



BYGONE TIMES

Newsletter of the Troutdale Historical Society

Aug./Sept. 2006

Please Mark Your Calendars

Fall Trek to Washington Museums

Sat. Sept. 16

All Day

Annual School Reunion

Sun. Oct. 15

2 p.m.

Troutdale Elementary

Nov. Program Meeting

Sun. Nov. 19

2 p.m.

Troutdale City Hall

Christmas Open House

Sat. Dec. 2

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Harlow House & Barn

2007

Troutdale Celebrates

100 years!

Official Date:

Oct. 2, 1907

Fall Trek

Get on Board

This year's Trek takes us to lovely downtown Vancouver, Wa. There have been two recent archeological digs in the downtown area, one for the convention center and one for the Columbian's new building. There were many artifacts unearthed that will be in a new exhibit at the museum. Artifacts dating back to 1857, when homes and businesses first settled here. The museum itself is in the wonderful old Carnegie Library building.

Next there will be a guided walking tour (one-half hour) of some of the historic buildings near the museum.

Next stop is a box lunch picnic at Ft. Vancouver. After lunch we will have a guided tour of the archeological lab at the fort. We will learn how those digs are done, what the current projects are and see artifacts dating back to the fort days ... early 1800s. A recent article about Fort Vancouver registered surprise by many Oregonians and Northwesterners that they had never heard of the site, which is incredibly important in Northwest history. Historians are the last people to be ignorant of Fort Vancouver, but it never hurts to go back and bone up on this place and what a mecca it had to have been at the end of 3,000 wilderness miles. On our May cemetery tour we visited the graves of John McLoughlin and his wife. Now we will go back to the place where Dr. McLoughlin was king.

To secure a seat on the bus, please call the office. We need to have all monies in by Sept. 5. There are 45 seats available. The cost is \$35, which includes the bus, museum fees and lunch. We are fortunate to have **Sharon Nesbit** on board with her wonderful cache of historic information and stories.

For more information, call the Troutdale Historical Society office at 503-661-2164.

We leave from the Rail Depot Museum (473 E. Historic Col. River Hwy.) in Troutdale at 10:00 A.M. Saturday, September 16, 2006. We return to the depot at about 4:30 p.m.



Fort Vancouver
National Historic Site



Clark County Historical Museum

Troutdale SummerFest was a fun day for all.

Troutdale Historical Society got big bragging rights in the 2006 SummerFest parade with **David Ripma** driving his old John Deere and wearing three hats. No. 1, he was pulling the Troutdale Historical Society hay wagon. No. 2, he was riding in the parade as a city councilor. And best of all, No. 3, he was named this year's Troutdale Citizen of the Year in appreciation of his many years of work on the city council and with the historical society. It was a good day when Dave came to town.

And, **Mario Ayala** was driving **Walt and Vi Nasmyth**, our Members of the Year, in Dave's vintage Mustang. Walter said he darn near had to be pried out of the back seat of the Mustang at the end of the parade but it was a big day and an honor long overdue for Walt and Vi, who show up every Wednesday to work in the depot library on the photo collection. We are perilously near being up-to-date with our photo collection, but never fear, there are still a lot of jobs to do.

In addition to that, it is good to remember other heroes in our group. Tuesdays are **Marge Schmunk** days at the Harlow House or in the depot. During the last year Marge took on the formidable job of organizing our historical society business documents, treasurer's records and all the paperwork accumulated in the course for more than 30 years of existence. In a job that would drive an ordinary mortal crazy, she has sorted through various kinds of files and record books and pieced our business history together in a logical and consecutive order. She is also filling in the gaps of failed records maintenance in times when we were short handed or just careless. One of our paid clerks, for instance, didn't think it was important to keep a record of our newsletters for a year.

Recently, Marge (for the second time in recent years) sorted out the basement of the Harlow House. Then the Tuesday Ladies went down and dusted and cleaned, with the result that it is much better all the way around.

So in our paperwork crusade, Marge keeps finding odd bits, and it makes her yell, but being Marge, she just keeps on sorting it out. Her long history with the Troutdale Historical Society and her years in Troutdale make her uniquely qualified for this job and we are ever so grateful.

And speaking of grateful, we also thank the **Tuesday Ladies**, who once again organized and held a Granny's Attic Sale at the Harlow House on SummerFest/Parade day and netted close to \$400 for the Harlow House.

Letter from Sally K. Lindholm:

Hi, Mr. Bush-

I read the article in the historical paper about your talking to Len Otto about the horse shoes you found. I do remember roughly about efforts to set up a spot for that game. Jake Hergert and Principal Orville Johnson and Austin Louve wanted a little exercise after work, but fun. I don't know who got the shoes, but as I recall, the pegs were to be set up out by the fence away from children. Are there any there now? (This would be by the highway). I do think that would be fun. Maybe Len can set up schedules.

Please relay my best regards to his mom, Helen Otto.

Terry Huston, living in Fairview, may have an inkling about this query. Let me know.

Have fun all summer.

Sally Lindholm

Other News....

The Harlow House roof lost a big area of shingles on the west side this past winter. It turns out we do have some insurance coverage. To repair the roof is \$5,500, and we have \$1,000 deductible, so the insurance will pay \$4,500 towards that. Or if we can raise enough money, the \$4,500 can be applied towards a new roof. A new roof would cost about \$12,000.

The Lovers Oak party will be held this year at Sweetbriar Farm, thanks to David Ripma and Mario Ayala. Invitations will be in the mail soon to Lovers Oak and Business Sponsor Members.

Troutdale will celebrate 100 years in 2007. Exciting things are in the works. The much anticipated history book being written by **Sharon Nesbit** will be published in the spring. THS and the City, along with help from the Troutdale Boosters, our chamber, our rotary, local businesses and citizens are working on a centennial arch monument project. More about that next newsletter.

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In Memory...

In recent months we have lost three valued members.
Art Meger, Frank Craddock and Linda Taylor.

Frank Craddock was a retired social studies teacher from Reylolds High and joined our Lewis and Clark exhibit committee and helped in creating the exhibit and volunteered at the events.

Arthur Meger was oldest brother of Elsie Meger Simnitt and Roy Meger of the Troutdale General Store. He attended many of our events and enjoyed school reunions. If we are remembering right (and if we are not, someone will correct us) his considerable height was a dream come true for the Troutdale basketball team.

Linda Taylor was a 1958 graduate of Reynolds High. Linda moved back to our area upon retiring in 2000. Linda volunteered at THS, working long hours in the depot basement organizing old financial records. Linda loved the museums and was a good friend to the society.

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

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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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