

BYGONE TIMES

A Newsletter of the TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January, 1995

Editor, Sharon Nesbit, 665-0423

ART, POTATOES AND SCULPTURE ON JANUARY 15

Our first meeting of 1995 is a gathering at Caswell Gallery in Troutdale at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 15. The gallery is on the Historic Columbia River Highway at its intersection with Northeast 257th Avenue.

Who would have dreamed that Troutdale's old potato shed would turn into a fashionable gallery filled with fine art. For this event, owner Rip Caswell plans a program on the history of sculpture as well as a tour of the foundry. How do they make those statues anyway.

To remind us of our humble origins, Alice Wand is preparing a history of the buildings original life as a potato shed. If you know tidbits to include, call her now or come prepared to share at the meeting.

Alice and Connie Purvis are the members in charge of this meeting. Margaret Rice and Clover and June Nasmyth will bring cookies. Caswell Galleries is providing the coffee.

As any Troutdale veteran knows, our meetings are automatically canceled if the weather creates hazardous driving conditions. Keep that in mind this month and next.

THANKS FROM THE NASMYTHS

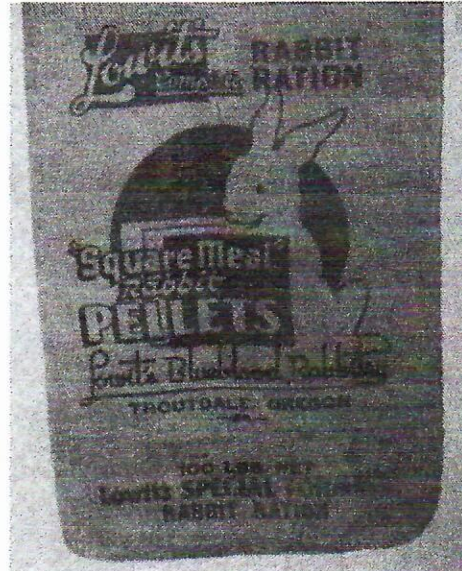
John and June Nasmyth thoroughly enjoyed their roast and toast on Nov. 19. "Thank everybody who worked and everybody who came," they say.

NEWS FROM OTHER MUSEUMS:

David Douglas Historical Society plans to open a museum to school field trips in April, 1995. If you have photos of school buildings or other items from that district, telephone Jo Curry, 254-5923.

Friends of the Zimmerman House applied for a grant to fund study by a preservation architect and has been offered a computer to begin cataloging artifacts. If you want to be a part, or lend support by membership, applications are at the Harlow House.

BAGGING IT



CANBY COLLECTOR BAGS A TROUTDALE FEED SACK

An Oregonian story on a state fair exhibit last fall led us to Al Friedrich of Canby, who collects burlap bags.

The above sack in his collection came from Lowits Blueblood Rabbitry in Troutdale.

Friedrich, president of the Canby Depot Museum, writes that the Lowit Rabbitry operated somewhere in our area from 1945 to 1958 when a disastrous fire destroyed the buildings.

"It seems that they raised many rabbits for meat purposes and had a processing plant to dress them out and package the rabbit meat for sale," he writes. "Their feeds were made by the Triangle Milling Co. and sacked in special bags for the rabbitry company."

If you know where this firm was located, or know the Lowits, please call the museum, 661-2164.

Incidentally, Al Friedrich says he will be happy to bring a slide program on his collection to one of our meetings, and will also loan part of his collection for exhibit in our barn museum when the times comes.

IN FEBRUARY: Natural History -- a talk by Deb Scrivens of Oxbow Park about animals in our area. Sunday, Feb. 19, 2 p.m., Troutdale City Hall.



THE DIRECTOR

Ellen Brothers Says:

Several months ago one of our members called to donate a spinning wheel, in response to a request in the newsletter.

At the time, I declined as we had just acquired a lovely antique wheel from Katherine Johnson, which is now on display in the Harlow House.

However, it is not good museum practice to use genuine artifacts for demonstration purposes. The antique wheel is fragile and we find that in order to demonstrate spinning for our visitors, we need a second wheel.

I cannot find my note regarding which of you called me. If you would be so kind, please call me again at 661-2164. Thanks.

NUMBERS FROM OUR TREASURER

Linda Harvey reports the following funds in our accounts as of Oct. 31:

OPERATING ACCT.....	\$ 9,771.22
DED. BARN FUND.....	616.53
BARN BLDG ACCT.....	6,302.17
DIRECTOR FUND.....	2,052.06
ENDOWMENT FUND.....	16,847.80
TOTAL.....	\$ 35,589.78

A WISH LIST:

A sturdy 4-drawer file cabinet for the barn. And a coffee pot. Call Dick Jones, 252-4306.

A good electric typewriter to make live easier for our historical society secretary. Call Ellen Brothers, 661-2164.

BOARD MAKES DECISION TO RAISE DUES

Cost increases in postage, energy to heat the barn and other expenses have caused the Troutdale Historical Society Board of Directors to decide to raise our annual dues.

At a board of directors meeting Dec. 7, board members struggled with a list of increased costs before making a decision to increase dues, which are due next month. The dues increase takes effect on the date of our annual meeting, Feb. 19.

Further, on the advice of other non-profit experts, the board voted to eliminate lifetime memberships. Most financial advisers say such lifetime fees do not cover costs of newsletters and membership expenses.

The board also approved a plan to accept business card advertising in the newsletter to help cover publication costs. If you have a business that our members might like to know about, or if you simply wish to make a contribution in support of the newsletter, we will reproduce your business card in our newsletter for a fee of \$25 for each printing.

Our news dues schedule is as follows:

- \$8 - Individual Membership**
- \$12 - Couple**
- \$20 - Family**

Director's Club membership costs, which help pay our director, Ellen Brothers, will remain the same.

- They are:
- \$50 - Individual Memberships**
- \$75 - Couple**

The lifetime membership fee, \$100, will be eliminated on Feb. 19.

Want to talk about the weather? March 19, 2 p.m. Troutdale City Hall.

NAMEDROPPERS:

Troutdale resident **Michelle Luiz**, not yet a member, but certainly a volunteer, has offered her considerable talents in scrapbook preparation to help us assemble our 1994 scrapbook memories...Thanks to **Dick Jones** for video tape records of the Nasmyth dinner and the Ruth Sundling interview...and to **Walter Nasmyth** for a fine World War II photo of him on LST 19 in the North Carolines Island in 1944...to **Jean Holman**, who pinch hit for Secretary Helen Towsley at a recent board meeting...to **Al & Joyce Stoeckel** who made a special trip to clean the Harlow House front porch for our December Christmas open house...and to **Jim Kight** and **Penny Balch** who contributed photos and preparation work for a tourism brochure for our museums. We have decided we cannot afford the project at this time, but hope to do it in the future.

GIFTS:

IN MEMORY OF ALICE KERSLAKE:

Dennis & Mary Bryson
Sharon Nesbit

IN MEMORY OF LUCILE CROUSER:

Sam & Nancy Cox
Frank & Jean Driver
Sharon Nesbit

IN MEMORY OF JOHN POWERS:

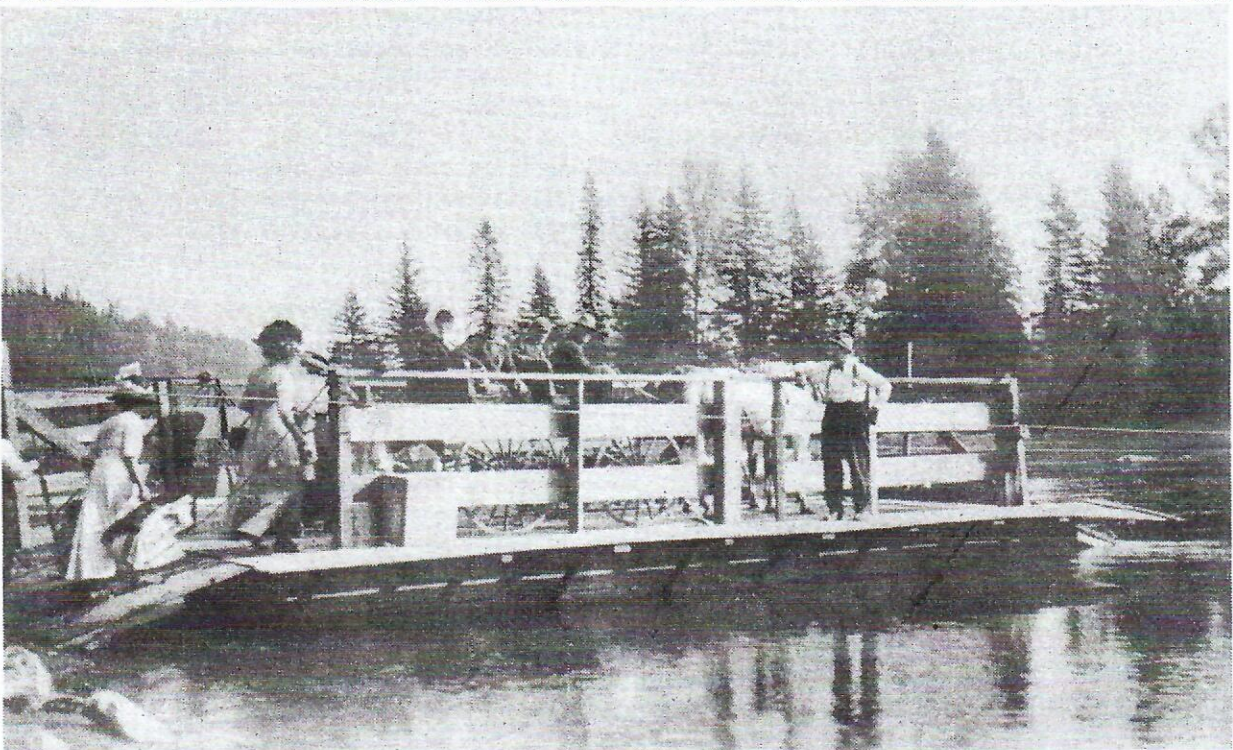
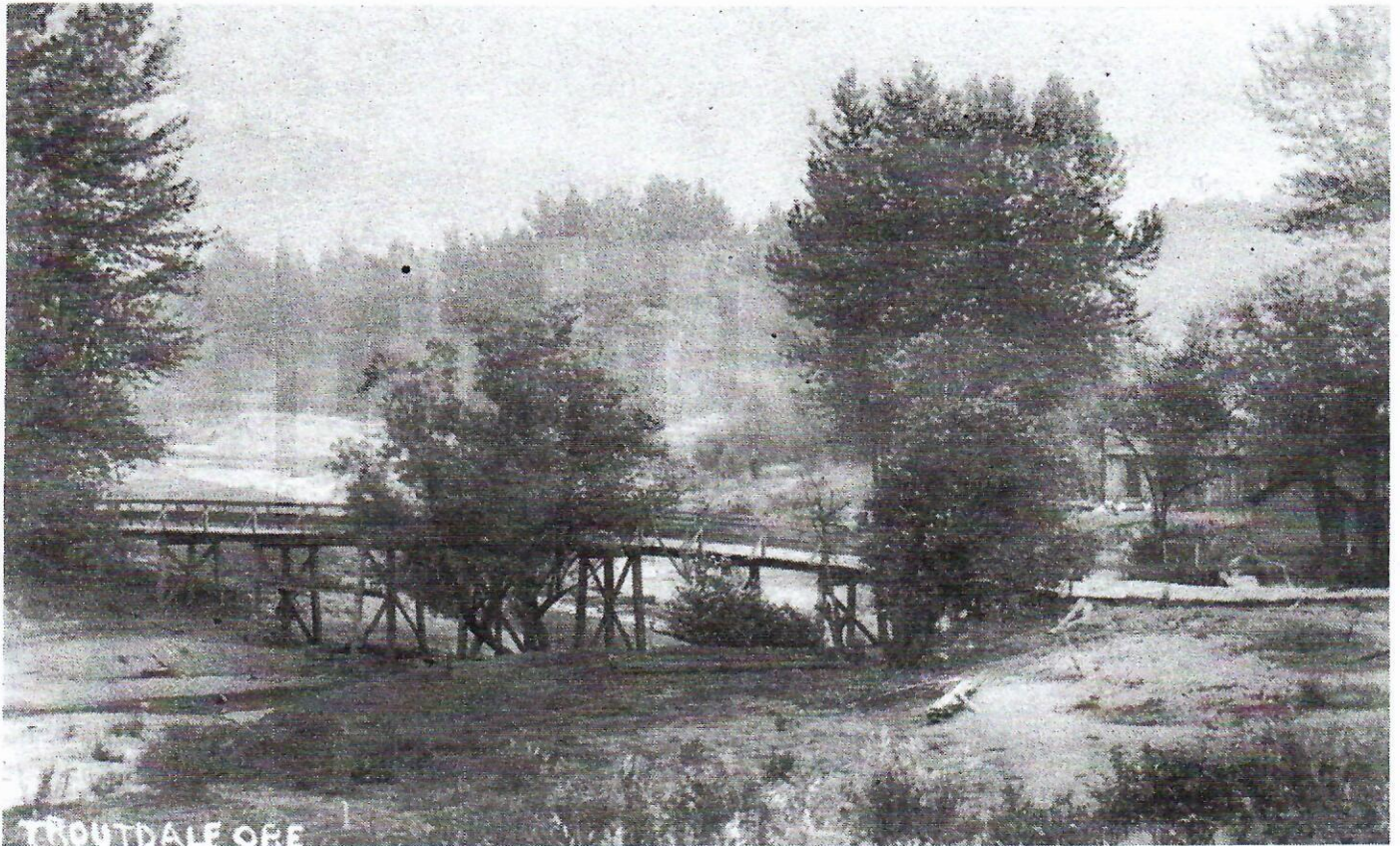
Sam & Nancy Cox

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS:

Dorothy Evans gave gift memberships to her children, Mr. and Mrs. David Evans and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Evans.

Penny Balch gave a gift of membership to Mary Ann Ickes.

PICTURES FROM OUR PAST



Two early views of the Sandy River at Troutdale. The upper photo shows the old wooden bridge that spanned the river prior to construction of the present bridge in 1912. Photo from Ruth Sundling. The lower photo shows the Sandy River Ferry crossing from the Troutdale side of the river to what is now Lewis and Clark State Park. Photo from Mason Craig. Both are Troutdale Historical Society photos.

NAMEDROPPERS:

What a Christmas at the Harlow House--it took three bottles of champagne and several off-key choruses of Jingle Bells to create the barn theme for this year's Christmas tree. The decorators -- Jean Holman, Dorothy Sturges, Nancy Collins, Ellen Brothers, Florence Baker, Mona Mitchoff, Roy Hoover, Dick Jones, Sharon Nesbit. Greens by Malcolm Boslar (who ships the juniper from Bend each year), Mike Dubesa, Forence Baker and Sam Cox. Carol Asakawa donated sheaves of wheat for the theme. Window candles, Cathy Hamme. New upstairs exhibit, Cathy Hamme, Kim Schilling. Ornaments, Curt & Geri VonAhn. Tree cut by Mike & Cathy Hamme. Pearl Ramseth played the organ and Gene Bui and Salvation Army brass serenaded. Santa Claus, Ted Schulte and Bill Jackson. Dec. 10 hosts, Sharon Nesbit, Dorothy Sturges, Evelyn Jacobson, Sam Cox and Ellen Brothers.

**WANT TO RUN THINGS?
.....RUN FOR OFFICE**

Our Feb. 19 annual meeting, that's at 2 p.m. Sunday in Troutdale City Hall, is our annual election of officers.

If you are interested in filling an office on our board of directors, contact Ellen Brothers, or Bob Strebin, chair of the nomination committee.

Board members meet once a month. The current meeting is on the first Wednesday evening of the month.

In Memory:

Blanche Brink Birgfeld, Portland, died at age 101 on Nov. 29. She was born Aug. 14, 1893, in Troutdale, the sister of Mabel Evans, who lived in the Harlow House. Mrs. Birgfeld was the aunt of Ruth Sundling Evans, who spoke at our November meeting.

Worried about dues?

Our dues are collected in February at the time of our annual meeting.

Watch your February newsletter. If an envelope is attached, then you owe annual dues.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

A Browser Needed:

In order to complete cataloging of our library, we need someone to review several years worth of Oregon Historical Quarterlys, in search of references to Troutdale. Call Sharon Nesbit, 665-0423.

Friendly Folks Wanted:

We'll be looking soon for weekend hosts at the depot and Harlow House. Can you offer one Saturday or Sunday afternoon a month? Call Gladys Norment, 666-1184 or Ellen Brothers, 661-2164.

TROUTDALE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
104 S.E. KIBLING STREET
TROUTDALE, OR 97060

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TROUTDALE, OR
PERMIT NO. 5

*THE ARTS
IN A POTATO SHED
JAN. 15*

