

St. Paul Mission Historical Society
P.O. Box 158
St. Paul, Oregon 97137

Fall 2017

St. Paul Mission Historical Society Newsletter

Mission of Organization: Preservation of the history of early Oregon and the French Prairie region of the Willamette Valley. Preservation includes establishment of a historical trust for artifacts, written and spoken history of the St. Paul and French Prairie area, and publication of historical records of early Oregon.

We hope you enjoy the Fall 2017 edition of the St. Paul Mission Historical Society (SPMHS) newsletter. We welcome your suggestions for future articles. Please feel free to contact any of the board members with your comments and suggestions.

Greetings To All Our Members

The Annual Meeting of the St. Paul Mission Historical Society will be held on Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. at the St. Paul Fire District office located in St. Paul. A light brunch will be provided at no charge. In order to provide an accurate head count, please RSVP to **mernst@mtangel.net** or 503.910.5417 and leave a message.

On the agenda will be the Society's annual elections. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Claudine Smith Lake at cmarielake@stpaultel.com. Three Board positions are open for nominations and they are:

Dr. David Brauner – 2017
Don Koch – 2017
Miguel Salinas - 2017
Hunter Wylie – 2017
Claudine Smith Lake – 2017

Jean Abderhalden (Past President) – 2018
Gertrude Jette – 2018
Gerry Lenzen (Vice President) – 2018
Brenda Howard (Treasurer) – 2018

Maureen Ernst (Secretary) – 2019
Monsignor Gregory Moys – 2019
Steven Koch - 2019

Rosella McKay – Past President

Meet Your Board of Directors 2017

Jean Abderhalden (Past President) has lived in St. Paul on Champoeg Road for more than 50 years. Her husband and she have three children, all grown, and are now enjoying their retirement years. Jean reports that she has always been interested in history so it was a logical step to become a part of preserving the history of the area where she lives. She is currently president of the St. Paul Mission Historical Society and enjoying seeing things that are being accomplished.

Gerald Lenzen (Vice President) was born in Wisconsin. He migrated to Portland, Oregon with his parents in 1941. Gerry is interested in the early French Canadians and Iroquois Indians who settled on French Prairie prior to the American arrivals in 1843. Gerry is an active member of the genealogical community. He is a Life Member of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon (GFO) and past-president of the Genealogical Council of Oregon (GCO). He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) and the National Genealogical Society (NGS). Gerry has been a member of the SPMHS for more than 25 years.

Gerry graduated from Portland State College and worked for the Bonneville Power Administration from 1961 until retiring in 1994. He married Connie Miller at St. Andrews in Portland in 1959. They have three children and eight grandchildren.

Maureen Ernst (Secretary) is secretary and founding board member dating back to 1976. Her family roots in St. Paul date back to the early 1870's. As a board member, her contributions include grant writing and communications.

She is retired from Mt. Angel Telephone and now has her own marketing and consulting business. She is active in the community of Mt. Angel as a board member for the Mt. Angel Chamber of Commerce, co-founder of the Mt. Angel Hazelnut Festival and Mt. Angel Lions Club. She is the mother of three talented children and seven perfect grandchildren.

Dr. David Brauner, PhD

David Brauner, PhD is a full professor with the Department of Anthropology at Oregon State University. Dr. Brauner has presented his selected papers including "The Untold Story at the End of the Oregon Trail", "Archaeology of the French Prairie Métis" and "Shadow Land: Forgotten Peoples of the Old Oregon Country" to organizations in the U.S. and Canada. His credits include project director of the archaeological and historical research of the Robert Newell Farmstead at Champoeg State Park.

Msg. Greg Moys

Monsignor Greg Moys was born and raised in Portland. He entered Mount Angel Seminary High School in December, 1954, when his family moved to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Mount Angel Seminary High School in 1957 and Mount Angel Seminary College in 1961. He attended the Gregorian University in Rome with residence at the North American College completing his theological studies in 1965. He was ordained a Catholic priest on December 16, 1964, for the Archdiocese of Portland in Saint Peter's Basilica, Vatican City State. While studying in Rome, he witnessed the first three of the four sessions of the Second Vatican Council and its two popes, Pope Saint John XXIII and Blessed Pope Paul VI. He was appointed by Archbishop Edward Howard, archbishop of Portland, to teach religion at Central Catholic High School, Portland. He later taught at Saint Mary's Academy, Portland, and Regis High School, Stayton, becoming Principal of Central Catholic from 1974-78. He became Chancellor of the Portland Archdiocese from 1983 to 1990. During that time, he also served as parish administrator of Saint Paul parish in Saint Paul, Oregon, 1988-1989, during its 150th Anniversary celebrations. After serving other Oregon parishes, he was reappointed pastor of Saint Paul Parish in 2009 being present for the 175th anniversary of Saint Paul Parish in 2014. Monsignor Moys is currently the President of the Oregon Catholic Historical Society and a member of the Saint Paul Mission Historical Society. He has a great love for family and Catholic church history.

Miguel A. Salinas

Miguel is the son of Arturo Flores Salinas and Maria Amezcua. Miguel was born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. Although his parents migrated from Texas to St. Paul and worked in the hops since the late 40's, Miguel did not join them until 1954. Miguel attended St. Paul Catholic School in 1954-55. Migrant life took him to five different schools and three different states and two countries.

In 1959, Oregon became his permanent home. After graduating from Gervais High School in 1966, Miguel attended college and earned two degrees in Education. During his 31 year career in Education, he worked as a teacher and principal in seven different schools and three school districts. After retiring in the year 2000, he decided to engage in independent research; his subject: "Pioneros de Oregon" with emphasis on the migrants who came to the St. Paul area prior to 1960. In addition to his research and numerous home projects which keep him busy, Miguel and his family which is comprised of four children, four grandchildren and two sons in law launched a Recognition Program to

commemorate and acknowledge the arrival and the contributions of Tejanos. Giving back to the community is something special. As a son of a Pioneer, Miguel also celebrates the arrival of his father and mother. His personal experiences during the last 50 years provide a unique foundation which he plans to share with the St. Paul Mission Historical Society. His short term goal is to complete the "Oral History" portion of his project and to share this unique journey with others.

Hunter Wylie is a retired sales executive and St. Paul resident. He has been active on our board for more than 23 years. His primary focus for the historical society is building maintenance, information technology services, building an information based museum for future generations and "head gopher." Our board members will confirm that he is a very good "head gopher"!

Hunter is a community volunteer which includes teaching applied technology to high students at the St. Paul High School. He is also a member of the St. Paul Rodeo Association.

Donald E Koch was born and raised in St. Paul. Don attended St. Paul Parochial, Serra Catholic High and OSU. Major careers include: Cost Accountant/Financial Analyst at Tektronix, Inc. for 15 years followed by 20 years and counting as an Independent Real Estate Investment Analyst and Consultant.

Steven Koch PLS, FASLA is the Principal of Koch Landscape Architecture and a Pacific Northwest native with 28 years of professional experience. Steven is the former owner and steward of the William Case House 1858-59 restored by Wallace Kay Huntington and Mirza Dickel. Steven restored the 3 acre formal garden over the course of 3 years. Steven's interest in the French Prairie stems from his family ties linking him to many familiar names in the region. His interest in history is demonstrated thru being a co-founder of the Halprin Landscape Conservancy in Portland and his participation in The Cultural Landscape Foundation based in Washington DC. Steven maintains his practice designing residential gardens and commercial landscapes

Claudine Smith Lake (President) "I was born to James and Carol Merten Smith in 1946. I was educated in St. Paul school, Sacred Heart, Oregon State, and graduated from Mt. Angel College. My majors were Psychology and Sociology, and my minors were English and Theatre Dance. Les and I raised our children in Gervais, Oregon in the old Goulet house at Hopmere", says Claudine.

"Over the years, I always worked from the home, as I had four children in five years. I spent 23 years as a proctor parent for Catholic Community Services and later Oregon Youth Authority. I retired in 2009 and we rented out our house and bought a house in St. Paul.

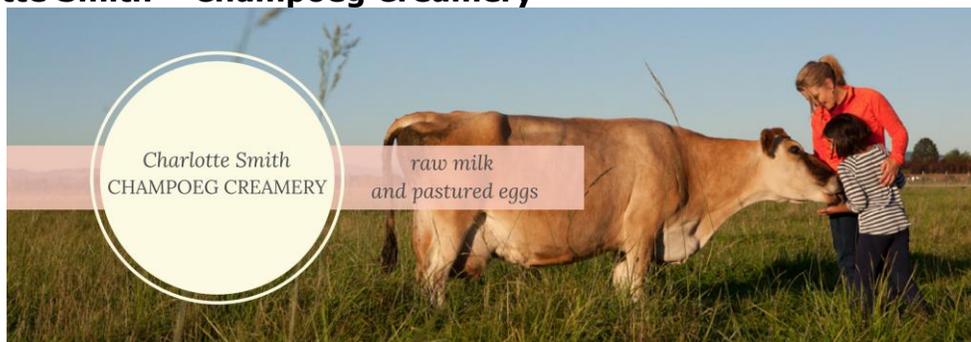
My interest in St. Paul history and Oregon history was instilled by my parents, though I hadn't paid much attention to it until I returned to St. Paul. The decision to return to St. Paul was fortunate, as I love living in this town again. Currently, I am involved with uploading old St. Paul historical pictures to Facebook, remodeling our house, playing a lot of bridge, and walking my English bulldog, and recently joined the St. Paul Historical Society. I am loving life!"

Brenda Howard (Treasurer) "I was born and raised in the beautiful Willamette Valley. With the exception of a few years, I have always lived within 10 miles of St. Paul. About 20 years ago, I did a research project on the area and became interested in the lives of several members of the Wilson Hunt Price expedition which traveled overland from St. Louis, Missouri to Astoria, Oregon arriving in 1812. Members on this expedition include John Gervais, Madame Marie Dorion and Etienne Lucier.

I graduated from Mt. Angel College with a degree in Sociology. I worked with emotionally disturbed children for several years, then traveled abroad for a year and a half. I returned to the Willamette Valley to work, marry and settle down moving with my husband to St. Louis (Oregon) in 1980. Our three children live in the area. I am a member of the St. Paul Rodeo Association, the Sacred Heart School Advisory Board (Gervais), and the Archdiocesan Historical Commission." Roger and Brenda Howard were inducted in to the St. Paul Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2008, especially recognizing their work on the Wild West Art Show.

Rosella McKay is Immediate Past President. Rosella and her late husband Joe were the founders of the historical society in 1976. Joe served as president and Rosella was always in the background supporting Joe's efforts to preserve the local history. They were married for fifty years with twelve children, twenty-six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Rosella worked for eighteen years for the US Postal Service and is now enjoying her retirement in St. Paul. Rosella continues to stay active with the historical society. She enjoys spending time with her family and attending ball games and school functions.

GUEST SPEAKER – Charlotte Smith – Champoeg Creamery



Charlotte Smith is the owner of Champoeg Creamery, a raw milk micro-dairy, and also sells pastured chickens, turkeys and eggs out of her on-farm store in St. Paul, Oregon.

Due to her dedication to improving the soil, animals and the people who eat their products, in 2016 Charlotte was named one of the Top 25 Most Influential Women in the World in Food and Agriculture by the nonprofit, Food Tank.

Charlotte's dairy, Champoeg Creamery, was chosen to be the first dairy "Listed" by the Raw Milk Institute, an organization that has developed common national standards for safe raw milk production. This "Listing" showcases the excellent standards the dairy must achieve and maintain at all times for raw milk to be safe and healthy.

Fall 2014 Charlotte was elected as a board member for the non-profit organization Farm to Consumer Legal Defense Fund. This is an organization with the important work of defending small family farmers across America who are often unfairly targeted and need legal help. Charlotte travels to Washington DC to plead legislators for more help for America's small farms.

Farming direct to consumer is difficult and complex work. 300 farms go out of business in America each week, and in response, Charlotte founded 3 Cow Marketing, an online marketing training company teaching farmers around the world to build their own profitable farms so we can guarantee the availability of farm fresh food for all.

Charlotte is also the proud mother of a United States Marine, lives in St. Paul, Oregon on the farm with her husband, Marc, (a teacher) and her two daughters. You can visit Charlotte at www.champoegcreamery.com and www.3cowmarketing.com.



Reconstructing Oregon's History – The Harriet Munnick Collection

By Maryanne Maddoux

Local Historian Harriet D. Munnick dedicated her life's work to documenting the people who settled the Pacific Northwest during the 1800s. A portion of her research has been published in the series *Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest* (Figure 1). The St. Paul Mission Historical Society (SPMHS) has been entrusted with the ongoing preservation of her personal

field-notes and research (Figure 2). Although, much of the information contained in her notes was published within these books, there is also a portion of her research that has remained unpublished. The SPMHS has been working in correlation with Oregon State University's Historical Archaeology department to digitize and preserve Harriet Munnick's original archives, and make all of the information contained in her notes easily accessible to the public.

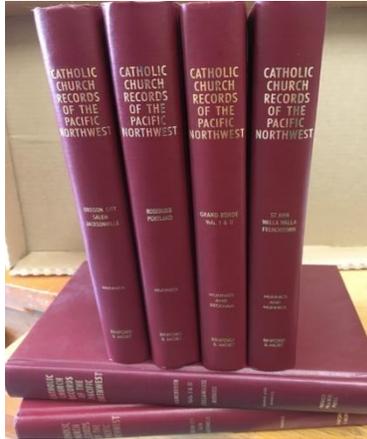


Figure 1. Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest.



Figure 2. A portion of Harriet Munnick's notes.

In total, there are approximately 10,000 individual note-cards which Mrs. Munnick utilized to compile her research notes. Over the years, Mrs. Munnick tracked down records from numerous Catholic Churches, cities, counties, historical societies and forts. The original records required a good deal of interpretation as many were handwritten and often times written in French. Mrs. Munnick was able to decipher these records, alphabetically organize them, and compile information from multiple sources. Mrs. Munnick painstakingly traced individual records across multiple institutions in order to locate missing information and rectify documentation errors. Documentation from the Pacific Northwest regarding women and children is especially sparse. It was not uncommon for Native American woman to marry French-Canadian and European-American men. In many instances only the first name of the woman was recorded in vital records and possibly her tribe affiliation. Women and children in general were less likely to have their full names recorded. Misspellings are another common problem with early documentation. For instance, there are families listed within Mrs. Munnick's index cards that have as many as five different spellings for their last names.

Harriet Munnick's books and archival records are helpful for individuals conducting personal genealogical research, as well as scholars researching the lives of early settlers of the Pacific Northwest. If you are interested in conducting personal genealogical research through SPMHS's website or through Harriet Munnick's book collection please keep a few things in mind. First, multiple name spellings are common. If you are aware of the possibility of different spellings of your family name, make sure to check all of them. Second, many families utilized the same first names through generations, make sure to pay close attention to dates of birth. Lastly, Mrs. Munnick kept track of the origin of the original record, the name and essential data of the individuals, any additional information she was able to locate, and her personal observations (Figure 3). You never know what information you may find, whether it is a personal account of a settler's first birthday on French Prairie, or a record of the livestock on your great-grandparents homestead.

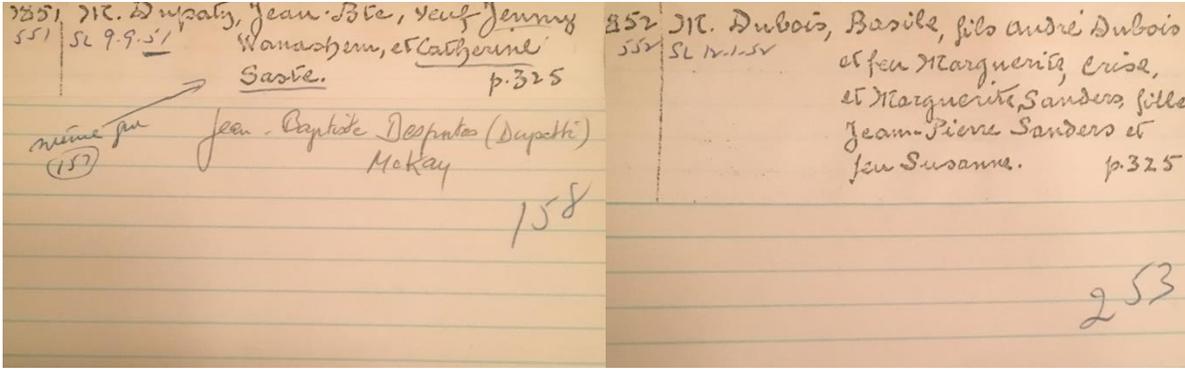


Figure 3. Harriet D. Munnick’s note-cards

About the author: I graduated from Oregon State University with a Master of Arts in Applied Anthropology in 2016. I have worked as an intern for the St. Paul Mission Historical Society over the past four years, performed archaeological fieldwork for a local cultural resource management firm, volunteered in the archaeological lab at Fort Vancouver, and I oversaw the lab at the 2014 OSU Champoeg Field School under the direction of Dr. David Brauner. The focus of my research pertains to the settlement of the Oregon Territory during the 1800s. My Master’s thesis is an examination of archaeological excavations conducted at a Chinese laundry in The Dalles, Oregon. I am continuing my research of the early settlement of Overseas Chinese communities in Oregon, while working towards the completion of my doctoral degree at OSU.

2017 ACTIVITIES: Board members will report on grants and activities this past year.

WEBSITE www.spmhs.com : The website has been updated and now includes Facebook! **New!** We are receiving lots of interest in our photo collection and historical reference directory so the photos are now easier to locate. People are interested in studying their genealogy and the website is a great place to start your searches! **New!** Noted Genealogist Connie Lenzen is writing “French Prairie Pioneer Biographies”.

Connie is certified by the Board for Certification of Genealogists and a past president of that organization. She has served as a National Genealogical Society Director (NGS). She authored the NGS Research in the States guide, “Research in Oregon” and has written articles for the award-winning NGS *Quarterly*. She authored the “Twentieth-Century Research” course for the National Institute of Genealogical Studies (NIGS)

DUES: Lastly, it’s time for our annual dues drive. Below is a membership application form. Simply complete and return it with your annual dues. If you are LIFE MEMBER OR BENEFACTOR, please update your membership information so we can keep our files current. Many of our Life Members continue to donate to the society and we thank you for your support. **Our sincere thanks to all of our members for supporting Oregon history.** If you would like to contribute to the restoration of our museums, your additional donation would be greatly appreciated. See you on October 22 at 11:30 a.m.

Maureen Ernst
 Secretary & Board of Director
 e-mail: mernst@mtangel.net
 Evenings: 503.910.5417



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Individual: \$20

Senior: \$15

Family: \$35

Supporting: \$75

Corporate: \$200

Benefactor or Individual Life: \$500

St. Paul Mission Historical Society, P.O. Box 158, St. Paul, OR 97137. Thank you!!