



Albany Old Times

a quarterly publication

Winter 2001

Museum

136 Lyon Street South
Albany, Oregon 97321-2794
(541) 967-7122

Free admission - donations welcomed

Open Monday thru Saturday
12 noon—4 pm

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



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President's Letter

We had a fantastic year topped off with our Grand Opening on Saturday, September 9, 2000! After a ribbon-cutting ceremony, the large group of people attending enjoyed refreshments and walked about inspecting the exhibits and expressing their thanks for a "job well done." Again, it wouldn't have been possible without the wonderful support of the community and all the help we received in putting things together.

Two grants were received this past year and will be used to help restore the outside of the building, including some brick repair on the north side, painting the complete building outside and replacing some wood trim on the outside which has rotted. Also, the repair calls for a new roof. The Oregon Community Foundation granted us \$10,000 and the Oregon Heritage Commission granted us \$20,000. These are matching grants and we must come up with an equal amount of money to receive them. If you wish to help us restore this historic 1887 building, we would be very grateful.

We are in the process of setting up a museum endowment fund to make sure that the building will have funds to take care of future repair and replacement. As of this printing, we have received \$2,250 for this purpose. If you would rather give for this fund, just make your checks out to the Albany Regional Museum Endowment Fund.

Just a reminder that the documentary video on World War II featuring Albany, Oregon and entitled "The Last Day of Innocence" will be on sale ONLY through the Museum. The Camp Adair exhibit in the Museum served as the backdrop for the persons from Albany who were interviewed. Additional Albany scenes were shot at the Veterans Day Parade and around town on Nov. 11, 2000. Price of the video is \$25. It is scheduled to be completed by March and shown on TV in the future. Reserve your copy now.

Since we have been in our new building, we have had 90 donations of artifacts, three times the average of the last four years in our old location. This is great! Remember, you are helping us to preserve these items for now and future generations. It is not possible, however, to display everything at the same time so your donated items may not be shown until some future time. Please don't let this be a factor in your donation plans.

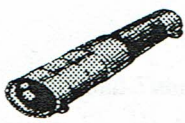
Come and see us soon if you haven't been in yet.

Gerald Brenneman, President

Burgraff Building Exhibit

The signs, pillars and door on the west wall of the Museum are from the Burgraff building in Albany. Albany architect Charles Burgraff (1867-1942) specialized in public buildings, particularly schools, designing more than 50 throughout the northwest. Some of his building that are no longer standing are: the old County Courthouse, First Christian Church, Elks Temple, Burgraff Building and the Hotel Albany. His remaining buildings are: Central School, S. E. Young Building (Riley Billiard-room), the old Albany High School (First Baptist Church), Masonic Temple, the old Penney's store (Pastime Antiques), Knights of Pythias Building (Avalon Furniture), Downtown Carnegie Library, Bikman Building (Sid's Jewelry) and the Venetian Theater.





Looking Back

by Jack Gillespie

Auction Sales were Part of Albany Tradition

Each Saturday, from the 1930s into the 1950s, two of the most popular businesses in downtown Albany were the Livestock Auction Houses of Ben Sudtelt & Dan Roth. Both men were seasoned auctioneers & duly recognized as the best in the Valley.

Their two adjoining auction buildings enclosed the entire northern half of the city block between Broadalbin & Ellsworth Streets—spanning Water Street to the north.

The Sudtelt Auction's main entrance was on Broadalbin & Roth's "front door" was on Ellsworth, shadowed by the bridge. Both auctions were similar in size & each had alley entrances & several loading/unloading docks accessing Water Street.

Early each Saturday morning, the year 'round, cattle trucks, pickups and cars pulling trailers would line up at the docks of the auction of choice & owners would unload their livestock, which were then, in turn, "checked in" & put into stalls or pens to await the auction. Even as the unloading of livestock was in process, the auctions inside would be getting underway.

While officially dubbed as Livestock Auctions, hundreds of various items were brought in weekly by scores of people to be put up for sale & sold to the highest bidder. Furniture, tools, farm equipment, household goods, clothing, etc., etc., all were put up for auction & quickly dispersed, upon payment, to the highest bidder. Next to be sold were the poultry & rabbits. Around noon, the livestock auction would get underway. First herded into the sales ring would be the calves, pigs, goats, sheep & other smaller animals. Then would come the cows, bulls & horses.

Around 4 p.m., all sales would be completed & buyers would be backing up to the Water Street docks to claim their purchased animals—where only a few hours before, the same animals were being unloaded for sale. By 5 p.m., most of the crowd had left for their homes. Weary auction crews & the two auctioneers themselves could take a well-earned break.

Ben Sudtelt & Dan Roth were in competition but were not adversely competitive. There were always enough buyers & sellers for both to do well. Some sellers would, at different times, utilize both auctions according to their "intuitions," & buyers would often go back & forth from one auction to the other, looking for their specific wants.



Did You Know...

...that Queen Avenue was, at one time, less than a mile in length—running from Broadway Ave. southwest to Riverside Drive in West Albany? The present section of Queen Avenue, now spanning from Waverly Drive to Broadway, was then known as 15th Street (which then ended at Geary St.), and for years was the south city limit boundary of Albany.

"The Last Day of Innocence"

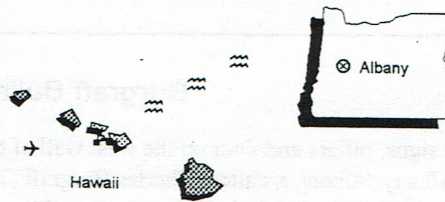
by Russ Sprague

The title above is that of a video documentary recently filmed here in Albany that shows the reactions and feelings of the residents of Albany on 7 December 1941—the day of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

The video is being produced by Mr. Zed Merrill, a former resident of Albany, and a winner of the prestigious International Telly Awards for four World War II documentaries.

This video was primarily filmed in the Albany Regional Museum's Camp Adair Section. It includes many of the local residents who were in Albany at the time of the attack. They shared their thoughts of what happened at this time and their periods of service to our country, either in a civilian or military capacity during WWII. Some very interesting stories resulted from these interviews!

"Last Days of Innocence" should be available for sale by March 2001 and will be handled exclusively by the Albany Regional Museum, i.e., not available in any stores. Reservations for this video may be made through the Museum. Merrill's other four WWII videos are also available for sale at the Museum. These are great gifts for WWII buffs.



Did You Know...

...that following WWII a campaign was launched by city leaders for the recognition of Albany as the Hub City of the Willamette Valley? Albany is almost geographically in the middle of the Valley. Several local businesses made "Hub" a part of their name: Hub Restaurant, Hub Cleaners, Hub Taxi Service, Hub City Lumber, etc.



Carol's Corner

by Carol McKay

I want to thank the people who responded to my request for more old cookbooks.

Quite a few let me know about their treasured books

and what was interesting about them. I shall be quoting some of them in the future.

As I mentioned in the last issue, I am going to provide the recipe that I use every year for my Christmas plum pudding. This way, if you want to use it for your family's Christmas next year, you will have this recipe on hand. This is titled "Christmas Plum Pudding (by Measure)." It appears on page 377 in my *White House Cook Book*:

One cupful of finely-chopped beef suet, two cupfuls of fine bread crumbs, one heaping cupful of sugar, one cupful of golden raisins, one cupful of well-washed currants, one cupful of chopped, blanched almonds, half a cupful of citron, sliced thin, a teaspoonful of salt, one of cloves, two of cinnamon, half a grated nutmeg and four well-beaten eggs.

Dissolve a level teaspoonful of soda in a tablespoonful of warm water. Flour the fruit thoroughly from a pint of flour; then mix the remainder as follows:

In a large bowl put the well-beaten eggs, sugar, spices and salt in one cupful of milk. Stir in the fruit, chopped nuts, bread crumbs and suet, one after the other, until all are used, putting in the dissolved soda last and adding enough flour to make the fruit stick together, which will take all the pint.

Boil or steam four hours.

I have my grandmother's mold and steamer; however, I'm sure you can improvise with modern equipment.

Serve with wine or brandy or any well-flavored sauce. I use hard sauce (made with powdered sugar and butter) and soak a sugar cube in lemon-flavored extract. I light the cube on fire after putting the cube in the hard sauce on top of the pudding. This results in each person having their own flaming dessert.

You can make this two or three weeks ahead. Just keep it wrapped tightly.

Thanks

to the following for their contributions of time, materials and money to our Museum since the last edition of our newsletter:

Democrat-Herald
Celia Staples
Tripp & Tripp Realty
Smith Glass
White Rose Custom Floral Design
Love Lace Floral Company
John Buchner
Bill Langer
Bill & Betty O'Hearn

A "Gem" of a Find

by Russ Sprague

In late 2000, while I was working as a docent in the Museum, Fred Roners and his wife dropped in to spend some time while waiting for their son to come in on the train. I introduced myself to them and proceeded to escort them on a tour of our exhibits. When we reached the gemstone and rock exhibit, Fred's eyes lit up and he said to me, "I know that exhibit. I cut and polished some of those stones." He then gave me his card that stated he was a "lapidarist" and had been personally involved in the formation years ago of the exhibit known as the "George Kean Collection."

Fred provided the origin of some of the stones such as "thunder eggs" from Ochoco Mtn, Prineville, Ore.; sliced thunder eggs, Burns, Ore.; a nodule of jade, southern Ore.; petrified wood, Sweet Home, Ore; a geode, Springfield, Ore; small slices of red nodules, Chihuahua, Mexico. He also explained a slag of fossil wood containing salt crystals from the Sweet Home area when the Willamette Valley was an inland sea!; a slice of fossil wood broken by earthquakes in Willamette Valley years ago; diamond-sawed slices of agatized Sequoia wood from the Sweet Home fossil forest (breaks in the stone show earthquake damage in historical times in the Willamette Valley); thunder eggs from the Priday Ranch in Madras, Ore. and a large block of red and black obsidian.

Thanks to Fred Roner, we will be able to make a graphic display card for viewers to identify the items in the cases.

Historic Flag Floated

ALBANY, Or, July 6 - (Special.)

An American flag which was made during the Civil War was displayed on the residence of the Misses Althouse



in this city on July 4. The flag was made by the mother of the Misses Althouse and she did all the work by hand. During the war the flag was displayed at the Althouse home whenever news of the union victories was received from the war and it was taken down when the Union Army met reverses. It served as an index of the status of the war to Albany people. - Albany newspaper, undated

? Did You Know...

...that one of our leading grocers of the '40s & '50s, Earl Dickson, operator of "Dickson's Corral" on Santiam & Geary Streets (now Cash King) took coupons as cash for groceries without having to purchase the item? Businesses who offered the coupons were not pleased and took him to court. Dickson took his "coupon crusade" to Washington, D.C. He was pictured on the front page on many newspapers, including the overseas military paper "Stars and Stripes, in 1955 marching down Pennsylvania Ave. in a coonskin cap & pulling a donkey. He lost his case & could no longer take coupons as cash!

Did You Know...

...that as a member of the Albany Regional Museum you receive the quarterly newsletter "*Albany Old Times*"?



The Albany Regional Museum is a non-profit 501-C3 organization recognized by State and Federal statutes, thus all donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Our tax number: 93-079-2313.

*** For further information/tours/donations/to volunteer, phone (541) 967-7122 ***

Membership Form

I would like to become a member and receive the quarterly newsletter *Albany Old Times* and a 10% discount on all Albany Regional Museum purchases and events.

Annual membership is effective June 1 to May 31

Business \$50/yr

Family \$15/yr

Individual \$10/yr

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____ e-mail _____

Phone _____

Make check payable to Albany Regional Museum. Mail or bring in to 136 Lyon St. S., Albany, OR 97321-2794.

Thank you

A Grand Time was had by all at the

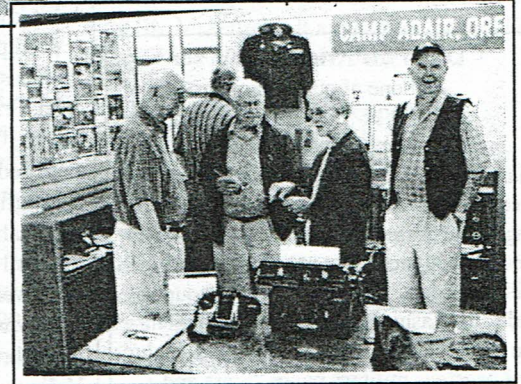
Albany Regional Museum Grand Opening, September 9, 2000



(l-r) Albany City Councilman Jim Linhart, Rod Tripp, Doris & Bill Scharpf, Museum President Jerry Brenneman & wife Katie, and AVA Director Jimmie Lucht cut the ribbon at the entry door



Museum Cataloguer Carol McKay serves conversation as well as refreshments to Bill & Helen Scharpf, their son and granddaughter.



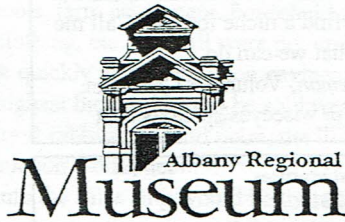
Bill Scharpf, Rod Tripp, Doris Scharpf gather in the Camp Adair room. Don Moreland (r) smiles for the camera.

Did You Know...

...that the average yearly wages for a male Albany worker in 1950 was \$2,709 and for a female worker, \$1,470?



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