



August 2024

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## SCOTTS MILLS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOMECOMING ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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### Homecoming Potluck Picnic will be Sunday August 11, 2024

Museum Open 12-4 pm on the following dates: Aug 11, 2024; Sept 8, 2024; Oct 13, 2024; Mar 9, 2025;

April 13, 2025; May 25, 2025; June 8, 2025; July 13, 2025

Tours of the museum available by appointment. Contact Joe @ 503-871-9803

*Suggested donation for museum entrance is \$5.00 minimum.*

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**A letter from the President:** *Another year is behind us, which means that it is time for the annual homecoming picnic on Sunday August 11, 2024. It is our wish for everyone to come and have an enjoyable time.*

*During the past year we were able to catalogue and display new items that were donated. We were also able to rearrange items in the old City Jail and move items that were stored in the old City Hall and display them on our property. If you haven't been by the museum lately, please stop by and see the new additions and changes.*

*It is with great pleasure that we were able to give out four scholarships to students in the community for their future education. We are appreciative to all who have donated to this great cause with a mission of creating interest in the historical past with our youth. Donations may be made, either at the picnic today, or at the museum, if you would like to continue to support our scholarship fund.*

*It is with great sadness that our long-time board member, Elvin Heinz, Sr., passed away in April. His knowledge of the history of this community has been invaluable. Jeanne Magee Hazel has been added to the Board to fill the open position. Many thanks to Jeanne for accepting this position and for adding a great amount of knowledge and support for our Board and this organization. I would also like to thank my fellow board members and volunteers for their hard work this past year. It is a pleasure to work with you all.*

*Donations are also being accepted today, both here in the City Park and at the museum, so that we can keep the museum open. You may also become a member or renew your membership both in the park or at the museum. We appreciate your ongoing support.*

Joe Plas, President

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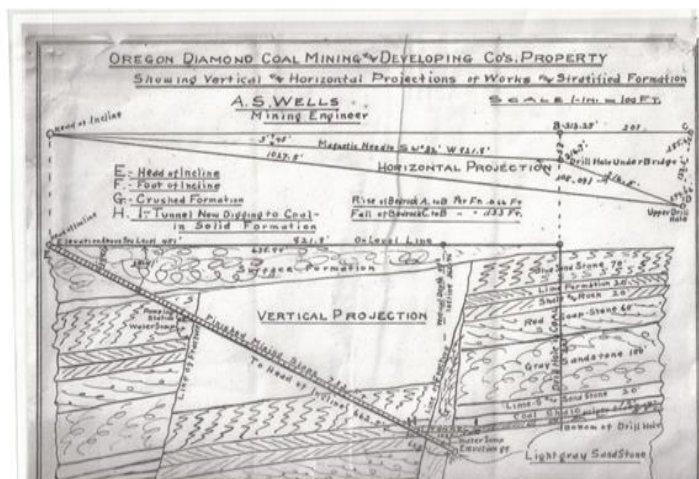
*Board Members: Joe Plas, President; Gloria Wurdinger, Vice President; Patty Splonski Pike, Secretary; Eileen Holmes, Treasurer, Jeanne Hazel; and Katie Splonski Martin, Editor/Volunteer*

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# Scotts Mills Coal Mine



1908.....



## Coal Mine Vertical Projection

Scotts Mills, like many communities in Oregon, had early settlers who were industrious and looking for ways to use local resources which could support their local families and other communities. One such short-lived endeavor was the coal mine, located on Block 4 of the Scotts Mills town site, at the corner of what is now 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Grandview Ave.

In February of 1907, enough evidence was found to explore the area for coal so the Oregon Diamond Coal Mining and Developing Company leased mineral rights from at least 39 property owners in the city. A small drilling crew, headed up by Henry D. Stanley, found coal along Butte Creek at a depth of 302 feet. The company then purchased Block 4 and the Friends Colony Lot 121 next to Block 4 in March of 1908 to continue their exploration in hopes of finding large amounts of high-quality coal.

By October of 1908, the exploration included a shaft 732 feet in length, which reached a vertical depth of approximately 360 feet. Along this shaft a 4-inch seam of coal was found and at 685 feet along the incline, a fault line was encountered which showed evidence of a broken coal formation, described by mining engineer A. S. Wells, as "first class bituminous coal of a coking quality." A main seam, however, was never located.

As a result, the operation phased out, and the Oregon Diamond Coal Mining and Developing Company sold the property to Butte Falls Prune Growers Association for \$1 in January 1909. In the mid-fifties through the mid-sixties, there was an open front building used to receive berries from local farms for the Birds Eye Cannery in Woodburn, Oregon, that was attended by Art Boyts. In later years the property was used as a local playground for bike riding and dirt bike riding. If you weren't careful, you would come home with a really bad case of poison oak. A family home is located there now, next to scenic Butte Creek.

## IN MEMORIAM 2023-2024

Richard "Dick" Moles	8/11/1937 - 9/29/2023	David "Dave" Hartley	8/28/1938 - 3/27/2024
Sharon Enfield Jensen Messmer	7/11/1942 - 12/19/2023	Elvin Heinz, Sr.	5/11/1935 - 4/26/2024
Dolores May Barger Isberg	5/21/1934 - 1/2/2024	Wilbur Vanderbeck	5/12/30 - 6/11/2024
William "Bill" Loftis	12/7/1938 - 3/2/2024		

## ***2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scholarships Awarded. Congratulations Graduates.....***



**\$750 - Adelle Otter:** Adelle has been accepted at George Fox University this fall which gives her a direct admission into their nursing program. Her goal is to work at a smaller hospital or clinic. As a top student at Regis High School, Adelle has been very involved in school, church, and community projects. She has received top honors both in academics and athletics.

**\$750 - Paisha Renoud:** Paisha's career goal is to become a Nurse Practitioner specializing in pediatrics. She will begin her studies at Western Oregon University and complete her work at OHSU outlet campus in Monmouth. She aspires to share nursing skills locally and globally by traveling to different countries. Paisha has lettered all four years at Silverton Union High School in academics and received an Honors diploma and a cord for completion of Health Occupations at graduation.



**\$500 - Christina Terhaar:** After graduating from Silverton Union High School, Christina plans on a 10-week CNA program this summer. While working as a CNA, she will enroll at Chemeketa Community College and earn her Paramedics degree. She is a top GPA earner in her accelerated classes. This has prepared her to achieve her goals. Christina has held positions of leadership in school clubs and community service projects. Along with two classmates, she competed in Skills USA Career Pathways: Human Services and placed 1<sup>st</sup> in State and 1<sup>st</sup> Nationally in Atlanta, Georgia.



**\$500 - Kyla Welch:** Kyla plans to study film production with a directing career as her goal. She has been involved in Graphic Arts, Video Production, Yearbook, and Multimedia Design. She won Skills USA: Video Production at state level twice and reached National level twice as well. Kyla, a graduating senior at Silverton Union High School, is described as passionate, talented, and determined to excel academically.

Items available at the museum for purchase: Scotts Mills Pictorial Book \$21, Continuing Hist. of Scotts Mills \$15, Cattle & Cook \$15 each, Thomas McKay booklet \$10, Holy Rosary bklt \$2, Crooked Finger Bklt \$2, Walking Tour Map \$3, Centennial Coins \$7 or 3/\$20, Magnifiers \$1 or free w/ large purchase/donation, Pens \$2.00, Profiles of Oldtimers (Millard) \$1.25, and other misc. items.

## SCOTTS MILLS 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASS OF 1974 HONORED CELEBRATING 50 YEARS



Row 1: Mr. Deming, Principal, Patty Whitaker, Ronald Bielenberg(d), Darlene Fennimore, Steve Underwood, Tina Sheridan, Chris Bielenberg

Row 2: Doug Harding, Sharon Couey, Kathy Orias, Lisa Doane, Clay Capen, Rhonda Houts(d), JoAnn Barger, Yvonne Morrow

Row 3: Rusty Fairbrother(d), Robert Schiedler, Judy Capen, William McKinley, Linda Winslow, Glen McLure, Nettie McKinley, Warren Groom      Not Pictured: Mary Harrington(d), Jeff Hoge, John Hunt, Jimmy Wareham(d)

**DONATIONS:** SMAHS is accepting donations for both the upkeep and improvement of the museum/property and for the scholarship fund. If you would like to make a donation please submit the following form with a check made out to SMAHS. SMAHS is a non-profit organization.

I am enclosing a check/cash in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the following:

\_\_\_\_ Annual SMAHS scholarship fund. \_\_\_\_ SMAHS for upkeep/improvement of the museum/property.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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**MEMBERSHIP:** All previous life memberships are still honored. Please let us know if you have moved and let us know when family members have passed away so we can update our mailing list.

I am enclosing a check/cash in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the following:

\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership \$20.00 (1 year); \$35.00 (2 year); \$75.00 (5 year).

\_\_\_\_ Family Membership (free entry for immediate family members living at the same address).

\$35.00 (1 year); \$60.00 (2 year); \$150.00 (5 year)

\_\_\_\_ Business Membership \$150.00 (2 year); \$350.00 (5 year)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Forms can be mailed to: SMAHS, PO Box 226, Scotts Mills, OR 97375