UPCOMING EVENTS

April 23
Friends & Family Night
McMenamins Edgefield Power Station
50% of the night’s proceeds benefit the Troutdale Historical Society
5:00 p.m. to close

April 28
THS Annual Meeting
Election of Officers and presentation by Chuck Rollins - Loggers and their Dogs
Glenn Otto Park-Sam Cox Building
2:00 p.m.

April 30
Edgefield History Night
History of the Martha Washington Inn
presented by Dana Plautz
@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall
6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

May 18
Cemetery Tour
Visit Wilhelm Portland Memorial and Lone Fir Cemetery
$25 members, $35 non-members
Call to reserve your seat(s) 503-661-2164
9am - 4pm

May 28
Edgefield History Night
The Road We Traveled: Oregon Trail & Tabitha Moffat Brown
Presented by Jane Kirkpatrick
@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall
6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

June 25
Edgefield History Night
Shipwrecks, Legends, & Lost Treasures: Historical Archaeology and on the Oregon Coast (includes Beeswax Wreck project)
Presented by Scott Williams
@ McMenamins Blackberry Hall
6:30 p.m. (doors at 5 p.m.)

THS Annual Meeting
Sunday, April 28 @ 2 p.m.

We will kick off the next half century of the Troutdale Historical Society at our annual meeting, at 2 p.m., Sunday, April 28, in the Sam Cox Building at Glenn Otto Community Park.

First order of business, of course, will be election of officers and honors to our volunteers. If you are interested in serving on our board or as an officer, now is the time to speak up. So far, we have the commitment of the following for office:

President: Erin Janssens; Vice President: Norm Thomas; Treasurer: Marilee Thompson; Secretary: Bettianne Goetz

Our program will be presented by Chuck Rollins of Latourell, an expert on local logging history and president of the Crown Point Country Historical Society. He will talk and show images from his new book on loggers and their dogs. Chuck is hopeful that he will have the book there for sale, fresh off the presses.

We will have a time to share stories of Troutdale, as we have done so many times over the years. If you have a tale to tell, please come and share with us.

After that, refreshments, of course. Many thanks to Jan Van Diver, for continuing to serve as our refreshment chair.

Chuck Rollins, Author and President of the Crown Point Country Historical Society

Join us at Friends & Family Night
McMenamins Edgefield Power Station Pub
2126 SW Halsey Street, Troutdale, OR
One half of the night’s proceeds benefit the Troutdale Historical Society

Tuesday
April 23, 2019
5pm to close
Margaret Rice Resigns Presidency

Due to personal reasons, Margaret Rice resigned as President of Troutdale Historical Society (THS) in January of this year. To list all of her accomplishments while serving as THS President would take pages and indeed would be impressive. From organizing safety trainings to writing nominations for awards, Margaret demonstrated boundless energy and enthusiasm. What follows is a sampling of a few of her more noteworthy achievements both before and during her time as president. Fortunately for THS, Margaret is not done. More on that soon.

Margaret was the driving force – and writer – behind Sharon Nesbit’s nomination for the statewide honor Oregon Heritage Excellence Award, a process that took months to complete. Needless to say, Sharon won the award. Sharon also was the first two-time winner of Troutdale’s Citizen of the Year Award, the nomination written by Margaret. She created a searchable catalog of ByGone Times headlines and highlights, the significant people, events, and accomplishments, as well as a searchable catalog of all THS awards given over the half century of THS existence. Board members and dates of service, staff and volunteers – all were included in this catalog. (The only way to search prior to these catalogs was to leaf through close to a thousand pages of material.)

Margaret found time to model what truly involved board members and officers model, volunteering for, and often organizing such things as the Reynolds/ALCOA aluminum plant reunion committee (a one year process), a “Back of the Barn” two day clean-up, and bottle drop bags as fundraising (if you need a bag, call the office). She was an Edgefield Concert host and History Night speaker host many times, covered the THS office while our director was on leave, attended several history and museum conferences, instituted more formal volunteer orientations for all three museums, wrote four volunteer profiles for ByGone Times…and phew! The list goes on and on.

Margaret’s resignation as president fortunately does not mean the end of her involvement with THS. She will continue on the program committee, while working on the Bottle Drop project and hosting at history nights.

Troutdale Historical Society thanks you, Margaret. Through your countless hours of involvement, you have demonstrated commitment, dedication, service, and what saving the past for the future really means. Thank you. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Len Otto, Past President

Captain Harlow's Party in 1880

Some histories mention that Capt. John Harlow hosted summer parties at his home in Troutdale, bringing guests in by boat.

Research by volunteer Dave Johnson turned up an actual ad in the June 12, 1880, Oregonian for such event, the annual summer fete of the Unitarian Church and Sunday School on June 12 of that year. It offered “Splendid Views, Good Fishing, Acres of Wild Strawberries and A Natural Park with a three hour sail on the river on the steamer A.A. McCully.” Tickets were 50 cents.
Why is the Depot Rail Museum Closed?

As of November 1, 2018, our Depot Rail Museum closed to prepare for renovation of the building by the City of Troutdale. Moving out of the Depot, our railroad museum home since 1976, was just about what you would imagine in moving out of your house after five decades. For a long time, it was also our historical society office and library. But when it was first restored, it was our museum and the Troutdale police department. Later the city parks department occupied the building. After that our photo library was downstairs, our museum office upstairs, a situation that continued until we completed the Historic Highway exhibit and moved our office to the former workshop in the barn in September 2015.

The City of Troutdale's decision to do a thorough renovation of the building is welcome. It is not insulated and costs to heat it were a big, painful part of our budget.

Once the project is done, we will again be in a position to tell the story of railroading in Troutdale in the former station agent's office, the original waiting room and the caboose. The latter, while restored, is not open to the public while we are awaiting the day that it will be repositioned and served with electricity.

The hiatus is an opportunity for us to rebuild our depot exhibit. One thought is to focus on the Troutdale people who worked there. Another is to tell visitors about all the things that were shipped out of Troutdale -- potatoes, strawberries, gladiolus, cauliflower and our famous celery. If you would like to be part of a committee to help create a new depot exhibit, please let us know.

But back to the move. Every nook and cranny was cleaned of items. Kelly Broomall's truck has beat a path to a donation facility many times with non-historic goods. And every artifact, lamp, telegraph key, button and book, has been cataloged, photographed and stored in an undisclosed location. That took countless hours of work by LeAnn Stephan, Kelly Broomall, Julia Warner. Photographer Q Madp was hired to photograph the items, the first of our museum collection to be recorded on film.

No one put a greater effort in than Kelly Broomall, and now he has worked himself out of a job, because he has been the Friday host at the depot since 2015. He will now work behind the scenes as the renovation proceeds and the exhibit is rebuilt.

We are now working with the city on the details of historic preservation, bead board, new windows, all the things that will give our Depot another century of life. People will always know that Troutdale was a railroad town.

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**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

**SUMMER MUSEUM HOURS**
May - September
- Barn Exhibit Hall
  9am - 4pm Wednesday-Saturday
  1 - 4pm Sunday
  Closed: Monday & Tuesday
- Harlow House
  1 - 4pm Sunday only
- Depot Rail Museum
  Closed for Renovation

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**Date Changes**
**For History Night**

There are two date changes for the McMenamins Edgefield History Night schedule for 2019. The new date for Shipwrecks, Legends and Lost Treasures: Historical Archeology on the Oregon Coast is June 25. The new date for Celilo Falls: Parallel Lives Along N'Chewana is July 30.
Bill's Bench - A memorial to Bill Nesbit, expert mole catcher of the Troutdale Historical Society

Thank you to all the donors and volunteers for their contributions to Bill's Bench. It has become a favorite spot to sit and chat the afternoon away.

Bill's Bench Donors
Ginger Harlow Allen, Joyce Belcher
Joy Beldin, Kelly & Karla Broomall, Larry Callister, Dr. Robert & Tami Campbell
Rip & Alison Caswell, Anne Endicott
Patricia Farrell & Robert Watkins
Bettianne Goetz, Donald Hull
Erin Janssens, Richard Kerslake
Sally King, Jeanette Kloos
Jon & Audrey Lowell, Ray & Laureen Lucero, Jim & Linda Murphy
Joann Otto, Len & Gloria Otto
Mary Otto, Neal Otto, Sharon Petri
Myrna Rhodes, Mike & Margaret Rice
Gerald & LeAnn Stephan, Julie Stewart
Al & Joyce Stoeckel, Kay Struckman
Marilee Thompson, Helen Wand
Glenn & Diane White, Doris Woolley
Deryl Word & Diana Higby

Notable Burials
Did you know Joseph C. Latourell, Clara Latourell Larsson, and Laura Bullock Harlow are buried at the historic Douglass Cemetery in Troutdale? What about Kent Henry, guitarist/songwriter for Steppenwolf. Yes, all of these and other notable people are buried here.

Troutdale Historical Society is working with METRO to produce a guide to some of the interesting graves in Douglass, including John Douglass, who donated the land. The debut of that brochure will be on Memorial Day, May 27, 9am - 2pm at the cemetery. Join us there.

Steve Yost for grinding off exposed bolts from the pathway near the Harlow House.
Julia Warner for shoveling snow off the sidewalk leading to the Barn entrance.
Orient Electric for the use of their bucket truck to allow Kelly Broomall to remove Christmas lights from the Harlow House.
Erin Janssens for adding matching tiles to our donated display cases.
Len Otto for introducing speakers at the January and February History Nights.
Marge McDevitt and Laureen Lucero for hand sewing tags into artifact clothing.
Dave Wand and Larry McGinnis for their presentation at our January program, Finding the Wire Trail.
Charlotte Freeman for all the volunteer hours hosting the Barn. We are sorry to see you go.
Julia Warner, Kelly Broomall, and Q Madp for cataloging, tagging, boxing, and photographing all the artifacts in the Depot Rail Museum.
Kelly Broomall for diligently working with the City to clear the remainder of unwanted items from the Depot Rail Museum.
Jennifer Peake, our new volunteer working to update the photo database.
Margaret Rice for managing the Bottle-Drop fundraiser.
Erin Janssens for assembling Bill's Bench and securing the mole in concrete.
Donors to Bill's Bench for making this memorial bench possible.
Margaret Rice for the idea of a bronze mole for Bill's Bench.
Depot Artifacts Project

In preparation for the City of Troutdale’s renovation of the 112 year-old Depot Rail Museum, we were tasked with removing and storing all the artifacts. When the Depot was moved to its current location in 1976, its museum was born soon after. Over these many years artifacts have been donated by local residents with family ties to the Depot, by railroad enthusiasts or former railroad employees. We took this opportunity to identify, catalog, and photograph over 300 artifacts. This painstaking endeavor revealed many interesting finds and taught the curators a lot about railroading in the Pacific Northwest. We are excited to return these artifacts to the museum to tell the story of the Depot Rail Museum in Troutdale once again.

One mystery item was this oblong cast-iron ring. A missing link to a very large chain? No, a rail car coupling link, which was the precursor to the knuckle coupler. This link required the brakeman to couple rail cars by using this link and pin system. Many lost fingers and hands to this dangerous procedure. It was banned in 1890 and replaced with the knuckle coupler.

Cemetery Tour - Saturday, May 18, 2019

Depart: 9am, Glenn Otto Community Park
Bring: Sack lunch, no glass or alcohol
Return: 4pm, Glenn Otto Community Park
Fee: $25 member, $35 non-member
Luxury tour bus with on-board restroom
Reservations required. Seats are limited.
Call LeAnn #503-661-2164

Our tour this year will take you to Wilhelm Portland Memorial and Lone Fir Cemetery. Tour guide is Stan Clarke, cemetery historian. The Troutdale Harlow family is buried at Lone Fir Cemetery.

The Wilhelm Portland Memorial was established in 1910. It is the first crematorium in the Pacific Northwest, and one of the largest mausoleums in the country. This facility is filled with artwork and stained glass.

The Lone Fir Cemetery, once Mount Crawford, was renamed for its solitary tree in the northwest corner and it is still standing. Lone Fir is one of Portland’s oldest continuously used cemeteries and is now a de facto arboretum with more than 700 trees representing 67 species. Twenty-five thousand people are buried here.
NEW MEMBERS

Coos History Museum
East Multnomah Pioneer Association
Eric Hazen
Don Nelsen
Jennifer Peake
Cynthia Peetz-Yochim
Kathleen Thomes-Rhew

DONORS TO OUR GENERAL FUND

Ginger Harlow Allen
Dr. Robert & Tami Campbell
Charles Ellis
East Multnomah Pioneer Association
Marilyn Howell
Curtis & Beverly Knight
Dave & Judith Lenhart
Jerry & Bobbie Matches
Len & Gloria Otto

DONORS TO OUR MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of Harvey & Betty Wieprecht
Nancy Callister Buley

In Memory of Wilbur & Gladys Davis
Gerald Davis

At the Harlow House

The doll that survived the 1948 Vanport Flood is on display. Sharon Klingbile Petri has loaned for a brief time the doll she carried out of the flood when she and her family escaped.

Celebrate the Oregon Trail by studying a scale model of a pioneer wagon. And there is a new display of ladies fripperies - cam-eos, jewelry, and sparkly things from Hazel Webb, Diane Wingerd, and Sharon Bennett.

And enjoy pictures and clippings from old newspapers and magazines -- the fun people had before the Internet.

The Harlow House is open beginning at 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. every Sunday, thanks to our hosts, Andrea Heim and Hazel Webb.

LIFETIME MEMBERS

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 Fritzinger
Bettianne Goetz
Joe & Peggy Gorciak
Mel Harmon
Lynda Harvey
Karl & Bette Hays
John Hillyard
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
Ione & Harry St. Clair
Robert Strebin
Kay Struckman
Marilee Thompson
Martha Wheeler
Mike Weyhrich

Troutdale Historical Society
Board Members

Executive Board
Acting President: Erin Janssens
Treasurer: Marilee Thompson
Secretary: Norm Thomas
Executive Director: LeAnn Stephan

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

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

RENEWING MEMBERS

Katherine Astala
Bruce & Dianne Bangerter
Ed & Claudia Brooks
Donna Brown
Dr. Robert & Tami Campbell
Donna Erwin -Columbia River Gallery
Marjeanne (Sandy) Carisser
Tom Cowling
Patricia Farrell & Robert Watkins
Jean Holman
Marylin Howell
Patty & Gerald Huntley
Richard Kerslake
Curtis & Beverly Knight
Ken Lantz
Dave & Judith Lenhart
Jerry & Bobby Matches
Eugene Melvin
Patricia Morron
Len & Gloria Otto
Darline Payne
Larry & Carolyn Piper
Leslie Radke
JoAnn Reese & John Fagan
Archaeological Investigations
Jim Rhodes
Rita & Arlen Sheldrake
Mike & Evelyn Smith
Joyce Stewart
Bonnie Harlow & Peter Taylor
Bonnie & Ron Vaughn
Bess Wills - Gresham Ford
Ruth Woodke
Doris Woolley
Steve & Debora Yost

Fred E. Harlow House, built 1900
When members write to send dues, or just write to keep in touch, they often explain their links to Troutdale Historical Society. Here are a few:

Patricia Johnston Huntley: "My great-great-grandfather, Elliott Temper Preston, homesteaded on Deep Creek. The homestead is now a Salvation Army facility. Walter Preston, his son, worked on the historic highway. Olive Loretta Preston Johnson, Elliott Preston’s daughter, was my grandmother on my father’s side."

Gerald Davis: a donation in memory of his parents, Wilbur and Gladys Davis, adding: "Wilbur was the town marshal and was in charge of the town’s (Troutdale’s) water department in the 1950s."

And from the Marilyn Howell of Klamath Falls, member of the Howell family, in response to our newsletter story about the lost neighborhood along the Sandy River north of the freeway: She said her grandfather, William J. Wiser, built two homes on the road, his own and the home later owned by Jean and Lloyd Holman, as well as the Spanish Revival style Handy Gas Station, now Alliance Plumbing.

"Grandpa also had a small grocery store and butcher shop in "The Strip" in Troutdale. Mother (Tillie Howell) and her friend, (possibly named Evelyn), opened a restaurant on "The Strip" too. That is where she snagged father, Chim Howell.

"Mother always said that she got a basket full of socks to darn from grandmother for her wedding present. I remember mother always repairing father’s (socks.)"

As to the whereabouts of the rest of the children of Chim and Tillie Howell: Lori is deceased; Clifford lives in Yuma, Sally is in Brookings and Pat is in West Sacramento. “You are doing great. I love it,” she concluded.

(Want to know more about Chim and Tillie Howell? Our files have interviews and photos.)

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**Troutdale Hospital, Spring 1949**

Troutdale was getting a hospital in the spring of 1949, The Gresham Outlook reported.

It was front page news, along with word of a Sandy River smelt run. Dr. Walter Noehren, then a faculty member of University of Oregon medical school, was organizing the Troutdale Medical Care hospital on the estate of Portland attorney and State Representative Alex Barry.

We now know the site at the end of what is now Sturges Lane to be the former Sturges property, longtime home of former Mayor Bob Sturges, his wife Dorothy, who was a valued volunteer for this historical society, and their family.

At the time the hospital was announced Bob and Dorothy Sturges were still living at the Troutdale airport where Bob was beginning his airplane parts business. But up on the hill, a rambling home was to be a hospital, several guest rooms, doctors’ offices and an x-ray and emergency room. Planners even said there would be an ambulance. The news story noted that there was no endowment or funding, and though it had the support of former mayors Dick Knarr and Eric Enquist, the enterprise did not thrive. Some Troutdale residents remember being treated there.

The Sturges family ultimately bought the property and moved in, first living in a small quarters at the east end of the rambling structure and ultimately expanding to fill a huge living room and bedrooms for all of their children. Bob Sturges moved his Columbia Airmotive parts business to an adjacent building on the property and it continued at the site under operation by him and his sons. For some time, the public enjoyed the vintage planes that were always parked on the lawn. The home and business were demolished last winter to make way for a new housing development.
John Wilson (d. February 15, 2019)

John Wilson, a husband, father, and grandfather passed away February 15, 2019 at the age of 62. John pictured here with his 1963 split-window Corvette was known for his love of classic cars. He also had a reputation for wearing "colorful" clothing; either Hawaiian shirts at cruise-ins or a colorful combination of ties and shirts to city council meetings.

Employed by Pamplin Media Group for 8 years, he also volunteered in the community. He was a former Troutdale City Council member and co-organizer of the annual Troutdale Cruise-In for 15 years. A member of the Kiwanis Club of the Columbia Gorge, Boy Scout Troop Leader, and on the West Columbia Gorge's Chamber of Commerce's Government Affairs Committee.

"The biggest thing about John was his laugh." Terry Smoke, friend

"John Wilson was a great man with a big heart." Matt Wand, friend

Wanda Jane Judd
(Dec. 2, 1946 - Jan. 25, 2019)

Wanda Jane Judd, passed away at the age of 72 years. She is the wife of Leroy Judd, a maintenance volunteer at the Troutdale Historical Society. Leroy has been "on call" over the past few years and has come to our aid many times.

A new way to support Troutdale Historical Society
Pick up a bag from THS - Fill with empty bottles/cans - drop at nearest BottleDrop location or at the Barn Exhibit Hall. Money will be automatically deposited and donated.
Thank you Business Sponsors

Are you interested in becoming a Business or Corporate Sponsor? Visit our online store troutdalehistory.org, 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!
Mission Statement
To gather, preserve and make available material relating to the history of Troutdale, the Columbia River Gorge and the Sandy River.

Thank you for your support!
Troutdale Historical Society sponsors free programs throughout the year.
*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.