

Bygone Times

A Newsletter of The Troutdale Historical Society.



MAY, 1988

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SEEING SOME GREAT STUFF...

Arriving with your newsletter this month is a flier announcing our Sunday, May 22, Collector's Fair and Bring-a-thing from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Great Hall at Troutdale City Park.

At this point we have 15 collectors bringing such wonderful things as buttons, apple dolls, carpenter tools, tobacco cutters, teddy bears, bottles, antique clothing, sheet music, glass ware, Columbia gorge photos, toy trains, and even granite ware pots and pans.

Welcome to new collectors who have signed on since last month--George Rowley with tools, Vicki White with a collection of cat figures and turn glass, Sharon Strebins of The Questers with a variety of items including dolls, Margaret Moir with blue granite ware, Gloria Witter with bottles, and Sandy Cartisser with antique clothing. To date we have two people who will identify and evaluate the things you bring. They are Jackie Buroker and Betty Chisum.

What can you do? 1. All the information you need is in your newsletter so please give your flier away. Post it at your local store or give it to a friend. 2. Call Nancy Cox, 665-9086, to volunteer a dessert for the luncheon we will serve throughout the day. 3. Or call Dorothy Sturges, 665-4896, and offer to help with luncheon serving and preparation. 4. Or call Sharon Nesbit, 665-0423, to help with set up, ticket taking or clean up.

AND THE NEXT DAY WE FEAST...

On the following evening, Monday, May 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall at the park we will join the Fairview Rockwood Wilkes Historical Society for a potluck dinner and an evening of musical entertainment by East Multnomah County pioneer and witty baritone, Bill Elliott.

This is also the night we pass out our Member of the Year award as well as some other spots of recognition.

Please bring a salad, side dish, bread, or dessert. We will provide a meat dish and beverages, as well as paper plates and plastic tableware. You may bring your own table setting if you wish.

This is our official end of the year meeting. Though we will not meet again on a formal basis until October, the summer is full of all sorts of events including our June 12 ice cream social, a July city picnic, an August 20 field trip and train ride and a Sept. 18 pie social. By then it will be time to start our season again with our annual Troutdale school reunion on Oct. 16.

Your newsletter takes a vacation in July and August.

WANT TO RIDE A CHOO CHOO?

Gene Bui is arranging a bus trip and a train ride on the new, "but old" Mount Hood Railway to Parkdale on Saturday, Aug. 20. You pack a lunch or be prepared to buy a sandwich on the train, and we will take you to Hood River on the bus at 9 a.m., buy you a train ticket for the two-hour ride, possibly fit in a trip to the Hood River museum and bring you back to Troutdale again. Cost will be \$20. You can buy a ticket from our ticket sellers at the ice cream social or the collector's fair. Or, if you want to be contacted closer to the date,

HISTORY WRITERS...

History keeps best if it is written down. If you think of a tidbit of Troutdale History, try the post-card method. Write down what you remember on a "penny post card", sign it, date it and send it to us. We tuck it in a file and BINGO!--a historical document.

This note came from Rose Jones Cummins about her grandfather:

James Austin Jones was born June 26, 1859, on a donation land claim three miles east of Gresham. He died Jan. or Feb. 1959. A lot of Oregonians still hadn't found out that President James Buchanan had admitted Oregon as the 33rd state by the time my grandfather Jones was born.

He married in 1882. His father gave him 74 acres out of his donation land claim and neighbors helped him build a home. He worked in a rawhide mill to help pay for the house. He and his wife, Mary, had 9 girls and 3 boys. My grandfather played the violin and all his children played instruments also.

His wife died at age 49, but he didn't remarry until 80 years of age. His second wife died in 1947. He spent his last years with his daughter "Noma" in North Portland.

Rose enclosed an Oregonian clipping of an interview with James Jones, apparently written in 1959. He remembered the dances he used to play for: "It (the dance) lasted from sundown to sunup. I played the fiddle and we danced all night. Ate two meals, one at midnight and one at breakfast time. Sometimes the dancing would continue off and on for a couple of weeks."

NAME DROPPERS...

The story of former Troutdale mayor and grocer AARON FOX is included in the new book "Jews of Oregon" thanks to information from our files that was supplied to the author...DORIS CAMELLA and a gang of volunteers are seeing to it that our depot museum is open each Saturday and Sunday this summer. Visit it from 1 to 4 p.m. on those days...RANKIN and SUE DAVIS did the work of getting the depot ready for visitors...BARBARA WELSH donated a fantastic old piece of farm equipment, a self-watering plant setter...CATHY HAMME who grows all the flowers at the Harlow House gave us an antique Bo-Peep pitcher to put bouquets in...HOMER TOWNSEND sent a framed picture of Cedar School...BOB DUNKEN has loaned a wonderful collection of hat pins that once belonged to his late wife, Betty, for display at the Harlow House. You can see them there each Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m...Bob is also bringing a mob of old-car buffs to our May 22 collector's fair...PAT COURTNEY and JIM BARNAS, friends of the late Irene Douglass Waldo, donated several pictures, items and clippings about Dr. Waldo at the last meeting...Jim has also volunteered to complete the work of transcribing the Waldo oral history tapes...FLORENCE BAKER gave a collection spice boxes and tins...If you haven't seen our new display of such items in the pantry of the Harlow House, make sure to visit on museum Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m...CATHY HAMME needs plants for the June 12 sale. Call her at 667-7760.

HISTORY NOTES...

Ernie Cereghino says a fellow named Oscar Bryan or Brian used to run the gravel pit and what is now known as Landfill Park (or the Obrist pit) on Troutdale Road and John Nasmyth wants to know if anyone remembers or has a picture of the sundial that used to stand at Sun Dial Ranch. If you have any information, write it on a post card and