



Tualatin Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2019

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



Save the Date...

**Another (nearby) Mega-Flood: The Bonneville
Thursday, January 17
7:00 pm**

HELD AT THE LIBRARY

About 14,500 years ago, roughly the same time as the Missoula Floods, Ice Age-sized Great Salt Lake overtopped Red Rock Pass creating a megaflood said to be the second largest in the world. Bill Burgel spent 42 years as a railroad geologist studying landforms.

Suggested donation of \$3 per adult. Program co-sponsored by Ice Age Flood Institute Columbia Chapter and the Tualatin Heritage Center. For information, call Sylvia Thompson at 503.257.0144. www.iafi.org/lowercolumbia



Red Rock Pass looking northeast across the spillway of the Bonneville Flood. Photo by Ann Yearsley.

THS First Annual "Memory Harvest"

Bring a special memory of a holiday, event or family tradition with a photo or artifact and we will make copies or record these items for sharing with future generations. They will be added to our growing digital archive preserving Tualatin history .



Join us for this history making program on **Wednesday, January, 1 pm**

Donations accepted

Will Our Lands Always Provide for Us?

Gabe Sheoships, Education Director at Friends of Tryon Creek, leads a discussion about our relationship with nature and how we balance uses of public lands and natural areas. He is a member of the Cayuse and Walla Walla Indian Nation. Program sponsored by Oregon Humanities. The Atfaliti Tribe was pushed from their local homelands in our area when the Grand Ronde Reservation was established.

www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org

**Wednesday
February 6, 1 pm**



Tribute by Matthew Brock, grandson of Edie Torgeson, at the October 19, 2018 Celebration of Life Service

I'd like to talk about some memories of my Grandma Edie as my hero, as a historian, and as a gardener.

Long before she appeared on the big screen, for me Wonder Woman was my Grandma Edie.

When I was very young, that notion came from the feeling of comfort and safety she created for me personally. She gave great hugs, baked great sweets, and put on the best Easter egg hunts. And when it was time to call out stupid or dangerous behavior (as little boys sometimes require), she had a stern but gentle way of doing that. "You knock that off," she'd say, "You'll hurt yourself or someone else."

As I grew up, learned more about her life, and got to observe her during the roughly 40 years we shared together on this planet, I considered her even more of a hero for the way she wanted to extend that same feeling of comfort and safety to everyone else.

As many of you may know, Edie suffered through some tough times in her life - personal crisis, economic crisis, and the crisis of war. Experiencing the death of her mother when she was 19, and giving up her opportunity to go to college in order to take care of her family must have been very frightening and disorienting. And that was after growing up through the Depression, by the way. And as with that whole generation that lived through the War, she must have experienced suffering and trauma from watching the world turn very scary, and from seeing friends go off to fight and die.

There are three basic ways to react to suffering. The first is paralysis. The second is running from suffering at all costs - often causing more suffering for oneself and others in the process. The third is the path of empathy - connecting one's own suffering to that of others, and working to ease suffering. Edie was my hero because she chose the third path, and took responsibility to spread kindness, Through her activities with her church; taking advantage of her own good health to visit friends suffering from loneliness or illness to bring them food and love throughout her life; supporting the civil rights movement; marching for peace...Edie gave her extra time and money to causes that she thought would make the world safer and kinder for other people. As many of you know, Edie was a keen historian, and was involved with local historical organizations like the Tualatin Historical Society and Aurora Colony Museum. She had a knack for

making history come alive, and making it clear that history is not just an abstract thing in books, it is the story of how we got where we are as a product of choices made by real people. As a kid I got to spend a lot of time with her riding around in cars in the greater Portland area. A fun game we used to play was "Grandma, What Used To Be Here?" I'd point out places as we drove by - malls, new housing divisions - usually she had a story about the farm under that concrete, or the family that used to live there. Often she had stories of visiting that place as a child or young adult.

Another fun game was to give her the last name of friends that I'd made in school or Scouts. Most of the time she not only recognized the name, but she could trace them back to their family's farm or Donation Land Claim plat. She was usually familiar with their family histories, too, and knew their grandparents or great aunts and uncles. "Check with your friend, see if I'm right." Usually she was right. Her historian's skill of making the world come alive also helped me understand how current events are just future history being made by living people's choices. And her perspective and historian's mind were not limited to the local. I got to spend a lot of time driving around with my Grandma when she picked me up from school and ferried me to after school activities. We listened to NPR most of the time. In the early 90s when I was in Junior High, one thing that was on the news a lot was Yugoslavia's descent into civil war. She got so sad and angry when those stories came on - sad for the senseless loss of civilian life, and angry at the leaders who caused it. "Count your blessings," she said, "we could have born into that life."

During the next school year, I started to make acquaintance with recently arrived Croatian and Bosnian refugee kids who had fled that same conflict. When I told Edie about these new friends she replied "See? Those bombs didn't fall so far away." Edie as the historian helped me understand there is no such thing as superheroes. Heroes don't come from magical islands, or fall from the sky. There are just people making decisions to help or to hurt, and the balance of history is determined by those choices. We will all face challenges in our lives, and our world can be frightening just like Edie's. We can choose to help, or to hurt. And when your heroes leave, you have a choice about that, too: let them turn into abstractions, or honor their memory through action.

Grandma, if you can hear me, I just want you to know: We were watching, and listening, and learning the lessons you had for us. I know you felt like you had to carry everything, but we will be okay. Just like that garden you tended for nearly 30 years, your lessons will continue to blossom within us.

Archival Updates by Sandra Carlson— THS Historian

This hand-stitched ledger book (below) owned by John Sweek, was recently donated to the Tualatin Historical Society by Sweek's great-great-granddaughter Teresa Stone. The ledger, or account book, was kept by Sweek, documented his sales to Idaho miners in the mid-1860's.

The Sweek's were one of Tualatin's most prominent early homesteaders, coming out on the Oregon Trail in 1862. John helped build the first school here, and platted the early town. His wife Maria arranged the building of their large house, which still stands in Tualatin.

John freighted goods for 6 years to miners in Idaho. Some of the items listed in the ledger include food staples, clothing, tobacco, whiskey, castor oil, quicksilver, and "tooth drops". The ledger is currently on display at the Tualatin Heritage Center.



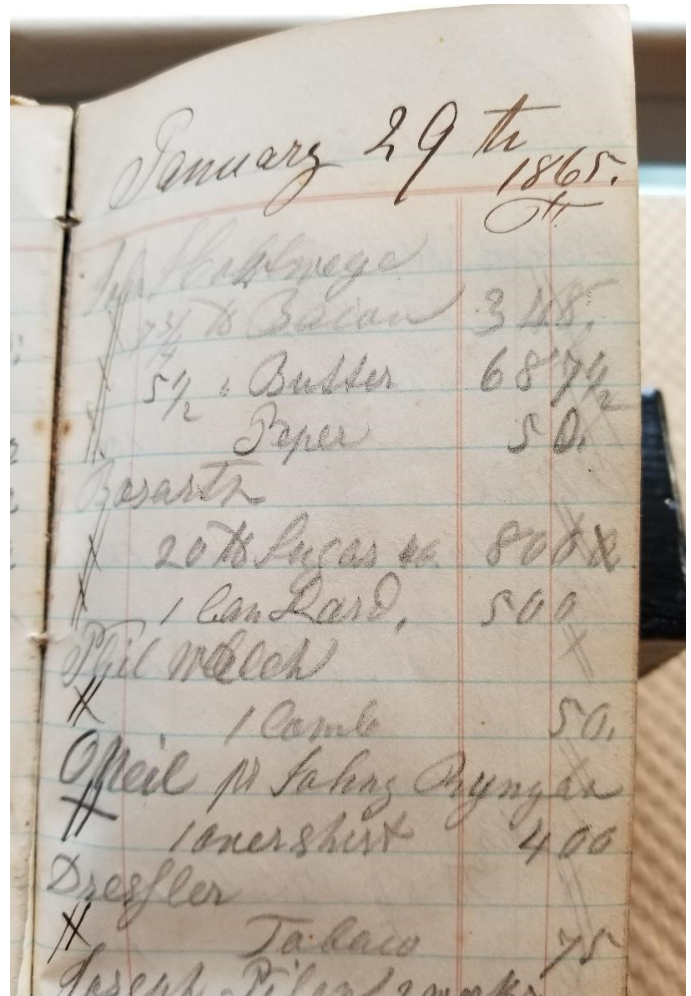
Columbia George Geology and the Ice Age Floods

March 21, 2019 Thursday, 7 pm

Lloyd DeKay is a marine geologist and sedimentologist for over 30 years who will talk about the beauty from massive outpourings of lava, floods of iceberg-laden muddy waters, crushing masses of volcanic debris and cataclysmic mountain building



1 page from John Sweek's Ledger, Jan 29, 1865



Welcome New Members



- Wendell Weckert
- Mark Browne
- Lisa Thorpe
- Rebecca Lockwood
- Mike Hannegan
- Kathleen Silloway
- Bob Hughes
- Nancy Dunis

Who do you know that can be a member? Why not invite them?

Memberships start at \$25

New Levels in 2018
Recognized on a plaque at THC

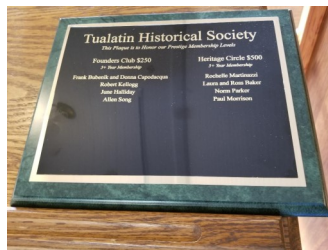
Founders Club— 3 yr. membership \$250

- Frank Bubenik and Donna Capodacqua
- Robert Kellogg
- June Halliday
- Allen Song—NEW



Heritage Circle-5 yr.
Membership \$500

- 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

Support Your Local Raptors: How to Identify Birds of Prey

Oregon Master Naturalist Marilyn Ellis will invite you to touch a talon, wave a wing, experience the silent flight of owls! In this fun and informative presentation you will identify the "Who's Hoo" of raptors in Willamette Valley forests.



Join us on for this interesting program on

Thursday, February 21 at 7 PM.

Suggested donation of \$3 per adult. Program co-sponsored by Ice Age Flood Institute Columbia Chapter and the Tualatin Historical Society. For information, call Sylvia Thompson at 503.257.0144. www.iafi.org/lowercolumbia.org

THS Annual Meeting....a great success.

Our current slate of officers was re-elected for another term in 2019 by the membership: Ross Baker, President; Kurt Krause, Vice President; Sandra Carlson, Historian; Barb Stinger, Treasurer; Cathy Stockwell, Secretary; and our directors Yvonne Addington, Frank Bubenik, Loyce Martinazzi, Larry McClure, Norman Parker and Art Saski. This year we experimented with a new format having a champagne lunch rather than our traditional potluck. It was well received by the membership and should become something to look forward to in the years to come. The membership voted between options for 2019 events to better involve our community. You decided we should strive to have a city-wide history celebration. The details of this are yet to be determined but THS will reach out to like-minded organizations such as the Grange; VFW, Winona Cemetery, Tualatin River Keepers, the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, etc. Any group interested in celebrating our community, its history and traditions will be invited to help us target a day—likely in the fall—where our citizens can come together at many venues across town to learn more about Tualatin’s colorful past, present and future .

By Ross Baker

Loyce Martinazzi presenting award to Karin Olson



Board Members before 2018 annual meeting, featuring food by Luganos Café and Coffee



Larry McClure at one of 2 food tables.

Ross Hoover, new community services director, and Julie Ludemann, liaison to THS



Photos by Photographer Al Stewart

Thank you Al !!!!!



New Hospitality Team



Thank you to *Eleanore Mickus and Margie Jones* for coordinating treats, making coffee and getting raffle gifts for our 2019 TSH meetings. They will be reaching out to you.

And special thanks to *Gerry Brosy* for sending Cards!

Thank you to **Bob Hughes** for all his computer help through the years and **WELCOME Matt Kleinke...** Who is taking on this important volunteer role.



September Auction results: \$7,667. Thanks to all who supported and worked so hard to make this happen.

We thank the family of Shirley Koch Disch who continued to remember Tualatin Historical Society with another generous gift in 2018. You will see this recognition posted on the Society's website which continues to be expanded and updated as our primary community electronic repository. The Koch family farmed large acreage along Tualatin/ Sherwood Road for decades.



TUALATIN LIFE

(monthly newspaper)

For months now, Michael Antonelli and his Tualatin Life team have carved out space for the Tualatin Historical Society and you to have a little fun in our local paper. Look for the golden box in each issue where you can answer the current month's history trivia question. Submit your answer to askabouthistory@gmail.com. A winner is selected each month from the correct answers and gets a free annual membership. Thanks Michael!



Again, in 2018 the THS donated non-perishable food items and T.P., deodorant and toothpaste to the Tualatin School House Pantry. Canned fruit, soup, mac and cheese, and chili continue to be needed year round.

As of Dec. 6, we filled the barrel once and our goal is to fill it 3x in 2019.



A big Thank you to Karin Olson and Diane Swientek for putting up the Christmas tree and ornaments. And thank you to Larry McClure and Norm Parker who got the items from storage. Thanks to Sandra Carlson for the antique ornament display and to Ross, Art and others who helped. It looked beautiful.

Heritage Center January Event Calendar



First Annual Memory Harvest Wednesday, January 2, 1:00 pm

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

Knitting and Crochet Workshop Fridays, Jan. 4, 18 10:00 am-Noon

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

Thursday, January 17, 7:00 pm HELD AT THE LIBRARY

See page 1 for details.
For information, call 503.257.0144.

Feburary Event Calendar

Knitting and Crochet Workshop Fridays. February 1, 15 10:00 am-Noon

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



Will Our Lands Always Provide for Us? February 6, 1 pm

See page 1 for details. Tualatin Historical Society.
For information, call 503.885.1926.



Support Your Local Raptors Thursday, February 21, 7:00 pm

See page 4 for details.
For information, call 503.257.0144.

Everybody Loves Cookies.

A big thanks goes to Gerry Brosey, Cindy Frost and Larry McClure for providing treats for the THS monthly programs in Sept., Oct, & Dec. They were delicious?



March Event Calendar

Knitting and Crochet Workshop Fridays, March 15, 29 10:00 am-Noon

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



Wednesday, March 6 1:00 pm

Tualatin's "Pet Whisperer"

Shares Memories

Dr. Lynn Bertleson, Tualatin's "go to" veterinarian for several decades, will share stories from his many years doctoring family members of the non-human kind in our area. He still practices with a partner at the historic Wesch House across from the police station. Donations welcome.



Heritage Center Closures

The Tualatin Heritage Center
will be closed to observe Martin
Luther King Jr. day.

On Jan. 21, and February 18,
for Presidents Day!



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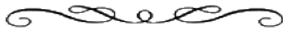
Your 2019 Tualatin Historical Society Board

Executive Board:

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

Directors:

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



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

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



Antique Ornament Display



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 except for July and November.

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