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Mark Your Calendar!

23rd Annual
Christmas Parlour Tour
Sunday,
December 8, 2002
2pm-7pm

For more information contact
Albany Visitors Association
(541) 928-0911

Albany Regional Museum

136 Lyon Street SW
Albany, Oregon 97321
(541) 967-7122

Free admission –
donations welcomed

Open Monday thru Saturday
12 noon – 4 p.m.

Tours available at other times
by calling (541) 967-7122

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Every October the Museum has its annual meeting and all members are encouraged to attend. Our purpose is to review what has happened during the past year, note our achievements, and look ahead to future plans and goals. Also, we usually have a speaker or a program. A time of refreshments and an opportunity to visit gives us a chance to get to know one another and become acquainted with the museum facilities and exhibits. This is also an opportunity to visit the upstairs mezzanine office, the second floor artifact storage facility and the large main upstairs room if you have been curious as to what is up there.

The annual meeting this year was October 8 and we were happy to have a good crowd attend. Hasso Hering, editor of the Albany Democrat-Herald, spoke to the group about the colorful history of newspapers that made their appearance in Albany over the years. It was interesting to find out how many newspapers were established in Albany over the years and to have Hasso read various columns from the papers indicating the kind of writing that was offered to subscribers. Listening to them today provided the audience with a great deal of amusement.

The annual meeting is also the time when several board members are selected to serve for a period of three years. Each museum member has a vote in this election. If you or someone you know would like to become a candidate for the Albany Regional Museum Board of Directors let us know and we will set up an interview to get acquainted with the duties and responsibilities of being a board member. Prospective candidates will then have their name put on the ballot for election at the next annual meeting.

City Streets Named After New York State Villages

In the Spring Edition of the Albany Regional Museums Newsletter an article told of how early settlers came about the name of Albany for their new community. Albany is the capital of New York, Thomas and Walter Monteth's home state.

As the Montiehs platted out the new town of Albany one of the first streets to be named was Broadalbin. This was the name of the small village in New York state where, nearby, Thomas Monteith was born in 1824. Walter Monteth was born in Ellsworth, New York, and he named a street after his birthplace.

Broadalbin, now a busy town with a population of just over 5000 is located about 80 miles NW of Albany, New York. The town of Ellsworth, New York has vanished from modern maps.

Broadalbin and Ellsworth are unique names for city streets and both are truly of historical significance in Albany's history.

IT WAS THE LAW

LAWS and ORDINANCES RECORDED IN THE 1878 CITY DIRECTORY FOR THE CITY OF ALBANY

Ordinance 9, Section 1

No person shall be guilty, within the limits of the city of Albany of any brawl or tumult, or commit any assault and battery, or draw a dirk knife, fire arms or other deadly weapons, or resist any peace officer. Violators will appear before the City Recorder and fined for each offence not less than \$5.00 or more than \$100 or imprisoned not less than three days nor more than 20 days.

Reproduced copies of 1878 City of Albany Directory are available for sale at the Albany Regional Museum.

The Next Time You Visit the
Museum, Be Sure to Check
Out Our Fine Selection Of
Picture Postcards

HOBOS WERE ONCE A FAMILIAR SIGHT IN ALBANY

Although hobos appeared in the United States at the start of the 19th century, it was early in the 1900s—as railroads were extending their rails to serve nearly every community in the nation—that they became a familiar part of the American scene. It was the Depression years of the 1930s which saw the greatest increase in the number of hobos “riding the rails.” The number decreased during WWII and hobos today are quite rare.

Albany, as a major railroad town, was a natural stop for the box car riding hobos traveling through the Willamette Valley. After debarking from the freight train they would scatter throughout the town, knocking on doors seeking

odd jobs, such as chopping wood or weeding a garden, in exchange for a little food or some small change.

Older Albany residents might remember the hobos coming to the door of their home, a parent designating a chore and, after the job was satisfactorily completed, the hobo being rewarded and sent upon his way—with a watchful eye making sure he left the property. However, the most common practice was to send the hobo on his way with no work or reward forthcoming.

Sometimes the hobo would hesitate in front of a resident just visited and rearrange

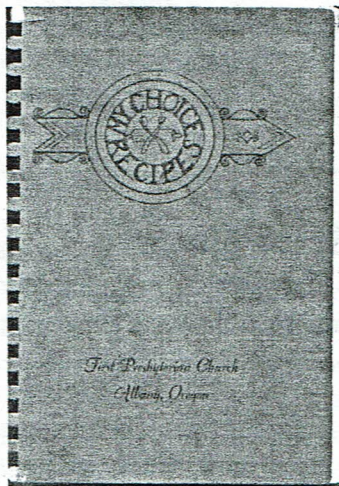
some rocks, or mark figures in the dust or dirt, or draw something on a wooden fence or gate with a piece of chalk.

These were Hobo Signs left behind to inform other hobos what to expect at this particular house, be it positive or negative. There were scores of these universal signs in use. A few of the most commons one are shown here along with what they mean.

SOME OF THE MANY HOBO SIGNS OF THE PAST

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
|  | The Owner Is In |  | Kind Lady Lives Here |
|  | Authorities Here Are Alert |  | Beware of Dog |
|  | Hit the Road Quick |  | Ill Tempered Man Live Here |
|  | Cranky Woman |  | The Sky is The Limit |
|  | You will be Cursed Out |  | Food Here if You Work |

Carol's Corner by Carol McKay



Our collection of cook books at the Museum has grown by six this past month. These are all local and produced mainly by women for their churches.

This time I am going to con-

centrate on the book MY CHOICE RECIPES by the Westminster Group of the First Presbyterian Church, Albany, Oregon, published January, 1951. This was the first book received. Karen Collie, a recent volunteer donated this one. Both her Mother and Grandmother contributed to the cookbook. Rosemary Schoblom, a long time volunteer and supporter of the museum, came up with the second copy of MY CHOICE RECIPES book, plus four others.

I asked some women who belong to the above church how they went about ac-

complishing this publishing of a cookbook. They said it was very labor intensive, asking for families' favorite recipes, reviewing them, typing them, organizing all the material, then getting it published. Most of the books were probably purchased by church members, but this type of money making was very popular in the early 1900s through the 50s, 60s and the 70s. Today I still see recipe books of this sort even with the fast food, dining out attitude of the present.

Karen says her grandmother's pickle recipe in this book are fantastic.

FRENCH PICKLES

by Laura Fitzpatrick

- 1 qt. Vinegar
- 2 tsp. ginger
- 3 C. sugar
- 2 tsp. Mustard seed
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. celery seed
- 1 tsp. Pepper
- 2 tsp. Turmeric powder

boil this! Now, add pickles and just heat through, but don't boil. Cut 30 cucumbers lengthwise. Let stand in salt and water over night (1 C. salt to 2 gal. Water) Wash off in morning, then put in the boiling syrup. Put the pickles lengthwise in the jar (cut cucumbers in 4 slices). Makes 7 pints

Albany Regional Museum Appreciates the Efforts

The Albany Regional Museum would like to thank the following Patrons for the extra help they have given this year and in the past years. It is very much appreciated.

Businesses and Organizations:

Albany Chamber of Commerce
Albany Democrat Herald
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New Patrons Welcomed

The Albany Regional Museum would like to welcome its new patrons. They are:

Gary and Treva Kingston
Randy Tripp
Frank and Linda Morse

Notes from the Research Room by Linda A. Ellsworth

Letters of Orondo Beardsley

"Dear Father, Mother, Brothers, and Sisters, It is with pleasure that I direct these lines to you all tho I have not received a line from any of you since sometime in eighteen hundred and forty three" begins the letter of Orondo Beardsley to his family in a series of letters donated to the Albany Regional Museum by Mary and Frank Rude of Brookings, Oregon.

Orondo informs his family that he is getting ready to leave in the whaling ship Formosa for "another voyage around Cape Horn to China & the Cape of Good Hope".

A series of letters follows him from Chile where he left his ship until in July 1851 he sends a letter home from "Marys Ville, on the Willamette River Ore" (present day Corvallis).

In this letter he tell his parents "that I have left the mines for good, at last. The danger and risk that is run is great and I have kept it still and secret from you that you might not be uneasy about me...From the time I first entered the mines the Indians killed more or less men....The first real action or battle was in May 1850". He then goes on to describe the battle and his part in it. Unfortunately he doesn't say where this battle takes place but it may have been in the Jacksonville area in Southern Oregon as he goes on to say "Came through a very dangerous pass while they were at war with the U.S. Dragoons, a company of eight men, a woman, and child two years old. We traveled over a hundred miles thru their county and arrived here three days ago."

Then in August 1851 Orondo writes from New Albany, Linn Co. O.T. He is working as a blacksmith and has taken a claim "on this Prairie, six miles from New Albany, east by south and this week I shall have a house agoing up on it."

Its advantages are great; grass, timber and wheat country, any quantity of fruit, melons, light winters, very little snow, if any, in the valleys. My views of this country are that it is superior to any of the Atlantic States as regards health, weather, and easy providing for a family."

He is trying to get members of his family interested in coming to Oregon "If either of my sisters should come there is a situation that I would like to have her to take in the family of a Mr. Burkhardt. He has a young wife and wants a woman to take charge of a dairy this ensuing summer."

Orondo's final letter is dated Oct. 4, 1853 from Bellevista, Marion Co. O.T. He says "My partner, Mr. Burt, and myself have just finished the repairing of Mr. S. Smith mill on Silver Creek Marion Co. O.T. The job amounted to six hundred dollars. We have been at it between three and four months...my affairs stand thus: A claim of 160 acres of land in Marion Co. O.T. on the Abercam; one yoke of oxen, ...two..sows, potatoes, corn, tomatoes, beef & pork etc. for winter; very good set blacksmith tools. Claim has two buildings both frame and new."

It is letters like this that open a window onto the past and make our ancestors real. If you should have similiar letters, please consider making copies of them and donating them to the Museum.

Your Donations are Appreciated

The Albany Regional Museum would like to thank the following for their cash donations:

Randal and Jody Kruse
Gwenn and Scott Marchese
Mike and Linda Fish
Lee and Evelyn Ruthruff
Margaret Conser
Charles and Joanne South
Jean Monteith Fischer
Ken and Marilyn Gryte
Ronald and Karen Litwiller
Beverly J. Decker
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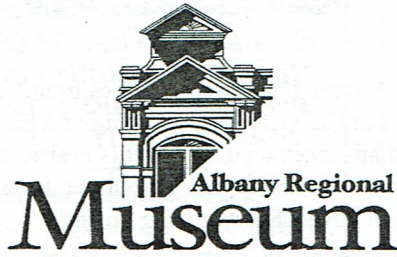
Thanks Again For Your Help

A CHRISTMAS GIFT OPPORTUNITY

If you are looking for a great gift for Christmas perhaps you need a copy of the award winning documentary video about Albany, Oregon during World War II.

The video is entitled "*The Last Day of Innocence*" and includes interviews with local persons and how the war affected them, World War II battle films, Albany scenes during the war, and includes the Albany Veteran's Day parade of two years ago.

The film was produced by former Albany resident Zed Merrill and is sold only by mail or at our Museum. Get your copy from us and save \$5.00 postage. The cost of the film is \$25.00



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Looking Back by Jack Gillespie

In the mid-1930s I and my best friend Harold were 5-year-olds living with our respective families in the, then sparsely populated, Hazelwood Addition in West Albany, just off Broadway Street. At five our world was what we, at any moment, imagined it to be, not hindered by any form of logic, conscious or sensibility.

One hot summer day we were at Harold's house spread out in the shade of a large apple tree. We were busy making our plans to go west and becoming cowboys when we were older. It never occurred to us that 60 miles west would lead us into the Pacific Ocean. But who ever heard of "going east" to become a cowboy?

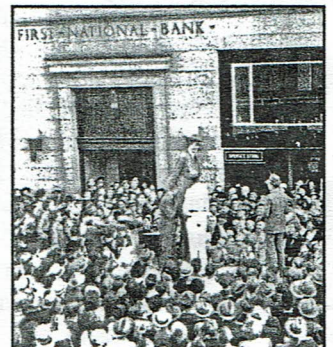
As we pondered our future

plans we were watching Harold's older sister, LaVelle, working in the nearby family garden. LaVelle was a pretty, rather plump, 10-year-old. Harold and I somehow got into a discussion on how much his sister weighed. We threw our guesses back and forth and then Harold walked up to her and asked "LaVelle how much do you weigh? I said you weigh a ton but Jack said you were not an ounce over 600 pounds." Lavelle, much to our amazement, busted into tears and ran to the house.

Harold and I looked at each other and shrugged our shoulders. All we wanted was a simple answer to a simple question. We soon changed the subject to a coming event.

My father promised to take

Harold and I to town the next day to the Spence's "Buster Brown's" Shoe Store on First Street, where the world's tallest man was to appear. We began to guess the height of such a person. Harold said 30 feet but I, aware of my friend's tendency to exaggerate, insisted there was no way he would be over 20 feet tall.



World's tallest man comes to Albany in the 30's sponsored by Spence's "Buster Brown" Shoe Store.