

REFLECTIONS

Jan / Feb
2007

Newsletter of the Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society



Happy 20th Birthday FRWHS 1987-2007

Excerpts from the First Year Meeting Minutes of the Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society

March 24, 1987

With the inspiration, enthusiasm and leadership of Ruth Dulin, a group of interested people of the Fairview and surrounding community met to discuss forming a Historical Society. This would preserve the area's settlement by the pioneers... Helen Rees as temporary chairman called the meeting to order and introduced Sharon Nesbit. As historian of the Troutdale Historical Society she explained organizational procedures... Temporary officers decided upon were: Charles Taber, Nancy Hoover, Fran Townsend and Doyle Backus.

April 6, 1987

Charles Taber called the meeting to order, followed by Helen Rees reading the minutes. Sharon Nesbit shared many thoughts of what had been done right and wrong in the 20 years the Troutdale group has enjoyed learning about history.

Continued page 4...

FRWHS
P. O. Box 946
Fairview, Oregon 97024
503-261-8078
www.frwhs.org

Important Dates

**1874 Zimmerman
Heritage Farm
17111 NE Sandy Blvd
Gresham, Oregon**

House Tours
3rd Saturday of each month
10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Volunteer in the Garden
2nd Saturday of each month
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

**1893 Heslin House
60 Main Street
Fairview, Oregon**

Volunteer to help!
2nd & 4th Saturday of each
month
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Society

FRW
Monthly Board Meeting
2nd Wednesday
of each month
6:00 pm
Heslin House

Jim Raze to Build Heslin House Garage



Jim Raze, City of Fairview Councilman and liaison to the Heslin House, surprised the society just before Christmas with the most unexpected gift, an offer to re-build the old garage next to the Heslin House. The original was dismantled several years ago due to its extreme dilapidated condition. The new garage will be 20' x 12', one and half stories with an exterior design similar to the house.

The timing of the structure couldn't be better since our storage needs for the Heslin House and society are considerable. Having additional storage will definitely accelerate the progression of the Heslin House from a broken down old house to a fully functioning local museum and headquarters of the society.

Jim is soliciting donations for the materials, labor and overseeing the construction. With Jim's ability to get things done and done right, FRW is very confident and grateful a top-notch structure will be built which, will be utilized to exhibit historical farm equipment and future displays in addition to storage.

Thank you Jim!

.....

GIFTS

FRW Board of Directors

Dodi Davies, President
Twila Mysinger, Vice President
Lael Larger, Secretary
Kim Kirk, Treasurer
George Riley, Position I
Stephanie Graves, Position II
Linda Adams, Position III

Membership & Donation Coordinator

Nancy Hoover

Contributions by:

Nancy Hoover, Stephanie Graves,
Dodi Davies, Catherine Fritts, Twila Mysinger

Renewing Members

Pat & Patricia Brost
Vaden & Jo Callister
Ric Catron
Art Dodd & Diane Plumridge
Glenna Inglis
Dave & Judy Lenhart
Doris Nelson
Charles & Paula Rees
Janice Sedlacek
John Skoglund
Glenn & Betty Storms
Donald Surface
Harriet Tegart
Alan & Frances Townsend
Nick & Barbara Welsh
Cathy Peetz
Eric & Holly Udd & Family

General Fund

Pearl Ramseth
Dolores Backus

In Memory of Dee DeCamp

Robert & Louise Dix
Donna Hawkins
Roy & Nancy Hoover

In Memory of Jerry Adams

Lael Larger

Heslin House

In Memory of Jerry Adams
George Riley

Zimmerman House

Donald Parham
Brenda DelMarter
Dorothy Duddington
Jim & Julie Searcy
Beaver Chapter, Model A Ford
Club of America

In Memory of Edith McNeil

Robert McNeil

Zimmerman Utility Sponsors

Clinton Witter
Woodale Windows
Stephanie Graves
LeLand & Mary Lou Johnson
John Malcom
Suzanne Taylor
AQ Automotive
Evelyn DeYoung
Dodi Davies

Thank You!

*Hildi Norman for serving as our
"Event Beverage Provider"
From 12/2003 to 12/2006
We'll miss you...*

*Our Christmas Party
A Festive Evening at the Heslin House
12/13/2006*



Jim Workman & George Riley



Anna & Cyndi Rosene



Betty, Betty, Betty Gallagher...



Dave Lenhart & Roy Hoover



Nancy Hoover



Dodi Davies & Twila Mysinger



Judy Lenhart, Stephanie Graves & Kim Kirk



Jim & Carol Raze



Shirley Anderson

Jeanette McDermid



Linda Adams



Donna Hawkins & Lee Coiteux



Lael Larger

Society Meeting Minutes – continued from page 1

May 4, 1987

Ron Brentano, from the Oregon Historical Society was the guest speaker. He told us that we needed to have our objectives defined in a statement of purpose that included short and long-range plans... A minimum of 15 members is needed for a group to become an affiliate of OHS... Questions were asked: Do we want to start? How many want to join? Dues were suggested \$5.00 annually... Charles Taber read from "A History of Fairview" by William Stone, about the Indian tribe that lived at the west end of Blue Lake, "Ne-cha-co-kee", as a suggestion for the name of our group.

June 1, 1987

Officers elected for a one year term are Charles Taber, President; Dick Jones, Vice-president; Dorothy Moore, Secretary; Bonita Jenkins, Treasurer; Board members appointed were: Wilkes, Violet Tegart; Fairview, Ruth Dulin; Rockwood, Ray Haynes. Helen Rees will be historian... Annual dues for per person/couple \$5.00 and \$2.00 for age 16 and under... A charter membership will be available for \$25.00 for anyone joining by January 1, 1988... First Monday of each will be meeting date.

October 27, 1987

Charles Taber opened the meeting for discussion on the name of the group. Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes was chosen, using alphabetical order.... Betty Shaw moved and Reba Mitchell seconded the motion to accept the charter. Motion carried... Treasurer's report showed a June balance of \$50.66 with a current balance of \$275.66... Louella Small is the new representative for Rockwood.

November 18, 1987

President Charles Taber opened the meeting at Smith Memorial Church... As it was becoming difficult to get space for our meetings to be held at the church, it was decided to ask for space at the Fairview City Hall... Violet Tegart shared family news. Helen Rees shared Zimmerman family history. Fred Quesinberry shared pictures of the Rockwood Middle School.

December 12, 1987

President Charles Taber called the meeting to order, with eleven members present... Dick Jones gave a report on his trip to Salem for the annual meeting of the Oregon Museum Association.... Isobel Zimmerman gave us some information about her house and property, which is of historic interest.

January 18, 1988

Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$470.12... Steve Lewis is providing legal services for our group... Plans to visit the Zimmerman property in the future was discussed... Fairview Cable Access film made with Helen Rees, Nancy Hoover and Tom Shaw was shown.

February 12, 1988

Another printing of "A History of Fairview" by William Stone was discussed... Budget for the next years need to be set up... Jo Callister shared some interesting information about Hannah Smith.

March 21, 1988

After discussion a choice from the four logo designs was made. Bonita Jenkins moved and Violet Tegart seconded the motion that logo number "4" be our logo. Motion carried.

April 18, 1988

Charles Taber opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the basement of the Rockwood Grange on SE Stark... We hope to have membership cards available by the May meeting, which will be held at the Fairview City Hall.

May 16, 1988

Treasurer's report given with a balance of \$901.34... Dick Jones presented a bill for \$64.70 for the logo printing.... Official mailing address of the society is P.O. Box 946, Fairview, OR, 97024... The main business of the evening was election of officers for the coming year. President, Dick Jones; Vice-President, Allan Townsend; Secretary Dorothy Moore; Treasurer, Bonita Jenkins; Co-program chairs, Helen Rees & Dorothy Moore; Membership, Nancy Hoover... May 31st is the last day for charter membership. June 1st is the beginning of the new fiscal year and the \$5.00 membership dues for 1988-1989 will be due...

Meeting adjourned... Dorothy Moore, Secretary.

Zimmerman Heritage Farm House Museum Survey

Conducted by Catherine J. Fritts

Catherine J. Fritts, an independent analyst research professional and Zimmerman House Museum docent, conducted two customer satisfaction surveys during the tours in August and November. The surveys are an effort to maximize and facilitate the grant process necessary to raise significant funds to invest into Oregon's heritage through the Zimmerman Heritage Farm House Museum and to increase the visitation rate of the museum.

Some of the findings are as follows:

- Largest percentage of guests found the museum by driving by. This finding confirms that new and larger signage, keeping with the period and integrity of the house, would be a significant improvement in marketability and funding to the museum.
- 100% stated their expectations of the tour had been met for both surveys. However, a 100% "Excellent" rating dropped to 84% in November. This drop in customer satisfaction of the tour rating is being investigated, but could be attributed to inclement weather and customers confined to the inside of the house unable to enjoy the outside grounds & garden.

A few customer comments regarding their tour:

- *"Our tour guide really personalized the tour."*
- *"Very knowledgeable guide."*
- *"A tour of the grounds, when completed, would be nice."*
- *"Great progress since the last visit (in 2004). The articles on view are priceless treasures."*
- *"This tour was amazing! I will tell all my friends. There is so much local history saved. I appreciate all the work the volunteers are doing. Again, amazing!"*
- *"A little faster and more information on the structure."*

Heslin House Curation – Stephanie Grave



We have just begun the journey to sort, organize and catalogue the Heslin Family artifacts, and we have already discovered treasures! Here's a short sample of what we have found:

- A complete baseball uniform from the Oregon Agriculture College, which we presume belonged to Ted.
- Letters to Ted from his wife. He was not a bachelor as some had thought, but married for a brief time.
- Very old hair dye, still in the original box. Original packaging was rarely kept, so this is a treat.
- Men's overalls and coveralls, which doesn't sound very exciting, but is actually quite rare. People tended to save formal wear, and more women's clothes than men's.
- Early linen Portland Cement Company cement sack
- Linen sugar and seed sacks.

This is exciting work and there are volunteer opportunities of many types, so please feel free to contact me at 503.261.8078.

Houck's Stripping Center

2712 SE Steele St
Portland, OR 97202
(503) 232-5151

Ron Bauer, owner of Houck's Stripping Center, offered to strip all the old paint off our shutters for free. Gene Farr of OSC Construction donated the primer and paint. Next, Zimmerman volunteers will repair, lightly sand, prime and paint. Our goal is to have all the shutters on the south, east and west side of the house back up by June 2007.

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Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society
PO Box 946
Fairview, OR 97024
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