

Community

Non-profits often talk about community, what it is, and how it affects our specific organizations. The focus of the Willamette Heritage Center is to provide programming, services, and educational opportunities for all communities of the Mid-Willamette Valley. That is an exciting — and challenging — undertaking. However, without our local partners — our community partners — we would not be able to offer our space, our educational programs, and the knowledge and variety of diverse historical stories and experiences for our entire service area.



Bella Hill

I'm proud to say that the WHC partners with other non-profits, businesses, and service and networking groups that emphasize and share our interest in community. It is because of this shared interest in community that the WHC is able to provide relevant programming and is always expanding our reach. Take, for example, the tenants that rent space from us in our historic buildings. These tenants, such as Bella Hill and the Oregon Community Foundation, are only a couple of the tenants that share our space.



Beauty Boutique at the Mill

Many of you may be familiar with the artist studios that are housed on the second floor of the Warehouse building — the “Studios at the Mill,” as they are formally called. Another tenant, that encompasses many organizations in one, is the “Eco Hub” which houses Straub Outdoors, the David Douglas Society, Friends of Trees, the Native Plant Society of Oregon, and Camp Fire USA — Wilani Council. There is an architect — Patrick Bickler, a beauty studio — Beauty Boutique at the Mill, photographer — Lynn Howlett, Teaselwick Wools, and even a bookbinder that all also call the WHC home for a good part of their week.

We were very sad to see our restaurant tenant have to close their doors, but we are also very excited about welcoming in a new tenant into that space. If you have any suggestions about possible restaurateurs who are looking to expand into a beautiful historical site, please let me know! I would also be very eager to hear our members and supporters’ thoughts on what kind of restaurant would be a good fit for that space.

It is often said that the Willamette Heritage Center is a hub for socializing, meeting, greeting, and learning. With all our exhibits, opportunities to learn and explore the past, beautiful buildings on site, warm, welcoming grounds to create memories, and all our community partners, I can honestly say every day, “I am home.” I invite you to re-visit the WHC if you haven’t been here for a while, to spend a day touring our pioneer houses and Mill Building, or to visit our tenants who also make this unique gem their home. And when you’re here, please stop in and say “hello.” My office door is always open! I look forward to visiting with you!



Eco Hub

— Michelle Cordova, Executive Director

Two years ago, I spent a sunny afternoon in the Dye House, with the granddaughter of former Salemite J.S. Murray, going through two meticulously organized boxes of his memorabilia and writings. The WHC's 5-year exhibit plan called for an exhibit on "Vice" in the Mid-Willamette Valley, but garnering stories and artifacts to talk about the crimes was proving difficult. This meeting seemed ordained. Rather than focus on the crimes and criminals, why not look at the crime-fighters?

J.S. Murray's Collection formed the nucleus of the WHC's exhibit -- *CSI: SALEM: A History of Crime-Fighting in the Capital City* (on display June 7, 2019 – August 31, 2019).

While suspects in today's television crime-fighting dramas are quickly apprehended through DNA evidence and a few fast keystrokes on supercomputers, forensic methodology in the first half of the 20th century looked very different.

There were few ways to track bandits from one crime scene to the next, and even if there were witnesses, a suspect could evade detection simply by cutting their hair, changing their name and buying a ticket out of town. As time went on and science advanced, crime-fighters found new ways to apply scientific methods to their work. This period truly marked a revolution in crime-fighting techniques, not just in Salem, but across the world. In the thick of these developments was J.S. Murray.

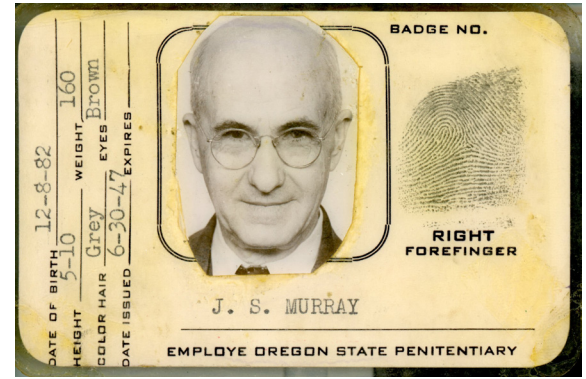
Born in Alma, New Mexico in 1882, J.S. Murray grew up in east-central Arizona where he recalled "cattle rustling, stage robbing, and horse stealing were recognized occupations." J.S. Murray's career in prison work began in 1904, when he took a position as a guard at the Arizona Territorial prison at Yuma working the night shift in a guard tower armed with a 10-gauge shotgun and a .38 caliber pistol. Disenchanted with his experiences, he moved to Los Angeles where he learned to operate a linotype machine and worked for the *Los Angeles Times* until the print shop was blown up in a union labor dispute. After a year in business college studying accounting, typing and shorthand, a chance meeting between a YMCA employment agent and the superintendent of the Oregon State Penitentiary landed Murray a job as an office clerk in 1911. At the prison he kept inmate accounts, made up monthly pay rolls and wrote letters for the superintendent and chaplain. In down times he was sent to fetch parole violators and escapees.

After more than forty years, 18 superintendents, and several correspondence courses, he rose to the rank of Chief Clerk and Identification Officer. Murray helped to found the state's first Bureau of Identification, a state-wide clearinghouse for fingerprint records, and became an expert witness in ballistics and handwriting analysis.

When Murray retired from the penitentiary in 1952, he began work on an autobiography. This book looks at the history of Oregon's top prison, and also provides a unique first-hand account of the systems in place across the state to prevent and punish crimes.

Murray's collection is interesting in its own right, but it also connects to many other Salem stories. Among the artifacts in Murray's collection is a small trial envelope of Lightning Super Heavy-Duty Latent Finger Print Powder. Just a few decades after Murray's retirement, the makers of this product would relocate to Salem. Mike and Beverly Carrick purchased rights to make the powder in 1976 and moved to Salem in 1985. What started out as a fingerprint powder company with two products soon grew to include a catalog of 15,000 products and to employ 15 individuals. From their headquarters on the northeast corner of Hoyt and 12th Streets (now Lovegrove Auto center), supplies were sold to forensic investigators in over 50 countries. The company was sold in 2000 and relocated to Jacksonville, Florida.

Special thanks to all the community members who made this exhibit a success, including our special sponsor Huggins and Bliss Sequoia Insurance, and Student Curator Cole Franko.



J.S. Murray ID Card, Oregon State Penitentiary.
WHC 2017.038.0001 Folder 1.3

**“Stitches & Stories:
Discoveries from the Oregon Quilt Project”
September 27 — December 23, 2019**

For the past 10 years, volunteers with the Oregon Quilt Project have been working tirelessly to document the state’s quilts. This exhibit showcases some of the most interesting finds of the documentation process – both in terms of fantastic construction and heartfelt stories. See how this project has helped to translate a new chapter in our community’s history by looking at the quilts that have been left behind.

<https://www.willametteheritage.org/stitches/>

**Wedding & Event Show
September 28, 2019**

Are you planning a wedding or special event? Our Wedding & Event Show is the perfect place to connect with local vendors and wedding professionals. Venues, photographers, DJs, event planners, and more will be represented at this year’s show.

<https://www.willametteheritage.org/wedding-show/>

**2019 Fall Gala & Heritage Awards
“Bootlegger’s Ball at the Heritage Hideaway”
October 18, 2019**

We will spend the evening celebrating Mid-Valley history with a delicious catered dinner, drinks, live music, live and silent auctions, and the presentation of the Heritage Awards to individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to historic preservation and interpretation.

<https://www.willametteheritage.org/fall-gala/>

**Magic at the Mill
December 19-23, 2019**

Come celebrate the winter holidays with our family-friendly winter festivities! Watch history come to life with children’s activities, heritage tours, and blacksmith and textile arts demonstrations. Thousands of twinkling lights and holiday cheer will brighten winter nights at the Willamette Heritage Center during this annual winter festival.

<https://www.willametteheritage.org/magic-at-the-mill/>

**2019 EVENT AND PROGRAM SPONSORSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE—
SIGN UP TODAY!**



As a public trust, a community hub, and a non-profit educational organization, the WHC relies on the sponsorship support of our community’s citizens, businesses and organizations. **We constantly promote our excellent individual and business sponsors to our visitors, participants and patrons, from on-site signage and keepsake programs, to a variety of online and print media, as well as banners and posters all around town.**

Sponsorships at each level make a truly significant difference in what we can accomplish, strengthening our foundation and

helping ensure our ability to provide education and access for all community members as well as an increasingly diverse array of visitors from far and wide. We work hard to provide quality programs and events, be sustainable, and hold the line on what we charge; it matters deeply that we welcome as many people as possible to this unique site that not only tells the rich history of this place but also helps make sense of it. There’s simply no other gem in Oregon like the Willamette Heritage Center.

Check out our MANY unique value-added opportunities for sponsors throughout 2019—on our website at www.willametteheritage.org/2019sponsorships. We have the PERFECT match for your carefully planned budget and goals! Print, complete, and mail in your sponsorship form, or contact Helen Shafran, WHC Development Director, at (503) 585-7012 ext. 228 or helens@willametteheritage.org.



Caboose 507 as of July 25, 2019.

Summertime is when we can get caught up on projects around the campus. This summer we tackled projects such as painting railings, picnic tables and porches. We replaced boards on decks, treated with wood preservatives and prepped for another wet fall and winter. The crew worked on deferred maintenance needs around the campus. This year we finished some work on the car bridge on site, including wood sealer and some new non-slip material being put down. We also installed new carpet in the Warehouse Building. This was a major undertaking, but with the help of JK Carpets and my staff, it happened, and the resulting carpet greatly enhances the Warehouse. We are grateful to the City of Salem CPTAB for their grant in support of the new carpet.

This summer also marked the second anniversary of the Southern Pacific 507 Caboose arriving on campus. As much of the renovation of the caboose itself is coming close to being done, we are now starting to focus on the exterior aspects of the new exhibit. This will include ramps, decks and a ground-level area to install interpretation and information about the caboose and related subjects. We are always actively looking for volunteers and donors to help with the project and can't wait until we can finally open it to the public.



Caboose Club members Christopher Hackett and Courtney Gatlin inside the caboose.

Now that fall is quickly approaching, our minds turn to rainy days, falling leaves and the occasional beautiful Oregon fall day. The grounds crew will be busy raking up piles of leaves, trimming trees and taking care of fall lawn maintenance. David, our maintenance guru, will be busy prepping for the changing seasons. The event staff will be busy with weddings and meetings, while gearing up for the holiday party time of year in December, all while getting ready for our annual Magic at the Mill event.

In our transition from fall to winter, we could use your help in providing funding for these items:

- Outdoor shed(s) for chair storage
- Small wood chipper
- Chain saw
- LED Holiday Lights
- Old wash cloths/towels

And these projects:

- Change flooring in the restrooms
- Treating, sealing the Dye House floor

Your continued generosity and support of the Willamette Heritage Center — in full or in part — will make a difference in providing services to our community. Every connection and every gift of time, talent or treasure matter and make a difference. Please include item name or project with your donation and the envelope enclosed.

Thanks,
Sean



Sean O’Harra at the newly acquired historic Southern Pacific phone booth near the Caboose.

September 27 – December 23, 2019

Greetings from



Quilt by Carrie Perkins, 2006. OQP ID #: 2019.DS.SP.01

“THE BEAVER STATE”

Stitches & Stories:

Discoveries from the Oregon Quilt Project

An Exhibit at the Willamette Heritage Center

*Make A Lasting Difference for the Willamette Heritage Center—
Help Us Connect Generations!*

These days, it means more than ever to know you are making a real difference.



It feels great to make a distinctive investment in the lives of kids, adults, families, seniors, and educators in our region! Consider naming the Willamette Heritage Center in your estate plan or as a beneficiary to a donor-advised fund, or make a donation in honor of your own kids, grandkids, a teacher, or another special someone who has made a positive impact in your life. The legacy you create today is absolutely **GUARANTEED** to make a meaningful difference for regional children and for all our visitors. We invite you to “pay it forward” with the WHC.

Please visit <https://www.willametteheritage.org/planned-giving/> for useful information, or contact Helen Shafran, Development Director, at (503) 585-7012 ext. 228 or helens@willametteheritage.org.

Partner with your community hub, the Willamette Heritage Center, to connect generations in the Mid-Willamette Valley. Your ongoing generosity and support by funding one of the tangible “wish list” items below — in full or in part — will make a difference in providing services to our community. Every connection and every gift of time, talent or treasure matter and make a difference. Please include item name with your donation and the envelope enclosed.



**Coal for the blacksmith program:
\$100**

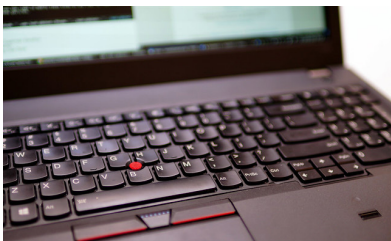
Coal is an essential part of bringing history to light in our historic Mentzer Machine Shop. Support community education by helping participants learn this traditional skill and share their new knowledge with visitors to our site.



**Archival gloves, pencils, and pens:
\$100**

Caring for the physical memories of our community members is imperative to the WHC mission. This donation will insure proper standards for collection care.

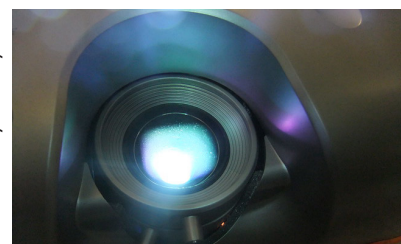
Photo by Samrat Jain



**Laptop:
\$600**

Today’s education programs are based in technology – even the education of the past. Providing an upgrade to our education department will give staff a chance to reach the younger generation more effectively.

Photo by Lee Hayward



**Projector for Orientation Center:
\$600**

Your gift will give the visitors to our site an opportunity to find out more about what they will experience on their visit to WHC as soon as they enter the WHC Orientation Center.



**New tables and chairs:
\$1200**

Support families, friends, business colleagues, and students as they experience an event in one of our event rental spaces. New tables and chairs will allow them to make history together in comfort!

WHC | 3rd Annual Wedding & Event Show

By Katrina Garcia, Event Sales Assistant



Thanks to our active patrons who support us and the efforts of our hard-working team, the Willamette Heritage Center has been able to host a variety of signature events for the Salem-Area Community. These events support our mission, “Connecting generations by preserving and interpreting Mid-Willamette Valley history.” The WHC staff is happy to announce our third Annual Wedding & Event Show, to take place on Saturday, September 28, 2019 from 11am to 5pm. This show connects anyone planning a special event, wedding, reception, quinceañera, or birthday celebration with local, event-related businesses.

There will be a variety of professionals ranging in specializations from invitation printing services to event rentals. Anyone who wants to meet and get to know local vendors for their special event are encouraged to come to the show for inspiration. Tickets are available online now for \$5 at <https://www.willametteheritage.org/wedding-show/>. WHC Members get in FREE! Tickets can also be purchased in person that day. The first 150 attendees to come and check in will receive a goody bag at the door.

This will be a great chance to meet local event industry professionals. We hope to see you there!



Interested in volunteering at the WHC?

We have a variety of areas in which volunteers are needed, from short-term projects to long-term positions:

- Docent Program
- Grounds and Gardens
- Costume Department
- Interns
- Fix-it/Paint-it/Clean-it Crew
- Visitor Services
- Library Archives and Collections



Check out our website under the “Support Us” tab for more information. Applications are available in electronic and PDF formats on our website; paper applications are available in the Orientation Center.

You can also volunteer at one of our upcoming special events:

- Fall Gala (October 18, 2019)
- Magic at the Mill (December 19-23, 2019)

To learn more, contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Erica Osorio, at 503-585-7012 ext. 254 or email ericao@willametteheritage.org.

Join us!

THE WILLAMETTE HERITAGE CENTER PRESENTS...

Bootlegger's Ball

at the Heritage Hideaway

2019 FALL GALA & HERITAGE AWARDS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2019 • 5:30PM-9:00PM

AT THE WILLAMETTE HERITAGE CENTER

Tickets are available **NOW!**

Tickets and Details at
<https://www.willametteheritage.org/fall-gala/>



Magic
at the
Mill

December 19 – 23, 5:30 – 8:00pm
Adults \$8, kids \$5, free to WHC members!

Thousands of twinkling lights, children's activities, photos with Santa, live music, entertainment, shopping, living history, and more!

For tickets and details visit:
<https://www.willametteheritage.org/magic-at-the-mill/>

Special thanks to the following...

Caboose Club

Albany & Eastern Railroad	Cheryl Griffith	Salem Alliance Church
Ed Austin Associates	Christopher and Lola Hackett	Salem Downtown Rotary Club
Boatwright Engineering Inc.	Floyd Hulegaard	The Salem Foundation
KayLee and Dave Brown	Meredith Kuhl	Sherman Brothers Trucking
Cougar Construction	Miller Paint	Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund
Tom and Ann Marie Dill	Oldham Crane Service	Trust Management Services
Financial Products & Services, Inc. in honor of Cascade Warehouse Company of Salem	O'Neill Pine Company	Willamette University Atkinson Graduate School of Management
Courtney Gatlin	Photo Electric, LLC/Rod Loder	

Community Partners...

The Grand Hotel in Salem

Current Sponsors...

Ed Austin Associates	LifeSource Natural Foods	Salem Fiberarts Guild
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Kraft Custom Construction	Roth's Fresh Markets	Virgil T. Golden Funeral Service
Kuenzi & Company LLC	Salem Electric	Wilco Farm Stores

and Grantors.

City of Salem Cultural and Tourism Promotion Advisory Board	Mid Valley Quilt Guild	Salem Foundation
First Interstate Bank	Mt. Angel Oktoberfest	Travel Oregon
Marion Cultural Development Corporation	Oregon Cultural Trust	William S. Walton Charitable Trust
	Oregon Heritage Commission	



Salem Fiberarts Guild Annual Handweavers' Sale



Mark your calendars!

**Friday, October 4th – Saturday, October 5th
10:00am to 4:30pm @ Willamette Heritage Center**

- Free Admission & Parking
- Proceeds go towards supporting the Willamette Heritage Center
- Enter raffle to win a handwoven textile
- Demonstrations in weaving, spinning, rug hooking, knitting, crocheting, and more!

For more information email Salem Fiberarts Guild at: salemfiberartsguild@gmail.com



*We gratefully acknowledge our contributors for their support to connect generations in the Mid-Willamette Valley.
Willamette Heritage Center exists because of your partnerships all year long!*

The following friends contributed between March 4 and August 31, 2019.

John and Sandra Adams	Michael and Beverly Carrick	Ms. Randy Fishfader	Nancy Henderlite
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Michael and Elizabeth Mills			Joyce and Tom Zook
Robert A. Mitchell			

The WHC is deeply thankful for all the support we receive. We want to know the best way to acknowledge your generosity; please let us know if your name should be shown differently in future donor lists.

Do we have your preferred contact information? Your US Mail address, email address, and phone number are all very important to us; please call it all in to us at (503) 585-7012, email it to info@willametteheritage.org, or tell us on your gift envelope (enclosed) when you mail it back to us. Thanks for helping us serve you better!



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Salem, OR 97301

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The Willamette Heritage Center is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed in 2010 from the merger of the Mission Mill Museum and the Marion County Historical Society. WHC is not owned or operated by any government agency and is supported through grant funding, private donations, and its membership.

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New Whatsit



This year marks the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Government passing the Volstead Act, which would usher in the prohibition era (an anniversary we will be celebrating this October at our Fall Gala). Salem had gone dry several years earlier, forcing breweries to find alternative lines of products. Do you recognize where this Salem Brewery stood and what the product Loju that they are advertising was?

Answer in the next issue!

Old Whatsit



Did you recognize this item in the last newsletter? It is a Gardner Shackle, better known as an Oregon Boot. The first designs were created in 1866 by J.S. Gardner, a warden at the Oregon State Penitentiary, when it was located in Portland. The weighted shackles, weighing anywhere from 5 – 28 lbs, were strapped to one leg of a prisoner to prevent them from escaping. Gardner was no fool: two years after he patented the design, he contrived to get the State Legislature to pay \$5,000 to use it.