Christmas present

A century of Christmas past -- Harlow House
Santa and cookies at 726 E. Historic Columbia River Highway, Dec. 4, noon to 4 p.m.
Open every Saturday and Sunday afternoon, 1-4 p.m. through Dec. 19.

A view to Christmas present -- a Troutdale calendar
Artist Rebecca Beachell autographs a special local calendar at Celebrate Me Home, 319 E. Historic Columbia River Highway, Dec. 4, noon-4 p.m.

A caboose for Christmas -- Troutdale Rail Depot
And a joyful selection of train toys at End of the Line museum store, Dec. 4, noon to 4 p.m.

Christmas past

News for our members in December:

❖ Pardon an abbreviated newsletter, but events take place early in December. Mark your calendars for our Christmas open house, Saturday, December 4, noon to 4 p.m. Attend a calendar signing at Troutdale's Celebrate Me Home and buy trains, trout and historical society gifts at our End of the Line Museum Store.

❖ Help gather Christmas greens, holly and cedar for the Harlow House Wednesday, Dec. 1. If you have greens, please leave them on the front porch by Wednesday morning. Stay to decorate if you have time.

❖ If you would like to make a gift before year end for tax purposes, consider donating to our fund for a full-time staff and/or professional director. Our long-range planning committee identified hiring of a director as a top priority for 2000. Your help is needed.

❖ And happy holidays to a host of wonderful members who treasure this town and its history. Best wishes to all for 2000.

All sorts of good news

Museum Hosts: Adrienne Clausen, 663-0895, is our volunteer coordinator and is building a group of Harlow House and depot hosts. Our thanks to new hosts who have said yes: George Penketh, Bill Payne, Connie Van Cleave, June Jones.
And to old hands who said yes again: Mary Hughes, Florence Baker, Mario Ayala, Carolyn Taylor, Pat Smith, Jan Vandiver, Jim Cook, Marge Schmunk.

Program Committee: Bless Alice Wand whose work on our program committees in the past has brought us full houses. Alice, also on our barn exhibit committee, has a daughter, Helen Wand, who this month asked to join the program committee. Welcome, Helen. And thanks, Alice, for all those kids.
And, speaking of programs: Janet Vandiver has volunteered to coordinate refreshments and coffee at upcoming meetings. If you could help with cookies in January, March, April or a cake in February, call her at 665-4854.
A PARTY AT HARLOW HOUSE, DEC. 4

Bill & Sharon Nesbit
623 Buxton
Troutdale, OR 97060

Bless the caboose cleaning crew

As it turns out, railroad men are not all that tidy. Our new caboose needed serious cleaning before our railroad program on Nov. 14. So David Ripma, Jean Holman, Mary Bryson, Sheryl Maydew, Mona Mitchoff and Clyde Keebaugh, City of Troutdale, all pitched in.

It will take gallons of Simple Green yet, but the process is underway. A bit of steel wool, used to wipe out some graffiti, revealed that the outside of the caboose is still bright yellow under all that road grime. (Dave Ripma calls it patina. He is big on patina.) Any any event, if we can figure it out, the patina will go.

Namedroppers

From George Stanger of Tacoma, a request for a picture of James (also known as Joseph) Frank Quick, who died at the County Poor Farm in 1937. Mr. Stanger only recently learned that Quick was his granddaddy. "No sentiment attached here," he said, "he abandoned his wife and children, who were put up for adoption. Still, I'd like to see a picture of the guy."

And those who went on our Trek to The Dalles a few years ago had the rare privilege of hearing Fritz Cramer, The Dalles, tell of fishing with the Indians at Celilo Falls before it was covered by backwater from dams. His memory was so crystal clear and fresh that we all had a sense of what it might have been like. Fritz died in August, his wife seven days later. Both left their mark in the community by helping to found the Discovery Center at The Dalles.