

LANE  
COUNTY  
HISTORY  
MUSEUM



ANNUAL REPORT 2020 - 2021





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## LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

August 4, 2021

Joe Berney, Chair, Board of Commissioners  
Steve Mokrohisky, County Administrator  
Lane County Courthouse  
125 E. Oak St.  
Eugene, OR 97401

Dear Commissioners and Administrator:

Enclosed please find the hard copy FY 2020-2021 annual report for the Lane County History Museum (LCHM). This recently concluded fiscal year was our first to fall entirely during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are elated to have reopened our doors to the public in the last two weeks of this period to fanfare accompanying a new exhibit, *The Boat the River Built*.

Midway through the fiscal year LCHM established an advisory council to keep the board of directors on track with respect to implementing the first updates to our strategic plan in seven years. This four-member body includes one of my predecessors as Lane County Historical Society (LCHS) board chair as well as a distinguished former board member who also serves as a director of the Oregon Historical Society.

Thanks to the CARES Act's Paycheck Protection Program, most of our staff continued to carry out LCHM's mission behind closed doors. A result of this was an expanded online presence that included using Story Maps to tell the tale of the "lost town" of Wendling, which at one time was home to the most technologically advanced sawmill in the state.

Florence High School graduate Jessica South became the first recipient of our Ethan Newman Scholarship Award, named for Eugene's longest-serving postmaster and champion of historic preservation. Although we couldn't keep her in Lane County this fall, Jessica will not be far afield, since her destination is Corban University in Salem.

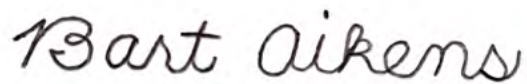
We were pleased to team with the McKenzie River Trust and the McKenzie Education Foundation to help underwrite a collection of oral histories of the Holiday Farm Fire. Our thanks go out to the Environmental Leadership Program students in UO professor Kathryn Lynch's class for documenting this notable episode in Lane County history.

Our full online History Pub season saw us essaying the familiar role of arbiter of important local issues. During our Sept. 14, 2020 session on the pros and cons of changing Lane County's name, panelist Pete Sorenson explained that as a charter county, our name can only be changed by an act of the Legislature or via a 200,000-signature petition.

Board and committee meetings were conducted almost entirely by Zoom, with FY 2020-2021 witnessing the formation of two new standing committees. The fundraising committee reflects the new strategic plan's enhanced role for the board in this crucial activity. And the diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion (DEAI) committee recognizes that DEAI considerations will infuse all that LCHM does. Indeed, we used DEAI criteria to hire a new exhibits curator this spring.

Our excitement over the relocation opportunity presented by the Oregon Electric Station also infuses all that we do. I am grateful to LCHS boards past for exercising financial probity and keeping our powder dry. But now I believe our organization has met its moment and must act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Bart Aikens". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and slightly larger than the rest of the letters.

Bart Aikens  
Chair, LCHS Board of Directors

Cc: Commissioner Bozievich  
Commissioner Buch  
Commissioner Farr  
Commissioner Trieger

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COVID-19 pandemic response dominated the fiscal year. July began with the LCHM closed, a first draw Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan to retain staff, and an enhanced online presence. By June, LCHM reopened with a smaller staff and an intriguing relocation offer.

Exhibits Curator Faith Kreskey left in August to take a position as executive director for the Lincoln County Historical Society and directorship of the Newport Marine Center. The timing of her departure was typical for a young museum professional with upward mobility- five years of service at LCHM. With the Museum then closed, she was not immediately replaced. In April 2021 we hired Marin Aurand as our new curator of exhibits.

An unexpected staff departure was that of Digital Archivist and Creative Assets Manager Nick Chase in December 2020. Instead of replacing him, assistant Stephen O'Brien was given more responsibility, more hours, and a pay increase.

Working remotely since March 2020, LCHM initiated a "Friday furlough" reduction in staff hours to help weather the expected downturn in transient room tax (TRT) funding. With the benefit of first and second draw PPP loans, only the museum receptionist was fully furloughed. Six of nine staff were enrolled in the Oregon Workshare Program with the Oregon Employment Department, partially compensating their reduced hours. Participation lasted through the month of February, when unfurloughed staff were brought back up to their full FTE in expectation of reopening in June.

The institutional budget developed for FY 20-21 envisioned an up to \$150,000 black hole. Fortunately, the anticipated significant decrease in the Museum's TRT was mercifully brief, with first and second draw PPP loans representing a welcome and timely assistance. These two loans ultimately contributed more than \$113,000 to replace the lost subsidy. An unanticipated financial boost also came in the form of the tragic Holiday Farm Fire evacuations and resultant use of hotel rooms for the evacuees, thus replacing normal tourist use for TRT purposes.

In order to prepare for an eventual museum reopening during the pandemic, LCHS purchased two new large ductless heat pumps with viral filters, as well as a viral filter for the existing heat pump, cleaned our forced air heating ductwork and added a viral scrubber. In addition, several air purifiers were purchased for individual offices and the old building section not directly served by the new heat pumps. As the heat pumps represented capital improvements to the county's facility,

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

an amendment to our county lease agreement was adopted allowing amortized county reimbursement of LCHS for the heat pumps should we vacate the current building.

Since the museum was closed from July 1, 2020, through June 15, 2021, the visitation for the year was extraordinarily light.

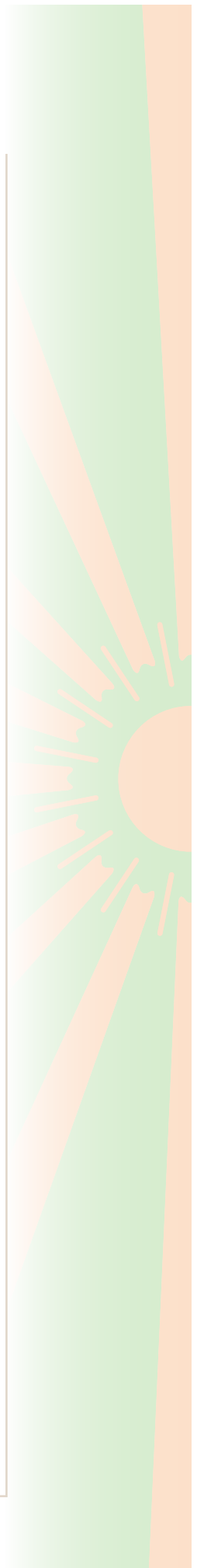
During a year of closure and transition to an increased online presence two LCHM achievements are notable. The first is the arrival of an iconic and exciting addition to our collections—the Larsen drift boat. This beautiful wooden double ender is associated with legendary McKenzie River guide Prince Helfrich. That the museum was able to acquire, store, quarantine, clean, install, and display it in time for reopening is a board and staff collaborative success story.

The second achievement corresponds with the September installation of the ductless heat pumps, reflecting not on technology but the social justice furor which swept the country.

Extended rioting in Portland, and even rioting locally, followed in the wake of the Minneapolis killing of George Floyd. It was appropriate for LCHS to follow the toppling and removal of the Pioneer Father and Pioneer Mother at the UO with a history pub panel discussion of potential county name change because of the mixed legacy of our county's namesake, General Joseph Lane. Pioneer iconography and selective public memory had been themes in previous UO-coordinated history pubs.

At the February board of directors meeting Casey Barrett introduced the attractive possibility of an LCHM move to the former Oregon Electric Station (OES) restaurant site. This historic facility had been purchased by a partnership including his grandfather, former Eugene mayor and businessman Brian Obie.

LCHM staff were ecstatic about the possibilities of a downtown museum location in a National Register property. Consequently considerable time this spring has been devoted to examining the feasibility of an OES move. LCHS moved quickly to engage architect Nir Pearlson to address the initial conversion from restaurant to museum needs. LCHS had first worked with Nir's firm examining the US Post Office in 2011-2012. Anticipating a possible land swap to acquire the property, meetings with county staff and commissioners, began in March, and continue as of this writing.







## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LCHS is willing, at its own expense, to undertake the cost of largely cosmetic interior changes to the historic building, as well as the cost to establish a viable “storefront” operation inside. How soon the relocation could proceed is dependent on contractor availability and permission to proceed from Lane County government.

It is not likely that the option of operation at the OES will resolve what has previously been identified as the museum’s most pressing issue, that of adequate climate-controlled collections storage. However, a relocation to OES would resolve the LCHM’s equally significant visibility challenges at the Fairgrounds. The downtown location, with the assurance of greater foot traffic, increased admission fees, and facilities rental income would all prove transformational for LCHS and its museum operation.

OES relocation, in short, represents a potential museum future as a vibrant regional and community partner as well as a step toward additional cultural development in the Lane County seat.

Sincerely,



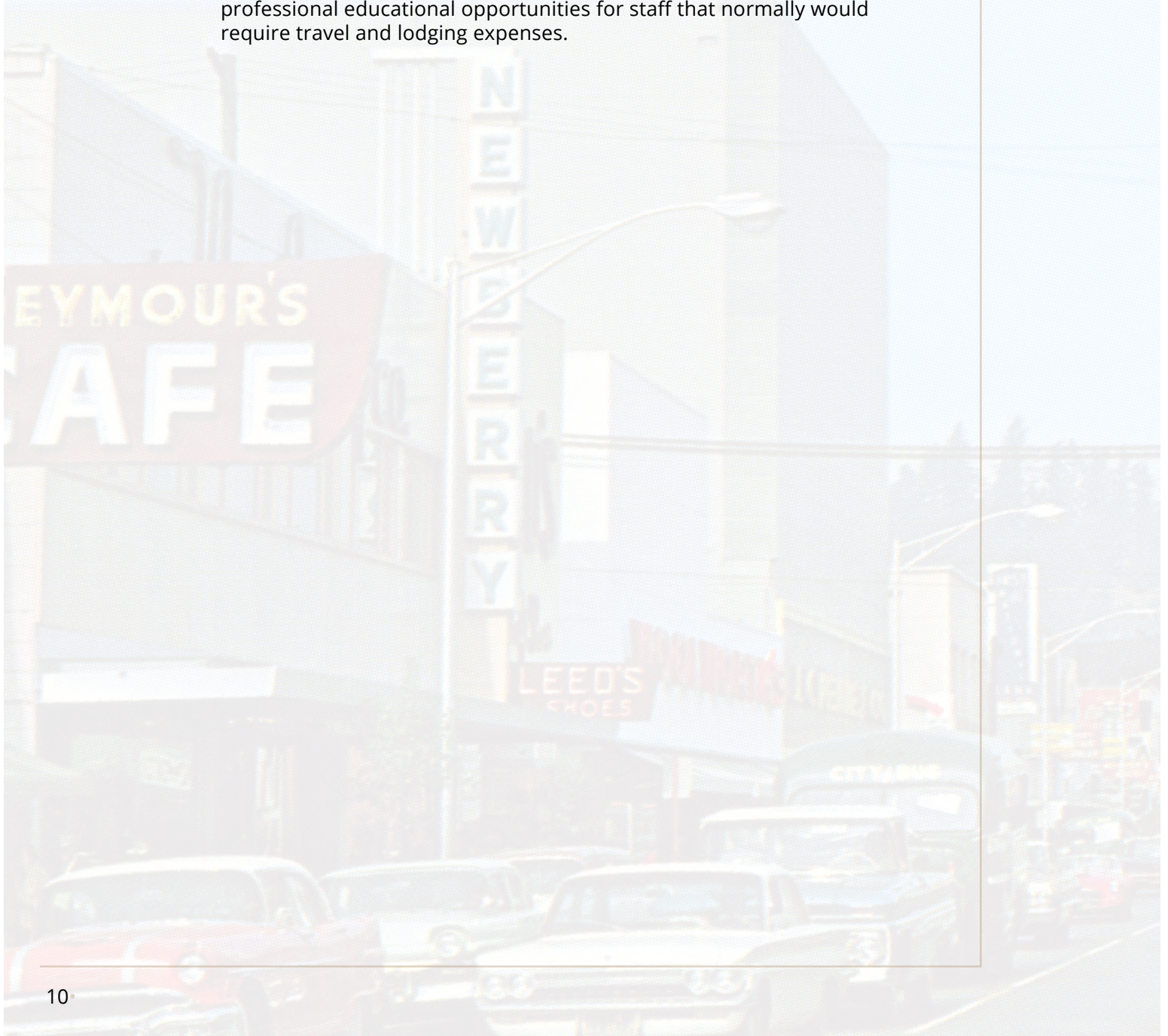
Robert L. Hart  
Executive Director

# *"Eugene, Oregon"*

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

LCHM connects with our community in a variety of ways and with a number of distinct audiences. From exhibits to education, and research to acquisitions we are engaging with our community to meet their needs and fulfill our mission. During the 2020-2021 fiscal year the Museum was closed to visitation due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but work continued.

We pivoted to provide for our community in online ways and used the time to work on important actions in our Strategic Plan including DEAL and relocation opportunities, which will be discussed more in depth later in this report. We also were able to take advantage of online professional educational opportunities for staff that normally would require travel and lodging expenses.



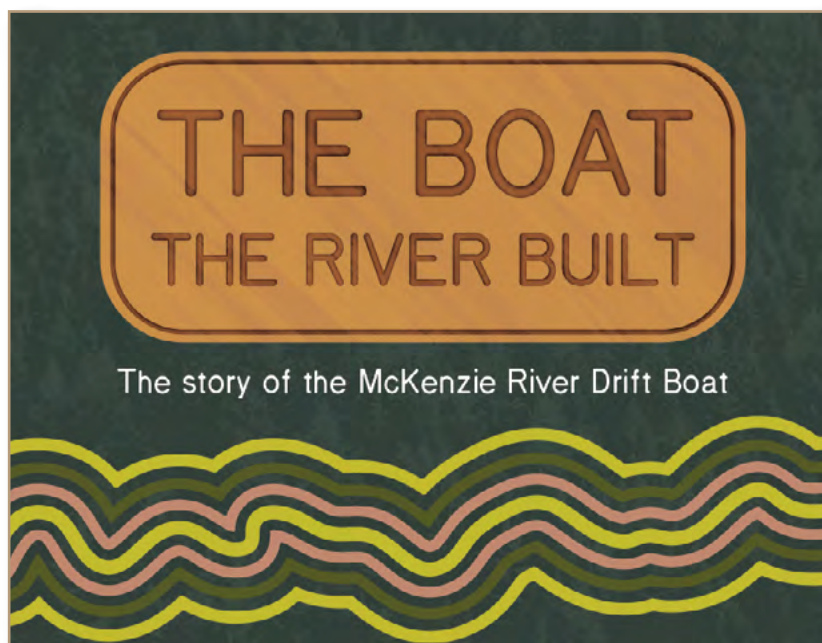


## EXHIBITS

With our museum doors closed, staff concentrated on ways to continue providing educational opportunities and interact with people digitally. Staff and volunteers created a series of online exhibits: "Scenes from 1892 in Eugene, Oregon," "Eugene's Earliest Schools," and "Lost Towns: Wendling." These online exhibits took advantage of current staff and volunteer research as well as past exhibit materials. Using past exhibit topics extended the life and reach of exhibits no longer on display.

Feedback has been very positive and LCHM continues to add online exhibits using past exhibit research and photography. The story map series has been viewed a total of 979 times over the year, with the average visitor spending nearly five minutes on the page.

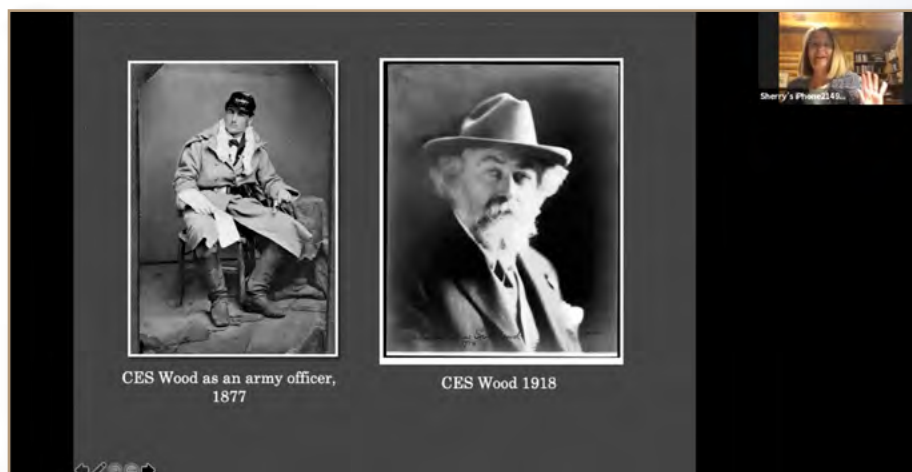
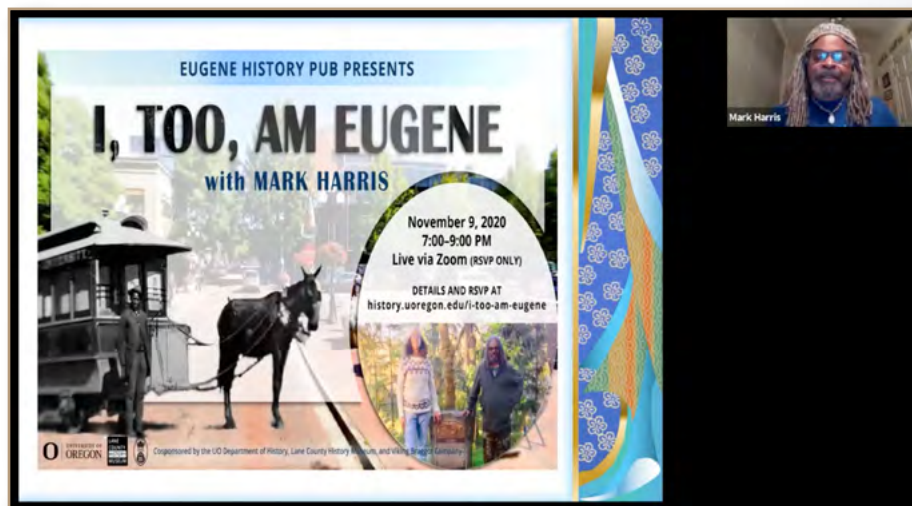
The museum opened again to visitors in June, and a new exhibit was installed titled "The Boat the River Built: The Story of the McKenzie River Drift Boat." The star of this exhibit is a drift boat built by the legendary Prince Helfrich and generously donated by Wally Larsen. The exhibit follows the unique development of the drift boat on the McKenzie River and the impact river guiding had on the community. The exhibit has received favorable reviews from drift boat enthusiasts.



## EDUCATION

Education is a central part of our work at the Museum, and was heavily impacted by our closure. We created an online slide-show lesson for teachers, but were unable to host onsite school tours or lend out our portable exhibits to classrooms.

Our adult education through offsite programming shifted as well. Our bi-monthly History Trivia Nights were canceled, but our History Pub Lecture Series in partnership with the UO Department of History went virtual and provides interesting and relevant topics via Zoom. Programs were presented live and are now also available as recorded versions. We tackle a wide variety of topics and are flexible enough to respond to issues of current interest to our community.





## HISTORY PUBS

*September - Should Lane County Change Its Name?, with guest panelists Pete Sorenson, Marc Carpenter, Eric Richardson, R. Gregory Nokes, Esther Stutzman, and Shannon Applegate*

*October - Bohemians West: Free Love, Family and Radicals in Twentieth Century America, with Sherry Smith*

*November - I, Too, Am Eugene, with Mark Harris*

*December - Woman Suffrage, Racism, and Civil Rights: An Oregon Overview, with Eliza Canty-Jones*

*January - Jewish Women, a Chinese Game and the Paradoxes of Postwar Domesticity, with Annelise Heinz*

*March - Jesse Applegate and the Modoc War, with R. Gregory Nokes*

*April - Bulldozer in the Playground, with Jeff Sanders*

*May - Oregon and the American West: The Age of Megafires, with William Robbins*

*June - Reclaiming the Black Past: Black Women in Pacific Northwest History, with Quin'Nita Cobbins-Modica*



## COLLECTIONS

For a complete list of all material accessioned in the 2020-2021 fiscal year, see the attached appendix.

New accessions to LCHM's collections have primarily come through unsolicited donations. In an effort to broaden the scope of collections with a community-centered focus, two new projects are underway: The COVID-19 Pandemic Collection Campaign and the Share Your Story Project.

The COVID-19 Pandemic Collection Campaign invites donation proposals that reflect the lived experiences of the pandemic from adults, children, businesses, and organizations across Lane County. The resulting collection will serve as documentation for how our communities reacted, pivoted, and coped during the trying times as individuals, families, and larger organizations.

The Share Your Story Project is a web-based project that provides a streamlined submission form for born-digital donations to an experimental crowd-sourced community collection. This material is not intended to be accessioned into the museum's permanent collection, rather to create a pool of material that community members may share and use freely.



## COLLECTIONS

Due to safety considerations, acceptance of new artifacts into the LCHM Artifact Collection was paused for the past year. One exception was made for the donation of a McKenzie River Drift boat from Mr. Walter Larsen. It had been a donation years in the making, so when the official offer was made in late 2020, the accession process was begun.

This was a complex process involving many steps and an intake plan to safely bring the boat into the museum without risking harm to the existing collection. It required the involvement of board members and staff, from the donation of temporary storage space, to the giving of time and labor. Since the boat was used outdoors, it was critical that it be cleaned and treated for pests and contaminants. To make sure that the boat was handled appropriately, our Collections Manager consulted with conservation colleagues. Subsequent to cleaning, the boat was sealed in an airtight plastic bag and placed in quarantine on site. After a few months and an inspection, the boat was released from quarantine and prepared for exhibit by a dedicated team of staff and volunteers.

Part of the exhibition plan for the drift boat included the construction of a new display cradle that supports the boat's keel and prevents it from sagging. This cradle, along with a display cradle for the boat oars was kindly made and donated to LCHM by master carpenter, Marv Glover.



## ARTIFACT COLLECTION

This has been a year of “housekeeping” for the Collections Department. Due to the pandemic and the move towards working remotely, the focus of collections work changed from physically handling artifacts to taking care of much needed documentation and cataloging backlog.

### *Inventory of Collection and “Cleaning” the Museum Database*

Due to the many more pressing tasks required in a museum, cataloging often gets relegated to being done whenever there is a spare moment. As a result, there is usually a backlog of cataloging and catalog maintenance in most museums. LCHM is no different and the catalog records and Past Perfect database needed a fair bit of reorganization and cleaning up. Where this task has always been at the mercy of lack of time, the pandemic closure opened up the opportunity for long swaths of time that could be dedicated to database and records care. This was a multi-faceted undertaking.





## ARTIFACT COLLECTION

Over the past five years, there has been a move to fully inventory the Artifacts Collection. As it stands, two of the major storage areas have been fully inventoried, as well as half of a third. Since the inventory was volunteer assisted, it was necessary to make paper lists initially allowing for the information to be entered into the database at a later date. As usual, the bottleneck in the process is the data entry component. Focused time for the database allowed updating of the inventory information and for rechecking for standardization and accuracy.

Before LCHM adopted the use of a computer database, all catalogue records were kept in paper lists. Eventually, the use of the paper inventory was supplanted with databases. Unfortunately the records were not all successfully transferred and there exist inconsistencies between the two sets of records. In order to keep better track of artifacts and to facilitate ease of research with regards to the Artifact Collection, it is necessary to resolve all these issues and make sure that all the database records are in a uniform style.

Part of this record-keeping organization initiative has also been to make digital copies of the paper record and gift agreements as a security measure to protect against loss or damage. Eventually these scans will be integrated into the Past Perfect Museum database to allow all available information for any artifact to be accessible in one place. During this past year, scans of all the gift agreements on record have been completed as well as scans of about one quarter of the paper records. Multiple backups have been made as a safeguard. One side benefit of going through each individual gift agreement has been the re-identification of accession numbers that had become disassociated from their artifacts.

Between records not fully transferred from paper to electronic records and the updating and rechecking of inventory information, the focus on cataloging during the closure allowed around 5,000 records in the artifact database to be improved since the beginning of the closure in March. 1,598 involved updating the electronic database with information from the old paper records, such as donor attributions, important dates, and facts about the object. 773 needed omissions to accession entries fixed. Some records were partially present and some had to be added as new entries. The rest of the records (3,703) were related to the various inventory projects and involved comparing information in the PastPerfect database against information from the new inventory lists and amending when necessary. In all cases, records had to be checked for consistency of form and accuracy of data entered. This work will continue until completion even as the museum reopens and artifact housing and other work resumes.



## ARTIFACT COLLECTION

### *Vault Grant Project, Funded by Oregon Heritage Museum Grant*

At the beginning of 2020, the Oregon Heritage Vault grant project was well underway and was proceeding on schedule. The goal of this grant-funded project was to inventory all the artifacts in one specific storage area as well as replace the old, wooden shelving with sturdy metal units.

However, in March when the Covid closure happened, the rehousing and returning part of the work was put on pause since onsite time was limited for staff and collections volunteers were not able to be at the museum. For the safety of the artifacts, a small team of staff led by our Archivist in consultation with the Collections Manager, spent two weeks in April packing into safe temporary housing the artifacts left out from the very recently completed inventory. This was dubbed the “Emergency Vault Project”. Since the upgrading of shelving had been finished in February, it was possible to safely place the artifacts, inside temporary boxes, back into the Vault to await resumption of work.

Thankfully, Oregon Heritage was understanding of the circumstances. Initially, the end date of the grant was extended from May 15, 2020 to October 31, 2020. When it was evident that things were not going to normalize by Halloween, grant deliverables were delayed so that financial reports could be closed and resolved for the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Thus funds were made available to purchase needed vault supplies at a later time.

Since the inventory for all the artifacts in the vault storage area had been completed before the closure, all the necessary information for cataloging was available and on hand, allowing virtual work on the vault project to continue through the past fiscal year. As working onsite has become possible, rehousing of artifacts has been slowly resumed. Once the project is complete, a final report will be made to Oregon Heritage.

**5000** *Records improved*

**1598** *Database updates*

**773** *Omissions fixed*



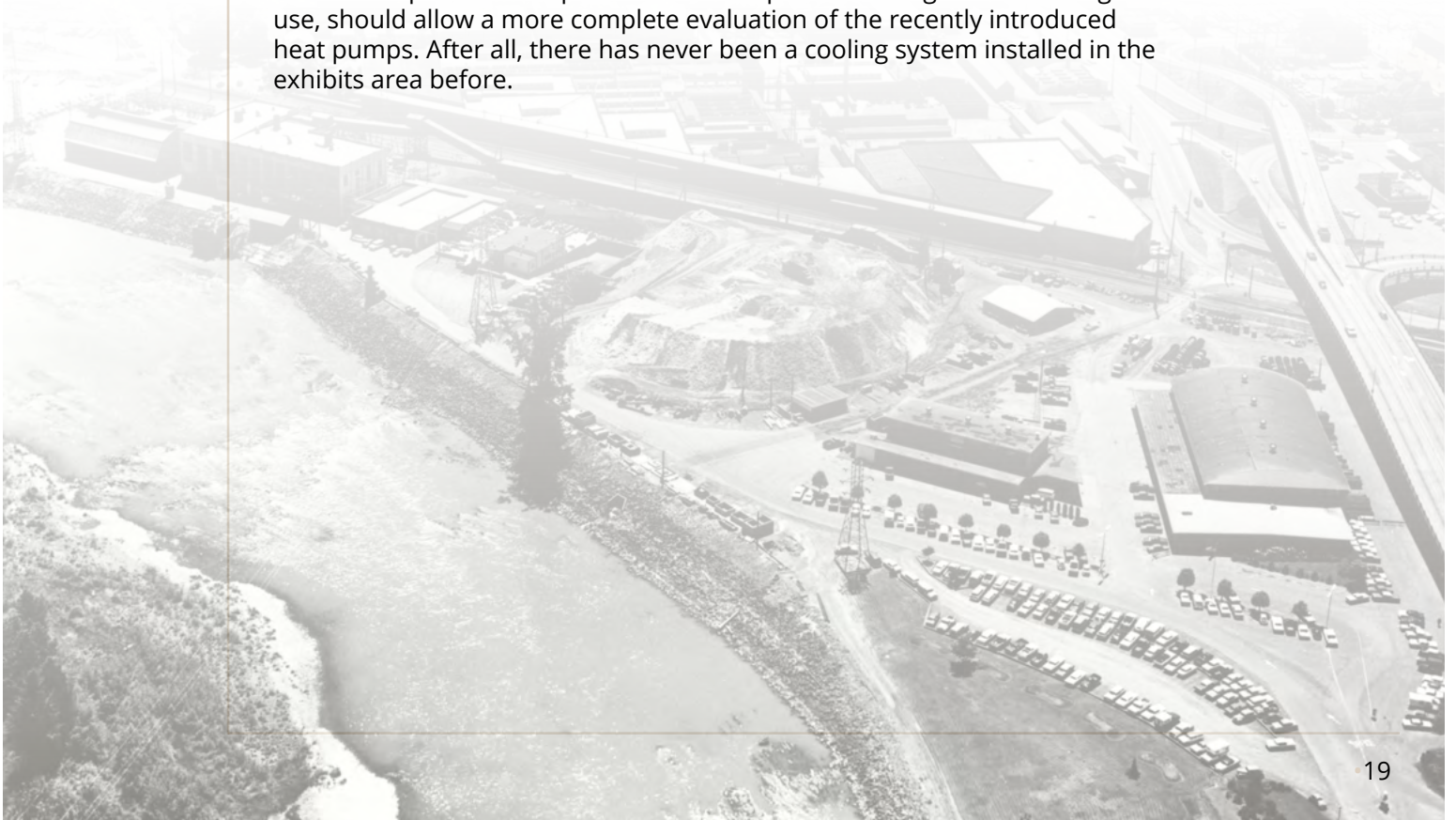
## ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

### *New Heat Pumps and Cleaner Air*

Two new heat pumps were installed on September 24, 2020, in response to the Covid crisis. These units provide HEPA filtration and circulation of the air inside the museum for a healthier pandemic-era environment. The side benefit of the pumps is that they provide a new dimension of environmental control inside the building, especially during the summer months. Summer cooling was previously accomplished by running a large roof-mounted ceiling fan unit, drawing in cool morning air by opening the main entrance doors while the ceiling fan unit was operating.

Four new Onset HOBO data loggers were specifically purchased in order to study how the heat pumps affect the environmental conditions inside the exhibit area, supplementing the loggers that are already in use elsewhere. Since the 1951 museum building is almost completely closed off from the 1959 addition, three Winix HEPA filtered air purifiers were purchased to help cycle and clean the air for the collections storage areas and the collections office located there. This will ensure safer conditions and allow volunteers to return to the museum space.

After examining the general temperature ranges of each collections area before and after the heat pumps were installed, it was determined that the heat pumps are doing a good job regulating the temperature during the cooler months, but may not be sufficient to keep temperatures within ideal levels during the summer months. Data analysis, including summer 2021 and a period of reopened museum operation and general building use, should allow a more complete evaluation of the recently introduced heat pumps. After all, there has never been a cooling system installed in the exhibits area before.



## ARCHIVE AND RESEARCH LIBRARY

For a majority of FY 2020-2021, the Archive and Research Library was closed to in-person research appointments. Through June 16, 2021, all research requests were conducted for patrons remotely in an effort to continue providing public services and keep LCHM active in fulfilling its mission. Ninety-five research requests were fulfilled in this timeframe.

With the shift to reaching the public remotely, the nature of the work that staff and volunteers could accomplish in the library and archive also changed. In an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, on-site volunteer programs were suspended. Volunteers who could work remotely assisted staff with creating digital exhibits utilizing materials and information from the collections with the ESRI ArcGIS StoryMaps platform. Archive staff also assisted with making engaging content for reaching the public via social media.

The Archivist and Research Librarian dedicated time during the museum closure to work on collaborating with outside organizations, including archive and public history related projects with Lane County Equity and Access (expanded on below), Eugene Masonic Cemetery Association, McKenzie Education Foundation, and work on a FEMA/National Register Project. The Archivist also worked with Membership & Volunteer Coordinator, Jennifer Yeh, to spearhead a collaborative pilot project between LCHM, Springfield History Museum, and Willamalane Parks and Recreation District, described in greater detail below.

Other Archive and Library collections efforts of note include accepting ninety-four new items across 15 accessions (see accession numbers in attached report with the prefix “L”); preparing the collections for a period of less frequent on-site supervision; the emergency relocation, rehousing, and cataloging of a key scrapbook collection from an exterior storage location that was broken into; working to migrate original accession record data to LCHM’s database; transcribing an important oral history interview that speaks to experiences of African-American Eugeneans in the 1940s; the intake of an archive collection that documents the life of a Prince Helfrich McKenzie River driftboat (also donated to LCHM); and cataloging a manuscript collection containing the records of a Eugene-based Lesbian community organization known as LezDance in the 2005-2006 timeframe.

## ARCHIVE AND RESEARCH LIBRARY

### *Collaboration with Lane County Equity and Access*

At the invitation of Equity and Access Coordinator for Lane County, Mo Young, LCHM participated as a community partner on the Lane County BIPOC Timeline Project. LCHM was able to provide material and information from its Archive and Research Library to assist in filling out the timeline. Seeking to “look back in order to look forward,” this important pilot project fills out the history of racism and exclusion in Lane County while creating a space to feature BIPOC stories and experiences in history. The website features a map portion that presents information spatially, and also has a form so that submissions to the timeline can be proposed in order to grow the project using community input.

### *The Monuments Project*

LCHM facilitated a new pilot program called “Public History, Art & Monuments: A Tool for Community Assessment Phase I,” in partnership with the Springfield History Museum and the Dorris Ranch Living History Program. The project was created in response to the need for information providing historical and cultural context surrounding public monuments commemorating history within Lane County. The resulting digital resource (expected completion: end of 2021) will make this information accessible so that the community may come to its own conclusions about them in terms of their significance and appropriateness, using fact-checked information from publicly trusted sources. Made possible by generous grant funding from the Lane County Cultural Coalition and Three Rivers Foundation, a project historian and several BIPOC representing community organizations. These organizations and individuals are key in the process in order to provide information that is historically accurate, accessible to more people, and reflective of perspectives that have historically been omitted or silenced.

## 95 *Research Requests*

## 94 *Accessioned items*



## DIGITAL ARCHIVE AND BORN-DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

During the 2020-2021 FY, LCHM began accessioning born digital materials into its collections. The first collection accessioned to the Born-Digital Archive is a digital scrapbook composed of memes, snapshots, and social media posts saved by the donor during the summer of 2020. A second collection of 445 digital images by local photographer, Kate Harnedy, was received as a long-term loan.

LCHM participated in a IMLS-funded (Institute of Museum and Library Services) pilot project called Museums for Digital Learning. The goal of this project was to create an online platform for K-12 educators to access educational, curriculum-based content created by museums. The Museums for Digital Learning pilot project succeeded and is now live.



## DIGITAL ARCHIVES, DESIGN AND MARKETING

With the museum closed, a good portion of design work came to a halt. We were no longer promoting new exhibits, and there was no location to market for. The Digital Archives, Design and Marketing (DADM) department had to adapt, and focused on creating virtual content that we could then connect people to. We created a video to explain our situation to the public, produced multiple print-at-home coloring books, and helped facilitate the digital presentation of content like the Story Maps.

The DADM continued to provide retail access to our photo collections, licensing 75 photos over 20 orders.

Further work included designing publication-style books for eight of our pioneer diaries, documenting the acquisition of the drift boat, creating online forms to help streamline processes, creating our publications, and maintaining and optimizing our website.

20 *Photo Orders*

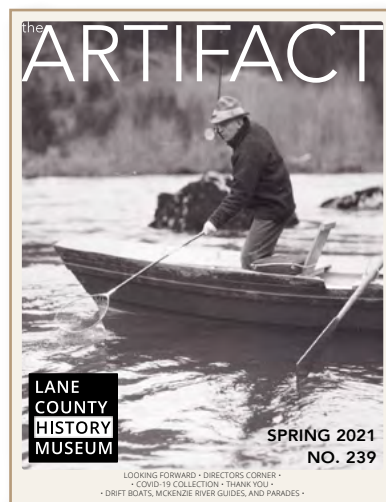
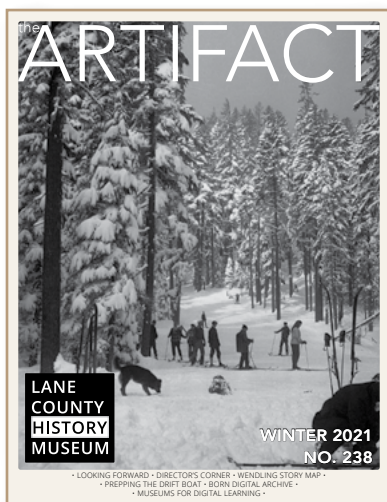
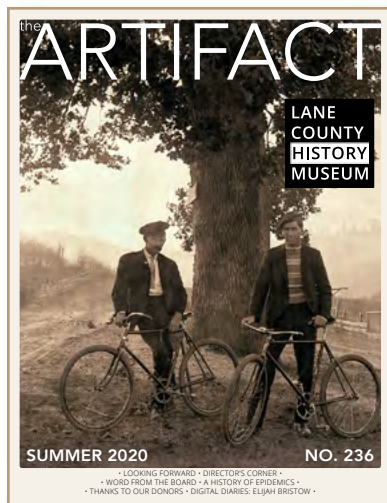
75 *Photos Delivered*





## PUBLICATIONS

We continued to publish our quarterly newsletter, *The Artifact*, which is sent to members. Each newsletter includes information on planned events, articles on local history, and more. Our historic journal, the *Lane County Historian*, is currently on hiatus as we redefine the scope and intention of that publication. Newsletters are included as an appendix at the end of the report.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

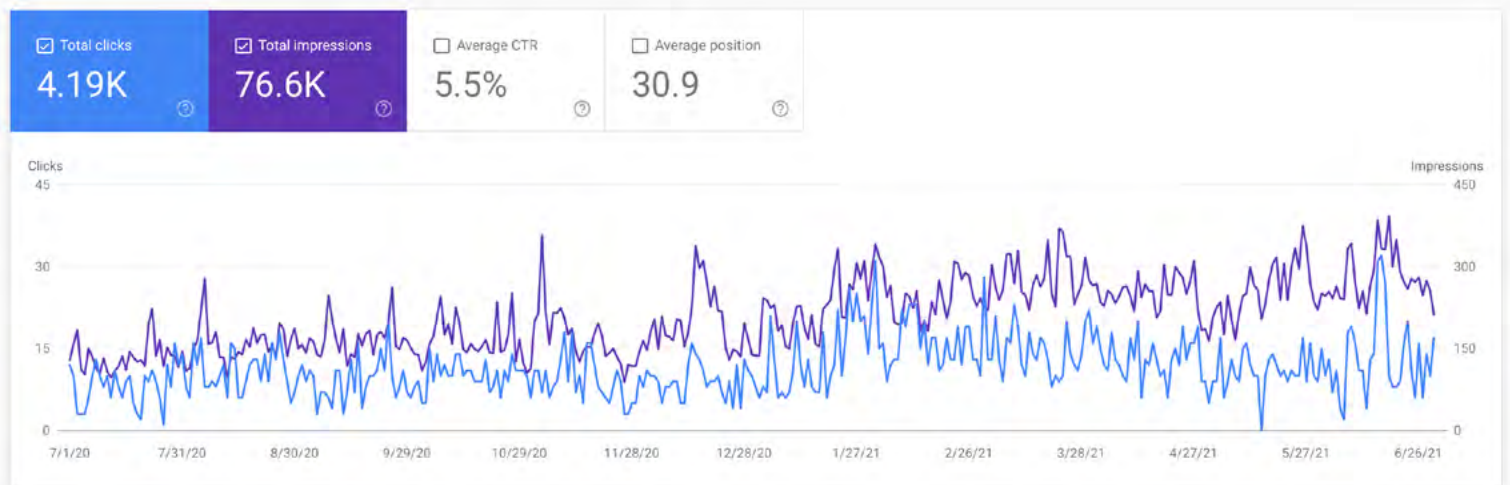
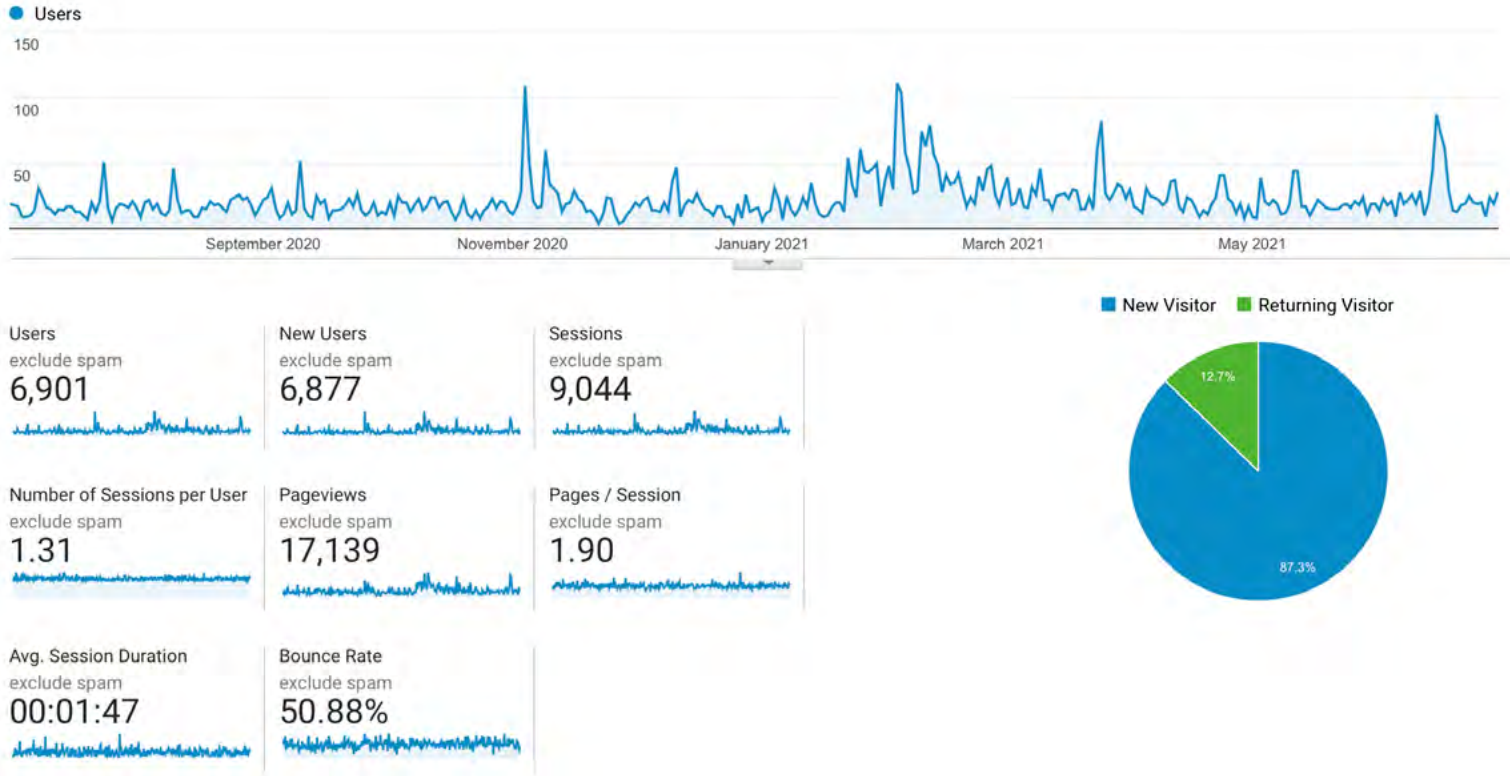
Our social media presence on Facebook and Instagram kept people engaged with a variety of images and stories, as well as several larger campaigns. These campaigns included #PhotoFriday, local markets in the late 1800s-early 1900s, historic Valentine cards from our archive, a collaboration with David Henry “Frog” Miller on his career producing and selling joke books in Eugene, local and national information for Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and a series called “Oregon Dirt Roads” - an entertaining series of pictures of conditions and travel in Lane County before paved streets. Currently our social media is posting on the McKenzie River and McKenzie River Valley to complement our newest exhibit “The Boat the River Built”.

LCHM also used social media to promote scholarships, programs, and information from other institutions, both locally and nationally. We specifically focused on social justice and stories from historically underrepresented communities.

991 *Instagram Followers*

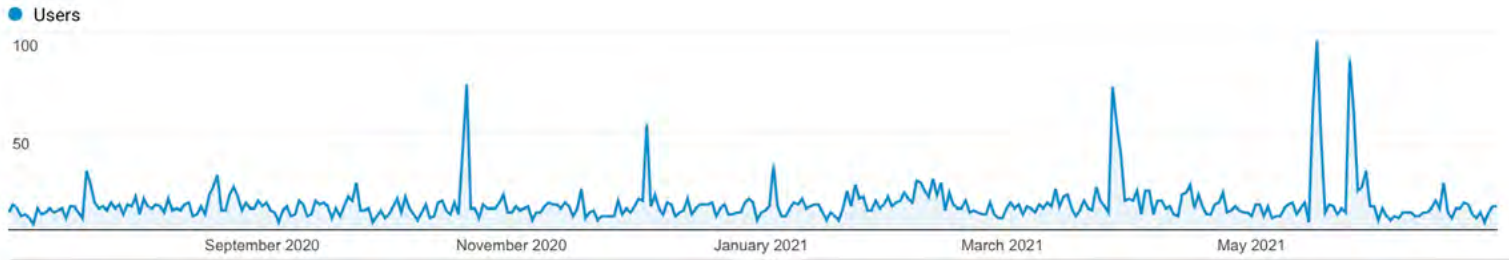
2965 *Facebook Followers*

29,737 *YouTube Views*



## WEBSITE STATISTICS

### LCHM.PASTPERFECTONLINE



Users  
exclude spam  
**3,556**



New Users  
exclude spam  
**3,541**



Sessions  
exclude spam  
**5,558**



Number of Sessions per User  
exclude spam  
**1.56**



Pageviews  
exclude spam  
**70,029**



Pages / Session  
exclude spam  
**12.60**



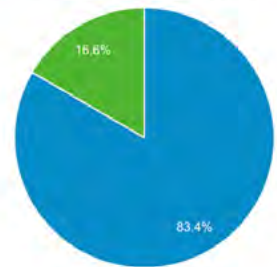
Avg. Session Duration  
exclude spam  
**00:06:37**



Bounce Rate  
exclude spam  
**39.46%**



■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



## STRATEGIC PLANNING

In 2019, LCHM engaged with a group of undergraduate and graduate students in a consultation program at the UO School of Planning, Public Policy and Management to create a strategic plan. Once that was delivered, a LCHM committee was formed and further work was done to review the findings of that plan and refine strategic goals.

In the September 2020 Board of Directors meeting, a Lane County Historical Society (LCHS) Strategic Plan was passed unanimously with goals identified for 2020-2025 and beyond. The six action items for 2020-2021 were: substantially elevate fundraising efforts, foster an organizational culture of trust, engage in succession planning, board development and recruitment, to put equity and inclusion into practice, and secure and safeguard the collection.

Even with the COVID-19 pandemic, a significant loss of income, and loss of staff time from furloughs, progress was made in all six areas. The full LCHS Strategic Plan can be found as Appendix #1. This plan is a living document and as such will be reviewed and updated as needed.





## STRATEGIC PLANNING

### ACTION ITEMS FOR 2020-2021

*Substantially elevate fundraising efforts*

*Foster an organizational culture of trust*

*Engage in succession planning*

*Board development and recruitment*

*Put equity and inclusion into practice*

*Secure and safeguard the collection*

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

In early 2019, before the Museum closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, LCHM had initiated a Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and Inclusion (DEAI) process with the goal of creating a DEAI Plan that would focus efforts in this area.

A DEAI committee was formed that included all staff, board, and advisory council members. Starting with group conversations and discussion, the committee then embarked in 2020 on an internal assessment of different parts of the organization. This assessment, along with the accompanied discussion, will be used to determine the action items for the DEAI Plan.

Our assessment includes:  
Mission and Planning,  
Public Trust and Accountability,  
Leadership and Organizational Structure,  
Collections Stewardship,  
Education and Interpretation,  
Financial Stability,  
Facilities and Risk Management, and  
Human Resources.



## EQUITY STATEMENT

*Lane County History Museum recognizes the history of oppression through omission that has been perpetuated against the diverse peoples of our community. Our collections and archives were built on exclusionary practices that do not reflect our current principles about diversity. As a knowledge-producing institution, Lane County History Museum has a responsibility to foster critical systemic awareness and positive change. We must use our position as a historical research institution to lift up a diversity of perspectives. As stewards of history-related collections, we must work to be inclusive and equitable in all aspects of our organization, or otherwise we will be complicit in systemic prejudice. Lane County History Museum is committed to uncovering local history that confronts internal biases and includes what is absent in order to expand our understanding of Lane County's past.*

## GIVING AND SUPPORTERS

The Lane County History Museum values our members and donors whose support makes our public programs, projects and exhibits possible. We gratefully acknowledge the following supporters who made contributions during our 2020-2021 fiscal year.

### \$5,000 - \$10,000

Kathryn A. Toepel  
N.B. & Jacqueline Giustina Foundation  
Kinsman Foundation

### \$2,000 - \$4,999

Bart Aikens  
Bill Barrett  
Alfred Soeldner & Courtney Campbell  
Larson Family Foundation

### \$1,000 - \$1,999

Richard Larson & Barbara Cowan  
Jan & Michael Gillespie  
Jim & Adriana Giustina  
Allan Kluber  
Natalie G. Newlove

### \$500 - \$999

Melvin & Alice Aikens  
Kenneth & Norma Bliss  
Steve & Daryl Eccles  
George Koris & Pam Love  
Bill & Lyn Neel  
Tom & Linda Roe  
Rowell Brokaw Architects  
Keith & Kathy Wolf

### \$200 - \$499

Heidi Angle  
Jeannette Baker  
Duane & Bettysue Bischoff  
Jim Earl & Louise Bishop  
Alice Kaseberg & Rob Bowie  
Gregory Van Tuyle & Carla Campbell  
Nancie Peacocke Fadeley  
Michael & Joyce Fish  
Susanne Esch Fountain  
Elizabeth S. Hall  
Robert & Linda Hart

Thomas Conolly & Patricia Krier  
Theodore & Laramie Palmer  
Jane Scheidecker & Duane Partain  
John D. Rutledge  
Judy Shurts  
John Parman and Kathy Snowden  
Melody F. Stuart  
Pamela Vigil  
Jim & Barbara Walker  
Lawrence Williams & Patricia Pride



## GIVING AND SUPPORTERS

### \$100 - \$199

Anonymous\*  
 John Barnum  
 Patricia Baron  
 Cathy Bellavita  
 Joe Brazie  
 Dr. Robert Carmichael  
 Patrick & Ellen Costello  
 Diane Du Val Dann  
 Donna Dial  
 Sally Dietrich  
 Ginny Dunphy  
 Vicki L Morgan and Michael  
 Duran  
 Richard & Margaret Essenberg  
 Stanley Finn  
 Brent & Monica Hample  
 Jeffrey Morey & Gail Harris

Bill Henry  
 Heather Kliever  
 Verna Kocken  
 Tom Kulick  
 Lisa Lynch  
 Claudia McKay  
 J. Antonio Buenaga Mendez  
 Gary & Jane Mertz  
 Dan Montgomery  
 John & Cheryl Moore  
 William Novitske  
 Randal Painter  
 Scott Palmer  
 Alice Parman  
 Gene & Karen Pierson  
 Michael & Sharon Posner  
 David & Paula Pottinger  
 Hubert & Sue Prichard

Susan & Floyd Prozanski  
 Heinz Selig  
 Jay Silverman & Diane Bolte-  
 Silverman  
 Frank Hales & Jerry Smith  
 Charles Snyder  
 Steven K. Stewart  
 Kim Stevens  
 Dennis Hebert & Larena  
 Sullivan  
 Lawrence Thorpe, Jr.  
 Marla & Randy Trox  
 Alan Turanski  
 David Turner  
 Marilyn von Seeger  
 David Walp  
 Tom & Carol Williams  
 Patricia Wilson

### \$1 - \$99

Anonymous\*  
 Yousef M. Alrahmani  
 Todd Anderson  
 Lynn Ash  
 Cheryl Baugh  
 Richard & Ann Beers  
 Susan Bloom  
 Audrey Bradshaw  
 Norton Cabell  
 Bev Chadburn  
 James Chaney  
 Dorothy Chase  
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 Fred Crafts  
 Dorthy Davis  
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 Leonard Hockley  
 Mary Hogan  
 Trudy Hughes  
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 David W. Klute  
 Margie Lewis  
 Kathryn A. Lytle  
 Paul S. McCartney  
 Jennifer & Bill McConochie  
 Duncan & Jane McDonald  
 Lucile McKenzie  
 Riley McLean  
 Darla McVay  
 Diane McWhorter  
 Susan Mincks  
 Dan Mulholland & Pam Miller  
 John P. Munson  
 Karen K. Olsen

Hatsue Sato  
 Jean E. Schore  
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 Joyce Sinks  
 Martha Snyder  
 Randall Speck  
 Betty Spoden  
 Christine Sundt  
 David W. Tobin  
 Ellen Todras  
 Mark & Lisa Tolonen  
 Sheila Wallace  
 Wayne Warner  
 Carole M. Wells  
 Jerold Williams  
 Robin & Mark Winfree-Andrew  
 Lance Winger  
 Herbert P. Wisner  
 Irene Zenev

## GIVING AND SUPPORTERS

### GRANTS RECEIVED

#### Lane County Cultural Coalition

Unrestricted Covid Relief. \$8,980

Public History, Art & Monuments: A Tool for Community Assessment (Phase I) - This grant was for the pilot year for this project, a partnership between LCHM, Willamalane's Living History program and the Springfield History Museum. The project strives to compile fragmented information about public history, art and monuments in Lane County into one publicly accessible online resource, along with space for voices historically excluded from history-focused institutions. \$1,500

#### Three Rivers Foundation

Public History, Art & Monuments: A Tool for Community Assessment (Phase I) - This grant was for the pilot year for this project, a partnership between LCHM, Willamalane's Living History program and the Springfield History Museum. The project strives to compile fragmented information about public history, art and monuments in Lane County into one publicly accessible online resource, along with space for voices historically excluded from history-focused institutions. \$1,200

#### Oregon Cultural Trust

\$8,980

#### Oregon Community Foundation

Unrestricted Covid Relief. \$5,312

#### Kinsman Foundation

Lane County Clerk's Building Preservation Study. \$5,000

## GIVING AND SUPPORTERS

### CAL YOUNG SOCIETY MEMBERS

Mark & Regina Agerter  
Bill Barrett  
Margaret Beilharz  
Patrick & Ellen Costello  
Michael & Joyce Fish  
George Koris & Pam Love  
Patricia Krier & Thomas Connolly  
Judson Parsons & Diana Gardener  
Bart Poston  
Jim & Barbara Walker

### CENTURY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Alice & Melvin Aikens	Natalie G. Newlove
Frank Armstrong	Theresa & John O'Brien
Jeannette Baker	Elizabeth Peterson
John & Lucy Bigelow	Sharon & Michael Posner
Duane & Bettysue Bischoff	Neff & Dorothy Powell
Joe Blakely	Susan & Floyd Prozanski
Janice Calvert	Catherine Rainwater
Tom Comerford	Marge Ramey
Joseph & Regina Cox	Connie & Jim Regali
Charlene & John Cox	Claudia Rich
Linda Danielson	Heinz Selig
Jim Earl and Louise Bishop	Rose & Brendan Sleanbeck
Steve & Daryl Eccles	Randall Speck
Richard & Margaret Essenberg	Jonathan & Molly Stafford
Yvonne Fasold	Ray and Cathie Staton
Susanne Esch Fountain	Dale R. Steinhauer
David Gusset	Christine Sundt
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Dr. Dennis & Patricia Hyatt	Campbell
Alice Kaseberg & Rob Bowie	Lawrence Williams & Patricia Pride
Gerry & Carolyn Keener	Tom & Carol Williams
Mel Mead	Edward & Susan Wojakowski
Jeffrey Morey & Gail Harris	

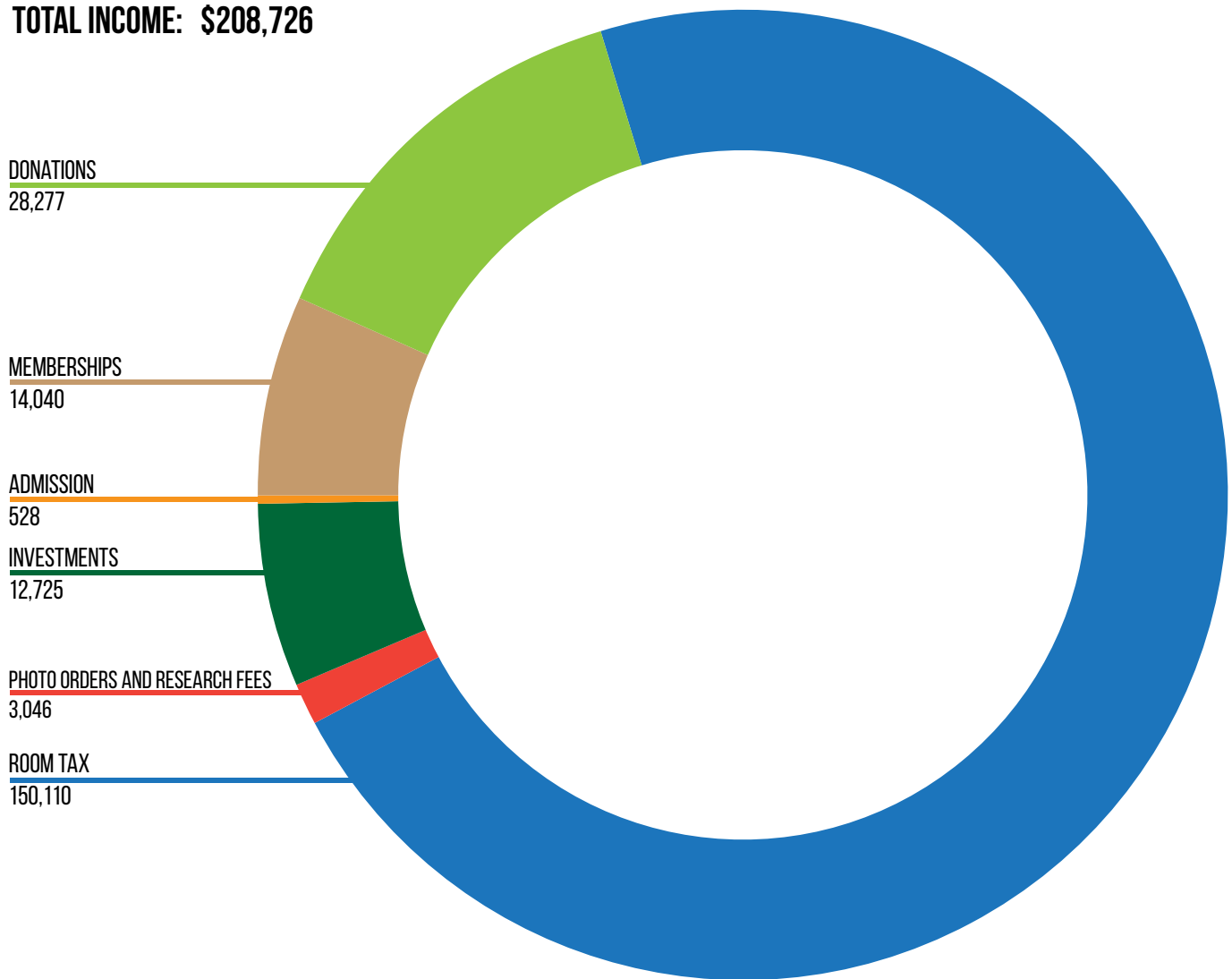
### CORPORATE MEMBERS

Heritage Research Associates, Inc.  
Turell Group, LLC

\*We thank our multiple anonymous donors for their generous support.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

**TOTAL INCOME: \$208,726**



## COVID FINANCIAL IMPACT

As the Covid-19 crisis developed, the museum was ordered closed. With that closure, the Transient Room Tax subsidy which historically accounted for more than 75% of annual budgeted income went into potential free fall. In fact, the board of directors authorized a FY 2020-2021 budget which allowed up to \$150,000 of red ink.



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

### TOTAL EXPENSES: \$298,454

MEMBER BENEFITS  
9,288

MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL  
19,261

FUNDRAISING  
7,500

FACILITY  
23,193

EXHIBITS AND PROGRAMS  
13,435

ADVERTISING  
4,796

PERSONNEL  
220,979

Sadly, many Holiday Farm fire evacuees were temporarily housed in hotels. Consequently the projected TRT room tax loss was considerably less than anticipated. LCHM also applied for and received two Payroll Protection Plan loans amounting to \$113,000 during the year, for which we have requested forgiveness and reclassification as grants. Such loans are not shown as income, but liabilities on a balance sheet.

In short, LCHM was not financially devastated by the Covid epidemic. However, its operations were significantly affected by the inability to function other than remotely for much of the year.

## OUR TEAM

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bart Aikens  
President  
Secretary, Jul - Oct

Bill Barrett  
Vice-President

Trevor Ackerman  
UO Student on Board Program, Secretary Oct - Jun

Steve Eccles  
Treasurer Jul - Apr

Amanda Yankovich  
Treasurer Apr - Jun

Rose Sleanbeck  
UO Student on Board Program, Jul-Oct

John Barnum

Karen K. Olsen

Doug Caven, Nov-Jan

Alison Christianson, Jun

Casey Barrett, Jul - Jun

### ADVISORY COUNCIL (established Feb 13, 2021)

Alice Parman, Ph.D

Yvonne Fasold, Ph.D

Casey Barrett, Jun

Mark Harris, MA CADC I, MAC

Mel Aikens

## OUR TEAM

### STAFF

Robert Hart  
Executive Director

Marin Aurand  
Curator of Exhibits

Adrienne Gaudette  
Office Manager & Bookkeeper

Allison Fischer-Olson  
Archivist & Research Librarian

Tara Puyat  
Collections Manager

Stephen O'Brien  
Graphic Artist (Jul-Dec);  
Digital Assets Manager(Jan-Jun)

Jennifer Yeh  
Volunteer & Membership Coordinator

Lee Harrison  
Reception

Faith Kreskey  
Curator of Exhibits (Jul-Aug)

Nick Chase  
Digital Assets Manager (Jul-Dec)

## PHOTO INDEX

- Cover** CS94  
*c. 1927. Upper McKenzie Road. View of a narrow dirt road, marked with tire tracks running through forested area. Chester Stevenson.*
- 10** GN10563  
*c. 1960. Willamette Street in Eugene, Oregon, circa 1960, looking north from the intersection with 10th Avenue. Color photograph, Smith Western, Inc., Portland, Oregon.*
- 15** Allison Fischer-Olson cleaning the Driftboat  
*2020. Stephen O'Brien, LCHM Staff*
- 16** CS178  
*c. 1930. Close up view of 2 men in fishing boat on McKenzie River. One man nets a fish, the other one is using the oars. Chester Stevenson*
- 18** Map 3C.  
*1892. Published by Dakin Publishing Company, San Francisco, California.*
- 19** GN259  
*c. 1964. Aerial view of Eugene, looking south from Willamette River toward Eugene Water and Electric Board buildings. Harry Gross.*
- 22** GN6937  
*c. 1968. Castle Rock Lookout on the McKenzie Ranger District, built in 1939. Willamette National Forest. Doug Newman.*
- 28-29** CS200  
*c. 1930. Fisherman in boat on McKenzie River. View of man standing in fishing boat, facing camera, while casting his line. Trees, brush and hillside in background. Chester Stevenson.*
- 30** KE21  
*Willamette Stationers, 104 East Broadway, Eugene. Exterior. View looking east down Broadway. Eugene Hotel in background. Kennel-Ellis Studio.*

Design by Stephen O'Brien