

# OMHGS Newsletter

OREGON MENNONITE HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 1, Number 1

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## PROPOSED O.M.H.G.S.

The PURPOSE is:

- to record and preserve the history of Mennonite and related groups in Oregon, for present and future generations.

GOALS are:

- to collect, preserve and organize records, writings, and artifacts of Mennonite groups;
- to aid historians and genealogists;
- to increase interest in Mennonite history and genealogy;
- to involve persons in OMHGS from each Mennonite congregation in Oregon;
- to establish such facilities as are necessary to fulfil our purposes.

MEMBERSHIP is:

- open to any individual or organization supportive of the purposes and interested in the history, thought and/or genealogies of Mennonite groups in Oregon. The organization will be guided by its members, having one vote each.

PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS shall include:

- holding semi-annual (or more frequent) meetings, to include varied and pertinent presentations;
- sponsoring occasional special events, such as genealogical workshops, heritage tours, exhibits;
- publishing a periodic newsletter;
- considering facility needs.

The ORGANIZATION will be adequate:

- to carry out purposes, goals, programs and projects;
- to become a non-profit organization in Oregon;
- to include an executive committee, consisting of chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer; and additional committees as needed, such as membership/finance, program, projects.

COSTS will include:

- operating expenses such as: stationery, postage, telephone;
- newsletter publication;
- promotion efforts;
- project and program needs;
- long range possibilities; establishment, maintenance and staffing of facilities such as archives, library, museum.

## NEXT MEETING

October 30, 1988, 2:30 p.m.

Salem Mennonite Church  
1045 Candlewood Dr. N.E., Salem, Oregon

Program - arranged by Marjorie Nofziger

Welcome and opening prayer - Allison Collingwood,  
co-pastor  
Salem Mennonite

## Devotional

Schrock family history - Perry Schrock

Fairview Mennonite Church history - Irvin Gerig

Election of Officers - nominations from the floor

Benediction

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The JOSEPH SCHROCK (1852-1943) family history will be presented by Perry Schrock, a grandson. Perry was born in Lebanon, OR on August 8, 1927, the second child of Elmer and Bertha Heyerly Schrock. He married Sophia Miller on June 26, 1949. They had six children. After her death, he married Audrey Kenagy Bender on June 11, 1960. To this marriage a son was born. Audrey had three children from her first marriage.

Perry and family attended the Fairview Mennonite Church until he began helping in the Sunday School work at East Fairview, east of Lebanon, in 1952. He was then asked to be Summer Bible School superintendent at Plainview in 1953, and has continued worshipping and working in that congregation. He is presently teaching an adult Sunday School class, serves on the Alms Committee, is a Mennonite Mutual Aid representative, and a conference delegate.

For twenty years he was office manager and bookkeeper for Nofziger Feed and Seed, then he worked eight years at Commodore Mobile Home Manufacturing Co. For eleven years and currently he is a U.S. mail contractor with a route in the Lacombe area east of Lebanon.

He is residing on a small farm east of Lebanon and enjoying their twenty-five grandchildren and doing research on family genealogy and working on his stamp collection when he has time.

The FAIRVIEW CHURCH history is written by Irvin Gerig. He was born August 17, 1920 at Albany, OR, the eldest child of Christian C. and Ida Boshart Gerig. He married Lois Birky on June 12, 1947. They have four children and nine grandchildren. They attended the Fairview Mennonite Church where Irvin had been baptized by his grandfather, C. R. Gerig, bishop of the congregation. He has served as congregational chairperson as well as in other capacities at Fairview.

About 1973 the family began attending services at Bethany Mennonite Church nearer their home. Irvin is now teaching an adult Sunday School class and serves on the Pastoral Committee.

Irvin is retired and enjoying the work on his acreage near Albany, after working for twenty years at Northrup and King Seed Co., and twenty more years self-employed selling and servicing Surge Milking Machines, while also doing a little farming during all those years.

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#### SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES TO DATE

The first meeting of the Oregon Mennonite Historical and genealogical Society was held on November 7, 1987, at 2:30 p.m. at Albany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR.

There were fourteen persons present: Allie Kauffman, Charity Kropf, Mabel Roth, Margaret and Ralph Shetler, Mr. and Mrs. Sol Warkentin, Perry Schrock, Beulah and John Fretz, Hope and Cliff Lind, Marjorie and Alf Nofziger.

The meeting was in charge of Hope Lind, historian of the Pacific Coast Conference of the Mennonite Church. The stated purpose of the Society is "to record and preserve our history, including church and family history, for the present and future generations".

A discussion followed in which a number of persons shared their ideas of what we want to do in future meetings, since it was evident that all present would like to have more meetings. It was also the concensus of the group that we should go ahead with planning and organizing a society.

An offering of \$19.50 was received to cover any expenses, and John Fretz will act as treasurer.

The next meeting was announced for April 17, 1988, 2:30 p.m., to be held at Bethany Mennonite Church, Albany, OR. This date was later changed to April 24, 1988.

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On November 12, 1987 a letter was sent to about twenty-five

