

Bygone Times

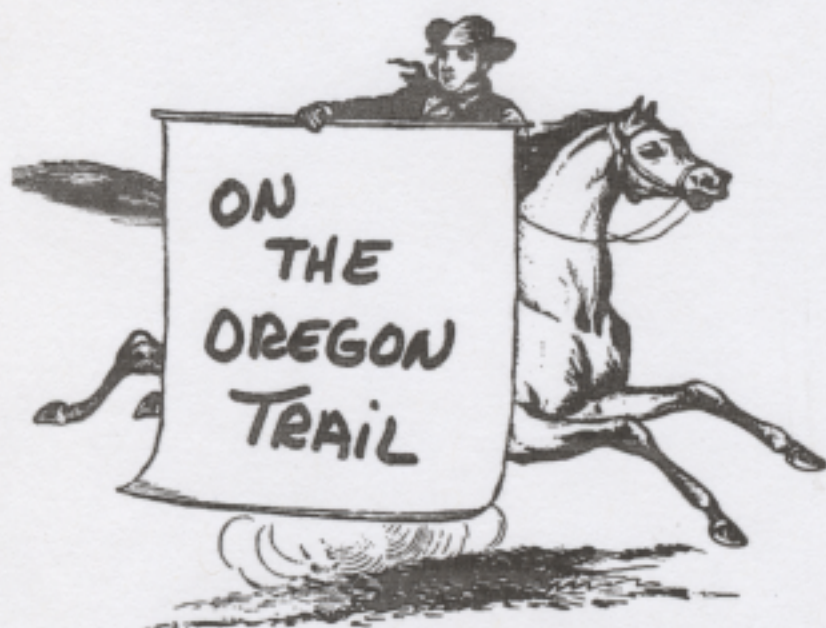
A Newsletter of The Troutdale Historical Society.



MAY, 1990

EDITOR: Sharon Nesbit, 665-0423

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE OLD ROAD...DINNER AND TALK OF THE OREGON TRAIL



Our last meeting before summer recess may be our biggest as we get circle the wagons with other neighboring historical groups for a potluck dinner and program with Oregon's new Wagonmaster, James Renner.

Join us at 6:30 p.m., Monday evening, May 21, in the Great Hall at Troutdale City Park.

Renner, who will coordinate the statewide celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Oregon Trail, will talk about those plans and, being a championship fiddler, will play us some music as well.

This is a good time to keep in touch with friends from other societies so we have invited members of Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes, David Douglas, Crown Point, Gresham and Jackknife-Zion-Horseheaven societies to join us for this special program.

We also will honor our member of the year (an announcement that is always a surprise) and present another special award as well.

Please bring salads, breads, vegetables, side dishes or desserts. The society will provide ham as a main dish, as well as coffee and punch. You may bring your own table service or use our paper goods.

And just for fun, how about nutty artifacts? Marie Stone found one of those capsules once used to color marjarine yellow. Bring your own nutty artifact, or some item you have not been able to identify.

This meeting concludes winter gatherings. Though we will have many events during the summer, regular meetings will resume October 20 with a program, dinner and gathering for all former Troutdale grade school students.

REMEMBERING THE PIONEER CHILD...

Thanks to the diligence of Dick Jones, we will meet to rededicate the marker on the grave of the unknown pioneer child at the corner of Northwest 169th Avenue and Wilkes Road at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 22.

It was Dick who realized that rebuilding of Interstate 84 would conceal the grave site that lies between the freeway and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks. The child, an Oregon Trail traveler who died in 1849, was brought to the Hartley farm near what is now Wilkes school when she became ill.

Jones inspired a group of people including students and staff from Wilkes School and the members of the Children of the American Revolution, which installed the original grave marker, to take action. The marker has been relocated on the south side of the freeway the address listed above. The actual grave is not disturbed and has been marked with a plaque so it cannot be lost.

On May 22, organizers plan a program similar to the one that was held when the first marker was dedicated in 1954.

All historical society members are invited to attend this historic event

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SPRING HAS DONE IT...

Spring has come to the Harlow House. The old lilacs are blooming out toward Capt. Harlow's ponds. The pansies in the driveway wintered over and flowered all spring. Cathy Hamme planted dwarf blue iris and red tulips in just the right places and the colors were lovely against the stark white of the house.

Our wildflower bed surprised us by coming up even though it was seeded to grass last fall. And Cathy plans another wildflower planting on the dike between the barn and the old ponds.

The moles are under control, thanks to Bill Nesbit who has nabbed several of the pesky critters this spring.

Spring is a reminder that things always change at the Harlow House. Stop by anytime to see what's up and what's blooming. The museum opens for its five-day-a-week summer schedule June 20.

And, on the subject of things green, two people have adopted flower beds for the summer promising care and weeding. Other orphans await. If you can help, call Cathy, 667-7760.

NEWSLETTER COURTESY OF JOYCE STOECKEL...

Membership secretary Joyce Stoeckel is our member of the month. And a dependable one she is. When this newsletter arrives in your mail each month, Joyce has folded, stapled, labeled, sorted and mailed it.

The mailing, a task she has done for more than four years, is only part of her job. She also keeps track of our members, changes of address and dues. She has, as well, organized historical society exhibits at Troutdale school.

Joyce is married to Al Stoeckel and has two children, Lauren and Mark. Her dad is Jack Poff, caretaker at Berry Botanic Garden. She is the person who organized the Art Quake events at Troutdale school, an opportunity for local students to sample and try all kinds of art mediums.

"I've always been interested in history," she says. "I like antiques. Maybe I have a melancholy personality, but I like looking back in time."

MOTHER'S DAY AT THE FOSTER HOUSE...

Betty Cody, our member of the Jackknife-Zion-Horseheaven Historical Society in the Eagle Creek area says that is just enough time to make reservations for a Mother's Day brunch in the historic Phillip Foster House at Eagle Creek.

Brunch is served in three sittings on Mother's Day, May 13, 10:30 a.m., noon and 1:30 p.m. Price is \$6.50 a person. You can make reservations by telephoning Pat Leonard, 630-3428.

The Phillip Foster House, square on the path of the Barlow Road, is on Highway 211 near the intersection of Highway 224.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS...LORRAINE BLIVEN, who immediately pitched in to help get our printing of new historical society recipes together; CHARLOTTE WARMAN; HUBERTINA DRUMMEN; and two newly signed-up lifetime members, JACK and ROBERTA BURNS, who also are hosts at the Harlow House Museum.

DATES TO MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR...

PIONEER GRAVE DEDICATION - MAY 22
HARLOW HOUSE OPENING - JUNE 20
TREK TO ASTORIA - AUGUST 11

ICE CREAM SOCIAL - JUNE 10
TREK TO PORTLAND - JUNE 23
WILLAMETTE CRUISE - OCT. 7

TROUTDALE HARVEST FAIRE AND AUCTION - SEPTEMBER 29 AND 30

WE GET LETTERS...

From Mabel Johnson, one of the organizers of the Lewis and Clark Expedition Pageant: "Congratulations to the Troutdale Historical Society on the saving of Edgefield. Your organization has walked a demanding path. The courage to compromise when your intellects and hearts knew by doing so could doom that classic, historic building, could not have been easy. Which proves, 'You have to know when to hold them, know when to fold them.'

"We are happy that the battle has been won and may you and the Troutdale Historical Society enjoy a much deserved rest."

NOW THAT WE CAN REST...

Mabel Johnson spoke too soon about taking a rest. We had barely breathed a sigh of relief about Edgefield, when our attention was turned to the old church at 302 Harlow Street. Built in about 1895 as the Troutdale Methodist Church, it was later home to the Presbyterian congregation. In recent years the building, which is a Troutdale historical resource, has been abandoned and is decaying.

Recently Multnomah County posted a notice that if former property owners don't come up with about \$6,000 in back taxes by May 20, the building will be sold at auction.

Historical society director Sharon Nesbit asked the Troutdale council to consider buying it and selling it at cost to someone who would guarantee restoration and put it back to use. The building will need a roof and a number of other hasty repairs soon to help it survive. If you are interested call Larry Baxter, Multnomah County tax title manager.

TROUTDALE HISTORY FAIRE AND AUCTION...

We hope it will be the biggest barn fund-raiser ever, our Sept. 29 and 30 Troutdale History Faire and Auction, chaired by Janet Renfro.

She wants to bring the entire community together for an autumn festival that will include an Sandy River raft race, food and beverages, a flea market and auction and other surprises.

Call Heidi Wilson, 667-9900, to discuss donations to the auction, flea market, silent auction or raffle. She will have some ideas for you to consider. How about handmade crafts, collectible glassware, fishing equipment, boats, antique clothing, old toys?

We also will have a limited number of booths available for home-spun kinds of crafts and sales. Pumpkins, perhaps? A bonanza of fall vegetables to offer for sale?

Questions? Or if you would like to lend skills or enthusiasm, call Janet, 667-2044.

GIFTS...Donations from TED and LOIS SCHULTE, SHARON NESBIT and ALEX JONES, have gone to the endowment fund in memory of LLOYD HOLMAN and TILLIE HOWELL. DARTHEA PACKARD has made a cash donation to our barn fund in memory of her late husband, DR. FRANK PACKARD. JACK and ROBERTA BURNS made a gift to the barn. HAROLD and MYRTA WEATHERHEAD, longtime members from Oregon City, recently visited the Harlow House and made a gift to the general fund.



GET READY FOR ICE CREAM...

Our annual ice cream social, with the Swipsey Cakewalk Ragtime Band, will be Sunday, June 10, noon to 5 p.m., in the park.

At the same time, Cathy Hamme and her green-thumbed cohorts will be selling bargains in the popular plant sale.

Here are some things you can do. Prepare plants to donate. Cathy has pots if you need them. Call her at 667-7760. Think of items to donate for the bake sale. Want to rent an eight-foot space to sell antiques or collectibles? Call Jean Holman, 665-7678. Dying to dip into hot fudge and serve up strawberries. Call Sharon Nesbit, 665-0423. Watch for a notice coming in your mail in late May.

ALL ABOARD THE TROUTDALE RAIL DEPOT...

A few slots remain to be filled in our host list for the summer hours of our Troutdale Rail Depot. Many thanks to DONNA HAWKINS, PAT ALBIN, EVELYN JACOBSON, MAXINE and VIRGIL CARMICHAEL, RANKIN DAVIS and CATHY GILMORE who volunteered once a month or share a monthly shift. In addition, HOMER LUMSDEN, MARTHA BOOHEISTER and BETTY KNIGHT have all agreed to help out.

Vacancies exist in July and a few other spots May through September. Call Sharon Nesbit and offer a Saturday or Sunday.

ALL ABOARD MAX...

A day-long trip to Portland on MAX is our next Troutdale Trek. We will board the train at Gresham and ride to Old Town to the Portland Advertising Museum. Then a tour of Pioneer Court House Square, lunch, the exhibits of the Oregon Historical Society and a private tour of the society's research library. Finish with shopping in the society's book store and back home on MAX. Cost? About \$10 including museum admission, lunch and fares. Watch the June newsletter for details.

TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
104 S.E. KIBLING ST.
TROUTDALE, ORE. 97060

BULK RATE
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PERMIT NO. 5

WAGONMASTER TO TALK
ON THE OREGON TRAIL,
DINNER AND INFORMATION
MAY 21, TROUTDALE
CITY PARK

