



# BYGONE TIMES

Newsletter of the Troutdale Historical Society

March 2007

## Please Mark Your Calendars

### March Program Meeting

*Sun. March 18*

*2:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

### *Photo Contest*

*Sam Cox Building at Glenn Otto Park*

### April 6

First Friday Artwalk

5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

### April 15

Sharon Nesbit will be back from Maui and will be speaking about Troutdale history and her new book,

*"It Could Have Been Carpdale."*

*Plan to attend this meeting*

### May 5

THS Tea & Tour

*Lawrence Villa,  
Coopey Falls*

Newsletters now available by email. If you are interested, please call Heather at THS 503-661-2164 or email her at [info@troutdalehistory.org](mailto:info@troutdalehistory.org) for more information.

*2007 Troutdale Celebrates  
100 Years*

## MARCH MEETING

### PHOTO CONTEST

The March 18th meeting of the Troutdale Historical Society will be a day to celebrate 100 years of Troutdale's incorporation as a city. All members are asked to bring any photographs they may have that pertain to Troutdale and the surrounding area. The older the photos are, the better.

Please keep in mind that all photos submitted will be processed into the THS Past Perfect computer program. Your photographs should have as much information that is available in order to catalogue each photograph. Please list the location of the photo, the date (or as close an estimate as possible), names if people are in photo and the photographer if possible. We also would like your name and address so original photos can be returned to their owners if they want them back.

### Categories for Photo Contest

#1 Edgefield ~ Railroads ~ Scenes/Country

#2 Disasters

#3 Children/School ~ Culture ~ People

#4 Buildings ~ Business ~ Scenes/City

#5 Agriculture ~ Fishing ~ Logging

#6 Oldest

Prizes will be awarded for the oldest, the funniest and the most unusual.

Please help the photo librarian by submitting all the information possible with each photo, he will be eternally grateful!

For more information, call the THS office at 503-661-2164. Plan to be there on March 18, 2007, at 2 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

## 100 Years Ago

### Troutdale

Troutdale Historical Society Railroad Museum structure was built in 1907. The original depot, built in 1890 was lost in the 1907 fire...

An ordinance was passed by the city council in October of 1907 that the promiscuous firing of fireworks, fire crackers and firearms is prohibited unless the Mayor by his discretion issued a proclamation permitting the display of fireworks on special days or in connection with patriotic occasions...

### Beyond the Bluff

Marion Morrison, otherwise known as John Wayne, was born in Winterset, Iowa... Portland's first Rose Festival was celebrated...

# In Memory

## Margaret “Peggy” L. Parsons

Peggy Parsons, longtime Troutdale resident, passed away on February 21.

Peggy joined the Marine Corp in 1942 as a member of the pistol target team. She was the National Pistol Target Champion and won a number of medals for her shooting.

She married Dale in 1950. He preceded her in death in 1978. They have five Children, Marty, Jeff, Dee, Linda and Jenni; 11 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Peggy was a cook at Edgefield and then worked as a secretary at Troutdale Elementary School and later at the Reynolds School District administration office. She retired from the Multnomah Education Services District in 1985, but continued to work in a printing business in Sandy that she co-owned with her daughter.

Peggy was a lifetime member of the Troutdale Historical Society and one of the founding members.

## James A. Boman

Jim Boman, longtime Troutdale resident, died in Yuma, AZ on Feb 16. A memorial service will be held on March 10th at 11 a.m. in the Sam Cox Building at Glenn Otto Community Park. All are invited to attend.

Jim enlisted in the Merchant Marines in 1941 and served throughout World War II. He was discharged in 1945. He married Avanelle in 1946 in Missouri. In the 1940's he owned a dance pavilion. He later worked for different electric companies in Missouri and Oregon and retired in 1985.

In the 1960's Jim served on the Troutdale City Council. He also was a Golden Glove champion and loved to coach little league. He moved to Yuma, AZ several years ago.

Avanelle died in 1987. Together they had three children, Deborah, James and Barry; the grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

## A letter from Elice Swanson, Seattle, WA:

Dear Friends,

I just received and viewed the DVD “Growing up in Troutdale in the 1950's” and really appreciated hearing the impressions of the people interviewed. So much of what they talked about was my experience also. I will treasure this record.

My family, the George and Cecile Swansons, with Melva, George, Jr., myself and Wayne lived in the U P Railroad house at the base of Hungry Hill in the early 1940's, moved to Lynchwood for about six months and then purchased the Malcolm farm on Halsey St. a half mile east of the “poor farm” in the spring of 1947. My father was the signal Forman for the Union Pacific, based at the depot there and my mother delivered rural mail part of the time. We sold the farm to Klinger's when I was a sophomore (1953) at Gresham High. We moved to Palmquist Rd. where Wayne finished grade school at Powell Valley School.

I have been a teacher for 35 years, much because of the great teachers I had at Troutdale School. I believe that because we were allowed to appreciate the role of teachers we all got an excellent education. Mrs. Bailey has told me, since then, that God laid his hand on her heart to become a teacher. Our neighbors never failed us by giving us security and discipline. We were allowed to work in the fields and grow.. I think we were all blessed.

I recently “retired” and am in the process of writing a “fiction” novel for young adults about my childhood, hopefully to tell how “it takes a village to raise a child”...that was Troutdale.

All my regards, Elice Swanson

~ Class of 1951 Troutdale Grade...1955 Gresham Union High

P. S. I also received the book on the Japanese farmers by C. Mershon and am anxious to read it and locate some of my childhood friends.

## Through the Grapevine from Sharon:

Longtime member and dedicated Troutdale Trekker Arlie Harris celebrated her 90th birthday. Arlie often traveled with us on our Troutdale treks and was a great story teller who often had us in stitches with her talks of working for the census bureau in remote Eastern Oregon towns. She is a longtime historian for the Gresham Historical Society...

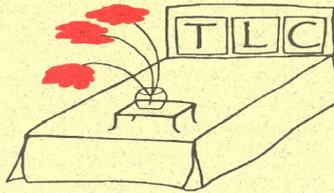
Another trek traveler, Bessie Carney, 87, has been in touch. She now lives in Cupertino, California, but recently sent a check for the Harlow House roof saying, “I just could not resist the picture of the Harlow House with the shingles half gone.” She and her husband lived in Gresham for about 10 years and often joined us on Troutdale treks...

And we also have word from Pearl Doris Ramseth who keeps in touch though she can no longer play the organ (and she used to at Harlow House at Christmas. She too is happy Harlow House will get the “right kind of roof”...



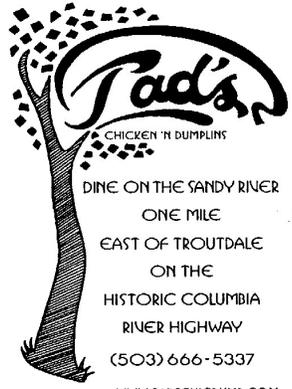
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 Phone: 503-661-2164  
 www.troutdalehistory.org

**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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**Our Thanks ... from THS ... to the following for their support**

**For HH Roof Fund/End of Year Donations,  
 Thank You to:**

**Herbert & Mary Jean Mohn**

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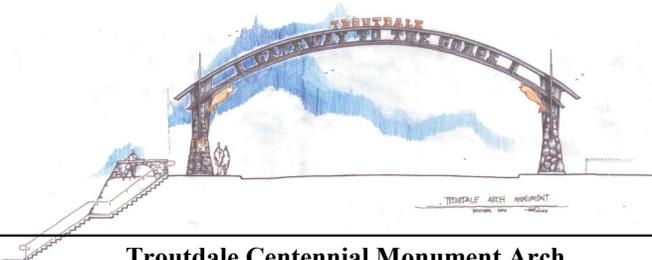
**Crystal Bayley**

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**Troutdale Centennial Monument Arch**

THS has established a fund to collect donations for this monument. The arch will be built at the entrance to town and span from the Caswell Gallery on the North to the old Kendall House property on the south.

The arch will cost \$240,000.

The City of Troutdale has pledged \$45,000.

The rest will be raised by community wide fundraising efforts. There will be an acknowledgement plaque for contributions, starting at the \$1,000 level. There is a brochure that details the plaque levels, info about the arch, Centennial events and the time capsule. We intend to include the brochure in the next newsletter and will also send it to our email address list.

**Congratulations to All:**

**Thanks to our wonderful friends and members,  
 we've raised enough money to replace the Harlow  
 House Roof...and plans are in place to do so this  
 summer!**