

# WATERWAYS

COOS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY • WINTER 2021-22 • WWW.COOSHISTORY.ORG

## 2021 Coos County Historical Society Annual Awards



*Presenter, Paula Bechtold, and recipient, Steve Greif.*



*Bill Mast receives his award from Anne Guerin.*



*Sara Stephens (L) presents Don Ivy's award to Lucinda DiNovo, Don's wife, and Corrine Burnum, Don's sister.*



*Sue Graves (R) accepts the award from Marcia Hart, presenter.*

Each year the Historical Society Board of Trustees presents plaques to people who have helped preserve South Coast history and/or served the Society in significant ways. We are proud to announce this year's winners who received their awards in November. Covid and safety protocols restricted the award presentations to being videotaped, the video soon to be available on the museum's website. Currently, access the video here: <https://youtu.be/B5uiZzmU5LO>

**The Nathan Douthit Local Historian Award** is given annually to a person who has made significant contributions to the preservation of history in our area. Douthit served the Coos Historical Society for many years, became a founder and officer of the Marshfield Sun Printing Museum, and has authored several books on local history. This year's winner is **Steve Greif**.

This long-time museum trustee and volunteer continues to provide valuable assistance in many museum operations. A historian, he teaches local history classes, donating the proceeds to the museum. His generosity comes in many forms, and his dedication to the museum is greatly appreciated.

**The Martha Butler Service Award** is given to a person or persons who have provided exceptional assistance or service to the Coos County Historical Society or museum. Mrs. Butler made a substantial donation to the Society in 1999 that provided the seed money to build the new Coos History Museum by 2015. This year's co-winners are **Bill Mast** and **Don Ivy** (posthumously).

Bill has many years of service to the museum as a trustee and volunteer. He authored a book on Coos County agricultural history and conducts history tours in the summer months to places of interest in Coos and Curry Counties. The beautiful myrtlewood benches in the museum were donated by Bill.

Don was a valuable asset to the museum as a trustee, with a business-like approach to museum operations. Don, representing the Coquille tribe, was part of the creation of the new facility, with substantial donations and the creation of the unique Welcome Gallery. His passion for preserving local history led him to support the education program at the museum. Don's legacy in Coos County of leadership, community spirit, and service to others is felt by many.

**The Mary Banks Granger Maritime History Award** is given to a person or persons who contributes to the preservation of maritime-related history. Mary, the daughter of shipbuilder Robert Banks, and the Granger Family have preserved the history of the Kruse & Banks Shipbuilding Company of North Bend and have donated generously to the museum. This year's winners are **Bob Granger, John Granger, and Susan Graves** of Kruse & Banks.

This family of shipbuilding note is continuing to preserve maritime history in the Coos Bay area. A website of this local family's shipbuilding history is currently being built. Their generous donations to the museum will include adding artifacts to the maritime section in the main gallery.

# Long Time Member Reminisces . . .

By Ann Collins

My first introduction to the museum was around 1981. After passing the old building in North Bend many times, I finally decided to stop in for a visit. At the time a young curator, **Doug Borgard**, was the single museum employee. There were a few volunteers, mostly at the front desk to greet that rare visitor or helping with building repairs and maintenance. Most chores were done by Doug and board members. I had wanted to become more involved in a productive way with my adopted community. A year later I was elected president. My good friend **Kathy Grossman** and husband **Rick**, also new to the community, was looking for the same. She became a volunteer, then a board member. Our husbands were often volunteered to help with heavy lifting.

We helped wherever needed: front desk, cleaning, painting, exhibit prep and installation. There was never money in the bare bones budget for things like paint and supplies. The two of us often dug into our own pockets to purchase needed items. Most donations typically went to utilities to keep the building functional. One January after a plea in the paper for help painting the interior, a young painter, **Jay White**, came forward to volunteer his service. It was his slow time of year. He would supply the labor if we provided the paint. We did and also helped priming walls that hadn't seen paint since being built.

One month with only \$2500 in the till, we came close to closing the doors. With another board member, we applied for a \$15,000 grant. To our surprise we received the grant in \$5,000/year increments. Another time out of the blue, a check for \$15,000 came in the mail from a local donor. We thought it was a mistake until the check and donor were verified. With loyal donors we managed to keep going. Donating to the museum seemed logical. It was an invaluable asset for our county. Losing the collection and all the things the museum represented would have been the loss of an irreplaceable treasure.

Our now excellent *Waterways* publication had its roots in *The Coos Historical Journal* from the early 1990's. Previously we had tried to get a two-page newsletter out to members with announcements and an occasional article. Much to our delight, we were able to do an interview with **John** and **Martha Butler** shortly after retiring to Coos Bay.

Due to the time and usual lack of funds, *The Journal* was a sporadic publication. Still, the articles were well researched and written. **Fred Taylor**, formerly of the *Wall Street Journal*, and wife **Georga**, a writer, recently retired and settled in a house overlooking the ocean. Georga became a board member and both became good friends. Fred owned the *Coquille Valley Sentinel* and *North Bend News*. He offered his services to set up articles at his printing press, while Western Bank had their own printing presses and volunteered to print copies. About three years later Fred sold his businesses and the bank left town. Our publication had to shut down.

*The Journal* was so well done, I hated to see its demise. When the opportunity came along to start up *Waterways*, I was delighted to be able to offer my financial support. The museum is still privately funded. Bills still have to be paid. Because of Martha Butler's very generous donation, we're no longer an organization with one paid employee and a leaky concrete block building. I'm only too happy to continue my support for the museum.

Not only have I been able to make many lifelong friends and acquaintances along the way, I've also gained a great appreciation for the hard work and vision of those who came before us. Understanding the roots of a community can make you feel more like you're a part of something bigger. This is something I would like to convey to all old timers, those new folks moving here, and those having lost home and community in devastating wild fires. And younger generations sometimes having to leave for education and job opportunities.

[Editor's note: Ann's 40+ years



of work for the museum, through continued volunteering, serving on the museum Board of Trustees, and making frequent and significant donations, is something to be recognized and applauded. Non-profit institutions frequently cannot exist without this kind of support. Ann continues to underwrite the cost of publishing our quarterly newsletter, an invaluable tool for communicating with our membership. You can find Ann every week at the front desk, doing her usual volunteer stint. Thank you, Ann, from all of us at the museum.]

## Coos County Historical Society

### Staff

Executive Director: Marcia Hart  
Curator: Heather Christenbury  
Education Coordinator & Community Engagement: Ariel Peasley  
Store Manager: Jessica Howell  
Visitor Services Asst.: 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)





# Executive Director's Note

Marcia Hart

## Looking back on 2021

### Thank you for supporting the Coos History Museum

<https://fb.watch/a4oDYRRqyY/>

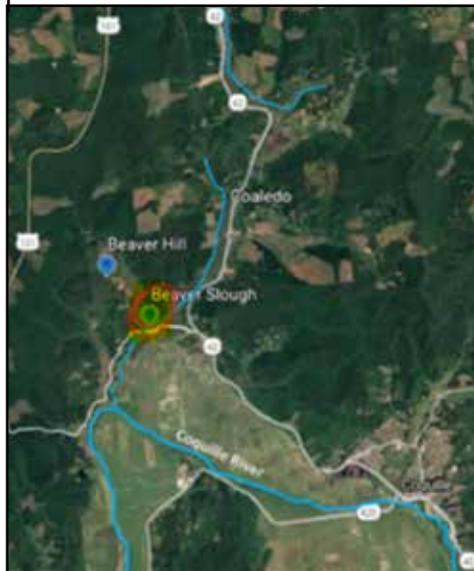
#### New Beaver Board Located in Coos County

For those traveling on Hwy 42 between Coquille and Coos Bay, we now have a new Oregon Historical Marker (Beaver Board) commemorating the Beaver Hill Mining Community. For the past year, the Coos County Historical Society, the Coquille Valley Historical Society and others joined to support the application of **Zachary Stocks**, Director of the

Oregon Black History Museum's effort to bring this historical marker to our area. Funded by the Oregon Information Council and a grant from Travel Southern Oregon Coast, the historical marker is located on North Bank Rd about ¼ mile off of Hwy 42 in the parking area of the ODFW Coquille Valley Wildlife Visitor Area. A dedication ceremony originally planned in September 2021 has been postponed due to the COVID pandemic, to June 2022.



Planning is underway for self-guided and future group tours to the marker, the Coquille Valley and Bandon Museums. Subject to COVID restrictions.

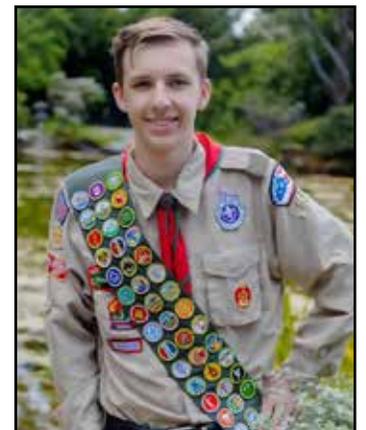


#### The Beaver Hill Mine, largest mine in Coos County:

In 1895, 11 Black miners from West Virginia were recruited to work at the Beaver Hill Mine on the promise of \$5 per day but were paid just \$0.90 per day on arrival. When they complained, they were fired en masse. By the late 1890s, though, around 100 Black miners and their families lived at Beaver Hill at a time when Blacks in Oregon numbered just 1100.

## Eagle Scout Presents Gift to Museum

In August, the Coos History Museum received a gift from **Jeffrey Varga**, a Scout in Troop 156 of North Bend. *Bay Area Short Films* is a series of short video documentaries featuring drone footage and historical archive photographs directed by Jeffrey for his Eagle Scout Service Project, an opportunity for youth to demonstrate leadership of others while performing a project for the benefit of their community. We are fortunate to be the recipients of his project. The short films can be accessed by a physical map with embedded QR codes located in the museum lobby. Jeffrey created the map himself using ArcMap GIS software. He was assisted on the project by museum volunteer **Steve Greif** who found historic museum photos for use in the videos. The films can also be accessed directly from the Coos History Museum's website: <https://cooshistory.org/bay-area-short-films/>



# Glenda Farrell: From Oregon Logging Town to Hollywood Stardom

By Jeanne Woods

In 1932, the *Daily News* from Los Angeles blared in no uncertain terms that actress **Glenda Farrell** was a “saucy, high-powered blonde [that] plays underworld molls, cigarette-smoking, cocktail drinking dames, wisecracking back-stage parts, blasé newspaper reporters...” What the *Daily News* didn’t say, was that Glenda grew up in the rough and tumble coastal town of Marshfield, Oregon, with a population of three thousand people and known only for its logging and shipbuilding industries.

After achieving fame in Hollywood and the New York stage, her high school classmates recalled that the Glenda they knew in 1917 was a constant reader of movie magazines. One of them commented, “She was forever trying to walk and talk like the stars and to move her hands ‘just so’. We used to tease her unmercifully, and thought it a huge joke when she said she was going to Hollywood to learn how to be a star in moving pictures.” An independent woman, Glenda Farrell kept her given name as her stage name. What seemed to some people to be a “meteoric rise” to fame actually took her 14 years of solid work, acting in stage plays up and down the West Coast and auditioning for short bits in the movies. She made it through the era of silent films, then “talkies” to the Jazz Age and beyond with incredible flexibility.

A much sought-after actress, Glenda’s movie career blossomed during the golden years of Hollywood as she played diverse characters. She co-starred with **Paul Muni** in *I am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang*, romped around *The Goldiggers of 1937* with **Joan Blondell** and capered through *The Talk of the Town* with **Cary Grant**. Her signature fast-talking performances as a female

reporter in seven *Torchy Blaine* films provided the inspiration for Superman’s **Lois Lane**. In between Hollywood films, she spent time on the Broadway stage and in the 1960s earned an Emmy as a supporting actress in the TV series *Ben Casey*.

Glenda was born in Enid, Oklahoma, in 1901 and although it’s not clear that she had a “stage mother,” by the time Glenda was seven, her mother **Minnie** had her involved in a small local theatre production of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. Her father **Charley** worked as a farmer for many years, but in 1912 sold their farm and moved the family 2,000 miles to Marshfield, Oregon. He found employment as a butcher with the Hoagland and Cooper grocery store, where he worked with his brother-in-law, **Bert Rider**. Glenda enrolled at Central School where she was an above-average student and according to the local newspaper, her grades were good during these middle school years; reportedly earning a 90 in arithmetic, a 100 in spelling and her drawings for art class were noted as being “exceptionally good.”

Her early interest in the stage grew wider as a member of the Central School seventh grade debate team. One of the debate questions posed was “Resolved, that Jefferson was a greater man than Roosevelt.” On her team were **Mary MacArthur**, **Ernest Whereat**, **Eliza McKay** and **John Dye**. They took the affirmative side, although they lost the match. Mary became a good friend and confidante for the next few years until an incident during high school came between them.

In 1916, as a freshman at Marshfield High School, Glenda auditioned for Gilbert & Sullivan’s *The Mikado*. It was her first opportunity to be on stage as a teen. Although performances were held at a local theatre, the producer



of the show was the Andrews Opera Company, operated by **Ed Andrews** of Medford, who had been in hundreds of different shows around the country. *The Mikado* was developed as a combination “road show” and local people, so while Ed performed as Ko-Ko, he cast local community members in other parts. As a teenager, Glenda was thrilled to be in the chorus of school girls, but wanted more. *The Mikado* was an Elks Club production, performed at the Noble Theatre, which was situated on the corner of Third and Central in downtown Marshfield, just down the hill from Glenda’s school. The Noble was the first theatre in the area to have a big pipe organ. More than 800 people enjoyed the first performance of the *Mikado* on opening night June 5, 1916. One reason for the large attendance was the isolation of Marshfield. Situated on a large bay, there were few roads and instead, people, goods and entertainment came by ship. Although a coarse town filled with millworkers and seafarers, people were hungry for diversions. (A reason for the incredible number of saloons on each block.) When “moving pictures” came to town,

this quenched their thirst for a link to the outside culture. The next weekend, the cast took the show "on the road" to performances in Bandon and Coquille. The many backdrops and costumes were packed up and re-set at the next venue. Almost 30 chorus actors were Marshfield classmates, among others: **Otto Bjorkquist, Warner Brunell, Leo La Chappelle, Wilma Hoagland** and **Edith Ayre**.

Honor clubs at schools were popular at the time, and Glenda was invited to join the school's Hysoerie, a girls' literary group that gave regular school programs. When her turn came to contribute to a program based on "book best sellers," she discussed *The Rising Tide* by **Margaret Deland**, a tale of the issues confronting women, feminism and suffrage. Mature themes indeed for this high school sophomore, and a tribute to Glenda's intellect.

In early 1917, she continued on the debate team as a sophomore. Competing in the oratory division, she lost a close match to **Gwynnedde Tower** (The Tower Ford company is still in business today).

In April of that year, Glenda was cast in the MHS Chorus and Glee Club's production of the operetta *Princess Chrysanthemum*. Not as the leading lady she aspired to be, but as a fairy in the chorus, where she danced and sang her way across the stage in a gauzy costume with a sparkling crown. Local students with well-known Marshfield names were again on stage: **Rudy Hillstrom, Doris Sengstacken, Irene and Grace Brainerd** and **Bess Flanagan** among others. This show was booked at the Orpheum Theatre, on the corner of Fourth and Central in Marshfield. This theatre was originally built in 1903 as a Masonic Hall, for use as a lodge and opera house and renamed the Orpheum in 1916 (and torn down in 1940).



*L-R Back: Mary McArthur, K.M. Barager, Abbie Ledward, Verl Bonebrake, Glenda Farrell, George Hansen, Ruth Anderson. Middle: Genevra Archer, Charles Doane, Clara Ferguson, George Deubner, Wilma Hoaglund, Harold Haines. Front: Albert Dieu, Evelyn Mirrasoul, Eugene Kelley, Marjorie Drews, Jack Hames, Bess Flanagan.*

A petite figure at just 5'3," Glenda was quite proud of being a natural blonde. She referred to that later in her Hollywood career, snarking about the blondes that had to go to their hairdresser for that coveted color. Always one to stand out, her freshman yearbook photo shows her classmates in solid chemises, while she wears stripes. A bubbly girl with a big smile, she seemed to be on everyone's guest list. In this age of card parties, picnics, socials and ladies' clubs, she was mentioned at all of them, many times serving the punch or entertainment. Formal and informal dances were standard fare both at private houses and other venues.

The United States declared war on Germany on April 4, 1917, and the citizens of Marshfield geared up to do their part. Glenda signed on to the roster of the Girls National Honor Guard. These girls helped support the war effort in various ways—helping at the Red Cross, selling Liberty bonds, and entertaining the Coast Artillery troops. Of course, the girls were reminded to mind their "P's and Q's" when the state manager sent a notice out that Honor Guard girls are not allowed to kiss! Although the kissing report originated in Hood River, the manager firmly stated that she did not approve of this method of encouraging enlistees by kissing all the recruits goodbye. "The aim of the Honor Guard Girls is more dignified than that," she said.

Mary McArthur and Glenda were good friends and in lots of groups together. With three other friends, they did a short dramatization of the play *The Burglar* for Hysoerie, with Mary as Mabel and Glenda playing Edith. Interested in debate, oratory and theatre, both girls had a big competitive streak. So, it was



natural that when the *Marshfield Record* newspaper announced a contest to win a car, they would be all in! The contest was promoted by the *Record* as a way to get new subscribers, which would both keep their newspaper financially sound and beat out their rival, the *Coos Bay Times*.

While pounding the pavement asking people to buy a subscription, the girls came up with a great idea—they would drop Mary's name from the contest and concentrate their efforts on getting Glenda all the votes and subscriptions and then share whatever prize they won. Hopefully it would be that car!

In late October, Glenda was notified by the *Record* that she had both the most votes and most subscription money, so indeed, she won the car. She and Mary were ecstatic about being the winners, but since she was under age 18, her father Charles took possession of it. The Farrell family got busy making arrangements to move to California, and of course planned on taking the car with them. Charles offered Mary \$25 for her hard work during the contest, which was not received well. The two girls argued, and Mary's father, **E.D. McArthur**, filed suit in circuit court to stop Charles from picking up the car or leaving town with it. Charles said that he had personally put about \$400 in cash into what the girls had raised for subscriptions. The lawsuit was settled out of court the next day, with a payment made by the Farrells to the McArthurs of \$200, which probably helped to smooth over some of the hurt feelings between the families.

In December 1917, the owners of the Orpheum were set to celebrate its first anniversary as a theatre venue, but canceled the event due to a local scarlet fever quarantine order that forbade the assemblage

of children under age 16. Much like today, theaters, Sunday Schools and public gatherings were all closed. Doctors issued advisories that it might take up to a year and a half to eradicate the disease. Schools closed by December 14th and rescheduled to open in mid-January. Quarantine signs were placed in individual houses where patients resided. Mary McArthur's brother was stricken with the disease.

Glenda never forgot her friends in Marshfield (renamed Coos Bay) and in 1931 sent her best wishes to **Robert Marsden**, owner of the Egyptian Theatre in Coos Bay for showing her movie *Little Caesar*, starring **Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.** For years, her movies were shown both at the Egyptian and Liberty Theatres in Coos Bay and North Bend. Both historic venues are still operating today.

But all that was in the future. Closing out the tumultuous year of 1917, Glenda and her family moved to San Diego. By the next summer, she was part of a group that was entertaining the Marine Corp troops at nearby Camp Balboa. And in April 1919, *Motion Picture Magazine* printed her photograph and a short bio...and she was on her road to stardom.

Selected sources:

Many diverse newspapers from around the United States. Including but not limited to: Los Angeles, Coos Bay, Oklahoma.

Douthit, Nathan. *The Coos Bay Region 189-1944*. River West Books, 1981.

Beckham, Dow. *Encore*. Arago Books, 2003.

Ancestry.com

1900, 1910, 1920 US Census & Social Security death index

Marshfield High School yearbook

## A Granddaughter's Tribute to Martha Butler

By Tina Mendizabal

My grandmother, as I knew her, was strong, inventive, and ever inspired by the fascinating world around her. She often showed her love in thoughtful gestures and the selfless giving of her time. As the endlessly driven and determined woman that she was, her time was precious, but she always found ways to support the people and causes that mattered to her most.

Her love of history began with her regard for pre-Colombian artifacts and artesanias discovered during her time spent in South America. It was in Colombia that she raised her son and daughter, learned to speak Spanish, and began

her own shop of antiquities. It was also here that she met her husband,



**John Butler**, who would introduce her to the Southern Oregon Coast.

When they returned to John's home town of Coos Bay, they brought with

them a shared love and appreciation for historic preservation and education. After John's passing, my grandmother could think of no better way to honor him than to contribute to the rebirth of the Coos History Museum. The final design

and construction of the waterfront museum far surpassed her wildest dreams.

She spent the last years of her life with her loving family in Florida, but would eagerly return to visit Coos Bay when she could. I was so fortunate to get to know this special place through her eyes and alongside her curious mind.

My grandmother loved living and she especially loved learning. She lived a full and vibrant life with many friends and adventures along the way, but I believe she will have always had more to give.

I'd like to thank the Coos History Museum for honoring Martha and John Butler over the years and for taking this opportunity to honor my grandmother's memory after her passing.

Thank you all!

# The Educator's Edge – by Ariel Peasley

*"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you" – B.B. King*

**Hello:** What a year we've had and what a year we look forward to! I am excited to continue my journey as the Education and Community Engagement Coordinator as I begin my third year at the Coos History Museum. We are so grateful to all of you who have stuck with us through shifting in person, virtual, and hybrid programs, and all the challenges, as well as the successes and positive changes, that have resulted. Many of our programs will continue to be offered in a hybrid format for as long as we are able, and we are now looking toward increased online and in-person pre-registration for programs with increased perks for members. So, welcome to a new and exciting year at the Coos History Museum and don't forget to check our website [cooshistory.org/education/](http://cooshistory.org/education/) for more information about our programs. As always, feel free to email the Education and Community Engagement Coordinator, **Ariel Peasley**, at [education@cooshistory.org](mailto:education@cooshistory.org) with any questions, comments, suggestions, or interest in sponsorships.

**Upcoming Events:** The *Local History Class: 10 Days that Shook the South Coast* is in full swing, but you can still register at the museum or over the phone and receive recordings of any classes you missed at the end of the course. *First Tuesday Talks* will be starting up again on February 1st with our first talk of the year, *Apollo 14: Coos Bay Connection* with **Becky Soules** to go with the matching exhibit opening on January 25th. Find a list of the first half of the year's talks on our website, in this newsletter, or pick up one of our bookmarks at the CHM. February also kicks



*Explorer's Club, August 14th, Light Up Card*

off our free *Second Saturdays* and *Explorer's Club* for children and families. Consider joining our *Unlimited Book Club* which also takes place each month and provides the opportunity to learn something new, but also gives us all a chance to engage with fellow community members. Keep an eye out for other new and improved programs from the education department.

**Featured:** *Explorer's Club* is getting a makeover. This family friendly and kid-centered program will continue to take place on the free *Second Saturday* of each month and will follow the topic of the preceding *First Tuesday Talk* program. The first change to this program will include a sign-up for families who are interested in ensuring an activity or kit for their children each month and receiving updates and information about the club. We will also be creating for the first time a mascot for *Explorer's Club* that we hope our explorers will help us choose. Finally, possibly the most exciting addition to this program will be a prize for any children who participate in the *Explorer's Club* program. In addition, those who complete ten or more activities will be put into a drawing for our grand prize to be awarded at the end of the year! To find out more visit our website: [cooshistory.org/2nd-saturdays](http://cooshistory.org/2nd-saturdays).

2022

## First Tuesday Talks Lecture Series

Visit our website or the museum for more information and to register.

Free for CHM Members.

JANUARY - NO FIRST TUESDAY TALK

6:00 PM FEBRUARY 1

Becky Soules

*Apollo 14:  
Coos Bay  
Connection*



6:00 PM MARCH 1



Lindi Quinn

Club President 2020-2022 / Zonta Club

*Making the World a  
Better Place*

6:00 PM APRIL 5

Egyptian Theatre  
Preservation  
Association's  
Organ Committee

*A Look Behind the  
Curtain: The History  
and Mystery of the Wurlitzer Organ*



6:00 PM MAY 3



Mitzi Asai Loftus

*Far East  
Beginnings to  
Present Days*

6:00 PM JUNE 7

Pamela Athearn Filbert

Research Volunteer /  
Oregon Black Pioneers

*From West Virginia  
to Jimi Hendrix: Black  
Miners at Beaver Hill*



JULY - NO FIRST TUESDAY TALK

Generously sponsored by

Al Peirce Co., LLC

With in-kind support from  
The Mill Casino Hotel & RV Park

# Membership Roll Call October-December 2021

## New Student

Eagle Roy

## New Individual

Tom Baake  
Brenda Brecke  
Kathryn Fernandez  
Susan Paterson  
Lisa Sears

## New Household

Barbara Jernigan

## New Friend

Jay Andrews  
Tyana & Steve Plinski

## Renewed Individual

Patricia Bessey  
Roberta Black  
Chris Blasco  
Barbara Chilla  
Ken & Joanna Cobb  
Dave Crane  
Heide Cummings  
Becky Duke  
Pamela Ferrara  
Marty Giles  
Nadiene Greif  
Ronald & Mary  
Guenther

Janet Hagge  
Carolyn Hogan  
Julianne Johnson  
M J Koreiva  
Patsy K. Miles  
Karen Pruhsmeier  
Elaine Raper  
Judy Rocha  
Russ Sisk  
Barbara Stickler  
Francine Worthen

## Renewed Household

Glennora Arnold  
Ken & Diane Bauer  
Robert & Dawn Benck  
Jean Bevanmarquez  
Ron & Linda Boise  
Warren & Janet  
Brainard  
Larry & Pat Close

Charles & Barbara Cornell  
Grant & Rae Lea Cousens  
John Meynink & Mary  
Crumley  
Kim & Rosie Edd  
Russell & Kathy Erickson  
Al Rumsch & Suzanne  
Fischer

Stacey & Joel Fox  
Michael & Rhoda Gordon  
Mike & Marti Greif  
Randy & Mary Jane  
Hargens  
Shasta Hernandez  
Shaun & Anne Hobson  
Jack & Lucille Hoffman  
Jim & Cindy Hough  
George Kramer  
Julia Jennings  
David J. Laird  
Charles & Joan Mahaffy  
James & Georgia Martin  
Patti Kileen & Lloyd  
Maxfield

Scott & Peggy Milburn  
Carol & Ron Miranda  
Lloyd Newton  
Thomas & Susan Nowlin  
Peter Perrin  
Rondi Potter  
David & Beth Quick  
Joanna & Roger Rieber  
Brent & Lindsey Sasser  
George & Laura Smith  
Clyde & Diane Thrift  
Mary Sue Wheeler

## Renewed Friend

David & Shirley Bridgham  
Charles Brower  
Corliss & Bill Burgher  
Debra Groom & Joe  
Burwell  
Robert & Susan Coraor  
Patrick & Nancy Cross  
Steven & Roseanne  
Doane  
Nathan & Eva Douthit

Mary & Bob Fields  
Lee & Sharon Golder  
Robert E. & Julie L.  
Granger  
Jim & Sue Graves  
Gary & Martha Gregor  
Betsy Groben  
Marcia M Hart  
Mike Graybill & Jan  
Hodder  
Ryan Hogan  
Susan Hutchinson  
Roger & Ellen Johnson  
Bill & Joan Kendrick  
Kay Kerriden  
Steven & Becky Littrell  
Bill & Hillary Mattechuck  
Ron & Kathy Metzger  
Mary Woolley & John  
Mitchell  
Tom Orsi

Carol Ventgen & Mike  
Perkins  
Pat Choat Pierce  
Bob Sasanoff & Sarah  
Recken  
Jamie Fereday & Margie  
Ryan  
Lori Schmidt  
Gary Sharp  
Ron Dieu & Bob  
Shepherd  
Virginia Sheridan  
Crystal Shoji  
Greg & Susie Solarz  
Mike & Mary Lou  
Stebbins  
Sara Stephens  
Joe & Lyndi  
Stoffel  
Maxeen Wegner  
Sharon Whitwer

Jeri & Steve Wilgers  
**Renewed Business**  
Gold Coast Truck Repair  
Honda World  
Koontz Machine &  
Welding  
Janice Langlinais  
**Renewed Benefactor**  
Cindy Finlayson  
Steve & Joan Greif  
Paul & Marilyn Halvor  
Wilbur & Judy Jensen  
Kim Leberti  
Jon & Lee Littlefield  
Steve & Jeanne Woods  
**Renewed Historian**  
Don & Renee Blom  
Jay Farr & Vicki Farr  
Crumpacker  
Jill Hayner-Thompson  
**Renewed Curator**  
Peter & Lana Graff

## DONATIONS 4th Quarter 2021

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

Anonymous  
Susan Anderson  
Mislen Bauer  
Carol Baughman  
Paula Bechtold  
Robert Berry  
Jan Bishop Hall  
George Nixon &  
Barbara Booth  
Jacob & Anna Brands-  
Schep  
John & Rose Briggs  
Benjamin Brown  
Linda Bufton  
Ann Collins  
Grant & Rae Lea  
Cousens  
Barbara Cribb  
Patrick & Nancy Cross  
Jeff & Carol Davis  
Nathan & Eva Douthit  
Kathryn Fernandez  
David Ferre  
John & Ruth Forrester  
Stacey Fox  
Ben Freudenberg  
Lana & Peter Graff  
Jim & Sue Graves

Robert E. & Julie L.  
Granger  
Mike & Marti Greif  
Nadiene Greif  
Steve & Joan Greif  
Anne Guerin  
Janet Hagge  
Linda Hall  
Paul & Marilyn Halvor  
Marcia & Bob Hart  
Mallory Hartz  
Norm Herning  
Rebecca Hill  
Thomas Holt  
Don Ivy  
Bruce C Jones Jr  
Rudy & Mary Jo Juul  
Michael & LeaAnne  
Kelley  
Kay Kerriden  
Jon & Lee Littlefield  
Steven & Becky Littrell  
Judith Lousier  
William Mast  
Patti Kileen & Lloyd  
Maxfield  
Susanna Mendizabal  
Tina Mendizabal

Scott & Peggy Milburn  
Carol & Ron Miranda  
John Mitchell  
Christine Moffitt  
Tyler Mulkey  
Clark Munro  
Dan & Charlyn Myers  
Martha O'Brien  
Tom Orsi  
Jerry Peasley  
Arthur & Antoinette Poole  
Donna Rabin & Steve  
Richardson  
Greg & Barbara Rueger  
Jim Scavera  
Larry & Trish Seguire  
Lonn & Linda Simmons  
Mowry Smith III  
Doug & Cricket Soules  
Kathy Sprague  
Sara Stephens  
Linda Strine  
Wesley & Dianne Tanac  
J. Richard & Judy Wagner  
Richard & Kathryn  
Whitwer  
Steven & Jeri Wilgers  
Toni Wyatt Kirkeby

**We are always looking for  
volunteers to help out  
at the museum.**

**COOS  
HISTORY  
MUSEUM**

Contact: [volunteer@  
cooshistory.org](mailto:volunteer@cooshistory.org)  
or call  
541-756-6320  
for more information.

# Curator's Corner

By Heather Christenbury

The museum is excited to announce that three new exhibits will be opening this winter and spring. There will also be several objects added to the main gallery to enhance existing exhibits while also bringing new themes and subject matter into the space. These changes are all part of a plan to refresh existing displays while also providing new and changing content for the local community and visitors to the area.

Starting in January, object and signage additions to the main gallery of the museum can be seen throughout the space. Then, on January 25th, the first new exhibit opens in one of the museum lobby cases. *Apollo 14: Coos Bay Connection* is an opportunity to learn about the unique connection between the Coos Bay area and its residents to the Apollo 14 mission to the moon in the early 1970s.

February begins Black History Month, and the museum will incorporate more information on the role of black miners to our existing mining exhibit to support more inclusive representation of historical events in our displays. February 19th is also the opening of the *Healing Hands* exhibit on the second-floor mezzanine. This exhibit features a large sampling of the various establishments, people, tools, and indigenous traditional/continuing medicinal practices that contributed to the health of Southern Oregon Coast communities since the 1800s.

Lastly, the museum will open *Myrtlewood: Treasure of the Southern Oregon Coast* on March 29th, 2022, in the lobby welcome area of the museum. This exhibit features the story of Myrtlewood which grows along the Southern Oregon Coast. From its beautiful wood grain to its use as currency during the Great Depression and as a medium for producing handcrafted gifts, furniture, and works of art, Myrtlewood is a treasure to behold. Please visit our website for more information on these and all other changes to the museum exhibits.

[Note: The Lansing Research Library will be closed to the public and volunteers from January 1- February 7. Research and photograph requests will continue to be answered in the order they are received. Please allow 2-4 weeks for processing through February 2022.]



## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

### Apollo 14: Coos Bay Connection

Opens January 25, 2022

*CHM Lobby*

Learn about the unique connection between the Coos Bay area and its residents to the Apollo 14 mission to the moon in the early 1970s.

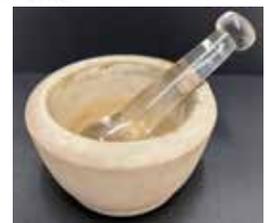


### Healing Hands

Opens February 19, 2022

*Second Floor Mezzanine*

Come explore the history of medicine in Coos County. This exhibit features a large sampling of the various establishments, people, tools, and indigenous traditional/continuing medicinal practices that contributed to the health of Southern Oregon Coast communities since the 1800s.



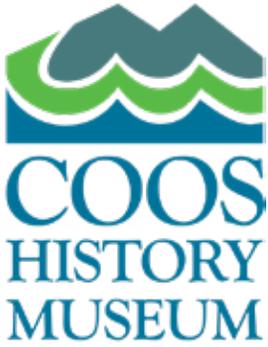
### Myrtlewood: Treasure of the Southern Oregon Coast

Opens March 29, 2022

*CHM Lobby Welcome Area*

This exhibit features the story of Myrtlewood which grows along the Southern Oregon Coast. From its beautiful wood grain to its use as currency during the Great Depression and as a medium for producing handcrafted gifts, furniture, and works of art, Myrtlewood is a treasure to behold.





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



*Early January violent wind and rain storms wreaked havoc in the coastal region of Coos County. The photo attests to part of the damage sustained in the parking lot of CHM. Photo by Marcia Hart*

## 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**,  
who recently retired  
from many years serving  
on the CCHS  
Board of Trustees.*