

St. Paul Mission Historical Society (SPMHS)

P.O. Box 158

St. Paul, Oregon 97137

Newsletter – Spring 2024

We hope you enjoy this Spring 2024 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.

The focus of this newsletter is on the Joe and Rosella McKay Service Award ([see the last three pages](#)).

Mission of the Society:

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.

Board of Directors 2021-2022:

Claudine Smith Lake, President
Connie Lenzen, CG, FNGS, Secretary
Donald Koch, Comptroller
Maurice Smith
Tim Bergquist, PhD

Gerry Lenzen, Vice-President
Benda Howard, Treasurer
K'Lyn Brentano
Rev Scott Baier

Website: www.spmhs.com.

The website has been updated extensively with lots of new information including stories and articles.

ST. PAUL MISSION HISTORICAL SOCIETY - ST. PAUL, OREGON

Preservation of the history of early Oregon and the French Prairie region of the Willamette Valley

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William Cannon Wreath Laying:

Every year, the Oregon Society Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Color Guard honors William Cannon, the only Revolutionary War Patriot buried in Oregon and Washington, by laying a wreath from the Wreath Across America program on his grave in St. Paul's Cemetery. On December 17, 2023, members of SAR, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), and Children of the American Revolution (CAR), placed the wreath on Cannon's tombstone. This was followed by a musket volley salute. Gerry Lenzen, Connie Lenzen, and K'Lyn Brentano represented the St. Paul Mission Historical Society.

St Paul Church Register

"The 30 August, 1854, by us Archbishop undersigned has been buried in the cemetery of this mission the body of William Canon, widower of a Chinouk woman, deceased supplied with the Sacraments of the Church yesterday aged 97 years. Present Cuthbert Lambert and Casimire Gardipy who could not sign.

+ F. N. Archbishop of Oregon City"



K'Lyn's photo

***Catholic Sentinel* Articles About the St. Paul Area:**

In 1869, the first issue of the *Catholic Sentinel* newspaper was published. Issues from February 1870 have been scanned and placed online at <http://www.catholicsentinel.org>. From the very beginning St. Paul had an agent for the newspaper. Matthew Murphy served as the first agent. Before long, news of St. Paul residents appeared in the paper. Samples are shown below.

18 March 1871, p. 3, col. 1

A Splendid Opportunity. – Our readers will notice among our new advertisements, that of the Old Mission Farm, within three miles of St. Paul, Marion county, Oregon. St. Paul lies in one of the richest agricultural parts of the Willamette valley, about one mile east of the river. It is surrounded with some of the finest farms and farmlands, interspersed with meadows and woodland. The Catholic church, from which the place takes its name, St. Paul's is the largest in the State and the only brick Catholic Church in Oregon. The interior of this church, of which Rev. G. C. Glorieux, a young and talented priest is pastor, compares favorably with churches in larger places. Adjoining the church is the pastor's residence, a neat frame building, and immediately opposite the schoolhouse, where the boys are taught.

The Convent of the Sisters of the Holy Names is situated within a quarter of a mile of the church. Here the children and young ladies of the neighborhood are taught both spiritual and temporal knowledge, as only those ladies of piety and goodness, the Sisters, can teach. The population of the place and surrounding country comprises Irish, Canadian and German Catholics – the first, we believe, are in the majority. They are of the best class of people – honest, industrious, religious and intelligent. Any one settling among these people will never have occasion to be sorry for it. There is a gristmill within a mile or two of the place, (the Mission Mills,) the productions of which are not surpassed by any other in the State. There are other establishments of mechanical pursuits, which compare favorably with any in the State. The medical profession is ably represented by Doctors Bailey and Brentano. We could not wish any one, or a number of families, wishing to purchase well-cultivated farms, a better place to live than in the vicinity of St. Paul, Oregon.

15 January 1875, p. 5

Died: At St. Paul, Oregon, on the 29th day of December, 1874, Thomas Kirk, native of Clogherhead, County Louth, Ireland, aged 86 years. Eastern papers please copy.

Deceased was an uncle of the present Member from Louth, G. H. Kirk.

15 December 1887, p.5

Mrs. J. R. Connell left on the steamer Columbia last week for her home in San Francisco, after a few months' visit at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. McGrath, at St. Paul, Oregon.

7 November 1889, p. 5

H. G. Kirkpatrick, Esq., of Colville, was united in marriage at St. Paul, Oregon, to Miss Mary E. Davidson, of St Paul, last Wednesday, Rev. F. X. Blanchet officiating.

2 December 1920, p. 8

On Wednesday, November 17, Ted Van Dyke, a prominent young farmer of this vicinity, was married to Miss Petronella Vanderhey of Forest Grove. The young couple will live on a farm near St. Paul. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bernard, Philip Wolf, Herman Waltz, and Freeman and Ray Manegre motored over for the wedding dance.

Louise Kirk and Leona Davidson were home for the holidays.

Adeline Buyserie and Grace Wolf were home for the holidays.

19 February 1920, p. 8.

Among those who visited Portland during the past week were Irene Merten, Bernard Wolf, Steve Merten and family and Roland Connor.

Roland Connor is at home on a furlough, visiting with his parents and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald P. Connor and son visited for a few days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Simon J. Connor in their new home in Rose City Park.

Brentano House Restoration:

The gutters and downspouts were re-installed, after being taken off for painting. The refurbished gable ornament was painted and has been installed (see picture). We are working on a formal inside budget to move forward with the inside renovations.

Additional funding is needed to complete the inside renovation. A detailed budget for the inside work has been completed. Work will proceed as funding becomes available.

Specific items to be included for the interior work will be: ADA accessibility, water and sewer hookup to city services, updated electrical, restore original fir flooring, asbestos removal, drywall, plumbing, paint, and heating. The bathroom area will consist of toilet and sink only, and the kitchen area will be sink and coffee area only. These updates and repairs will allow for safe use and access for the public.



We are in need of financial assistance, of any donation amount, to continue our work. To donate, please mail a check to St. Paul Mission Historical Society, with THE memo of "BRENTANO HOUSE". A separate checking account has been set up specifically for the Brentano House.

WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY SUPPORT!

Fred Meyers Community Rewards Program:

Apply for a Fred Meyer's Shopper's Card for free and link it to St. Paul Mission Historical Society. Fred Meyer donates annually to participating organizations based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Fred Meyer Community Rewards organizations.

[Use this link: Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program to get started.](#)

Sign in or create an account, then search for the St. Paul Mission Historical Society in the list of organizations.

Please note that Amazon has cancelled its Amazon Smile program!

In Remembrance:



Emma Jean Abderhalden (July 5, 1932 - September 12, 2023)

Emma Jean Abderhalden passed away September 12, 2023. She was born July 5, 1932 in McMinnville, Oregon. Jean grew up in Sheridan and graduated from high school there in 1950. Around this time, she met Frank Abderhalden through a mutual friend. They were married March 9, 1951 in Sheridan, Oregon. This past March they celebrated their 72nd wedding anniversary. In April of 1952 they welcomed their daughter, Dona. In 1954, daughter Patti was born. Their son, David, joined the family in 1965.

The family lived near Sheridan for a few years before moving to St. Paul, Oregon in 1958, where they began working a farm owned by Frank's parents. Jean was the quintessential farm wife. In her 40 years as a homemaker Jean not only took care of the house, garden, and kids, she was also the chief truck driver during harvest. She had many interests that included sewing, knitting, crocheting, reading, pinochle, bowling, baking, and playing the piano.

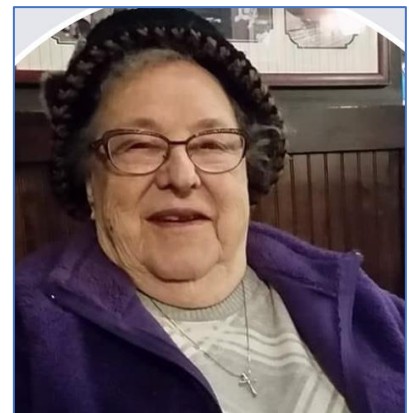
Jean was a person of strong faith and donated her time cooking for church functions and playing the piano at services. She was a kind and nurturing soul who always made time for others.

Obituary courtesy of Macy & Son Funeral Home and Cremation Services, McMinnville, Oregon.

Gertrude Mae Jette (June 28, 1925 - October 16, 2023)

Gertrude Mae Jette, 98 of Saint Paul, Oregon passed away October 16, 2023. She was born June 28, 1925 in Plainfield, Iowa and lived in Saint Paul, OR most of her life. At the time of her death she was in the presence of loved ones and Miss Daisy her faithful companion.

Survivors include four sons, Norman (wife Tatiana) Albany, OR, George (wife Diane) Seaside, OR, David (wife Kenni) Saint Paul, OR, Dan (wife Lisa) Newberg, OR; and one daughter Lorene (husband Paul) Dallas, OR.



Gertrude loved canning and her pickles were a family favorite. Family favorites included apple cake, peach cobbler, popcorn balls and her famous egg noodles. Gertrude's real passion was family and family history. She also enjoyed the times when guests would stop by, and she was able to tell her stories of her family history. She would often talk about Champoeg State Park and the countless hours she would spend with family and friends during Indian summer.

Gertrude was a member of the DAR (daughters of the American revolution), DUV (daughters of the union veterans of the civil war), and she was very active in the St Paul, Oregon and Champoeg, Oregon historical societies.

Obituary courtesy of Attrell's Funeral Chapel, Newberg, Oregon.

Joe and Rosella McKay Service Award:

In 2023, the St. Paul Mission Historical Society established the Joe and Rosella McKay Award for Service to the Society as a way to honor individuals who have performed outstanding service to the Society. The award is limited to one living person per year, except in the case where a pair of members has worked together. The number of deceased individuals shall be made at the Board's discretion.

The awardee[s] will have their name inscribed on a plaque in the Murphy House and will receive an Award certificate at the October annual meeting and brunch. Their biography will be printed in the Spring Newsletter. If they are not currently a dues paying or Life member of the Society, they will receive an Honorary Membership.

Any dues paying or Life member of the Society may make a nomination, and the awardee will be selected from the nominations by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Nominees must have a well-documented history of Service, Leadership, or Accomplishment to the Society over a long time period.

Procedure: Any Society member may nominate an individual for the award in writing. A nomination must be submitted to the Society President, and should include:

- individual's name and contact information,
- list of services, activities, positions and accomplishments,
- narrative describing the nature of their work in terms of its importance to the Society, and a
- short biography.

All areas of service should be examined and may include, but not be limited to:

- service as a board member,
- chair of a major committee or project,
- research and writing,
- significant fund raising, or,
- other responsibilities.

The Board will review the nominee information and may also consider nominations carried forward from a previous year. The Board will select the individual who in their judgment is the most deserving. The Board may decline to select an awardee if the available nominations are found to be inadequate, or if no nominations are received.

Information submitted for nominees who were not selected for the award will be retained by the secretary for possible use in future years by the Board. Prior to publication of the award, an official biography will be prepared from the data submitted in the nomination. It will be presented to the awardee for verification.

Schedule for nomination process:

- Spring. Newsletter announcement about nominations, including criteria.
- June 1st: Nominations presented to Board.
- July Board meeting; Review the nominations.
- August Board meeting: Board acts to select a nominee. Plaque and certificate prepared.
- October: Award presentation at the Annual Meeting.
- Spring: Publication of official biography in the newsletter.

**St. Paul Mission Historical Society (SPMHS)
Joe and Rosella McKay Service Award Nomination Form
Deadline June 1**

1. Personal Information:

Nominee's Name(s) _____ Living ___ Deceased ___

Nominee's Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (work) _____ (home) _____

Email Address _____

Date and Place of Birth _____

Date and Place of Death (if deceased) _____

Please indicate the category in which the nominee is eligible:

_____ General Membership _____ Research and Writing _____ Fund-raising

_____ Board Member _____ Committee _____ Other

2. **Contributions/Accomplishments:** Tell us how the nominee has contributed to the SPMHS and to the success of the Society.

3. **List of Services, Activities, Positions, and Accomplishments.**

4. **Short biography (to include years and dates).**

Joe and Rosella McKay Service Award Nomination Form
Page Two

5. **Other Pertinent Information and Comments:** List items that were not specifically covered somewhere. Notable quotations, biographical information, nominee's interests and any other information that will give further insight about the nominee.

Nominated by _____

Relationship to Nominee _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (work) _____ (home) _____

Email Address _____

Signature _____

Date Nomination Submitted _____

Please return the completed form to:

SPMHS

P.O. Box 158

St. Paul, Oregon 97137

***Note:** If you are not a member of the SPMHS, you may submit your membership dues with your nomination for the award.

___ Individual: \$20

___ Senior: \$15

___ Family: \$35

___ Supporting: \$75

___ Corporate: \$200

___ Benefactor or Individual Life: \$500

Persons nominated should be aware of the fact that any information listed may be made accessible to the public or media if that person is selected to receive the award.

Nomination Forms must be submitted by June 1. Awardees will be notified by August 31. The award will be presented at the October Annual Meeting.