

# REFLECTIONS

July / August  
2007

Newsletter of the Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society



## FRW Member Honored

Shirley Anderson was honored at our annual meeting, May 20, 2007, for her long-time dedication as a volunteer & FRW member.

Shirley was present at the first meeting 20 years ago when a group of local residents decided to create a historical organization that would become the Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society.

*Thank You Shirley!!*



FRWHS  
P. O. Box 946  
Fairview, Oregon 97024  
503-261-8078  
[www.frwhs.org](http://www.frwhs.org)

### Important Dates

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

House Tour  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Volunteer in the Garden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday  
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Volunteer in the House  
Every Thursday  
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

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

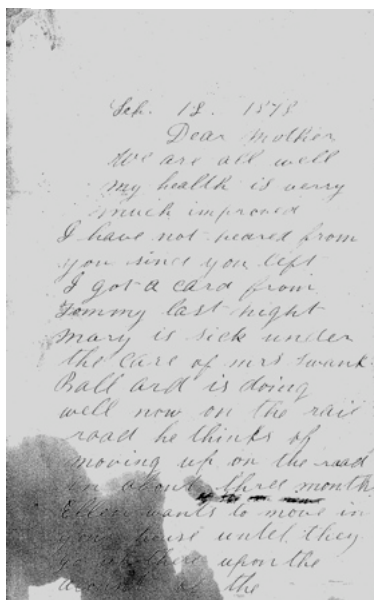
Volunteer in the Garden  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday  
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Volunteer in the House  
Every Tuesday  
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

### FRW Society

Monthly Board Meeting  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday  
6:30 pm  
Heslin House

## Heslin Artifact – Letter from John to Mother – Feb 18, 1878



Feb. 18, 1878

Dear Mother,

We are all well My health is verry (sic) much improved I have not heard (sic) from you since you left I got a card from Tommy last night Mary is sick under the care of Mrs Swank. Ballard is doing well now on the rail road he thinks of moving up on the road in about three months Ellen wants to move in your house until they go up there upon the account of the fire place it is very cold for a stove now Ballard says he will pay for the use of the house if you don't object drop me a card. That is if you will not be at home in a few days

Yours truly

John

The first assumption was **John P. Heslin** wrote this letter because it is part of the Heslin collection. However, upon further research, the following is concluded; **John Dunbar** most likely wrote the letter to his mother Hester. Tommy is John's brother, **Thomas Dunbar**, and Mrs. Swank is **Anna Swank**, wife of **Thomas Swank**, friends of the family. Ellen, (**Mary Ellen (Dunbar) Ballard**), is John & Tommy's sister and Ballard, (**William G. Ballard**), is her husband. We're not sure who **Mary** is.

As you know, **Drusilla Missouri (Dunbar) Heslin**, sister of John Dunbar, was the wife John P. Heslin, whom the Heslin house was named.

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# GIFTS

## ***FRW Board of Directors***

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

## ***Membership Coordinator***

Nancy Hoover

## ***FRW & Heslin Collections Curator***

Stephanie Graves

## ***Zimmerman Collections Curator***

Judy Lenhart

# GIFTS

## **General Fund**

Janice Sedlacek  
Dorothy Duddington  
Lewis & Cynthia Rink  
Carolyn Meerzo  
Dodi Davies  
Gwen Mitchell  
Rosemary Bottaro  
Wm. E. & Gloria Wetmore  
Elise Coiteux  
John Andersen  
Ivan & Lenora Handy  
Harriet Tegart  
Lois T. Smith  
Paul & Lee Ann Labby

## **Heslin Fund**

George Riley  
Gregg Meck  
Richard Ferguson  
Lewis & Cynthia Rink  
Charles & Paula Rees  
Linda Adams  
Dodi Davies  
Donna Hawkins  
Roy & Nancy Hoover

## **Zimmerman House**

Gresham Antique Glass Club  
Norman D. & Louella Webb  
Wm. & Sharon Nesbit  
Betty Larsen  
David & Patricia Reardon  
Lewis & Cynthia Rink  
Lee Matthews  
Jeanne Pulliam  
Arthur Dodd & Diane Plumridge  
Dodi Davies  
Vaden & Jo Callister  
Kathleen Jensen  
Diana F. Nelson  
Fred & Rita Aegerter  
Jack & Bernice Davies  
Marilou Bohmann  
Harriet Tegart  
Roy & Nancy Hoover  
Ric Catron

## **Zimmerman Garden Room**

Derrick & Heather Sturgill  
Peggy Hart  
Multnomah Garden Club  
Wilshire Garden Club

## **Zimmerman Utility Sponsors**

AQ Automotive  
Suzanne Taylor  
John Malcom  
Stephanie Graves  
Evelyn DeYoung  
George McDade

## **Endowment Fund**

Janice Sedlacek  
*(In Memory of Eva Childs)*  
Lewis & Cynthia Rink  
Dodi Davies  
Anne Wheeler

## **Grant Awards**

The Hardy Plant Society of Oregon  
WHH Foundation  
Ann & Bill Swindells Charitable Trust  
Meyer Memorial Trust



## Zimmerman House: Restoration Project Update

*Twila Mysinger*

Our current restoration effort is a two-part project: Reinforce the brick pillars under the kitchen floor and restore the flower room at the east end of the south porch.

### **We are ecstatic to report three grant awards:**

\$2,500 Ann & Bill Swindells Charitable Trust

\$2,500 WHH Foundation

\$8,000 Meyer Memorial Trust

We deeply appreciate the support of these grantors and donations from our members. This project is now set to begin July 2nd.

### **Hardy Plant Society Grant Award!**

The Hardy Plant Society of Oregon Elaine Jones Memorial Grant Program has awarded the Zimmerman Heritage Farm a \$400 grant! We had requested \$930 to prune the pear, cherry and magnolia trees south of the house, and to provide mulch and new garden tools. We'll combine this grant award with the \$422.75 proceeds from the May Plant Sale and see how much of this project we can complete this year. We are very grateful to the Hardy Plant Society for their support!



Zimmerman House Today

## Zimmerman Shutters Restored

*Six down, 30 to go...*

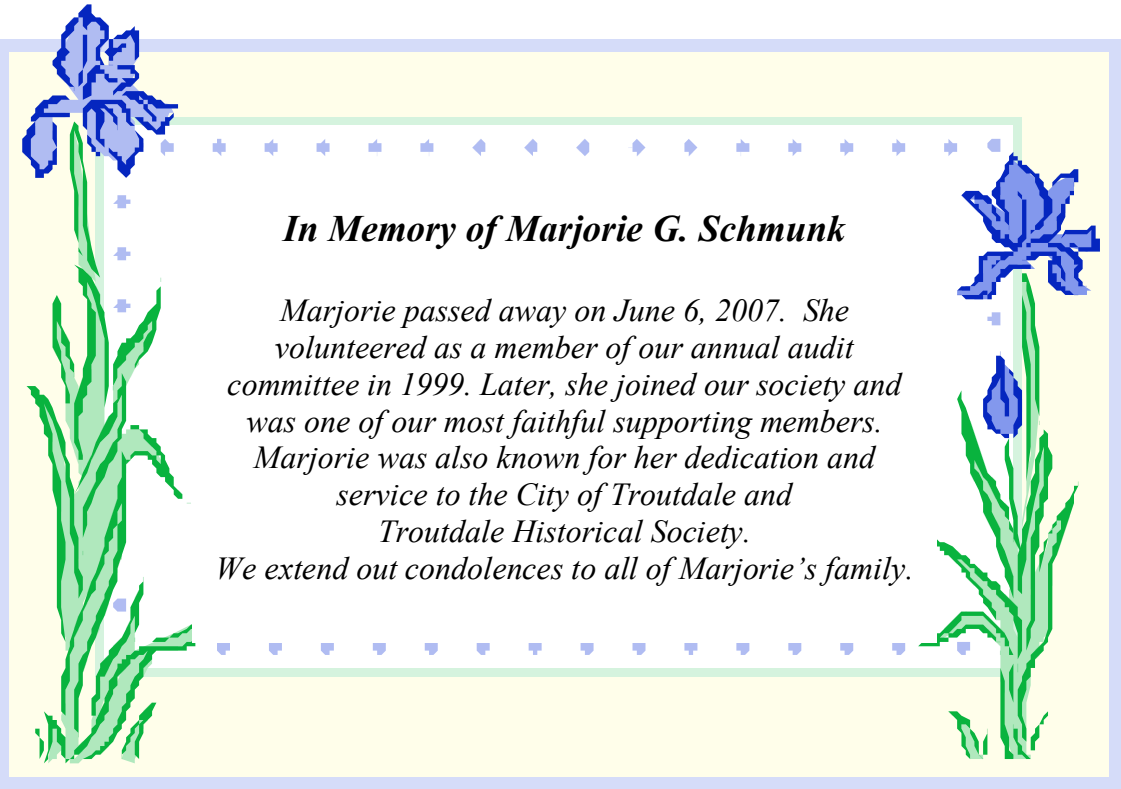
Thanks to the help of several Zimmerman volunteers, Jason Whitaker, Stephanie Graves, Sandy Leaptrott, Twila Mysinger, Dodi Davies, Lee Coiteux, Cody Bennett & Jennifer Zimmerman, we were able to complete the restoration of six shutters just in time for the Rose Festival tours.



Jason Whitaker

The project began last year when Ron Bauer, owner of Houck's Stripping Center, offered to strip the old paint off all the shutters. From there, the best six were chosen, reinforced, primed, painted and re-hung. Today, the house is looking almost as it did in its hey-day.

Since restoring shutters is very labor intensive and time consuming, to finish the remaining shutters will take months, if not years to complete utilizing volunteers. So, we are evaluating our options and considering hiring a professional to complete the job. Like always, we'll keep you all up to date on our progress and decisions.



***In Memory of Marjorie G. Schmunk***

*Marjorie passed away on June 6, 2007. She volunteered as a member of our annual audit committee in 1999. Later, she joined our society and was one of our most faithful supporting members. Marjorie was also known for her dedication and service to the City of Troutdale and Troutdale Historical Society. We extend our condolences to all of Marjorie's family.*

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