HAPPY FOURTEENTH BIRTHDAY...

We certainly hope it is true what they say about getting better, not older. On Monday evening, Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m. in Troutdale City Hall, the Troutdale Historical Society will celebrate its 14th birthday with a lavish display of homebaked birthday cake and a fit of self-congratulation that may send us all home blushing.

The evening’s program will be about Troutdale’s first lady mayor, Clara Larrson, elected only one year after women got the vote in Oregon.

Naturally, we will conduct our annual business affairs including the election of officers and the collection of dues, $3 yearly. The slate of officers nominated so far, according to Vera Strobin, head of the nominating committee, should come as no surprise. They are: Sam Cox, president; Alex Jones, vice president; Ted Schulte, treasurer; Helen Otto, secretary; and Bob Sturgeon, Bob Kerslake and Chuck Blanchard, members of the board of directors. Nominations will be open again Monday evening.

While you are paying your dues, please give us new addresses, especially those members who live east of the Sandy who had a recent address change. For those who can’t attend, simply send a check for $3 to Troutdale Historical Society, 104 Kibling Street, Troutdale, Ore., 97060.

ABOUT LAST MONTH...

We had a fine program on “mountain woman” Nettie Connett. Many thanks to the Baker family of Ains, Merle Martin, Gresham, and all the rest who put in their two bits worth. Special thanks to Steve Kenney who retaped our official tape recording of the program off of his own tape recorder. (The historian got so excited she forgot to plug the recorder in.)

And we got some new treasures. Chuck Kempton, son-in-law of Bob and Dorothy Sturgeon, gave us an “Armstrong laundromat”, one of those old-fashioned washing machine plungers that was supposed to make washday such a joy. We also received a picture of the 1892 Troutdale school.

And a gift of time was given by Lee and Paul Beaulieu who have volunteered to hold the depot museum open for visitors. That will start happening as soon as the weather warms up because the depot is unheated at present.

IN MEMORY...

Milo “Mike” Coons died Jan. 29. He was born in Troutdale 89 years ago. He truly enjoyed Troutdale history and was a member of this society for many years.

POLICE TICKLED PINK...

Chief George Haddock is delighted with the gift of historic photos given to the police department by this society for display in the department’s offices in the rail depot. Photos were selected to appeal to the police and included pictures of the Troutdale bank after the vault was blown, the landing of a DC-8 at Troutdale airport by mistake and others.

And this is a good time to remind our members that if they have pictures that have a thing or two to say about the history of Troutdale, bring them to us. We will have a photo taken of them and return them to you. The whole process, while expensive, is perfectly painless.

BROKEN PROMISE...

February is too short a month to do the work necessary on a special paper on Capt. John Harlow as promised last month. Our apologies, we’ll try to have it soon.

COMING UP...April 17 and 18 has been set as our next flea market/rummage sale.