



# the CABIN LOG

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

March 2023

## Open House Days at the Cabin - Volunteers open the doors and make history come alive

To celebrate the return to life of our social calendars, the Baker Cabin Historic Society is hosting open houses monthly to welcome and encourage the public to stop in and see the buildings.

Both the Baker Cabin and the historic Pioneer Church are open and docents are on hand to answer questions or host an activity that showcases Pioneer skills and ingenuity.

**Our next scheduled Open House events are April 23 and May 14.** Thanks to our volunteers who make these days possible. And thanks for coming to visit!



*Pioneer carpentry*



*Shaving horse repair*

*Whether it's dipping candles, trying a hands-on wood project, or exploring the buildings inside and out, there are lots of things to do at a Baker Cabin Open House. Activities vary, but it's always fun.*



*Candle dipping*



*Meet and greet*



*Fabulous volunteers*

## Around the cabin...



▶ *The Carver quilts discovered in storage were displayed on January 11, along with a presentation by fabric artist Evelyn Eason, who explained the story the pattern, threads, dyes and fibers tell about the quilts' past. The 1870 market wagon was also unveiled.*

◀ *This wicker rocking chair that once belonged to Mary Hattan was donated to the BCHS by descendant Becki Orrell. It's now located in the log cabin, and looking very 'at home' in its surroundings.*



## New photo feature: Ready for your closeup?

*Tips for using the portable photo frame: Stand close to the frame and position your camera to look through the heart-shaped cutout. Use it to take pictures of the historic structures, the scenery, or your friends — or all three!*



A new feature has been added to the landscape at the Baker Cabin historic site. You might need to search to find it — look for a wooden-frame with a heart cutout. At first you might think it's just a nice ornament for the yard...but look again.

Baker Cabin volunteers saw heart-shaped photo stations like this at viewpoints in Europe and knew we had a great subject for something similar right here in Carver, Oregon. The frame is built to be portable. You can take it anywhere on the property to capture a great view.

Position your camera close to the heart-shaped cutout looking at your subject through the hole, and your photo is nicely framed. Use it to take pictures of one of the historic structures or your friends in front of it.





◀ *Love!  
Hearts!  
Flowers!  
Poetry!  
Chocolate!  
And ... Elvis?  
What else but  
Valentines Day  
fun at the  
Pioneer Church  
on February 11.*



◀ *Rain and drizzle  
didn't dampen spirits  
at our 'Hands on His-  
tory' work day on  
March 11. Cheerful  
volunteers scrubbed,  
scraped, dusted and  
spruced up parts of  
the circa 1870 mar-  
ket wagon undergo-  
ing restoration.*



*The Pioneer Church was  
packed on March 25 for a  
talk by Rick Thompson  
about ice age floods, erratic  
rocks as evidence, and the  
geophysical forces of the  
past that made our world  
today.*



**Eagle Scout Project provides custom-built storage and convenience for event signage**

Our historic society goal is to preserve and maintain the Oregon Trail Pioneer site for the public benefit by sharing reminders of how generations before us lived and built our civilization.

The site is not staffed regularly, but the grounds are open to the public during daylight hours for self-guided tours. We also host events such as weddings, memorial, and scouting ceremonies. Communicating to visitors requires signage for things such as parking directions, hours of operation, or historic information.

In the past, our sandwich board signs were stored outside in the weather and subject to theft. Each stolen sign represents \$100 of loss.



Gavin Le of Troop 33 saw a solution and stepped up to meet it. With adult guidance, he proposed and designed a small storage shed to be located near the point of use, making it easier for site staff to move the signs around. The signs are protected and not deteriorated by weather or bugs. The shed also stores sandbags that help divert water



flow during periods of high runoff.

The design was only the beginning. As the project leader, Gavin worked to obtain material donations, led work crews, and tracked expenses and work

hours to document the effort from start to finish.

Gavin received his Eagle Scout award, reaching the highest level of achievement in Scouting. He is just one of more than 24 scouts to have applied their skills to Eagle projects here at Baker Cabin.



*Gavin Le of Troop 33 earned his Eagle rank with the leadership skills he demonstrated through the Baker Cabin sign shed project in 2021.*

## Thanks for your support!

The Baker Cabin and Pioneer Church are historic assets that beautify and unite our communities. The work of the Baker Cabin Historical Association to keep the properties maintained, to further our understanding of the history that happened here, and to form community among those who visit would not be possible without the kindness, generosity, or efforts of the following significant contributors:

**The Carver Hangar**

**Shelly's Echo Inn**

**FUTY (From Us To You)**

**The Stone Cliff Inn**

**Nighthawk Alarm Services**

**The Carver Event Center**

**Emmert International**

**Holly Guntermann and  
Paul Bakkom**

**Penelope Guntermann and  
Michael Clifford**

**Bill and Cheryl Hess**

## What's Next?

### Visit the Baker Cabin site in Carver

*Experience Oregon's pioneer past at this log cabin home and pioneer chapel.*

#### APRIL

**April 8:** VOLUNTEER WORK DAY  
9:00 - 11:00  
*Site maintenance*



**April 22:** VOLUNTEER WORK DAY  
9:00 - 11:00  
*Monument installation*

**April 23:** OPEN HOUSE 11:30 - 1:30  
*Pioneer woodwork/Youth*



#### MAY

**May 13:** SPECIAL EVENT 2:00 - 4:00  
*Monument unveiling; antique rock splitting sessions*

**May 14:** OPEN HOUSE 11:30 - 1:30  
*Cross Cut Saw*



#### JUNE

**June 17:** CELLO CONCERT / STUDENT RECITAL  
2:00 p.m.

**June 24:** SPECIAL EVENT—Time TBA  
Pioneer Church reunion & renewal of vows, Elvis presiding



## You can help today

Our supporters are people like you and your neighbors who are keeping history alive here. If you believe in our mission and can help, please consider making a donation this year or next. Your dollars are highly leveraged by our volunteers.



- Mail a check to the Society
- Click on the **DONATE NOW** button
- Put this URL in your browser to go to our donation page: <https://bakercabin.org/donate/>
- Use the QR code above to go to our donation page from your smart phone

## 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**