

BYGONE TIMES

JANUARY 2014

Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, Jan. 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Harlow House open.

Sunday, Jan. 19, 2 p. m. the Barn Museum, Chuck Rollins—Fish Stories.

Friday, Feb. 14, 6 p.m. the Troutdale House (next door to Depot)—Love The Highway Dinner & Auction

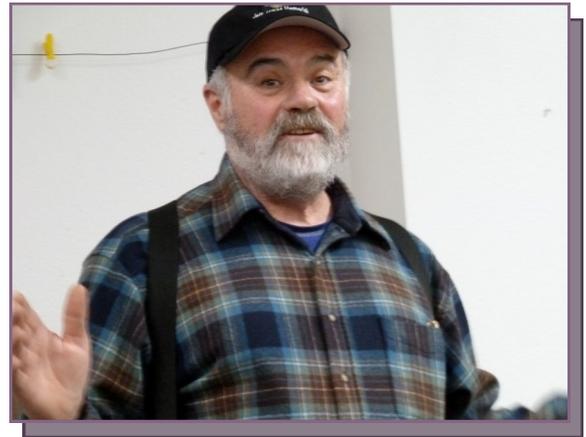
Sunday, Feb. 16, 2 p.m. Barn Museum, Kristin Stallman, film and talk on the Historic Columbia River Highway.

Sunday, March 16, 2 p.m. Barn Museum, The Railway Historical Society.

Chuck back with more fish stories

On Sunday, Jan. 19, (weather permitting) at the Barn Museum, 732 E. Historic Columbia River Highway, 2 p.m., Chuck Rollins, president of the Crown Point Country Historical Society will share stories and photos on the “History of Fishing on the Columbia River.”

Join for fish stories and refreshments and visiting afterward. Admission is free, but donations are greatly appreciated. In case of inclement weather our meetings are automatically cancelled.



Love the Highway Auction/Dinner in works for Valentine’s Day



Mark your calendar for Valentine’s Day 2014. The Troutdale Historical

Society is holding their biggest fundraiser of the year. Our “Love the Highway” dinner and auction will raise funds for our upcoming exhibit “King of Roads—Byway of the People” celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

Plan to attend with your favorite ‘date’ to celebrate Valentine’s Day and help fund the highway exhibit.

The auction-dinner will be held at The Troutdale House, 411 E. Columbia River Highway (right next to the big yellow caboose and the Depot Museum.) The silent auction starts at 6 p.m. followed by dinner and live auction at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$60 each or \$110 per couple. A table for eight is \$400. Tickets are limited, so call the THS office, 503-661-2164, to reserve yours.

Jim Fujii dies at 87

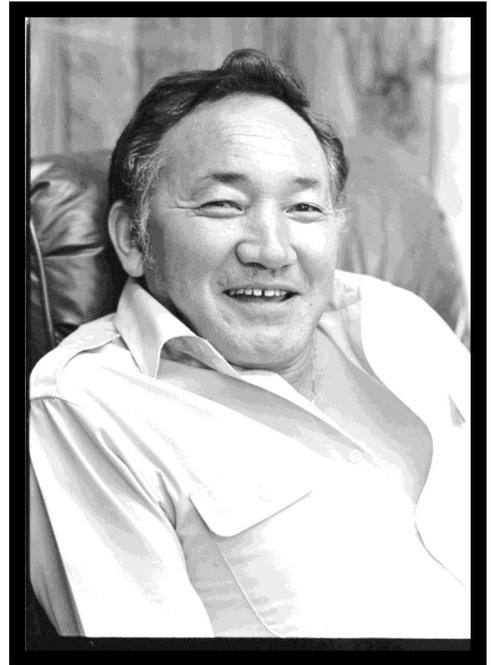
Troutdale berry farmer Jim Fujii died Dec. 3, 2013 at the age of 87. Born in 1926, to Bukichi (Ben) and Yoshino Fujii, he and his family farmed in Troutdale, attending Troutdale schools, until they were forced from their farm in 1942 by internment. (Recent stories in our newsletter have described how the Cunningham family was asked by Ben Fujii to manage their farm).

Jim once remarked that his hard-working father didn't want to see his sons spending the war playing baseball (a sport that Jim was extremely good at), so he signed them up for a farm labor program in Eastern Oregon which took them to Nyssa, where Jim graduated from high school and played third base for Nyssa High's state championship ball team.

Their return to Troutdale after the war was difficult. Jim often told the story of passing windows with "No Japs" signs, (the exceptions being the Troutdale General Store and Zim's Twelve-Mile Store). He recalled the day in Gresham when a cluster of businessmen stepped to the other side of the street to avoid them, and then Larry Aylsworth broke ranks and crossed the street "to say hello, in front of God and everybody".

Jim, at one time, ran one of the largest raspberry farms in the nation. He recalled the days of hiring school children as pickers, moving on to winos from Burnside, and then to Vietnamese and Laotians and finally to Hispanics. He never said no when the Troutdale Historical Society called for free berries for the ice cream social, and neither did his son, Ray, who took over the farm.

He was feisty and profane and fiercely loyal to Troutdale. His brother, Ed (who was at a recent historical society gathering) and Tom, survive, along with a sister, Kimi Yamada, as well as two sons, Ray and Ron, and three daughters, Twinkle Zahniser, Jill Reilly and Patti Fujii, along with many grandchildren.



Thomas Vaughan, former director of the Oregon Historical Society

Tom Vaughan, for 35 years director of the Oregon Historical Society, died in December. He never failed to answer a call for help and advice to our fledgling historical society. He loved Oregon and all it represented and one time came to speak at one of our meetings telling us to "dream no small dreams".

It was about that time that we conceived the notion of building the barn, a dream at that time that seemed well beyond our abilities and certainly way beyond our means. Vaughan said that, "Unless you reach beyond your abilities, you fail to grow". He was a great cheer leader for local historians and will be missed very much.

Pearl Doris Ramseth

Longtime member, Pearl Ramseth, died at the age of 99 on Nov. 29. Born Pearl Doris Thern in New London, WI. She taught school in New London, WI, Portland and in the Reynolds School District for 35 years.

Harold Buck

Harold Buck, who took over managing Multnomah Falls Lodge in the 1970s, died in late November at the age of 93. His son, Rick, now manages the lodge. Harold participated in renovation and restoration of the 1925 building, getting rid of neon signs, aluminum windows and stucco on the exterior. Buck retired in 1990. He was a veteran of World War II.

Lorraine Mackey enjoyed adventure

Lorraine E. Mackey, Troutdale, died Oct 28, 2013. She was born in Portland, OR to parents Meston and Bertha Dygert on June 22, 1927. Lorraine graduated from Gresham High School. She married her high school sweetheart Walter Mackey in 1948. They were married 54 years and shared many wonderful years traveling together until his passing in 2003. Lorraine worked both in and out of her home, raising her family and working as the principal's secretary for 17 years at David Douglas School District.

She listed her favorite memory as the day Walter proposed to her. Their first date was a Sadie Hawkins Dance at Gresham High School that was a set up from a couple of her close friends. She remained close to many of those high school friends and remained an active member of the Gopher group.

Her earliest memories were of living in a logging camp in Cochran, until about age 4. A special memory of Powelhurst Grade School was heating her lunch on the woodstove. Another special memory was when her home was upgraded by adding running water and an indoor toilet while she was in high school. Lorraine was a social person, especially enjoying our Troutdale Historical Society teas, and she was adventurous. For instance, she bought at a THS auction, a ride on Dave Ripma's motorcycle up the gorge.

Lorraine was preceded in death by her husband and son Vaden. She is survived by her sons Steven (Nancy) and Glen (Sally) Mackey; sister Joan Gordon (Bob).



Jim Cook died Dec. 8, at the age of 89 in Portland. Jim was a long time volunteer for the historical society, and a great source because of his knowledge of his father's service station and life around Troutdale. And he loved to tell a tale.

Born on Dec. 16, 1923 in Troutdale, he attended Corbett Grade School and graduated from Benson High in 1941. He worked for the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway beginning in 1942 as a chainman, rail inspector, roadmaster and supervisor of vehicle maintenance, retiring after 39 years with Burlington Northern Railroad. While working for the S.P.&S., he entered the U.S. Army on Dec. 7, 1943, at Fort Lewis, Wash., trained in the U.S. Army Air Corps, served in the America Division, 182 Co. K in the Philippines, trained to be an Alamo Scout and served in occupied Tokyo.

Leaving the U.S. Army in April 1946, he returned to work at the railroad two weeks later. After retirement in 1981, he ran his Jim Fix-it business for 10 years, then retired again at age 64. He volunteered many years for the society, particularly at the depot, and in his last years brought a can of paint and painted the rusting fittings of the caboose, worried about its preservation.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Betty, daughters, Karen Hubbard of Portland and Kim Cook of Clackamas; son-in-law, Gordon Hubbard; granddaughters, Sabrina and Jennifer; great grandsons, Caleb, Justin and Joshua; and "adopted daughters" Carol Timm and Janice Sushereba.

Did you know Jeff Monroe?

Kay Bravo wants to know if anyone might know her grandfather. His name was Jeff Monroe born about Feb. 4, 1900 or 1906. He moved to Troutdale in 1981 and was a cook. He died in Troutdale Nov. 30, 1997. She got this information from his obituary and was just wondering if someone in Troutdale may have known him. Her email address is shelties225@aol.com

The Oregon Community Foundation congratulates Troutdale Historical Society

On Wednesday, Dec. 4, Rob Brading, Oregon Community Foundation, presented Dave Ripma, President of the Troutdale Historical Society with a certificate of award of \$10,000 for the Historical Columbia River Highway Exhibit. The money comes from the Clarence and Colleen Mershon Family Fund and Fred W. Fields Fund. The mission of the Oregon Community Foundation is to improve life in Oregon and promote effective philanthropy.



Korean Veterans Reunion

Lewis Rumpakis from Troutdale a retired Marine Gunner Sgt., Sgt. Eugene Shirley, Marine Corps, and friends spoke at the Barn Museum on November 17. The event had many Korean Veterans in the audience.

Thank You to our volunteers —Jean Hybskmann, Helen Wand, Mona Mitchoff, Jean Holman, Sharon Nesbit, Mary Bryson, Amber Milmore, Mario Ayala, Damian Sanchez, Sheryl Maydew, Bob Mitchoff, Paula Goldie, Pat & Pat Brothers, Barbara Welsh



Education Corner: From left, Boy Scout Troop 71, Seventh-Day Adventist school (above) and Home School Co-op, left, all recently visited our museums.

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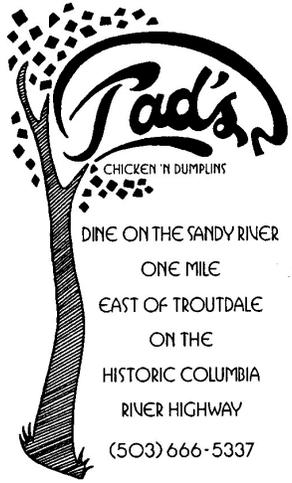


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Mission Statement: Together, preserve and make available material relating to the history of the community of Troutdale, the Sandy River, the Columbia River Gorge and nearby area: To stimulate interest in and knowledge of, the locality's past.

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Sharon Nesbit and David Ripma have given a donation, in honor of Bob and Vera Strebin, to this year's THS operating fund.

Remember: THS is a 501c3, so your donations are tax deductible and help support the museums, programs, preservation of artifacts and local history. Thank you for your continued support.