



**BAKER HERITAGE
MUSEUM**

Museum Commission

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*Museum Assistant/
Volunteer & Store Coordinator*

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Baker Heritage Museum Quarterly News

Volume 4, Issue 3

Fall 2011

Oregon Day of Culture

Baker Heritage Museum joined in the Oregon Cultural Trust's *Day of Culture 2011* with a book signing of the book "Governor Joseph Gale and His Indian First Lady" by local author Lillian Cummings Densley. Ms Densley's book, available in the Museum Store, was written in collaboration with many local historians, and tells the story of the pioneer Oregon Territorial Governor, Joseph Gale, and his wife Eliza, daughter of Old Chief Joseph, who ultimately settled in New Bridge, Oregon. Ms. Densley and her grandson David Densley have created a small exhibit on Joseph Gale,

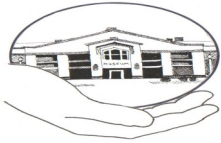
which they recently donated to the museum. It is installed on the 2nd floor balcony, next to the State Bill 809 parchment establishing February 24th as an annual Edward Dickinson Baker Day State holiday. The Parchment was a recent gift from the Baker County Historical Society, and is featured in a small Edward D. Baker exhibit. Sincere appreciation to both the Densley's and the Historical Society for these generous gifts which keep Baker County history alive.



The Oregon Cultural Trust launched its first Day of Culture in 2008 as an occasion to celebrate, participate in and donate to Oregon culture statewide. October 8's Day of Culture marks the effective date of Oregon's unique and powerful cultural tax credit and kicks off the fall fundraising season for the Trust and all of Oregon's Trust coalitions. For more information regarding donations to the Trust and the cultural tax credit program, visit www.culturaltrust.org.

Mark Your Calendars—Fall to Winter Events & Activities

| | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|---|-------------|
| October | Sat. 8th | Oregon Day of Culture—Lillian Densley Book Signing | 9am-4pm |
| | Sun. 23rd | Celebrate the 150th Anniversary of discovery of Gold at Griffin Gulch—Children's Treasure Hunt with Prizes! | 9am-4pm |
| | Thu. 27th | Friends' General Membership Meeting | 4pm-5pm |
| | Sun. 30th | Closing Day of regular season at Museum | 9am-4pm |
| Nov. | Wed. 2nd | Archival Preservation Training (<i>reservations required</i>) | 1pm-3:30pm |
| | Thu. 17th | Volunteer Recognition Luncheon | 12 noon-2pm |
| | Fri. 25th & Sat. 26th | Special Holiday Opening - Photos w/Santa Claus 10a-2p | 10am-4pm |
| Dec. | Sat. 3rd, 10th, 17th | Special Opening | 10am-4pm |
| | Mon. 26th—Fri. 30th | Special Holiday Opening | 10am-4pm |
| January | Sat. 21st | Chamber of Commerce Award Dinner | 5:30pm |
| February | Tue. 14th | Visit with the Past—Baker Co. Historical Society Event | 7pm |
| | Fri. 18th & Sat. 19th | Special Opening—Welcome District Basketball Teams | 10am-4pm |
| | Sat. 25th | Night at Old Auburn—Casino Night Museum Fundraiser | 6pm-10pm |
| March | Thu, Fri, Sat 1st-3rd | Special Opening—State Basketball Tournament | 10am-4pm |
| | Sat. 17th | Opening Day (open 7 days a week through October) | 9am-4pm |



Between Friends

Board of Directors:

- Hal Huntington**
President
- Nelson Clarke**
Vice-President
- Scott Warner**
Treasurer
- Mary Collard**
Secretary
- Gayle Gazley**
- Chary Mires**
- Corrine Vegter**
- Jeanie Wright**



Friends of the Museum

Autumn Greetings Friends!

The Museum is getting ready to wind up another great season, and we could not have done it without your support. **Thank You!**

Please attend our **Fall General Membership Meeting Thursday, October 27th at 4pm** in the Museum Adler Room, for updates, fun and **food** (light refreshments). We promise to take only about an hour of your time, while we update you on upcoming activities,

membership and participation.



Speaking of upcoming events, Santa Claus is coming to the Museum the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving, visiting with children and spreading holiday cheer. We need some **elves** to assist with the fun, and a photogra-

pher to capture the kiddies, so if you have contacts in the North Pole, please send them our way. If you've started your holiday baking, and you have a few extra cookies for this event, I am sure Santa and the children would appreciate them!



Sincerely yours,
Hal
Hal Huntington



GOLD STRIKE AT GRIFFIN GULCH!!!

Can't you just hear that shout from 150 years ago?

**Celebrate Gold Discovery Day
at Baker Heritage Museum
Sunday October 23rd**

This is the 150th Anniversary of the discovery of Gold at Griffin Gulch. Treasure Hunt with prizes for the kids and lots to see for the entire family.

Open daily 9am - 4pm through October 30th
(last day of the season).

2480 Grove Street, Baker City 541-523-9308
www.bakerheritagemuseum.com

Highlights of 2011



Museum Collection News

Upcoming Archive Project

By Joan Jacobs

The D.E. & Jane Clark Foundation and the Oregon Cultural Trust recently awarded grant funds to the museum for a much-needed archive preservation and cataloging project.

By definition an archive is a collection of historical records and includes such items as documents, maps, personal papers, diaries, newspaper clippings, ledgers and other unpublished materials. The museum is home to many, many cubic feet of such items. Our goal is to properly store these items and catalog them into our museum database to make them available for research.

The process is expensive and time-consuming. We are appreciative of the two grants that allow us to undertake this project.

Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for volunteers with good attention to detail and good computer skills to assist with the archive project. Working in teams of two, materials will be photographed, given accession numbers, placed in archival storage folders or boxes and detailed information will be entered into the museum database. Training will be provided and all work will be carried out under the supervision of museum staff. If this sounds interesting to you, please contact the museum for a volunteer application. Reservations are required, and we request a commitment of 30 hours volunteer time to be eligible for training.

Initial orientation and training will be held **November 2**, from 1-3:30pm in the Curation Room at the museum.



Business and personal ledgers, journals, scrapbooks and other items waiting for shelving and archival boxes.

Thank You

D.E. & Jane Clark Foundation

Oregon Cultural Trust



Above & below: two of the many boxes of archive material to be sorted.



One of several file drawers and boxes of historical information to be cataloged and stored in archival file folders.



Collection News, continued.

By Joan Jacobs

Collection Policy Approved

The Baker County Board of Commissioners recently approved a 7-page collection policy that was submitted by the Museum Commission. The document addresses how the museum manages its collections and includes the following: a general policy statement regarding what is accepted into the collection; a list of the scope of the collection; acquisition, accession and disposition procedures; collection care and use; loans; and, access to the collection. The policy will guide staff and volunteers in all aspects of managing the museum collection. It will be reviewed periodically and may be amended by a resolution of the Museum Commission and the Baker County Board of Commissioners. The policy is a public document. A copy is kept in the museum office and will be made available to any interested person.

Recent donations to the museum collection include:

- Pictured at right, six bottles from Baker City's *American Brewing & Crystal Ice, Co.* donated by Dianne Kiel Jones.
- Below, optical items from the Palmer Bros. store donated by Dick and Marge Haynes.
- Below right, a Metsker map of Auburn donated by Doris Bryant for her husband and son, Henry E. Bryant and Henry E., Jr.

Thank you, Dianne, Dick and Marge, and Doris for your donations.



Marge Haynes with optical items from the Palmer Brothers Store. (Palmer's were Baker City jewelers and opticians for many years.)



C. 1905 Beer bottles from the American Brewing & Crystal Ice Co., Baker City



Auburn map. Chas. F. Metsker, Civil Engineer

Do you have your own collection of historical documents, photos, diaries, books or memorabilia? The Oregon Historical Society website is a great resource for information regarding the safe-keeping of your family treasures. Check it out at ...

<http://www.ohs.org/get-involved/donations.cfm>

Then download the documents listed under Personal Collection Care.

Annual Appeal from the Museum Commission

Keeping the museum alive as a vital community asset has been accomplished through a legacy of hard work and generous contributions from many dedicated individuals such as you.

There are many ways to support the museum, and at this time of year, each year, we urge our community to help by making a **year-end, tax-deductible contribution** to the Baker Heritage Museum Annual Appeal. Your assistance is needed to support the Museum's ongoing

work of preserving the artifacts of historical Baker County. Partnering with community marketing forces, we are planning events to help revitalize and attract tourism for the benefit of our entire community. Additionally, while we strive to ever improve our exhibits, ongoing maintenance and the day-to-day expense of operating our facility continue. Recently our UV System Black Light in the Mineral Display burned out, and we have a \$700 estimate to repair it. This is one

of the highlights of our Rock Room and we rely on support from our community to help with unplanned expenses such as this.

Please join with the Museum Commission today by sending your 2011 year-end, tax-deductible donation to:
 Baker Heritage Museum
 2480 Grove Street
 Baker City, OR 97814.
Please give as generously as possible to help meet our goal of \$10,000.

Thank you!

The Museum Commission

We depend on the generosity of our members. Please help us advance our mission by remembering us in your will and estate planning.

Central Gallery 2012

As part of the Museum's strategic plan, each year we create a new and exciting exhibit in the Central Gallery. This helps keep the museum fresh and interesting, as the past year's exhibit rotates back into storage or moves into another area and a brand new exhibit goes up. Past popular Central Gallery exhibits have included the Lost Towns of Baker County, which is now located on a

smaller scale in the "Pool Room," Early Businesses of Baker, now located in the Adler Room, and Life in the Golden Mountains, which told the story of early Chinese culture in Baker County, some of which has moved to the ballroom. This year's exhibit, Caravanning and Collecting, will soon change as well. We will move the Wally Byam piece to a new location upstairs, and the Cavin sisters shells and per-

sonal memorabilia will return to storage.

So what do we have planned for the 2012 Central Gallery exhibit? **Baker County Fairs, 4-H and Agriculture!** We'll need to do some painting, and a little construction over the closed season, and could use some barnwood. We are also hoping to have an antique tractor show—watch for more on that. Call us if you would like to get involved!



"Baker County Fairs, 4-H and Agriculture," featured 2012 Central Gallery Exhibit

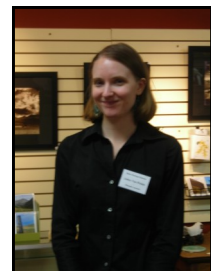
Volunteers Rock!

As we draw to the end of our open season, we would like to thank each and every volunteer who helped make this year so special. Volunteers put in extra time with endless field trip visitors in May, the Wally Byam Airstream Event and Miner's Jubilee in July, and the First Friday Adler House teas throughout the summer. And, of course, our devoted volunteers kept the museum running every day as no one

else could: greeting visitors and showing them around the museum, running the museum store, giving tours at the Adler House, maintaining and repairing our buildings, and cataloging and archiving the all the unique artifacts that set us apart. During the fall and winter, we will create an all-new exhibit in the central gallery and get the museum in shape for next spring. We will also continue working to prop-

erly store and preserve our collections. Starting in November, we will need volunteers to build exhibits, repair and repaint the museum, register artifacts, and work on a special archival preservation projects. If you're interested in helping us with these projects, contact Ashley, our Volunteer Coordinator, at 523-9308 or email avanwinkle@bakercounty.org.

Thank You Volunteers!



Ashley VanWinkle



**BAKER HERITAGE
MUSEUM**

2480 Grove Street
Baker City, OR 97814

541-523-9308
museum@bakercounty.org

Open mid-March thru October 30
9:00 to 4:00 seven days a week

**We're on the web:
www.BakerHeritageMuseum.com**

f Follow us on Facebook

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Baker Heritage Museum is to

- Conserve artifacts of historical Baker County,
- To educate the public about the development of the area,
- To preserve local archives and to make them available for re-search.

*This Newsletter was
Sponsored by
Howard & Colleen
Brooks . Thank you!*

We would love to help promote your business to our extensive mailing list, while you support our newsletter. Contact Chris Cantrell if you wish to partner for this very needed cause. Thanks!

Membership Matters

A big thank you goes out to all who responded to this year's membership drive. The backbone of any not-for-profit organization is its members. We would not be able to carry out our mission without your support.

If you haven't renewed your membership, this may be your last newsletter. Don't miss out on updates! Please renew your membership today.

Your contribution helps us preserve artifacts, develop educational programs for children and adults and create new informative and interactive exhibits.

