Mr. Shive was born near Summerside, Kentucky. His father had a small farm but was a "Cooper" by trade....a maker of barrels. A good business as everything was put in barrels even butter. He raised and trained hunting dogs (hounds) and was considered the best. Hunting was not a sport or a hobby, it was a way of survival. They needed the meat for food.

George Washington Shive, his father, married Amanda Branstetter, daughter of his friend Eli Branstetter, who came to Kentucky about the same time as his father. To this union there were five children, three died in infancy, two sons William Thomas and John survived, and were cared for by their Aunts, sisters of their mother who had also died. There is a small cemetery with the five graves on the home property.

When Thomas was nine and John seven their father married again to the widow of a minister. Not a happy time for the boys who resented a step-mother, and times were rather hectic—-reconstruction after the Civil War—-money was very scarce. When William Thomas was fourteen years old he ran away from home and never went back again.

You have to know what the country is like in that part of Kentucky.....hills and more hills with fertile valleys in between.

At fourteen years old he could not go far with only the clothes on his back and no money. Just over a couple of hills he came to the Kincaid place. He asked for work and the privilege of sleeping in their barn. They fed him and urged him to go home...that he was not strong enough for farm work. He refused and said he would just go on and find work somewhere else.

At this time they were harvesting wheat, tying it in bundles to be left in the field to dry before taking it in to beat the grain out on the threshing floor. They weighed about 100#. He asked to be allowed to try....and he did it!
these sheaves had to be tossed up on a wagon.....he did that too!

He made his home at the Kincaid place, working for his room and board with the privilege of taking jobs from other farmers when offered. There were many jobs for him as he was a good worker.....grateful for the chance to work and a happy nature. His motto "you will never know if you can do anything if you don't try".

His family life was not the usual spent together. He kept in touch but never went home so did not see his brother and father for years. He was well accepted although these were all family groups. His whole social life was picnics and church socials with others of his age.

At one time he joined with the rural community to build a church. He is a charter member of Mt. Macai Presbyterian church. The church is still being used (1980). His great niece is secretary-treasurer.

He told many stories about girls he knew—and often said he was sure he and his young men friends were the original "Boot-leggers". Every young man carried a flat flask in their boot top. He said "I tried to sow wild oats when I was young but they all came up tame". When he was nineteen years old he took a pledge never to drink alcoholic liquor.

He worked wherever or at whatever—saving some until he could buy a span of work horses and a wagon. That enabled him to get more jobs—also he paid for the use of his horses and wagon. Maybe you can see the making of character and forming of plans to live by....."Saving a little and using what you have....building on it....using it to work for you".

He wanted to see other places and decided to go to Missouri. There was a slogan heard everywhere—"Go West Young Man". Missouri was to be the first adventure—not too far.

He went to Milan, Missouri where there were large farms and plenty of work. He married Mima Dunlap, December 17, 1882, at Milan, Sullivan County, Missouri. Oscar Shive was born November 28, 1883 at Milan, Missouri.

About 2½ years after their marriage (1885) they took one of the first through trains to Oregon. A long, hard journey. There was a cook stove in one corner where they prepared their food—boards to put between the seats for sleeping—they had to have their own bedding. Many were ill from spoiled food and bad sanitation.

The Shive family came through O.K.—as they boiled all water used and cooked food right. Mr. Shive was a good cook and took good care of his family.

They arrived in Portland, which was the end of the railroad line. Took a stage coach to Jacksonville, Oregon. There they were met by Ike McIntyre, a relative of Mrs. Shive. He was in the business of hauling freight over the
mountains. Everything had to be brought in by freight wagons—8 horse teams.

He gave Mr. Shive jobs and soon he was able to buy his own wagon and work team. They went to Applegate planning to settle there but were there only a few months. Their baby girl, not yet a year old, passed away and is buried there.

The summers were good...plenty of work but winters—roads closed—snow deep and you had no work—food supply gone.

About this time a new Railroad was started over the Siskiyou Mountains that had been by-passed before because of high mountains and steep grades but a shorter route from Portland to San Francisco through Ashland, Oregon.

Mr. Shive moved his family to Ashland and got work with his wagon and team hauling supplies, grading etc. He moved his family as the work on the railroad progressed. Finally locating at Keno, Oregon. Alex Shive was born there on October 3, 1888.

Mr. Shive got work on a large ranch owned by Bob Emmett and was allowed to live in a cabin on the ranch. There was always the problem of the long, cold winters—heavy snow and roads impassable and no work possible.

Mrs. Shive could sew and occasionally someone would pay her to make a dress. She made over old clothes for her family. No one had much money. Flora Shive was born June 9, 1890 at the Emmett Ranch near Keno.

Mr. Shive had a good reputation for honesty and hard work and for paying his bills. The little general store owned by Sam Paggett who gave him credit, and Mr. Shive came up with an idea to start a route of everything from barbed wire and nails to needles and thread and yardage for clothing. It was a great idea. Farmers could order and he would deliver on his next trip. He received a percent for his work and selling.

Then the problem of winter roads which were impassable for a wagon arose. He took the wheels off and made sled runners of ridgepole pine, enabling him to peddle more months of the year.

Roxanne Shive was born March 18, 1892 at Keno, Oregon.

Things were very much better and Mr. Shive was able to save a little and was thinking of ways to do better. He made a trip to Fort Klamath, 60 miles away. It had closed down after the Modoc Indian War, although the Indian Agency for Indian Affairs, schools and administration was 7 miles away. All that was left of the old Fort was the barracks, parade ground and officers cottages. These were on the Indian Reservation, only about 2 miles from Wood River, the natural border of the Reservation.

The white settlers were army families, teachers and government employees who decided to stay and take up farming. There were about 30 families. They put up a log building at the cross roads for meetings—later this became a school house.
Mr. Shive saw the possibility of a store as the nearest one was 40 miles away at Klamath Falls and meant 2 days travel by wagon.

White settlers on one side of Wood River and the Indian Reservation on the other. He had two offers of property to build on at opposite ends of the valley. Mr. Ed Loosley offered a long lease but no deed. Mr. Cronemiller offered a gift deed to property for store and home. Each wanted to start the town near his ranch.

When he returned to Keno, Mr. Paggett decided to join him in this venture.... to furnish the merchandise.... Mr. Shive to put up the store building and sell the merchandise. A full partnership.

As there were no mills in the area at that time it was a real problem to get lumber. He contacted a government agent with the idea of tearing down some of the officers houses at the old Fort---haul them 5 miles and reconstruct them off the Indian Reservation. First the store and then the home for Mr. Shive it was agreed and it was done. In the spring of 1895 the store opened.

The white people bought as it saved them long trips to Medford over terrible roads or 40 miles to Klamath Falls. The Indians bought because he took cattle in payment for their needs or gave them credit until they received their allotment.

Mr. Shive used every angle to increase the business. He built a slaughterhouse on Wood River and had fresh meat for sale in the store. To keep meat from spoiling, he built a storage house---walls 8 inches thick filled with sawdust... also used as a root cellar for potatoes, carrots etc., grown in the garden.

About 1897 he bought out Mr. Paggett's interest in the business---everything was going fine. Mr. Shive had learned to buy merchandise as well as to sell it.

Dorothy Shive was born December 26, 1897. There was very bad storm---roads were covered up and impassable so Mr. Shive delivered the new baby alone as there was no way to get help.

There was a small telephone service at Klamath Falls. John Hessig started to build one to connect with it. No poles, just stringing the wires from tree to tree---considering all the storms it never was very dependable.

In 1899 Mr. Shive sold half interest to Dan Ryan who had just resigned from government service at the Indian Agency. Mrs. Ryan had been a teacher there and often taught children---as there was no school or paid teacher.

The first paid teacher was in 1896---Lora M. Colton. She had room and board at the Shive home.

Madge Shive was born March 27, 1899 at Fort Klamath.

The store was gaining--more white people were building homes ---the town was officially called Fort Klamath. Mr. Shive enlarged the store and also his home.
He also gave property for a Church. Since there was no hotel, he took in anyone who wanted to stay a few days. It was later known as Shive Hotel.

In 1902 the hotel and his half of the business was sold to Mr. Taylor, brother-in-law to Dan Ryan. Mr. Shive was leaving. He wanted better schools and an easier life for his family. He was only 44 years old. He had worked hard and had always saved some. Now his sons would take over under his guidance—Oscar was 20 years old, Alex 15 years old. Both boys had helped in the store before.

He moved to Klamath Falls in 1902 and built a large home at 7th and Pine Streets....7 bedrooms. It was sold many years later and moved to 10th and High Streets and made into apartments which are still in use.

He bought a half interest in a General Store with I. A. Duffy and known as the Duffy Company. Sold to the Houston Brothers and it was later known as K. K. K. Store. He bought a grocery store from Schallock and Daggett. Oscar and Alex were owners. They had different ideas about business but ran it for several years. It is not known when it was sold.

Gust Fred Melhase, A. M. Worden and Shive pooled their money and started the American Bank. The first one in town. Oscar Shive was the first Teller and worked at that bank for over 50 years. It was at the corner of 8th and Main Streets. Oscar retired at the age of 72. The Bank was sold to a chain bank of Portland is still operating.

1916-1917 Mr. and Mrs. Shive decided the winters were too long with snow and ice so they moved to Oakland, California. Later they went further south to Morrovia, California where they spent the rest of their lives. Mima Shive passed away in June 1934.

Mr. Shive was very active and bought building lots in different parts of the town, expecting the town to grow but it was slow....Arcadia and it's race track did the growing. Again Mr. Shive had the idea of selling his lots by building on them and found himself a builder and sons...they worked out an agreement...Mr. Shive furnished the material....they the labor. The builder getting a percent of the profit from the sales. It worked well for Mr. Shive...he got rid of his lots. Took Trust Deeds for part of sale and received interest which made a nice income.

Mr. Shive passed away September 7, 1950 at Morrovia, California.

This has been all about Mr. Shive but much credit for any and all of it should go to his wife Mima Dunlap Shive. She was there by his side for 50 years...Helping...bearing 7 children...cooking...sewing...washing with no running water and water heated on top of the stove. Scrubbing the clothes on a washboard and not even a wringer. The saying is "Behind any successful man you will find a good woman"— She was the best!.

---Written Sept. 10, 1939 by Roxanne Shive Amborse (Mrs. Keith Ambrose).
A few items of interest from The Klamath Echoes #6 on Fort Klamath:

Oscar Shive told Devere Helfrich that his family moved to the town of Fort Klamath September 1895. At that time there were only three buildings there: the Shattuck home containing the Post Office, the log school house and the Chinaman store.

On May 22, 1896 the Deed Book of County Records shows that Dan Cronemiller gave Wm. T. Shive a tract of land 200 feet square if Shive would put up a General Merchandise Store.

Mr. Shive bought the store building at the Old Fort from M. Fountain and used the lumber to build his store. In addition to the store and their private living quarters, the Shives also kept occasional overnighters which was the beginning of the Fort Klamath Hotel. The hotel was sold to C. E. Hoyt and J. B. C. Taylor September 3, 1906.

Between 1897 and '98 Mr. Shive built a large store building immediately to the south which later became the Ryan and Butler store.

Wm. T. Shive platted Fort Klamath June 19, 1902 but this portion of town lay on the east side of the present Crater Lake highway #62—or Main Street.

Mr. Shive donated two large lots 60 x 120 feet in the center of town for the Methodist Church and parsonage which was built in 1912.

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Roxanne Shive and Keith Ambrose were married July 1, 1946. Mrs. Ambrose is now 97 years old and lives in San Diego, California.

It is thought Keith Ambrose was with the Klamath Falls Volunteer Fire Dept. as early as 1909. On September 26, 1910 he was given $3.00 for damages during a recent fire.

Both Keith Ambrose and Alex Shive were members of the Klamath Falls Fire Dept. in 1911 and were appointed by Chief Wakefield to act as Nozzlemen along with eleven others.

Chief Keith Ambrose retired about 1948.

A story on the Klamath Falls Fire Dept. will be another article in the future.

------Mae L. Smith------
HOME ARCHIVE HINTS....

Many of you have asked about how to preserve photographs, newspaper clippings, etc. There is material available for these projects from museum supply firms. As with all specialty material, it is expensive. There are some supplies on your grocer's shelf that will closely approximate "the real stuff."

Those heavy duty zip-lock bags are good. The Oregon Historical Society tested them and they are acid-free. One of the uses OHS made of them is to store cassette tapes in them to keep them dust free. They would also work for newspaper clippings and photographs. Some acid-free photograph storage is available in the local stores. Ask for the kind that is approved for archive storage.

One of the ways to rule out material in a hurry is to smell it. If it has an odor, something chemical is happening and is therefore unsafe.

Although Conservators disagree on this issue, some people feel that lamination is the answer. Lamination is a permanent adhesive which cannot be repositioned or removed once it is in place. Usually both sides are covered.

One rule in museum work is: "Never do anything to an object that you can't undo." Lamination is definitely permanent. Depending on the use, you may wish just that permanence. 9" x 12" Mylar laminating sheets (50/box) of 2 mil clear currently sells for $16.90. 50 Zip Lock bags would be about $4.00.

........Pat McMillan..............

MUSEUM CALENDAR..............

January:  FRONTIER VILLAGE IN MINIATURE,  
by Jane Martin. On exhibit in the museum hallway.

February:  TRANSFORMATIONS IN TIME, by  
Dr. Roberta Hall, Oregon State University. Anthropology Dept.

March:  Friday March 2, 1990.  
Friends of the Museum are sponsoring "DINNER AT THE MUSEUM".

THE 1990 HISTORICAL SOCIETY DUES ARE DUE

A proposed increase to $4.00 per member has been suggested.

Your dues are what help to cover the cost of the Newsletter.

We hope you are enjoying THE TRUMPETER.

$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$

MEMORIES ...........

FLOUR SACK UNDERWEAR

When I was a maiden fair,
Mama made our underwear.
With five tots and Pa's poor pay,
how could she buy lingerie.
Monograms and fancy stitches,
were not on our flour sack britches.
Panty waists that stood the test,
with "Gold Medal" on the chest.
Little pants the best of all
with scenes I still recall.
Harvesters were gleaning wheat,
right across the little seat.
Tougher than a grizzly bear,
was our flour sack underwear.
Plain or fancy, three feet wide,
stronger than hippo's hide.
Through the years each Jill and Jack,
wore this sturdy garb of sack.
Waste not, want not, we soon learned,
penny saved, penny earned.
Bedspreads, curtains, tea towels too,
tablecloths to name a few.
But the best beyond compare,
was our flour sack underwear.

.................author Unknown...........

Merry Christmas
Happy New Year