



# BYGONE TIMES

A Newsletter of the TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

May, 1998 -- Special Edition

Editor, Sharon Nesbit, 665-0423

## Two big events: Opening of our barn and exhibit and 30 years of ice cream

As promised, a special mailing telling members about events in early June: the opening of our barn museum with the exhibit, **SMELT RUNI**, and our 30th annual Old-fashioned Ice Cream Social, June 6 and 7, in Glenn Otto Community Park.

### First-Nighters' Party

First: We open the barn museum with two parties. Wednesday, June 3, 5 to 8 p.m., is a First-Nighters' fundraiser, to raise money for our next exhibit -- *The Troutdale Time Line*. For that party, with wine and finger foods, we charge \$50 a person, limiting guests to the first 100 claiming the right to view our first professionally-designed exhibit.

Want to be a First-Nighter? Send your check quickly to the address on the front of this letter. We will honor the first 100 checks, returning any the others with a free pass for a future visit.



### Friends on the Beams

The next night, Thursday, June 4, 5 to 8 p.m., is a special viewing for Friends on the Beams: people who contributed enough time or money to earn their names on one of our barn beams. Look for your invitation in the mail.

### The Grand Opening

Finally, at 10 a.m., Saturday, June 6, our formal ribbon-cutting and official opening with Sam Cox, Dave Traxler and others. (Our last newsletter indicated an hour earlier. To allow time to set up our ice cream social, the time was changed.)

It goes without saying, but we'll say it anyway, this is a remarkable time for our society and one that comes only because of an incredible amount of work and devotion from our members. Enjoy. Pat yourself on the back. Then go to the park and buy plants and eat ice cream.

### About ice cream

Our 30th annual social -- ice cream, strawberries, music, plant sales (with some new donations from local nurseries), craft vendors -- is sponsored by **Waste Management of Troutdale**. **Tom Miller, Massage Therapist**, hosts Harlow House and Hazel Webb's exhibit of items in strawberry motif.

## A scrap of history

Memorial Day marks the 50th anniversary of the 1948 Vanport Flood, which inundated much of the Columbia River frontage at Troutdale, threatened and shut down the Reynolds Metals plant and made an island of the little hill on which the Harlow House is located.

In an article for the Port of Portland, writer Dick Montgomery noted that the flood inundated Portland's Columbia Airport and forced evacuation of the Troutdale Airport, sending airline operations to McMinnville.

However, the same effort that saved the aluminum plant, also kept Troutdale Airport flood free. On June 24 Troutdale Airport reopened and the four major airlines operating in Portland moved to Troutdale from a temporary landing place in Salem. All planes except United's giant 4-engined DC-6s could land at Troutdale's 2,000-foot runway. With the huge increase in air traffic at Troutdale, the Civil Aeronautics Administration rushed construction of a control tower, Troutdale's first, which was built in five days and opened on July 12. The Portland airport opened the following September.

## Insiders Tip...

Want to study our exhibit, **SMELT RUNI**, to your heart's content? Sign up with Jean Hybskmann for a few days this summer hosting Harlow House and the barn museum. Jean is filling slots for hosts at both the house and depot. Her telephone number is **669-7822**. After June 6, call Deb Cook at Harlow House, **661-2164**, as Jean will be gone for a bit.

## Reminders...Attaboys...Praise...

**J. Frank Schmidt** donated 10 trees for our Ice Cream Social plant...**Carole Klinger** is calling nurseries to gather donations...Our fantastic Tea and Tour, May 2, at the Yoshida home earned high praise and \$2,500 to fund Harlow House for the year. Though not quite a sell-out, **Junki & Linda Yoshida** promised to make up the difference...Troutdale Trekkers had fun on our trip to Tacoma and helped earn about \$3,000 for our treasury...Our Member of the Year Award goes to **Marge Schmunk** who supervises our rail depot and End of the Line Museum Store. The special touches in the depot, the fantastic toys and stock for sale, the spotless condition are all the work of Marge, her volunteers and husband, **Ed**...Our awards ceremony also recognized former board members, **Mike Dubesa, Len Otto & Dick Jones** and former director, **Ellen Brothers**, for her five years of service.

**Troutdale Historical Society**  
104 S.E. Kibling Street  
Troutdale, OR 97060

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

Hey,



**don't  
forget  
ice cream  
and  
smelt,  
Saturday  
and Sunday,  
June 6 & 7.**

Page 2

### **Firefighters cook**

From 8 a.m. to noon, Sat., June 13, Corbett Fire Department will hold an old-fashioned fire house breakfast in conjunction with antique car clubs touring the Historic Columbia River Highway. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$2 for children.

### **Program ideas sought**

Connie Purvis resigned from our program committee after several years of offering excellent ideas for our winter slate of historical programs. Have you some thoughts to offer on the subject? We plan an early summer meeting to set the schedule. If you have ideas, call Sharon Nesbit, 665-0423.

### **Our taxes are done**

Penny Balch, treasurer, is a Certified Public Accountant, and able to fill out our tax returns. Yes, we have to, even as a non-profit. Penny's work saves us hundreds of dollars every year.

### **Good stuff at End of the Line Museum Store**



**Marge Schmunk's selection of good trout and train stuff is for sale at our End of the Line museum store.**

**Hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m.**