



Tualatin Historical Society Newsletter

DECEMBER 2009

*Founded in 1986, the Society's Mission is
to preserve, promote and interpret the rich and colorful history of Tualatin*

Upcoming Program

• **January 6, 1:00 pm,**
Dr. Scott Burns, THS member and PSU professor of geology, will discuss the Missoula floods and the legacies of the Ice Age in the Tualatin area, including today's nearby vineyards which benefit from rich soils deposited when the Willamette Valley was a huge lake.

Save the date...

Heritage Center Activities

Knitting & Crochet Workshop

December 4 & 18
10:00-noon Bring your project or start one. Help is available. All levels welcome.

Lumiere Players Play

December 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 at 7:30 pm
Friday/Saturday, 2:00 pm
Sunday- Tualatin's theatre group present "Sorry, Wrong Chimney!". To reserve seats, call 503.524.2058.

Riding the Rails

December 10, 9-4 pm
See article on page 3.

Free String Concert

December 12, 1:00 pm

Bird and Nature Walk

December 15, 9:00 am
Time for Fall migration. Find a variety of ducks and geese, & warblers and wintering song birds.

Conserving Oregon's Wetlands

Plan to attend the December 2 monthly meeting at 1 pm where Mary Ann Sohlstrom and Ed Casey will discuss Tualatin's Wetlands Conservancy. Founded in 1981 by Althea Pratt-Broome and Jack Broome, the organization is dedicated to permanently protecting and conserving Oregon's greatest wetlands.

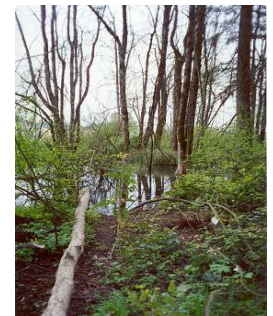


Althea Pratt-Broome and Jack Broome's dedication, enthusiasm and vision provided the foundation for one of Oregon's most remarkable stories of grassroots stewardship, bridge-building and preservation. Together they have

motivated countless others and created a legacy of community stewardship for Oregon's wetlands.

*Photo left:
Apache Bluff wetlands, Tualatin.*

*Photo right:
Hedges Creek Marsh, Tualatin.*



The story of The Wetlands Conservancy begins in 1975 when Althea Pratt grew concerned over the filling of Hedges Creek Marsh in Tualatin, Oregon. The long-neglected marsh was slowly being eaten away by its growing industrial neighbors. In response, Althea formed the Friends of Tualatin Wetlands as the environmental branch of her non-profit "Willowbrook Center for the Development of Human Potential."

2010 Is Drawing Closer

It's that time again! Membership dues for Tualatin Historical Society are due. You may also donate a larger amount to help support THS projects, such as vital preservation and storage of our historic artifacts. We are investigating ways to preserve our collection of material culture (photos, objects) in humidity and temperature controlled environment. Remember, too, that we can now accept payments using your credit card but this must be done at

the Heritage Center, not over the phone or by mail. Donations to THS are fully deductible but you can benefit even more if you also contribute to the Oregon Cultural Trust. Donations to the Oregon Cultural Trust become an Oregon tax credit. We will mail a flyer if you are interested in this opportunity. Norm Parker (503.598.7443) can answer THS membership questions.



History Detective Follow-up Report:

As reported in the November newsletter, a national search for Tualatin resident Air Force officer Brian Bushnell, killed in action during the Vietnam War, finally traced his family in Washington state. The VFW and Yvonne Addington participated in a special City Council recognition of Brian last month. Word has spread of this "history detective" work by our Society and most recently to 120 members of the Tigard High School class of 1968 who will honor Brian at their 60th reunion on July 31, 2010. In a note, Nikki Scott says "he was one of our Tigard class of 68 'family' who is no longer with us, but whose memory we treasure."



Fire Department History Dates Back to 1935



The Tualatin Fire Department has been putting out local fires since 1935, but its history has never been compiled. That is now being rectified, as a group with family ties to the Department met last month to be gathering information to write the history. The group meets again on Thursday, December 3, at 1:00 pm at the Tualatin Heritage Center, and is soliciting memories, pictures and stories of fire department activities.

Tualatin's population was about 250 and the boundaries much smaller when the Fire Department was organized, with William Barngrover as chief and a crew of volunteers. As the need for fire protection in the surrounding area grew, the Tualatin Rural Fire Protection District was formed, later to merge into the Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue District (TVFRD).

Craig Daufel, a former full-time fireman, heads the committee that will compile the history, aided by staffers Yvonne Addington and Loyce Martinazzi. Memories to be put into the history were shared at that first meeting by Henrietta Barngrover Conover, daughter of Chief Barngrover, and Walt Eames, the chief's nephew, plus former district firefighters Jerry Hess, Gordon Scott and Phil Lapp. Also attending were TVFRD board member Brian Clopton, whose grandfather Cliff Floyd was one of the first full-time firemen, plus Barngrover's grandchildren Larry Barngrover of Nevada, Keith Barngrover of Arizona, Veda Barngrover Ripcik of Washington, and DeeAnn Conover Meharry whose father Merwyn Conover was also one of Tualatin's first full-time firemen. Orrie Nyberg Waller of Madras, daughter of first fireman Wilbur Nyberg, and Annette Saarinen, daughter of Ted Saarinen who was captain of the Volunteer fire department, completed the group.

"This will be a demanding, rewarding and fun project to work on," Addington said, "and more help would be welcomed." Persons are invited to send in stories, pictures (to give or loan and identified) and to suggest names and events that should be tracked down. Contact Yvonne Addington, PO Box 545, Sherwood, OR 97140, yaddington@verizon.net, or 503.625.2704.



Photo left: The TFD began as a volunteer group in the mid-'30s in a lean-to connected to the old City Hall Fire Dept. History Dates Back to 1935

2010 Officers and Board Members Elected



Leaders for the Society in the new year were elected unanimously at the November 7 annual meeting: president Yvonne Addington, vice president Christine Tunstall, treasurer Barbara Stinger, and secretary Doris Gleason. Board members at large include Art Sasaki and Adrienne Heathman, historian Rochelle Smith, past president Norm Parker, THS co-founders Loyce Martinazzi and Karen Nygaard, Center director Larry McClure. With thanks for their loyal service, THS members expressed appreciation to outgoing treasurer Diane Barry, historian Patricia Saab and board members Art Barry and Annita Gilham.

Lafky-Martinazzi Award Goes to Evie Andrews

Congratulations to Evie Andrews who was recognized for her work on the first Tualatin historical coloring book published earlier this year. Evie served as liaison with Hazelbrook Middle School teachers and students during the planning and development of this popular new addition to the THS bookshelf.

Photo left: Evie helps students who are unable to guess what the every day objects are from pioneer life.



Library Foundation and THS to Join on Video Documentary Project

The Tualatin Library Foundation is inviting a partnership with Tualatin Historical Society to start building a video collection (tentatively titled "Tualatin Tales") to help residents better understand what makes our city unique. Modeled after the national program Story Corps, the series will capture oral histories of persons recalling their life in the city and significant local locations which are noteworthy. Videographer Jon Hartman will handle technical details and Larry McClure will be the interviewer for developing the first prototype: a tour of the Sweek House and memories of Althea Pratt who founded Willowbrook and co-founded the Wetlands Conservancy. The Foundation is covering the cost of production with THS helping select the topics and conducting the interviews. Copies of the final products would be available for check out at the library and Tualatin Heritage Center. Foundation president Marge Congress initiated this partnership.

Food Barrel for the Holidays

Thanks to Tualatin Kiwanis, you can now bring donations for the Tualatin Schoolhouse Pantry during this season of sharing. Tualatin's pantry (now located at Rolling Hills Church) is experiencing unprecedented demand during these tough economic times, so please be generous.



Join the Polar Express December 10



OREGON
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1892

Grab your warm clothes for a train trip Tuesday, December 10 to visit Oregon Historical Society (or other attractions of your

choice) with the rest of the day free to eat lunch and do some Christmas shopping downtown. Enjoy holiday decorations and celebrate the season in Portland's "living room" Pioneer Square. We'll meet at Tualatin WES station at 8:45 a.m. and catch the first train home from Beaverton about 4 p.m., arriving in Tualatin about 4:30. OHS has some great new exhibits, including a new show on railroads of the West, two Northwest Native American displays, and the first automobile built in Oregon among others. Cost is \$4.75 for an all day pass and museum entry is \$9 for seniors, \$11 for other adults. Reservations must be made by December 9 at noon by calling 503.885.1926 and leave a message.

Farewell to Judy Adamson

Since September, THS has benefitted from the assistance of Judy Adamson who supported office work and provided hospitality to Center visitors for 18 hours each week. Judy is enrolled in a job development program called Experience Works designed to help older workers transition to employment. If you know of organizations needing a part-time person who handles a variety of duties, including computer applications, please let Lindy or Larry know and we will refer her to these potential employers.



New Exhibit Opens at Heritage Center

Inspired by renewed interest in Meridian Road (now 65th Avenue), Rebecca Pratt has prepared a new long-term display at the Center that teaches visitors about early exploration, mapping, survey tools and even new GPS technologies. Two glass cases contain examples of sextants and other measuring devices that helped mapmakers, explorers and settlers figure out how to find their way and mark their lands (a concept quite foreign to native peoples). Be sure to leaf through the informative binder.

Tualatin's "They Did It" Women Are Topic of Upcoming Program

The Tualatin Heritage Center turns 5 next February. And the Tualatin Historical Society will celebrate the anniversary with its tradition of depicting some aspect of local history. This time it will be a portrayal of 18 of Tualatin's strong women, the "They Did It" women. Earlier depictions included the Cemetery Stroll, a Reading of the First Diaries, and last February's sesquicentennial playlet "The Road to Statehood Ran through Tualatin."

This February we will hear about some of Tualatin's strong women who helped shape the growth and development of the community. These are the women who "did it"--started school lunch programs, ran farm operations, began community festivals, opened businesses, led volunteer organizations and established children's programs. And most of them will be portrayed by their daughters and granddaughters, and a great-great-granddaughter.

As last year's February program drew an overflow crowd, this year's event will be at the Winona Grange Hall, on Sunday afternoon, February 14. Period songs by the Sweet Adelines will intersperse the stories, followed by Valentine's Day refreshments in the Grange social hall.

Start your holiday shopping here!

Why not give a gift of Tualatin history?

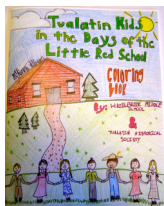
Our Heritage Center "Store" has a wide variety of items that capture the memories, the visuals and even the tastes of early Tualatin.

Store items are also available at the Tualatin Library lobby, Saturday, Dec. 5, from 1 to 4pm.

Books

Tualatin Kids in the Days of the Little Red Schoolhouse

A coloring book about Tualatin kids by Tualatin kids. Created by 8th grade students that depict and describe a day in the life of youngsters here a century ago. 32 pages \$4 each, 3/\$10, 10/\$30



Tualatin...From the Beginning 196 heavily illustrated pages that take you from our 10,000 BC mastodon to the 2004 Commons. By Society co-founders Loyce Martinazzi and Karen Lafky Nygaard. \$20 Add \$3 for postage.

Life in a New Untamed Land * Tualatin diaries of 1851-53 by four of the area's first settlers. 46 pages \$10 Add \$1 for postage.

*Tualatin's Past Remembered** Ann Martinazzi's interviews with the second generation of settlers. 42 pages \$10 Add \$1 for postage.

*Tualatin When We Were Young** 35 seniors' memories of the 1910s, '20s & '30s. 68 pages. \$10 Add \$1 for postage.

*War, Change, Growth** Tualatin in the 1940s-'70s as remembered by 43 residents. 72 pages \$10 Add \$1 for postage.

* The set of four small books is \$30. Add \$3 for postage.

DVD

The Road to Statehood Ran Through Tualatin

Hour-long story theatre written by Loyce Martinazzi and Karen Lafky Nygaard video taped by Jon Hartman. \$15 To order, call 503.885.1926.

Notecards

Pictures of Tualatin's historic homes and farms. Set of 6 cards \$6.50

Heritage Jams & Jellies

Glenmore Farms products use local berries in a secret family recipe. \$5 and \$2 (Glenmore Farms is the original name of the Byrom place.)



~Now accepting VISA and MasterCard!

Tualatin Heritage Center
Tualatin Historical Society
8700 SW Sweek Drive
Tualatin, OR 97062
Phone: 503.885.1926 Fax: 503.692.5876



The Center is open to the public weekdays from 10am to 2pm. The Tualatin Historical Society holds open program meetings in the Center at 1:00 pm on the first Wednesday of each month.

Tualatin Historical Society Newsletter

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Tualatin Historical Society

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