

# WATERWAYS

COOS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY • FALL 2021 • WWW.COOSHISTORY.ORG

## Celebrate Coos History 2021

October 12-November 5, 2021 – Online Auction Opens Oct. 30th

Join us this year to celebrate our 130th anniversary! This year's Celebrate Coos History fundraiser and celebration will be held from October 30th to November 5th and our theme is *Everything Black and White*. Help us reach our goal and have fun with our social media contest, programs and events, and online auction. Thank you for helping us make this year one to remember at the Coos History Museum.

Register for events online at <https://cooshistory.org/celebrate-coos-history-2021/> and be sure to check back for updates and to register for our programs.

Check out our online auction at <https://onlinefundraiser.events/CelebrateCoos2021> or scan our QR code for more information. Auction items will be on display in the Museum's Sprague Gallery starting Wednesday, October 27th.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Tuesdays & Thursdays, beginning October 12th, 6 pm:** *History Trivia Tuesdays and Photo Recreation Throwback Thursdays*. Free online event. Visit Facebook or Instagram.

**Saturday, October 30th, 6:30 pm:** *Fun and Games with Coos County Historical Society History* by Steve Greif. Free virtual presentation.

**Sunday, October 31st, 5 pm:** *Halloween Special: History, Headstones, and Haunts*. Free virtual presentation hosted by Ariel Peasley.

**Monday, November 1st, 6 pm:** Virtual Cooking Class: *Seared*



*Charleston Halibut with Chorizo, Heirloom Rancho Gordo Black and White Bean Cassoulet* with MasterChef Eoghain O'Neill from Restaurant O. MasterChef O'Neill has created this World Premier Recipe especially for the 130th Anniversary of the Coos History Museum. Participants will receive a food kit and Zoom link to the virtual class. Register for this program, \$45.00.

**Tuesday, November 2nd, 6:30 pm:** First Tuesday Talk: *A Journey of Nuu-Wee-Ya' Language Revitalization*. Join us for a talk with Dr. Jaeci Hall as she shares her journey of learning, researching, and working to revitalize the language of Nuu-wee-ya'. Sponsored by the Coquille Indian Tribe. Held in the Museum's Sprague Gallery, limited space available.

**Wednesday, November 3rd, 6 pm:** *Portraits of the Past: Transforming Historical Black and White Photographs into Modern Illustrations* with Josie Keating from Josie's Art Lab. Paid in-person program at CHM in the Museum's Sprague Gallery.

**Thursday, November 4th @ 3 pm:** *Seeing in Black and White: The Beauty of Shadow and Light* with Lisa Phillips from Lisa Michele Photography. Held in the Museum's Sprague Gallery, limited space available.

**Friday, November 5th**  
**12 noon:** *Celebrating Our 130th Anniversary: November 5, 1891-2021*. Free Virtual Program. Join Executive Director, Marcia Hart for our 130th Anniversary Celebration including the Virtual 2021 Coos County Annual Awards Ceremony to be followed by a panel discussion about the Coos Bay Waterfront and Front Street Improvements. Due to COVID restrictions, this year's ceremony is pre-recorded.

**Webinar:** Following our Virtual Awards Ceremony, join us for a panel discussion about the Waterfront and Front Street development with Rodger Craddock, (City of Coos Bay), Greg Drobot (Coos Bay Village), and Heidi Sause (999 N Front Street).

**CHM Open House, 5-7 pm:** Free entry to the Exhibit Hall, wine (Coos Bay Wine Walk), photo booth, online auction items on display, giveaways, and more. Online Auction Closes at 7 pm.

For more information about our events, contact [events@cooshistory.org](mailto:events@cooshistory.org) or call 541-756-6320.



# Museum Holds Summer Camp

Eight North Bend High School students teamed with CHM education coordinator **Ariel Peasley**, volunteer **Steve Greif**, and NBHS history teacher **Dustin Hood** for a week-long summer camp at the museum in mid-July. Students spent each morning with hands-on activities about artifact collection, exhibit design, photo description, and map interpretation. They also had a chance to explore the museum's computer software, PastPerfect. Each afternoon, the class took field trips to historic sites to learn about local history and see how the museum interacts with the community outside the building. Students visited Empire, Coos



**Max**, NBHS student, closely studies a sample photograph for clues.



**Jennifer ViksneHill**, cultural education director, gave students an experience at the Coquille Plankhouse.

Head, Cape Arago, and Shoreacres (Monday); Isthmus Slough, Coaledo, Coquille, Riverton, and Parkersburg (Tuesday), took a walking tour of Front Street and old Marshfield that included visits to the Sun Printing Museum and the Egyptian Theatre (Wednesday); and toured the Coquille Plankhouse and Bandon History Museum (Thursday).

On Friday, students presented their projects. A mock exhibit, a sample educational program outline, a historical sign, or a Coos County history tour were just some of the projects which earned students a history credit at NBHS. The

camp was free to the students. Breakfast, lunch, class materials, bus transportation and instructor stipends were all provided by the NB School District through funds awarded by a special grant that encouraged students to continue their Covid-interrupted education. NB students also had opportunities to earn credit at other community summer camps that focused on science, English, art, and physical education.

## Moon Stories to Tell

By **Becky Soules**

On January 31, 1971, local residents – like people all across the country – watched as three astronauts blasted off towards the moon on Apollo 14, preparing to make the third lunar landing. Four months later, **Stuart Roosa**, one of those three astronauts, was in Coos Bay, celebrating the mission's success with an official NASA parade in his adopted "hometown" of Coos Bay. The legacy of this connection survives in a myriad of small ways, from the plaque hanging in the Coos Bay City Hall, to the location on Weyerhaeuser's tree farm named in honor of the astronauts. However, much of this important history has been overlooked and forgotten.

This upcoming January 31, we commemorate the 50+1 anniversary of Apollo 14 and its "Coos Bay connection." Plans are currently underway to honor this occasion with programming and a small exhibit at the Coos History Museum and with the Oregon Space Grant Consortium through Southwestern Oregon Community College. Many area residents have memories and stories to share – we would like to document these oral histories and preserve them. Anyone who would like to talk about this project or would like further information is invited to contact us: [apollo14cbconnection@gmail.com](mailto:apollo14cbconnection@gmail.com) or 541-435-1177.

### Coos County Historical Society

#### Staff

Executive Director: Marcia Hart  
Curator: Heather Christenbury  
Education Coordinator & Community Engagement: Ariel Peasley  
Store Manager: Jessica Howell  
Visitor Services Assistant: Becca Hill  
Bookkeeper: Terri Knight

#### Board of Trustees

President: Ryan Hogan  
Vice-President: David Laird  
Secretary: Anne Guerin  
Treasurer: John Bacon  
Trustees: Jessica Bacon, Paula Bechtold, Courtney Krossman, Tina Mendizabal, Samantha Sherman, Sara Stephens

#### Museum Admission

Open Tuesday thru Saturday, 11-5  
Adults = \$7, Children 5-17 = \$3  
Family Maximum: \$17  
AARP, AAA, and senior discounts  
Free to members and active-duty service

541.756.6320, [www.cooshistory.org](http://www.cooshistory.org)





Marcia Hart

# Executive Director's Note

## 130 years and going strong

The Coos County Historical Society was founded on November 5, 1891, as the "Coos County Pioneer Association" and is the second-oldest historical society in the State of Oregon. Initially, the Society focused heavily on documenting the experiences and accomplishments of the area's earliest white settlers.

What started as an organization focused on commemorating the "first" pioneers, has changed and grown with the times. Our collections – which now include more than 50,000 objects and more than 250,000 images - illuminates the cultural history of the Coos region and south coastal Oregon. An accomplishment to be proud of and worth building upon.

Students of all ages, as well as children and families, are especially welcome visitors at the Coos History Museum. Our staff and volunteers view history not as a catalog of facts to be memorized, but as an intriguing puzzle and possible guide to our future. We strive to be a welcoming gather place for our community, to help diverse audiences connect with each other and with our region's culture, histories, and heritage.

It's at this time, 130 years later, that I encourage everyone to take a pause, to remember the past, reflect on the recent events we've witnessed and experienced, then be bold and take a step towards what can be our future. The past 18 months of the COVID-19 pandemic has taken its toll on everyone, every business, and yet, our Coos County community is resilient. Despite it all, we are seeing forward movement, our community making a difference when the opportunity presents itself.

At the Coos History Museum, we are committed to our mission and vision and hope you will join us

this year in celebrating our 130th Anniversary, by participating in our social media challenges and tuning into our programs during the week of October 30th through November 5th. At the end of the week, I will be hosting a panel discussion to give you an update on the Waterfront Heritage District developments. I hope you will join us!

### What we've accomplished in this past year:

Successfully introduced online educational programming during the COVID Pandemic continuing to fulfill our mission to create a better understanding of life in Coos County. Examples include Virtual First Tuesday Talks, online webinars taking our in-person lectures to an online platform; 4<sup>th</sup> grade Indian Education Program, online programming; Historical perspective to Social Injustice issues-Special Edition Tuesday Talks; Co-hosting the Unlimited Book Club-Celebrating Equity, Diversity and Inclusion through literature and conversation.

Completed Phase II of the Community Remembrance Project and installing the Alonzo Tucker Memorial/Equal Justice Initiative

Marker. 300 people attending the unveiling and 250 participated online.

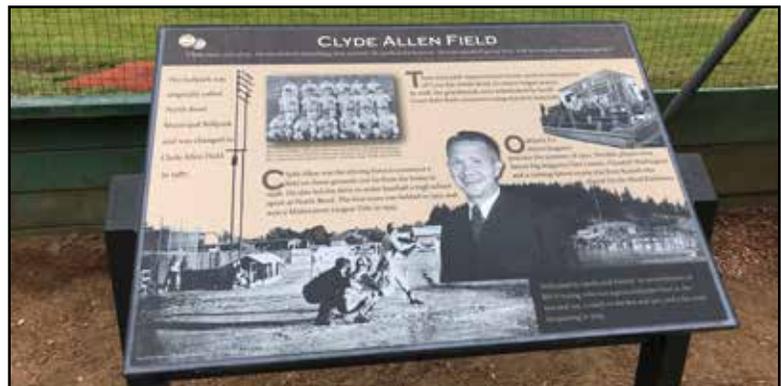
Hosted the Inaugural Juneteenth Celebration, the first on the Oregon Coast.

Held our first week-long summer camp for North Bend High School students.

Assisted with the design, fundraising and installation of the new Oregon Historical Marker located at Beaver Slough to commemorate the Beaver Hill mines, the largest mining community in Coos County. This mine employed over 100 black miners relocated from West Virginia and Washington State, when less than 1100 blacks were living in Oregon in the late 1800's.

Upgrade our Wi-Fi system and purchase of equipment to facilitate online meetings, webinars, live streaming, etc. The new technology enhances our ability to provide upgrades to our meeting and rental spaces. This was accomplished with the assistance of a grant from the Coquille Indian Tribal Foundation.

Development of the Waterfront and Plaza areas remain a priority to support new programming initiatives and community events.



## Clyde Allen Field Sign

**Brad Horning**, the head baseball coach at North Bend High, used several photographs from the Coos History Museum collection, and the talents of **Larry Watson** at WoW Arts, to create a new history sign at the Clyde Allen Baseball Park in North Bend. The sign is one of the first things visitors will see upon entrance to the ballpark.

# Shearing Time

By Bill Mast

The sheep industry played a significant role in the economy of Coos County throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> and much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is not known when the first sheep arrived in Coos County, but it was most likely soon after the first European settlers arrived, as sheep produced both food and fiber necessary for subsistence farming. The Dodge history of Coos County lists 7760 sheep on the tax rolls in 1897. Sheep numbers increased rapidly in the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, utilizing thousands of acres of cutover timberland for pasture. By the 1950s, nearly 200,000 acres served as pasture for sheep and beef cattle. Sheep numbers peaked at over 60,000 in the post- World War II era. For much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, sheep outnumbered people in Coos County.

By the 1890s, farms and ranches in Coos and northern Curry counties produced enough wool to attract investors interested in woolen mill construction. In 1893, **T.W. Clark** and **H.Z. Burkhart** opened a mill in Bandon, managed by **John Chase**. The mill soon employed over 50 workers and was so successful that in 1903 **Louis Simpson** enticed the owners to re-locate to the new city of North Bend. Unfortunately, the move proved disastrous as the mill went broke in 1910. Meanwhile, Bandon resident **Robert E. Lee Bedillion** constructed a new facility which opened as Bandon Woolen Mills in 1906. Items manufactured at these mills included flannel, blankets, mackinaw, carriage linings, and men's suit material. The second Bandon mill sold in 1914 and operated under the name Sunset Woolen Mills until falling victim to the post-World War I recession in the early 1920s. This was the end of large-scale woolen mills in Coos County.

The first step in marketing wool involves getting the sheep shorn. Shearing is a busy time on a sheep operation and includes family, friends, neighbors, and hired help. The first step involved gathering the sheep off of the steep and brushy former timberland. Sheep on Coos County hill ranches were used to fending for themselves with little human interaction and tended to be quite wild and uncooperative during gathering. Once the sheep were corralled, they entered the shearing barn to small pens enclosed in the front by either swinging doors or burlap curtains, where the shearers could catch them. After a sheep was shorn, a crew member removed the belly wool and any manure stained wool from the fleece. They then folded the fleece, tied it with a paper string, and tossed it into a small loft where a seven foot long burlap sack hung. There the wool was foot-packed by a junior crew member who was thrown into the sack and remained there until it was full. A well-packed wool sack weighed as much as 300 pounds when full. The low-quality and stained wool was sacked separately. Individual fleeces from adult sheep weighed between five and twelve pounds, depending on breed and genetics. Lambs produced two to three pounds of wool. Today,



*Shearing expert, Shirley Pettengill, at work.*

on larger operations, the burlap bag has been replaced by hydraulic wool presses that make square bales weighing over 400 pounds. Tying individual fleeces is no longer a requirement.

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, shearers worked with hand blades. In the 1920s, the conversion to machine shearing began. The earliest machines were human powered by either a hand crank or bicycle set-up. Gas motor powered machines soon appeared, followed by electric machines attached to generators or plug-ins. The electric powered machines allowed the average shearer to do 150 sheep in a day, while the best tallied over 200, and, as many as 300 on a good day. The identities of the early blade shearers have been lost to history (or the author's incomplete research). Machine shearers who worked through the years included **Walt Curtis, Shirley Pettengill, Ray and Charlie Waterman, James and Mike McWillaim, Doc Curry, Dave Pettengill, R.C. Geaney, John, Henry, Mark, Joe and Diane Isenhardt, Don Laird, Randy Helms, Fred and Eric Wyatt, Wendy and Jacob Valentine**, and the occasional New Zealander operating a step or two ahead of the immigration authorities. Most shearing barns accommodated two shearers so they worked in pairs.

Shearing is strenuous work, with eight hours of shearing often equated with running a half-marathon. In addition, the shearer quickly gets covered in a layer of lanolin, which makes a hot summer day more miserable than usual. Another distasteful aspect of the job is having to shear a fly-struck sheep infested with maggots. One young shearer working for rancher **Howard Leatherman**

drew two fly-struck sheep one morning and went to the noon meal to see a bowl of rice among the dishes on the table. He chose not to partake. Occasionally, a shearer draws a sheep who puts up a fight. Some are just contrary and others fight because an inexperienced shearer is mishandling them. One shearer working for Coquille rancher **J.J. Geaney** became frustrated and started beating an uncooperative sheep. J.J. tapped him on the shoulder, and informed him, (in the subtle and understated manner for which he was famous) that if he continued that behavior he'd wear the driveline to his machine as a necklace. Shearers who abused the sheep often didn't shear again at that ranch.

One of Coos County's most famous shearers was **Shirley Pettengill**. He began his career in 1932 at the age of 27 and didn't retire until 60 years later at 87. On his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday he accomplished the amazing feat of shearing 80 sheep. He sheared for three generations of my family, beginning with my grandfather **Webb**, my father **Hollis**, and myself. As a young boy, it was always exciting when Shirley and his longtime partner **Walt Curtis** came to our farm to shear. As the years went by, and my workload increased, some of the excitement wore off, but I was always glad to see them. Shirley had an excellent memory and would tell stories of shearing experiences from years past. On one occasion, he told a story of an incident that occurred at a shearing job 40 years previously. One of the shearing crew thought he'd be clever and ask him how many he'd shorn that day. Shirley replied, without missing a beat, one hundred thirty eight. Shirley had several different partners over his career, one a young shearer named **Ray Waterman**. Unfortunately, they developed a somewhat less-than-cordial relationship and the partnership was short-lived. However, they did shear for my father a few times. On the first occasion, Ray was inexperienced and sheared slower than Shirley. The two were not having a good day. At the end of the day, my father went to milk the cows, and Shirley and the crew went home. Everyone, that is, except Ray. He stayed and continued to shear on his own until nearly dark, when he finally tallied one more than Shirley. Ray was rumored to have been a bit stubborn. (Ray eventually quit shearing and went on to own and operate a very successful sheep ranch on Four Mile, south of Bandon).

Shirley's last partner was a young man named **Mike McWilliam**. His grandfather, **James McWilliam Sr.**, was a Scottish immigrant who also sheared in his younger



**Mike McWilliam** poses with his national champion shearing trophy, 1996.

—photo courtesy of Randy and Debbie Helms

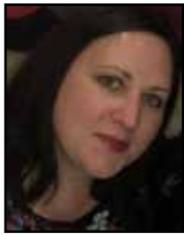
years. Mike began shearing with Shirley shortly after high school and continued long after Shirley's retirement. He also continued to operate the family sheep ranch at Gaylord. Mike soon became one of the most famous sheep shearers in the United States. He competed in shearing contests around the country, winning several championships. In the late 1980s, **Randy Helms** moved to Coos County from California and began shearing with Mike. Randy was also an excellent shearer and competed along with Mike at shearing contests. If Mike didn't win the contest, Randy usually did. The two represented the United States in International shearing competitions in Australia, New Zealand, and Ireland. Mike and Randy both

became shearing instructors and were in demand at shearing schools all across the country. Unfortunately, Mike died while in his early 60's. His memory lives on in a statewide shearing contest named in his honor. Randy shears only occasionally but is still in demand as an instructor.

The sheep business in Coos County began a decline in the 1960s, which continues to this day. Sheep numbers are only 10-15% of their peak numbers. Most of the 200,000 acres used as pasture reverted to forest or was purchased by timber companies and reforested. The days of being able to purchase large tracts of cutover timberland for four dollars an acre (as my father did in the 1940s) are gone. Predators became a constant problem for many ranchers. The wool market collapsed due to synthetic competition. The coarse grades of wool grown in Coos County, used for carpet and heavy woolens, were especially hard hit. At one time wool made up 50% of gross income for a sheep flock. Today, it amounts to less than 10% for the average Coos County flock. Wool buyers from Boston and South Carolina no longer come here to bid on wool. At one time, Farr's Hardware in Coquille was a major purchasing agent for Coos and Curry County wool. If you sell wool today, it involves loading your trailer and hauling it to the Willamette Valley or California. My own wool marketing involves hauling to Portland to sell to Pendleton Woolens. Although Pendleton no longer makes their Coos- Curry sweater from south coast wool, they still utilize it in some of their camp blankets and heavy woolen fabric sold to the Filson company. Despite these setbacks, a few of us still persist in the sheep business, and still get a little excited on shearing days.

## Welcoming a Curator and a Board Member

The museum would like to introduce our new curator, **Heather Christenbury**, and a new board member, **Samantha ("Sam") Sherman**.



Heather has been active in the field of museums since 2001. As a military spouse for over 19 years, she has traveled all over the world visiting many cultural heritage and archaeological sites.

Originally from the state of Texas, she later moved to Colorado and received her B.A. from the University of Colorado in the field of Anthropology.

Heather moved on to work for the University of Cambridge's Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Cambridge, England. After returning to the US, she completed her M.A. in Museum Studies through the University of Oklahoma. Since that time, Heather has worked for multiple museums in the Denver, Colorado,

area as a curator, educator, and collections manager.

Heather is enthusiastic about her role as curator for the Coos History Museum and her goals are to ensure that the collections are properly cared for and displayed so that they can be enjoyed by the public for many years to come while building meaningful and collaborative relationships with local people and organizations.

Samantha grew up in the Tenmile area and most of her family still reside within Douglas County. She started her career in Museum Education after she received her Bachelors in History in 2009. She ran early education programs and chaired projects at the Douglas County Museum until 2012 when she moved to Minnesota to become the lead



preschool teacher at an organization that served students with extreme behavioral disorders. Eventually the Pacific Ocean called her back, and she pursued her Masters in Teaching to teach history, graduating in 2016. She was mentored by the 2012 Oregon History Teacher of the Year and has found a home within Coos County.

Samantha was nominated for Oregon History Teacher of the Year last year but lost to a more senior teacher in Portland. She also finished up an internship with the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center this past summer – meshing with her love of historic trails. This will be her sixth year living on the coast which she has no plans of leaving. When she is not teaching, you'll usually find her planning for her wedding next summer (soon to be a Mrs. Herron), doodling, reading, fishing, hiking, and traveling with her pup, kicking a soccer ball or riding her bicycle, and probably laughing while doing it.

## Membership Roll Call July-September 2021

### Renewed Individual

Bellomy, Anne  
Bream, Jennifer  
Dixon, Judy  
Gregor, Martha E.  
Haruna, Robin  
Holmes, Leisha  
Loftus, Mitzi  
Luebberke, Elizabeth  
Noordhoff, Susanna  
Philpott, Jim  
Scoville, G. Kent  
Simons, Les  
Stewart, Nancy Lee  
Vollstedt, Christy  
Weyer, Ruth

### Renewed Household

Bathrick, Ray & Sherry  
Capps, Jerry & Lori  
Cook, Joe & Anne  
Denton, Ken & Cathy  
Goude, Dennis & Judy  
Hartman, John & Gayla  
Higgins, Kristen  
Jordan, David & Marcella  
Lucas, Michael  
McKillip, Dave Lunde & Pat

Murray, Wayne & Carol  
Noggle, Burl & Miladean  
Robertson, Daniel & Mary  
Scott, Jeff Hash & Patty  
Shott, Lori  
Vigue, Dick & Janice  
Wilson, Daniel  
Zeebuyth, Rex & Marcia

### Renewed Friend

Carlson, Margaret Ann  
Anderson & Brad  
Christensen, Peggy  
Cribb, Barbara  
Day, Bruce & Carla  
Grile, Bill & Linda  
Holman, Ginny Tabor & Blair  
Hood, Dustin & Woodland  
Macy, Robert  
Oregon Coast  
Community Action  
Ousley, Yvonne & Michael  
Ross, Bob & Nanette  
Shimotakahara,  
Dr. Steven & Eva  
Smith, Cory

Underwood, Bill & Barbara  
Wallenstein, George & Janice  
Washburn, Mike & Eura  
Wheeler, Diana  
Worthen, Keith Kroeker & Patti

### Renewed Business

CNB Security  
Renewed Benefactor  
Conner, Janell  
Huggins, Bob & Janet  
Juil, Rudy & Mary Jo  
Kusuda, Leo & Paula  
Miller, Shane  
Straus, Roger  
Verger, Joanne  
Wall, Diana & Chuck

### New Student

Bernhardt, Alyssa  
Conway, Ben  
Dennis, Maysen  
Flood, Ethan  
Freedle, Sebastian  
Lotta, Max  
McInturff, Brady  
Shivers, Salena  
New Individual  
Alvarez, Biri

Bringardner, Patrick  
Ceniza, Susan  
Farm, Charles  
Martin, Clarie  
Ney, Laurie  
Stump, Matt  
New Household  
McInturff, Denise  
Reckanzone, Paul & Steffanie  
Rogers, Paul Poresky & Sharon  
Stockert, Mary-Margaret  
New Friend  
Immigrant & Refugee  
Community  
Organization – Africa  
House  
Jeffers, George  
Kempner, Alan & Cynthia  
Ledesma, Celso  
Owen, Veronica  
New Business  
North Point, Inc.  
New Benefactor  
Weiss, John  
New Historian  
Church-Hoskins, D. Sue

## Donations

### 3rd Quarter 2021

*Thank you to all on this list for your generous contributions.*

Africa House  
Anonymous  
Collins, Ann  
Coos Bay/North Bend  
Rotary  
Cribb, Barb  
Cummings, Heide  
Ford Family Foundation  
Greif, Mike & Marti  
Kusuda, Leo & Paula  
Libby, Brent  
Lucas, Michael  
McKeown, Jeff & Caddy  
North Bend School  
District  
Oregon Coast  
Community Action  
Powers, Albert & Joan  
Price, Nancy  
Robins, Suzann  
Stephens, Chris  
Strine, Linda  
Tanac, Wes & Diane  
Wall, Chuck & Diana

## Peasley Earns Museum Honor

Education and Community Engagement Coordinator, **Ariel Peasley**, has recently been selected as one of the new members for the Oregon Museums Association Board of Directors. "OMA is a nonprofit organization that provides resources and services to over 250 museums, cultural institutions and associated professionals throughout Oregon." The Coos History Museum is a member of the OMA and Peasley is excited to represent not only our museum, but the Southern Oregon Coast. She is also excited to bring her knowledge and experience in creating and hosting educational programs, as well as her perspective as an emerging museum professional in a smaller local history museum to OMA.

Peasley will work alongside **Zachary Stocks**, Executive Director of Oregon Black Pioneers and OMA Board President, **Timothy Hecox**, whom she met previously working as an intern at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI), including a host of other incredible members from across Oregon. Visiting museums with her family since she was a child, and working in museums since 2013, Peasley is thrilled for this opportunity to gain more experience in the field not only for her love of museums, but to bring new knowledge, skills, and connections back for the benefit of the CHM.

The OMA's mission is about empowering Oregon's museums to help them thrive through inclusion, networking, programming, training, advocacy, and of course, their annual conference and workshops. Peasley will have her first meeting with the OMA Board of Directors on October 15th and will serve a three-year term with the possibility of reelection for a second term. She is looking forward to the roles she will play in this organization so that she can better represent, support, and advocate for the Coos History Museum, the Southern Oregon Coast, and the important work we do for all of Oregon.

## Is it time to purchase or renew your annual membership? Make a donation?

### Annual Fee:

- Student (\$15)
- Individual (\$35)
- Household (\$50)
- Friend (\$100)
- Benefactor (\$250)
- Historian (\$500)
- Curator (\$1,000)
- Business membership (\$100 or above)

### Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership has its rewards** in shopping locally. Show your membership card when you shop at **Tru Furniture**, and **Katrina Kathleen's** to receive **10% OFF** regular prices.

At the Friend level and up, you can receive an additional benefit - membership in the North American Reciprocal Museums program with free admission to 1,000+ museums across the U.S. A link to the list of NARM members is posted on our website and available for review at our front desk.

*Your annual membership becomes active from date of purchase.*

Member/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, send information about events via email.

Send information about volunteering and gifting.

If your VISA/MasterCard/DiscoveryCard is by mail: Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-digit Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

## Youst to Give Veterans' Day Talk

Come celebrate Veterans' Day at the Coos History Museum with local historian **Lionel Youst**, who has lived in Coos County since 1937 except for 22 years in the Air Force during the middle half of the Cold War. He has written several books on various aspects of our local history and has been a popular speaker for years. His most recent book is a memoir, *Touring the Cold War: A Long Learning Curve* and his talk will introduce his book.



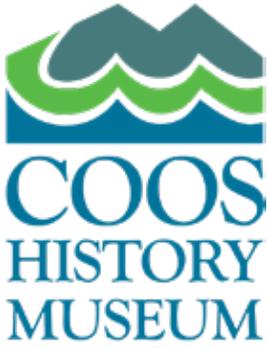
**Lionel Youst**

The event will run from 6:30 to 7:30, Thursday, November 11th at the museum and the talk is open to the public. CHM members will be admitted free. The admission fee for non-members is \$7 which also entitles patrons to view the exhibits at the museum before or after Youst's presentation. Doors open at 6 pm; no pre-registration is necessary. Patrons are asked to wear masks per Covid

guidelines. The museum will sell Youst's book and the author will be available for autographs.

After dropping out of North Bend High School and about 3 1/2 years working in many of the last logging camps in Oregon, Washington, California, and British Columbia, Youst joined the Air Force. Trained as a mechanic on the B-29,

he worked on the B-47, B-52, B-36 nuclear bombers, and KC-135 tankers, for eight years prior to becoming an aircraft maintenance officer with assignments in Libya, the Philippines, Vietnam, and several states. Within the context of these assignments, and the ongoing Cold War, he worked hard to make up for the education he lost by dropping out of high school. The presentation will follow these events, frequently showing the *Coos Bay Times* or *The World* headlines as the Cold War moved along.



1210 North Front Street  
Coos Bay, OR 97420  
(541) 756-6320  
www.cooshistory.org

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
North Bend, OR 97459  
Permit No. 48

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Beaver Hill Mine marker is now in place with a dedication scheduled for the second week of February 2022. A smaller marker will eventually be placed in a more traveled location, showing a map to the location of the Beaver Hill Mine marker, which is located a quarter mile from Hwy. 42 on the North Bank Lane along the Coquille River.



## WATERWAYS

is the  
quarterly publication  
of the  
Coos County  
Historical Society  
and sent to all members.

Funding for this  
newsletter is  
generously provided by  
**Ann Collins.**