A VERY SPECIAL PARTY...

Join us in celebrating the season Saturday, Dec. 21, 1 to 5 p.m. when we remember Christmas at the Harlow House, 726 S.E. Columbia St. See our museum in all its Christmas finery and admire the new wallpaper in the upstairs hall. Examine the nativity scene display. And toast the season with a hot, spicy punch.

Please bring a plate of cookies to share with others. This is an unofficial cookie swap. Bring a plate and you’re entitled to help yourself to another plateful when you leave.

Again this year we will have ornaments for sale. Jean Holman has created a choo of macaroni angels to sing on our tree. You may take one home for $1. And bring the kids to see Santa Claus.

A special thanks to Jack Malcom, Ellen Belden, Kim Brewer and Betty Hayes for loaning creches and angels for our display. The nativity scenes will be shown through our Jan. 5 open house.

AND A HISTORY TALK...

For all of you -- and especially new members -- who come up and ask questions after our meeting, here is a chance to get the lowdown on Troutdale history at a history talk by Sharon Nesbit, Thursday, Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m. in Troutdale City Hall.

Why a history talk? Because so many people are interested in Troutdale’s past, and because there never seems to be time enough at our meetings. Hear about Troutdale’s beginnings. Ask questions to your heart’s content.

WEATHER WATCH...

Just a reminder, if weather conditions make driving hazardous, our meetings and events are automatically cancelled.

WOW, THAT WAS SOME MEETING...

The most conservative estimates were that 130 people showed up last month for our Columbia River Highway slide show. And Troutdale city hall only seats 80. (If we’d known you were coming, we’d have rented a bigger hall.) We signed up a batch of new members. And all the guests were so polite that when Sharon Nesbit mentioned there might be a shortage of cookies, most folks left without a bite. There were cookies left over. We should have known no one would go hungry when Alice Wand and Clover Nasmyth were doing the cooking.

FRIENDS OF OURS...Shirley Yost has checked on the old church near Cedar School for us. She called Jack Wood and learned that the church was built by John H. and Ike Wood. The Gresham Outlook says the church was dismantled and the lumber used for Rockwood Methodist Church...Bill Fisher has given us a collection of Bank of Troutdale documents which were floating around the old railroad warehouse he uses...Nathalie Wilson gave a valise used by her husband, Russell...Sam and Nancy Cox donated a meat grinder...Vera Strebin gave a vegetable slicer and carding tool...John Nasmyth donated sliced agates and other semi-precious stones...Deborah Davidson gave a collection of sheet music...Jo Hewlett gave a John Deere metal...a new member Ed Lindsay wants to know more about the origin of the timbers in an old barn at Section Line and Kerslake Roads...and Frank and Janice Hole want to know more about the history of their house at 1377 S.W. Hensley, just opposite Web Rathman’s and Camille Crumb’s houses...Like bingo? Check with Sam Cox about helping to run a bingo game...Bob Huston loaned a Viewmaster with reels of Columbia Gorge photos for our meeting last month.