



BYGONE TIMES

Newsletter of the Troutdale Historical Society

November 2005

Please Mark Your Calendars

THS Program/Meeting

John Snively

Bretz Floods

Sun., Nov. 20, 2005 2 p.m.

City Hall

Christmas Open House

Sat., Dec. 3, 2005

Noon to 4 p.m.

Harlow House

THS Program/Meeting

Sun., Jan. 15, 2006 2 p.m.

City Hall

THS Annual Meeting

Sun., Feb. 19, 2006 2 p.m.

Sam Cox Building

THS Program/Meeting

Sun., Mar. 19, 2006 2 p.m.

City Hall

Lewis & Clark Commemoration

April 1, 2006

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Barn Museum

Annual Tea & Tour

April 30, 2006

2:00 p.m. ONLY

Menucha

November Meeting Reminder... Honored guest John Snively provides a fabulous opportunity to learn about the famous floods that formed the Columbia River Gorge. Meeting at City Hall, Sunday, Nov. 20, 2005, 2 p.m. Open to the public; admission free, refreshments served.

Christmas Open House

If you spot any angels floating above the Harlow House on Dec. 3, it's probably because the museum will be decorated with them. Some will be borrowed, some will be new, and some of them will be made by members of Brownie Troup 1308.

Heather Mitchoff and Lisa Williams are the leaders of the eight second and third grade members of this troupe. They have volunteered to help out the Tuesday Ladies with the decorations this year. Tuesday Lady Judy Norby has graciously agreed to donate our Christmas tree.

This year the Open House will begin at the Harlow House Museum at noon on Sat., Dec. 3, 2005. (**Note: We open at noon instead of 11 a.m.**) Santa will be lending his lap to any child (or child at heart) who wishes to give him their Christmas wish list. The Tuesday Ladies will be serving wassail and cookies to all, and the museum will be resplendent in its Christmas finery.

Time is running out to purchase your raffle tickets for this year's quilt raffle.

You will find tickets included in this newsletter for the quilt raffle. Purchase one or all, send your money in the enclosed envelope, and sit back and wait for your number to be drawn on Dec. 3 at the Christmas Open House. You do not need to be present to win, but we'd love to see you at the open house.



If you've forgotten what the quilt looks like, it is a commemorative quilt honoring the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery. The wall hanging features Fort Clatsop in the main block. Quilter Judy Norby made several blocks, Darlene Payne made some, and Judy assembled the quilt. Caro-

line Clift did the machine quilting.

Remember: Return your tickets before Dec. 3, 2005.

More Reminders: SAVE THE DATE

Tea & Tour —

THS annual Tea and Tour will be held at Menucha (the Julius Meier summer home in the Gorge) on Sunday, April 30, 2006. One seating at 2 p.m. Invitations will go out in March, 2006. Call the office to add a name to the invitation list. 503-661-2164.

Lewis & Clark Commemoration —

April 1, 2006 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Barn Museum. There will be a salmon bake, fiddlers, mountain men, Native Americans and much more!

Grade School Reunion Features Allard Artifacts

Another enjoyable Troutdale School reunion has come and gone and the memories shared have been enjoyed by the 70+ folks attending. Len Otto once again led the students and teachers to remember and tell of the fond memories of days gone by. Among those attending were the oldest teacher, Crystal Bayley; the oldest student, Art Meger, brother of Elsie Simnitt and former Troutdale General Store owner Roy Meger; and the youngest student, Wade Schueller, 45.

Leslie Austin-Johnson, great granddaughter of one of the first 2nd grade teachers in the Troutdale school system, Frances Allard, shared items from her family's treasures. She had several tables full of memorabilia including a picture of her great grandmother and one of a very early Troutdale graduating class, possibly before 1900. Frances Allard, along with being a school teacher and City council treasurer was the wife of Dr. Lorenzo Allard, one of Troutdale's first doctors.

Among the memorabilia Leslie presented for viewing was a copy of the 4th printing of the **Troutdale Champion**, full of information about a bustling 1918 Troutdale. In it was the advertisement; "L. ALLARD, M.D.", and in small letters underneath his name was the word: "homeopathy". Then, printed in large letters again "Physician & Surgeon, Troutdale, Oregon. *All calls promptly answered.*" In the gossip column it reads: "Dr. Allard was summoned by telegraph to Bonneville, Tuesday, to attend a sick man." Although he was very busy attending to the sick and needy, Dr. Allard was not able to make a living in Troutdale. The pay was not enough for a man with a family. Family history tells of the pay being in chickens, produce and home canning. So, he went where the pay was a bit better, LaGrande, Union County, OR. His wife Frances, however, loved her life in Troutdale so she stayed and continued on until she died in 1923. Dr. Lorenzo Allard passed away Oct 20, 1902.

The Nasmyth brothers and Scott Cunningham knew exactly where the Allard home had been. They spoke about how the house sat empty and everything stayed exactly as the family left it when Frances died in 1923; Lorenzo's apothecary jars were lined up, the sofa and chairs were still in the living room and it looked to young boys as if it were a "haunted house". The house has been gone a long time now but Leslie had some of the artifacts from the house on display. After the reunion, the Nasmyth's took Leslie to see the spot where her great grandparents lived in the early years of the 1900s.

At the Harlow House

We have a new exhibit at the Harlow House Museum that will be available for viewing until Nov. 30. We are featuring school memorabilia, especially the artifacts of early Troutdale Grade School teacher Frances Allard. Leslie Johnson, Frances Allard's great-granddaughter, graciously lent her family artifacts for our exhibit. Be sure to drop by to see very early teaching certificates, report cards, and school books. We also have some original Dick and Jane readers. Many of you will remember reading about Spot, Fluff, and of course Dick and Jane.

Other news from the Harlow House

You will also notice that the horrendous rust stains have been removed from the sinks, bathtub, and toilet at the Harlow House. This is courtesy of Tuesday Lady Barb Welsh. We owe her a big thank you.

We are in need of a handy/maintenance man at the HH and the Barn Museum. If you have a few spare hours a month, would be willing to schedule furnace and pest maintenance, clean gutters, change light bulbs and other miscellaneous maintenance duties, please contact the THS office at 661-2164.

Troutdale Historical Society Business Sponsors

When you see them, please thank them. We appreciate their support.



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Leslie Johnson, Frances Allard's great-granddaughter recently donated an early copy of the Troutdale Champion.

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The following articles are excerpts from it. (From the Troutdale Champion, Thursday, November 19, 1891)

GRESHAM

About five miles southwest of Troutdale and 12 miles from Portland is the village which bears the name of that distinguished jurist and statesman whom a great many would like to see made president of the United States.

Gresham is in the midst of a rich farming community and on the mail route from Portland to Sandy. It has two stores, a grist mill, hotel, school house, two churches, a blacksmith shop, a physician, and a number of residences.

We called there Monday, but having only a few moments to spare, did not see all that is of interest about the town. We found that the postmaster, W. F. Johnson, is a courteous gentleman, and keeps a store where a number of people find it convenient to trade. J. G. Metzger, the proprietor of the other store, was absent, but he had left his business in good hands--those of B. F. Rollins.

The grist mill is owned and operated by D. Metzger, who also keeps the hotel, and is interested in a sawmill not far away.

The blacksmith seemed to have plenty of business on his hands, as did every business man in the place. The people of Gresham and vicinity read the Champion and there will be many more interesting facts of that locality published in future numbers of the paper.

...

Messrs, Eaton & Steele, representing Avery, Churchill & Co., of Portland, are in Troutdale with a proposition to sell lots in Tremont Place, in that city, on the installment plan, \$5 per mo. Over \$13,000.00 is being expended on improvements in the way of grading streets, laying iron water mains, sidewalks, &c. Eleven houses, costing not less than \$1000.00 each, are now under construction and twenty-four more are under contract on this addition, and all since the 1st of last September. These gentlemen will be at the Branham House where they will be pleased to furnish complete information as to this property this Thursday evening.

...

UP THE SANDY

Near the north end of the Sandy River bridge a piece of rock weighing about a ton has shelled off from the high ledge and fallen fifty feet plump into the wagon road.

Mr. Hurlburt's herd of steers are knee deep in clover.

Mr. Howard has added two hundred prune trees to his orchard, which before was chiefly apples and pears.

A Sandy river rancher finds poultry raising so profitable that he thinks of planting forty acres of hens.

The Christenson brothers are erecting a potato granary.

New houses dot the hills on either side of the river.

Geo. Knieriem has lumber on the ground for a new building.

Dist. 35 has one of the neatest and best district school buildings in the county.

The Champion circulates up the Sandy as far as the settlements extend.



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In Memory...

Troutdale resident **Helen Towsley** died Oct. 8, 2005. She is survived by her husband Bruce of Troutdale; sons, Jim Redden and his wife, Teresa, of Corbett and Tom Redden and his wife, Amy, of Lewiston, Idaho; daughter Kristi Granberg and her husband, Tom, of Aims; stepsons, Kevin Moore of Portland and Douglas Towsley of Estacada; stepdaughters, Susan Moore of Portland and Gail Towsley of Salt Lake City, Utah; brother, Ralph Fisher and sister-in-law, Bobbie, of Alexandria, Va; and two grandchildren, Amanda Redden and Tony Moore. Helen was a longtime member of the Troutdale Historical Society. She served as our secretary for several years. Helen’s memorial service has been held.

Former Troutdale resident **Tom Lucas**, 64, died Friday, Oct. 21, 2005. A memorial service was held on Oct. 26, 2005. Tom was the son of Joe and Dorothy (Kendall) Lucas and was raised and educated in Troutdale, graduating from Reynolds High School in 1959. He married Barbara Pearson in 1965. He is survived by his wife and two daughters. Tom was a member of the Troutdale Historical Society and enjoyed hiking and camping, especially in the Columbia River Gorge. Memorial contributions can be made to Providence Hospice.

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

Donation from Dennis and Mary Bryson In Memory of: Helen Towsley

Donation from Dennis and Mary Bryson In Memory of: Tom Lucas

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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, and knowledge of, the locality's past.



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