



BYGONE TIMES

Newsletter of the Troutdale Historical Society

May 2006

Please Mark Your Calendars

Annual Cemetery Tour

Sat., May 20, 2006

*Oregon City area
Cemetery Tour
led by Stan Clarke*

*Assemble at the
Depot At Noon*

Ice Cream Social

Sat., June 3, 11 to 4

*Mayors Square
Downtown Troutdale*

Troutdale SummerFest & Parade

Sat. July 15, 11 a.m.

Downtown Troutdale

THS Granny's Attic Sale

Sat. July 15, 11 to 4

Harlow House Lawn

Fall Trek to Washington Museums

Sat. Sept. 16

All Day



Sharon Nesbit at last year's Tour

Annual Cemetery Tour Is Coming Up

Be at the Depot ready to roll at noon. The bus will leave at 12:30. This year's tour will be led by our local cemetery expert Stan Clarke. We will visit some of the earliest cemeteries of the Oregon Territory at Oregon City. If time permits, we will venture into Milwaukie to "rub shoulders" with the early pioneers buried there.

We expect to return to the Depot at about 5 p.m.

Reservations are not required and there is no charge, although a modest donation is solicited at the end of the tour to cover the cost of the bus and driver.

For more information, call THS at 503-661-2164.

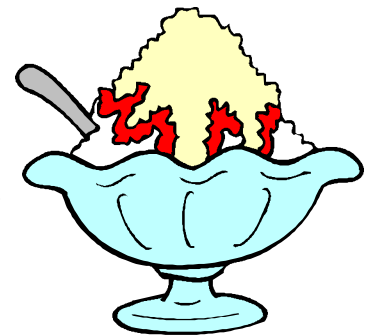
Join us for the 38th annual Ice Cream Social Sat., June 3, 2006 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Volunteer scoopers will be serving up dishes of tasty vanilla ice cream and sweet, fresh, local strawberries from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Troutdale's Mayor Square. This annual event is sure to be enjoyed by all. There are no finer berries than our local Fujii Farm berries from Troutdale. Be sure to stop by and enjoy the wonderful sundaes.

Again this year, Schwans' is donating the ice cream and Fujii Farms has graciously offered us berries.

All three of the THS museums will be open and we will be offering a Free Family Museum Day. All those who partake of the strawberry sundaes will receive a coupon for free admission to the museums.

Begin your food odyssey with the Corbett Fireman's Breakfast from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. on June 3, 2006 at the Corbett Fire Hall. Pancakes will be served, free rides on fire engines will be offered to young and old and antique cars will be on hand for viewing.



Thank you to the mystery donor who left artifacts inside the screen door at the Harlow House. Mary Bryson, our Curator would like to talk to the donor so she can catalogue them into our collection. If you have any info about these items, please call the office and ask for Mary. 503-661-2164

Flood Program Fills City Hall



Troutdale teacher Len Otto had a class of older than usual students on Sunday, April 23, for our photo program and reminiscence on the Vanport flood. The program played to a full house.

Otto used our scanned photos -- carefully archived in our Past Perfect software system by Walter and Viola Nasmyth -- and by the use of magic and technology, squeezed them into his computer and out onto a screen just like the old fashioned slide show.

He called the program The Vanport (and Troutdale) Flood, because the May 1948 event flooded Troutdale a full six days before the dike broke destroying the war-time community of Vanport, in what is now Delta Park. Otto used photos from our collection to remind people of the events of those weeks and then the floor was opened to a "flood" of memories. Jo Callister and her parents were flying over the Vanport dike when it broke. Lee and Mary Lou Johnson were sleeping in the evacuated Blue Lake Park to make sure that no looters broke in. Carole Baker Klinger and her Mom were in California and couldn't get home on the train because no trains were stopping in Portland.

And, through more technological magic, Len sat down with his mother, Helen Otto, and recorded her story of fleeing Vanport with little more than the clothes on her back.

Story after story, recorded on video for you to replay again and again, just \$15 for to be awash in memories. (Pardon the puns.) The videos should be available for sale in the museum office in about a month.

Horseshoes @Troutdale Grade School by Walter Nasmyth

Shortly after President Delano Roosevelt took office he created many organizations to help ease the lives destroyed by the Great Depression. The bureau known as the (W)orks (P)rogress (A)dministration was formed to create jobs within communities that would put people to work and also improve their way of life within the community.

The WPA was responsible for the grading and leveling and graveling all the streets in the City of Troutdale. The Administration also paid for instructors for such programs as Dance Classes at City Hall, and Tap Dance classes held in the evenings in the Grade School Cafeteria.

It was during that period that the School building floors were sanded and varnished after removing all the old oil from the floors and all the desks were mounted on wood runners so the teacher could change the seating arrangement without anchoring the desks to the floor. The Gymnasium was remodeled and a fold-up basket ball backboard and net were installed in front of the stage. The floors were stripped and sanded and permanent striping painted on the surface prior to varnishing the floor. The WPA also constructed balconies on the north and south walls of the gym so viewers could watch the games without having one of the players landing in their lap.

The school at that time was much smaller than at present so there was room east of the Gym where the WPA constructed a tennis court, a dirt floor of course. Just to the north of the Tennis court on the lower level of the terrain the WPA constructed two sets of Horseshoe Pits.

The mystery has been solved: the WPA also furnished the Horseshoes for the game. When the pits first opened we boys were not big enough to pitch the shoes the full length of the pits so we set up lines about half the length so we could get the shoes to the pit. One must realize that the weather during the school year is not conducive to pitching horseshoes, but we did get to use them on occasion.

Troutdale Historical Society Business Sponsors

Thomas A. Graves C.P.A., P.C.

Certified Public Accountant

Phone: 503-667-2511 • Fax: 503-667-2512

tomg1234@excite.com

710 N. Main Ave., Gresham, OR 97030



Ed and Phyllis Thiemann • 503-695-5126 • www.brickhaven.com
38717 East Historic Columbia River Highway • Corbett, Oregon 97019

Mia Frama

Cherise Miller Custom Framing
By Appointment

Old Springdale School
32405 E. Columbia River Hwy.
Corbett, OR 97019

503-318-5179

503-695-2623

Miaframa@yahoo.com

Columbia River Gallery

305 E. Hist. Columbia River Hwy
Troutdale, Oregon 97060

Award Winning Framing
Fine Art Gifts

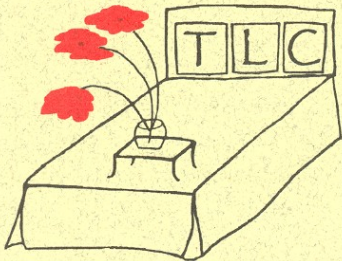
(503) 491-8407

Fax (503) 491-8808

Donna Erwin

Tues-Sat 10-5

**T.L.C.
Bed & Breakfast
Spa Retreat**



Tom & Cheryl Graves
Owners

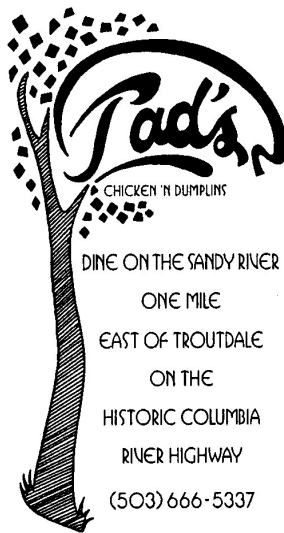
706 N. Main • Gresham, OR 97030

503.618.0800 • fax 503.667.2512

1.866.618.0800

website: www.tlcbandbretreat.com

e-mail: info@tlcbandbretreat.com



DINE ON THE SANDY RIVER

ONE MILE

EAST OF TROUTDALE

ON THE

HISTORIC COLUMBIA

RIVER HIGHWAY

(503) 666-5337

WWW.TADSCHICDUMPS.COM



**DuBois Salon
&
Rainforest Spa**

700 N. Main • Gresham, OR 97030

503.618.1020

website: www.duboissalon.com

e-mail: info@duboissalon.com

Mindy Schmidt Imaging Services

FRIEND TO THE NEW FANGLED

Visit www.mindyschmidt.com

GRAPHIC DESIGNER • WEB DEVELOPER • VOOODOO MAGIC PIXEL TAMER



P.O. Box 16453
Portland, Oregon 97292

phone 503.849.6071

web www.ticklecreekdesign.com

email info@ticklecreekdesign.com

bill day
designer

In Memory....

Longtime Troutdale Historical Society volunteer Florence Happold died at her home in Cottrell March 11.

Florence and her husband, Ed, who died in 2003, were faithful volunteers in the kitchen at historical society ice cream socials and other events. She was an English war bride. He was a GI from Gresham. They made their home in Cottrell — literally. He built it bit by bit, including digging the basement out by hand, a bucket at a time.



**In Memory of Alice Wand...Thank you
Connie Purvis**

Our Thanks ... from THS to the following for their support

Albertsons

Alice Cornwell

Altha Paul

Lois Douglass

Lawrence & Shirley Yost

Pearl Doris Ramseth

Franklin & Jean Moore

Shirley Loeffle

Carol Ottoson

Margaret Splawn

Annell Carlson

Pat Stone

Dr. Robert & Tami Campbell

Lori Vencill

David Rees

Jean Buck

Jo Callister

Judy Bronkey

John Bryson

Richard & Judy Knarr

Nelli Hjatalin

Betty Johnson

Larry & Rosie Puderbaugh

Sandra Colburn

Evelyn DeYoung

Anna Herbert

THS Board

Scott Cunningham, President
Mona Mitchoff, Vice President
Jean Holman, Secretary
Tom Graves, Treasurer
Ed Thiemann, Past President

Directors:

David Ripma
Mike Dubesa
Jean Hybskmann
Helen Wand
Dick & Paula Goldie
Marge Schmunk
Mary Bryson

THS Volunteer Staff

Sheryl Maydew, Director
Heather Hutzenbiler, Office Asst.
Mario Ayala, Office Asst.
Mary Bryson, Curator
Doneva Shepard, Genealogist
Walter Nasmyth, Photo Librarian

**Non Profit
Presorted
Standard Mail
Troutdale, OR
Permit No. 5**

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, and knowledge of, the locality's past.



Troutdale Historical Society
104 S.E. Kibling St.
Troutdale, OR 97060
Phone: 503-661-2164
www.troutdalehistory.org

Change Service Requested