

Lord's Acre Sale

By Ron Halvorson

The annual Lord's Acre Sale is an event that began in 1946 as a means to fund construction of the Powell Butte Community Church's first sanctuary, the brick structure now known as the "historic chapel." Powell Butte is located on Oregon Route 126, nine miles east of Redmond. The pastor at that time, DeVere Lannis "Penny" Penhollow (1907 - 1986), encouraged his small congregation, as well as others in the close-knit farming community, to donate the produce from one acre of their land to be sold to the general public.

The sale was held the first of November (now the first Saturday of November) to allow completion of the potato harvest. Suggested donations included sheep, heifer calves, forty sacks of potatoes, or a ton of hay. A steer was also donated for a noon barbeque. Before long, women in the community donated baked goods, needlework, quilts, and other crafts.

The event has expanded over the years to include an auction of quilts and similar handmade items, a concert, pie-by-the-slice and meat sales, a country market, and a 5K and 10K run/walk. More than 300 church and community members work year-long to make nearly 1,000 pies, numerous quilts, and other handmade items. Packages of handmade pork sausage and the pit barbeque are especially popular.

Notable past attendees include Oregon's Governor Mark Hatfield, and U.S. Senators Wayne Morse, Hubert Humphreys, and John F. Kennedy.

Today, more than \$50,000 is raised annually from nearly 2,500 attendees to support missions and scholarships.

Sources

McCallister, Ramona. "Sixty years of continuity, community in Powell Butte." *Portland Tribune*, October 28, 2014.

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