



January 1, 2026

Adair Living History Inc. (ALH) 2025 year in review.

Our Vision: “Preserving the stories of sacrifice from our past to build an informed future”

Dear Friends of Adair Living History, Inc.,

Appeal for Help

ALH is always looking for sources of funding for the projects listed above and for projects that will come in the future, as well as volunteers to help us with these projects. We are also at the point where we need to consider funding for on-going operations. If you are interested in helping ALH, please contact Dennis Emerson at 541-401-4513. The ultimate goal is to provide a place for residents and visitors to go and experience the rich history of the Adair area. Our webpage, adairhistory.org, is where donations can be made or checks can be sent to:

Adair Living History, Inc.
6030 NE William R Carr Avenue
Adair Village, OR 97330
Phone: 541-401-4513

As you will see below, ALH has lots of work to do—and we hope you’ll be willing and able to help!

Adair Living History is a 501.3(c) non-profit organization.

This year, 2025, was a banner year for ALH. There has been significant progress in the remodeling of the Adair Interpretive Center. We held another Adair History Day and participated in the City of Adair Village Founder’s Day. Members of the Board of Directors were involved in a number of out-reach activities. The city of Adair Village has infused money through the city budget to work towards completing the Center. As an organization we have committed to a Vision and are in the process of finalizing our strategic plan as well as adopting a collections policy that will define our scope and govern our acceptance of items/objects.

The ALH Website (adairhistory.org)

In 2025 10 blogs were posted on the Sentry News Blog on the ALH website (adairhistory.org). This website has received a lot of traffic and has been visited by hundreds of viewers from countries all over the world.

Outreach Activities

Adair History Day

On May 17, 2025, at the Village Church (former Adair AFS Chapel) ALH hosted Robert Kentta, a member of the Siletz Indian Tribal Council. He shared unique artifacts and family photos during his talk "Building Bridges: Local Tribal

Histories and a 1970s Sweathouse Lodge." He talked about the Siletz Treaty history of the Illahee Kalapuya (Adair area) and the story of a traditional Sweathouse Lodge for recovery and sobriety that was located at the former Camp Adair site in the 1970s.

City of Adair Village Founder's Day

ALH participated in the City of Adair Village Founder's Day on August 16, 2025. There were exhibits, displays and presentations on Camp Adair, Adair Air Force Station, the Naval Hospital at Camp Adair, the early history of Native Americans of North Benton and south Polk counties, etc. Turn-out was very good. The local City of Adair Village community as well as others from surrounding communities, continue to be very interested in the history of the Adair area.

Additional Outreach Activities

Board Members Matt Helget, Dave Dickson, Linda Marie Richards, Dennis Emerson, Vicki Emerson attended an Open House with students and faculty at Oregon State University. ALH was able to give a presentation on ALH and the construction of the Adair Interpretive Center.

Board Member Dave Dickson gave the following presentations:

- Academy for Lifelong Learning on Camp Adair and the 70th Division in France.
- Lebanon Genealogical Society on his trip to France following the route of the 70th Infantry Division.
- Trailblazers Association Reunion in Denver on Camp Adair before, during and after WW II.
- Academy for Lifelong Learning on UK, US and German military cemeteries in France.

Board Member Dennis Emerson gave a presentation to a history class at Oregon State University. The topic was on Women in Aviation and Dennis' presentation was about Mary Nesbit Hearn who was part of the Women's Air Force Service Pilot (WASP) program during WWII. She lived at Adair Air Force Station with her husband Maj Lura Hearn in the early 1960s.

Board member Matt Helget attended and presented at the annual Oregon Museum Association conference in April

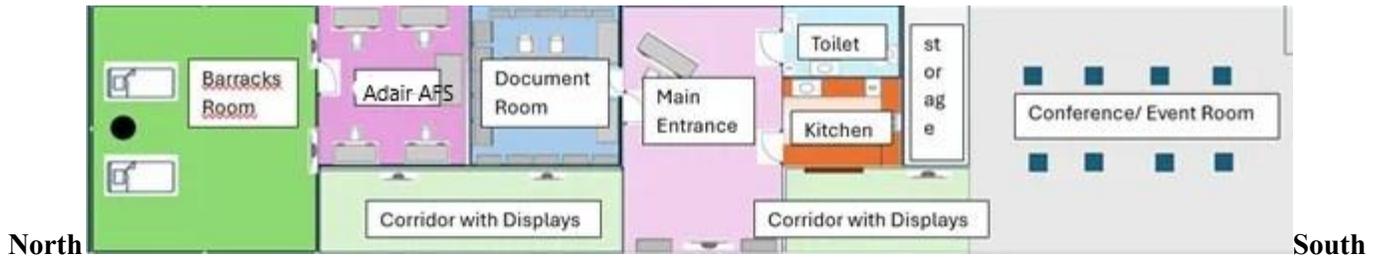
Board Member Mary Jamieson, who is also president of the National Timberwolf Pups Association, hosted members of that association at Camp Adair and met with ALH Board Members who then gave a presentation on the activities of Adair Living History, Inc.

Board Members Matt Helget, Barbara Melton and Dennis Emerson were invited to the Santiam Christian School 3rd grade class to give tours and talk to students about the history of Camp Adair, Adair Air Force Station and Adair Village.

Raising the Barracks Fundraising and Status of Construction

Things are moving right along inside the barracks building that will become the Adair Interpretive Center:

- Insulation, electrical wiring, sheet rock and heating & ventilation, floor finishing, are completed.
- The building is divided into three large areas. The extreme south end of the building will hold displays and artifacts and will be arranged so that we can have events there.
- The middle section, with a new entrance on the east side, will contain office space, document storage (climate controlled), and area for study and research.
- Also in the middle area of the building will be a handicapped-accessible bathroom, and a small kitchen.
- The north end of the building will feature a permanent display—and partial reconstruction of a barracks building, as the men who trained at Camp Adair lived in. In another room in that area a permanent display will focus on Adair Air Force Station.



Corridor looking south with pass-through from Kitchen



Barracks Room



Corridor looking north towards Barracks Room



Conference Event Room



Future Main Entrance



Outside Ductless HVAC System

What's left:

- Bathroom and kitchen flooring and appliances.
- Interior doors
- UV protected window coverings
- Electrical power outlets and lighting.
- Main door that will be located on the east side of the building.
- Building security
- Purchase of office equipment and furniture

We are currently working on grants, partnerships, and additional funding streams for finishing the building and the city has continued its unwavering support to tell the stories that are in our area.

Goals for 2026

ALH will be participating in the Spring Fling at the Oregon Veterans Home of Lebanon in April. Adair History Day in May ALH will, hopefully, host a presentation on Letitia Carson, a black female homesteader, who settled in the Adair area. ALH will also participate in the annual City of Adair Village Founder's Day in August.

ALH is always looking for opportunities to showcase our activities and to educate the public on the history of the Adair area.

Board of Directors Activities

The ALH Board of Directors are: David Dickson, Vicki Emerson, Dr. Linda Marie Richards, Matt Helget, Barbara Melton, Mary Jamieson, Dennis Emerson, Mike Jager. Mike Jager joined the Board in 2025 has worked with many non-profit organization and involved with digital storytelling.. Allison Nielsen has resigned from the Board and Barbara Melton will graduate to Emerita status at the end of 2025, joining Emeritus Gary Richards. Barbara was a founder of Adair Living History and has guided this organization through many ups and downs. She has been the one to, literally, keep this organization moving forward. She will be greatly missed but we are glad she will allow us to continue to reach out to her when her advice is desired. Each member has unique skills that are most beneficial to this organization. Biographies of Board Members can be found at adairhistory.org, on the "About ALH" page.

Board members meet monthly via Zoom and occasionally in-person. We welcome any and all who would like to attend our board meetings just let us know ahead of time so that an invitation can be sent to you.

The Board of Directors,
Adair Living History, Inc.