



the CABIN LOG

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

October 2023

Coming this fall....

'Terroir of Oregon Wine' presentation by Dr. Scott Burns

Wednesday, Nov. 8
7:00 p.m.
Pioneer Church



On Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 7:00 p.m., we're continuing the **Baker Cabin Community Lecture Series** as author and **Dr. Scott Burns** talks about "**The terroir of wine – the relation of geology to wine flavors in Oregon.**" This session is cohosted with the Ice Age Institute.

"Terroir" is a term wine enthusiasts use to describe the complete natural environment in which a particular wine is produced, including factors such as the soil, topography and climate. Oregon's wines are uniquely affected by the soil our grapes are grown in. As an expert in geology, a wine connoisseur, a dynamic lecturer and award-winning educator, Scott is uniquely qualified to speak about the factors that make Oregon's wines distinctive.

Scott Burns is a Professor Emeritus of Geology and Past-Chair of the Dept. of Geology at Portland State University. Scott will have his book "Cataclysms on the Columbia" for sale at this event. Other area history books will be available to purchase as well.

Following the talk, there will be an informal wine tasting for participants to put some of their new-found knowledge about Oregon wines to use. Please join us!

The talk is open to the public. Suggested donation at the door.

Sleigh bells ring; Are you listening?



Give your holiday mood a jump start! Come to Baker's Log Cabin site on Dec. 2 to experience a real antique (1800s) sleigh like this one and enjoy taking photos with your family and friends.

The Curtis Heritage Education Foundation is bringing us one of their historic sleighs for your enjoyment - and it will be decorated too!

Watch our e-announcements and Facebook pages for the best time to come.

Bring your smiles, Christmas props and finery, the camera, and oh, maybe some snow, and a horse....

Produced in coordination with Oregon City Heritage Holidays where many more sleighs will be on display along Main Street and at many museums and heritage sites.



Baker Cabin Day featured crafts, food and music

On July 22, history came alive as a full plate of activities renewed a time-honored tradition at the historic site: Baker Cabin Day. Visitors enjoyed a range of activities with something for everyone – music, hands-on history, kid-friendly snacks and refreshments in an ideal picnic setting.

The log cabin and pioneer church were open all day, offering docents and tours, picnic tables under the trees, demonstrations of rock splitting and other pioneer skills, informative talks in the pioneer church, and music throughout the day played by the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers — Division 7.

The sun shone and the mood was relaxed as attendees moved around the site to take part in the activities or sat to enjoy the music and the atmosphere.

Many thanks to all who visited that day — and to those who helped make the day possible.



▲ Hattan descendant Beci Orrel shared family history and anecdotes as she represented Jane Baker on the porch of the cabin. The shawl in her lap was Jane Baker's, and the chair she is sitting in was Mary Hattan's.

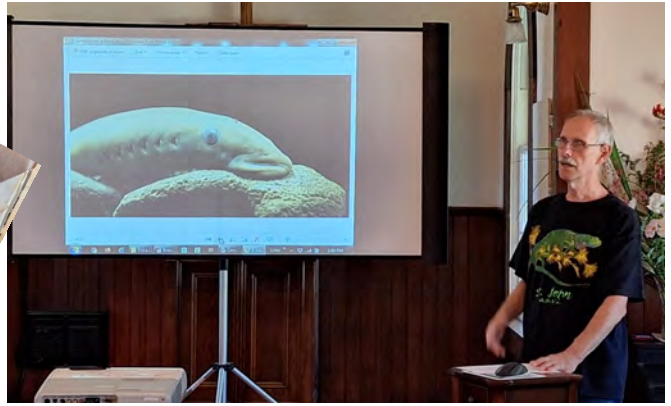
◀ Traditional instruments and songs delighted visitors.

An afternoon concert by the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers capped the day off, brought the past to life and heightened the sense of stepping back in time. ▼





▲ A visitor shared Byers family history documents with a docent.



▲ Informal talks presented in the church covered topics ranging from lamprey eels to pioneer cemetery history to Willamette Falls papermakers.



▲ Docents guided visitors in Pioneer Skills School activities. Rock splitting involves driving wedges into holes drilled into a stone to force a controlled fracture.

▼ Cedar shakes are created by tapping a sharp froe down into the grain of the wood to cause it to split off a shingle.



▲ Carpentry projects included options to build bird boxes or tool caddies to take home. Building kits were precut, and a skilled docent helped kids do the assembly work themselves.

▼ Bubbles!



Around the cabin...



Couples were invited to renew their vows at the Pioneer Church on June 24. The sanctuary was specially decorated with flowers and 25+ quilts loaned by members of the community. Elvis was on hand to officiate, and the cake was yummy!

Dedicated volunteers met throughout the year for maintaining grounds and buildings to keep the site ready for visitors. On an early April day, brush clearing was the order of the day. Highlights of the fence replacement that took place over several days in September and October are included below.



New fence at Baker Cabin site from generous donation

The split rail fence that borders the front property was showing signs of its age — posts were rotting and wobbling in their holes, rails were decaying, and the entire thing was on the verge of falling down. A frequent site visitor connected BCHS with the owner of Mr. Plywood, Mr. Brantner, who very graciously offered to donate and deliver a majority of new split cedar rail fencing to replace the falling-apart old fence. Our thanks to him for that generosity. And our thanks to volunteers Chris and Glen who removed the old fence, treated the new wood with preservatives, and finished the installation straight and true!

Mr. Plywood's retail lumberyard business in Eastside Portland is a landmark to contractors.



New basalt monument at Baker Cabin site

Dedication ceremony Nov. 8 at 6 p.m.

A recent discovery at the Stone Cliff Inn has become an important addition to the Baker Cabin site's exhibit about the quarry that once operated in this area. A large broken block of basalt was found near the restaurant. Horace Baker, a stone cutter, had nearly completed cutting the block but cast it aside after it cracked and the bottom portion was ruined for its purpose.

The sides of the stone bear the unmistakable marks of a quarryman's tools shaping the rock. The 1500-pound block was recently brought down the hill and installed at the cabin's rock splitting demo area as a monument to the stoneworker's art.



This wonderful contribution from Mike Rosenbaum and the Stone Cliff Inn adds a lot to how we represent the stone cutting skills of the pioneers. There will be a dedication ceremony for the new display on Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 6 p.m.



Upper left: Heavy equipment was needed to deliver the stone. Upper right: The stone was carefully fitted into the form for a permanent foundation. Lower far left: Stone cutters' tools left marks in the stone. Lower near left: A poured concrete base now holds the stone in place.



2019 Eagle Scout Project established basalt rock splitting exhibit and demo area

At the side of the wagon shed near the cabin, an informative exhibit explains how to split basalt and where the rocks we see at Baker Cabin come from. Interpretive panels and quarried samples tell the story.

This important addition to the site was contributed through the work of Eagle Scout Andrew Wilson, who

Andrew Wilson earned his Eagle rank with the leadership skills he demonstrated through designing and creating the Baker Cabin rock splitting exhibit at the Baker Cabin.



developed the plan, obtained the materials from Home Depot and other vendors, and then worked with members of Troop 33 and other volunteers for the labor needed to bring the plan to life.

Working together, they cleared the area, brought in heavy basalt rocks, lined the display area with gravel, and built the frames for the rock displays. Andrew created the sample rock splits using a blend of pioneer know-how and modern tools. The interpretive panels were also a part of the project.



Thank you to our board!

And we are pleased to announce new members at large who have joined the board in 2023. Without the help of these enthusiastic supporters we would not be able to offer the programs that welcome you. Thanks to these folks who share their time and energy on behalf of the Baker Cabin Historical Society.

Chris Guntermann, President
Sue Forster, Treasurer
Christine Kreuger, Secretary

Members at Large:

Annette Anderson
Chris Anderson
Sandee Emerson
Don Emerson
Rebecca Ettlin
Hans Ettlin
Glen Hess
Mary Jo Hess
Wes Wanvig

New publication celebrates Carver history

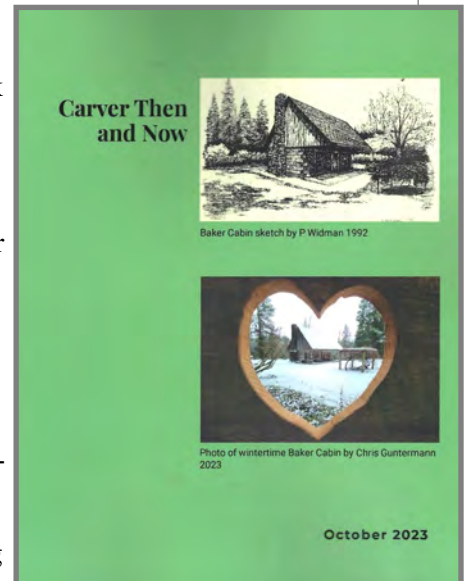
BCHS board member and docent Glen Hess has compiled the work of many local historians to provide a well-rounded collection of Carver family stories and history that appear together for the first time.

The new publication incorporates contributions from eminent local historians including Marian Charriere, Judy Chambers and Mark Hurlburt, among others.

It is separated into three different eras:

- Carver Pioneer Period
- Logging and Farming Period
- Modern Period

The book will be for sale in the coming months at a variety of Clackamas County history events. All proceeds go to the Baker Cabin Historical Society.



You can help today

The Baker Cabin Society is a non-profit association that works off your donations. If you believe in our mission and can help, please consider making a donation this year or next., particularly on #GivingTuesday.



- Mail a check to the Society at P.O. Box 741, Oregon City, OR 97045
- Put this URL in your web 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

#GivingTuesday

November 28, 2023

The Baker Cabin Historical Society will be promoting **#GivingTuesday** as your opportunity to participate in our community. Your support is vital to keeping this historic treasure open. Watch for more information and inspirational stories of our accomplishments in 2023.

Thank you.

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