THS EVENTS ARE BACK

April 24, 2pm
THS Annual Meeting
Election of Officers & presentation
By Sharon Nesbit: Old City Hall, A Century
Glenn Otto Park-Sam Cox Building
1102 E Historic Col. River Hwy
Refreshments served.

April 30, 10am - 4pm
Grand Re-Opening
Barn Exhibit Hall - Handy Bros Service and Smelt Run displays
Harlow House - WWII Nurses' Uniforms
Depot Rail Museum - Renovation & Gateway to the Gorge Visitor Center

May 6, 5 - 8pm
First Friday Art Walk
Downtown Troutdale

ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS
Sunday, April 24 at 2pm
Sam Cox Building - Glenn Otto Community Park
Hurray, we are meeting in person once again. Please join us (wear a mask if it makes you more comfortable) at the Sam Cox building on Sunday, April 24 at 2pm to vote in this year’s Executive Board and Board Members.

Sharon Nesbit will present Old City Hall - A Century in the Making. The program will be stories of the popular dances held in the dance hall, people who worked there, and the characters that made this building the hub of the city for more than 90 years.

In support of McMenamins Edgefield, there will be an informal gathering for a meal at the Power Station restaurant following the meeting.

Proposed Nominations for the Executive Board:
President – Helen Wand
Vice President – Dave Ripma
Secretary – Jason Cawood
Treasurer – Marilee Thompson

Proposed Nominations for the Board Members:
Joy Beldin, Kelly Broomall, Diane Castillo-White, Jean Ice, Erin Janssens, Sharon Nesbit, Len Otto, Bruce Stannard

A warm, heartfelt thank you to those who served diligently through their term limits - Bettianne Goetz served as the President, twice as Vice President, Board Member, and on several committees. Norm Thomas served as President, Vice President, Secretary, Board Member and the Maintenance Committee.

OUR THREE MUSEUMS WILL RE-OPEN APRIL 30
(see page 2 for more info)

Barn Exhibit Hall
King of Roads - Byway of the People
Experience the creation of the first scenic highway from Troutdale to The Dalles.
New displays on the Handy Bros. Service and Smelt on the Sandy.

Fred E Harlow House Museum
1900 Farmhouse
Step back in time as you visit this historic house.
US Army Nurses' Uniforms from World War II are on display.

Depot Rail Museum
1907 Union Pacific Depot
Visit the newly renovated museum. We have stripped it back to its original beginnings.
Now sharing the building with the Gateway to the Gorge Visitor Center.
CITY OF TROUTDALE COMING ATTRACTIONS

Check out the new Gateway to the Gorge Visitor Center for its grand opening on Saturday, April 30. The visitor center is located inside Troutdale’s historic rail depot building which dates back to 1907. The building has been lovingly renovated with an eye for detail and will provide a setting for tourists and residents alike to learn more about Troutdale and our region.

A highlight of the space is the stunningly restored Multnomah Falls painting that formerly hung in Council Chambers at old City Hall. This grand piece of Troutdale history was painted more than 100 years ago and stands at 10 feet high and 6 ½ feet wide.

You can learn more about the Gateway to the Gorge Visitor Center at troutdaleoregon.gov/visitorcenter.

Get ready for an incredible community experience as the First Friday Art Walk returns to historic downtown Troutdale! The City will close East Historic Columbia River Highway to vehicular traffic to allow vendors and downtown businesses and restaurants to expand their services onto the sidewalk and patios.

It kicks off on May 6 at 5:00 pm and will continue on June 3, July 1, August 5, and September 2. We invite you to come for the art and stay for the live music, food, kids’ activities, and the chance to mingle with your friends and neighbors. Stay tuned to troutdaleoregon.gov/firstfriday for more details.

GRAND RE-OPENING EVENT
APRIL 30, 10am - 4pm

Barn Exhibit Hall
Regular Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm; Sunday 1-4pm (closed Monday & Tuesday)
Admission: $5 (free to Multnomah County residents)
Refreshments: Coffee & Donuts

We were all set to celebrate two new displays in March of 2020. These two-year old displays are now available and brand new to the public. Handy Bros. Service - memorabilia on loan from Greg & Sue Handy are on display. The service station was the gathering spot for many Troutdale locals to catch up on the daily news, eat donuts and drink "bad coffee" (as the saying goes). Join us as we gather at the Barn Exhibit Hall for (good) coffee & donuts and catch up on the daily news. The second display is devoted to the historic Smelt Runs. These smelt put Troutdale on the map, if only for a few weeks in the spring anyway. People from miles around would arrive to dip their nets and catch their limit in the Sandy River.

Harlow House Museum
Regular Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm; Sunday 1-4pm (closed Monday & Tuesday)
Admission: Free (donations gladly accepted)
Refreshments: Cookies & Lemonade

Step back in time during a tour of the Fred E. Harlow House. Experience the look and feel of life in the 1900s while you enjoy lemonade and cookies on the porch. The house has been lovingly preserved by the Troutdale Historical Society since 1979. A temporary display of WWII Nurses’ Uniforms are on display. They were donated by Helen Otto and Betty Baldwin, both serving in the US Army Nurses Corps.

Depot Rail Museum
Regular Hours: Thursday - Monday, 8am - 5pm; Sunday 1-4pm (closed Tuesday & Wednesday)*
Admission: Free (donations gladly accepted)
Refreshments: Cookies & Lemonade

It's been more than three years since we closed the Depot Rail Museum. It has been a long wait, but we are finally ready to reopen. We had a "bare-bones" tour last July while the museum was under construction. Come in to see what it looks like now. To see the full extent of the renovation, the displays will be minimal to give you the opportunity to discover what has been revealed - original floors, layers of paint removed from ticket counter, new paint added to match the original paint color and a hidden lock box that was hiding in plain sight.

We now share the building with the brand new Gateway to the Gorge Visitor Center. With their partnership, the Depot will be open five days a week for self-guided and limited docent-guided tours.

*Coincides with the hours of the Gateway to the Gorge Visitor Center.
President's Message

My time with Troutdale Historical Society Board is coming to an end. I have enjoyed serving as a member of the THS Board for the past six years. I have had the pleasure of serving as Secretary, Vice President and this past year as President of the Board. Over the past years the board, along with our wonderful volunteers and staff have seen many changes. Such as - refurbishing of the caboose, painting of the exterior of the Barn Exhibit Hall, the recreation of Lovers Oak in Harlow Park, the painting of the mural at Mayors Square and the Visionary Park and Monument creation. The staff and volunteers have made fantastic progress with cataloging and digitizing our archives. I personally want to thank everyone for your assistance in helping the Troutdale Historical Society succeed.

THE SEQUEL HAS ARRIVED

ECHOES OF FORGOTTEN PLACES
By Helen Wand

Hot off the presses - Echoes of Forgotten Places, the long awaited sequel to Where Eagles Nest has finally arrived. Author Helen Wand continues the saga of the Lampert family while they continue to farm the homestead after the death of Alex. Join Julianna and her eight children as they journey through this desperate time.

Helen Wand chronicles the life of her great-grandparents, Alex and Julianna Lampert in this two-part series. Helen, a retired educator from Clackamas Community College, volunteers at the Crown Point Country Historical Society and the Northeast Multnomah County Pioneer Association. She is also a volunteer and board member of the Troutdale Historical Society.

These two books are available at our gift shop in the Barn Exhibit Hall and on our website online store.

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

Renew your membership or donate through our website?
Click on the links below.
Donations
Memberships

SUMMER MUSEUM HOURS
May - Sept

Barn Exhibit Hall
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Harlow House
0am m eay aura y
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Depot Rail Museum
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399 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 here.
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Columbia River Gallery, Donna Erwin
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- Irene Simons
- Robert Strebin
- Kay Struckman
- Marilee Thompson
- Mike Weyrich
- Martha Wheeler
- Kimberly Wolfer

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- Joan Keiski
- Barbara Kubik
- Cane Provost
- Samuel Skinner
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- Irene Simons
- Robert Strebin
- Kay Struckman
- Marilee Thompson
- Mike Weyrich
- Martha Wheeler
- Kimberly Wolfer

April - June 2022
WORKING LIKE THEY OWN THE PLACE (which they do)

FAVORITES FROM THE ARCHIVE

Curators Julia Warner and Twila Mysinger have been hard at work with the inventory at the Harlow House Museum. They are evaluating every item on display to identify and update our museum software database. At times it feels like a treasure hunt or maybe an archaeological dig which unearths some wonderful finds. Here are a few of their favorites.

1926 Candlestick holders of cut glass are 5” high. They were a wedding gift to Sam & Faye Harlow.

No date for this beauty. An ornate metal vanity mirror on a swivel that tilts for the desired angle.

c1922 Universal Electric Toaster, patented in 1915 this dual toaster has a swing out slot for bread. Pop the bread in the swing out slot, then flip to the other side without removing the bread.

Curator Dee Dee Hansen spent many hours researching the ins and outs (literally) of the WWII nurses’ uniforms that are now on display at the Harlow House Museum. There are uniforms made of wool with matching capes that would keep you warm, but would have been very heavy clothing to wear. There are many dresses on display that had specific uses - crepe casual dresses in several colors; including her favorite “drab” and a seersucker work dress with matching hat. It took a Google search to determine how this hat worked. She’s still not sure how it would stay on your head, especially while attending to patients. These uniforms were donated by Troutdale residents Helen Otto and Betty Baldwin. Both served in WWII for the US Army Nurses’ Corps.

Helen Otto seen here wearing one of the uniforms we have on display. Helen was the wife of Glenn Otto (Troutdale Mayor and the man the park was named after). She was the mother of five children - Joann, Kenneth, Len, Mary and Neal. She survived the Vanport Flood of 1948 and the Christmas Flood of 1964/65. Helen and Glenn were Charter Members of the Troutdale Historical Society.

Can you solve this mystery?

A visitor to Troutdale staying at the Sandy River RV Park inquired about a fireplace on the west bank of the Sandy River. All of my “go-to” Troutdalians did not know anything about this fireplace. There were some speculations, but no one with a definitive answer. It is located to the left of the trail from the RV park to the river.

Please email troutdalehistory@gmail.com if you have any information.

BottleDrop 20% Match

Save your filled bags for the April 11 - 23 donation drive. All blue bags turned in during this time will earn an extra 20% from BottleDrop!

East County Drop-off Locations:
Wood Village Redemption Ctr
23345 NE Halsey Street
Wood Village, OR 97060

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

Pick up BottleDrop blue bags at the Barn Exhibit Hall. Look for the box of bags outside on the bench - Fill with redeemable empty bottles and cans and drop off at any BottleDrop locations. Funds will automatically be deposited and donated to THS.

Thank you for the increased interest in our BottleDrop fundraiser. With your support we have received $305 this year from the folks who recycle their cans and bottles through BottleDrop using one of our labeled bags.
Friends in History Remembered

Betty June Tuthill Cook - b. February 14, 1925; d. September 29, 2021
Betty Cook, 96, of Clackamas, died Sept. 29, 2021. Born in Fort Worth, Texas, she graduated from Washington High School in 1943 and entered business school. In 1945 she joined the U.S. Marine Corps and served at Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, near Irvine, Calif. Following discharge, she signed up as a stenographer with the Department of the Army Transportation Division and traveled by Liberty ship to work a year in occupied Tokyo, Japan. Upon her return to Oregon, she met James R. Cook at McEiroy's Ballroom. They married in May, 1949. Both used their G.I. Bill benefits to earn their private pilot's licenses. She graduated from Mt. Hood Community College in 1969 and earned her Bachelor and Master's Degrees in education and learning disabilities from Portland State University in 1976. She taught at Adams High School in Portland for 10 years. After retiring from teaching, she worked as a real estate agent for 20 years at Tarbell, Coldwell Banker, and Windemere. In 1995 she helped start the non-profit Senior Computer Learning Center at Lloyd Center. The all-volunteer senior staff taught more than seven-hundred of their fellow senior citizens to use computers. She received an award from the Elders in Action Program for her work.

She was caregiver to her husband, Jim, a volunteer for many years at the Depot Rail Museum in Troutdale, who preceded her in death, Dec. 8, 2013. She is survived by her daughters, Karen Hubbard and Kim Cook of Clackamas (THS Volunteer); son-in-law, Gordon Hubbard; granddaughters, Sabrina and Jennifer; and great-grandchildren, Caleb, Justin, Joshua, Ian, and Melina.

Jean Elizabeth McKillop Driver - b. November 15, 1925; d. December 8, 2021
"Jeanie" Driver died in her sleep Dec. 8, 2021 from Alzheimer's Disease. Born Nov. 15, 1925 in Seattle to Stuart and Gertrude McKillop, she attended John Muir Grade School and Franklin High School.

She began nurses' training at Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland, , in 1942 and was a Cadet Nurse during WWII. After the war she met - and subsequently married - Frank Driver who was a maintenance engineer at Good Sam. In 1947 they moved to Springdale. They lived there for 65 years. They had three kids, Stuart, Catherine, Laurie. Jean maintained her RN credentials by working at Good Sam and later doctor's offices. Both she and Frank participated in community activities; (Frank helped work on construction of the Troutdale Historical Society barn) and she was also a sort of "community nurse," giving shots and caring for neighbors. She loved gardening and in their retirement years they started a small daffodil business which gave them an opportunity to travel the U.S. and even to Ireland meeting people from around the world. She has a daffodil named after her. Jeanie, who rarely missed a Troutdale Historical Society trek, was predeceased by her husband, Frank; and their son, Stuart. She is survived by her sister, Mary; and brother, John; plus daughters, Catherine and Laurie; four grandkids and a great-grandson.

David Gale Underhill - b. January 5, 1933; d. January 15, 2022
David Gale Underhill, Lieutenant Colonel (USA retired), 89, of Las Vegas, Nevada, died Jan. 15, 2022 after a brief illness. "Gale," as many of his friends called him, was born in Willow, Wisconsin to Lyle Oscar and Carrie Emma Outcalt Underhill. Along with seven siblings, his family moved to Oregon when he was a youth eventually settling in Troutdale, graduating from Gresham High School.

As a teen, he joined the Air Force and after achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant, enlisted in the Army and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. He had an illustrious career serving as an Army Ranger, eventually specializing in Psychological Warfare becoming the XO of the 7th Psychological Operations Group in Okinawa where he spent more than a decade. As part of his five tours of duty, he also served in Korea and Vietnam. A highly decorated officer, his awards included the Legion of Merit, the Legion of Merit Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, as well as the Bronze Star. After retirement from the military, Gale settled with his family in Gresham, where he continued his schooling at Portland State University, earning a teaching degree. He taught grade school as a substitute teacher and volunteered at Edgefield Manor for many years. When McMenamins acquired the historic poor farm, they named a room after him.

Gale loved math and his lifetime membership in Mensa. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing, but truly dedicated his life to service and helping others. After retirement from teaching, he went on to tutor kids having trouble in school and didn't charge for his services. He was relentless in his mission to help those struggling with their education.

Gale is survived by his wife, Kazuko, of Las Vegas, whom he met in Okinawa. In addition he is survived by siblings, Marlene Underhill Parker, Damascus, OR, and Kenneth Dale Underhill (wife, Beverly), Rainier, OR; his oldest son, Michael (wife, Michelle), Beaverton, OR; daughter-in-law, Darlene (Bruce) Underhill, Las Vegas; three grandchildren, Thomas and Allyson Underhill, Beaverton, OR, Crystal Taylor; and two great-grandchildren, Kelsey and Kailey. A full military honor service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA,
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Preserving The Past, Embracing The Future

Membership includes free entry to all our museums, 10% off Barn Store gift shop merchandise, quarterly newsletters by mail or email, and $10 off membership for the Oregon Historical Society.

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Mail this form to:
Troutdale Historical Society
219 E Historic Columbia River Hwy
Troutdale, OR 97060

Thank you for your support!

*Current Members can give an Individual Membership to a friend or family member for only $15 for the first year.

Edgefield History Night
The last Tuesday of every month (except December) the Troutdale Historical Society co-sponsors a speaker at McMenamins Edgefield Blackberry Hall, 6:30pm (doors at 5:00 p.m.) Free for all ages. Food and drink are available for purchase.

Questions? Contact THS Office
Phone: 503-661-2164
Email: troutdalehistory@gmail.com
Website: troutdalehistory.org
Donations are tax deductible.
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