TIME TO EAT AGAIN...

Start your year off with a good meal. The first fall meeting of the Troutdale Historical Society will be a potluck dinner Monday, Oct. 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the Troutdale City Park building. Bring a salad, side dish, bread or dessert. The meat course and beverage will be provided. You may bring your own table settings but paper plates and silver are provided.

In order to see the improvements outside the Harlow House, it will be open at 5:30 p.m. and again after the meeting. Museum displays have been set up in one of the upstairs bedrooms, first door on your right at the top of the stairs.

ABOUT THE HARLOW HOUSE...

Winter opening hours, effective Oct. 1, will be on the first Sunday of each month from 1 to 4 p.m. Special tours can be arranged at other times.

WHAT WE DID ON OUR SUMMER VACATION...

What summer vacation? After our May rummage sale we held a June ice cream social. (Thanks to Bob and Louise Dix who provided all the strawberries and followed that gift up with raspberries for the Troutdale picnic.) At the picnic in July we served ice cream and barbecued beef sandwiches. Special thanks to the Webbs, Rathmans, Blanchards, Sturgees, Howells and Hewletts for pitching in to help. And to Paul and Lee Beauleau.

Later in July we hosted the Horseless Carriage Association of America at the Harlow House. The parade of antique cars and the sight of people strolling around in vintage clothing took us all back to 1910 or so. P.S. Sharon Naebit got to ride in a Stanley Steamer!

NOT THE SAME OLD HOUSE...

The Harlow House has been painted stem to stern by a city CETA crew. Ted Schulte saw to it that insulation was blown into the upper walls. Dry rot in the east wall was repaired. It took more than 60 tubes of caulking to seal the cracks in the siding. The total bill, no labor costs included, for paint, gutters and repairs was in excess of $1200.

Caretaker Ken Grassman and Niles Harding have built 16 storm windows. This tedious job should result in big fuel oil savings this winter. And the windows are historic. Harding confides that putty in some of them is made from Mt. St. Helens volcanic ash.

Perhaps the most spectacular change occurred in the grounds where a CETA crew (compliments of the City of Troutdale) cleared yards of wild blackberries to reveal three small streams, two plum trees and land that will be developed as a city park. A parking lot is completed; Vern Rathman donated a weekend to dig one of two ponds; Gerhardt Von Kohlebeck has volunteered to keep the blackberries at bay. When it’s all completed there will be three ponds, a small bridge (donated by Sam Cox), a paved path, a rose arbor, rose and herb gardens and a gazebo.

Inside the house, make sure to notice the doll Joan Holman restored, a lovely park bench on the front porch that Morrie McGinnis donated and many small items too numerous to list. Both Arline Seidl and Bob Kerslake have given us a number of new artifacts for the house.

BRING THOSE LABELS...

Flavr-Pak and Santiam labels are worth 3 cents each in October. Please bring them to our October meeting and Laura Vorpahl will turn them in for us.

IN MEMORY...

George Schatz, former Troutdale railroad station agent and a charter member of the Society, died this summer.