



NEWS FROM THE

OREGON CENTURY FARM & RANCH PROGRAM

Honoring Oregon's Agriculture Heritage



A program of Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation

503-400-7884

www.oregonfb.org

Celebrate With Us At The Oregon State Fair

Welcome to our first printed newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading about Oregon's rich agriculture heritage.

Every Oregon farm and ranch has a unique history and special family story. The CF&R program encourages agriculture families to share these stories of century-long connections to the land.

Ten families from eight different counties will receive Century status this year. One farm will receive their Sesquicentennial award for 150 years of continuous farming in Oregon. Since 1958, the CF&R program helped 1,177 family farms and ranches statewide attain these awards. Here's to 100 more years!

Every summer, award families are invited to a special ceremony and reception at the Oregon State Fair. Join us at the 2013 awards celebration Saturday, August 24 at noon in the Corporate Tent.

Read on to learn more about our families.

Sesquicentennial Farm

Washington County – Vandomelen Family Farm

Near North Plains, the VanDomelen Family Farm was founded in 1851 by James Corey. The home place includes the 1910 bungalow built with timbers handpicked from a sawmill in St. Johns.

Early crops on the original 320-acre farm included wheat, rye, strawberries, lima beans and livestock such as dairy, beef, goats and chickens. During WWII, the farm grew peas and victory oats on contract. Today, the 13-acre operation includes nursery stock and produce such as apples, pears, chard, kale, squash and herbs for sale. In addition, wheat, red clover, grass seed and Willamette vetch are grown in rotation.



VanDomelen Family

Applicant is Vanessa A. VanDomelen

Thank You Richard For Your Decade Of Service

We are proud to acknowledge Richard Engeman, our first honoree in the Emeritus Recognition program, which distinguishes outstanding board members who retire from the CF&R board. Join us in congratulating him at our celebration in August.



Richard Engeman

Many Thanks To Our Summer Intern

Thank you Adrian Buer, for working in collaboration with OSU Libraries Archives on the CF&R database. Your background in research and writing is helpful when setting up the archive files for the program at OSU. Here's to your future! Learn more about how you can become an intern at cfr@oregonfb.org.

A Look At The Past, Oral History Project

Throughout the nation, we are seeing a reduction of farming and ranching families because our economy is forcing families to seek other forms of livelihood. Yet, we all have a unique historical heritage – vital stories that must be preserved. A Look at the Past – Century Farm Project in Umatilla County is working to make sure our local history isn't lost.

This innovative, interactive program engages 4-H youth to develop valuable life skills by

using technology, leadership, communication and intergenerational skills and service, while ensuring these fascinating stories are captured for future generations.

Umatilla County has 66 Century Farms and Ranches, a treasure trove of memories and stories.

For more information, contact Patricia Dawson at patri-cia.dawson@oregonstate.edu.

As I watch the setting sun bathe the distant fields and Blue Mountains, I think of Alice, the first wife who lived on the Reeder homestead. I smile at the strong sense of connection and contentment I feel when I realize Alice's view was the same.

– Karen Reeder, 2013 Century Farm

OUR 2013 CENTURY FARM & RANCH AND SESQUICENTENNIAL FAMILIES

Baker County – Smith Family Homestead

Alex Gustophuson arrived by boat in New York from Sweden in 1881. Soon thereafter, he Americanized his last name to Smith. The Oregon Trail passes through the original 161-acre Bunch Ranch near Durkee in Baker County, which Alex founded in 1913. The ranch supported cattle, grain and hay. Three generations of the Bunch family live on the ranch which has never been leased and has always been managed by family. Today, the ranch encompasses 8,238 acres and is used for cattle pasture.



Smith Family 1927

Applicants are Rodd D. Bunch, Cheryl A. Buchanan and Susan Bunch

Baker County – Edward Mehlhorn Farm

Located on the south side of the Wallowa Mountains, the Mehlhorn 80-acre farm was created in Pine Valley (then in Union County), by Louis and Catherine Mehlhorn in 1894. Their son, Edward, purchased the land in 1898 and continued to use the land for farming and raising cattle. After the land became a part of Baker County in 1903, Edward and his brothers started the Mehlhorn Sawmill where they gleaned lumber for use on the farm. Edward's step-daughter, Mardelle Ebell, assisted by the fifth and sixth generations manage the farm, where they grow alfalfa hay and graze cattle.



Mardelle Ebell

Applicant is Mardelle L. Ebell

Coos County – Powers Ranch

Albert H. Powers bought the 166-acres for the Smith-Powers Logging Company in 1913, which logged timber in Coos County. Powers raised beef cattle to feed the hungry timber workers. Albert H. Powers, Jr., raised champion Percheron draft horses in addition to a small dairy, which delivered milk in glass bottles from a horse-drawn wagon.



Cattle Grazing on Powers Ranch

on. Albert H. Powers III converted the ranch to a cow/calf operation. His youngest son, Quincy, developed a tree-farming business. The fourth generation of the Powers family now manages the ranch which now incorporates 14,000 acres in four separate locations, all in Coos County.

Applicant is Powers Ranch Company (Al Powers)

Grant County – J.T. Walton Ranch

In 1901, Katherine Gaffney and Felix Johnson bought their homestead of 360 acres in the Blue Mountains near the Middle Fork of the John Day River. The home, built in 1903, still stands. Located near Long Creek, the ranch originally produced Hereford cows, grain and hay. Great-grandson, Joseph Walton, has lived his entire life on the ranch, except for his education and honorable service in the Vietnam War. The now 10,000-acre ranch raises cattle, and produces timber and grain hays.

Applicant is Joseph Timothy Walton



Winter on the J.T. Walton Ranch

"Farming is more than a job; it includes family, traditions and community. It is a way of life that defines who we are, and that is something to be proud of. We are honored to have contributed to Oregon's agricultural history for the past century."
-- Joe and Dan Cersovski

Linn County – Cersovski Family Farm

Joseph Cersovski emigrated from what is now the Czech Republic in 1880. In 1913, he and his family purchased the 161-acre property near Harrisburg. Linnares Dairy operated with a herd of registered Guernsey cows from 1932 until after World War II, when the operation changed to beef cattle. Today, the Cersovski family can walk through their grandparents' home, which is on Linn County's Historical Registry. Three grandsons own the 86-acre farm which produces grass seed, clover, vegetable seeds and meadowfoam. A fourth generation will join the family farming operation this summer.

Applicants are Joe and Dan Cersovski



Cersovski Produce to Market

Marion County – Adelman Farms



Adelman Family

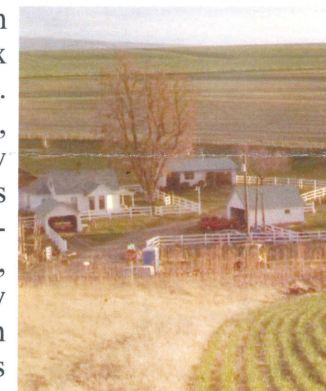
John Adelman, a Hungarian immigrant of German heritage, joined the established German community in the Mt. Angel area and purchased the 21-acre farm near Gervais in 1904. John and his family farmed walnuts, filberts, prunes, cherries, strawberries, hops and grain. In the second half of the 20th century, the farm added peppermint, clover, wheat, bush beans and Christmas trees. Six great-grandsons own the farm and actively operate their 13 acres and manage a rental agreement with 4B Farms for another 102 acres. The farm produces grass seed, wheat, Christmas trees, garlic, squash and sugar beet seed and alder pulp.

Applicant is Duck Inn Group, LLC (Joe Adelman)

Umatilla County – T.A. Lieuallen Farm

Founder Thomas A. Lieuallen came with his parents by ox train from Missouri. The T.A. Lieuallen Farm near Adams, was purchased in 1913. Early crops on the original 80 acres were soft white wheat and alfalfa, and hay for the livestock, which included mules, dairy cattle, beef cattle and pigs. In 1998, the farm was selected as Umatilla County Conservation Farm of the Year. On today's 2,496 acres, grandsons Robert and Donald, and their families produce soft white winter wheat, green peas for frozen processing, alfalfa hay and black Angus cattle.

Applicants are Donald T. Lieuallen, Robert M. Lieuallen and Penny F. Lieuallen



Lieuallen Farm

Umatilla County – W.H. Reeder's WestFork Farm

William H. Reeder became a land owner at the age of 23 when he purchased the homestead near Pendleton in 1877. Wheat continues to be the primary crop. Like many farm families, the Reeder's also maintained an extensive vegetable garden, milk



Harvesting Wheat on the W.H. Reeder WestFork Farm

cows, hogs and chickens, which helped make ends meet during the Great Depression. Today, great-grandson Dr. Clinton Reeder and his wife, Karen, own 240 acres of the original 320 acres where they are experimenting with garbanzo beans, canola, lentils, dry peas and mustard in conjunction with OSU's local Agricultural Research Center. Other Reeder descendants own portions of the 1,280-acre farm. Some of the farm operation is transitioning to the sixth generation.

Applicants are Dr. Clinton and Karen Reeder

Wheeler County – Johnson Ranch

Near Fossil, the 212-acre Johnson Ranch was founded in 1913 by Charles A. Johnson. The house was built of locally made brick and is still in use. The barn, slaughterhouse, smokehouse, granary and machine shed still stand, a few of which were modified for modern use. Today, the 2,941-acre ranch focuses on pasture, timber, conservation uses and cattle. The daughter and grandson of the original founder lease the ranch for grazing. They continue to own cows and are actively involved in managing the ranch.

Applicants are Robert S. Johnson and Lenore ("Nornie") Johnson



Johnson Ranch Outbuildings

Yamhill County – Three Oaks Farm

The original 126 acres of Three Oaks Farm, near Dayton, began from the marriages in three families of Scottish descent, the Rosses, the Finlaysons, and the Cruickshanks in 1913. The family originally grew peas, oats, alfalfa hay and wheat, and raised sheep, hogs, chickens, and dairy cows. The existing rhubarb patch grows from a plant Duncan Ross brought from Scotland. When irrigation was added in the 1940s, the livestock operations were replaced with grass, clover and beet seed. Four generations later, David and Doris Cruickshank farm wheat, oats and alfalfa hay on 82 acres of the 120-acre farm.

Applicants are David D. Cruickshank and the Doris D. Cruickshank Family Trust



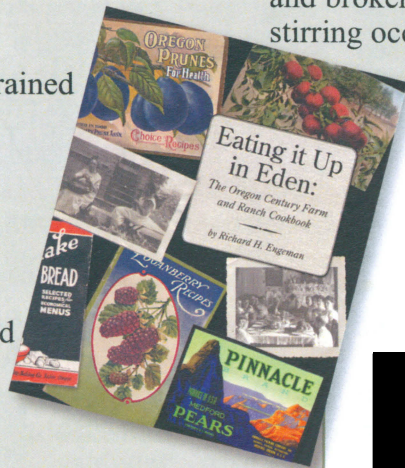
Cruickshank Barn 1931

SUMPTUOUS SUMMER FARE SUMMER GARDEN SOUP

- 1 cup dried navy beans
- 2 ½ teaspoons salt, divided
- 1 small head cabbage, sliced
- 3 carrots, peeled and diced
- 1 quart canned tomatoes, undrained
- 2 turnips, peeled and diced
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- ½ cup celery, sliced
- 2 tablespoons parsley, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- Dash pepper
- 1 cup spaghetti, broken up

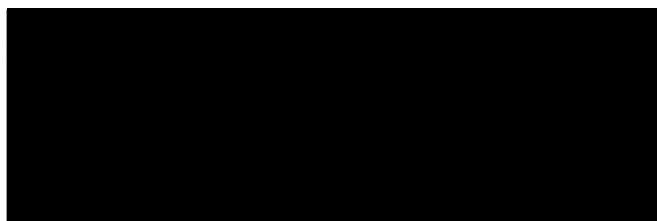
Recipe from Paula B. Bangs, Bangs Family Farm,
Frederick and Daisy Bangs, Lane County, 1903.

*Order your cookbook today at cfr@oregonfb.org
or call 503-400-7884*



In a large pot, put the beans with 3 quarts water and 2 teaspoons salt. Cook until beans are tender. Add vegetables and cook 30 minutes longer. Sauté onion and celery in oil for 10 minutes. Add chopped tomato and seasonings. Cook slowly for 10 to 15 minutes, stirring often. Add to the bean mixture and broken spaghetti. Cover and cook slowly for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Sprinkle with grated parmesan cheese.

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You Can Help Preserve Oregon's Agricultural Heritage

- Encourage your family and neighbors to complete a Century or Sesquicentennial application
- Become a storyteller for Oregon farm and ranch families
- Make a donation to the Oregon Century Farm & Ranch Program
- Sign up for the our e-news
- Order our cookbooks as gifts for weddings and family celebrations
- Become a program sponsor – opportunities range from \$500 to \$5,000
- Submit articles or share information with us

Together, we can increase the public's awareness of the role family-owned farms and ranches play in the economic and social vitality of Oregon. For more information, visit www.oregonfb.org or call 503-400-7884.

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