



Tualatin Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

JAN/FEB/MARCH 2020

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



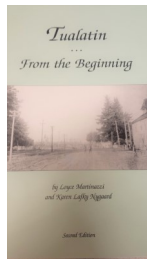
Save the Date Evening Programs

History of Gold Mining in Oregon Thurs, Jan 16, 7 pm At Juanita Pohl Center

Gold mines are scattered all over Oregon, and once sparked settlements, roads, schools and early justice systems. Prospecting also triggered racism and disputes with tribes. Tualatin resident Clark Niewendorp, a retired state geologist, will share gold's impact on our history.

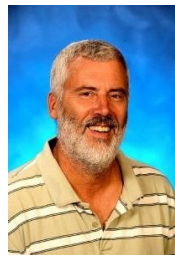
Test Your Tualatin History IQ Thurs, Feb 20, 7 pm

THS co-founder Loyce Martinazzi offers a repeat of her Feb. 5 "Tualatin 101" brief history of our hometown. This evening option is another time to learn what put Tualatin on the map in earlier times and continues to make news today.



Ice Age Bison in Your Backyard? Thurs, March 19, 7 pm

Fossil hunter Jauhn Brassaru takes us on a quick tour of Ice Age bison types and their distribution in Oregon and globally, with comparisons to modern American bison and shows evidence of their interaction with humans and later extinction (one case found in the Willamette Valley)



Third Thursday programs are co-sponsored by THS and the Lower Columbia Chapter/ Ice Age Floods Institute. \$3 suggested donation for adults.

The Iceland and Tualatin Connection Wed. Jan 8, 1 pm

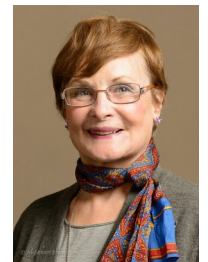
Dr. Scott Burns, retired PSU geology professor and hometown boy who explored our local soil and rocks as a kid, will describe the "Dynamic Geology of Ireland: Its Connection to Similar Geology in Tualatin." Dr. Burns leads annual tours to Iceland and is also frequently seen on local TV channels whenever the earth moves. He still calls Tualatin home. Scott co-authored the book *Cataclysms on the Columbia: The Great Missoula Floods* for sale at the Heritage Center.



Scott Burns

What is Your Tualatin IQ? Wed. Feb 5, 1 pm

Loyce Martinazzi, co-author of several books and plays on Tualatin history and co-founder of THS, will teach a basic "Tualatin 101" class and will be the judge for our own game show that will review what residents should be able to tell visitors who come to town. This program will be repeated Thursday evening, Feb. 20. Several books and materials on Tualatin history bearing Loyce's name are always on sale at the Heritage Center.



A Tualatin Immigrant Success Story Wed. March 4, 1 pm

Gulzar Ahmed founded Crescent Systems based in Tualatin, designer and manufacturer of automated processing systems for products ranging from Frito Lay snacks, Oregon Freeze Dry, Blue Diamond almonds, Oregon cherries to Oregon grass seed. Beyond operating a successful enterprise with his wife Lynnette, he actively promotes interfaith understanding and political awareness at the local, state and national level. Gulzar will share highlights of his long journey from Pakistan to Tualatin.



Keep the Valentine Spirit Alive!



Sat. 2/15
7 pm

Happy
Valentine's
Day

Local soprano Beth Donnelly and Baritone Doug Feller will continue spreading the love of Valentines Day with a special concert benefitting THS. These talented Tualatin artists, teachers and composers will be performing such classic songs of love, friendship and fun as “That’s Amore”, “My Heart is for You”, and “Lady Be Good”. Tickets available on line at www.jeremiahproduction.com or at the door. February is also the anniversary month for the State of Oregon, the Tualatin Historical Society and Tualatin Heritage Center, the latter celebrating its 13th year of operation. Treats provided.

www.jeremiahProduction.com

Sat. 2/15 7 pm Tickets \$15

Buy tickets online or at the door.

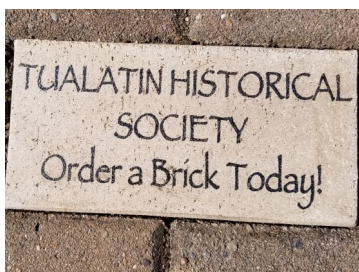
Proceeds benefit Tualatin Historical Society.

503-691-8505 for details.

Buy a Brick/Give a Gift

Why not honor the memory of a departed friend or relative or celebrate an event or special place with a permanent brick installed along the rose path at Tualatin Heritage Center. Bricks are currently \$50 each for a 4” x 8” size or \$250 for an 8” x 8”. The new bricks are extremely durable and lighter in color for better visibility. Original ones deteriorated and are gradually being replaced, and are now being placed in a designated section for easier location. Contact Cindy Frost at 503-885-1926. Bricks are installed in small batches by THS president Ross Baker as orders are received.

Thanks to Cindy, Ross and board member Kristina Wheelock, chair of the Honorary Brick Committee.



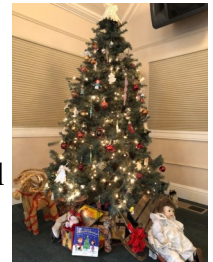
Historian’s Corner

By Sandra Lafky Carlson

Our Heritage Center was transformed for the holidays with traditional ornaments plus an array of vintage children’s toys played with by Arnie, Chris and Ellen Nyberg. From our THS collection was a set of vintage doll houses furniture donated by Nancy Avery. Anyone having items like these you are thinking of donating, please use a form available from Cindy at the Heritage Center and our collections committee will review. We have storage limitations and we cannot accept everything, but we appreciate the offers!

Let me express my appreciation for receiving the Lafky-Martinazzi Award for work on our collections. However, I must acknowledge all the important help Lois Roby has given me in this work. She has maintained a photo catalogue of our collection, and has given recommendations on proper archiving which requires special knowledge. Thank you Lois!!

Many Thanks! To Karin Olson, Diane Swintek, Sandra Carlson, Larry McClure, Cindy Frost and Robert Schiskey for putting up the THC holiday Decorations and Tree. Thanks to Chris Tunstall for loaning us several older toys to put around the tree.



Sakagawea’s Husband: What We Know

Sat. Feb. 15, 1 pm

Idaho historian Garry Bush will introduce us to fur trader Toussaint Charbonneau whose more famous wife Sacajawea played a key role

in the Lewis and Clark Expedition over 200 years ago. The two captains really wanted the 16 year old pregnant Sacajawea to help them trade for horses from her home tribe in today’s Bitterroots but also knew Charbonneau had some understanding of Indian sign language and skills they might need on the journey. Bush, in period clothing, will also share other insights about their son John Baptiste Charbonneau who grew to become a guide in his own right and is buried in eastern Oregon. This free program co-sponsored with the Oregon Chapter, Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.



Barb Stinger shares photo of the Robbins moss rose and Sandra Lafky Carlson a photo of her grandfather Mark Lafky with his patented white iris named for his wife. (photo thanks to Tualatin Life)

Two unique flowers important in local history were recently featured in *Tualatin Life*, a monthly newspaper for our community. One was a moss rose brought over 2000 miles in a covered wagon by Dr. Nathaniel and Nancy Robbins and planted in their Tualatin homestead in 1852. The cutting must have been hardy since its later offshoots grew well, particularly by its fifth-generation caretaker Alton Robbins, a former THS member. Three of these fragrant double pink roses now thrive around the Heritage Center. Barbara Stinger, representing recent Robbins generations, now watches over these bushes at the Center along with modern hybrids donated by the Itel family who grew them along Tualatin-Sherwood Road. The moss rose bushes are typically in full bloom when 4th graders come for Pioneer Days in late May/early June. Students and parents alike are always amazed by the heirloom’s sweet smell and “fuzzy” stems.

The newspaper also featured the Tualatin Manette Iris, a rare white Dutch iris propagated by Mark Lafky off Lower Boones Ferry Road. THS historian Sandra Lafky Carlson recalls helping her grandfather harvest the Dutch iris bulbs in the mid to late 1950’s when she was between 12 and 14. “It was always in July,” Sandra says, “when the field was hot and dusty! We had to crawl along the row and pull them out of the dried stalks, then break them off into a bucket. Grandpa dried them on wood frame screen racks in the cow barn until October. He’d replant some and take some to Portland to sell.”

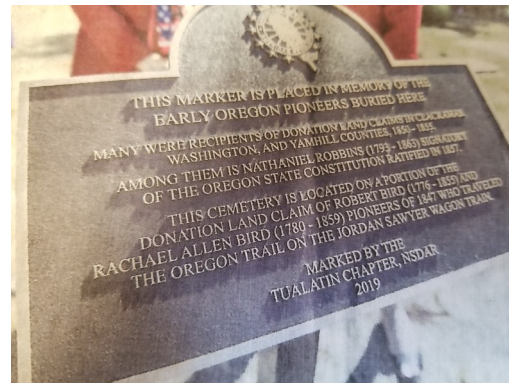
“Harvesting took just 2-3 weeks. There were only a dozen of us. Grandpa was generous and paid by the hour while all the berry farmers paid by the amount you picked. Grandma even made lunch for all the pickers.”

Before propagating the Manette white Iris named for his wife, Mark had been growing pastel colored iris in the 1930s and 40s. One day in rows of purple Dutch iris he spotted a white one and carefully saved those bulbs and thus launched the new white variety to add to his product line. Sandra believes the patent for this discovery was sold to a nursery in Washington state.



The unique Lafky Iris developed in Tualatin

DAR Installs Plaque at Robert Bird Cemetery



The Tualatin Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, recently installed the above special plaque at the Robert Bird Cemetery in western Clackamas County. Joleen Sharp, chair of the chapter’s historic preservation committee, credits Barbara Stinger, Robert Bird Cemetery treasurer (and THS treasurer) and Robbins descendant, for launching the process after their casual conversation about early Willamette Valley pioneers. The result was installation of a bronze plaque with this wording: *This marker is placed in memory of the early Oregon pioneers buried here. Many were recipients of land claims in Clackamas, Washington and Yamhill Counties 1850-1855’s. Among them is Nathaniel Robbins (1793-1863), a signatory of the Oregon State Constitution ratified in 1857. This cemetery is located on a portion of the donation land claim of Robert Bird (1776-1855) and Rachael Allen Bird (1780-1859) who traveled the Oregon Trail on the Jordan Sawyer Wagon Train.* MARKED BY THE TUALATIN CHAPTER, NSDAR 2019

Welcome Recent New Members

Oswego Heritage council
Cathy Schultz
Tom Swearingen



Recognized on a plaque at THC Founders Club— 3 yr. membership

Frank Bubenik and Donna Capodacqua

Robert Kellogg

June Halliday

Allen Song

Steve and Kristin Kunkle

Oswego Heritage Council

Lloyd and Kay Gooding



Heritage Circle—5 yr. membership

Rochelle Martinazzi

Laura and Ross Baker

Norm Parker

Paul Morrison

Larry and Ellie McClure

**Tualatin Historical Society
Membership Form**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

City: _____ State: ____ ZIP: _____

Email: _____

Individual \$25

Household \$40

Founder's Club \$250 (3 years)

Heritage Circle \$500 (5 years)

Mail form and payment to P.O. Box
1055, Tualatin, OR 97062
Make Checks to Tualatin Historical
Society – Visa/MC accepted

Tualatin Ice Age Foundation Begins Fundraising Effort

Dr. Scott Burns, president of the new Tualatin Ice Age Foundation, has announced that an \$8,000 grant will spark fundraising for a future center to interpret the legacies of people, animals and geography researchers being discovered about this ancient period in our history. This first anonymous award will focus on developing a fundraising video to explain the need for a center and why it should be located here.

Scott is geology professor emeritus at PSU. Other officers are Secretary Jerianne Thompson, Tualatin Library director who oversees a collection of Ice Age animal bones housed there; and Treasurer Linda Moholt, CEO of Tualatin Chamber of Commerce. THS is represented on the board by Yvonne Addington who has long advocated for a center recommended by a tourism study THS funded earlier by a grant received from the Washington County Visitors Association. Tualatin emerged on the Ice Age history stage in 1962 when bones from a mastodon were excavated for a science project by PSU student and Tualatin

resident John George. The artifacts are now on display at the library and a tusk and two molars are a permanent exhibit at the Heritage Center. Over time, more such relics have been donated to THS. Plans for a NW State Ice Age Trail are underway at the National Park Service with Tualatin identified as a gateway to the Willamette Valley, once covered by Lake Allison during the Lake Missoula Floods. THS has enjoyed a 9-year partnership with the Lower Columbia Chapter/ Ice Age Floods Institute which co-sponsors programs with THS.

According to Dr. Burns, “The Tualatin area has run out of room for future collections so we will need substantial funding help to implement the interpretive center project in this area of the state”. Donations will qualify for federal and state tax deductions. They can be sent to Tualatin Ice Age Foundation, Tualatin Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 701, Tualatin, Oregon 97062.

Former Coach Remembered

Former Tigard High School teacher and coach Don Sempert died in November at age 93. He was a favorite of Tualatin students who attended that school for several decades. Several THS members remember the time Sempert was teaching/coaching at the old Tualatin Elementary School one day in 1952 when a B-29 bomber crashed south of Tualatin. He and several kids went as close to the site as possible, inspiring some to later become firefighters. This story, among others, is chronicled in a history of the Tualatin Fire Department available for \$10 at the Heritage Center. Former THS president Yvonne Addington edited the volume after many months of reconstructing documents and involving former firefighters in drafting the book. Several generations of Tualatin students attended high school in Tigard until Tualatin opened its own.



Tualatin Farm History Lives On

2019 marked the 150th year that members of the Jurgens/Martinazzi/Lee Farm families have plowed the earth each spring in our local area. It was 1869 when William Jurgens started planting crops on property where today's street bearing that name intersects with Hazelbrook Road in north Tualatin. In 1898, daughter Nettie married Julius Martinazzi who had fields of his own along Martinazzi Street where the United Methodist church is located today. Later on, his son Arthur Martinazzi purchased more of the original Jurgens farm which includes the parcel known as Century Farm today where Rochelle Martinazzi and her family invite families to choose Christmas trees and wreaths.

When sister Loyce Martinazzi married Larry Lee in 1952, the Jurgens heritage plowed on as the Lees started farming land along Borland Road across from today's Meridian Park Hospital. This handy location soon became known in the Portland area as the place to go for strawberries each June..



Today: Cheyenne Way

As urban growth continued, however, farmlands started shrinking and farmers were dodging cars while moving equipment. The main Lee Farms and strawberry fields then moved south on 65th Avenue and added a country store (today managed by Annie Lee-Bartelamia) featuring fresh produce, farm animal petting, hayrides, Halloween pumpkins and now even more kid-oriented entertainment opportunities including Easter Egg Hunts, Berry Festivals plus an August sunflower festival. The Jurgens/Martinazzi/Lee family tradition has even spread further west to Sherwood off Highway 99W where Erika (Lee) Wilcott and husband have developed their own strawberry field and Red Berry Barn Country store. Today there are 6 Lee family members who rely all or in part on successful farming, representing the last local agricultural enterprise despite Tualatin's many decades of history of tilling soil. But coming behind these are several grandchildren, at least one now learning to drive a tractor! And, there are still five Jurgens and Jurgens-related houses still standing in Tualatin.



William Jurgens and 2nd wife Veronica



We Love Cookies

Thanks to Attorney **Robert Kellogg** P.C. for stepping up to be our sponsor for hospitality.

Those wonderful treats that you will have at our THS meetings monthly are provided by his office. Think of Robert for your will/estate and planning needs. Robert is a THS Founders member.



Annual Membership Champagne Lunch Bubbles Over With Success

With the opportunity to enjoy Asian food by Izumi’s Restaurant our members and VIP guests settled in for another successful annual update. The event was well attended by over 50 people and a new seating configuration added to the comfort for the group. A presentation by Ross Baker highlighted the achievements for 2019 including:

- Highlights from our ongoing traditions
- The many free programs that were held throughout the year
- A peek ahead to upcoming programs and events
- A review of the great growth in membership (~18%) during 2019 and a moment of silence for those who passed this year.
- Financial highlights for the organization
- A review of our special relationship with the Ice Age Flood Institute.

In addition to the above, there was a discussion of upcoming expenses that will be beyond the scope of our normal budget, such as new chairs for the center; a 3rd edition printing of our best selling “Tualatin from the Beginning” book; computer and web updates are in our near future. The meeting would not have been complete without our Chairperson Emeritus announcing the winner of this year’s Lafky-Martinazzi award: Sandra Lafky Carlson. Sandra was selected for her tireless—often thankless—work as historian for the Tualatin Historical Society

In addition Ross Baker announced the winner of this year’s President’s Award: Norm Parker has been a regular fixture at our Heritage Center since it was opened 13 years ago. The President’s Award is dedicated to those individuals or organizations who help promote the Society within our community and bring better awareness of our group, its programs and preservation efforts.



Norm Parker receiving President’s award from board president Ross



Izumi Japanese Steakhouse catered our food. Board member Allen Song, owner, pictured with son Anthony.

The meeting also saw the re-election of our current board for a new term in 2020. (Note: with the exception of Norm Parker who steps down after his many years of service.) Those officers and directors will be: Ross Baker (President), Kurt Krause (VP), Sandra Carlson (Historian), Barb Stinger (Treasurer), Cathy Stockwell (Secretary), Art Sasaki, Yvonne Addington, Larry McClure, Allen Song and Kristina Wheelock.



Lafky-Martinazzi award presented to Sandra Carlson by Lloyce Martinazzi



Kurt Krause, board member with Cindy Frost, THC manager.



Barb Stinger, THS Board treasurer

**Heritage Center
Special Event Calendar**



Jan Event Calendar

Knitting and Crochet

Workshops

Fridays, Jan. 3,17 10:00 am-Noon

Fridays, Feb. 7,21 10:00 am-Noon

Fridays, March 20 10:00 am-Noon

Bring a project or start one. All levels welcome.

Feb Event Calendar

Sacagawea's Husband: What We Know

Program sponsored by the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation.

February 15, Saturday 1 pm

Valentine concert duo

February 15, Saturday 7 pm \$15

See pg. 2



With sadness we said farewell recently to these friends and long-time THS Members:

John Bowles, who served as THS president four different years, died just two days short of his 89th birthday. John received a lifetime membership for building scale model replicas of historic Tualatin buildings, including one of the historic Methodist church used as a prop in fundraising for the Heritage Center. It is currently located inside the entrance to the THC. He leaves his wife Margaret and three children still living in the area with their extended families. He immigrated from England and owned a local machine shop.

Jack Brosy was born in 1925 and was an unabashed OSU Beaver fan. He worked as display advertising manager for the Oregon Journal for many years. He is remembered as the Scoutmaster who rebuilt Tualatin Troop 530 in 1962. Indeed, the field below their popular log house he and Gerry lived in by the Tualatin River on Hazelbrook Road was the site of many Scout campouts and family picnics. Besides Gerry, he leaves four children and a large extended family.

Margaret Buswell Fuhrwerk lived many years in the family home at the corner of Boones Ferry and Norwood Road. Her dad ran a service station on Seneca Street and her mother attended the Methodist church and was the granddaughter of George Himes who started Oregon Historical Society. She was 95 and leaves four children and a large extended family.

Bob Newcomb was born in 1926 and counted his years writing for the *Eugene register-Guard* as among the best times of his life. He worked as a journalist for Southern Oregon and Marylhurst colleges as well. He enjoyed participating in THS meetings and Tualatin civic endeavors with his wife Kathy. In addition to Kathy, he leaves three children with their extended families.

Lee Ohanesian founded Suburban Door Company in Tualatin with other members of the Silvey family. Other Silveys earlier started the Silvey Lumber Yard later to become Clark Lumber Co/True Value. Besides his wife Donna, he leaves three children with their extended families.



2019 by the Numbers

- 262 members, up by 39
- 30 members over 90 years of age
- 20+ programs offered to community
- 13th year of successful operation of THC
- 9 years of partnering with Ice Age Floods Institute
- 10,000+ persons through our doors, many more than once
- \$3,000 scholarship awarded
- \$48,889 spent In FY 2019
- \$12,337 rental income in FY 2019
- \$7,100 grant from City of Tualatin in FY 2019
- \$1000 grant from City for arts programs
- And countless hours of volunteer time by **THS members**

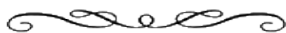
Your 2019 Tualatin Historical Society Board

Executive Board:

President: Ross Baker
Vice-President: Kurt Krause
Secretary: Cathy Stockwell
Treasurer: Barbara Stinger
Historian: Sandra Lafky Carlson

Directors:

Yvonne Addington
Frank Bubenik– ex officio
Allen Song
Larry McClure
Norman Parker
Art Sasaki
Kristina Wheelock



Publisher– Cindy Frost
Editor– Larry McClure
See our current and past newsletters in color and other articles of interest at www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org. and events on Facebook



Whatz It??

What do you think this is?
Email askabouthistory@gmail.com
with your answer.



As we approach the winter season, we may experience inclement weather that could possibly cause the Heritage Center to open later or close.



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. Box 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 month except for June for Pioneer Days.

What a Gift for New Generations!

This year's awardee of the THS scholarship (Ricardo Olquin) was awarded a \$3,000 scholarship.

Your tax deductible donation for this and other special projects of the Society will assure that our mission to preserve, promote and protect Tualatin history moves onward.

