Meetings Schedule 2012

May 24: 100 Years of Hoo-Hoo in Klamath Falls,
Ron Loveness

September 27: Early School Houses in Klamath County,
Todd Kepple

October 25: Rustlers, Rogues, and Range Wars, Liz Budy

Tours, Walks, & Picnic

May 26: Auto Tour, Eastside Cemeteries; Meet at the Museum at 10 a.m.
Carol Mattos, Jackie Bonner, & others

June 2 & 3: Walking Tour, Historic High Street Homes, 1 p.m.
Carol Mattos & Liz Budy

June 23: Summer Bus Tour, Along the Trail of the California-Northeastern. Meet at the Fairgrounds at 8:30 a.m.
Todd Kepple et al.

August 4: Summer Potluck Picnic, at the Goebel cabin on the Williamson River.

May 24, Membership Meeting

You won’t want to miss the next membership meeting when Ron Loveness presents a slide show on “100 Years of Hoo-Hoo in Klamath Falls.”

Founded in 1892, the fraternal order of the Hoo-Hoo was created to promote good will among lumbermen, and today includes more than 100,000 members worldwide.

The slide show will include a recently-discovered photo taken in 1912 of a Hoo-Hoo dinner at the White Pelican Hotel during a three-day visit of several fraternal luminaries to Klamath Falls.

Loveness will tell the story of this visit, which included a chartered passenger train car originating in San Francisco, touring Klamath Lake via steam boat, meals at the Eagle Ridge Tavern and White Pelican Hotel, a ride on Pelican Bay’s logging train, an initiation held at the Odd Fellows Lodge, and watching the Elks Club Rodeo.

Several prominent citizens of Klamath Falls became members of the Hoo-Hoo at this gathering. Some names may be a big surprise.

Meetings are held at 7 pm on the fourth Thursday of March, April, May, September and October in the Armory-Museum at 1451 Main Street.
Eastside Cemeteries Tour, May 26

An auto tour visiting the Bedfield, Bonanza, Hall, and Westside Cemeteries in eastern Klamath County will be presented by the Klamath County Historical Society on May 26.

From pioneer settlers to feuding cattlemen, the colorful history of Langell Valley will be related by local descendants of Bonanza pioneers and members of the Klamath County Historical Society at each of these four cemeteries. With the kind permission of land owners, we will be able to visit the Hall and Westside Cemeteries, both located on private lands.

Participants will meet at the Klamath County Museum, 1451 Main Street, at 10:00 a.m. to car pool. The first stop will be at Bedfield Cemetery, and then on to the Bonanza Cemetery where we will caravan to the privately-owned Hall and Westside Cemeteries.

For further information, contact Carol Mattos at 541-884-4032, gcmattos@gcmattos.com. Free and open to the public.

**BEDFIELD CEMETERY**

Located in Poe Valley on the cut-off road from Malin to Bonanza, Bedfield Cemetery was established in 1900 by Edward Freuer, who donated one acre on his home place for a burial ground. It was named for his home town in England, which Freuer left in 1882.

Taylor High, descendant of the Samuel Taylor pioneer family who homesteaded in Poe Valley in 1880, will talk about the pioneers buried here.

**HALL CEMETERY**

Located on the Eldon and Virginia Kent property off Langell Valley Road, the small family cemetery includes the grave of Ichabod Hall. Born in Virginia in 1794, Ichabod Hall crossed the plains by covered wagon in 1848 and moved to Langell Valley in 1869. A veteran of the War of 1812, Ichabod died in 1882.

The fence surrounding the cemetery was recently restored under direction of the Klamath County Museum with support from a grant from the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries. Carol Mattos and Jackie Bonner will be the presenters.

**BONANZA CEMETERY**

Located about one mile east of Bonanza, Bonanza Cemetery was established in 1882 by John F. Shook who donated land on his original homestead for use as the cemetery. Margaret A. Wilson, who was born in 1790 and died in 1877, is the earliest grave.

Helen Horsley, descendant of one of the earliest Klamath County pioneers, will be the presenter. John Fortune, from the Klamath County Historical Society, also will provide some historic notes about his family buried here.

**WESTSIDE CEMETERY**

Located on the old Fulkerson Homestead, owned by the Walter Smith family, the Westside Cemetery includes the grave of Frank Calavan, killed during an infamous feud between the warring Calavan and Laws families over pasture lands and reputed cattle rustling in 1882.

Presenters include Carol Mattos and Jackie Bonner from the Klamath County Historical Society. Members of the Smith family also will be on hand to answer questions.
High Street Homes Tour, June 2 & 3
By Carol Mattos and Liz Budy

A walking history tour focusing on historic homes along High Street in Klamath Falls will be presented by Carol Mattos and Liz Budy of the Klamath County Historical Society at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 2, and repeated on Sunday, June 3.

The tour will highlight many beautiful homes, beginning with the unique 1892 Queen Anne style house located at 137 High Street.

Walking east along High Street, you will view homes built during three different boom periods in Klamath Falls: after 1905 with the opening of agricultural lands; with the arrival of the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1909; and those from the height of the timber industry in the 1920s and 1930s.

Along the way, Margaret Cheyne will highlight the Gerber family history, early 1880s homesteaders who built their town house at 329 High Street in about 1905. The tour will end at the present American Legion building, with its curious history of construction and ownership, and its remarkable unique rock veneer dating from 1938.

Parking is limited along High Street, and participants are encouraged to park along Pine and adjacent side streets. Or you can park in the public parking lot across from the Ross Ragland where a few cars will be available to drop you off at the starting point at 137 High Street. For more information, contact Carol Mattos at 541-884-4032, gcmattos@gcmattos.com.
Summer Bus Tour, June 23

The Klamath County Historical Society summer bus tour will travel along Highway 97 from Klamath Falls to Weed and highlight spots of historic interest along route of the California-Northeastern Railroad.

The railroad was incorporated as a common carrier in 1905 and reached Klamath Falls in 1909. Locally, the railroad provided a critical link for lumber and agriculture products to markets via the Southern Pacific Railroad at Weed. It also provided passenger and mail service to Klamath Falls, previously a tortuous experience via stage and steamboat.

Led by Todd Kepple and others, guides will recount the history of the railroad and its impact on the development of Klamath Falls at points of interest along the route. The tour will close with a free visit to the Weed Museum.

Cost is $20 and includes the bus, tour guides, Weed Museum admission, and a pizza lunch at the Pizza Factory in Weed. The tour is open to Historical Society members only until June 10 when it will be opened to the public.

Meet at the parking lot on the west side of the Fairgrounds along the canal at 8:30 a.m. The bus will leave promptly at 9:00 a.m., so be on time or you will miss the bus.

Summer Potluck Picnic, August 4

The annual potluck picnic will be held at the lovely Goebel cabin on the Williamson River. Lunch is at 2:00 p.m., but you can come earlier to canoe, kayak, fish, or just laze about on the river.

Turkey or ham will be provided, but bring a dish to share, your personal table service, a beverage, and a lawn chair.

Members of the Historical Society will give a surprise presentation on a local history topic.

A map and directions to the Goebel cabin is available at the Museum front desk. You also can call the Museum at 541-883-4208 or the Goebels at 541-892-7828.
Linkville Cemetery Cleanup

The 4th annual Spring Cleanup at Linkville Pioneer Cemetery was a resounding success with more than 100 volunteers participating.


The bird boxes installed by the Audubon already have residents.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints provided 57 hard-working volunteers of all ages, and we thank Nic Phair for organizing our valuable Church partners once again.

Special thanks to the crew leaders from the Klamath County Museum who directed the work crews: Chris Chance, Kathie Inman, Lisa Bailey, Marcene Vanderhoff & Phyllis Goebel (signups and kitchen); Gary Mattos, Jim Burns, & Jack Inman (parking); Bridget Burns, Dave Mattos, & Polly Tickner (pruning); Paul Goebel (raking); Sue & John Fortune (grave cleaning); Cliff Ambers and Jackie Bonner (grave filling).

Todd Kepple gave an inspirational speech dedicated to the unidentified victims of the 1920 Houston Hotel Fire. Formerly buried in unmarked graves, a newly-installed monument pays tribute to these, as well as other unknown pioneers, who lie silently and unmarked in our history.

At the end, Carol Mattos highlighted the history of several other remarkable pioneers buried in the cemetery. If you were unable to attend, Carol will lead another tour later this summer.

Finally, we all extend sincere thanks to Sandra Fox, Ken Hay, John Bellon, Dave Andrews, Lisa Bailey and the entire Klamath Falls City Parks staff who devoted so much energy to make this effort possible.

Thank You!
Klamath County Historical Society
Klamath Falls City Parks
Friends of Linkville
A LOOK AT NINETEENTH CENTURY MEDICINE
By Daniel Foster

Looking back at medical science of the 1860s brings gasps and groans of horror from most people today. Growing up in the age of miracle drugs, antiseptics, antibiotics, and sterile technique; we have little or no understanding of those days before Louis Pasteur and Joseph Lister.

Daniel Foster demonstrates with Quillan Klus

We think of doctors as highly trained scientists with years and years of college and specialized training. This has only evolved in the past two or three generations. Most practicing physicians in 1861 had learned their profession through apprenticeship. The few medical schools available were only 13-24 months in length, admitting almost anyone provided they were of proper age, could pay the fee and had some sort of degree.

Students spent time in classrooms listening to boring, often redundant lectures. There was no practical experience or training; they saw no patients. Few of the breakthroughs being practiced in Europe were taught.

Most medical treatment concentrated on regulation of the kidneys, blood and bowels. Much time, effort and medication were spent trying to maintain consistency of body fluids and excretions. Massive doses of cathartics were used to regulate the bowels. Principle among those was calomel whose high levels of mercury inevitably led to poisoning.

Painkillers were primarily opiates; mainly laudanum (alcohol and opium) and morphine. Anesthetics were becoming common practice for surgery, being used as much as possible, particularly by the military.

Surgery, other than amputation, remained in the experimental stages with little known, and nothing taught about infection. Pus was still thought to be a normal part of healing.

Instruments often were crude and were used primarily for treatment, not for diagnosing. The entire U.S. Army Medical Department was supplied with only 20 thermometers and about a half a dozen stethoscopes. Only one Confederate surgeon was known to possess a thermometer.

It was with this meager background in what today would be considered archaic medicine that opposing forces headed into four years of conflict during which nearly 10,000,000 cases of injury and illness would be treated.

Wounded soldiers at rest near Marye’s Heights, Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1864 (from The Civil War, Part 1: The Places. The Atlantic, February 8, 2012.).
Meager though this training was; it existed. No longer was there a need to travel to Europe to obtain this education. Aspiring practitioners could find it here in our own country.

And there had been progress. Within thirty years prior to our Civil War, two of the most significant medical discoveries of the century were made by American doctors; ether and chloroform. Painless surgery was now possible.

Even with advancements in medicine and scientific study, the concept of microscopic germs in the early nineteenth century was not yet understood. The idea unseen organisms entering wounds or that foul water or tainted food might carry toxins was inconceivable.

Some common medicines, as illustrated by Daniel Foster.

They believed that there were two types of inflammation; indirect and direct. The former involved internal organs, the latter wounds. Many causes were suspect in indirect inflammation including immoderacies in food or drink, bad air (malaria), disorders of kidneys, skin, and liver (purifying organs) or a debilitated state. Treatment was with physics using medicine instead of surgery and was, therefore, the realm of the physician, not the surgeon.

Once the function of the same doctor, the Civil War invented the need of two specialized physicians.

Surgeons handled the "direct" inflammation in field hospitals where the wounded patient was treated for his emergency. This was followed by transport to general hospitals where further surgery could be performed and the "indirect" inflammation treated with medicines under less urgent conditions.

Many, if not most, believed the physician had to treat indirect inflammation by decreasing the circulating blood of the inflamed organ. They felt it necessary to remove accumulated wastes poisonous to the organ and the body. This was accomplished by increasing urination, evacuation of the bowels, and sweating.

Bleeding was an obvious method of reducing circulatory excess, rapid heart beat, and nervous excitement. The average amount of bleeding was 15 ounces, nearly a pint, and usually succeeded in producing the desired effect. It resulted in pale lips, a blue-gray hue around the eyes, a fluttering pulse, lower pain sensations, and relaxed the patient almost to unconsciousness.

By the 1830s, new opinions were rising against this practice and during the Civil War very few soldiers were forced to undergo this procedure. Fortunately, this left them with adequate numbers of white blood cells to better fight the bacterial infections.

Many medicines were involved in the treatment of indirect inflammations. Purgatives flushed the
intestines and cathartics induced peristalsis. Diaphoretics that induced sweating were thought to extract poisons through the skin, narcotics to relax nervous irritability, and counter irritants created blisters thought to dilute the inflammation and transfer it to a new setting.

Though many of these treatments have some basis in medical fact, at times their extensive use may have either magnified the existing conditions or added another just as severe. It would require the understanding of the infective process and years of study and experimentation to fully understand the real causes and cures.

By far the greatest killers of the war were diseases. The armies of both sides saw roughly twice the number of soldiers struck down by disease as by bullets, sabres or bayonets. Diseases of the bowels with acute diarrhea led the list at more than 1.155 million cases, with chronic diarrhea producing the most deaths from disease at more than 27,000. The highest mortality was from typhoid and typhus; more than 30% of cases ended in death.

Injuries from battle wounds were less fatal. Of the 245,790 wounds from fired shots, 201,962 (82%) recovered. And 845 (91%) of the mere 922 wounds from bayonets and sabres survived.

Amputation was often the only recourse when large heavy slugs shattered the bones of arms and legs. Bone reconstruction was unknown and surgeons really had no option. Taking into account the lack of sterilization and no use of antiseptics during surgery, the mortality rate of the many amputees is surprisingly low.

Civil War amputation, from www.sonofthesouth.net.

The various sites of amputation produce varying degrees of mortality versus survival. An average of 68% recovered, ranging from as high as 90% for below the elbow amputations to a low of 16% at the hip joint. Those really are rather phenomenal figures.

We have come a long way from the practices and procedures of those trying times. In looking back, we must give our heartfelt thanks to those dedicated medical officers who struggled through the long years of our bloodiest conflict. Their dedication to their call of duty brought us through and pushed forth many advances that carried us through the decades to come.

For further reading, I suggest:

*The Civil War Time Life Books, Tenting Tonight, The Soldier’s Life,* as well as many excellent articles available online from The Society of Civil War Surgeons, at http://www.civilwarsurgeons.org/

Museum Happenings

History Fitness Hike – Sixth-annual long-distance history walk is set for Saturday, May 19. This year’s theme is “The Seven Hills of Klamath.” $20 fee charged, www.historyfitness.org.


Heritage Days – Annual living history re-enactment at Fort Klamath. May 26-27. Free.

Native Plant Workshop – A tour of the nature garden at the Klamath County Museum, featuring more than 50 native plants. 10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 2. Free.

Venus Transit – A June 5 sidewalk astronomy event to view the planet Venus as it passes across the face of the sun. 6:30 p.m. at the Klamath County Museum, 1451 Main Street. Free.

Perseid Star Party – A moonlight night on August 13 should make the Perseid meteor shower a fun event. The Fort Klamath Museum will open at 8:00 p.m. for those interested in taking advantage of the very dark skies. Free.

Downtown Walking History Tours – Planned for most weekends during the summer. Free.

For more information, contact the Museum at 541-883-4208 or get on the Midge mailing list by sending an email to: midge@co.klamath.or.us.

Klamath’s Far Corners

A series of bus tours, car tours, historic site visits, and backcountry hikes exploring the history and geography of Klamath County’s most remote regions.

The "Klamath’s Far Corners" program is an outdoor educational and recreational program to help local residents accomplish three things:
- Become more knowledgeable about the human and natural history of the region.
- Explore recreation opportunities close to home.
- Obtain a better grasp of a variety of issues facing rural areas.

Activities include bus tours, auto caravan tours, and backcountry day hikes. Auto tours will be on routes far removed from services and all hikes are in remote backcountry areas. Registration for all events is required, and the number of participants is limited for all activities.

The first is a Mount Dome Loop auto tour on Saturday, May 26. Free but registration is required for this trip.

Learn more about the program and details for each activity at farcorners.org.

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Memberships for 2012 are due!

Membership fees are due at the end of each year.

Check your mailing label. The date above your name indicates if you are paid through the year.

- Individual $10.00
- Supporting $25.00
- Life member $100

Make checks payable to the Klamath County Historical Society.

Mail or drop off at

Klamath County Museum
1451 Main Street
Klamath Falls, OR 97601