

MUSEUM MEANDERINGS

A QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE LA CENTER MUSEUM ASSOCIATION



Fall 2011 ~ website <http://www.thelacentermuseum.org> B.G. Barnhart, Editor

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J.S. Perrott & Co., Inc.

L.C. Museum Association

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L.C.M.A. is an IRS tax exempt

LA CENTER NEWS

VOLUME I.

LA CENTER, CLATSOP COUNTY, WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1922.

NUMBER 1

We Have Just Received

A full line of
CHRISTMAS CARDS, SEALS,
FOLDERS and PACKAGE
ENCLOSURES,
Which are now on display.

Don't fail to look over this line before
buying.

PRICES ARE RIGHT

LACENTER PHARMACY
LA CENTER, WASH.

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

By Margaret E. Sangster

The autumn perfect as Your love,
Lies over all the land;
And in each field, each glowing tree,
We see Your precious hand.
And so in every wayside Church,
Our grateful hearts we raise,
To thank You for Your mercies, Lord,
Upon this day of days!

POOLE & BRADWAY
La Center, Wash.

SHOES, DRY GOODS
GROCERIES, HDW.
AND SHINGLES

We do our best to treat you right,
and if you are satisfied tell your
friends and if you are not satisfied
tell us.

All Phone orders attended to promptly
Phone R 19

This first edition of "LaCenter News" Clarke County WA, published Nov. 28, 1922 by George Haskin was printed as an advertising medium and "free to all who wish to receive it." It was edited by LaCenter School.

The La Center Museum Association

wishes all its members and friends a Happy Thanksgiving and a Holiday Season filled with joy and blessings. We are most grateful to those of you who choose to support us with your time, talent, donations of historical items and monetary gifts. In the short period since its opening in July of 2010 La Center Historical Museum has endeavored to tell the history of the area, its early settlers and the changes that local, state, national and world events have impacted our community's growth and welfare. We have received wonderful comments and input from our visitors. If you have not yet visited the museum we hope you will plan to do so in 2012.

Happy New Year from the L.C.M.A. Board of Directors!

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS BENEFACTORS

Dr. William and Mrs. Sandra Bennett ~ \$250 In Memory of Phyllis Kays
Anonymous ~ \$2,500 Don & Barbara Barnhart ~ \$25 In Memory of Dorothy Person

LA CENTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

410 WEST 5TH Street ~ La Center, WA 98629 ~ (360) 263-6609


Open: 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month ~ and by appointment

TWO LOCAL LA CENTER FARMS ~ Mary Worley, Guest Writer

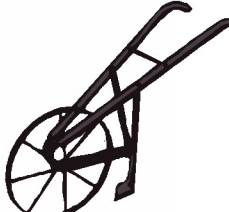
Behrendsen Farms La Center's climate, soil and terrain drew immigrants from Northern Europe to settle and farm in familiar conditions to those of their home land. Our rolling forested hills, access to river transport and relatively mild winters were ideal for the early pioneers who were seeking to settle the territory by farming. Behrendsen Farms, a North Clark County tradition, had its beginnings in the mid 1800s when Nis and Ida Behrendsen and their family came to the United States from Denmark and eventually settled in Iowa.

Their youngest son, Clyde Behrendsen, was raised to know and love the farm life. At the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, Clyde and his family moved to a farm just North of La Center which remains as part of the Behrendsen family farm today. Clyde began his farming career with a ten inch plow pulled by a horse and, later, by running a John Deere tractor with a ten foot plow. The Behrendsen Family Farms remains a major farm in North Clark County.

The Industrial Revolution affected every aspect of daily life, shown by the examples below for farming:



Production	Farming method	Year	Labor hours	Acres
Produce 100 bushels of wheat	Walking plow, brush harrow, hand broadcast seed and hand sickle	1830	250 to 300	5
Produce 100 bushels of corn	Walking plow, harrow and hand planting	1850	75 to 90	2.5
Produce 100 bushels of corn	2 bottom plow, disk harrow, 2 row planter, cultivator and pickers	1890	35 to 40	2.5
Produce 100 bushels of corn	2 bottom plow, disk, 2 row planter, cultivator and pickers	1930	15 to 20	2.5
Produce 100 bushels of corn	Tractor, 3 bottom plow, disk, harrow, 4 row cultivator and 2 row picker	1945	10 to 14	2
Produce 100 bushels of corn	Tractor, 5 bottom plow, disk, planter, corn picker and trucks	1975	3.5	1.125
Produces 100 bushels of corn	Tractor, 5 bottom plow, disk, planter corn picker and trucks	1987	2.75	1.125



Note how the labor required diminishes in relation to the number of acres used. Farming competed for labor and investments in La Center as logging took center stage in the late 1800's.

Brannfors Farm Abraham Brannfors and his wife, Greta Louisa and sons, Alfred and Arthur, ventured to Clark County from Minnesota after emigrating from Finland. Abraham Brannfors purchased 80 acres in the View area, north east of La Center, in October 1918, from the Finnegan family for \$6,000! That would be approximately \$120,000 in today's economy. The farm was well equipped for a dairy with a new barn for storage and cattle. The dairy cows were milked by hand TWICE a day and their milk was placed in 10 gallon cans. Farming Co-Operatives are instrumental for production and marketing of farm goods. The Brannfors sent their milk to market through the Clark County Dairymen's Co-op in Battle Ground.

The Brannfors, in addition to their dairy, began planting prune trees and walnuts and added chicken production and a strawberry field as the farm grew. The walnuts were harvested in late October and dried in a wood fired dryer built for that purpose. Abraham Brannfors named the farm "Walnut Ridge Farm." Dairy, eggs, prunes and walnuts kept this a very busy farm for fifty years. Eventually, the Brannfors diversified once more into raising Angus beef. The farm is still active and worked by the Brannfors Family.

2012 LA CENTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM CALENDARS

will be available on December 3rd and December 17th at the Museum and at the Holiday Village Bazaar Garden Club Booth on December 3rd. Or call Barbara at (360) 263-3308 to order locally and pick-up at the L.C. Historical Museum-- by arranged appointment. The cost per calendar is \$10. For out of the area orders please add \$3 for shipping and handling per calendar. Make checks payable to L.C.M.A. Mail to: L.C.M.A., 33920 NW Pacific Hwy., La Center, WA 98629. **Thank you!**

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITS AT THE LA CENTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

FARMING HISTORY OF LA CENTER ~ THROUGH JANUARY 2012

JOHN POLLOCK, LA CENTER FOUNDER ~ TO BECOME A PERMANENT EXHIBIT

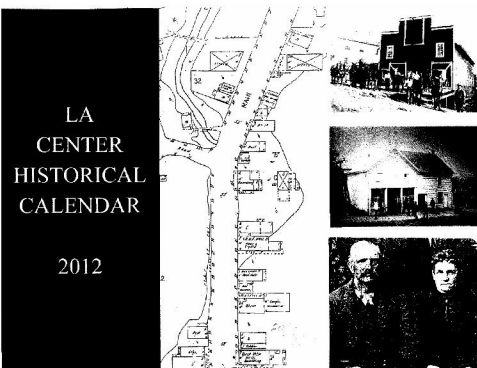
LOCAL NATIVE AMERICAN EXHIBITS ~ FEBRUARY THROUGH MAY 2012

LATE SPRING ICE CREAM SOCIAL ~ TO BE ANNOUNCED

GRANDMA'S KITCHEN - GRANDPA'S TOOLS ~ JUNE THROUGH SEPTEMBER

SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOURS AROUND LA CENTER ~ JUNE THROUGH SEPTEMBER

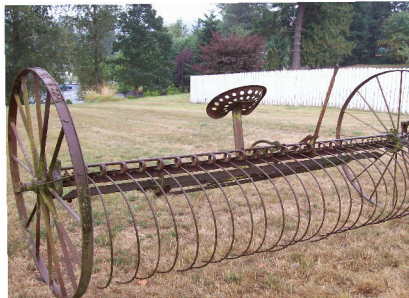
COWLEY PIONEER FAMILY EXHIBIT ~ TO BE ANNOUNCED



Two rakes and a scoop.



Antique tool collection.



Riding rake.



Favorite tractors.



Jeanine Liston-Meet the Artist.



John Pollock-Territorial Legislator & His Ledger



10 Gal. Milk Can, Bucket & Stool

LA CENTER MUSEUM ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please check type of membership:

☐ Individual (\$25) ☐ Family (\$35) ☐ Organization (\$25)
☐ Business (\$35) ☐ Corporate (\$500)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Make checks payable to: La Center Museum Association

Mail to: 33920 NW Pacific Hwy., La Center, WA 98629 ~ *Thank you!*



A NOTE FROM ED BRANNFORS . . .



On behalf of the La Center Museum Association Board, I would like to follow up on our July Membership Letter by telling you about some of the fall 2011 activities and benefits of membership:

- ~ Local "Old Time" Farming Exhibit including histories of several local families, Old Farm Tool Exhibit. and numerous photographs of the way things were done in times past.
- ~ Informative website: www.thelacentermuseum.org
- ~ Open House on the first and third Saturdays of each month, 12- 4p.m.
- ~ Private showings -- by appointment -- for small groups or organizations. Call Barbara at (360) 263-3308.
- ~ Receipt of "Museum Meanderings" our quarterly newsletter sent by e-mail or U.S. Postal Service.
- ~ Facebook: La Center Historical Museum
- ~ Invitations to special events, programs and receptions throughout the year.

You may renew your membership for 2012, open a new membership account or make a donation by accessing our website and conveniently using PayPal or your credit card for membership payments -- or touch the "Donate" button for museum support donations.

Individual, Family, Business, Organization and Corporate dues are described in "Contact Us" - Membership.

Thanks for your past interest. We would appreciate your continued support.

Ed Brannfors

Membership Chairman

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO RENEWED THEIR MEMBERSHIPS THIS YEAR...

We are especially grateful for your generosity and support in these difficult economic times.

History is important to each of us in many ways -- learning about our ancestors through old photos, letters, artifacts and memorabilia; hearing it orally from aging family members; saving family records and historical documents in scrapbook or other formats. The La Center Museum Association

is proud to present exhibits that help recall La Center's past and to document

local history for reference for future generations. ~ Barbara Barnhart

