

Bygone Times

A Newsletter of The Troutdale Historical Society.



JANUARY, 1989

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TELL US ABOUT TAD'S...

Continuing a practice that we began last year, the Troutdale Historical Society will honor a historic Troutdale business at its first meeting of 1989, at 2 p.m. Jan. 8 in Troutdale City Hall, 104 S.E. Kibling St.

This year our city historical plaque goes to Tad's Chicken N' Dumplin's, an institution in Troutdale since the late 1920s.

We have gathered some information about how it began at the east end of the Sandy River bridge as a hot dog and beer joint, but your part in our Jan. 8 meeting will be to tell us what you know about Tad's. When did Tad Johnson first come on the scene? How many names did the place have? What foods did it serve? What year did it move upriver? If you knew Tad, if you ate there, if you drove past it, join us on Jan. 8. We will tape the program and make it part of our presentation to Judy Jones, the owner. We also hope to have as many of Tad's longtime employees there as possible.

Vera Strebin and Florence Baker will provide refreshments.

A POST-CHRISTMAS REPORT...

The wind howled outside, but inside the Harlow House on Dec. 17, Santa sat by the fireplace, the tree glowed with red ribbons and the air was filled with the scent of greens, juniper and wassail. Add to that warm greetings of friends, the tentative smiles of children seeing Santa for the first time, the sounds of Christmas carols from our antique organ, and you have a pretty nice Christmas.

Thanks to Malcom and Gordon Boslar who saw to it that we had juniper, to Arman and Donna Kluehe who cut the holly, to Sam Cox for bringing Christmas greens, to Rankin Davis who helped put up the new white lights on the porch, to Margaret Okrasinski and Sadie Riley who played the organ, to all you cookie bakers, to Dick Jones who gave barn tours, to Ted Schulte and Mike Jacobs who did the Santa work, to Roberta Burns who provided the display of old-fashioned ornaments, and to decorators and punch servers, Dorothy Sturges, Cathy Hamme, Jean Holman and Sharon Nesbit. About 70 or 80 people came.

AND THE BARN...

By way of celebration, Dick Jones hung Christmas wreaths on our barn. The board of directors has decided that 50 cents of each barn donation dollar will be set aside to pay our \$15,000 construction loan. The remainder will be used to finish the barn one step at a time. As of now, we have exactly enough money to put the gutters on and that project should be done soon.

We have received \$100 barn donations from JIM FUJII and TED & VELMA NORMAN.

PROWLING ALBANY'S PARLORS...

Fourteen people traveled to Albany Dec. 11 for that city's Victorian parlor tour. Tour leader Gene Bui has already made

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IN MEMORY...

WALT FERCH, a Troutdale resident for many years and a longtime employee of Reynolds Metals Co., died in late December.

CARDS AND LETTERS COMING IN...

Our barn contractor DAVE TRAXLER wrote, "The society has been wonderful to work with. Our goal has been to present to the society a structure valued far above its cost and one they can be proud of for many decades." From LOIS MOLLER comes clippings including one from about 1919 reporting the sale of 116 acres of the Sun Dial Ranch for \$49,300. From GEORGENE VAN ORSOW of Seattle, daughter of Homer Lumsden, about her tour last summer of the Harlow House: "It had been 44 years since I'd been there. You are all doing such a great job." From MARJORIE MATCHES who lives in Redmond, Wash.: "I can remember when I was a child and played on the old concrete forms (behind the Harlow House) where the ponds had been that Captain Harlow kept his fish in. There was an old barn to the right where the old road started up the hill." SHIRLEY YOST has written a fine history of Alfred Baker which will appear in the February newsletter.

WELCOME to new members: MICHAEL MOEN and CHARLES and BEN WETHERILL.

AN ENDOWMENT FUND...The board of directors agreed last month to begin a special account that will be an endowment fund for the society. The goal is to guarantee the future of our museums by building a fund that will generate enough annual interest to pay the operating costs of our museums. Gifts to this fund will live on to perpetuate the preservation of history in Troutdale. All lifetime dues and bequests from wills will be dedicated to the endowment fund.

TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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TROUTDALE, ORE. 97060

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JANUARY 8:
LET'S TALK
ABOUT
TAD'S