Annual Membership Appreciation Breakfast
Saturday December 7, 2019
Crook County History Center 9:00 A.M.

The annual membership appreciation breakfast will be at the Community Room of the History Center. It will be catered by Club Pioneer. Breakfast will be served from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The event is open to members, volunteers and special guests. Plates and utensils will be provided. Please RSVP by calling the museum at 541-447-3715.

FEATURED PROGRAM
Celebrations Through the Years in Central Oregon
Presented by Steve Lent

Museum historian Steve Lent will give a photo presentation on celebration events from pioneer times to the early 1940s in Central Oregon. Early settlers had to make their own entertainment and often met for key holidays and other events. Since there was not radio, television or other modern entertainments social events became big events celebrated by all. This will be a nostalgic look back at those times. It will be a slide program with many rare photos from the museum archives.
President’s Message

Holiday Greetings!

As another year is winding down, it's gratifying to look back on the events and accomplishments that have taken place at the Bowman Museum. It has been a wonderful year with even more positive transformation and activity yet to come. It has been most exciting to see a continued increase in visitors to our museum, recognizing that Crook County’s rich heritage is important and interesting to many.

Thank you for your support and patronage in 2019.

Marlise

Director’s Corner

Happy Holidays!

I hope everyone gets a chance to celebrate this holiday season with boundless love from family and friends alike...and we, at the museum, are celebrating as well.

We are now in the process of finalizing our plan to convert the Hans Pharmacy building into a new exhibits center to include a false front façade modeled after the Belknap home. The “People From Our Past” program is continuing to thrive as is our semi-annual lecture series, summer and fall tours, museum collections activities and volunteer recruitment. All of this is reflective in our annual attendance, as well, which is now projecting to be at least double of what we have been previously reporting!

A new – and very important – development that occurred over the summer was the official merging of our Genealogical Society into the museum. The leaders of both institutions decided it would be sensible and effective to work together for a common mission under one organization. In the meantime, our membership is also continuing to grow and expand.

One final – and very exciting! – happening taking place in the very near future will be a brand new exhibit we are hosting (in our lobby area) all about the history of the automobile. Co-produced by the “Rodders” – a local club of antique car enthusiasts – the exhibit will explore the fascinating history of the automobile, along with an informative presentation on the Rodders themselves (a wonderful group who pride themselves on being a charitable organization as much as a car club). And we will --- in conjunction with the classic car show at the fairgrounds – have our own vintage car on display here at the museum for a few days over the summer. We’re all looking forward to that.

Many thanks, as always, for supporting your museum!

Sandy
NEW BOOKS AT MUSEUM

Members Receive 10% Discount

One More River to Cross
by Jane Kirkpatrick
$15.99 Paper 345 Pages
This is the latest novel by highly popular local author Jane Kirkpatrick. It is a tale of the Donner Party that endured extreme hardship on the wagon journey west in 1844. As the party is trapped in a snow storm and some went over the Sierra Nevada Mountains seeking help the remaining group used inner strength and perseverance to survive against all odds.

Timber Industry Ghosts
by Jeff Moore
$28.99 Paper 160 Pages
This book is a visual reminder of the once dominant timber industry in the northwest. It is illustrated with numerous color photos of relics from the past of the timber operations that was once the main contributor to local economies. Although timber operations continue today it is on a far less significant scale than it once was. This book provides snapshot views of these remnants in the Pacific Coast states.

Hiking Historical Jefferson County Oregon
by Stan Pine
$16.95 Paper 209 Pages
This book is a hiking guide to unusual sites in Jefferson County, Oregon. Stan Pine was a teacher in Jefferson County for several years and his passion was hiking to historical and scenic sites in the county. He authored this book to reveal some of the interesting sites that he visited in his rambles. It is illustrated with the authors own photos. There are several hiking guides about trails in Central Oregon but this is unique to Jefferson County and includes places very few are aware of. This is the editor’s pick of the quarter.

From Boom to Ghost Town: Cornucopia, Oregon
by Thomas Taylor Cook
$10.99 Paper 119 Pages
Cornucopia was once a booming mining town in northeastern Oregon. The author relates anecdotes of the rousing and robust miners and residents that typically followed the mining camps. The region became the largest gold mining operation in Oregon. Once the gold began to diminish so did the thriving community. As the population began to decline abandoned buildings dominated the site. The ghosts of a bustling mining town are still present.

Bigfoot Nation: The History of Sasquatch in North America
by David Hatcher Childress
$22.00 Paper 302 Pages
The legend of Sasquatch, Bigfoot or the Yeti has been a topic of conjecture for years, particularly in the northwest. The author traces reported sitings of bigfoot from 1800 up through today. If you have ever been interested in the stories behind the legend this book will give you food for thought. Myth or fact? You be the judge.
Memorials Since September 1, 2019

Larry Halsey  
by Class of 1957  
Snoden and Patricia Deboard

Donna Miller  
by Stahancyk/Crawford Family

Connie Payne  
by Snoden and Patricia Deboard  
Jerry & Eloise Brummer

Harry Peterson  
by Marie Smith

Dr. Theodore Flaiz  
by Jody Stahancyk and Crawford Families

Isobel Leathers  
by Wanda Schnabele

Burma Gage  
by Jerry & Eloise Brummer  
Shirley McCullough  
Diana Fowler

Roseanna Duberow  
by John & Lynne Breese

Keith Knoche  
by Jerry & Eloise Brummer  
Shirley McCullough  
Steve Lent & Barbara Fontaine

Crossroads Tour Group Photo at Sigman Ranch
Don’t Fence Me In

There are many things that may come to mind when one pictures the taming of the American West. However, barbed wire is not as commonly thought of as one of the main contributors. Patented by Joseph Glidden in 1874 using barbs made from a coffee mill, barbed wire—also popularly known as “the devil’s rope”—soon became a useful tool for protecting land and resources in the West. While fences consisting of smooth wire easily snapped and sagged, and hedges were expensive and difficult to maintain, the simple barbed wire fence was both a cheap and durable solution. John Warne Gates described barbed wire as being, “Lighter than air, stronger than whiskey, cheaper than dust.”

Farmers and large ranch owners increasingly began to use barbed wire to protect their lands and resources, much to the chagrin of many homesteaders and incoming cattlemen, who were opposed to the restriction of the open range. Adding to the conflict, fencing was at times improperly placed across public lands. The fencing of the open range restricted human movement as well as the natural migration of both livestock and wild animals. The animosity towards barbed fencing even led to disputes such as the Fence Cutting Wars, where homesteaders would cut fences in the attempt to reclaim those lands as public domain.

Over 500 patents and thousands of different types of barbed fencing have been recorded throughout history, and the technology is still frequently used to this day. Though not as glamorous as smoking guns and rearing stallions, there is no doubt that the popular use of the devil’s rope permanently changed the landscape of the wild west.
**Smith Brothers**
**A Tradition of Small Lumber Mill Operations**
by Steve Lent

Alonzo “Lon” and Thomas “Tom” Smith were brothers of a pioneer Central Oregon family near Grizzly that partnered in early sawmill operations that spanned for over twenty years at various locations in Central Oregon.

Thomas Linton Smith was born on December 21, 1890 and his brother Alonzo Roy Smith was born on February 9, 1894. They grew up on their parents’ homestead near Grizzly. As they reached their teen years the enterprising brothers began harvesting wheat for their family and neighbors. As early as 1916 they began operating a small saw mill on Mill Creek for Billy King, a hardware store owner in Prineville. The mill had previously been operated by John Demaris, William Birdsong and later William Barney. After operating the mill for King for a while the brothers purchased it in 1917. Lon married Sylvia Moore, a local girl from a homestead family near Lamonta on December 3, 1916. Sylvia helped cook for hire help and was a favorite of the mill crew for her hospitality and great meals. While operating the mill on Mill Creek the brothers contracted to provide lumber for construction of Ochoco Dam.

Late in 1919 they moved the mill operations to the site of their father’s timber claim at Grizzly. The mill mostly produced lumber for local consumption but some was freighted by wagon to Prineville. Other brothers in the family assisted with logging and mill operations but did not have an ownership stake in the mill. The operation was sold to George M. Cornett in 1920 but the brothers established another mill near Grizzly and operated there until 1928. Tom married Dorothy Shroy.

In 1928 the Smith brothers moved the mill to Ochoco Creek on the Henry Koch ranch near Ochoco Ranger Station. The mill equipment was hauled from Grizzly to the new location. They leased the site from Koch. The mill site had a pond, office, some small houses and later bunkhouses and a cook shack were built for mill workers. Eight to ten workers were hired to work at the mill. The logging operations were done by the hired men and logs were brought to the pond for milling. They purchased the first public lands sale of timber from the Ochoco National Forest on the Canyon Creek Sale on July 17, 1927. The mill heavily relied on a supply of timber from local ranchers and the Forest Service.

The mill operated for several years but the advent of the great Depression began to affect the economic viability. The planer burned and it was a final blow to the mill operation. The mill went out of business in 1935. Some of the mill machinery was bought by Pop Forysthe who was starting up the Pine Products mill in Prineville.

Lon and Sylvia moved to a farm outside Prineville after he and Tom closed their mill. Lon tragically died in a woods accident on September 26, 1940. Tom went to work for Pine Products and retired as a mill foreman. He died on July 12, 1959.

Today some relic buildings of the Ochoco Creek mill are the only reminder of the once active lumber operations site. The Smith brothers had been among the early small mill operators in Central Oregon and left a legacy in the logging and mill industry of the region. Sylvia lived on for several years and was honored as the Crook County Pioneer Queen in 1970 and among her fond memories was the years she spent working with “the boys” at the various mill operations.
Welcome New Members

New Business Member | I Plumbing, Inc.
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Stanley Flynn        | Keith & Kathy Sorrels
Terry Wanous         | Gary Parn
Kris Carter          | Cindy McCabe
Oakley & Sandra Ott  | Kevin Kilgore
Dave & Catherine Cooley |
Dean Overton         |