

President's letter

In June our Museum was approved to participate in a U. S. History Project grant sponsored by the Linn-Benton-Lincoln Educational Service District. Schools and Historical groups in the three counties have been partnered to work on ways to improve the educational programs of both organizations. Our two teacher interns for the summer were Patti Ball from Lincoln Elementary School in Corvallis, and Denis Rector from West Albany High School.

Patti and members of our staff developed instructional plans and lessons for student tours as well as a student walking tour of the Historical Downtown District. Denis has been working on our photo collection, getting them organized and identified for exhibit and eventual entry into our computer program. Visitors will then be able to look up any photo in our collection and we will be able to make copies for them.

The Museum grant totaled \$2,800 with an additional \$2,200 going to the teacher interns. Denis has not completed his hours and will be doing additional work during the fall. Some of the Museum funds have been used to purchase mobile exhibit panels for displays outside of the Museum. Also a Traveling Trunk for school use was purchased as well as a portable cassette recorder. We made an audio tape recording of our exhibits and written script materials for docent guide training. If you would like to be a volunteer and show persons through the museum and answer questions about the exhibits be sure and contact us.

Thanks for your continued support of our local Museum.

Jerry Brenneman

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Billy Sunday at 1920 Albany Chautauqua

The Monday July 19, 1920 Albany Daily Democrat reported that Billy Sunday "takes rap at radicals, President, League of Nations, and Democratic Party" during his Sunday Chautauqua presentation at the Bryant Park pavillion. He was the "extra number" feature of the annual summer educational-and-entertainment gathering.

Ianthe Smith, Albany Democrat Herald columnist and society editor, was there and remembered how he "moved about freely-and I use that word reservedly. I could say he jumped up and down and jumped up and set on the back of a chair while exhorting." An audience of 5000 people heard his talk on Americanism, good citizenship, and Christianity. Ianthe concluded her observations with "his antics while talking completely fascinated me....he was a fabulous person."

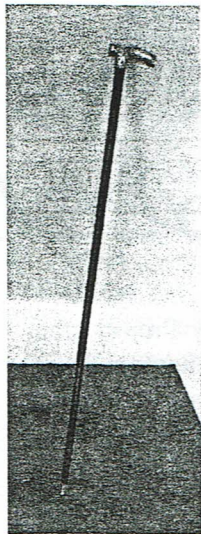


PLEASE ATTEND...
The Annual Members'
Meeting Tuesday
October 7, 2003, 7pm
at the Albany Regional
Museum

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

Albany's First Mayor-1865: Joseph C. Powell

by Gary Kingston



The Albany Regional Museum recently acquired an elegant walking cane and lady's parasol belonging to Judge Powell, first mayor of Albany, and his wife. They were said to have been presented to the Powell's in honor of his retirement, but in fact he was actively practicing law up until his death at age 78.

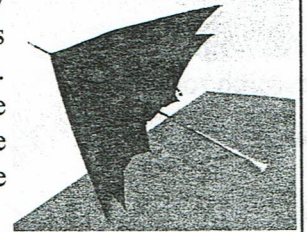
Joseph Powell was born in Lee, Oneida County, New York, on August 26, 1821. He was admitted to the bar at Watertown in 1854 following law studies at Central Square, New York. Two years later he traveled to California and then came to Oregon in 1858, settling in Albany in 1860. That same year he married Kate M. Finlayson (born in Indiana).

Powell was Linn county judge from 1862 to 1866, Albany mayor in 1865, and in 1868 he was elected district attorney for the third judicial district and served two terms. Much of his law practice was as an independent attorney, although he was associated with both L. Flinn and W.R. Bilyeu for many years. At the time of his death, 2 am Monday October 2, 1899, at his home, he had been active as justice of the peace and tried a case about a week previous. Death was attributed to complications of disease and paralysis. He was at the time Albany's oldest lawyer and had practiced law here for nearly 40 years.

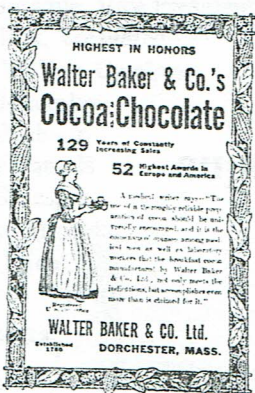
Judge Powell was a major player in the development of Albany College. He was a charter member of the board of trustees from 1866 to his death. His dedication was exemplified by the observation that he had rarely missed a meeting over his 33 years of service.

Powell's wife was in critical condition at his death. Others surviving him were a daughter, Mrs. Fred (Anna) Blumberg and a son, James. A third child, Francis, had apparently died earlier, but was not mentioned in the obituaries.

A measure of the man's importance in the community was shown by the names of his pall bearers: Judge L. Flinn, S. E. Young, L. E. Blain, J. K. Weatherford, James Elkins, and L. H. Montayne. Services were held at the Powell home situated on the canal and former site of the Linn County courthouse which burned in 1861. Rev. C. R. Stevenson delivered a short sermon. Members of the Linn County bar were in attendance as were trustees, faculty and students of the college. Remains were placed in the Riverside cemetery.



Carol's Corner by Carol McKay



Marty Tripp has been interested in this column from the very beginning. One day she brought in her Mother's favorite Cookbook that she brought to

Oregon from her home in Ellendale, Noth Dakota. It has 108 pages, and was put together by the ladies of the Presbyterian church and it's title is Ellendale Cuisine. I picked out a few items that intrigued me.

Veal Bewitched

Chop fine 3 lbs. of veal taken from the leg, 1/4th lb. of salt pork., 1 cup of

bread crumbs, 3 teaspoons of salt, 1 of black pepper, a scant half teaspoon of cayenne and a pinch of cloves; work in thoroughly 2 raw eggs and put in mold or kettle, shut tightly and steam 3 hours; remove from fire and put in the oven a short time to dry, the oven door must be left open, when cold turn out, cut in thin slices and serve. A nice meat jelly improves this veal dish.

-Mrs. Main

Miscellaneous

- Kerosene will remove rust from bolts and bars.
- Kerosene on a cloth will prevent flatirons from scorching.
- Ammonia takes finger marks from paint.
- Ammonia cleanses hair brushes.
- Salt in whitewash will make it stick.

Coffee information of Practical Value

- If the water used in making has boiled so long that it has become flat, this quality will be transmitted to the coffee.
 - If a tin coffee pot is used with the plating worn off-poor coffee will be the result.
 - If the coffee pot is not thoroughly cleansed after using, with clear scalding water, your next batch will be spoiled.
 - First place the necessary coffee in the pot, then add the water at boiling, boil for 5 minutes, pour large tablespoon of cold water. This will force the grounds to the bottom and render the liquid perfectly clear.
- Does anybody make coffee like this?

SPECIAL NOTICE!!!

The videos of the 21 "Old Time Albany" persons who were interviewed for the proposed Albany History Film are now at the museum.

Each video runs from 8 to 15 minutes or so and is available for viewing any time the museum is open from noon to 4:00 p.m. The TV/VCR is set up in the Tripp Research room and Nellie can get the video you wish to watch.

So far we have not set up a means to copy the Video for families that wish to purchase a copy but we have plans to do so in the future.

—A REMINDER—

THE ANNUAL MEMBERS
MEETING IS
OCTOBER 7, 2003,
7 P.M. IN THE
ALBANY REGIONAL MUSEUM

- PROGRAM, Special Guest Jackson Frost will give a presentation: "Stories From the Linn County Courthouse."
- VOTING, It is your right as a member of the Albany Regional Museum to vote for incoming board members. If you would like to make a nomination please contact the Museum prior to the meeting.
- DESSERT, courtesy of board members and friends. Enjoy dessert and talk with other museum members to find out what is happening at the museum.

YOUR ATTENDANCE
IS ENCOURAGED

Notes from the research room

by Linda A. Ellsworth

Recently it was reported to me that some visitors to the Museum made disparaging remarks about the lack of resources in our Research Room.

They must have ignored the nearly 100 years' worth of Albany City Directories that tell who lived in Albany, where they lived; who else lived there and what work they did; telephone directories from the 1920s to present and Albany High School yearbooks from 1908 which have pictures.

They must not have looked in the Edward Hereth's notebooks that have history on a myriad of topics relating to Albany; nor the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* magazine covering a century of history in Oregon or the *American Heritage Magazine* with articles on all aspects of American history. They must not have noticed the 1,555 pages of Portrait and biographical record of the Willamette Valley, Oregon, c1903.

They must have been unaware of the Fred Nutting's Old Time Albany, a collection of columns by Fred in the 1930s that cover the history of Albany and the people who lived it. The index to this book makes it very useful.

And they certainly overlooked the bound ledgers of City of Albany and Linn County records in the southeast corner of

the research room. After all the title Record of Wills doesn't look like the treasure mine it is when researching families. A total of nine volumes cover the years 1889 to 1971.

Some wills are simple like Samuel E. Young's filed Dec. 4, 1919 who left his estate to his wife Naomi and son Percy, share and share alike. He was the original owner of the building that houses the Museum. He was also one of the richest men in Albany. He left instructions that his business was to continue without paying a bond.

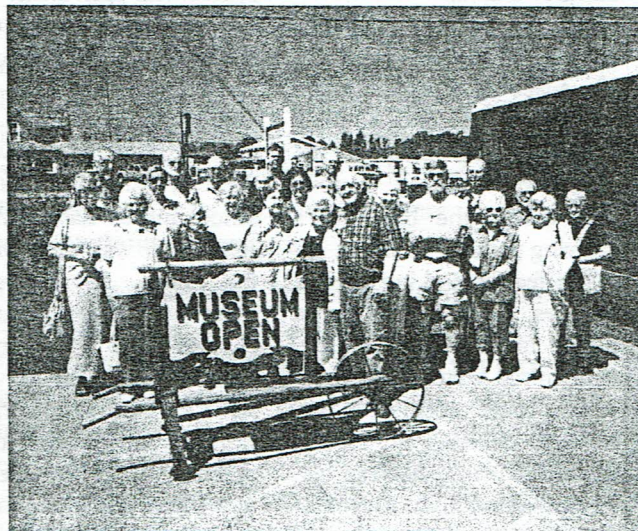
Or wills can be very specific like that of Joseph Myers filed Feb. 14, 1936 that lists the names and addresses of his eight children with the married names of his daughters and the names of two grandchildren.

Wills can have a mystery. Why did Margaret A. Monteith, widow of Walter Monteith, one of the founders of Albany, in her will filed April 30, 1921 specifically leave \$5.00 to her grandson, Charles Duncan Monteith, but the bulk of her estate with the value unstated to her son Malcolm J. Monteith?

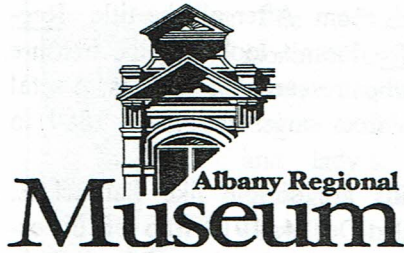
Finally wills can help solve mysteries such as the correct spelling of a daughter's married name which allowed one of our members to effectively trace the family tree.

So there is more than meets the eye in our Tripp Research Room.

Patrons Visit Polk County Museum



Patrons of the Albany Regional Museum made their first out-of-town summer trip to the Polk County Museum in Rickreall July 26. President Jerry Brenneman said the trip was "our way of recognizing the generous support of our Patrons, and to learn about other venues of history in the Willamette Valley." The 28-member delegation traveled by charter bus, toured the museum and had a no-host lunch before returning to Albany.



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Volunteers – Shannon Willard

Looking back by Jack Gillespie

Following World War II the leaders of the City of Albany—following the trend of other area cities—made an important decision.

By 1947 parking meters were in place throughout the downtown area.

The logic used was that if drivers had to pay for a parking space they would move along faster or find a “free” parking area outside the downtown metered zone—thus easing the busy city’s growing parking problem.

The fee for parking was 12 minutes for a penny and a nickel for an hour. A specially hired Meter Man would walk a route reading the meters and ticketing the cars of those whose time had ran out. The ticket would cost the violator 50 cents if paid promptly at the police station

then located on Second Street. (on the site of the present Two River Market). If not paid on time the penalty would go up to a \$1.00.

To many drivers the parking meters were not welcomed with open arms.

In 1947 I was a sophomore at Albany High School (on Third Street) I worked at the Ben Franklin Variety Store on First Street (now the Weatherford law offices) after school and on Saturdays. Mr. John Bain was the owner of the store. Each working morning he would park his Hudson Town Car in front of the store and “go to work.” After the parking meters were installed he continued this practice—ignoring the meters. Every few hours the Meter Man would make an appearance and slip a parking

ticket under the windshield wipers of the Hudson. At the end of the workday Mr. Bain would go to the car, remove the tickets, dispose of them and drive off. He adamantly declared that he had the right to park his car in front of his business without putting money into a meter.

One afternoon while I was working the Meter Man walked into the store and escorted Mr. Bain away. Some time later he returned, pushed some nickels into my hand and told me that during my working hours it was my responsibility to “feed the meter” for the Hudson. I don’t know who fed the meter when I wasn’t working—I doubt if Mr. Bain ever could bring himself to do so.

The meters were removed some 20 years later.