

**Troutdale Historical Society
Marking 30 Years
Timeline of Eventful Dates**

1968

About a dozen Troutdale residents meet Feb. 28, in city hall to found a Troutdale Historical Society. City council gives \$35 to help out and the Troutdale Lions pay postage for first newsletter. First regular meeting with 63 charter members signed up occurs in March with Erick Enquist, who operated a fish wheel on The Columbia River, as speaker. Marilyn Oakes elected first president. Vic Kyle donates first artifacts, an ox yoke and kettles said to have come over the Oregon Trail. Three hundred attend first ice cream social.

1969

Bob Sturges elected president. Monthly newsletter started.

1970

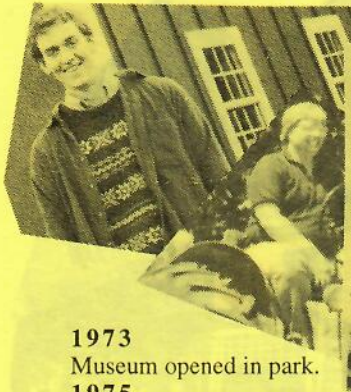
Don Vorpahl is president. Oregon Trail under study.

1971

Alex Jones elected president, serving until 1975. Troutdale historical marker (now at depot) placed on north side of historic highway. Work begins on a concrete block building in park (now caretaker's house) as our first museum.

1972

Book of pioneer recipes published.



ad's Chicken N Dumplins



1973

Museum opened in park.

1975

Sam Cox elected president. beginning tradition of potluck dinners. Troutdale named a Bicentennial City.

1976

Celebration of American Bicentennial, depot moved with Bicentennial grant and our float wins second prize in the Corbett July 4 parade. We have \$2,300 in the bank.

1977

Two people work for society at no cost to us under CETA program, including Bert Whalen, first curator. Ted Schulte supervises addition to museum. Depot restored and dedicated.

1979

A city parks bond issue buys Harlow House and property. With one week's notice in October, we move our museum to the Harlow House, exchanging our old museum for a down payment on the house.

1980

Ted Schulte and Steve Kenney climb to the roof on New Year's day to fix a leak. Ted takes on restoration of the house. First oral history interviews begin with taping of Morris and Gladys McGinnis First Christmas in the Harlow House, star attraction, our restored wood stove. Seven hundred come to ice cream social and we begin the plant sale.

1982

Ted Schulte and Sam Cox build gazebo as a memorial to Ada Cox. Edgefield Manor closed and we take three truckloads of artifacts from building.

Bob Sturges roasted in November following 10 years as mayor. That dinner for 100 that earned \$500 for Harlow House mortgage payment. Sam Cox elected mayor Helen Althaus reads letter from her great-grandmother, later a book, "A Letter Home."

1983

Some fool suggests that we might build a barn. Vera Strebin leads effort to gather photos of all the city's mayors.

1984

Harlow House named to National Register of Historic Places and we earn \$3,000 to pay on mortgage.

First pie sale on front porch of Harlow House in the fall. Sweetbriar School students included in Troutdale walking history tours.

1985

Overflow crowd for a program on gas stations. A celebration of Troutdale mayors, with dedication of 22 portraits in city hall. Cathy Warren Hamme volunteers as groundskeeper, beginning tradition of Harlow House floral displays. First home tour in the Columbia River gorge, biggest fund raiser in our history. First Troutdale Grade School reunion. John Nasmyth, determined to build barn, makes a major donation.

1986

Two campaigns begin: one to raise \$4,400 to pay off Harlow House mortgage, the other to convince Multnomah County not to demolish Edgefield Manor. In April join with other service clubs to run Troutdale bingo, hold second home tour. Membership reaches 335.

Donations of \$100 each from members result in a mortgage burning the following January, a dream of nearly 20 years come true.

1987

Looking toward our 20th anniversary, President Sam Cox launches campaign for bring membership to 500 members. Dick Jones volunteers as Harlow House putterer, depot museum moves to regular hours under direction of Doris Caramella. At fall pie sale, Cathy Warren Hamme portrays Laura Harlow, our first living history program. We update the city's historic sites inventory, work on Troutdale's downtown plan and hire a professional consultant to set up a collections management system. Planning begins on barn.

1988

Society's 20th anniversary. We have 504 members. Gene Bui begins planning the first Troutdale Trek, a trip to Hood River and a ride on the Mount Hood railway. On July 6 with \$25,000 saved, and a construction loan of \$15,000, we break ground on the barn, John Nasmyth doing the honors. Total cost of barn estimated at \$84,000. In August with Dave Traxler giving a summer of work, and Dick Jones taking on the job of supervising construction, the barn continues. A \$10,000 cost overrun is covered by donations and a gift of \$7,500 from Burns Bros. Cynthia Howe hired as first paid curator/museum host.

1989

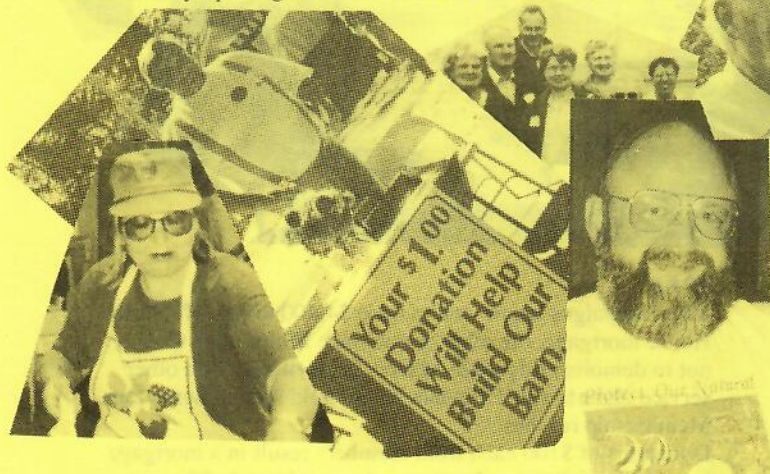
Tad's Chicken n' Dumplings receives historic plaque. Alex Jones gives \$400 to "paint the barn red." John Nasmyth and June Sherman who met at our meetings, celebrate their wedding at the February meeting. Rich and Dorothy Kerslake and family begin tradition of spring brunch. Third Columbia River Gorge home tour and Marge Schmunk reaps \$1,700 for barn with a monster rummage sale. Much gloom as no one bids on Edgefield in national auction of historic buildings.

1990

Sharon Nesbit, first paid director of THS at \$100 a month. Loft in barn named for John Nasmyth, workshop named for Dick Jones. First Harvest Faire earns \$9,000 for barn. McMenamins Pubs and Breweries purchases county farm and 12 acres, ending four and one-half years fight to save the institution.

1991

Special meeting at Edgefield with samples of first beer brewed there. Steering committee created to run ice cream social and harvest faire. Ice cream Social becomes a two-day event for 75th anniversary of the Columbia River Highway. Alex Jones dies, leaving a third of his estate, which brings our endowment fund to the \$10,000 mark. Second annual Harvest Faire, followed by opening of Power Station Pub at McMenamins.



1992

Celebration of 100 years of Troutdale Elementary School. New dues level called Director's Club created to support a paid director. David Ripma has Sweet Brier Farm named a city historic site and invites society to visit. Barn electrified by volunteer effort of Bob Jacobs and Jaques Renard. About \$30,000 necessary to complete it. Harvest Faire draws 2,500. We sell \$800 worth of homemade pie. Ellen Brothers first half-time director. We begin planning for the 150th anniversary of the Oregon Trail.

1993

"Ham for Sam" dinner recognizes Sam Cox's 10-year stint as mayor. David Ripma elected president. First overnight trek to Baker City. Beverly Welker becomes volunteer photo librarian. McMenamins open main floor of the Lodge at Edgefield. Troutdale Smelt court and queen appear in city parade. Old Troutdale Methodist Episcopal Church named to National Register. Society helps organize Friends of Zimmerman House. Mike Jacobs completes plumbing in barn.

1994

A new committee organizes winter meetings, including a standing-room-only gathering on gorge petroglyphs. Glenn Otto dies of heart attack. Increased hours make THS museums eligible for state grant-in-aid for museums. First new computer purchased for society by John and June Nasmyth. We begin to think about our barn exhibits. Mary Hughes does an old-fashioned washing at Harvest Faire. John and June Nasmyth tribute held in barn.

1995

Downtown Troutdale begins to change. January meeting held in old potato shed, converted to Caswell Gallery. John Nasmyth dies, leaving \$20,000 to build a barn exhibit. Three-day trek goes to John Day. Alice Wand begins study of vegetable sheds in Troutdale. First barnstorm session yields 82 ideas for exhibit. Troutdale School Reunion honors war vets.



1996

Meeting series on the Columbia River Gorge. Celebration in the original Troutdale State Bank, restored as a law firm. Walt Nasmyth takes up writing reminiscences for newsletter. May Trek is a surprise trip to unknown destination. Bingo ends a 10 year run. Society hires Tommy Griffin to design barn exhibits. Community park named for Glenn Otto. Event coincides with opening of depot store. Board of directors sets 5-year planning session, decides Harlow House needs major work.

1997

Mary Bryson accepts job as curator. Connie Purvis becomes video/audio tape librarian. Plans announced for restoration of the Staten service station. Vera Strebin and Faye Harlow die. Jean Hybskmann named volunteer coordinator for Harlow House. Sunday trip to Sandy River Delta marks new recreational opportunities. Ellen Brother resigns; Deb Cook named new director. Dick Jones dies of Lou Gehrig's disease. Bob Strebin assumes task of finishing barn. Contract signed for first exhibit.

1998

Planning session set. Troutdale Historical Society looks ahead to full restoration of Harlow house and the opening of smelt exhibit in barn museum.