



BYGONE TIMES

The Newsletter of the TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

September 2001

Thank You New and Renewing Members!

Margaret Maggy

Karen Burger-
Kimber

Karen Jordan

Calendar of Events

12th Annual Harvest Faire

Sept 15-16, 11 to 4
Glenn Otto Park

Fall Trek to Bend

Sept 28-30

Cost: \$300 per person
(includes lodging and
food)

Cedar School (and Victory, Too!) Reunion

Saturday, Oct. 20
2 pm; Cedar School
Join us for a round of
"Remember When..."

Third Sunday Program

Sun, Nov. 18, 2 pm
Troutdale City Hall
Speaker: Rick Rubin,
author of "Naked
Against the Rain"

12th Annual Harvest Faire

The weekend of September 15 and 16 marks the 12th Annual Harvest Faire. Homemade pies with ice cream will be served, as well as homemade chili—with or without hog dogs.

The event runs 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. Vendors include everything from Pampered Chef products to handmade arts and crafts.

Dragon Theater Puppets will be presenting children's entertainment at noon, 1:30 and 3 p.m. both days. Jason Ropp, puppeteer, has performed at Art in the Park at Gresham's Main Street Park each Thursday in August. In addition to presenting the puppet shows The Reluctant Dragon, As You Don't Like It, and Rumplestiltskin, he will also have hand puppets available for purchase.

As always, we are looking for volunteers to help us out. If you can help in any of the following areas, we would appreciate it!

Kitchen help: Serve pies, scoop ice cream, keep supplies filled, etc. Shifts run 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Clean-up help: Yes, we have to clean up! The more hands, the less time it takes. Show up at 4 p.m. and we'll put you to work!

Pie bakers: If you have not received a "pie letter" and would like to contribute a pie or two, let us know as soon as possible.

THS Booth: The booth needs manning (or womaning!) both days. Encourage passers-by to join up with us to preserve our local history and to have a little fun! Half day or full day volunteers gladly accepted.

Set-up Crew: Set-up happens on Friday night. The loveliest part of Harvest Faire may be the fruits of the Harvest. If you have pumpkins, squash, fall flowers, bales of straw, scarecrows or other items that will help with our decorating, plan now to bring them to the park on September 14th by 6 p.m.

Sign Posting: Advertising for this event consists of posting signs around downtown and other places people gather. If you get out and about any way and could take some flyers for

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Harlow House Happenings

With so much ice cream left-over from the cooler weather during Ice Cream Social, board members Ray Davenport and Ed Thiemann took charge of ice cream cones and root beer floats in the Harlow House parking lot during Summerfest. Ray and his wife Karen served up goodies most of the day. Ed and Phyllis Thiemann loaned us chairs and tables and coordinated delivery and pick-up. Next year we are planning a picnic during the parade for our members and their families.

Society President, David Ripma, had planned, as always, to drive his John Deere tractor and hay wagon in the Troutdale parade, one of his favorite things to do. Dave learned the week before SummerFest that his father had passed away unexpectedly. Dave, whose mother also passed away recently, traveled to be with his family in Iowa.

Our condolences to Dave and his family.

The Tuesday Ladies have been busy painting

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From Laura at the Harlow House

You know you are a grown up when summer vacations become a distant memory and you no longer need to shop the back to school sales!

Not that I'm complaining! This summer at the Harlow House has been almost a blur and I have loved every minute of it. I've met lots of interesting people here this summer—folks from Wisconsin that marveled at the Smelt Exhibit (they eat smelt in Wisconsin too!) and a precocious three year old who was fascinated with the stairs and the bell on the front screen door. I felt sorry for her mother as they both climbed the stairs at least 50 times.

I experienced my first Troutdale parade this summer and participated in a post-parade tradition of Dick and Carol Anderson's—after the parade has passed, they continue to sit in their chairs at the side of the road and

wave to everyone coming and going. It was there I met Milt and Terry Belnap and their grandkids. I took them on a tour of the Harlow House and Barn (complete with looking for snakes in the flower beds) and before they left, Milt had agreed to become our new "handy person." Already he and Ed Ashley have installed a new light in the dining room. Milt is a transplant to Troutdale but his wife Terry (nee Huston) grew up here.

The Depot Rail Museum and End of the Line Museum Store has been staffed this summer by Dawne Morse. Dawne has to leave us at the end of August, but promises to continue laying out our newsletter, which she has done for the past two issues. She has been a huge help to me this summer and I hope you all get a chance to meet her soon!

We are still planning for

our Lewis & Clark Exhibit, and we are also participating in community planning for the bicentennial commemoration. I would love to hear your thoughts on a gala ball Lewis and Clark style. Would you dress up 1804 style?

Troutdale Trek to Bend

Crisp weather, a room with a view of the Deschutes, a journey to a volcano, a visit to the High Desert Museum, dinner at the Pine Tavern, a box-lunch picnic, and great company!!

Fri, Sat, Sun; Sept 28-30
\$300/members; \$325/non-members

Call (503)661-2164 for more info.

Harlow House Happenings

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the back kitchen this month. Mona Mitchoff gets the award for best painted Tuesday Lady. Barb Welsh, Jean Holman and Mary Bryson complete the work crew.

Doneva Shepard donated a kerosene lamp that hung in the dining room of the farm house she grew up in near 181st and Sandy Blvd. It has painted flowers on both bowls and has glass prisms. Originally "electrified" in 1948, it was rewired by Ed

Ashley who, along with Milt Belnap, installed it in the H.H. dining room. Mary Bryson will add the old fixture to the artifact inventory; it was bought by the Evans family in the 1940s.

Val Lantz (City of Troutdale) has been working diligently on the master park plan for the H.H. Park, including the Jack Burns Memorial Rest Stop ("the Burns Rest Stop" for short). A stone pathway

has been built along the dike across the east side of the wetland area and soon benches and a memorial marker will be added. The master park plan calls for boardwalks through the wetland which will make the park more accessible to people with disabilities.

Peanut Brittle & the Boys “Over There”



Jack’s Snack and Tackle, a popular stop for coffee, sandwiches and fishing lore at the west end of the Troutdale Bridge, was once a Columbia River Highway gas station. Built in the late 1920s to serve motorists along the highway, its best-known

owners were Ruby and Elliott Statens, who sold gas and rented a string of travelers’ cabins along the bank of the Sandy River. The Statens also made jams and jellies, which they sold at Vista

House.

Recently, a niece of the Statens contacted our historical society to get more information about the couple. That prompted Scott Cunningham, a member of the Troutdale Historical Society Board of Directors, to reminisce about the war-time shipments of peanut brittle that came from the Statens.

Though they had no children of their own, they “adopted” nearly every Troutdale boy who went off to war during World War II. Obtaining addresses from the parents of local soldiers, Ruby made peanut brittle, packing it in metal Karo

syrup cans. Elliott soldered the lids shut so that the precious candy would arrive airtight.

“You opened that can and there was fresh brittle,” remembers Cunningham, one of the lucky recipients.

Thank You August Volunteers

*Depot
Bill Payne*

*Harlow House
Dale and Betty
Baldwin
Florence Baker
Mario Ayala
Sharon Nesbit*

Volunteer!

Harlow House
Sat & Sun
from 1 to 4pm.
(beginning
October 6)

Depot
Sat & Sun
10am to 1pm
and/or 1 to 4pm

Contact
**Laura: (503)
661-2164**

Harvest Faire

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distribution, it would help our efforts greatly!

Greeters: In years past we have asked Harvest Faire attendees to throw in “A Buck for the Barn.” We will continue this tradition and need folks to man the entrance of the park.

Harvest Faire is one of our largest fund raising activities. The moneys raised during the weekend go to support our day-to-day operations of the historical society.

If you can help in any of the areas mentioned above, call our director, Laura Newton, at (503) 661-2164.

Better Late Than Never!

Troutdale Historical Society membership cards will hit the mail this month along with a survey designed to help us “Plan for History’s Future”.

Please take a few seconds to respond to the survey, which will give us some valuable information about your interests and plans—including your preferences for our Annual Membership Meeting in February.

DID YOU KNOW... Your membership card gets you an extra 10% off at the Depot Rail Museum gift shop? Stop in and see our selection of new books, trains, & trout.

Thank you for supporting the the Troutdale Historical Society!

LEWIS & CLARK EXHIBIT FUND

Alice Fuller
(In memory of Lawrence & Ethel Peterson)
Lois Schulte
(In memory of Ted Schulte)

COMPLETION OF THE JOHN NASMYTH LOFT

(2nd floor of the Barn)
Shirley Jean Loeffel
(In memory of Bill Ellis)
Helen Otto
(In memory of Glenn Otto)
Margaret Stoeckel
Dorothy Sturges
(In memory of Bob Sturges)

AREA OF GREATEST NEED

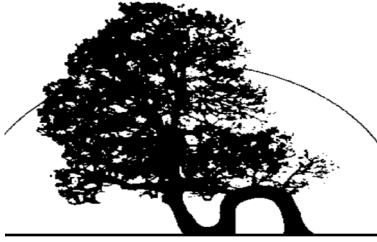
Karl Hayes

DEPOT

Lois Schulte
(In memory of Ted Schulte)

DIRECTOR’S CLUB

Elsie Simnitt



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Inside THS

Laura Newton, Director

Mary Bryson, Curator

Sharon Nesbit, Historian

Doneva Shepard, Photo Librarian

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TROUTDALE,
OR

Harlow House & Barn

726 E. Historic Columbia River Highway

Phone: (503) 661-2164

HOURS: 10 to 4, Thur-Sat & Mon; 1-4 Sun

Rail Depot Museum

473 E. Historic Columbia River Highway

Phone: (503) 667-8268

HOURS: 10 to 4, Closed Tuesdays

***Fire Destroyed Kibling House
but (unfortunately?) not Parson's House***

Mabel Evans, the last occupant of the Harlow House, wrote a history of Troutdale in the 1950s that is important because of her many years in Troutdale and because she had a chance to talk to some of the community's pioneers.

In her account of the city's early settlers, she mentioned Joseph Kibling, who married one of Capt. John Harlow's daughters, and may have influenced Harlow to come to Troutdale. Evans said the Kibling home was

located south of her home and that it burned in November, 1924. The Gresham Outlook covered the fire story on Nov. 28, 1924. It related that John Seidl was passing the home, by then occupied by Matt Hollaman and family, at 1:15 a.m. when he noticed smoke from the kitchen roof. He roused the 10 members of the family and tried to save some of their belongings, but the home burned in an hour and a half.

The story goes on to say that the home of L.A.

Harlow (our Harlow House) was threatened by the fire for a time, but diligent work on the part of the men saved it.

And from the Bygone Times, April 1972...

"A discussion of Troutdale's major fires revealed some interesting material about the 1907 and 1925 blazes that destroyed large parts of the city. Justa Hewitt also recalled a home fire...that endangered the home of Mary Parsons. Neighbors dashed in and threw most of Mrs. Parson's

belongings into the yard in a helter-skelter fashion, causing her to comment that it might have been better if her home **had** burned."

