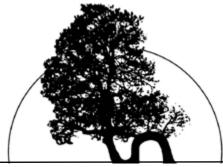
ByGone Times



ByGONE TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

UDCOMING EVENTS

January 19 **THS Program** Flood of Memories, 1964 Presented by Len Otto & Guest Panel 1102 E Historic Columbia River Hwy Sam Cox Building 2 p.m.

January 28 **Edgefield History Pub**

@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall Detained by My Country Presented by Mitzi, Toby, and David Loftus 6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

February 25 **Edgefield History Pub**

@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall Schemes, Dreams, and Teams: A Century of Gorge Protection Efforts Presented by Kevin Gorman 6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

March 31 **Edgefield History Pub**

@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall Massacred for Gold: The Chinese in Hells Canyon Presented by Greg Nokes 6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

THS Program Flood of Memories, 1964

Presented by Len Otto & Guest Panel Sunday, January 19, 2 p.m.

Sam Cox Building - Glenn Otto Community Park 1102 E Historic Columbia River Hwy - Troutdale, Oregon



Willamette Valley Advent Christian Church Camp, December 1964/January 1965 Present day - Glenn Otto Community Park

Len Otto, himself a witness to the 1964 Sandy River Flood, is calling for a "Flood of Memories" at our January 19 meeting.

We will be videotaping this program because it is a great opportunity to get, on record and in person, the memories of eye witnesses and those who remember the event called The Christmas Flood of 1964.

In a recent conversation with Judy Jones, owner of Tad's Chicken 'n Dumplins, she remembered that she was living in Portland when a big snow storm hit. "It was really cold and a couple days later it was really warm out." That sudden melting created the torrent in the Sandy River that ripped through what is now Glenn Otto Community Park and tore out the Columbia River Highway at the Beaver Creek Bridge. It is estimated that some 750 homes farther upriver on Mount Hood were destroyed or damaged.

The Otto family faced the flood head-on as it boiled downstream and at least one Troutdale area home went into the river.

Be sure to join us to share your memories of that event, 2 p.m. Sunday, January 19, at the Sam K. Cox Building in Glenn Otto Community Park so we can learn the story of that flood from eye witnesses. If you have photos or videos to loan for copying to our archives, all the better.

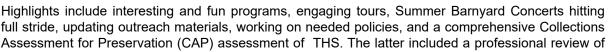
January - March 2020

Presidents Message by Erin Janssens

ByGone Times

 \mathscr{S} hope this newsletter finds everyone healthy and happy. Like each year before, 2019 has flown by even faster than its predecessor.

I find myself giving thanks for the many good things, most importantly: good health, family, friends, wonderful volunteers, a great Executive Director, a wise Board of Directors, and the generosity of members whose time and money keep us moving forward. We are lucky at THS. And, very thankful.



Erin Janssens

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our buildings, their systems (including lighting), collections, artifacts, the storage and display of such, and even how we can operate to slow the deterioration of things. We learned a lot going through the process, and now have a detailed report to help us in our preservation work. This also opens up additional grant opportunities we didn't have before.

In October, the Board held a full day Strategic Retreat (thank you McMenamins for hosting us) to help fine tune priorities and direction. Overwhelming support was directed to better utilize LeAnn's talents to focus more of her skills on curating, and explore part-time help for some administrative work, as well as invest more energy into Social Media, with the hopeful return of increasing membership. Other items identified were maximizing funds by leveraging grants, examining the cost/benefit of programs, opportunities for Legacy giving, and like so many households, how best to navigate on our shoestring budget.

As a retired firefighter, near and dear to my heart is ensuring our museums and artifacts are around for generations by making the museums more fire resistant. You likely have seen the tragedy of fires at various museums and the loss of complete collections. Prevention is key, but things like electrical shorts, wildfire, human error, and (worse yet) arson, are realities we need to prepare against. It's an expensive venture, but one we need to pursue. In the meantime, we have posted signs to enforce no smoking, yet still find discarded cigarette butts on the grounds. **Kelly Broomall** and **Greg Handy** cleared the immediate perimeter for more fire resistance, and next steps will be to redesign and renovate the office and storage area to ensure documents are more secure with a two-hour fire rating, until one day, we save enough to leverage a grant for a fire protection system.

All in all, it's a good problem to have. With a wonderful community of members helping to preserve and share history, we are constantly moving forward and want to express thanks along the way.

Thank you. Wishing everyone a healthy and happy holiday season. We look forward to seeing you in 2020 (no pun intended).

Record Numbers at the Harlow House



Kelly Broomall

On Dec. 7, Kelly Broomall kept track serving 159 cups of warm wassail to visitors at the Harlow House when Mr. and Mrs. Claus, (Tom and Barbara Slyter) were there. The two greeted children and their families all afternoon, while the rest of us just tried to keep up.

Guessing that there were a lot of babies and others who didn't have wassail (but were thrilled with the way it makes the house smell like Christmas) -- we had just under 300 guests for the afternoon. Tiny boys, dressed

like lumberjacks in red plaid flannel, little girls in sparkly dresses and their parents, young families who might otherwise never come to the old house.



Mr & Mrs. Claus (Tom & Barbara Slyter) with children, Savannah & Bryce Lamb

"It is so nice because it isn't a mall," one woman told Joyce Belcher and Harry Moffat, the greeters who met the crowds at the door. Joy Beldin kept the cookie table supplied. We had many cookies, thanks to all those who baked for the event. Left-overs were put on festive plates and taken to our friends at the City of Troutdale.

Many thanks to the Slyters, Kelly Broomall, Sharon Nesbit, Joyce Belcher, Harry Moffatt, and Joy Beldin. Thanks to Jason Cawood & Dave Johnson for hosting in the barn. And for cleanup the next day, Andrea Heim & Sharon Nesbit.

ByGone Times It Was So Cold the Columbia River Froze

Long time member Christine Howell writes that she would like stories from people who remember the Columbia River freezing over. First-person tales are hard to find because the last time the river froze hard enough for cars to travel on it and a two-man airplane to land on it, was in January 1930.

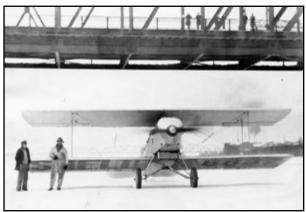
That was the year the late John Nasmyth wrote about crossing the frozen Columbia with three other Troutdale boys, Charles Hewitt, Victor Alder, and Chim Howell.

That story in the Troutdale history book, "It Could Have Been Carpdale," relates how the boys walked across the river and into Camas for a bite to eat. On their return, some kind of vessel had broken the ice, forcing them to "jump from floe to floe" to get back to Oregon.

John Eliot Allen's book, "The Magnificent Gateway," notes the Columbia froze over in 1833, 1840, 1842, 1884 (when it was frozen from the mouth at Astoria to the Cascades), 1888, 1890, 1891, 1919, 1924 and 1930.

A Clark County historian notes that temperatures today don't come close to those in the early 1900s. In 1919 the record low for Clark County was -10. In order for the river to freeze, temperatures have to drop near 0. Further, dams maintain water flow at a pace that doesn't allow ice to form.

If you want to know more, visit the Clark County Historical Museum in Vancouver.



January 31, 1930, Glenn & Clarence Murray pictured with their biplane after it lands on frozen Columbia River beneath the I-5 Bridge.



January 25, 1930, leisurely drive across the frozen Columbia River.



Troutdale Historical Society Board Members

Executive Board

President: Erin Janssens Vice President: Norm Thomas Treasurer: Marilee Thompson Secretary: Bettianne Goetz Executive Director: LeAnn Stephan

Board Members Rich Allen, Joy Beldin, Kelly Broomall, Diane Castillo-White, Rip Caswell, Jason Cawood, Jon Lowell, Sharon Nesbit

Past Presidents Bettianne Goetz, Sharon Nesbit, Len Otto, Dave Ripma

January - March 2020

Troutdale Water Tower in the Making - c1932

Now that the old sewer plant and Bissinger Wool Pullery have been demolished (just north of downtown Troutdale on the Sandy River) the only thing left to indicate the existence of the wool pullery is the iconic water tower that we always see coming in to downtown Troutdale.

In 2002, **Walter Nasmyth** wrote about watching the construction of the tower: "Sometime between 1930 and 1932 the Bissinger Wool Pullery was in great need of a better water supply system in order to process more hides. The only alternative they had was to build a large water reservoir with a gravity flow system from an elevated steel tank. When construction was finally started, all the kids in the area acted as sidewalk superintendents. The concrete work on the reservoir was of great interest to us, but the exciting part of the job was construction of the elevated tank tower," Walt wrote.



Walter Nasmyth Troutdale Grade School Graduation Day, 1940



ByGone Times

Bissinger Wool Pullery Water Tower Photo across the frozen Sandy River by Walter Nasmyth, 1979

He explained that during the Depression, structural steel was assembled and made sound with joints secured by "hot rivets" heated in a

forge. Once the tower legs were secured to the platform the forge for heating the rivets was placed on a six-foot square platform. Riveters worked on a three-foot square platform. As the tower rose the platforms were raised to each level reducing the distance the rivets were thrown because they had to arrive hot. The man operating the forge would grab a red-hot rivet with a pair of tongs and throw it up to a catcher on the platform who caught it in a cone-shaped buck-et designed so that the rivet always landed with head up. Using tongs the catcher would put the rivet in a drilled hole. The "bucker" would place a steel plate over the head of the hot rivet using an air-driven hammer to secure it. As the structure grew higher, Walt remembered, there was more of a show by the hot rivet thrower and the catcher. "My brother, Herb, and I spent numerous hours watching --- I do not remember ever seeing a catcher miss a thrown hot rivet."

"I can still recall one steel worker's name, **Herchel Keeney**. When he saw us watching he really put a little extra pizazz into the rivet throwing."

Another way to support

Pick up a bag from the Barn Exhibit Hall or at an Edgefield History Night - Fill with empty bottles and cans - drop off at nearest BottleDrop location or at the Barn Exhibit Hall. Funds will automatically be deposited and donated to THS.



hank you for the increased interest in our BottleDrop fundraiser. With your support we have received **\$500.95** this year from the folks who recycle their cans and bottles through BottleDrop using one of our labeled bags.

Drop off locations:

Wood Village Redemption Center 23345 NE Halsey Street Wood Village, OR 97060

Gresham Redemption Center 1313 E Powell Blvd. Gresham, OR 97030

Representing THS at Marketplace Tradeshow





The West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce presented the first annual Marketplace Trade Show on November 13th at the Troutdale House.

THS Board Members - Joy Beldin, Diane Castil-Io-White, and Jason Cawood were on hand to represent the Troutdale Historical Society. They answered questions, handed out brochures, and made some important connections with the community businesses.

Joy Beldin, Diane Castillo-White, Jason Cawood

401 MEMBERS OF THE TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Help us reach our goal of 500 members!

Are you a member?

Give a gift of membership to the next generation, friends, family or become a member by clicking <u>here</u>.

January - March 2020

THS Volunteer - Laureen Lucero

ByGone Times

If you haven't met this diversely skilled & talented volunteer yet then let us introduce you to **Laureen Lucero**, our Wednesday morning Barn Exhibit Hall docent.

Laureen has been our volunteer for the last three years. During that time she took on the additional task of gathering from several storage boxes all The Outlook newspaper clippings relevant to Troutdale history and organized them into one easy to find archival file. It took her nearly a year to complete. She continues to fill this archive file with current clippings and in addition maintains the bulletin board by posting local stories, articles about our volunteers, upcoming events, and other clippings significant to the area. It makes for interesting reading and a way to stay tuned-in to our town and surrounding area.

Laureen was born and raised in Portland Oregon, attended Woodlawn Elementary and graduated from Jefferson High School. She then met and married **Don MacLeod** to whom she was married for 30 years. With two daughters, **Laury**, who lives in Portland and is on the board of *Broadway Rose Theatre Company*, and **Julie Rae**, who is a realtor in the San Diego area,

Laureen was happy to be a mom and homemaker, raising a family and using her talents to venture into several career paths along the way.

Her first job was at Woodlawn Pharmacy while still in high school. Then while attending to her first child, Laureen worked as a telephone operator for Pacific Northwest Bell Phone Company.

It was in 1969 when Laureen, her husband Don, and brother **Dan Lissy** started with less than \$5,000 (a lot of money back then) to open an 800-square-foot Portland record store, *Music Millennium*, at 3144 East Burnside Street. A few years later they moved down the street to the current location at 3158 East Burnside Street. There was an upstairs that was previously used as offices and Laureen opened a boutique called *The Upper*, selling jewelry, books, and clothing. The record store subsequently sold in the 90s to **Terry Currier**, who is still owner today. Sadly Don Mac Leod passed away on January 31, 1996.

Fifty years later, *Music Millennium* is the oldest record store in the Pacific Northwest. Don MacLeod was inducted into the Oregon Music Hall of Fame in October of 2019. You can tune in to an interview with Laureen and her daughter Laury on YouTube. <u>2019</u> Induction Don MacLeod- Oregon Music Hall of Fame

Going back a few years...When Laureen's first child went off to college, she pursued her photography passion by doing her own film processing and going on photo shoots in and around the Portland area. She still enjoys photography.

She had taken yoga classes for several years when her teacher asked her to be her assistant. That led to her becoming a yoga teacher for more than 40 years. In association with her yoga, she uses her sewing skills making eye pillows that ship all over the world to countries like France, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Norway and England. The eye pillows are made of 100% silk and filled with flax seed, and are small enough to fit over your eyes. They help the eyes to relax at the end of yoga class.



Although retired from public teaching, she continues to teach yoga to clients at *Guide Dogs for the Blind*. She also enjoys reading and yard work.

After purchasing her own home she met her future husband **Ray Lucero** at a spiritual retreat. They married in August of 1996 and traveled several times to Hawaii to swim with dolphins. They also took a trip to Australia where they spent six weeks exploring the Gold Coast, Lizard Island, Ayers Rock and the capital Sydney, with its beautiful Opera House.

Laureen and her husband have lived in the Oxbow neighborhood for more than twenty years. Between them they have seven children, fourteen grandchildren, and five (soon to be six) great-grandchildren. She maintains the Oxbow neighborhood directory that involves keeping the neighbors abreast and informed of activities, incidents happening in the neighborhood, and responding to residents' inquiries.

When you are in the Troutdale area, stop by the Barn Exhibit Hall and meet Laureen on any given Wednesday morning. She loves sharing her knowledge of the highway and talking with visitors from all walks of life.



Laureen Lucero - April 2019

<u>ByGone Times</u>

January - March 2020

NEW MEMBERS

Trisha Neiger & Albert Cook Joe & Dotta Janssens Lora Janssens Mary & Mark Malloy Ellen Osoinach Kerri Peetz Philip Ritter Clark & Christine Santee Bob Strombom

DONORS TO OUR GENERAL FUND

Kelly & Karla Broomall Margeanne Cartisser Karon & Dale Eggers Kathleen Forrest **Donna Hawkins** Sally Hicks Judith Jones William & Lura Kitchen Curtis & Beverly Knight Laureen Lucero **Colleen Mershon** Marilyn Morrison **Michael Orelove** Sharon Petri Charlotte Rubin Tim & Shannon Seery Kay Struckman Tad's Chicken 'n Dumplins Marilee Thompson Lori Vencill Cherie & Steven Wallace

In Honor of Bob Strebin and the late Vera Strebin Sharon Nesbit

DONORS TO OUR MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of June Sherman Nasmyth Louise & Ray Blohm

In Memory of Dorothy Kerslake Richard Kerslake

> In Memory of Art Kracke E. Ann Kracke

In Memory of Harold Scofield Rosie & Larry Puderbaugh

RENEWING MEMBERS

Joy Beldin James & Mary Burson Larry Callister Rip & Alison Caswell - Caswell Sculpture Terry & Charles Ciecko **Catherine Crabb Carol Davis** Donna Davis Gerald Davis Elaine Dubesa Karon & Dale Eggers **Claire Finkel Charlotte Freeman** Tom & Cheryl Graves Daina Hardisty **Donna Hawkins** Sally Hicks Nancy Hoover **Clifford Howell** Bob & Jean Ice Bonnie Jepsen Dave Johnson Dorothy Keefe **Richard Kerslake** Melba Klinker Jeanette Kloos Curtis & Beverly Knight Sue Landreth Laureen Lucero Marilyn Morrison Patricia Morron **Twila Mysinger** Len Norby **Betty Jo Pietzold** Diana & Grant Radke Margaret & Michael Rice Charlotte Rubin Carolyn Rundorff Janice St. John Judith Scott Tim & Shannon Seery John Sherman Janice St. John Joyce Stewart Zelma Sutherland Norm & Charlene Thomas Wendy Thompson & Elise Bush Lori Vencill Hazel Webb **Richard Weill** Barbara Welsh Paul & Judy Wilcox Frank Windust **Tony Zindel**

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Mike Alderson **Ginger Harlow Allen** Ed & Vera Ashley Joan Benner Judith Bergan Nancy Callister Buley Stan Clarke Betty Cook Jason Cawood Patricia Currier Terry Ege **Charles Ellis** Georgia Erdenberger Kyle Fritzsinger **Bettianne Goetz** Joe & Peggy Gorciak Greg & Sue Handy Mel Harmon Lynda Harvey Karl & Bette Hays John Hillyard Erin Janssens Steve & Kim Kenney Lael Larger Steve & Judy Lehl Shirley Jean Loeffel Deanna Maughan Doug & Elise McGuire Brian McMenamin Mike & Mary Alice McMenamin Merle McNell Colleen Mershon Sharon Nesbit Sadie Riley David Ripma & Mario Ayala **Irene Simons** lone & Harry St. Clair **Robert Strebin** Kay Struckman Marilee Thompson Martha Wheeler Mike Weyhrich

Did you know you can renew your membership or donate through our website? Click on the links below. <u>Donations</u> <u>Memberships</u>

You can also call our office and we will be glad to assist you. 503-661-2164

WORKING LIKE THEY OWN THE PLACE (which they do)

Celebrating Our Volunteers

"You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give." Winston Churchill

Our volunteers give so much time, talent, and support to the benefit of the Troutdale Historical Society. We want to celebrate them.

They have a vast amount of knowledge and experience. Did you know that we have many retired volunteers - several teachers, an elementary school principal, a journalist, a CPA, a computer programmer, an engineer, two Vietnam Vets, a nurse, some business managers, some business owners, a farmer, a Columbia River Highway expert, even a Fire Chief. But, not all our volunteers are retired. We have several in the working sector - some artists, some business owners & managers. And, some of our volunteers are college students. Each one brings with them a knowledge and experience that make up the Troutdale Historical Society. We are so grateful for them all.

- LeAnn Stephan & Alex Epps (THS Staff)

Here are some of our volunteers at the Holiday Volunteer Appreciation Party @ Harlow House



<u>ByGone Times</u>

Mice are in the House



Sev Law of Springdale loaned her mouse collection, largely tree ornaments, for the Harlow House Christmas tree this year. (This did not set well with Kelly Broomall who tried to see the house varmint free.)

Bev, in the early 1980s lived on Larch Mountain. "We always had field mice – either in our cars or house. One day I opened the entry closet and a cute little field mouse was "hiding" in the corner. I called to my family to come look at it. The next day, I was at the store, getting cat food, and saw the cutest two little gray and white toy mice, so I bought them and put them on the dashboard of the car. Needless to say, whenever I got gas, the attendant always asked if I knew there were mice on the dash. A few days after I stopped to get gas in Troutdale, when the attendant went to put gas in the car, a mouse ran out and scared him to death. I always found that funny that one could be scared of a tiny field mouse."

So you know what happened next. Friends and relatives gave Bev mice ornaments, figurines, music boxes, books, candy, Beanie Baby mice, stuffed mice dolls, pillowcases, garden art, tea pots, cups, plates, loads of cards, necklaces, earrings, and the list goes on.

Thank you to Bev for loaning them to the Harlow House this year. Bev's collection will be on display at the Harlow House until the end of December.



Winter Beauty at the Barn

It's December 10th and **Bev Knight** appears at the Barn to plant some winter flowers. She wants to get them planted before the rain arrives. Honestly, it is so cold that maybe it will be freezing rain. This did not stop her from planting winter pansies and purple kale.





Crin Janssens snaps up a holiday wreath while shopping to add festive decor to our Barn Exhibit Hall door. You may see this displayed beyond the holiday season.



Bev Law



WINTER MUSEUM HOURS October - April

Barn Exhibit Hall 10am - 3pm Wednesday-Saturday 1 - 3pm Sunday Closed: Monday & Tuesday

> Harlow House 1 - 3pm Sunday only

Depot Rail Museum Closed for Renovation

Fred Meyer Rewards Card

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards THS gets contributions from Fred Meyer. Please enroll, using our non-profit #JA801.

AMAZON SMILE

Go to <u>http://smile.amazon.com</u> Simply select Troutdale Historical Society as your charity. Shop as you normally would. THS receives a contribution from Amazon.

ByGone Times

January - March 2020

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The you interested in becoming a Business or Corporate Sponsor? Visit our online store <u>troutdalehistory.org</u>, fill out the form from this newsletter, or call 503-661-2164 for more information. The logo of our Business and Corporate Sponsors are linked to their website through our website and digital ByGone Times quarterly newsletter. We proudly display the logos at all our events.

Support our local history and become a Business or Corporate Sponsor!









Peg Willis Author, Speaker, Educator 1 NW 7th, Pendleton, OR 97801 541-276-0350 fiddlepeg@gmail.com

Building the Columbia River Highway www.pegwillis.com https://columbiariverhighway.wordpress.com/ www.facebook.com/ColumbiaRiverHighway



Troutdale Historical Society Preserving The Past, Embracing The Future Membership includes free entry to all our museums, 10% off Barn Store gift shop	cing The Future ums, 10% off Barn Store gift shop
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Mail this form to: Troutdale Historical Society 219 F Historic Columbia River Hwy	Email: troutdalehistory@gmail.com Website: troutdalehistory.org Donations are tax deductible.
Troutdale, OR 97060	THS is a 501 (C)3 non-profit organization. Federal Tax ID #93-0738777.
Troutdale Historical Society sponsors free programs throughout the year.	r support! rograms throughout the year.
*Current Members can give an <i>Individual Membership</i> to a friend or family member for only \$15 for the first year.	<i>ual Membership</i> to a friend or or the first year.
Edgefield History Night The last Tuesday of every month (except December) the Troutdale Historical Society co-sponsors a speaker at	ber) the aker at
McMenamins Edgeneid Blackberry Hall, 6:30pm (doors at 5:00 p.m.) Free for all ages. Food and drink are available for purchase.	ES. Thourbull Historical Society

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Website: www.troutdalehistory.org Email: info@troutdalehistory.org Phone: 503-661-2164

<u>Mission Statement</u>

knowledge of the locality's past. nearby area; to stimulate interest in the River, the Columbia River Gorge and community of Troutdale, the Sandy material relating to the history of the To gather, preserve and make available