

SPRING 2024

EASTERN OREGON MUSEUM

Newsletter and Membership Drive

Our Community Makes History – Historic Gymnasium Preserved

As EO Museum volunteers gathered in 2023, it became apparent repairs needed to preserve our historic gymnasium could no longer be delayed.

The 40-year-old front door required a crowbar to gain entrance. The 25-year-old gutter system had completely deteriorated, no longer protecting the building's foundation from water damage. Leaks in the 92-year-old roof system were so extensive that a bucket brigade was dispatched every time storm clouds gathered. There was a growing risk to our treasured building, artifacts, and to our visitors.

Word spread that the EO Museum needed significant community support. The membership campaign, a garage sale, quilt drawings, and simply "sharing the news" generated an incredible outpouring of local financial contributions. Your backing was unlike anything seen in recent museum history.

This strong local effort caught the eye of Foundations. The Leo Adler Foundation, The Oregon Community Foundation, and The Roundhouse Foundation, joined hands with community members and provided critical financial assistance.

Our wonderful community makes this possible. We can't thank you enough for your strong support. We look forward to seeing you in 2024 and saying "thank you" in person!

Simply put: OUR COMMUNITY IS AMAZING!!!



**Join us at the museum for a
Community Appreciation Open House
Monday, May 27th 2024 1:00-4:00**

One year later, the Eastern Oregon Museum sports a new front door, a commercial gutter system, and a new roof that incorporates replacement sheeting and expanded rain barrier system. We were proud to use local contractors to complete all segments of these vital improvements.

SUMMER HOURS

**Memorial Day Weekend
through**

Labor Day Weekend

**Hours: Thursday-Saturday
10AM-1PM**

4th of July 10:30-1:00

Appointments Welcome!

Call 541-856-3233

Groups-Field trips-Reunions

Find Us:

610 3rd St., Haines

easternoregonmuseum

@gmail.com

Yikes! That's why we had leaks!



Celebrating our community story for 65 years!

In 1932, members of the Haines School PTA rallied community support to build this iconic structure. Through bake food sales and community dinners, citizens raised the funds to build the gymnasium. It is in this building that many children played their first organized team sport, locals gathered to share a meal during the Depression, and folks looking to ease the concerns of WWII danced a Saturday evening away.



Today, ninety-two years later, that same support is strong. We now celebrate our community story in this same gymnasium. We preserve one-of-a-kind artifacts and protect historic documents. We marvel as family members arrive to locate a photo of their great-grandfather, or view the very sunbonnet worn by their great-great aunt on a journey across the Oregon Trail. We pursue local presentations to gain a better understanding of our rich history. We sponsor a kids history camp to ensure that information is valued by the next generation.

Landmark Roofing



Meet the Ramsays!

We are so thankful we did!

Cathy (Stiltz) Ramsay and her husband Ed have pledged funding for the purchase and installation of new energy efficient windows, desperately needed for our museum building. Cathy and Ed and their family own a family fun center in Bend.

When Dad (Henry Ford Stiltz) returned from World War II, where he served on the U.S.S. Lexington, we moved into a small house on the property of his sister, Mildred Davison. Mildred and Charlie had no children of their own, so they “adopted” me and gave me free run on their ranch property. I roamed every day, playing for hours in the barns and cattle chutes. I had the wonderful experiences of watching milking of the cows, separating the milk for sale, bottle feeding the tiny sheep babies and all the other chores that were so fun for a wild child.

Mildred was a telephone operator for some time and had one of the old wood wall hanging telephones. She knew the ring combination on all the Haines residents and would always know who was calling a friend when she heard the bell combination. It was fun watching her join conversations. I saw several of those old phones in the museum and it brought back some wonderful memories.



Cathy is the niece of **Charlie and Mildred Davidson**. In blue, are some of her precious childhood recollections.

Mom and Dad played cards with Mildred and Charlie frequently, so Dee Anne and I were put to bed in the upstairs bedroom of the old farmhouse in Mildred’s big feather bed. I clearly remember the squeaky boards in the stairs leading up to the bedroom. That was a wonderful old house.

The animals seemed to know that we were harmless kids because one time Mom found us out in the field picking wildflowers. I was holding a big stick to protect my sister from the big bull so that she could get her flowers. I remember the bull as being huge, and he had a ring in his nose supposedly because he was so mean.

I learned to swim at Radium Hot Springs in Haines when I was about 12 years old. I went on to teach swimming lessons from the time I was 13 years old until I was in my mid-thirties.

*Thank you, Ramsay Family Foundation!!
Your gift means the world to
our community!*

**Ne-Hi Enterprises
and Sid Johnson Construction:
Thank you for your assistance
on this project!**

We are hoping to begin work in mid-June!

In addition to donating many items for our museum rummage sale last spring, Cathy and Ed donated two very special items for exhibit at the museum: The Rock Creek School bell and a handmade wagon. (both pictured elsewhere in this issue)



Mildred Davidson

Preserving History Through Digitization

Here's a Shout Out with much appreciation to **Judy Griffin** and **Sue Richard** for their efforts in digitizing items and information at the Eastern Oregon Museum! A special extension of gratitude also goes out to **Mary Rider** for her donations, along with grants from the **Leo Adler Foundation** for equipment and software to make this process possible.



Thanks to a background in data processing, Judy created a cohesive numbering system for everyone to use in our new Past Perfect Program. So far, approximately 3,200 items have been inventoried and inputted into the system. This winter, Sue and Judy have been scanning scrapbooks of photos and documents, with Sue now working on a Haines School binder, and Judy working on the Haines P.T.A. records. Rock Creek School and Muddy Creek School binders have already been completed. Other scrapbooks previously scanned include selected structures in Haines, Haines 4th of July, Vernon Schull World War II experiences and the Perkins Album.

Preserving History Through Digitization- continued

There are still shelves full of scrapbooks and binders to scan, including ones on Sumpter, Baker County, Paint Your Wagon, the North Powder Ice Plant, Anthony Ski area, Haines Churches, Rock Creek Power Plant, and several donated by local families. The massive museum's inventory of historical treasures is also being photographed and put into the system with unique identifying numbers for reference, along with the Museum's history from meetings dating back to 1958.

This process of digitization will take many years to complete, but when finished will provide the museum and community with easily accessible records of history and contents in the Eastern Oregon Museum. Our goal is to ensure preservation of these treasures and make them available in a digitized form that will last for future generations to enjoy.

We want to give the **City of Haines** a big "Thank You" for allowing us to move our computer and scanner to city hall for the past two winters so that scanning could continue through the cold weather, since the museum is not heated during the winter. Their kindness is greatly appreciated.



Rock Creek School bell

EO Museum Summer Camp 2024

3rd-6th graders

Join us June 10-13, 8:00-12:00

610 3rd St., Haines



Our third annual
EO Museum History Camp
offers fun, free activities for local
children.

Planned activities include:

EOU GO STEM trailer

Metal detecting

History of livestock in our valley

Cemetery Scavenger Hunt

Trip to the newly reopened

Interpretive Center

And more!



**Email our camp director at
Logan.nedrow@npowersd.org
to sign up!**

Stiltz Family Wagon



Haines History

Haines Sell-Rite Store

The following information came from Richard Langrell, whose grandparents once owned the building in which Sell-Rite is currently located:

“On Main Street in Haines, Oregon, stands a monumental granite building. It is one of only two buildings made with the granite quarried just to the west of the Haines city limits. The other is the Baker County Courthouse.

At the Haines Granite Quarry they dug down, found granite boulders, lifted them out and cut them into blocks. This is how the stones for the Sell-Rite store came to be. If you look at the stones on the side of the building you will see where holes were drilled in rows. They would then insert wedges called “feathers” in the holes and pound them in, creating pressure and slitting the round boulders into square blocks.

Before the Sell-Rite store, this building was my grandparents’ museum. My grandfather, Charles Langrell, opened a secondhand store. Whenever he bought something old and really nice that he liked, it would end up in his “backroom” storage areas. He was very fond of guns, he would take them home and put them in my dad’s bedroom. My dad said it didn’t take too long before there wasn’t room for him in his room. That’s when the Langrell’s Museum started.

They bought the Haines building, fixed the roof, and built the wood “porch” on the front. The porch was then painted bright colors so it would stand out.”



The building has had a few owners, including Fred and Karen Zimmer, who owned it and ran the Sell-Rite store for 30 years, from 1977 to 2007. Kristi and Kenny Bain owned it for a short while, and Garla Rowe and her mom, Joanne Wellman, invested a lot of time and money, making it what it is today. Now, there are new owners, Kim and Brad Mitchell, and it will be called Haines Market and Deli. The townsfolk welcome them to the Haines community and wish them the very best in their new endeavor.



Eastern Oregon Museum sincerely thanks the following for their financial support in 2023!

Discovering Cascadia, Friends Circle

Twin Mountain News

Haines Mutual Improvement Club

Wilson Family Foundation Fund, Gold

Pine Valley Comm. Museum, Friends Circle

Black Distributing, Silver

Edward D Jones, Baker City, Friends Circle

Lew Bros Tire Service, Silver

Rocky & Diana Brown

Reliance Connects, Gold

Whelan Electric, Gold

Bob & Carolyn Whelan

Haines Stampede Rodeo Assoc., Silver

Union Pacific Emp. Club 17, Friends Circle

Scorpio Intl, David Burris, Bronze

Harrell Hereford Ranch

Ne-Hi Enterprises

J Tabor Jewelers, Bronze

Guyer and Assoc, CPAs, Friends Circle

Angus Hill's Ranch, Friends Circle

Jim and Chris Aldrich, Friends Circle

Judy Baker, Silver

Joel & Beth Bigelow, Friends Circle

Farm at Eagle Tree, Bronze

Kathy Blatchford

Gary and Kathy Bloomer

Aletha Bonebrake

Connie & Joy Brown

Margaret Ann Budden

John & Betty Clark

George & Janet Chandler

Lowell & Cheryl Craig

Maxine Cole, Friends Circle

Cliff & Debbie Cole

Janice & David Cowan, Friends Circle

Larry & Fay Curry

Josh & Jacque Cobb, Friends Circle

Floyd Deardorff, Friends Circle

Rob & Dianne Ellingson, Gold

Deana Davis, Friends Circle

Harv & Katherine Down

Jane Edwards, Bronze

Michele & Steven Edwards

Jandy & Rich Eskew

John & Linda Franklin

Dick & Diane Getchell, Silver

Susan R Gerry, Bronze

Donna Gilkison, Friends Circle

Larry & Judy Griffin

O. Scott & Rebecca Guthrie, Gold

Randy & Mary Jane Guyer, Gold

Clare P Hayes

Curtis Helmer

Sheila Holman

Vicki Justus

Donna Kanyid, Silver



Thank you for your support!

Rebecca Kolbet, Gold

Clark & Tammy Kelly, Friends Circle

Tim & Jan Kerns

Wes & Mary Kerns

Kenneth Koon, Friends Circle

Ed & Janice Hayhurst, Gold

Tom & Carolyn Kulog, Silver

Deryl & Carolyn Leggett, Friends Circle

Jimmy & Leisa Larkins

Richard & Marlys Lien, Gold

Marge, Helen & Kate Loennig, Bronze

Sherry Loennig, Silver

Cathy & Richard Long

Abel & Sherry Mendoza, Gold

Helen Marsh & Bob Middleton, Friends Circle

Alan & Pam Maxwell, Friends Circle

Kathie Maxwell, Friends Circle

Robert & Sharon McKim

Myron & Dotty Miles, Gold

Sue & Gene Nelson

Don & Dawn O'Grady

Bill & Carmen Ott

Barbara Proebstel Seymour, Silver

Jim F. Peters, Friends Circle

Mark & Julie Pollock, Friends Circle

Sue Richard, Friends Circle

Mary Rider, Gold

Anne Rice, Friends Circle

Jessie Ritch, Friends Circle

Bill Rose, Silver

Connie Ross, Silver

Robert & Livia Seymour

Kerry & Ginger Savage, Friends Circle

Robert & Marie Savage

Jerry Schaefer, Bronze

Edwin Stephens, Gold

Jean Simpson

Mindy Sherrieb, Silver



Roger & Linda Smith, Bronze

Phil & Ellen Stevenson

Judith Stoffer, Friends Circle

Bill & Colleen Taylor

E'Jay Weber

Karen Wells, Silver

Fred & Camille Warner, Friends Circle

Woody & Joyce Williams



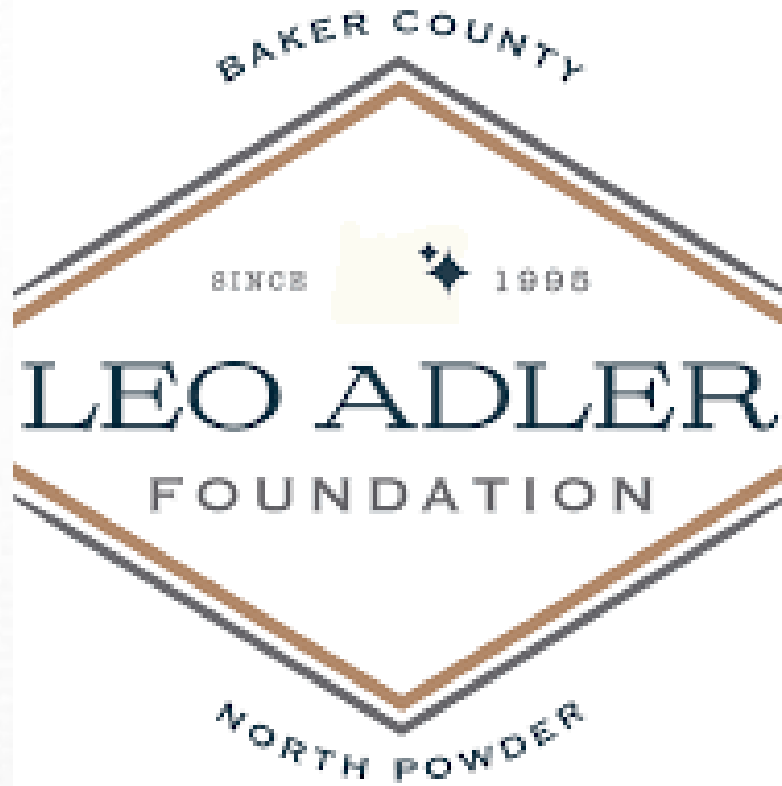
Our sincere appreciation to these foundations!



Oregon

Community

Foundation



BAKER COUNTY CULTURAL COALITION

**The
Buerkel-Zoellner
Foundation**

**The Edna Harrell
Community Children's Foundation**

Baker County Garden Club

DE & Jane Clarke Foundation

Please consider volunteering at the Eastern Oregon Museum!

Ways you can help:

- *Greeting and orienting visitors during open hours
- *Spring cleaning
- *Special projects
- *Summer camp assistant
- *Assist with exhibit development



Anthony Lakes/Champ Bond Exhibit

The Anthony Lakes/Champ Bond exhibit is progressing, thanks to extraordinary support from Anthony Lakes Outdoor Recreation Association (ALORA) and ski enthusiasts. Rick Pignone, a former General Manager at Anthony, and Contractor, Kevin Cornelius have been especially helpful working with museum volunteer, Ellen Stevenson and ALORA management. Some display is now viewable with draft kiosks also in place. Lighting and interior walls are next on the agenda for year-round outside viewing through the large windows. As completion nears, hopefully later this year, a program will be planned to kick off this amazing, inspirational highlight of our local history.



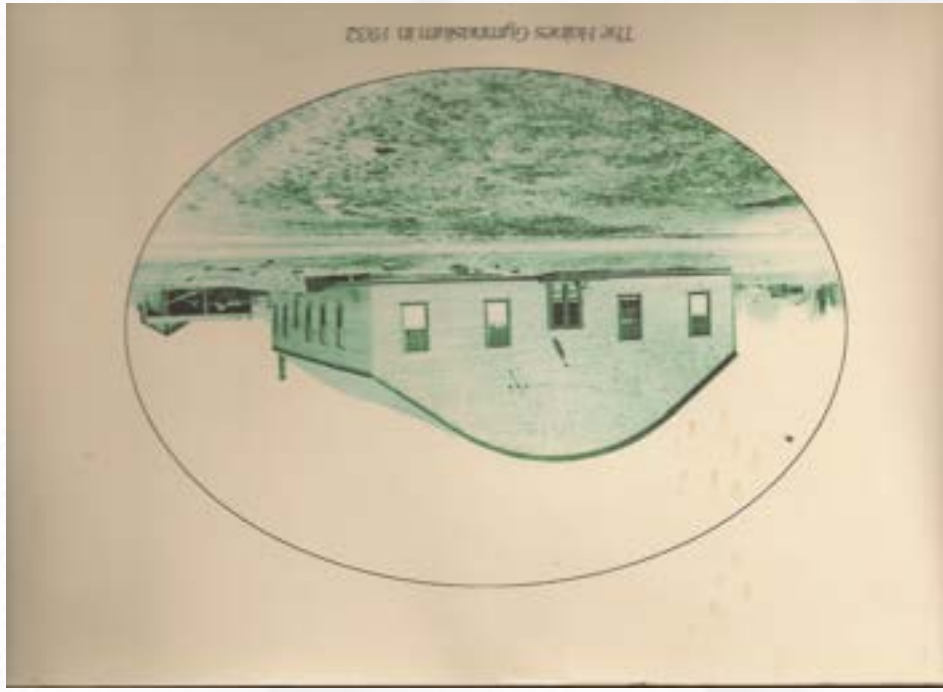
We strive to provide our summer history camp free of charge!

Help support us by checking out our **Rummage Sale!**

At the museum
May 18th, 8:00AM-2:00PM
During the city-wide yard sale

See you this summer!

Chris Aldrich, President/Youth Outreach
Sherry Mendoza, Vice President/Depot Chair
Judy Griffin, Secretary/Digitization Chair
Ellen Stevenson, Treasurer/Anthony Lakes
Exhibit Chair
Mary Jane Guyer, Exhibit Development
Sue Richard, Website Chair/Digitization
Mary Rider, Historian Emeritus



Eastern Oregon Museum

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