

A Word From Your President...

Greetings all! Just a short update here from the Original Courthouse! It has been an eventful year, starting with getting a new furnace, and moving on forward to a return to live and in-person February History Forums. The Forums this year were well attended. As in previous years, the Forum presentations were video recorded, and they are now posted online on the Original Courthouse YouTube channel. Just go to **YouTube.com**, enter **Original Courthouse History Forums** and click on the video you want to watch.



In the spring we opened our doors for visitors, and closed up again in the fall. Our Docent Extradinaire Chris, with help from dedicated volunteers, showed the Courthouse to visitors from all over the world. After we closed we worked on a few improvement projects. We built a couple of short fences on the east side of the building to close off that area; folks had been camping out over there and leaving litter. We also straightened up the front side of the old shed in back, and now the entrance door to it works. That old shed is original to the lot, probably built in the 1880s or 1890s. It was used for several purposes; as a root

cellar, carpenter shop, woodshed, outhouse, and, after the addition of water and sewer connections, as a bathroom! We hope to finish up the restoration of this building this year, and will open it up for special tours. It is quite fascinating!

Anyway, I hope this newsletter finds you all well. We look forward to seeing you all this year!

-Eric Gleason, President

In Memorium

This last year we also lost a few folks who helped make our community and this place work for everyone. Juanita Neitling lost her husband David, who worked tirelessly on the Riverfront Trail, and Sandy Bisset lost her husband Jim, who was a big part of this place.

Here, we would also like to acknowledge those who have given donations in their memory.

This Year's Forum Lineup

ORIGINAL COURTHOUSE REGIONAL HISTORY FORUM SERIES FOR 2024

Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. in the upstairs courtroom of the 1859 courthouse, 410 West 2nd Place, The Dalles behind the Chamber of Commerce/Visitors' Center.

Saturday, February 3



The Story Behind 'Chicken Charlie's' Island

Rodger Nichols is a longtime local reporter and contributor to the Regional History Forum. He has an unusual family connection to the story of Charles Reither, the real “Chicken Charlie.” His research has uncovered intriguing facts about the man and the island, also called Eighteen Mile Island.

Saturday, February 10

Rooted: The Lives of Amos and Hannah Root, Pioneers of Mosier

Research into the lives of her great-grandparents led retired teacher Doris Smith to write her recently-published book “Rooted.” She chronicles the lives of a pioneering American family over a fifty-year time span beginning in the 1870s and ending on a tragic day in 1923. Amos and Hannah Root traveled west from Indiana in search of the perfect place to settle. They found it in Mosier, Oregon.



Saturday, February 17



The Umatilla House

The Most Famous Hotel in the Pacific Northwest Susan Buce is a local historian and serves as registrar at Columbia Gorge Discovery Center and Museum. The hostelry holds a special place in the history of Dalles City when it was a bustling new town in the wild west. It survived fires and floods, serving up to 1500 meals a day and hosting 300 guests a night.

Saturday, February 24

Saving Fort Dalles: The Old Fort Dalles Historical Society

Julie Reynolds serves on the Fort Dalles/Anderson Homestead Museum Commission. The women of the local Sorosis Club determined to save what was left of the fort after the military abandoned the installation. They formed the Old Fort Dalles Historical Society for this purpose. Fascinating information emerged in the process of transcribing the Society's handwritten minutes.



HOURS AND ADMISSION FEES

Thursday, Friday and Saturday
MAY 4th through SEPTEMBER 30th
11:00am -3:00 pm

Extended hours for group visits
By previous appointment

And as always, remember that if you are current on this year's Museum membership
you always get in for free!

Adults	\$4.00 each
Family Rate	\$8.00
Youth 12-18	\$3.00 each
Children 6-11	\$2.00 each
Children under 6	FREE
Adult Groups	\$3.00 each
Youth Groups 6-17	\$2.00 each

Eric Gleason: *President,*
Vacant (your name here...): Vice President,
Rodger Nichols: *Secretary,*
Sheila Dooley: *Treasurer*
sitting Board members:
Sandy Bisset,
Karl Vercouteren,
Sherry Mumford,
Carol Stace,
Stephanie Rickert
and Linda Wilson

with
Trish Neal: *Internet support,*
Duane Powell: *Technical support,*
Chris Bolton: *Newsletter Editor & Docent,*
Juanita Neitling: *Volunteer*

Our Esteemed Board of Directors & hangers on various and sundry



MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Original Wasco County Courthouse Preservation Corporation to preserve the Original Wasco County Courthouse; to collect, exhibit and interpret items related to the governmental/legal history of Wasco County; to provide a venue for presentations of local historical interest; and preserve and make available educational & research materials.

The Original Wasco County Courthouse is an Oregon Cultural Trust Partner. As a contributor to our organization you are eligible to participate in Oregon's Cultural Trust Tax Credit program. Donors who contribute to Oregon's cultural non-profits, including the Original Wasco County Courthouse, are eligible to make matching donations to The Oregon Cultural Trust and receive 100% tax credit for the Trust Donation (up to \$500 for individual, \$1000 For a couple filing jointly and \$2,500 for a Class-C Corporation).

Learn more at culturaltrust.org

Thank You For Your Support



We need your e-mail address! No, we promise not to sell it to anyone. But once we have it, we can send you the newest newsletter *in full, postage free, color...* and with a few easy keystrokes you will be able to send it on to friends. Those of you without e-mail, please don't worry. We will continue to send the same information to you by snail mail. Remember our membership year runs from January 1st through December 31st each year so the time is now. You can print this page separately, in black and white, and get yourself this snazzy membership application to fill out and mail in... And there is a second membership form just right for passing along to that friend you want to become a member too! Asking a friend to join with you helps us exceed last year's membership numbers, and filling in your e-mail address on your membership form is the easiest way to place yourself on the list to receive the full color newsletter, thereby saving yourself from a drab life in black and white...

Please take a minute and renew your membership and continue being a vital part of our historic preservation effort.



ORIGINAL COURTHOUSE PRESERVATION CORPORATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2024

The Original Courthouse Preservation Corp. is a Federally designated 501(C)3 non-profit organization.

As such your donations & membership dues are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL
Please check appropriate box

Please mail this form and your check to:
Original Courthouse Preservation Corp.
PO Box 839 The Dalles, OR 97058

☐ \$15.00 Individual ☐ \$25.00 Family ☐ \$40.00 Sustaining ☐ \$100.00 Patron

☐ Additional donation _____ ☐ Donation in memory of: _____ ☐ in honor of: _____



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