

# Brooks Historical Society Newsletter

January 2014, Vol. 1

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

## Annual Meeting Nov. 9

The meeting was called to order by President Louis Sowa at the Brooks Masons Lodge, 9222 Portland Rd, Brooks.

Present were about 20 members and guests including the Executive Director of Antique Powerland, **Pamela Vorachek**. She introduced herself with a short resume of her experience with non-profits, and reported that her major work focus for now will be on marketing, networking and promotions of events.

Miguel Salinas, a local historian of the Hispanic community, spoke for a few minutes about his efforts to bring people together to celebrate their past.

Elections were held, and the slate of officers put forward by the nominating committee was approved.

2014 officers are:

President, Louis Sowa; Vice-President, Bob Brown; Treasurer, Dorene Standish; Correspondence Secretary, Texie Lou Hilyer Price; Recording Secretary, Vicki Cunningham; Directors Mary Ray, Dan Groah, Leah Ott, and Marilyn Barner.



Louis Sowa gave a **president's report on projects BHS** has worked on during the 2013 year, including being open 13 weekends, the Ag Show, the Horse Drawn vehicle museum, the BHS celebration of the Japanese Farmers of Lake Labish, the Car Show, and the Steam Up. He mentioned ongoing projects such as electronic copying and video recording, and noted that we plan to honor the French Prairie Heritage Rose Garden at our June Brooks Historical Society Celebration.

After the meeting, we celebrated with an excellent potluck lunch.

## Everything is Coming Up Roses!

The French Prairie Heritage Rose Garden was a **recipient of a grant for \$6950** from the Fred W. Fields Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation. These funds will purchase the marker to commemorate Fr. Schoener, which will be placed at the Chemeketa Community College in Brooks.

Here at APMA, the additional funds will allow the Rose Garden to have rose signs in color at each rose bush. The Mission Rose cutting was received from the Applegate family in Yoncalla along with the story of the rose, and will be planted when the weather allows.

A surge in volunteer hours from APMA has resulted in progress on the garden. The white picket fence is completed, the garden rototilled again, and some roses have been planted. Two APMA volunteers have agreed to build the garden pavilion using funds the FPHRG committee has raised.

## Willamette Heritage Center Exhibit



The French Prairie Heritage Rose Garden will be featured in an exhibit at the Willamette Heritage Center at the Mill in Salem from March 8 through May 31. The Northwest

Rose Historians will give a presentation there on March 22 at 1:00 pm in the Dye house on the site. BHS members and officers are encouraged to attend. The community is welcome.

*A French Prairie Heritage Rose Garden "Before" picture. Watch this space for further developments!*



## Brooks Memorial to Honor Fr. Schoener's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday March 21

On March 21, the Northwest Rose Historians and the Rose Garden Committee of the Brooks Historical Society will dedicate a memorial for Fr. Schoener on the Brooks Chemeketa Community College campus. This is the former site of the Church of the Assumption, where Fr. Schoener served as a priest and propagated his first roses using native Oregon Nutkana. Fr. Schoener was internationally known as the "Padre of the Roses" and March 21 would be Fr. Schoener's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. The memorial is about 3 feet tall with an open book which will be inscribed with information about Fr. Schoener and his work in rose development.



## Brooks Historical Society Celebration

Our Annual Brooks Historical Society Celebration will be the third Saturday of June, which is June 21, 2014, from 10 am to 3 pm. We will be **dedicating the French Prairie Heritage Rose Garden**, with an open museum and tours of the rose garden. The dedication ceremony will be at 1:00 pm followed by light refreshments.

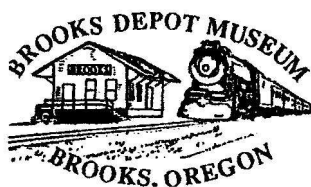


## Filing Workday

It was a successful filing workday on Wednesday December 18. About 6 volunteers worked on cleaning and organizing materials in the Brooks Depot office. Coffee, pizza, and treats helped the work go more smoothly. But there is still more to do! Call one of the officers if you would like to help. Or attend our next BHS meeting, the first Saturday of each month.

## Annual Dues

Don't forget your annual dues for 2014 are due now. Dues are \$15/year per person, and only \$5/year for students. Business memberships are

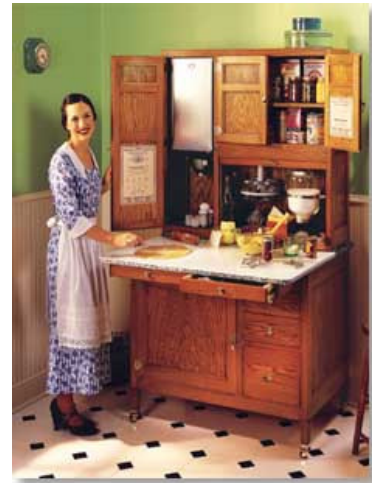


\$35/year. See the back page for mailing information.

## Hoosier Wanted

Brooks Historical has been collecting artifacts for the 1910 Farm House at the entrance to the APMA grounds.

Over 70% of required artifacts have been collected or committed for loan. We need still a Hoosier, which is a kitchen cabinet with a flour storage and sifter



built in- it looks a lot like a pie cupboard. If you have one, or know someone who does, call Dorene Standish, [503-393-2053](tel:503-393-2053).

## Help Wanted

Louis Sowa, Michelle Duchateau and Frank Cunningham interviewed Gary Clark of The Steam Fiends and APMA on January 4. Our video team has also interviewed Al Hall of APMA.

The BHS film team has made several videos recording the experiences of other elders in our community. We would love to polish these gems with some video editing. Do you have experience editing video, or know someone who does? Have them contact



Louis Sowa at [lsowa@earthlink.net](mailto:lsowa@earthlink.net).

## Brooks Historical Society

1 (503) 390-0698

3995 Brooklake Rd. NE  
Brooks, OR 97303

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 9265  
Brooks, OR 97305



### MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### 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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#### 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 Ott  
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](http://antiquepowerland.com)