

St. Paul Mission Historical Society
P.O. Box 158
St. Paul, Oregon 97137

Fall 2011

St. Paul Mission Historical Society Newsletter

Mission of Organization: Preservation of the history of early Oregon and the French Prairie region of the Willamette Valley. Preservation includes establishment of a historical trust for artifacts, written and spoken history of the St. Paul and French Prairie area, and publication of historical records of early Oregon.

We hope you enjoy the Fall 2011 edition of the St. Paul Mission Historical Society (SPMHS) newsletter. We welcome your suggestions for future articles. Please feel free to contact any of the board members with your comments and suggestions.

Greetings To All Our Members

The Annual Meeting of the St. Paul Mission Historical Society will be held on Sunday, October 16, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. at the St. Paul Fire District office located in St. Paul. A light brunch will be provided at no charge. In order to provide an accurate head count, please RSVP to maureene@mtangel.net or call 503.845.6208 and leave a message.

On the agenda will be the Society's annual elections. Four board positions are open for nominations and they are:

- Dr. David Brauner – 2011
- Don Koch – 2011
- Miguel Salinas - 2011
- Hunter Wylie – 2011

Jean Abderhalden (President) – 2012

Gertrude Jette (Treasurer) – 2012

Gerry Lenzen (Vice President) – 2012

Maureen Ernst (Secretary) - 2013

George Strawn – 2013

Monsignor Gregory Moys - 2013

Rosella McKay – Past President

Welcome New Board Member: Msgr. Greg Moys was born and raised in Portland, Oregon. He completed his studies at Mount Angel Seminary College, the Gregorian University (Rome), and the University of Oregon (Eugene). He was ordained a Catholic priest for the Archdiocese of Portland on December 16, 1964 in Rome. He taught religion for 18 years at Central Catholic High School (Portland), Saint Mary's Academy (Portland), and Regis High School (Stayton). He served as Principal of Central Catholic High School

from 1974-78. He served as Chancellor of the Portland Archdiocese and Archdiocesan Vicar of Health and Social Services from 1983-1990. He has served as pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish (Stayton) and Saint Catherine of Siena (Mill City), Saint Anne (Grants Pass) and is currently pastor of Saint Paul (Saint Paul). He became a priest Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem in 1995 and Chaplain to this Holiness with the title of Monsignor in 2008. He is currently vice president of the Oregon Catholic Historical Society.

Board Vacancies –We now have vacancies on the board. If you are interested in hearing more about the position of board member, please contact President Jean Abderhalden at 503.633.2741 or e-mail: jeanfrank@stpaultel.com. We are a good group and guarantee you will enjoy the time serving on the board!

Program: Our program speaker is Kim Martin; Living History Coordinator with Friends of Historic Champoeg. Kim has a Bachelor of Science in Education, having gone through three majors before settling on Education. History has always been a passion but not a vocation until working with Friends of Historic Champoeg. She started in 2003 with the Promise Program, teaching children about the history of the people who have lived on French Prairie. Shortly thereafter the Public Programming position opened up and she moved into that position, organizing Living History and other events, and managing more than 80 volunteers. A life-long learner Kim revels in the fact that history is alive at Champoeg, and we are still learning so much about the people who lived here and contributed so much to the culture of this area. Kim lives in Dundee with her husband and three cats. She has a daughter and son who both live in Ashland while attending school.

Kim will discuss “Stories of Everyday People” and life in the town of Champoeg many years ago.



Lindsey Stallard at the Ft Hoskins dig

Welcome! Our new SPMHS Intern is Lindsey Stallard from OSU! “I am an entering grad student into the program for Historic Archaeology, studying under David Brauner. I feel extremely privileged to be a part of the preservation of the wonderful collection from St. Paul. I also look forward to getting to know everyone in the SPMHS,” reports Lindsey. “This winter and spring I was fortunate enough to intern at the Benton County Museum and worked with cataloging their collection. In doing so, I learned many interesting things about the history of the county and its people. I hope to learn just as much, if not more, while working with the St. Paul collection. Having been a history major as an undergrad at OSU, I am always interested in knowing the story behind the artifact. Aside from work and school, I love reading, cooking and antiquing on the weekends. I find it’s always a treasure hunt!”

Update on Champoeig Dig – 2011 Board member Dr. David Brauner will provide an update on the Summer 2011 Dig at Champoeig. David Brauner, Ph.D is a full professor with the Department of Anthropology at Oregon State University. Dr. Brauner has presented his selected papers including "The Untold Story at the End of the Oregon Trail", "Archaeology of the French Prairie Métis" and "Shadow Land: Forgotten Peoples of the Old Oregon Country" to organizations in the U.S. and Canada. His credits include project director of the archaeological and historical research of the Robert Newell Farmstead at Champoeig State Park.

2011 Activities: Board members will report on activities this past year.

Grants: In 2011, we were awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Helen E. Austin Pioneer Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation. Project summary: Harriet D. Munnick was one of French Prairie's most prolific historians. Unfortunately, much of her work was never published and is unavailable to the general public. All of her research and documents were donated to the St. Paul Mission Historical Society and the Board of Directors decided that the next step in their on-going preservation project is indexing, digitizing, and cataloging of all material in a PastPerfect database. Oregon State University graduate students have been transferring all documents at the OSU Historical Archaeology Lab where the material is being organized, scanned and entered into a database. The end goal of this endeavor will be a digital collection of all of the Munnick research that will lend itself to both academic and public use.

We are very grateful to the Helen E. Austin Pioneer Family for allowing us to continue our research and preservation of French Prairie History. In 1976, Helen Austin, Catherine Zorn, and Joe & Rosella McKay formed the SPMHS. These community leaders recognized the importance of preserving history that included valuable documents and artifacts. And, preservation continues to the next generation!

We were awarded a \$2,000 grant from the Marion County Cultural Development Corporation to create information capsules and audio equipment to preserve the living history of the arrival to St. Paul by the first Tejano migrant families. The living history is being documented and recorded by board member Miguel Salinas, historian. This would establish a template and/or a baseline from which other research and content can be administered and information can be authenticated and thus add an important dimension to the St. Paul, Oregon Story. Much of the history that has been collected has been via the medium of oral accounts. Regrettably because the original families came to the area in the late 1940's and early 50's many of them have passed away, are ill, not mobile or some lack the memory to adequately recount their earlier years. Therefore, assistance to install this important phase of our Web-Site is imperative.

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Website: The website is up and running at www.spmhs.com. Designing a website is a long and tedious project with many details to be finalized before launching the site. Born and raised in St. Paul, local designer Lauren Wylie; Lauren Wylie Studio (www.laurenwyliestudio.com) has spent countless hours designing the website. Lauren is a freelance graphic designer, web developer, and photographer. Her projects include museum curator, small business consulting, and large historic display designs. She manages all project aspects including development of print materials, websites, online tracking, branding research, logo development, and signage.

Thank You: A special thank you to Bernice Davidson Brown for donating the lawn mowing services this year. The lawns around the museums have been mowed and are well tended by Bernice's crew.

"PIONEROS" 10TH REUNION June 26, 2011 by Miguel Salinas

In anticipation of our gathering, "**Pioneros de Oregon**" tables were adorned with "Pioneros" photo vases, food for 200 people was ready and live music began at 3:00 p.m. Fred and Gustino, musicians from Lake Oswego with an international musical repertoire opened the event by playing "**Amapola**" written by Jose Maria LaCalle. The attire for the event was vaquero-cowboy and Mexican traditional dress and the theme this year was "Pioneer and Future Generations."

The theme for the event implies that the future of "**Pioneros de Oregon**" and remembering and celebrating the arrival to Marion County, Oregon of Migrant Families and their contributions depends on present and future generations. A gathering of 300 plus people in 2002 has been difficult to match. Factors such as age, illness, inability to drive, poor mobility and people passing to the next life has lamentably affected attendance. Luckily a lot of photographs, videos and audio clips have been archived and will be used to SAVE and share many of the great memories that we have had in the 10 REUNIONS we had since 2002.

"**Pioneros de Oregon**" will be kept alive via technology. A Web-Page will be launched soon. The interest of "Migrant Life" has changed over the years. What has not changed is the place of ORIGINSt. Paul, Marion County, Oregon! Yes, one of the major cradles of Migrant Life. I have been blessed and privileged to have been part of this experience as a child and I consider it an **HONOR** to support our future Web-Page: "Migrant Windows-Ventanas." An interest to support this effort has been expressed by academics and I hope we can soon be just a click away from visiting the past and sharing a variety of themes that can enhance the understanding and appreciation for "**Tejano-Mexicano Migrants.**"

The St. Paul Mission Historical Society has been a catalyst to this effort. I am proud to be part of a team of people whose interest to preserve our past is paramount. The epic center for my personal interest rests on the story of two little communities/towns whose

small size created a **GRAND AMISTAD** (Friendship)!...St. Paul, Oregon and Asherton, Texas.



PIONERO PRIDE! In 2002 the Ibarra Family was unable to attend the event due to family illness. Lazaro and his parents Juan and Martina Ibarra attended the event for the 1st time. In addition to a commendation, Lazaro was presented with a family-photo collage. A TRULY dedicated SON who has been taking care of his parents for the last DECADE! **GRACIAS LAZARO!**

Lastly, it's time for our annual dues drive. Enclosed is a membership application form. Simply complete and return it with your annual dues. If you are LIFE MEMBER OR BENEFACTOR, please update your membership information so we can keep our files current. Many of our Life Members continue to donate to the society and we thank you for your support. ***Our sincere thanks to all of our members for supporting Oregon history.*** If you would like to contribute to the restoration of our museums, your additional donation would be greatly appreciated. See you on October 16 at 11:30 a.m.

Maureen Ernst
Secretary & Board of Director
e-mail: maureene@mtangeltel.net
Evenings: 503.845.6208

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email Address: _____

- Individual: \$15
- Senior: \$10
- Family: \$25
- Supporting: \$75
- Corporate: \$200
- Benefactor or Individual Life: \$500

St. Paul Mission Historical Society, P.O. Box 158, St. Paul, OR 97362-0158. Thank you!!