



The Meadowlark

Quarterly Newsletter



Crook County Historical Society
246 North Main Street
Prineville, Oregon 97754

August 29, 2018
E-mail bowmuse@netscape.net
www.bowmanmuseum.org

Quarterly meeting
Sunday Sept. 9, 2018
Crook County History Center 1:00 P.M.

The Fall quarterly meeting for the Crook County Historical Society will be held at the **Crook County History Center** on Sunday Sept. 9, 2018. The meeting will begin with a potluck dinner at 1:00 P.M. Please bring your own place setting. All members and the general public are welcome to attend. Members please bring a guest.

FEATURED PROGRAM

Home Movies of Dr. Elon Wood in 1940s

Historical Society president Jan Wood Anderson has converted to DVD some old family movies taken by her father, Dr. Elon Wood, in the 1940s. Entertainment for

the Potluck will be the showing of the 19 minute 16mm movie filmed by Dr. Wood. Part I is scenes from the Harold and Ruby McArthur Ranch east of Prineville including plowing and stacking hay with horses. You

also see children from the Wittmer, Wood and Denton families floating on logs down the irrigation ditches. The ranch was rented from Harry Stearns and was located behind or at the site of the old Patio Drive-In Movie Theater, currently the BLM office and Crystal Springs. Part II is the Crooked River Round-Up Parade and Rodeo of 1949. This nostalgic look back at events in Prineville nearly 70 years ago coincides with Prineville's 150th birthday. It is an entertaining look back with rare film footage.



Dr. Elon Wood



Rodeo parade in Prineville 1949

President's Message

We have had a busy summer! The caboose courtyard is nearly complete, with lighted facade (courtesy of Gordon Clowers and Cooper Electric), pavers and landscaping (thank you, Wendel's Landscaping) and lights. Our interpretive signs will be up soon, as well as the steps up to the caboose walkway. You members will be treated to a Grand Opening for a first look at the interior, so watch out for our announcement.

The Ranchers Memorial now has a beautiful "Pioneer Era Gazebo", courtesy of Lance Romine, which will be put to use at next year's County Fair.

Steve Lent's lecture on the history of Prineville and the Railroad was well attended. Seven of my classmates (Class of '62) had front row seats and loved that talk and the pictures. Thank you, Steve!

Finally, mark your calendar for our September 9th Potluck. I know you will enjoy all that good food and for entertainment some old movies from the 1940s. **And** you won't want to miss the October lecture series.



Jan

Jan Anderson

P.S. We have several open board member positions in December. Please let us know if you would be interested in running.

Director's Corner

FULL SPEED AHEAD!

Dear friends,

Wow, how time flies!

As I now approach my 6 month plateau – watch out, Gordon, only 251 more to go before your record falls – I'm very happy to report that we're forging ahead in many different areas...all due to your gracious and unwavering support.

Last March, things began in a whirlwind – a good thing! – and the hectic pace continues: On the exhibits front, our long awaited "Caboose Park" is near completion – and most certainly will be totally finished and open to the public by the time you read this! It is this project, in particular, that I'm especially gratified to have taken part in... both for the creative vision it exemplifies to our community, and the overwhelmingly positive response it has generated among Crook County residents. In this regard, I would like to thank our Board, staff, volunteers and contractors for their tireless efforts in making this dream a reality.

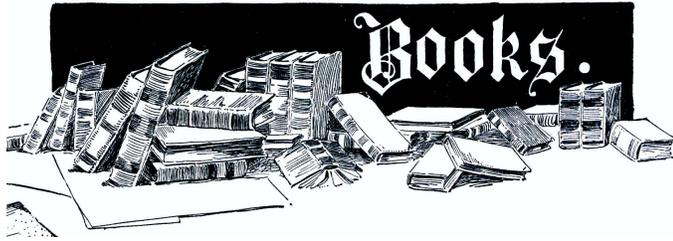
Another significant – and equally exciting! – development has taken place at the Rancher's Memorial at the Fairgrounds. Here, the museum has arranged for the construction of a gazebo to be used in the future for demonstrations of vintage farming equipment, live performances, crafts and other educational programs.

And, speaking of education: we will – in future months – be looking to expand our education program through school visitation, tourism and social media. Membership and fund-raising will also be addressed.

Finally, we at the museum have installed a new electronic "people counter" – a state of the art device that provides us with a completely accurate count of all visitors for both our museum and community center. This, I trust, will reflect magnificently on the level of support we receive each and every day from all of you. Enjoy the beautiful autumn, everyone – my favorite season!

Sandy

Sandy Cohen



NEW BOOKS AT MUSEUM

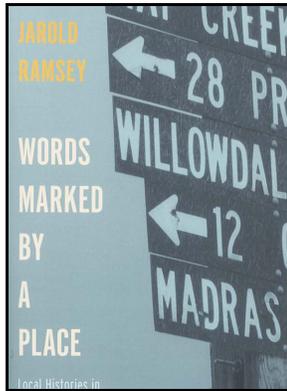
10% Discount for Members

Words Marked by a Place

by Jarold Ramsey
\$21.95

Paper 204 Pages

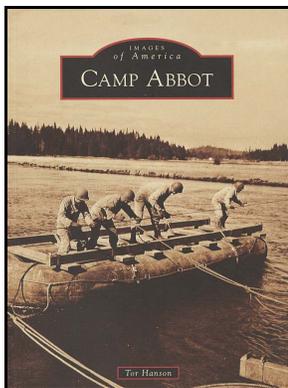
This is a book written by local Madras author Jarold Ramsey. It is a collection of essays on local history. It explores often forgotten tales of the development of Central Oregon. Ramsey's family has a long history in the Central Oregon landscape and with his unique writing style he relates the story of many unknown events of the region. Ramsey has written other books on northwest Indian literature and also has authored *New Era: Reflections on the Human and Natural History of Central Oregon*. This is the newsletter editor's selection of the quarter.



Camp Abbot: Images of America

by Tor Hanson
\$21.99

Paper 128 Pages



This is another local book published by Arcadia Publishing that photographically chronicles the rise and demise of Camp Abbot. Camp Abbot was a military training base located at what is now Sunriver. The camp operated from 1943 to 1944 and the U.S. Army trained 90,000 men at the camp. The volume is illustrated with numerous rare photos of the camp.

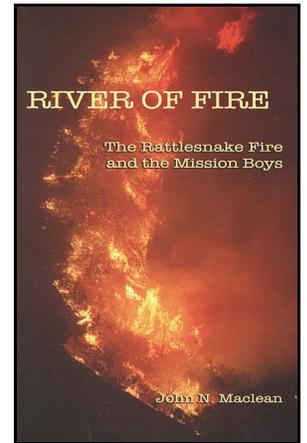
River of Fire

by John N. Maclean
\$24.95

Paper

20 Pages

John Maclean has written several books on wildfire and tragic events including *Fire on the Mountain* which chronicled the South Canyon fire that claimed nine hotshots from Prineville. This book relates the story of the Rattlesnake Fire of 1953 in northern California that claimed the lives of 15 fire fighters. It was not the first nor the last fire to claim firefighters' lives but it was the first fire that initiated most of the safety protocols in fire fighting.



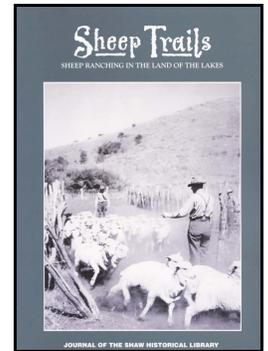
Sheep Trails: Sheep Ranching in the Land of the Lakes

Journal of the Shaw Historical Library
\$18.99

Paper

150 Pages

This publication of the Shaw Historical Library at Oregon Institute of Technology is a collection of essays on the sheep industry in south central Oregon. The scholarly journal contains 18 articles on the various aspects of sheep ranching. It is a well written compilation with numerous illustrations. There is an article on the Central Oregon Range War.



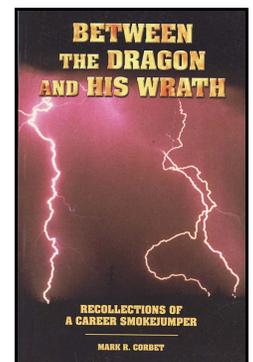
Between the Dragon & His Wrath

By Mark R. Corbet
\$16.50

Paper

193 Pages

Mark Corbet spent 31 years in a career as a smoke jumper. Most of his time was working at the Redmond Air Center. During his many years of jumping and fire fighting he experienced many situations and predicaments some with humor and most with a hard work ethic. This is a rare look at the life of a smoke jumper from a local author.



History of Prineville Celebrating 150 Years

Frances Barney Prine settled along the banks of the Crooked River in 1868 and established a blacksmith shop as well as a saloon and store. Prine and one of his neighbors from Linn County, Isaac Bostwick, were the first settlers in the site that was to become Prineville. At the time the nearest major population centers were The Dalles to the north, Canyon City to the east and communities of the Willamette Valley to the west. It was a very isolated region and supplies had to be freighted in from long distances

Barney built a crude cabin which served as his living quarters and a loosely defined hospitality house at which he dispensed spirits. He and his wife, Elizabeth, also established a store that was stocked with merchandise freighted in from The Dalles. The site of his establishment was along the banks of the Crooked River near present Davidson Field in Prineville.

A post office was established in 1871 with William Heisler the first postmaster and it was named Prine in honor of Barney Prine. The name was changed to Prineville in 1872. Barney Prine remained in the area for a few years but wanderlust led him to sell his interests and he moved on to Eastern Oregon and Idaho. He sold his operation to Monroe Hodges for a few dollars and a pack mule. Hodges consolidated holdings in the valley and eventually platted the townsite of Prineville.

Hodges soon hired some men to build a home for his family then filed a homestead of 80 acres in the Ochoco Valley. He moved his family to the Crooked River Valley. His home later served as a primitive hotel for people visiting the Crooked River Valley and Barney Prine's old cabin was used as a meat storage site.



First photo of Prineville from Viewpoint 1881

Hodges made final proof on his homestead claim in 1876 and his land included most of the lush Crooked River bottomland. Once he received his deed for his land Monroe filed a town site plat on his homestead at the Wasco County seat in The Dalles on March 28, 1877. Prineville was incorporated in 1880. The population at that time was about 400.

The town was named Prineville in honor of Barney Prine and the already existing Prineville post office. Town lots were sold at \$10 each and some lots were donated in an attempt to get business started. The original plat had wide streets designed so horses and wagons could turn around with plenty of room. Many of the early businesses were located along First and Second Streets and Main Street. The town soon boasted a flour mill, a planing mill, and a merchandise store and several saloons. Prineville was selected as the county seat for newly created Crook County in 1882. Crook County included all of Central Oregon when it was created.

Prineville grew to be the first town and major commerce area of Central Oregon. It remained the main center until the arrival of the railroad in 1911 then major commerce began to shift to communities along the railroad, such as Bend, Redmond and Madras. The rise of the other Central Oregon towns led to petitions and legislative action to create first Jefferson County out of Crook in 1914 and then Deschutes County in 1916.

Prineville remained mostly an agricultural and livestock based economy until the late 1930s when lumber mills began to locate in the community. By 1950 there were five major sawmills operating. The City of Prineville had built a municipal railroad connecting to the main rail line just north of Redmond in 1918 but it did not prosper until the arrival of the mills. Prineville became a lumber and logging boom town. So much lumber was being shipped on the railroad that for a short period in the late 1960s no city property taxes were assessed.

The lumber boom began to fade in the 1990s and the last mill closed operations in 2001. Les Schwab Tire Company became the main employer in the community.

Facebook located data centers in the industrial park near the Prineville Airport in 2010 and was soon followed by Apple data centers. This provided some economic stimulus to the community. The Prineville Community celebrates its 150th year this summer and the City of Prineville Railway is celebrating 100 years of operation. Happy birthday Prineville and City of Prineville Railway!!!

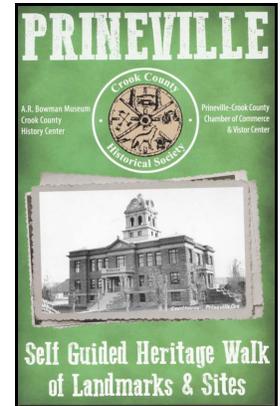
Caboose Park to be Completed Soon

The caboose park at the rear of the Bowman Museum building is expected to be completed by Sept. 9. It is hoped to have it ready for our quarterly meeting so members can be among the first to walk through the caboose and enjoy the park area.



Available Now *Prineville* Self Guided Heritage Walk of Landmarks & Sites

The Bowman Museum & Prineville-Crook County Chamber of Commerce have jointly published an illustrated guide book of selected historical sites in Prineville. The 20 page guide is free and can be obtained at the Bowman Museum, the Chamber of Commerce or various businesses in Prineville.



Watson Battlefield Historical Tour Group at Roba Ranch June 16, 2018

Collections Nook

From the Desk of Sarah Baylinson

There have been many amazing women that have lived in Crook County with adventurous spirits, innovative thinking and a desire to push the envelope of their time; Lilly Wilson Curtis was no exception. She began her adult life as a school teacher, teaching at one-room school houses in Upper McKay, Izee and Johnson Creek. She only lasted about two years before she decided she wanted to learn the art of photography, quite possibly to capture the beautiful surroundings of her home. She left for Portland and was professionally trained as a photographer. When she returned with her new found talent she opened a studio in downtown Prineville, right next to the county courthouse. In the early days of photography when Lilly was shooting it was a much bigger production than it is now. Today we can pull a small but very capable camera out of our pocket every time we want a picture with our friends, of our meal or our dog. When Curtis took photos it was with a great deal of intention, the focus and lighting had to be perfect for a successful image. The camera itself took a dedicated photographer considering it could easily weigh in at over 100 pounds.



Anthony & Scoville Camera used by
Lilly Wilson Curtis

Lilly had a three year courtship with Ellsworth Curtis and was married before they settled in a Homestead on Bear Creek. She pitched in everywhere she could on the homestead. By the 1920s French fashion designer Coco Chanel was shocking and delighting the world by showcasing men’s pants for women. Lilly took to this style immediately, enjoying the freedom of movement, the highly active Curtis is said to have wore jeans into old age.

We were very lucky this summer to be on the receiving end of the generosity of Daniel Gilbert who surprised us by bringing in the very camera that Lilly Wilson Curtis used throughout her photography career. Lilly was a prolific photographer of Crook County and its inhabitants, we are looking forward to digging into her story more and making this camera exhibit ready!



**Lower Prices on Ford Cars
Buyers to Share in Profits**

Effective from August 1, 1914, to August 1, 1915,
and guaranteed against any reduction
during that time:

Touring Car	\$490
Runabout	440
Town Car	690

F. O. B. Detroit, all cars fully equipped. (In the United States only). For further particulars regarding the low prices and profit-sharing plan see

C. W. WILSON
1-15 Crook County Agent, Prineville, Ore.
Garage Opposite Post Office

1914 Advertisement

Welcome New Members

Sandor “Sandy” Cohen
Velda Hage
Cher Sullivan
Patricia Lutje
Julie Burns

Did You Know?

You can donate stocks to the museum? It is a great way to support your heritage and benefit you financially. For more information on this innovative way to support the Bowman Museum, please contact Sandy Cohen at sandor.cohen@co.crook.or.us or by phone at 541-447-3715.

MEMORIALS SINCE MAY 16, 2018

Charles "Chic" Burgess
by Stahancyk/CrawfordFamily
Susan Shelk
Bonnie Burgess
John & Karol Perry
Patricia Tennant

Ray Malott
by Jackie May

Frances Juris
by Jackie May
Susan Shelk

Hugh Quinn
by Chuck & Gwen Boothe
Nadeane Reif Silbernagel
Pat Quinn

Brooks Ragen
by Suzanne Ragen
Steve Lent & Barb Fontaine

Bill McCormack
by Pat Thompson

Gary Timmerman
by Pat Thompson

Betty Howard
by Pat Thompson

Roger Baldridge
by Class of '57
Snoden & Pat DeBoard

Doris Vice
by Steve Lent & Barb Fontaine
Jerry & Eloise Brummer
Rock & Lila Gerke
Ray & Margaret Ramsay
Gordon Gillespie
Elsie Snyder
Ruthie McKenzie
Shirley McCullough
Mary Albert & Family
Malea Ivy

Denise Reinhart
by Gladys Johnston

Jim Taylor
by Class of "57

Francis "Shorty" Harper
by Pat Thompson

Pam (Groves) Rhoden
by Snoden & Pat DeBoard
Jerry & Eloise Brummer
Andrew & Suzie Hermreck
Gary Bedortha

(Tunis) Ben Koops
by Snoden & Pat DeBoard
Jerry & Eloise Brummer

Nita Lowry
by Jerry & Eloise Brummer

Ruth McKenzie
by Ruthie McKenzie

Joan Gerke
by Ruthie McKenzie
Brad and Heidi Gerke

Louise Snyder
by Ruthie McKenzie

Hazel Denton
by Ruthie McKenzie

Marjorie Wood
by Ruthie McKenzie

Berna Steelhammer
by Ruthie McKenzie

Mollie Gardiner
by Ruthie McKenzie

Mary Moore
by Jerry & Eloise Brummer
Patricia Tennant

Sharon Gannon
by Dale & Nancy Conlee

Jean Gillis
by John & Lynne Breese

Howard Anderson
by John & Lynne Breese

Ron Ederly
by Jody L. Stahancyk

Fall Historical Tour Saturday Sept. 29, 2018 Walking Tour of Prineville

The fall historical tour will feature a walking tour of Prineville utilizing our recently published guide to historical landmarks in Prineville. The date set for the tour is Saturday Sept. 29, 2018. Because of expected wildland fire issues it was decided that an in-town tour would be appropriate. Steve Lent will be the tour guide. There will be several blocks of walking involved in the tour so it may not be comfortable for tour members with walking difficulties. Please sign up for tour by calling the Bowman Museum at 541-447-3715.

Birthday Card to Joan Gerke

The museum recently received this card from Brad Gerke., the grandson of Pioneer Queen Joan Gerke. She passed away last year and her husband Maurice a few years earlier. We would like to share it with our members.

Dear grandma Joan Gerke (Care of Bowman Museum)
Well, the news this year is that I've tried to take up your mantel as the family birthday card sender. You've left some large shoes to fill, but I'm trying. I've sent out late cards more times than I'd like to admit, but I am trying. Next year your great-grandchildren will be getting two-dollar bills. Thorin is growing up so quickly and is so funny. I think you'd really enjoy him. Coralena is starting to walk. I'm sad that you never got to meet her. We did kind of name her after Aunt Lena, so there's that. Anyway, in your honor we are donating \$25 to the Bowman Museum. Happy birthday. Say hi to grandpa for me.

Brad