

## 2017 Annual Report: Tualatin Historical Society

*In the next pages you will read for yourself the incredible things we have done as an organization in 2017. Two things remain a priority for 2018: membership and the digital preservation of our archives in a way they can be accessed by the public.*

*We have an effective team in place to continue the work already begun to make Tualatin history available to all. Have a look at the big steps we have made using Facebook. Take time to visit our web page where you can connect to the many oral histories made available to you with the help of Pacific University. But wait, there is more. On our web page you will also find an interactive map showing History around Tualatin. This includes not only the many displays available to the public across town but also historic buildings and landmarks. We are proud to share these with you and we plan to do more next year as we work to share on-line the hundreds of items in our collection; thousands of digital photos; and additional surprises such as a digital library of the Tualatin High School's newspaper "The Wolf".*

*While the effort to share a digital version of your Tualatin history with you is making great progress, we must admit we need your help in that second area: membership. Those membership dollars are one of our largest sources of income. Please consider these ways you can help bring our membership to an even higher level:*

- *Renew your membership*
- *Give the gift of history to friends and family during this upcoming holiday season*
- *Consider to up your membership to our new Founder's Club or Heritage Circle levels.*
- *Contact old friends and families of Tualatin who may not even live here anymore. Encourage them to join so they too can enjoy our quarterly newsletter and all the happenings back home. We still do our newsletter the old-fashioned way and mail it to each and every member.*

*--Ross Baker  
2017 President*

### HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017

**November-December, 2016.** At the 2016 annual meeting we elected Ross president and Jim Serrill as Secretary. Yvonne Addington moved into the past president position. However, Jim later needed to step down and the Board appointed City Councilor THS co-founder Loyce Martinazzi presented the Martinazzi-Lafky Award to Kurt Krause for his leadership in developing a printed guide to historic houses and buildings around town and the earlier signage for historic properties.

**January.** With the help of a recent Masters Degree graduate in museum studies, Brendan McCauley, we were able to launch a new Collections Management Policy in January. In addition, he did extensive research and benchmarking to decide which software would be the best suited to moving our collections onto a digital platform. With those two items in hand, the newly-formed team—nicknamed the Past Perfect Posse—was established to lead the charge.

**February.** After bylaws changes approved in November to increase Board positions to 11, the Board appointed City Councilor Frank Bubenik as our newest Board member. Jim Serrill also stepped down from the Board though remains involved. We saw progress on a project that has been dormant for three years: final approvals were given for an interpretive sign about homelands of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Specifications were set for sign

production and its steel infrastructure. This partnership was aided greatly by the City of Tualatin. The sign is located a few steps from the picnic table and bike shelter.

**March.** The board officially decided on using Past Perfect's web version to record the digital archive. In the meantime, however, delays from the developer have caused the board to consider alternatives which Tualatin High School junior Graehm Alberty is developing for us. During March we also made extensive plans for a docent-led tour of the Ice Age elements on the Tualatin Greenway Trail. A pilot test of that was done in April during Tualatin's Arbor Week.

**In April,** several THS representatives attended the opening of a new restaurant at Nyberg Rivers Shopping Center which keeps us visible in the community which pays off with donations for our annual auction and other ways. At least one THS member is present every Friday morning at Tualatin Chamber of Commerce meetings when some 60 business men and women gather to network and we get to promote our projects and Heritage Center availability.

In **May** we again greeted some 300 4<sup>th</sup> graders and their adult mentors for Pioneer Days, a hands-on experience with daily life skills used in Tualatin 150 years ago. Students particularly like to guess the purpose of artifacts displayed by THS member Rebecca Pratt. During each day, students from three elementary schools visit 8 different learning stations.

**In June,** we awarded a \$2500 scholarship to Tualatin High School senior Sharona Shnayder who is now studying at both PCC and PSU. A highlight of the month was dedication of an interpretive sign developed in collaboration with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the City of Tualatin. Installed next to a sidewalk near the heritage center, the sign features a map showing the original homelands of the Grand Ronde confederation which extended from the Columbia River to the California border and bordered by the Cascades and Coastal Range. Our local Atfaliti Indians were part of the Kalapuya nation. Tribal Council members blessed the sign accompanied by drummers/singers. THS board member Sandra Carlson presented the tribe with a small stone atlatl discovered locally by the Lafky family. An atlatl is a device used when throwing a spear or dart. Tribal leader Jon George presented Yvonne Addington a basket necklace for her role in facilitating THS and CTGR relationships and a shell necklace to Sandra in appreciation for the artifact.

In **July,** our annual picnic at the first city park attracted a loyal crowd of potluck lovers. Entertainment was provided by a team of actors from Mask and Mirror Community Theatre who performed sketches from their November play "Musical Comedy Murders of 1940." Our summer intern Graehm Alberty, a Tualatin High School, student designed and started implementing an on-line map locating historic buildings and places around town and also helped with our oral history project.

In **August,** we were underway with the transition of Tualatin Heritage Center managers. Sadly, we said farewell to Lindy Hughes after 9 years of providing hospitality for hundreds of visitors each month. She now dons the hat of volunteer at the Center and is still helping with important

jobs like the newsletter, auction, website and Pioneer Days. Gladly, we welcomed local resident Cindy Frost who is learning the ropes with enthusiasm. Cindy also has a part-time business of her own and is known for creating the TP Brigade which encourages donations of paper and toiletry products for the Tualatin Schoolhouse Pantry.

**In September** last year, our 2016 silent auction and wine tasting on a pleasant summer evening netted over \$9,000 for Society operation. The auction, raffle and popular Oregon and Washington wines and food selections have become a tradition as long-time families see each other again and newcomers feel welcome. (Note: This year's just-completed 9<sup>th</sup> auction saw 100 persons again enjoying a pleasant evening with music by Island Trio who returned with their easy-listening sounds. Our FY18 budget should see over \$10,000 profit! And our own THS member Gay Paschoal won the \$500 cash raffle!)

**In October**, our Galbreath (then Lafky/Lee) farm wagon restoration project neared completion in McMinnville wainwright's shop . Thanks to THS member Dawn Westphal it will have a temporary home in her barn until we can arrange a public display. This is our largest artifact reflecting Tualatin's "modern day" era. It is not equipped to be pulled in a parade, however.

### **Public Programs Monthly**

Hundreds attended monthly daytime and evening programs at the Heritage Center. First Wednesday afternoons emphasize state and local history. Third Thursday night-time presentations are planned in partnership with the Lower Columbia Chapter/Ice Age Floods Institute. Program ideas are always welcome. Remember these over the past 12 months?

November/December: *Tualatin's Unsolved Murder Case* by Ken Bilderback, Oregon author. *50 Years of Geologic Tumult in the Columbia Gorge* presented by Lloyd McKay.

January: *The Good Old Days in Tualatin*, a panel discussion featuring Lloyd and Helen Koch, Barbara and Bob Kern, and Frances Perry moderated by Lloyce Martinazzi; *New Technologies Meet Ancient Fossils* by Julian Gray from the Rice Museum of Rocks and Minerals

February: *Treasures in Our THS Attic* with stories behind various artifacts in our collection; *The Politics of Sand*, with videographer Tom Olsen sharing his documentary on Tom McCall's Beach Bill in the 1970s.

March: *Surprising Adventures of George Gibbs on the Oregon Frontier* by retired Lewis and Clark history professor Dr. Stephen Beckham; *The Golden Age of Radio* featuring Dick Karman playing segments of favorite radio programs of the past.

April: *History of Wilsonville* presented by city councilor Charlotte Lehan; *Engineering Geology: Implications of the Missoula Floods* presented by Bill Burgel.

May: *Marine One: Presidential Helicopters* with Tualatin retired Marine Corps pilot Norb Murray; *New Understandings of Mt. St. Helens* with Sheila Alfsen.

June: *Virtual Tour of Tualatin Historic Buildings* presented by Ross Baker followed by dedication of new sign by Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

July: (no regular program but picnic and fellowship at Community Park); *The Palouse Hills in Eastern Washington: Collateral Fallout from 2.5 Million Years of Ice Age Floods* presented by Alan Busacca

August: *Sons of the American Revolution Visit Tualatin*, three full-dress early militiamen who rose up against the British describe their story; no evening program in August

September: *Close Cousins of Tualatin: The Evolution of Sherwood*, the background of our common-border city presented by historian June Reynolds; *The Ice Age Oregon Trail*, an overview of the geology encountered by pioneer families as they headed west over strange terrain.

October: *When the Tualatin River Ran Backwards*, the sordid tale of local farmers fighting a big company that dammed the Tualatin River to float logs for making charcoal which also ruined farmlands upstream, presented by Loyce Martinazzi; *Talking Dirt: The Life and Times of a Soils Designer* by George Serrill whose firm formulates soils for a variety of purposes, often with diatomaceous earth (fossilized diatoms).

## **Membership Overview**

Membership coordinators Norm Parker, Karin Olson, Cathy Stockwell and Ross Baker report we have a total of 223 members as this report is prepared. We welcomed 20 new members the last 12 months, a very nice increase! We were saddened by the death of Bill Galbreath, Eleanor Krause, Jon Hartman, and Joe Sequito. We now have 30 members who are 90-years old or more and automatically qualify for lifetime membership. They join 17 other Lifetime Members. We have now implemented a one-year complimentary Honorary membership category for program presenters and 15 speakers received that certificate this year. Be sure to let Karin know if your address or other contact information changes (503-646-4108).

## **Financial Picture of THS**

We are lucky to have Barbara Stinger as our treasurer. She works diligently to track our income and spending and keeps reminding us in Board meetings about where we are either ahead or behind on budget. She makes sure we have a planned budget ready for the start of each new fiscal year starting July 1. We are presently half way through the 2018 fiscal year working with an anticipated budget of over \$50,000. What follows is a general summary of what we typically take in and spend. Final figures for the year now underway will be compiled after books close June 30, 2018 and are available on request.

### Income

Rental of THC in FY 2016 was up about \$1,200 from the previous year to \$15,893; individual donations grew from nearly \$4,000 to \$7,346; annual auction proceeds (Sept 2016) grew about \$1,000 to \$10,770. City of Tualatin subsidies for Center operations maintained at \$8,100; memberships increased about \$300 to \$4,440; donations to the scholarship fund grew from \$2,690 to \$3,485; Product sales (books, jam) declined to \$428. All income sources grew substantially from \$41,747 to \$52,347.

### Expenses

We keep our Tualatin Heritage Center doors open to the public at least five days a week and many times in evenings and on weekends. Meantime, institutions bigger than ours are often unable to operate regular hours. Payroll expenses totaled \$27,387. Operational expenses like postage, printing, supplies, telephone and internet services held steady at \$3570. Operational expenses like postage, printing, supplies, telephone and internet services held steady at \$3570. Contract for services like bookkeeping, a consultant on collection policy ,and speakers increased by \$200 to \$3784; insurance, security system and equipment/landscape maintenance costs dipped slightly to \$3775; fundraising expenses increased by \$350 from \$1,634 to \$1,982; we awarded the same-size scholarship of \$2500; other operational costs, such as business fees, credit card fees, membership in other organizations, awards, wagon restoration and monitors for certain rentals increased considerably to \$4,369. Total spending through June 30, 2017 was \$45,115.

### Savings

In addition to temporary funds held in a money market account averaging some \$49,781. Barbara monitors a CD still sitting at over \$28,450 held in part for future exhibits and building modifications as the Board of Directors determines.

### **We Thank Our Supporters**

Rentals of the heritage center provide a financial base for our operations. We are delighted to host a church on Sunday in keeping with the building's original purpose. Former Tualatin artist Linda Aman still travels back to Oregon from Idaho for occasional art classes. Our staff works hard to maintain this flow of support. THS is a popular venue for business networking functions, workshops, anniversary celebrations, and memorial gatherings. Avocation groups like watercolor artists and knitters like our space. These hundreds of visitors every month often pause to look at displays and exhibits.

Our major fundraiser for THS is the always-fun September auction which is headed by Barbara Stinger with the hard-working team of Lindy Hughes, Laura Baker, Diane Swientek, Karin Olson, Ellie and Larry McClure. The latest auction had another good turnout with lots of new

friends being made and oldtimers sharing memories. The popular Island Trio returned with their traditional good-listening background entertainment. The committee proposed three cash prizes for the most recent raffle which resulted in two THS winners walking away with cash to cover their earlier purchases in the evening. Donors who gave gifts of wine, baskets, artworks, business services and gift cards are always greatly appreciated as well as the eager buyers who left with smiles on their faces.

### **Is Tualatin Historical Society a Beneficiary in Your Will?**

One-time cash donations or even a monthly planned giving helps fill the gap between normal spending and new needs. Would you consider a 1-5% earmark or a flat amount from your estate as a reasonable future gift to support THS? **Please consider this option as a way to assure that the work of THS continues** for future generations. Related to donations for survival of the Society, remember that when you give to THS and also contribute an equal or larger amount to the Oregon Cultural Trust, there are tax advantages for each—but particularly for the donation to the Trust. In the latter case, you will get a valuable tax credit on your Oregon tax return. In effect, it costs you nothing. Details are available at the Oregon Cultural Trust website. THS has received grants from those funds in the past and received the one for new present collections system from the Cultural Coalition of Washington County which gets its money from the Trust.

### **Visitors to THC Enjoy Exhibits and Displays**

In the 12 months since our last annual meeting, our Heritage Center staff logged over 9,000 persons walking through our doors, many more than once. Diane Swientek and Sandra Carlson coordinates our permanent and revolving displays which these persons see. Our other permanent displays include the Robbins coverlet, family washboard, home picture and Pearl Casteel's bridal sickle received for keeping the path to their mailbox clear; items from the original Methodist Church including the program used at the original dedication service in 1926; the original mastodon tusk and molars dug up near today's Fred Meyer parking lot, and a clock from the old Tualatin Elementary School. Outside the building are huge glacial erratics and historic plants (Robbins roses, Lafky irises, Martinazzi daffodils, J.R.C. Thompson hydrangeas, and Nyberg snowdrops). Rotating exhibits this past few months included trophies, pictures, yearbooks and class books, cooking utensils, cookbooks, a kerosene lamp, fire department memorabilia, china, and picture albums. Clothing included a 1920s boy's sailor suit, vintage party dresses and shoes. Another small exhibit case is at the Juanita Pohl Center.

Because of its public hours, our most accessible artifacts are shown at Tualatin Library featuring large and small Ice Age artifacts, castings and several replicas of mammals provided by our partners in the North American Research Group and Willamette Valley Pleistocene Project.

## **Tualatin History on View Other Places, Too!**

Residents and visitors can view items and photographs reflecting Tualatin history at the Tualatin High School, Marquis Health Care Center and their new Café which features items from the former elementary school at that site and a mantle built from a walnut tree removed for construction. Vintage photos hang in elementary schools, Cabela's, New Seasons Market, Firehouse Subs, Sharky's, CenterCal offices and of course all city buildings thanks to the THS partnership with the City of Tualatin.

## **First Annual Survey Suggests Actions for 2017**

All THS members were surveyed in 2016 resulting in several suggestions we are now implementing. One of those was to once again hold an antique appraisal event as a fundraiser and look back in time to those "good old days" as experts share their knowledge of the items. That opportunity will be held a few days from now at the new Marquis Community Center, site of the 1939 elementary school. Appraisers are Charles and Vince Harbick, antique dealers from Sherwood.

## **Maintaining our Home**

As we approach 12 years in the Heritage Center, signs of wear and tear become more apparent. Thanks again to assistance from the City of Tualatin and volunteers, we've been working on a "to do" list of things that get overlooked: reorganize equipment and materials, paint inside trim, replace an awkward office desk, clean the carpet and install efficient lighting. Our outside area landscaping takes continued care by several folks. Pressure washing the patio area and hardscapes eliminated mildew and moss. In the future we will need to consider new and lighter chairs since the present ones get used and moved regularly. And our window blinds are beginning to falter as well.

## **Looking Ahead**

- We continue to need volunteers to preserve documents on digital formats, conduct oral history interviews, help maintain our patio garden, make school presentations, and to monitor rentals which helps keep costs down. Committees are at work year-round for special projects, too.
- We continue to look for a permanent location to display the restored Galbreath farm wagon. Ideas are welcome.
- Help us expand our membership base by inviting relatives, neighbors and friends to join you for a THS event next year.
- Remember the Society bookstore when you need that special gift! As the year ends, there's a special deal on our Tualatin berry preserves: 3 jars for the price of 2!

We are pleased to have served on your Board of Directors this year and look forward to your participation in THS activities during the months ahead. Board meetings are typically the Monday before the first Wednesday program each month and are open to all members. Our third Thursday evening programs are open to all as well.

2017 Officers

Ross Baker, President  
Kurt Krause, Vice President  
Barbara Stinger, Treasurer  
Vacant, Secretary  
Sandra Carlson, Historian

November 5, 2017

2017 Directors

Loyce Martinazzi  
Norm Parker  
Larry McClure  
Art Sasaki  
Frank Bubenik  
Yvonne Addington