



# the CABIN LOG

Baker Cabin Historical Society, "To create and perpetuate a property of interest and historical value, for community use"

June 2022

## Summer Kickoff Special Event Live Music - 5 pm, June 19

Please join us for a Fathers' Day treat and special event: Trail Music Night in the historic church at the Baker Cabin site. Our special musical guests – [The Fireside Social Orchestra Quartet](#) – will highlight music of the Oregon Trail era and other 19<sup>th</sup> century classics. Bring a picnic dinner to enjoy on the Baker Cabin grounds before the concert at 5 p.m. The site will be open for "trailgating" from 3 p.m. until dark. The music, brought to you by Laura Kuhlman, Gayle Neuman, Phil Neuman and Elizabeth O'Connor, will feature 19th century songs and dances from the parlour and ballroom performed on period instruments and voices.

Musical hosts Phil and Gayle Neuman are musicians, teachers, and instrument builders that engage in the performance of historical music from a variety of periods. You may be familiar with their work with the Oregon Trail Band, the Oregon Renaissance Band, or their extensive work in fostering early music ensembles in the area. They are a regional treasure as well as members of the Carver community, and we are honored to partner with them in bringing this event to Baker Cabin.



The Fireside Social Orchestra's repertoire includes quadrilles from "Foster's Social Orchestra" published by Stephen Foster in 1854, music from the Aurora Colony (established in 1856) and other music from Old Oregon, songs with lyrics by early Oregon author/suffragists Abigail Scott Duniway and Eva Emery Dye, fiddle tunes from Ireland, England and America, shape-note songs from The Sacred Harp (1844), Christmas Carols in their original forms, early ragtime music, marches, light classical music, early American political songs and much more. As they present a curated selection perfect for an early summer evening – be prepared for an evening of fun and great music!

— YOU ARE INVITED —

## Summer Kickoff Concert - June 19

Our next gathering gives you a chance to hear music from the 18th century just as your ancestors may have heard it on the trail or in their parlours back East. Mark your calendars, and join us as we start our summer off with a live-music event!

**Picnic grounds open for  
'trailgating': 3-5 pm  
BYO S/D\* (snacks/dinner)**

**Concert: 5 pm Pioneer Church  
Everyone welcome!**



## Seems Like Yesterday

### **Eagle Scout Project in 2000 added the Pioneer Church wheelchair access ramp**

Before the year 2000, you would not have seen a ramp tucked to the side of the church that enables access for people of all abilities. The building, dating from 1895, was originally a German Methodist worship space located near Logan, Ore., and moved to the site with significant reconstruction in the 1960s.



***Troop 611 scouts — led by Scout Jim Guntermann — added a wheelchair ramp to the historic pioneer church to bring modern accessibility to the classic structure.***

Elderly or disabled guests attending weddings found getting up the stairs was a barrier to enjoying events hosted at the site. Jim Guntermann, a Boy Scout with Troop 611 of Sunnyside Rd, set out to add a wheelchair ramp to increase accessibility to the historic building.

This work was just one of many Eagle Scout projects that have contributed to keeping this historic site ready for visitors. There have been 20+ BSA Eagle projects at the site to improve or repair the historic buildings and grounds at minimal cost to BCHS.

Eagle Scout projects give young people an opportunity to practice and grow their leadership skills as they perform a needed service and give back to their communities.

Today, Jim is a Mechanical Engineer leading teams in the design and manufacture of commercial truck steering and suspension systems. Teamwork is a skill learned in scouting programs where these scout-led construction projects expose them to complex planning, drafting, communicating, and organizing their ideas.

### **Recent happenings at BCHS**

- Defensible Space Trimming and Chipping - January 2022
- Baker Cabin Trail Cleanup - March 2022
- Trail Hike March 12 - 26 visitors hiked the guided trail through the quarry grounds above BCHS
- Community Sing Along - March 12
- National Heritage Preservation Month - May 2022
- International student tour - May 10
- Summer prep May 14 - volunteers spread bark chips, planted summer flowers, and prepared the site for summer weddings and other events



***On a rainy blustery night, musicians enjoyed a cozy night of singalong community inside the historic pioneer church.***

## News in General

### Baker Cabin Trail Hike March 12, 2022

More than 26 people flocked to Baker Cabin on a sunny spring afternoon this March for a guided nature walk on the 2-mile trail through the quarry ground on the hill above the Baker Cabin site. Guides led small groups up through the basalt flow while discussing the history of the site as Horace Baker's quarry, the ferry and bridge crossing below, Twilight film locations near the Stone Cliff Inn, and current use of the hill by rock climbers.



### Musical Upgrade for the Pioneer Church



The Baker Cabin Historical Society recently purchased a new digital piano for the church. The upgraded equipment will provide much better sound quality and greater range of musical possibilities for weddings and other events in the church.

The dampness of the site and chill in the winter months have long made it challenging to keep a traditional piano performance ready — especially in a historically accurate, often unheated building like the church. The electronic equipment will need less maintenance over time. In addition, this keyboard can mimic an organ, harpsichord, or even a singing choir or other instruments, which will add variety for ceremonies and concerts in the future.

The Baker Cabin Historical Society will hold fundraisers to cover the cost of the new piano.

**Project List** – Have you some time and energy to make a difference at the cabin site? We need your handyman or clean-up help. There are too few of us to get it all done. New volunteers are needed to maintain your site as you want it and to represent the pride we share in our local community.

Contact us for info on these or other projects you feel are needed:

- Ongoing publication of newsletter
- Special community events promotion
- Grant writing and submission
- Maintenance of the church flower bedding plants and keeping beds weeded. We supply the plants!
- Maintenance of membership records and mailing lists
- Removing invasive English ivy from around our trees
- Cleaning up after storms
- Electrical work - several things need to be done to return the cabin to a more authentic state
- Cleaning and treating the pioneer church roof: Does anyone out there have a hi-lift or “cherry-picker” to access the roof safely? Long ladders would help too.

Thank you if you can help us out!

**Call Chris Guntermann**  
**971-409-0934**

**Or email [bakercabinhistory@gmail.com](mailto:bakercabinhistory@gmail.com)**



## Many hands make light work

*After winter storms, many branches were knocked down and the cabin site needed a lot of cleanup. Neighborhood work days in January and in May helped prepare the grounds for the many events that will happen over the summer. In January, volunteers cleared sticks and branches, and spent a day chipping them to mulch. In May, that mulch was spread on beds throughout the site, and new flowers were planted around the church entrance. Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers!*



### **Thanks to these folks for volunteering:**

- Christine Guntermann Krueger
- Chris Guntermann
- Bob Bresky
- Jenny Hess
- John Eason
- Glen Hess
- Mary Jo Hess
- Russ Burk
- Janice Burk

## Make a Donation

The Baker Cabin Society is a non-profit association that works off your donations. Click below to make a donation today. Or mail your check to:

Baker Cabin Historical Society  
P.O. Box 741  
Oregon City, OR 97045

**DONATE NOW**