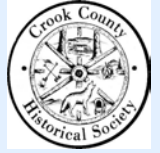




The Meadowlark

Quarterly Newsletter



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

November 24, 2023
E-mail mekia.ogborn@crookcountyor.org
www.crookcountyhistorycenter.org

Membership Appreciation Breakfast

There will be a membership appreciation breakfast held on Saturday Dec. 16 at the History Center. Breakfast will begin to be served at 9:00 AM and will continue until about 10:30. This is our annual event thanking members for support of the museum. Please RSVP by calling the museum at 541-447-3715 to let us know that you will be attending. A featured program will be presented at 11:00 AM.

Featured Presentation

The Upper Country Presented by Steve Lent

“Retired” museum historian Steve Lent will give a visual historical narrative of the “Upper Country” of Crook County. The upper country includes the geographic areas of Post, Paulina, Suplee, Camp Creek and Bear Creek. Vintage photos are included in the program. The upper country has historically been a major livestock region of Crook County.



Steve Lent



Director's Corner

Dear Crook County Historical Society Members,

As we approach the joyous holiday season, I want to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to each and every one of you. It is a time of reflection, gratitude, and celebration, and I am truly grateful for the wonderful community we have in the Crook County Historic Society.

This year has been filled with meaningful events, enlightening lectures, and positive change that will propel the museum forward. Your enthusiastic participation and support have made each of these endeavors a success, and I want to express my deepest appreciation for your continued dedication to preserving and promoting our local heritage. I would like to take this moment to say a special thank you to the Crook County Historical Society Board and the A. R. Bowman Museum staff and volunteers. The Board, through their dedication and support, has helped the A. R. Bowman Museum and the Crook County Historical Society move forward in our mission of preserving the rich history of Crook County. Steve Lent, Mekia Ogborn, and Holly Ptomey have been instrumental through all the recent changes and have welcomed our visitors with knowledge, enthusiasm, and a warm welcome. Our dedicated group of volunteers has accomplished so much this year. Through their continual efforts, so much of Crook County History has been preserved for future generations. With all of this said, thank you for all your hard work!



Looking ahead to the coming year, I am excited about the possibilities and opportunities that lie before us. We are excited to welcome Deanna Smith to the Bowman Museum staff. Deanna Smith will be the Bowman Museum's new Collections Manager, bringing with her a wealth of knowledge, experience, and expertise. Additionally, we are eagerly anticipating the grand opening of the new Belknap Exhibit Center, and we will keep you informed once the date is confirmed.

In the spirit of the season, I hope to see you all at our quarterly Crook County Historical Society Breakfast on December 16. I look forward to coming together to share stories, laughter, and the warmth of community. Details about the December 16th breakfast are enclosed at the end of the newsletter.

May this holiday season bring you joy, peace, and moments of cherished togetherness. Thank you for being an integral part of our community. I look forward to another year of shared history, collaboration, and growth.

From the staff of the A.R. Bowman Museum, we wish you a festive holiday season!

Warm regards,

Sean

Sean Briscoe
Interim Director
A.R. Bowman Museum

MEMORIALS

Since Sept. 214, 2023

Darrel Aschbacher
by Jerry & Eloise Brummer
Gary & Ramona Romine
John & Lynne Breese
Betty Bushong
John & Linda Shelk
Richard & Virginia Rowcroft
Wayne Breese

Charles Hughbanks
by Jerry & Eloise Brummer

Jerry Pimentel
by Gary & Ramona Romine

Fred Bushong
by Betty Bushong

Pam Buckley
by Betty Bushong

Sherry Jackson
by Betty Bushong

Denison Thomas
by Steve Lent & Barbara Fontaine
Sally Burger
John & Lynne Breese

Maurice and Joan Gerke
by Jennifer Sherman

Roger Hudspeth
by Class of 1957

Donna Demaris
by Class of '57
Dan Smith

Al Lowery
by Dan Smith

Jerry Robertson
by Dan Smith

President's Message

Happy Holidays CCHS Members,

As we gear up for the big celebrations in November and December, I just want to say thank you for being a member of the Crook County Historical Society and supporter of the Bowman Museum. We wouldn't have the best museum in the state if it wasn't for members like you! Because of you, we are planning a big celebration for the beginning of 2024 as we open our Belknap Exhibit Center! We can't wait to share more information about our Grand Opening, our first exhibit for the new building, and the beautiful building itself! Stay tuned as our little corner in Prineville grows!

Your board of directors have been very busy with numerous projects, and I want to say thank you to them for their hard work and dedication: Bill Weberg, Suzie Kristensen, Phil Burgess, Claudia Loveland, Debbie Shaw, Ramona McCallister, Forest Carbaugh, and Jim Steeprow. And gratitude to Sean Briscoe, Steve Lent, Mekia Ogborn, Holly Ptomey, and our new collections specialist, Deanna Smith. They keep the lights on and our beautiful museum running.

I can't wait to see you at the annual breakfast on Saturday, December 16th.

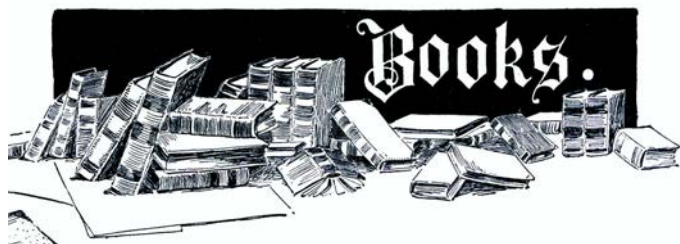
Dawn Alexander



Welcome Our New Collections Care Specialist Deanna Smith

Deanna Smith joins the Bowman Museum as the new collections manager! Deanna was originally born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, but moved to Prineville by way of Page, Arizona. She received her bachelor's degree in Art History from Oglethorpe University and her masters in archiving from the University of Denver. Deanna comes to Prineville with her husband Connor and two dogs. She's excited to get to learn more about Crook County's interesting history! Drop by and say hello.





New Books at the Museum

Members Receive a 10% Discount

Wigwam & War-Path: The Modoc Indian War 1872 -1873

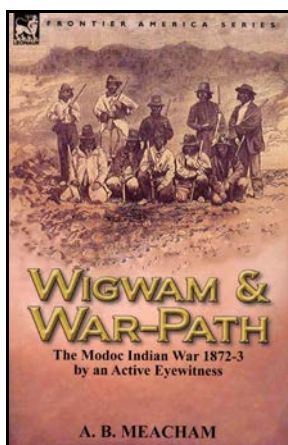
by A.B. Meacham

Paper Cover

\$29.95

490 pages

A.B. Meacham was with General Canby when Canby was killed by Captain Jack and his followers while attending a peace meeting. This is an eyewitness account that has been out of print for several years. His book is a must for those interested in the Modoc Indian War. This is considered a primary source for this tragic incident on the California/Oregon border.



Indians and Emigrants: Encounters on the Overland Trails

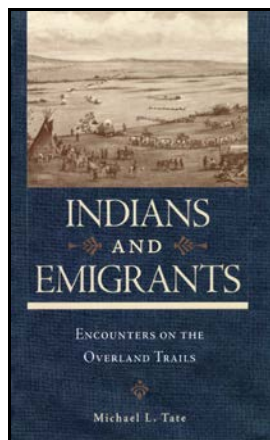
by Michael L. Tate

Paper cover

\$21.95

328 pages

This is one of the first books to focus on relations between Indians and emigrants on the overland trails. The encounters were most often characterized by cooperation than by conflict. Extensive primary research shows that Indians and Anglo-Americans traded goods and that Indians provided various forms of assistance to overlanders. It counters the cultural misunderstanding that Indians were the worst enemy of prairie travelers.



Mammals of the Pacific Northwest

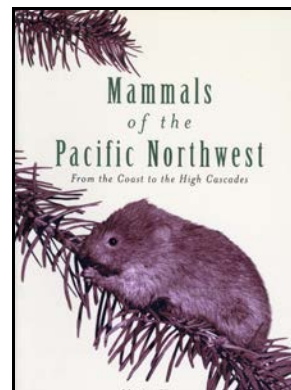
by Chris Maser

Paper cover

\$24.95

406 pages

This book covers the natural history of eighty-nine mammals in Oregon, seventy in Washington and sixty-seven in British Columbia. It covers the life histories and habitats of mammals in the Pacific Northwest. It is illustrated with over one hundred photographs of mammals and their tracks, dens, nests and young.



Zorba the Buddah

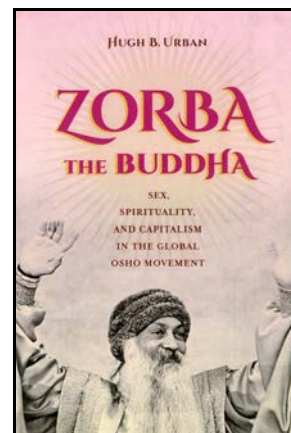
by Hugh B. Urban

Paper cover

\$24.95

250 pages

This is the first comprehensive study of life, teachings and following of the controversial Indian guru known as Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. His cult built a successful but scandal-ridden utopian community in central Oregon at the former Muddy Ranch during the 1980s.



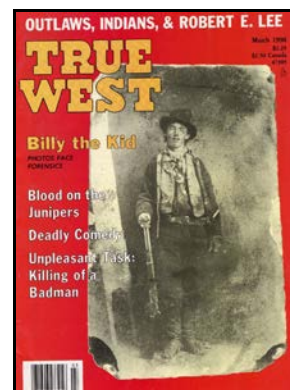
Vintage Old West Magazines

by Various authors

Magazines

\$5.00 each

We offer a variety of old western history magazines in mint condition that feature many local regional history stories. Many are very hard to find. This is a treasure house for those wanting to read vintage stories. Come browse our selection.



NOTICE OF DUES CHANGES

Dear Crook County Historical Society Members,

I hope this letter finds you well and thriving. We appreciate your ongoing commitment to our shared goals and values at the Crook County Historical Society. I am writing to you today, as I have an important announcement regarding a necessary adjustment to our membership dues.

Over the past few years, our organization has grown in scope and ambition, striving to provide even more valuable services, resources, and opportunities to our members. This growth has also brought about increased operational costs, including expenses related to enhanced programs, member services, and maintaining our commitment to preserving our history.

After careful consideration and a thorough review of our financial standing, the Crook County Historical Society Board of Directors has determined that a modest increase in membership dues is necessary to ensure the continued success and sustainability of our organization. The decision to raise dues is never made lightly, and we want to assure you that it was only made after exploring various alternatives and weighing the potential impact on our members.

Beginning January 1, 2024, the new membership dues will be as follows:

- Individual Adult Membership: \$25
- Family Membership: \$40
- Senior Membership: \$20
- Senior Couple Membership: \$30
- Sustaining Membership: \$ 100
- Business Membership: \$ 60
- Benefactors Membership: \$ 250

We understand that any increase in financial commitment may cause concern, and we want to be transparent about how the additional funds will be used. The extra revenue generated by the dues increase will be invested in:

- **Enhanced Member Benefits:** We will be expanding and improving our existing programs and services to better meet the needs of our members.
- **Expanding Community Engagement:** Increased funding will be allocated to support educational events, workshops, and resources aimed at enhancing our engagement with our community.
- **Preservation of the Collection:** To ensure our collection is properly preserved and investing in updated technology and infrastructure improvements for quality preservation.

We understand that circumstances vary, and if any member is facing financial hardship that makes it challenging to accommodate the increased dues, we encourage you to reach out to the Crook County Historical Society Board and the Executive Director of the Bowman Museum. We are committed to working with our members to find solutions that allow everyone to continue benefiting from their Crook County Historical Society membership.

We sincerely appreciate your understanding and continued support during this time of change. Together, we can ensure that the Crook County Historical Society remains a thriving community making a positive impact.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment and we look forward to the continued growth and success of our community.

Sincerely,

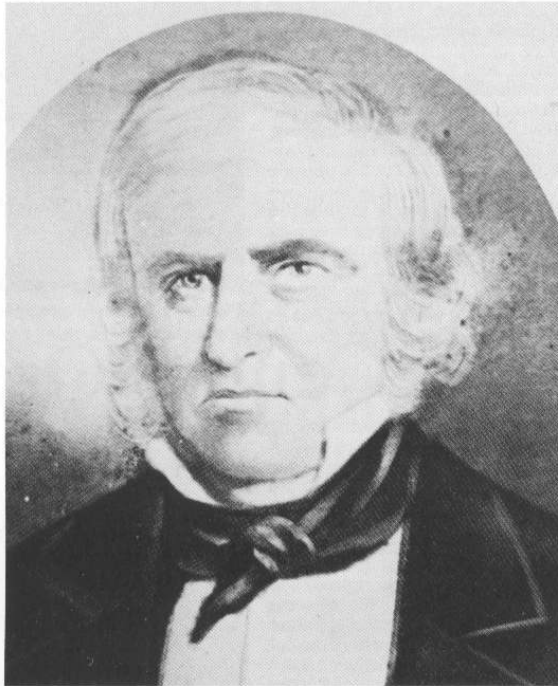
Crook County Historical Society Board of Directors

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Susan Stilwell
Cooper Alexander & Courtney Summerlin
Marilyn Pinkerton
Diane Prescott
Veneda Frank



Ogden in Central Oregon



Peter Skene Ogden.

On December 17, 1825, Peter Skene Ogden crossed over a "high mountain well stocked in wood of the fir tree" and "descended into a large plain covered with wormwood." He and his party then fell upon another fork of the "River of the Falls," set their camp, set 100 traps, and began to follow out a directive from Dr. John McLoughlin, of the Hudson Bay Company, to "trap bare the country." The mountain was the east side of Grizzly Mountain and the fork of the River of the Falls was the Crooked River. The second Snake Expedition of 1825-26 had arrived in the Ochoco Country.

One month earlier, on November 21, 1825, Ogden had departed the Hudson's Bay Company trading post of Fort Nez Perce near the Walla Walla River in present day Washington State, bound for the River of the Falls, the Deschutes. McLoughlin had instructed Ogden to rendezvous with Finian McDonald and Thomas McKay and then to proceed in an easterly direction, and carry out his directive.

The second Snake Expedition of 1825-26 was a grand mixture of rascals and untamed humanity, a hybrid society that existed for but a brief moment in time, and then disappeared into history: French Canadian, French Breeds with their Indian wives and children; Scots and Iroquois, Flatheads, Snakes, Chinookan slaves, all speaking their various languages, yet communicating commonly with the sign language and the lingua franca of the times, the Chinook jargon. There were hundreds of horses and at least 20 lodges of the Plains Indian style which had been brought with them from the buffalo country. It was a party composed principally of freemen, freetrappers, men who were not in direct hire of the Hudson's Bay Company, but who sold their pelts to the Company at a rate fixed by the Company. They were quarrelsome, troublesome and independent. And although we do not know the exact numbers and identities, George Simpson, the governor of the Northern Department of the Hudson's Bay Company said that Ogden's party consisted of about 50 "gentlemen and servants."

(Ogden makes a reference in his journal in the 100 trappers that he had in his party.)

Ogden's Flathead Indian wife and their children were in the party, although Ogden never mentions them. All in all, it was a grand and magnificent society, wild and unruly, on the move, in an equally grand and untamed and magnificent country.

On December 9, 1825, Ogden rendezvoused with McDonald and McKay on the Deschutes. McDonald's party had just returned from the Klamath Country and had with them 460 beaver pelts, a number which disappointed Ogden. Ogden was disappointed but not critical: "This I firmly believe is due to the poverty of the country they had passed over and not the exertions on their part."

From the vicinity of the Warm Springs Agency, probably at present day Deschutes Crossing, the combined party passed over the river, having hewn a canoe for transferring supplies. In transporting a load to the top of the hill a Mr. Despard and a slave got into an argument, and subsequently a fight ensued. "Blows were given and received." The battle continued for about five minutes and the next day the slave died. Ogden took no action against Despard, saying only that "The poor man not only appears, but I firmly believe is, miserable and unhappy."

On December 13 Ogden's party camped probably in the vicinity of Madras. There he delivered to each of McDonald's men "one horse and one pound of tobacco." McDonald's men were in an impoverished state due to the privations of the Klamath expedition. It is probable that from here the party ascended Willow Creek, "trapping along the way. Twenty traps were set but no great hope of success. We saw a fine herd of sheep but too swift for us. Course SE."

On December 17 the entire party was encamped on Crooked River. "I am in hopes the river will give us a few beaver. It looks well running through a fine plain and well lined with willows, and deep the soil on its banks also good." The weather was "fine and mild." They set their

traps and sent out their hunters, who killed 3 and saw the tracks of 2 red deer, which were

On the 18th they caught 14 beaver; on the 19th they took 38; on the 20th, 21 beaver and on the 21st some of the party ascended the river as far as the Stearns Ranch to where the "high rocks rendered it impossible to sett" their traps. They caught 39 beaver and 2 otter this day.

On the 22nd there was a considerable "cold in the weather." The river froze "nearly 2 inches in thickness." This alarmed Ogden because the ice was scarce. They were totally dependent on the country for food — and beaver was a primary source of food, and Ogden's anxiety was no doubt about food. His Indian guide, a Snake who had been with them since their departure from Nez Perce, threatened to leave them, but Ogden, not without difficulty, persuaded him to stay.

On this same day they broke camp and ascended Ochoco Creek for some 10 miles and encamped. He describes the ascent as through a "fine valley . . . our course due East." Ogden still anxious: "In our travels this day we did not see the tracks of any animals . . . I feel . . . uneasy in regard of procuring food." They caught 15 beaver and 3 otter, but this would have been meager fare for a party in excess of 50 souls. If Ogden's calculations are fairly accurate then their encampment would have been somewhere near present day Keystone Ranch.

On the 23rd they remained in camp, and it was "Very cold" and "many of the traps fast in ice." Two Nez Perce arrived, each having with them two traps. They were to "accompany the quest for beaver." Ogden sent two men to the Ochoco to look for beaver, but they returned with a negative report.

On the 24th Ogden and his party left the Crooked Valley. Camp was broken and they marched south some 9 miles and struck the Crooked River again, probably in the vicinity of the old Pease Ranch. They traveled a short distance up the river and encamped near an abandoned Indian village, abandoned according to Ogden, "not more than 10 days. The Snakes were here. I wish with my heart I could see them as it would make me independent of our present guide."

While Ogden was in Central Oregon he was eager to make contact with the native population. His Snake guide was evidently not of the local population and Ogden repeatedly expressed his displeasure with him. Contact with the local Indians would have provided opportunity for food and reliable guidance through the country. On passing over the east side of Grizzly Mountain and down Lytle Creek they had "about 40 huts of Indians . . . not more than 10 days abandoned." And on ascending the upper Crooked River they discovered other recent abandoned encampments, but they never encountered the Snakes in this area. One can only surmise that the Snakes were aware of Ogden's advance and that they probably fled in apprehension. In fact, earlier in Ogden's journal he says that "We learnt from Indian report that a party of Cayuse are off to warn the Snake Indians that we are coming to pay them a visit." Ogden rejected the idea, but the reality of their experience supports the possibility that it was true.

Ogden's brigade moved on up the Crooked River and Beaver Creek, and eventually over the mountains to the South fork of the John Day River and out of the Central Oregon Country into history.

He took the beaver, but he left us with an invaluable treasure: his journal, a recorded glimpse, however brief and shadowy, of a wonderful and unique drama of a humanity whose spirit was as wild and untamed and magnificent as the country. *Written by Wayne Kee, January 1992.*

PRINEVILLE NEWS.

Published every Saturday by

D. W. ALDRIDGE.

SATURDAY, DEC. 8, 1883.

LOCAL NEWS.

TEMPERANCE WORK.—We have received circulars and letters informing us of the advance of prohibition in some of the states which tend to show that they are still on the war path, and steadily gaining ground. An organized movement of this kind is meeting with flattering success in Oregon.

COUNTY COURT.—The present term of the court has been occupied chiefly with the auditing of bills. Some petitions however were presented and considered. In the matter of the petition praying for the opening of what is known as the Lytle Road, the same was allowed.

GAME LAW.—To settle a common dispute here are the exact facts about the game law so far as deer are concerned: You may kill bucks from the 1st of July until the 1st of November. You may kill does from the 1st of July until the 1st of January. But at no time are deer to be killed for their hides. This is not the way the law read when it first appeared in the newspapers, but it is the sum of the whole thing as it is printed in the Session Laws of 1882.

Butter is in demand in the market at 37½ c a pound.

Eggs retail at 50 cts a dozen now.

Some of our wool has recently brought 30 cts in the Boston market.

If the principal business houses would light up their corners as M. Sichel does, it would exhibit an enterprise heretofore unthought of.

The general change of standard time makes some of our citizens awful late of nights.

Look up your nail-keg filosofers now. City election will soon be a matter of necessity.

The civil docket of the Circuit Court of Umatilla county for the November term had 155 cases.

Some articles are sold outrageously, and others outrageously sold. The worst sold article to date is the man who paid 37½ cents for a dozen eggs and of the lot only three were fit to eat and they had to be scrambled before they looked good. In this case the eggs were well sold.

The county commissioners reported favorably on the Crooked river bridge.

William Circles has saved upwards of 1000 pounds of nails from the ruins of the Occidental Hotel.

The rate bills for the past quarter of school call for \$6 per scholar, half of which is to be paid by the patrons, and the other half to be paid from public funds when apportioned.

Whenever you think you have struck the missing link, then it is time to lecture on evolution and kindred subjects.

Sheriff Churchill is doing a good job on the temporary jail building.

This paper hasn't got any candidate for city office this time.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS.

All who are indebted to the undersigned will oblige me much by settling their accounts immediately. I am in need of money, and hope this notice will be sufficient.

d8

R. R. KELLY.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS.

Those knowing themselves indebted to us will please make immediate settlement. We must have money to settle our accounts and square up our business. Those to whom this is addressed will take due notice, as it is the last call.

d8

JOHN CIRCLES,
WM. PRINE

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

LAND OFFICE AT THE DALLES, OR.
November 30, 1883.

Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before S. T. Richardson, County Clerk at Prineville, Crook Co., Or., on Jan. 26, 1884, viz: Pre-emption 2266

GUS A WINCKLER,

For the S½ SE¼ Sec 26, N½ NE¼ Sec 35 Tp 12 S, R 13 E.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: Geo Togle, M Wheeler, Perry Read and — Wheeler, all of Prineville, Or.

dec8

E. L. SMITH,
Register.