

BYGONE TIMES

April 2015

Upcoming Events

Troutdale Historical Society & Friends of Vista House Programs

Sunday, April 19, 2 to 4 p. m., Sharon Nesbit interviews the **Winkler Family**, early residents of Troutdale. Troutdale Historical Society annual meeting and election of officers is also slated. This program is in the Sam Cox Building in Glenn Otto Park, Troutdale.

Saturday, May 16 is our annual cemetery tour hosted by **Stan Clarke and Gresham Memorial Chapel**. This year's tour takes us to Astoria. Time of departure 8:30 a.m. from the Barn Museum.

Saturday, July 18, Barn Museum 732 E. Historic Columbia River Highway, Grand public opening "King of Roads" Exhibit (time to be announced).

Saturday, August 1, is our annual volunteer thank-you pot luck picnic hosted by **Jean & Bob Ice** at their Sandy River home. The Ice house is located at 1442 Jackson Park Rd. Troutdale, Oregon, Event runs from 3 to 6 p. m.

Sunday, September 20, 2 to 4 p. m, Peg Willis author of **Building the Columbia River Highway "They Said it Couldn't be Done"**. This program will be held in the Sam Cox Building in Glenn Otto Park, Troutdale

Sunday, April 19, 2 to 4 p.m. Sam Cox Bldg. , Glenn Otto Park, Troutdale, Troutdale Historical Society Annual Meeting featuring the Winkler Family Interview

Troutdale in Hard Times: Robert Winkler, Gresham, and his siblings, will talk about growing up in Troutdale during the waning years of the depression.

The family of Joseph and Theresa Winkler family came to Troutdale in 1936 in the heart of the depression so that Joseph Winkler could work in the Bissinger Wool Pullery. The pullery has been the center of recent discussions related to Troutdale's urban development site north of the railroad.

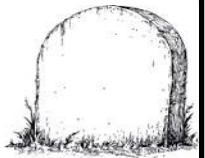


The interview by Sharon Nesbit with Robert Winkler and other family members will be video taped and archived in the society's library. Copies of the video tape will be available for purchase. The eldest daughter of the family, Leona Winkler Balch, became the mother of Penny Balch, long time treasurer of Troutdale Historical Society. The depot library is named for Penny, who died several years ago of breast cancer.

The gathering is the annual business meeting of the society and will include collection of dues and election of officers. Admission is free and light refreshment will be served.

Cemetery tour to Astoria

Cemetery historian Stan Clarke will lead the Troutdale Historical Society on a full day tour to the Astoria area, Saturday, May 16. On the schedule are Astoria's pioneer cemetery, Fort Clatsop and Fort Stevens, the Fort Stevens Military cemetery, a pauper's cemetery at Ocean View and an unknown sailors at Seaside.



The tour departs at 8:30 a.m. by chartered bus from the society's Barn Exhibit Hall, 726 E. Historic Columbia River Hwy. A fee of \$25 a person will be charged. Attendees should bring money for entry fees, a sack lunch, and a federal parks pass if they have one. The goal is to make it back to Troutdale by 6:30 or 7 p.m.

For more information call The Troutdale Historical at [503-661-2164](tel:503-661-2164) to sign up, remember to provide you name, address, phone number and email.

Kafoury Visit s Troutdale Historical Society

On February 20, 2015, Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury toured Troutdale Historical Society's three museums. The purpose of her visit was to learn where the Multnomah County Levy money was spent. Multnomah County voters passed a five year history levy in 2011 which gave \$150,000 to each of East Multnomah County's four historical societies.

As quoted in the Gresham Outlook, Commissioner Kafoury told members of THS, I "wanted to see with my own eyes what the levy money is doing in your community and how valuable it is so I can share that with others". According to THS exhibit commit-



tee member Sue Handy, Deborah Kafoury shared how much she enjoys history. She lives in a house built in the early 1900s and she reads "The Little House on the Prairie" books to her children.

After touring the Harlow House Museums and checking on the progress of the "King of Roads-By Way of the People" exhibit in the Barn Museum, Kafoury related, "I'm so impressed with all the work you've done. It really shows you love the area".



THS President David Ripma explained to Commissioner Kafoury, "The county levy monies have allowed THS to focus on fundraising for the exhibit and, has given us a breather for operating money for the rest of the society". According to Sue Handy, Kafoury is encouraging renewal of the County Levy to continue assisting the East County Historical Societies.

Photos courtesy of Sue Handy

Dorothy Sturges 1930-2015

The Troutdale community lost a dear friend and class act lady this past month. Dorothy came to the Troutdale area after high school. She was born and raised in Washington State. She met and married Bob Sturges and later became Troutdale's First Lady when Bob served as mayor. She was a homemaker and raised their five children in Troutdale.

As a couple they were active in the Troutdale Lions Club. Dorothy belonged to a knitting club and liked to travel. She was one of the dynamic trio (as some referred to them), Jean Holman, Sharon Nesbit and Dorothy traveled to Australia, Ireland and England. The three of them went to Ashland every June for a week to take in the Shakespeare Festival. It is reported they lost track of how many times they saw Henry the VIII.



Dorothy baked cookies by the gross. Every event, funeral or Tea had her homemade cookies on the table. One time she said to Jean Holman, "Who is going to bake cookies for our funeral?" Jean replied, "We will have to bake them and freeze them."

Dorothy and Jean hosted a Tea Table at the THS annual Tea for 11 years. All year they gathered pretty little plates and centerpiece decorations. Each year their table was one of the favorites and most requested. She was a constant supporter and friend of THS and always ready to help.

Dorothy was a sweet, classy lady, adored and loved by all who knew her. She will be missed.

Delores Lampert Williams 1928-2015

Delores was raised in Corbett, Oregon. She grew up being an active member of St. Henry's Parish in Gresham. While growing up on "Pleasant View" hill in Corbett, she was surrounded by many relatives, aunts, uncles, cousins, grandmas and grandpas. She spent her youth on the family's 100 acre home-stead where they all played and worked hard.

She married Robert Williams and raised two sons, Arnold and Charles. The latter being handicapped, Delores dedicated her time to his special needs and care. She enjoyed sewing and loved a good bargain especially if coupons were involved. In later years Delores went south to Yuma, Arizona in the winter. She had many "snowbird" friends. "Arnie" and his wife Star joined her in Yuma after his retirement.

She was devoted to her family and her church. She attended many events and programs at the Troutdale Historical Society and went to lunch with the Tuesday Ladies once in a while. We will miss her.

Save The Date: August 1, 2015

Cut this out and put it on your refrigerator. Plan to come to the Pot Luck Picnic at the home of Bob and Jean Ice on the Sandy River. Enjoy the Ice's beautiful yard, a park like setting, crowned by towering fir trees. This is to honor all volunteers, those who want to be volunteers and members of the Troutdale Historical Society. Come and spend a fun afternoon by the river. Everyone is welcome.

Pot Luck Picnic

August 1, 2015 2 p.m., 1442 Jackson Park Road, Troutdale. Bring your folding chairs if you have them. Bring a side dish, salad or dessert *(Utensils, coffee, water, etc. will be furnished). Bring wine or beer if you choose.

Want to donate to Troutdale Historical Society while shopping at your favorite store or on-line store? THS has made it easier:

Here is how to link your Reward Card. Go to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards which entitles THS to donations from Fred Meyer. Please enroll, using our non-profit number 85937. Every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping Troutdale Historical Society earn a donation.

Support the Columbia River Highway Exhibit coming in 2015 by shopping at AmazonSmile. That link is <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-0738777>. It is really easy to shop Amazon Smile (just like Amazon.com) and select Troutdale Historical Society as the charity.

Yearly Membership Renewal Time

In order to keep providing you with quality programs and services, it would be helpful if you would take a few minutes to renew your membership.

Whether you have previously joined as an individual, family, or other type of member, you have played an invaluable part in planning for our future. Membership dues are the foundation of our funding on which we build our structure.

As members of the Troutdale Historical Society, you get a first glimpse of this amazing photo we just received because we are building right now the key exhibit on the 100th anniversary of the Historic Columbia River Highway. Notice the men at the top of the basalt hill (see inset)? They are dismantling the hill piece by piece with hand tools. Imagine all those blisters!

The photo was found in the remains of an estate sale and ended up at thrift store in Florence, Oregon, where a woman there was wise enough to know that she had a treasure and that it belonged where people would care for it.



That could be theme of the Troutdale Historical Society's new exhibit in the Barn Museum on the road, a treasure and the people who cared for it. That would be us.

While much of our work has been done out of sight (thinking, scrounging for pictures, rewriting texts and captions, and gathering artifacts), now actual hammering and pounding is going on by Greg Handy. Len Otto, chairman, is drawing all the strings together for the finish, a grand opening for the public on Summerfest day in Troutdale, July 18th. You will be amazed and surprised and want to bring your friends back. It is the finest exhibit we ever have put together, and we are justly proud. That's going to be a big week by the way. We will have a fancy party earlier in the week for our donors on the evening of July 15th. We will be hosting the McMenamins birthday celebration at Edgefield, talking about the road and the exhibit. We will need your helping hands in all those things.

Things you can do:

- There is still time to get your name on the donor board – we are short of our fundraising goal, and if there is a name or family you wish to see honored prominently, please get it to us by April 15th. And, for a \$100 donation, you can get a specially designed, hot off the press cling type window sticker telling people you support us and our new exhibit.
- Consider volunteering – we are making plans to staff the exhibit, which will be open seven days a week this summer, and five days with shortened hours this winter, because our goal will be to reach and enlighten the Columbia River Highway traveler and make their trip better by learning something at the onset of their journey.
- Volunteer to help with school groups, of which there will be plenty once the word gets out that we have a new exhibit that dazzles.
- Give a hand – we will need lots of hosts, including staffing the Harlow House, as people in the Barn Museum next door will be curious; how about keeping summer plantings spiffy outside, or offering to clean the Barn once or twice a week?
- Talented with photos? We have lots of photos that need to be scanned and adjusted, then turned into digital slide shows complete with captions. Your reward: the satisfaction of seeing your work on display and "credits" as the slide show loops.

You get the idea; we expect the place to be hopping. Thanks for anything you can offer.

If you think you might like to help, please contact one of these folks:

Len Otto (503-663-0794 or Len@HonorYourPast.com)

Nell at the THS office (503-661-2164 or troutdalehistory@gmail.com)

Audrey Lowell (503-510-6484 or ashanmango@aol.com).

Audrey, by the way, has volunteered to help with the transition from building a world class exhibit to running a world class exhibit. We welcome her aboard for the journey!



Scott Cunningham's Life as written by Scott

I was born October 5, 1926, in Maupin, Oregon. My father worked on the Union Pacific Railroad. In April 1936, my father transferred to Troutdale, Oregon to work. My mother, sister and I moved to Troutdale on June 1, 1936 after school was out.

My folks bought a four bedroom home above the Presbyterian Church in Troutdale for \$800. We had two large cherry tree's, two apple tree's, a pie cherry and a fig tree. My father also had space for a garden. We thought we had died and gone to Heaven. Movies in the Hollywood district, beautiful drives up the Columbia River Gorge, trips to Portland.



When school started in the fall I was in 4th grade with an outstanding teacher, Mrs. Helen Fehrenbacher and four students in the 4th grade, Anna Cereghino, Ed Burnacci, Don Espenel and myself. Mrs. Fehrenbacher was my teacher for 4th, 5th and 6th grades. Mr. Leslie Bass had the 7th and 8th grades and he also was the principal and was coach of our basket ball and baseball teams. We played against Fairview, Wilkes, Lynch, Rockwood and Corbett Grade Schools. When I was in the 8th grade, we merged with Cedar Grade School in the fall and Victory Heights in January. This increased our class of 1941 to 18 students, and really was quite a change.

My first experience with the East Wind in Troutdale was in the winter of 1936-37. My folks sent me down to Doolittles Red and White Store to get a loaf of bread. I tucked the bread under my left arm and headed back up the hill to home. I could see some objects flying way up in the air, and when I realized it was my loaf of bread putting on the show, I took half a loaf from my arms on the way home and my folks weren't too happy with me when I showed them what had happened to me. I always made sure I held on to a loaf of bread with both hands after that.

The first winter we were in Troutdale we had a heavy snowfall, lots of East Wind and piles of snow you couldn't imagine. We didn't have a day of school for over two weeks. In fact it started raining and then turned cold again and all we had was a couple inches of ice on the top of the snow. But we kids had a great time sliding down the hill on gunny sacks. Some of the older boys used their sleds and we would have guards out on Troutdale Road, Hiway 30, and the railroad tracks so we didn't have any serious injuries.

contributors

Historic Columbia River Hwy Exhibit Contributors:

Jeanette Kloos, Kathleen Forrest, Ken Otto, Len & Gloria Otto, Rosie Puderbaugh, Sue O'Halloran

In memory of Vic Landreth: Sharon Nesbit, Jean Holman, Len & Gloria Otto

In memory of Lenora Handy: Terri Herzog

In memory of Dorothy Sturges: Jean Holman, Jo Callister, Sharon Nesbit, Barbara & Nick Welsh, Teresa Leineweber, Stan Johnson, Len & Gloria Otto

In memory of Mike Dubesa: Marlene Lantz,

In memory of Harold Schoffold: Rosie & Larry Puderbaugh,

In memory of Carole Klinger: Wade Schueller

Operating Fund: Merle McNeel, Friends of Vista House, Patricia Morron,

Honoring Dave Ripma & Mario Allen: Sharon Petri



THS would like to welcome Art Trafton of the Holiday Inn Express Portland-East Troutdale as a new business sponsor



Thanks to Our Business Sponsors

Matt Leamy | *Art Director*

p 503.492.1243 | f 503.667.7784
 matt@leamydesign.com | www.leamydesign.com
 105 E. Historic Columbia River Hwy | Troutdale, OR 97060



Gresham Memorial Chapel
 Family Owned & Operated

John Gerbisch

503-618-8176 • Fax 503-618-9738
 257 SE Roberts • Gresham, Oregon 97080
 www.greshamfuneral.com

Let's Get Acquainted

50% OFF Your 1st Oil Change

Monday-Friday 7am - Midnight • Saturday 8am - 4pm

No Appointment Necessary!



1999 East Powell Blvd.
 Gresham OR 97080
503-665-0101
 GreshamFord.com

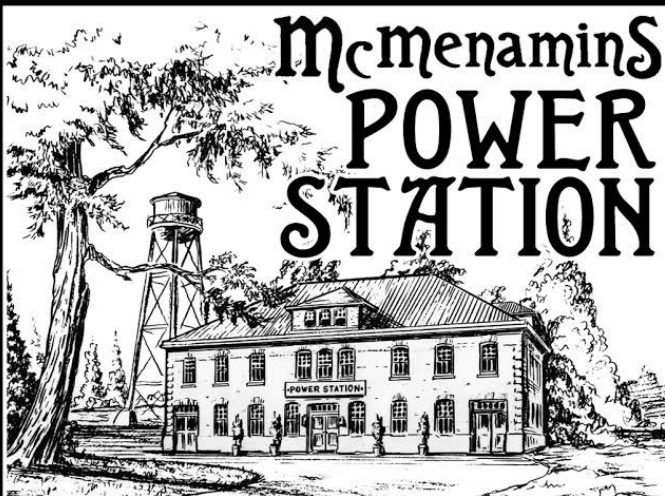


We Service All Makes & All Models



j gelati

503-989-5605
 2467 SW Cherry Park
 Troutdale, OR 97060
 Next to Safeway



**Mcmenamins
 POWER
 STATION**

Back in 1911, the Power Station served as none other than the poor farm's power station and laundry facility. Today you can grab a pint, have a bite to eat, watch a movie, or have a private event in this restored historic building.

McMenamins Edgefield

2126 S.W. Halsey St. • Troutdale • (503) 669-8610
 mcmenamins.com

Pat n Pat
 FUNDRAISING
 AUCTIONS



Pat Brothers

P 503 234 1522
 M 503 313 1956
 auctions@2pats.com

PO Box 39
 Bridal Veil, OR 97010

www.2pats.com
 888 two pats
 (888 896 7287)



Troutdale Historical Society

219 E. Historic Columbia River Hwy.

Troutdale, OR 97060

www.troutdalehistory.org

503 661-2164

Mission Statement: To gather, preserve and make available material relating to their 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.

**Non Profit Presorted
Standard Mail**

Troutdale, OR

Permit #5

Change service requested

THS Board of Directors

Dave Ripma, President

Jean Ice, Vice President

Jean Holman, Secretary

Marilee Thompson, Treasurer

Helen Wand, Program Chair

Jean Hybskmann

Mona Mitchoff

Paula Goldie

Scott Cunningham

Paid Staff

**Nell Simien, Director/
Newsletter**

Volunteer Staff

Sheryl Maydew, Bookkeeper

Mary Bryson, Curator

**Adrienne Clausen, Volunteer
Host Coordinator**

Julie Stewart, Photo Librarian

**Sharon Nesbit, Photo Historian
Volunteers**

Jan Vandiver

Janet & Larry McGinnis

Joanne Losinger

Jim Glenn

Mario Ayala

Audrey Lowell



Three views of new landscaping at Harlow House and showing the English Walnut tree still in place in front

Remember: THS is a 501 c (3), so your donations are tax deductible and help support the museums, programs, preservation of artifacts and local history. Thank you for your continued support.