

**OREGON AREA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
30TH ANNIVERSARY**



1987 - 2017

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS 1987 – 2017

We celebrate the Oregon Area Historical Society's 30th anniversary by recognizing those responsible for its beginnings.



It was the inspiration of Eeda Lumley who was driven to organize a historical society for the Oregon area. Acknowledging that change is inevitable, she wanted a means by which Oregon's history would be preserved for future generations. Challenged by her mother to "do something about it", she enlisted help from friends and the local Oregon Observer. As it turned out, there was strong support in the community; which ultimately led to the creation of the Society in 1987 and a growing membership.



The Society set a lofty goal of obtaining a building to be used for a museum. That is when Florice Paulson stepped forward. She purchased the vacant Chase Lumber Company building on West Lincoln Street and in honor of her parents and grandparents, donated it to the Society. But that proved to be just the beginning; inasmuch as the building's condition was in serious disrepair.

*Florice Paulson present the key to the Museum
To OAHS President, Eeda Lumley*

Members of the young Society contributed their time and talents in the effort to transform the dilapidated building into a museum. Thousands of hours were devoted to literally gutting the interior of the building and renovating it to useable space. Recognized for leading the renovation effort was a group headed by Bob Keenan, who lived next door and was a constant presence throughout the project. Meanwhile, members were actively raising money to cover the cost of renovation. Bake sales, rummage sales and other fundraising efforts were held.



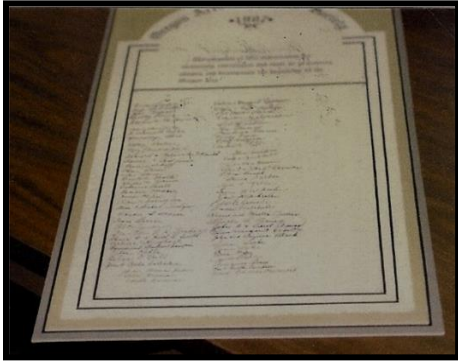
The Museum Building in 1987

Oregon Area Historical Society MILESTONES 1987 – 2017

1987

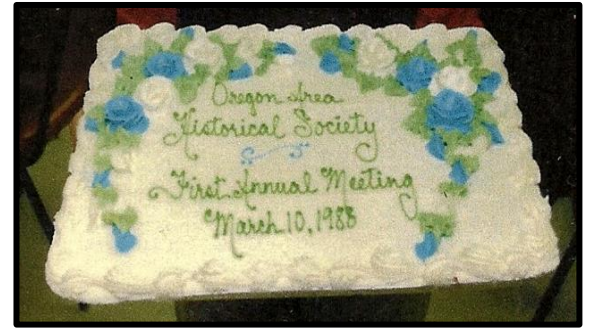
- By-laws adopted on November 18, 1987 and interim Board of Directors elected.

1988



OAHS Charter

- Oregon Area Historical Society incorporated on January 13, 1988. First Annual Membership meeting and Charter signing held on Mar 10, 1988.



- Historical Society's float in **Summer Fest Parade**.

- OAHS participated in **Oregon's Pennies Day** held at the Oregon Shopping Plaza on July 30, 1988 raising \$387.40 from the sale of baked goods, crafts and used goods.



- Board approves a contract with Gateway Publishing to produce the "Old Settlers' Cookbook"

1989

- **Florice Paulson** left members of the Board speechless when she announced that she was giving the Historical Society \$30,000 - the asking price of the Chase Lumber



Company building - to be used for a museum. She made the donation in honor of her parents and grandparent and asked that the building be ready to open to the public by 1991, the year that Oregon would be 150 years old. **The closing took place on September 28, 1989.**

- **Fund-raising activities held at Fish Building and Supply** included serving hot dogs and Pepsi at their Grand Opening on May 2, 1989; working on Fish's inventory; and cooking and selling brats at their Customer Appreciation Day.
- Dates were set for **3 card parties** this summer: June 10th, July 8th, August 12th. Card parties became an annual fund-raising activity for the Society.
- Members gathered for a **picnic in the park** on June 8th. People were asked to bring an ethnic dish related to their own nationality.



- A 14' x 8' x 10 replica of the "museum building" on a float was be entered in the **Oregon Summerfest Parade in June**. A booth was also be set up on the Summerfest grounds to display pictures of Oregon historical sites.
- **Thelma Williams** donated an afghan to be raffled at the **Pennies Day** event in Oregon.

1990

- Plans are presented and approved for the renovation of the building. Bob Keenan heads up the self-named "**Wrecking Crew**" completing the removal of asbestos and insulation from the walls and ceilings in the building



Bob Keenan, Max Gefke, Wes Wethal and Max Gefke - "The Wrecking Crew"

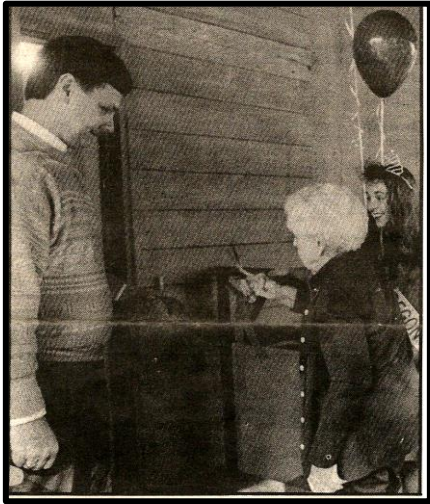
- **Eeda Lumley and Janet Keenan** have been working on cataloging the various artifacts that have been donated to the museum.
- Committees are working on the Oregon Area Historical Society's involvement in Oregon's Sesquicentennial celebration in 1991.

1991

- The Oregon Area Historical Society Museum was **officially dedicated on May 18, 1991** with ceremonies commencing at noon featuring a band concert by the Oregon Community Band.
- **Lyman Anderson was the keynote speaker** for the event, reminiscing about the history of the Oregon area. Lyman was a lifelong resident of the Oregon area and was instilled with a love of history by his parents
- The event included a **Tour of Historic Oregon Homes**; featuring five homes in the northern part of Oregon which were selected for their architectural design. Sue Ames organized the tour.

1992

- **Grand Opening and Open House Event was held on October 3, 1992.**



- **Florice Paulson cut the ribbon with Village President Bill Kortte and Miss Oregon Tina Gefke attending.**



- **Tours of the museum were conducted in October for a group of senior citizens. Another tour was given for a Cub Scout group. Ed Owen spoke to the Cub Scout group after the tour about scouting.**



- **Eeda Lumley and Janet Keenan are co-curators of the new museum.**

1993

- OAHS sponsored an **Ice Cream Social** at the Community Band concert on June 1st.



- Work continues with improvements to the interior of the building; especially in preparing the lower level for a display area. Grading and changing the slope of the lawn on the west side was done. Eaves will be installed in the spring.



- Since Oregon will not be having a "Maxwell Street Days" this year, the VFW Auxiliary and the Historical Society will have a joint sale on August 7th, with the Auxiliary serving food. A rummage sale was held on October 2nd with left over items from the earlier sale.



1994

- The Oregon Area Historical Society hosted a meeting of the **Dane County Historical Society** in April. A tour of the museum was held at the time.

- Several items were received from the **Sue Ames** house as well as receiving a bequest from her will.



- OAHS continues to sponsor the summer card parties and the ice cream social; as well as having a float in the Summerfest parade and participating at Maxwell Street Days.



1995

- A bid from ABC Seamless Siding was approved for a total cost of \$15,322.92. The contract includes siding on exterior walls of building, soffit, fascia, coverings for window frames, gutters and downspouts. The color approved was Driftwood Gray.



- OAHS will participate in **Bill's Food Center's 'SUPPORT OREGON'** program by collecting and turning in Bill's receipts for cash.

1996

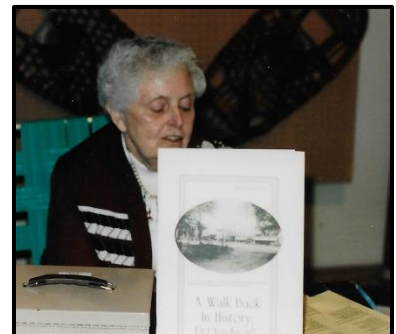
- Money received from the **Collins Richardson family** was used to install a **flag pole**. The dedication ceremony was held on May 26th. The **VFW** donated the flag. Lyman Anderson will speak at the ceremony.
- OAHs contracted with Jim Wallace to do **work on the approach area** from Lincoln Street and some sidewalk work at the rear of the building.
- Board is investigating the installation of a security system.

1997

- A **Wisconsin Sesquicentennial Committee** was formed with **Phil Peterson** as chairman. Janet Keenan suggested we could help the kids in the school's Pioneer Days with clothes. Dorothy Tauchen volunteered her craft class at the Sr. Center to sew for the project.
- The Sesquicentennial Committee worked on a **school project to place markers** at all of the old rural school sites if present owners agree.



- A book was published featuring the old one-room school houses.
- 4th graders visited the rural Dogtown School for an old-time school day experience.
- Florice's book "**A Walk Back in History - Did You Know?**" was put on the school's computer network so that students can access it for research. The Will Ames Diaries and the Don McGill History were placed on the internet along with Florice Paulson's book.



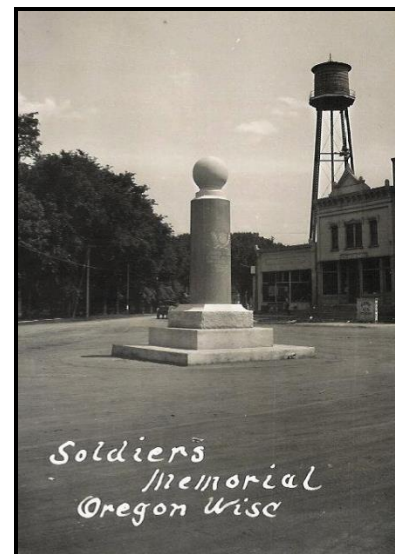
- A computer and table was purchased for the Museum office.

1998

- Fund-raising activities included the card parties, the Ice Cream Social, calendar sales, a rummage sale, raffle, and bake sale. \$800 was received in matching funds from AAL and \$300 Lutheran Brotherhood from the rummage sale.
- Clothing for students for the Pioneer Days event at school continues to be made with girls' costumes finished and work started on boys' outfits.
- Shrubs were planted in front of the museum building.

1999

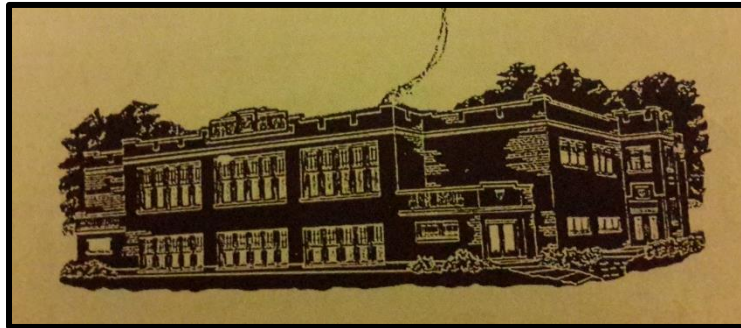
- **Joan Gefke** presented plans for the designation of part of a downtown district as an Historic Business District. She received approval of the board to spend \$2,100 to complete the necessary documentation by consultant, Elizabeth Miller. (Official notification was received that Oregon's South Main Street Historic District had been entered into the State and National Registers of Historic Places as of Jun 15, 2000.)



- OAHS Building Improvement Committee held initial discussions on plans. Cement work on the southeast side of the building was approved and completed.

2000

- Melissa Destree submitted a sketch of a **metal Christmas ornament** depicting the Red Brick School for the board's approval. This ornament is a fund-raiser for the Society. Ornaments were made available by October; in time for Christmas gift giving.



- Ideas for a theme for a float in the Summerfest Parade was to follow an agricultural theme - **"Planting Corn - Then and Now"**
- The monthly noon luncheon meeting of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce was held at the Museum on August 17th.

2001

- The Historical Society's float entry in the Summerfest Parade won first place for best entry in keeping with the theme of the parade "Summer-Fun-Fest". The float depicted a beach scene with persons dressed in the old time bathing suits



- The Board of Directors approved the recommendation of the Museum Director Committee to hire Rebecca DuBey as Museum Director.
- Two of the OAHS Red Brick medallions were sent by the Oregon Chamber of Commerce to be placed on the **2001 Holiday Tree at the State Capitol**. A new medallion is in the works - this one will be of the World War One Monument.

2002

- The Society **established an internet connection** with JVL Net.
- The Oregon Area Historical Society **received a grant in the amount of \$3,129** from Dane County Cultural Affairs Committee **for track lighting** to be installed to replace the present lighting.
- **The World War I monument medallion** is for sale (\$10) and is available at the museum. It makes an ideal keepsake or tree ornament.

2003

- OAHS **nominated Florice Paulson for the "Wisconsin Historical Society Certificate of Commendation"** for her many contributions, service and support of the Oregon Area Historical Society.
- **Wayne Salisbury** drove from Roanoke, Virginia to the Oregon Area Historical Society Museum to **donate the diaries and letters of William Soden**, which he transcribed. He also donated the bible that William Soden carried during the Civil War.
- Mark Hanson appeared before the Board meeting to **discuss a web-site for the Historical Society**; how it can be used to promote and highlight the museum and the Society's activities.

2004



- A new exhibit was designed to showcase some of the museum's vintage dresses worn between 1880 and 1930. These dresses are fine examples of the styles of the period; some of which were worn as wedding dresses.
- A new fire alarm system with horns and strobe lights was installed.
- **A brochure is being produced** for the Historical Society and Museum.

2005

- The Historical Society sent a letter to the Village in support of the Preservation Committee's idea of having old style lamp posts in the downtown area.
- **Tom McKay, Coordinator in the Office of Local History** of the Wisconsin Historical Society was the featured speaker at the General Membership Meeting and Potluck Supper on March 10th.
- **Ann Benedict and Pauline Champion** donated and planted flowers in the planter in front of the museum.



2006

- The Board of Directors of the Oregon Area Historical Society announced planned events for 2006.
 - Card parties will be sponsored on the 1st Saturday of the months of June, July, August and September and are held at the Oregon Area Senior Center.
 - Quarterly Membership Meetings and Potluck Suppers to be held on the 2nd Thursday of March, June and September and on the 1st Thursday of December.
 - The annual Ice Cream Social will be held on Tuesday, June 20th at the park in downtown Oregon
 - The Summerfest Parade will be held on Sunday, June 25th
 - A "Yard Sale" is planned for Saturday, August 12th, starting at 8:00 a.m.
- Quarterly Membership Meetings featured:
 - **March 9th** - A presentation by members of the **Swan Creek Sewing Circle** which is celebrating its 90th year.
 - **September 12th** - **Richard Larsen**, OAHS Board of Directors member, and a Wisconsin Civil War historian, was the featured speaker, providing interesting facts and information about local participation in the Civil War.
 - **December 7th** - An **Oregon High School String Ensemble** entertained with holiday music.

2007

- The Historical Society celebrated its 20th anniversary with an **Open House** and a Potluck Picnic on the museum grounds on September 13th.
- **Eeda Lumley** addressed the gathering and spoke of the origin of the Historical Society and the renovation of the museum building.
 - A new exhibit featured a **tribute to Lyman Anderson**, well-known local businessman, agriculturist, former Dane County Board member; and a descendant of Nathaniel Ames. Attending the unveiling of the display were Lyman's sons - Kenneth and Jerry and family.
 - **Shirley Erfurth**, also a descendant of Nathaniel Ames, chronicled the ancestral lineage and gave the audience several interesting facts and anecdotes of the Ames family. She spoke at the event, provided pictures and information of the Ames family ancestors and lineage between Nathaniel Ames and Lyman Anderson.
 - Representative Brett Davis read and presented the Society with a proclamation signed by the Governor congratulating OAHS on its 20th Anniversary.



Lyman Anderson Display



Lyman Anderson Family

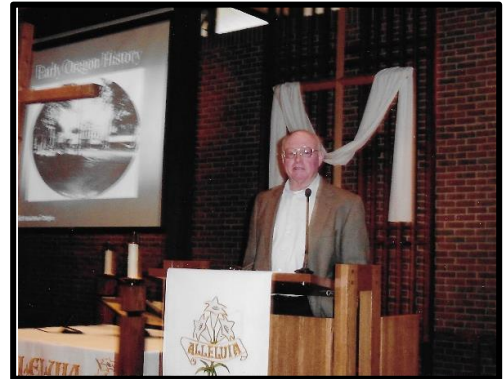


Eeda Lumley spoke at the 20th Anniversary Celebration



2008

- Phil Peterson narrated a slide presentation of the "History of Oregon" given at the **Women of St. John's Salad Luncheon** in May.



- Historical Oregon photographs from Florice Paulson's collection were borrowed. They were enlarged, framed and provided for display at Oregon business establishments. Many of the photos were placed on display at the **Oregon Public Library**.



- Mark Hansen facilitates the website for the Oregon Area Historical Society. Melanie Woodworth regularly submits photos and articles for the website and to the Oregon Observer.

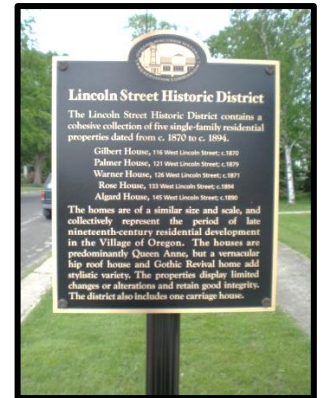
2009

- In response to frequent inquiries for information from relatives, the Historical Society is building a collection of **"Family Files"** at the museum.



President Arlan Kay of the Oregon Historic Preservation Commission at the Dedication ceremony for the West

- The Historical Society participated in the **"West Lincoln Street Historic District"** dedication ceremony held on May 21st.



Plaque designating the West Lincoln Historic District

The district consists of five single family residential properties located between North Main Street and Market Street. A marker is placed at each end of the street and each of the five homes have a medallion marker placed on their property with the name of the original owner.

- **Elving Kjellstrom** and son, Gary spoke at the September membership meeting. Elving was the founder of Oregon's first major industry - **Wisconsin Mold and Tool**. The company was officially incorporated on May 10, 1949; making this their 60th anniversary. The name was changed to WISCO in 1970. The **famous sunburst metal chairs** that adorn the Memorial Union terrace on the UW Madison campus are manufactured by WISCO.
- The lawn of the OAHS Museum was the site for a Cub Scout Troop as they observed Veteran's Day on November 7th. They held a flag ceremony and Bob Keenan spoke on his WWII service.



2010

- **Featured exhibits** at the museum are one on **Ernie Tresch** and another on **WISCO**.



- **OAHS co-sponsored the Wisconsin Historic Preservation meeting** at the Gorman building in April. Joan Gefke was the lead organizer.
- Kermit Traska and crew taped a video tour of the museum. It was presented to the Oregon Manor/Main Street Quarters residents.
- The **Molzahns made a display case for Boy Scout display**. The students at Mr. Molzahn's MATC woodworking class made additional cases as part of the coursework with OAHS just covering the cost of materials used. They were a beautiful addition to the museum's display area. **Alexander Molzahn's Eagle Scout ceremony** held on October 24th on the grounds of the OAHS Museum.
- **Jerry Neath provides bits of history from 10-25-50 and 100 years ago** for publication in the Oregon Observer.



- A **Scavenger Treasure Hunt** program was developed for student visitors. Completed answer forms are placed in the box and a monthly winner is drawn. The winner receives a gift certificate to **OFroYo**.

2011

- For many months, a major display of Oregon's origins and history has been in development. An Open House was held on October 20th to celebrate the completion of the "Oregon History" timeline exhibits at the museum.
- It commences with a geologic and glacial history display; then highlights a Native American display which includes a hands-on dig for arrowheads.
 - The next display shows the arrival of the early settlers to the Oregon area and an enlarged map of the Old Lead Trail.
 - An outstanding addition to the timeline notes the arrival of the railroad to the area. The event is artfully displayed in a diorama of the Oregon Depot area. Many hours/days/months went into designing and assembling the diorama exhibit featuring a miniature replica of the railroad area in Oregon.



Geological and Glacial Maps of Area



Native American Artifacts



Early Settlers & Old Lead Trail



from the Madison Model Railroad Association



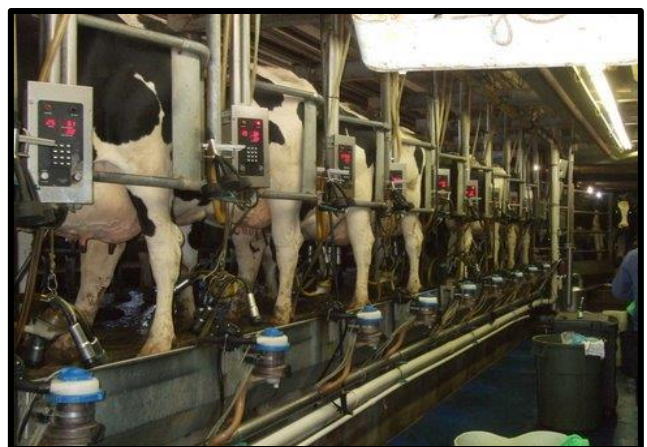
The Oregon Railroad Depot diorama created by the men

2011 (2)

- OAHS joined **Facebook**, thanks to Ellen McKirdy and Julia Meyers.
- The **model doll house** made by Brigit Rennenkampf was purchased from Tony Supanich and is on display at the museum. It is one of the favorite attractions of our student tours.



- **Betty Manson (dressed in typical pioneer attire)** presented the program for the Quarterly Membership Meeting in March, 2011, explaining how Pioneer Days originated when she was a teacher at the Brooklyn Elementary School. She described the activities the students performed - typical of how pioneers lived. As the program grew, Betty was joined by fellow teacher, Dale Schulz, who assisted with the program and carried it forward after Betty retired.
- The program for the June, 2011 General Membership Meeting was a salute to June is Dairy Month with a presentation by Phil Peterson on **WISCONSIN IS AMERICA'S DAIRYLAND**. In his slide presentation, Phil shows how the dairy industry has evolved over the years; and featured several early creameries, barns and area farms in his presentation. Here's an example of the evolution of milking through automation and modern technology over the past 100 years.



2012

- OAHS hosted the **Capital Region Local History Conference** in July held in the lower level meeting room of the State Bank of Cross Plains-Oregon Branch.
- Funds from a **State Historical Society mini-grant** was used to purchase Past Perfect software.
- The military display area was updated with information on the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, World War I, Spanish-American War, World War II, Korean War and Viet Nam conflict. Placards provide **major points of interest** of each. Rosters appear on other placards listing the **names of Oregon area men/women** who served in each.
- A large attendance attended to help us celebrate our **25th Anniversary** in September . We took this occasion to pay tribute to three ladies who were guiding forces behind the success of the Historical Society over the past 25 years - Eeda Lumley, Florice Paulson and Janet Keenan.



Horse-drawn wagon took riders on a route through Oregon streets, pointing out historic homes



Mary Sternitsky demonstrates spinning wool into yarn



Janet Keenan displays plaque honoring her, Eeda and Florice

- Many individuals and local business establishments contributed to a great **Silent Auction**. It brought in nearly \$800 to support the Historical Society and Museum.

2013

- The Board approved the bid from Seidel **for replacing the museum roofing and removal of the overhang**. Searl Electric's bid was approved for flood lighting on the side wall of museum and on the flag. Gallagher Tent and Awning's bid was approved to install a canopy over museum entrance. Work is to be completed in 2013.
- An **endowment fund** was established with the Madison Community Foundation and an initial deposit made into the fund. Future donations received can be designated to either the Building Fund; Endowment Fund or General Fund.
- OAHS is the beneficiary of household goods from the **Florice Paulson Estate**. Several hours were spent sorting through contents to determine which items should go to the Museum, with other items to go on auction or sold on e-Bay, while some other items may find a home at the Wisconsin State Historical Society or to another local Historical Society. Miss Paulson's home was a **treasure trove of historical artifacts and historical information**.

2014

- Dave and JoAnn presented History of Oregon programs for the Optimist Club and for the Knights of Columbus.
- OAHS celebrated the **50th Anniversary of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce** with a display at the Oregon Summerfest grounds.
- The December Quarterly Membership Meeting featured Jesse Gant and Nick Hoffman, **authors of "Wheel Fever"**, a book about bicycling in Wisconsin. Meeting was open to the public and well attended.
- Arrangements are made to relocate The **"Chamber of Commerce Horse"** to the lawn of the Oregon Area Historical Society. Erfurth Body Shop made necessary repairs and re-painted the horse. John Clark loaned the buggy and harness to the museum.



2015

- The **OAHS Building Committee delivered a report** on two options for space expansion on the upper level of museum. One option provided for public access to upper level; the other with no public access. No action was taken; pending further information required to address fund-raising efforts and receiving input from neighbors.
- Among the many interesting items found in the Paulson's house were **postcards** sent from Bernice Hanan to Florice and Mona Paulson in Oregon. They told of **a story of 17-year old Bernice at the time she attended State Normal School at Whitewater in 1913**. Because the postcards reflected many Whitewater scenes, we forwarded them to the Whitewater Historical Society, where Linda Robinson took a special interest in the story they told. She worked her research of the postcards into a story. That story became the basis of a presentation given for us in Oregon, titled "Texting Back in the Day" - a reference to how communications, particularly between students in 1913 and students today have changed immensely.
- Always in search of a program for the residents of the Oregon Manor/Main Street Quarters, we realized we had **a room full of hats** at the museum. While hats are not so prominent in today's wardrobe, we thought the residents might find it enjoyable seeing them and recalling memories of days when they were in fashion.
- A large group attended the December Membership Meeting to enjoy a trip back to the day of the one-room school house. Susan Apps-Bodilly led the presentation and the group joined in with their own personal experiences of attending a rural school house.



Linda Robinson - Hanan postcards



Ann Richardson Morris, Gerald Neath, JoAnn Swenson
in our "vintage hats"



Susan Apps Bodilly talks about rural schools

2015 - 2

- Those who were recorded as **charter members** of the Oregon Area Historical Society were given special recognition at the March Membership Meeting .
- A public **Open House** at the museum was held in September, which drew a very large attendance. Special events included a silent auction, a cake walk, music, demonstrations, face painting, a balloon artist, dressing up in pioneer clothing for picture taking, a Civil War talk by Lyle Laufenberg and his wife, and spinning yarn from wool and a food stand. Several images are shown here.



Old-time music provided by Ralph Kiefer's band



Good food available at the Food Stand



Kids enjoyed the face painting



Dressed up for picture taking



Balloon artistry - a favorite activity for all



Covered Wagon Rides were back this year



Lyle Laufenberg had many interesting stories of the life of a soldier during the Civil War



Mrs. Laufenberg tells and demonstrates life on the homefront during the Civil War

2016

- A significant project was undertaken - the **"East Lawn Project"** - to make needed improvements to the lawn area. Greg Epp and crew worked to grade the area and remove obstacles (footings) left over from the removal of the overhang. A funding campaign was undertaken and received a great response from the membership.



- **Ray Lawry** was recognized for his many contributions to the Historical Society and as a regular volunteer for many years. Ray was a regular and constant volunteer working renovation of the museum building. A reception was held for Ray in September. In recognition of his efforts, a plaque in his will be displayed at the museum.

- JoAnn Swenson, Melanie Woodworth and Ann Morris presented a program on the **"History of the Hankie"**. Melanie brought an extensive collection of hankies from her husband's grandmother to show. Ann brought card party tallies from the Paulson collection.



- On June 12, 2016, OAHS presented **Dr. Edward Hopkins** and **Chief Meteorologist Bob Lindmeier** at the Quarterly Meeting. They discussed weather and climate in Wisconsin and some of the Oregon area's memorable storms. Bob is a Channel 27's TV meteorologist and spoke on the weather side of TV.

Ed is with the State Climatology Office.

- OAHS co-ordinated with Randy Glysch to conduct a **walking tour of historic downtown Oregon buildings** in September.



2017 – OAHS 30th Anniversary Year

- The 2017 Annual Membership Meeting was held at one of Oregon's historic landmarks in downtown Oregon. The program for the meeting focused on the history of the **historic building which was erected in 1898 by H.H. Marvin**, in which he operated a hardware store until around 1912, and of subsequent owners and merchants who occupied the building. We also heard of the history of the **Oregon Masonic Lodge**, the occupant of the second story of the building until 1962. Charlie's Restaurant now occupy the building and the one immediately adjacent to the north. We enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by Charlie's award-winning chef, David Heide.



- To celebrate the **30th Anniversary** of the Oregon Area Historical Society in September, the Board of Directors approved a collaboration with the Arcadia Publishing Company to produce a pictorial book of early Oregon history. Arcadia specializes in "Images of America" and we were happy to be a part of their series.

A team consisting of **Melanie Woodworth, Gerald Neath, Ann Morris, Dixie Brown and JoAnn Swenson** rushed to meet publisher deadlines; collecting photographs, and information to be included in the book. The book covers a period of time from when Oregon area was first settled in the 1840s and continues through the 1940s.



Left: Dixie Brown and Rita Madsen Kluever look through the scrapbooks for material about her father, F.E. "Steve" Madsen., to be included in the book

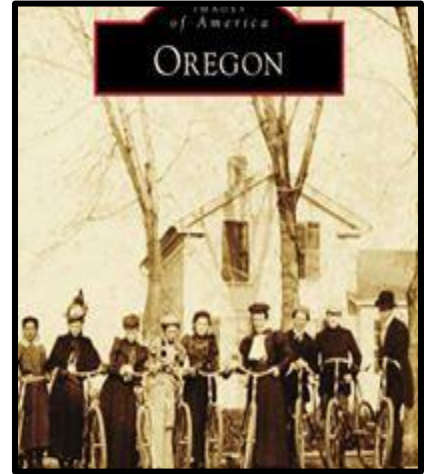
Right: The "Oregon Book" committee: JoAnn Swenson, Melanie Woodworth, Gerald Neath, Dixie Brown and Ann Richardson Morris.



2017 – OAHS 30th Anniversary Year (2)

- The "Oregon" Book was undertaken as a project to promote the celebration of the Oregon Area Historical Society's 30th Anniversary. A celebration event was planned for Sunday, September 17th beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Oregon Senior Center with the release of the book for sale. The book covers chapters on:

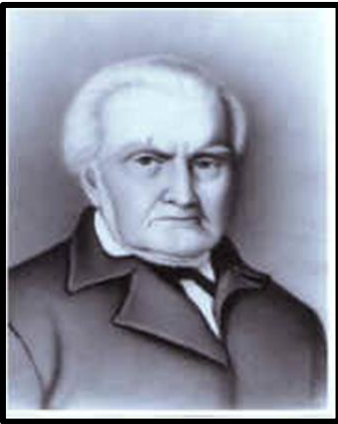
- 1) Oregon's Early History;
- 2) Agriculture;
- 3) Business;
- 4) Civic Organizations;
- 5) Early Churches;
- 6) Schools;
- 7) Sports and Recreation;
- 8) Clubs and Organizations;
- 9) Military;
- and 10) Notable People, Places and Events.



- We were pleasantly overwhelmed with the response to the book's release at the 30th Anniversary event. Dozens of people lined up to purchase the *Oregon* book. We sold about 100 copies at the event. As the book has filtered into the community and is being seen by friends and family, we continue to have people request a copy of the book. We are truly grateful for the community's interest in the book.

- Part 2 of the 30th Anniversary celebration was a **cemetery tour of the gravesites** of ten people prominent in Oregon's history. In preparation for the tour, Dixie, Ann and JoAnn walked through the Prairie Mound Cemetery and St. Mary's Cemetery compiling an extensive list of persons to include on the tour. To keep the tour within a reasonable amount of time, we felt we had to limit the presentations to ten and hope that we might be able to conduct another tour sometime in the future.
- Following is a brief overview of the presentations.

2017 – OAHS 30th Anniversary Year (3)



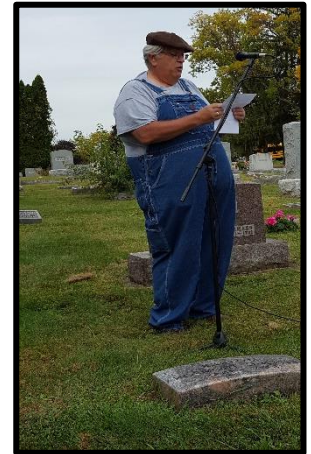
NATHANIAL AMES (1761-1863) was the last Revolutionary War veteran in Wisconsin. He enlisted in the Continental Army and was stationed at Valley Forge in the winter of 1779. He died at the age of 102.

(Richard Bergman portrayed Nathaniel Ames)



GEORGE THOMSON was the nephew of Robert Thomson, an early settler. George (a carpenter) built a large home in 1899 (near WISCO). He and his wife, Ella, farmed the land and lived there until George died in 1927. Ella remained there until she died in 1938. The house was built during a time when "gingerbread" was popular and he added scrollwork and Victorian decorative features to the house

(Dave Gasner portrayed George Thomason)

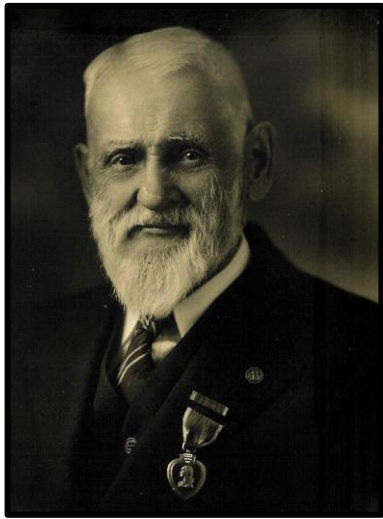


MARY BRABYN WACKMAN and Charles Wackman were married in 1893. Charles was a retail merchant operating a clothing store. Mary was an acclaimed poet who had three books of her poems published and appeared before many groups reading her poems. Their daughter, **Charline Wackman**, graduated from the University of Wisconsin and the Columbia College of Expression in Chicago. She played on the professional stage and taught dramatics.

(Cylie Swenson portrayed Charline Wackman)



2017 – OAHS 30th Anniversary Year (4)



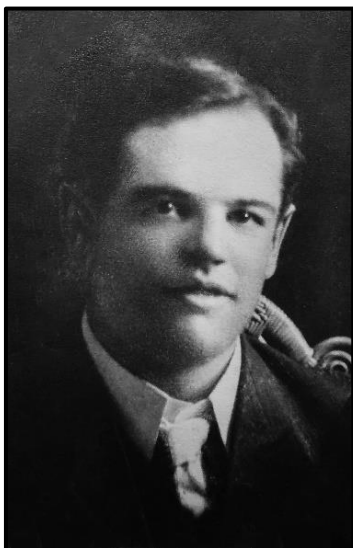
CHARLES NETHERWOOD was the son of Joseph and Emma Netherwood and came to Oregon as a young boy. In 1862, he enlisted for military service serving with Co. E, 23rd Wisconsin Voluntary Infantry. He was wounded during the siege of Vicksburg and was hospitalized in Memphis. He was discharged on November 11, 1863, and later became a prominent businessman and civic leader in Oregon.

(Lyle Laufenburg, accompanied by Mrs. Laufenburg, portrayed Charles Netherwood.)



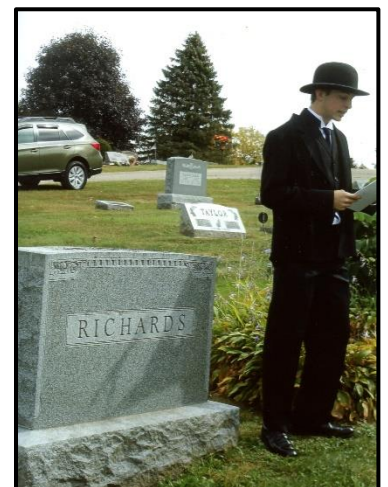
RUTH TILLOTSON AMES, wife of Norton Ames, was elected to the Oregon School Board in 1935, serving as clerk for 32 years. Upon her retirement in 1967, a luncheon was held in her honor where she was given the title, "Oregon's First Lady". During her tenure she was the only woman on the school board. Her time on the board saw the school district expand from 330 students to 2,114 and a teaching staff of 12 to 97.

(Ruth Ames was portrayed by Angie Gasner)



ROY RICHARDS was born in September, 1877. He was a stock buyer and prominent business owner with Mr. Graves and Mr. Roberts. He died tragically in a train accident at the age of 37.

(OHS drama student, Will Oelke, portrayed Roy Richards)



2017 – OAHS 30th Anniversary Year (5)



REV. C. H. "JACK" LINN was born in Nelsonville, Ohio, on April 1, 1886. In the early 1920s, a large evangelical complex, known as the Hallelujah Camp Grounds, was founded by the former Congregational minister. He married Sofie Nelson on December 7, 1915 in Iowa. Rev. Linn died on December 13, 1940 at the age of 54.

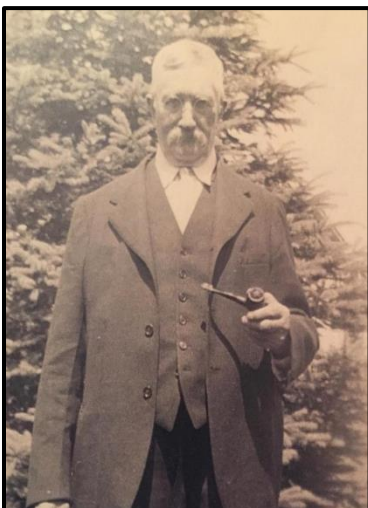
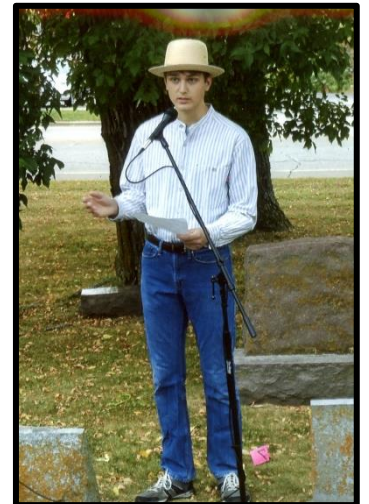
(Kenny Kritsch, OHS drama student, portrayed Rev. Linn)



BERNHARDT FREDERICKSON, holding his son, **LYMAN**.

A destructive tornado hit Oregon on May 11, 1914. Damage was widespread and many farms suffered damage. A child, 3-year old Lyman Frederickson perished in the storm that hit the Bartlett farm located one mile west of the village of Oregon.

(Josh Rockwell, OHS drama student, portrayed Bernhardt Frederickson)



PATRICK SHEIL was a very successful farmer and stock raiser in the Town of Oregon. He was born in Ireland in 1857, and was the only one of four children to seek a home in America, arriving in 1881. He first worked in the Chicago stockyards, then came to Wisconsin and worked as a farm hand for two years. He then bought 80 acres to start and later added more land to total 300 acres of improved land. He married Rosanna Cullen in 1883. They had four children.

(Kim Sheil Erb and Lisa Sheil portrayed Patrick and Rosanna Cullen Sheil)



2017 – OAHS 30th Anniversary Year (6)



FOREST E. "STEVE" MADSEN served as Village President from 1937 until his death in 1973. During his tenure, he oversaw the building of the Village Hall in 1941, with no direct cost to the taxpayers. He was an active member of the Oregon Fire Department and a local businessman, operating a grocery store and meat market. He later built and ran the Waterfall Restaurant and Motel. He also served on the Dane County Board as a supervisor for 33 years.



(Trina Kluever portrayed her grandfather, Steve Madsen)

- The OAHS Museum had a wonderful collection of vintage dresses - many of which were wedding dresses dating back to the 1880s-1890s. When another wedding dress was offered to the museum, the idea of having an exhibit of wedding dresses from different decades came to us. Fannie Keenan's wedding dress from 1881 and another from 1888 represent the oldest gowns on display. Minnie Grace Soden's dress is on display from her wedding to Lincoln Salisbury in 1889. We then have the dress Anna Jensen wore at her marriage to Hans P. Christensen in 1903.



"Newer" wedding dresses on display include the dress worn by Dorothy Gasner's sister, Audrey, in the 1940s - which was later worn by Dorothy herself at her marriage in the 1950s. Marilyn Kellor Bogan (who lives in Minnesota) contacted us and wanted to lend her dress from her 1960s wedding. Jenny Gasner (Dave's wife and Dorothy's daughter-in-law) brought in a lovely winter wedding dress which she wore in her 1970s wedding. The 1980s wedding dress was lent to us by Andrea Speth (daughter of Larry and Sue Waefler).

2017 - 7

➤ The **December Membership Meeting** was held at the Senior Center on Sunday, December 9, 2017 at the Oregon Area Senior Center. The theme for the gathering was to bring a dish that reflected your family heritage. Many different countries were represented with a traditional food - many which were often served especially during the holiday season. Here are some of the dishes that were enjoyed by those attending:

- NORWAY - Rosettes and krumkake
- SWITZERLAND - **Schublig**, a beef sausage served with red cabbage made by the GlarnerStube in New Glarus AND a **Swiss cookie assortment** which included pfeffernusse, anise springerli, bratseli, nut horns and Swiss croquettes
- DENMARK - **Ris a LaMande**, a rise dessert served with a cherry sauce
- IRELAND - **Irish Soda Bread**
- ITALY - **Lasagna**
- MEXICO - **Posole**, a chili-like soup/stew made with pork and hominy; **Taco Dip** and **Chips** and **Hochata**, a cinnamon-flavored rice milk beverage
- UKRAINE - an **appetizer**, egg salad topping on toasted baguette slices
- SLAVAKIAN - **periogies**
- GERMAN - **Bienenstich** (Bee Sting Cake), a sweet dough pastry filled with whipped cream and custard and topped with caramel and almonds; a variety of **German cookies** and **Stollen**; **Haribo Candy**, a gummy-bear treat
- FINLAND - **Pulla**, a Finnish cardamom bread
- SWEDEN - **Swedish meat balls**
- AMERICAN - **Sweet Potato Casserole**



2017 - 8

- Each food item was identified with a flag depicting the country's origin and a placard describing the dish and the tradition in which it was typically served.



- Below: Karon Kruehl browses through one of the scrapbooks containing some of the many vintage Christmas cards from the Florice Paulson home.



Karon Kruehl browses vintage Christmas cards



Phil and Carol Peterson



Ann, Jo Ann and Dixie