



Tualatin Historical Society Quarterly Newsletter

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018

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



Save the Date...

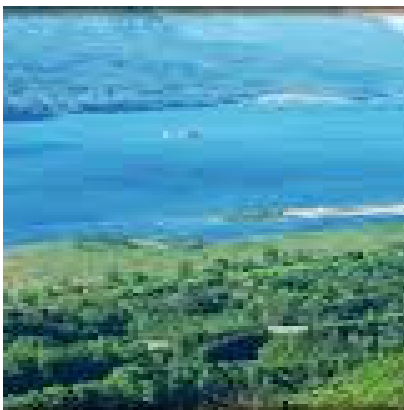
Evening Program

The Gorge 2020:

**Looking forward to the
Next Decade**

Thursday, January 18, 7pm

Krystna Wolniakowski, Executive Director of the Columbia River Gorge Commission, works daily to preserve and protect one of the scenic wonders of the world. Her responsibilities include creating a master plan for its future, made more difficult last summer by the devastating fires that scarred some of the iconic spots along the river.



Suggested donation of \$3 per adult. Monthly program co-sponsored by Ice Age Flood Institute Columbia Chapter and the Tualatin Heritage Center. For information, call Sylvia Thompson at 503.257.01440 or www.iafi.org/lowercolumbia

“From the Ground Up: What It Took for Tualatin to Grow “

On Wednesday, January 3, 2018 1 p.m. Yvonne Addington, our first city manager, gives an insider's view of how Tualatin grew from a small dot on the map to one of the boomtowns of Oregon in little more than a decade. Having grown up here, Yvonne worked with residents and business leaders to create the infrastructure for housing, parks, commerce and industrial development. She later moved on to Washington County and the State of Oregon to continue her visionary work. Yvonne served three years as THS president and spearheaded writing the history of Tualatin's fire department that later morphed into Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue which now covers a large part of Washington County. This program will be held at the Tualatin Heritage Center. (see interview with Yvonne on page 4.)



City Manager Yvonne Addington 1972

Lou Ogden is Tualatin's longest-serving mayor. In a Q&A format, Lou will share some of the successes and unfinished work he's seen in our city as he completes his final term in December, 2018. During Mayor Lou's years Tualatin reached its growth apex with several housing subdivisions expanding in all areas and dozens of small and large businesses now calling Tualatin home. Three large malls now bring in business from the Portland metro area. Lou was also instrumental in saving and moving the old Methodist church that now serves as THS headquarters. Wednesday, February 7, 1 p.m.

My 22 Years in The Hot Seat



Vintage Clothing Program to Recognize Valentines Day and THS Anniversary, February 11.



In the 1800s, Sweek House was known for holding parties and dances in the upstairs of the historic house still standing on Boones Ferry today. Kay Demlow, a Forest Grove expert on men's and women's clothing from the Civil War to the Great War years, will present a special THS program on vintage clothing Sunday, February 11 at the Marquis Community Center. Widely known for her presentations, Kay will comment on dresses from THS's own collection of vintage clothing. She particularly enjoys identifying when old family pictures from the late 1800s and early 20th century were taken based on what the subjects are wearing in the photographs. There will be a gathering time at 2 p.m. to take advantage of beverages and food, including valentine treats, at the Marquis Café. Admission to the program itself is \$5. Kay will speak at 3 p.m.



Antiques Appraisal Attracts New Faces

After a several-year absence, Charlie Harbick returned to his old stomping grounds in Tualatin November 12 and appraised dozens of interesting items brought by area residents. The event also resulted in at least one new member to THS. Charlie grew up in Tualatin but now runs an antique mall in Sherwood. The event also showcased the Marquis Community Center where some reminders of the former elementary school are on display. The THS treasury netted over \$420 and included a raffle and sale of THS products.

Mask and Mirror Theatre Returns to Tualatin Heritage Center

Our local community theatre troupe opens their 2018 season of "Unmasked" plays with "The Receptionist" by Adam Bock playing just two weekends: January 19, 20, 21 and January 26, 27, 28. At the start of a typical day in the office, Beverly deals effortlessly with ringing phones and a colleague's romantic troubles. The appearance of a charming head office representative disrupts the friendly scene. As the true nature of the company's business becomes apparent, The Receptionist raises provocative questions about the consequences of complicity with evil.

THS shares in any profits from the play. Tickets available by calling 503-333-1139 or email tickets@maskandmirror.com



Farewell, Friends

Eleanor Krause, wife of THS vice president Kurt Krause, passed away in her sleep September 12 after a brief bout with acute myeloid leukemia and 8 days after they had celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Joe Sequito, THS member since the Heritage Center opened in 2006, recently passed away. Joe and Joan had moved to Idaho two years ago. Joe remembered planes flying over Pearl Harbor when he was a 16-year old boy in Honolulu. He particularly enjoyed dancing at the Commons during the summer Friday night concerts. His wife Joan was a regular volunteer at THC.

Trouble, Dam Trouble: When the Tualatin River Ran Backwards

By Loyce Martinazzi

For 83 miles the Tualatin River curves and meanders all the way from its headwaters in the coast range to where it trickles into the Willamette River. 1872 The Tualatin River Navigation and Manufacturing Company dug a canal from the Tualatin River into Oswego's Sucker Lake. They proceeded to install a dam, raising the water level so that small steamboats could haul passengers and freight from up river to Sucker Lake and thence to the Willamette River.

The river had to be cleared of snags and debris before the steamboat Onward could ply its waters. Oswego's Oregon Iron and Steel Company built a furnace to smelt iron ore, and the furnace required huge amounts of charcoal. Loggers, like John L. Smith of Tualatin, floated timber down the river and through the canal where it was burned into charcoal to feed the furnace. When as often happened the river was too shallow to be raised.



to be raised. In those days the river was clogged with logs and the valley air was blue with smoke. Each time the dam was raised it was a godsend for the loggers and the iron industry-- but disastrous for the farmers whose richly productive land bordered the river. By 1894 the dam was raised so high that the Tualatin River flooded farm lands clear up to Scholls, so that farmers, mostly onion growers, were unable to plant early enough to harvest a crop, or if already planted, the onions would actually float on top of the water and were spoiled. At the behest of the farmers, several lawsuits were filed against the OI&S company, but each time the court dismissed the case against them.

I recently found documentary evidence that Tualatin farmer John Sweek signed a form to the effect that he would make no complaint when and if his river land were flooded. Mr. Sweek however, was unusually lucky in the geology of his site—the river bank that formed the border of his property was very high. That site included the land we now know as the Tualatin County Club.

. To further complicate the situation, the global financial panic of 1893-97 also played into the drama. OI&S had stopped the furnaces, as the iron ore played out, putting many local Oswegans out of work at the smelter. In 1902 the farmers sued the OI&S, choosing August Krause from the Sherwood onion flats, (Cipole) as the spokesman for the group of farmers whose land was rendered useless by the dam. The case was tried in district court in Clackamas County, and according to the testimony which I got from the State Archives, each man testified as to conditions on their farm

A roll call of farmers that testified, from Scholls to Tualatin: F. H. Page, F. Rowell, J. A. Rowell, Ferdinand Groner, Joseph Galbreath, A. J. Hess, Fred Plier, Godfrey Shamberg, Wm. Jurgens, Fred Fredericks, W. Werekerb, J. R. C. Thompson, J. W. Hess, J. F. Coley, Henry Saffran, A. C. Hall. Tualatin locals John L. Smith and E.A. Eddy testified in favor of OI&S. John L. owned a steamboat called the Tualatin that he wanted to keep on the river and Eddy was working for the company. Several farmers testified that when the river was dammed, the water would be so high the logs actually floated backward. Much of the farmland at issue was rich deep beaverdam soil, well suited for growing vegetables--especially onions—but ruined by high water. Judge Thomas McBride ruled for the farmers, instructing the company to remove all but 24 inches of the dam. The company appealed to the Oregon Supreme court who affirmed the lower court's decision. Back and forth the company stalled and said they “could not understand” the ruling. The case had been hung up in the courts for four years and the farmers had had enough. One summer day Portland's major daily newspaper ran this headline:

August 17, 1906- The Oregonian **Big Hole Blown in Dam**

Later the company posted an ad in the Oregonian offering \$500 for information leading to the conviction of those blowing up the dam. But as local farmer Carl Schaber told me his dad told him, that “when the sheriff came around the next day asking questions, nobody knew anything about it.” Dang, I could use \$500, but the company no longer exists, and the perpetrators of the deed are long gone!

My dad talked about the case a lot. And I know who blew up the dam. Do you? Let me give you some clues: There were four men. One lived down river near Wankers Corners. One was an onion farmer whose fields lay close to Meridian Road, (65th Avenue) Two were sons-in-law of a German farmer a mile or so east. And the dynamite came from another Cipole farmer.

According to the late Bill Galbreath, his uncle Art Galbreath from Cipole supplied the dynamite.

From the Ground Up: What It Took for Tualatin to Grow by Ross Baker

Tualatin circa 1970 with a population of 359 was not a pretty sight. Codes written in 1916 did not match the city's needs some half century later—and even then, they were not enforced. The smell of the town's largest employer—Blue Mountain dog food factory—permeated the city's center. The front of houses, property of businesses, and empty lots were full of junk, weeds and debris. Buildings were in disrepair, falling, and many were abandoned. "Curb blight" as it called was documented with hundreds of photos in an attempt for the city to get urban renewal funds. In 1964 Yvonne Addington had no idea that the next two decades of her life would be dedicated to turning Tualatin around. Our city was no blank canvas where you could just swoop in and build the city we enjoy today. It was a matter of taking a step back for every two steps forward. During Yvonne's tenure working with the city her jobs included: Treasurer, Recorder, Judge and City Manager. At times she wore multiple hats doing more than one of those functions at a time. During the next almost 20 years she would help address several areas in need of fixing—or created from the ground up:

- Modern local government
- Land use planning
- Water and sewers
- Fire department
- Police and courts
- An industrial tax base
- Commerce friendly environment
- A local hospital
- Parks and library



Tualatin's first city hall was a former house with a two-car garage at the corner of today's Boones Ferry Road and Tualatin-Sherwood Road (now an outdoor storage area). The garage housed the volunteer fire department complete with bunks in the back for the firefighters to sleep. Yvonne's debut with the city was greeted with a debt of \$29,000 and about the only "resource" was five acres of what would become part of today's community park. Not a good start. Zoning was in place but everything west of today's WES line was heavy industry. The codes were so outdated that they mandated "boardwalks" be built in front of any new structure. Not sidewalks—boardwalks! And even then, nobody complied.

Things were about to start changing in Tualatin and land use planning was the perfect place to start. Going forward developers would be required to donate funds or land for parks. Industry would be moved west toward 99W with a focus more toward light and sustainable

environment. After the '74 flood new regulations enforced a "one foot above the 100 year flood plain" rule ensuring future impact from inundations would be minimized. Outreach with families like the Van Raden's helped lay the foundation for future park and community building expansion.

But Yvonne knew that wasn't enough. Private septic systems were often in bad repair or leaking. Wells were inefficient or dry. The city was going to have to build sewers and establish water sources for future generations. With those two key items, the city would be able to coax new developments into the city boundaries and help finance the growth to come. With the help of then Portland Mayor Neil Goldschmidt, access to the Bull Run water system was established. Tualatin's corporate leaders at the time (Harvey Van Raden, Peerless Trailer; Jason Hervin, the Hervin Company; Harry Driver, Ramada Inn and Bob McEvers, Conrad Veneer) loaned/granted \$400,000 to build the water line to Lake Grove Water District which received its water from Portland's Bull Run source.

In 1976 a sewage treatment facility was built and eventually closed in favor of the regional plant in Durham. As predicted, annexation grew the city including the first expansion into Clackamas County across I-5 and land that today includes the city's second largest employer Meridian Park Hospital. During this time period the city not only landed grants for water, but also sewer, parks, reservoirs, streets and the downtown Nyberg to Tualatin Sherwood Road connector. These improvements relied heavily on contractors like CH2M Hill, a high-profile engineering firm who helped Tualatin install only second tertiary treatment plant for sewage in the U.S. for its time. Las Vegas had the first.

Tualatin's borders also expanded during Yvonne's years. Industrial and commercial businesses near the I-5 bridge sought annexation so they could build their complexes.

Tualatin did have a fire department, but it was volunteer-based and had to cover 89 square miles. To give you a feel of what that much area means consider that Sherwood, Wilsonville, King City, Durham and Rivergrove were all included in Tualatin's fire district. By the time Yvonne arrived on the scene the department was no longer volunteer but in much need of personnel and equipment to service the growing community. If you are curious about this part of Tualatin's history please stop by the Heritage Center and purchase

Tualatin Fire Protection History, 1937-1989
 authored by....you guessed it, Yvonne Addington.

During this critical period of re-birth for Tualatin there was no police department. Those services were contracted from the county and Yvonne served as municipal judge. While her duties were largely focused on enforcing local ordinances, she was in place during some turbulent times that included the Green River Killer; I-5 Killer, Brothers Speed Outlaw Motorcycle Club and two murders at the CI Bar and Grill, all of which deserve their own stories. To be a judge Yvonne had to travel to Los Angeles for three days once a year to “judges school”. That seems quaint by today’s standards but her work in this area resulted in serving as President of the Municipal Judges Association, a heady accomplishment indeed for a farm girl from Tualatin.

What would our community be without our hospital which is the envy of all our neighboring towns? Many pushed back on even having the hospital in the first place citing “the germs it may bring to the community.” But with land from Clackamas County now firmly within our city limits it went forward and to this day remains a major contributor to our employment base and quality of life. Originally it was to be called Southwest Hospital when it was first proposed in 1968. By the time it opened in 1973 it was named Meridian Park. The hospital’s namesake is the Willamette Meridian, the line from which all Oregon and Washington property surveys are measured.

It’s hard to imagine a Tualatin without our parks. But, aside from that 5 acres (from the railroad trestle to about the southern edge of the baseball field) in today’s Community Park, there were none. Imagine a time when even the notion of street trees was a radical idea that saw many pushing back on the idea. Building the heart of a city is not easy. The original vision was for a San Antonio-like river walk. As the realities of development and finances set in, and the removal of the dog food plant occurred, that concept inspired today’s Lake at the Commons under the stewardship of early 90’s mayor Steve Stolze. From these humble beginnings we also witnessed the development of other Tualatin award-winning parks. With the help of those early seeds and longtime city employees like Paul Hennon, we now enjoy Atfalati, Brown’s Ferry, Jurgens, Stoneridge and Lafky park resources. In addition, natural areas like Sweek Pond, Little Woodrose and our

wetlands have been preserved. Those first 5 acres have grown to over 200 acres—larger than the original plat of the town made over 100 years ago!

How do you build a successful city? With a lot of great people. People you may not be likely to have known. Like Lee Gensman, a civil engineer and mayor, who oversaw developments on water, sewer, storm drains and street width standards. Or Jim Brock, a timber company salesman and another mayor dedicated to things like street trees, underground electricity lines, sign control and a robust architectural review board. And all of the dozens of City council and committee members who have served the community over the years.

Patience was their common thread. Yvonne’s experience shows you need to look beyond the horizon. Tualatin 50 years ago was experiencing some growing pains, but the vision was there. The “nice” things like parks and hospitals had to wait. Wait for zoning ordinances that blended the need for housing with industry and commercial spaces. Wait for sewers and water. Wait for police and a modern fire department. For Yvonne the wait is over. She can look in her rearview mirror and say “okay, mission accomplished”. For citizens of Tualatin, the wait is over. Thanks to Yvonne Addington and too many others to mention, they somehow cobbled together the livable city we all enjoy today.



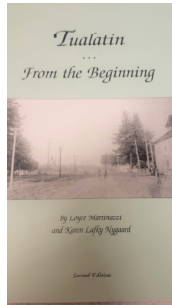
Tualatin’s First City Hall



Example of “urban blight “ in 1960’s and 70’s in Tualatin

2017 Annual Meeting Elects New Director and Gives Awards

Marianne Ryder, who works behind the scenes as an editor for the upcoming revision and reprint of our THS “bible,” *Tualatin from the Beginning*, was awarded the Martinazzi-Lafky award in November at the 2017 annual meeting of the Society. Loyce praised Marianne’s careful attention to details and search for newer and better photos in this next edition coming in 2018.



Citing their sterling efforts to “promote Tualatin’s rich and colorful history” in our mission statement, President Ross Baker gave President’s Awards to Al Stewart (our professional photographer), Barbara Hess (our Facebook administrator) and Graehm Alberty (our amazing summer intern who created an interactive link to historic buildings and sites from our website and arranged for Tualatin High School newspapers to be added to our electronic data collection). Each has opened new avenues to the community using digital technologies that are common in today’s world.

Cathy Stockwell, very familiar with small historical society operations, was elected to the THS board. She has already been learning names and routines while partnering with Karin Olson on updates for the Society’s database. And she’s now enjoyed almost three years as an Oregonian.

A New Englander by background, Cathy was a teacher in Massachusetts for ten years. As a single mom with two young kids, she then worked 25 years in the computer industry before retiring to fulfill a lifelong dream of living in Maine. There she lived in a small town of 900 in winter and 3,000 in summers and began to volunteer for the South Bristol Historical Society. She was subsequently elected as a board member, vice-president and president. Cathy planned and implemented special events like historic home tours, history of business establishments and created audio-visual productions.

After losing both her mom and dad in one year, she moved to Oregon in 2015 to be close to her son’s family which includes three grandchildren. A daughter and her husband live in Massachusetts (with two big dogs).

Curator Update: by Sandra Carlson

Atfaliti Artifacts on Permanent Display

A stone grinding bowl and pestle are currently displayed with other ancient stone tools at the Tualatin Heritage Center. These tools represent a part of Tualatin history before European settlers arrived. The area had long been a hunting and camping ground for the Atfalati band of the Kalapuya who lived throughout the Willamette Valley.

My grandfather Mark Lafky, like other Tualatin farmers decades ago, plowed the fields walking behind horses. As they turned the soil, they would suddenly unearth long-buried stone tools, many of them arrowheads. The stone bowl and pestle were found years ago near the junction of I-5 and I-405, on the Morse Farm. They were donated to the Tualatin Historical Society by Margie Larsen. Visitors are welcome to view the displays at the Tualatin Heritage Center, weekdays 10-2



New Book Features Last Speaker of Atfaliti Language

Memories of the last speaker of the Tualatin Northern Kalapuya (Atfaliti) language have been interpreted and published as a new book titled “My Life: Growing Up on the Grand Ronde Reservation.” Henry Zenk is the editor, known particularly for his studies of the Indian language known as Chinook WaWa. The book, available from OSU Press or Amazon, covers the period 1870-1880. A copy will be available for check out at Tualatin Heritage Center.



Heritage Center January Event Calendar

Knitting and Crochet Workshop

Fridays, 1/5, 1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16
10 am-Noon. FREE

Bring a project or start one. All levels welcome.



THS Monthly Program Yvonne Addington From the Ground Up

Wednesday, January 3, 1:00 pm

See page 1 for more information

The Gorge 2020: Looking Forward to the Next Decade

Ice Age Evening Program

Thursday, January 18, 7:00 pm

See page 1 of the newsletter for details.



February Event Calendar

23 Years in The Hot Seat Lou Ogden

THS Monthly Program

Wednesday, February 7, 1:00 pm

See page 1 For details.

When Biston Were 10 feet Tall

Ice Age Evening Program

Thursday, February 15, 7:00 pm

March Event Calendar

A Short History of Tigard (ville)

THS Monthly Program

Wednesday, March 7, 1:00 pm

A Year of Firsts and a Year of Giants in the Willamette Valley

Ice Age Evening Program

Thursday, March 15, 7:00 pm



Everybody Loves Cookies

A big thanks goes to Lois Roby, Karin Olson, Gerry Brosy and Anita Gilham for making cookies and coffee for the THS monthly programs in October and December.



THS Membership Form

Some of the many benefits include:
Quarterly issues of the Society's newsletter,
voting privileges, a voice in historical
preservation, invitations to various events,
and making new friends.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Ph#: _____ Cell: _____

Email(s): _____

You are signing up for periodic email from the Society. You may unsubscribe at any time.

Levels of Support:

- ☐ Individual membership \$25
- ☐ Household membership \$40
(2+ at same residence)
- ☐ Founder's Club (3 years) \$250
- ☐ Heritage Circle (5 years) \$500

Please add my...

- ☐ Tax deductible donation \$
- ☐ Tax deductible donation \$
to our auction.
- ☐ Tax deductible donation \$
to the TuHS Scholarship Fund

*Thank you
for your support!!*

Make checks payable to:
Tualatin Historical Society

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Mail to:
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P.O. Box 1055
Tualatin, OR 97062-1055

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See current and past newsletters in color and other articles of interest at
www.tualatinhistoricalsociety.org.

Tualatin Overture CD Available

Our December program by Arthur Breur received a rousing applause and the CD of this history of Tualatin as viewed through music is now available for sale at the heritage center for \$5. The Tualatin Valley Symphony debuted Arthur's composition at a concert in May at Living Savior Lutheran Church where the orchestra rehearses and performs. Composer notes are included with the CD. The THS audience in December particularly enjoyed the section portraying the "march of the mastodons" and the Mis-soula Floods.



As we approach the winter season, we may experience inclement weather that could possibly cause the Heritage Center to open later or close. Call 503.885.1926 for information.



Tualatin Heritage Center
 Tualatin Historical Society
 8700 SW Sweek Drive
 Tualatin, OR 97062



The Tualatin Heritage Center is open to the public weekdays from 10am to 2pm. The Tualatin Historical Society holds open program meetings in the Center at 1:00 pm on the first Wednesday of each month except July and November. For information, call 503.885.1926.



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