



# Northwest Trails

Newsletter of the Northwest Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association

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Winter 2013

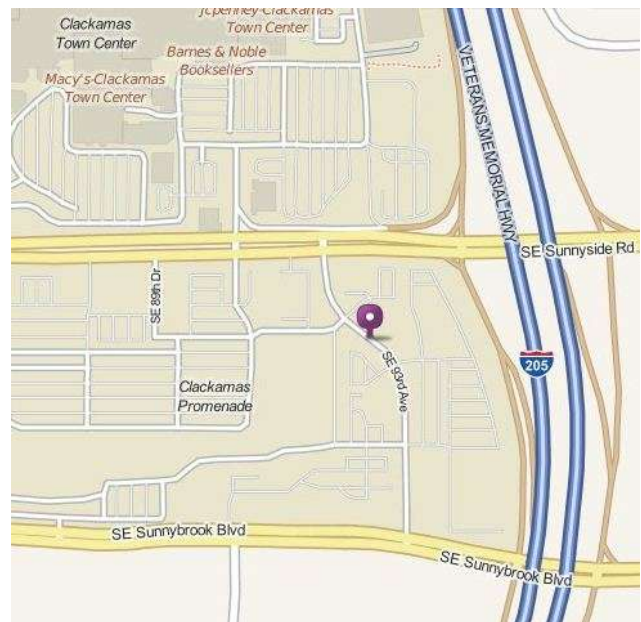
## Northwest Chapter 2013 Annual Meeting Saturday, March 9

**Monarch Hotel**  
**12566 SE 93rd Ave.**  
**Clackamas, OR**

The 2013 Annual Meeting of the Northwest Chapter will be held on Saturday, March 9, at the Monarch Hotel in Clackamas. The Monarch Hotel will be the convention hotel for the upcoming 2013 OCTA Convention. The annual meeting will be in Monarch Hall, the big hall at the back of the hotel, so you may park behind the hotel and use the back entrance.

Activities will include the annual meeting, no-host lunch, a program, and a silent auction and raffle. We will convene at **10:00 a.m.**, but come as early as **9:00 a.m.** to socialize and bring in raffle items before the meeting starts. The raffle is always a great success, and we will also have a silent auction. Please bundle issues of the same title of journals or magazines together.

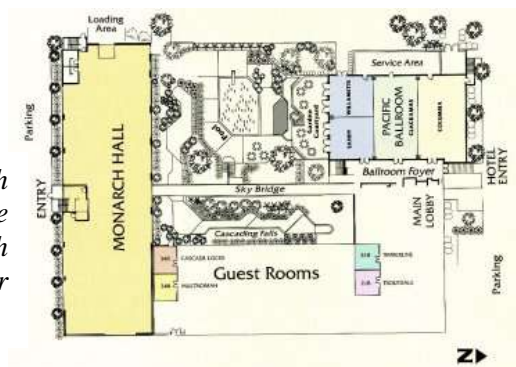
The annual business meeting will be from 10:00 a.m. until noon, followed by lunch. The meeting will include awards presentations and a convention planning update. After lunch the program will be a PowerPoint slide presentation of OCTA's 30th anniversary by Roger Blair, which was shown at last year's convention.



*Take Exit 14 off I-205 and go west on Sunnyside Rd/Sunnyside Blvd. The Monarch Hotel is on SE 93rd Ave. between Sunnyside Road and Sunnyside Boulevard.*

*Directions are complicated, so it is best to consult a map or follow GPS instructions.*

*Park in the rear (south side) of the hotel. The entrance to Monarch Hall is off the rear parking lot.*



## NW Chapter Directory

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## End of the Trail and Beyond Auctions and Raffle

*By Tuck and Kay Forsythe, Convention Auction Coordinators*

Again this year at the annual convention there will be a raffle, silent auction, and live auction. The experienced auctioneer will select the few items for the live action.

As coordinators for these events, we are seeking donations of various items or opportunities of interest to OCTA people. These might be wearables, house goods, books, a vacation weekend—especially anything that might be related to trail or history interest. Your donation is welcome, large or small.

Please contact us if you'd like to donate auction items. Thanks in advance for donating items, and please support these events next July!

Also, we'd love lots of you to volunteer for the convention to help staff the silent auction room and to sell raffle tickets.

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## 2012 Volunteer Hours and Expenses

Chuck Hornbuckle submitted the following figures for NW OCTA's 2012 volunteer efforts to Bill and Jeanne Watson: The Northwest Chapter members logged 12,237 hours and expenses of \$80,970.03. The expenses include 103,303 miles at \$0.48 = \$49,537.44 and other expenses of 31,432.59.

It is very important that all volunteer hours and expenses are reported to ensure NPS funding for trails. Your volunteer efforts do not have to just be on the Oregon Trail. Any other trail related activities count. For example, attending a conference or outing, giving a presentation, or leading a tour on any historic trail.

Please keep track of your hours and expenses all year long, and at the end of the year tally them and report to Chuck.

*Let's all record and report! It's important!*

# OCTA's 2013 National Convention in Oregon City

By Jim Tompkins



**July 22-26, 2013**  
**Monarch Hotel, Clackamas, Oregon**

## **Trail Related Learning Sessions**

**Opening Session with Keynote by Kerry Tymchuk**  
**Speakers on various End of the Oregon Trail and settlement topics**  
**Chapter Meetings, Workshops, Book Room**  
**Heritage Resources Fair**

## **Tours and Outings**

**Two days of bus tours to Mt Hood, the Willamette Valley, or Oregon City by trolley**  
**Barlow Road hike**  
**Pre-convention tours on the Oregon Trail, Cowlitz Trail, or Applegate Trail**  
**Fort Vancouver post-convention tour**

## **Special Events**

**Awards Banquet and Auction**  
**Authors Night**  
**Living History Night at the Abernethy Center**  
**Salmon Bake at the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center**  
**Philip Foster Farm *Pursuit of a Dream* Reunion**

The 2013 OCTA National Convention is titled *End of the Trail and Beyond, Oregon City, Oregon*. It will be held July 22-26, 2013. Most of the events will take place at the host hotel, the Monarch Hotel & Conference Center, 12566 SE 93rd Ave, Clackamas, OR 97015 (1-800-492-8700 or [www.monarchhotel.cc](http://www.monarchhotel.cc)).

Three auto caravan tours are being offered Sunday and Monday before the convention. Chuck Hornbuckle will lead a tour from Puget Sound south along the Cowlitz Trail, which will include a dedication of an OCTA plaque in Tumwater for Nathan Pattison, husband of Oregon Trail emigrant Rachel Pattison, who died near Ash Hollow. Leta Neiderheiser, a descendant of Jesse Applegate, will lead a tour from Yoncalla along the Applegate Trail. Roger Blair and Rich Herman will lead a tour and hikes along the main stem of the Oregon Trail and the Barlow Road starting in Pendleton.

On Monday the OCTA National Board will meet. In the afternoon there will be a Heritage Resources Fair, coordinated by Mary Bywater Cross. It will be an opportunity to meet and ask questions of people involved in many aspects of studying, recreating, or preserving heritage.

Tuesday and Thursday will include speakers, workshops, and chapter meetings. The convention will kick off with a keynote address by Kerry Tymchuk, Oregon Historical Society director. Presenters will speak Tuesday afternoon and most of Thursday on the various topics of the theme *End of the Trail and Beyond*, including Native Americans, settlement, claiming land, beginnings of government, and a panel of pioneer descendants. Tuesday will also include workshops on trail preservation, pioneer crafts, and modern technology on the trail.

Wednesday and Friday will be two days of convention tours. Participants will have the opportunity to take two of the tour options around Mt Hood, on the Barlow Road, to Oregon City, or into the Willamette Valley.

Mt Hood and the Barlow Road will be the center of attention on either a bus tour or a hike. The bus will circle Mt Hood by way of Multnomah Falls, Hood River, Government Camp, and Eagle Creek. Hikers will walk the Barlow Road at Devils Half Acre, Pioneer Woman's Grave, Summit Meadows, and Laurel Hill.

The Oregon City tour will be by trolley and will include stops at the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, the McLoughlin House, and the Museum of the Oregon Territory. Two Willamette Valley bus tours will each have a different theme. The Missions Tour will visit the Catholic missions in French Prairie and Jason Lee's missions at Mission Bottom and Chemeketa. The Settlements Tour will visit Champoeg State History Park, mountain man "Doc" Newell's house, the utopian Aurora Colony, and Mt. Angel Seminary. Both of these tours will be through the rich agricultural land of the Willamette Valley, passing by vineyards, hop fields, and orchards.

There will be a special evening event every night of the convention. On Monday there will be a coming-together social at the Monarch. Tuesday will be our Awards Banquet and Auction with entertainment by Phil and Gayle Neuman of the Trail Band. Wednesday will be Authors Night in the Bookroom, coordinated this year by Sallie Riehl. Thursday will be Living History Night in Oregon City at the Abernethy Center, with historical re-enactments by Susan Butruille as Abigail Scott Duniway, Ray Egan as Father Luigi Rossi, and Karen Haas as Narcissa Whitman, interspersed with musical interludes by the Heartstrings duo of Nancy and Rob Downie. Friday will be our farewell Salmon Bake at the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center in Oregon City, followed by an evening of special entertainment, courtesy of the City of Oregon City.

After the formal closing of the convention, there will be two Saturday morning events. Lethene Parks will lead a tour of Fort Vancouver, and there will be a reunion of the cast members of the OCTA film, *In Pursuit of a Dream*, at the Philip Foster Farm in Eagle Creek.

In addition to all of the above, there will be other amenities and events, including luncheons, the OCTA Bookroom, static displays, and other entertainment, as well as a few surprises we are saving for when you arrive.

*See you in Oregon City in July.*

# Breaking Down a Brick Wall to Confirm a Short-Bolon Connection, Part II

By Lethene Parks

## The Aftermath

When word of the murder of Andrew Bolon reached Fort Dalles, troops under Capt. Granville O. Haller were immediately sent to the area. They fought with the Indians for three days but did not have a large enough force to be effective, and they retreated back to Fort Dalles. Eventually most of the Indians who had participated in Bolon's murder were apprehended and killed. Settlers throughout Washington Territory were fearful of Indian attacks, and U.S. Army troops flooded into the whole area. Yakama chief Kamiakin persuaded the Walla Walla and Cayuse tribes to unite with him against the whites. Walla Walla chief Peu-Peu-Mox-Mox surrendered but was killed anyway, and a number of battles and raids took place.

In March 1856 warriors from the Yakama, Klickitat, and Cascade tribes attacked white settlers who had usurped Indian lands at Cascade Rapids. Fourteen settlers and three soldiers died in the attack. U.S. reinforcements arrived the next day to drive out the Indians. The Yakamas apparently retreated to their reservation and escaped prosecution, but nine Cascades, including Chief Chenowith, were charged and executed for "treason."

In the Puget Sound area, white settlers feared a general Indian uprising and were especially fearful that northern tribes from Canada would join in. The word was that Chief Leschi was organizing warriors from both sides of the Cascade Mountains. Indian agent Michael Simmons ordered all Western Washington Indians into relocation camps at Fox Island, Squaxin Island, Whidbey Island, Bellingham, and elsewhere. Volunteer militia began gathering. Throughout the fall and winter there were skirmishes, and several settlers and an army officer were killed. Chief Leschi escaped for a while, but he was eventually caught and hanged near Fort Steilacoom; he is buried in the cemetery on the grounds of Western State Hospital there.

By 1858 Indian warfare had spread into eastern Washington to involve the Coeur d'Alene and Palouse Indians. In May Maj. Edward Steptoe's forces were defeated at a battle near present Rosalia, but in September, in battles at Four Lakes and Spokane Plains, forces under Col. George Wright defeated the Indians decisively. Then Wright marched through the area, singling out Indian leaders, killing their horse herds, and destroying their winter food supplies. In October he met with Indian leaders at a camp on Latah Creek (south of Spokane) and coerced at least fifteen (some accounts say twenty-four) Indian chiefs to sign treaties. Many of these were then taken hostage, and a number of them were later shot. Yakama Chief Kamiakin escaped to Canada, but Qualchan, son of a Yakama chief named Owhi, was hanged by Wright's troops within minutes of his arrival at the Latah Creek camp. The creek since then has been known as Hangman's Creek. In his report from Latah Creek, Col. Wright said, "The war is closed," and indeed this ended Indian resistance in Washington Territory.

## The Bolon Family and the Short-Bolon Connection

Now I returned to my search for the connection between Vic Bolon and the Short family. As I began to research the Bolon family, I turned first to the brief sketch in *Clark County Pioneers*, which listed Andrew and Jerusha (Short) Bolon's children and gave some information on Jerusha's subsequent three marriages. The Oregon Pioneers website lists Andrew Bolon as an 1845 Oregon Trail emigrant, but no other Bolons are listed. I suspect Andrew came to Oregon as a young single man. He would have been about nineteen years old in 1845.

The *Clark County Pioneers* book is the only place I have found the name spelled Bolan. My friend Vic spelled his surname Bolon, as do all other sources I checked in the course of my research. The name is said to have originally been Boleyn, and there is a story that the family was related to Anne Boleyn, one of the wives of King Henry VIII of England.

A Google search was not productive, as the only genealogy information I found there was for Bolton—no Bolon or Bolan. A search at Ancestry.com turned up several researchers for Bolon and several more for Short, but none seemed pertinent to my immediate search objective. The only other clues I found were that Andrew Bolon had a brother named John M. and a sister named Roxanne who had married a man named Brink.



Census records on Ancestry.com were helpful, and I was able to find the parents and siblings of Andrew Jackson Bolon. His father was Andrew John Bolon, born about 1800 in New Brunswick, Canada, and his mother was Mary W. Waltman. Their children were:

1. William John Bolon, born 17 August 1817 in Pennsylvania; died 8 September 1852 in Cuba, Fulton County, Illinois.
2. Andrew Jackson Bolon, born about 1825 or 1826 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania; married Jerusha Short.
3. John Milton Bolon, born 8 November 1827 in Pennsylvania; died 14 May 1900 in LaCrosse, Whitman County, Washington; married in 1849 to Katherine McCammon.
4. Caroline Bolon, born 1833; may have died young as there is no further information about her.
5. Mary Roxanne Bolon, born 1836; died 1900; married 7 January 1852 in McDonough County, Illinois to Thomas G. Brink. In the 1870 census the Brinks are living in Montevallo, Vernon County, Missouri.

At this point I began to trace the children of John Milton Bolon forward to see if I could make a connection to Vic Bolon. The best source turned out to be the FindAGrave website, as it listed parents, spouses, and children of the various Bolons I found there. Ancestry.com gave me the same information for both Andrew Jackson Bolon and John Milton Bolon. At some point John Milton Bolon and his family also came west. In the 1870 U.S. census they are in Union, Clackamas County, Oregon. By 1880 the U.S. census shows them in Deep Creek Falls, Spokane County, Washington; and in the 1887 Washington State Territorial census they are in Stevens County, Washington. One Bolon-Short family researcher says that in 1878 John Milton Bolon took up a homestead in Mondovi, Washington, which is in today's Lincoln County. The county boundaries of Spokane, Stevens, and Lincoln counties changed a number of times during those years, so it is probable that the different addresses are in fact the same piece of property.

There is no existing 1890 U.S. census, so FindAGrave proved to be the best way to move forward tracing the Bolon family. One of John Milton Bolon's sons, James Henry Bolon, married Adelaide Bowers. Adelaide was the daughter of Samuel Bowers and Josephine Bolon, daughter of Andrew Jackson Bolon and Jerusha Short. Here was my Short-Bolon connection! James Henry and Adelaide (Bowers) Bolon had a son named Fred who married Agnes Westling. They had four daughters and one son, Victor Bolon—my friend Vic. This was also confirmed in the 1930 U.S. census entry for Fred Bolon, where Vic appears as a four-month-old baby. Vic's obituary, which I found online at Ancestry.com's "U.S. Cemetery and Funeral Home Collection," confirmed Vic was the son of Fred Bolon and Agnes Westling. I had surmounted my brick wall.

## Resources Used

### Books and articles:

*Clark County Pioneers: A Centennial Salute*. CCGS, 1989.

Ficken, Robert E. *Washington Territory*. Washington State University Press, 2002.

Kirk, Ruth, and Carmela Alexander. *Exploring Washington's Past: A Road Guide to History*. University of Washington Press, 1990

Miles, Jo N. "The Life and Death of A. J. Bolon." *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* (Winter 2005/2006): 31–38.

### Websites:

Ancestry.com: <http://www.ancestry.com>

FindAGrave: <http://www.findagrave.com/>

Fort Tours: <http://www.forttours.com/toppenish.asp>

History Link: <http://www.historylink.org/>

Klickitat County Historical Society: <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>

Legends of America: <http://www.legendsofamerica.com/na-indianwarbattles-5.html>

Oregon Pioneers (Stephenie Flora's site): <http://www.oregonpioneers.com/>

Washington State Legislature: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/History/Territorial/Docu...>

Washington State History Museum: <http://www.stories.washingtonhistory.org/>

"Prelude to War: the Murder of A. J. Bolon." Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/YakamaWar>

# Finding the Monument Commemorating the Killing of Indian Agent A. J. Bolon

By Lethene Parks

When I learned that a monument existed commemorating the killing of Andrew J. Bolon, and found a description of its approximate location, I wanted to see it for myself. I didn't want to drive into the heavily wooded area north of Goldendale by myself, so I called fellow Northwest OCTA member Rich Herman and asked if he was interested in going along. He was, so on a Sunday morning in the fall of 2011, Rich, his wife Phyllis, and I headed for Goldendale to see if we could locate the monument.

Rich had called the Klickitat Historical Society to see if they had any more specific information on the monument's location, so our first stop was at their museum in Goldendale, where we talked to museum volunteer staff member Dennis Birney. He had rounded up several articles and books for us to look at, as well as some early photos of the monument dedication in 1918. Then he told us that there was a second monument, a smaller one located at the spot where Bolon was actually supposed to have been killed. In my research I had found no mention of a second monument.

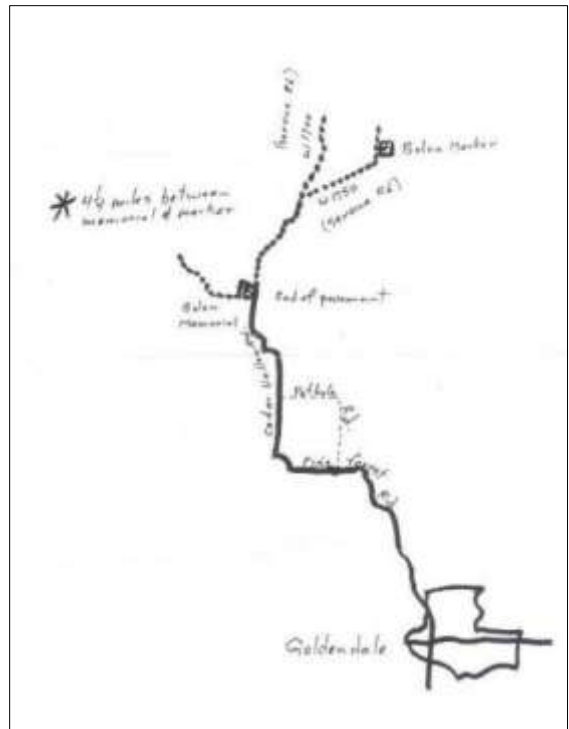
In a book Birney gave us, *Early Klickitat Valley Days*, by Robert Ballou, which was probably originally published in the late 1930s, the author says A. J. Bolon was killed on 23 September 1855, and that the first battle of the Yakama Indian War occurred soon after, on 6 October 1855. He states that Bolon was returning from a visit to Yakama Chief Kamiakin, where he had gone to investigate the reported murder of two mining prospectors from the Seattle area. Other sources said Bolon was on his way to visit Chief Kamiakin, or that he was on his way to the Spokane area to meet with Governor Stevens.

Miners had often violated the agreements with the Indians and traveled through reservation lands to get to the goldfields in the Colville country in northeast Washington. Several miners were killed by Indians, and tensions between Indians and whites had been mounting. Yakama Chief Kamiakin was one of the chiefs who was especially unhappy with the whites who were coming across his tribe's territory. Apparently the killing of Indian agent Bolon triggered an all-out battle, and on October 6 Kamiakin led a force of 1,500 Indians southward and attacked U.S. Army troops from Fort Dalles under Major Haller. The battle lasted three days and ended with the Army troops forcing the Indians to return to their reservation, but open warfare had now begun between whites and Indians throughout the Pacific Northwest.

The *Early Klickitat Valley Days* book says that in 1918 the Washington State Historical Society erected a monument in honor of Bolon's memory. Ballou says, "This monument is located on the Cedar Valley Stage Road between Mill Creek and Bowman Creek, about 12 miles northwest of Goldendale. A road leads directly northward to the George Garner and Yeackel cattle pasture. A marker tablet at the spot where Agent Bolon was killed is 4½ miles northwest of the main monument."

Dennis Birney told us that Andrew Bolon was following an old Indian trail—sometimes referred to as the Wishram Trail—that went between Celilo Falls and the Yakama Reservation, and that this trail had long been used by the Indians going to Celilo Falls to fish and both ways by Indians visiting each other to trade. He said that the smaller Bolon monument was on private property, but that it was all right for us to visit it. He said it was several miles past the larger monument, on a little dirt side road. He provided us with a sketch map of the locations of both monuments.

Following his directions and map, we had no difficulty finding the large monument, near the point where the paved road ended. We took several photos and then set out to find the



Dennis Birney's sketch map.



*Road to the small monument.  
Photo by Phyllis McGarry.*

been killed. Since his body was never found, this smaller monument is as close to a tombstone as A. J. Bolon will ever have. In looking at maps of the area, we think this smaller monument, and the site of the killing of Bolon, is about 10 or 12 miles south of the southern border of the Yakama reservation. We examined the monument and took more photos, then headed back to Vancouver, delighted that we had found both monuments and learned the rest of the story.

second monument. We headed north on a narrow dirt road that ran between the trees in the forested area. It was bumpy and rutted. Dennis Birney's directions were for us to take one of several dirt side roads heading east, but he was not sure exactly which one we should follow—perhaps the second or third one. We had gone a few miles when coming down the dirt road toward us was a vehicle full of fellows in hunting gear. Turned out it was the first day of hunting season. Rich climbed the bank with his passenger car to the point where they could get by our vehicle, but as they passed us, he waved them down and asked them if they knew which road we should take to find the Bolon monument. They directed us to the correct dirt track and on we went.

After another few miles the surrounding terrain opened up into a lovely meadow, with a couple of buildings beyond a fence and a gate, and several very large evergreen trees at the edge of the meadow. We almost immediately spotted the smaller monument identifying the spot where

Bolon was supposed to have actually



*Site of the small monument. Photo by Phyllis McGarry.*



*Large monument. Photo by Lethene Parks.*



*Small monument, where A. J. Bolon was killed.  
Photo by Phyllis McGarry.*



## *A Pre-Convention Tour Preview*

### **The Cowlitz Trail Revisited for History's Sake**

Chuck and Suzanne Hornbuckle will lead a pre-convention auto tour of the Cowlitz Trail, the pioneer route north of the Columbia River. The same tour will be offered July 21 and July 22. The tour will acquaint participants with the history of markers installed over the last one hundred plus years. The tour will be on paved roads and will visit marker sites installed during the last one hundred years.

In 1908 Ezra Meeker completed his crusade to increase public and government awareness of the pioneer trails. Meeker's first 1906 marker was installed at Tenino, Washington. Two years later the Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution began planning their trail marking program.

Ezra along with George Himes, Oregon Pioneers Association and Oregon Historical Society; Hazard Stevens, son of first Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens; and James Allen of the State Highway Commission reviewed the route and personally selected locations for the markers. The first, a large boulder with a bronze plaque reading "End of the Oregon Trail," was located in Olympia in 1913. Three years later in 1916, ten additional markers were dedicated between Tumwater and the Columbia River. Each of the column mounted plaques displayed the message "Oregon Trail 1844."

In April 1849 Nathan Pattison and Rachel Warren Pattison, his bride of six weeks, along with his parents and siblings began their journey west. Six weeks later Rachel died of cholera at Ash Hollow. Leaving his bride behind with a lonely headstone the family continued on, settling near Olympia in 1852. In 1990 OCTA placed a plaque at Rachel's gravesite recounting her story. Nathan never remarried and died at Olympia in 1893. His grave and those of his brother and family are marked by a tall pillar in the family plot in Tumwater.

The Sunday, July 21, tour will end at Nathan's gravesite, where a plaque similar to Rachel's will be dedicated, thus reuniting Rachel and Nathan in spirit after more than 160 years. The tour on Monday, July 22, will also end at Nathan's gravesite but will not include dedication ceremonies.

The tour is restricted to five vehicles due to limited parking space at several locations. In order to maximize participation, carpooling will be necessary, and those willing to accept additional passengers will be given first priority. If you have room for passengers, the tour cost will be \$7.00 per vehicle, which includes one tour booklet. Additional booklets will be available at \$10.00.

Working CB radios are a must for information exchanges. Cell phone coverage is good along the route.

The tour will leave the northwest corner of the Monarch Hotel parking lot at 9:00 a.m. each day and end at about 4:30 p.m. in Tumwater. It is approximately a two-hour drive back to the hotel.

If you have any questions about the tour, contact Chuck or Suzanne Hornbuckle at 360-352-2113 or by e-mail at [hornbucklecs@juno.com](mailto:hornbucklecs@juno.com).

#### **NW OCTA Election Results**

Paul Masee was reelected to the NW OCTA Board of Directors.

## *Northwest Trails*

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Material may be submitted via email, on disk, or as email attachment in Word or Text format. Pictures may be sent via email, on disk (JPG format), or originals for scanning. Please send pictures separately from text document.

MASTHEAD: Replica of *The Old Oregon Trail* bronze relief sculpture created in 1924 by Avarð Fairbanks for Oregon Trail monuments.



## **OCTA's 31st Annual Convention**

**July 22–26, 2013  
Oregon City, OR**

### *Northwest Trails*

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