

Albany Old Times

A quarterly publication

Summer 2002

Albany Regional Museum

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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If the rest of you are like me you are wondering where the summer has gone and why you didn't get all the things done you wanted to do. In spite of this attitude, when looking back at the last several months, we really did do quite a bit.

One project we completed at the museum last month that is visible from the outside is the repainting of the lines, numbers and reserved stencils on the Museum's parking lot. Several board members spent some 17 hours preparing and painting the lot and it looks very good. Art Plus Signs and Engraving donated three metal signs for the parking lot and they will be installed shortly, completing that task.

Also, many persons have devoted a lot of time to our annual membership drive that is drawing to a close. We are, of course, always disappointed when our members from last year do not renew, but are cheered at the number of first time members who joined us. It is really encouraging to see how this community has supported us during the last three years in our new location. Remember, on those hot days that will yet occur in August you can come visit us and "cool off", as we are air-conditioned.

Please read this newsletter to find out what has been changing in our exhibits and what other activities we are pursuing and how you might help us.

Jerry Brenneman, President, Albany Regional Museum

Post Office Pictures Moved to Museum

Have you noticed anything different recently as you stood in line at the Post Office to buy stamps or mail packages?

If you have missed the paintings which used to hang above the counter windows you will be glad to know that they haven't been thrown away. The large paintings, created during the Bi-Centennial year, have been donated to the Museum and are now on display on the northeast wall above the front windows.

Another large painting the Post Office had in the back room area was also given to us and we are contemplating where we might put it. Perhaps we will wait to display it until we expand our museum into the second floor. In the meantime, if you experience a little nostalgia for the paintings, come down to the Museum and see them. We also have other new items on display.

History of Albany Book is Now on Planning Table

Some time ago we mentioned in a newsletter that we are interested in finding a writer or a team of writers to consider writing a book about the history of Albany. We have a great number of historical sources available, including recently donated Albany newspapers that have special sections on Albany history. They date back to 1926.

If you are interested in taking on this project we will be glad to work with you and offer you all the facilities and material in the museum. Call us.

New Video on Albany Is Being Considered

The museum is presently working with Zed Merrill, producer of the Albany WWII video, *The Last Day of Innocence* to see if we can create a one-hour video tentatively titled "Albany, Oregon, Memories of an American Town." This would be a rich and extraordinary history of Albany from the 1840s to the present.

Before beginning this production the museum needs "seed money" to pay for research and production costs. If your company or business would like to contribute to this worthy cause and receive advertising space in the video and in radio and printed announcements after completion, please let us know as soon as possible.

Mark Your Calendar!

- Antiques in the Streets, Sept 7

- Boston Mill Society Harvest Festival, Sept 21

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

- ★ Albany Regional Museum Annual Meeting
October 8, 2002 7pm

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

**"Dairy Exhibit"
Now on Display in
South Window**

If you drive by the south side of our Museum on 2nd Ave., you might have noticed the new "Dairy Exhibit" featuring a pastoral scene complete with cows, painted by our board member Lois Bottomley. Also in the exhibit is a cream separator, milk can, and several signs from our collections.

Be sure to notice it the next time you go by. Since adding UV ray blocking material to the glass door, where the exhibit is, it is somewhat darker than we would like, but we are considering ways to add lighting so the exhibit would show up nicer.

**The Albany Regional Museum
Is Always Looking for
Something New—
Especially if it is Old**

CHAUTAUQUA WEEK: AN ALBANY MEMORY

There is little doubt that Chautauqua Week, which occurred one week each year during the early 1900s, still stands as the most popular citywide event ever held in Albany.

Chautauqua, named in the late 1800s for the New York town of its origin, consisted of a varied group of lecturers, entertainers, spiritual advisors, politicians and other advocates, which toured the United States during the summer months, booking week-long stays in small towns. Albany was included in the tour around 1910 and was a yearly host of Chautauqua for nearly two decades. Early Chautauquas were held in a

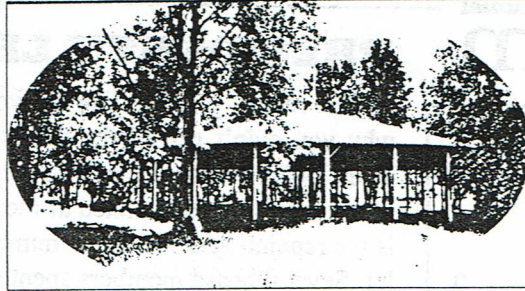
large tent pitched at Bryant Park. In 1914 a huge pavilion was constructed near the center of the park (see picture). The pavilion sur-

numbers attached to the tents so that the Albany Post Office could deliver mail, twice a day, to its regular patrons.

At 11:00 each evening a bell would sound as a signal for all the inhabitants to keep the noise down in the camp. At 6:00 the next morning the bell would sound again and everyone

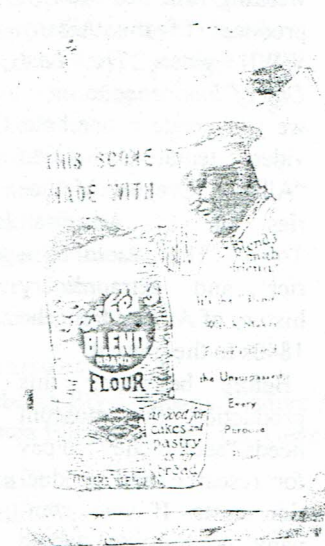
could go about their regular business and prepare to attend the day's events..

As Chautauqua Week came to a close the families would pack up in preparation to return to their regular homes—wary but happy and gratified and most already making plans for the next year's Chautauqua.



vived until about 50 years ago when, weakened by rotting timbers, spring floods and high winds, it was declared a hazard and was razed. During the week's festivities many Albany families would literally move into the park's camping area. A "tent city" was laid out complete with named streets and house

Carol's Corner by Carol McKay



There was an article in the Food section of the USA WEEKEND on July 19, 2002 that was all about the JOY of collecting old cook-

books and using recipes from them. A recipe for real pound cake from the White House Cookbook that is used by the Food Network's Sweet Dreams was in the column. The article also stated prices of some of the *now* rare older cookbooks that may convince some collectors to sell their precious books. Even the First Lady Laura Bush is a collector of old cookbooks, so, you see, we are in good company.

How many of you consider Fall doesn't start until after the State Fair? And do you have favorite foods that you

consume at the fair, but no other place? Among my collection of recipes from my mother is one for Exposition Scones from Fisher's Blend Flour. My mouth is watering just writing about these... hot, with sweet raspberry jam...I could finish one in a half a dozen bites. This recipe is on the clear cellophane sack that the scones were served in.

Exposition Scones

- 2 1/2 Cups Fisher's Blend Flour
- 1 Tablespoon baking powder
- 2 Tablespoons sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Sift and measure the Blend Flour. Resift with other ingredients.

6 Tablespoons shortening
Cut into the dry ingredients with knives or pastry blender

1/2 Cup raisins
Add to dry ingredients.

2/3 cup milk
Add to the mixture

Turn out on floured board, divide into 2 pieces, rolling each to thickness of biscuits. Cut each into 4 wedge shape pieces like pie and bake 15 minutes at 450 Degrees.

To Serve: Split open but do not cut clear through. Butter and fill with raspberry jam.

Yield: 8 scones

Thank you

to the following for their contributions of time, labor, materials, in kind contributions and money to our Museum since the last edition of our newsletter.

John Buchner
C & L Bottomley
Donald & Veda Cowgill
Jerry & Katie Brenneman
Michael & Janet Kok
Beatrice Decker
Robert and Beverly Potts
Zella Packard
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Boock Family
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Weatherford Associates
Karen J. Collie
Seven Mile Nursery
Art Plus Signs & Engraving
Earl Willard
Al Kok
April Bolich
Jon Mitchell
Faye Hammack
Thomas & Evonne Rutherford

Notes from the Research Room by Jack Gillespie

Abner Hackleman arrived in the present site of Albany in 1845 and in 1848 Walter and Thomas Monteith settled in the area. From that time on the two families could agree on very little—including the choice of what name to call the new settlement.

In 1850 the Monteith family officially had the new town named Albany, after Albany, New York, the capital of their home state. This name did not bear good with the Hackleman family who wanted to name the

town Takenah, an Indian word meaning a "pool" or a "hole in the ground". This was a word the local Indians used to describe their camp grounds at the junction of the Calapooia and Willamette River, what is now Bryant Park.

In 1853 the Hacklemans and eastside residents were able to go to the Oregon Legislation and have the town officially named Takenah, a name that lasted two years until the westside group was able to convince the populace that

Takenah (a hole in the ground?) was not a proper name for their fair city and Albany was again, and remains, the given name.

This decision did not by any means end the feud between the west side Monteiths and east end Hacklemans—but it settled the naming of their new home.

(The source of this article was the book "The Land of Linn by Floyd C. Mullen published in 1971 by Dalton's Printing in Lebanon. Copies of this book are available at the Albany Museum Research Room and also can be checked out at the Albany Library.)

The Albany Regional Museum would like to thank the following people for their contributions in memory of Juanita Buchner and Paul Beight.

Juanita Buchner Memorials

Katharine Davis
Marceil Drechsler
Pearl Groves & Lois Winn
Hasso & Kathleen Hering
Maxine Humphrey
Georgia Mikesell
Bob & Beverly Potts
Russell Tripp

Paul Beight Memorials

Noreen & John Barrand
Roger & Margaret Berger
Wayman & Kenna Bradley
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Business \$50 _____

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Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Enclosed is my check, payable to: Albany Regional Museum

Please charge my credit card
____ Visa ____ MasterCard

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

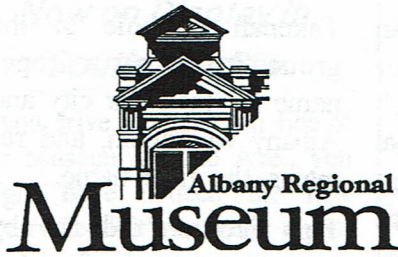
Membership total \$ _____

Additional gift \$ _____

Total Contribution \$ _____

Thank you for your generous gift!

Become a Patron of the Albany Regional Museum with an additional contribution of \$100 or more. The museum is a non-profit 501 c-3 corporation. All gifts are tax deductible. Contact the Albany Regional Museum for more information (541) 967-7122.



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Looking Back by Jack Gillespie

In the early 1900s a City of Albany ordinance required that anyone riding a horse within the city limits after 9:00 p.m. was to ride their mount at a walking gait. Trotting or galloping a horse after that hour was deemed too noisy and would disturb the slumber of hard working city residents who were usually abed by 9:00 p.m.

My father's family moved to Oregon and settled in the Cottonwood area, a few miles east of Albany, in 1912 when he was 13.

In his later life he would like to tell of the times when he and other "young blades" from his neighborhood would ride their horses to Albany in

the evening and upon leaving their horses at one of the several livery stables in town, would then take in a silent movie or a vaudeville show or partake in what ever other entertainment was then available in the small city of Albany.

When they were ready to leave town, usually well after 9:00 p.m., they would retrieve their horses and walk them down Ferry Street and turn east on Fifth Street. As they approached the county jail, located at Fifth and Broadalbin, and aware that the sheriff and his family were in residence there, the riders would spur their mounts into a gallop as they passed the jail house. The sheriff, upon

hearing the clatter of the horses would, inevitably, run out the front door and shout at the top of his lungs, "walk those horses," much to the glee of the young horsemen as they disappeared into the darkness.

My father would laugh as he related such antics of his youth but some 30 years later he would be somewhat less amused when his son would be cited at times for his erratic driving habits or mischievous behavior.

Postscript:

Albany had a number of livery stables—the most prominent one was located on the NE corner of 2nd and Ellsworth. It was razed in the early 20s and a new building erected which housed an automobile dealership and garage until the 1960s. At present a furniture store is located on the site.