Volume 17 Issue 1 Spring 2012

# THE BANDON LIGHT

A PUBLICATION OF THE BANDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## The Baldwin Cypress

By Jim Proehl



An effort to have a local tree designated as an Oregon Heritage tree has drawn attention to one of Bandon's less well-known founders. While Lord Bennett's tombstone is inscribed with the words "Founder of Bandon," perhaps Henry Hewitt Baldwin deserves at least a piece of that title.

The Baldwin Cypress overhangs Ocean Drive between Garfield and Harrison Avenues. Historians believe the tree was planted by Baldwin in 1896. The Bandon Historical Society, the Shindler family, and the Tree Subcommittee of the Bandon Parks and Recreation Commission have been working together to get the tree state recognition.

Henry Hewitt Baldwin was born in Ireland in 1825, went to sea at age 16, immigrated to the US in 1846 and joined the US Army in 1849. As a soldier, he was sent to reinforce the garrison at Port Orford. Dow Beckham's book *Bandon By-the-Sea* (pages 9-10) gives this account of what happened next: "In January, 1852, the *Captain Lincoln* carrying US Army troopers and supplies, missed Port Orford in a storm and wrecked on the North Spit of Coos Bay. The captain selected four dragoons to travel south to Fort Orford to report the accident and find assistance for the castaways. The four soldiers had to swim the mouth of the Coquille River and ferried their small amount of belongings across on a raft. The garrison at Port Orford welcomed them in pleasant surprise because they thought all aboard the *Captain Lincoln* had been lost.

"Henry Baldwin, an Irishman by birth and one of these dragoons, served fifteen years in the US Army and then settled on Bear Creek. After several years he moved to Bandon and built his home—San Souci (Care Free) By the Sea. A schoolmate of George Bennett of Bandon, Ireland, it is probable that Baldwin influenced Bennett to settle at the mouth of the Coquille River. Later these men named the town Bandon after their old home in Ireland. Baldwin subsequently expressed his delight in his choice of a home with the terse phrase: 'happy as a clam, and don't give a damn'. Baldwin died February 26, 1911, age eighty-seven in Bandon". More on page three...



The Baldwin Cypress was scorched but survived the 1936 fire. The Shindler family rebuilt this house that still stands on Ocean Drive.

### The Bandon Light

A publication of the Bandon Historical Society

## Design and Layout

Trish Conyers

#### **Bandon Historical Society Museum**

Executive Director	Judy Knox
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#### **Board of Directors**

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#### Nominating Committee

Mary Capps, Jim Cawdrey, Andy Christensen, Ron Knox, Brian Vick

The Board members meet the 4th Monday of each month at 7 pm at the Museum. All members and guests are welcome to attend.

Bandon Historical Society
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Bandon, Oregon 97411
Phone/Fax 541-347-2164
E-mail:
bandonhistoricalmuseum@yahoo.com
web site:
www.bandonhistoricalmuseum.org

If you have an interest in Bandon's history and would like to help preserve our past for future generations, call us - we need you. The Museum is OPEN Monday through Saturday 10-4 pm. Our volunteers at the desk are waiting to help you and answer your questions about Bandon's history.

Enjoy Bandon's rich and wonderful history 270 Fillmore & Hwy 101 (at the only stop light downtown)

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT



pril showers bring May flowers. The rhododendrons are blooming, the trees have blossomed and there is new growth on the evergreens. It is my favorite time of year. The lawn does have to be mowed more often.

We are busy at the museum with school tours. The fourth grade from Bandon's Middle School visited last week. And there will be several more tours before school is out. Jim Proehl works with the teachers and the tours include a

Kathy Dornath

"History Detectives" activity. The "History Detectives" program is sponsored by a grant from the Coos County Cultural Coalition.

We have had an open house for the Parks and Recreation Committee. July is the 100th anniversary of our City Park and there will be programs in celebration. May 6 thru May 12 was Teacher Appreciation week. We had an open house for them. We are working to get more local people into the museum.

We have a new volunteer at the reception desk. Cindy Bickford has recently moved here from Redding, California. Welcome Cindy! We are always in need of volunteers to greet visitors, help with photo scanning, work on exhibits, or anything else you might have a talent for. Stop in and see us. The coffee pot is always on.

### **BOATWORKS CRANBERRY BREAD**

4 cups flour ½ cup butter or margarine, softened

1 ¾ cups plus 1 tbls sugar 2 eggs

2 tsp baking powder 1 ½ cups orange juice

1 tsp baking soda ½ tsp salt 2 cup fresh or frozen cranberries, chopped

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Lightly grease 2 [9 x 5 inch] loaf pans, set aside. In a large bowl, stir together flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Cut the butter into flour mixture using pastry blender or fingertips. In small bowl, beat eggs and blend in orange juice. Stir into flour mixture until well blended. Fold in cranberries. Divide batter between 2 prepared pans and bake for 1 hour and 10 minutes. Bread is done when toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool slightly; turn out onto cake rack while still barely warm. Wrap in plastic wrap and allow to cool completely.

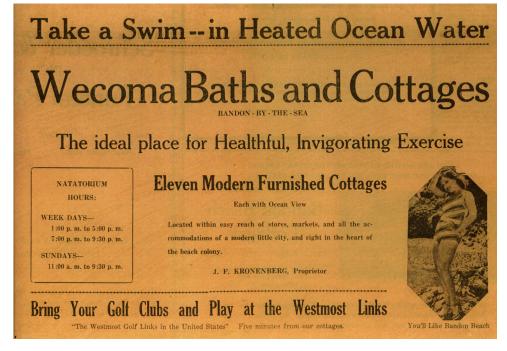
Bandon Presbyterian Women Submitted To Bandon Lighthouse Cookbook (available in the gift shop)

## More On The Baldwin Cypress

- Could Baldwin have been the first person to retire on Beach Loop Road?
- ♦ The Shindler family bought *San Souci* in the 1920s. Otto Shindler was a pharmacist in Bandon. He was also one of a group of Bandon businessmen who founded the Bandon Cheese label in 1927.
- The Shindler's lost the house in the 1936 fire. Though scorched, the tree survived the fire. The Shindler family still owns the house and property the Baldwin tree stands on.
- ♦ The Baldwin tree became a celebrity in 2005 when citizens feared the City was going to cut the tree down, and rallied to its support. Concern for the Baldwin tree helped generate interest that led to Bandon adopting a tree ordinance that gives special protection to cypress trees. Bandon became a Tree City USA in 2010.
- ♦ The Bandon Historical Society Museum helped document the story of HH Baldwin and the Baldwin Cypress and is preparing a display to tell the tree's story. The museum is located at the corner of Second and Fillmore and is open from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Saturday.



The Baldwin Cypress has stood on Ocean Drive for over a hundred years.



Wecoma Baths
"Bandon's Saltwater
Swimming Pool",

established in the early 1920's by Jack F. Kronenberg.
The ocean water was pumped up to the pool and driftwood was brought up from the beach below to heat the water.

Wecoma Baths was located on the bluff at Coquille Point and was completely destroyed along with the cottages in the Bandon Fire of 1936.

## From the Desk of the Director



Judy Knox
Executive Director

an you believe that May is nearly gone? If you're lucky enough to be in Bandon hope you are enjoying our wonderful weather - guess we should all be used to it by now. Our rainfall record for March was over 17" and we are still behind the records. The museum is doing well and we have made it through another year, thanks to all our wonderful dedicated volunteers, members and board members and of course, all our visitors.

The appreciation of Bandon's history, and to be part of helping to preserve it today and for future generations is what it is all about. We would not be here without all of you. Our history is as important to us as our future.

The museum re-opened in February and we began 2012 with our visitor count pretty close to February of 2011. In March and April there was a little surge of visitors because of Spring Break. Hopefully the gas prices won't hurt us too bad. Our goal, of course, is always to reach new visitors and attract new members. We are looking forward to the rest of the year and hope you visit your museum where new exhibits have really been changed. Please come in and see what we have done.

May began with the annual end of school student tours and we have already had visits from over 150 students. This included ninety plus students from Bandon schools and sixty plus 8th grade students from Coquille and Powers. In June, we have scheduled 50 students from the Myrtle Point area. We are always pleased to have young students visit us.

We had an open house for our local Parks and Recreation Commission, and in turn, they helped initiate a May Day Celebration in the City Park. Thanks, City of Bandon, for the May pole. We just hosted an open house for local teachers honoring Teachers Appreciation Week. Thank you, Nancy Drew, for serving the wine at this event.

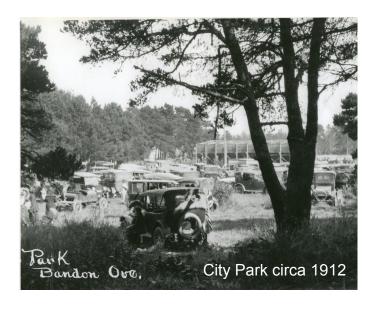
Marge Egy moved from Bandon back to Pennsylvania to be near her family. Marge began as a volunteer at the museum and got so involved she became a board member. We miss you Marge and hope you're happy. Carol Acklin, a longtime board member and retired Bandon school teacher, resigned from the board but will assist us as her time allows. Carol, a native Bandonian, wrote "Welcome to Bandon" which is one of the most popular books in the gift shop. Her many contributions to the museum have been invaluable.

Ben McMakin, longtime museum board member, passed away late in April. Ben and Judy had just moved from Bandon. Ben was not only dedicated to the museum, he was very dedicated to the Bandon area, as was Judy. Also, I would like to mention the passing of a very good friend, old boss, and longtime Bandon resident and business owner, David Swenson. We miss you.

We are glad to report that Jim Proehl, museum board member, is now our grant writer. His first attempt at grant writing, an application to the Coos County Cultural Coalition, was successful. Good job, Jim! The grant supports educational activities for young people, and an upcoming newsletter will feature Jim's "History Detectives" program. His enthusiasm for getting youngsters in touch with the past is creative and fun for them. Recently, a crosscut saw was put into action, and if anyone is willing to donate a peavey or a froe or a log lifter to this program, we would be happy to have them.

## BANDON CITY PARK: 100 YEARS OLD ON JUNE 19, 1912

A vote was passed on June 19, 1912 to authorize the purchase of the plot of ground known as the parade grounds and baseball park. It will become Bandon City Park.





#### RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS

Horty Joyce Alberta Lee

Andy & Lynn Christensen Ned Reed & Carol Acklin Dan & Priscilla Katz

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J.K. Kerska

Wayne & Betty Robbins

Bain Insurance Larry Germann

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John & Janet Fogle
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Tiffany's Drug

Mavis Herold

Jean Bergan Bob & Lenor Stayner

Margaret Karl June Korenko

Mick's Hair Surgeons

Wilfried Schroeder & Carolyn Sorenson

Tom & Jan Gookin Hugh McNeil Faye Albertson Keri Undell

Jim & Sally Johnston

Careen Pierce

Bill & Corliss Leuthold Sandra Handsaker

Jean Bryan Geri Procetto Janet McPhearson Tom & Liz Hultin Rob & Beverly Cooper

David Morris

Bob & Rheta Thompson

Martha Dufort Mary Schamehorn Viola Reese

Delores Hope Barkley

## Raffle at Bandon's Museum

# COUNTRY FESTIVAL TICKETS THREE DAY EVENT TICKETS ARE NOW FOR SALE AT BANDON'S MUSEUM

270 Fillmore & Hwy. 101, Monday through Friday or call 541-347-2164

Bandon's Museum was given Two VIP Tickets to the 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL 'WILLAMETTE COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL' August 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> 2012, in BROWNSVILLE, OREGON. These tickets are good for the entire three day event. When the tickets were selling for \$140 each, they quickly sold out. The VIP tickets are in SECTION B, ROW 30, SEATS 22 and 23 IN CENTER STAGE AREA. Jim and Alyce Cawdrey purchased the tickets and donated them to the museum for a fundraiser.

The raffle has already begun. Tickets are for sale at the museum. They are \$10 a ticket. As mentioned, the VIP tickets are sold out for the event, BUT, we have two tickets that could have your name on them if you buy a ticket and the lucky person is you.

VIP tickets not only give you a guaranteed great seat, they also provide you with chairs for the 3 day event.

There will only be ONE Winner who will receive TWO Tickets.

The winner will be responsible for travel, motel, meals and any other expenses.

DRAWING will be JULY 17<sup>TH</sup> at 4 PM at the museum and you will be notified by phone right away.

Country Headliners for Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> are SUGARLAND; Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> MARTINA McBRIDE; And Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup> TRACE ADKINS

Other entertainers for the three day event are:

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Rodney Atkins, Amy Clawson, Sugarland, James Wesley, and Canaan Smith Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> Bomshel Lee Brice, Martina McBride and Bill Currington Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Trace Adkins, Amy Clawson, Atwater, and The Band Perry

This is a fundraiser for Bandon's Museum. Hope you get your tickets and thanks for your support.

Bandon Historical Society Fundraising Committee

Call 541-347-2164 and ask for Judy, Eileen or Kathy for more information.

#### **Donations**

Rays Sentry Price N Pride David & Susan Morris Bill Lansing Stephen Buck Don Goddard Bandon Sweets & Treats Larry & Jane Germann Bob & Suzanne Webber Ernie & Ellen Neal Ed & Virginia Norton Andy & Lynn Christensen Ray & Barb Gardner Tom & Jan Gookin Helen Young Jean Rittenour Joy Olson Carol Acklin Harvey & Betty Hiley Robert & Helen Stewart Val Don Hickerson Pete & Joan Goodbrod Bandon Inn Nina McNeil Bob & Rheta Thompson Charlie & Karen Kane Randall Domenighini Jim & Alma Russell Pat & Sue Reed Edna Paulsen Jack Smiley Bob & Susan Coraor Linell Seegall Ron & Judy Knox City of Bandon Shindler's Pharmacy John & Janet Fogle Cynthia Marshall Mary Martin/Robin Martin American Legion Post 26 Douglas & Jennifer Goe Jim & Alyce Cawdrey Reg Pullen Gary Shaffer David Oliver Ray & Nancy Murphy Bandon's VFW Larry & Margaret Chalfan Jim & Sally Johnston Bob & Emily Hall Air Products Foundation Marie Trowbridge George Domenighini Bob Hall Viola Reese Chuck & Lorna Salt Craig & Beverly Tresidder Betty Baird Bandon Docks Keith & Donna Young John & Chele Gamble Jim Proehl A.W. Sweet Coquille Indian Tribe Terry & Joy Tiffany Sydney Williams Marjorie Stephenson James & Claudia Harris J.K. Kerska Juanita Watson Marge Egy

#### November, 2011 - May, 2012

#### **NEW LIFE MEMBER**

Jim Davis

#### **NEW INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY MEMBERS**

Bandon's Harbortown Events Center
Richard & June Hinojosa
Gary Batty & Megan Maloney
Chuck Klemer
Bill & Jackie Bush
Bill & Joanne Ellis
Chris Bentien
Robert & Jean Wirsing
Lorna Jewell

Membership Fees:

Individual \$15 annually Family \$25 annually
Business \$35 annually Life Membership \$250

Benefactor \$500 Patron \$1000

Your membership helps the museum in many ways and we thank all of you for that support. As a member, you receive a newsletter, 10% discount on gift shop items, and free admission to the museum.

## MEMORIALS November, 2011 - May, 2012

A memorial donation may be made to the museum in memory of a family member or a friend who has passed away. The name of the loved one is engraved on a plaque and the plaque is placed on one of our memorial boards. Memorial donations begin at \$15, but can be as much as you would like to donate in the deceased's memory. The Historical Society notifies the family that the donation was made and a thank you is sent to the donor.

#### **Donors**

Kristy Bowman

Mary Capps
Jim & Alyce Cawdrey
Jim Davis
John & Chele Gamble
Ron & Judy Knox
Vern & Jeanette Todd
Horty Joyce

#### In Memory

Louie Prahar

John Stephens

Dave Swenson

Marty Joyce

Loma Davis
Tom Fanning
Eva Franklin
Margaret Gorman
Marie Hargrove
Tabby Giles Harrington
Elva Lowry
Perry Mallory
Len Maranda
Ben McMakin

## ARTIFACTS DONATED TO THE MUSEUM NOVEMBER, 2011 - MAY, 2012

- Replica of a steamroller circa 1930s, built by a millwright in one of Bandon's mills for his grandson.
   Donated by Jim Davis
- Small Irish vase from Bandon Pottery in Bandon, Ireland donated by Reverend Gregory Burke
- Coal miner's head light worn by miner at the Beaver Hill Mine donated by Jim Davis
- Lighthouse posters, beach posters, circus posters, and estuary posters donated by Ruth Ball
- 10 gauge double-barrel shotgun circa 1900's used by 3 generations, donated by Dean Russell
- Boy Scout memorabilia donor Jim Phillips
- Lloyds Café ashtrays circa 1959
- Written memories of Bandon Wayside Motel after the 1936 Bandon Fire donated by Helen Wehner Schrader
- Police Chief Mac McDonald and Police Officer Harry Franson's daily police logs 1956 & 1960 donated by Chief Webb
- Shoe button hook and sewing kit donated in memory of the late Alice Fraser donated by her family
- Crochet bibs, booties, bonnet, baby jacket belonged to and donated by Marilyn Noorda
- Tiger pencil, power score cards, peewee ball rule books, schedules, Lions club badge belonged to the late Ernie Luther donated by family
- ◆ Zither 'Autoharp' belonged to Mable Howard donated by granddaughter Susan Pikens
- ◆ A shark harpoon belonged to Cliff Thorn donated by Donna Thorn Mason
- Boy Scout uniforms belonged to David Swenson donated by Gina Swenson



## JOIN THE BANDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YES! Please accept my membership in the Bandon Historical Society Enclosed is my check

(please check or	ie)				
\$15 Individual		NAME			
\$25 Family		ADDRESS			
\$35 Business		CITY		STATE	ZIP
\$250 Life		PHONE		E-MAIL	
\$500 Benefactor	<u> </u>				
\$1000 Patron					
If you would like to contribute to the Bandon Historical Society's <b>Sustainability Fund,</b> please fill out the information below					
Ιp	oledge \$	to be paid _	monthly or _	quarterly or _	annually
A check is enclosed for \$					
Please mal	ke check to	o BHS and mail to: B	andon Historical S	Society, PO Box 73	7, Bandon, OR 97411

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