

Brooks Historical Society Newsletter

October 2016 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.

BHS Annual Meeting November 5

Welcome all to the Brooks Historical Society Annual meeting at 10 am November 5. The meeting will be held at the Masonic Lodge, just north of Brooks, at 9222 Highway 99E.

The agenda will include

- ◆ Introductions
- ◆ Annual Reports
- ◆ Elections of Officers
- ◆ Plans for next year

A **Potluck lunch** will follow, BHS will provide meat dishes, soda, water and coffee, and table settings.

Check out the BHS
Facebook page.



Slate of Nominees 2017

The **slate of nominees** provided by the Nominating Committee is:

- ◆ President – Frank Cunningham
- ◆ Vice-President – Dan Groah
- ◆ Treasurer- Dorene Standish
- ◆ Recording Secretary – Vicki Cunningham
- ◆ Corresponding Secretary – Marilyn Barner
- ◆ Director Position 3 (3-year term) Sharon Shelton (2017-2020)



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

*Pictured—
BHS Celebration June 2016
Ghost Towns of French and
Howell Prairies*

Linus & Eliza (Humiston) Golden Wedding: 19 April 1826-19 April 1876

*From The Long Trail to Paradise,
compiled by Geraldine Gilman*

“Among the well known and much respected families among the old settlers of Marion County, is that of Mr. Linus Brooks, proprietor of the town of Brooks on the railroad, eight miles north of Salem, at the southern and fruitful edge of French Prairie. Mr. Brooks and his wife, three boys and daughter, came to Oregon in 1850 and took the donation claim where they now live in 1851, having resided thereon for twenty-six years. Since that time the stage coach that ran only semi-occasionally past the homestead has given place to the railroad; the station and cluster of stores, shops and houses is close by, and the school house and graceful church spire, with attractive homes on every hand, form a striking contrast to the bare prairie stretch that greeted the early settler. Since then the boys have grown up and gone forth to their own work life, only one being located near the home. Samuel L. Brooks, the eldest, has for many years been a prosperous merchant and influential citizen of The Dalles, where he is known as a worker of good. He is married, but they have no children to bring to the old homestead. Maria Brooks, the only daughter, married W. E. Brainard, a prosperous farmer and fruit raiser, whose farm is about four miles from East Portland on the base line road. E. Selden Brooks farms land of his own, adjoining the home farm, has

a beautiful cottage home and wife and child to add to its charms. Henry J. Brooks lives at Chehalis, Lewis County, W. T., and fills the responsible position of County Clerk of that county. He also has a family and they, too, came home to greet the parents on the fiftieth return of the marriage day which was Thursday, April 19th. In addition to the sons and daughter, there were many friends present. Among them were the Reverend O. Dickenson. Mr. Dickenson was for many years the pastor of the Congregational Church at Salem, of which the members of the Brooks family were communicants....

“Mr. Linus Brooks was born in 1805, in Geauga County, Ohio, fifth son of white parents born in what is now the rich and populous Western Reserve. He moved to Illinois from which state he came to Oregon in 1850. Mrs. Brooks travelled in 1819 from her birth place, Wallingford, Connecticut in wagons to Buffalo, N.Y. and has made the long journey from the Atlantic to the Pacific by the same conveyance, excepting the short stretch of the length of Lake Erie, in 1819 which portion of the way was made by steamboat. But there is something memorable in that steamboat journey, for it was on the boat called ‘Walk the Water’, the first steamboat to ever be put on Lake Erie.”



Welcome New Members!

Annabelle DeLap
Gary Clement

Brooks Celebration 2017 “Brooks Then and Now”

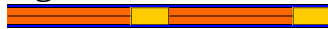
The theme of the 2017 Brooks Historical Society Celebration Day on June 17, 2017 will be “Brooks Then and Now.” ***Historic Photos and stories of Brooks in the distant (and not so distant) past would be most welcome!***



Work Party November 10

Details of the 2017 BHS celebration will be the major topic of a **work party at 12 noon on Thursday, November 10** at the museum. Ideas include contacting local businesses, and churches and asking for their history. Also, contacting longtime residents for their remembrances or those of their ancestors regarding land use past and present in the Brooks area.

Plans include documenting with photos and perhaps maps the current layout of Brooks for reference by future generations.



Wanted:

Golf Cart/4-wheeler in good condition, preferably with a four cycle gas engine, for use in hauling BHS vending supplies and/or members on our grounds. Reasonable price, please. Donations to Brooks Historical Society, a 501 (c) 3 organization, are tax deductible.

Contact Frank at 503-390-6697.

Steam-Up News

At the Steam-Up and again at Family Day, our loyal volunteers staffed the museum, provided food and drink for event-goers, and raised enough funds to support our Society through the year.

Several new ventures were used during Steam-Up. The used book sale was a success. And a portable pump organ that Leah Duda put out for the public to play was enjoyed by many.

Below is Leah trying out her own pump organ, in front of the display of doll-size quilts that were for sale again this year at the museum.



New Museum References

Willamette Valley Railways; Images of America Series. Richard Thompson, Arcadia Publishing 2008.

Willamette Landings; Ghost Towns of the River. 2nd edition. Howard McKinley Corning. Oregon Historical Society.

Oregon Geographic Names, 6th edition. Lewis A. McArthur, Oregon Historical Society Press.

Brooks Historical Society

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Brooks, OR 97305



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

BHS Officers and Board

- President - Louis Sowa
- Vice-President - Dan Groah
- Treasurer - Dorene Standish
- Recording Secretary - Vicki Cunningham
- Correspondence Secretary - Marilyn Barner
- Board - Position 1- Bob Brown
- Position 2- Leah Duda
- Position 3- Frank Cunningham
- Position 4 - June Gibson

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

Interested in Powerland Heritage Park?
Visit antiquepowerland.com