



# Tualatin Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 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  
Virtual events at [www.iafi.org](http://www.iafi.org)**

## The Meaning of Climate Change-David Osborn

Thursday, October 15, 7 pm



We live in a time of tremendous transformation as the reality of climate change and its effects on our communities become more apparent with every passing year. Portland State University instructor David Osborn leads a discussion exploring different meanings of climate change and how our understanding of meaning relates to action .

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## Guatemalan Volcanoes with Bill Burgel

Thursday, Nov. 19, 7 pm

While not associated with our familiar Ice Age Flood territory, Guatemala has several very active volcanoes that have differences and similarities to the volcanoes we find in our neighborhood. Listen in while Bill Burgel, Geologist, explains what's going on with these chains of volcanoes.



If you missed Rick Thompson's presentation last month "10 Ways the Lake Missoula floods Affect us Today" go to [www.lafi.org](http://www.lafi.org), calendar.

For information, call Sylvia Thompson at 503.257.0144. [www.iafi.org](http://www.iafi.org)

## Live from the Heritage Center: Oregon's Cowboy Poet

Thursday, October 8, 7 pm **virtual event**

Tom Swearingen tells stories of the people and land of the American West through original cowboy poetry that is often inspired by his own experiences and observations from the saddle. Some are humorous, others serious, and all entertaining. Tom is two-time winner of the National Finals Rodeo Cowboy Poetry Contest, and has been nominated by both the International Western Music Association and the Academy of Western Artists as Male Poet of the Year. He is a Tualatin resident, just published his first book "Reflection" and is helping bring awareness to the Historical Society's fundraising efforts during these difficult times. ***email to [asksabouthistory.com](mailto:asksabouthistory.com) for the link.***



## Champagne on Your Own Wednesday, November 4, 1 pm

Our traditional November annual business meeting, which has featured a champagne lunch the past two years, will again be unique in 2020. Everyone will be safely connected to Zoom for a review of what we accomplished in 2020 and hear what's in store for 2021. President Baker will recognize volunteers for their outstanding jobs and the Lafky-Martinazzi and President Awards will be announced. Historian Sandra Carlson will display new artifacts acquired. Surprises are also in store. The Zoom link will be sent before the program; email [askabouthistory@gmail.com](mailto:askabouthistory@gmail.com) if you did not see it.



## Nativities & More Wednesday, December 2, 1 pm

Join us for nativity sets and memories of early Tualatin residents, hear about many cultures including Scandinavia, Germany and Ethiopia.

Then keeping one reindeer length apart you can drop in at the Tualatin Heritage Center to see the displays. Please call Cindy to schedule your viewing appointment! *The zoom link will be sent before the program; email [askabouthistory@gmail.com](mailto:askabouthistory@gmail.com).*





Dear Tualatin Historical Society members and fans of local history,  
Normally about this time of year we would be celebrating the completion of our annual winetasting, food, music and silent auction under the big tent, but **the lights have been out at Tualatin Heritage Center since mid-March.**

However, several volunteers and our manager Cindy and others have worked safely behind the scenes both at the Center and at home doing archive work, selling/installing bricks, preparing new displays, etc. I hope you have received our newsletters as usual. And thanks to the Sasaki family, we will soon plant a rare tree peony from Japan that has been handed down from generation to generation for over 100 years.

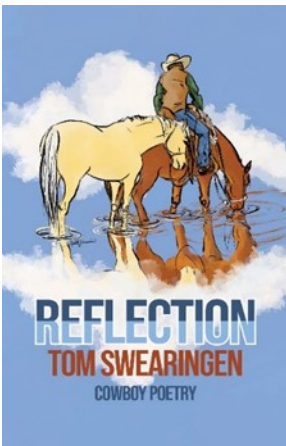
### **We are hoping to replace lost rental revenue.**

Because our budget for FY2021 assumes some kind of fundraiser to replace the \$7-10,000 we've raised at previous auctions, the Board would like you to consider helping in at least one of the following ways.

- 1) A contribution to our General Fund so we can hit the ground running as rules allow us to more fully re-open.
- 2) Buy a ticket (or 2, or 3, or...) for our annual cash raffle.

Details for both are on the next page.

***Join us for an evening of distraction from politics and the pandemic. Raffle winners will be drawn.....***



*The Tualatin Historical Society presents our first ever virtual program:*

### **TOM SWEARINGEN: OREGON'S OWN COWBOY POET**

What does a touring cowboy poet do when pandemic cancels a full schedule of performances? Well, in Tom Swearingen's case, he uses the better part of the first four months at home completing a book project begun more than four years ago.

Swearingen, a Tualatin resident and 2019 International Western Music Association Male Poet of the Year, has announced the publication of his first book, *Reflection*. He will make this encore performance for THS members and their friends and family:

**October 8<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 7 pm**

Online access details will be emailed to members.

(We encourage you to invite others by simply forwarding the link we will provide)

**Please support us by contributing and signing up for the raffle. Also, escape with us for an evening of inspired humor, stories, and poetry.**

*Ross Baker*

Rules allowing, we plan to be in full operation as soon as possible with:

- Monthly programs engaging members and the public alike
- Our annual meeting, holiday gathering and picnic with food, fun and fellowship
- Exhibits and displays both in our building and around town
- Fourth graders pulling their wagons for Pioneer Days next spring
- And renters returning—a major source of our revenue!

### Support the Tualatin Historical Society 2020 Fund Raiser and Raffle



**Yes, I will support Tualatin Historical Society:**

**I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_** to help underwrite THS operations for FY2021 in lieu of the annual auction.

**I would like to buy \_\_\_\_\_ raffle tickets** at \$25 each. I understand Cindy will write my name on one raffle ticket for each \$25 I give. Grand prize will be \$500 with second and third prizes of \$250 and \$100.

**My total contributions** from the items above will be \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ (required to notify raffle winner)

*Select your preferred payment:*

My check payable to the ***Tualatin Historical Society*** is enclosed  
Please call me for credit card information at this phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Use my Credit Card# \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to make your donation or purchase raffle tickets by phone. Call Cindy at 503-885-1926 to provide credit card information.

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**The fine print:**

- All donations will be placed into the Tualatin Historical Society’s General Fund.
- Raffle tickets are \$25 each.
- The first ticket drawn will receive \$500; second, \$250; and third, \$100.
- We hope to sell 300.
- Winners will be drawn during our October 8<sup>th</sup> virtual program with Tom Swearingen, Oregon’s Cowboy Poet
- Total funds raised will be announced to THS members and posted to our Facebook and web pages.
- THS will happily provide tax receipts upon request

THS is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Tax ID# 94-3090360

**2020: A Year to Remember (or Forget)**

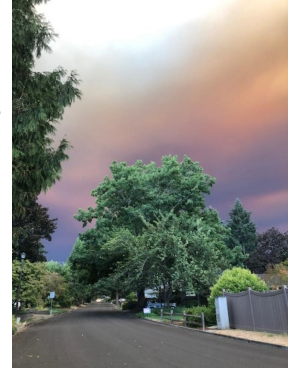
As summer began, Coronavirus 19 continued to impact daily life across all age groups, families, organizations, schools and businesses. Tualatin did not escape local, state, national and even worldwide impacts as government and private sector leaders scrambled to maintain preventive measures and provide testing while waiting for vaccines and possible therapeutics. Cases continued to climb locally and hospitalizations and statewide deaths were still rising. As of September 23, Tualatin reported 263 confirmed cases since the outbreak. Election year divides became more visible. For some, not wearing a mask was a statement of freedom from government overreach. Not only was the virus on everyone's minds, but concerns over racial justice were still evident locally and even moreso in Portland where demonstrations continued nightly.

While residents were mostly staying at home, they relied more on social media, online entertainment options and dozens of TV channels were filled with information from private and public leaders as everyone became more proficient in using these tools. Soon schools realized that in-person instruction was not going to be possible starting in September, at least for the first 9 weeks. Yellow school buses were not seen on city streets and byways when drivers would normally have been training for the start of classes. It soon became obvious that traditional fall sporting events in schools and colleges would be curtailed. "Let Us Play" protests that popped up in the summer did not sway public officials who were trying to rely on the science-based guidance of health experts.

As seems to happen in times of local and national disasters, neighbors, businesses and community organizations stepped up to help each other. Residents used online shopping more frequently. Delivery company vehicles hit the streets each morning and continued into the evenings. Grocery pickup at stores was often a preferred shopping method. More families started gardens in the spring for a healthier lifestyle and crops were bountiful. While toilet paper shortages had been a crisis in March and April, a surprising new but smaller challenge emerged: Tualatin store shelves were bare of canning jars and lids!

And as Covid19 still burdened daily life, another threat affected Tualatin. A stretch of high temperatures in late August and early September was capped off by extremely strong winds from the east on Labor Day evening. Sparks from lightning, downed power lines, or improperly doused campfires ignited wildfires in forests up and down the state. It was campfire coals near Bald Mtn southwest of Tualatin which blackened 800 acres.

Firefighters and equipment from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue not only saved homes from that one but also joined other departments on battle lines in Clackamas County. Residents not only had to learn Phase 1,2 or 3 classifications for Covid 19 protection but now faced a new set of life saving measures: Level 1 get ready,Level 2 get set,Level 3 go. Alerts were sent to many communities east of Tualatin, but a more pervasive issue in town was smoke which covered Tualatin for 10 days. Hazardous air conditions forced closure of city offices and was another reason residents had to stay in their



September 8, Sky



Allen Song

homes.

THS board member Allen Song, owner of Izumi Japanese Steakhouse, cooked and delivered meals for first responders with help from donors providing supplies. Local

Tualatin hotels housed some residents evacuated.



Rochele Martinazzi and grandsons help pass out free school supplies at Methodist Church drive-by

Folks became more accustomed to using Zoom and other conferencing systems for public events such as Tualatin City Council meetings and some churches. Delays and glitches happened with varying bandwidths and personal equipment. Schools scrambled all summer to obtain more technology both for teachers and for students who now must deal with required screen time whether they like it or not. Parents working from home again had to monitor their kids' learning in the same or another room. Even with their hasty trial run in the spring, Tualatin teachers were still trying to handle instructional tasks virtually. All schools were itching to open again, even on a part-week basis, to keep numbers of students in classrooms low for social distancing.

Jonathan Crane, whose bout with Covid 19 was mentioned in the June issue, passed along these thoughts three months later:

*My recovery from COVID 19 was complete after less than two weeks. I was very lucky, or maybe just typical. Apparently, I was in the mild to moderate category, which according to the CDC represents about 98% of the cases. I've had no negative side effects, prolonged symptoms or any other residual issues from COVID 19. It was not fun, but in my case, not earth shattering either. It was like a nasty flu which lasted a little longer than average. There was fever, weakness, pain in joints (seemingly every previous injury I've ever had surfaced during my experience), but the nastiest in my case was the severe headache that lasted for many days. However, I had no lung issues, not even a cough. The real stressor was wondering if it would get bad, as nobody knows if you'll be one of those struggling to breathe or not. Also, the worry if I infected anyone else. In both cases, things turned out for the best – mild case and didn't infect my wife and daughter.*

*It's been interesting how people have reacted once they learned I had COVID 19. Most ask if I'm okay, even though I have been well for over 4 months. Somehow, they seem to think I'm still sick or still recovering, but I'm completely fine. And while I have twice tested positive for having the antibodies, offering some level of immunity, many feel I'm either more likely to get sick or get them sick, which is simply not true. I know people are fearful and that's the basis of those thoughts, but I try to let people know that I'm fine and am highly unlikely to give it or get it. I do, however, wear a mask and honor all the social distancing protocols expected of all of us.*

*The biggest lesson I learned regarding any of this is not to let your guard down. I see so many examples of people not wearing masks or distancing around people they know. That's what I did to get it. Just because you know someone, or are related to someone, does not make them "safe". If I could offer one piece of advice, that would be it. Be safe, be vigilant, wear a mask and practice social distancing – even among your friends and family. That simplistic advice should go a long way!*

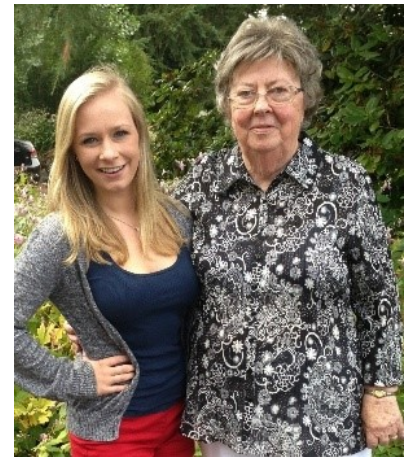
## **WE REMEMBER:**

### **Myrna Andrews Summers 1931-2020**

Myrna, the eldest of the 10 children of Kenneth and Evelyn (Casteel) Andrews was born in 1931 in the old Jurgens house and delivered by her grandmother Rose Jurgens Casteel. Myrna grew up in the Tualatin area, attending the Tualatin Community Methodist church where she married Robert "Bob" Summers in 1948. Bob was an associate pastor there.

Their children included Diana Turner, Tom Summers, Ken Summers, Wes Summers, Matt Summers and Mike Summers. They had 24 grandchildren and 54 great grandchildren. Myrna's siblings include George Andrews, Ileen Cole, Jeri Bishop, Betty Stribling, Jim Andrews. Preceding Myrna in death were her husband, and son Mike. Her siblings were Marion Ficken, Judy McClusky, Linda Russell, Darrel Andrews.

Myrna and Bob's ashes were interred on the graves of Bob's parents in Winona Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Yamhill Carlton Storehouse, PO Box 99, Carlton, OR 97111.



Myrna Summers and family member

### **Dolores Nelson 1922-2020**

Dolores McLaughlin Nelson, a former Army WAC and fixture at Tualatin Elementary and Tigard HS for many years, was active in the Tualatin VFW Auxiliary and Methodist Church. At the outset of WWII, Dolores was the only woman living in Tualatin to enlist. She was related to Chief Bill Barngrover who spearheaded the Tualatin Fire Department. Dolores leaves daughters Laurel and Linda and one son Dan and several grandchildren. She was buried September 19 at Willamette View Cemetery.

## Flashback to January 2005 THS Newsletter

THS past president Yvonne Addington was featured in the September 2020 issue of *Tualatin Life* newspaper. Fifteen years ago, the THS newsletter included this sample of the many letters sent to Yvonne during her 12+ years as Municipal Judge in Tualatin, this one protesting a traffic ticket given by a Washington County Sheriff Deputy:

“Dear Sirs: Just a note to let you know what I think of your 2 bit speed trap operation in Tualatin operated by your city clowns. I knew the trap was there but you caught me with my pants down that morning (underline added). You see, I work for the Pettibone Portland Branch in Tualatin. I have worked for them for 6 years now. Have purchased considerable gas from Hanegan’s.

Fortunately, there are other ways to get to my office. The one I like best is the back way now. My buying gas in Tualatin is over, too, or anything for that matter. You can keep on running that speed trap but you won’t catch me on that down hill curve where there is no traffic and there was none the morning your town clown caught me!

Best regards. (name withheld)

P.S. Enjoy the \$27. That’s a pretty good piece of cash for what you got me for.

### Judge Addington’s response:

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

As per your letter of August 29, 1971, you are absolutely right! The City of Tualatin does not want you speeding through town with your pants down!

Very truly yours,



Yvonne speaking at opening of Cabela’s & dedication of the Tualatin mastodon sculpture.

## The Kishu Caprice Peony

by Art Sasaki

Editor's Note: Art and his sister Joyce Olson are donating one of the few remaining Kishu Caprice Tree Peonies to be planted at the Heritage Center this fall or winter at an appropriate location.

It prefers morning sun and late afternoon shade. Thanks to Rick Rogers, son of Allan Rogers, for volunteering to handle the planting.

Tsunetaro and Mine Sasaki, my paternal grandparents, left Hiroshima, Japan for America in 1901. Mr. Shotaro Nishikawa, a friend of my grandfather, could not afford steerage, so he stowed away on a freighter leaving Japan for America and jumped ship when he thought he was near Oregon. He swam three miles and came ashore on the west side of Vancouver Island. It took him two years to get to Oregon and he started a small farm near Tualatin.

His future bride came from Wakayama, Japan to marry Shotaro. She was the sister of his brother’s wife. When she came to America, she brought with her a tree peony. Mr. Nishikawa and his wife, Fusaye, brought the tree peony to my grandfather’s house and divided the plant, giving half to my grandfather.

When Allan Rogers, of Caprice Nurseries, published the definitive book, *Peonies*, in 1995, this variety of tree peony had not yet been named. Al Rogers gave Ojiro “Art” Sasaki, my father, the opportunity to name it. He named it **Kishu Caprice**.

Kishu was the feudal name for Wakayama.



There are about 300 plants of this variety in the United States, all started from this one plant.

**Historian’s Corner**

by Sandra Lafky Carlson

*Continuing the series profiling lesser-known women who have contributed to the community of Tualatin:*

Lois and Joe Dalton came to Tualatin with their children in the 1950s. Lois became a Campfire girls’ leader. One day, she and her troop were looking for a place to nature walk. Directed to the “city park” by the river and railroad trestle, they were dismayed to find an unused plot of land, hidden in blackberries and brush.

With permission from City Hall, they began a park renovation project. Lois enlisted the help of a few citizens who shared her vision. They cleaned up the area and built a picnic shelter, a ball diamond, and later a tennis court which was also used for dances. Lois got local organizations and businesses to form the Booster Club, which worked with the VFW to revive the old Crawfish Festival in the park. Residents had missed the festival, a way to reconnect with old friends.

The first revived Crawfish Festival was held in 1959, Oregon’s Centennial year. A great success, with 5000 people attending. A parade included horses, floats, marching bands, a Queen and court. The Grand Marshals were Governor Mark O. Hatfield and his wife. In the early years, the annual Crawfish Festival was financially supported by business ads in the printed programs and by the sale of delicious locally caught crawfish. Town residents would set crawfish traps in the river, and bring their daily catch in gunny sacks to Lois’s home, where they were cooked each evening. Red Nyberg took them to Dickinson’s cannery for freezing until the Festival.



Thanks in part to Lois’s efforts, the Tualatin City Park is still in use. It now has a dog park and a pedestrian bridge over the Tualatin River, linking the community to Durham & Tigard. And the Crawfish Festival continues every August, except for being cancelled this year due to the Covid-19 virus.

**Welcome New Members**



- Nancy Dunis
- Vicki Miller
- Dave Overby
- Diane Overby
- John Repcik
- Veta Repcik
- Laura Spurell
- Molly Burns



**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

**We Love Cookies** Thanks to Attorney **Robert Kellogg** P.C. for stepping up to be our sponsor for hospitality at monthly programs.

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. 503-486-5041

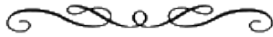
## Your 2020 Tualatin Historical Society Board

### Executive Board:

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

### Directors:

Art Sasaki  
 Yvonne Addington  
 Allen Song  
 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.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org).

## WHATZIT?

Do you know what this is? Email [askabouthistory@gmail.com](mailto:askabouthistory@gmail.com) with your answer.

Winner of the drawing from correct answers *wins a free jar of jam.*



## What to Put Under the Christmas Tree?

Don't forget to shop at Tualatin Heritage Center for any of several books on Tualatin history, our famous Heritage Preserves (including Marion berry!), videos of several historical plays we've produced and a video tour of Sweek House at Christmas including an interview with Althea Pratt-Broome. Call Cindy to drop by . 503 885-1926

**Take Advantage of Tax Breaks** Remember your donations to Tualatin Historical Society as the year ends are fully tax deductible. After supporting THS in this way, you can also benefit by donating to the Oregon Cultural Trust and this latter gift is an Oregon tax credit. Details available on the Oregon Cultural Trust website.

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 M-Th from 10am to 3 pm. 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.