



The Meadowlark

Quarterly Newsletter



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

November 18, 2024
E-mail mekia.ogborn@crookcountyor.gov
www.crookcountyhistorycenter.org

DIRECTORS CORNER

Dear Members of the Crook County Historical Society,

As we near the end of year, I am truly grateful to reflect on all that we've accomplished together at the Bowman Museum and beyond. Each visit, exhibit, and program reinforces our mission to celebrate, preserve, and share the history of Crook County, and none of this would be possible without your steadfast support and passion for our community's heritage.

This quarter, we saw many inspiring events and exhibits. We were able to host many different guest lectures from Carrie Gordon (retired geologist) and Kerry Grombacher (renewed western musician) to traveling exhibits that brought our history to life in new and engaging ways. In addition, the progress toward enhancing our museum's technological infrastructure continues to be a high priority. With your generosity and engagement, we're steadily working towards securing a Meta Grant that will help us introduce state-of-the-art security cameras, new educational equipment, and a dedicated photo printer to safeguard our treasured collections and improve our educational offerings.

Our community connections continue to strengthen, especially with recent partnerships with local schools and organizations. These collaborations allow us to bring history directly to the students and community events, sparking curiosity in our younger generations and ensuring the stories of Crook County are celebrated for years to come.

Thank you for your unwavering support and enthusiasm. We look forward to a bright future and more shared memories as we continue to honor our past and invest in our collective heritage.

Warmly,

Sean

Sean Briscoe
Executive Director, Bowman Museum



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Holidays!

It seems like I was just writing a letter for the last newsletter. As we near the end of 2024, I want to reflect on the amazing year the Bowman Museum and the Crook County Historical Society has had. Our first big event came in March with the opening of the Belknap Exhibit Center. This is fast becoming a 'must see' for visitors coming to Prineville. It is also on the repeat list for locals as the downstairs room of the house is about ready to see its fourth exhibit! And I think I've been upstairs enjoying the Pioneer Queen's room at least a dozen times! Our second big event was our newest addition to our growing block in downtown Prineville, the dedication of the Pacific Lady Memorial Gazebo, a tribute to the remarkable achievements of Sharon Sites Adam, CCHS class of 1948. We've had two exciting field trips led by Steve Lent and if you've never been on one of the field trips they are worth taking a Saturday to explore our surrounding area and learn about local history. Our May and October Saunders Memorial Lecture Series continued this year with educational and entertaining talks. We began a tradition of hosting the Crooked River Round-up Cowboy Poetry event and look for this to be even bigger in 2025. We reopened the Ranchers Memorial with a concert and visited with a lot of you at the Crook County Fair.



I want to thank the rest of the Crook County Historical Society board for all their hard work: Bill Weberg, Ramona McAllister, Claudia Loveland, Jim Steeprow, Phil Burgess, Forest Carbaugh, and a big thank you to Deb Shaw finishing her term on the board, and Suzie Kristensen, who has served two terms on the board. Both ladies have been instrumental in our projects for the last several years. I also want to thank Sean, Steve, Mekia, Deanna, and Holly for all their hard work in bringing great programs to the museum.

When you renew your membership next time, I want to challenge you to get one more family member or friend to join. Our museum is the best in the state, and we are looking forward to a grand 2025 at the Bowman! Best wishes to you all and thank you so much for your support of the Bowman Museum and the Crook Co. Historical Society.

Dawn

Dawn Alexander

MEMORIALS

Since September 3rd 2024

Marie Smith

by Tomseth Family Charitable Foundation
Sharon Rowenhorst
Jerry & Eloise Brummer

Maurice & Joan Gerke

by Jennifer Sherman

Linda Porfily Hickman

by Jerry & Eloise Brummer

Mel McCoy

by Jerry & Eloise Brummer
John & Lynne Breese

Robert Schnoor

by Jerry & Eloise Brummer

Daryl Hicks

by Dan Smith

William "Doc" Holliday

by Dan Smith
John & Lynne Breese

Nora Morris

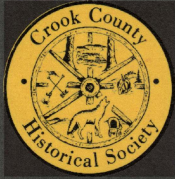
by Julie Johnson
Mekia Ogborn



High Desert Historical Tour Group all 2024

December

Breakfast




Bowman Museum

All Crook County Historical Society members are invited to our annual December quarterly meeting breakfast. Enjoy a great breakfast and celebrate our culture and heritage.


Space is limited. Please RSVP by Dec. 7.

December 14, 2024
From 9:00am - 11:00am



Bowman Museum

541-447-3715
246 N. Main St. Prineville, OR



PASSIONATE ABOUT PRESERVING LOCAL HISTORY?





The Crook County Historical Society is looking for passionate members to join our committees! Your time and talents can help preserve and celebrate our local history.


Whether you're interested in events, collections, education, or outreach, there's a place for you to contribute. Get involved, make an impact, and help preserve our community's heritage.

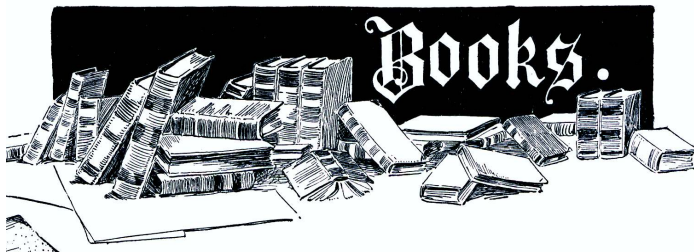
Interested? Contact us today to learn more and join a committee!

📞 541-447-3715
✉ Sean.briscoe@crookcountyor.gov

Committees:

-  Strategic Planning Committee
-  Museum Assessment Program Committee
-  Collection Committee
-  CCHS Board of Director Handbook Committee





NEW BOOKS AT MUSEUM

Members Receive a 10% Discount

Steens Mountain in Oregon's High Desert Country

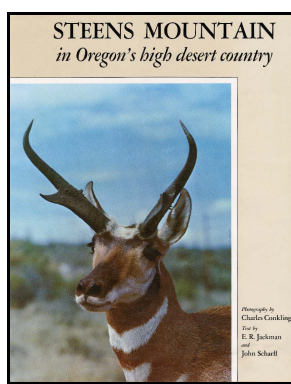
by E.R. Jackman & John Scharff

\$49.95

Cloth

203 Pages

This is an oversize coffee table type book with numerous photos of the spectacular Steens Mountains in Southeast Harney County. It has long been a classic book on Steens Mountain. It was first published in 1967 and this is a first edition of the book. It contains stories on the Steens as well as surrounding features.



Stagecoach Women

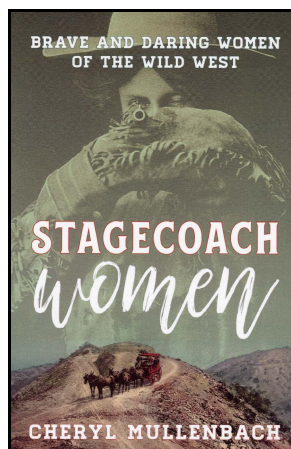
by Cheryl Mullenbach

\$18.95

Paper

207 Pages

This is the surprising story of the plucky drivers, shrewd owners and ruthless robbers who snubbed the rules. It tells of the gritty women who participated in fields mostly operated by men in the transportation arena in the old west. It provides an expansive overview of stagecoach history enriched by personal stories of women that dared to jolt the preconceived notions about women and stagecoaches.



Geodes: Nature's Treasures

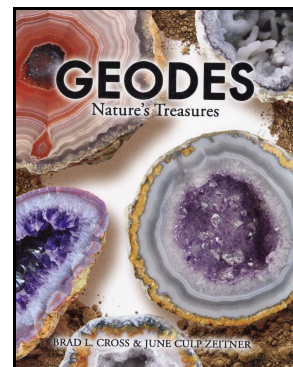
by Brad L. Cross & June Culp Zeitner

\$21.95

Paper

292 Pages

This is a profusely illustrated book with color and black & white photos. It is one of the most comprehensive and definite books written on geodes of the Americas. It serves as an indispensable reference for serious collectors and a delightful mineral exploration for all, novice to expert. It is a great introduction to geodes and their beauty.



Forest Conditions in the Cascade Range Forest Reserve, Oregon

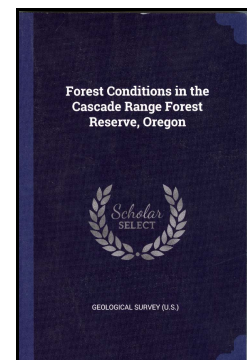
by Henry Gannett

\$24.95

Paper

298 Pages

This report was first published in 1902 as part of a geological survey of the Cascade Mountain Range. It gives a snapshot of what the forest conditions were at that time. It is a rare book that has long been out of print. This is a reprint of the original classic. It is a fascinating look at what was present before major alterations of the environment were begun.



Shadow of the Tetons: David Jackson & the Caliming of the American West

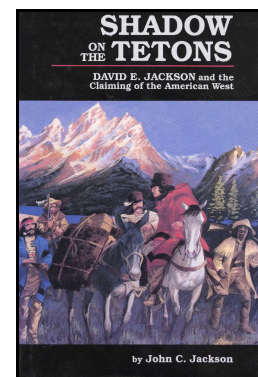
by John C. Jackson

\$19.95

Cloth

241 Pages

This is a narrative of David Jackson who became involved in the fur trapping operations in the West. He partnered in the Rocky Mountain Fur Company with Jedediah Smith and William Ashley to exploit the trapping opportunities in the mostly unexplored regions of the West. Jackson is vaguely remembered today as a role player in the exploitation and exploration of the west.



Mrs. Helen (Douthit) Claypool Recalls Early Days in Paulina 1934

When Mrs. Helen C. Claypool first came to Central Oregon and started teaching school at Trout Creek in 1882, she admits she little dreamed that she would someday be disbursing funds for Crook County, and, she added with a laugh, there was a great deal of doubt in her mind in the fall of 1928 just before she was first elected county treasurer. In those days Mrs. Claypool was Miss Helen Douthit, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James O. Douthit who were running sheep in the Hay Creek country. Mr. and Mrs. Douthit came to the Central Oregon country when their daughter was still attending the University of Oregon at Eugene. The university was quite a school in those days says Mrs. Claypool. When first founded the university included instruction for the upper grades of grammar school—one could take fifth grade work at the institution.

The university, however, was far from the first college institution in Eugene—it was preceded by Columbia. An uncle of Mrs. Claypool's graduated from that institution in 1862 and was a classmate of Joaquin Miller. Mrs. Claypool spent her girlhood near Coburg and lived neighbors to the Miller family. She remembers Joaquin's family—his father wore a velvet overcoat trimmed with fur—rather queer garb even then. Mrs. Claypool for years had the valedictory address that Joaquin Miller delivered when he graduated from the Columbia Institution, it was one of his best works.

When Mrs. Claypool first taught school at Trout Creek, there was no such thing as Madras. She remembers when the vast holdings of the Hay Creek Company were owned by individual ranchers. Old Dr. Baldwin was among the first ranchers in that section. December 13, 1892 she married L.D. Claypool, whose parents had been among the first settlers in the Prineville country. They first settled on what is now known as the McCormack ranch. After her marriage to L.D. Claypool, she and her husband went to their ranch in the Paulina country.

John t. Faulkner, who died a few years ago, was postmaster at Paulina and also operated a blacksmith shop when the Claypools first went there. Shortly after they established residence there, the homestead rush began and Paulina went urban. A hotel was built and Fred Mosier established a saloon with a thriving trade from the influx of new people. While Mrs. Claypool says the community always seemed to her to be a perfectly safe place to live, it acquired some reputation of a wild, wide-open western town to those who were not acquainted with the locality and were informed only by rumor. With the advent of a new population, a hotel and saloon, Paulina was destined for culture and a school was established.

The first schoolmarm proved to be a terror-stricken young woman, not native of the Central Oregon country, whose information regarding the Paulina community had been distorted with tales of guns, shooting scrapes and bad men. A long, hard ride over muddy roads in a jolting horse-drawn stage had her in a state of near hysteria when she arrived at the hotel about midnight. Fight fire with fire, thought the first teacher, and she arrived armed with a six-shooter. Paulina people did not then make their frequent weekend trips to Prineville. The journey then often required more than two days when they came down with four-horse outfits for supplies. The Claypools made a trip from two to four times a year. Mr. Claypool's parents still lived on the McCormick place, not far from town. In those days, before modern roads were built, upper country people came to town by way of the wickiup and down the Ochoco from the old Russell place. Mrs. Claypool remembers a faster trip when Mr. Claypool's sister was ill. They left the Paulina country at sundown and were just coming thorough the old Russell ranch when the sun peeped over Lookout Mountain the next morning. They drove a team that had been pulling a mower in a hayfield all day, too. People prided themselves in good horses in those days. Race meets in Prineville each year drew hundreds of people to the Crook County metropolis. They were later succeeded by the fair each fall.

There has been a post office at Post as long as Mrs. Claypool can remember. The community was named after its first postmaster, Walter Post, who had also kept a stage station where travelers between Prineville and the upper country could spend the night.

There was nothing troublesome in the pioneer Hay Creek country when Mrs. Claypool taught school there. "You can ask Lyn Nichols or Preston Dunham," added Mrs. Claypool, they went to school down there then."

In 1912, the Claypool family moved to town to send their two oldest boys to high school, two others were in grade school. Later they disposed of their Paulina ranch and made Prineville their permanent residence. In 1928, Mrs. Claypool was induced to run for county treasurer and was elected on November 6, of that year. A few days after the election, J.H. Gray, who was serving the last of his elected term as treasurer, passed away and Mrs. Claypool was appointed by the county court to assume his unexpired term. She was again elected to the office in 1932.



Collections Nook

From the Desk of Deanna Smith

Bowman Museum Welcomes New Exhibit: Clink! A Taste of Oregon Wine

Get ready to raise your glass and dive into the fascinating story of Oregon's wine legacy at the Bowman Museum's Belknap Exhibit Center! Our new traveling exhibit, *Clink! A Taste of Oregon Wine*, opens November 9th and offers a rich narrative spanning over 150 years, exploring how Oregon grew into the acclaimed wine region it is today. From early pioneers who trekked the Oregon Trail with grapevines in tow to modern-day vintners innovating with sustainable practices, this exhibit uncorks a compelling tale of tradition, innovation, and community.

One of the most captivating aspects of Oregon's wine story is how the state's unique terroir mirrors that of volcanic Southern Italy and the island of Crete, creating ideal conditions for cultivating rich and varied grapes. Visitors will discover how this volcanic soil has set Oregon's wine apart and made it one of the world's most respected wine regions.

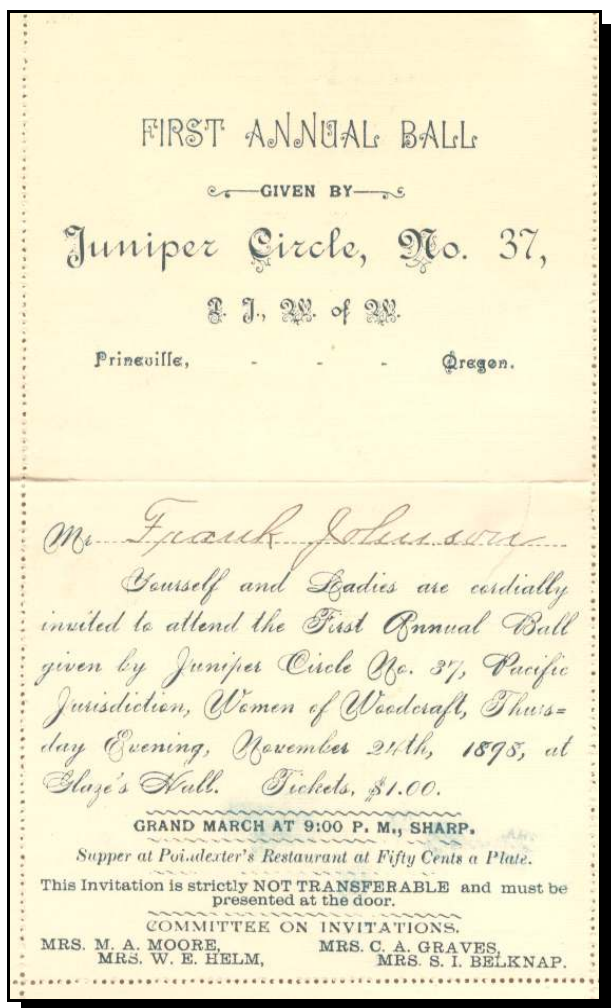
The exhibit pays homage to the passionate individuals who have cultivated and crafted Oregon wine across generations. From the early grape-growers who took a chance on the Oregon soil to the visionary winegrowers of the 1960s, these stories are a testament to Oregon's pioneering spirit. Visitors will also gain insights into the labor behind each bottle, highlighting the seasonal workers who play a crucial role in Oregon's wine industry.

As a local connection, the Bowman Museum also interviewed Maragas Winery in Culver and Faith, Hope, and Charity Vineyards in Terrebonne. These two Central Oregon wineries may not be in Crook County, but their agricultural innovations contribute to the same traditions and community values our museum celebrates. The stories of Maragas and Faith, Hope, and Charity showcase the dedication and ingenuity of local wine growers, making them a perfect complement to *Clink!*'s broader Oregon wine narrative.

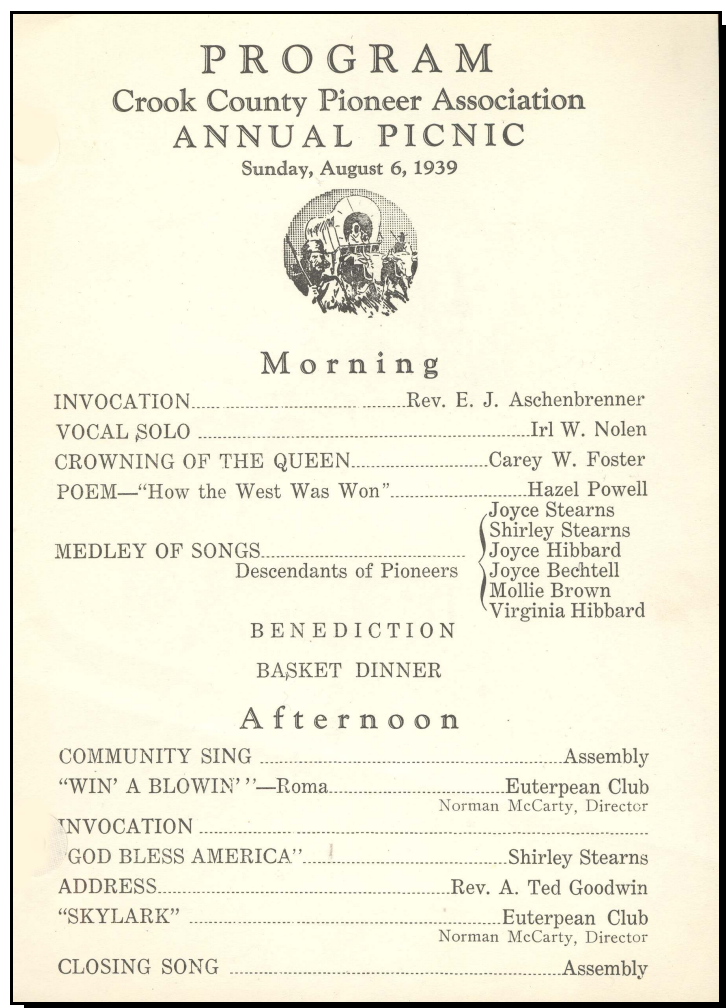
Produced by the Oregon Historical Society in partnership with local history organizations and industry leaders, this exhibit invites you to learn, taste, and celebrate Oregon wine. Whether you're a wine connoisseur or simply curious about our state's history, *Clink! A Taste of Oregon Wine* offers something for everyone.

So join us at the Bowman Museum's Belknap Exhibit Center, and prepare to be inspired by the journey, dedication, and flavors that make Oregon wine truly unique. And if you're inspired to take the experience a step further, perhaps you'll even pay a visit to Maragas or Faith, Hope, and Charity to sample the fruits of their labor firsthand.





1898 First Annual Women of Woodcraft Ball Invitation



Program for 1939 Annual Pioneer Picnic



Advertisement 1970

Crook County Historical Society

2024 Board of Directors Ballot

Please Vote for only three (3) of the candidates below
Please indicate which candidates you wish to vote for on the line next to their name.

Linda Smith

(Vote)_____

Linda Smith, a native of Prineville, Oregon, has deep roots Crook County. After moving away for 30 years with her husband, she returned to Prineville 11 years ago, bringing with her a wealth of professional and volunteer experience. Linda dedicated 17 years as a Judicial Assistant for Judge Nielson in the state court and then served as Office Manager for Stahancyk Kent & Hook, overseeing operations in Bend and Prineville for 20 years.

In her retirement, Linda has remained highly active in the community through numerous volunteer roles. She has served on the Crook County Parkes and Recreation Board, the Christmas in The Pines Board, and Crook County Fair Board, she organized the annual free Veterans' Breakfast for nine years. Linda is currently an active member of the Cooked River Roundup Board chairing the Queen Committee. And also serves on the Pioneer Queen Committee. Additionally, she is a dedicated member of the Kiwanis Club.

Linda brings valuable experience in fundraising and event planning to her volunteer work, having successfully raised funds for many local causes. Her passion for Crook County history drives her desire to preserve it for generations, whether through storytelling, exhibits, or excursion to historical sites in the upper county.

Linda would be honored to serve on the Historical Society Board, where she aims to contribute to the ongoing preservation and celebration of Crook County's rich heritage.

Julie Johnson

(Vote)_____

I was born in Portland and raised in Oregon City, moving to Prineville in 2011 after retirement. From 2012-2015 I served on the Board of Pregnancy Resource Centers of Central Oregon, the last two years as Board Chair. I attend Prineville Bible Church and volunteer at the Bowman Museum's Belknap Center on Tuesday afternoons.

I love Central Oregon and am fascinated by its history and geology. The Museum Board plays an important role in preserving Crook County's past. I would like to join them in that effort, and I am asking for your vote.

Claudia Loveland

(Vote)_____

My name is Claudia Loveland. Working with the museum staff and Crook County Historical Society board for the past three years has been very enjoyable. I was born in Prineville and lived in Crook County most of my life. I have history in both the lumber and farming industries in the community. I would be honored to continue serving as member of the board of directors.

Josh Ogborn

(Vote)_____

Josh Ogborn is a lifelong Oregonian and dedicated member of the Crook County community. With over 20 years of experience as a general contractor, he brings valuable skills and knowledge to the Crook County Historical Society.

A passionate supporter of the museum, Josh Ogborn has actively participated in various projects and events. His commitment to preserving local history and ensuring the museum meets the needs of taxpayers aligns perfectly with the Society's goals.

As a parent and grandparent of Crook County residents, Josh understands the importance of preserving our community's heritage for future generations. He is dedicated to serving the Crook County community and contributing to the success of the Crook County Historical Society.

Return ballot by Dec. 14, 2024 to the Bowman Museum, 246 North Main Street, Prineville, Oregon 97754. Ballots can be mailed to the museum or placed in mail slot on Main Street entrance to museum.

By society by-laws, family and senior couple memberships may submit two ballots. All other membership types may submit only one. Additional ballots are available at the museum.