

**FRVHS  
Board Members**

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email:

frmuseum@centurylink.net

[www.fortrockoregon.com](http://www.fortrockoregon.com)

Like us on Facebook!

Nancy Bowers, President

Ralph McAllister, Vice-  
President

Joni Bramlett, Secretary

Jana Kittredge, Treasurer

Nancy McClung, Appointed  
Board Member

Jana Kittredge, Editor

bellagrafa@yahoo.com—please  
send newsletter information

**Reminder:**

**Please renew your  
annual membership!  
\$20.00 for an individual  
membership; \$30.00 for  
the family membership.**

**Checks payable to :  
Fort Rock Valley  
Historical Society  
PO Box 84  
Fort Rock, OR 97735**

Your annual membership is very valuable and receives this newsletter and free entrance to the museum. See page 4 for membership application.

**2021 was a another different year  
for the Museum**

We opened the Museum doors on time April 29 after we had a record group of volunteers help with preparing all the buildings and grounds. We thank the many volunteers who helped. We had 13 people come and help us!

The garden has been fallow. We are working on making it a garden of wildflowers. We got the weeds and unwanted grass under control and will make plans to plant next spring for less maintenance.

Smoke filled the air when the Bootleg Fire erupted on July 6th. It was the largest fire in the nation at the time, burning for over six weeks. Mother Nature helped when the weather cooled and rain came on August 12th and the wildfire became fully contained on August 16th. Between the wildfires (two more erupted in August and September threatening Lakeview, Valley Falls and Paisley), the hot summer heat 100+ temperatures, and the ongoing pandemic, this is the slowest season the Museum has encountered with visitors.

Annie McClung has continued as our hostess this season. She will be stepping away from our area in the future and we will be looking for a replacement host for next season. We thank her for her dedication. We are thinking of advertising for two positions as host that way we can offer alternate work days as many like to have weekends off for other plans. The host is a paid position.

In A Landscape Concert in the Wild returned for performances at Fort Rock on July 25th and 26th. Both performances were sold out! The concert was supported in part by Lake County Cultural Coalition. Proceeds from the concert supported the Historical Society. Concert ticket holders were able to gain admittance to tour the museum. Volunteers those days were surprised that many did not take advantage of visiting the museum. It was thought because of the smoke and heat those days, many refrained from stopping at the Museum. The Fort Rock Valley Historical Society is grateful for the music organization's continued support. With their help we are able to function on and take care of much needed repair projects.

A few projects completed this year included staining of the new handrails and staining of the new barn that was built in 2020. The Museum closed for the season on October 3rd.

Board member elected last November for a three-year term, Monica Mattis, stepped down since she started a new job. Local resident and volunteer, Nancy McClung has been appointed to replace Mattis. Ralph McAllister has completed his term and is ready to retire from the Historical Society board of directors. We will hold elections during the November 9th annual meeting.

**Abernethy Gray Historical Preservation Society Volunteers Return to Fort Rock!**



It was an eventful weekend in August when over 500 members of E. Clampus Vitus encompassed the community. Abernethy Gray Historical Preservation Society, Pacific Chapters volunteered to create and to place a historic monument at Fort Rock Grange citing the history of the local building and organization. The Fort Rock Grange #758 association was pleased with their efforts. If you visit Fort Rock, be sure to stop and see the monument.

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**In Memoriam, 2021**

*Don Franks* passed away this year at the age of 95. Don's family homesteaded at Sears Flat southwest of Fort Rock. His mother was a school teacher and boarded at the old town of Wastina. Don was an avid member of Fort Rock Valley Historical Society serving many years on the board and was instrumental in many projects at the museum including the movement, placement and display of the Fort Rock Store.

*Edna Wagner* long time resident of Fort Rock and life member of the Historical Society passed away at the age of 92. She was a community advocate heading the project of the Fort Rock Care Center senior apartments (which tragically burned and property was donated to the Fort Rock Valley Historical Society) and organizing Bible Release study for North Lake School students.



**Fort Rock Homesteaders Unite**

25 members of the Fort Rock Homesteaders Association led by association president, Nancy Rastovich got together for their annual gathering this year on September 11th at the Fort Rock Grange. A non-traditional luncheon was held as everyone brought their own picnic style lunches. A silent auction was held and there were many items to bid on despite the low attendance. Proceeds from the auction this year will be evenly divided to the Fort Rock Valley Historical Society and Fort Rock Grange. Plans are being made for next year's reunion which will mark the 95th anniversary of the gathering and continue with the potluck lunch and auction. The association is asking for all members who attend the 95th reunion bring something historical that pertains to their family heritage for a time capsule that will be unveiled at the 100th reunion in 2027!

**Saturday, September 10, 2022** will be the **95<sup>TH</sup>** homesteaders reunion and celebration with the goal to reach the 100th! The Homesteaders Association is in need of Homesteaders Descendants emails, addresses and/or phone numbers. Please email any information you have on hand to the Homesteaders Association: [FORTROCKHOMESTEADERS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FORTROCKHOMESTEADERS@GMAIL.COM) or contact Bob Tuttle, 541-576-2289.

**DUES ARE  
NOW PAYABLE FOR 2022.**

Please see membership form on page 4.  
Your membership and support is very important! Look on your address label next to your name to find what year your dues are current.

## Gift Shop becomes popular!



T-shirts have been selling well this year. We currently have three designs: we reinstated the old design by popular demand, we still have some of the new circle design, and we have a bolder version of that design, minus the circle. Books sales are also going well. We plan to add new mug colors for next season.

If you are interested in any of our items, send an email request. ([frmuseum@centurlylink.net](mailto:frmuseum@centurlylink.net)) We are happy to ship anywhere with added shipping and handling costs.



## Raffle

*Raffle* tickets are on sale now for two beautifully enlarged photographed metal prints. Both are 36" tall x 48" wide, and were donated by Oregon photographer, Frank George III as fundraising items to generate dollars to help keep the museum in good shape. So far, we have sold 27 tickets of 100 of the photo of Fort Rock, and 36 tickets of 100 of the night shot. Tickets are \$20 each. Get yours soon, as we are only selling 100 of each photograph. Once all 100 tickets are sold for each print, we will hold the drawing. It was hard to photograph them as they are metal and give off glare, but will be beautiful in any home or business! You may contact any historical society board member or send an email to purchase your tickets today! Arrangements can be made for payment and information.

Proceeds will help with projects planned for 2022. Upcoming repairs include reinforcement of floors on School house, Stratton cabin, Artifacts and Dr. Thom buildings; outhouse roof.

## Out of Print books available

The Historical Society has obtained the remaining books written and published by the late Ray Hatton, COCC geography professor and historian. There are



very few remaining at the Museum book store. There are both hard and soft editions of Pioneer Homesteaders of the Fort Rock Valley and a few soft cover of the High Desert. The Museum is closed for the season but if you are interested in them, we can ship direct to you. They are \$20. (soft) and \$25. (hard) each plus shipping and handling if mailed.

We would also like to thank Barbara Allen, author of Homesteading the High Desert for sending us original copies of her hard bound book for our library and also original artwork drawn by her sister for the book. The board is still deciding what to do with the artwork. It's all outstanding and beautifully mounted!

Seeking vintage (pre-1940)

Christmas items - ornaments, linens, trinkets, etc. We plan to put together a Christmas display that represents pioneer homesteaders of the Fort Rock Valley. Please email or plan to bring to the Museum if you have something you can donate.

[frmuseum@centurylink.net](mailto:frmuseum@centurylink.net).

## Changes for the Good of the Society

The board of directors is working on making decisions on our operating hours for 2022 and changing our email address. We had a lot of days this year when we had very few or no visitors at the Museum. We installed a new internet service and are doing away with CenturyLink in the future as they are too expensive for our budget. Watch our Facebook and our website for updated information.

*Fort Rock Valley Historical Society  
PO Box 84  
Fort Rock, OR 97735  
www.fortrockoregon.com*

**Fort Rock Valley Historical Society Annual Meeting Notice**

The **annual membership meeting** of the **Fort Rock Valley Historical Society** will be held **Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 10:00am, Covid-19 guidelines in place**. All members are welcome to attend at the Museum office in **Fort Rock, Oregon**. The purposes of this meeting are to accept nominations from the membership for the board of directors, and as at all board meetings, to hear about issues of encouragement or concern from members. There is one board position open for election; One three-year term. The term begins January 1, 2022. You must be a current member to vote and serve on the board. Dues are now payable for 2021 which will carry into 2022 season.

**Fort Rock Valley Historical Society Membership Application**

“Working together to preserve Fort Rock Valley History”

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

New Member  Renewal/Reinstate Your membership receives newsletters and free entrance to museum.

**Family \$30. (immediate family members only)**  **Individual \$20.**

Additional Donation \$\_\_\_\_\_. Donations are tax deductible. Total enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Relationship to Homesteader and Family (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

*I would like to receive newsletter via email.*

Check areas of Volunteer interest:  Host  Grounds work  Garden  Repairs  Other

Grant Writing  Website  Public Relations/Marketing

**Dues Payable to Fort Rock Valley Historical Society PO Box 84, Fort Rock, OR 97735**