



SCAPPOOSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September 2022

Volume 19 Issue 8

COME MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR OF SCAPPOOSE

Scappoose Mayoral candidates, **Brandon Lesowske** and **Joe Backus**, will be at our general meeting on **October 1st, at 10am**. Come ask questions and hear what they have to say. Let's have a good showing at the meeting.



Brandon Lesowske was elected to the Scappoose City Council in 2018 after serving on the city's budget committee. He is the assistant director of planning and sustainability at Portland State University.

(Courtesy Pamplin Media)



Joe Backus works in sales and previously served on the Scappoose School District's board of directors after being appointed to the position. Backus has coached and volunteered with youth athletic teams like Little League for decades, according to his campaign website. *(Courtesy Pamplin Media)*

SPIRITS ARE COMING TO THE WATTS HOUSE!

FREELAND SPIRITS is a women owned craft distillery in Portland, Oregon. Founder, Jill Kuehler, named Freeland after her Meemaw (that's what they call grandmas in Texas) Freeland, who taught that all good things come from scratch and that women can be anything they want to be.

Freeland Spirits celebrates the women of the craft. From the gals who grow the grain, to those who run the still, we're creating superior spirits that celebrate all the Northwest has to offer.

(photo and text courtesy of Freelandspirits.com)



The **SPIRIT TASTING** event will be held on **Friday, October 28th, from 6-9pm**.

*see last page for information about the **Pumpkin Carving Contest** in conjunction with this event.

A STORY FROM OUR PAST (from website www.foresthiker.com)

One story told of this area is the tragic death of Albert Lange who walked more or less the same route we've just described from Dutch Canyon to Rocky Point Road. Hunting with his two dogs he had traversed this mountainous terrain encountering snow, thick vegetation, ridges and canyons, thickets and fallen trees. Most likely he would have passed close to this location before crossing Raymond Creek and ascending Vedanta Ridge. Near the end of the day he emerged from this trek on to Rocky Point Road, where he met Abe Cornelius, another of the original settlers on Dixie Mountain. Abe recommended that Albert take nourishment at his home before trying to return to Dutch Canyon, but Albert demurred. It appears that his dogs



now treed a coon, which Albert shot and skinned. Later he was also able to kill a deer and dress it near the Mozee homestead before starting for home. The search party was later able to piece together his movements, which now clearly showed signs of fatigue and possibly hypothermia. Falling off a log he rolled down the hill in the snow, but he continued down the ridge further likely approaching the hillock upon which our route terminates. Eventually he fell in the snow and failed to rise. It is reported that when the search party finally located him a couple of days later the dogs were found with their noses in his arm pits as if trying to raise him out of the snow. Their loyalty in protecting their master



complicated matters for the rescuers, but eventually they were able to separate the dogs from their dead master. Though there are few among us that would be able to traverse such a wilderness for 6-7 miles, the lessons of exercising prudence in the face of the elements and exhaustion is as real today as ever. Even with a well maintained road this route is one of the more strenuous routes – with its many climbs and descents and the long distance covered. exercising prudence in the face of the elements and exhaustion is as real today as ever. Even with a well maintained road this route is one of the more strenuous routes – with its many climbs and descents and the long distance covered.

Albert Lange 1884-1911 Son of Gustav and Otilie Lange of Dutch Canyon



IT'S A NEW FALL LOOK AT THE WATTS HOUSE!



TRIVIA: DO YOU KNOW?...

What was the name of the first novel ever written on a typewriter?

Answer on last page

COMMUNITY FRIENDS...

Long-time Scappoose resident **John Watts Clothier** sent the photos below to Sue LeBlanc to share. John is one of the last living to have lived in the Watts House. John rode in the Scappoose Centennial Parade in August 2021 and his family was also largely featured in the Centennial Reflections commemorative memory book. Here’s a snip-it from Centennial Reflections as told by John...

“Remembering Life in the Watts House – Rose and Grant lived comfortably, quite unlike the “Little House on the Prairie”. With a master bedroom downstairs and three bedrooms upstairs, plus a maid’s quarters, kids had their own safe places. Built in 1902, the house had running water, held in a backyard tower. A huge vegetable garden and chicken yard were the culinary base. But I primarily remember Grandma Rose’s cast iron stove and the huge kettle regularly steamed up for shellfish. Was it love or just housewife slavery? Looking back, I visualize the women working so long in those times! Then as a young male, I only knew that the food was always good.”



John Clothier and his daughter, Nadine, and Oregon family.
 “I somewhat resemble Grandpa Grant Watts, except he was 6’3” and I only 6’.”
 -John



Robert Watts (cousin of John) with his wife Sylvia, daughter Angela, and Angela’s daughter Madison.



Robert Watts’ son Victor Grant Watts who is 6’8” and played basketball in high school and two years of college.

VOLUNTEERS AT WORK...

Thank you to **Cliff Bauer** and **Joanne Haley** for beautifying the front porch, and to **Pete McHugh** for giving the landscaping a nice clean cut!



LETS GROW OUR MEMBERSHIP!

As you know, the cost of membership is minimal yet those dues can significantly support the work of the Historical Society and the upkeep of the Watts House. Why not ask family and friends to be a partner in preserving the history of our town?

You can forward this newsletter as an invitation to become a member. It’s only \$15 annually for an individual, or \$20 for a family or business. They will receive the monthly newsletter direct to keep up on Historical Society and community events. They will be able to volunteer (if they choose) for activities such as restoration projects, gardening, tours, maintenance, fund raising, and event participation. Plus, we are always looking for new activities and workshops and welcome suggestions.

All they need to do is go to www.scappoosehistoricalsociety.org and click on the ‘join’ tab.

They can sign up online or mail their information and payment. All the info is there.

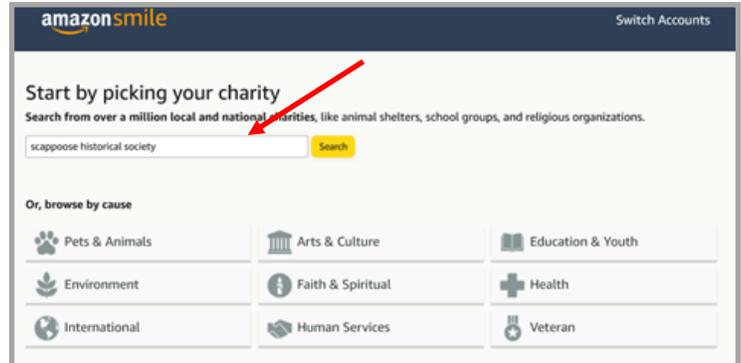
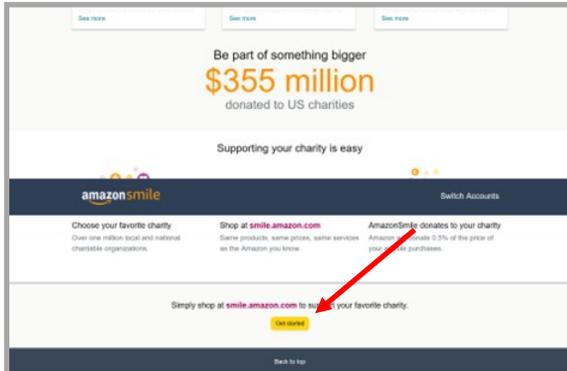
LETS ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITY BY ADDING MEMBERS TO OUR ROSTER! ...and volunteer pool!

Want to donate to the Historical Society the easy way?

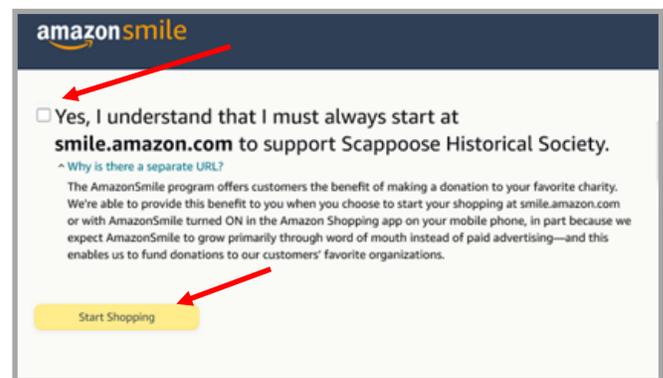
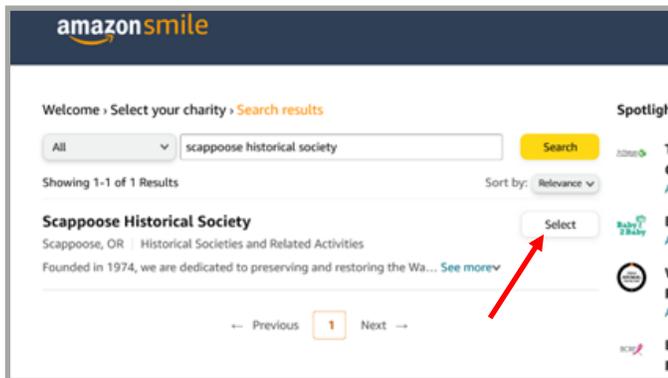
If you order merchandise from Amazon, you can easily have a portion of your purchase go directly to the Historical Society through the Amazon Smile program. Here's how it works.

When you login to Amazon, login at www.smile.amazon.com rather than just www.amazon.com (they use the same login id and password. If you're already logged into amazon.com, you can just go to smile.amazon.com and it will keep you logged in. Everything is the same except the URL internet line).

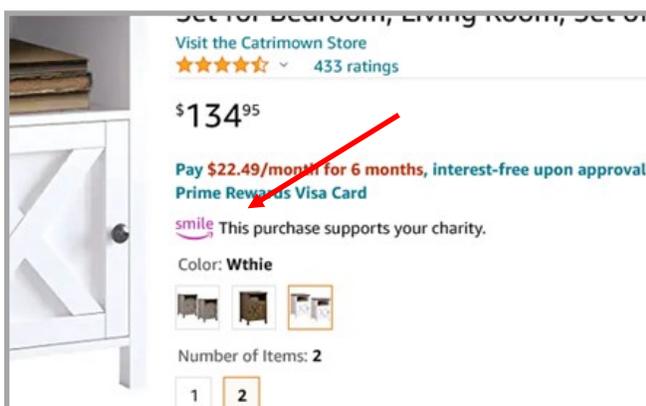
Once you are on smile.amazon.com for the first time, scroll to the bottom of the page to 'Get Started'. On the next page you will search for your charity. Type in Scappoose Historical Society and click 'search'.



On the next page click 'select'. On the final page click in the box "Yes, I understand..." and then click 'Start shopping'.



As you shop you will note in the item description that it qualifies for the smile program.



NOTE: You must put items in your cart under smile. Amazon for them to count towards your charity. If you already have items in your cart under amazon.com, or forgot to start in smile.amazon.com, just move the items in your cart to 'save for later'. They will just be moved below your cart. Then go to smile.amazon.com, to your cart, and move them back to your cart. They will then count towards the charity. I have forgotten many times to start in smile.amazon.com and have had to 'save for later', go to smile.amazon.com, and move back to cart. Super easy though!

The First Annual Scappoose City Christmas Lights and Holiday Sights Competition is all set!

Participants must be a resident of Scappoose or live within the 97056 zip code.

Participants recognize that by submitting their application, their address will be listed and posted on the Scappoose Historical Society website and Facebook page.

Entry forms must be received by November 15th to be included on the map and eligible for judging and prizes. Forms will be available at the Scappoose Library, City Hall, and online at scappoosehistoricalsociety.org

Judging ends on December 15th. Winners will be notified and announced on social media, city newsletter, and print media.

Judging will be by citizen vote, Mayor and City Council, and Watts House Holiday Lighting Committee.

No cost to enter.

PRIZES: Grand Prize: \$750, 1st Place: \$500, 2nd Place: \$250, 3rd Place: \$100

DON'T FORGET!

Memory Garden and Dering Roses Commemoration on September 24, 12-2pm

Wild Currant will provide catering for a small luncheon.

Set-up will start at 10am on Sept. 24th

IT'S NEW...AND OLD!

The front door at the Watts House will be getting a vintage hand-turn doorbell!
Stay tuned...!

MUSEUM RAMP

Janet will be submitting a request to the City for an ADA assessable ramp to the Children's Museum.

IT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

The Open House on September 10th, during the **Scappoose Adventure Fest** was a huge success! We had a steady stream of people come visit the house. **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who were there to greet the guests and serve cookies and lemonade.

JACK-O-LANTERNS...OH MY!

We'll be putting together plans for a **pumpkin carving contest** leading up to Halloween. Entries will be on display and voted on by attendees at the **Spirit Tasting event on October 28th**, and possibly social media.

TRIVIA ANSWER: Tom Sawyer

SAVE THE DATES!

- ◆ **Saturday, September 24, 12-2pm:** Memory Garden/Dering Roses Commemoration
- ◆ **Saturday, October 1, 10am:** General Meeting—Meet the Mayoral Candidates
- ◆ **Friday, October 28, 6-9pm:** Freeland Spirits tasting event at the Watts House

INFORMATION

Visit and Like our

Facebook Page:

Scappoose Historical Society Watts House

You can find information, ask questions, and send messages from our page

Visit our Website!

ScappooseHistoricalSociety.org

Mailing Address:

Scappoose Historical Society
PO Box 441
Scappoose, OR 97056

Watts House Address:

52432 SE 1st St.
Scappoose, OR 97056

Newsletter Contributions:

Send info to Holly Allison,
oduck84@gmail.com by the Wednesday following each month's meeting. Photos are especially Appreciated! Include your contact info.

OFFICERS

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