

Bygone Times

Newsletter of the

Troutdale Historical Society

June/July 2008

Please Mark Your Calendar

June 6

First Friday at The Depot

We are having an antique appraiser, David Wilson, (more inside newsletter), a representative from Heirloom Preservation to tell how to preserve old photos, letters, etc, a blacksmith, wine tasting by Star Simon from Leaning Star Winery in Corbett and live music TBA

June 7

Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social

11-4
Barn Museum

Bite 'n Bluegrass

Downtown Troutdale
July 12th

Summerfest & Parade

Downtown Troutdale and
Glenn Otto Park
July 19th

Wheels & Wings

Troutdale Airport
August 16th

Tea & Tour



Decorations Galore



Mona, Jean & Dorothy



Rose Centerpiece



**Jennifer Munson in her
"new" hat.**

Note from Sharon Nesbit on the tea and tour:

It was fun once again to see the pinafore aprons that Clover Nasmyth made so long ago for hosts at Harlow House events. It's a good thing that a historical society never throws anything away, because they looked fresh and pretty. Clover will be happy to know that we still have, and use them.



Beautiful Tables

Arch Donations Deadline for Name on Bronze Plaque

The Centennial Arch will be constructed this summer. We can only guarantee your name on the permanent Bronze Plaque on the arch, for donations received by July 15th.

2 From the Director's Chair

by Terry Huston

In honor of Troutdale Historical Society's 40th Anniversary this year, the **Ice Cream Social** is going back to its roots. It used to be just that, a social. A chance to visit with friends and neighbors. It is hard at a larger venue like Glenn Otto Park or the Bite 'n Bluegrass to really sit and just catch up with people, so this year it is going to be at the **Barn Museum on June 7th from 11-4**. Come on down and have some berries and ice cream. Bring the kids, the grandkids, the aunts & uncles or just grab a neighbor or two. It should be great fun.

The Tuesday Ladies have made a

beautiful fabric wall hanging featuring some of THS's old photos. It will be on display at the Ice Cream Social for all to see. Tickets for a chance to win the wall hanging are \$3.00 each. The drawing will be at Christmas Open House on Dec. 6 at Harlow House.

We have a really fun program lined up for First Friday on June 6 from 5-9 p.m.. There will be a blacksmith working on his forge like the old days. We are having an antique appraiser, so dust off those old items and bring them on down to the Depot to see what they are worth. (\$5.00 per

item, or 3 items for \$10). The money goes to THS, so come have some fun and support your historical society at the same time. Star Simon will be here again with her wines and honey (by far the best honey I have ever tasted). Sarah Lowe will be at the Depot painting (you must come see her latest work of art. It is the Lovers Oak and it is gorgeous!).

I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer. Don't forget to come support our members of the year, the Munsons, in this year's Summer Fest Parade. Stay cool and check on your elderly neighbors.

Cabinets anyone???

If you know anyone who is remodeling a kitchen, we could use the old cabinets and countertops at the Barn. We need storage for all the paper supplies and dishes we use for Tea & Tour, Ice Cream Social, etc.

Do you have any books you want to donate???

We have a start on the books for a book exchange at the Depot, but we need more.

Bring in all those books sitting on the shelf, or in the boxes in the garage or stashed in the basement (even the ones you just never got around to reading). When we get enough books, we will start a book exchange. When you've read a book, you bring it in and trade for another. If we get too many books accumulated, we will sell them (cheap) on Saturdays.

A SPECIAL thank you to Jean Hybskmann, the hostesses, kitchen crew and Sharon Nesbit who all made this year's Tea & Tour another HUGE success. Good job ladies!

Volunteer Opportunities

1. Ice Cream Scooper
2. Grant Writer
3. Museum Host
4. Electrician
5. Museum Host
6. Scrap booking
7. Museum Host

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

DVDs of the Elsie Simmitt oral history with Sharon Nesbit are on sale at the Depot Store for \$15.00 (we can ship for an additional \$2.50).

Harlow House Needs Paint

Last year everyone rose to the occasion when our beloved Harlow House needed a roof and that has been accomplished. This year, we need to ask for donations for painting the old house. We need to protect our roof investment by protecting the house.

A special fund has been set up for

donations for the painting project. The estimate for the project is \$5240 which includes power washing, scraping, prep and painting. That price also includes the gazebo.

With prices increasing on petroleum products every day, the contractor will only guarantee that price for the rest of this year.

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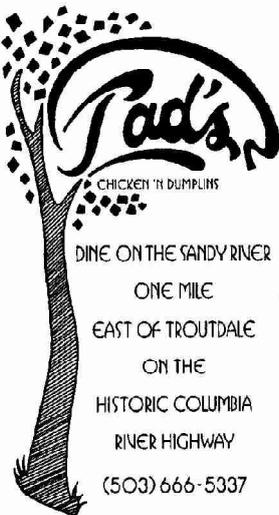
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Jeff Lawry

Jeff Lawry, 50, Troutdale resident, died at home Tuesday, April 22.

A celebration of his life was held on May 1 at Gresham Memorial Chapel.

He was born October 8, 1957, at Emanuel Hospital in Portland to Laura and Jerry Lawry.

He lived his entire life in the Portland area attending grade and high schools in the Centennial district, graduating from Centennial High School in 1975. At Mt. Hood College he studied emergency medicine, completing paramedic training at Oregon Health Sciences University where he was the first paramedic in

Oregon to be certified under age 21.

He returned to Mt. Hood Community College in 2002 to study phlebotomy and worked at Legacy Emanuel Hospital. Most recently, he worked as a dispatcher for Life Flight at Emanuel in an office that once served as the delivery rooms where he was born.

He liked the outdoors, and paired his photographs to music. He enjoyed historical research and was a humorist. During the winter of 2002, he and his father designed and built a new exhibit for the Troutdale Historical Society rail depot, creating whimsical life-sized historic figures called

Depot People.

He is survived by his daughter Stephanie R. Lawry of Milwaukie, his parents of Gresham, and aunts, uncles and cousins in Oregon and Montana. Remembrance can be made to Troutdale Historical Society, 104 S.E. Kibling St., Troutdale, 97060, or Guide Dogs For the Blind, PO Box 151200, San Rafael, CA 94915.

The Troutdale Historical Society will be placing a permanent plaque in the Depot Museum in Jeff's honor that will tell the story of the Depot People and the two special men who made them come to life.

First Friday is "The Place" To Be on June 6

Bring down your lawn chair (I am being optimistic) for First Friday. There will be a blacksmith from Fort Vancouver, wine tasting, Sarah will be painting on the porch and we have invited Jennifer Cobb back to tell us how to preserve old letters, photos and fabric. Also attending the event is antique appraiser David Wilson.

David Wilson has been a collector of Americana for over thirty years. He has authored three books and is in the process of completing his fourth. He has written numerous articles for magazines. David was in the insurance claims industry and rep-

resented some of America's largest companies. He operated a museum at Coloma, California, California's gold discovery site. David's interest in antiques and collectibles has taken him throughout the United States, visiting museums, antique shows, collectible events and historical sites. He was a featured guest appraiser at the Lafayette School House Antique Mall and other locations. He has also been a speaker at many collectible events.

David presently operates an antiques & collectibles appraisal business and has examined numerous

items including a gold locket owned by Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln, a signed Beatles program from 1963, a candy dish and perfume bottle owned by Adolf Hitler and Eva Braun, a 19th century printing press, firearms, historical documents, period furniture, historical pharmacy items, prints and photographs, the contents of a 19th century hardware store in Kansas and sports memorabilia. His incredible country store collection was acquired by the El Dorado County Museum in Placerville, California. David presently serves as Executive Director, Tigard Historical Society.

The Columbia River Gorge

On Saturday, June 28th, the National Forest Foundation invites the public to help build a trail through a riparian forest and meadow to the site of a new bird watching platform at the Sandy River Delta. This event is open to all ages.

The "bird Blind" or viewing platform is being installed as part of The

Confluence Project, a series of seven permanent art installations along the Columbia River Gorge by artist Maya Lin.

Lunch will be provided for all registered volunteers. During the lunch break there will be a guest speaker who will describe the role of the Delta in our region's ecology and

its significance for bird migration.

The Delta has become a favorite destination for Portland-area wildlife lovers and dog walkers.

The Sandy Delta is in the midst of a multi-year restoration project to return it to the conditions witnessed by Lewis & Clark 200 years ago.

Gordon Doolittle

5

Major General Gordon Lewis Doolittle former Troutdale resident, former Chief of Staff, Oregon Air National Guard Founder, and WWII Fighter Pilot has died.

Gordon was the son of Ray and Theresa Doolittle who owned and operated Doolittle's Red & White Store in downtown Troutdale for many years. He was a graduate of Gresham High School.

Major General Doolittle — affectionately known as the Big Red Rooster owing to his thick red hair — left an indelible mark on the Oregon Air National Guard (ORANG) and the National Guard Bureau. Enlisting in the Army Air Corps in June 1942, Doolittle received combat training in P-38 and P-39 aircraft. Receiving his wings and commission in April 1944, Lieutenant Doolittle joined the 435th Squadron of the 479th Fighter Group in Wattisham, England. He went on to become an accomplished fighter pilot with 70 WWII combat missions over Europe and three German combat kills: two on December 5, 1944



and one on February 9, 1945. Captain Doolittle joined the ORANG as Squadron Operations Officer, 123rd Fighter Interceptor Squadron in August 1946. He assumed the duties of Fighter Squadron Commander in August 1947, was promoted to Major the next month and to Lieutenant Colonel in December 1949. After the activation of the ORANG 142nd Fighter Group during the Korean Conflict, Doolittle became Deputy Group Commander at McChord Air Force Base, Washington. He assumed command of the 142nd Fighter Group upon the unit's reallocation to Oregon and became Deputy Chief of Staff in 1953. Colonel Doolittle helped develop Air Force plans to use Air National Guard units called to active duty during the Berlin Crisis of 1961. Assuming command of the ORANG in June 1962, Brigadier General Doolittle became a Major General in April 1973, retiring four years later. His service as Commander of the ORANG and his work with the USAF at the Pentagon formulating plans and logistics forever changed the face of the United States Air National Guard. His 26-year legacy remains with the Guard and the Air Force today.

There will be a military service for Major general Doolittle at the Portland Airbase on Saturday, June 7 at 11 a.m.

Cemetery Tour 2008

Nineteen grave fellow travelers joined us May 17 for our annual cemetery tour led by Stan Clarke.

This time we went to Vancouver to see Old City Cemetery, which has suffered the ravages of vandalism and is making a comeback under the watchful eye of neighbors. It was a reminder that Vancouver, too, is a very old community. We then stopped at a Vancouver icon, Burgerville, and moved on to the military cemetery where we found the graves of five soldiers killed in the "Clearwater" mission, which was a skirmish with the retreating Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce.

We lunched at Fort Vancouver in 90 degree weather. (Not too many years ago on this same date we were snowed on at Virgil Earp's grave in Portland's West Hills.) We had a lovely time at Fort Vancouver, enjoying the herb garden and learning that the bea-



Stan Clarke leads cemetery tour

ver top hats (that made the Fort, launched Oregon and nearly eliminated the beaver) were put together with a solution involving mercury which made people ill — thus the term "mad hatters."

Our last stop was the Pearson air museum where Stan Clarke reminded us that much of air history is also part of our general history. Did you know that a dirigible flew from Vancouver to Portland for the Lewis and Clark Exposition in 1905? Or that a plane took off from the roof of the Multnomah Hotel?

We are so lucky to have a historian of the stature of Stan Clarke to lead us on these expeditions. And, he is a collector of funny epitaphs. We especially liked the one about the atheist who died and who was all dressed up and had no place to go.

Doris Woolley, who has gone on every one of our cemetery tours, says this was our 10th annual tour.



Troutdale Historical Society
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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



Harlow House Paint Donation ~ Dennis & Mary Bryson

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 • An update on the penny drive at Troutdale and Sweetbriar Elementary Schools. We got some last minute
 • donations from Sweetbriar, so the total raised by both schools was \$2528.95..... **...WOW!**

• **Thank you for additional Arch donations:**

• Dean Kampfer & Waste Management of Oregon

• Adrienne Clausen

• Nick & Barbara Welsh

• Walt Smith

Centennial Monument

Penny Held

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John Doolittle

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