

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 Newsletter

October 2017, Vol IV

<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.



Discovery/Learning Day Saturday, January 20, 1 pm

Brooks Historical Society members and friends will hold a Discovery Day on January 20, 2018. We will learn about a history topic(s) and perhaps learn a hands-on skill. Afterwards, we will socialize and enjoy refreshments. More details in our next newsletter!

BHS Annual Meeting November 4

Welcome all to the Brooks Historical Society Annual meeting at 10 am November 4. 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.

Ag Shows in Our Future

Though the January Portland Ag Show has been cancelled, we will attend the Rickreall Mid-Valley Ag show in February, and the Salem Ag Show at the Fairgrounds in April. The Salem Show has a focus of “kid-friendly” events. We plan to bring our small croquet setup and offer our popular “button game.”

Brooks Historical Celebration Day 2018, June 16.

Plans are already underway for our Brooks Historical Celebration Day, June 16 from 10 to 3 pm. Under strongest consideration as our possible topic is the City of Gervais and Sam Brown. We would also like to include information about more recent Hispanic and Russian settlers. If you have some information to share, please contact Vicki Cunningham at 503-390-6697.

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

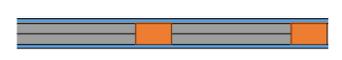
- President - Frank Cunningham
- Vice-President - Dan Groah
- Treasurer - Dorene Standish
- Recording Secretary - Vicki Cunningham
- Correspondence Secretary - Marilyn Barner
- Board - Position 1- Louis Sowa
Position 2- Leah Duda
Position 3- Sharon Shelton
Position 4 - Gary Clement

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



Bethel Park, Brooks

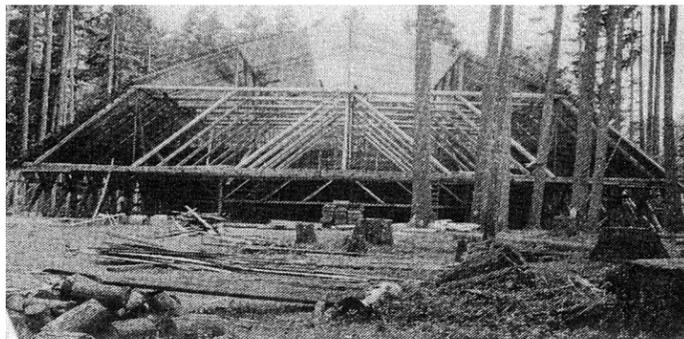
From a presentation by Dorene Standish, June 17, 2017 "Brooks Then and Now." Photos from the book, "1936-1986 Building for Tomorrow; Assemblies of God Oregon District Council."

As you drive north of Brooks along Highway 99E, on the left, to the west, is the former camp site purchased by the Assemblies of God in 1941 for their summer camps. At the time, it was covered with tall timber, perfect for camping and meeting in tents. Lots were leased, and later people would build their homes on the leased lots



Main Tent

Timber on the site was cut and used to build the Tabernacle, starting in May 1944 and nearing completion with a sawdust floor in July of 1944. It was used for camp meetings until about 2008, I believe.



In 1945 a storm took many more of the beautiful trees. Those trees were used to build an administrative building 1946. It housed offices, dorm rooms, a dining room, kitchen and auditorium. A new office was built in 1966 and the new dorms built in 1977.



The old Brooks Elementary School, the first school in Brooks, was rolled to the site on logs and used at the roadside as a store, home and gas station, with the name Brookside Auto Park. Later, only the original part of the school building was moved on campus where it still stands in 2017, after many subsequent uses, and some refurbishment.



Brookside Auto Park

Bethel Park Today

The Park houses Northwest University, Salem campus. It is an extension of Northwest University, Kirkland,

Washington. It is an endorsed Assemblies of God liberal arts university, and its mission includes training vocational ministers. Salem Bible College merged with NU on this campus.

In the Park, there are also many homes owned by individuals. A few years back, homeowners were able to purchase the lots their homes were located on. Prior to this, homeowners leased the lots. Oregon Ministry Network is also leasing the building they reside in.

In 2017, West Coast Homes Solutions purchased the entire 41+ acres known as Bethel Park. The future plans are to build many more homes, creating a housing development. The name Bethel Park will continue according to the new owners. However, the cross at the entrance as well as the park name may change as developer sees the need.



Fundraising Plans for 2018

Brooks Historical will continue our popular food vending in 2018, but only for two events. The first is the Fourth of July Re-Enactment and Vintage Trailer Rally, next year July 4-8. The other event is the Great Oregon Steam-Up on July 28 and 29 and August 4 and 5.

Our used book sale will also continue next year. Other plans are pending.

New Faces at Powerland

As you come in, you may see the new caretakers/docents, Patti and Tom Brock, now residing in the Farmhouse. APMA also has a new Administrative Assistant, Sharon Black, who started September 5. Sharon works in the APMA office from 8:30 to 12:30 Monday through Friday.

New Board Member

The BHS board appointed Gary Clement to fill the remainder of the term for Board member June Gibson. Thank you to June for her past service. We welcome Gary and his insights to our board!

BHS Workday October 13

Our next BHS workday will be Friday, October 13, 10 am. In addition to working on our celebration, and discussing fundraising, we will do some physical cleanup and pressure washing. Also we may be working on the track for the new Caboose.

The Caboose is Coming!

Our long awaited caboose will be moved to Powerland grounds on **October 16**. The old S & P caboose is being moved from south of Eugene to Powerland Heritage Park, and must be unloaded with a crane.



It has aging red siding, but the inside is modernized into a large room which would be suitable as a meeting room and reference room for BHS members.

The plan is to place it on a siding to the east of the Brooks Depot. The move will be difficult due to the size of the caboose, and its cupola and trucks (wheels) that may have to be removed before placing on a trailer. If you would like to help lay track for the siding, or provide donations to offset the cost of the move, contact Vicki Cunningham, 503-390-6697.