

**RETURN TO THE OREGON TRAIL...**

Back this month, by popular request, will be Claire and Milton Belsher with a program of slides and history on the Oregon Trail and the Barlow Road.

Mrs. Belsher, who has led state-wide efforts to preserve the emigrant road, first presented her program to the Troutdale Historical Society several years ago and many members have asked for a repeat performance. The Belshers have traveled and photographed the full length of the Trail several times.

The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m., Monday, March 18, in the Troutdale City Hall. Hostesses for the evening, Arline Seidl and Laura Imthurn, have arranged a special performance of the Gresham Senior Hot Shots after the meeting during the refreshment period.

This should be a very special evening and a good time to invite guests to join us.

**OFFICERS...**

Elected to another term as president last month was Alex Jones. Also named by unanimous ballot were: Sam Cox, vice president; Helen Otto, secretary; Ted Schulte, treasurer and A.R. Kerlake, Dick Knarr and Bob Sturges, board of directors. Ray Moore was appointed greeter.

Jess Tatum, who spoke to the Society in January, has offered to take on the job of curator in our museum, cataloging items and setting up a cross-index file.

**A MYSTERY SOLVED...**

Remember the mouse in the whiskey bottle? The bottle was found standing upright under the stage in the city hall but the mouse was found (quite dead) on the side. Frank Simons, a bottle collector, admitted last week that he and Emil Carow found the bottle several years ago, lying on its side, and set it upright. It sure ruined a great story.

**IN OUR COLLECTION...**

Marie Britton donated a butter churn to the Society this month. The churn is metal with wooden paddles in a four-quart glass container.

**STRAWBERRIES AND ICE CREAM...**

It's not too soon to be thinking of our June ice cream social which will be held for the first time in the large building in the city park. Items for sale in our old-fashioned country store have contributed quite a bit to our finances in past years and will be appreciated again this year.

**THE MISSOURI HOUSE...**

The Missouri House which once sat in Troutdale is remembered by Mile Coons. He recalls that a family named Rowley operated it and his sister, Lela, once worked there.

**CHAMPION TO BE DISPLAYED...**

On display at the March meeting will be a December 18, 1896 copy of the Troutdale Champion mentioned in last month's newsletter.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED...**

We would like to keep our museum open on a regular basis during the summer months. At the moment we are considering opening the building each Sunday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers are needed to sign up for duty in the museum so we can prepare some type of schedule. If you would be willing to help see Sharon Nesbit or Alex Jones.

**THE MAYOR AND THE NAKED LADY...**

Troutdale Mayor Bob Sturges, also a faithful Historical Society member, came trudging into town last week toting a nude lady. Unlike the streakers we've read of, she is a little slow. She's a department store mannequin to use for displaying clothing in the museum. Her purchase will be considered at the March meeting.