



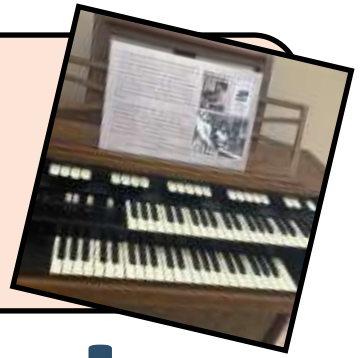
### Building Central Oregon

How did the CCC impact the growth of Deschutes County? See page 2

### Songs of Freedom

Discover a piece of civil rights history on display in the DHM lobby.

See page 4



# The Homesteader

Deschutes County Historical Society Newsletter—JULY 2025

## Happy Birthday Deschutes Historical Museum



July 4, 1980, Oregon governor Victor Atiyeh stood on the front lawn of the newly dedicated Deschutes County Historical Museum and declared, “It [Deschutes Historical Museum] will be here, as a reminder of the past, after many of us are gone. The preservation of Bend’s old Reid School provides residents a ‘place to hook up’ in history.” Forty-five years later visitors continue to enter through the school’s arched doorways looking to discover the history of state’s youngest county and those who came here to live.

The Deschutes County Historical Society invites everyone to join in wishing the museum a very happy birthday at its annual **Fourth of July Free Day from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm**. Explore two floors of exhibit rooms, thumb through old Bulletins, watch the documentary “Let There Be Light,” and participate in family-friendly games on the lawn. No birthday party is complete without cake, ice cream, and Otter Pops, which will be served while supplies last.



# The Civilian Conservation Corps in Central Oregon

By Glenn Voelz

Amid the depths of the Great Depression, President Franklin D. Roosevelt formulated a bold plan for putting millions of unemployed Americans to work on the nation's public lands. Between 1933 and 1942, over 86,000 Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) enrollees worked on Oregon's national forests, state parks, and tribal lands. Their labor transformed the landscape and created some of the state's most beloved recreational areas.

The scale and scope of their accomplishments are staggering. In Oregon alone, the CCC built 50,000 miles of forest roads, 20,000 miles of trails, 3,000 acres of public campgrounds, 1,500 bridges, and hundreds of fire lookouts. CCC crews risked their lives fighting epic wildfires and restoring Oregon's damaged forests. Today, it's almost impossible to travel around the state without encountering reminders of their legacy, from irrigation canals to ski lodges.

During those years, the CCC was active in Central Oregon with several camps assigned to the Deschutes National Forest. The Forest Service hosted main camps at Crane Prairie, Camp Sherman, Odell Lake, Cabin Lake, and several temporary side camps. Camp Sisters was the longest-running camp in Central Oregon. It opened in 1934 and was one of the largest CCC camps in the United States. The Forest Service originally planned to build the camp outside Sisters; however, they eventually placed it near the headwaters of the Metolius River around the present site of the Riverside Campground. Despite its location, the camp kept its original name.

Camp Sisters enrollees developed many recreational amenities in the area, including the 11-mile road along the lower Metolius River. They constructed picnic and campground facilities along the upper

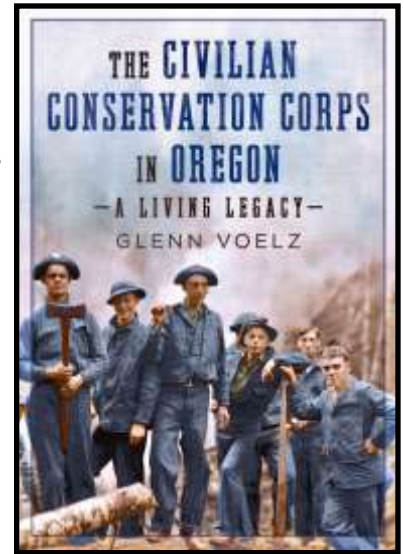
Metolius and walking trails along both sides of the river. Crews built shelters at Camp Sherman, Pine Rest, and Pioneer Ford, as well as a fire lookout on Trout Creek Butte, west of Sisters.

From 1935 to 1937, Camp Sisters enrollees worked on recreation facilities along the south shore of Suttle Lake around what is now the Cinder Beach Day Use area, adjacent to the Suttle Lake Resort. Projects included a campground, trails, picnic areas, and outdoor fireplaces. The toilet building and picnic shelter at Cinder Beach are original CCC designs. In 1936, enrollees constructed the Suttle Lake-Camp Sherman Road and improved the Scout Lake Road. In 1938, another crew assigned to the Deschutes National Forest cut a five-mile cross-country ski trail skirting Blue Lake and Suttle Lake. They also helped improve recreational amenities around Dark Lake and Camp Tamarack, which had just opened a few years earlier.

Around the same time, workers employed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) were building Bend's famous Skyliners Lodge, but CCC crews helped develop much of the adjacent infrastructure. Enrollees helped clear and grade the ski slopes, built a cross-country skiing loop trail, and constructed warming shelters around the lodge while working from a temporary side camp along Tumalo Creek.

The CCC completed several projects within what became the Newberry National Volcanic Monument. The projects included cutting the road into Newberry Crater in 1933 and building the Paulina Lake Guard Station in 1938, now housing the Paulina Visitors

- *Continued on page 3*



*The CCC-built Cabin Lake Ranger Station compound on the Deschutes National Forest, 1935. (Forest Service)*

## Deschutes Historical Museum

129 NW Idaho Avenue  
Bend, OR 97703  
Open Tuesdays-Saturdays  
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
541.389.1813

[www.deschuteshistory.org](http://www.deschuteshistory.org)  
[info@deschuteshistory.org](mailto:info@deschuteshistory.org)

### Museum Staff:

Kelly Cannon-Miller, Executive Director  
Vanessa Ivey, Museum Manager  
Rebekah Averette, Collections Manager  
Tracy Alexander, Membership Officer



### 2025 DCHS Board of Directors:

Jane Williamson, President  
Karen Green, Vice President  
Heidi Kennedy, Secretary/Treasurer

### Board Members:

Paul Claeysens, Tony DeBone, Greg Fulton,  
Eric King, Brad Lemmon, Julie Lowy,  
Liz Rink, Glenn Voelz



Complete minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors are on file with the Museum office.  
Tax ID# 51-0186079

**Continued from page 2— The CCC in Central Oregon**

Center. The CCC also built and refurbished several fire lookouts in the Deschutes National Forest, including structures at Trout Creek Butte, Black Butte, and Fox Butte.

Cabin Lake was another CCC camp within the national forest. It was located near Fort Rock and was active from 1934 to 1938. Enrollees from Cabin Lake built an administrative complex adjacent to the camp, which became the headquarters of the Fort Rock Ranger District. They constructed several buildings, including a ranger residence, two additional cabins, a warehouse, a maintenance shop, and a gas house. A few of those structures are still in use today.

The CCC crews assigned to the Sisters and Odell Lake camps did much of the early development work at the Pringle Falls Experimental Forest, established in 1931. One of the CCC's first tasks involved thinning and mapping the original research plots. Other projects included building residences and offices and assisting with research projects. CCC crews were trained to use surveying instruments to map the experimental forest and also helped with data collection and sampling to support the site's research.

**The CCC's Work for the Bureau of Reclamation**



*Camp Redmond enrollees pouring concrete walls along the main canal structure of the Deschutes Project. (National Archives and Records Administration)*

The CCC had around a dozen camps in Oregon assigned under the Bureau of Reclamation. Those projects involved rehabilitating water storage and distribution systems, flood control work, and the construction of canals, dams, and reservoirs. The CCC provided labor for some of Oregon's

most ambitious reclamation efforts, including the Deschutes Project in Central Oregon.

When Congress approved the Deschutes Project in 1937, it tasked the bureau with managing the work. The project involved developing a large water storage reservoir in the Upper Deschutes Basin, east of La Pine, and a 65-mile canal delivering water from a diversion off the Deschutes River south of Bend, supplying water to the Madras area in Jefferson County.

During the 1930s, the bureau used CCC enrollees mainly as unskilled labor for canal excavation, clearing brush, placing riprap, building roads, and stringing telephone lines. However, under time pressure, the bureau needed to make better progress. Eventually, it employed the CCC crews to do as much work as



*Camp Wickiup enrollees competing in a tree-felling and log-sawing contest in 1939. (Deschutes County Historical Society)*



*The opening ceremony for Camp Redmond, October 1938. (National Archives and Records Administration)*

possible on the Wickiup Reservoir and North Unit Canal. This included operating heavy machinery and helping with blasting work. However, the bureau still contracted with private companies for the project's more technical aspects, such as constructing the dam works at Wickiup.

The first CCC company arrived in Redmond in June 1938, reassigned from another reclamation site at Stanfield in Umatilla County. They began building their camp east of Redmond, which The Bulletin described as "not merely a camp, but rather a CCC city" since it was three times larger than the typical CCC camp. Once they established the camp, enrollees began working on the sixty-five-mile central canal stretching from Bend through Smith Rock to Madras. At the same time, another group of enrollees worked from a seasonal camp at Wickiup near the proposed site for the dam and reservoir.

The first task for the Camp Wikiup enrollees was to build eight miles of road and telephone line from Pringle Falls to the dam site. Once that task was complete, enrollees began building the camp structures in the fall of 1938. They lived in tents for ten months while they finished the permanent barracks. When completed, the Redmond and Wickiup camps were the largest CCC work sites in the western United States, accommodating three companies of 200 men each.

Camp Wickiup was more elaborate than the typical CCC camp. It could house over 400 enrollees and had over thirty

permanent buildings, including a testing laboratory and auditorium. Officials claimed it had the best-equipped infirmary of any CCC camp in the county, with a 15-bed ward. Once the enrollees finished the camp, they began the enormous task of clearing the reservoir site and erecting embankments. That job kept them busy for the next three years. By the fall of 1939, crews cleared over 700 acres of forest from the reservoir site.

The working season at Camp Wickiup ran from April to December. When the camp closed

- Continued on page 5

# New and Upcoming Exhibits

One of the most rewarding parts of working at DCHS is partnering with community members and other organizations to help bring history to life.

Currently on loan from a private family is a Hammond organ that belonged to Myrlie Evers-Williams, civil rights icon and widow of slain civil rights leader Medgar Evers. Myrlie called Central Oregon home from 1989 to 2012, during which time she never stopped fighting for the conviction of Medgar's killer. Music was one of her life's passions and we are honored to have the opportunity to display her Hammond Organ. Visit the museum to discover more about Myrlie's amazing life, her love of music, and her connection to Deschutes County.

Offsite, the museum is partnering with Bend Park and Recreation District to create exhibits interpreting the history of Bend's beloved Hollinshead Park, the families who lived there, and how they made a living. We are in the final stages of work on the "Bunkhouse," in which we tell stories of farming, freighting, blacksmithing, and community life in Deschutes County throughout the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. We will hold an open house to unveil our work to Park and Rec staff, DCHS members and volunteers sometime in September.

On the second floor, we are partnering with guest curator Bob Boyd to tell the story of Camp Abbot, the World War II-era U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Training Camp located on the site of present day Sunriver. Woven into the story of Camp Abbot, we will highlight stories of locals and their experiences in World War II, both at home and overseas. We are looking forward to unveiling the exhibit to the public in the next few months!



## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY



**Sunday, July 20 1-3:00 p.m.**

**Deschutes Historical Museum lawn**

We are so grateful for our dedicated and talented family of volunteers. Without your hard work and support, we couldn't fule can't wait to celebrate YOU with an afternoon of food, fun, games and good vibes! Bring your family and appetite, as the staff will provide the food and games, including a volunteer-centric round of *Jeopardy!*

**Please RSVP by July 11: [vanessa@deschuteshistory.org](mailto:vanessa@deschuteshistory.org) or calling 541-389-1813**

## Continued from page 3— The CCC in Central Oregon

for the winter, the enrollees returned to Redmond and worked on the main canal project. This involved the exhausting task of clearing trees and rocks from the canal's path and lining the excavated route with rock. Redmond-based enrollees built most of the canals and supporting infrastructure south of the Crooked River crossing. This included dozens of small bridges, flumes, and siphons. The CCC also helped excavate the open canal running through Smith Rock and creating the service route over Grey Butte, now known as Burma Road, overlooking the state park.

After the war began in December 1941, the CCC significantly reduced its commitment to the unfinished Deschutes Project. When the program ended in the summer of 1942, the CCC closed Camp Wickiup while the military took over the facilities at Camp Redmond. Unfortunately, the dam and reservoir were only about 20 percent complete when the CCC program ended. However, in December 1942, work resumed at Camp Wickiup under the Civilian Public Service program. The Mennonite Central Committee ran the camp, which opened with around 80 conscientious objectors. The following year, the Selective Service took over the site and ran the Civilian Public Service camp until it closed in July 1946.

The canal project was eventually completed in 1946, while the dam and reservoir became operational in 1949. When the North Unit Canal system was completed, it was one of the most important reclamation projects ever undertaken in Oregon, providing water for 50,000 acres of farmland. The project transformed the area from dry crop agriculture into one of the most productive farming areas in Central Oregon. The Deschutes Project would likely never have been approved or completed without the contribution of the CCC and the Civilian Public Service draftees.

### Conclusion


By the time the CCC ended in 1942, Oregon had benefitted far more than most states from the New Deal-era recovery programs. Because of the state's large percentage of federally managed lands, Oregon received disproportionate labor and funding from programs like the CCC. Only a few states hosted more camps during the program's nine-year run. Oregon ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation in per capita federal expenditures from the CCC and other New Deal programs.

Between 1933 and 1942, the CCC accomplished an astonishing amount of work in Oregon, building hundreds of bridges and fire lookouts, planting over 40 million trees, and spending nearly a million hours on firefighting and post-fire forest restoration. They developed many of the state's most beloved recreational sites and scenic areas. Those achievements were unprecedented in American history and created a legacy enriching the lives of Oregonians to this day.



A CCC-built bridge crossing Paulina Creek with Paulina Lake in the background, 1935. (Forest Service)

## Map and Document of the Quarter



The next time you visit the Deschutes Historical Museum, carve out some time to explore the Map and Document of the Quarter in the museum lobby. Volunteer researcher and board member Brad Lemmon encountered many interesting maps and documents while working with his TAG group of fourth graders last year. "As I spent more and more time at the museum, I became aware of the amount of interesting things that are in the drawers and boxes. I wanted people to see more of those things than they get to see in the permanent or rotating exhibits."

The July to September 2025 Document of the Quarter is a "contract" between Bend doctor J. C. Vandeventer and his 14-year-old daughter Joan. Come see the display in the lobby of the museum and read the details.

The Map of the Quarter is a 1905 plat of the town of Redmond. It shows a half mile by half mile square where downtown Redmond is now. It contains an irrigation canal and a railroad right-of-way. The map appears to have been owned by Senator Gordon McKay.

## Memorials

**Robert and Hazel  
LeBlanc**

Ruth Douglass

## Tributes

**Ralph C. Curtis**

Jean Rotter

**Bruce White**

Cathy White

# Deschutes County Anniversaries

As we continue the Deschutes County Historical Society's Golden Jubilee, let's take a peek at some other anniversaries from around the county. Can you match the building to the photo?

Check your answers are at the bottom of the page.



## 100 years ago (1925)

1. Spring- First Baptist Church
2. May-Bend Golf Club opened
3. Sept.- Bend Union High School opens

## 75 years ago (1950)

4. Jan.- George Palmer Putnam dies
5. March- Kingston School opens
6. July- Drive-In Theater opens
7. Sept.- Roberts Field Terminal dedicated
8. Dec.- Shevlin-Hixon Lumber mill closes

## 50 years ago (1975)

9. July- Sisters Outdoor Quilt show
10. Oct.-St. Charles Hospital dedication
11. Dec. - Jaws opens in theaters



Answers: 1-E; 2-B; 3-D; 4-A; 5-D; 6-J; 7-H; 8-F; 9-I; 10-C; 11-G

# July History Pub Beatrice Cannady: Oregon's Advocate for Social Change



**Tuesday,  
July 29, 2025**

*Presented by Zachary Stocks,  
executive director of Oregon Black Pioneers*

*Doors open at 6:00 p.m.,  
Presentation at 7:00 p.m.*



Beatrice Morrow Cannady was one of Oregon's most prominent social activists of the early 20th century and a leader within Portland's early Black community. Through her legal actions, publishing, and social networks, Cannady challenged hate and injustice across the state and pushed for racial equality.



Zachary Stocks is a former intern of Colonial Williamsburg and Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History and a former park ranger at Lewis & Clark National Historical Park. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from

the College of William & Mary with a certificate in public history from the National Institute for American History and Democracy, as well as a master's degree in museology from the University of Washington.

**Reservations required, \$5 per person**

[www.mcmenamins.com/events/](http://www.mcmenamins.com/events/)

## Remembering Volunteer Ann Maudlin

August 2, 1939 - May 25, 2025



Long-time Deschutes County resident, beloved community icon, and dedicated Deschutes Historical Society volunteer Ann Maudlin died May 25, 2025. She was 85. Ann was

best-known as a driving force behind her family's iconic restaurant, the Tumalo Emporium, but also achieved distinction as a successful realtor, passionate gardener, crack shot, unparalleled hostess, and enthusiastic volunteer.

[Visit the DCHS website's News & Articles page for an article about the Emporium, written with the help of Ann Maudlin.](#)

Ann's civic activities included service on the COCC Culinary Board and the Deschutes Public Library Foundation, as well as volunteering with Deschutes County Historical Society. Her Lemon Velvet Pie (created by Karen Nichols) was a mainstay at the annual chili feed, with diners strategizing on how they could get a slice before it disappeared. The chili feed was a huge event for Ann, as she shopped for ingredients with Susie Penhollow, baked huge trays of cornbread, and stirred Millie's Chili for hours. She loved and valued the Historical Society and Museum, volunteering and faithfully attending History Pub and other programs.

In honor of Ann, her children agreed to provide the recipe for the best known of Ann's delicious pies.

### Lemon Velvet Pie

#### Ingredients

1 baked pie crust	2 TBS butter
1-1/3 cup sugar	1/3 C fresh lemon juice
6 TBS cornstarch	1 tsp grated lemon rind
½ tsp salt	1 tsp vanilla
2 eggs, separated	1 TBS Knox gelatin
	1 C half and half

#### Directions

Mix together sugar, cornstarch and salt. Add 1½ C boiling water, whisking constantly over high heat until thick and smooth, about 4 to 5 minutes. Be patient. Cook over simmering water for 15 minutes.

Separate eggs, reserving egg whites. Mix together butter and egg yolks. Add to cornstarch mixture and cook for 2 minutes. Remove from heat and add lemon juice, lemon rind, and vanilla. Set aside 1 cup for topping. Dissolve gelatin in ¼ C cold water. Add to the remaining hot mixture. Stir until dissolved. Blend in the half and half and refrigerate until almost set. Fold in 2 stiffly beaten egg whites. Pour into baked pie shell and refrigerate. Just before serving, spread with the reserved lemon topping.

*Ann's note: This pie takes a little time, but is well worth it.*



# Fourth Annual Antique Fair

## August 9, 2025

### 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.



Mark your calendar for August 9 to partake in another wonderful day on the grounds of the Museum, wandering the vendor booths with their treasures from the past (pre-1970).

We welcome back Madi Cakes Bake Shop who will have fresh baked goods and the Central Oregon Genealogy Society, offering tips for those seeking help in pursuing their family lines.

Music by Jay Bowerman and Loren Irving will set the mood in the afternoon while you stroll the grounds visiting with vendors from around the state.

Museum admission is free all day at this family-friendly event.

*We are still accepting vendor applications, visit [deschuteshistory.org/antiquefair/](http://deschuteshistory.org/antiquefair/)*



## Mark Your Calendars

### JULY

**4 FOURTH OF JULY OPEN HOUSE**  
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Deschutes Historical Museum

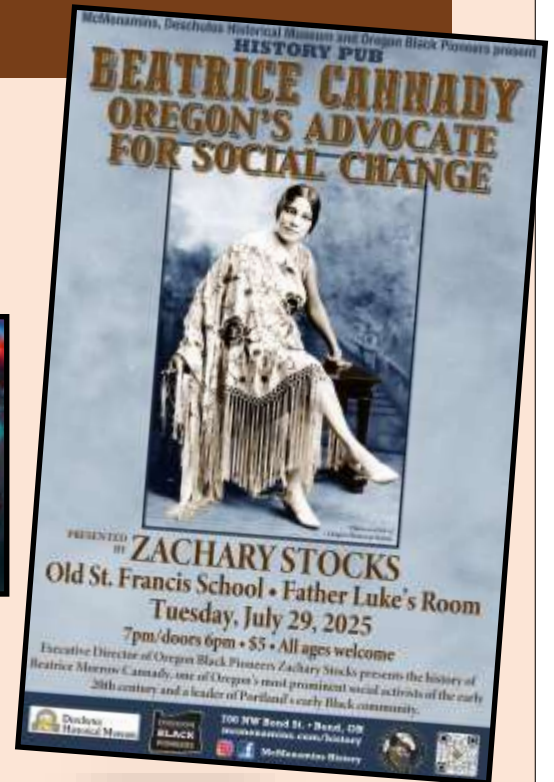
**5 & 19 HERITAGE WALKING TOUR: Early Days of Bend**  
10:30 a.m. Deschutes Historical Museum

**12 & 26 HERITAGE WALKING TOUR: Architectural Tour**  
10:30 a.m. Deschutes Historical Museum

**20 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY**  
1-3:00 p.m. Deschutes Historical Museum

**24 & 25 GUERRILLA SHAKESPEARE PRESENTS: AS YOU LIKE IT**  
7:30 p.m. Deschutes Historical Museum  
[Tickets Required: http://our.show/querrillashakes](http://our.show/querrillashakes)

**29 HISTORY PUB: BEATRICE MORROW CANNADY**  
Presented by Zachary Stocks, Executive Director of the Oregon Black Pioneers  
McMenamins Old St. Francis; 700 NW Bond St., Bend  
Father Luke Room, 7:00 p.m., doors open at 6:00 p.m.  
[Reservations required, \\$5 per person](#)



#### SAVE THE DATE!

August 10: Antique Fair

August 30-31: The Little Woody Barrel Aged Beer, Cider and Whisky Festival

September 21: Oregon Festival of Cars

