



Bygone Times

Newsletter of the

Troutdale Historical Society

June-July 2010

Mark Your Calendars!

June 25, 26, & 27

**Sandy Historical Society
Annual Quilt Show**

Adults \$4 - Seniors &
Youth (6-12) \$3 Under 5
free - 3-day pass \$10

Held at Sandy High School
17100 Bluff Rd. in Sandy
for more information call
SHS 503-668-3378

**Saturday, July 17th
Summerfest Parade**

11:00 a.m.

Downtown Troutdale

August 1

Troutdale CruisE-in

9 a.m - 5 p.m

Downtown Troutdale

SAVE THE DATE!

August 7th

**Salmon Bake on the
Sandy River.**

4-9 p.m., dinner at 5

Cost is \$50 per person
or \$350 for a table of 8.

Includes dinner, silent
auction and entertainment
by the Native American
Quartz Creek Drum and
Dance Group.

Salmon Bake on the Sandy River



Last year's Salmon Bake was a lot of fun and a huge success. Please join us on August 7 for Salmon Bake 2010. We wish to thank Bob & Jean Ice for hosting this event at their beautiful home on the Sandy River.

There will also be a silent auction featuring some wonderful art from local painters, including Kathi Allegri.

Call the THS office, 503-661-2164, at the Depot for more information. Checks may be mailed to THS 104 SE Kibling St. Troutdale, OR 97060 to hold your reservation. Cost is \$50 per person, or a table of 8 for \$350, (\$35 per person and \$245 per table are tax deductible).

TREK! TREK! TREK!

September 25, 2010

To Evergreen Air Musuem in McMinnville and some vineyard wine tasting along the way. Tour led by Sharon Nesbit! Cost is \$35 per person! More info next newsletter. Call the THS office, 503-661-2164 to reserve your seat.

2 The Director's Chair

~ We send a big get well to Penny Balch who is now recovering at home. Please continue sending those cards. She will be in quarantine at home until August. And we also send a wish for speedy recovery to Mary Bryson who just had surgery on her hip and is not leaving her house until July. (Wink, Wink!) With all the rain we've had, not such a bad idea.

~ As an Oregon tree-hugger, I try to cut down on junk mail and stop as much of it as I can. Just when I think I have made headway at the office, more floods in. Usually it goes straight to the recycle box, but one magazine lately caught my eye. I started reading an article about an essay that had been written for a school local history assignment. (The writer is careful not to mention a town name in the article and this was a national magazine).

The facts in the essay were not correct. The writer of the article was upset that the teacher who

gave the assignment, the local historical society and the local newspaper, who printed the essay, all let it pass as it was. The writer of the article, stating that "we learn by doing" did not blame the student as much as the other filters that should have caught the errors in the essay.

The writer continued to say that her main problem was that "most people probably learn most of their local history from their local newspapers." She further states she believes that most people are more likely to read an article on local history from a newspaper than from a book, and by its virtue of being printed in a newspaper, it must be true.

We are so blessed to have Sharon Nesbit in our community and on "our side". Sharon has been trying to "retire" from the position of Troutdale Historical Society Historian since before her book; "*It Could Have Been Carpdale*" came out in 2007. Sharon is one of our charter mem-

bers that numbered 63 back in 1968. Today we only have 11 left. I still refer to her as our historian and even if she is as far as 47 miles away, I know she mumbles "ex-historian" under her breath. For a longtime after her book came out, I would call her with a Troutdale History question and she would say "Look in my book" and I finally got to the point where I would do that before I called or emailed her with a question. I know the last question I ask her will be one of local history and with her dying gasp; she will say "READ MY DAMN BOOK!"

We have a huge filing cabinet in our office that we affectionately call "Sharon's Brain." It has information Sharon has accumulated over the years as our historian, and also as columnist and reporter for the Gresham Outlook. THS was formed more than 42 years ago and Sharon has more in her head than most historical societies have in written word.

by Terry Huston

At THS we thank our lucky stars that Sharon Nesbit (retired or not) is living amongst us and keeping our facts straight. She is one-of-a-kind! Thanks, Sharon for all you do for THS and for local history.

~I have been battling ants at the Depot, like most of Oregon. The pest control folks say it is one of the worst years for ants in a long time, so there is a price to pay for a mild winter and a WET spring.

~A special thanks to the guy who dropped off a Union Pacific calendar. They are harder to get than a cool day in Yuma in August. AND, a special thank you to **Gresham Glass** who donated a plexi glass cover for the calendar so no one would steal it.

Terry

Sharon will be at Edgefield at 6:30 p.m. for the July 27 history night, talking about the History of Edgefield. As always, it will be a fun night with Sharon!



Please call the office, 503-661-2164, if you would like to use your credit/debit card to pay for dues, raffle tickets, donations or in memory contributions! Tuesday-Friday 8-11:30 a.m. and Saturday 10-2.

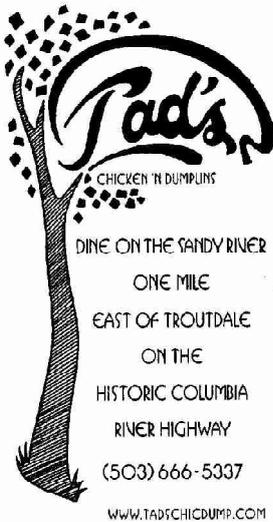
We are still selling raffle tickets for the Quilt! The tickets are \$2 each, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10 or 15 for \$20.

Mail a check to THS 104 SE Kibling St. Troutdale, OR 97060 or call the office at 503-661-2164 to put them on your debit or credit card.

Tickets will continue to be available at the Depot Museum Store.

Len Otto
503-663-0794
Len@HonorYourPast.com

Mail-in and in-home scanning
Specializing in digitizing
old family photos
Recording (via DVD)
stories for posterity
www.HonorYourPast.com

Tad's
CHICKEN 'N' DUMPLINS
DINE ON THE SANDY RIVER
ONE MILE
EAST OF TROUTDALE
ON THE
HISTORIC COLUMBIA
RIVER HIGHWAY
(503) 666-5337
WWW.TADSCHICDUMP.COM



mindy schmidt imaging services
PH 503.805.5008
FX 503.695.6711
EM mindy@mindyschmidt.com
www.mindyschmidt.com
graphic design & web development

Bob & Ilona Brent & Teresa

SKIPPER & JORDAN
NURSERY
WHOLESALE/RETAIL
Quality Nursery Stock Direct From Grower
(503) 663-1125



Corner of Orient Dr & Short Rd. Wholesale (503) 663-0725
29690 S.E. Orient Dr • Gresham, OR 97080 Fax (503) 663-4245

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



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



McMENAMINS
EDGEFIELD
LODGING • RESTAURANTS
WINERY • BREWERY • DISTILLERY
RUBY'S SPA • SMALL BARS • MOVIE THEATER
MEETINGS, WEDDINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS
GOLF COURSE • SOAKING POOL • GARDENS • HISTORY & MORE!
2126 S.W. Halsey St. • Troutdale • (503) 669-8610
mcmenamains.com



MICHAEL R. SMITH
Portland Parts Distribution Center
MANAGER

INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND
ENGINE CORPORATION
PARTS GROUP

22638 NE TOWNSEND WAY
FAIRVIEW, OR 97024

T 503 660 1501 C 971 322 5277
F 503 660 1570
michael.smith@nav-international.com



Gresham Memorial Chapel
Family Owned & Operated

Joku Gerbisk

503-618-8176 • Fax 503-618-9738
257 SE Roberts • Gresham, Oregon 97080
www.greshamfuneral.com



POTATOES
BERRIES

28245 S.E. DIVISION DR.
TROUTDALE, OREGON 97060

(503) 665-8328
FAX: 669-7703

WILLIAM B. STREBIN
& SONS

Thanks from THS for your Support

New Alex Jones Flagpole Dedicated at Harlow House

The new flagpole and walk at the Harlow House bears a new brass plaque remembering Alex Jones.

This newest flagpole, the project of an Eagle Scout, replaces our old flagpole, which finally gave out. But the old flagpole, too, was dedicated to Jones, a retired school administrator who came to Troutdale from Wisconsin to care for his elderly brother. It is good to remember who he was.

Alex lived in a small apartment in downtown Troutdale, then owned by Adam and Laura Imthurn. It had a small rear garden and a few strips of dirt along the walk and Alex made the place bloom. He took a small job at Troutdale City

Hall, technically a part-time janitor, but he made the coffee, cleaned the bathrooms and put the flags up every day. City hall wouldn't have run without him in those days.

He and Sam Cox became devoted friends, first because of their love of gardening, then because of their shared interest in the Troutdale Historical Society and the City of Troutdale's parks. Alex and Sam planted many of the non-native trees in Glenn Otto Community Park. Alex danced with the old ladies at the Troutdale ice cream social and rarely missed a day of morning coffee at Handy's gas station and late afternoon beer at the

Springdale Tavern.

Alex never missed a chance to give a bit of money to the construction of the our barn and in the last year of his life, used a monetary windfall to buy the paint for the barn. We rushed the process together, invited him down to confront a primed outer wall, and handed him a paint

brush. (All barns should be red, Alex had said.)

Alex applied the first brush stroke and then turned to the crowd and said, "If you think I'm go-



ing to paint this whole barn by myself, you're crazy."

Alex died in 1991. Our Harlow House flag is a reminder of him every day.

Thanks, Mike!



On Sunday, June 13, about 20 THS members and guests gathered at the Barn Museum and Harlow House to re-dedicate the Alex Jones flagpole. The other reason we gathered was for Mike Alderson. Mike is retiring from the City of Troutdale on June 30th.

Mike was surprised as he was presented with a picture and plaque, followed by a potluck and cake in his honor.

We would like to again, thank Mike for all of his work over the years (above and beyond) for THS and its members. He has promised (once he gets bored with retirement) to come volunteer.

He will be missed, not only for his willingness to help, but for his smile and positive attitude. He has always been a real champion for Troutdale Historical Society, especially during all the Hampton remodel.

Thanks Mike!

Dear Troutdale Historical Society:

Friends of Family Farmers will be hosting an exciting event and we hope that you can join us.

Our delightful friends and **Edgefield McMenamins** gardeners, Leah Rodgers and Ryan

Miller, have volunteered their time to lead a tour of the gardens that they tend at Edgefield. The tour will include the veggie garden, the herb garden and the orchard. Leah and Ryan will share their gardening expertise as well as some interesting tidbits on the history of Edgefield.

The tour will be **Sunday, June 27th at 2:00 pm.** The cost for this event is only \$10 per person. Space will be limited to about 40 people so that everyone can have a more intimate experience.

You may choose to have members of your group purchase individual

tickets, or you may want to purchase a block of tickets for your members as has the Willamette Valley Herb Society.

Call us at Friends of Family Farmers (503-759-3276) to purchase tickets.

Remember, space is limited and you won't want to miss this fun event.

Cracked Pots Garden Art Show & Edgefield Gardeners Plant Sale

Tuesday and Wednesday, July 20, & 21

1 p.m. till 8 p.m. : plant sale 1 p.m. till 5 p.m.

All ages welcome

The Garden Art Show features stunning outdoor sculpture and furniture, as well as art and other objects for the garden, patio or deck, set against the lovely grounds at McMenamins Edgefield. Ponder everything from bird feeders to furniture to sculpture and beyond. Our own Edgefield Gardeners will also offer estate-grown trees, flowers, perennials and more for sale.

More than 80 artists participate in this exciting, legendary show. All art is made from at least 75% reused and recycled materials. Admission is free.

Cemetery Tour Travels to Hood River and Beyond

About 20 people climbed on the bus for our May 22 cemetery tour to three Hood River cemeteries (one marked with a sign that says "cemetary") and a fourth grave yard in Cascade Locks.

We were met in Hood River at the senior center by members of the Hood River County Historical Society who offered coffee and snacks and told us about their Cemetery Tales program, which takes place in

September. Costumed interpreters stand at selected grave sites giving a history of the individual below.

Our favorite "fun" grave was in Idlewild Cemetery where a piece of petrified wood marks the grave of a rockhound with the legend: Old Rockhounds Never Die; They Just Petrify.

We had remarkably good weather, a warm picnic spot in front of the museum, a visit to the mu seum



Stan Clarke Photo

and an ice cream stop in Cascade Locks. Many thanks to Stan Clarke who figures out where to go,

how to get there and gives us a bit of history on each site. We forgive him for his awful book of epitaphs.

A Note from Nellie Hjaltalin in Hood River:

I want to thank the Troutdale Historical Society for their Hood River visit. I do hope they enjoyed their time here. The weather certainly co-operated. We are "semi" used to the wind. Some person(s) left a \$5 tip & I do want to thank them. Money is always appreciated but this was a surprise, so please thank them and bless them. That was a delightful group and we enjoyed meeting them very much. Always, Nellie



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

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.

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

Change service requested

THS Board of Directors

Scott Cunningham, President
Mona Mitchoff, Vice President
Jean Holman, Secretary
Tom Graves, Treasurer
David Ripma, Past President
Sheryl Maydew, Bookkeeper

Jean Hybskmann
Helen Wand
Jean Ice

Mary Bryson, Curator
Paula Goldie
Paul Thalhofer
Greg Handy
Sue Handy

Volunteer Staff

Terry Huston, Director
Christine Smith, Office Assitant
Doneva Shepard, Genealogist
Jennifer Munson, Librarian
Terry Huston, Newsletter
Adrienne Clausen, Volunteer Host
Coordinator
Dave Munson, Maintenance

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

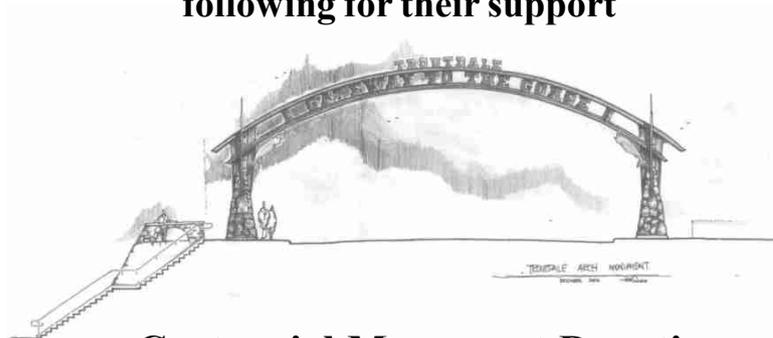
Thank you for your donations:

Endowment:

**Louise Dix
In Memory of June Hodge Powers**

Operating:

**Marie Stone
Richard & Judy Knarr
John Bean
In Memory of his mother,
Gertrude Carter**



Centennial Monument Donations:

**Josh & Bridget Moriarty
The Coulton Family**