

Albany Old Times

206 1/2 Hotel

By Cathy Ingalls, Museum Board Member

When life handed a young Albany mom lemons, it wasn't practical to open a lemonade stand that wouldn't pay the bills, so a better financial option was to create an Airbnb downtown.



Ashlee Graybeal in 206 1/2 Hotel, 2019. Photo courtesy Kay Burt.

And that's just what Ashlee Graybeal, 33, is doing at 206½ Second Ave. S.W., in the apartments above Margin Coffee, the site of the former Stetter's Cash Store that opened in 1909.

Graybeal's husband, Daniel, died unexpectedly of an undiagnosed heart ailment in January 2018. By August 2018 she had taken over the building's upstairs that had served as apartments, a hotel, and housing for wives of soldiers serving at Camp Adair during World War II.

Graybeal already knew something about running Airbnbs because two years ago she opened one in her Sixth Avenue house (built in 1900). That business pays the mortgage on her house and supplies a little money to cover expenses for her family, which includes children Trevor, 12, Connor, 9, and Piper, 3.

In between operating two Airbnbs, Graybeal home schools her children.

After Graybeal signed the lease on the property downtown, the owner added a

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Events Calendar

Thursday, November 28—Saturday, November 30
Happy Thanksgiving! Museum closed for holiday.

Friday, December 6
First Friday Pop-up Gallery: Cecelia Peters, Madeline MacGregor, & Linda Ellsworth — Open 'til 8pm

Sunday, December 8
Christmas Parlour Tour— 2 - 7pm

Wednesday, December 11
History Bites: 1918 Influenza Pandemic — Noon

Tuesday, December 24—Wednesday, December 25
Merry Christmas! Museum closed for holiday.

Tuesday, December 31—Wednesday, January 1
Happy New Year! Museum closed for holiday.

Wednesday, January 8
History Bites: History of Jennyopolis — Noon

Thursday, January 16
Annual Membership Meeting — 6pm

Friday, February 7
First Friday Pop-up Gallery: Threads on the Loose Quilters Group— Open 'til 8pm

Wednesday, February 12
History Bites: Civil War Clothing — Noon

Friday, February 14
Happy 161st Birthday Oregon!

Friday, March 6
First Friday Pop-up Gallery: Jamie & Pete Dryden — Open 'til 8pm

A Carload of Turkey

By Keith Lohse, Executive Director

Anyone who has been on a tour of the Museum with me, knows my favorite joke involves our beautiful Albany Carousel. The site of the Carousel once housed a turkey processing and shipping plant, Northwest Poultry. I inevitably ask visitors to go over to the Carousel and see if they are carving a turkey to honor their past. Cue the rimshot. Joking aside, Albany was at the center of turkey shipping in the 1930's.

According to Floyd C. Mullen, in "The Land of Linn", nine rail carloads, containing 17,000 turkeys shipped from Albany in 1930. They were valued at \$100,000, with prices ranging from 22-28 cents per pound.

Mullen also states peak production occurred in 1936-37 when 103 rail carloads, totaling 2,899,500 lbs. of turkey shipped from Linn County, after which a decline began. But, even as the shipping industry in Albany tapered off the Willamette Valley at large held onto the distinction of most turkeys raised per square mile than anywhere else in the world until at least 1954, per the Oregon Grange Bulletin May 20, 1954 edition.

During the upcoming holidays, as we enjoy our roasted or deep fried turkey, let's remember to give thanks to those industries that have come and gone but helped to build our great city none-the-less.



Annual Membership Meeting

We invite all Museum Members to join us for a short program celebrating our 40th Anniversary as an organization. On January 16th at 6pm enjoy light refreshments and a panel interview of Museum movers and shakers through the years. Our panelists will give insights into how the Museum formed and how we survived the move from the basement of the Carnegie Library into our S.E. Young building. The panel is followed by the State of the Museum and nominations for our slate of Board Members: Darrel Tedisch, Kris Schuttpelz, Jim Jansen, Ruth Alderson, & Jacob Perkins.



Keith Lohse, Executive Director

From the Directors Desk...

The most wonderful time of the year

The end of the year means holidays, traditions, and cheer! I know my family and I always look forward to the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. My family celebrates some sillier personal traditions: movie marathons, curry made from leftovers, and this year reviving my wife's tradition of a Christmas day scavenger hunt. We also look forward to many of the historic traditions, such as turkey dinners, cutting a live Christmas Tree, and of course, going around the table on Thanksgiving recounting what we are grateful for.

I know the **Museum is grateful for all contributions** of time, objects, or money the community has provided. Throughout this newsletter you will find several specific stories of gratitude and thanks. But we wouldn't be who we are, as strong as we are, without **all of you**, our community and supporters. The financial support we receive keeps us working to save and share your history.

As we near the end of the year, we have one last request that we would be very grateful if you made happen. Our end-of-year appeal has gone out to raise funds during the most generous time of year. We want this to be the most successful appeal we have ever had. Last year we raised \$6,160, now with your help we want to raise \$7,500. **Your gift of \$50, \$100, \$500**, or any amount your budget allows will keep us moving forward. You may contribute online at armuseum.com, over the phone at 541-967-7122, or in person at the Museum.

Thank you again for all the generosity you have shown the Museum this year. I hope you have your own traditions and cheer to look forward to. Whatever your celebrations may be as the year ends, we at the Museum wish you happiness and warmth through it all.

Keith Lohse

206 1/2 Hotel (Continued from Page 1)

second bathroom to serve the seven small rooms, a public seating area and full-service kitchen and dining rooms at either end of a long hallway.

During bathroom construction, workers found a signature on a previously hidden wall written by contractor A.C. Wilson, dated August 10, 1909, and another signature by one of the Stetters. The writings were covered over with a new wall.

Guests and visitors climb 25 steps to the Airbnb from the alley behind the building. Graybeal said because the structure is so old she isn't required to install an elevator, sprinklers, or an additional fire escape.

Other than adding a new bathroom, Graybeal basically has made cosmetic changes to the interior, mostly painting.



Graybeal pictured with decorative paperbacks. Photo courtesy Kay Burt.

To save money on furnishings, except for the air conditioners, she buys secondhand at St. Vincent de Paul, Goodwill, Teen Challenge, and Restore in Albany, as well as Sparrow in Salem, a business that teaches refugees how to make and repair furniture.



Interior 206 1/2 Hotel. Photo courtesy Kay Burt.

Graybeal likes to purchase an item for a room and then work the décor around that. On the wall in one bedroom, flattened and opened paperback books are affixed in rows. Another room's theme was selected after Graybeal found a piece of artwork.

To keep the flavor of the old building, she has retained exposed brick, what appear to be original floors and wainscoting, and the transom windows over the doors to the rooms.

She doesn't rent out all of her rooms to guests. An employee of Natural Sprinkles Co., next door, is a permanent resident, one of the rooms is used for an office, and Graybeal has a work area on the floor as well.

She also plans to make one room available for traveling nurses going between Lebanon, Corvallis and Albany.

The rooms rent for between \$60 and \$70 a night, and no children are allowed as lead paint remains. Also kids tend to disturb guests while running up and down the narrow hallway.

Accommodations are mostly booked each weekend with guests in town for weddings, vacations, visiting friends and family, or events at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

According to a 2009 story appearing in Albany Old Times, the building was built for William and Margaret Stetter as a grocery store with living quarters upstairs.

Years later, Jeff Senders operated Custom Stained Glass, where Margin is now.

Margaret Graham Stetter, who really ran the store, was born in 1864 in Scotland, immigrating to the United States at age 13. She married William Stetter in Nebraska in 1892. He was born in Richmond, Va., in 1864. The couple moved to Albany two years after their marriage. Margaret died in 1933, and William lived until 1936. To contact Graybeal concerning her Airbnb, go to ashlee@206andahalf.com or call her at 503-881-6568.

Thank you to our Preservation Sponsors

After the publication of our Summer 2019 Newsletter we had two new sponsors step up and support 6 of our collection pieces.

Current Sponsor, Joann Chambers, Highlights:

Thanks to the generous donations of Joann Chambers, the Woodpecker jacket and hat, the Timber Carnival hat, and Charles Langmack's bomber pilot outfit have been sponsored for safe preservation. With this support, these items will be properly padded, boxed, and safely preserved for future generations. Thank you Joann!



Current Sponsor, Darrel Tedisch, Highlights:

Thanks to the generous donations of Darrel Tedisch, our Weatherford painting, Albany Apple Fair trophy, and Albany Brewing Co. Glass have been sponsored for safe preservation. With this support, these items will be properly padded, boxed, and safely preserved for future generations. Thank you Darrel!

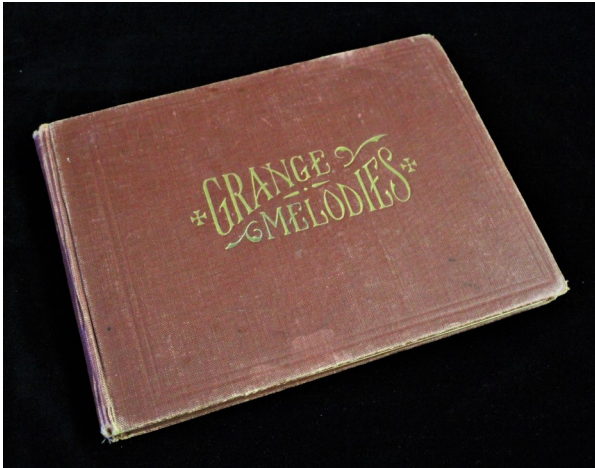


If you would like to be a Preservation Sponsor we have more objects available for sponsorship. They can be found on the Museum's website under the page "Sponsor an Object." Sponsors will receive special recognition for their efforts to help preserve history by receiving a thank you in our next newsletter, a tax-deductible receipt, and an update on the care of the sponsored object. For questions or to sponsor an object call the Museum at 541-967-7122.

Collections Corner: Preservation Sponsorship Project

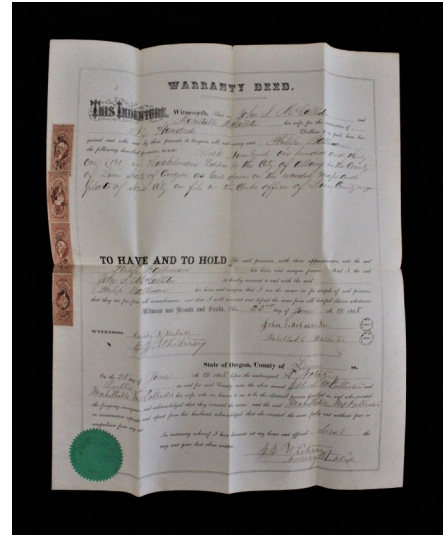
By Amy Bozorth, Collections & Exhibits Manager

The Museum has thousands of objects in its collection, each needing specialized storage to ensure proper preservation. With the Museum's limited budget, however, best preservation practices are sometimes just not possible. Not every object can have its own box, not every document can have its own folder. But now you have an opportunity to help. If you choose to sponsor an object in our sponsorship project, we can make sure that some of the Museum's priceless treasures are stored in the best way possible and ensure their survival for future generations. Over 50 objects have been identified as in need of special support. Here are just a few:



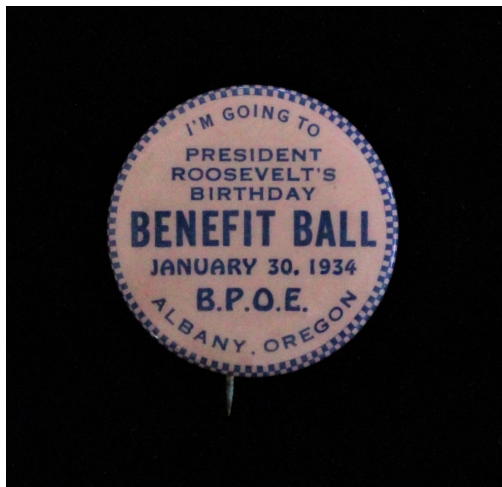
Grange Melodies - \$15

Published 1891, this songbook was used for performances in the Grand Prairie Grange No. 10 grange hall, originally located in downtown Albany. Sponsorship of this book allows the Museum to purchase the record box, folder stock, and ethafoam (special acid free padding) needed for safe storage.



Warranty Deed - \$50

Signed June 23, 1868, this Warranty Deed transferred ownership of "block 131 of the Hackleman's Addition of the City of Albany" to Phillip Baltimore. Your sponsorship will help us buy the custom acid free box, polypropylene sleeve, and file folder needed to store this early Albany document appropriately.



B.P.O.E. Benefit Ball Button - \$35

This 1934 button was purchased by an attendee of President Franklin Roosevelt's Birthday Benefit Ball, held by the Albany Chapter of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Support for this item will allow the Museum to purchase the tray style box needed to house the button.



Albany Centennial Hat - \$75

This hat was worn during Albany's Centennial in 1948. Its green ribbon reads: "Albany Centennial 1848-1948". This hat needs an acid free hat box, hat stand, and ethafoam. Your support will allow us to order these items to keep this hat in excellent shape.

For the Kids!

The Museum offers a fun experience for all ages. Here are a couple activity sheets from our Children's Area.

Albany Regional Museum

HIDDEN WORDS:

Albany
archive
artifact
Bikmans
Burkhart
Calapoolia

Camp Adair
dry goods
Electric Rail
Linn County
millinery
Monteith

museum
quilt
Red Crown Mill
Rocks
School exhibit
The Hub City

Timber Carnival
Train station
trolley
typewriter
Vaudeville
Young

H Y V
 O S S T W J F D J
 H R N M N A L B A N Y N F
 P H C A J U C T C A L A P O O I A
 P B R M T O K R E D C R O W N M I L L
 J M H K R C A M P A D A I R R Y D Z Q H J
 E W I A N E N Q V T C M G C H F S C T T Y
 D U B H N T Y P E W R I T E R M C B I I S U O
 N Q K I B W K Q C Z F D I K H S V E B L U A O
 X U R L C R H A W U G T Y I G H J T I V F W V T L
 S U X V U W V C H G I D C K L I N H W N Y Q S U A
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 Y K N Q B C B P V A U D E V I L L E C G B K F M G D Z Q
 K I T I S U Q T R O L L E Y O D E B Z E U P E U Z Z Q
 U J W P W G Y D R Y G O O D S U B Y K R L M P C M
 M I L L I N E R Y Z G H Q M H G T R Z K W Q I S R E
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 G S C L J D T X S P J H U L V U A M M Y T E M E
 R J R R J Y A E Z M T O C T V H A R C H I V E
 O J J M O T K Q V Y A G G S X T Q J Q O M Z
 E C T B O M T I M B E R C A R N I V A L Z
 Q K H M Q N A R T I F A C T N G W U H
 N S Y I R X N J L B D X K Z J O R
 M E L E C T R I C R A I L
 D R C M U S E U M
 F C U



Happy Holidays!

Blast from the Past

Enjoy our new segment highlighting articles from past newsletters.

John Burkhart: Albany's Third Founding Father

From the files of Dick Milligan; originally printed in Historic Albany News, February 1986

You've heard of Burkhart Street, Burkhart Creek, Burkhart Square (the small park next to A.C.T. at 1st and Ellsworth), and the Burkhart House (the park's department "Maple Lawn"), but do you know who the Burkharts were?

Like the Monteiths and the Hacklemans, they were early Albany settlers. John and his wife Rebecca came to the Albany area in 1847, via the Oregon Trail, arriving in October on the same wagon train as Abraham Hackleman (son of Abner).

In 1849 when most able bodied men left Oregon to work in the California gold fields, John, who was by then 62 (born 1787) stayed in Oregon to tend the claims of the Monteiths and Abraham Hackleman. While they were gone he took a claim a few miles east of town, but continued to live in Albany for some time. Four of his sons later took donation land claims in Linn County also.

John and Rebecca had ten children, Raymond, Calvin P., Coriolanus "Crill," Leander, John, George, Charolette, Katherine, Louisa, and Rebecca, all of whom settled in Oregon. Many Burkhart descendents still live in Linn County and around Oregon (there are thirteen now listed in the 1986 Albany phone book).

John was the first postmaster in Albany and was an early school commissioner. He died in 1856, his wife in 1884, but their children continued to play significant roles in Albany history. Charolette, was the first woman school teacher in Albany; Calvin P. was one of the instigators of and helped finance the Albany Santiam Canal and assisted in building the first schoolhouse in Albany; Leander's son, Robert L., was a member of the school board and had a statewide reputation as a breeder and dealer in Jersey cattle, and his other son Will ran the drug firm of Burkhart and Lee for many years.

*WORSE THAN THE BLACK DEATH!
WORSE THAN SMALLPOX!!
WORST PANDEMIC EVER!!*

Influenza 1918-1919



What's **YOUR** family's story?

The Museum is planning a History Bites program about the influenza pandemic of 1918-1919. We hope to learn how it affected our area as well as the world. Nearly every family in the United States was touched in some way by this dreadful disease. Where was your family living then? Anyone in the military? Who in your family got the virus? Who survived—and who did not? Who took care of the sick individuals? Older adults had a higher survival rate, but a large percentage then developed pneumonia and died.

Will you share your family's story with us?

Send us an email (info@armuseum.com), stop in at the Museum, or call us at 541-967-7122 to record your story.

We are looking for information about the experience of influenza; while mortality was high, most people did recover. Your family story may seem a bit hum-drum ("Uncle Joe got the flu. He recovered and lived to age 83.") But we want to report about family experiences, no matter how "ordinary."

If you have any family pictures to share, we would love to include them in the History Bites slide show!

The Volunteer Report

By Dan Murphy, Volunteer Coordinator

The Albany Regional Museum currently has 42 volunteers. They do all sorts of work including:

- research
- collections
- facilities
- building maintenance
- school tours
- docent services
- working on special events and programs
- and writing articles

These folks help the museum run successfully by doing all sorts of work that staff could not complete. In 2019 to date volunteers have done 1849 hours of work. At the federal volunteer rate of \$22 per hour that would be \$40,678 in volunteer services!

Most volunteers agree that it is fun to volunteer at the Museum. You get to know other people with an avid interest in the museum and in local history. You get to learn more about our history every time you volunteer. You get to see interesting events like History Bites the second Wednesday of each month or displays of art at First Fridays.

We have many volunteers who volunteer many hours and we appreciate them all very much but I must highlight Bill Maddy who has the highest number of volunteer hours to date in 2019: 359 hours!! Thank you Bill.

If you used to volunteer and quit for a while why not come back and give it a try again? If you have never volunteered we would love to have you here. If you do volunteer but would like to widen your scope of activities talk to our staff about doing some new things. One area we need more help with is facility maintenance/improvements and especially some strong backs that can help lifting and moving heavier objects. If you fit that criteria, or think you know someone who might, talk to Keith Lohse about when you might be available.

Thank you all and I look forward to seeing all our volunteers here at the Museum.



Museum Wishlist

Can't afford to give time or money? How about donating something on the Museum's Wishlist!

The following items would be helpful to the Museum and would save us the expense of buying new:

- Folding Three Step Stool
- Folding Tables (6 or 8 ft)
- Furniture Dollies
- Cordless Drill & Bits
- Spot Carpet Cleaner
- Office Supplies: Manila Folders, Sheet Protectors, Binder Clips, Tab Binder Dividers
- Dehumidifiers



Museum Snapshots



Our 13th Annual History through Headstones was a great success! Photo courtesy Kay Burt



Our Board of Directors ready to serve at the annual dinner. Photo courtesy Amanda Lohse.



The Albany Trolley was available to our 90 visitors at the Headstone Tour. Photo courtesy Kay Burt.



The Albany German Band performing during the Members Ice Cream Social. Photo courtesy Kathwren Hayes.



Thanks to Sybaris Bistro the attendees of our 3rd annual dinner were served fabulous food in an amazing venue. Photo courtesy Amanda Lohse.



We held our inaugural History Sips in October. A crowd of 52 guests stopped by Deluxe Brewing to hear Oscar Hult discuss the history of embalming.

This new event is an extension of our History Bites series and will be held once a quarter in the evenings at local pubs. Join us next time to enjoy a sip of a favorite brew and a bit of interesting history.

Photo courtesy Keith Lohse.



A big thank you to our volunteers who shared the history of those laid to rest in the Masonic Cemetery. Photo courtesy Kay Burt.



Ice cream sundaes were brought back this year for our Members Ice Cream Social! Photo courtesy Kathwren Hayes.

Have you heard about our 1st Friday Pop-up Art Galleries? For nearly a year we have been staying open late, 4-8 pm, on the 1st Friday of each month. This photo is from October when we had 3 artists share space in our community room during those extended hours. If you want to see some fantastic art being made in our community then come down and see us on the next 1st Friday.

Photo courtesy Keith Lohse.





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- Erik Rau

Staff:

- Keith Lohse, Executive Director
- Amy Bozorth, Collections & Exhibits Manager
- Erica Broad, Member & Visitor Services Coordinator
- Kathwren Hayes, Member & Visitor Services

3rd Annual Farm-to-Table Dinner a Success!

The Albany Regional Museum held its 3rd Annual Farm-to-Table Dinner on September 15.

This event wouldn't be possible without the hardworking Museum board members and staff who not only promote and organize the event but volunteer as servers for the dinner.

We would like to thank the local businesses that donated our silent auction items: 4 Spirits Distillery, Albany Civic Theater, Allan Bros Coffee, ATA Karate for Kids, Ball Studio Photography, The Crow's Foot Gallery, Linn Benton Family Flyfishers, Little Wuesten Café, Monteith Historical Society, North Albany IGA Supermarket, Sniffany's Pet Boutique, Umpqua Bank, and Urban Ag Supply.

We owe a special thanks to Conner McLain & Springhill Cellars Winery for being our wine steward and providing excellent wine. We're deeply grateful to Matt and Janel Bennett, of Sybaris Bistro, and their fantastic staff who donated their time to craft a delicious meal for the event. When our outdoor location was rained out Matt and Janel offered Sybaris as the venue. We cannot express enough gratitude.

Last, we would like to thank everyone who attended the event and helped the Albany Regional Museum raise over \$7,000.

