CFR 0802

Jerry Brosnan

MORROW

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM HONORS

X

Deadline for filing applications - May 1, 1985

Vour name (Mr					
	Mrs., Ms.)				
Your address:	Rti =	2 Box	2337	Heppner	97839 Zip
	-m: <u> </u>				lorro W County
income from far immediately pre	m use of not 1	ess than \$500	per year fo	ess than 10 acres or three out of nors. Does your	the five years
Name of family	member who was	founder or o	riginal owne	er of farm	
	Jeremia	4 Bros	han		
Year founder se				he come from?	Freland
Who farms the 1	land today?	Jerry 4	Eddie	Brosnan	
				idson, Eddie	
				ired years ago,	
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CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP OF CENTURY FARM

I hereby certify that the farm for which JERRY BROSNAN

Rt. 2, Box 2337, Heppner, Oregon 97836 (owner's Name and Address)

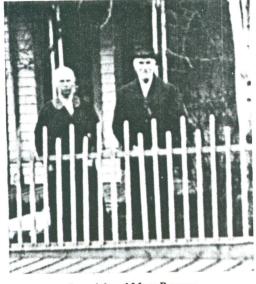
is applying for Century Farm Honors has been in his family continuously for one hundred or more years.

sworth

<u>4-23-84</u> Date

BROSNAN FAMILY

Jeremiah Brosnan emigrated from County Cork, Ireland. He landed in New York City. We do not know what year. He had a sister and brother-in-law in Pennsylvania and he went there and stayed for some time. Apparently he didn't get along very well with them so was given a team of oxen for his part in the ranch and he headed west. He ended up in Omaha, Nebraska in 1863 where he was employed by the Union Pacific Railroad which was building westward, ultimately it would link up with the Central Pacific Railroad which was building eastward from Sacramento, California. The two met at Promontory, Utah in 1869 where the golden spike was driven. Jeremiah or (Jerry as he was called) and one other worker were the only two who stayed with the construction all the way.



Jeremiah and Mary Brosnan

From Utah Jerry traveled to Western Oregon where he worked at Currinsville for several years before coming to Eastern Oregon. Jerry Brosnan first ran horses in the Sands country near the towns of Boardman and Irrigon. In 1879 he settled on Little Butter Creek.

In May, 1880 Jerry and Mary Gaffney were married. Mary had come from County Leitram, Ireland with her cousin Mike Kenney. Their voyage took them south on the Atlantic Ocean and around the southern tip of South America to the Pacific. They came



John, Zetta and Jerry Brosnan

up the Pacific to the mouth of the Columbia River then up the Columbia to the Umatilla Landing where they were met by Felix and Kate Johnson. Kate being Mary's sister and Mike's cousin. This was in 1879.

It was at the Johnsons' home on Butter Creek that Jerry and Mary met.

Jerry and Mary settled farther up on Butter Creek. To this union were born three children: Catherine (Katie) who married Hugh Currin, Mary who married Sam Nelson from Big Butter Creek and John.

In 1908 John married Zetta Hager who was a Heppner girl. To this union were born three children: Jerry who still lives on the ranch, Joe who lives in Little Rock, Arkansas and Margaret who also lived in Arkansas but passed away in December, 1982.

In 1910 Jeremiah and Mary moved to Heppner. John and Zetta and family stayed on the ranch. Jeremiah passed away in 1924 and Mary in 1935. Both are buried in the Vinson Cemetery.

The Brosnans were a Catholic family and as there were no priests stationed permanently in this territory, occasionally a priest would come through to say Mass at the Brosnan home. All Catholics around the neighborhood would come for Mass and then stay for dinner and visiting.

When Jeremiah first settled on Butter Creek he ran horses and cattle, then in the 20's sheep were run. This continued until 1949 when the operation went to running Hereford cattle which continues today.

In 1935 Marian Good from Monmouth, Oregon came to Lena to teach the one room school. She boarded and roomed with the Brosnans. There were five pupils enrolled that fall. Raymond and Joe French, Margaret, Eulenia and Gladys Seehafer. Marian had never been to Eastern Oregon and if she had had enough money would have turned around and gone back, after seeing how desolate it was.

In a short time though she and Jerry fell in love and were married in 1936. They lived with Jerry's folks for several years until in 1942 when Zetta and John built a home one-half mile down the road.

Jerry and Marian have four children: John who lives at Hubbard, Oregon and has four children, Eddie who now operates the ranch and has 5 children, Joann who lives in Portland, Oregon and has 3 children and Dan who lives in Salem, Oregon and has 2 children.

Jerry and Marian's children all attended Heppner Schools as the Lena school was discontinued.

John Brosnan passed away in 1952 and is buried beside his parents in the Vinson cemetery. Zetta his widow who is 94 years old still lives on the ranch in the mobile home close to Jerry and Marian.

There is the fifth generation Brosnans now living on the ranch. Marian Brosnan