



BYGONE TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 4

Half Night THS Benefit

@ McMenamins Edgefield Power Station
5 p.m. - Close

50% of the night's proceeds from food & drink will be donated to the Troutdale Historical Society

April 23

THS Annual Meeting & Election Photo Tour-Troutdale Landmarks

@ Glenn Otto Park, 2pm

April 25

Edgefield History Night

Confluence Project - Colin Fogarty
@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall
6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

May 20

Annual Cemetery Tour

to Columbia County
Tour Guide - Stan Clarke
To reserve a seat on the bus leave your name with LeAnn at the office.
503-661-2164

May 30

Edgefield History Night

Celilo Falls - Tom Robinson
@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall
6:30 p.m.(doors at 5 p.m.)

June 27

Edgefield History Night

Rafting in Pacific NW - Buzz Holstrom
@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall
6:30 p.m.(doors at 5 p.m.)

Annual Meeting - April 23 @2pm

Vote, meet notable volunteers, celebrate at annual meeting.

Our annual meeting with election of officers, recognition of volunteers, and a special program on Troutdale landmarks – is at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 23, in Sam K. Cox Hall at Glenn Otto Community Park.

Please join us for a vote on this year's slate of officers. **Bettianne Goetz**, retired school principal from Sweetbriar, is running for president. If you are interested in running for office, please call and put in your name before April 1st. This year we present our Preservationist Award (an honor given only rarely) as well as honors for our volunteers.

We will have a brief report of the events of the last year and a list of what we hope to do this year. And, of course, there will be refreshments. Please join us for our 49th annual meeting. Next year, consider this: Troutdale Historical Society will be 50 years old.

Troutdale Landmarks Photo Study on April 23

Unless you know their history, you would not know what these two photos of Troutdale buildings have in common. In fact, the apartment building at the intersection of Halsey Street and the Historic Columbia River Highway (photo below right) began life as the Federspiel's Sauerkraut Factory in the 1920s.

Sharon Nesbit presents a photo study of Troutdale landmarks, with pictures old and new, at our annual meeting, Sunday April 23, in Sam K. Cox Hall, Glenn Otto Community Park.

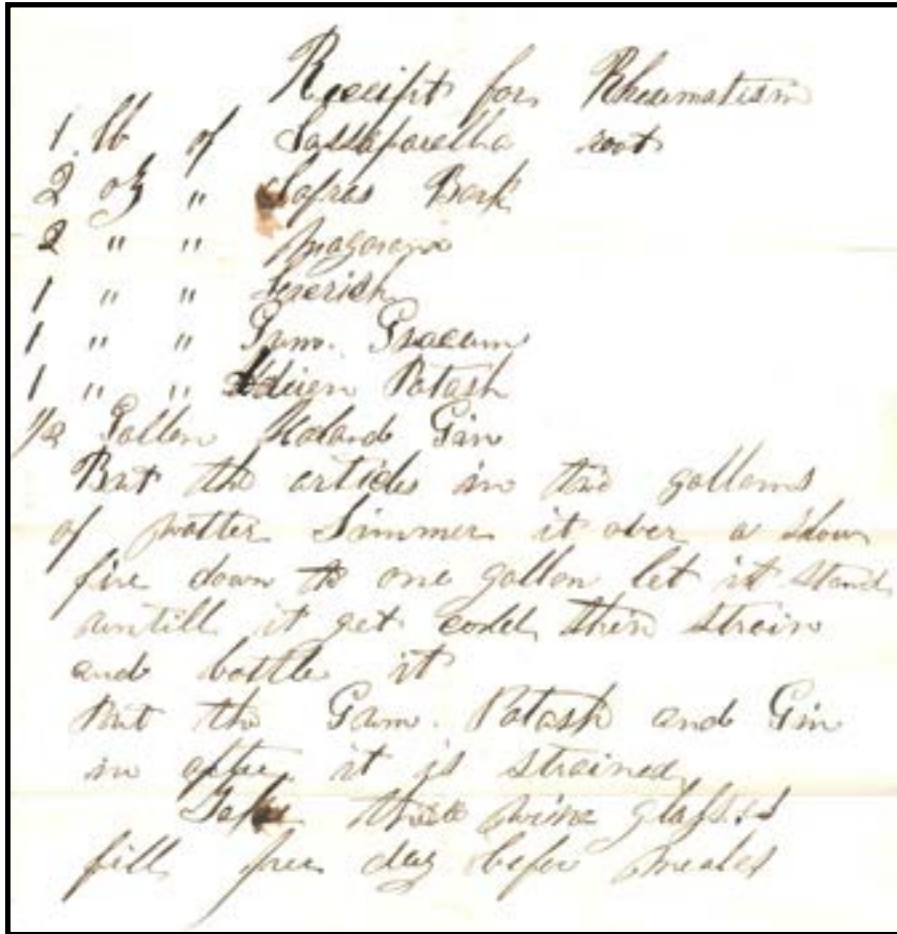
This will be your chance to contribute your knowledge of Troutdale landmarks. If you have photos to share, please bring those.

The presentation is a gift to our members, with thanks for helping pay for the computer and cataloging systems that let us keep these photos and use them to tell Troutdale's story. And a special thanks to photo librarian, **Julie Stewart**.



RECEIPT FOR RHEUMATISM

If you find the need...



David Enriquez, our newest volunteer, found this piece of paper mysteriously out of place.



Karen Jordan, also a quilter, snipped her last article after 14 years of clipping articles out of the Gresham Outlook for us. That job now goes to volunteers at the museum.

Piles of Stuff Challenges Volunteers

You know how it is, the piles of stuff set aside to do later?

The hard winter of '17 turned out to be good in one way because it gave our volunteers inside-time to work on long delayed projects.

For one thing, as we are coming up on our 50th anniversary of the society, we had a decade's worth of Troutdale Historical Society events, photos taken by the late **Dick Jones**. The trick was that the pictures were coded, and Dick died very quickly of Lew Gehrig's disease before he could sort them out for us.

Pairing newsletters of the period with the photos, **Kelly Broomall** has managed to decipher the code, get dates, and then draw information on the event from our newsletters. (He has also learned a lot about our history.)

Next trick, identifying the people in them, by historian **Sharon Nesbit**, and getting them into our photo system, by curator **Julie Stewart**.

Then there is **Karen Jordan** who has dedicated the last 14 years to finding, clipping, sorting, and filing newspaper articles relating to Troutdale news and events to be placed in our archives. She has diligently volunteered her time to the Troutdale Historical Society and has decided it is time to retire her duties.



Kelly Broomall cracked code.

Membership Contest

LeAnn Stephan, our office administrator, knows our membership list upside down and backwards and has worked hard to correct and amend it.

Recently, she was reading our Troutdale Historical Society history and came across a note that **Sam Cox**, then president, made a goal of 500 members 20 years ago and achieved it. LeAnn thinks we should do that again. We have 300 members, but wouldn't it be nifty to have 500 for our 50th anniversary next year?

So, we are having a contest: Bring us five individual memberships, of any kind, single person, family, Lovers Oak Club and you will win one of our free 11" x 17" posters celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Historic Columbia River Highway, a value of \$30. We have membership applications here at the office, one on the back of this newsletter, or you can have potential members call us, say you sent them, and we will set them up with a membership and give you the credit.

Consider giving gift memberships to friends and family. And let them know that membership in THS keeps you informed on all our events, our sell-out history nights at Edgefield, our special meetings (this year a reunion of those who attended Troutdale Elementary School) and a lot of great history.



Sydney at the King of Roads exhibit in the Barn Museum



Sydney gives oral report at the Phonics Phactory

Student Reports on the HCRH at the Phonics Phactory

Sydney Bilyeu decided to do a report for her school project on the Historic Columbia River Highway. She and her grandfather, **Lary Cerotsky**, visited the King of Roads exhibit and here is what he said, "The ironic part of this is that even though we have lived in Troutdale and East County our whole lives, we were not aware of the excellent highway exhibit in the Red Barn Exhibit Hall until we were trying to find information about the Highway at the Troutdale City Visitors Center (West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce). The people there told us about the Barn and the amazing amount of pictures, history and information that is available to see and read about.

We were thrilled when we got there and met the volunteers. Everyone was so helpful and knowledgeable about the history and eager to help us! We were able to learn many things that were helpful in her oral report that required many facts, descriptions and historical events. There were many pamphlets, that were used on her poster board to help during the report and were also handed out to her classmates after the report. Two of the most popular items handed out were coloring books with pictures of the Historic Highway and a viewfinder that had many old pictures of the highway. (Viewfinder and coloring books were donated by the Troutdale Historical Society). My Granddaughter and I would like to thank the Historical Society and especially the volunteers at the Red Barn for all their help!"

GIVE A GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP TO THE

Troutdale Historical Society

RIP CASWELL
PRESIDENT

255 E. COLUMBIA RIVER HWY
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NEW MEMBERS

- Don Bush
- Elise Bush & Wendy Thompson
- Donald Devore-Sandy River Marketing
- Keith & Naroath Eisele
- Leroy & Wanda Judd
- Bill Kluth
- Curtis & Beverly Knight
- David Mackley
- Chris Marinsik
- Maui Historical Society
- Chris Meinicke
- Barbara Hunter Nichols
- Linda & Dollie Rasmussen
- Neil Robbins
- Bonnie Rust-Boki Vinyl
- Linda Simkovic

RENEWING MEMBERS

- Dick Anderson
- Edward & Joan Benner
- Joyce Belcher
- Ed & Claudia Brooks
- Donna Brown
- Marjeanne Cartisser
- Beverly Christman
- Gerald Davis
- Mary Eaton
- Barbara Huston Freund
- Ray Fujii-Fujii Farms
- Madeline Grimm
- Jim & Shereen Gurtisen, O.D.
- Jean Holman
- Patty & Gerald Huntley
- Eric Johnston-Troutdale Liquor Store & Mixer Shop
- Bill Kluth
- Kenn Lantz
- Steven Lettengarver
- Lee & Charline McGinnis
- Karen & Eugene Melvin
- Marilyn Morrison
- Cathy Peetz
- Robert Wenzel & Elaine Powers
- Joanne Kerslake Ray
- Margaret Splawn
- Joyce Stewart
- Marie Stone
- Janet & Wayne Vandiver

DONORS TO OUR GENERAL FUND

- Peter Chausse
- Gerald Davis
- Eric Johnston-Troutdale Liquor Store & Mixer Shop
- Taunya McKee-Village Retirement Center
- Sharon Petri
- Judith Scott
- Marie Stone
- Janet & Wayne Vandiver

DONORS TO OUR MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Herb Nasmyth
Margaret & Michael Rice
Marilee Thompson

In memory of Harold Scofield
Rosie & Larry Puderbaugh

In memory of Elaine Quade Wright
Jacqueline Creech
Jeanne Landis

WINTER HOURS

October 1 - April 30

Barn Exhibit Hall

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday
1-3 p.m. Sunday

Harlow House

1-3 p.m. Sunday Only

Rail Depot Museum

Friday Only 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Coming Soon!

SUMMER HOURS

May 1 - September 30

Barn Exhibit Hall

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday
1-4 p.m. Sunday

Harlow House

1-4 p.m. Sunday Only

Rail Depot Museum

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday Only



Jo Callister & Olivia Behm

Jo & Olivia meet for the first time in February at the Edgefield History Night that featured the artists of Edgefield. Olivia painted Jo's portrait displayed in "Jo's" room at McMenamin's Edgefield Winery Wing. Jo worked in the office at Edgefield when it was in operation as a nursing home and provided many stories of the people living and working there.



- Kelly Broomall** for shoveling snow out of the stairwell of the Harlow House during a cold, windy day. You prevented a huge puddle from making its way into the basement.
- Sister Babcock & Sister May** for clearing the walkway and back porch of the Barn of storm debris and gravel.
- Al & Joyce Stoeckel** for their expert services in cleaning the Harlow House and the Barn.
- Karen Jordan** for her 14 years of clipping and sorting news-worthy articles.
- Bonnie Rust - Boki Vinyl** for creating the signage for our donation jar.
- Steve Yost** for installing a new key box and plumbing parts at the Harlow House.

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A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE*

TROUTDALE SCHOOL



1892 SCHOOLHOUSE
(ON PRESENT SITE)



1892 SCHOOLHOUSE
CIRCA 1926



1892 & 1926 SCHOOLHOUSES
CIRCA 1926



1926 SCHOOLHOUSE ~ "NEW"
NOTE "LENGTH" OF SCHOOL
COMPARED TO PRESENT DAY
SCHOOL; IN 1949 EIGHT
CLASSROOMS WERE ADDED ON
SOUTH END. IN 1955 A GYMNASIUM
WAS ADDED ON NORTH END.



1926 THE COMMUNITY
GATHERS TO CREATE A
PLAYGROUND FOR THEIR
NEW SCHOOL

*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER
SCHOOLS IN TROUTDALE, SEE IT **COULD HAVE BEEN**
CARPDALE, ©2007, BY SHARON NESBIT.

PLEASE JOIN US **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15** FOR
AN **OPEN HOUSE AT 2:00 p.m.** AT TROUTDALE
ELEMENTARY. IT LIKELY WILL BE YOUR LAST
CHANCE TO SEE THE INSIDE OF THIS SCHOOL.

TO BE ON THE MAILING LIST FOR THE MOST UP
TO DATE INFORMATION, SEND AN EMAIL TO
CELEBRATEYOURSCHOOL@GMAIL.COM WITH
THE SUBJECT LINE "MAILING LIST"

VISIT **SCHOOLCELEBRATIONCOMMITTEE.ORG**
AND WATCH FOR UPCOMING EVENTS.

THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THE MAPLE IN THE
GYM FLOOR CAN BE TURNED INTO PHOTO
FRAMES MADE BY REYNOLDS HIGH STUDENTS
TO HOLD TROUTDALE SCHOOL IMAGES. EMAIL
THE ADDRESS ABOVE TO REGISTER YOUR
INTEREST.

• Photos courtesy of Troutdale Historical Society
Poster by Len Otto

What is Going on at the Caboose?

The caboose committee sat down at the first of the year to make a list of things needed to complete restoration of the interior so that it will be a small museum.

Now that the outside is done, the goal is to restore the interior. Some big jobs are done. For instance, the upholstery is all redone, thanks to Steve Mackley, Beaverton Auto Upholstery. However an awful winter and continued cold has made it impossible to work inside.

It is clear that in order to have heat and light to welcome visitors and to correctly preserve the car, we need electricity in the caboose. For one thing, it would keep the interior dry and warm, and permit us to show small exhibits explaining the workings of the caboose.

In December, Len Otto made a request to the electrical workers union, IBEW Local 48. They happily said yes and enlisted Tice Electric to help us, and we currently are working with Kevin Shannon from Tice on our needs. (Kevin grew up in Wood Village so he is a "local boy.")

With the Rail Depot headed for eventual restoration and electric service from that source unlikely, it has been decided to create a separate service to the caboose, though more expensive, will be more reliable in the long term. We are waiting for PGE to make a site visit, followed by an estimate of cost. Once we have electrical service (and know how much it will set us back), we will obtain a permit from the city. Outlets, switches, lights, and heating unit will follow.



UP CABOOSE IN TROUTDALE



Our caboose was the cover girl in the January 2017 edition of *The Trainmaster*, Issue No. 654 which goes to train buffs of the Pacific Northwest. You can read this entire issue on our website at troutdalehistory.org

No Shanghai Tunnels in Troutdale



Hotel Troutdale - Open for business after 1907 fire

A January 23 article in *The Oregonian* cites historians who debunk the popular notion of the 1970s claiming underground tunnels in Portland's China Town were used to "shanghai" reluctant sailors for ships leaving Portland.

While sailors were shanghaied (or crimped) out of Portland, there is no evidence that the tunnels were used. The tunnels were used by China Town gangs and gambling activities. Oddly, a similar bogus story cropped up in Troutdale with claims that a tunnel from the Hotel Troutdale, built in 1907, was used to shanghai sailors. For starters, the hotel was built just as the practice of crimping was dying out.

The tunnel was actually a sewer drain (a modern innovation at the time) carrying waste from the hotel to the Sandy River, but hardly adequate to haul an unconscious and unwilling sailor several blocks underground. Once at the Sandy River, it would have been necessary to use a row boat to haul the victim down the Sandy River to the Columbia River and then to the mouth of the Willamette River and on to Portland, a pretty good commute. There is not the slightest evidence that sailors were shanghaied out of Troutdale via sewer line. One might speculate that the saloons at Troutdale could have yielded many drunks, but hauling them to Portland by horse and buggy would have been way more efficient. However, there is no evidence of that either. It makes a good story, but bad history.

Troutdale Historical Society Board

President: Sharon Nesbit

Vice President: Bettianne Goetz

Treasurer: Marilee Thompson

Secretary: Margaret Rice

Board Members

Rich Allen, Diane Castillo-White, Rip Caswell,

Jon Lowell, Sharon Petri, Norm Thomas

Past Presidents

Len Otto, Dave Ripma, Scott Cunningham

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THS receives a contribution from Amazon.



Friends in History Remembered



Herb Nasmyth-1943

Herbet Nasmyth (1923 - 2017)

Herb Nasmyth, last of the Nasmyth boys.

Herbet (yes there was no R in his first name) Nasmyth, age 93, died in February. **David Ripma** represented Troutdale Historical Society at his services. Herb was faithful to the last, attending our events as long as he could drive out from Portland. He was still sharp of mind two years ago when Sharon Nesbit and Julie Stewart sat him down in the Harlow House to shoot a video tape of his memories. Like his brothers, Walt and John, who were both loyal members of THS, he had a great gift for remembering old stories and telling them well.

He grew up in Troutdale along with his five sisters and two brothers. His father, John Andrew Nasmyth, was a section hand for the railroad

in Troutdale in the early 1900s. For many years, the family lived in one of the railroad houses on the north bank of the historic highway across from Buxton Street. Herb followed his brothers into the service in World War II, inducted in March 1943, and discharged in January 1946. He served in Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines and Japan. His wife, Clover, was a Navy veteran, and the two were honored along with our other veterans in a program about 15 years ago. Clover, who was once secretary of the historical society, died in 2011. John Nasmyth was a substantial donor to the construction of the barn and the upstairs loft is named in his honor. Walter Nasmyth and his wife, Vi, worked for many years cataloging pictures for our library. Herb attended every meeting that his health would permit. The entire family made a considerable contribution to the collection of our history. Their enthusiasm for Troutdale and its past will be missed, but many stories exist in our files.



Herb Nasmyth with 1st great grandchild, Makayla Nasmyth, & 1st great, great-grandchild, Alister Nasmyth

Elaine Quade Wright (1942 - 2017)

Elaine Blanche (Quade) Wright, passed away peacefully after a short illness on February 26, 2017. Elaine was born May 3, 1942 in Fall River, MA. She moved with her family to Troutdale, OR in 1945 where she grew up on 75 acres of property located on the Columbia River and the mouth of the Sandy River. Her parents, Harris & Gay Quade, owned the Sundial Ranch Marina located there. She attended Reynolds High School where she met Jim (James Wright). They were married on May 11, 1959. They lived in many areas before settling in Washougal, WA (1971-1990). Her 5 children graduated from Washougal High School.

Elaine worked for 27 years for the Clark County Sheriffs Administration office, retired in 2007.

After retirement she moved to Bullhead City, AZ where she spent her days swimming and enjoying the desert sun with her two adorable cats, Gibson and Newman.

The family and friends will have a gathering late summer to celebrate Elaine's life. The date and location will be announced later.

New Road Signs

Due to the unwavering determination of **Len Otto**, the Troutdale Historical Society is on the map. Historical road signs have been installed.

When traveling north or south on 257th Street you may notice the new signs directing traffic to turn on the Historic Columbia River Highway to our museums. A sign posted in front of the Barn Exhibit Hall lets you know you have arrived.

Len spent many hours (spanning 2 1/2 years) filling out forms, speaking to officials on the phone, and presenting design options to the Troutdale Historical Society Board of Directors before the process was over.

His persistence paid off and the new signs were installed in February.

Curators Needed

If you are interested in history, sorting, filing, organizing, and fussing with old stuff, give us a call.



Troutdale Historical Society

Preserving The Past, Embracing The Future

With membership in the society, you receive quarterly newsletters to keep up with all of our activities. Membership privileges include a reduction in membership cost for the Oregon Historical Society and free entry to all our museums.

- \$20 Individual Membership
- \$30 Family Membership
- \$100 Lovers Oak Club
- \$200 Lovers Oak Club ~ Family
- \$250 Business Sponsor (includes Ad in newsletter)
- Check this box if this is a renewal membership.

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 219 E Historic Columbia River Hwy
 Troutdale, OR 97060

Questions? Contact THS Office

Phone: 503-661-2164
 Email: troutdalehistory@gmail.com
 Website: 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 the knowledge of the locality's past.



Mail Address:
 219 E Historic Columbia River Hwy.
 Troutdale, OR 97060

Office Location:
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 Website: www.troutdalehistory.org

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Thank you for your support!

Troutdale Historical Society sponsors free programs throughout the year.

Edgefield History Night

The last Tuesday of every month (except December) the Troutdale Historical Society co-sponsors a speaker at McMenamins Edgefield Blackberry Hall. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and the free program begins at 6:30 p.m.

Food and drink are available.



Troutdale Historical Society's logo, the "Lovers Oak," stood on the floodplain of the Columbia River until the Columbus Day Storm of 1962. It was a popular gathering place for locals and was an instantly recognizable landmark.