

ANNIVERSARY

of the
first 50 years work
_{+ 14 "}
and activities

of the
Buena Vista Civic Club
Oregon City, Oregon

1923-~~1973~~ 1987

Consideration, Laughter, Sustain Happy Marriage

How do you stay married to the same partner for 70 years?

It helps to be a bit considerate of each other, says Mrs. Charles (Dora) Thorpe.

On Sunday, the Thorpes will mark the 70th anniversary of the day they took their wedding vows in Hammond, Wis. She is 92 and her husband is one year older.

They will greet friends and family during open house from two to four at the home of their daughter and her husband Mr. and Mrs. Glen (Blanche) Parker, 15593 Oatfield Road.

Mrs. Thorpe is just back on her feet but able to walk with help, recovering from a broken hip. She came home from the hospital May 15. Her husband says he's had to neglect his yard work to take care of her, although he did manage to get his garden planted.

"I don't think we've ever disagreed TOO much," Mrs. Thorpe says, and her husband adds, "Not considering how many years we've had to disagree."

She says he's been a good husband, and he proudly points out that he built three homes for her with his own hands, -- one in Eugene, one in Oregon City, and the one they live in now in Gladstone.

Born on a farm in Minnesota, he left it when he turned 21 to become a street car conductor in St. Paul. That was how he met Mrs. Thorpe, who was visiting her cousin, one of his co-workers, from her home in Wisconsin.

The Thorpes moved west several years after their marriage, and he worked for street car lines in Portland and Eugene until they moved to Oregon City in 1921. Here he worked for Crown Zellerbach for about five years and then did carpenter work until he retired.

They lived for many years in the Buena Vista area of Oregon City, and both are charter members of the Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club, which just celebrated its 50th year.

Their home in Gladstone adjoins that of their other daughter, Mrs. Iola Helsby. The sign over the entry gate says "The C. A. Thorpes, Even-Tide" and the lovely grounds show ample evidence of the couple's fondness

for growing things.

Just outside the front door is a tall redwood that Mrs. Thorpe started from a burl someone gave her. Her husband still takes care of the well-tended grounds himself except for the mowing.

The covered patio and ample yard have been setting for lots of July picnics, because they love to entertain. Mrs. Thorpe is already making plans for several picnic gatherings next month now that she's up and around again.

Sometimes the guests are around from Oregon City First Baptist Church, where the Thorpes have worshipped for many years. Both have been active members and he is an honorary lifetime deacon.

Besides their two daughters, the Thorpes have a son, Francis, who lives in Oregon City. Another son, Max, was killed in World War II, and they lost two sons in infancy.

For the anniversary celebration Sunday, Mrs. Thorpe has a new turquoise knit dress trimmed with white braid and her husband has a new suit.

Their seven granddaughters will be on hand to help, including Mrs. Verle (Joy) Counts, Coquille; Mrs. James (Kathleen) Swyter, Walla Walla; Mrs. Gene (Jan) Campynol, Portland; Mrs. Ray (Jeannette) Townsend, Jennings Lodge; Mrs. Dean (Laverne) Allen and Mrs. Dell (Jean) Vance, both West Linn; and Mrs. John (Pam) Renfrow, Gladstone.

Also here for the event will be their four grandsons, Bill Thorpe, Milwaukie, Kenneth Thorpe, West Linn; Dr. John Parker, Clatskanie; and Craig Thorpe, Oregon City. There are 36 great-grandchildren but no fifth generation yet.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Thorpe are a bit hard of hearing, but neither misses out on what's happening for that reason. They are very much alert and interested in many things.

They watch a little television, they enjoy their family and friends, they take things as they come, they laugh a lot, and they obviously enjoy each other's company -- which just might be the secret of their long and happy marriage.

Anniversary Observed

The C. A. Thorpes, former residents of the Buena Vista section of Oregon City were feted on the occasion of their 55th wedding anniversary by members of the Buena Vista Improvement club, June 10. The affair was held in the club house, which was decorated with roses for the happy event.

The serving table was centered with an arrangement of white roses and red roses were arranged about the room.

The Thorpes were charter members of the club which was organized in 1923. They moved to Oregon City in 1921, but had been in the Willamette Valley for a few years, moving here from Minnesota.

They are the parents of three living children, Francis A. Thorpe, Blanche (Mrs. Glenn) Parker and Iola (Mrs. Leo) Helsby. A son Max was killed in World War II. The three children were at the party with their husbands and/or wives and most of the 11 grandchildren. There are also eight great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Margaret Rayl had charge of the program; Dr. Mabel Hardenbrook poured; Mrs. George Jewell served the wedding cake and Mrs. Eric Hedlund also assisted with the arrangements.

Relatives and friends made a crowd of about 70 people who came to wish the happy couple many more wedding anniversaries.

Ruby anniversary celebration honors Mr. and Mrs. Dick Long

8/17/73

Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Long, Oregon City, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Aug. 12. A reception in their honor was hosted by the couple's children and their spouses, Mr. and Mrs. Martin (Helen Marie) Hilgers, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Long Jr., all of Roseburg, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles (Patricia) Mисley, Oregon City.

The ruby anniversary color scheme was carried out with red carnations and gladioli, and white chrysanthemum arrangements around St. John's Hall. An appropriately decorated cake centered a ruby net-covered table. Mrs. Long wore a white knit dress and a corsage of red carnations.

The Longs were married in the old St. John's Church by Monsignor Anthony Hillebrand on Aug. 12, 1933. Long was an Oregon City native, born in 1907 to Michael and Julia Long, and his wife, Helen, came to Oregon City with her parents, Dennis and Mary Donovan, as a child.

Long had worked for 46 years at Publishers Paper Company, most recently as a machine tender, when he retired in December, 1972. He was an officer for many years in Local 166 and the Association of Western Pulp and Paper unions.

He served on the Oregon City commission for eight years and was mayor in 1953, 1955-56. He continues to take an active part in the Knights of Columbus and the Buena Vista Civic Club. Mrs. Long also belongs to Buena Vista Club, the Catholic Daughters and St. John's Altar Society. Mrs. Charles Dorr, Long's sister, who was maid of honor at the wedding 40 years ago, was present for the anniversary celebration.

Serving cake during the af-



Mahoney Photo

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Long

ternoon were Mrs. Fred Phipps, another sister of Mr. Long, Mrs. Edward Long, Mrs. Calvin Middleton, Mrs. Peter Hoefle, and Mrs. Dorr. Pouring punch were Juianne Hendry, Miss Kathy Dorr, and Mrs. Ted Hendry, nieces of the couple.

Also pouring were Mrs. John

Hunt, Suzan Neer, and Tim Mисley, their grandson. Assisting at the guest book during the celebration were Tammy, Teresa and Tom Mисley, and Julie, Patrick, and Christi Long, all grandchildren of the Longs. Ladies of St. John's Altar Society helped prepare and serve the buffet.



WED 70 YEARS - Mrs. Charles Thorpe, at 92, still likes to play the piano occasionally. Posing for a picture at the keyboard, she turned to her husband and suggested that if

she was going to play -- he'd better sing. And the man she's been happily married to for 70 years promptly obliged with a few bars of "I Love You Truly."



TOM McCALL
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE CAPITOL
SALEM 97310

January 12, 1973

Dr. Mabel Hardenbrook
Broadmoor Manor
7905 S.W. Cedar Street
Portland, Oregon 97225

Dear Dr. Hardenbrook:

I am sorry to advise you that Governor McCall will not be able to keep his tentative commitment to address the Civic Club in Oregon City in observance of their 50th Anniversary.

I am sure you can understand how hectic these days are at the Capitol with the Legislature in Session.

The Governor asked that I pass on to you his very best wishes for a successful and enjoyable evening.

Best regards,

Ronald G. Schmidt
Administrative Assistant
to the Governor

RGS/k

14 September 1973

To all the Members of the Buena Vista
Civic Club and all the Members of
the Buena Vista Needle Craft Club,

My sister Anne and I and our
Families deeply appreciate the
lovely spray of pink glads and
Carnations you all sent to Mother's
Funeral.

Mother was honored by so many
of you being able to attend her last
services but most of all she was
blessed with your Friendship through
the years.

God Bless and thank you all
for being so good to our dear Mother.

Sincerely

Katherine Hardenbrook Bach

In
Memory
of

Dr. MABEL P. HARDENBROOK



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THE ROSE BEYOND THE WALL

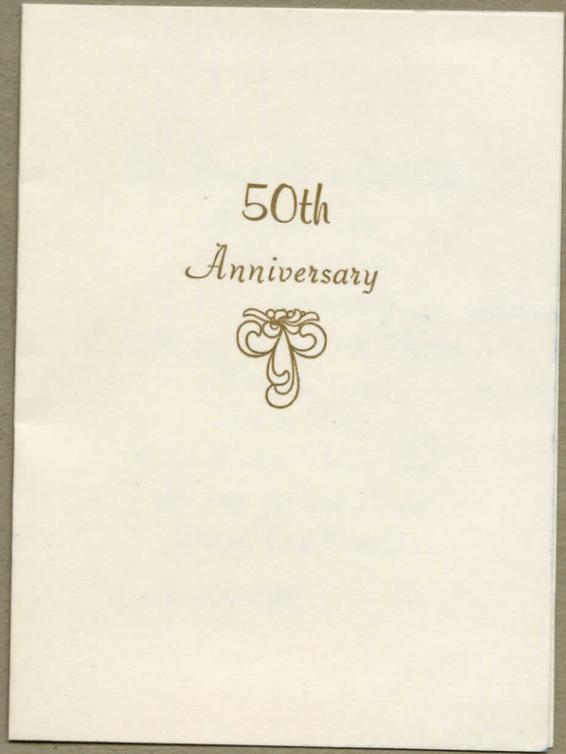
Near shady wall a rose once grew, budded and blossomed in God's free light,
Watered and fed by morning dew, shedding its sweetness day and night.
As it grew and blossomed, fair and tall, slowly rising to loftier height,
It came to a crevice in the wall, through which there shone a beam of light.
Onward it crept with added strength, with never a thought of fear and pride,
It followed the light through the crevice's length and unfolded itself on the other side.
The light, the dew, the broadening view, were found the same as they were before
And it lost itself in beauties new, breathing its fragrance more and more.
Shall claim of death cause us to grieve and make our courage faint or fall?
Nay, let us faith and hope receive; the rose still grows beyond the wall,
Scattering fragrance far and wide, just as it did in days of yore,
Just as it did on the other side, just as it will forever more.

— A. L. Frink

Date of Birth	February 27, 1885
Date of Death	September 4, 1973
Services	September 6, 1:30 P.M.
Services At	St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Officiating	Bishop Hal Gross Father Thomas W. Park
Organist	Robert McCoy
Private Commitment	Riverview Cemetery

Dr. MABEL P. HARDENBROOK

1973



1973

The Buena Vista Civic Club

The Buena Vista Civic Club organized in 1923 by Dr. Mabel Hardenbrook. Its purpose was beautify and improve this area. The efforts of its members had far reaching results and many improvements have come to pass.

Officers for 1973

- President:
Alice Strickland 656-
- Vice-President:
Dick Long 656-
- Secretary:
Dell Talent 656-
- Treasurer:
W. G. Carpenter 656-9421

*The Buena Vista Civic Club
of Oregon City
in celebrating their
50th Anniversary
invites you to an Open House
March 3, 1973
Two to Four
at the Buena Vista Club
16th and Jackson Street
Oregon City, Oregon*

Regrets RSCVP

*50th Anniversary
Buena Vista Civic Club*

Club Dates Flea Mart

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Baker, just back from spending the winter in Arizona, showed pictures taken while they were away for the Buena Vista Civic Club meeting held at the clubhouse Tuesday evening.

There was also much comment during the meeting of the highly successful golden anniversary celebration stage by the club on March 3, which drew many former residents of the Buena Vista area as well as city officials and other well-wishers.

The club is making plans for a flea market to be held at the clubhouse on May 1, with a number of tables already reserved. Anyone interested in arranging for table space call the chairman, Mrs. Kenneth Karns, or club president Mrs. Vinton Strickland.

3/21 W

Past Presidents of The Buena Vista Club

① A.J. Lewis----- Jan. 30-- Mar. 27, 1923

Enterprise Courier

Family News

Oregon City, Oregon, Thursday, May 3, 1973

June Schuh, Family Editor



LOOKING FOR A LAYETTE? - Women of Buena Vista Civic Club have gathered plenty of good infant clothing, in addition to many other items, for their table at the flea market they are sponsoring this weekend. Getting things ready this week at the clubhouse on 16th and Jackson streets, chairman Mrs. Ken Karns, left, and president Mrs. Vinton Strickland, were

hoping that the summery weather would continue so they could have the sale outdoors in Atkinson Park. Their young helper is Mrs. Strickland's grandson, Tommy Stewart. Sale hours will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both Friday and Saturday, and sponsors say individuals and organizations have reserved tables where they will be selling a variety of items.

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3/2 W

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- ✓ D A.J. Lewis----- Jan.30-- Mar.27, 1923
- John Drumm----Mar.27 thru Jan.27, 1923 8
- ✓ Andrew Naterlin----1928--Anton Naterlin--2 Mos.
- ✓ T.L. Charman---1929
- ✓ Mrs C.Alldredge---1930 thru 1932
- ✓ Mrs.C.Surfus---1933
- ✓ C.A.Thorpe----1934
- ✓ Jack Charrier---1935 thru 1936
- ✓ P.T.Soreghan---1937
- ✓ Erik Hedlund----1938
- ✓ Ray E.Marshall---1939
- ✓ Chas.Scharback---1940
- ✓ Wm.Croner----1941
- ✓ H.C.Ar buckle---1942 thru 1943
- ✓ Roy Hedlund----1944
- ✓ N.F.Reaksecker---1945 thru 1946
- ✓ C.J.Kearney----1947
- ✓ Wm. Croner---1948
- ✓ Edgar Ingram---1949
- ✓ Russell Baker---1950
- ✓ 7 ✓ Kenneth Karns---1952 thru 1954
- ✓ Russell Baker---1955
- ✓ Dr.Mabel Hardenbrook---1956 thru 1958
- ✓ Erik Hedlund---1959
- ✓ David Bradley---1960 thru 1961
- ✓ Vera Marshall----1962 thru 1963
- ✓ Richard Long----1964 thru 1965
- ✓ Lanora Parker---1966 thru 1967
- ✓ 4 ✓ Florence Karns---1968 thru 1971
- ✓ Alice Strickland---- 1972 thru 1974

(Continued next page)

Enterprise

June



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3/21 W

LIDA CHILDS... 1958
 VINTON STRICKLAND... 1958
 CARL GOEBEL... 1958
 NELL WILEY... 1958
 PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE BUENA VISTA CLUB

Page 2

Past Presidents of the Buena Vista Club

Margaret Vidmar 1975

Alice Strickland 1976 thru 1977

3 ✓ Carl Goebel 1978 thru 1980

5 ✓ Nell Wiley 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985

Enterprise

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CITY OF OREGON CITY P. O. Box 631
INCORPORATED 1844

February 24, 1977

Ms. Lorraine Barnett
Secretary
Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club
16th and Jackson Streets
Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Dear Ms. Barnett:

My wife and I enjoyed the 54th anniversary celebration of the Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club. The food was terrific and the entertainment by the younger people was great.

It was very touching to sit around and reflect of past lives and habits plus the singing of songs together. It is an evident fact that the past has a significant bearing on our future.

Again, thanks to all for the wonderful time and please invite me to the 100th anniversary (and the ones in between).

Sincerely,

Dean Nichols
Mayor
City of Oregon City

DN/rh

RICHARD W. LONG
311 Center Street
Oregon City, Oregon 97045
Phone 656-5137



CITY OF OREGON CITY

P. O. Box 631

INCORPORATED 1844

February 22, 1977

Buena Vista Civic Club

c/o Lorraine Barnett

1301 16th Street

Oregon City, Oregon 97045

*Congratulations on your 54th anniversary
as a neighborhood organization!*

*Oregon City is fortunate to have citizens
such as you who care.*

Best Wishes for another 54 years!

Robert and

*Alayne Woolsey, Commissioner
City of Oregon City*

RICHARD W. LONG
311 Center Street
Oregon City, Oregon 97045
Phone 656-5137

April 23, 1977

Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club
c/o Alice Strickland, President
1213 15th St.,
Oregon City, Oregon

Dear Alice,

Enclosed is check for \$5.00 for dues which were due in
January.

We are at this time submitting our resignation to the
Buena Vista Club. We have other commitments and are unable
to attend meetings.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W Long
Helen Long

James H. Hoosey, Commissioner
City of Oregon City

County approves

The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners approved Thursday a \$2.147 million urban county community block grant application which now will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for final approval.

Included in the countywide application are more than \$1 million for new senior centers for Oregon City, Gladstone and Milwaukie. In the application, approved earlier this week by the Urban County Policy Board, Oregon City is asking \$350,000 for a new senior center, Milwaukie is requesting \$650,000 for a new senior and multi-purpose center and Gladstone will apply for \$72,000 for a senior center.

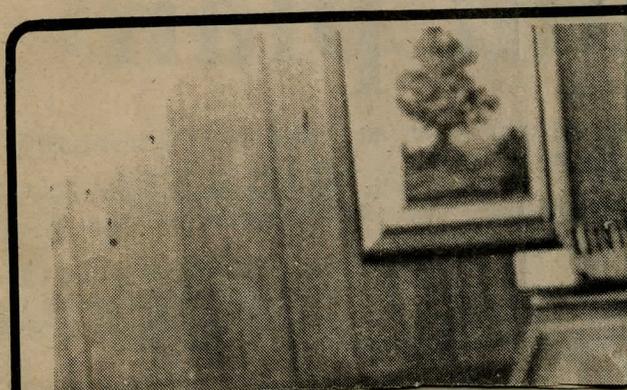
Both Oregon City and Milwaukie city officials had agreed, prior to the approval of the requests, that because those cities' requests are so large for the first year of the program, city officials would "use restraint" in making further requests during the next two years of the project.

Clackamas County stands to receive as much as \$6.9 million during that three-year period. The \$2.1 million request in the application to be forwarded to HUD by

Jono Hildner, Director of the Clackamas County Department of Human Resources, is for one year of

Some of the larger requests include a new system for the city of Estacada at a cost of \$65,000 to be spent for "street revitalization" in the Overland Park area along 82nd Avenue.

Other requests include:
— A grant of \$26,000 for a community center on Hill.



May 22, 1978

Dear Buenavista Civic Club,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you at your meeting on April 25. I realize land-use planning and zoning are fairly complicated issues, and that certainly we could discuss them at length, particularly as they relate specifically to your neighborhood, but I do feel we at least made a start.

Please remember I am available to you to assist with your concerns and needs whenever possible. I believe that together we can achieve the best in liveability for historic Oregon City.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Alayne C. Worley

The Oregon City Woman's Club
requests the pleasure of your attendance at the

75th

Anniversary Tea

Thursday, April 27, 1978

2 to 4:30 P.M.

Flavia Hall

Marylhurst Education Center

Buenavista
1923-1978
Woman's Club

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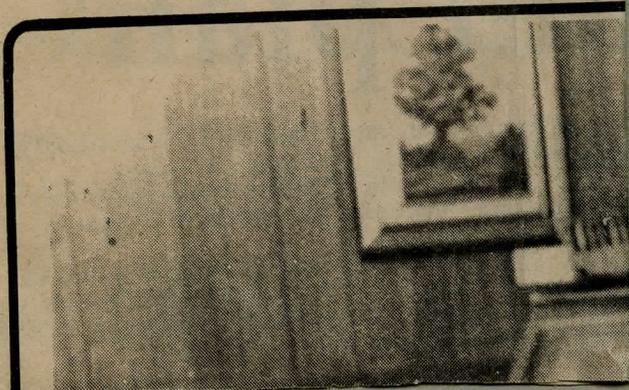
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Marylhurst Education Center

THE BUENA VISTA CLUB

The Buena Vista Club was organized in 1923 by Dr. Mabel Hardenbrook to beautify and improve this area. Many achievements have been realized over the years, both in our area and in the whole town. The club has involved itself in neighborhood planning of late and become a vital as well as historical organization.

OFFICERS FOR 1978

President:	Carl Goebel	656-4724
Vice-President:	Mickey Goebel	656-4724
Secretary:	Lorraine Barnett	656-6281
Treasurer:	Bob Smith	266-4403

County approves block grant plan

The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners approved Thursday a \$2.147 million urban county community block grant application which now will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for final approval.

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Jono Hildner, Director of the Clackamas County Department of Human Resources, is for one year only.

Some of the larger requests include a new storm drain system for the city of Estacada at a cost of \$150,000 and \$65,000 to be spent for "street revitalization" in the Overland Park area along 82nd Avenue.

Other requests include:

— A grant of \$26,000 for a community center in Ladd Hill.

— Park improvements in Damascus totaling \$20,000.

— A new community center in the Buena Vista neighborhood totaling \$22,000.

— Oak Lodge Riverfront improvements totaling \$15,000.

— A \$9,000 request for a senior center in Sandy.

In addition to the specific amounts granted to the cities and unincorporated areas, \$195,000 is being asked for "rehabilitation loans and grants" and \$5,000 for a coun-

tywide fund for "clearance, demolition and rehabilitation."

"It will be up to the federal government," said Commissioner Stan Skoko, "to make up their minds on some of those requests."

"I couldn't be any happier," said commission Chairman Ralph Groener. "All of the cities got basically what they asked for. And we all worked together on this thing."

"That's got to be a first."

May 22, 1978

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Marylhurst Education Center

1973-1979



CITY OF OREGON CITY P. O. Box 631
INCORPORATED 1844

May 16, 1980

Lorraine Barnett
1301 16th Street
Oregon City, OR 97045

ATTENTION: Buena Vista Club

At their May 15th meeting, the City Commission approved a request for the use of Atkinson Park for a Youth for Christ rally. The Commission requested that the neighborhood association be notified. The rally is scheduled for Saturday, August 23rd from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. They anticipate 75-100 youths from the Oregon City area. The Commission did impose the following conditions:

1. Need list of adults that would be acting as chaperones.
2. If band was to perform, they cannot use any amplifiers for band.
3. That they be responsible for cleaning up park after their activity.

Please make this announcement at your next meeting. If you have any questions, please call me at 655-8481.

Sincerely,

Janet Dancer Williams
Public Involvement Coordinator

kd

Buena Vista Club celebrates

The Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club observed its 58th anniversary during the February meeting with a birthday cake and special thanks and recognition to members present who contributed in organizing the group and obtaining the property and building.

Charter members Kathryn Carothers and Lanora Parker were presented with baskets of blooming plants and a basket was delivered to another long time member, Bessie Anderson, who was unable to attend the meeting because of illness.

In 1924 the property at 16th and Jackson streets was acquired by the group who foresaw the park-like area being used for recreational activities for young and old. Funds were raised by private donations, fund raising projects, hard work and determination. A barbecue pit and playground equipment were installed and the park was used by many people living in the area and throughout the city.

Later the group obtained two buildings which were brought to the park and combined to form one larger building which has been used as a club house for the Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club. The Art Needlecraft Club is an auxiliary of the Civic Club and its meetings also are held in the club house. Many of the members of the auxiliary club are also members of the Civic Club but this is not a man-

datory requirement for membership.

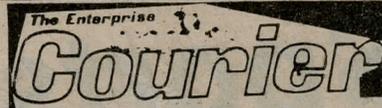
On July 4, 1924, the property was given to the city but the club house remains the property of the club. The city now maintains the park and playground equipment and has playground activities there each summer.

The club house has been used over the years for many wedding receptions, family reunions and other activities. Such use is controlled by the club with arrangements made and sponsored by a member of the club and a donation made to cover cost of maintenance.

Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club

16th and Jackson Streets
OREGON CITY, OREGON

Enterprise Courier, Oregon City, Oregon, Monday, March 8, 1982—3



Joan Humbert, Family Editor

Buena Vista anniversary

The Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club celebrated its 59th anniversary recently with a potluck dinner at the club house.

In February 1923, a group of people living in the area met to form a club and discuss ways to improve the community which was then known locally as "Kansas City." They were successful in changing the name to Buena Vista and one of the early projects of the group was the securing of approximately five acres of land in the area of 16th and Jackson streets. The March 20, 1924, issue of the Enterprise (now the Enterprise-Courier) carried a front page story on the birth of the park, portions of which read

"The Buena Vista Civic Club has secured the option to 29 lots in Park addition for a very nominal sum, with the understanding that the same shall be deeded to the city and called Atkinson Park.

"The park addition is one of the most sightly and scenic spots to be found in the city. A clear view of Mt. Hood, Council Crest and the surrounding country for miles may be obtained.

"The land for the Park was obtained from Mrs. Anna S. Warren, daughter of the late Rev. George H. Atkinson. Mr. Atkinson was one of the early pioneers and was for 15 years a minister in Oregon City. Before his death Rev. Atkinson expressed a desire that his property in Park addition be held for a public park or school playground."

Later on a building was given to the club and this was moved to the site and is still being used for meetings of the Civic Club as well as the Afternoon Club which was organized shortly after the Civic Club. The two clubs have been responsible for many improvements to the area over the years — playground and equipment, drinking fountains, street signs and the Madison Street Bridge.

The Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club is reputed to be the oldest continuous Civic Club in the state of Oregon.

Catherine Carothers, Bessie Anderson and Lanora Parker, the three continuing charter members were honored at the meeting.

Gerald Pecinovsky, city manager, spoke at the meeting and entertainment was furnished by the Pioneer Pipers, a group of young men from the Oregon City High School.



RICHARD W. LONG

311 Center Street
Oregon City, Oregon 97045
Phone 656-5137

February 13, 1983

Dear Mrs. Wiley:

My wife, Helen, and I accept your kind invitation to
the 60th birthday of the Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club
on Tuesday evening, February 22nd, 1983, at 7:30 P.M. at the
Club House.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Long
Richard W. Long

Sample

We are inviting you, as a former mayor
of Oregon City, and Mrs. Danielson to join
uf for cake and ice cream -

To celebrate the 60th birthday of the Buena Vista
Civic Improvement Club

Date February 22nd, 1983

Time 7:30 P. M.

Place At the Club House

Sixteenth & Jackson Sts., Oregon City

Given By The Members

R S V P by February 18, 656-3631

RICHARD W. LONG
311 Center Street
Oregon City, Oregon 97045
Phone 656-5137

February 13, 1983

2/22/83

60th Anniversary

Present -

Glen Parker
Blanche Parker
Iola Helsby
Klara Drumm
Lafayette " " "
Kate Carothers
Lillian M. Ralston
Helen Long
Richard Long
Dick Conrad
Dean Barnett
Lorraine Barnett
Lorraine Geigler
Oscar Geigler
Fred Watson
Lora Watson
Janora Parker
Caroline Jordan
Russell Baker
Tossie Baker
CARL GOEBEL
Mickey Goebel
DONNA KRUTERS
York N. Nichols
Bernette Nichols
Lynn Myers
John Myers
Mollie Hancock
Alice Donmange
Margaret Veddyfar
Alice Wiley

Enterprise Courier, Oregon City, Oregon, Monday, March 7, 1983 - 3

Buena Vista Club

The Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club meet in February to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the group. Two charter members, Katherine Carothers and Lanora Parker, were present. Other special guests were Lafayette Drumm and Lillian Drumm Ralston whose father, the Rev. John Drumm, was president of the club in 1924, and Mrs. Glen Parker and Iola Helsby, daughters of the late Charles Thorpe, an early president of the club.

Also present were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Long. He is a past president of the club.

In February 1923, a group of neighbors in the Park and Buena Vista areas of Oregon City met to organize a club to improve the surrounding area.

The early efforts of the club were reflected in neighborhood improvements such as street signs, light installations, replacement of the Madison Street bridge and acquiring the land for the Buena Vista Park. Playground equipment and picnic facilities were installed in the park through the efforts of the club. In later years, the park was given to the city which now maintains it.

The club house, which sits on the property, belongs to the club and is the result of two smaller buildings which were brought to the site and joined together. Over the years it has been used for social gatherings, reunions, wedding receptions and other functions as well as the meeting place for the club and the Afternoon Club, a subsidiary of the club which has also been meeting continuously for many years.



True-to-type secretary retires after 60 years

By LINDA McCARTHY
Correspondent, The Oregonian

OREGON CITY — Nell R. Wiley clutched the old red brick that is her last memory of the Oregon City Woolen Mills where she began a career as a secretary in 1924.

The mill at the south end of Main Street was torn down a couple of years ago, nearly 30 years after the property, buildings and water rights were sold to Publishers Paper Co. Wiley was one of a few who witnessed the demolition.

Wiley, 78, is retiring at the end of the month after 60 years as a secretary with the company that later became the Jacobs Foundation.

Few secretaries can boast of that kind of dedication this week, which is being observed as national "Secretaries Week."

After graduating from Oregon City High School in 1923, Wiley began working as a secretary for the Oregon City Woolen Mills, which had been purchased by the Jacobs brothers from the Oregon City Manufacturing Co. during the Civil War and turned into a prosperous woolen factory.

In 1961, after 97 years of doing business, the retail business was sold, but a foundation that had been set up several years earlier continued with Wiley as its secretary.

Wiley is the only employee left who worked at what once was touted as the largest woolen mill west of the Mississippi River. She remembers the six-day workweek she logged year after year as her time with the company stretched into decades.

"I liked what I was doing," she said. "It was a challenge; it was interesting and rewarding."

Wiley, a 74-year resident of Oregon City, actually started working in the mill in the summer of 1922 when she was hired to pull the threads to make the fringe on the bottom of the blankets sold by the mill.

Isaac and Ralph Jacobs, brothers who worked in a tassels and trims factory in Prussia, started the woolen mill. The brothers arrived in New York in 1859 and settled in Oregon City in the early 1860s.

Ralph Jacobs proved to be the business leader and invested his money in stock in the Oregon City Manufacturing Co. until he took control in 1864. On Feb. 10, 1864, the Jacobs brothers opened their woolen mill on the banks of the



The Oregonian/BOB ELLIS

END OF LINE — Nell R. Wiley, who will retire this month after 60 years as secretary for same company, shows off Coronado line of blankets that was manufactured at Oregon City Woolen Mills. When mill closed in 1960s, Wiley stayed as secretary of the Jacobs Foundation.

Willamette River.

"They noticed the wool being barged up and down the river, and it gave them an idea to start the mill," Wiley said.

When Wiley started working at the woolen mills in 1924, she helped out in the shipping

department for a short time before being named secretary to Adolph Ralph Jacobs, who was managing the company.

Adolph Ralph Jacobs, who never married, was born in Oregon City in 1873 as the only son of Ralph Jacobs. Only one of Ralph Jacobs' four

daughters married and she had no children, so there were no heirs to the Jacobs' fortune, Wiley said.

Wiley worked closely with Adolph Ralph Jacobs until his death in 1934. After he died, Samuel Stern, who joined as vice president in 1927, took over the company and ran it until his death in 1969.

"I'm the kind of person who feels I have to be necessary to someone," Wiley said. "One of the sisters once told me that Uncle Sam (Stern) couldn't have managed without me."

In memory of their father and brothers, the Jacobs sisters established a foundation in the 1950s, Wiley said.

The foundation was to provide annuities to long-serving members of the company and scholarships to independent colleges, Wiley said. Foundation money continues to be used for health projects and historical research, she said.

"The money is invested, and the income given away because we're non-profit," Wiley said.

Wiley said the foundation, which donated property for the Oregon City Senior Center in the late 1970s, will continue after she leaves at the end of April.

"There are still directors, and it's not going to close up because I left," she said.

The company sold its woolen products wholesale until 1924 when sales shops were opened in Portland, New York, Kansas City, San Francisco and Los Angeles. On the retail market, the company introduced a line of products ranging from blankets and robes to shirts and men's suits. Later, women's suits and coats were added to the line.

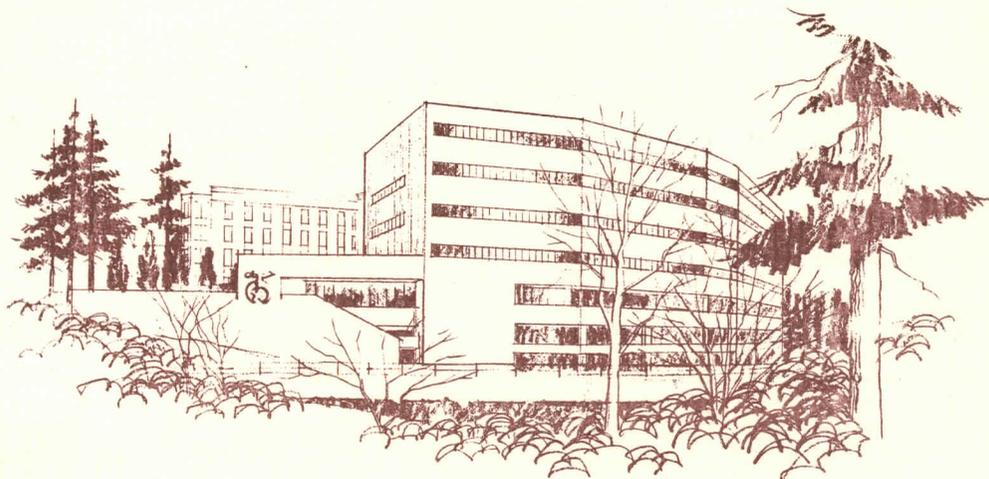
Wiley said the company also kept very busy during World War II manufacturing woolen blankets for the Army.

She said the company had two mottoes — "Woven Where the Wool is Grown" and "From Raw Wool to Finished Products" — to describe the product that was being advertised nationwide.

Wiley hopes to do some traveling after she retires. She also plans to spend time in her garden.

"I've mixed feelings about quitting," she said. "I'm sure I'll miss working, but I've got a garden and a lot of lawn work. I also have a lot of hobbies like knitting and sewing."

Shriners Hospital For Crippled Children



CITY OF OREGON CITY

Incorporated 1844

SENIOR CENTER
615 Fifth Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-657-8287

September 22, 1987

Buena Vista Civic Club
% Nell Wiley
1519 Pierce St.
Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Dear Buena Vista Civic Club Members,

We understand that your group has disbanded so it is with mixed emotions that we send our appreciation for your donation of \$267.08 to the Oregon City Senior Center.

The Advisory Board has recommended that the money be placed in the Trust Fund until it can be determined which of the many special projects waiting in the wings should benefit from your generosity.

Thank you again for your contribution to our efforts.

Sincerely,

Georgianna Lukens

Georgianna Lukens
Senior Center Coordinator

GL:1c

*"No man stands so straight as he who stoops to
help a crippled child."*

9/4/87

On behalf of the Boys and Girls who are
receiving treatment at our hospital,
we wish to express our sincere
appreciation for your inspiring
contribution to their welfare
with your donation of:

\$25.00 IN MEMORY OF DONNA KEARNEY

AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT HAS BEEN SENT TO THE NEXT OF KIN
"BECAUSE WE CARE"

SHRINERS HOSPITAL FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN
Portland, Oregon

Board of Governors

SOUTH METRO

Historic era ends for Oregon City club

By LINDA McCARTHY
Correspondent, The Oregonian

OREGON CITY — A neighborhood club that was organized 64 years ago has closed its clubhouse doors, marking the end of an era in the city.

The Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club on Wednesday donated to the city its clubhouse in Atkinson Memorial Park on Jackson Street near 16th Street. The gift came 63 years after the group turned over to the city five acres of land it had purchased to be used as a city park.

The club was organized Feb. 27, 1923, by residents of the Buena Vista area who felt somewhat isolated from the rest of the city by a deep canyon that separated the area from the city center. The enthusiastic group was ready to push for improvements in the neighborhood, as well as other parts of the city.

Nell Wiley, the club's last president, said most of the two dozen remaining members — including two charter members — are in failing health. She said no one was willing to take over the club presidency when she declined the offer in 1985.

"I was the last president of the club from 1981 to 1985. When no one else wanted to take the office, it was the beginning of the end for the Buena Vista club. That's been heavy on my heart and my head," Wiley said.

The club was organized in an area that at the time was called "Kansas City." The neighborhood stretches from Jackson to Division streets and from 14th to 18th streets.

Organizers of the group immediately went to work on a plan to purchase five acres of vacant, wooded property with a spectacular view of Mount Hood, which was being considered for a housing tract. The young families in the neighborhood wanted to see a park on the property.

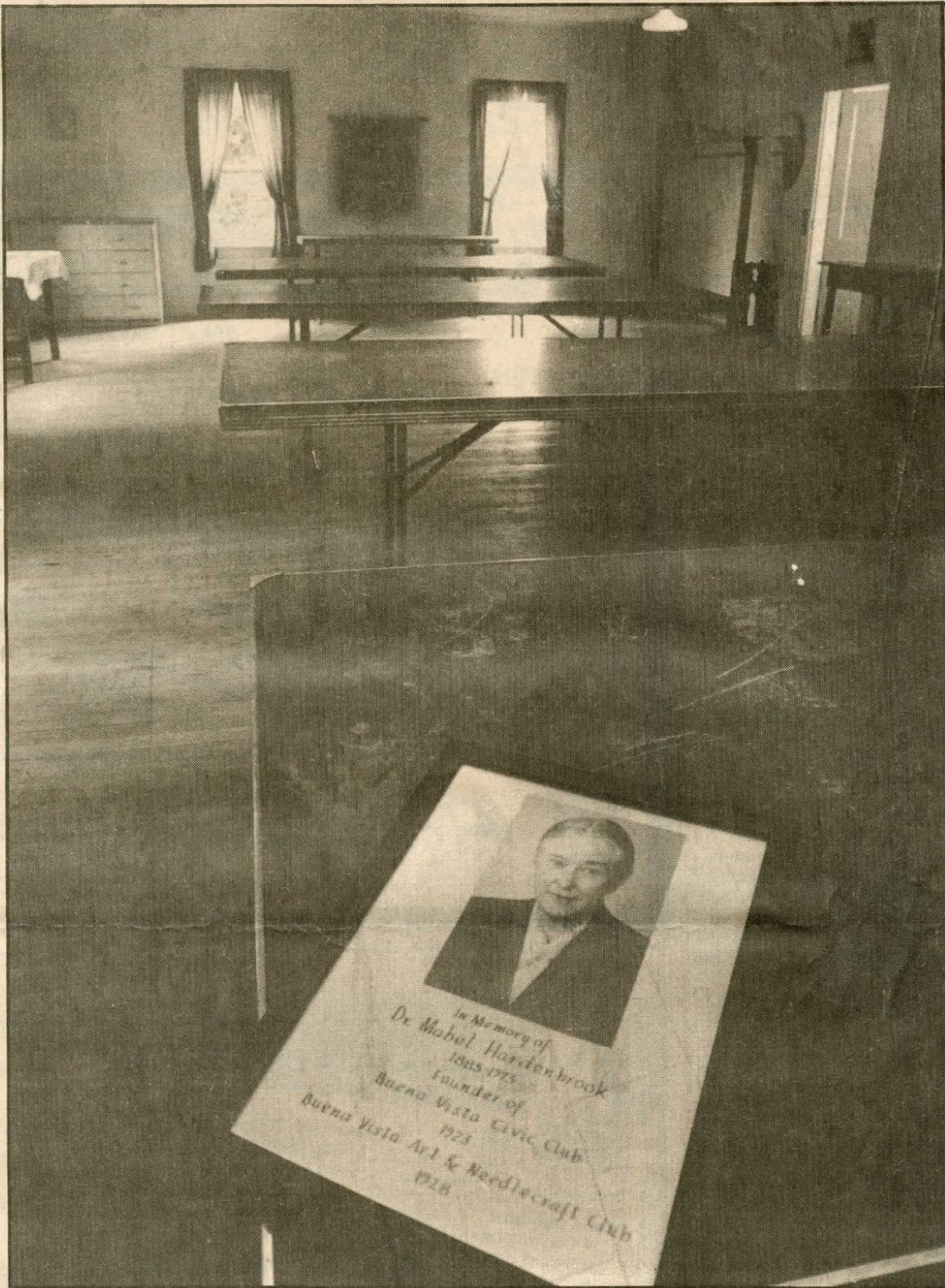
After a year of fund-raising, the property was purchased for \$2,000 and the club put together a citywide Fourth of July celebration in 1924 that included the donation of the land to the city.

The park was named for the Rev. George H. Atkinson, the man who organized the first Congregational church in the Northwest and who had owned a segment of the land the club purchased.

In that first year of business, the club also worked on a project to replace the Madison Street Bridge, which the city had labeled as unsafe. The bridge was an important link between Buena Vista residents and the rest of the city.

Club members embarked on a number of improvement projects in the neighborhood to spruce up the area, including the planting of street trees that now line streets in the area.

By June 1923, about 100 people belonged to the club. The Buena Vista area was booming and was described in newspaper accounts as the "busiest growing place" in



The Oregonian/BOB ELLIS

A photograph of Dr. Mabel Hardenbrook, an early leader of the 64-year-old Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club, lies on a table in the clubhouse, which is being turned over to Oregon City.

Clackamas County.

The club also sponsored a long list of social activities. The late Dr. Mabel Hardenbrook, a dentist who was one of the club leaders, organized the Buena Vista Boys Band and the Junior Stamp Club, both groups for neighborhood youngsters.

The group met in the homes of club members for the first year, before two buildings were donated to the group to be used as a clubhouse. The structures at Seventh and Center streets were moved to Atkinson Park and the building was used for meetings as well as a variety of social events. Relatives and friends of club members were

allowed to rent the hall for parties and receptions.

Bessie Anderson, 88, one of the charter members of the group, said she has fond memories of the time she spent with the club but agreed that there was no other alternative but to disband the group.

"It was a real active club and it did a lot of things for the children in the neighborhood. I'm blind, and of course I can't do any more," she said.

Bernetta Nichols, 69, is another member of the club who said her parents, Eric and Mary Hedlund, were charter members of the group.

"We did have a nice club . . . we

had a wonderful time," Nichols said. "But nobody wants to take office and we pretty near have to do something about it."

As a tribute to the club, the City Commission agreed to keep the Buena Vista name on the clubhouse. The city will continue to rent the building for meetings and other events.

"What we're seeing here is the end of an era," said Commissioner Ronald D. Thom. "When I was growing up, there were several clubs, but to my knowledge this is the last of the neighborhood clubs. I hope we don't ever change the name on the clubhouse."

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, ATKINSON MEMORIAL PARK was donated to the City of Oregon City by the BUENA VISTA CLUB, and thereafter dedicated as a public park, and

WHEREAS, the BUENA VISTA CLUB maintained a structure thereon known as the Buena Vista Clubhouse used for meetings of the BUENA VISTA CLUB and other public functions, and

WHEREAS, the BUENA VISTA CLUB has no further use of said Clubhouse for a meeting place and the membership has authorized relinquishment of all rights thereto to the City of Oregon City, and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Oregon City agrees to continue the name as the Buena Vista Clubhouse,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BUENA VISTA CLUB hereby waives, quitclaims and relinquishes all rights of use and/or ownership of the Buena Vista Clubhouse to the City of Oregon City.

DATED, the 1st day of September, 1987.

BUENA VISTA CLUB

By *Nell R. Wiley*
Nell Wiley, President, 1981-1987

By *Frank Vidmar*
Frank Vidmar, Secretary
Treasurer



87.168.11



CITY OF OREGON CITY

Incorporated 1844

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
320 Warner-Milne Road
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-657-0891

July 20, 1987

Mrs. Nell R. Wiley
1519 Pierce Street
Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Dear Mrs. Wiley:

Enclosed are two copies of a Resolution giving ownership of the Buena Vista Clubhouse to the City of Oregon City. Please note that paragraph four has been added at the request of the City Commission.

If you would please secure the proper signatures and return one copy to me I would appreciate it.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Cordially,

Ann E. Brunson

ANN E. BRUNSON
Interim City Recorder

aeb
Enclosure

*Signed + returned
7/25/87
Copy in scrapbook*

Weather

Cloudy, cooler
Rain possible
Highs _____ near 70
Lows _____ mid 40's

The Enterprise

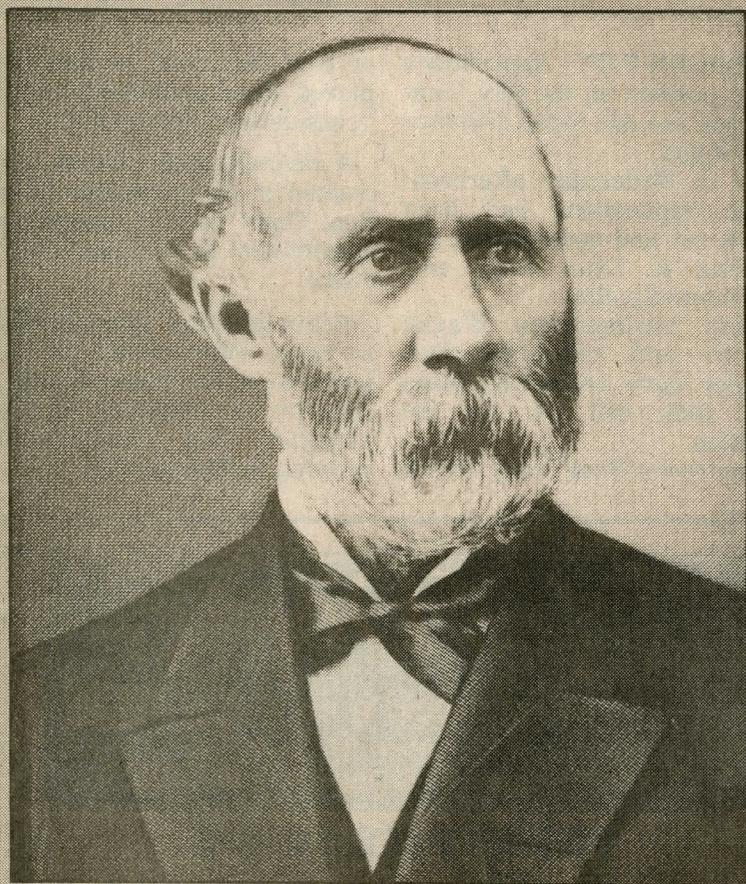
Courier

Oregon City, Gladstone, West Linn, Milwaukie and Clackamas

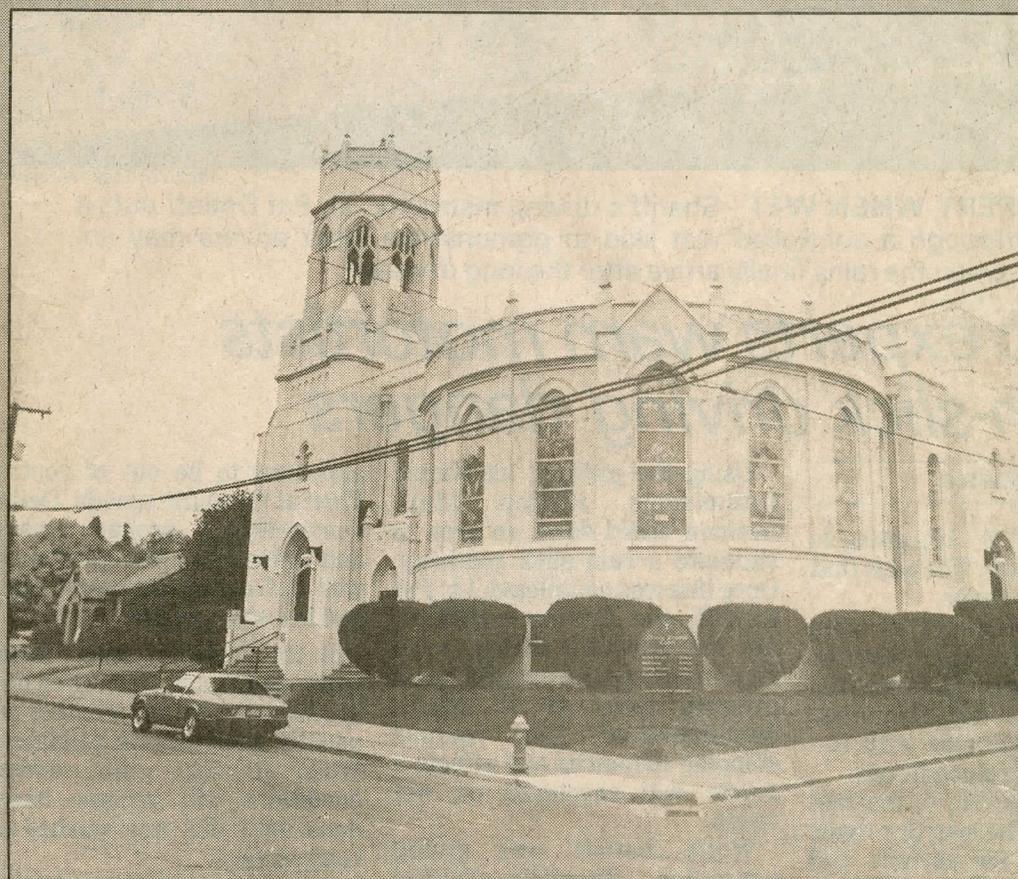
Friday, October 30, 1987

For daily home delivery savings, 656-1

Rev. George H. Atkinson 1819 - 1889



A public meeting was called in Oregon City and the question was asked: "Shall we organize a system of free schools?" A vote was taken and the measure passed, 37 to 6. On Sept. 5, 1849, the first school bill was passed.



Good morning. In continuing with the profiles of pioneers who have played an important part in the growth of Oregon City, Clackamas County and the State of Oregon, this week we will take a quick look at another one of the people who left their mark in the history books.

The subject of this week's profile is missionary and educator, Rev. George H. Atkinson.

Atkinson was born May 10, 1819 in Newburyport, Massachusetts. References, such as "Oregon: Its History and Builders," indicate that much of the future pioneer's life was spent divided between farm work and teaching school.

He did this until the age of twenty, in 1839, when he was accepted into Dartmouth College. Not one who could rely on family funds to pay for his education, Atkinson taught school part of the year to help defray costs. It was during this time he laid his foundation for the ministry. He continued his education, for three years at the Andover, (Mass.), Theological Seminary and graduating in 1846.

The hardworking educator-now-missionary was highly thought of and he was named to a mission in South Africa by the American Board of Foreign Missions. Had it not been for zealous intervention by the Home Missionary Service, Oregon City and the State of Oregon, might not have had the honor Atkinson and his vision.

However, getting to Oregon, and Oregon City would be a

long voyage for pioneer missionary. He spent the next year, back in school at Andover preparing for his trip to Oregon. Finally, in October, 1847, he set sail from Boston, heading for the west coast. He was sidetracked for three months in the Sandwich Islands, (Hawaii), waiting for another ship heading in the direction of Oregon.

He secured passage on the Hudson Bay Company ship, "Cowlitz," and entered the Oregon Territory in June 1848.

(It should be noted that Atkinson married Nancy Bates, in 1846 and they became the parents of six children).

As Oregon City was considered the place to be in those early days, Atkinson settled here and, for 15 years was pastor of the Congregational church. It was the first Congregational Church west of the Rocky Mountains and was located at what was then Main and Moss Streets, between 10th and 11th. That first building, and a second one which was incorporated with the first, were destroyed in a spectacular fire, in February, 1923.

Atkinson preached his first sermon in June of 1848 and 4th and Water Streets. (Water Street would later become McLoughlin Blvd.).

Home for the Atkinson family during this period was at 101 16th Street.

There was also the "educator side" of Atkinson. And, it was Atkinson, in 1849, who was instrumental, in 1849, in having the

first school tax passed in the Territory. He was superintendent of public schools in Clackamas County, founded the Oregon City Female Seminary, which became the first public school, and the Oregon City Public Library, now the site of the Barclay School.

The fact that he was an educator, as well as a pioneer, showed in the fact, that when he arrived in Oregon he brought with him a number of the best school books worth, according to "The Centennial History of Oregon," about \$200. He later imported more books valued at \$500.

Atkinson has been called the "Father of Free Schools in Oregon." He designed the basic school system laid out, also, after moving to Portland, the superintendent of schools for Multnomah County.

Pictured above is Atkinson, much as he appeared in his life, left, and the Atkinson Memorial Church, in honor of him. The church is located at 6th and John Adams Streets from the Oregon City Public Library.

Rev. Atkinson, who was also an explorer and a mountain climber, Mt. Hood being a favorite climb, moved to Oregon in 1863 and lived, until his death, Feb. 25, 1889, on 16th Street.

For more information about Rev. Atkinson and the Oregon Pioneers, visit the Oregon City Library, or contact the Oregon Pioneer Society near you.

Clackamas County's Only LOCAL Daily Newspaper

The Enterprise

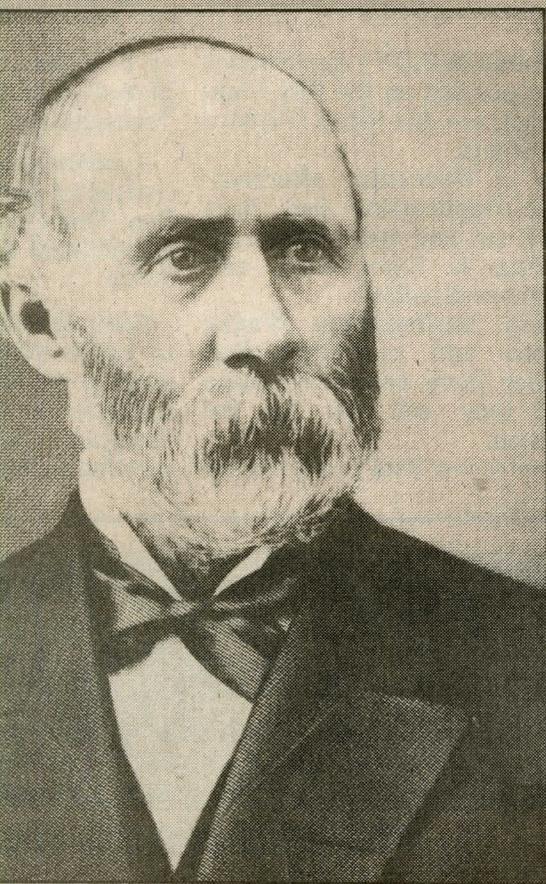
Courier

Gladstone, West Linn, Milwaukie and Clackamas

Friday, October 30, 1987

For daily home delivery savings, 656-1911 25°

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Atkinson has been called the "Father of Free Schools in Oregon." He designed the basic school system laws and was also, after moving to Portland, the superintendent of schools for Multnomah County.

Pictured above is Atkinson, much as he appeared in later life, left, and the Atkinson Memorial Church, named in his honor. The church is located at 6th and John Adams, across from the Oregon City Public Library.

Rev. Atkinson, who was also an explorer and mountain climber, Mt. Hood being a favorite climb, moved to Portland in 1863 and lived, until his death, Feb. 25, 1889, on Salmon Street.

For more information about Rev. Atkinson and other Oregon Pioneers, visit the Oregon City Library, or a library near you.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That we, the undersigned, officers and Trustees of the Buena Vista Civic Club, do hereby, in accordance with the rules and regulations of said Club and under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Oregon, incorporate such Club and form a corporation, to-wit:

I.

That the name assumed by this corporation and by which name it shall be known, is "The Buena Vista Civic Club."

II.

(a) The object, business and pursuit of this corporation is social and civic improvement; being established for educational, literary, scientific, political and charitable purposes.

(b) To cultivate social intercourse and assist in improving the moral and social conditions of the community.

(c) That the "Art Needlecraft Club" is a subsidiary organization of some of its members whose special object is to foster child welfare, needlecraft and household arts.

III.

The estimated value of the property and money possessed by said Club at the time of making these articles of incorporation is \$250.00.

The sources of income or revenue of said corporation are membership fees, contributions and money raised by plays, entertainments and other activities of its members; there shall be no business conducted by this Club for profit.

IV.

The title of the officers making these Articles of Incorporation and their Postoffice addresses are as follows:

C. A. Thorpe	President	1714 16th St., Oregon City, Ore.
John Drumm	Vice-President	1517 16th St., Oregon City, Ore.
Mrs. Quevene Arbuckle	Secretary	1802 15th St., Oregon City, Ore.
Mrs. Gertrude Anderson	Treasurer	1401 18th St., Oregon City, Ore.
Mrs. Mary Charriere	Trustee	1508 16th St., Oregon City, Ore.
Mrs. Elma Surfus	Trustee	1506 1/2 Monroe Oregon City, Ore.

The foregoing officers hold office until the last Tuesday of November, 1934, at which time their successors shall be elected by a vote of the members of this Club at a meeting called for that purpose; the election of such officers shall be held annually on the last Tuesday of November.

V.

The location of this Club shall be in the City of Oregon City Oregon.

VI.

That an election of officers was held in the City of Oregon City, Oregon, on the last Tuesday of November, 1933, namely, November 28th, 1933; and the majority of the members of the Club were present and voted at such election.

That the undersigned were duly elected to their respective offices at said election to hold such offices until the election and qualification of their successors; that at a meeting on the 27th day of March, 1934, at which a majority of the members of the Club were present, a resolution was duly adopted by the members of this Club, authorizing, requesting and empowering the undersigned officers to incorporate such Club.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hands and affixed our seals this 26th day of June, 1934.

In the Presence of:

Mabel Hadenbrook M.D.
T. L. Charnan

C. A. Thorpe (SEAL)
John Doumen (SEAL)
Mrs. Henry C. Ur buckle (SEAL)
Gertrude Anderson (SEAL)
Mrs. J. H. Charnan (SEAL)
Mrs. Elma Surfus (SEAL)

37487

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

of the

BUENA VISTA CIVIC CLUB

Filed in the office of the CORPORATION
COMMISSIONER of the STATE OF OREGON
at 8:30 o'clock ^{PM} A. M., the 24th
day of June, 1934

Charles W. Cary
Corporation Commissioner

penny a day"—to carry on the crusade under the national leadership of Mrs. Fred (Ruth) Tooze, who is an Oregon woman and has held the national presidency since 1960.

Newspapers carried frequent items about bootlegging and the discovery and destruction of stills. Every sheriff had his work waiting as soon as prohibition went into effect:

The largest and most complete moonshing outfit ever found in this county was raided and destroyed Friday night by Sheriff W. J. Wilson, Deputy Hughes and two revenue officers from Portland . . . and the owner taken into custody.

The plant was found . . . about three miles east of Sandy on what is known as the Wesby Ridge. A new house had been built for the plant which consisted of two complete stills, which were heated by oil burners operated by pressure tanks. The place was kept in the best of order and the operator evidently used white aprons while at work for several of these were found in the building.¹³

It hasn't been until recent years that people have discovered that only knowledge can curb the use of alcohol. It cannot be done by legislation. The Prohibition Amendment, while it was in effect, proved that. After it was repealed in 1933 the government took over the sale of liquor and uses the revenue for expenses. For those who want to stop drinking, Alcoholics Anonymous, a mutual-help organization is the most effective group trying to assist a drinker to break the habit and to counteract the injury it does to him.

Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club

The Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club of Oregon City is unique in Clackamas County, and the State of Oregon because it is an organization of residents in the Buena Vista section who work together for improvements in their district that city officialdom does not bring about, but who do not let the boundaries restrict them from an entire community effort. From the beginning the club's policy has been independent and non-sectarian. The members listen to all politicians . . . but back no particular party. On any measure or drive for community betterment the club members stand squarely together and work toward its accomplishment.¹⁴

¹³ From the *Morning Enterprise*, February 13, 1920. Owner's name omitted.

¹⁴ *Unique Civic Club Still Active*, Vera Lynch in *Clackamas Historical*, 1962-63.

Partially isolated from the rest of town by a deep canyon, Buena Vista residents had been discussing how to bring their section nearer to the center of community affairs. To get "the ball rolling" a meeting was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Sturdivant, February 27, 1923. Many residents attended. At a second meeting at the Anton Naterlin's officers were elected, the Rev. John Drumm, president and Mrs. Kate Caruthers, secretary.

Access to the area was by a bridge over the canyon on Madison Street; the bridge, however, had been pronounced unsafe by the Street Superintendent and closure was threatened. At this first meeting the club proposed a resolution to make repairs. Among the signers were A. J. Lewis, Mrs. Ida Egleston and P. T. Soreghan. After the resolution was presented to the City Council, repairs were soon made.

Editor Edward E. Brodie of the *Morning Enterprise* had taken note of the new club which he editorially recognized in "Community Development":

Proposal of the Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club to create a park at Sixteenth and Jackson Streets ought to be encouraged. The tract . . . under consideration is one of the sightliest in town . . . when park sites will be impossible of acquisition because of prohibitive prices.

We note the plans of the B.V.C.I. club for planting shade trees along streets, for the installation of a drinking fountain and for adequate street signs . . . McLoughlin Park, not so many years ago, was a barren unsightly spot, until some women of Oregon City were inspired to cultivate it.

The drinking fountain was soon forthcoming—a gift of C.D. Latourette—and was installed at Sixteenth and Jackson Streets. A permanent bridge on Madison Street stirred members to increased activity. Dr. Mabel Hardenbrook, the only original committee member still surviving, Anton Naterlin and T. L. Charman began to bring the need to their townspeople. The impact of the club was being felt. The late Joseph Hedges, attorney and a speaker at a meeting, closed his remarks: "Stand not in the house of your fathers. The world progresses. Progress with it."

The club had social aspects and drew practically all residents living in the neighborhood. The crowds made a clubhouse expedient. Charles Surfus donated a small house at Seventh and Center, and Mike Long and George Pursiful moved it to the

edge of the park. Renovating and furnishing has been a project of the women. An Art and Needlework Club is an afternoon women's auxiliary.

Dr. Mabel Hardenbrook has led in the organization of two groups the club sustained—the Oregon City Boys Band, which grew into the organization of school bands, and the Junior Stamp Club. The few charter members remaining see the permanent street on the fill which replaced the bridge on Madison Street, the fine street lights around town, Atkinson Memorial Park that grows in use every year, and the consciousness of townspeople that trees and shrubs make the city more beautiful, and can take satisfaction for their efforts.

So far as is known the Buena Vista Civic Improvement Club is the oldest civic organization in the state in continuous operation, except for the Chamber of Commerce. Among charter members still active are the C. A. Thorpes, the Eric Hedlunds, Mrs. Carruthers, Mrs. Arch Phillips and Dr. Mabel Hardenbrook.

Clackamas County Historical Society

Oregon City, the county seat of Clackamas County and the first territorial capital, should have had the first historical society. But residents who were descendants of the pioneers were too busy living history to take time to preserve it in an organized way. Two other towns—Sandy and Milwaukie—had local historical societies years before Oregon City residents began to consider one to include the whole county.

Several people who did most to interest others in the proposal were, like Mrs. Eva Emery Dye, from out of the county. They included Mrs. Fred (Thora B.) Gardiner, an immigrant from Iceland; Mrs. Edward (Georgia) Farmer who came from Kentucky; Mrs. Gertrude Brumbaugh formerly from Nebraska, and Mrs. Arthur (Jeannette) MacDonald who, while an Oregonian, did not move to the county until after her marriage. An initial meeting was at the instigation of Mrs. Brumbaugh and the Friends of the Library in July of 1952 at the library.

A favorable consensus brought out more in August. With Mrs. MacDonald as temporary chairman and Mrs. Gardiner as temporary secretary, Mrs. MacDonald appointed a committee to take preliminary steps to nominate officers for election in September and to formulate by-laws.