

Bygone Times

Newsletter of the

Troutdale Historical Society

January 2010

Please Mark Your Calendars

Jan 17

Clarence Mershon discusses the 150 years in East County since statehood. He will talk about farming, lumber and fishing industries.

Troutdale City Hall 2 p.m.
Refreshments will be served.

Feb 21

Program Meeting

2 p.m. at **Troutdale City Hall**.
Diane L. Goeres-Gardner, award winning author of two books; *Murder, Morality and Madness: "Women Criminals in Early Oregon"* and *"Necktie Parties: The History of Legal Executions in Oregon, 1851-1905"* will be telling tales of "Frontier Justice" for some of the 'not so nice' people in early Oregon.

We need your help!

We have been getting a large amount of emails bounced back to us. If you have changed your email address in the past few months, please call us with your new one or send an email to info@troutdalehistory.org so we can update our files. If you are not receiving our newsletter by email and would prefer it, let us know that also. **Thanks!**

Clarence Mershon - 150 years in East County

Clarence Mershon will be the featured speaker at the Troutdale Historical Society's January 17 program meeting at Troutdale City Hall at 2 p.m.

Clarence did a presentation at the East County Pioneer Association Picnic last September on the 150 years in East County since statehood.

He has changed it somewhat for this program and concentrates on the "Cabbage Hill" area. He talks about farming, the farmers and the lumber and fishing industries.



Light refreshments will be served and Clarence's books will be on sale before and after the program.

For more information please call the THS office at 503-661-2164



The Arch is going up!

Sue & Greg Handy working on the South side of the Columbia River Highway at the site of the Arch after the trees are gone.

In the event of icy or snowy conditions, our meetings will be automatically cancelled. We will do our best to post a message on the answering machine, 503-661-2164 or you can call Terry at 503-810-0386.

2 From the Director's Chair

by Terry Huston

Please help us by saving your pennies! We will be sending out raffle tickets in February's newsletter for items to be raffled off at December's Open House at Harlow House. We need to raise some money. With the increase in utilities and a lower "paid" memberships, we are in a budget crunch like many other organizations. We need money and we need more volunteers. The Tuesday Ladies and Adrienne Clausen have stepped up so that we can have our three museums open on the third Saturday of each

month. The same as R/F/W has Zimmerman House open. If you can help out, please call Adrienne at 503-665-5288 or Terry at the office at 503-661-2164.

Last years' Salmon Bake was a huge success and will be held again this August on the banks of the Sandy River. So be sure to plan on attending this year's event. More in future newsletters about that.

Thank you to the Tuesday Ladies for decorating Harlow House for Christmas and now Valentine's Day.

It looks GREAT!

Also, thank you to Dave Munson our fabulous volunteer maintenance guy who has painted the floor in the barn, it looks awesome. And, thanks to Jennifer Munson for her work in the library and Carol LaCoste for her work on the scrap booking, an on-going project. So much to do...**Happy New Year!**



Terry

Hazel Lunday

Longtime Troutdale teacher Hazel Lunday died Dec. 9, 2009 at the age of 93.

She received her Bachelor's Degree in elementary education from Western Oregon University (known as Oregon Normal School) in 1934

and was a longtime elementary school teacher in the Reynolds School District. She was a member of the Gresham Elks Widows, the Gresham and Troutdale Historical societies, and a past deaconess and choir member at Cherry Park Presbyterian Church. She was preceded in death by

her husband, Linden, on June 29, 1987.

Survivors include her daughters, Louise Ann Solis of Gresham and Susan Jan Case of Wasco; son, Joseph Henry Lunday of Portland; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grand children.

This note enclosed with a memorial donation for Kaz Tamura and Florence Baker from **Carolyn (Zimmerman) Shank**: My parents were friends of both Kaz & Florence. One of our family stories happened when our oldest son, Kenneth, was in

the first grade at Troutdale Grade School (about 1972).

On a cold winter day he chose to walk to grandma's (Olga Zimmerman) and not wake me up since I worked the night shift. The east wind was blowing and his clothes were wet and frozen by

the time he reached the Baker's. Florence offered to take him, but Ken refused so she asked him where he was going. She called "Grandma Zim" who came to the rescue. We were always so thankful for such wonderful, caring neighbors and friends.

Volunteer Opportunities

1. Museum Host
2. Grant Writer
3. Museum Host
4. Office Help
5. Museum Host
6. Newsletter
7. Museum Host

Please call Adrienne Clausen at 503-665-5288 to Volunteer

Do you recognize this store???

This picture was sent us by Jean Robinson Torland. She believes the man in the photo is her father, John Robinson. He was a butcher at the General Store in the late '30s early '40s. Does anyone know what store this might have been???



2010 Program Calendar

January ~ Clarence Mershon

talks about farming, fishing and and lumber industries in East County
in the last 150 years since statehood.

February ~ Diane L. Goeres-Gardner

Award-winning author of two books; *“Murder Morality and Madness: Women Criminals in Early Oregon”* and *“Necktie Parties: The Legal Executions in Oregon, 1851-1905”* will talk about Frontier Justice in early Oregon. She will have copies of both books for sale at the program for \$16.95 and will happily autograph any copies you may have already purchased.

March ~ TBA - Possibly John Harrison

who has just written a book about Mona Bell, Sam Hill’s mistress.

April ~ Sharon Nesbit, Oral History

Vern Rathman

May ~ Cemetery Tour - \$10

Donations - Operating

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In Memory of Kaz Tamura

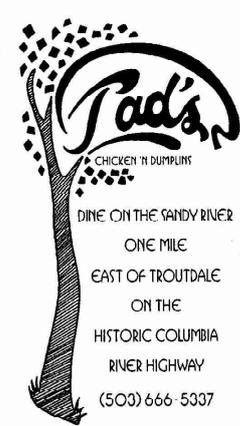
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Helen Baker and Kaz Tamura

Two old friends, longtime neighbors, loyal member of our society and fellow farmers on Troutdale Road, Florence Baker and Kaz Tamura, died within three days of each other in October.

Florence Baker, who with her late husband, Bill, worked on a historic farm on Troutdale Road, died Oct. 27 at the age of 86. Tamura, who grew up on his grandfather's farm just south of the Baker place, and was a classmate of Bill Baker, died Oct. 25, a day after his 88th birthday. His death came as a result of an accident with his trac-

tor on Sept. 23.

Tamura and the late Bill Baker were classmates at Cedar School, eventually attending Benson Polytechnical High School. The two shared an interest in radios and broadcasting, but those hopes were dashed for Tamura at the start of World War II and his family's three-year internment at Minidoka in Southern Idaho.

The friends kept up a correspondence during those years and, after Tamura's return with a new bride, Helen, at war's end, they farmed as neighbors for the rest of their lives. The Tamuras donated thousands of

bedding plants to the historical society and to the city.

"They (the Tamuras) were true benefactors to the city," said David Ripma, former city councilor and former president of the historical society. "And Florence was my neighbor and my vice president at the historical society. She was as loyal a volunteer as you would ever find, involved in everything we did."

The Tamuras were feted as grand marshals of Troutdale's Summerfest parade in 1994. Florence Baker was named the Troutdale Historical Society's member of the year in 1999.

Edna Bramhall Ellis

Edna Bramhall Ellis, has died at age 96. She was the subject of one of our living history interviews, which is available on a DVD in our depot library or for purchase in the museum store.

Edna was born May 6, 1913, in Troutdale to Harry and Emelia (Aschoff) Bramhall. She was raised in Troutdale and graduated from Gresham High School in 1931, according to her own account.

On May 5, 1931, she married Charles Ellis in Troutdale. They took a one-day honeymoon to The Dalles.

The two were as poor as the proverbial church mice and Edna's account of their young married life in a tiny windowless cabin on the hill in Troutdale is one of the treasures in our historical society library.

She remembered that they coped in the dark little building until one day "Billy came home with a pair of windows carrying them on his back." The two didn't have a car, so how else would Bill Ellis have managed to get windows to the house?

Edna was a homemaker and mentor to the children in the neighborhood. She helped in her daughters sewing group when they were involved in 4-

H Club. Edna was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Troutdale Community Church and the East County Bridge Club. She enjoyed sewing and gardening, and she was an excellent cook.

Her husband, Charles, preceded her in death in 1995. Survivors include her daughters, Claudell Metzger of Gresham and Shirley Loeffel of South Beach; sons, Bill Ellis of Gresham and Charles R. Ellis of Desert Air, Wash.; nine grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

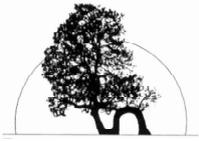
The family suggests contributions to the Troutdale Historical Society.



**Santa & friends
at December's
Open House at
Harlow House**

**Volunteers Michael
& Tony helping with
painting at the
Depot**





Troutdale Historical Society
 104 SE Kibling St.
 Troutdale, OR 97060
 Phone 503-661-2164
 www.troutdalehistory.org

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, and knowledge of, the locality's past.

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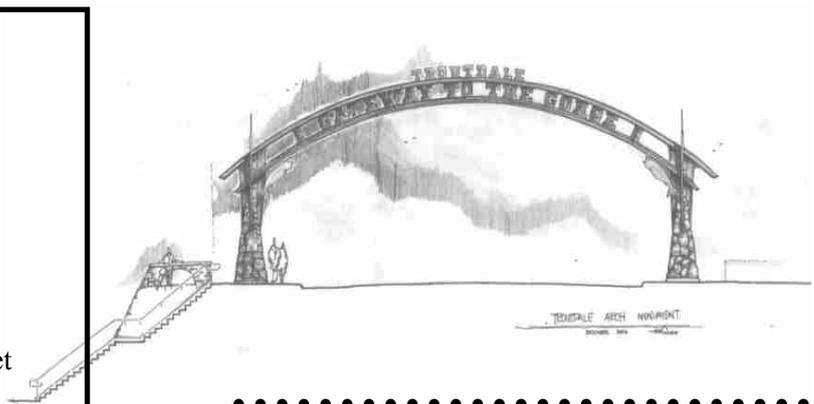
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