

### 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 - 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 - Open

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

# Brooks Historical Society Newsletter

October 2018, 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.



### BHS Annual Meeting November 3

Welcome all to the Brooks Historical Society Annual meeting at 10 am November 3. 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.



### Ideas for Brooks Historical Society Celebration 2018

At recent meetings, the Society has discussed celebrating parts of our current collection, by pulling together artifacts and histories already in the museum. This might include exhibits on Larry Mahen, Britt Aspinwall as a historic Brooks Station agent, or crops grown in our area over the years. Stay tuned as we finalize our ideas for the Brooks Celebration June 2019

### Recent Donations –

**Book:** The Burlington Waycars by Randall R. Dannel and Marian L. Reis with Joseph R. Douda.

*Thank you, Steve Rippeteau!*

**Time** capsule from Eldridge Elementary School - Created 1980, Opened in 2000.

It includes a program for the then new school dedication, some polaroid photos, a fashion doll, a matchbox car, a 1978 Sears Catalog, and several other treasures.



### Welcome New Members!

Carol Nivens  
Steve Winters



Country Stores - by Dan Groah

In the early settlements, stores where groceries were bought were a fixture, along with a blacksmith, a hardware store, a pharmacy and maybe even a small bank. At some point, someone thought that the grocery trade could be taken out into the rural areas and a profit be made.

Getting from one place to another was still a rugged and time- consuming task even in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Clear up through the 1920’s some families still relied on horses for transportation. Going into town could be a weekly or monthly affair.

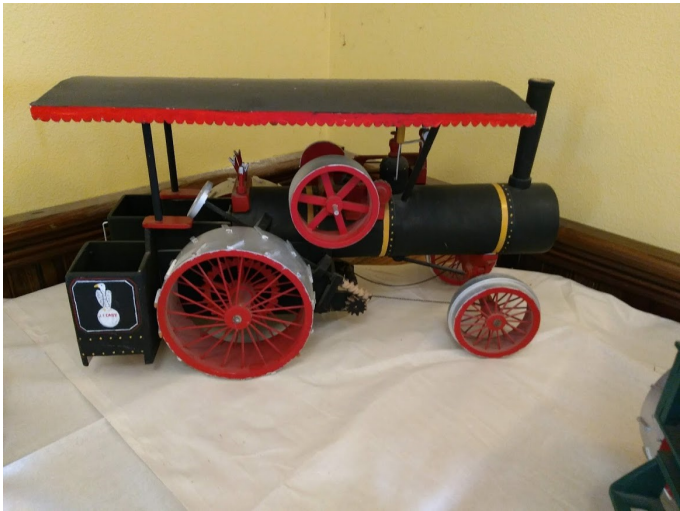
My relative, Don Vinton, had a store in North Howell in the 1930’s to serve that area with basic groceries for families and refreshments travelers. That store did not offer gasoline. There was a store at Central Howell that sold groceries and gasoline maybe equally. On highway 99E south of Woodburn was the Hello World store whose sold some necessities but the emphasis was really gasoline. There was another nearly like it at Deweyville. These were perhaps early convenience stores.

Don Vinton sold the North Howell store to Wilmar and Margaret Fossholm. Even though I was related to Don Vinton, he



was before my time. I knew the store when the Fossholm family owned it. Wil-

mar worked for the county, so he had a day job while Margaret stayed at home (the store) raised a family and waited on customers. Wilmar, while busy at two jobs had an intriguing avocation. He built replica small scale trucks and farm machinery. As a student at North Howell school, we sometimes biked down to the store for a treat after school. There we would admire several shelves of Wilmar’s work while sucking on a Tootsie Pop.

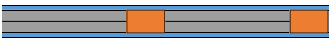


A couple miles to the south on Howell Prairie road was the Central Howell store at the junction of Silverton road. Three miles to the west was the Labish Center store where Labish Center road meets 65<sup>th</sup>. The Brooks store being in a town does not count as a country store, but the Hopmere store two miles to the west might qualify.

The store my family frequented the most was the little store where 75<sup>th</sup> formed a junction with what is now Rambler Drive. Owned by several families over the years, the Stinsons operated it in the early 1950’s. We would go there for our milk, eggs and bread. In the summer, we would buy a water cooled soda in a Coke cooler outside the building. By opening a top sliding door you looked down at a selection of 12 ounce bottles of old standards like Coke, Pepsi and Royal Crown sodas. You could also choose various flavors of orange soda, grape soda, crème soda and

others from companies now long gone ( I wasn’t even sure I could spell Nehi). Once you spied the one you liked, you reached down into that cold circulating water and slowly pulled up a dripping wet bottle. Then you would pull off the crown cap with a bottle opener mounted on the side of the metal cooler. After you took a drink, you would walk away to the sound of your shoes crunching on a layer of old bottle caps.

I have many other memories of the old country stores including the penny candy old Mr. Stinson would sometimes bag up and give to us for free. Eventually, as cars and roads improved, it just became easier to go into town to a Safeway. But some like the Hopmere store are still there.



Caboose Repair -

by Steve Rippeteau

I’m taking it easy today after a full day at Powerland in Brooks helping pull rotted wood out of the 108 year old Burlington Route waycar yesterday. Good thing the CB&Q 14411 was built in 1910 with an early steel frame, otherwise it would have fallen apart. We had to be careful of where we stepped inside after removing the 1” plywood that the Burlington shops used to cover the thick floor planks in



more modern times - maybe 1960 when they painted it bright red. The thick planks had rotted out underneath. The Burlington shops used a spray undercoating like the old Z Bart used on autos. So we did not know how bad until crunching thru the planks.

The roof is braced up inside with 2x4s from the steel under frame up to the ceiling with the other wall still in place. It was in real sad shape, but still has the original wood beam trucks

No animals or humans were harmed during this process. Just sneezing from dust. Then we spent a couple hours planing new boards cut by the steam saw mill to replace the walls. We are making progress. More sneezing though.

**Donations** toward repair of CB& Q 14411 are gratefully received. Use the address on the back of this newsletter.

Gary William Clement 1942-2018

We mark the passing October 2 of Gary Clement, Brooks Historical Society board member. He also enjoyed volunteering for Antique Powerland Museum Association (APMA), the Oregon Vintage Machinery Museum featuring John Deere (of which he was a co-founder) and the Great Oregon Steam-Up. He was APMA Volunteer of the month several times for mowing grass on his John Deere. He will be missed.

