Cereghino clan will gather for interview

Remember late summer days when you could travel home to Troutdale on Troutdale Road, spot Emie Cereghino's "Corn for Sale" sign, and get fresh, just-picked ears for dinner?

Emie would check each ear of corn to make sure it was a good one. A dollar changed hands. A feast was made.

Emie Cereghino and his wife, Joyce, still live in the house on Troutdale Road, now surrounded by dozens of new homes. No corn, but lots of kids surround them.

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A live oral history interview with Troutdale's Cereghino family,
Sunday, April 18, 2 p.m.
in Troutdale City Hall.
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The Cereghino family has been a part of Troutdale road since the early 1920s. They are scattered now, but Emie has promised to round up as many as possible to tell of about life on Troutdale Road for our program, Sunday, April 18, 2 p.m. in Troutdale City Hall.

We will videotape this interview to add to our oral history collection. We can provide copies of the videotape for family members and friends. It helps to know how many we might need. Please call the Harlow House 661-2164 and leave a message to let us know.

And, plan ahead to be there for our Sunday, May 16, historical tour of East County cemeteries with graveyard historian, Stan Clarke.
Namedroppers

From Nancy (Bul) Wolf comes another edited chapter of our Troutdale history, which Sharon Nesbit completed in January. This one, on weather and weather-related events in Troutdale covers storms and floods through the February 1998 flood. Nancy has volunteered to edit each chapter of the book.

Thanks to Karen Jordan for agreeing to keep our newspaper file.

Gifts to the Endowment Fund

In memory of Mary Allen
Edna Ellis
LaVerna Snell
In memory of Sam Cox
Keith & Faye Jackson
Lucille A. Tolbert
In memory of Ellen Brothers
Shereen Spector & Jim Gurtisen
Adrienne Clausen
In memory of Vera Strebin
Birdell Eliason Wendt
In memory of Irene Eliason
Birdell Eliason Wendt
In memory of Merle M. Coons
Gordon & Ione Doolittle

And from Charlotte White

Treasurer's report by Penny Balch

Operating Fund $ 7,614.60
Berm account 8,045.30
Director's Fund 15.00
Capital Imp. Fund 7,346.40
Endowment Fund 32,381.92

Gifts to the General Fund


Smelt tidbit from Outlook

An idea of the classy type of soiree attended by Troutdale residents 80 years ago:

"Jess Coons gave a unique dinner party Monday evening of last week in the bachelor home of himself and Herman Blazer, in honor of Miss Faye Leupold, who leaves today for her home in Kansas. The principal dish of the dinner was chicken mulligan, bachelor style, and the guests' places were marked by a smoked salmon adorned with a red ribbon bow, with a place card in his mouth.

Besides the host and the guest of honor, the invited company included Mrs. Ed. DuPuis, Mrs. Mary Parsons, Mrs. L.A. Harlow, Mr. and Mrs. W. Robinson of Vancouver, Misses. Olive Wilson, Bollie Parsons, Isabel Low, Messrs. George and Russell Wilson, Victor Holm, and Herman Blazer."

Meyer grant will help fund time line

Bob Strebin, Mary Bryson, and Deb Cook assembled a large assortment of historic photos and material for Tommy Griffin of Presentation Design with hopes of having a Troutdale time line on the barn wall in June for the opening of the ice cream social.

Best news is that Deb Cook wrote a successful grant to the Meyer Memorial Trust for $2,700 to pay for the rest of the time line assembly and design costs. This has been our most successful appeal for grants, thanks to Deb's tenacity and the kindness of foundations. We have also received money from Portland General Electric and the Samuel Johnson Foundation for this project.

Welcome New Members: Kathy Werner, Bob & Pat Balch, Gerald & Ann Klinger, Donna L. McCollister and Laura Van Atta, a gift from Florence Baker.

Deb leaves town, director search on

The last goodbyes were said to our able director Deb Cook, March 21.

Deb-like, she left final instructions for all ongoing events and programs and departed for her new home in Missouri with her husband, Bob, and son, James. We will miss, as well, the men in her family who were pressed into service dozens of times when we needed help, ranging from computer work to snow removal.

Our first round of interviews with potential director candidates did not yield a final candidate, so we are considering a variety of options for staffing our organization.

The Ways and Means committee advises that we should have a full-time staff member. (The truth is we pay half-time, but often require full-time effort.)

Some of our director candidates suggested hiring a clerical worker and seeking a volunteer director to oversee the tasks.

Some members suggest splitting available funds between a clerical worker and a director who really directs.

Until we can sort it out -- and until the perfect candidate surfaces -- we hope to get by through the summer with volunteer efforts by our board members. This month Sheryl Maydew and Penny Balch, take on office chores. Florence Baker is seeing to Harlow House host volunteers.

Our ideal solution would be to have a director from our own membership, a method that has served us well in the past. Volunteer office help for letter writing and other computer chores, would be a blessing.

Until we find the answer, you can help. We will be staffing the Harlow House this summer. If you could offer an afternoon of hosting once a month, call the Harlow House at 561-2164. To help pay salary costs of a director, increase your membership to the director's club (see Page 3). Or, if you have ideas on how we should proceed, please come to our our April 18 meeting, or telephone any of our officers and board members.
Treasures of Oregon rolling into our town in an big van

You don't get many chances to see such a diverse collection of Oregon artifacts as will come to Troutdale April 30 and May 1 in Glenn Otto Community Park, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

AT & T Treasures of Oregon is a traveling exhibit in an enormous trailer -- a museum on wheels with free admission. To celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Oregon Historical Society, this fabulous exhibit is making the rounds of Oregon communities.


We anticipate large crowds in Troutdale for this event. If you can not attend the exhibit here, it will be in Gresham at the Pioneer Museum April 27 and 28 and at Hood River at the county historical society on May 3 and 4.

How did we get so lucky? Troutdale Historical Society is an affiliate member of the Oregon Historical Society. And Gresham's own Jean Elkington, a cousin of the Hessel family, left money in her will to Oregon Historical Society to help pay costs.

How can you help? We expect lots of folks to also take the opportunity to visit our Harlow House, barn and depot museums. If you can offer time to host either museum on April 30 or May 1, please call 661-2164. We see this special exhibit as a way for us to show off our museums at the same time.

Malcolm Boslar Remembered

A good friend, Malcolm Boslar, died March 14 at the age of 87.

Malcolm was not a face we saw often at events. After he retired in 1977 from his Fairview Green House and Flower Shop, an ivy-covered building that stood near the intersection of Fairview Avenue and Haley Street, he and his wife Virginia, moved to Bend. During his retirement, he was a superb and honored volunteer at the High Desert Museum.

But he never forgot his roots, and each Christmas saw to it that a box of fragrant juniper arrived at the Harlow House in time for the Christmas decorating party. And there was plenty for decorators to take home, too.

It is a tradition we have missed in the last few years when he became too ill to go to the hills and cut juniper. Eventually he moved back to Gresham to be near his family. Two daughters, a son, Gordon Boslar of Gresham, and a sister survive.

What does a Directors Club do?
They go directly to the table.

Response to this year's membership drive to our Director's Club have been excellent. What is the Director's Club? It is a higher level of membership, $75 for couples, $50 for individuals, supporting the salary of our paid, part-time director.

They don't get to direct much of anything -- though when you look at the following list you will recognize many major players in our organization -- but they do get to host a lovely summer lawn party at the home of Troutdale Historical Society President David Ripma. The gathering, always the highlight of the summer season, is a pleasant late afternoon event of a wonderful group of like-minded folk and the weather always seems to cooperate. Last year's Director's Club picnic was the last time many of us saw our former president Sam Cox before his death.

This year's Director's Club members to date are: Donna Hawkins, Dorothy Sturgis, Gerald & Roberta Grimm, Jean Holman, Lois Moller, Beverly Welker, Patricia O'Brien, William & Sharon Strebens, Judy Bronkey, Nancy Cox, Florence Baker, Ed & Marge Schmunk, Marlene J. Burns & Jon Dickinson, Hudson Lasher, Sheryl Maydew, Walter & Lorraine Mackey, Gerald & Shirley Lambert, Dennis & Frieda Ryland, Terry & Jodi Smoke, Harvey & Betty Weprecht, Pat Brothers, Gordon & Ione Doolittle, Homer & Meg Campbell, Scott & Eileen Cunningham, Penny Balch, Colleen McCoy, Ted & Alvera Binn, Kyle Fritzsche, Bob & Mona Mitchoff, John Byron and Sharon & Bill Nesbit.

In addition to memberships, gifts to the Director's Fund came from Truly Wright and three memorial contributions were made in memory of our late director, Ellen Brothers, by Adrienne Clausen, Sally King, and Shereen Spector and Jim Gurtiser.

Tea and Tour
May Day
at Forest Hall

A few seats remain for this year's Tea and Tour, May 1, in memory of our late director, Ellen Brothers.

The event is a fund raiser for operation of the Harlow House. If you want an invitation, telephone Harlow House, 661-2164, and leave your name and address.

And, don't miss the tea pot and tea accessory exhibit at the Harlow House. More rosebuds than a rose garden.
Reminders:

Seats remain on Trek to Lake Chelan:

Our May 13, 14, 15 Trek to Washington, with its focus on geology and history, is priced at $300. Seats are still available. Call 661-2164.

Vendors, volunteers sought for Ice Cream Social:

Our annual ice cream social is being planned by Mona Mitchoff and her crew. If you have a craft booth, or know someone who does, Jean Holman signs up vendors at 665-7678. If you plan to attend and can offer an hour or two of volunteer time, call the Harlow House at 661-2164.

Hooray for the FAX machine:

We now have a FAX machine at the Harlow House. You may FAX to 661-2164.

PURVIS PURVEYS PERVERSE PROGRAM

What a lot of fun people had March 14, with Connie Purvis' program of Crimes, Casualties and Curiosities, a survey of Troutdale in the news. (We do apologize for a newsletter that arrived too late to remind some of you)

Connie came up with classics like this: "In 1915 Harold McCready set up a skunk farm in his neighborhood (Victory School, 302nd and Division). He raised the creatures for their fur. He said they ate about the same food as cats, were relatively tame for wild animals and produced one or two litters per year. He didn't say who wore skunk-skin coats."

Connie's program provoked many stories and promises of more to come. Walter Nasmyth, we hear, has a total of 25 of his great reminiscences.

Names in the News:

George McDade, a candidate for our director's position, said he would volunteer, no matter what happened. He joined our Ways and Means committee, our newest group of deep thinkers dedicated to helping us fund our programs and activities.

Others in Ways and Means: Sheryl Maydew, Penny Balch, Kim Cook, Susan Tissot and Scott Cunningham.

One of their thoughts: The Harlow House will be 100 years old in 2,000. (How do we mark the event?)

Bob Strebly donated a nice desk for the Harlow House office. Curator Mary Bryson now has a real desk, unfortunately piled high since her spring absence.