

# Brooks Historical Society Newsletter

October 2010 Vol. 4

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

We gather, preserve and make available material relating to the history of Brooks and neighboring communities having natural, economical and cultural affinity

## Volunteer Appreciation Pot luck

November 13th 2010 at Labish Center Church Hospitality Room. Please bring your friends and Family. Election and meeting, Starts at 10 am until 2pm- Pot luck following the meeting. Community Welcome

## Great Oregon Steam up

Some highlights of Brooks Historical summer events:

Starting in June our Open House event was that we invited several Oregon Historical Societies to visit us at Powerland, in Brooks.

There were about 40 people coming from as far as Newport and Grants Pass.

The first week end of Steam up we held our annual Silent Auction, it was a big success, thanks to all our sponsors and donators.

We also served food in our vending tent. Thanks to our members for the long hot days cooking and selling food. Dean Cuff even brought his BBQ a few days — thanks Dean. Thanks to Marilyn Schlechter Barner and the famous Schlechter sweet corn; the corn on the cob went very well.

## TRUCK SHOW

The Big annual truck show followed. This year was a fantastic event. Trucks from all over the United States were present. If you have never visited the Truck Museum, it is a must see.

September 25 was National Smithsonian Museum Day in which most museums were open to the public for no fee. This was our last opportunity to sell food. Selling food has been the best source of fundraising for Brooks Depot Museum.

\*We are still selling the famous Labish books in which there are three available.

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Brooks Historical people were interviewed and we will have a Disc to sell soon on the early history of Brooks and Labish farming.

Just some people you will see are:

- 1- Sam Ramp
- 2- Red Hess
- 3- Harry Sturgis
- 4- George Sturgis
- 5- Dorthea Aspinwall

Just some of the people on the Disc.

The stories of draining the Lake and the histories we all enjoy.

### **Powerland Improvements**

There are several Improvements at Powerland.

- Trolley is near completion of their Interpretive Center,
- John Deere 2 cylinder club has a new Museum, it is done with interior incomplete.
- NW Car Museum is 1/2 complete.
- Landscaping along with the Farm House are many new improvements.
- The Electric gate has been installed and is working in hopes of better security.
- You will need a password to enter. Contact a Brooks Historical person or the care tak-

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### **NOTICE**

Powerland will be building a period Farm House at the entrance to Powerland. Brooks Historical has been asked to furnish the Living Room and Kitchen. This honor to our Museum is appreciated. If you have any artifacts that you might like to loan or donate please let us know?

## **Mark your Calendar June 18, 2011**

We will be hosting a Family reunion/ recognition for our own Sacajawea as some refer to her. Madame Dorian -Marie Dorian. Jane Kirkpatrick Author and speaker has been invited and if her newest book signing does not have a conflict we will be having a book signing at our Museum.

Madame Dorian, celebrated in Oregon history as a heroic figure for her part in the Hunt Party expedition to Astoria and in the aftermath of the Reed party massacre in 1814, following the death of Pierre Dorian in that bloodshed she married Louis Joseph Vagnier and then later she married Jean Baptiste Toupin who outlived her; burial location in some dispute; claims that she lived to be 100 are an exaggeration; 80 years would be more likely

Adventures of the First Settlers of the Oregon: p.298-304 Mr. Keith was to take a small party and go to the Snake Country in search of Mr. Reed and his party. A guide was engaged at the mouth of the Umatilla. The guide wished to continue with the brigade as far as Walla Walla and from there to Snake County. On the eve of starting a few Indians arrived with the wife of Pierre Dorian ( Marie Dorian) the interpreter. The timely arrival of this poor unfortunate women put an end to the Snake expedition, and the story in her own words can be read at our museum and perhaps in coming up Newsletters.

### **Dues 2011**

You can now pay your 2011 dues anytime. We will be accepting payments at our Annual meeting Nov. 13 at Labish Center Church hospitality room. Pot Luck following. Bring your favorite dish, Meat will be furnished

## John Gervais

John Gervais December 23, 1944 - August 25, 2010 HUBBARD, Ore. - John passed away on August 25, 2010, of pancreatic cancer, at age 65. John was a newspaper editor, legislative lobbyist in Salem, Ore. and Washington DC, and a professional photographer. He loved Oregon history and traveling within the state. He had a warm heart and generous spirit. He was preceded in death by his parents, Isaac Wilkinson Gervais and Eleanor Lucile Edwards Gervais Rye. He is survived by his children, Angela, and John; six grandchildren; siblings, Joan, Jean, Jane, June, Frank; and many nieces and nephews. A private family service was held Saturday, August 28, 2010. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the John Gervais memorial fund at West Coast Bank.

## Grover L. Welty

Grover L. Welty April 17, 1917 - September 23, 2010 SALEM - Grover Welty was born on April 17, 1921, in Pratum, Oregon, to Enoch and Clara (Wenger) Welty. He joined his brother, Homer, and his sister, Ruth. On September 23, 2010, he passed away at his home in Salem. His entire life was spent in the Pratum/Salem area with the exception of the war years when he joined the Navy and was sent to the south pacific. He attended Pratum Grade School, Parrish Jr. High School and Salem High School, graduating in 1938. He then attended Willamette University for a short time before enlisting in the Navy. Upon his honorable discharge from the Navy, Grover returned to Salem where he married Gladys Dalke. They recently celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary. He began working for Allen Hardware in 1946, starting as a delivery boy and worked his way up to manager. In 1968 he became part owner of Brooks

hardware and worked as the store manager until his retirement in 1983. Grover was a lifetime member of Emmanuel (Mennonite) Bible Church. He held many positions in the church including deacon, elder, Sunday school teacher, choir director, and perhaps his favorite: song leader for the congregation. Grover had a love for music and was singing up through his final days. Fishing and golf were Grover's favorite pass times. He also enjoyed attending school functions and sporting events where his children and later, grandchildren were involved. His home was very important to him and he always had a beautifully manicured yard. Any special music program would find him either as a participant or an eager listener. Grover is survived by his beloved wife, Gladys; children, Stan (Betty) Welty of Monmouth, Oregon, Kathie (Dan) Hess of Walla Walla, Washington and John (Denise) Welty of Eugene, Oregon; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren with two more on the way; many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Enoch and Clara Welty; his siblings, Homer Welty and Ruth (Welty) Regier; and one great-grandchild. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., October 2, 2010, at Emmanuel Bible Church with a private memorial at Pratum cemetery preceding. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Emmanuel Bible Church-Missions or the Salem Union Gospel Mission.

Arrangements by  
Howell-Edwards-Doerksen Funeral Directors.

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**Brooks Historical Society**

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

The objective of the Brooks Historical Society and Depot Museum is to be educational, to stimulate an interest in,

**OFFICERS and BOARD**

- President - Larry Leek
- Vice-President - Louis Sowa
- Treasurer - June Smith
- Recording Secretary - Dorene Standish
- Correspondence Secretary - Texie Lou Price
- Board - Position 1 - Bob Brown
- Position 2- Ray Smith
- Position 3 - Frank Cunningham
- Position 4 - Dean Cuff

- Adult Member ----- \$12.00
- Student Membership ----- \$500  
(Elementary and High School )
- Business Membership ----- \$30.00
- 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**

**MEETINGS**

The Brooks Historical Society meets at the Brooks Depot Museum at 10AM 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