

THE PLOW

SUMMER 2020

SHERMAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

COVID-19 & The Sherman County Historical Museum

In accordance with the executive order issued by Governor Kate Brown on March 23, 2020, the Sherman County Historical Museum did not open its doors on May 1, 2020. This closure is part of the ongoing effort to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and follow the recommendations of many federal, state and local agencies and health officials. As counties around the state progressed through phases of reopening, the Sherman County Historical Museum remained cautious during this process and Director Patti Fields and the team of volunteers prepared for a delayed opening. As work in the museum started back up a moisture issue in one of the exhibits was found. With the dismantling of the exhibit, and light construction the issue is being resolved. The volunteer team is looking forward to updating and refreshing the display for the 2021 opening!

With half of the museum season already gone and a lot of uncertainty ahead for our hosting volunteers and our community, the Sherman County Historical Society Board of Directors voted to not open the museum to the public for this May—October 2020 season. We are still working with the updating and organizing of the museum and taking acquisitions, donations and memberships at this time with anticipation of opening May 2021. Thank you for all your continued support and understanding, we appreciate it very much as we all navigate through the remainder of 2020.

Please go to our website at www.shermanmuseum.org for information and updates from the Sherman County Historical Society & Museum.

New Outdoor Visitor Kiosk at Museum



While the Museum is currently closed we have a temporary Visitor Information Center outside the museum. Available are Oregon, Washington and Idaho maps. Also, State Park brochures and local Sherman County information.

The Kiosk is located just across the bridge from the Moro City Park in front of the Museum. Thank you to volunteer Lowell Smith for constructing the nice kiosk out of authentic Sherman County barn wood.

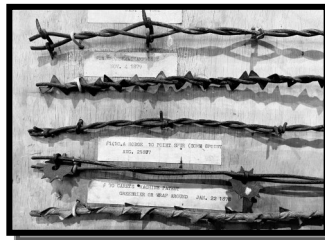


2021 Featured Exhibit: Twisted Wires: Frontiers & Fences



The 2020 featured exhibit will now become the 2021 featured exhibit, *Twisted Wires: Frontiers and Fences*. Barbed wire, also known as barb wire, is a steel fencing wire with sharp pointed wire wrapped around the smooth wire at intervals. Putting up these types of fences changed the west forever and is part of the frontier and settlers history. This exhibit will also tell about other fences used through the years by ranchers and homesteaders.

The Sherman County Historical Museum has a large impressive collection of barbed wire that was given to the museum by J.P. Reckman. The volunteer team is excited to bring another new exhibit to the museum.



Sherman County Historical Museum Volunteers

With the museum not open this 2020 season the volunteer team is working on many projects and exhibits. There has been some light construction work done and many of the exhibits are getting some special attention and even a complete facelift! Managing and cataloging the collection of artifacts is still an ongoing process with each item being photographed, label and properly stored. We are also organizing storage areas. The



genealogy area will also be expanded with SC family history. While the museum is closed we are planning and working to make necessary changes for next season.

New Sheriff Exhibit At the Museum

The Sherman County Historical Museum is happy to announce the new Sheriff Exhibit in the Rural Living wing of the museum. This new exhibit will take you back in time with the Sherman County Sheriff Posse and the large photo of 18 riders including Sheriff Norman Fields on horseback ready for grand entry at the fair c. 1949. There is also the old radar equipment and a variety of badges to view.



A temporary portion of this 2021 exhibit of personal items from Gerald Lohery, one of the longest serving sheriffs of the county. We even have the original telephone that use to ring at his house after hours during all those years of service! Thank you Jerry for sharing these items with us.

Community Displays At the Museum

Every year the Museum features local Sherman County artists by displaying their art on the lobby wall. Every May we showcase artwork from Sherman Elementary students changing artists every month. In 2019, featured was photographer Downen Jones, Marcy Richelderfer, and the Sherman County Photography Club. Another community display we offer at the museum is Community Collections. In 2019, we had a collection of beautiful Cranberry Glass from Barbara Bish and hand painted china by



Dr. Sara Lea Riker Richelderfer. Dr. Richelderfer was from Boone, Iowa, and painted the china around 1890-1902 before coming to Sherman County via Portland in c.1915. Contact us if you would like to share your collection!

2019 Featured Exhibit Hats, Handbags & Handkerchiefs



During the 2019 Season the Museum featured some wonderful items from our archives! The volunteer team put together an exhibit of “Hats, Handbags & Handkerchiefs”. It was fun to have hats out of their boxes and all the handkerchiefs out on display for visitors to view. A history of style, trends and fashion were displayed and are now back in fashion. There were even a few photos of the Millinery Shops in Wasco and Grass Valley on display. A small sample of the exhibit was also put on display at the Sherman County Fair.



2019 Annual Meeting & Fall Meeting

June 9, 2019, was the Sherman County Historical Society Annual Meeting. It was a great day to tour the museum and visit. Dinner was served at the Senior Center before guest speaker Director Cal McDermid gave a presentation on the Fort Dalles Museum in The Dalles. The history of the building of the Fort and how it was saved and preserved was very interesting. If you haven't visited the Fort Dalles Museum in a while you need to go! You will not be disappointed! On November 3, 2019, the Society held their Fall Meeting at the Grass Valley Pavilion. John Brookhouse of Wasco County was the guest speaker giving a very informative presentation on steamships on the upper Columbia River and the construction of the vessels not far from the mouth of the Deschutes River in a town called Celilo. It was a wonderful day to learn some history on how they navigated the upper Columbia River waters.

The Sherman County Historical Society 2019 Fundraiser: Night at the Museum

The Sherman County Historical Society Event Committee was busy last year planning the first annual Night at the Museum fundraiser. On September 14, 2019, a selection of local breweries were showcased and brought their favorite brews for an evening at the museum with dinner provided by local caterers. A limited amount of tickets were offered for the main event at \$35 and a limited number of VIP tickets were sold for \$50. The VIP ticket holders were bused to a secret location in the county, received special brew samples, appetizers, a tour of the mystery venue and then bussed back to the Museum for the main event. This fundraiser for the Sherman County Historical Society went towards operations and general improvements. In an effort to bring new volunteers and members to our award-winning museum there was free admission for the day included with the purchase of a ticket. We received a grant from the Sherman County Cultural Coalition to bring you this unique event and a huge thank you to our sponsors Mid-Columbia Producers, Wheatland Insurance and RDO Equipment, Porter level sponsors; Bank of Eastern Oregon and Apex Truck Repair, Ale level sponsors. We are looking forward to making this a truly special showcase of local businesses and our museum facility, with the an intent to make this an annual event you won't want to miss. Sadly, due to COVID-19 we will not be holding this event in 2020.

75th Anniversary of the Sherman County Historical Society

“On July 4, 1945, a group of 112 persons gathered at the Moro City Park at 1:00 p.m. for the purpose of..... organizing a Pioneer or Historical Society and visiting old friends and old timers. The weather was perfect, the green lawn and shade trees formed a fine setting.” “A motion was made that a Sherman County Historical Society be organized for the purpose of obtaining and compiling the history of Sherman County.” “Motion seconded and carried.” A. H. Barnum, P.C. Axtell and Giles French declined the nomination for President and Theodore Johnston was elected.

Those quotes are taken from a yellowed sheet of paper which was typed on a manual typewriter to record the first meeting minutes 75 years ago telling the story of the first gathering of the Sherman County Historical Society.

The Society chose to have their annual picnics at DeMoss Springs every June. In October of 1951, the Society placed a bronze plaque on a stone from the Art Barnum ranch on a one-acre tract donated by Al Merritt. This donated land is at the Old Oregon Trail Crossing at the John Day River known as McDonald's Crossing. In 1953, the Society added Fall meetings every year and the location alternated from town to town in the county. After many years of talk of a museum a building was donated in 1982 by the American Legion, the



Chris Schultz Post # 71. November of 1983 there was a ribbon cutting by Theodore and Florence Johnston at the dedication and the Society finally had its museum. The Museum continued to expand, and by 1994 had earned the honor of being recipient of the National AASLH Corey Award for small all-volunteer museums.

The Museum continued to expanded and also has a Museum Store in the lobby at the museum. The Society also publishes the *Sherman County: For The Record* booklet recording the stories and history of Sherman County. Since 1983 this booklet has been published twice a year and is mailed to Society members and copies sold in the Museum Store.

Congratulations to the Sherman County Historical Society for 75 years of serving the Sherman County community. Thank you for the dedication and vision from all the volunteers, people giving donations and support, and those who rolled up their sleeves and went to work preserving Sherman County's history and sharing all of its treasures!



WWI Exhibit Gets New Look in 2019

In 2019, the volunteer team took on the project of cleaning and painting the WWI exhibit cabinet to create a new look and showcase some of the Sherman County WWI artifacts and people that served. The photo of the 25th Co., 166th Depot Brigade at Camp Lewis, WA, in 1918 was reproduced for the display at the size of 10 feet long! This is a captivating photo showing each soldier with detail. The Red Cross volunteers of Kent, OR, conducted several fundraising events and among them was a quilt raffle in 1918 with the names of those that donated on the quilt blocks. The quilt hangs in the case with other WWI artifacts completing the exhibits in the Military Room at the museum.



Donations/Memorial Gifts

2019 DONORS

Jim & Jerrine Belshe	Dennis Jackson	Carole Peake
Dorothy Benson	Erling Jacobson	Pat Peickert
David Bergmann & Lisa D'Arcy	Henry & Joan Jaeger	Forest Peters
Teresa Bibby	Mary Alice Jones	Herman & Connie Peters
Pat & Debbie Bird	Fred & Judy Justesen	Janet Pinkerton
Steve & Linda Bird	Alice Kaseberg & Robert Bowie	Pat & Connie Powell
Doug & Barbara Bish	Chris & Carrie Kaseberg	Judy Probstfield
Dorothy Blagg	Larry & Sherry Kaseberg	Toni Reynolds
Orville & Shirley Blaylock	Lee & Karen Kaseberg	Barbara Kaseberg Riper
Barbara Brown	Terry & Diane Kaseberg	Mike & Nancy Robinson
Jim & Joyce Brown	Florence Keehn	Carole Sargent
Kerry-Lynne Brown	Robert & Heidi Klindworth	David & Sarah Schlecht/Oregon Trail Farms
Patty Burnet	Steve & Anita Kock	Bonnie Schmitt
Charles & Sharon Carlson	John & Linda Krafscic	Richard & Nancy Simpson
Don & Brenda Coats	Meinrad & Jeanne Kuettel	James & Andrea Siscel
Gloria Cockburn	Jill Moore Lieuallen	Shawn & Peggy Skiles
Joan Coles	Bill & Carol MacKenzie	Larry & Joanne Smith
Carolyn DeMoss	Harry & Christy Macnab	William Smith
Vada DeMoss	Michael S. Macnab	Mark & Sharon Spencer
Art & Shirley Decker	Sandy Macnab	Patricia Starker
Stan & Tonya Decker	William R. Macnab	Viola Stepper
Robert & Nancy Drinkard	Bill & Doug Martin/Martin Brothers	Richard & Evelyn Stewart
Harold & Ida Duncan	Robert Martin	Rick & Margaret Stoltenberg
Lorrie Evans	Marie Matsen	Barbie Svenson
John & Nancy Fields	John & Ferol McClure	John C. Thomas
Doris Fowler	Cal McDermid	Ken & Paula Thompson
George & Marlene Fox	Malcolm & Jean McKinney	Wm Brian & Donna Thran
Anne L. Franklin	Eugene Melvin	William & Cathy Trimble
Steve & Janet Frazier	Myrna Melzer	Gregory Volkman
Norman Fridley	Nell Melzer	Neil & Debra Watterson
Terrence & Jessie Fuhrer	Donald Miller	Wayne & Jana Webb
Patricia Gabriel	Chris & Patti Moore	John & Laurie Williams
Ted & Gretchen Goodall	Ernie Moore	Priscilla Wilson
Harry Hartley	Bruce & Karolyn Newgard	Carolyn Wood
Joseph & Frances Hartley	Greg O'Meara	Dean & Ardeth Woods
Wayne & Susan Hatley	Rob O'Meara	Mike & Cheryl Woods
Dorothy Heater	William O'Meara	Alison Yamauchi
Alan Helyer	Bob & Mavis Olsen	Robert Ziegler
Christine Hilderbrand	Sally Olsen	Jennifer Zimmerlee
Vicki Holder	Dale & Deanna Padget	JoAnn vonBorstel
Teresa Holgate	Robert Parker	
	Wendy Parker/McDermid Century Farm	



Instagram

Are you on Instagram? We are too! Be sure to follow us on Instagram at **shermancountyhistoricalmuseum**
Hope you will follow us and see what is going on at the SCHM!

2019 Financial Report

Revenue 2019

Admissions/Churn/Copies	4,043
Contributions	12,219
Memorials	4,680
Grants, other	13,007
Grant, SIP for Operations	50,000
In Kind Donations, services & goods	148
Interest	117
Investment Returns	22,155
Land	14,283
Membership	7,290
Museum Store Annual Payment	1,000
Special Events/Fundraising	11,517
Total Revenue 2019	140,459

Expenses 2019

Accounting	395
Collections Care	1,067
Director Expense	43,789
Events/Fundraising	9,360
Grant Expense	1,043
In Kind Expenses (donated)	148
Investment Expense	684
Land/Crop Ins/ Fert/ Taxes	1,486
Legal Fees	50
Marketing	4,294
Memberships	4,261
Office	2,958
Plant Operation	37,130
Professional Memberships	437
Volunteer Program	1,050
Taxes	262
Total Expenses 2019	108,441

Net Profit 2019	32,018
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Indexing of SC:FTR

The indexing of the *Sherman County: For The Record* publication is complete! During the summer of 2019, Gladys Wesley completed a long term project to update the indexing of all *Sherman County: For The Records* for the years 2003 thru Summer 2019. While the 2003-2019 Index has not been published, it is available in a binder when the Museum is open. You may also request a search of name(s) via email.

Indexes for years 1983 thru 2002 were published in 4 volumes and are available for purchase at the Museum.



Gladys has also completed an alphabetical listing of articles/stories, by subject, which have been published in *SC:FTR* since its beginning in 1983. This 18-page booklet was mailed to all members with the Spring/Summer 2020 *SC: FTR*. Copies are available for purchase at the Museum.

Museum Visitors

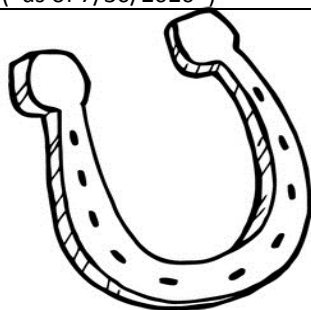
In the lobby of the Museum at the front desk our volunteer hosts encourage our visitors to sign our guest book and that allows us to get a count on how many visitors we receive for the season and where our visitors come from. The Museum averages over 2,000 visitors a year and most of those visitors are from out of state. It is common to have over 100 visitors from different countries and in our log book we get visitors from 14 to 20 different countries from around the world. It is always such a compliment when these travelers leave positive and flattering comments on our Sherman County Historical Museum. Thank you to everyone that visits our museum, brings visitors to our museum and signs our guest book in the lobby!



Acquisition Donors

2019
Nicki Andrews
B & B-Shirley Blaylock
Leanna Bennett
Jayne Burnett
Shirley Blaylock
Byron Carlson
Gary & Sheri Carlson
David Conlee
Vicki Frey
Ted & Gretchen Goodall
Gordon & Lorraine Hall
Carey Hughes
Sally Jackson
Erling Jacobsen
Joan M Jaeger
John & Linda Krafsic
Arleen Libertini
Malcolm & Jean McKinney
Jim Payne
Mathew Peters
Presby House Museum
Barbara Ralston
Janice Sabin
Paul & Carol Sather
Sherman County Court
Sherman Co. School Dist
Bonnie Tatum Shupe
Lowell Smith
David Thomas
Carsten von Borstel
Cheryl Wasson
David Welk
Suzy Williams

2020
Sheri Carlson
Sherry Kaseberg
Jerry & Dawn Lohrey
Tom & Nancy McCoy
Mark & Sharon Spencer
Gladys Wesley
(*as of 7/30/2020*)



Website

Remember to check our website for updates and information on the web, go to www.shermanmuseum.org. If you click on the tab Museum, you will see on that page a Memorial Day Tribute video from some Sherman County Cemetery gravesites of veterans in honor of the Memorial Day Holiday in 2020.



Board of Trustees:

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Tina Kaseberg
Steve Kock

Museum Executive Director:

Patti Fields

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Gladys Wesley

Memorials Coordinator:

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Genealogy Coordinator:

Terri Earl

Photo Collection Coordinator:

Lowell Smith/Sheri Carlson

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Nancy Fields

Acquisitions:

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Exhibits:

Sheri Carlson / Linda Thompson / Nancy Fields
Sharon Spencer / Lowell Smith / Barbara Bish

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Cris Welk

Buildings & Grounds Coordinator:

Dale Frey

SC:FTR Editor:

Gladys Wesley

2019 Security:

Jim Payne

Laurie Perisho

Gladys Wesley

Dale Frey



S.C. Trivia

In a Grass valley on October 18, 1898 a fire company was organized, and arrangements made for securing apparatus, engine house etc. The first officers were: C.W. Moore, President; Dr. J.W. Cole, Vice President; J.H. Berger, Treasurer; Hollis Wilcox, Secretary; W.I. Westerfield, Foreman; Will I. Ewing, First Assistant Forman; Charles H. Jenkins, Second Assistant Foreman.



Find us on
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Become a Member of Sherman County Historical Society

If you have not renewed your Sherman County Historical Society Membership for 2020!, it is not too late! Now you can even sign up online at our new webpage www.shermanmuseum.org/membership. An annual membership is \$30 per household for the 2020 calendar year. Membership benefits include free admission to the Museum, 10% discount in the Museum Store, newsletter, *The Plow*, and our historical anthology, *Sherman County: For The Record*. Memberships are a great gift and every membership counts!. We appreciate your support of the Sherman County Historical Society. Our mission is to gather, preserve, research, interpret, exhibit and publish materials related to the history of Sherman County. Mailing address: Sherman County Historical Society, PO Box 173, Moro, OR 97039.

*Our mission is to gather, preserve, research, interpret,
exhibit & publish materials related to
the history of Sherman County.*



P.O. Box 173
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POSTAL PATRON

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exhibit & publish materials related to
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