



BYGONE TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Monday, Oct. 12, 5 p.m. to closing, THS "Half-Night" at the Power Station, Edgefield

Troutdale Historical Society gets half the profits when you dine at the Power Station.

Sunday, Oct. 18, 2 p.m., Highway author Peg Willis, Glenn Otto Park

Author of *Building the Columbia River Highway*, *They Said It Couldn't Be Done*, Sam Cox building, Glenn Otto Park.

Sunday, Nov. 15, 2 p.m., Kathleen Overton on Vista House, Glenn Otto Park

Author of *Saving An American Treasure*, "the effort to preserve Vista House", Sam Cox Building, Glenn Otto Park.

Saturday, Dec. 5, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Christmas at the Harlow House

Santa, cookies, Christmas cheer, festive decorations.

Chow Down at the Poor Farm Oct. 12 Easiest fund-raiser ever

All you do is dine at the Power Station Pub at McMenamins Edgefield anytime after 5 p.m. on Monday, October 12, and half the proceeds go to the Troutdale Historical Society. Take your friends, your kinfolk and a few strangers and eat out for the benefit of the Troutdale Historical Society.

Two talks on our favorite highway, Oct. 18 & Nov. 15



Peg Willis comes from Pendleton on Sunday, Oct. 18, 2 p.m., in the Sam Cox building at Glenn Otto Park to talk about her excellent book on the construction of the Columbia River Highway, a best seller in our store. Then, on Sunday, Nov. 15, same place, same time, hear Kathleen Overton, on the preservation of Vista House. Programs followed by refreshments and conversation. Helen Wand is our program chair. Come to hear more about our upcoming 2016 programs.

Opening the Highway Exhibit



THS President Len Otto, right, and Sue and Greg Handy, left, welcome guests to the barn.

President's Corner

After a whirlwind week of exhibit openings in July, I was satisfied with what we were hearing and observing. People are enthused about our Historic Highway exhibit, *King of Roads ~ Byway of the People*. I believe it will become an anchor for the west end of the Gorge much as the *Discovery Center* anchors the east end at The Dalles.

If you have a smart phone, search for *King of Roads* in your app store. Click on it to see what has been created and let us know what you think. Most importantly, come and see your magnificent exhibit, *King of Roads ~ Byway of the People*. As a friend remarked as she left the exhibit, "It makes me proud to be Troutdalian."

Now, a serious note: Our Barn is aging, and is in need of a new roof. We are aiming for a metal one that will outlast all but the youngest of us. Expected cost is just shy of \$25,000. We applied for a grant from the Collins Foundation, but unfortunately did not get it. If you have any background in fundraising, or have a lot of energy for such things, please let us know so we can enlist your help. (Donations also are welcome, of course!) We really need you now. Thank you.

Len Otto



Top left:

Sheila Bozikovich did the flowers for the donor party.

Top right: Jo Callister, and Louise Dix;
Middle left: Cookies from



Steve and Cherie Wallace; Middle right: Helen Wand puts last touches on the artifact displays; Bottom right: Glenn White delivers a vintage bike by riding it to the Barn. Carol Allen, Dianne White, Jon and Audrey Lowell and Nell Simien watch.

Our Volunteers

Dick Jones, builder of the barn, used to say, "Until you are better paid, thank you." We thank those who led our organization, stuck with us for four years of building and designing the exhibit and getting the Barn open, up and running every day.

First, our exhibit committee chaired by **Len Otto**, now president of THS. And with him, **Greg and Sue Handy**, who went to work in the barn Jan. 1, and were there nearly every day supervising or completing the exhibit structure. **Steve and Judy Lehl** who loaned and gathered photos, artifacts, and supplied knowledge. **Jeanette Kloos** contributing her background as a restorer of the highway. **Julie Stewart**, secretary, whose display savvy put everything together and whose scrounging abilities are renowned. **Rip Caswell** and **Helen Wand** worked in every facet of the project. **Mary Bryson** supervised the Oregon Community Foundation grant, and with it the technology it paid for. **Sharon Nesbit** edited text and coordinated opening events, and **Jon and Audrey Lowell** served wherever asked.

We received gifts of talent from **Ray Summers**, **Alchemy of Design**, and from the brilliant students and advisors of **Center for Advanced Learning** in design, technology and creativity.

But stop, we're not done yet:

LeAnn Stephan designed the Harlow House history and photo panels. **Andrea Heim** tended the Tuesday Lady flower bed, and along with **LeAnn**, **Gayle DeBruyne** hosted the Harlow House for special events. **Chris Trabacca** came to assist his step-dad **Len Otto** with the highway marker and returned three times to reset all the bricks in front of the Barn. **Al and Joyce Stoeckel** volunteered to take on cleaning of the house and Barn. **Steve Yost**, **Sam Barnett** and **Jim Murphy** helped move the office to the shop, and **Sam** contributed many other hours in clearing the shop along with **Diane and Glenn White**.

And more:

For opening events: **Sheila Bozikovich** did the great flower arrangements for the donor party, remembering the story of painting the center line on the highway. **Steve and Cherie Wallace** provided lemonade and cookies. **Amber Milmore** and family helped with set-up. **Gresham Ford** ran the shuttles. **McMenamins Edgefield** provided the wine. And then, **David Ripma**, **Bob Baker**, **Greg and Sue Handy**, and **Bill and Marge Kitchen** brought historic cars to dress up events.

Still more. No exhibit works unless it is open. We thank those who keep the doors open every day:

Gayle DeBruyne, **Joanne Losinger**, **Al and Bettianne Goetz**, **Jon and Audrey Lowell**, **Jeanette Kloos**, **Helen Wand**, **Sonya McDowell**, **Len Otto**, **Sharon Nesbit**, **Norm and Charlene Thomas**, **Andrea Heim** (in the Harlow House), **Elizabeth "Buff" Magaw**, **Kelly Broomall** (in the depot). Our employee, **Nell Simien**, works part of her hours at the Barn and Depot.

And then regular duties: **Jean Ice** hosted our picnic. **Paula Goldie** hosts our booth at the Edgefield concerts. **Steve Yost** is our handyman. **Julie Stewart** is photo librarian.

Officers and board: **Len Otto** and **Sharon Nesbit** work together as president and vice president. **Marilee Thompson** spends many hours a week taking care of bills and finances. Board member **Rich Allen** troubleshoots our computers. **Rip Caswell** contributes his experience as both business owner and artist. **Sharon Petri** specializes in fund-raising. **Diane White** helps with facilities and a future sale of surplus items. **Amber Milmore** is secretary. Serving as past presidents, **David Ripma** and **Scott Cunningham** add their experience and expertise.

Thank you all!



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Celebrating the highway at McMenamins Edgefield

On July 11, THS joined with Crown Point Country Historical Society and McMenamins Edgefield to host a program on the Historic Columbia River Highway for McMenamins birthday party. We moved the event to the morning to coincide with the arrival of historic cars. There was some concern about the earlier time, but the Edgefield ballroom was filled. Ray Summers, THS member and Troutdale resident, said that it was perfect “for old people who want to go home in the afternoon and take a nap.” Among those driving historic cars to Edgefield were William and Marge Kitchen, Sandy. He wrote the following memory of working at Edgefield.

My Time at the Multnomah County Farm, by William Kitchen

I started to work at the Multnomah County Farm either in November or December of 1942. My wife and I were newly married and she worked, too. I was called a tractor driver and paid \$36 per month. She worked in the kitchen and dining room and was paid 25 cents per hour.

The farm milked 90 cows and they produced a lot of manure, so my main job was hauling manure out of the barns and spreading it on the fields. My wife worked in the kitchen preparing meals and also in the dining room serving meals. There were three classes of meals at several tables. One was the employees (we received our meals as well as wages.) – that was good food. Next were the workers, residents of the farm who worked. That was good food. Last were the residents who did not work. Some could not and some would not. This was still good food, but when we butchered an animal, we ate all parts of it and they got the poorer portions of the meat, and the food was in more of a ground-up form, as some of them did not have good teeth. I think they called these people “mushers.”

Very rarely I drove the truck to Portland, as the farm supplied food to Doernbecher’s Hospital and also to Rocky Butte County jail. This was not my prime job as there was another truck driver, and I was only used when he was not available.

I mowed hay and we dug potatoes up on the top part of the property. The farm also raised a couple hundred hogs, and there was a steel tank holding perhaps 250 gallons of material. It was mounted on a small rubber-tired, four-wheeled wagon, which was parked just below the kitchen. All the food waste and garbage was dumped into this tank. Then, usually an inmate named Zook, (the only name I ever heard for him), would take one horse and deliver that garbage down to the hog farm where he would dump it into some troughs and the hogs would eat it.

One time we had a driving snowstorm and the boss told me that he did not want that old man out in the storm, so I was to take the tractor and deliver that garbage to the hog farm. This I did and there was no trouble delivering or dumping, but when I started back up the paved road to the farm, there was a small snowdrift. Now that tractor was a “tricycle,” meaning it had two big driving wheels on the back and one wheel in the center in front. That meant I had to leave three wheel tracks, not two as with four-wheeled vehicles. I jumped off from the tractor and dug tracks but by the time I could get on to the tractor and try to move forward, the tracks were full of blown snow and I was still stuck. I worked at this for some time and made no progress. But I did see something I have never seen before or since – ice on the side of a running motor. Not on the exhaust side, but on the other side. That was freezing rain coming down the gorge to us. The boss was watching and he sent a truck down to help.

Before that story ended, it piled a drift up to the eaves on the east side of the main lodge. Later, my wife and some of the other women who worked in the building took boards and slid down the drift from the top of the building.

I liked that job and have a lot of good memories about it. It is a privilege to visit here today with you folks.



William and Marge Kitchen at Edgefield in July

Wishing the best to all of you, we are William and Marg Kitchen, married in 1942.

Beryl Cook Died July 22

Lifetime THS member Beryl Cook, widow of Vern Cook, died July 22 at the age of 83. Beryl was a nurse practitioner and was married to Attorney Vern Cook, who died in 2008.

Vern was the Troutdale Historical Society's first volunteer attorney. She and her husband made their home at Sandy Dell on the Sandy River.

Another easy way to contribute to THS

Marilee Thompson, treasurer, reports: Fourteen households who signed up with Fred Meyer Community Rewards program earned Troutdale Historical Society \$56.20 between April 2 and June 30. You can sign up at the customer service desk or by visiting www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards



Mary Bryson, Curator

Bryson Retires

In 1997 Mary Bryson retired her school teaching job and signed on as the Troutdale Historical Society curator.

She has served in the job for 18 years assisted by the Tuesday Ladies. In addition to accounting for each item in our collection, and putting tiny little numbers on the items, she has had to find a place to stash stuff when we have very little storage. Mary's Closet in the Barn is named for her.

One of her famous innovations is FIC, meaning "found in collections." In short, some things just turn up, sometimes on the front porch, though that practice is officially discouraged.

We are, of course, in the market for a new curator. Such a person should like computers and detail work and messing around with cool old stuff.

Eagle Creek is 100

The Eagle Creek Recreation Area was officially dedicated in July 1916 shortly after the opening of the Columbia River Highway.

Originally within the Columbia Gorge Park, it was unique in that it was set aside for recreational use only. The Columbia River Highway ushered in a new era of recreation in the Gorge in terms of increased access. If you have a story to tell about the campground and your time there you can post it on the Scenic Area website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/crgnsa/home/?cid=stelprd3853588>.

Questions we are asked

Buyers of old houses in Troutdale come to us to find some history about their homes. Wish we could help more. A new owner wants to know more about the former home of Bill and Nora Lewis at 7th and Dora. And another buyer is interested in the origins of a farmhouse on Harlow Street, right across from the school baseball field.

Some things work better. We have been able to supply documents, vegetable labels and other items of Troutdale Vegetable Growers to the family of Peter Binn for use in a family history.

And recently we accepted some Tegart family items from Lee Ann Tegart Labby, including an old drum that her grandfather used to summon kids into the classroom.

Your board at work

With the exhibit opened and running, the THS board of directors begins work on the society's goals, one being a new roof for the Barn. Also on the list, rewriting the society's constitution, which will come to our membership for a vote. Program chair Helen Wand has set quarterly programs next year timed with publication of the newsletter.

Numbers mount at barn exhibit

With the King of Roads exhibit up and running we have counted about 550 visitors to the Barn since our member opening on July 12.

That is only possible because of the volunteers who keep it open afternoons and weekends after our regular office hours.

Gayle DeBruyne rearranges things in our gift store every Friday. She will be assisted by Rip Caswell and Diane White in display and future purchases.

And thanks to Chuck Rollins, who donated small packages of polished Missoula Flood agates to sell at our store. We also have *King of Roads* totes, key chains, puzzles and magnets.

Right now our best sellers are *King of Roads* caps and three highway books by Ken Manske, Clarence Mershon and Peg Willis.

Keep our store in mind when shopping for Christmas items.

Partnership with CAL students ends...or maybe not yet

Part of our building the historic highway exhibit included a partnership with the bright and gifted students at Gresham's *Center for Advanced Learning*. They developed our logo, our web site and any number of other artistic and technical programs. Our partnership ended in August and we received this letter from Carol Egan, director: "I am super, super proud of the work of our partners and our CAL interns. I know the interns will walk away from this project knowing that they accomplished a great product with collaboration with industry experts guiding their vision and with deep voice."

While officially ended, the instructor who most closely worked with us, Cane Prevost, has expressed an interest in continuing our partnership into the new school year. We are pleased and excited by this possibility.



Artist Libby Krock poses at the finish of our mural, an homage to historic barn art. She painted the *Columbia River Highway* work over the July Fourth holiday.

Suggestions for a July 4 menu from an early cookbook:

6 gallons potato salad
4 gallons cabbage salad
5 gallons of baked beans
25 chickens
30 lbs. hams
30 doz. buns
8 loaves graham or rye bread
4 qts. pickles
20 pies
4 lbs. coffee
1 lb. tea
1 dollar for sugar
2 lbs. butter
1 qt. vinegar, salt and pepper, onions, radishes and lettuce

No mention of how many this would feed or what the vinegar was for.



RIP CASWELL
SCULPTURES

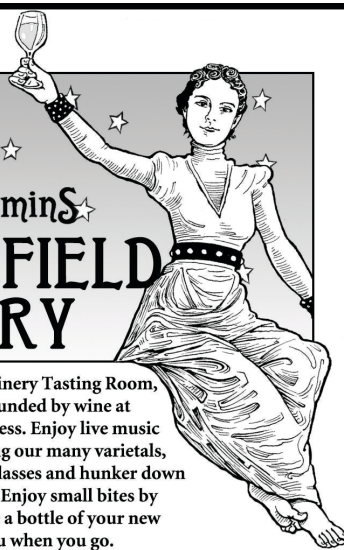
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Harlow House Open Every Sunday...Mostly

Andrea Heim is hosting the Harlow House every Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m., but only when she is available.

Her effort coincides with the afternoon hours in the Highway Exhibit in the Barn, so we can offer visitors two sites in a single afternoon.

Julie Stewart has a new back-to-school exhibit in the dining room and the Harlow history panels by LeAnn Stephan and the camera exhibit are still on display.

LeAnn, as a contribution to our society, is doing an architectural study of the house. When you think about it, when was the last time you saw house plans for the Harlow House?

A complete record will be good to have. Many thanks to both Andrea and LeAnn. If someone willing is to volunteer as backup host for Andrea, we could say we are open "every" Sunday. Please call 503-661-2164.

Jobs That Need Doing

Troutdale Historical Society always needs volunteers. We have just one part-time employee, so there is plenty of opportunity for our members to pitch in.

Hosts: We need hosts to keep our Barn Exhibit and Depot open. Some new hosts will likely pinch-hit for now, but once January comes and the snowbirds fly, we will have more slots to fill. And the depot has plenty of openings.

Curators: We need people who enjoy working with artifacts, old books, and manuscripts to record, scan and store our historic items. Right now a lovely World War II scrap book is awaiting careful work from a volunteer.

Beginning in October, the Highway Exhibit will be closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Our office in the Barn will be open on those days.



Visionary Park Part of Centennial

Rip Caswell's sketch above is the initial plan for Visionary Park, intended to honor Sam Hill and Sam Lancaster, builders of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

The first donor has come forward to help fund the project which will be just south of the Harlow House and Barn and will recognize the 100th anniversary of the Historic Columbia River Highway next year.

Donations

Highway Exhibit

Rosie and Larry Puderbaugh in memory of Harold Scofield
Rip Caswell
Waste Management
Sam Barnett
Kay Struckman
Sharon Petri
Joyce and Al Stoeckel

Endowment Fund

Marie Stone in memory of Bill Stone
Collyn Baldwin in memory of Dale and Elizabeth Baldwin
Marilyn Howell in memory of Don and Tilly Howell

General Fund

Joe Gorciak, Ray Summers

Membership Renewals

Steve & Deborah Yost
Marie Stone
Gale Underhill
Penny & Bill Labberton
Mike & Andrea Mershon
Laura Anson
Thomas & Cherie Potiowsky
Paula & Dick Goldie
Ray & Renee Summers
Myrna Rhodes
Donna Davis
Marilyn Howell
Mel & Shirley Miller
David Wand

New Members

Laura Heilman
Cherie & Steve Wallace
Paulette Kuiper
Norm & Charlene Thomas

If you have been meaning to join, or renew your membership, send \$20 (individual membership) or \$30 (family membership) or \$100 for a Lovers Oak individual membership, or \$200 for a Lovers Oak family membership to: Troutdale Historical Society, 219 E. Historic Columbia River Highway, Troutdale, OR 97060.

Old Photo Brings a Tale

Recently Debbie Stickney, Troutdale City Recorder, gave us photos taken in the late 1970s of a former gas station at the "Y" of Halsey Street and Sandy Blvd.

The photos were taken when the city council was trying to get the goods on a fellow they believed was repairing autos in the building without a city license.

Tex Blackwell, city councilor, owned the station across the street and took the photos, but the city could never make its case.

The reason: Vern Cook, city attorney, reported that the suspect had the good sense to take his phone off of Blackwell's party line so Blackwell could no longer overhear any possible business conversations.



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Exhibit desk: 503-667-8268
email: info@troutdalehistory.org
website: www.troutdalehistory.org

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Mission Statement

To gather, preserve and make available material relating to the history of the community of Troutdale, the Sandy River, the Columbia River Gorge and nearby area; to stimulate interest in the knowledge of the locality's past.

Officers, Board, Staff:

President, Len Otto

Vice President, Sharon Nesbit

Treasurer, Marilee Thompson

Secretary, Amber Milmore

Board members:

Rich Allen, Rip Caswell, Sharon Petri, Diane White

Past Presidents:

David Ripma, Scott Cunningham

Administrative Assistant:

Nell Simien

Photo librarian:

Julie Stewart

Maintenance:

Steve Yost

***Thank you all for your
dedication and support!***

Len Otto



Ruby and Elliott Staten's jelly stand at Chanticleer Point, now Portland Womens Forum State Park, circa 1960.

Remember, Troutdale Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization, so your donations are fully tax deductible and help support our museums, programs, and the preservation of artifacts and local history. Thank you for your continued support.