

BYGONE TIMES

A Newsletter of the TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

March, 1997

Editor, Sharon Nesbit, 665-0423

Ken Ames tells about first residents of area

Professor Ken Ames of the Portland State University Department of Anthropology will discuss the Native Americans who lived and hunted along the Columbia River south shore at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 16, in Troutdale City Hall.

Troutdale's northern approach to the Columbia River, the lowlands now protected by the dike system, is

Don't Miss...

Professor Ken Ames, PSU Department of Anthropology

2 p.m. Sunday March 16

on the Indians of the Columbia South Shore

part of an area used by Native Americans many years before the arrival of whites. The Columbia River was a major route that Indians throughout the Northwest used to reach the great fishing grounds on the Columbia.

Professor Ames will show slides and tell about these first residents. This is the second in our series on the earliest residents along the river. Our neighbor historians from Fairview Rockwood Wilkes Historical Society join us for this meeting.

On April 21, a Monday, at 7:30 p.m. in Troutdale City Hall, we continue the series with a talk by Bus Gibson on the development of the early roads and trails along the Columbia. Finally on May 18, we explore the Sandy River Delta with two historians who have researched the area.

The old man and the river....



In the hope that a smelt photo might provoke a smelt run this spring, we print this picture from Walter Nasmyth along with his text:

This photo of commercial smelt dipping on the Sandy River at Troutdale was taken sometime between 1910 and 1915. The dipper holding the handle of the net is my father, John Andrew Nasmyth, and the person chewing on a cigar and holding the net full of smelt is a Splawn.

The row boats were tied to rocks just south of what became Dick Knarr's boat ramp. Note the stakes driven into the river bottom to hold the stern of the boats out into the current.

The dipper worked over the stern of the moored boat, dipping from upstream to downstream, then would then swing the net into the boat and dump the smelt in the boat. The smelt were then loaded into the smelt boxes (stacked in the boat on the right in the photo) and hauled by truck or horse team to the railroad depot for shipment.

Note downed timber on the hillside across the river (east bank) indicating the hillside had recently been logged. Also note automobile on the dirt road above the river that led to the old ferry landing. The car is an indication of the age of the photo.

CALENDAR

for March/April

March 11, Mon., 7 p.m.: Steering committee for Ice Cream Social & Harvest Faire at barn.

Mar. 16, Sun., 2 p.m.: Professor Ken Ames, PSU, speaking on Native Americans of the Columbia South Shore at Troutdale City Hall.

April 3, Wed., 7 p.m.: Board of directors at barn.

April 6, Sat., 9 a.m.: Barnstorm exhibit committee at barn.

Family emergencies cause small size of newsletter

We regretfully cut short the newsletter this month, though there is plenty of news to tell, because of family emergencies for both Ellen Brothers, director of the society, and Sharon Nesbit, editor.

Ellen's mother, Mildred Frances Drury Jones, formerly of California and recently moved to a foster care home in Troutdale, died Feb. 5 at the age of 87 in Troutdale. Almost immediately after her funeral, another family member died sending Pat and Ellen Brothers to New Mexico for services there.

At this writing Sharon Nesbit is in Phoenix, Ariz., where her mother is seriously ill and in hospice care.

While we are talking about moms, another society stalwart, Bob Strebin, is caring for his mother Vera, who is bedridden.

Gifts to the Endowment Fund
have been made in memory of
Faye Harlow

by
William & Mavis Bradshaw
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Judy and Jim Morton
Vera Schenck
Bruce & Shirley Mason
Jean Robinson
W. Dale Nelson
Phil & Deanna Hutchinson
Don & Joyce Nelson
Willard & Alice Nelson
Edna Ellis
Dr. Robert and Tamara Campbell

and in memory of
Val Rathman

by
Ted & Lois Schulte
Henry & Geneva Kellogg

Gifts and Donations

Sam and Nancy Cox made a donation to the endowment fund in memory of **Clyde and Edith Gage and Russ Akin.**

Other gifts to the endowment fund came from **Lorraine Bliven, Walter & Lorraine Mackey, Richard Rethwisch and Ruth Sundling.**

Donations to the general fund came from **Jean Holman, Beverly Welker, Ginger Harlow Allen, Jean Buck, Henry & Geneva Kellogg, Mona Denton, Bonita Jenkins and Gloria Ladum.**

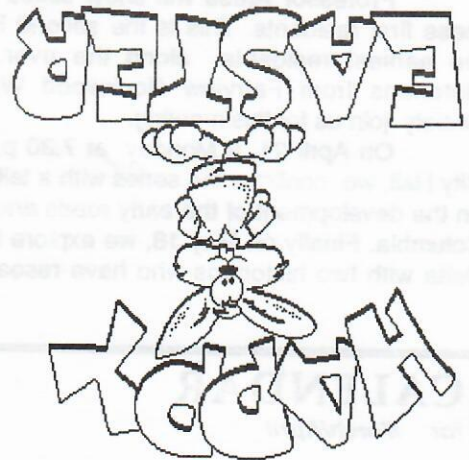
Bob & Louise Dix and Ruby & E.L. Mathieson both made gifts to the general fund in memory of **Val Rathman.**

Shirley Yost made a donation to our barn fund.

A reminder: We are seeking volunteers to staff the Harlow House this summer.

Please call 661-2164.

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