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Story of the Month

Oregon State Parks Trust has just launched a new campaign to restore and enhance Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area.

Located in Polk County north of Grand Ronde, Fort Yamhill was built in 1856 and abandoned and disassembled in 1866. Information about the fort is at fortwiki.com/Fort_Yamhill

Oregon State Parks Trust's "Fort Yamhill: Connecting Place and People" campaign will raise needed funds and support to:

- Restore the officer's quarters bay window and front porch and complete the restoration of its interior.
- Construct a Visitor Center.



Dear Dave:

Thank you! Your support is what makes it possible for Oregon State Parks Trust to help preserve and enhance Oregon's magnificent state parks for you and yours to enjoy.

If you haven't received it already, you'll soon get a letter from me asking you to make a year-end donation to Oregon State Parks Trust. Please take a moment to give as generously as you can. As a past donor, you know that your contribution will enable us to purchase new parklands, restore and improve existing parks and park facilities, enhance interpretive and educational programs, and much more.

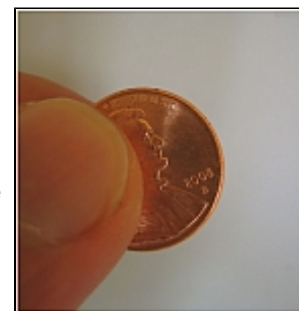
Based on our records, **you've given \$0.00 in 2009.** Please consider, during this season of giving, making a special year-end donation. Your contribution - *made on or before December 31* - will help determine Oregon State Parks Trust's course and priorities in 2010 and beyond.

Oregon State Parks Trust: Charity of the Day on GoodSearch and Goodshop

Oregon State Parks Trust will be featured as the Charity of the Day on GoodSearch.com and GoodShop.com on December 15!!

Did you know that you can help Oregon State Parks Trust every time you shop online and search the web? Go to goodsearch.com/Default.aspx?charityid=811057 to participate.

Once you specify Oregon State Parks Trust as the charity you want your shopping or searching to benefit, each time you use GoodShop.com to shop at one of more than 1,300 participating top stores (from Amazon to Zazzle!), we will earn a percentage of the purchase price – at no extra cost to you! Likewise, each time you use GoodSearch.com (a Yahoo powered search box) to search the web, about a penny is donated to Oregon State Parks Trust.



This is even easier if you add the [GoodSearch/GoodShop toolbar](#) to your web browser. You may even save money as the toolbar also includes coupons and special deals!

You can use GoodSearch and GoodShop every day, but be sure to check us out on their homepage on December 15!

New Trustees: Bruce Barnes, Bennett Burns & Jon Stride

Oregon State Parks Trust is pleased to welcome **Bruce Barnes, Bennett Burns and Jon Stride** to its Board of Trustees.

- Continue archaeological investigations at the fort.
- Move the officer's quarters back to it's original location.
- Install "ghost structures" at 18 building sites.
- Reconstruct the Fort Yamhill blockhouse.

Breaking Insider News! The Spirit Mountain Community Fund has made the first grant - for \$100,000 - to the project. Watch our website for more news about their contribution and the campaign!



Interested in getting involved in the "Fort Yamhill: Connecting Place and People" campaign? Email Executive Director Dave Eshbaugh at [dave <at> oregonstateparkstrust <dot> org](mailto:dave@oregonstateparkstrust.org)

A resident of Pendleton, **Bruce Barnes** is a plant identification software producer and retired licensed clinical social worker. **Bennett Burns** lives in Portland and is a self-employed landscape architect. **Jon Stride** is a Partner at the Portland-based law firm of Tonkon Torp LLP. For more information about our new Trustees, visit our [Trustees and Their Affiliations](#) webpage.

Oregon State Parks Trust is a not-for-profit organization governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees. We currently have vacancies to fill with interested, qualified and dedicated people. To find out more about serving on our Board, download our [board recruitment brochure](#).

Your Donation to Oregon State Parks Trust Makes You Eligible for a Tax Credit from Oregon Cultural Trust

We are all worried about declining revenue and support for heritage, specifically history, historic preservation, and archaeology. Big increases in government funding, the kind we need, are highly unlikely in the current economic climate, and, in truth, most of us will feel lucky if reductions in funding for these kinds of programs aren't catastrophic.

So, what can be done?

Oregon is very fortunate to have a unique mechanism already in place to help us "do something." That mechanism is the Oregon Cultural Trust's tax credit program. This very creative and effective program creates a ripple effect of benefits:

- By donating to a qualified heritage organization, like Oregon State Parks Trust, you support us in very important ways (go to culturaltrust.org/programs/beneficiaries_qualifying_non_profits.php for a list of the other 1,200 qualified non-profits).
- By matching that donation with a contribution to the Oregon Cultural Trust, you help generate a pool of funds that is used for grants and other programs that heritage organizations statewide can access and benefit from.
- A portion of your Oregon Cultural Trust contribution also helps build the endowment that secures the long-term operation of the Oregon Cultural Trust, making it less vulnerable to economic and political down-cycles.
- You get money back in the deal. Your contribution to the Oregon Cultural Trust comes back to you dollar-for-dollar in the form of a state tax credit. So if you contribute \$250 to your favorite heritage organization (like Oregon State Parks Trust) and \$250 to the Oregon Cultural Trust, you accomplish \$500 worth of "good" and you get \$250 back.



For details about the Cultural Trust program, go to: culturaltrust.org/donate.php or culturaltrust.org/pdf/CulturalTrust_Tax_FAQ_05.pdf.

One final note: When you make your contribution to the Oregon Cultural Trust, please jot a note on the form that you are contributing on behalf of Oregon State Parks Trust and heritage (or history, historic preservation, or archaeology). This will help us track heritage's participation in the Oregon Cultural Trust in comparison with arts and humanities.

Thanks for all of your efforts on behalf of heritage in Oregon and for your support through the Oregon Cultural Trust program.

[Oregon State Parks Trust](#)

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