



# Tualatin Historical Society Newsletter

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2012

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

## Save the Date...

### January 19 Evening Program to Feature 13,000 Year History of Northwest Fisheries

Noted Portland State University fossil scientist Virginia Butler will describe her study of fish faunal records to open the 2012 evening program series at Tualatin Heritage Center Thursday, January 19 at 7 p.m. Dr. Butler, interim Anthropology Department chair at PSU, has helped us interpret other prehistoric artifacts now owned by Tualatin Historical Society. She is an enthusiastic cheerleader for careers in archaeology and anthropology. She is known world-wide for her study of over 75 Columbia Basin archaeological sites dating to the past 13,000 years. Her focus is on how indigenous peoples used various fish species at different time periods. At one point, she found, sturgeon and suckers were probably more important to indigenous fisheries than salmon and trout. Virginia also translates these research findings into contemporary problems of fish conservation. *Editor's note: Old-timers will remember a Ripley's "Believe It or Not" factoid that the Tualatin River was said to be home to more freshwater species of fish than any other river in the world.*

## The Colorful History of the Oregon White Oak

Tualatin recognizes its 25th anniversary in 2012 as a Tree City USA. Tualatin Historical Society kicks off this year-long celebration on **Wednesday January 4 at 1:00 pm** with Jonathan Soll, Metro scientist, sharing little-known facts about Oregon's lesser-known iconic tree (with no license plate of its own). Learn how our local Atfaliti Indians depended on this tree, why it withstands environmental threats so well but is threatened by certain other plants (even the more well-known Douglas fir).



If you can describe where an Oregon white oak tree is growing in Tualatin, you may win a special prize.

Monthly program sponsored by

the Tualatin Historical Society. For information, call 503.885.1926.

## Honoring our Tualatin Namesakes



Join with members of the Grand Ronde Confederated Tribe for an afternoon of Atfaliti Indian cultural sharing about lifeways then and traditions still very much alive today. The Atfaliti Indians were part of the Kalapuya Tribe generally comprising the entire Willamette Valley until losing their separate identity in an 1855 treaty.

This family-oriented event is sponsored by the Tualatin Historical Society and will be held on **Sunday, February 12, 2:00 pm at the Historic Winona Grange, 8340 SW Seneca St., Tualatin**. Refreshments will be served downstairs. For information, call 503.885.1926.



## President's Column

From Co-Presidents Larry McClure & Norman Parker

As we begin our 26th year we can all be pleased at the success and the difference that THS has made in our community. This is possible due to those who came before us and the current 250 members. Thank you.

We still have lots of things to accomplish such as getting our inventory and storage of historic documents up to date. We hope to further identify and expand various committees to work on projects during the year and we ask for your help. As examples we need a volunteer to assist Karin Olson doing data processing, help in our patio garden, people to do phoning to inform people of upcoming events and people to serve as monitors at the Heritage Center. None of these jobs are very time consuming but are necessary to further our mission. Please let us know of any particular way you may wish to participate

We wish you a historic 2012.

~ Larry and Norm

## Erratic Hunting

Join Jeff Murray, known as an erratic fanatic, when he talks about erratic hunting on February 16, 7:00 pm at the Tualatin Heritage Center. Jeff is an a vocational geologist and an advocate for clean water and frequent lecturer on that topic. He has been part of the Ice Age Floods Institute for over 15 years, focusing on the great waters of the Willamette Valley and evidence of the Ice Age floods. For more information call 503.885.1926.



## THS Member Bill Gilham Marches On

After a long fight with cancer, Bill Gilham bid farewell to family and friends in late November after a short stay at Veterans Hospital. A standing-room-only celebration of life was held Saturday, December 10 at Tualatin Heritage Center which he helped preserve and support since the idea was first proposed. Family and friends will long remember Bill's stories of life as a Marine and Tualatin River advocate. He was mayor of Durham for many years and loved to read and share history.

**Photo right:** Bill shares a memory while sitting on a bench that was dedicated to honor him at Heron Grove Park.



## Silvey Family Member Joins THS Board

A long-time Tualatin family member Diane Silvey Swientek was elected to a board member at large position for THS in November soon after returning to the area after a 30-year absence.



Daughter of Don and Vi Silvey, she grew up on Lower Boones Ferry in downtown and graduated from Tigard High School in 1965.

Tualatin was a wonderful place to grow up, Diane says. "I met my best friend of 60 years, Judy Bunn Reynolds, right next door. There were only about 323 people in Tualatin then. Walking or riding bikes to the old post office, George's store, getting ice cream at Mae's café, saying hi to dad at Silvey lumber company, going to dances at the Grange, attending Tualatin Methodist Church was a special part of my life."

Retired after an elementary teaching career, she moved back in 2011 with her husband Frank, also just retired after a naval officer career. She looks forward to THS projects to salvage and sell bricks from the old elementary school, stage the annual Pioneer Days in May and work on fund raising.

Diane will serve with 2012 co-presidents Norm Parker and Larry McClure, vice president Art Sasaki, treasurer Barbara Stinger, co-secretaries Doris Gleason and Gerry Brosy and the following board members whose director-at-large terms continue: Evie Andrews, Adrienne Heathman, and Kurt Krause. Yvonne Addington will sit with the board as immediate past president along with honorary director Loyce Martinazzi, THS co-founder.

## Could Volunteering for THS Be Your New Year's Resolution?



More assistance is needed with these occasional jobs that keep our Society vital: answer phones, greet visitors, weed the garden, make corrections in our address lists, call to remind people of meetings, prune roses, tidy up the library, polish glass exhibit cases, file materials, help with Pioneer Days in May, provide refreshments, assist with annual fundraising auction, help set up displays, hang pictures to name a few. Just leave a message at 503-885-1926.

## Tualatin Fire Station 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Marked by New Book and Open House

For three years a group of retired Tualatin Rural Fire Protection District (TRFPD) firefighters, family descendants of Tualatin's first fire chief William Barngrover and others with ties to Tualatin firefighters, have been reconstructing the history of the city's original first responders. TRFPD provided local fire protection and life safety services from 1937-1989 before merging with today's Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue District (TVF&R).



Photo above: Some of the many Tualatin Fire Dept. history folks who shared their stories and memorabilia.


Their 100-page book will be released February 25, 2012 at an open house for the public from 1-5 p.m. at the Tualatin Fire Station, 19365 S.W. 90<sup>th</sup> Court, Tualatin. In the meantime, gift certificates for the \$20 publication can be obtained at Tualatin Heritage Center, 8700 SW Sweek Drive (open weekdays 10-2) and redeemed at the open house. Pre-orders are being taken to help determine the number of copies to be published. Call the Heritage Center at 503.885.1926 or email [director@tualatinhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:director@tualatinhistoricalsociety.org).

The City of Tualatin established its own fire service in 1937. It expanded after World War II, when in 1946, a fire district was formed covering over a 100 square mile district including the cities of Tualatin and Sherwood and then the unincorporated cities of Tigard, Wilsonville, King City, Durham and Rivergrove plus unincorporated areas for many miles around in Washington and Clackamas counties. Records of the two organizations were mostly destroyed just before the 1989 merger with the Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue so the Tualatin Historical Society asked the group to reconstruct what they could. All agreed that any further delays might be too late to

obtain information and compile the history. The final version will contain some 100 pages of "sad and glad" interviews and personal memories of citizens and firefighters. It also includes information from newspaper clippings regarding major fires and disasters, local, federal and state governmental files, and war civil defense information. The committee tracked down incident reports, annual reports, personnel rosters, and fire safety prevention programs. Former fire fighters loaned pictures of fires, firefighters, fire stations and apparatus.


The "Diamond Jubilee" open house will be hosted by the Tualatin Historical Society, TVF& R and the City of Tualatin. Mementos, plaques, badges and fire equipment will also be displayed. Upfront publication costs are being paid by THS and TVF&R. For more information, contact Yvonne Addington, 503-625-2704.

*Tualatin Fire Protection History*  
**1937-1989**  
*City of Tualatin Fire Department (1935-1946)*  
*Tualatin Rural Fire Protection District (1946-1989)*



*Tualatin Historical Society*      *Fire History Committee*  
*Tualatin, Oregon*                      *February, 2012*

*This certificate entitles the bearer to one "Tualatin Fire Protection History" book.*



**Tualatin Fire Protection History Book**  
**Gift Certificate**

*Tualatin Historical Society*  
**Tualatin Heritage Center**  
**8700 SW Sweek Drive**  
**P.O. Box 1055**  
**Tualatin, OR 97062**  
**503.885.1926**

Authorized by \_\_\_\_\_

Expires December 31, 2012

Not redeemable for cash.  
Value not to exceed \$20.

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Above: Sample of Tualatin Fire Protection History book gift certificate.



## When Tualatin Was a Village: Important Lessons from History

*(The following edited remarks by Art Sasaki were part of the December 7 monthly meeting of Tualatin Historical Society marking the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pearl Harbor. The featured speaker was Henry Sakamoto of the Nikkei*

*Legacy Center in Portland who was a boy of 15 when his family (like the Sasaki's) was also caught up in the removal of all persons of Japanese ancestry. Art's mother Nami (above) still lives in the area today while Art lives on a remaining portion of the family farm at the southern edge of Tualatin.)*



### The Sasaki Family: 5 Generations in America

There have been five Sasaki generations in America, mostly in and around Tualatin.

My grandparents left Hiroshima, Japan for America in 1901 at ages 20 and 21, leaving behind an infant daughter. They owned a bath and laundry at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Couch where their second son (who would become my dad) was born in 1909. They also purchased land in Tualatin that year and moved here in 1914, the year World War I started. At 4'10" my grandfather was too short for military service in that "War to End all Wars."

My dad started first grade at Carlon Grade School over toward Sherwood in 1915 where kids acted out at recess with fist fights between German immigrant kids and their classmates. He was a 1927 Tualatin HS graduate. His older brother, the first born son, died at age 24 in 1929, the year the stock market crashed, banks failed and the Great Depression began. So instead of attending college, my dad farmed and cut and hauled firewood for \$1.25/cord delivered, using his 1929 Model A truck.

### Pearl Harbor and Camp Minidoka

On December 7, 1941 Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. My grandparents were 61 and 60. My dad was 31 with a wife of two years and a one-year-old daughter. My mom was 21 and pregnant with me, so was issued a mattress when the family, under Executive Order 9066, was moved, with 3700 others, to the Pacific International Livestock and Exposition Center in North Portland where they lived from May through September, 1942 with only what they could carry.

From September of 1942, until the summer of 1945, the Sasaki family lived in the Minidoka Relocation Center in Hunt, ID. My dad, a 5<sup>th</sup> degree black belt judo instructor, was blind in his right eye and declared 4F. I was born March 27, 1944. On June 27, 1944 my cousin 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Tame Takemoto, age 26, was killed in Europe. Tame was the first born American son of my grandfather's brother. His funeral and burial ceremony with military honors was held at the Lincoln Memorial in 1948 with the Mayor of Portland and the Governor of Oregon in attendance. This ceremony collectively honored and respected all the Japanese-American veterans of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team; especially those who "gave the last full measure of devotion." (Pres. A. Lincoln- Gettysburg National Cemetery November 19, 1863).

### Return to Tualatin

Victory in Europe (VE) day was May 7, 1945. Our intact family of 7 returned to Tualatin in the summer of 1945. The atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima August 6, 1945. 70,000 fellow humans were immediately incinerated and total deaths would double. The fate of that first Sasaki child and her 7 children in Hiroshima was unknown for months.

Commodities were rationed during and after the war, including sugar, shoes, nylons, bacon, trucks, and gasoline. Borland's Durham store sold us groceries. Fred Bonk, Grandpa and Vick Hanegan sold us gasoline to run the truck and farm equipment. During those war years, Mr. Michaels and his 6 kids, all former Sasaki berry pickers, lived-in and cared for our farm, which meant my family returned home to harvestable crops. Our two work horses (Ned and Dick), the Model-A truck, and the Cat 10 all still worked. Canneries again bought our produce.

### Humble acknowledgement and gratitude

Annually about 100 teenagers, most the kids of vets, and many adults helped harvest Sasaki strawberries over the years. Kids learned how to work hard and earned money to buy their school clothes. Strawberry fights were not allowed. Without that annual help with harvest over several decades, farming strawberries as a means of livelihood would not have been possible. We have been given gracious acceptance, support and respect. We have been shown unprejudiced loving kindness, goodness and concern. For this and much more, the Sasaki Family is humbly grateful to our neighbors in the Tualatin community.





### Santa Brian Clopton’s Sleigh Brings Two Huge Gifts to Tualatin

It wasn’t lumps of coal in the city’s stocking, but two huge specimens of glacial erratics which arrived in Tualatin just in time for Christmas. Thanks to past THS president Yvonne Addington who negotiated the gift from Gaston area farmers Doug Ott, Kevin Guy, Jan Wolfe and Stella Bryant, the large specimens will be displayed near the driveway at Tualatin Heritage Center.



Brian Clopton provided the heavy-duty equipment to haul the several-ton artifacts left from the Ice Age Floods some 14,000 years ago. One of the boulders is quartzite and the other is granite. Clopton earlier moved the glacial erratic that was formerly at an I-205 rest stop and was donated to THS in 2010.



THS is extremely grateful to Brian Clopton Excavating, Inc. and Axis Crane, both Sherwood companies, for their generous donation of personnel and equipment to accomplish this giant task. Tualatin Police Department assured public safety during the process. city of Tualatin landscapers power washed the two behemoths afterward.

*Photo credits: Yvonne Addington, Paul Hennon, Art Sasaki, Sylvia and Rick Thompson*

## Membership Renewal

Time has arrived to renew your membership in the Society for 2012. Your membership is vital to our continued success and we very much appreciate your support.



### Renewals as of 12/23/11:

Yvonne Addington  
 George & Evie Andrews  
 Art & Diane Barry  
 June Bennett  
 John & Margaret Bowles LM\*  
 George & Patt Bowlby  
 Jack Broome & Althea Pratt-Broome LM\*  
 Jack & Gerry Brosy  
 Jane Brown  
 Joanne Burkett  
 Scott Burns  
 Ed & Joanne Casey  
 Charles & Barbara Chicks  
 City of Tualatin LM  
 Marge Congress  
 Craig & Judy Daufel LM\*  
 Robert De Lisle  
 Ken & Rosa Lee Dickson  
 Nancie Downie  
 Abigail Elder  
 Jack Estes & Colleen O'Callaghan  
 Bill & Eleanor Fitzgerald  
 Kathy Cimino Foran  
 Margaret Buswell Fuhrwerk  
 Joan Fuller  
 Bill & Doris Gleason  
 Lloyd & Kay Gooding  
 Jean M Graham  
 Lorraine Hager  
 Richard Hager  
 Lynn Haight  
 Richard Hall & Rebecca Pratt  
 Michael & Linda Halseth  
 Drusilla "Duffy" Hamilton  
 Adrienne Heathman  
 Don Hesterley LM\*  
 Betty J Hoen  
 Marissa Houlberg  
 Lindy Hughes  
 Mary Ann Hulquist  
 Earl J Itel  
 Del Judy  
 James Judy

Douglas & Jeanne Jurgens  
 Sam Keator & Ann Doherty  
 Bob & Barbara Kern  
 Lloyd & Helen Koch  
 Kurt & Eleanor Krause  
 Larry Lee  
 M Irene Little  
 Rochelle Martinazzi  
 Toni Martinazzi  
 Hazel J Mason  
 Larry & Eleanor McClure  
 Debra Meisinger  
 Michael Meriwether & Rev. Penelope Christianson  
 Ned & Diane Miller  
 Scott & Jane Morrill  
 Bob & Kathy Newcomb  
 Arne & Colleen Nyberg LM\*  
 Ellen Nyberg LM  
 John & Mary Nyberg LM\*  
 Donald Lee Ohanesian  
 Karin Olson  
 Dave & Diane Overby  
 David Parker  
 Norm Parker & Loyce Martinazzi LM\*  
 Gay Paschoal  
 Dortha Pennington  
 Frances Perry  
 Jan Peterson  
 Ken & Bonnie Peterson  
 Stan & Ruth Prier  
 Leslie Razor  
 Susan Raxter  
 Colleen K Rivers  
 Beverly Robinson  
 Ron & Ilga Ross  
 Donna Scheckla  
 Chuck Schwazenbacher & Sue Nelson  
 Joseph & Joan Sequito  
 Don Silvey LM  
 Erik & Diane Steckmest  
 Ken & Barbara Stinger  
 Eric & Teresa Stone  
 John & Suzanne Sweek  
 Joan Tallen  
 Edith Torgeson  
 Ed & Nancy Truax  
 Gerry & Chris Tunstall LM\*  
 Annette Wager  
 Orrie Nyberg Waler  
 Patsy Winings

\* LM indicates Life Member





## Heritage Center January Event Calendar

### The Colorful History of the Oregon White Oak Wednesday, January 4, 1:00pm

See description on page 1. Monthly program sponsored by the Tualatin Historical Society. For information, call 503.885.1926.

### Thursday Pilates

**January 5, 12, 19, 26, 11:30am–12:30pm**  
\$10 per class drop-in/ \$8 per class with 10 class pass

For information, call 503.939.5800.

### Knitting and Crochet Workshop

**Fridays, January 13 & 27, 10:00am-Noon**

Bring a project or start one. Help is available. All levels welcome.

### Dulcimer Jam

**Sunday, January 15, 2:00–4:00pm**  
Free! Donations accepted

Enjoy the beautiful sounds of one of the oldest instruments around.

### Bird and Nature Walk

**Wednesday, January 18, 9:00am**

This 1 ½ hour walk around Sweek Pond is led by the Wetlands Conservancy. For information, call 503.691.1394.

### Ice Age Evening Program

**13,000 Year History of Northwest Fisheries**  
**Thursday, January 19, 7:00pm**

PSU fossil scientist, Dr. Virginia Butler describes her study. See page 1 for more details.

### Lunch Hour Celtic Solo Concert Series

**Wednesday, January 18, 12:15pm-1:15pm, \$10**

Bring your brown paper sack lunch and enjoy an hour of some of the best Irish music by some of the top players in the world! S&A Irish Entertainment presents **Hanz Araki and Kathryn Claire**. Irish flute player Hanz Araki is the quintessential world music musician. Kathryn's violin-playing exhibits a technical grace which is matched only by her truly captivating voice and she possesses the rare ability to move seamlessly across genres. For information, call Sam at 503.691.2078.

## February Event Calendar

### Pilates

**Thursdays, February 2, 9, 16, 23,**  
**11:30am–12:30pm, \$10 per class drop-in/ \$8 per class with 10 class pass**

For information, call 503.939.5800.

### Knitting and Crochet Workshop

**Fridays, February 3 & 17, 10:00am-Noon**

Bring a project or start one. Help is available. All levels welcome.

### Bird and Nature Walk

**Tuesday, February 7, 9:00am**

This 1 ½ hour walk around Sweek Pond is led by the Wetlands Conservancy. For information, call 503.691.1394.

### Honoring our Tualatin Namesakes

**Sunday, February 12, 2:00pm**

**Location: Historic Winona Grange, 8340 SW Seneca St., Tualatin**  
**Donations accepted**

Join with members of the Grand Ronde Confederated Tribe for an afternoon of Atfaliti Indian cultural sharing about lifeways then and traditions still very much alive today. The Atfaliti Indians were part of the Kalapuya Tribe generally comprising the entire Willamette Valley until losing their separate identity in an 1855 treaty. This family-oriented event is sponsored by Tualatin Historical Society Refreshments will be served downstairs. For information, call 503.885.1926.

### Lunch Hour Celtic Solo Concert Series

**Wednesday, February 15, 12:15pm-1:15pm, \$10**

Bring your sack lunch and enjoy an hour of some of the best Irish music. S&A Irish Entertainment presents **Elizabeth Nicholson and Bob Soper**. Irish harp, Irish fiddle, folk guitar and harmony vocals is what Elizabeth and Bob will bring. Duo partners for nine years, they also share the dual role of fronting the critically acclaimed international roots quintet Stringed Migration. For information, call 503.691.2078.

### Ice Age Evening Program

#### Erratic Hunting

**Thursday, February 16, 7:00pm**

Join Jeff Murray, aka "erratic fanatic" when he talks about erratic hunting. See page 2 for details.



**Your 2012 Tualatin Historical Society Board**

***Executive Board:***

Co-Presidents: Larry McClure & Norman Parker  
 Vice-President: Art Sasaki  
 Secretary: Doris Gleason  
 Treasurer Barbara Stinger

***Directors:***

Yvonne Addington  
 Evie Andrews  
 Adrienne Heathman  
 Kurt Krause  
 Diane Silvey Swientek  
 Historian - Rochelle Smith  
 Newsletter Editor & Center Director- Larry McClure

***Honorary Board Member:***

Loyce Martinazzi

Website - Lindy Hughes, See our current and past newsletters in color and other articles of interest at [www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org).

**Celebrate Irish Life and Culture on Third Wednesday Noons**

THS members Sam Keator and Ann Doherty bring talented and often internationally-recognized recording artists each Third Wednesday at Tualatin Heritage Center. Ticket price is only \$10 (cash or check only) and seating is guaranteed. Music begins at 12:15 and CDs are for sale at each concert. On January 18, bring your lunch and enjoy Hanz Araki and Kathryn Claire. On February 15, welcome Elizabeth Nicholson and Bob Soper, ([www.stringedmigration.com](http://www.stringedmigration.com)). For more information, call Sam at 503.691.6500.



*Photo: Hanz Araki and Kathryn Claire*

**Do you have a new email address?**

Please let us know if you have a new email address so that we may update our database. We have experienced a large number of “bounce backs” during a recent membership email. We don’t want you to miss any exciting news. To let us know about your changes, email [lindy.thc@gmail.com](mailto:lindy.thc@gmail.com). Thanks!

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

***Corrections:***

The Tualatin Historical Society strives to be accurate, fair and complete in its coverage, and corrects significant errors of fact. If you see an error in the newsletter, please call 503.885.1926 or email us at [larry.mcclure@gmail.com](mailto:larry.mcclure@gmail.com) or [lindy.thc@gmail.com](mailto:lindy.thc@gmail.com). Thank you.

Tualatin Historical Society  
 P.O. 1055  
 Tualatin, OR 97062