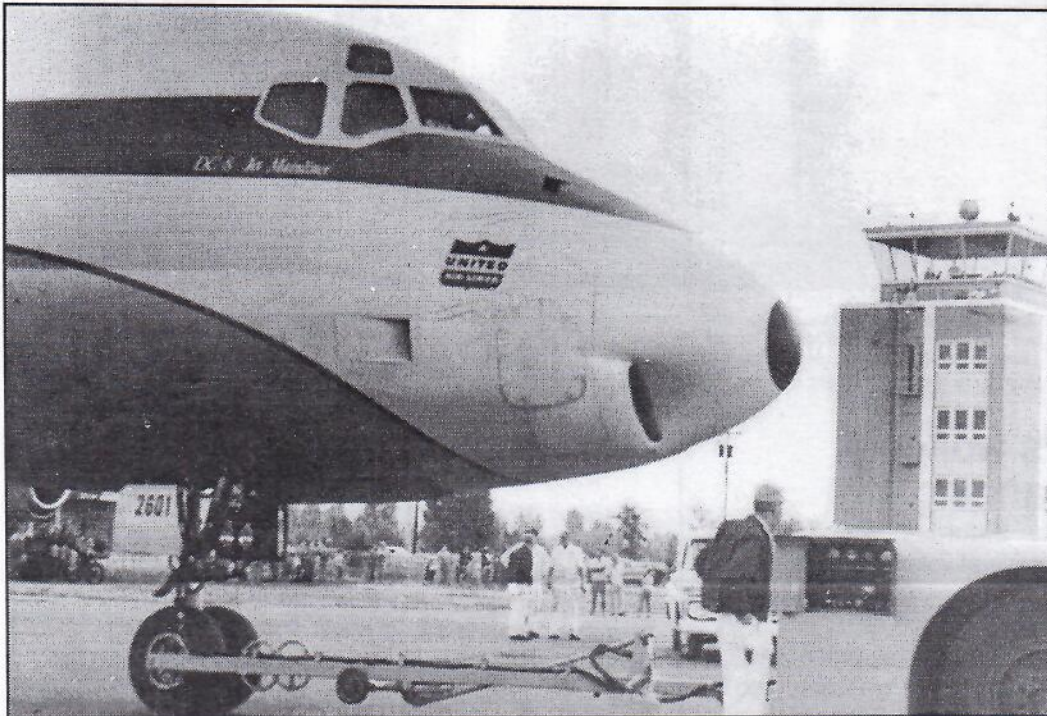


BYGONE TIMES

A Newsletter of the TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

February, 1998



We
called
it
Troutdale
International

A history
of the
Troutdale
Airport,
Sunday,
Feb. 15,
2 p.m.
Troutdale
City Hall

This photo was taken after a United Airlines DC-8 landed at Troutdale airport by mistake at 4 a.m. on Aug. 12, 1962. Realizing his error too late, Capt. S.R. Whipple set his bird down, stopping it three-quarters of the way down the runway. Experts had said it couldn't be done. The airport had no passenger ramp tall enough to reach the plane.

Annual meeting, dues, election of officers, history of Troutdale airport all on Feb. 15

On Feb. 15 at 2 p.m. at Troutdale City Hall, we meet for the 30th anniversary meeting of the Troutdale Historical Society. This organization came into being in this same building on Feb. 28, 1968, when historians of Troutdale met at the behest of then-Mayor Glenn Otto to consider ways to preserve the community's heritage.

Inside this newsletter is a time line of landmark events for our organization. We honor our charter members on Feb. 15, and invite as many as possible to be present for photographs. And we will have our scrapbooks of society history for your review. More observances are planned at our June ice cream social, which also will be presented for the 30th time.

The program for our anniversary meeting is presented by Maude Winning and features the Troutdale airport, including a special reminiscence by Walter Nasmyth and the results of interviews with Bob Sturges.

Our February meeting is the annual business meeting, so come prepared to elect officers. With the exception of two board members, our present slate of officers are all candidates for reelection. Descriptions of board member nominees are on the inside pages of this newsletter. This is the time to collect dues. Consider upgrading your membership to Director's Club, \$75.00 a couple or \$50 per individual. This helps pay costs of our part-time paid director, Deb Cook. Other wise, dues are \$8 for an individual, \$12 for a couple, \$20 per family. If an envelope is attached to your newsletter, it indicates that your dues are due. If not, then you have paid dues recently or are a lifetime member.

Charter members 5 years back...

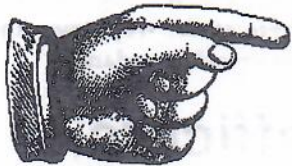


These charter members were at our 25 anniversary meeting five years ago. We plan to gather as many as possible at our Feb. 15 meeting and take a similar photo. From left: Al Stoeckel, Sam Cox, Bob & Dorothy Sturges, Mary Hughes, Nancy Cox, Sue Davis, the late Georgia May Carow and Truly Wright.

Board of directors working on long-range planning

On a brisk January Saturday, the Troutdale Historical Society Board and several volunteers and former officers gathered to discuss long-range planning for our society.

Pat Brothers has led us through this process twice in two years, asking questions about what we want to do in the next five years and making us consider costs and messy factors no one wants to think of -- such as janitorial expense when the barn is open.



The result points us all in the same direction. Once the information is gathered Pat and Penny Balch prepare a chart showing how much money we will need each year for the

projects we plan. We get a document useful, for keeping us on track, but also to show those who give grant money.

Based on the talk Jan. 3, we want to continue restoration of the Harlow House, finish the Dick Jones workshop, complete the upstairs of the barn, and build several more exhibits, including a Lewis and Clark exhibit over the next five years. We want to continue spiffing up the depot and to have a professionally-designed exhibit there. Eventually we will have new signs and a long white, board fence -- just like the one Captain Harlow had -- along the front of the Harlow House/barn site.

Thanks to Ellen Brothers, former director, who joined us, lending her expertise and experience. And to Florence Baker, Penny Balch, Mary Bryson, Mike Dubesa, David Ripma, Ted Schulte, Deb Cook, Bob Strebin, Jean Holman, Sam Cox, Sharon Nesbit and Kim Cook, who has volunteered to write a marketing plan for our society.

CALENDAR Feb/March

Meetings

Sunday, Feb. 15, 2 p.m.

Thirtieth Anniversary meeting and history of the Troutdale airport, Troutdale City Hall.

Sunday, March 15, 2 p.m.

Geology of Troutdale and the Gorge, Troutdale City Hall

Sunday, April 19, 2 p.m.

An interview with Garthe Brown, Troutdale City Hall

Sunday, May 17, 2 p.m.

The Doolittle Store, opening with a reception at store site, Oregon Country Quilt and Fabric, then Troutdale City Hall.

Board of Directors

Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 1, 7 p.m.

In the barn. All members welcome.

Coming Events

March 22, 3 p.m. Reception for Kaz & Helen Tamura, Sam Cox Building

Tentative date: April 24, 25 & 26, Spring Trek

Saturday, May 2, Tea & Tour, Yoshida Home

Troutdale Ice Cream Social, June 6 & 7

Harlow House

Saturdays and Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m.

Depot Musuem & Store

Closed for the winter

??????

Questions: Call Harlow House, 661-2164

"A PERFECT CHILDHOOD"

by JACK ELMER

Nowadays it seems when a person has troubles in their life, they are very quick to say that most of their problems were caused by a bad childhood I am here to say I personally had a wonderful childhood.

I was born on April 28, 1939. In January of 1939, my parents, Bill and Rosalie Elmer, bought what would become the "Elmer Home." (It is now the Faith United Methodist Church.)

Both of my parents were brought up in Swiss households, so they were taught to save their money and pay cash for most everything, so it was not uncommon for them to pay cash for their home and property. It was not very much, but it was a great deal of money in those days. The place came with a home, four small barns, a small tenant's house and 15 acres.

When I was born, I already had a brother, Bill Elmer, Jr., who was 3. My mother and father owned a very successful dairy, Roseway Dairy, in the old Grand Central Market in Portland. It was a farmer's market before its time. It's a bowling alley today.

They loved the dairy very much. They wanted to have a second child and wanted to raise both of their children in the country. Because of the large acreage, I certainly was not wanting of space. I started my grade school years in the old Cedar School. That would be about 1.5 miles south of Stark Street, then called Baseline Road.

In the last days of school in 1945, I came from the first grade at Cedar School. As I came into the house, I called for my mother. She was downstairs in her sewing and ironing room. When I walked downstairs, there she was, ironing on her old mangle. Tears were just streaming down her face. I asked her what was wrong. All she could say was, "The war is over."

In the 30s and 40s, one family member working could make enough money to support the whole family. The other family member could stay home and be with the children. My mother and father were very involved with 4-H. My father was 4-H Club livestock leader and 4-H poultry leader.

My mother was a 4-H club food leader and invented a new club for cakes and decorated cakes. I give a lot of the credit for my success to those 4-H years. (Jack Elmer is a champion chef. He and his wife own JaCiva's, a chocolate and cake emporium of international repute in Portland.)

My father was president of the Troutdale school board and the Troutdale PTA. There were a great deal of family values in our household. It was not until the mid-50s that we even owned a TV set. Sundays were for being with the family. We went on picnics quite a bit, went to our mountain cabin or Sunday evenings we would all sit around the huge radio we had and would imagine (scenes) of what we were hearing. Even if we stayed home and worked on the farm, we did it as a family.

To be Continued

April 24, 25, 26 for Troutdale Trek



We're still working on details, but here's the gist of a spring trek. We are taking three days, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 24, 25 and

26, and heading for Washington, taking in the new visitor center at Mount St. Helens, the Olympic Club (a wonderful old tavern restored by McMenamins) in Centralia, the fantastic Washington State Historical Museum in Tacoma, the restored Union Station next door with its Chihuly art glass, Point Defiance Park, the charming town and museum of Steilacoom and Lakewold Gardens, a magnificent rhododendron garden of a lumber baron, which should be in bloom.

Because it is a three-day trip and those who are working will likely not be able to go, we're going to cut down to a small bus of about 24 passengers, which necessarily raises the cost. We haven't established price yet, but it will include two nights in a motel (a AAA three-diamond this time) as well as transportation, admissions and perhaps one or two meals.)

If you want to be on the list, let Deb Cook know at 661-2164 and we'll get back to you with more information.

Invitations soon for May 2 Tea and Tour

If you want to receive an invitation to our Sat., May 2, Tea and Tour of the Junki and Linda Yoshida home, the former Portland Automobile Club, please call 661-2164 and leave your name, telephone number and address. Price is \$35 a person, to benefit the Harlow House Museum.

A chance to dance, romance

A Valentine's dance in the Sam Cox building of Glenn Otto Community Park on Thursday, Feb. 12, from 1 to 4 p.m. will be a chance to test those dancing skills.

The First Seniors Valentine's Sweetheart Ball is sponsored by The Gresham Senior Center, East Multnomah County Senior Services, Gresham Parks and Recreation and Troutdale Parks and Recreation, and our members are invited. There will be food, chocolate, decorations and, of course, music to dance to.

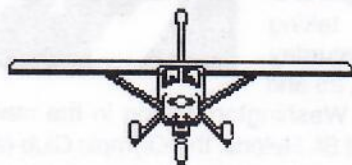
ROSTER

Two people have agreed to help with the costs of publishing a new roster of membership for our society. However, we still need more dollars to cover the estimated \$500.00 cost. Interested? Call Deb Cook, 661-2164.

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

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History
of the
Troutdale Airport
and a
30th birthday
party
Feb. 15, 2 p.m.
Troutdale City Hall

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Nesbit on MCTV

Society historian Sharon Nesbit appears monthly on a City of Troutdale show on Multnomah County Community Television.

The program, hosted by Tracy Callan, features news and events about Troutdale and a regular talk from Sharon about some aspect of city history. Recently the television production crew came to the Harlow House to film three pieces on the history there. The shows, called Troutdale City View, are aired on the community television channel on Tuesday nights prior to the council meeting.

What's new at Harlow House?

Christina Balsiger, exhibit chairwoman, and Mary Bryson, curator, set out in late December to put up a modest exhibit of new-to-us artifacts in our collection. Then, in one of those bursts of energy that drives husbands berserk, they decided to re-do the upstairs of the Harlow House, creating a nursery out of one room and reworking tired displays in another.

Who knows what's new at the Harlow House. You'll have to stop by and see for yourself. Hours are 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Treasurer's Report from Penny Balch

Cap. Imp. Fund, Harlow House..	\$19,995
Operating Fund.....	4,346
Barn Building Fund.....	5,119
Barn Exhibit Fund.....	10,900
Endowment Fund.....	31,381

Total.....\$60,841

TAMURA ROAST/RECEPTION

In honor of Kaz & Helen Tamura and all they have contributed to the society over the years a reception in their honor is planned. Everyone is invited to attend the celebration. Sunday, March 22, at the Sam Cox Building.

Creek 'arisin

January 19, 1998 after the big snow storm the Harlow House waited in anticipation as the creek behind started climbing it's banks once again. Luckily the rain let up and within a few hours the creek dropped 4 ft.

THIS IS HOW WE PAY OUR DUES

If a dues envelope is in your newsletter, then it means that you owe annual dues, or, if you have not previously been a member, we invite you to join the Troutdale Historical Society.

Because we do not want cost to keep you from being a part of our organization, our annual dues per individual are only \$8. If you can afford more, we have other membership levels:

**\$12 per couple
\$20 per family**

or the Director's Club -- a special membership level that helps pay costs of our part-time paid director.

\$75 per couple, or \$50 for an individual

If you can afford a bit more for a donation to one of our funds, the envelope has a spot for that purpose. We appreciate every dollar, so you will understand that we won't consume time and postage writing letters to acknowledge small gifts under \$5. But thanks a bunch.