

# Newsletter of The Troutdale Historical Society



## BYGONE TIMES

September 2014

### Upcoming Events

#### Mark Your Calendar!

**Friday, Sept. 5, 5 to 8 p.m.** Harlow House, First Friday with watercolor artist Cindy Pitts.

**Saturday, Sept. 20, 9:30 a.m.** at the Barn Museum – Insider tour of Heslin House & Zimmerman Farm.

**Saturday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Harlow House open with Cindy Pitts exhibit

**Saturday, Sept. 24,** Deadline for October newsletter.

**Friday, Oct. 3, 5:30-6:30 p.m.** at the depot, Kathleen Overton signing her book, *Saving an American Treasure*, the restoration of Vista House.

**Saturday, Oct. 18, 4-6 p.m.,** Glenn Otto Park, Happy Hour program with Jeanette Kloos, preservationist of the Historic Highway. Drinks and snacks.

### Sept. 20 Drive Tour: Zimmerman, Heslin houses

Saturday, Sept. 20, join us for a U-drive tour of the Zimmerman and Heslin houses, operated by East County Historical Organization, (formerly Fairview Rockwood Wilkes Historical Society).

Meet at 11:30 a.m. at the Barn Museum (so people can carpool if they choose) to visit houses. Bring a sack lunch for a picnic. Donations of \$5 for visiting both sites is suggested. Return to Barn Museum about 4 p.m. For more information call Nell at the office.



### Artist Cindy Pitts at the Harlow House

On September 5, local watercolor artist, Cindy Pitts opens an exhibit of her work at the Harlow House Museum. Her show will continue at the Harlow House through November 15. Cindy took classes for about



15 years, gaining inspiration, not only from her classes, but also from other artists. She is a member of the Watercolor Society of Oregon and has participated in the Gresham Art Walk. A portion of her sales goes to the Troutdale Historical Society.

## Mannequins for the Harlow House Wedding Dress Exhibit

On June 23, Mona Mitchoff and Mary Bryson arrived at the Harlow House with a car load of headless bodies. The manager of the Dress Barn Outlet Store in Troutdale had contacted Mona and told her the store would be closing on June 28. If we wanted mannequins we should come down right away.

Several months prior to this, Mona had visited several of the stores at the Troutdale Outlets asking if any of them ever loaned or gave away old mannequins. The manager of The Dress Barn Outlet told Mona that their store would be closing and she would contact Mona. June 23 proved to be the big moving day.

This wonderful gift from Dress Barn saved the THS many hun-



dreds of dollars. We no longer need to purchase mannequins, and we can dispose of all the mannequins that we now use that are in such terrible shape. Most of them are missing body parts.

The Troutdale Historical Society and the Tuesday Ladies in particular wish to thank The Dress Barn Outlet for this fabulous donation. It will certainly make showcasing some of our outstanding clothing artifacts much easier.

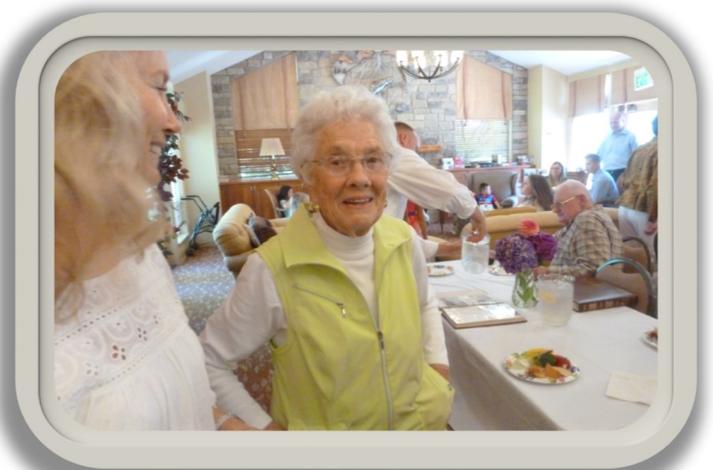


## Louise Dix Celebrates 90th

**Louise Dix**, former Troutdale berry farmer, widow of Bob Dix, was treated to a surprise 90th birthday party August 8 at her new home in Courtyard Fountains in Gresham.

More than 100 people showed up for the event, hosted by daughter Kathy Green of Troutdale, and scores of grandchildren and great grandchildren. Bob and Louise ran the Dix Berry Farm for many years, hiring hosts of Troutdale kids to harvest their berry crops. Coming out for the party were some familiar faces of old Troutdale:

Jo Callister, she and her late husband Vaden, enjoyed camping with the Dixes; the Dale and Greg Handy families, Bob and Donna Burlingame; the Lewis family; Dorothy Sturges, Jean Holman and many others.



**Alice Stone Cornwell**, Alice Stone Cornwell, who was a frequent traveler with Troutdale Historical Society on our treks, died July 6 at age 94. She was born April 14, 1920 in Fairview to Elbert and Eva (Townsend) Stone. Her grandparents, Albert and Minnie Stone, were Fairview pioneers.

**Doris Robbins Haynes**, though not a member of our historical society died Aug. 21 at the age of 94. She was married to the late Gerald Haynes, a longtime Rockwood resident. Gerald's stories of old time Rockwood were priceless.

**Nancy (Bui) Wolf**, a onetime Troutdale resident and one of Troutdale Historical Society's "quiet" volunteers, died in Salem Aug. 19 of pneumonia. Nancy, 64, formerly a Gresham Outlook employee, was married for a time to Gene Bui, briefly mayor of Troutdale. She moved to Salem some years ago, but continued to help as first editor of Sharon Nesbit's Troutdale history, "It Could Have Been Carpdale." (Len Otto was final editor of the book.) She had a rare trait, a grammarian who knew her way around an apostrophe, but with a sense of humor.

**Founders of the David Douglas Historical Society**, Howard and Grace Horner, our historical friends who founded the David Douglas Historical Society, are mentioned in the Pacific University magazine. The Horners both died in 2013 after 71 years of marriage. They first met at Pacific University. In 1954 he became the principal of the new David Douglas High School and was named superintendent in 1968. They wrote and edited The History and Folklore of the David Douglas Community and Howard was a specialist on the Stark Street mile markers, which he researched and helped restore.

**Fairview Rockwood Wilkes Historical Society**, has renamed itself, **ECHO**, East County Historical Organization. They are responsible for both the 1890 Heslin House in Fairview, and the 1874 Zimmerman Heritage Farm on Northeast Sandy Boulevard.

**Membership Renewals from 6/1/2014 thru 8/01/2014**

David Wand Rufus Joseph Lois Moller Ginger Harlow Allen

Clifford Howell Janet & Wayne Vandiver Sandy Gregory Bev Law

Wesley Davis Barbara Huston Norman & Louella Webb

Ellen Cantwell Ray & Karen Davenport Marilyn Morrison

**Haven't paid your dues this year? You can by sending your check for \$20 to the Troutdale Historical Society.**

## A.D. Kendall's Memoir: Eastern Washington Pioneers

In 1956, A.D. Kendall, longtime station agent of the Troutdale rail depot, wrote a memoir of his life in railroading. His great-grandson, Arnold Williams, provided us with a copy.

Kendall and his family came to Troutdale on June 14, 1907, and lived here the rest of their lives. They raised their four daughters in Troutdale. He retired from the railroad in October 1940, and grew gladiolas as a side line. Recently, THS director Nell Simien stumbled on an old Railway Express cabinet at a garage sale. The contents revealed that Kendall had used it for papers from his bulb business.

Prior to coming West for good, Kendall, who was born in Hanover, Wisc., decided to explore and went to Spokane in the early 1900s to visit a railroading friend, from there making a trip to Ephrata, Wash., and 30 miles beyond to the Big Bend country to see what the West was like. His account: "At that time the Big Bend was just beginning to be talked about as wheat country and was just beginning to attract attention. It was all government land and was just opened to settlers.

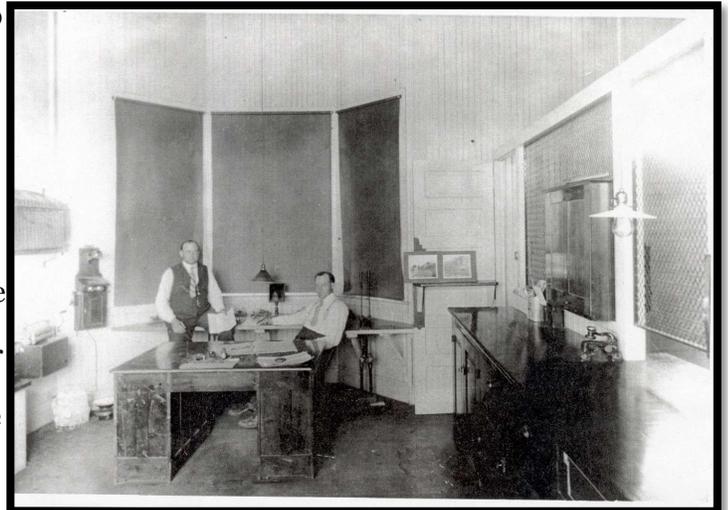
"From Ephrata which was on the railroad to as far as I went on a lumber wagon out in the interior there was not a house, but there were hundreds of one-room cabins put up by people who had filed on 160 acres of land. Once in a while one would see where someone had cleared the sage brush from around the house and made a fence of sage brush to keep out the coyotes. And mostly the cabins were deserted at that time.

The owner, after building the cabin, had to go (to a) job to make money to buy groceries. And sometimes in that lonely land one would see a woman working the sage brush, but no men. There were no wells and water had to hauled in barrels and mostly it was done by women.

"In a place where I stayed at the end of 30 miles was on the shore of a lake where (I saw a) pioneer had built a small house and drove a well. He sold bacon, beans and potatoes at that time. I remember we drove the team to the well to water the horses as they had not had a drink all day and it was dark when we got to the well. The lake was covered with ducks and almost every hour some woman drove up with one old horse and a buckboard and two or three empty milk cans to fill at the pump. These dear women were burned by the sun, tanned, weather-beaten and discouraged. Just remember, there were hundreds of these women in the Big Bend belt at that time but very little land cleared of sage brush excepting right around the one-room shack and very few had cleared even around their shack. It was a hard life and the women showed it. It was a big, silent country populated mostly by coyotes, rattle snakes and jack rabbits. At that time, there was still plenty of land open for filing.

Well, I rode back to Ephrata on the reach of the wagon, as there was a wagon box at Ephrata the farmer wanted to bring back to his store. There really was no road, just winding trails and the dust was at least 6 inches deep everywhere...I had all I wanted of the Big Bend country...I could not imagine my wife and two little girls going through the hardships of pioneers....But the west was in my blood."

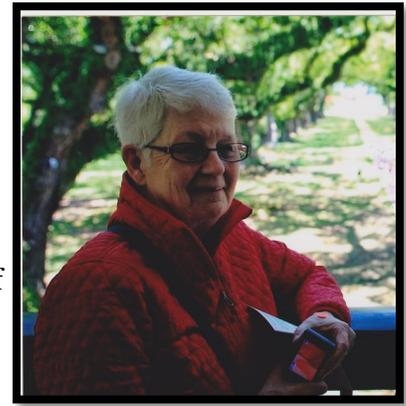
(We will share this information with a historical organization in Ephrata, Wash.)



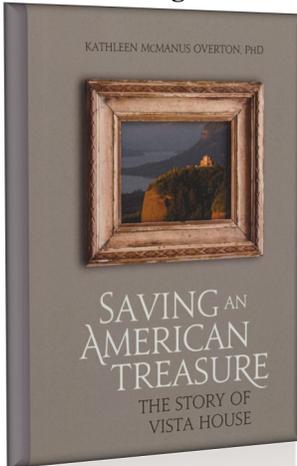
A.D. Kendall, Troutdale Station agent, standing at left. Newt Parsons at right.

## First Friday with Author Kathleen Overton

Come join us on Friday, October 3, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Depot Museum 473 E. Historic Columbia River Hwy. Kathleen Overton will be signing her book "Saving an American Treasure: The restoration of the Vista House". Kathleen is a retired medical professional who spent the first two years of retirement completing her Ph.D. in Management.



She has a background in medical research and has published in a number of Medical Journals as well as lectured in several states. She currently is a volunteer for the Friends of Vista House where she has been responsible for selecting books for their gift shop.



After becoming a volunteer and working with the book selection for the gift shop, she became aware of the limited amount of information about Vista House that was available to visitors. Kathleen decided to combine her background in research and her love of Vista House to write a book that would tell the story of this national treasure. She spent four years researching and writing "Saving an American Treasure: The Story of Vista House".

For more information please call THS Depot Museum at 503 661-2164. Refreshments will be served donations are welcome.

## Troutdale Historical Society program calendar for 2014-2015

THS is proud to announce a new partnership with the Friends of Vista House. "THS/Vista House Presents: Living History Lecture Series".

### **Saturday, Sept. 20, 2014, 11:30 a.m. at the barn -INSIDER TOUR OF HESLIN HOUSE AND ZIMMERMAN FARM**

A U-Drive tour meeting at the barn (so people can carpool if they choose) to visit houses operated by East County Historical Organization, ECHO, (used to be Fairview Rockwood Wilkes Historical Society), bring a sack lunch for a picnic. Donations of \$5 for visiting both sites is suggested. Return to Barn about 4 p.m.

### **Saturday, Oct. 18, 2014, 4-6 p.m. (please note different day and time), Glenn Otto Community Park, Troutdale - HAPPY HOUR WITH JEANETTE KLOOS, PRESERVATION HERO OF THE HISTORIC COLUMBIA RIVER HIGHWAY**

Join us for light snacks -- sparkling and branch water (which is as happy as we can get on city property) - and a chance to hear from Jeanette who has spent so many years working on the preservation of our favorite highway. Afterward, try dinner in one of our Troutdale restaurants. Presented by THS and Friends of Vista House.

### **Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014, 2-4 p.m., Glenn Otto Community Park, Troutdale -STEAMBOAT CAPTAINS ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER, Presented by the Mayor of Cascade Locks**

Learn about the fearless captains who worked the mighty Columbia River. Presented by THS and Friends of Vista House. Refreshments.

### **Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014, 2-4p.m., Harlow House Museum, Troutdale-CHRISTMAS: DOLLS, SANTA AND HOMEMADE COOKIES**

Featuring the doll collection of Starr Williams.

### Thanks to Our Business Sponsors

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## Thank you to all those that have donated to THS

### **Contributors to the Endowment Fund from 06/01/2014 to 8/01/2014**

Barbara Huston Freund.....**In memory of Orlin Huston**

Larry & Rosemary Puderbaugh.....**In memory of Harold Scofield**

Ellen Cantwell

### **Contributors Historic Columbia River Highway Exhibit 6 to 8/2014**

Marilee Thompson Len Otto Walsh & Sons Trucking

### **Contributors to THS from 06/01/2014 thru 08/01/2014**

Rufus Joseph Lois & Bill Moller Ginger Harlow Allen

### **Our presence at Troutdale's Summerfest**

Our member of the year Helen Wand was driven in Dave Ripma's convertible by Dick Goldie with Mario Ayala. Joanne Losinger and Jim Glenn hosted at the Harlow House. Jean Holman worked at the depot. Sharon Nesbit and Dianne White were at the announcing podium. Nell Simien and Len Otto and Rip Caswell worked at our booth in the park.



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### Summer

#### Volunteers:

Audrey Lowell in the office.

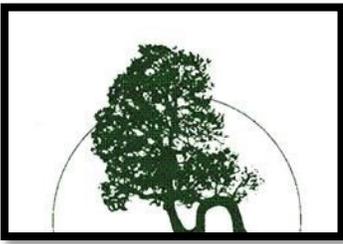
Julie Stewart in the depot library.

Larry McGinnis

The Tuesday Ladies in the Harlow House and barn and working in the Harlow House garden.

Joanne Losinger at the Harlow House.

Ray Summers working for the exhibit committee. And, the exhibit committee led by Greg & Sue Handy and Len Otto.



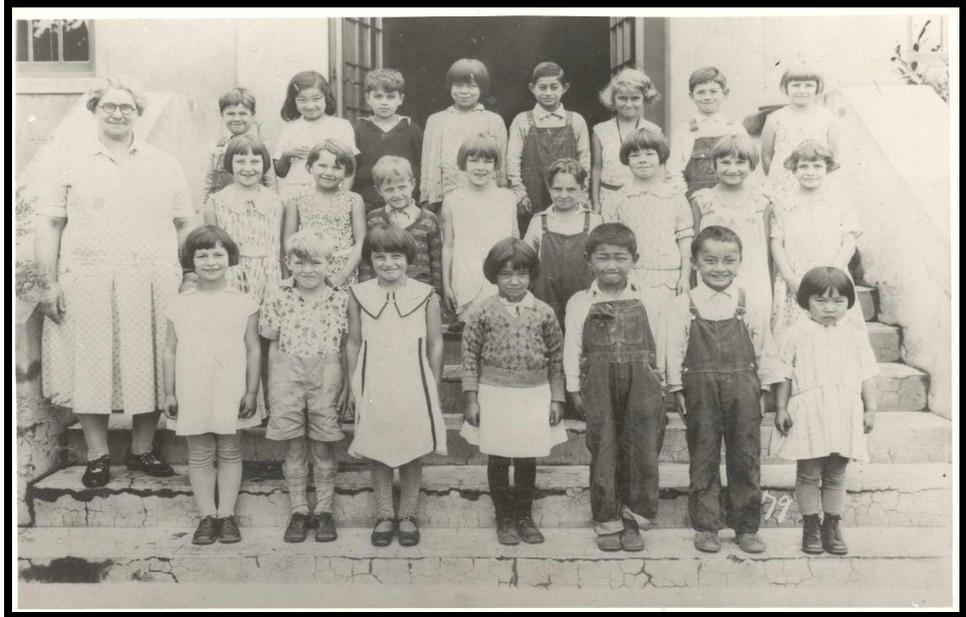
**Mission Statement: To gather, preserve and make available material relating to their history of the community of Troutdale, the Sandy River, the Columbia River Gorge and nearby area: To stimulate interest in the knowledge of, the locality's past.**

**Non Profit Presorted  
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Troutdale, Or 97060  
www.troutdalehistory.org  
503 661-2164

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- Jean Ice, Vice President**
- Jean Holman, Secretary**
- Marilee Thompson, Treasurer**
- Helen Wand, Program Chair**
- Jean Hybskmann**
- Mona Mitchoff**
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**The Class of 1930, Troutdale Grade School.**

**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.**