

# BYGONE TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## THS Events

October 15

**Tad Talks**

Glenn Otto Community Park

October 18

**Yarn at the Barn**

November 13

**The Basques: Mystery  
People of the American West**  
McMenamins History Pub

Edgefield, Blackberry Hall

November 18

**Yarn at the Barn**

**Everyone is invited to**

## Tad Talks

**October 15, 2023**

**2:00 PM at Glenn Otto Community Park**

1102 E Historic Columbia River Hwy, Troutdale, OR 97060

Tad's Chicken 'n Dumplings was an important and well loved part of our community from the early 20th Century until the death of Judy Jones, owner, in 2020. Troutdale and Portland residents, plus visitors from afar, spent many happy hours wining and dining at 'Tad's Chic Dump.' (Judy loved it when part of the neon sign burned out, and purposefully refused to have it fixed.)



Come and share your memories of this landmark at "Tad Talks" on

**Sunday, October 15**

**Door Prizes!**

The raffle is almost over. The long awaited announcement of raffle winners will take place after **Tad Talks**.

*(You need not be present to win.)*

**Want to improve your chances?** Raffle tickets are and will be available during museum hours and at the door before the program. Tickets are \$5.00 each or three tickets for \$10.00.

This is one of the society's main fund-raisers this year ~ increase your odds of winning with lots of tickets! There are many prizes, including a plane ride up the Gorge, a one night's stay at Edgefield, and many other exciting prizes. Come join the fun and support THS!



## Thank you to our Raffle Sponsors

McMenamins  
Leamy Printing & Design  
LoLo's Boss Pizza  
Ye Olde Pub  
Safeway

Columbia Gorge Salon & Spa  
Ristorante Di Pompello  
Bandits Bar & Grill  
Jeff Neiger  
Skyland Pub

## The DNA of Home

by Tamsyn Cox

At the apex of a warm summer's evening, just as the sun was beginning to drape itself with an orange hue over the houses and trees, I hiked up the steep incline of 2nd and Harlow to 3rd and Harlow. Busy with the words inside my own mind to distract myself from the intensity of the climb, I was abruptly encompassed by an all too familiar gust of wind and the beckoning sounds of a nearby train horn. Perhaps it was my lack of imagination as a child growing up, but for what I lacked in imaginary friends, I made up for in the friendly familiarity of landmarks and routines around me. They became friendly giants that framed my otherwise small world.



I paused, consumed with the comforting sounds wafting into the halls of my ears. In one single transcendent moment, I felt the DNA of home inside of me. It felt as though Troutdale knew I was home, and was happy to see me.

My family moved to Troutdale in 1995, the year I started kindergarten. We bought a house in Sandee Palisades, one of several neighborhoods in the area. Our home was built in 1979, and boasted an asymmetrical roof that exuded a sense of cool. Only one other house in the neighborhood matched ours, except the design was in reverse. Naturally, I found this very amusing as a child. I absolutely loved our home, even up the point when it became possessed with what our family refers to as "the white thing." Another story for another time.

Growing up in Troutdale felt like living in a land of in-between. Going west for a few miles, you would hit Portland, where you could go see top acts like The Smashing Pumpkins, or N'Synch. You could visit the Art Museum and see Broadway shows at the Keller. There were high end mid-century furniture stores, high end shoe stores, skyscrapers and bridges. Conversely, if you were to go east from our home, you'd essentially turn left and jump right onto the Historic Columbia River Highway and quickly find yourself at the Sandy River, Multnomah Falls, or vast farmlands. We were never too far from bright city lights, and we were never too far from freshly picked fruit. We were somewhere in-between berry fields and pop-culture.

Even as a child, despite my naivety for many things, I knew that I lived somewhere special.

*Editor's note: Tamsyn grew up in Troutdale, attending Sweetbriar Elementary School, Walt Morey Middle School, and Reynolds High School. She lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband Joe.*

## Attic Treasures

The attic at the Barn Exhibit Hall holds much of the Troutdale Historical Society's collection which is not on exhibit. For instance, we have this beautiful mantle clock (pictured) in the collection that was owned by Lena Sparf Holst. Lena was born in Finland and married Peter Holst about 1897. Peter's first wife had died in 1894, and it appears Lena helped raised his three children.



Peter died from heart issues in 1922, and Lena's occupation in census records is listed as 'housework.' She was admitted to the Multnomah County Farm and Home (now commonly known as Edgefield) in 1943 because of arthritis. At some point, Lena apparently left the County Home, because she returned in early 1947 and was there until her 1953 death when she was 91.

The clock was manufactured by the Wm. L. Gilbert Clock Company of Winstead, Connecticut. This company was in business until 1964, according to Wikipedia.

Sharon Nesbit, in her book *It Could Have Been Carpdale*, wrote, "In 1982, after the closure of Edgefield Manor, two truckloads of artifacts from the old poor farm came to the society."

\* The clock, pictured, was among those artifacts. p. 203



### Gardeners - We need help!

We are looking for volunteers to weed and deadhead the gardens at the Harlow House.

We'd like to restart our "adopt-a-bed" approach where you select the garden bed to keep looking smart and work the days/times you prefer. Julia Warner will walk you through what's in your bed and can be reached at 503-709-0944 - please call!

### Troutdale Historical Society Board Members & Staff

#### Executive Board

President: Dave Ripma  
Vice President: Norm Thomas  
Treasurer: Marilee Thompson  
Secretary: Jason Cawood

#### Board Members

Joy Beldin, Diane Castillo-White, Jean Ice, Jeff Neiger, Sharon Nesbit, Len Otto, Bruce Stannard, Helen Wand

#### Past Presidents

Helen Wand, Norm Thomas, Erin Janssens, Bettianne Goetz, Sharon Nesbit, Len Otto, Dave Ripma

#### Staff

Hiring Director Position



## CoGNA Visit

"This is really well done," commented one visitor on the THS Barn Museum's *King of Roads, Byway of the People* exhibit. From anyone else, the comment would have made any of us feel good about what we try to show with the *King of Roads* exhibit. From a member of the *Council of Geographic Names Authorities (CoGNA)* it made us feel exceptionally good.

The CoGNA group, hosted this year by the *Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB)*, is made up of people from all over the United States. Every state has its own geographic names body that reviews suggestions for name changes within its borders. Oregon has its *Oregon Geographic Names Board*, on which Troutdale's Sharon Nesbit has served for more years than anyone - including Sharon - can remember. (Sharon does remember *wanting* to be appointed to OGNB...and being so delighted when she was.) If a state board approves a name change, it goes to the *U.S. Board on Geographic Names*. With every approved name change, maps would have to be changed, after all, a process which takes years.



Counting the hosts from OGNB, there were approximately thirty visitors from CoGNA. Michigan, Nevada, Maryland, Colorado, Missouri, Minnesota, and many more states were represented.

"You did a really good job with this exhibit," was heard more than once. People left the exhibit wanting to see the real Columbia River Gorge and Historic Highway... but only after posing in front of the Lovers Oak tree on the Harlow House lawn.

Huge thanks to Greg and Sue Handy, Dave Ripma, Jeff Neiger, and Len Otto for hosting this group on Saturday, September 16th.

## We're Hiring!

The **Troutdale Historical Society** is in search of a **Director** to work with the Board to assess our strengths and areas for improvement, and to plan accordingly.

Duties also include overseeing museum operations at three locations, and the opportunity to work with some of the best volunteers!

For more information please visit:  
[troutdalehistory.org/apply/](http://troutdalehistory.org/apply/)

Another way to support

## TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Pick up **BottleDrop** blue bags at the Barn Exhibit Hall. Look for the box of bags outside on the bench - Fill with redeemable empty bottles and cans and drop off at any **BottleDrop** location. Funds will automatically be deposited and donated to THS.

Donations for 2023: **\$785**

Thank you for continued support in our **BottleDrop** fundraiser.  
**East County Drop-off Locations:**

Wood Village Redemption Center  
23345 NE Halsey Street  
Wood Village, OR 97060

Gresham Redemption Center  
1313 E Powell Blvd.  
Gresham, OR 97030

## President's Message

We all need to thank our volunteers for the major efforts they are making to keep the Troutdale Historical Society going during this time when we have no employees. The Board is actively looking to hire a Director and we hope to find one soon.

In the meantime THS is keeping the museums open and the office working thanks to the generous time given by many. I'm going to name some volunteers to thank - which is always risky because I'll probably leave some out. All our volunteers merit our thanks, and here are some I want to name:

Our fabulous docents: Amber Milmore, Ann Chatterton, Melissa Beveny, Joyce Belcher, Gloria Quipotla, Jeanette Kloos, Bettianne Goetz, Katherine Haslip, Kat Liljegren, Molly Peichel, Dwain and Sharon Munyan. Plus Board members Jeff Neiger, Jason Cawood, Joy Beldin, and Marilee Thompson.

The Collections team which has taken on some important office operations: Julia Warner, Twila Mysinger, Carla Robertson, Julie Stewart, DeeDee Hansen. Julia Warner, who has been the gardener, has also taken over supervision of the Harlow House window project.

Greg and Sue Handy have supported us immensely working on maintenance, assisting with the Harlow House projects and the landscaping.

Jamie LaCour, who has coordinated events and has developed the Yarn at the Barn event.

Desiree Smith, our volunteer scheduler.

Helen Wand and Joy Beldin who ran the First Friday booth project and the Raffle.

Board members who help in the office: Joy Beldin, Marilee Thompson, Len Otto, Jason Cawood. Jason also is our techie guy and is responsible for far too many things---our website, social media, etc.

In other news, Sharon Nesbit has retired from the Board but continues to volunteer as historian and as a docent. Sharon has earned a rest but will continue to be very involved in THS, as always. Kelly Broomall has also stepped away from the Board and the many, many ways he contributed to THS. Remember to thank Sharon and Kelly for years of service to THS when next you see them.

If anyone knows a potential THS Director we could hire, let me or any Board member know.



Dave Ripma, President

Dave Ripma, President

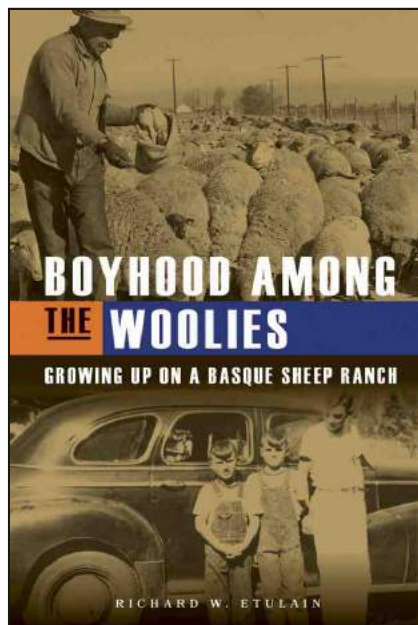
## McMenamins History Pub

The Basques: Mystery People of the American West

Presented by Richard Etulain

Co-sponsored by  
Oregon Historical Society and  
Troutdale Historical Society

McMenamins Edgefield  
Blackberry Hall  
Monday, November 13th  
7pm. Doors 6pm  
\$5



Historian Richard Etulain, Ph.D. specializes in the history and cultures of the American West. He has published over 65 books, including *Boyhood Among the Woolies: Growing Up on a Basque Sheep Ranch*. His presentation tells the story of Dr. Etulain's boyhood on a sprawling Basque sheep ranch located in the outback of eastern Washington.

**New Members**

Jim & Missy Hill  
Frank Stevens

**Renewing Members**

Robert Adams  
Robert Baker  
Leona Balch  
Bruce & Dianne Bangerter  
Joyce Belcher  
Bill & Shirley Boyce  
Doug Bloom  
Tom & Janice Cowling  
Louise Dix  
Kathleen Douglass  
Claire Finkel  
Kathleen Forrest  
Scott Forrester  
Mark & Pat Fromm  
Susan Garman  
Dale & Bonnie Handy  
Brian & Katherine Halsip  
Eric & Peggy Hazen  
Jim & Missy Hill  
Christine Howell  
Clifford Howell  
Patty & Gerald Huntley  
Jean & Bob Ice  
Jodi Cox  
Teresa & Dayle Kasner  
James & Cheryl Kerr  
Eleanor Ann Kracke  
Steven Lettengarver  
Janie Malloy  
Avis Marsh  
Marge McDevitt  
Chris Meinicke  
Eugene Melvin  
Angela Merritt  
Marilyn Morrison  
Mrs. Kirsten Jacobson-Croa  
Jim & Linda Murphy  
Nell & Richard Rodriguez  
Carol Nielsen  
Sharon Petri  
Betty Jo Peitzold  
Rosie & Larry Puderbaugh  
Jim Rhodes  
Samuel Skinner  
Jessica Smalley  
LeAnn & Gerald Stephan  
Frank Stevens  
Sharon Strickland  
Ray & Renae Summers  
Gay Sutton  
Jon Thorsby  
Marilyn Toenjes  
Bonnie & Ron Vaughn  
William Knight  
Diane Wingerd

**Captain's Circle Lifetime**

Mike Alderson  
Vera Ashley  
Ken & Trish Atha  
Joan Benner  
Judith Bergan  
Kelly & Karla Broomall  
Nancy Callister Buley  
Jason Cawood  
Ione Clair  
Stanley R. Clarke  
Janet Ege  
Charles & Sharon Ellis  
Georgia Erdenberger  
Kyle Fritzsinger  
Bettianne Goetz  
Joe & Peggy Gorciak  
Greg & Sue Handy  
Lynda Harvey  
John Hillyard  
Erin Janssens  
Jean Jensen  
George & Linda Johnson  
Stephen & Kim Kenney  
Jeanette Kloos  
Lael Larger  
Steve & Judy Lehl  
Shirley Ellis Loeffel  
Deanna Maughan  
Doug & Elise McGuire  
Mike & Mary Alice McMenamin  
Brian McMenamin  
Mike & Brian McMenamin  
Colleen Mershon & Family  
Dwain & Sharon Munyan  
Sharon Nesbit  
Sadie Riley  
David Ripma  
Irene Simons  
Robert Strebin  
Kay Struckman  
Marilee Thompson  
Mark Weyhrich  
Kimberly Wolfer

**Donors - General Fund**

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Robert Frost  
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Jeanette Kloos  
Eleanor Ann Kracke  
Marilyn Morrison  
Len & Gloria Otto  
Sharon Petri  
Ray & Renae Summers

Marilee Thompson  
In Honor of  
Sharon Nesbit

**Donors - Memorial Fund**

**Eleanor Ann Kracke**  
In Memory of Art Kacke

**Kathleen Douglass**  
In Memory of Dorothy  
Douglass

**Marilee Thompson**  
In Memory of Mario Ayala

**Len & Gloria Otto**  
In Memory of Mario Ayala &  
Pauline Morrow

**Sharon Petri**  
In Memory of Mario Ayala

**Richard & Rosa Housman**  
In Memory of Mario Ayala

Help us reach our goal of **500**  
members!

**TROUTDALE**  
**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Give the gift of membership to  
family or friends today!



Keeping a green lawn at the Harlow House is a lot easier these days, with special thanks to the City of Troutdale, who completed the installation of an in ground watering system. This is the first time something like this has been done on the park grounds surrounding the Harlow House museum.

Gone are the days of city parks staff and volunteers, checking the weather and looking to schedule time for watering at Harlow Park. Having an automated sprinkler system saves time, money, and overall produces a lush environment for everyone to enjoy.

Special thanks to the City of Troutdale and the parks crew. Our appreciation goes beyond words.

## A Special Thanks!

*By Jason Cawood*

If you've visited the Harlow House museum in recent time you may have marveled at how well cared for the grounds are with hedges perfectly trimmed and not a single leaf intruding too close to the paths that greet visitors to the museum. Our very own volunteer garden crew has taken on the various tasks of pruning, shaping, and maintaining our beautiful garden beds.



## Friends in History Remembered



### Victoria Mae Cerruti

**June 15, 1946 to August 17, 2023** - Born in Minnesota, Viki moved to Oregon when she was six months old. She grew up in the Portland area graduating Grant High School in 1964. In 1961, she met Richard Cerruti on a blind date; they married on August 28, 1965, spending 58 years of marriage together.

They first lived in Troutdale, then Boring, and in 1977 they built their forever home in Corbett where they raised their three kids. Viki took pride in caring for their house, yard, and garden while also being a work from home mom for their company, Pounder Oil Service. Viki loved to spend time with family camping, boating, and riding dirt bikes. As they got older Viki and Richard would hop in their RV and head south for the winters.

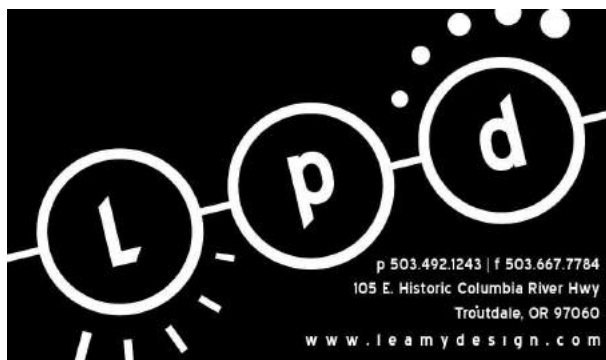
Viki spent the past few years struggling with some health issues, and passed away with family by her side. She is survived by her husband Richard Cerruti, children Nicholas (Minyoung) Cerruti, Angelina (Carl) Rickert, Mario (Michelle) Cerruti, and seven grand kids. She was preceded in death by her parents Robert and Fern Hansen, and sister Rebecca Grosnick.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, September 23 rd, 1:00pm, at Corbett Community Church, 34304 NE Mershon Rd, Corbett, OR.

## THANK YOU BUSINESS SPONSORS

Are you interested in becoming a Business or Corporate Sponsor? Visit our online store [troutdalehistory.org](http://troutdalehistory.org), fill out the form from this newsletter, or call 503-661-2164 for more information. The logo of our Business and Corporate Sponsors are linked to their website through our website and digital *ByGone Times* quarterly newsletter. We proudly display the logos at all our events.

Support our local history and become a Business or Corporate Sponsor!



*Edgefield*



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Troutdale, OR 97060  
Office Location:  
732 E Historic Columbia River Hwy.  
Troutdale, OR 97060  
Phone: 503-661-2164  
Email: info@troutdalehistory.org  
Website: 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 areas; to stimulate interest in the knowledge of the locality's past.

# Troutdale Historical Society

Preserving The Past, Embracing The Future

Membership includes free entry to all our museums, 10% off Barn Store gift shop merchandise, quarterly newsletters by mail or email, and \$10 off membership for the Oregon Historical Society.

- ☐ \$20 Individual Membership
- ☐ \$30 Family Membership
- ☐ \$100 Lovers Oak Club
- ☐ \$200 Lovers Oak Club ~ Family
- ☐ \$250 Business Sponsor (includes interactive link of your logo on THS website and online newsletter)
- ☐ \$500 Corporate Sponsor
- ☐ \$1000 Captain's Circle ~ Lifetime

\*\$15 Gift Membership given by \_\_\_\_\_ (Current Member Name)

Membership Dues Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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☐ General Operating Fund  
☐ Endowment Fund in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

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219 E Historic Columbia River Hwy  
Troutdale, OR 97060

**Questions? Contact THS Office**  
Phone: 503-661-2164  
Email: troutdalehistory@gmail.com  
Website: troutdalehistory.org  
Donations are tax deductible.  
THS is a 501 (C)3 non-profit organization.  
Federal Tax ID #93-0738777.

**Thank you for your support!**

**\*Current Members** can give an *Individual Membership* to a friend or family member for only \$15 for the first year.

## Edgefield History Pub

The last Tuesday of every month (except December) the Troutdale Historical Society co-sponsors a speaker at McMenamins Edgefield Blackberry Hall, 7:00pm (doors at 6:30 p.m.) Free for all ages. Food and drink are available for purchase.

