

EARTHQUAKE! FIRE!....

Taking our cue from the disaster movies, our program Monday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the city park building on disasters should be a box office hit. It will include two subjects, the San Francisco earthquake and what we like to call The Great Troutdale Fire.

Museum curator Bert Whalen will be looking for Historical Society members who recall hearing about the earthquake and subsequent fire in San Francisco. Bert has researched that disaster and has some stories for us including an interesting account of how the great singer, Enrico Caruso, fled the city.

To illustrate the calamity, Steve Kenney has promised to bring his collection of San Francisco earthquake and fire pictures.

And, just to prove that Troutdale had a few disasters of its own, Bert will read the newspaper accounts of the 1907 fire. Thanks to Josephine Jackson who helped us pinpoint the date, we have finally located a record of the fire which began, say the newspapers, as the result of a "drunken revel."

BAKE A CAKE...

We are planning a sale of baked goods at the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, April 23 in the city park. Please bring baked goods to the park about 8 or 9 a.m., if possible. Note: We would like the baked goods in the morning and not in the evening as mistakenly reported in last month's newsletter.

According to our bake sale expert, Sam Cox, breads and nut breads are always good sellers. Pies go like hotcakes. (Excuse the bad pun.) And cookies and cakes or cupcakes are always welcome. While you're at it, it wouldn't hurt to begin planning what you'll bring in the way of baked goods or handcrafted items to the country store bazaar for the June 11 ice cream social.

GOOD NEWS...

Gail and Tim O'Neil, artists in stained glass from the Corbett area, are planning to restore the old Cedar School on Troutdale Road for use as a home and studio. The Society has provided them with all the material in our files regarding the history of the school but they need more about the existing brick building, construction dates, contractors and the like. Anyone who can provide information about the building should contact Bert Whalen or Sharon Nesbit.

FOUR NEW GIFTS...

Fay and Bertha Davis brought a mystery item to last month's meeting. It appears to be a washing wringer, possibly of the type used for blankets but no one is real sure of its original use. They also donated an elegant lady's hat trimmed with feathers.

For the depot, Helen Otto and Madge Farella donated a railroad tie tong used to lift ties into position.

And for our china cabinet, Nathalie Wilson gave a treasured souvenir dish from the 1905 Lewis and Clark World's Fair held in Portland. Nathalie and her family moved out of San Francisco just before the earthquake. They were safely in Oregon when they learned from friends in the Bay Area that their former home had been reduced to rubble.

CHAMPION PIE BAKER...

Our members were astonished to discover that Edna Alexander baked nearly two dozen lemon meringue pies for refreshments at last month's meeting. Many thanks to Edna and to Don Seyler who paid the costs for the lovely dessert.

On the subject of food, members are reminded that our May 15 meeting, the last regular meeting until October, is a potluck dinner. Plan to bring a friend.