



Tualatin Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2015

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



Save the Date...

Evening Program

**The Art and Science of
the Rice Museum
Thursday, January 15
7:00 pm
Heritage Center**



Geologists from the Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals in Hillsboro will share "The Art and Science of the Rice Collection" by exploring the geological processes that led to the remarkable displays the audience will both touch and view electronically. Suggested donation of \$3 per adult. Monthly program co-sponsored by Ice Age Flood Institute Columbia Chapter and the Tualatin Heritage Center. For information, call Sylvia Thompson at 503.257.0144.

Mapping the West in the 16th—19th Centuries

Join us on **Wednesday, January 7 at 1:00 pm** when historian Robert Hamm returns for an updated presentation on how our vast spaces in the West were mapped. As Europeans and Americans began to understand the land masses, they drew boundaries based on presumption and on the political climate of the times. View authentic antique maps of the world and the U.S., particularly the West and specifically Oregon. Discover how Oregon county lines changed for various reasons. He shares examples of actual maps and discusses how they build on each other's knowledge of how western geography was understood before GoogleMaps.

Mr. Hamm is a retired educator from West Linn-Wilsonville School District. For information, call 503.885.1926.



History in Your Attic: What's Hiding in Those Boxes?



Join us on **Wednesday, February 4, 1:00 pm** when Mike Loftin, owner of Digipix in Tualatin, will share video clips of historical events and places he has discovered in old movies, videotapes and slides local families bring to him for transfer. Learn how to preserve these artifacts long ago forgotten in family closets. Examples: streetcars in Portland, Vanport flood, fishing at Celilo Falls, Cuban missile crisis. Monthly program sponsored by the Tualatin Historical Society. For information, call 503.885.1926.

THS Annual Meeting Results

Officers and board members unanimously elected for 2015 are: Art Sasaki, president; Kurt Krause, vice-president; Barbara Stinger, treasurer; Loyce Martinazzi, secretary. Directors include Yvonne Addington, Evie Andrews, Ross Baker, Sandra Lafky Carlson, Larry McClure and Norm Parker. At this meeting, Loyce Martinazzi presented **Yvonne Addington** and **Chris Tunstall** the Lafky-Martinazzi Award. The award is given each year to honor a person or group whose work in the community on behalf of local history furthers Society goals.

Meet Our New THS Board Members

Sandra Lafky Carlson



Sandra grew up in Tualatin in the 1940's and 50's when there were fewer than 400 residents and she knew them all. Her roots in Tualatin go fairly deep. Grandparents Mark and Manette Lafky moved here in 1928 and had a 60-acre flower bulb farm for over three decades. They were active in the Tualatin community through the Methodist church, Winona Grange and the Tualatin school district board.

Her father Herb Lafky and aunt Karen Lafky Nygaard also grew up here. Her dad played on the community basketball team in the 30's, caught trout in Hedges Creek and the Tualatin River, and was a volunteer firefighter. Karen, along with Loyce Martinazzi, eventually founded the Tualatin Historical Society and authored books on local history.

Sandra's three children are now grown with families. Over the years, all three children attended and later taught at the Willowbrook Summer Arts Program founded by Althea Pratt-Broome. Four of her grandchildren also attended the program this past summer. Sandra is a retired early childhood educator and now lives in West Linn. When not gardening or playing with grandkids or studying Native American art, she enjoys attending THS events.

Says Sandra, "I love learning about Tualatin history because it reminds me of my family and my happy childhood. Plus, it keeps me connected to friends I grew up with."

~ continued next column

Ross Baker



Ross was born in Michigan City, IN and married his high school sweetheart Laura. They have three adult children - two of whom are still in college. Ross worked for Siltronic, Inc. (manufacturer of silicon wafers for computer chips) from 1984 until last year when he set up an independent firm to address markets and products not part of the company's primary focus. The Bakers have lived in Texas, Pennsylvania, Germany and Oregon. They moved to Tualatin in 1991 where they raised their children. Laura became active in the schools, the library and the Tigard-Tualatin School Foundation where she serves as president today.

Ross' family events growing up were dominated by stories from aunts and uncles who lived through the depression and served during WW2. History was treated as something special, to be revered and respected. (And, perhaps to add just a little revisionist color commentary here and there!).

The tradition was carried on with the Baker's children and they knew dad was always an easy person to buy a gift for as long as it was some kind of history book. So when Ross got a THS membership for Christmas he could not get to the first meeting fast enough. Even better than a book, the Tualatin Historical Society has brought local history to life for him. And one of the best things, according to Ross, is the ability to meet members of the families who actually lived that history.

California Resident Discovering 152-Year Old Letter

Early in December THS received an email (see below) from a descendant of Warren Joy who apparently lived in the Sherwood area. Yvonne Addington and Loyce Martinazzi are digging further into Joy's time and relatives in Washington County.

"I saw the Tualatin Historical Society webpage and just in case the Historical Society is interested -- here is a copy of a family letter written in the Tualatin Valley in January 1862 by a man named Warren Joy (my GGG-Uncle) and sent to his brother Asa W Joy back home in Plymouth, Michigan. Here is the wording copied verbatim."

~ continued on page 3

Tualatin Valley, Jan. 10th 1862

Dear Brother,

I take my pen to inform you that it is a snowing. Yes we are having an old fashioned snow storm. We had freezing weather for a couple of weeks and now we have snow enough and its cold enough to make excellent sleighing but we can see no sleighs and cutters gliding along the road and no jingling of bells or merry laugh of belles strikes upon the ear. The fact of it is that sleighing is not an ordinary Oregon institution. Seldom coming at all and when it does, not lasting more than a week or two at best. The consequence is that nobody is prepared to take advantage of it except perhaps a few about town. There is no telling however what Oregon will reckon in future among her permanent institutions with the exception of babies and some other nonconsequential productions. She has been considered rather a slow Country but within the past year she has displayed some astonishing marks of progress. Her gold mines which have heretofore with a few exceptions been considered to be unmitigated humbugs have been discovered to be of extraordinary richness. Days works are no longer reckoned by dollars or by hundreds but by thousands, not by ounces but by the number of pounds of dust. I will not pretend to say how extensive such diggings are but that a large extent of territory, comprising portions of Cyn of W. T. and Brtsh Pss ns, is filled with gold in paying quantities. There is no doubt these mines cannot be worked to any extent except in the summer season and in some parts of them that season is very short. There will be a large emigration to them in the Spring from California and this Willamett Valley and Southern Cyn. Most every man here talks of going and I suppose half will go at least. I dont think much about going as yet myself. Among other marks of progress was an extraordinary freshet on the Willammet river a few weeks ago. The water raised suddenly to a tremendous height, several feet higher than had ever been known by the oldest inhabitant, and dashing a long with irresistible impetuosity. Carried away houses barns mills and whole villages. Several lives were lost. A great amount of wheat and flour was lost and damaged, causing flour to rise from four to six dollars per bl. in a very short time. This shows that there is a latent energy in the elements of Oregon that the People of Oregon have not calculated upon.

~ continued next column

I would also inform you that I am well and that the health of community is generally good. I wrote of a case of sickness last Spring, of a neighbor who was nigh unto death. Well during the summer he got some better, walked and rode around considerable. But in the fall when the damp chilly winds and rain set in he commenced to fail again and is now in a very low state. I was at his bedside a few days ago and he told me in a whisper that he could not hold out more than a day or two longer. He was a hard working man and owns an excellent saw mill working in which he thinks caused his sickness. He is a married man but has no children, forty two years of age. I went to a ball Christmas and enjoyed myself extremely well. I suppose its unnecessary for me to inform you that I was one of the best men dancers on the floor but there was one lady, a married one, which for beauty of appearance and graceful and easy action could not be surpassed. I went through one set with her to my extreme joy. The mails come very irregular at this season of the year owing to high waters, snow on the mountains but the Telegraph however is in working order and we get the news of the progress of government in crushing out the rebels. They must feel some peculiar sensations as the dread anaconda gradually tightens his grip on them and they feel the hopelessness of their case. I will now conclude, direct yours to Portland.

Yours, Warren Joy

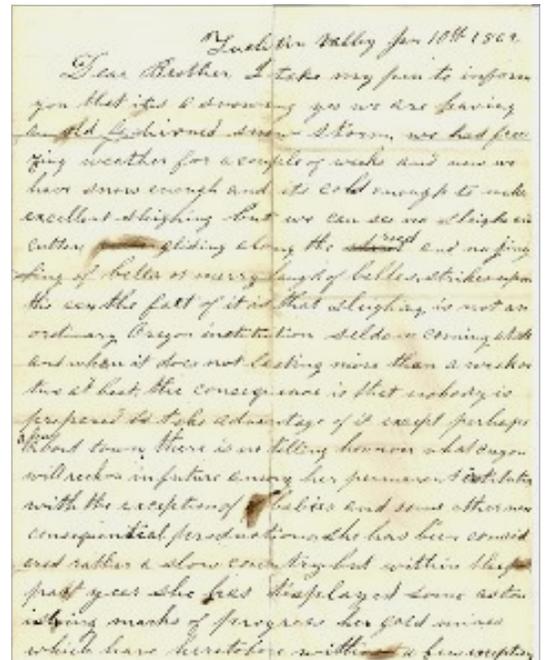
To his brother, Asa Joy, Plymouth Mich.

-Troy

Troy Schmidt

Image right:

Page one of the original letter.



A Special Thanks

Starting a new calendar for 2015 is a nice time to remember some of the special people whose unsung behind-the-scenes contributions made 2014 another successful year for the Society. You would have had to be at the heritage center at the right time to see **Alan Lafky**, son of Herb Lafky and grandson of Mark Lafky digging up the Tualatin Manette white Dutch iris bulbs from our planter boxes so they will be properly cared for before replanting for blooming next May; or **Kali Saunders** who worked many hours weeding in the Pioneer Garden (but now moving); or **Duffy Hamilton** who drove in from Newberg for the annual meeting to greet members and help members pay their dues; or **Ken Stinger** who carefully maintains our digital historic photo collection; or **Candice Kelly** who slips over from her condo to open and close the heritage center if needed or turn out lights that might have been left on; or **Ike (Isaac) Kirkbride**, Itel farm manager, who annually prunes the THC rose garden donated by the Itel family; or **Bev Phelps**, also our neighbor across the street, who dead-headed roses all summer; or **Kim and Donny** who kept the Pioneer Garden watered; or **Darcy Lawson of Quick & Clean Services** for no-cost twice a year carpet cleaning at the center; or **Bob Hughes**, who comes in to update and troubleshoot our computers as needed (and his hours count for a nice donation from Intel); or *an anonymous donor* who gave \$500 for the Jiggles doors and hauled them away; or **Mary Ann Sohlstrom** who for seven years has led monthly birdwalks around our Sweek Pond (and is now retiring from Wetlands Conservancy).

Remembering THS Members Who Left Us in 2014

We fondly recall the days we spent with these members who made their special mark on our lives:

Bill Gleason
 Adrienne Heathman
 Monty Montague

Their memories live on.

Mastodon Tusk to be Copied

Replicas of the famous Tualatin mastodon's tusk and molars will be cast from the originals this year according to plans now in motion. Thanks to Mike Full, THS's volunteer paleontologist, and David Ellingson, Woodburn HS science teacher who with his students has excavated ancient fauna and flora replicated at Cabela's and in displays donated to THS, there will be two exact copies reproduced for "hands-on" learning at Tualatin Library, at the heritage center and for use in group presentations such as in schools.

Mike, along with his colleague Joanie Livermore, completed the first step in this process by joining together the two sections of the tusk now on display at the Heritage Center. The tusk broke apart soon after being dug in 1962 from the wetlands adjacent to today's Fred Meyer west entrance. The original excavators were John George and Ron Sund. Joanie is a professional artist and medical illustrator with a specialty in proper restoration and refinishing of fossils. They both are donating many hours to this project and David is providing additional support thanks to a grant his school received. The THS board approved funds for the casting of the Society's replicas and the City of Tualatin is paying for the second set. The casting begins with creating a mold without impacting the originals.

The 2015 membership directory for the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce features several photos and articles about Tualatin's Ice Age artifacts.

Ten Years Ago: A THS Dream Coming True

One day in early June 2003, Pastor Don Hesterley of the Tualatin Church of Christ phoned Loyce Martinazzi with an intriguing idea: would THS want to take possession of the old Methodist church? Their congregation was disbanding and they could no longer afford to operate and maintain the building. In March 1989, the Church of Christ had bought the building from Clark Lumber Company and signed a lease agreement for the land. The building sale price was for \$24,500 and the land lease was for \$500 per month.

On June 13, 2003 the THS board met with Mr. Hesterley at the old church to discuss the idea further. Not only did the building need major work, the THS board also knew it would be necessary to move the building as the City had plans to widen Boones Ferry Road in the near future and parking would be nearly nonexistent.

~ continued on page 5

After securing agreement from the Clark Family that they would continue to lease the land, we decided to take a leap of faith and agreed to recommend to our membership that we take ownership of the building at no cost to us but with major future expenses in restoring and moving the structure. At our annual meeting in November 2003 we presented the proposal to the general membership. With only one exception the members voted to accept the plan.

Previously in the early nineties THS had attempted to save the historic Hedges House by taking it apart piece by piece and storing it in one of the Koch barns. The society had raised about \$30,000 for this preservation effort and explored rebuilding it on city property. This effort had been put on hold for a number of years due to lack of funding. At the November 2003 general meeting we agreed to use the \$30,000 Hedges House reserve funds as part of our campaign to preserve the much larger (and more useable) church building and move it to a new location as home for THS.

During the remainder of 2003 we maintained the building inside and out by mowing and watering the lawn, fixing the furnace, cleaning and painting, etc. We continued the monthly lease payments to Clark Lumber until the spring of 2004 when David Emami bought the property from Clark Lumber. We contacted Mr. Emami regarding his intentions and he informed us that he would not be building on the property in the near future and he would continue leasing the land to the Historical Society for \$400 per month and a lease to that effect was signed on April 27, 2004.

In the winter of 2003 we were contacted by Monte McCutcheon, pastor of the Abundant Life Family Church, to ask if their congregation could rent the building. We agreed to rent to them for \$400 per month starting January 1, 2004 until such time as we would move the building.

Suddenly owning an historic structure, THS quickly mounted a "save the old church" petition campaign. Over 1200 residents and visitors supported finding another use for the Craftsman-style landmark. The City of Tualatin saw an opportunity to help save an historic building but only if the Society could first demonstrate the community would help support it. A planning team began weekly meetings with City Community Services Director Paul Hennon shepherding a series of steps that included identifying

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open space near Sweek Pond and obtaining estimates of potential costs. Fundraising also began in earnest by the Society. Results were amazing, thanks to generous donors including Society members, business firms, and even one child who canvassed her neighborhood. With private pledges and dollars totaling over \$180,000 "on the table" during the early months of 2005, it was easier for the City Council to give the green light to proceed with final plans and promise more funds to complete the project. They also agreed THS would have priority use of the building. A bill of sale was drawn up and we deeded the building to the city effective June 30, 2005.

The pace quickened in mid-2005. A steering committee oversaw bidding including selection of the general contractor (Silco Construction) led by Don Silvey whose family has long-time connections to Tualatin. Moving of the sturdy frame building occurred on an August Sunday morning followed by a complete overhaul of the infrastructure (electrical, plumbing, heating/cooling, security). New building requirements meant we no longer would have a basement or allow the public upstairs. The end of 2005 and turn of the New Year saw finish work inside and outside completed. Final approval to occupy came just in time for the Grand Opening February 11, 2006 with 235 persons attending the celebration and open house.

THS now operates the heritage center in partnership with the City of Tualatin with a mandate to keep the facility open on a regular schedule for a variety of purposes: promote and interpret Tualatin's heritage, provide a venue for the arts, enhance environmental awareness, encourage civic engagement and offer space for rental and use by non-profit, government and the business sectors. The City continues to support this effort with a modest grant to maintain staffing and regular maintenance. Within two years of opening, THS launched an additional fundraising drive to build the patio and landscape the garden area to the west, thanks in part to the sale of engraved sidewalk bricks. Ten years after fundraising and the important green light in 2005, Tualatin Heritage Center remains open to the public weekdays 10-2 and often longer. And, most evenings and weekends the lights are still on as users come for meetings, performances, family celebrations, art shows and once again church on Sunday mornings.



Membership Renewal

Time has arrived to renew your membership in the Society for 2015. Your membership is vital to our continued success and we very much appreciate your support.

Renewals received as of 12/23/14:

Yvonne Addington	Vincent & Jackalyn Harbick	Gay Paschoal
George & Evie Andrews	Jon Hartman HM	Frances Wager Perry
Nathan Andrews	Don Hesterley LM	Delores I. Peterson
Anne Avery	Betty J Hoen	Jan Pennington Peterson
Bill Avery	Marissa Houlberg	Ken & Bonnie Peterson
Art & Diane Barry	Lindy Hughes	Stan & Ruth Prier
John & Kim Bartholomew	Del Judy LM	Leslie Rasor
John & Margaret Bowles LM	James Judy	Susan Raxter
George & Patricia Bowlsby	Jeanne Jurgens	Colleen Rivers
Jack Broome & Althea Pratt-Broome LM	Sam Keator & Ann Doherty	Lois Roby
Jack & Gerry Brosy	Cecelia Kelley	Ronald & Ilga Ross
Jane Brown	Candice Kelly	Sagert Family
Frank Bubenik & Donna Copodacqua	Bob & Barbara Kern	Art Sasaki
Scott & Glenda Burns	Lloyd & Helen Koch	Donna Scheckla
Sandra Lafky Carlson	Kurt & Eleanor Krause	Gary Schneider
Charles & Barbara Chicks	Mary Leslie	Linda Seibold
City of Tualatin LM	Eric Lindstrom	Joseph & Joan Sequito LM
Brian Clopton HM	M. Irene Little	Don Silvey LM
Craig & Judy Daufel LM	James & Irma Markel	Gary Schneider
Chris & Joelle Davis	Vicci Lee Martinazzi	Eric & Diane Steckmest
Robert & Catherine Dexter	Edith Matheson	Ken & Barbara Stinger
Keith & Carol Dickson	Larry & Eleanor McClure	Eric & Teresa Stone
Ken & Rosa Lee Dickson	Debbie Meisinger & Robert Buchanan	John & Suzanne Sweek
Abigail Elder	Ned & Diane Miller	Frank & Diane Swientek
David & Diana Emami	Tom & Sharon Miller	Jerianne Thompson
Margaret Buswell Fuhrwerk	Scott & Jane Morrill	Edith Torgeson LM
Anita Gilham	Robert & Kathleen Newcomb	Margaret Torgeson
Lloyd & Kay Gooding	Arne & Colleen Nyberg LM	Gerry & Chris Tunstall LM
Jean M Graham	John Nyberg LM	Ed Truax
Debra Hager	Ellen Nyberg LM	James Waddell
Lorraine Hager	John Nyberg LM	Eldon & Orrie Waller
Richard Hager	Lee & Donna Ohanesian	John & Dawn Westphal
Lynn & Dagmar Haight	Karin Olson	Herbert & Nancy Zachow
Richard Hall & Rebecca Pratt	Henry Oman	
June Halliday	Dave & Diane Overby	LM: <i>Indicates Lifetime Member</i>
Michael & Linda Halseth	David Parker	HM: <i>Indicates Honorary Member</i>
Drusilla "Duffy" Hamilton	Norm Parker	
	& Loyce Martinazzi LM	Welcome new members!
		Jim Serrill

2015 Adds More Automatic Lifetime Members

The following THS members have already passed or will be reaching their 90-year milestone this year which means they will no longer be paying annual Society dues: Robert Krise, Barbara Krise, Edie Torgeson, Margie Larsen, Hazel Mason, Joseph Sequito, Althea Pratt-Broome, Dolores Nelson, Jack Broome, Del Judy, James Markel, Jane Brown, Jack Brosy, Eleanor Fitzgerald, Laurine Lafky, and Irene Little. We celebrate these living legends who helped make our community unique!



Heritage Center January Event Calendar

Knitting and Crochet Workshop Fridays, January 9 & 23, 10:00 am-Noon

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



Mapping the West in the 16th-19th Centuries THS Monthly Program

Wednesday, January 7, 1:00 pm
See page 1 for more information.

The Art and Science of the Rice Museum Ice Age Evening Program Thursday, January 15, 7:00 pm

See page 1 of the newsletter for more details. Co-sponsored by Ice Age Flood Institute Columbia Chapter and the Tualatin Historical Society. For more information, call 503.257.0144

February Event Calendar



History in Your Attic THS Monthly Program

Wednesday, February 4, 1:00pm
See page 1 for more information.

The Great Missoula Floods, Megafloods and Wenatchee Reach Thursday, February 19, 7:00pm Donations accepted

Research geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey's Cascades Volcano Observatory in Vancouver, Washington, Dr. Waitt has studied the Missoula floods and other megafloods for more than 30 years. He will compare Missoula Floods to other megafloods documented in the geologic record. Dr. Waitt will emphasize the Wenatchee Reach of the Columbia area, where he has done extensive work to expand and unravel the catastrophic flooding sequences that periodically inundated the Columbia River and Moses Coulee valleys. Monthly program co-sponsored by Ice Age Flood Institute Columbia Chapter and the Tualatin Historical Society. For information, call Sylvia Thompson at 503.257.0144.

Knitting and Crochet Workshop Fridays, February 6 & 20, 10:00 am-Noon

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

March Event Calendar



THS Monthly Program Wednesday, March 4, 1:00 pm

Bonnie Henderson, author of *"The Next Tsunami: Living on a Restless Coast"* will share highlights on her look back in history, far beyond the most recent impacts felt in 1964 when the Alaska "Good Friday" earthquake damaged our shoreline. Oregon's other recent tsunami was January 26, 1700 when a mega 9.0 quake struck just 100 miles off the Pacific coast. Scientists believe tsunamis strike every few hundred years along our Cascadia Subduction Zone. For information, call 503.885.1926.

Knitting and Crochet Workshop (all levels welcome) Fridays, March 13 & 27, 10:00 am-Noon

Bring a project or start one. Help is available.

Tualatin's Joe Baney Explores Antarctical Ice Age Evening Program Thursday, March 19, 7:00 pm

Coast Guard veteran and videographer Joe Baney reveals little-known facts and photos of Antarctica's unique geology and biology at Tualatin Heritage Center. Joe served on an ice cutter keeping access lanes open for research vessels with scientists studying geological features, soils and animal life in a harsh environment similar to the Ice Age conditions experienced here thousands of years ago. Joe immigrated from Germany at age 19 and remains active in Coast Guard auxiliary associations. He has traveled the world in service to his country. His presentation includes a documentary video he produced. For information, call Sylvia Thompson at 503.257.0144

Training for Recording Family Histories



The first "hands-on" orientation opportunity for anyone interested in learning how to interview a relative, friend or Tualatin history-maker will be held in January, date TBD in the next week. Please call the center (503.885.1926) if you are interested. THS owns several different kinds of recorders (including an "old-time" cassette recorder). These are straightforward to use after some demonstrations and practice. We will review tested ways of planning the interview, setting up the environment, preparing the kinds of questions that prompt memories, checking if the machine is working and then hearing the results. The training session will include actual interviewing each other.

Your 2015 Tualatin Historical Society Board

Executive Board:

President: Art Sasaki
Vice-President: Kurt Krause
Secretary: Loyce Martinazzi
Treasurer: Barbara Stinger
Historian: Sandra Lafky Carlson

Directors:

Yvonne Addington
Evie Andrews
Ross Baker
Larry McClure
Norman Parker
Heritage Center Director- Larry McClure



Newsletter Editor - Larry McClure
See our current and past newsletters in color and other articles of interest at www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org.

Heritage Center Hosts Blood Drive

As a community service, the Heritage Center hosted a blood drive in November which added 29 units (just 1 shy of the goal) so the Red Cross could be ready for the busy holiday season. Those 29 units will make a difference in the lives of up to 87 patients and their families. A big thanks for those who assisted as well as those who donated. If you would like to be notified of any other “draws” at THC, leave word at the office.



American Red Cross
Together, we can save a life

Everybody Loves Cookies

A big thanks goes to Sue Raxter and Lindy Hughes for providing treats and Ruth Prier and Gerry Brosy for making coffee for the THS monthly programs in October and December. They were delicious!



Tualatin Heritage Center Holiday Closures:
December 26 through January 2, 2015

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
P.O. 1055
Tualatin, OR 97062