

BYGONE TIMES

A Newsletter of the TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

November 1994

THIS MONTH: NOV. 19 & 20
AN INTERVIEW WITH RUTH
EVANS SUNDLING, A TOAST
TO JOHN & JUNE NASMYTH

This month brings two events in the same weekend.

At 5 p.m. on Saturday night, Nov. 19, we gather in the barn for a potluck dinner and tribute to John and June Nasmyth whose gifts to the barn and our historical society have exceeded \$10,000.

The following day we meet at 2 p.m. in Troutdale City Hall for one of our live interviews with Ruth Evans Sundling, whose parents were the last owners of the Harlow House.

Now to the particulars:

AS TO THE 'JOHN AND JUNE' NIGHT

It is our intention to say a special thanks to those who have made donations of \$10,000 to our historical society. While the board was pondering what would be appropriate, John Nasmyth said two things. He said he wished we had more potlucks. And he asked Sharon Nesbit if she would do his eulogy when he died. It occurred to board members that both potlucks and eulogies are best enjoyed if you can be present so we have arranged a Thanksgiving Tribute and and Premature Eulogy for both John and June. Feasting, toasting and roasting.

Naturally, we want you to be a part of this event. Please join us at 5 p.m., Saturday night, Nov. 19, for a champagne and non-champagne punch, followed by a potluck dinner. Bring a salad, hot dish or dessert to serve with turkey. We will provide the turkey and dressing, rolls, punch, coffee and place settings.

And bring your best John and June story for a night of fun and thanks. So we can plan ahead, give us a call and leave a message at the Harlow House, 661-2164, if you can come. It is not absolutely necessary to call, but we would like a head count in order to have enough turkey, and enough champagne!

AS TO OUR AFTERNOON WITH RUTH SUNDLING

Sunday afternoon, Nov. 20, at 2 p.m. in Troutdale City Hall, we have a wonderful opportunity to hear the memories of Ruth Evans Sundling, whose parents, Lee and Mabel Evans were the third and last long-term occupants of the Harlow House.

Ruth was married at the Harlow House on the front lawn. Her Christmases and holidays were spent there.



JOHN & JUNE NASMYTH AT THE TICKET TABLE
She was steeped in Troutdale history and family lore. Her grandmother ran an early-day Troutdale restaurant.

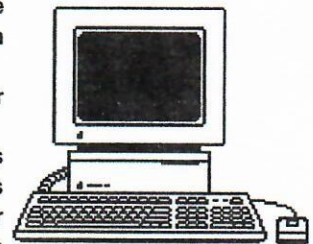
We first conducted this interview at the Harlow House last year. Sadly, we had a mechanical failure in the video machine, but that is to your benefit, because Ruth has agreed to repeat the talk for us in a more public forum. We will, of course, record this for our oral history files.

Afterward, stick around for coffee and cookies prepared by Nancy Cox and Sue Davis.

ARE THINGS
LOOKING
DIFFERENT HERE?

This is the first newsletter printed on the computer given to us by John and June Nasmyth.

As you may recall, our old computer died of old age and new technology leaving us to depend on the good graces of the Gresham Outlook for computer service. In late summer the Nasmyths made a \$2,000 donation to purchase our historical society a new state of the art computer with newsletter capability. We now have a Macintosh Performa 630 CD with a LaserWriter Select printer. The program we are using to print this letter -- and we are likely to try several before we settle on the right one -- came built in to the computer. Even the little picture above came with the the set.



Thank you, John and June.

SO, HOW DID WE DO AT HARVEST FAIRE?

Early reports from Director Ellen Brothers indicate we made about \$4,000 from Harvest Faire. Add to that a \$1,200 check from Tad's Chicken N' Dumplings -- their gift to us as well as all their hard work -- and we can add about \$5,200 to our barn fund.

You can see a pictures of the folks who helped make it possible on Page Three of this newsletter. Don't forget our steering committee headed by Mona Mitchoff, chairwoman. Mona says she will take the leadership of the steering committee, that means both Ice Cream Social and Harvest Faire, for another year.

Great going, Mona. And thank you once again to Judy Jones and the folks at Tad's. It goes without saying that when you choose to eat out, remember those who are good friends to our society.

OUR BOOKS BALANCED JUST FINE, THANK YOU.

A friend of our society is Troutdale finance director Bob Gazewood each year donates an evening of his time to audit our historical society financial records.

That is done under the eye of two other volunteers, this year Cathy Hamme and Bill Nesbit. The audit concluded with three minor recommendations for changes.

Our most recent treasurer's report from Lynda Harvey follows:

OPERATING ACCT.....	\$ 7,832.73
DED. BARN FUND.....	616.53
BARN BLDG. ACCT.....	6,235.56
DIRECTOR FUND.....	3,296.82
ENDOWMENT FUND.....	16,763.90
TOTAL.....	\$ 34,745.54

Dropping by recently was a host at our "cousin" museum in Plymouth, Mass. -- The Harlow Old Fort House, built by William Harlow, ancestor to our Harlow.



GIFTS FROM OUR FRIENDS

TO THE BARN FUND
Vernon & Martine Rathman
J. Frank Schmidt & Sons
The Sly Possums
Tad's Chicken N' Dumplings

TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND
Harold & Myrta Weatherhead
Bill & Edna Ellis in memory of
Wayne Espenel

TO THE GENERAL FUND
Glendoveer Garden Club

Welcome to new members:
Vickie Arnell
Mel & Barbara Odell

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PORTRAIT?

One of those mysteries that plague us regularly is the artifact of unknown origin. Our most recent case involves a pastel portrait of Helen Althaus.

It was donated to us on one of those occasions when we had both hands full and our pants to hold up, and we accepted it assuring ourselves that we would remember who donated it, when they did it.

As is often the case in such situations, it was placed in our office, several other crises intervened and we don't have a clue as to donor or time. Without such information we cannot make a deed of gift accepting the item.

Please, when you make us a gift, take the time to write your name, address, phone number and date on it. And will the donor of the portrait please come forward?

SPEAKING OF HELEN ALTHAUS

Helen, formerly of Sweetbrier Farm, now of Ashland, will receive the Betty Roberts Award from Oregon Women Lawyers on Nov. 12.

SCHOOL REUNION RECALLS HAPPY, SAD TIMES OF WW II

About 50 graduates of Troutdale Elementary School met Oct. 24 at our annual school reunion for a recollection of old times, including reminiscences of World War II.

Among the special guests at the event were Lucy Chase Coleman and Martin Chase of California and their sister, Virginia Lawrence Chase of New Mexico. Also present was Helen Fehrenbacher, a teacher much loved by many of those who attended. Jack Malcom was among those who paid tribute to her.

We heard Don McGinnis tell of the dinners that the elder males of Troutdale gave for each serviceman home on leave. The menu, Don recalled, was either spaghetti or stew...and whiskey.

We signed up several new members and, to ease the minds of those who wondered whether the bill will ever come out right, we came out a little bit ahead. Thanks.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW:
CHRISTMAS AT HARLOW HOUSE
SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 1-5 P.M.

BINGO VOLUNTEERS SOME NEW, SOME OLD

A check this quarter for \$1,000 from Troutdale Bingo is always a good reminder of how much we owe our bingo volunteers.

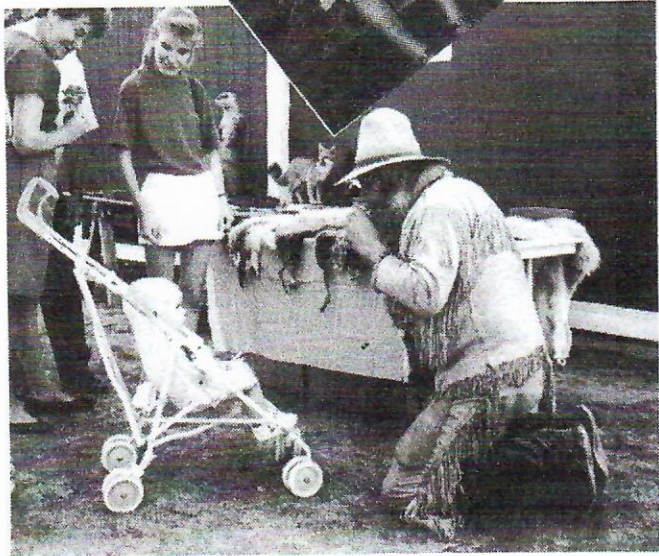
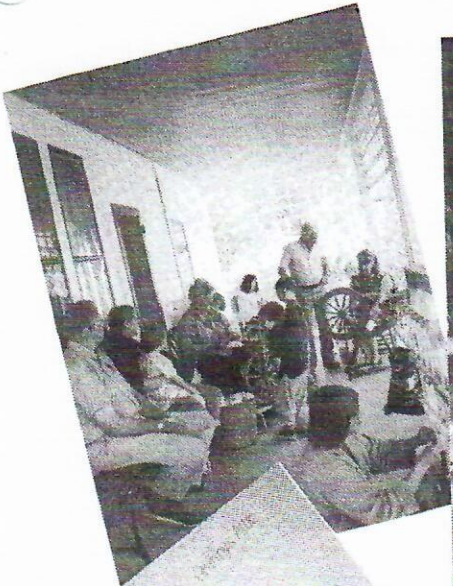
After eight years of work, Bill Nesbit retired from his bingo job and as our representative on the bingo committee. Marge Schmunk agreed to be our representative.

Patti Polly signed on as a new historical society bingo volunteer and is being trained as a caller.

We can use at least one more volunteer, either a floor worker or a cashier. If you like handling money and working with people, call Ellen Brothers, 661-2164.

Bingo is played every Thursday night in Sam K. Cox Hall at the city park. Early birds begin at 6:45 p.m. Regular play starts at 7 p.m.

A GALLERY OF HARVEST FAIRE PICTURES



Photos: Top left: Knitters, spinners, weavers and gawkers on the front porch of the Harlow House. Center, top: Blacksmiths from Fort Vancouver trying to look quaint. Top, right: Pam Christian stirs the chili. Middle, left: Two youngsters model their paper-bag Indian vests. Above, right: Mary Hughes, laundress, puts her workers through their paces. And she did it again the following week for a school group. Bottom, left: Trapper Ben Sudul charms a small person.

Remembering Alice Kerlake

Alice Kerlake, 88, Springdale, died Oct. 23 of causes related to old age.

Her family suggests memorials to the Troutdale Historical Society in her memory. They are a fitting tribute because Alice and her late husband A.R. (Bob) Kerlake were strong supporters of our earliest efforts to establish our historical society. Bob Kerlake and Fay Davis, for instance, did much of the work in our first museum, along with Ted Schulte.

Alice could always be counted on to pitch in cookies, a pie, whatever we asked for and to sit, bright-eyed and attentive in the first row.

The Kerlakes did one more thing for our society. They left second and third generations who are now volunteers. Rich and Dorothy Kerlake and many other family members are the people who prepare our spring brunch.

NAME DROPPERS

Don McGinnis has agreed to chair the Harlow House committee. If you are interested in participating in that group and helping to run the Harlow House, call Ellen Brothers, 661-2164... **Dick Jones** has completed nearly all the wall and ceiling work in the restrooms at the barn. If you know someone who would donate flooring and installation call Dick at 252-4306... **Maudie Winning**, member of our program committee tells us she has lined up a speaker from Fort Vancouver for our April 17 meeting on early medicine... **Beverly Welker** has done most of the cataloging of our library in the Rail Depot museum... Our wonderful **Fort Vancouver blacksmiths** at Harvest Faire made us four handwrought hooks for the barn... Our friends at **Gresham Historical Society** have donated two pristine Troutdale Celery box labels.

HOLIDAY OFF DUCK LANE
NOV. 11, FRI., 11 A.M. TO 6 P.M.
NOV. 12, SAT., 9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.
A bazaar by the Fairview
Rockwood Wilkes Historical Society

LOOKING FOR THEIR ROOTS...

Two requests from families looking for ancestors:

Anyone with information on the McCreary family of Victory Heights and anyone who knew about Otto Conrad Weller & Marie Weller or a relative, Genevieve Weller.

Call Sharon Nesbit, 665-0423.

MORE NEW MEMBERS:

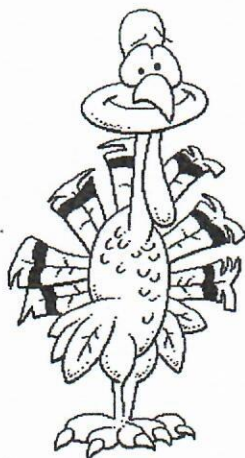
WELCOME to Paul Thalhofer, Janet Brown, Joan & Rick Fuller, Jean Hybskmann, David Reese (a gift from Lucille Tolbert), Margaret Stitch and M.L. Troska.

Don't forget gift memberships to Troutdale Historical Society when you make up your Christmas list.

**TROUTDALE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**
104 S.E. KIBLING STREET
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