

Make History! Dine Out! Thursday, June 27th

Grab your family members, friends and neighbors on June 27th for our inaugural "Make History - Dine Out!" event! As a salute to our emerging cultural/economic impact, fourteen favorite local restaurants (listed below) have generously offered to donate a portion of that day's sales to CCHS. Let's show them how much we, in turn, support local businesses!

Participating restaurants include Back Alley Pub and Grill, Blue Heron Bistro, Café Mediterranean, Cicarelli's, High Tide Café, La

Herradura, Liberty Pub, Miller's at the Cove, Momiji's, Portland Bagel, Shark Bites Café, Sushi Gardens, Tai's Dynasty, and Walt's Pourhouse. (We should add that many other local restaurants provide much-appreciated and continuing support, but for various reasons were unable to participate in this event this year.)

With construction beginning this month on the new waterfront Coos Historical & Maritime Center, CCHS will soon be able to serve many more residents and visitors

with more diverse programs, encourage discovery of all parts of our beautiful County, and help strengthen the local economy. "Make History - Dine Out!" applies that win/win/win strategy, and is just a taste of things to come.

Keep an eye out for "Make History" posters around town, and be sure to tell your friends to "Dine Out" at a partner restaurant on June 27th. For more information, please visit www.cooshistory.org or our Coos Historical & Maritime Facebook page.

New Officers

The CCHS board has nominated the following as your Society officers for 2013-14: president **Joe Slack** (architect with HGE); vice-president **Bill Mast** (retired Lee Valley dairy farmer); treasurer **Karen O'Donnell** (accountant); and secretary **Anne Guerin** (former teacher and rancher).

*Don't forget...
Annual Meeting on June 29th*

MAKE HISTORY! DINE OUT!

Thursday,
June 27th

Any meal
All day

Visit one
(or more!) of
these fine restaurants
on June 27th. Each meal
triggers a generous gift to the
Coos Historical & Maritime Center!

See www.cooshistory.org or

Find us on Facebook

Coos
Historical & Maritime Center

Special thanks to

Construction Begins On New Coos Historical & Maritime Center

Construction will begin this month on the new bayfront Coos Historical & Maritime Center! A formal "ground breaking" ceremony will be held in early August, 2013.

The contract for construction of the basic structure has been signed with North Bend general contractor Scott Partney Construction, with work starting immediately. CCHS expects to be exercising contract options for additional work within a few months, including possible additional development of the plaza on the building's south side. Building construction is expected to require approximately 12 months, after

which exhibits can be installed.

"This is a huge milestone, and an enormous testament to the vision and commitment of Coos County residents and local governments and business folks," says Executive Director Annie Donnelly. She notes especially the work of the all-volunteer Campaign Steering Committee (co-chairs Bill Lansing and Steve Kridlebaugh, John and Teri Whitty, Caddy McKeown, Jennifer Groth, and Steve Greif), and the extraordinary commitment of donors who have "kept the faith" for so many years.

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From the Desk of the President

by Steve Greif

Fourteen years ago I attended my first board meeting of the CCHS and I remember President **Carl Siminow** announcing that we had received a significant donation enabling us to start a new museum. I learned later our donor was **Martha Butler**. Soon thereafter **Jerry Phillips** and I found ourselves on a Building Committee, chaired by **Ann Collins**, and designs were drawn up. Carl, Jerry, Ann and I are still on the board today and each of us celebrated a board vote in early June to finally award a contract for construction of the new museum to begin.

A project like this is complicated at the best of times, but we've faced more unexpected hurdles than we could have imagined: a change of location, necessitating complete redesign of the building, complex negotiations with DEQ and the railroad; the state's claim of title to the land; a national recession. We've succeeded because so many individuals have contributed such an array of talents when needed. **Ann Koppy**, our former director, started what has proven to be an invaluable electronic cataloging project. **Vicki Wiese**, who joined us in early 2005, took that project to a whole new level and built a small, powerful army of fantastic volunteers. **Bill Lansing**, **Steve Kridelbaugh**, **Caddy McKeown**, and **John & Teri Whitty** created a fundraising program that raised enough local cash to convince foundations to support the project. **Jennifer Groth** took over the board presidency during the recession and, also working with the campaign committee, kept the dream alive.

Annie Donnelly joined us as

executive director in 2004, just as the new site became available. Her unique skill set guided the Society forward in many ways and helped us refine our vision and build a strong strategic plan. She helped launch our unique local history program that reaches every 4th and 5th grader on the South Coast. She and Vicki created new "walls" and exhibits in every space of our current museum, and developed services for the community with positive partnerships with other museums, agencies, and local nonprofits. But, most of all, she drove the Coos Historical & Maritime Center project forward every day, as only someone with a background in architecture and law could do. An outstanding grant writer, Annie has leveraged countless grants for our operations and projects. **Kerry Tymchuk**, director of the Oregon Historical Society, recently told our board that Annie was the best local museum director in the state.

Annie will continue to assist the CCHS as our new building on the waterfront rises, however, she plans to reduce her involvement in new operations and services, as she pursues a new opportunity with a part-time position at the Oregon Community Foundation. We're looking forward to expanding our team yet again, to capitalize on the opportunities our new facility will create; Board member **Jon Littlefield** is chairing a search committee to transition to a new executive director. On behalf of current and past board members, we want to express our appreciation for Annie's tremendous effort to make our community a better place.

Coos County Historical Society

1220 Sherman Ave.
North Bend, OR 97459

(541)756-6320

www.cooshistory.org

Open Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.

<i>Executive Director:</i>	Anne Donnelly
<i>Collections Manager:</i>	Vicki Wiese
<i>Research/Museum Asst.:</i>	Hannah Cooney
<i>Bookkeeper:</i>	
<i>President:</i>	Steve Greif
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Bill Mast
<i>Secretary:</i>	Anne Guerin
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Karen O'Donnell
<i>Board of Trustees:</i>	Alexis Barry, Toni Ann Brend, Ann Collins, Lucinda DiNovo, Darla Lesan, Jon Littlefield, Jerry Phillips, Toni Poole, Sally Prouty, Carl Siminow, Joe Slack, Cory Smith, Barbara Taylor, Carol Ventgen

End of Education Program 2013

Volunteers for the CCHS schools program served more than 1400 4th and 5th graders this year, under the outstanding leadership of Education Coordinator **Amber Cannon-Dornath**, with assistance for the 5th grade from **Mandy Henderson**. The 2013-14 school year promises to be even more exciting – and will require additional volunteers!

CCHS members, especially those with teaching experience, are encouraged to contact the museum. Trainings for various parts of the program are provided in late fall and early spring; volunteers may participate on just a few occasions, or with multiple program elements. It's astonishingly easy, and surprisingly rewarding: a chance to learn something new, help students develop critical thinking skills, and together build new appreciation for our community.

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Two New Books Tell Local History

by Steve Greif

Local authors continue to tell the South Coast story.

Reg Pullen, former CCHS board member, and **Robert Miller**, a Port of Bandon commissioner, have recently produced Images of America: Bandon and presented an author talk at the Coos Historical and Maritime Museum on May 4th. The authors dug deep into the image collections of the Bandon and Coos County historical societies and, like other books in the Arcadia Publishing series, this volume is loaded with hundreds of local photos. As captivating as the images are, the captions and chapter introductions are equally critical to the success of the book. The book is well organized with chapters on the Nasomah natives; jetty construction; the Bandon fires; and the timber, cranberry, dairy,



and cheese industries. A relatively unknown story about a scheme to build a canal from the Coquille River to Isthmus Slough is explained. And readers are brought up to the present with a chapter about the thriving golf industry in Bandon. Locals who regularly visit the scenic Bandon area will find the book will make their next visit even more complete and interesting.

George H. Whitney (1910-1999) lived in both the Myrtle Point and Coos River areas and wrote many letters about his early years. His daughter, **Carolyn Whitney Prola**, has now compiled ex-

cerpts from her father's writings and oral interviews into a new book called In the Shadow of Sugarloaf. Carolyn also gave a book talk at our museum on May 11th. The 82 page paperback gives a first-person account of what it was like to grow up in rural areas of Coos County from 1910 to about 1930. There are good stories and photographs of ranch life, school days, holidays, and a time when boat traffic was the main form of transportation.

The CCHS gift store has both of these volumes for sale. Bandon sells for \$21.99 and Sugarloaf sells for \$10. As usual, your CCHS membership entitles you to a 10% discount.



Board Member Update

By Steve Greif

The CCHS Board of Trustees has recently accepted the retirement of one member while recommending the addition of three new ones.

Tom Younker retired from the Board this March after several years of service to the CCHS. Younker is a retired teacher and coach from North Bend High School. He has also served as an officer of the Coquille Indian Tribe and has been very active in efforts to enrich tribal history. Tom wanted to make way for new tribal representatives. One of those is Coquille Tribal member **Toni Ann Brend**.

Brend grew up in Coos County, and presently lives on the Kilchick Reservation along the Cape Arago Highway. Brend's Great- Great-Grandmother was Susan Adulsa Wasson, a Coquille Indian. Her heritage includes Chief Kitsunginum, a Kusan Indian, her father, past **Chief Tony Tanner**, her mother, past Council Representative **Joyce Tanner**, and her brother, **Chief Ken Tanner**. Brend's father and mother worked for 40 years on Restoration of the Coquille Indian Tribe. Brend was Secretary/Treasurer of the Coquille Indian

Tribe for eight years, Tribal Council Representative for two years and is currently serving as the Vice Chair. She also serves as chair on the Coquille Indian Tribe Housing Authority Board and is a member of the Tribal Education and Tribal Investment Committees. Brend is a Master Bead Artist and a cultural mentor who enjoys teaching beading techniques to tribal members including tribal youth. Vice Chair Brend is a graduate of University of Alaska and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing.

We also welcome long time CCHS member **Toni Poole** to our Board. Poole is a retired banker. She worked for Security Bank and Umpqua Bank for 28 years primarily in credit administration and retired as a Senior Vice President in 2004. She earned a B.S. degree from St. Mary's Dominican College in New Orleans. Then, she completed an M.S. degree from Oregon State University. Poole recently completed 12 years of volunteer service with the Bay Area Hospital Board of Directors as a finance and audit committee member, a board member and board chair. She has previously served as a board member for a variety of organizations including: Southwestern Oregon Community College, Coos Art Museum, Oregon Coast

Music Association and the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. Toni lives in Coos Bay with her husband, **Art Poole**. They moved to Coos County in 1975. Coquille was home for 16 years followed by a move to Coos Bay in 1991. Her interests include quilting, cooking and travel.

We also welcome to the Board **Alexis Barry**. Ms. Barry moved to Coos Bay in 2012 with her husband Harold Miller and her daughter Logan Shields to work as the Tribal Administrator of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians. Barry holds a B.A. Degree in Visual Arts and an MA in Cultural Anthropology from the University of South Florida. Ms. Barry has worked in a variety of fields including Tribal Government, Health and Human Services, the Visual Arts and Cultural Anthropology. In addition, Ms. Barry currently teaches Cultural Anthropology and Sociology courses at the college level. She has served as the Executive Director of the Suquamish Tribe of Washington State, the Pit River Tribe of Northern California, the YWCA of Monterey, and the Grants Coordinator for The Cross Cultural Health Care Project in Seattle. Thank you, Tom, and welcome to Alexis and the two Toni's!

Military Bunkers at Shore Acres State Park

By Steve Nasburg

Having been a lifelong resi-

dent of the Bay Area, I have an ego-

tistical view that I know where everything is. Fortunately, I get proved wrong on a regular basis, and during the unusually hot weather we had a while back, my wife and I decided that getting out of Myrtle Point and heading to Shore Acres for the day would be a good idea. Connie used to be a part-time park ranger for the state at Shore Acres, and I mentioned the old World War II military bunkers, so off we went. The trailhead is on the east side of the main road just past the Shore Acres entrance and is marked with a red-brown sign stating "Cape Arago Pack Trail". The trail leads up to the top of the ridge, a two and quarter-mile, 400 foot climb. But the military bunkers are only part way up, about a quarter-mile, on the right hand side. We took a number of pictures and caught our breath from the uphill trek. Once home, I posted the photos online for friends and family photos of military bunkers they were not aware of.

Up until December 7th, 1941, the Pacific coast was seemingly untouchable by a war with Japan, but that changed as soon as the bombs started to fall on Pearl Harbor. The Western Defense Command, under the helm of General DeWitt, scrambled, using the RAINBOW 5 plan. Coastal residents were commanded to blackout their homes nightly. Block wardens patrolled neighborhoods, looking for telltale lights.

Volunteers watched for airplanes, soldiers patrolled the offshore waters

along with the Coast Guard, and coast watchers with their dogs walked the beaches,

approximately 40 from Canada to Mexico, the remains of the one at Cape Perpetua having yet to be found. This particular one at Shore Acres was the SCR 270B type radar installation, which could glean data out to approximately 120 miles. By June of 1942, almost all construction ceased, and defensive efforts curtailed due to two main battles: the Battle of Coral Sea in May, and the

Battle of Midway in June. The tide of the war had turned and the U.S. was marching towards Japan, with the enemy retreating. The Army continued to man the lookout, specifically it is believed, by Company G of the 174th Infantry, 44th Division. It was abandoned not long after the war ended in the Pacific, the building left to be taken over by the moss and ferns of the coastal forest and its denizens.



looking out to sea. This plan also included a number of airbases, auxiliary air bases and coastal patrols manned by soldiers in lookouts. At the North Bend Airport, an auxiliary base was established in early 1943 that included barracks for 675 men, a wooden hangar, and storage for 100,000 gallons of gasoline. The last vestige of that base was the hangar, recently destroyed by fire on December 4th, 2012.

The bunkers at Shore Acres were hastily constructed, as were other defensive structures along the coast. The station was called 'Cape Arago, B-28', of which there were



Military Bunkers continued...

The building itself consists of four rooms, set north to south. The first room one can assume was the main entry and office. The next room has a single tower that rises a few yards in the air, with a tunnel-like entrance at ground level. The second room is much the same, only this one has two towers. The last room, I believe, was the day barracks for the crew manning the station. The main barracks for the unit was at the Louis Simpson house itself, which had to be quite a luxury in comparison to 'normal' coastal stations. The walk to the bunker is worth the effort, especially if you like seeing an old growth forest in action, just watch

the trail for berry seed filled bear 'leavings'. Pay attention as you go up the trail. Through the salmon berry bushes and ferns to the right is a short trail branching off, the bunkers just a few yards off the main trail itself. If you have any comments, corrections, or know of more 'hidden history' places like this, please let me know as I'm con-



sidering writing a book about the hidden history of the area, and trying to gauge the interest in such an endeavor. You can e-mail me at modelmechanic@gmail.com.



ABOVE: Teddy with a CCHS board member.

Teddy Roosevelt Visits Coos County Historical Society

by Steve Greif

On May 15th the CCHS was thrilled to host former president, Theodore Roosevelt, as portrayed by nationally known performer **Joe Wiegand**, for a series of highly successful educational and entertaining events. Wiegand, who has performed at the White House, was sponsored for a 2013 Oregon tour by **Wells Fargo** bank. We are indebted to **Kerry Tymchuk**, Reedsport native and Executive Director of the Oregon Historical Society for ensuring that the Bay Area and CCHS were included in his itinerary.

Mr. Wiegand's first appearance was a free afternoon performance at the Marshfield High School auditorium, arranged by the CCHS for all 7th and 8th grade students in the County. "TR" discussed both his own early life, and that of his family during their White House years (1901-1908). He remained steadfastly in character as students posed questions and gained personal insights into one of America's most interesting historical figures. A few hours later, "TR" and period-costumed **Joe and Vicki Morgan** arrived at the North Bend museum in the Morgans' beautiful 1914 Hudson. After a brief impromptu speech, "Teddy" mingled in-

formally, still in character, with specially invited guests for light refreshments and décor arranged by **Sherry Shay, Teri Whitty** and CCHS board members.

At 7:30 p.m., "the President" appeared at the SWOCC Hales Performing Arts Center for a very-well attended fundraising event to benefit the CCHS. Publicity was greatly assisted by services generously donated by **South Coast Office Supply** and **KCBY**. The large crowd was not disappointed: after speaking for almost one hour, perfectly reproducing TR's mannerisms, speaking style, and physical characteristics, Wiegand maintained the performance while effortlessly fielding audience questions on a range of political and personal issues dear to TR's ears. Wiegand's command of the stage was surpassed only by his amazing depth of historical knowledge; he earned a sustained standing ovation at the conclusion of his performance. We are most appreciative of Mr. Wiegand, Wells Fargo, Mr. Tymchuk, and our enthusiastic community, who through ticket sales and a Teddy Bear auction generated more than \$1900 to assist with museum operations.



Great News for Blues & Brews

by Steve Greif

The CCHS expresses great thanks to **The Mill Casino** and board member **Lucinda DiNovo**, promotions director at the Mill Casino and Hotel, for inviting the Historical Society to participate in the Blues and Brews event held over Memorial Day weekend. The Society and the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce supplied volunteers to sell tickets at the event entrance, and split the proceeds. CCHS's share, \$3,685, will allow us to purchase a new scanner for use by staff and volunteers digitizing our

vast photograph collection. The Mill's generosity was especially welcome, as CCHS was in desperate need of a replacement for the museum's overworked existing scanner. The event included delicious barbeque and other food vendors, booths serving 21 micro-brew specialty beers, and great live music throughout the weekend. The Casino staff provided quality service; we heard again and again from visitors how much they had enjoyed the event. The Society would like to thank the following CCHS board members who volunteered their time for this fundraiser: **Darla Lesan, Cory Smith, Carl Siminow, Bill Mast, Alexis Barry, Steve Greif, Barb Taylor, Carol Ventgen, Jon Littlefield, and Ann Collins**. We would also like to thank **Timm Slater** and his volunteers at the BACC.

RIGHT:

Fifth graders participating in the Coos Historical and Maritime Museum's Education Program.



End of Education Program 2013

Continued from page 2...

...The program is the only structured source of information about area history provided to this age group, and all content is easily delivered using materials provided. Teachers report that the local images, issues and information that students first encounter through our program stimulate class discussion long afterward.

We are yet again indebted to Sunset Middle School teacher **Stan Sweet** for facilitating the participation of his outstanding 7th graders as "living history" actors, and to SWOCC professor **Mary Fields** for assistance from her class of student teachers. Acting coach **Joe Stoffel** generously donated hours of his time, and yet again transformed rank amateurs into confident, utterly convincing performers. Thanks also to **Trae Johnson** and **Marc White** of Bayshore Paints for their tremendous hospitality: for several weeks, part of the store doubled as a dressing room for our actors!

New Members

March-June 2013

Individuals:

Danny Collins, Charleston, OR
Norman Grenell, Grants Pass, OR
Patricia Wales, North Bend, OR
John Minor, North Bend, OR
Dorothy Poitra, Eugene, OR
Thomas Leahy, Coos Bay, OR

Business/Corporate:

Helen Pekny, South Pasadena, CA

Families:

Greg & Pemmie Stone, North Bend, OR
Lisa & Phil LaGesse, North Bend, OR
David & Sally Johnson, North Bend, OR
Nelson & Sherry Hall, Coos Bay, OR
Jeff & Kathryn Morgan, Coos Bay, OR
Joe & Anne Cook, Coos Bay, OR
Toni Ann Brend, Charleston, OR

Benefactor:

Jeff Jacobson, Coos Bay, OR

Donations

March-June 2013

Operating Expenses:

James Cunningham, Charleston, OR
Linda Strine, North Bend, OR
John & Teri Whitty, Coos Bay, OR
Laurie Followell, Portland, OR
Rudy & Joyce Bjorkquist, Coos Bay, OR

Construction Begins

On New Coos Historical & Maritime Center

Continued from page 1...

Partney was selected by the Board on the recommendation of a committee that had conducted structured interviews in April with each of 2012's three low bidders. CCHS thanks Randy Dixon of the City of Coos Bay, CEDCO's Richard Rudder, and Bill Lansing for their assistance with the selection process. The committee also included board members Joe Slack, Steve Greif and

Lucinda DiNovo, and CCHS Executive Director Annie Donnelly, with Mike Crow of Crow/Clay and Associates as a non-voting attendee. During May, Partney worked with Crow and CCHS representatives to develop a proposed contract price and option format, which was approved by the CCHS board at a special June 6th meeting.



Annual Meeting, Don't Forget!

The Coos County Historical Society will hold its Annual Meeting on **Saturday, June 29th, starting at 10 a.m.** in the **Willow-Beargrass Room** above the **Mill Casino and Hotel** lobby. Awards will be given to John and Teri Whitty, as well as Hal and Patti Strain. At the meeting, we will also hear from the Egyptian Theater group about their plans for the future.

Donations

March-June 2013

New Museum:

Arthur & Antoinette Poole, Coos Bay, OR
Janet Stocks, North Bend, OR
The Campbell Group, Portland, OR
Nancy Ellen Locke & Charles Klein, Eugene, OR
Marshfield Sun Association, Coos Bay, OR
First Presbyterian Church, Coos Bay, OR
Ann & Bill Lansing, North Bend, OR

Memorial Donations:

In Memory of Emma Louise Spooner
Mary Granger
Steve & Joan Greif
In Memory of Elsie E. Olson
Mary Granger

Renewed Members

March-June 2013

Individuals:

Janet Stocks, North Bend, OR
Steven Roberts, Coos Bay, OR
Paula Bechtold, North Bend, OR
Barb Leeling, Menomonee Falls, WI
Al Pettey, North Bend, OR
Esther Laclair-Probst, North Bend, OR
Ralph Helske, North Bend, OR
Karen Beverly Lind, North Bend, OR
Sally Harrold, Coos Bay, OR
Linda Strine, North Bend, OR

Families:

Jerry & Lori Capps, Coos Bay, OR
Glenn & Kathi Dugger, Myrtle Point, OR
Chris & Deryl Beebe, North Bend, OR
Jack & Lucille Hoffman, North Bend, OR
Richard & Yvonne Besser, North Bend, OR
Chuck & Judy King, Myrtle Point, OR
Andy & Anni Combs, Myrtle Point, OR
Carlton & Janell Conner, North Bend, OR
Rudy & Joyce Bjorkquist, Coos Bay, OR
Jill & Rocky Wentzel, North Bend, OR

Business/Corporate:

Abel Insurance Agency, Coos Bay, OR



Coos County Historical Society
1220 Sherman Ave. – North Bend, OR 97459
www.cooshistory.org



Historical & Maritime Museum
1220 Sherman Ave. – North Bend, OR 97459
Phone/Fax 541-756-6320
Email: coosinfo@frontier.net

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EVENTS CALENDAR

June 23 rd , 7:00 pm	The Shifty Sailors Tour
June 27 th , ALL DAY	Make History — Dine Out!
June 29 th , 10:00 a.m.	Annual Meeting
June 29 th , 10:00 a.m.	Clamboree
July 13 th , 12:00 p.m.	OCMA—Kick-Off Concert
July 17 th , 4:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
July 19 th , 10:00 a.m.	July Jubilee at the Museum
July 20 th , 10:00 a.m.	July Jubilee at the Museum
August 21 st , 4:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
August 24 th , 10:00 a.m.	Exhibit Opening: In it to win it!
September 18 th , 4:00 p.m.	Board Meeting

Printing of Waterways newsletter

Sponsored by



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