

50 Years BYGONE TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 14

Troutdale Historical Society

50 Year History

2pm

Sam Cox Hall

Glenn Otto Community Park

1102 E Historic Columbia River Hwy

January 30

Edgefield History Night

@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall

6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

Topic: TBD

February 27

Edgefield History Night

@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall

6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

Topic: TBD

March 27

Edgefield History Night

@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall

6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

Topic: TBD

Troutdale Historical Society - 50 Years Old 1968 - 2018

Boy, how time flies. We, the Troutdale Historical Society, are 50 years old this year.

It was February 1968 when, at the suggestion of **Glenn and Helen Otto**, we held a meeting in city hall — in those days the council chambers were in the basement — and decided that Troutdale was changing and we needed to do something about preserving its history.

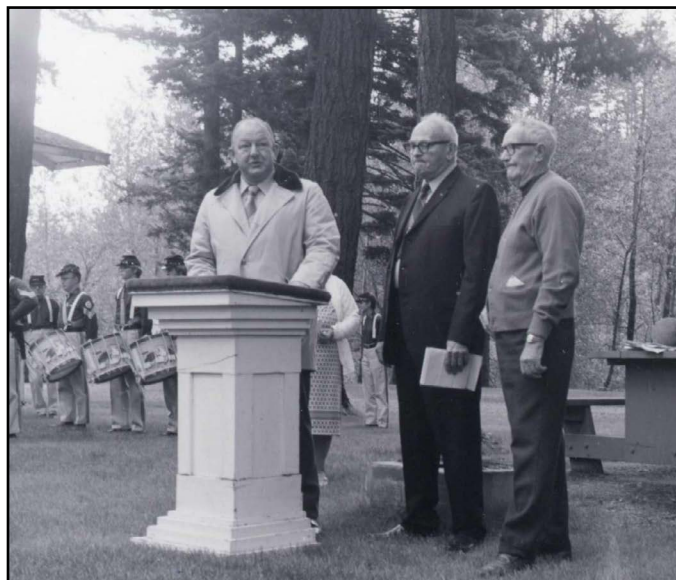
The story moves on from there -- charter members, ice cream socials, buying and moving a depot, obtaining the Harlow House, building a barn.

So join us in **Sam Cox Hall** (a longtime president of the historical society) in **Glenn Otto Community Park** (a founder of our organization) for a program of pictures and stories presented by **Sharon Nesbit** on the last 50 years, **Sunday, January 14 @ 2 p.m.** And bring some memories of your own.

We have had some goofy times. Smelt Queens and Courts. A runaway cannon ball. Many good times. And bad times that have made us stronger.

Our January meeting will be the kick-off for a year of celebration. In April we will hold our annual meeting and recognize our charter members and their families and you and your families as well. Bring your offspring and pose for pictures under our 50 year banner.

We have a committee working on plans for the rest of the year, but count on a May cemetery tour and a September geology tour. And a heck of a party in October.



October 22, 1972: Troutdale Historical Society receives Civil War cannonball from **John Erickson** (middle), **Troutdale Mayor Glenn Otto** at podium, and **Alex Jones** (right) THS President.

Gresham Outlook Article

March 14, 1968

60 Charter Members

Meeting Announced

Refreshments will be served



Troutdale Group To Meet Monday

The Troutdale Historical Society will meet in the city Hall Monday March 18, at 7:30 p.m.

Sixty charter members have enrolled in the new society which held its first meeting last month. At that time a regular meeting date, the third Monday of the month, was established.

Monday evening's program will include the story of A. D. Kendall, one of the city's early railroad agents, and his arrival in the city in 1907. Mrs. Glenn Otto is in charge of serving refreshments following the meeting.

WINTER AT THE HARLOW HOUSE

Two remarkable quilts made from men's clothing will be on display this winter at the Harlow House.

Photo curator **Julie Stewart**, who also has an art degree and just can't resist trying stuff, has made a quilt out of mens' neck ties.

We will also feature an antique quilt recently given to our society by **Steve and Lynn Harrel**, which reflects the history of the Willamette Valley Advent Christian Church. This church camp that occupied what is now Glenn Otto Community Park for more than 50 years would hold revival meetings, lasting two weeks or more. The campers would keep warm with some of these men's woolen suit quilts. This particular quilt, handmade by the Women's Home & Foreign Mission Society, was donated to the church camp. Steve and Lynn were able to retrieve the quilt after a flood destroyed the camp.

You can visit [Harlow House](#) every Sunday afternoon from 1 to 3 p.m. Thanks to our volunteers who make that happen.



Men's Tie Quilt by
Julie Stewart

Lovers or Lover's or Lovers'? A Punctuation Puzzle

We are fortunate and thankful to have a volunteer team, curators, staff member, and board of directors from wide and varied backgrounds, willing and able to tackle questions and conundrums, big or small. This happened recently over three days when 2 teachers, 1 teacher/principal, 1 author/historian, 1 corporate HR specialist, 1 administrative assistant, and 1 executive director resolved a punctuation dilemma by email...

HR Specialist: Please, please clarify "**LOVERS OAK**"! My understanding is it is without the apostrophe and was corrected many times in the past, but still shows up with an apostrophe. Before we do further engraving and printing we should make sure what it's supposed to be.

Teacher 1: If we could get a final decision on the controversy that would be great. It is the oak of lovers, therefore, **LOVER'S OAK** to show possession. Examples: a woman's hat, the boss's wife, Mrs. Chang's house.

Teacher 2: Yes, spelling is correct with apostrophe to show possession, however, if the tree reflects a place for multiple or all lovers, it becomes plural possessive. So correct use of apostrophe is after the plural: **LOVERS' OAK** (the oak for multiple lovers) as opposed to Lover's Oak (a single lover's oak).

HR Specialist: It is **LOVERS OAK** on our other publications. Consistent would be good.

Administrative Assistant: Being a lover implies a second person so then it is plural possessive, **LOVERS' OAK**.

Teacher/Principal: Looks to me like apostrophe should be after the 's', **LOVERS' OAK**.

HR Specialist: Check out this link and look at the 1942 article. **LOVER'S OAK** as noted in 1942.

Author/Historian: I agree that lovers are plural and if we MUST have an apostrophe, it should be at the end of the word. But I am also really good with getting rid of it altogether, as we do now in national name formats with U.S. Geographic Names. Example: Mayors Square. I also agree we should be consistent. I have a friend who was always my consultant on grammar and punctuation. She lived on this stuff. She is right now enjoying this debate from the grave.

Executive Director: I may be joining your friend soon. I'm dying a slow death here. So that these endless emails may finally end, it is now and forever **LOVERS OAK**.

HR Specialist: Yay! I like no apostrophe. Research is always a learning experience.



WINTER HOURS

October 1 - April 30

Barn Exhibit Hall

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

1 - 3 p.m. Sunday

Harlow House

1 - 3 p.m. Sunday Only

Rail Depot Museum

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Friday Only



Fred Meyer Rewards Card

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

THS gets contributions from Fred Meyer. Please enroll, using our non-profit #85937.

AMAZON SMILE

Go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-0738777>

Simply select Troutdale Historical Society as your charity.

Shop as you normally would.

THS receives a contribution from Amazon.

Securing Treasures for Other Organizations

Recently photo librarian **Julie Stewart** ended up with the difficult job of sorting through hundreds of random clippings and items sent to us by **Joy Walker**, descendant of M.B. McKay, founder of Troutdale Vegetable Growers.

Among the items was a 1911 yearbook, bound in elegant red calfskin, from Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College. Julie wrote the university and learned that there was no existing copy in their files. She mailed it off and learned recently, along with much gratitude from the people in Oklahoma, that it has gone to the Oklahoma Historical Society for safekeeping.

Also in the Walker collection was a scrapbook from the 1952-1954 Rose Festival parades which was received with gratitude by the Rose Festival Association. Another scrapbook on the Dionne Quintuplets which went to the Doctor DeFore Museum in Callander, Ontario, Canada, and articles about a 1938 flood in Rutland, Vermont went to the Rutland Historical Society.

You might consider if treasures in your home should go to a museum or library. You can look most places up on the internet now and make inquiries.

Updating Our Fire Extinguishers

Joy Beldin, THS volunteer, knows a thing or two about fire extinguishers, so she took on a task of reviewing/updating and having the fire extinguishers at THS checked. Would you guess that we have ten of them, and one of them was 30 years out of date.

She traipsed back and forth to the agency which checks such things, got new ones when needed and we are now setting up a regular system of fire extinguisher checks in our buildings.



AT THE BARN STORE GIFT SHOP...



Herb Mohn, 2017

Herb Mohn, for the record

We should have available soon a video recording of **Herb Mohn** telling stories of growing up in Troutdale as a farm boy.

Len Otto and **Sharon Nesbit** conducted the interview.

Herb is a volunteer at the barn and a graduate of Troutdale Grade School. He has great memories of Troutdale school as well as a heck of a story about how much work a kid was expected to do in those days.

Our oral histories (DVD) are for sale at the Barn Store gift shop for \$15 each.

OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS AND DONORS

Beginning in this edition, we plan to share the history of our business members and donors.

Walsh Trucking, the big blue tractors and trailers that you see so often on the road, is headquartered right in Troutdale on Sundial Road, and has been a sponsor of events for our historical society clear back to ice cream social days. The firm began in 1959 when Bill Walsh Sr. loaded up his pickup truck with samples of hardwood sawdust from a local mill and met with a purchasing agent at Swift Meat Packing in Portland, working out a deal to haul sawdust to the packing plant.

He once told Sharon Nesbit in an interview that his back was stronger then and he loaded those first loads by hand with a shovel. After that, he said, he got smarter. There headquarters were set up in 1989.

The company expanded over the years, adding solid waste to its loads. It operates over 300 tractors, 700 trailers and is the largest transporter of wood residuals and solid waste in the Northwest. It remains family owned with second and third generations working there.



WALSH TRUCKING COMPANY, LTD

A Northwest Transportation Service Leader

Family owned and operated for two generations.

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 Steven Lettengarver
 Shirley Loeffel
 Doug & Elise McGuire
 Mike & Mary McMenamin
 Patricia Morron
 Clay & Rayleen Nelson
 Sharon Nesbit (in honor of Vera & Bob Strebin)
 Vickie Nesbit & Terry Weiner
 Sue O'Halloran & Allen Richard
 Joann Otto
 Sharon Petri
 Mary Ann Rees (PEO Sisterhood, Chapter BA)
 J. Frank Schmidt Family
 Joyce Stewart
 Carl & Tina Tebbens
 David Underhill
 Helen Wand
 Kathy & Gary Werner

DONORS TO OUR
FIRE SUPPRESSION FUND

Dick Anderson
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 Richard Kerslake
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 Patricia Morron
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 Sue O'Halloran & Allen Richard
 Joann Otto
 Deborah Schoepper
 Julie Stewart
 Carl & Tina Tebbens
 Marilee Thompson
 Paul & Marilyn Toenjes
 Jean & Larry Torland
 Lori Vencill

NEW MEMBERS

Rodney Carow
 Jason Cawood
 Raeleen DeGrandpre
 Daina Hardisty
 Shirley Harshbarger
 Brian & Katherine Haslip
 Sally Hicks
 Mike & Barbara Goertz
 Dave & Judith Lenhart
 Patricia Morron
 Patsy Oberg
 Martylou Plinski
 Diana & Grant Radke
 Tim & Shannon Seery



•**Len Otto, Bettianne Goetz, Sharon Nesbit, Joy Beldin, Kathy Green, Jan Vandiver, Jason Cawood, Dee Dee Hansen, Diane Kelly, and Cate Morris** for your assistance in the Celebration of Schools at Troutdale Elementary last October.

•**Denton Edwards**, Manager Home Depot, for the donated wood for quick signage for the Celebration of Schools.

•**Erich Schneider**, Reynolds Shop Teacher, for the work on the Troutdale Elementary gym floor mementos that are for sale through THS.

•**Peg Willis, Kathleen Overton, Julie Stewart, Ginger Harlow Allen, Sharon Nesbit** for your participation in the Author Reception & Book Signing event last November.

•**Margaret Rice, Bettianne Goetz, and Helen Wand** for planning and organizing the Author Reception and Book Signing event.

•**Joy Beldin, Norm Thomas, and Sally King** for manning the cash register during the book signing event.

•**Bettianne Goetz, Margaret Rice, and Joy Beldin** for the gift baskets at the Volunteer Appreciation Party.

•**Len Otto, Jason Cawood, Sharon Nesbit, and Kelly Broomall** for leading 3 third grade class tours.

RENEWING MEMBERS

Dick Anderson
 Bob Baker
 Leona Balch
 Trish Bilesimo
 Rod & Geri Canzler
 Beverly & Richard Christman
 Carol Davis
 Louise Dix
 Robert & Kathleen Douglass
 Elaine Dubesa
 Mary & George Gerding
 Steve & Kathy Green
 Barbara Huston Freund
 John Gerbish

(Gresham Memorial Chapel)

Jim Glenn
 Tom & Cheryl Graves
 Jean Holman
 Dorothy Keefe
 Richard Kerslake
 John Kirkland
 Jerry & Ann Klinger
 Nancy Kordosky
 Kenn Lantz
 Valerie Lantz
 Steven Lettengarver
 Jerry & Bobby Matches
 Larry McGinnis
 Mel & Shirley Miller
 David Nelson
 Yolanda Nusser
 Sue O'Halloran & Allen Richard
 Joann Otto
 George Perry
 Beverly Reeves
 Virginia Selberg
 Joyce Stewart
 Bill & Sharon Strebin
 Bonnie & Peter Taylor
 Carl & Tina Tebbens
 Norm & Charlene Thomas
 David Underhill
 Lori Vencill
 Walsh & Sons Trucking
 Helen Wand
 Kathy & Gary Werner
 David & Jeanne Wheaton
 Paul & Judy Wilcox
 Peg Willis
 Robert & Maude Winning

327 MEMBERS OF THE TROUTDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Help us reach our goal of **500** members for our **50th birthday!**

Are you a member?

Give a gift of membership or become a member by clicking [here](#).

Christmas at the Harlow House - Dec. 2.

It was the biggest year ever, having Santa at the Harlow House on Dec. 2 with **Tom & Barb Slyter** there as Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. **Julie Stewart** prepared the house for the festivities with her expert care in the beautiful holiday decorations.

Estimated attendance was about 300 people thanks to **Kelly Broomall** who saw to it that no one was missed this year in posting notices about Santa at the Harlow House. He also put a temporary metal patch over the front porch to keep people safe, and dressed the front porch with Christmas lights, something that has not happened for 20 years or more. We had many visitors who had never been in the house before and saw all the commotion and just dropped in. It was a pleasure to tell them – thanks to our volunteers – that the house is open every Sunday.

Kelly, Sharon Nesbit, Julie Stewart, Paul & Judy Wilcox, and Diane Castillo-White greeted guests and lots of adorable little kids and kept the cookies piled on the plates. Thanks to all who brought cookies.



Tom & Barbara Slyter greeted children



Kelly (center) & Julie serving wassail to the children



Jo Callister, 2010, holding birth certificate

Jo Stone Callister Marks 90 Years

Jo Stone Callister marks her 90th birthday.

She was born Dec. 25, 1927 and, as her mother said, “was found hanging by her heels from the Christmas tree.” A longtime Troutdale resident and employee of the Edgefield Manor, she contributed a great deal to the history of manor with stories and interviews. Her family bumped up her birthday celebration a month to avoid Christmas and celebrated on Nov. 26 at Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church where her birth is marked on the Cradle Roll there. Her parents were **Cedric & Frances Stone**. She married **Vaden Callister** and is the mother of **Nancy Callister, Teri Herzog** and **Larry Callister** who presented her with a cake bearing all 90 candles.

Donna Hawkins' Energy Bars: a favorite on THS expeditions

Donna says she got the recipe from her daughter Phyllis in Hawaii 30 years ago.

- 1 cube of margarine
- 1 bag of miniature marshmallows
- 1 cup of peanut butter
- 1 cup Quaker quick-cooking oats
- 2 cups rice crispies
- ¼ cup sesame seeds
- ½ cup raisins
- ½ cup unsalted peanuts



Adrienne Clausen (l), Donna Hawkins (r)

Grease a 9x11 inch pan before starting to make the cookies. Melt margarine, marshmallows and peanut butter in a large pan over low heat. Stir in dry ingredients very well. Spread in greased pan and allow to cool before cutting into squares. Do not refrigerate.

Troutdale Historical Society Board Members

President: Bettianne Goetz
 Vice President: Margaret Rice
 Treasurer: Marilee Thompson
 Secretary: Norm Thomas
 Executive Director: LeAnn Stephan

Board Members

Rich Allen, Corey Brooks, Kelly Broomall,
 Diane Castillo-White, Rip Caswell,
 Erin Janssens, Jon Lowell

Past Presidents

Sharon Nesbit, Len Otto, Dave Ripma

Troutdale Historical Society in the news...

1859 Oregon's Magazine, see their article [Trip Planner: Troutdale Oregon](#)

Huffington Post includes Troutdale and the Barn Exhibit Hall in their article: [Columbia River Gorge is Open for Business - and as Beautiful as Ever.](#)

Share these articles with your friends, family, and neighbors and come visit Troutdale and our three museums.

Our Volunteers



Andrea hosting at the Harlow House in 2017

Andrea English Heim has lived in Oregon all her life. She was born in Malin and at age 7 her family moved to the north Willamette Valley. She graduated Molalla High School, married Darryl Heim in 1954 in the Pioneer St. Joseph Church on Powell, and has lived in the Portland area ever since. With son and daughter, the family vacationed and explored the Northwest in a succession of traveling abodes from tents to camper to finally a tent trailer as their perfect camp home.

As a young wife Andrea worked at home typing college student reports and term papers, and at the downtown Meier & Frank handkerchief counter in the era of Friday Surprise, uniformed elevator operators who announced each floor and its departments, and telling your friends "I'll meet you at the clock." As a mom she had a home business upholstering furniture and reupholstered

seats, side panels, and headliners for cars and small private planes. Somehow she accomplished this working on fabric spread over the living room floor with her busy toddlers crawling all over it. Later she worked as a store and post office clerk in the Erroll Heights Pharmacy. Also in this time from Darryl's passion for flying small aircraft, Andrea became interested and earned her private pilot's license in 1965 at Stu's Aeromotive in Mulino.

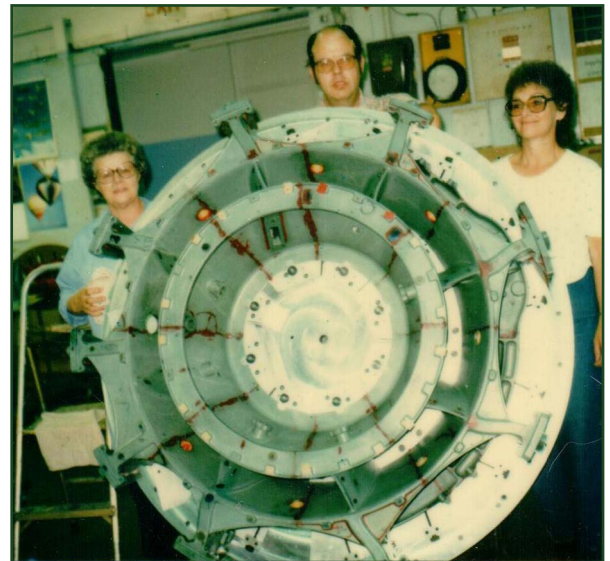
A friend recommended she try for a job at Precision Castparts (PC) which became a very satisfying 27-year career starting in 1974. She began in the front factory Assembly Department, where she molded wax pieces into larger configurations which were next dipped in ceramic shell, de-waxed, then filled with molten steel in steps known as the lost-wax process. From Assembly, she moved to Engineering Assembly, and was promoted to Technician where she wrote tech cards for the assembly process and helped assemblers achieve the finished parts envisioned by the engineers. In this job she especially enjoyed meeting assemblers, engineers, and customers from all over the world. She was one of many cross-trainers who taught other department employees the basics of each process in the foundry.

Throughout Andrea's adult life she took many college classes just for fun and some for personal development. When PC offered employee tuition benefits, she focused on job-related courses, and after a 30-year accumulation of credits, in her early sixties proudly earned an Associate Degree in Metallurgical Sciences from Clackamas Community College.

Over her years with the company she saw many changes in technology and know-how as computers became a new tool, steels and metals changed with titanium being a significant new process, and the products, sizes, and dimensions of the parts went from Cummins wheels, golf club heads, small engine parts, and orthopedic replacements, to larger and more complex castings. When the company took on producing the largest castings made in the world for commercial aircraft, factory doors and work spaces had to be remodeled to accommodate them.

While Andrea thoroughly enjoyed her years at PC, she is now enjoying retirement. She remains an active member of the Castparts Employee Federal Credit Union where she was on the Board of Directors for about 20 years. In her leisure time she loves computer games, crosswords, jigsaw puzzles, reading, gardening, music, movies, cooking, and travel, most recently a 5-day cruise to Victoria, BC with her daughter. Her son is now in Houston, daughter in Troutdale, and Andrea has 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Darryl passed away in 2013 and she has settled in at Gresham Courtyard Fountains. She has a longtime tradition of hosting a grandchildren-only weekly meal which now includes their partners and is called The Cousins Dinner.

Andrea is a lifelong learner and has enjoyed membership in several historical societies. She has been a THS member for 10 years and a volunteer for 3 years. Her first experience with THS was a cemetery tour, during which Sharon Nesbit learned Andrea loved gardening and asked her to tend the Harlow House flowers, which grew to also being volunteer docent in the house. She loves the kitchen, its old cook stove, and the various kitchen tools and gadgets. Her most memorable Harlow House visitor was a young man who asked if he could play the pump organ, which he proceeded to do expertly, and also sang along beautifully. Andrea greets Harlow House visitors every other Sunday to tell them about the historic home, and Wednesday afternoons she is at the Barn Exhibit Hall. She is a regular at the monthly McMenemy's Edgefield history nights. You can catch her there, or the Barn, or Harlow House. Come by and say hello.



Andrea English Heim (mid 1980s) on right with a piece for a commercial airplane at Precision Castparts

Friends in History Remembered

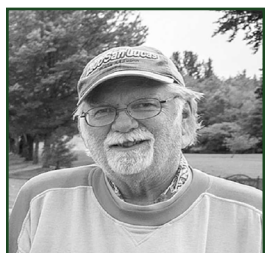
Maggie Splawn 1925 - 2017 Maggie Splawn, one of seven Splawn siblings who grew up in the Gresham/Troutdale area, died Oct. 29 at the age of 92. She was born Feb. 10, 1925 near Gresham and her family owned a restaurant in Troutdale called the "Pup Grill," which later evolved into Tad's Chicken n' Dumplings. She and her family were famous for carnival food service across Oregon and Washington and no one wanted to miss the hamburgers and fried onions at the Splawn stand at the Gresham Fair.

She married Harvey Crowder in 1946, had two sons, and later divorced. Maggie moved back to Gresham to live with her sisters, Lola and Edna, and her brother, Floyd. The house in Gresham was the family meeting place and a stopping spot for summer carnival crews.

She is survived by sons and their families. Maggie was interviewed in preparation for construction of our historic highway exhibit and the beginnings of the restaurant at the end of the Sandy River Bridge. She gave a number of artifacts for the exhibit and shared pictures of her life in Troutdale.



Margaret Lucille "Maggie"
Splawn



Dennis Neil Handy

Neil Handy 1947 - 2107

Neil Handy died Nov. 6 of pancreatic cancer. He was born Feb. 27, 1947, the oldest of four sons of **Ivan & Lenora (June) Handy**. The Handys, along with **Dick Anderson**, operated Handy's Service Station and Automotive Repair in Troutdale with the motto: "Ike and Dick Make it Tick." The station was a Troutdale gathering place for many years and is now occupied by Alliance Plumbing.

For many years, Handy's Service was a sponsor of our Troutdale Ice Cream Social. Neil is survived by brothers: **Gene, Dale and Greg**. He will be much missed at coffee sessions at the Troutdale General Store.

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Troutdale Historical Society

Preserving The Past, Embracing The Future

With membership in the society, you receive quarterly newsletters to keep up with all of our activities. Membership privileges include a reduction in membership cost for the Oregon Historical Society and free entry to all our museums.

- ☐ \$20 Individual Membership
- ☐ \$30 Family Membership
- ☐ \$100 Lovers Oak Club
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Troutdale, OR 97060

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

Thank you for your support!

Troutdale Historical Society sponsors free programs throughout the 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. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and the free program begins at 6:30 p.m.
Food and drink are available.

Troutdale Historical Society's logo, the "Lovers Oak," stood on the floodplain of the Columbia River until the Columbus Day Storm of 1962. It was a popular gathering place for locals and was an instantly recognizable landmark.



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

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