NEW EXHIBIT: CASTLES IN THE AIR
Events Calendar

April 5-10  Pioneer Quilter's Annual Quilt Show
LCHM: Tue-Sun, 10AM – 4PM

April 8, 10  Radio Redux: It Happened One Night
Hult Center: Friday 7:30PM & Sunday 2PM
$18 – $21  Contact: 541.682.5000

April 15  Castles in the Air: Literary Lessons and Daily Life in the World of Little Women
LCHM: Opening reception April 15, Exhibit Tour at 7PM

Little Women is a classic of children's literature that provides a glimpse into the home lives of young women during a time of great tumult and change in American history. The March sisters are among the most beloved literary characters of all time, inspired by Louisa May Alcott's unusual upbringing among transcendentalist philosophers in New England. This exhibit will discuss the life and work of Louisa May Alcott, including the inspiration she found in her own life experiences. It will feature mid-19th century clothing, handicrafts and children's books from the LCHM collection.

May 14  Ballot Box Ballads by Suzanne and Jim
Cosponsored by Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association
LCHM: 2PM – 3PM, Standard Admission Fees Apply

Suzanne and Jim are musicians who explore new directions by looking back into the roots of Americanas music and lore. The husband and wife team blend their voices and instruments in songs of an earlier time. The stories told by these old songs not only relate tales of a bygone era but open a window into the origins of our modern culture. The duo's performances are designed from their research into collections of historic music and are presented in an informative yet engaging manner. Each show involves the audience from the first note to the last applause in a memorable entertainment experience.

May 20, 22  Radio Redux: Radio Daze
Hult Center: Friday 7:30PM & Sunday 2PM
$18 – $21  Contact: 541.682.5000

May 28, 29, 30  Memorial Day ceremony
Eugene Masonic Cemetery, 12PM

Memorial Day observance
Luper Cemetery - all day.
LCHM Mobile Museum site.

May 30  Memorial Day ceremonies
Pioneer Cemetery, 11AM

Front Cover: Little Women, volume II, by Louisa May Alcott (1832-1888). Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1869
SPRING 2016

DIRECTOR’S CORNER

Spring has sprung and winter’s chill is leaving the air. Our liquid sunshine has been evident in great profusion and the 44th annual Daffodil Festival at the Long Tom Grange is done. Good weather on Saturday and bad weather on Sunday. Our mobile museum tent was staffed on both days, and our wonderful volunteers met friends both old and new. This was a first for us at the Daffodil Festival and we all plan a return next year.

I am saddened to be losing both our long term Oral Historian, Virginia Sherwood, and our talented videographer, Kate Williams. Virginia and Kate were given a special sendoff by staff and we, of course, wish them buckets of luck in new endeavors. At this writing the selection process is still ongoing for the Artifacts Manager and Registrar and I am excited that we will soon be welcoming this new staff member.

The museum is on quite a roll. Attendees at events have heard me say this now for several months. There is a new energy reflected in our staff, exhibits and events.

• The museum is reorganizing and establishing a museum educator position, with secondary marketing duties. Who does not believe that our schools could use some help with history instruction? Former Registrar Heather Kliever is taking on this important task.
• Two existing and underutilized museum rooms have been rehabilitated for more productive use by staff and volunteers, one as a workspace and one for storage.
• Our board is weighing new projects and authorizing expenditures that only a few years ago would not have gone beyond the talking stage. Perhaps the best example is the crash of our network server during last August’s heat wave and the consequent approval and installation of a new ductless heat pump in the library and archives (where the new server resides). Lane Council of Governments, EWEB and XS Media will be bringing the museum broadband service soon, replacing our inadequate DSL line. And we are most seriously exploring the testing, repairs and cost of repainting the entire museum building.
• We continue collaboration with other organizations, most recently with the upcoming exhibits supporting the Eugene Opera (Castles in the Air) and the Eugene Symphony’s 50th Anniversary.
• Our History Here Poster Project idea is now taking root in Cottage Grove and up the McKenzie. Though the designs may vary from the Eugene model, the idea is the same; use historical photographs in public places to make people more aware of the history that surrounds them.

Look for our spring fundraising appeal soon. There are many ways in which we could make our building more welcoming and attractive while our exhibity better engages the young and stimulates the adult. The secret is our supporters. As historian David McCullough writes, “We are better citizens if we know our history, and we are also better human beings.”

[Signature]
For some people, Eugene, Oregon is just a town on the map. For a different demographic in America, Eugene is so much more. It is a holy site of track and field. Each year, Eugene hosts some of the most prestigious track competitions not just in the United States, but the whole world. Events range from the U.S. Olympic Trials and the Diamond League-Prefontaine Classic to the N.C.A.A Track & Field championships. All these prestigious meets take place at Historic Hayward Field.

Aside from the high level meets that are hosted at Hayward Field, one of the most successful sports companies ever, Nike, originated in Eugene. Legends such as Steve Prefontaine, Alberto Salazar, Mary Decker Slaney, and Bill McChesney had their amazing careers start in Eugene, known today as TrackTown, USA.

This area hasn't always been the track mega-giant it is today. There was a time when track was still in its infancy, a time when most people today wouldn't recognize the sport.

Track and field got its first big start in Lane County when the University of Oregon introduced a track and field team in 1895. The sport was a cruder version of what it is today. The original running track for the university was located near Deady Hall. The track surfaces were different combinations of dirt, sand, and cinder until the all-weather track was introduced. Events were run without the same level of safety standards we use today.

Bill Hayward took over the team in 1904 and brought them into the national stage. Dan Kelly, Ralph Hill, and Mack Robinson were some of the greats from this time. After Bill Hayward passed away in 1947, John Warren took over the duties for the team until Bill Bowerman arrived in 1949, thus beginning one of the greatest distance running eras in track history. Bill Bowerman brought countless innovations to sport of running. He coached legendary runners such as Jim Bailey, Bill Dillinger, and Steve Prefontaine. He co-wrote the instructional booklet Jogging, a guide to help convince Americans of the benefits that running brings.

Bill Bowerman later created one of the most innovative revolutions in running shoe technology by creating the waffle shoe. This unique shoe was then marketed by former UO runner Phil Knight, thus spawning the hugely successful sport company, Nike. One of Bill Bowerman’s most famous athletes, Steve Prefontaine, embodied the type of running attitude people think of when they think of Tracktown. During his lifetime, he held the American records in every distance from the 2,000 meter to the 10,000 meter. He died tragically in 1975 in a car crash just hours after he had given a great performance at Hayward Field. His memorial in Eugene is on Skyline Boulevard, at the site of his crash.

Eugene still produced legendary runners and teams well into the 1980s. Bill Dillinger,
a stand out University of Oregon runner and an Olympic bronze medalist, would lead the program into new levels of fame. Runners such as Alberto Salazar, Otis Davis, Rudy Chapa, Bill McChesney, and Joaquim Cruz would lead the school and area into the next era of greatness. One of the more notable moments came when the women of Oregon won their first track national championship in 1985.

The Eugene area continues to produce accomplished runners year after year. Modern legends such as Galen Rupp, Matthew Centrowitz Jr., Ashton Eaton, Jenna Prandini, and Nick Symmonds have added to the prestige of track in Eugene. Other institutes in Eugene have made their mark. The Oregon Track Club is the training group of many Olympic hopefuls and in 2015 the Northwest Christian University Women's Cross-Country team won their first NAIA national title. Eugene continues to draw the best runners in hopes of pushing their running dreams to the top.

Hayward field, has seen the rise of the sport in Eugene and has grown with it. Originally built as a football field, it wasn't until 1921 that the university added a six lane cinder track around it. Hayward became a track and field only facility when Autzen Stadium was finished in 1967. The track was official upgraded in the late 1980’s to a 400 meter track as part of a series of facility upgrades. Between 1987 and 2008, the track, which had been lacking many features, was upgraded to the highest standard of international tracks. Many improvements such as a state-of-the-art score board, east grand stand seats, heavy lighting for night meets, the Bowerman Building/Athletic Facility, and the Powell Plaza were added. Because of these improvements Hayward field has been able to host some of the most famous events in U.S. track and field history. The facilities have hosted 12 NCAA Outdoor Championships, 7 USATF Outdoor Championships, 6 Olympic Track & Field Trials, 40 years of the Diamond-League Prefontaine Classic, and more.

While the track accolades and prestige of the Eugene area runners has made the appeal of Tracktown great, the environment that has also contributed to drawing people here. One of the leading groups bringing people to the community has been TrackTown, USA, a non-profit organization that is in charge of bringing and maintaining high caliber track and field events to Eugene, Oregon. Eugene is not just a place for elite runners. The culture in Eugene is friendly to runners of all ages and abilities. The city spends a great deal of money and effort into maintaining an abundance of soft bark running trails. No matter where you are in Eugene, you are never too far from a trail. Another popular landmark of the sport here in Eugene is TrackTown Pizza, a local restaurant that has been in operation since 1977 that houses track and field memorabilia. The magic of TrackTown continues to grow with the sport. It’s a success that holds much promise for a bright future.

By: Hunter Tyler, Volunteer

PHOTOS: Left - Track and Field by Conger, Ray Milton Published 1939 Right - Steve Prefontaine, Photo courtesy of Flickr
I was in service so it would've been 1942. We'd [Don and first wife Dolores] been camping up in the Cascades. We went up to Cultus Lake, "Big Cultus Lake" and camped there overnight on the beach of the lake. You could drive right out to the lake then... during the night the wind came up and it was blowing quite a bit. In the morning we got up and the waves were coming in... it started to rain once in a while so we had our breakfast then decided sometimes it's better if you go east - get away from the high area there - and maybe it wouldn't be so rainy. So we started going east and went to Elk Lake and spent most the day exploring around some trails and taking pictures of flowers and ended up at Devils Rockpile and took some more pictures there. [We] started exploring Tyee Crick - a little stream comes into Devils Lake - and we discovered that's a beautiful little stream... It comes out of a big spring and runs about less than a mile and goes into the lake... The water level is always about the same so moss comes right down to the edge of the water, and mushrooms were blooming and the sun would come out once in a while, then it would rain a little bit. So, by late afternoon we decided that we'd better start looking for a place to stay that night. ... we went further east and drove up to Todd Lake and it was late afternoon then. We drove... right up the side of the lake and got out and parked the car right there overlooking the... and started looking around for a place to camp overnight. Well, it had been raining... so we went along the edge of the lake looking for a sheltered area where there was a lot of foliage that would shelter the ground and while we were out looking it started to rain again - lot of fine little drops. So we came back and got in the car to wait out this storm... and sat there looking out through the windshield 'cross the lake, and at far end of Todd Lake meadow... there was a tall figure; couldn't believe how tall it was. I pointed... out the door and we got out of the car to get a better look 'cause there were raindrops on the windshield. And in closing the door apparently it heard us, because it was just standing over there, then it started walking over to the left 'cross this meadow and it's strides were giant, it seemed like it's legs were even long for its height. And it must have been, I would judge eight, nine feet tall and slender, fairly slender... these long legs, it was striding across the meadow there. He got over into the trees and we couldn't see him anymore. We thought he might circle around over toward us. We were just petrified.
So we got in the car and we were gonna... get out of there. I tried [to] start the engine and it flooded and it wouldn't go, we were just on pins and needles waiting for that engine... the gasoline to evaporate so we could start [it]. Finally we got it going and we took off out of there, and drove... north on this road that goes from Todd Lake North to Three Cricks Lake and into Sisters finally... this was before the war, before I got involved in the war and there was rationing, and not many people were up in the mountains in those days. And as a matter of fact, as we drove along this road, from the wind and the night before, a lot of ferny litter [had] come down on the road and we were the only track on this road - no one else had gone by there. So we drove on a ways... and then came onto a branch in the road where it goes on to an area they call Broken Top Crater, and we went out on that and got out right in the middle of a pumice flat where there were no trees around us at all, and it was getting to be dark then, started to rain again and through this sunset light I remember, we were moving things around in the little Ford panel car I had so we could sleep in the car. We locked the doors and slept there that night. It really wasn't very far from the Three Creeks [to] Todd Lake, just over a ridge and down the other side a ways, but to get there we probably drove 'bout four or five miles. So we slept there that night, and the following morning we explored around there a bit and started on farther north. We came to a place where the road fords a stream, Soda Crick. And, uh, here was an old touring car, right in the middle of the stream, right in the middle of the ford where the road went across... It was not as if it had stalled going across because it was headed downstream, but it was hard to get around it. We couldn't get around it so we... took our shoes and socks off... and rolled up the pants legs, got out there and moved boulders around in this icy cold stream to make a place to get across... and we drove on. I don't remember whether we stayed at Three Creeks Lake that night, that next night or not, but the following day anyway, as we came into Sisters... there's a ranger station there. We stopped there to report this car in the stream; told the ranger about it. He said he had heard that there was something up there but he didn't know what it was. We told him about an old... big touring car with a top down. And there were fir needles on it too like it has been there a while. So we told him about this

and then we said, incidentally, up at Todd Lake I saw a gigantic man, he must have been eight, nine feet tall and this ranger just looked at us like we were absolutely off our beam,

and he didn't make any comment at all so we just walked out of there. We decided that there probably no use telling anybody about it - they wouldn't believe us anyway. And so we went home and eventually told the folks about it. I didn't tell anyone else for a long time... I remember the Obsidian Hiking Club and, [I was] on the board that... and one night we had our monthly meeting near Halloween and after the meeting they built a fire in their fireplace... and started telling ghost stories. [It] came my turn to say something. I said, “Well I have a story but it's not the ghost story, it was an actual fact.” So I told my story to 'em, thinking that might be the end of it.
One of the ongoing challenges in many, if not most, museums is keeping up with the accessioning of donated archival materials and artifacts. This is certainly true for the Lane County Historical Museum, which has received thousands of collection donations over the 65 years of its existence, but has suffered from funding restrictions, part-time staffing and high turnover. The backlog has been particularly severe in the artifacts collection, with boxes of miscellaneous, misidentified items stacked in out-of-the-way corners for decades. No one was available to properly identify, inventory or store them, or to enter the information into the database with directions on where to locate them in our storage areas.

But Collections staff, with the enthusiastic guidance of long-term volunteer Sheila Wallace (our master organizer), embarked on a massive clean-up project in the Collections office in January 2016. The backlog has been cleared out in order to create an efficient, well-organized work area. The piles of items awaiting attention are being cataloged and housed properly in appropriate storage areas and some long-lost items are being rediscovered.

One of those items was a portion of Modoc leader Captain Jack’s (true name, Kintpuash) necklace. It was taken as a trophy after Captain Jack’s trial and execution in 1873 for killing General Canby during the Modoc War. The necklace section had been included with the contents of the cornerstone for the 1898 Lane County Courthouse, and apparently transferred to the museum with the other cornerstone items when the courthouse was demolished in 1959. Although the necklace had an identification tag, we have no records showing when the cornerstone contents were transferred to the museum. They were placed in an unidentified box on a shelf and forgotten for decades.

Upon discovery of the necklace portion, registrar Heather Kliever immediately contacted the Klamath, Modoc and Yahooskin Tribe, offering repatriation. Tribe members were thrilled, and tribal leader Perry Chocktoot arrived the next day to take this valued possession of their former leader home.

This find underscores the importance and necessity of focusing on identifying, inventorining and cataloging backlogged collection items. Who knows what other items of significance may be sitting on a shelf, waiting for years to be rediscovered?

**HISTORICAL NOTE:**

The Modoc War is famous for Captain Jack’s stand at Captain Jack’s Stronghold in the lava beds of Northern California. He and around 53 warriors held off 1000 or so U. S. troops for months before they were forced to surrender, reportedly due to betrayal of their location by other tribe members. The conflict was a bitter one, initiated when U. S. troops attacked and killed residents in Captain Jack’s Modoc village by mistake, in revenge for an assault on white settlers by the more southerly Pit River Indians. The Modocs were forced onto the Klamath Indian Reservation, but due to the ensuing friction, attempted to reclaim their homelands. The trial of Captain Jack (and three other Modoc leaders) attracted hundreds of hostile white settlers who rushed the bodies after the executions and took samples of hair, clothing and as in this case, jewelry sections. The executed leaders’ heads were sent to a military museum in Washington D.C.; they were eventually returned to Modoc descendants in 1984. Captain Jack’s body has never been found. Hence the value of this personal memento of a great tribal leader. More detailed histories are available on the internet and in book form.

By: Cheryl Roffe, Collections Manager

**PHOTO:** Perry Chocktoot & Bob Hart
A lock of hair given as a gift was once a sign of true love and closeness. These locks were deeply personal souvenirs that could be kept even when life caused ways to be parted. Though most commonly associated with romantic attachment, locks of hair were also exchanged between friends and family. This peculiar fad may seem a bit macabre, but locks of hair served as a way to remember relationships in the same way that photos do today.

For women who travelled along the Oregon Trail, it was not unusual to take locks of hair from the family and friends they left behind. Hair was kept in keepsake boxes or made into elaborate designs for home decoration or jewelry. It was a way to keep visual reminders of the people who were most important in life. Women would create these items at home. It became a popular hobby and tools, kits, and instructions for making hair art could be purchased via mail order.

Several very interesting examples of hairwork made by local families will appear in the upcoming exhibit Castles in the Air. This includes some very exciting finds from the collection. Amelia Richardson Skinner (1855-1839), the daughter of Eugene and Mary Skinner, kept several locks of hair from family members and plaited them into lovely braids. Pictured here are two flat woven knots made from the hair of her sisters Mary Elizabeth (left) and Leonora (right) who both passed away in their teens. These are truly remarkable artifacts and this is the first time they have been publicly displayed.

By Faith Kreskey, Curator of Exhibits
The LCHM collection is rich with ephemera; the little bits and pieces of everyday life that were made to be used and thrown away. This little box is quite a curious case. It is a container of J. A. Pozzoni’s Complexion Powder, a product that was quite popular in the 1870s and 1880s. The box is made of wood, with a paper label on the top. It is still sealed shut with a paper pamphlet that contains beauty advice and advertisements for other Pozzoni products. The adhesive seal on the side is dated 1874, the year of manufacture. It even still has a stamp on the bottom. This was likely a mail order purchase since it is doubtful that many stores in Lane County carried cosmetics at that time.

Pozzoni’s was one of the first companies in the United States to mass produce cosmetics for sale to the general public. It began manufacturing face powders in the 1840s, marketing them “complexion improvers” rather than makeup. This particular item is a talc based face powder, popular for the light pink tint it gave the skin. It was advertised during its heyday as containing no lime or arsenic, two common cosmetic ingredients in the 19th century.

One wonders who bought this powder, and why it was never opened? We will never know, but we are lucky they did because small things like this give historians great insight into the past.

By Faith Kreskey, Curator of Exhibits
LOUISE C. WADE 1928 – 2016

We are sad to announce that long-term LCHS member and Cascade Manor resident Louise Carroll Wade passed away on February 15. It was with deep appreciation we learned that LCHS had been remembered in her final arrangements.

Born in Toledo, Ohio, Dr. Wade’s early academic career was at the University of Chicago. In 1975, following a divorce, she arrived in Eugene to teach history at the UO. Emeritus Professor Daniel Pope has written of her, “…Professor Wade taught a wide variety of courses in American history, notably in the fields of labor, social and urban history. As a teacher of both undergraduates and graduate students she was known for her careful preparation, infectious enthusiasm in the classroom, and concern for her students’ success.” She was author of two books, Graham Taylor: Pioneer for Social Justice 1851-1938 (1964) and Chicago’s Pride: The Stockyards, Packingtown, and Environs in the Nineteenth Century (1987). A significant article followed the latter book, challenging Upton Sinclair’s novel The Jungle as history.

Carol Wade ultimately became honored as a Professor Emerita, and fellow emeritus Daniel Pope continues, “Soon after her retirement [2000], Louise Wade endowed… [a] Visiting Professorship in Urbanization, named in honor of her parents. Rotating among the History, Political Science and Geography Departments, it has brought eminent senior and promising junior scholars of cities to campus to teach undergraduates and graduate students alike and to deliver public lectures on topics in urban studies.”

Dr. Wade’s gift to the museum is most welcome. If you would like to remember the Museum or Society in your will, please contact LCHS Treasurer Oliver Fraser or go online to www.leavealegacy.org.

The development committee has been one of the most active LCHS committees this past year. They are full of ideas, but wish to cast a wider net and are looking for suggestions. Three priorities have been established to evaluate suggestions:

1.) Does the suggestion extend the Society’s audience reach?
2.) Does the suggestion increase Museum attendance?
3.) Does the suggestion increase revenue for museum operations and Society outreach?

Please watch our website, Facebook page, and emails for more information on how to submit your ideas!
Hey, Follow Us on Facebook!

We advertise exhibits and programs, new acquisitions, highlight images from the photo-collections and pass on information we think is of interest about local and national history. We look forward to seeing and hearing from YOU!

www.facebook.com/lanecountyhistoricalmuseum