First it was the American Revolution, then the War of 1812. Few of us realize that our country's third battle with Britain might have been over the territorial lines being drawn in the 1830s and 40s right here in Oregon Country. Fiery speeches about where the boundaries should be were delivered in Congress and public sentiment against the British ran high. Oregon was a hot topic during the 19th century because of its seemingly endless riches, beauty and potential for exploitation.

In this program, Robert Hamm shares primary resources such as newspapers, woodcuts, accurate and inaccurate maps, and early photographs dating from the Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804-06) to the Lewis and Clark Exposition (1905) that illustrate Oregon's place in the national imagination.

The program at the Heritage Center begins at 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 6.

Celebrate Tualatin Lunch Features Business Histories

Four new banners portraying local businesses that helped put Tualatin on the map were unveiled for the first time April 23 at a Chamber of Commerce celebration honoring 2009 volunteer efforts. The poster-like exhibits will now be rotating to various city locations. The project was launched originally with funds provided by the Cultural Coalition of Washington County using funds from Oregon Cultural Trust. The first four displays featured Avery Chicken Breeding Farm, Tualatin Country Club, Willowbrook Center for Development of Human Potential and George Andrews enterprises (including James King Company and ProGro). Larry McClure, series producer, described each organization's contributions. Members of each family were introduced. The company profiles will be included in future newsletters. Future business histories will be developed with funds donated by the featured companies or families.

Candice Kelly, THS member, received the Spirit of Tualatin award based not only on her service as a THS board member but as co-chair of the Tualatin Tomorrow community visioning process and 2009 Health Fair. Cheryl Dorman, West Coast Bank manager and active THS contributor, received the Chamber Volunteer of the Year award, THS Member, George Bowlsby, won the Outstanding Community Service award, and Mike Moore of Big Screen Productions, a THS volunteer, won the Small Business of the Year award. Congratulations!
New Coloring Book Shows
Kids in Old-Time Tualatin

Tualatin in the Days of the Little Red Schoolhouse joins the list of Tualatin Historical Society publications depicting Tualatin history. But this is a coloring book, designed for youngsters, illustrating life in the days when a child’s life consisted of hard work and home-made fun.

The book is produced in cooperation with Hazelbrook Middle School whose 8th graders created the drawings and wrote the captions with guidance from THS mentors Loyce Martinazzi and Karen Lafky Nygaard. Hazelbrook art teacher Chelsey Peterson and language arts/social studies teacher Cindy Coe facilitated student learning during the process.

The book starts with a vintage photo of youngsters in front of the Little Red Schoolhouse that stood on Boones Ferry & Avery Roads until 1900. It follows with 32 pages of typical events in their lives, from pumping water and chopping kindling to gathering eggs and churning butter—everyday happenings a century ago before there were local conveniences of any kind, not even electricity.

The book will be given to Tualatin 4th-graders at the Pioneer Days events at the Heritage Center May 19-22, and will available for sale at the Center for $4. A grant for the project was provided by the Cultural Coalition of Washington County using funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust. Donations to the Trust are a credit for Oregon income tax when donors also give to an organization like THS.

Tualatin's Little Red Schoolhouse in 1899. The new coloring book pictures what daily life was like for these children over a century ago.

Going, Going, Gone...

All Koch Farm barns and houses on Tualatin-Sherwood Road, were demolished the week of April 12, 2009.
~ Photos courtesy of Yvonne Addington.

Coming May 1-2

Tualatin’s first “Big Little Art Show” organized by hometown artists opens with a Public Preview at the Heritage Center on Friday, May 1 with a wine tasting reception from 5-8 p.m. sponsored by WineStyles.and At Your Table chef Ryan Sauer. The show continues Saturday, May 2 from 10 am to 4 pm. Visit www.biglittleartshow.com for details.

The spring celebration of fine art features a wide selection of jewelry, paintings, pottery, glass, fiber arts, mosaics, garden art and much more. Satisfy your taste buds on Saturday with fine baked goods from Cyndy Hillier and enter to win a copy of “Mother of the Year” by local authors Jen Peters and Ginger Highland.

This is a great opportunity to shop for Mother’s Day and other gifts that you need during the year.
Oregon Trail Leads to Tualatin Heritage Center

Fourth graders from all three Tualatin elementary schools will once again be re-living history May 19-22 thanks to Tualatin Historical Society. The day-long activities culminate their study of the Oregon Trail and the early settlers who ended their arduous journey in Tualatin. Tualatin Elementary School was the first to visit the heritage center in spring 2007 with Byrom beginning their trek in 2008. This will be the first year for Bridgeport students to participate in hands-on activities.

Byrom and Tualatin elementary students walk to the heritage center pulling “family” wagons. They arrive about 9 and are on the trail back to their schools again by 2. Since the students from Bridgeport will be bussed, the schedule will be slightly different. The program includes 8 stations that students visit for 20 minutes each and includes a tour of the Sweek Pond wetlands and lunch and games at the city park. Demonstrations such as the hammered dulcimer by Nancy Downie are popular. Students pay a 25 cent toll to pass onto heritage center grounds, reminiscent of pioneers crossing the Barlow Trail or paying to float their wagons on rafts down the Columbia.

Volunteers are always needed for just one day or all four days to help set up and put away equipment and assist with activities at the following stations:
1. Artifacts and Grinders (guessing how old tools around home and farm were used; grinding coffee and corn)
2. One Room School (practicing arithmetic and following directions from a real school marm)
3. Land Grant Office (locating the original land claim where their Tualatin home now stands)
4. Tin necklaces (making ornamental decorations much like a home lantern was made)
5. Button sewing/rug weaving (learning a lifelong skill they will need someday)
6. Toys and Games/ Hard Tack and Butter (playing old fashioned games and eating the butter they churned on their morning trip by shaking cream in a baby food jar)
7. Laundry area (using a scrub board and hanging laundry on wood drying racks)
8. Gardening (preparing soil and planting flower seeds; observing the Robbins rose)

Please contact Christine Nyberg Tunstall at fimtunstall1@verizon.net or 503-691-2975 for more information or Larry McClure at 503.885.1926 (Heritage Center) larry.mcclure@gmail.com.

Students from Tualatin Elementary learn how to wash clothes the old fashioned ‘Fels Naptha’ way.

Audience Will Participate In Lumiere Mystery/Comedy

Tualatin's own community theatre, which uses the Heritage Center as its home base, is staging a comedy/mystery titled "Bloodhounds" May 8,9,15,16,17,22,23,24. Each show features a local celebrity in a brief cameo role. The plot features local Tualatin Times reporters covering rumors of a vampire loose in the city. The audience participates in solving the "whodunit" mystery by investigating clues. The winners draw for a special prize.

Friday and Saturday night shows begin at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees open at 2 p.m. Tickets are $12 and $10 for residents of Tualatin and $5 for children. $1 off discounts available for out-of-town patrons showing proof of giving blood in April or May. Call or email for reservations at 503.692.5292 or lumiereplayers@gmail.com.

Guest celebrities appearing on various dates will include City Councilors Chris Barhyte and Joelle Davis, Chief Kent Barker, Tualatin Community Services Director Paul Hennon, VFW member Dale Potts, Tualatin Tomorrow team leader Ed Casey, THS co-founder Loyce Martinazzi, with another to be named.

After the last performance May 24, THS members are invited to thank the players with donated food dishes for a cast party. Contact Doris Gleason at 503.692.9796 if you can help.
Membership News
The 2009 membership directory has been completed and will be distributed soon. We wish to particularly thank Karin Olson who along with member Denver James organized the layout and spent hours checking names, addresses and phone numbers for correctness.

We are pleased to welcome the following eight new members who have joined the organization this past month:
Joelle and Christopher Davis
Donna and Art Schacher
Ken and Rosa Lee Dickson
Ed and Joanne Casey

Recycle Tip of the Month  from Karin Olson
REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE
Florescent light bulbs are hazardous waste
– DO NOT PUT IN GARBAGE
PRIDE Recycling Center  503-625-6177

Cemetery Clean-Up Day Scheduled
Tualatin’s historic Winona Cemetery will hold its annual "clean up" day starting at 1 pm, Sunday, May 17. The community is invited to help prune shrubs, pull weeds, edge around headstones and rake up debris.

Hand tools are also needed: pruning shears, rakes, edgers etc. (identify with your name). The annual Association meeting starts at 3 pm. A Memorial Day service is planned for 11 am, Monday, May 25, sponsored by the Tualatin VFW and the Winona Cemetery Association.

Boy Scout Eagle Project Benefits Heritage Center
Tualatin High School scout Brian Setniker organized a work party in April to install two benches at overlooks around the Sweek Pond path with other benches planned later for the planted area west of the center patio. Brian’s project also includes a wood chess set using a tarp that can be rolled out on the patio surface in good weather. Thanks to Brian and his donors for this park improvement project.

Visit us at:
www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org