“Making that discovery was a thrill. I felt like the wine geek equivalent of an enological Indiana Jones. The crackle of the old paper, the splotches that just might have been the must of a wine pioneer’s fledgling vintage: all of this is as exciting to me as Harrison Ford dodging some Mayan death traps. It’ll be a great addition to the story we’re telling.” - filmmaker David Baker

Dear Oregon Wine Community,

In the summer of 2013, Baker visited the Oregon Wine History Archive (OWHA) at Linfield College as part of his research for an upcoming documentary – American Wine Story (http://thewinemovie.com) – which features Dick Erath. Near the end of his visit to peruse the OWHA’s Erath Winery Collection, Baker stumbled across Erath’s journal, which the winemaker had specifically mentioned on camera. In his Three Crows Production blog (quoted above) Baker relives the excitement of a discovery which will be featured in his upcoming film.

Later in 2013, we wrote an article for the Oregon Historical Quarterly titled “Following the Roots of Oregon Wine” (goo.gl/GE5uCP). Using the materials in our collections, the article explores the captivating individuals who are the story of Oregon wine. The Oregon Historical Society is using the stories as part of the basis for Clink! A Taste of Oregon Wine, an exhibit scheduled to open in the summer of 2014.

Sharing these stories is the best part of what we’re doing at the Oregon Wine History Archive. With our mission to collect and preserve all aspects and regions of the Oregon wine industry, we help to reveal the narrative of Oregon wine. We have more than 20 collections from winery owners, winemakers, grape-growers, wine marketers and sommeliers, as well as organizations like the Oregon Wine Board, the International Pinot Noir Celebration (IPNC) and the ¡Salud! healthcare program. You can see these collections and hear Oregon wine industry people tell their stories at http://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/owha/.

We write to you today because the Oregon Wine History Archive is continually expanding its scope and seeking new materials. Donating your documents and photographs ensures that they will be preserved as part of a larger archive that helps tell the Oregon wine story. Please consider adding your voice to the narrative.

Cheers!

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