



Tualatin Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2021

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



Virtual ...Evening Programs

Ready or Not: Cascadia Preparedness

Thursday, July 15, 7:00 pm

We know that someday Oregon will have a large damaging earthquake, either from the Cascadia Subduction Zone or a crustal fault near Portland.

Dr. Althea Rizzo, Geological hazards Program Coordinator will present the current state of preparedness.



Traveling the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail

Thursday, September 16 7:00 pm

Join author and photographer, Rick Thompson, as he gives a photographic tour of major features along our newest national park, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail, which includes Tualatin.

Programs co-sponsored by Ice Age Flood Institute Columbia Chapter and the Tualatin Heritage Center. For information, call Sylvia Thompson at 503.257.0144. For Zoom link, go to www.iafi.org

Annual Picnic July 7, Wednesday 4:30-7 pm



Meet and celebrate this year at the Tualatin Community Park at the main picnic area for a fun food truck picnic experience with live music.

This year we are having Altengartz Food Truck serving.

They offer homemade German sausage, German potato salad and apple strudel as well as vegetarian, gluten free options and hamburgers. Just select your food, pay and partake. No alcohol please. You don't have to bring a thing. Come hear accordion player Don Noel play German folk songs, polkas and Oktoberfest music. The menu is on our website, www.tualatinhistory.org, under events.



Tualatin's Firetrucks: From the 40's until Today.

Saturday, August 7, 2021 11-2 pm

Be sure to bring your kids to this family event. On Saturday, August 7 from 11-2 at the Heritage Center you can see how 70 years has changed the face of firefighting. Join us in celebrating this piece of history along with the fantastic folks from TVF&R. Snacks and gifts for children. Everyone is welcome for this outdoors event. Free. Donations Accepted



Brian Clopton and 1950' firetruck now restored

Tualatin Historical Annual Fundraiser Event

TBA

We are waiting to see how COVID regulations shift and will announce at a later date.

Who is in Your Past??

By THC Manager Cindy Frost

Stan Schmokel recently brought in several pictures, a journal, scrapbooks and other information for historian Sandra Carlson, Loyce Matinazzi and Cindy Frost to learn about his colorful ancestor.



The Schmokels are from the Tualatin area and once farmed here.

Benson Robert Henry was born in Kentucky and lived in Harrison County. He grew up in Kentucky. He was part of the Confederate Army in the Civil War. In Virginia in 1740 his family had 10+ slaves. But because he was not the oldest son, he did not inherit the plantation.

After gathering investors he went to New York then to England, then to Fiji to start a sugar cane plantation. He dealt with the king of Fiji.

That is where he met Ada Lilian Smith (age 15) and they married June 9, 1874. He was 39 at the time and was classified as a bachelor while she was classified as a spinster in the original records. (in the 1800's spinster was a term applied to unmarried women of any age, not referring to an old maid as it does now.) They had 3 children.



B.R. Henry 1873 Fiji

He was a creative person who wrote spicy and exaggerated stories for the Atlanta Constitution (Atlanta, GA) newspaper, and sold those. Many included cannibalism stories from Fiji. Then when he was visiting California the British nationalized Fiji and he lost the plantation and fought 20 years to no avail.

He went to Hawaii and also wrote articles for the Hawaiian Isles in 1894-5. He was a “flim flam” man per Stan (he would talk investors into funding his travels and schemes). But as a man of many talents, he became a traveling preacher who also performed marriages!

His daughter Hester Lilian 1877-1935 married Charles Schmokel and they had Mike (Melvin Henry Schmokel (1912-2004.) B.R. and his brother John Henry co-owned a farm close to Avery Road with a huge greenhouse where they raised produce to sell in Portland. John did most of the farm work, while B.R. became very involved in the community. His 3 grandchildren Irene, Millard and Melvin (Mike) Schmokel, all grew up in Tualatin. Melvin was Stan Schmokel’s father.



B.R. Henry, with grandchildren, Willard and Irene Schmokel.

B.R. Henry had traveled much of the world in his lifetime but spent his last years as a respected Tualatin citizen. He was a Trustee of the first Tualatin church (Congregational Church) built in 1893 and was elected the first Master of the Winona Grange in 1895. Stan’s great grandfather, Benson Robert Henry (BR) June 1837-1910, is buried in the Winona Cemetery here in Tualatin.

Tualatin's Interurban Rail Service

Today's WES rail service to Beaverton Transit Center and Wilsonville may be newer but it only runs during commuter hours and required a heavy investment by Metro (Some 100 years ago as many as 52 daily trains carried passengers north to Portland and south to Eugene or to Yamhill County according to our March program speaker John Brosy. And the major reason was muddy roads that made travel slow. In the early 1900s electricity was coming of age at PGE's powerhouse in Oregon City. But by the 1930s, overhead electric lines were gone as automobiles were preferred for passenger traffic and highways were being built. John remembers a one-time commemorative train ride with his family from Tualatin to attend the Scandinavian Festival in Junction City in summer 1965 or 1966.



Golfers from Portland used the train to reach Tualatin Country Club. Founded by Jewish business owners who owned downtime companies like Meier & Frank and John Helmer, many of those families would board trains for a weekend at the only destination resort welcoming them. The Oregon Electric station was not far south from today's WES platform. Fares for the Oregon Electric were 1 cent a mile to and from the suburbs of Portland! A concrete power relay station in Tonquin still stands today for trains heading south. Both rail lines still carry freight today, but with no stops in Tualatin following the closure of Herwin Company (Blue Mountain Dog Food) which had a siding for loading and unloading into the late 1970s.

John grew up with his four siblings near the Tualatin River on Hazelbrook Road. Mother Gerry now lives in King City. His sister Janet still lives in the old family log home. John promises to share more interesting facts and stories about old Tualatin in the future.

2021 Jack Broome scholarship winner selected



2021 marks our 11th year recognizing high-achieving graduates. One student is selected from multiple entries. To date we have given a total of \$29,000 to deserving students.

The scholarship committee selected Tualatin graduating senior Alexei Burgos-Davila as this year's winner for the \$3,000 award. Chris Tunstall Nyberg will be presenting the certificate of award virtually. Alexei will be attending OSU in Electrical & Computer Engineering



Tualatin HS graduates again received their diplomas outside, as their families drove by

Excerpt from his essay:

My most important takeaway from this class is seeing how authoritarian dictators rose to power. especially in today's divided political climate, it is essential to know the vulnerability of democracy, and the ways to preserve it by looking at history. For example through history, we can study the tactics and strategies used by previous authoritarian dictators to consolidate their power. We then can apply this information today by teaching others. The study of history allows us to learn about our ancestor's actions and previous mistakes. By studying our society's previous atrocities and failures we can avoid repeating the past and work towards a better future.

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

Please contact Cindy at 503-885-1926 to make your tax deductible donation today!

Welcome New Members

Mike Full
Joanie Livermore
Bruce Coleman
Augustine Coleman
Matthew Peckinpah



Recognized on a plaque at THC

Founders Club— 3 yr. membership \$250

Frank Bubenik and
Donna Capodacqua
Robert Kellogg
Allen Song
Steve and Kristin Kunkle
Kay and Lloyd Gooding
Oswego Heritage Council
Scott Burns
Gay Paschoal
Art Sasaki
Laura Spurrell
Julie Spaniel and Adam Tarr

Heritage Circle-5 yr. membership \$500

Rochelle Martinazzi
Laura and Ross Baker
Norm Parker
Paul and Cindy Morrison
Larry and Ellie McClure
David and Diana Emami
Virgil and Jo Remillard



Patron Level Members

Our newest level, Patron level members \$100, were inadvertently left out in our 2021 membership directory.

We are sorry about the omission and want to especially recognize this very important group of 2021 members.

David & Jean Avison

Paul Brosy

Mark Browne

Barry Buchanan & Debra Meisinger

June Halliday

Mike Hannegan

Dennis & Gail Johnson

Kurt Krause

John & Rosi Nyberg

Coleen O'Callaghan

Joyce Sasaki Olsen

Frances Wager Perry

Jan Pennington Peterson

Greg Rickert



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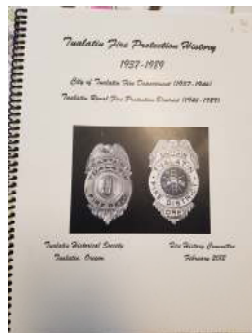


Brian Clopton

Brian Clopton, owner of Clopton Excavating, grew up in the Tualatin area and has volunteered his service and company equipment to assist Tualatin Valley area communities for many years.

As recently as May of this year, he donated time, staff and equipment to save and move a 1 ton Ice Age Floods erratic rock, found on a Lake Oswego school grounds, to the Tualatin Heritage Center. (the now famous Rhyolite)

It is called an erratic, because it wasn't originally from here. It is one of many that floated to this area on huge ice sheets from the many Missoula, Montana ice dam breaks that occurred 14-18,000 years ago. In addition, Brian has saved 7 multi-ton erratics that would otherwise probably be destroyed, including a 10 ton and 8 ton erratic from as far away as Gaston and another from I-205 near West Linn.



In addition, his grandfather's service to the original Tualatin Fire Department created Brian's interest in serving many years as a Board Member of the expanded Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue District (TVF&R). In 2012, he helped retired Tualatin firemen and family members create the book **"Tualatin Fire Protection History 1937-1989"** for the Tualatin Historical Society. (Copies available at Tualatin Heritage Center \$10).

Who Am I??

Our historians are going through old photos and trying to identify those for our website and records. Do you have any clues?



Quarterly Covid Update:

By Larry McClure

Our city continued to deal with the impact of Covid19 this past quarter, but with the promise of normal routines soon to come. "Now Hiring" began to appear at many businesses. Vaccination rates in Washington and Clackamas Counties gradually rose as government leaders aimed at reaching 70%. Most restaurants welcomed customers back to inside dining with social distancing and masks required except when eating and drinking. Inoculations were approved for lower age groups. Several churches again opened their doors at reduced capacity. Tualatin schools continued to offer hybrid attendance schedules with the aim to open the new 2021 school year with normal routines. Tualatin High School's seniors were awarded diplomas by "driving by". No 4th grade wagon trains could travel to the heritage center for Pioneer Days. The Library began offering "express service" for half-hour visits but most city offices remained closed. Traditional summer recreation programs will continue but with new formats such as concerts moving around town at neighborhood parks rather than only at the Lake at the Commons. The popular Willowbrook Arts Camp at Browns Ferry Park was able to open but with scaled back attendance to accommodate health protocols.

Rhyolite Finds New Home at Tualatin Heritage Center (we made national news!!!)

Skanska, the construction contractor building the new Lakeridge Middle School in Lake Oswego, recently discovered uncovered a 15,000-year-old boulder with a distinct look and texture that seemed vastly different from other rocks and debris in the surrounding area.

“I walked through and examined all of the rocks we unearthed and this boulder stood out as very unique in color and texture,” said Skanska Site Superintendent Jacob Parker. “I quickly realized it may have some historical or geological significance.” Once brought to light, the boulder measured three feet long, three feet wide and two feet high, weighing in at approximately 2,000 pounds.



The boulder Parker uncovered is **rhyolite**, a volcanic rock not known this side of the Cascade Mountains. It was moved to the area by one of the great Missoula Floods from either eastern Oregon or as far away as Canada on an iceberg, according to local geology professor and president of the Tualatin Ice Age Tourism Foundation Scott Burns, Ph.D. The school district and Skanska immediately contacted Dr. Burns at Portland State University when the boulder was first discovered.

“This is a major geological find,” said Dr. Burns. “Of all of the hundreds of boulders moved to the Willamette Valley by the Missoula Floods, this is only the second rhyolite boulder recorded here.”

According to Dr. Burns, “Excavation of the boulders at the site shows that they were deposited here sometime between 15,000 to 18,000 years ago.



Dr. Scott Burns and the Rhyolite at the Tualatin Heritage center

Most of the unearthed boulders are basalt, but this large formation of rhyolite likely arrived here thousands of years ago.”

“We have a significant real-life learning opportunity for the students here at Lakeridge with this amazing history right under our feet,” said Kurt Schultz, principal at the school. “Once students graduate from Lakeridge Middle School they are freshman and will study ge-

oscience—so they’ll have first-hand experience with a piece of historical earth science found right at their school,” added Principal Schultz.



Yvonne Addington, Silvia and Rick Thompson, Dr. Scott Burns and Brian Clapton, whose company moved the Rhyolite to the THC.

The Rhyolite was moved to the Tualatin Heritage Center May 17 by Brian Clopton who earlier transported other glacier erratics.

Go to:

www.tualatinhistory.org to see more information.

“I Am Ann Martinazi!”

Historian’s Corner

by Sandra Lafky Carlson

Ann Chapman was born in Montana in 1903 but her family moved to the Stafford area near Tualatin in 1921. She loved the out-of-doors, horseback riding, learning and literature. She was an early reader and loved to write. She enrolled in Tualatin High School but soon transferred to West Linn H.S. where she was a good student and editor of the school newspaper. Her ambition was to become an editor. She was a sensitive young person, and her school yearbook said this of her: “She is so contrary, she would cry if you gave her laughing gas!” Though she couldn’t afford a college education, Ann made a living as a journalist. After high school graduation in 1923, she worked for the Banner Courier newspaper in Oregon City and later as

a reporter in various places.



At first she turned over much of her pay to her parents. Her strict Baptist parents did not approve of her life style, however. She enjoyed dancing, socializing, drinking and smoking. She was very

lively and pretty, quite the modern flapper, with several beaux. By the age of 23, she had her own apartment in Portland, and worked as a city reporter with the Daily Journal of Commerce.

Ann had met Art Martinazzi in school, and they began a romantic relationship years later after a dance at the Frog Pond Grange in Wilsonville. Art was handsome and popular, but Ann’s father didn’t approve because Art was Catholic, a child of immigrants, drank and didn’t own his own land. But Ann and Art were married anyway in 1931.

Life was hard at first. It was the Depression and money was scarce. Ann had 3 children in swift succession (eventually a total of 5 daughters). She sewed beautiful dresses for her girls, using donated fabric from a silk parachute, cloth-backed maps, and secondhand clothes. She liked to see her daughters looking nice when they went to church or school events. In 1936 Art and Ann managed to purchase part of the old Jurgens farm (Art’s grandfather’s from 1869) on land that is now Apache Bluff.

The farm grew to 50 acres, including a Grade A dairy and strawberries grown for the commercial market. Part of that farm is still owned by one of the 5 daughters, Rochelle, and is Tualatin’s only Century Farm (having been owned by the same family for over 100 years).

During World War II, both Art and Ann got jobs at the Portland shipyards. They staggered their shifts so that one of them would always be home to care for the children and the farm chores. The whole family worked very hard. In 1959, Oregon’s Centennial year, Anne wrote a history of the Tualatin area with Art’s help in remembering stories and interviewing old-timers. It was published by the local newspaper and later by the Washington County Historical Society, as “Tualatin’s Past Remembered”, and was an inspiration for the 1994 book “Tualatin from the Beginning” co-authored by daughter Loyce Martinazzi and Karen Lafky Nygaard.

Ann was fiercely independent and whenever she was referred to as Mrs. Art Martinazzi, she’d reply “I have a name! I am Ann Martinazzi!”

Ann passed away in 1973. Her friends and family remembered her love for art and literature, but also her industriousness and hard work. Loyce remembered her mother this way: “(My Mother) was hard to like at times. In actuality, she was a splendid mother with a few flaws (like we all have). Although she was greatly overworked, she always found time to read to her children and encourage them in their education. From my mother I got my drive to excel, a love of pretty clothes and flowers, and my interest in reading and writing.She taught me to work hard, not to be over-proud, to make bread.”

Sources: Tualatin When We Were Young, Interview with Jo Martinazzi Remillard.; Albert Rice Chapman and His Descendants, by Toni Martinazzi; From Pavia to Portland, The Enrico Martinazzi Story. By Toni Martinazzi



Art and Ann and Daughters on their 35th Wedding Anniversary
Jo, Toni, Loyce, Art, Ann, Chelle and Vicci

Your 2020 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
 Larry McClure,
 Kristina Wheelock



Loyce Martinazzi- Co- Founder

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

Volunteer of the quarter- Brian Clopton

by Yvonne Addington (continued from pg 5)

One of his current community service projects is very unique and has involved many volunteers. While traveling near Terrebonne, Oregon a few years ago, he spotted a **1950 Ford Tualatin Fire Department fire truck** rusting in a field. He purchased it and brought it to Wilsonville fire station. (see picture pg 1)

With the help of TVF&R Auxiliary volunteers and a fund raising effort, it is almost ready for summer public displays, including a planned stop at the Tualatin Heritage Center on August 7, 2021. Still, Brian and his family, staff, and friends enjoy and often talk of good ol' days in Tualatin and keep an eye out for more historic opportunities for the community.



© Al Stewart Photography
 Rhyolite Boulder that was found during the construction of the new Junior High School in Lake Oswego

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 Tualatin, OR 97062
 Phone: 503.885.1926
www.tualatinhistory.org**



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

We are looking for a **NEW** covered home for the beautifully restored Galbreath Wagon 5'x 15'. Please let us know if you have any suggestions.



Donate to our Jack Broome scholarship fund for Tualatin High School Students. Call Cindy 503-885-9126 to donate. Tax deductible. Visa/Mastercards Accepted.