



# Bygone Times

Newsletter of the

*Troutdale Historical Society*

September 2010

## Mark Your Calendars!

**October 16  
Barn Museum  
2-4 p.m.**

Troutdale-Fairview  
Elementary School  
Reunion

Bring old photos and  
stories to share!

**November 21  
Program Meeting  
Troutdale City Hall  
2-4 p.m.**

Tom Cowling talks about  
“Ghost Logging Towns  
on Bridal Veil Creek.”

**December 4  
Holiday Open House  
at Harlow House with  
Santa Claus  
11-4**

**Please let the  
office know if your  
home or email  
address changes!  
503-661-2164**

## Troutdale/Fairview Elementary Reunion set for October 16 at the Barn Museum



Third Troutdale School 1892



Troutdale Elementary Today

The first Troutdale School, known as the “shake” school, opened around 1855 and served both Troutdale and Fairview. Its location is unknown, but most of those early residents lived where the Sandy river met the Columbia so the school would have been within walking distance.

The coming of the railroad allowed the river area

to be abandoned in favor of the higher ground where Troutdale is today. In 1868 a new school was built on what is now the West Columbia River Highway.

Those walking to this one-room school would often encounter deer, bear and even mountain lions along the way.

As Troutdale grew the school became over crowded, and so in 1892 a new building was erected on the “Harlow 40,” land located at the top of the hillside where the current Troutdale Grade School now sits. It was a two-story, four room building complete with a belfry. 78 students enrolled that year, although average attendance was closer to 45.

Over the next thirty years this building became rickety, drafty and a

fire hazard, so in 1926 the current Troutdale Grade School was built. It

was a modern, sturdy, concrete structure with a full basement, kitchen and an auditorium, but because Troutdale had not grown much during the passing 30 years classroom space was about the same as the old building. In 1933 school lunch cost 3 cents. Eventually, a wartime boom and the absorption of the Cedar School required a 1949 addition of eight new classrooms. A new gym was added in 1955, but by that time the Troutdale School District had been incorporated into the new Reynolds School District #7 so the decision was made to limit further changes to modernization and make plans for an all new supplementary campus on the west side of town. However, Sweetbriar Elementary School would not become a reality until twenty years later in 1975.

*Cont. page 2*

Information taken from “*Legend of the Reynolds Lancers*” by Clark Santee - 2009

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## 2 The Director's Chair

by Terry Huston

What a summer??? I guess those 10 hot day we had can be considered summer. Compared to what the rest of the country has been dealing with, we are still lucky. Regardless of the weather, it was a really busy summer around THS. I would like to thank all the Tuesday Ladies, **Mary**

**Bryson, Jean Holman, Jean Hybskmann, Mona Mitchoff, Barbara Welch, Judy Norby, and Heather Mitchoff** for all the work on the Harlow House exhibits and keeping the house clean. Thanks to all the **TL's, Ann Klinger and Sharon Kolb** for all the work done on the Salmon Bake and the guys

who helped with parking, moving tables, etc., **Bob Mitchoff, Jerry Klinger, Jerry Hybskmann, Dan McGraw, Nick Welsh and John Frappa**. (I apologize if I forgot anyone). **Huge thanks to Bob & Jean Ice** for hosting the Salmon bake in their beautiful yard on the Sandy River.

Another big thanks to **Tom Graves**, our 2010 member of the year who rode in the Summerfest Parade in July. Have a happy fall and watch out for the little darlings headed back to school. Come to the reunion next month. We will have a fun time.

Terry

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Fairview Grade School  
circa 1890

By 1855 there was enough population in the Fairview-Troutdale area for Fairview to have its own school. It was only a temporary facility that eventually gave way to a new building in 1860 and then to another in 1870. Finally in 1890 the school pictured above the right was opened.

## Fairview Grade School

Eighteen years later in 1908 the City of Fairview, which was named after a Methodist church in the area, was incorporated. By 1923 the 1890 school house had become outdated so a new, modern brick structure was built and finally opened in 1925. This building has been since expanded and modernized a number of times, but today still remains in full operation.

Quite unusual for the 1950s, Fairview began fielding grade school tackle football teams. This was before the Pop Warner youth football organizations

of today so the school had considerable difficulty finding other teams to play, but they managed. This program gave East Multnomah County high schools such as Gresham and Parkrose a leg up when it came to having freshmen enter with tackle football experience.

One result of this program was the achievements of Fairview's Bob

Schloredt, who while at Gresham in 1956 was named Oregon's All-State High School Quarterback. He then went on to the University of Washington where he became an All-American and led the Huskies to high National rankings and victories in the Rose Bowl.

Information taken from "*Legend of the Reynolds Lancers*" by Clark Santee - 2009



Fairview Elementary Today



Please call the office, 503-661-2164, if you would like to use your credit/debit card to pay for dues, raffle tickets, donations or in memory contributions! Tuesday-Friday 8-11:30 a.m. and Saturday 10-2.

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**We are still selling raffle tickets for the Quilt! The tickets are \$2 each, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10 or 15 for \$20.**

**Mail a check to THS 104 SE Kibling St. Troutdale, OR 97060 or call the office at 503-661-2164 to put them on your debit or credit card.**

**Tickets will continue to be available at the Depot Museum Store.**

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# Salmon Bake: A Great Time Was Had by All!

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For those of you who did not attend the Salmon Bake this year you missed a wonderful afternoon of food, scenery to make your spirits soar, and the beauty of another culture play out for your enjoyment.

The salmon sizzled to an orangey golden perfection over alder logs in a sandy pit. Our own Sandy River glided by the beautiful gardens of the Ice home. People came

with their appetites and generosity.

The wine flowed, the fry bread oozed with honey, laughter and merriment rang through the fir trees. The weather was perfect. Once again the drums and dancing moccasins of the Native Americans echoed off the cliffs of the river, as they had years ago in this glorious setting nature and the spirits have made for us to enjoy.

We always need your support and hope that you start planning right now for next year's event. We thank those of you who joined us in attendance this year and look forward to sharing this with new guests next year.

My thanks to everyone who worked on the Salmon Bake this year. Good job!

**Jean Hybskmann**



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Here are some excerpts from a letter from longtime Troutdale resident, John Hale, now living in Richford, New York. John was a Reynolds graduate in the class of 1966

Hi Terry,

It is often fun to remember questions from childhood about places and events that one almost experienced, but had to imagine. Life along the Sandy River was one such place for me. I got hints along the way from

kindly old folks in the area, people I worked for and contemporaries that had an interest or a memory from someone else...

My family had a small cabin-like house on the eastern river bank about a quarter mile up from Tad's Chicken 'n Dumplings restaurant from 1954-1989. We lived next door to the Schofield family and across the street from the Loucks family. Harold Schofield and I used to fish the river

for shad. I also worked for many years for Ed Burnacci. Ed was a farmer and had a horticultural nursery in Troutdale. He was also one of the last commercial fishermen on the Sandy and fished the smelt runs. He also fished in the Columbia...

I know Ed Burnacci's father cultivated land with mules...As a teenagers, I worked for Ed with a draft horse in the nursery cultivating the row crops of

trees. Ed said I was one of the last people in the state stupid enough to walk behind a horse all day...

So, I wondered also about the old time farming and practices in the area and what it looked like in those three decades between 1930 and 1960 when I came on the scene as a worker. The Fujii family, for example, was the first in the area to use a mechanical berry picker the called the "Iron Wino."

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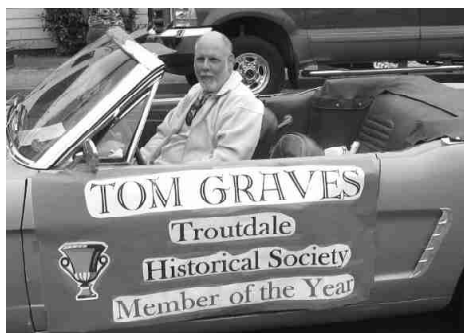
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## 4 A Busy Summer around Troutdale and THS

### Summerfest Parade



THS Board Member, Paula Goldie doing commentary on the parade for public access tv



THS member of the Year, Tom Graves



City Council members, Norm Thomas, Glenn White and Council President, Doug Daoust

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### Sharon Nesbit's Night at Edgefield



Sue Handy,  
Greg Handy  
and  
Jo Callister



Jean Holman, Jean Hybskmann and Mary Bryson

Sharon,

Thanks a million for your fun and interesting and highly entertaining journey through Edgefield's long and colorful past.

Your devotion to Troutdale and its history and the great folks who live there (past and present) is greatly appreciated.

Thanks for all you do!

Attaching a few pix of the Troutdalian cluster that gathered at the back of the room at the close of your talk.

Everyone was yakking so much that they missed out on your tour! Either that, or you successfully dodged us.

It was a fun evening. Thanks again.

*Nancy (Callister) Buley*

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**Len Otto**  
503-663-0794  
Len@IHonorYourPast.com

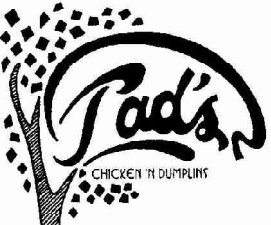
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Thanks from THS for your Support



Troutdale Historical Society  
104 SE Kibling St.  
Troutdale, OR 97060  
Phone 503-661-2164  
www.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, and knowledge of, the locality's past.

**Non Profit  
Presorted  
Standard Mail**

**Troutdale, OR**

**Permit No. 5**

*Change service requested*

### **THS Board of Directors**

Scott Cunningham, President  
Mona Mitchoff, Vice President  
Jean Holman, Secretary  
Tom Graves, Treasurer  
David Ripma, Past President  
Sheryl Maydew, Bookkeeper  
Jean Hybskmann  
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Jean Ice  
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Christine Smith, Office Assitant  
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Jennifer Munson, Librarian  
Terry Huston, Newsletter  
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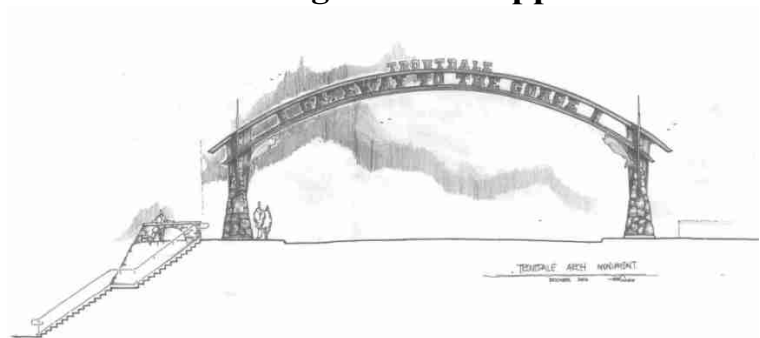
### **Thank you for your donations**

#### **Operating:**

John Hale  
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Donna Erwin-Columbia River Gallery  
Judith Scott  
Kym Ojala  
Inga Ojala  
Sarah Lowe  
Max & Sheryl Maydew  
Jean Hybskmann  
Mary Bryson  
JimKunz

**Welcome New Member  
Judith Scott**

### **Our Thanks...from THS...to the following for their support**



**Centennial Monument Is Up!!!  
The permanent plaque should be in  
place in a few weeks.**

**We need help with the Newsletter. If anyone wants to write stories or take pictures at THS events, please call the office at 503-661-2164. Leave a message if no one answers!**