



# Tualatin Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2019

*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

### Geology for the Homeowner Thursday, July 18, 7:00 pm Tualatin Heritage Center



We are all too well aware from the news how natural disasters can affect our lives. Come hear geology professor Sheila Alfsen describe's

how to recognize and avoid some pitfalls when purchasing a home or how to protect the home you already have.

## July Means Picnic

The annual THS summer picnic returns to the historic Tualatin Community Park on **Wednesday, July 3 at 5 pm.**



Bring a dish to share. Plates, utensils, lemonade provided. **BYOB.** Open to members and visitors alike.

This popular potluck replaces the usual Historical Society monthly Wednesday meeting at 1:00 pm. For information or to volunteer to help set-up, please call Cindy at 503.885.1926.

## “Erratic Boulders – Ice Age Legacy” HELD AT LIBRARY Thursday, September 19 7:00 pm

Erratic boulders are rocks that are out of place since there is no local source for them.

Rick Thompson will discuss Ice Age erratic rocks and how in northwest Oregon they helped solve the mystery of the Lake Missoula Floods. He will also show photos of erratics world-wide, explain how to recognize them, as well as describe the human interactions with them and the ongoing hunt for iceberg erratics.

Program co-sponsored by Ice Age Floods Institute Columbia Chapter and the Tualatin Historical Society. For information, call Sylvia Thompson at 503.257.0144.

## Willamette Falls Heritage Area

Siobhan Taylor provides an update on the Willamette Falls Heritage Area. **Wednesday, August 7 at 1:00 pm.** Tualatin is closely linked to history of the West Linn/Oregon City Falls area where local tribes, river traffic and later industries once thrived.

Siobhan manages the Willamette Falls Heritage Coalition and will review restoration and federal recognition projects underway.

This monthly program is sponsored by Tualatin Historical Society.



# Historian's Corner

## By Sandra Lafky Carlson

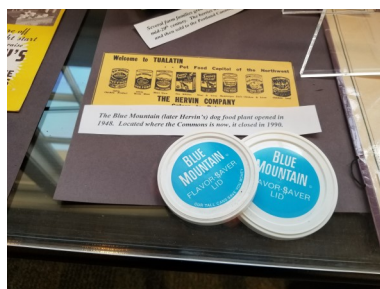
In the Heritage Center we now have 2 cases of temporary displays featuring mementos from past businesses in Tualatin.



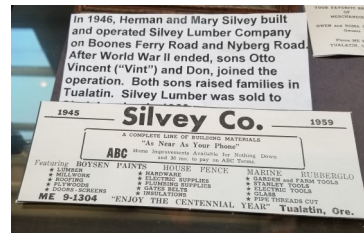
This case contains vintage cobbler tools donated by Harold and Lillian Brink. The vintage barber tools were used by Asa Mack who had a barbering business in Tualatin in the early 1900's. Donated by Marge Larsen.



**Rich's Kitchen Menu**  
For good food and live music Rich's Kitchen was the place to be in the 1980's and 1990's. Originally Robinson's brick store built in 1912, today it is the home of Mashita Teriyaki and Tualatin VFW.



A Tualatin icon for decades, the **Blue Mountain Dog Food Co.** (1948-1990) had a big plant downtown where the Century Hotel is today. The last can produced at the plant is on display and was donated by Loyce Martinazzi. The lids were donated by Don Scheller.



**Silvey Lumber Co.** started in 1940 on Boones Ferry Rd and then became Clark Lumber Co. The original office and store is now Gyros to Go restaurant.



**Mae's Pioneer Café** 1970's. This was one of 2 restaurants in the early 1970's in Tualatin.

### Double-Bit Axe Head Found

This rusty double-bit axe head was found recently on the bank of the Tualatin River by John Kernan. He also found a square nail and two large staples nearby. He donated all to the Tualatin Historical Society.

Double-bit axes have been used throughout history, both as a tool and as a weapon. They were used by forest workers in North America from 1860 to the 1950's, till the chainsaw took over. Each of the two axe edges could be ground differently, either finer or at a slant. The fine edge was used more for splitting or felling a tree, and the rougher edge for removing bark or limbs. So forest workers only needed to carry one axe!

Today the double-bit axe is not routinely used in forestry. Instead, it is used for the fun of axe-throwing at a target. Sweden and Norway organize axe-throwing competitions.



### Welcome New Members

*Who do you know who might be interested in THS? Why not invite them? Memberships start at \$25*

*Joan Beyer*

*Randy Beyer*

*Mike Miller*

*Joel Augee*

*Heidi Augee*

*Penny Huelat*

*Shelley Henderson*



### Special Recogniton:

**Founders Club**– 3 yr. membership  
\$250

Frank Bubenik and Donna Capodacqua

Robert Kellogg

June Halliday

Allen Song

Steve and Kristina Kunkle

**Heritage Circle**-5 yr. Membership  
\$500

Rochelle Martinazzi

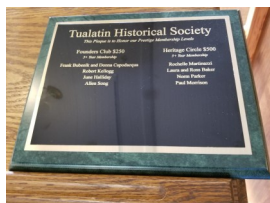
Laura and Ross Baker

Norm Parker

Paul Morrison

Larry and Ellie McClure

These members are recognized on a plaque in the THC Lobby.



*Answer to whatzit. Chicken Catcher*

### Scholarship News



The scholarship committee selected 2019 Tualatin graduating senior Ricardo Olquin Galenana to receive this year's \$3,000 award.

Christine Tunstall presented the certificate of award at the Tualatin High School Senior Awards night, on June 5. Ricardo will be attending Oregon State University majoring in mechanical engineering.

A big thank you goes out to our Scholarship Committee members Norm Parker, Kay Gooding, Gerry Brosy, Rochelle Martinazzi, Diane Swientek and Christine Tunstall and all the donors who make this possible.

### Ricardo Galenana’s Essay

“A people without the knowledge of their past history, culture, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.” This was said by Marcus Garvey, a professor and political activist from the University of London in the mid 20th century. Decades later, the meaning of these words is as relevant as ever. I still remember visiting the THC in 4th grade and discovering the hardships and trials the people that traveled the Oregon Trail went through looking for a better life. I was especially fascinated with churning butter, enjoyed making soap and was surprised at how hard it was to wash clothes on a washboard. Reflecting on the field trip, as a kid I was more excited about being on a field trip than on the message. However, I realize that I learned more than I knew at the time. I believe that not just knowing and learning the past is so important but actually comprehending it is even more important. Without this knowledge of those hardships and trials, they would be forgotten. I believe that it is not fair to all those people that made it possible for me to live and be where I am today. Understanding our past helps us appreciate the life we have. It also helps us plan for our future by avoiding past mistakes.”

## How Does Your Garden Grow?

By Loyce Martinazzi

### One for the pheasant, one for the crow; One to rot and one to grow!...

(An old adage about gardening.)

But what about:

The slugs, the bugs, the moles and the voles?

Gardening season is in full swing, and several churches in Tualatin now sponsor community gardens. Chad Darby's Neighbors Nourishing Community grows produce for the needy at several business locations. The bounty from these gardens that utilize unused space is such a blessing, both for the growers, as well as those that consume the fresh produce. Where once pesticides were used to boost harvests, organic gardening is becoming more prevalent.

I often wonder what those early Oregon Trail pioneers fed their families when they reached the Oregon country. In 1852 William and Melvina Robbins\* hitched up their oxen, packed up their children and what belongings they could fit in the covered wagon and joined the famous Robbins wagon train heading for the Willamette Valley. Melvina brought along vegetable seeds to their Tualatin homestead. In a letter he wrote back home the following year, William told about the harrowing trip:

“We are having a hard time of it, but if I can once get to raising something to spare I think the scale will turn. There is a great many who are much dissatisfied, and complain because they have to pay so high for provisions, which is the very thing that brought them here. Melvina and the children have cleaned off two garden spots, and have a fine crop of vegetables growing, such as potatoes, onions, cabbages, turnips, corn, peas, beans, squashes, carrots, beets, pepper and vegetable oysters.” (salsify)

During both the first and second world wars, the government encouraged families to plant vegetable gardens, both to ease food shortages and to boost morale. People at home felt they were helping with the war effort if they grew the food they ate. I can remember summer meals at our house: mom would cook potatoes either baked, boiled in their jackets, or fried, corn on the cob with real butter, sliced tomatoes, cucumber and onion salad and tender green beans with bacon and onion.

To cook the beans she would first chop the bacon, sauté it till crisp with chopped onions, then stir in the beans. Then she would add some water and simmer the whole mess till the beans were very tender. How utterly delicious. The resulting pot liquor was so good we would spoon it into a bowl and drink it! Dessert would be fresh gravenstein applesauce or sometimes a fruit pie, made with whatever tree fruit was in season. On Sundays mom would roast beef, ham or chicken and use the remainder to flavor her dishes all week. She was a great cook, using all the produce we grew in our garden, and I learned to love to cook just eating her meals. It was mom's job to fuel the engines that did the farm work: dad and we five sisters.

The exceptional heat this summer promises a good tomato crop, but when the summers are cool and rainy, tomatoes don't ripen well. So what do you do in the year of the green tomato? Why, relish it, of course.



\*William and Melvina's donation land claim was bordered on the east by 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue, south along Robbins Road, north and west to make up 320 acres.

\*William Robbins' entire letter can be read in the Tualatin Historical Society booklet “Life in a New Untamed Land” The booklet, which can be purchased at the Tualatin Heritage Center also contains excerpts from Henry Hayes and Maria Sweek's diaries, and a memoir from Nancy Robbins Ball.



(This article originally printed in Tualatin Life newspaper)

# 13th Annual Pioneer Days

By Chris Nyberg Tunstall  
June 5-7, 2019

Our 13th Pioneer Adventure for 284 Tualatin 4th graders went off with only minor challenges. It was so great that there were enough volunteers with over 40 THS members, retired teachers, a city councilman, and this year two home schoolers assisting. Rich Mueller brought our new Parks Director, Ross Hoover to witness the event.

Larry McClure managed the biggest group of garden volunteers on Thursday with a staff of only men, very impressive! Since Jackie Konen has joined us, we have an expanding herb garden. Potatoes, onions, beans starts and seeds are now growing in the soil prepared by Karin Olson and Margie Torgeson. We had several volunteers who threaded needles for button sewing and quilting, especially Pam Rossio and Mary Fay. We often forget to acknowledge Tote 'n Stow who has provided THS with two storage units. But this year, the manager Dan, and his son and daughter stepped up to help us set up and break down each day. The children stayed and helped all three days and participated in every station. What an education for them! We have asked them to continue to care for and harvest the garden this summer. Dan is also the pastor for the Old Paths Bible Church that meets at THC Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.



The teacher volunteers make all the difference, with years of experience working with children. A day outdoors providing hands on pioneer experience is easy for them.

Many longtime residents of Tualatin chipped in to give authenticity to the events. Al Stewart captured the days' events on film. We could not provide the schoolroom and artifacts station without the rich assortment of primitive furniture provided by Rebecca Pratt and Richard Hall. They set it all up the same year after year, and we are in great debt and appreciation of them. New Seasons Market and the City of



Tualatin provided the tents which protected everyone from the sun and a brief thunder shower. New Seasons also paid three employees while they volunteered. Cindy was called

away but enlisted Bonnie Bridges of Meadows Executive Office Suites. She prepared and cleared the luncheon for the volunteers while the children walked to the park for their picnic lunch.

Volunteers are too numerous to name here but many showed up for 4 days to set up for the 3 day event. Thanks to our THS board and staff: Ross, Larry, Barbara, Sandra, and Cindy.

**Editors note:**

**Thanks to Chris N. Tunstall who is instrumental in making Pioneer Days happen annually.**



Christine Tunstall with buffalo pie and Rebecca Pratt with whip setting up artifacts table.

**¡Viva Tualatin! - A Celebration of Arts and Culture**

The City of Tualatin is staging a new community-wide event **Saturday, September 14** at Community Park to celebrate the rich cultural heritage that make our area unique. The one-day free gathering will focus this year on our growing Latino heritage now approaching 20%. Featured will be foods, music, dancing, art, games and strolling entertainers appealing to all ages. Admission is free. Tualatin Historical Society will have a significant outreach effort at the event. Volunteers coordinated by THS President Ross Baker will invite non-native attendees to record memories of their personal journey to our community in a quiet setting (travel trailer) on park grounds. We will need THS members to help staff a welcome table and display THS items for sale at the heritage center. Tualatin City Councilor Maria Reyes, whose own birthplace was Honduras, is assisting in planning this oral history outreach project. Ross asks if you know someone who hails from another country and would like to tell their story, email him at [askabouthistory@gmail.com](mailto:askabouthistory@gmail.com)



**SAVE THE  
DATE!**

**DATE: FRIDAY,  
9/13/19**

**TIME: 6:00-  
9:00 PM**



**Where:**

**Tualatin Heritage Center  
8700 SW Sweek Drive  
Tualatin, OR 97062**

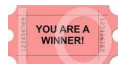


## **You are invited to attend our 11th annual Tualatin heritage evening with wine, food and silent auction**

Help us continue the Society's mission "to preserve, promote, and interpret the rich and colorful history of Tualatin" at our only fundraiser of the year!

### **ENJOY**

- ◆ Fabulous Northwest wines
- ◆ Local beer & non-alcoholic beverages
- ◆ Food by Dalton's Catering
- ◆ Mystery Wine Pull, valuable bottles -\$25
- ◆ Raffle drawing for 3 cash prizes: \$500, \$250, \$100
- ◆ Premium silent auction items
- ◆ *And NEW CASH ONLY* table
- ◆ Meet Tualatin historical figures



*You can help us by:*

- \* **Donating gift cards, wine, overnight stays, services, adventures, sporting events, gift certificates, such as spa days and restaurants**
- \* **Purchasing \$10 raffle tickets**
- \* **Attending & bringing friends**

**Friday September 13, 6-9 pm**



Tickets available NOW for only \$35. They may be purchased in person, by calling Cindy (503.885.1926) 10-2 pm, M-F, or email [Cindy.thc@yahoo.com](mailto:Cindy.thc@yahoo.com). Visa/MC accepted.

[www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org)

### Heritage Center July Event Calendar



**THS Annual Picnic at Tualatin Community Park**

**Wednesday, July 3, 5:00 pm**

See page 1 for details.

**Knitting and Crochet Workshop**  
**Fridays, July 5, 19 10:00 am-Noon**

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

**Ice Age Evening Program**  
**Thursday, July 18, 7:00 pm**

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

### August Event Calendar

**THS Monthly Program**  
**Wednesday, August 7 1:00 pm**

See page 1 for details. Monthly program sponsored by the Tualatin Historical Society. For information, call 503.885.1926.

**Knitting and Crochet Workshop**  
**Fridays, August 2, 30 10:00 am-Noon**

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

**Monthly Ice Age Program**

There is no meeting or program in August.



### Everybody Luv's Cookies!



A big thanks goes to Diane Barry, Ellie McClure, Sandra Carlson, Marjie Jones, and Wally Weaker for providing treats and to Ross Baker,

Diane Barry and Joan Beyer for bringing raffle prizes for the THS monthly programs in April, May and June 2019.

THANK YOU Eleanore Mickus and Marjie Jones for coordinating our THS hospitality committee. They will be calling you!

### September Event Calendar

**THS Monthly Program**  
**Wednesday, September 4, 1:00 pm**

See page 7 for details. Monthly program sponsored by the Tualatin Historical Society.

**Knitting and Crochet Workshop**  
**Fridays, September 6, 20 10:00 am-Noon**

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

**THS 11th Annual Tualatin Heritage Evening with Wine, Food, Fundraiser. See page 6.**

**Friday, September 13**  
**6:00-9 pm**

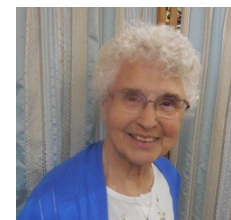


Join us for an evening of fun! Enjoy delicious wines from the northwest, scrumptious food while helping to raise money for THS. For tickets and information, contact Cindy at 503.885.1926 or email [cindy.thc@yahoo.com](mailto:cindy.thc@yahoo.com)

**Ice Age Evening Program**  
**September 19, 7:00 pm**

See page 1 for details.  
HELD AT LIBRARY

Judy Goldman



### The Life and Times of Joe Meek

Judy Gates Goldmann, great-granddaughter of the famous mountain man and Oregon pioneer Joe Meek, will speak at **1 p.m. Wednesday September 4 at the Tualatin Heritage Center.**

Meek's fame grew largely from his exploits as a mountain man. Meek married three times, always to native women. With his first wife, he had at least one child, whom they placed with a family so she could be educated. His second wife, from the Nez Perce Tribe, left him after a short time, according to Goldmann, because she didn't want to be partnered with a white man.

In 1840, more than 30 years before settlers moved to the Helvetia area, Meek and three other mountain men settled on flat, open land. Meek and his third wife, also a Nez Perce Indian, called Virginia after his birthplace in Washington County, Va., took up subsistence farming. Although there are conflicting stories, there's even evidence that Meek had a hand in naming Washington County, again after his birthplace in Virginia.

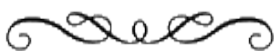
**Your 2019 Tualatin Historical Society Board**

**Executive Board:**

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

**Directors:**

Art Sasaki  
Yvonne Addington  
Allen Song  
Larry McClure, THC Director  
Norman Parker  
Kristina Wheelock



Publisher - Cindy Frost  
Editor- Larry McClure  
See our current and past newsletters in color and other articles of interest at

**WHATSIT?  
Do you know what this is?**



**Read newsletter carefully to find the answer**



**The Tualatin Heritage Center will be closed to observe Independence Day on Thursday, July 4. Have a safe and happy holiday!**

**We are closed September 2, 2019 for Labor Day**

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**



**Did you order your replacement or new brick yet? Call Cindy 503-885-1926. Visa/MC accepted. Still \$50 for a limited time.**

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.