

HAVE A MERRY OLDE CHRISTMAS...

Bring ornaments, old Christmas cards and antique toys to the Troutdale Historical Society's annual Christmas party, Monday, December 15, 7:30 p.m. in the city hall.

And don't forget your favorite Christmas treat, a sampling of candy, cookies, cake or other fattening items, to share at refreshment time.

While we're all occupied with thoughts of Christmas trees, the program will deal with another famous tree, the Lover's Oak of Sundial Ranch.

Thanks to the cooperation of Author Lambert Florin, we have obtained pictures and a history of the oak, also called the Camel Back or Praying Oak. This is one of the earliest documented histories written about Troutdale and was written in 1943 by J.F. Menzies, son of Captain James Menzies who founded the Sundial Ranch in 1863.

The history is a fascinating account of how the oak was formed and became famous.

SHAVE AND A HAIRCUT, TWO BITS...

Bill Whisenant, the local barber, has done a fine job of creating an old-time barber shop atmosphere in his shop on Columbia Street. He is collecting pieces of barber equipment, such as razor straps, and has become interested in the town's early-day barbers.

Where, he asks, was the barber shop on the east side of the old Blitz Weinhard Building? He has spotted a sign saying "barber" in the sidewalk on Harlow Street.

Bill is also interested in learning more about an early-day Troutdale barber, William Strauser.

IN THE MUSEUM...

Another group of Gresham Cub Scouts toured the museum, Nov. 26. Once again, the youngsters were delighted with tools, kitchen equipment and other sturdy items they could operate. Fay Davis has offered to donate a cherry pitter for use in a special display especially for kids (big and little) to touch.

Fay also brought a number of old magazines from the 1920's to add to our library.

Incidentally, the old school bell donated in October by Peg Abbott, has come in handy. We use it to get the attention of youngsters touring the museum.

BARLOW ROAD FANS...

About ten books of the Barlow Road history produced by the Clackamas and Wasco County historical societies are still available for sale at our December meeting. The books cost \$2 apiece.

HOW ORIENT WAS NAMED...

The latest edition of the Oregon Historical Quarterly describes the settlement of the community called Orient by an Australian sea captain, Andrew McKinnon, and his wife Miyo Iwakoshi who is credited with being the first permanent Japanese resident of Oregon.

According to the account, McKinnon formed a partnership with Captain Robert Smith and established a sawmill near Gresham naming the Mill "Orient" in honor of his bride.

Any further information on this subject would be appreciated.

OLD-TIMERS...

Present at our October meeting were Dr. Irene Douglass Waldo, born in Troutdale in 1893, and Harry Federspiel, born here in 1894. Mr. Federspiel gave a number of humorous accounts of life in Troutdale recalling this his father jacked up the rear end of his Model T Ford to provide power for the first kraut cutter in Federspiel's sauerkraut plant.