



Tualatin Historical Society Newsletter

JULY/AUGUST 2012

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



Looking Ahead...

July 19: "Washington's Channeled Scablands - A Visual Tour"

Join us for a presentation by John Soenichsen about his latest book, "Washington's Channeled Scablands Guide". This visual tour of Washington's five scabland tracts will provide dramatic photos revealing the aura and grandeur of each scabland region. Sponsored by Lower Columbia Chapter of the Ice Age Floods Institute. Heritage Center, 7:00pm.

September 12: Bird's Eye View of the Missoula Floods

Back by popular demand, Rick Thompson provides another updated overview of the Ice Age Floods impact on the Northwest and our local area with new aerial photos. Tualatin Library, 7:00 pm.

September 22: Woodburn High School Ancient Bison

Join a field trip to visit David Ellingson's classroom and dig site at the campus where students are underway with their annual fall excavation to retrieve more bones and plant material dating back to the Ice Age. To register, call 503.885.1926.

September 30: Tualatin River History Day

Tualatin Riverkeepers will be celebrating their month long effort to document the history of the river at a special program Saturday, September 30 at Winona Grange, 2-5:00 pm. See rare photos and artifacts of life along the entire length of our river to its original source. Thanks to John Fervia, our THC Library now has a copy of "Exploring the Tualatin River Basin: A Nature and Recreation Guide" by the Riverkeepers.

Annual Picnic in the Park July 11



Join the fun and fellowship at our annual picnic once again scheduled for the main picnic shelter at **Tualatin Community Park**. Because July 4 falls on the first Wednesday this year, our annual THS picnic will be scheduled a week later on **Wednesday, July 11 from 5:00-7:00 pm**. This popular potluck replaces the usual monthly meeting at 1:00 pm.

For your listening pleasure, entertainment will be provided by Andrew Evans and his

Didgeridoo and Rodel Flores on his violin.

Bring a dish to share and your own table service, but coffee and lemonade will be provided. For information or to volunteer to help set-up, please call Gerry Brosy 503.885.1926.



Aurora Colony: Legacies of a Utopian Society in Oregon



Photo above: THS took a field trip to this museum 2 years ago. It chronicles the many accomplishments of what some would describe as a cult and an experiment in a command society.

Patrick Harris, director of the Aurora Colony Museum, will share highlights of this unusual religious community which during its 20 years of innovation was a model for today's hospitality industry. Descendants continue to contribute artifacts and stories to this unique museum just minutes south of Tualatin. Join us on **Wednesday, August 1 at 1:00 pm**. This monthly program is sponsored by the Tualatin Historical Society. For information, call 503.885.1926.

President's Column

From Co-Presidents Larry McClure & Norman Parker

Tualatin As a Destination Resort

Current planning to use Ice Age landmarks and animal bones as a way to attract tourists to Tualatin is not the first time we were considered the place to come for a weekend. 100 years ago Tualatin Country Club was developed because Portland's Jewish community was excluded from playing at any of the three Oregon golf courses open at the time. A rabbi and several well-known businessmen (e.g. Julius Meier of Meier and Frank) started looking for a place to build their own resort in the country. John Sweek offered some of his land along the river. It was a long struggle to develop the links and build a log clubhouse, but finally it was ready for use. Two trains connecting Portland and Tualatin made it easier to get away for a weekend retreat where home-cooked meals and hospitality were waiting. As a fund-raising tool to pay off bonds, wives spent some of their free time at slot machines. Only later could women play golf, and then only on certain days. At last fall's auction, Tualatin Country Club offered THS a Centennial Lunch in return for documenting stories of the Club's development over the years. Two THS members, Walter John Eames and Rita Barngrover, were two of several old-timers remembering noteworthy incidents at the June 26 celebration. Hundreds of Tualatin residents worked at the Club. Walter's father was groundskeeper at the course for 30 years. Curtis Tigard, who was among the first 5 non-Jews allowed to join in 1964, also participated in the lunch. At 103 years of age, he still plays weekly and until recently was the chief mole trapper on the course. We sincerely thank Tualatin Country Club for inviting THS to share in their Centennial commemoration as a fundraiser for us.

~ Larry and Norm

Who Will Order 400th Engraved Brick for Heritage Center Pathway?

Several more engraved bricks were recently installed to recognize persons and organizations in alphabetical order:

Individuals: Zach Bailey; Bill and Teresa Barngrover; Jeff Bell, John and Cristin Kersey; Pat and Claire O'Callaghan/Lani, Mike, Colleen, Molly, Pat, Peggy; Mike Schmokel,

Organizations: Spacesaver Specialists (donation and installation of shelving system), Tote N Stow (who donated of two storage units at no cost)

Aren't We Looking Great!!

Thanks to Garden Corner, we again have two baskets now bursting with color at the heritage center patio. And the fine team at DRG, our patio installer, has spent a lot of time giving bushes their first-ever haircut and making sure our irrigation system is working. When you need landscaping, patio, deck design and construction, use these two hometown firms who are very generous to us. Watch for coming landscaping changes by the City of Tualatin as well. Heather that is hard to care for along sidewalks will be removed adjacent to the building.

We Have a Winner!

We are proud to announce that Jenna Lichy is the 2012 THS scholarship recipient of \$2000. Jenna is a recent Tualatin High School graduate with a 4.0 GPA for her entire 4 years. We received 7 applicants all with excellent achievements and selected Jenna due to her academic record as well as her thoughtful essay on the importance of history and her practical long term career goals. She will be attending the University of Portland School of Nursing this fall.

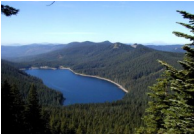
This is the third year we have been able to offer this scholarship which is entirely funded by donations by members and not from our budget. Thank you to the 12 members who funded this effort.



Rochelle Martinazzi, one of our committee members, presented the award to Jenna at the high school awards ceremony on May 25.

Remember the Oregon Blue Book Speaker?

Darrell Jabin will be showing two of his other fascinating videos similar to the one he shared at our February anniversary event: Tuesday, July 10, "History of Oregon Amusement Parks", 6 p.m. at Jack London Bar in Portland; "History of Oregon Carousels" Tuesday, July 24 and "History of Oregon Carousels", 6 p.m. in Garden Home Library, 7475 Sw Oleson Road, No. 6.



The Bull Run River Water Supply to Tualatin

By Yvonne Addington

(Editor's Note: The June THS program focused on the history of Mt. Hood and its relation to the Bull Run watershed; Yvonne prepared these highlights as a handout that day)

Since Tualatin celebrates its 100th year as a city in 2013, I have been asked to write about some of the major events that affected the growth and impacted the quality of life in my hometown.

In my opinion, the 1967 water system connection of the City of Tualatin to Portland's Bull Run water source (about 40 miles away in the Mt. Hood National Forest), via the Lake Grove Water District, has to be the number 1 most important decision in the development of our city

Despite the Interstate 5 (I-5) freeway reaching Tualatin in 1954 and expanding further south in the 1960s, Tualatin was still a small town of 300. The number one problem was a lack of water because of an inadequate system built in 1936 with Works Progress Administration (WPA) funds. The number two problem was the lack of funds to improve that system.

Lee Gensman, a civil engineer and real estate business owner, was elected Mayor in the fall of 1966 and the first thing he did was work to solve the water crisis. He opened City Hall for the first time, hiring Yvonne Addington as city recorder/municipal judge and DeMar Batchelor as city attorney. With Councilman (later Mayor) Jim Brock, this team set about trying to solve the water problem. The engineering firm of Cornell, Howland, Hayes and Merryfield (CH2M) was hired to come up with a plan..

It was recommended that the City immediately obtain Bull Run water via a connection with the Lake Grove Water District which had a contract with Portland. Mayor Gensman approached four Tualatin area businesses for \$100,000 in loans and grants to build a 10" line and connection on the north side of the Tualatin River. The four businessmen who provided finances were Bob McEvers, manager of Conrad Veneers (located where the Trailblazers Center is); Harvey Van Raden, owner of Peerless Trailer and Truck Service; Harry Driver, owner of Ramada Inn (later Sweetbrier); and Jason Herwin, owner of Blue Mountain Dog Food Company.

The water connection was completed and the city started to expand. It was known as the fastest-growing city in the fastest-growing county in Oregon

It wasn't long before the Lake Grove Water District needed significant expansion and financial assistance from the City of Tualatin. Instead, the Council chose to connect to Lake Oswego's supply from the Clackamas River via a connection with the Tigard Water District. Tualatin maintained an emergency connection with the Bull Run water supply.

About two years later, Lake Oswego sought the financial participation of the City of Tualatin to expand their system. Tualatin was again faced with finding a permanent and adequate source of water and the debate began again on a permanent source. It only took one Tualatin City Council trip to the 139 square mile Bull Run Watershed, within the protected Mt. Hood National Forest, to decide to again connect to Bull Run water.

By 1980 the city had grown to 10,000 residents and several hundred industries and commercial businesses. In 1975 Interstate 205 (I-205) connected to I-5 near Tualatin creating additional industrial and residential demand.

Still, controversy arose regarding a permanent source of supply. Tigard Water District lobbied Tualatin to join them in expanding the Lake Oswego/Clackamas River water system. The Council was split although a citizen's committee led by former Mayor Gensman and several local engineers recommended the city tie in to Portland's Bull Run water supply via the Wolf Creek Water District's main supply line at Raleigh Hills. Voters decided to continue buying Bull Run water in early 1981 when they approved a bond issue in participation with Tualatin Valley Water District and others for construction of the Washington County Supply Line, a large pipeline connecting Powell Butte.

Again in the early 2000's, additional options for the main source of drinking water were explored. The City of Wilsonville and Tualatin Valley Water District urged the City of Tualatin to join in development of treated Willamette River water. However, Tualatin Citizens for Safe Water sponsored a referendum (resulting in rejection of a pipeline to Wilsonville) and then an initiative, (resulting in citizen's right to vote for or against Willamette water). Once again citizens of Tualatin demonstrated their support for water from the Bull Run watershed as the city's source.

May Pioneer Days Big Success Despite Rain

By Chris Tunstall

For the 6th year, over 300 Tualatin fourth graders made the trek to the heritage center for a day of learning pioneering skills. The students from Tualatin and Byrom walked from their schools pulling their wagons while Bridgeport uses a bus to navigate freeway and traffic intersections. Mayor Lou Ogden, in period attire, served as toll gate keeper on one day.

With pouring down rain on Tuesday and showers on Thursday as well, the Willowbrook tents kept the volunteers and students dry. Each year Richard Hall erects two large tents which look really festive and keep volunteers and students sheltered from rain and sun! We especially appreciate local banks who loaned employees for the day: Angie Acuevas from Bank of America, Teresa Bottemiller, Audrey Sakach and Elena Skarica from Sterling Bank and Kate Test from Umpqua Bank. Several THS members helped every day! Soup for volunteers was provided by Lindy Hughes, Marty Denis and Larry McClure. This year's students did some excellent stitching on a quilt students have worked on in other years. The completed quilt will be in our THS fall auction.

Thanks to sunshine and gentle rain that followed the event, seeds have sprouted and we will soon enjoy wildflowers and vegetables planted by the students. Thanks to all the volunteers who make this a wonderful opportunity to be a visible part our community. Can you believe it? The students who attended the first year are now in high school!



"Granting Wishes"

Photo above: Teresa Bottemiller of Sterling Bank, Tualatin branch is issuing donation land claim grants to these young lucky pioneers.



Above: Artifacts teacher, Barbara Stinger shows off egg basket and more, including the popular buffalo chip.

Here is a thoughtful letter from a student:

"Dear Artifacts Volunteer,

Thank you so very much for your time to help us with our field trip. I truly appreciate it. The trip wouldn't be complete without your help. Your things were amazing! In my wildest dreams I couldn't have pictured someone with all that history in the palm of their hand, or at the top of their mind. The reason I had gasped severely at the buffalo chip was that I could simply not believe you had one. I would never have thought I'd see one. Anyway, thank you for your amazing generosity, and thank you for sharing your history with us students. You are truly thoughtful. I couldn't have asked for more."

Sincerely, Elise

Here are some quotes from other letters:

~ I learned about the eye of the potato, about kitchen tools, the person who owned the land where I live and tons more! Jessica

~ During this field trip I learned that life back then was ruf (rough). Koley

~ I really felt like a pioneer. Bailey

~ I had tons of fun learning. Mike

~ Did you ever go on the Oregon Trail, or are you guys too young? Brooke

~ You are probably the best people for your job. Connor

~ The weather wasn't the best, but you guys were. Drew

My favorite:

~ Not many people stand in the rain for 4th Graders. Kathryn

Heritage Center July Event Calendar



Pilates

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

Pilates will safely nourish your back, your abdominals and restore elasticity to your entire body. Its energizing and restorative qualities leave you feeling uplifted and revitalized! For information, call 503.939.5800.

Knitting and Crochet Workshop

Fridays, July 6 & 20
10:00am-Noon

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

THS Annual Picnic in the Park

Wednesday, July 11, 5:00-7:00pm
Location: Tualatin Community Park main shelter



See page 1 for details. For information, call 503.885.1926.

“Washington’s Channeled Scablands - A Visual Tour” Evening Ice Age Program,
Thursday, July 19, 7:00pm

Join us for a presentation by John Soennichsen about his latest book. See page 1 for details.

Evening Bird and Nature Walk
Wednesday, July 25, 7:30pm

Join us for an **evening bird walk** at Hedges Creek Marsh to look for Vaux Swifts and Swallows and perhaps, a Nighthawk. This 1 ½ hour walk around Sweek Pond is led by the Wetlands Conservancy. For information, call 503.691.1394.



August Event Calendar

Aurora Colony: Legacies of a Utopian Society in Oregon
Wednesday, August 1, 1:00pm

See page 1 for details. Monthly program sponsored by the Tualatin Historical Society.

Pilates

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

~August events continued

Knitting and Crochet Workshop
Fridays, August 3 & 24
10:00am-Noon



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

Celtic Concert

Friday, August 3, 7:30pm-10:00pm
Cost: \$20 at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/241467>, \$25 door, all community

Enjoy some of the best Irish music by some of the top players in the world! S&A Irish Entertainment presents fiddler **Dana Lyn** and guitarist **Kyle Sanna** who first met at a traditional Irish music session in New York City ten years ago. Both are active participants in Brooklyn’s eclectic music scene as arrangers, composers, players and improvisers. Traditional tunes, original compositions and improvised intermezzi are woven together to create a musical narrative that is both childlike and sophisticated, and full of unexpected twists and turns. For information, call 503.691.2078

Noel Hill from Ireland in Concert
Friday, August 10



8:00pm, doors open at 7:15pm
\$18 at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/221093, \$25 at door with cash or check only. All community

S&A Irish Entertainment presents Ireland's **Noel Hill**, who will bring his dynamic, traditional Irish music to Tualatin. Noel has one of those standard-setting voices in Irish music today. Few musicians in any field or in any generation achieve a position where both audiences and experts agree on their preeminence and mastery of an instrument; Noel Hill's virtuosity has firmly established him as the defining Irish concertina player of our time. For information, call 503.691.2078.

Tualatin Crawfish Festival
Saturday, August 11 at Community Park



Stop by the Tualatin Historical Society’s booth and say hello!

Bird and Nature Walk
Wednesday, August 23
8:00am

Join us for bird walk at Hedges Creek Marsh. This 1 ½ hour walk around Sweek Pond is led by the Wetlands Conservancy. For information, call 503.691.1394.

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.



Happy Birthday!

THS member Dolores Nelson recently celebrated her 90th birthday and qualified for Lifetime Membership in THS.



Want Some Old Elementary School Bricks?



THS inherited more than one truckload of bricks salvaged after demolition of the 1939 elementary school on Boones Ferry. These are now stored at the City's Operations Center on Herman Road and we are obligated to move them. A portion will be used by Marquis Development as part of their senior housing facility at the old school campus. Most of the bricks still have mortar attached. If you've got a home project where used brick would work, we will make a deal. THS member Sandra (Lafky) Carlson, one of many students at the familiar old school, was among the first to put her name on the list. Donations will be accepted.

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

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



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

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

Need a place for your gathering?
The Heritage Center is available for rent. It's perfect for weddings, receptions, memorial services and meetings. For information, call 503.885.1926.