the continent. Some terranes are massively high and readily show on their new host continent. The Blue Mountains and the Klamath

52 Klamath Mountains



mountains are examples. Other terranes are not as high and become covered with gravel sediments or lava. Since the time of dinosaurs, accumulated terranes have formed the present far western United States. And of course, one such terrane lies under Lake Labish and most of western Oregon. Forty million years ago the volcanic system of sea mounts called Siletzia came ashore as a terrane and formed a continental basement. At first there was a shallow sea over the new terrane as the land subsided. Fossil rich ocean sediments occurred. This was followed by Columbia River lavas. And then the Columbia River and Cascade Mountain streams built huge alluvial fans of rocky debris and gravel terraces over the bedrock. These gravels



Example of a cone shaped alluvial fan

now contain large aquifers that has been generous to both domestic and commercial uses in the Willamette Valley and of course, Lake Labish. The Missoula floods of around 15,000 years ago left thick silts that enhance agriculture around Lake Labish and the Willamette Valley.

There is a new idea that Lake Labish may be the remnants of a former Willamette River bed. Historically, Willamette Valley rivers frequently changed routes. The Columbia River once entered the ocean in Lincoln County. The Willamette River in the Lake Labish area may have been blocked by sediments of rivers flowing from the Cascade Mountains. The blocked river left a shallow lake that slowly became a peat-rich marsh that became a hunting ground for the Calapooya indigenous people. In the early 1900's Labish Lake was drained and the land cleared by farmers of pioneer stock to become what is today.

~ by Dan Groah

CREDITS

Oregon Geology

In Search of Ancient Oregon

Elizabeth and William Orr

Ellen Morris Bishop

Sixth Edition, Fifth Printing

Oregon State University Press, Timber

Press, Corvallis, Oregon

2011, 2012

Lake Labish

Early Land Owners and Events

Sons of Labish

2006

Illustrations from **Geology of Oregon** by Elizabeth L Orr and William N. Orr, fifth edition, Kendall Hunt Publishing 1976



**Brooks Historical Society
Celebration Day - Saturday,
June 19 2021**

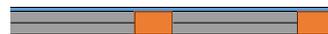
Covid-19 has forced cancellation of all scheduled 2020 events. However in 2021 we plan to present "**The Aftermath of the Great Willamette Flood of 1861**" which had been planned for our June celebration this year.

Through history portrayers and readings from a biographical book of the time, we will bring to life what it was like to live through this historic flood, and the difficulties of recovery from such an event. The Saturday event will run from 10 am to 3 pm and include a (potluck?) lunch and a book signing. Stay tuned to our Facebook page for up to date information.

**Brooks Historical Society
Celebration Day -
Saturday, June 18, 2022**

The **Gervais High School Reunion - 100 Years of Gervais High School** event is planned for Saturday, June 18, 2022 at Powerland Heritage Park. All current and former teachers, and alumni of all ages are invited to join the festivities.

Notify the planning group through jjames@oregonsbest.com to make sure you are on their email/contact list.



Welcome New Member!

Karen Grant

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

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