

The

ARCHIVE

QUARTERLY OF THE GRESHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

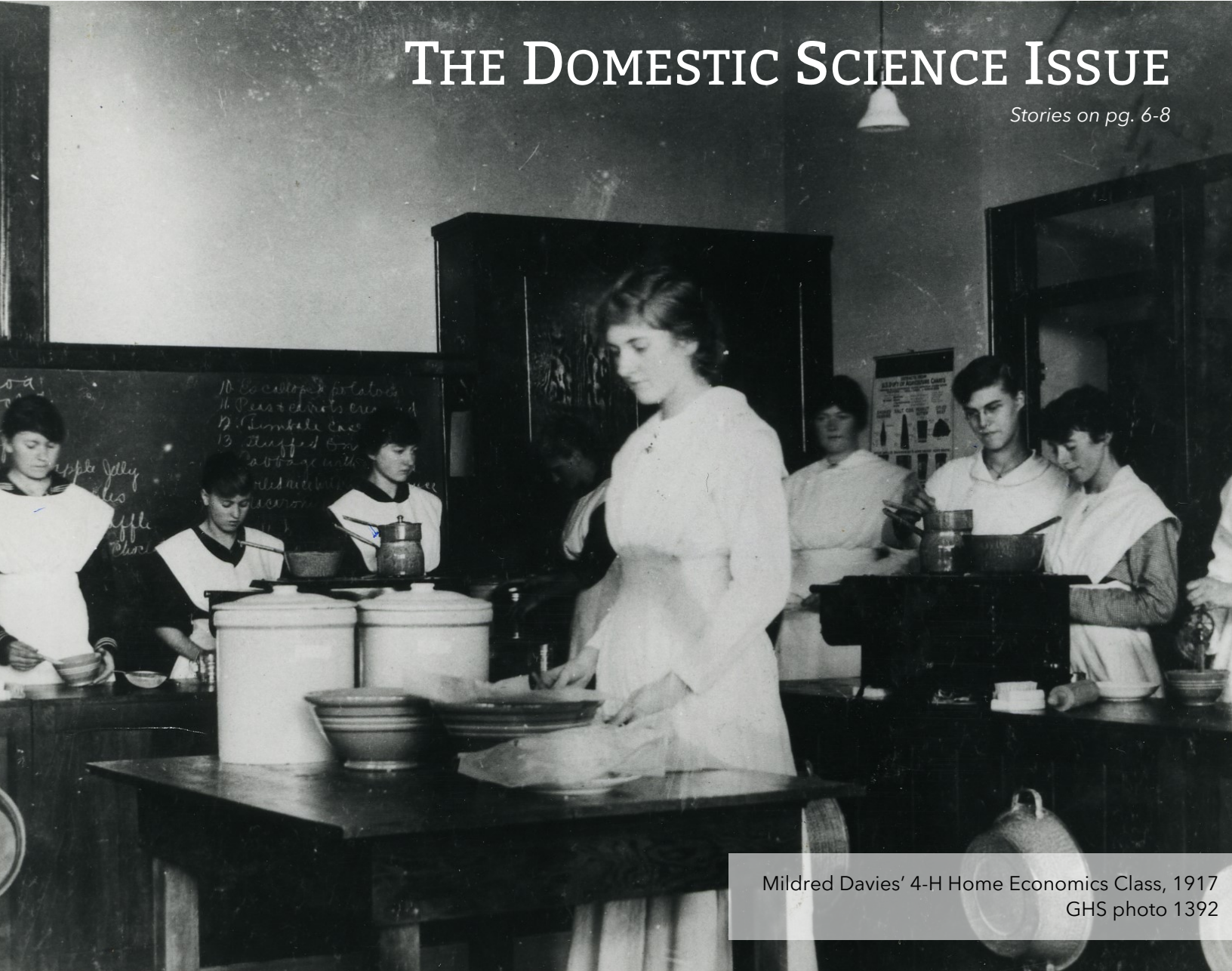
AUTUMN 2023



410 N Main Ave ♦ PO Box 65 ♦ Gresham, OR 97030 ♦ (503) 661-0347 ♦ info@greshamhistorical.org

THE DOMESTIC SCIENCE ISSUE

Stories on pg. 6-8



See pg. 3

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AT THE MUSEUM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 25 - Christmas at the Museum begins! (see next page)

Nov. 26 - Museum Store Sunday (see pg. 4 for details)

Nov. 28 - Giving Tuesday (see pg. 4 for details)

Nov. 30 - Exhibit Reception and Story Gathering at Rockwood Market Hall 4-7pm (see pg. 4 for details)

Dec. 2 - Spirit of Gresham celebration and North Pole Village

- 4:30 – Holiday Light Cruise parade in Downtown Gresham
- 5:00 – Spirit of Gresham program at Gresham Arts Plaza
- 6:00 – Tree Lighting at Gresham Arts Plaza

Dec. 16 - Final day of Christmas at the Museum

Dec. 16 - "Christmuseumas" Concert with the East Metro Community Music Association, 6-7:30pm (see pg. 4 for details)

Dec. 17 - Gingerbread Competition Awards Ceremony

Dec. 18-Jan. 13 - Holiday closure and exhibit preparation

Jan. 27 - Lecture on historic textiles in the museum collection, 4-5pm (see pg. 5 for details)



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

New! Gresham Historical Society Mugs for Sale

The latest new item in our Museum Store has arrived just in time for Christmas at the Museum! Handmade in the US, these heavy-duty stoneware mugs are the perfect gift for any history lover in your life – or coffee lover. Remember, our members receive a 10% discount in the museum store!



Pop-Up Exhibit at Rockwood Market Hall

If you've been to Rockwood Market Hall lately, you may have seen our new pop-up exhibit, Rockwood Stories. This exhibit is about the history of the Rockwood area dating back to ancient times and features 14 panels of photos and text. Learn the story behind the name "Rockwood," the Native people whose homelands encompassed the Rockwood area, early white immigrants, and the farming community, among more off-the-wall subjects such as Rockwood's history with aviation. Other panels highlight more recent activity in the Rockwood area including some of the early businesses and industries.

The exhibit came about when GHS volunteer supreme Sarale Hickson connected us with Rockwood Market Hall manager Julianne Reno. With the museum closed for most of November, this seemed like an excellent opportunity to feature local history at another location. This exhibit will be on view in Rockwood Market Hall through December 2 with a closing reception on November 30 (see pg. 4 for details).



AT THE MUSEUM

CHRISTMAS AT THE MUSEUM AND 3RD ANNUAL GINGERBREAD COMPETITION

Open Thursdays through Sundays from November 25 through December 16, this annual holiday tradition features lavish decorations, a miniature village, a gingerbread competition, a selfie wall, the museum store, and Santa Claus every Saturday!

HOURS

Thursday-Saturday, 10am-4pm

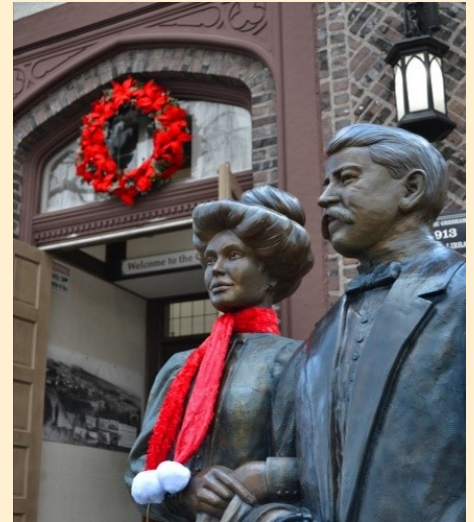
Sunday, 12pm-4pm

Santa Claus is here from 10 to 4 every Saturday and from 12 to 4 every Sunday

ADMISSION: \$5/PERSON

This year, decorations include a Christmas village and a collection of Santa Clauses, as well as seven spectacular Christmas trees. Your admission gets you a vote in the Gingerbread House Competition...and a free gift!

All are invited to join us on December 17 at 1:00 p.m. for the awarding of Gingerbread House Competition prizes.



MANY THANKS TO OUR PRESENTING SPONSORS:



AT THE MUSEUM

ROCKWOOD STORIES

RECEPTION AND STORY-GATHERING EVENT



ROCKWOOD
MARKET HALL



The East Metro Community Music Association (EMCMA), a new nonprofit dedicated to music arts education and performance, will hold its inaugural benefit concert at the museum on December 16. Community musicians will showcase their talents in small ensemble performances. Expect a lot of Christmas music!

Proceeds from the event will be split between the Gresham Historical Society and EMCMA.

Please RSVP online at:

eastmetrocommunitymusic.org/event/concert1/

EMCMA CHRISTMUSEUMAS CONCERT



Saturday, December 16, 6pm
at the Gresham Historical Society

**MUSEUM
STORE
SUNDAY[®]**
BE A PATRON
11.26.23

The week after Thanksgiving will be a busy one here at the museum. November 25 is **Shop Small Saturday**, which we're celebrating throughout Downtown Gresham with special events at our many local businesses.

Right after that is **Museum Store Sunday**, a nationwide event featuring great deals on holiday shopping.

Finally, November 28th is **Giving Tuesday**. Please keep us in mind as you plan your annual charitable giving!

GALLERY RENTALS AVAILABLE!

Did you know that you can rent the museum gallery for special events? A beautiful historic setting lavishly decorated for Christmas, our space is perfect for gatherings of up to 100 people. We'll even set up the tables and chairs! Call us at (503) 661-0347 or email info@greshamhistorical.org for more information.

AT THE MUSEUM

ANNOUNCING THE 2024 PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

GHS is excited to announce a new monthly lecture series starting in January! This series will feature topics related to local history and significant collections at GHS. The presenters are museum volunteers who will be showcasing the work they do behind the scenes to preserve our heritage and share it with future generations.

When: 4-5pm on the last Saturday of every month

Where: Gresham Historical Society main gallery, 410 N Main Ave, Gresham, OR 97030

Cost: \$5 per person (FREE for members!)

Lecture Schedule through June

January 27: Everyday Art in the GHS Textile Collection, presented by Rose Caughie

February 24: Black History in East Multnomah County, presented by Kathleen Williamson

March 30: Zim's Twelve-Mile Store, presented by Anne Endicott

April 27: The Mt. Hood Festival of Jazz in Film, presented by Brendan Bender

May 25: Gresham Historical Society Digital Collections, presented by Elizabeth Cour

June 29: Voices of Gresham Podcast, presented by Stephanie Vallance

Topics and presenters subject to change. Follow us on Facebook or Instagram for updates.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW WEBSITE AND MEMBER PORTAL


Greshamhistorical.org is getting a new look!

Starting in November, the Gresham Historical Society webpage is switching to a new platform that will be easier for our directors and volunteers to maintain. We're also embarking on our journey with our first-ever donor management program, Little Green Light. This will make it much easier for our members and donors to give online and to control their preferences. Many thanks to our developer, Michael Shiiki-Morris, and volunteers Cassie Rafalski and Delaney Johnston for all their work to get the new site live.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR YOU?

Once the new website is launched, we'll be reaching out by email with instructions on how to log in and update your preferences, including how you receive your newsletter. We're hoping to cut costs by reducing the amount of mail we send. Thank you for your help!

About Gresham Historical Society




Our History

The Gresham Historical Society was founded by the Gresham Community Bicentennial Committee in 1976. In 1990, the Gresham Historical Society purchased the Gresham Carnegie Library, which now houses the Gresham Historical Museum and Special Collections Library.

Our Mission

The Gresham Historical Society preserves and shares our community's past to enrich its present and future.



FASHIONING THE “PRINCIPLES OF DOMESTICITY”

By Anne Endicott

By definition, home economics is “the art and science of home management.” Studies originally centered around cooking, sewing, and performing childcare tasks. For young girls in the early 20th century, mastery of these skills was considered key to managing a household.

In 1917, Gresham High School introduced a two-year program of “vocational courses.” The first year was devoted to “domestic science” (cooking), while the second year focused on “domestic art” (sewing). Regardless of her choice between a career or homemaking, a girl’s life work mattered little when it came to the importance of vocational instruction.

“In either case,” the class prospectus explained, “her preparation is not complete without some knowledge of the essential phases of cooking and sewing. People must eat to live – and civilized society demands that they be properly dressed...”

First year students in the domestic science class received practical instruction in the costs of food and its preparation. Proper utilization and maintenance for “a well kept kitchen and dining room” (read: appliances) was also stressed, along with “... other instruction designed for the understanding of making and managing a home.”

Over the course of the school year, students were required to host luncheons for their fellow classmates to illustrate their grasp of the culinary arts. Three groups of six girls – including a designated hostess –

took turns presenting a meal that could not cost more than 15 cents per plate.

Planning also included a coordinated color scheme for place cards, decorations and the menu. One luncheon served that first year featured egg salad, scalloped shad, mashed potatoes, baking powder biscuits, tea and chocolate cornstarch pudding.



Mason jars, early 1900s.

Second year students in the domestic art class received instruction in four categories: economy, hygiene, suitability and construction. By the end of the class, students would be skilled in “exactness and neatness in construction; good taste and simplicity in dress; the relation between dress for work and season, conducive to good health; and durability of materials in relation to cost.” Lab work focused on learning simple stitches to fashion “useful home garments,” creating “inexpensive Christmas presents,” and mastering the use of a commercial pattern.




Mary E. Crane, superintendent of domestic science at the Multnomah County Fair, circa 1930s-40s.

Teaching the “principles of domesticity” came into fashion following passage of the Morrill Act of 1862. The law established land-grant colleges in each state and permitted women to enroll.

In 1884, Mary Beaumont Welch published the first book on home economics, called “Mrs. Welch’s Cookbook.” An educator at Iowa State College (later University), Welch taught classes on “domestic economy” that were the first in the nation to award college credit on the subject.

During the 1940s, Iowa State College was the only institution in the nation to grant a Master of Science degree in “household equipment.” To earn the degree, women were required to master practical skills and scientific-based understanding of how household technology worked. Students had to disassemble and reassemble kitchen machinery so they could understand how it worked and would then be able to repair it.

More years ago than I care to admit, I took a semester of home ec. My mom had taught me the

Continued on next page 

HISTORY FEATURE

(continued from previous page)

basics of sewing a couple years earlier – straight stitching and simple garment construction. Consequently, when we learned our project for the home ec class was to sew a dress, I blew off most of the instruction because I already knew what I was doing.

For my project, I chose a lovely lime green cotton fabric with a floral print. I was short in stature and relatively overweight for my size at the time, so basically, I had NO business wearing anything made from that fabric.

Moving forward in the class, I ignored the teacher's instructions and operated on what I was sure I already knew. The front pattern piece for a dress is always placed on the fold of the fabric. That way there's no seam up the front of the garment.

Smugly, I pinned the front pattern piece on the fold of the fabric. Then, for whatever reason, I promptly cut through the fold. I now had two pieces for the front of

the dress that required a seam.

My dress called for a zipper. That ended up at the hem on the back of the dress – upside down.

Flash forward several years. Mr. Man and I are expectant parents. He asks my mother about purchasing a sewing machine for me for Christmas, so I could make baby clothes and stuff. Horrified, my mother says, "Oh please don't. That girl cannot sew. There is no talent there."

Mostly self-taught, I'm still using that sewing machine today and I did make lots of baby clothes and stuff over the years.

In 1994, "home economics" was rebranded as "family and consumer sciences (FCS)." Instruction was also being offered to both men and women in the arts of sewing, cooking and even balancing a checkbook. FCS now falls under the umbrella of Career and Technical Education (CTE), which specializes in the skilled trades, applied sciences, modern technology and career preparation.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Lately our exhibits and programming have focused on communities outside of Downtown Gresham, such as Rockwood, Orient, Pleasant Valley, and Wilkes, which is in part an effort to make up for the relative shortage of information on these places in our past programming. In this letter, though, I'd like to shift the focus back to Downtown Gresham and talk about some of the exciting things that are happening here in the coming weeks.

I serve on the board of the Historic Downtown Gresham Association (HDGA), which recently became an affiliate member of the Oregon Main Street Program. This program provides resources to historic communities looking to preserve their character and leverage it as a draw for tourism. HDGA is working hard to promote local small businesses (including the Gresham Historical Society!) and make our community a destination for locals and travelers alike.

Third Thursday is a monthly event during which businesses offer promotions and extended open hours from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. The next one is coming up December 21st!

Shop Small Saturday occurs annually on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. A laid-back, hometown alternative to Black Friday, this event is a great way to support local businesses while finding great deals on holiday gifts.

And, of course, you won't want to miss this year's Spirit of Gresham celebration. Main Avenue will be turned into North Pole Village with businesses offering family-friendly activities (and possibly some free hot cocoa). There will be a "Holiday Light Cruise" parade through Downtown Gresham and a tree lighting at the Center for the Arts Plaza. The museum will be open late too!

Happy Thanksgiving, and I hope to see you soon in Downtown Gresham!

Silvie Andrews



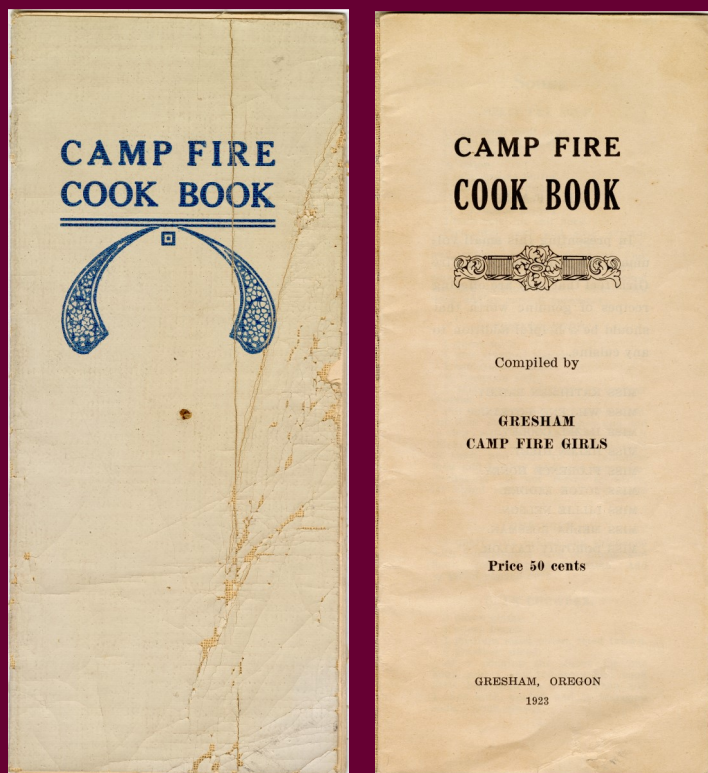
RECIPES FROM GRESHAM'S PAST

By Elizabeth Cour

My name is Elizabeth and I am a new volunteer at the Gresham Historical Society. I work in the research room digitizing archival materials and updating digital records. During one of my recent digitization projects, I came across an object from Gresham's past that I would like to share: the "Camp Fire Cook Book". Donated by a former president of GHS, Betty Chisum, this book contains recipes and cooking tips compiled by the Gresham Campfire Girls in 1923.

The Campfire Girls organization was founded in 1910, just a few years before the Girl Scouts began in 1912. Compiled by Kathleen Bailey, Willene Botkin, Hazel Cooley, Helen Hisey, Florence Honey, Joyce Kidder, Lillie Nelson, Melba Rossman, and Dorothy Taylor, their cookbook cost 50 cents at the time. The table of contents include sections for bread, cakes, cheese dishes, confectionery, cookies, fish, meats, pastry, pickles, puddings, salads, soups, and vegetables as well as a table of weights and measures. This article will be the first in a seasonal series dedicated to sharing these 1923 Campfire Girl recipes.

With cold weather starting and the holidays approaching quickly, here are some historic Gresham recipes you might consider trying this season.



Cover and title page of the Camp Fire Cook Book compiled by the Gresham Camp Fire Girls in 1923.

*Note: Most of the baking recipes in this cookbook do not include baking times or temperatures. We suggest you consult similar recipes for baking pies and cookies and use your best judgment.

Pumpkin Pie

4 eggs (whites and yolks) beaten separately
2 pints milk
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
Spice to taste
1 pint pumpkin

Add sugar blended with spices to well beaten yolks. Then stir into pumpkin. Add milk and whites of eggs last. This makes two large or three medium pies.

Plain Pie Crust

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups sifted flour
1 cup shortening, half butter and half lard
Pinch of salt

1 heaping teaspoon baking powder sifted with flour
Rub thoroughly the shortening into the flour. Mix with $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cold water or enough to form a rather stiff dough. Mix as little as possible, just enough to get into shape to roll out. This makes two pies.

Sweet Potato Puff

Into 2 cups of boiled and mashed sweet potatoes, beat 3 whipped eggs, 1 cup milk, 2 tablespoons melted butter and seasoning to taste. Beat hard. Bake in buttered pudding dish.

Chocolate Fudge

3 cups sugar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup Karo syrup
2-3 cup milk
1 tablespoon chocolate

Cook until sugar is well dissolved, stirring frequently, then add butter size of an egg and cook until it forms a soft ball in water. Remove from stove. Add flavoring. Beat until it begins to sugar, then pour into buttered plate. Leave until firm, then cut into inch squares.

Sour Cream Cookies

2 heaping cups sugar
1 cup sour cream
1 cup butter (melted)
3 eggs
1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon baking powder
Flavor with nutmeg

Add flour to make soft dough.

ANNUAL APPEAL

Dear Members and Friends,

As we near the end of the year, we would like to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for your continued support and dedication to preserving our local history. Your generosity has played a vital role in ensuring that our two cherished buildings remain in good repair and safe for future generations to explore, as well as maintaining and running our invaluable collections.

Over the years, our buildings have stood as proud symbols of our community's rich heritage. They have housed countless stories, artifacts, and memories that are both treasured and educational. However, the upkeep and maintenance of these structures is an ongoing challenge that requires financial resources. This is where your support becomes crucial.

By making a donation to the Gresham Historical Society, you directly contribute to the preservation of our historic buildings. Your generosity allows us to address necessary repairs, maintain the safety of our facilities, and create an environment that is conducive to learning and discovery. Additionally, your donation helps us sustain our collections, ensuring that they are properly cared for,

cataloged, and made accessible to all who wish to explore our shared history.

As we reflect on the past year, we have accomplished so much together. Thanks to your support, we have been able to host engaging exhibitions, provide educational programs for students, and offer a variety of community events that celebrate our heritage. However, there is still much more to be done, and we cannot do it without you.

As the year comes to a close, we kindly ask for your continued support through a tax-deductible donation. Whether it is a one-time contribution or a recurring gift, every dollar makes a significant impact on our ability to maintain the integrity of our buildings and preserve the history that they hold.

Please consider making a donation today to the Gresham Historical Society. Together, we can ensure that our buildings remain safe, our collections are preserved, and our community's unique history continues to be shared for years to come.

Thank you for your unwavering support and for being a vital part of our mission.

Sincerely,

The Board and Staff of the Gresham Historical Society



Zion Church in February 2023. Image © Tameric Photography

MEMBERSHIP

Not a member already? You can join on our website, at greshamhistorical.org.

Or, fill out the form below, bring it to the museum, or mail it to us at PO Box 65, Gresham, OR 97030. Make checks payable to the Gresham Historical Society.

Membership at the Gresham Historical Society supports the continued preservation and sharing of our local history. Now, more than ever, we rely on member support to continue our mission.

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT/RENEWAL FORM

Member or Family Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

CHOOSE YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Each membership level includes 10% off museum store purchases, a subscription to the quarterly newsletter, and invitations to members-only events throughout the year.

- Individual** \$20 membership for one adult
- Family** \$30 benefits for two adults and all family members under 18
- Business** \$100 two membership cards for any employee
- Business Plus** \$200 two membership cards for any employee and your business logo in the Quarterly of the Gresham Historical Society

I wish to make an additional donation in the amount of \$ _____

How do you prefer to receive your newsletter? Email Print

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Payment method (circle one): Cash Check (payable to Gresham Historical Society)

Please charge my credit/debit card \$ _____

Card number _____ Expiration date _____ CVV _____

Signature _____

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

Monetary Contributions

Your unrestricted gift supports the daily operations of the Gresham Historical Society and the maintenance and preservation of the Historic 1913 Gresham Carnegie Library.

Recurring Donations

Your unrestricted recurring gifts provide the predictable, ongoing support that allows the Gresham Historical Society to perform necessary financial planning.

Gifts in Memory or Tribute

Each year, the Gresham Historical Society receives gifts in memorial and tribute. Honor the passions and achievements of those in your life through legacy giving.

Appreciated Securities or Stock

Charitable gifts of stock are a wonderful way to provide ongoing support for the Gresham Historical Society. Check with your tax adviser for details.

Planned Giving

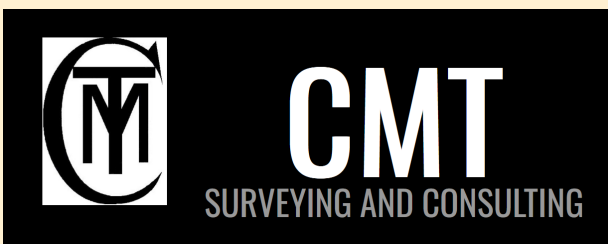
Include the Gresham Historical Society in your estate planning and be a part of Gresham's legacy.

MEMBERSHIP

OUR GRATITUDE TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS PLUS MEMBERS FOR THEIR VITAL SUPPORT!

Thank you to all who have joined and renewed since August:

Bonnie Jepsen
 Ted and Lois Okrasinski
 Valerie Greenaway
 Ed and Lori Stahlman
 Travis Wright
 Wendell and Ruth Ayers
 Jim McClellan
 Harry Moffitt and Joyce Belcher
 Emily Sharp
 Shaun and Cheryl Fidler
 Tabitha Boschetti
 Anne & John Endicott
 Marshall & Julie Welch
 Sandra Wilson
 Suzanne McQueen
 Michael & Deanna Spinella
 Jane & Mike Mace
 Masao Miyake
 Stacey Rustad-Smith
 Burns Feed Store
 Matt Miller
 Richard Mason
 Jay Lehr
 David, Haley, Coulson, & Iris Grigg
 Sharon C. Morgan
 Philip Guernsey
 Wanda & Lynn Harmon
 Fred & Teresa Gilbert
 Jim & Barbara Andrews
 Dwight Unti
 Gwenda McCall
 Michael Lasfetto
 Ron Arlint & Shannon Barisoff
 Michelle Dwyer
 U.S. World Class Taekwondo





4-H Canning class, circa 1940s-50s. GHS 674a

The Gresham Historical Society is a private, nonprofit organization that manages the Gresham Historical Museum and special collections library and archive, located in the 1913 former Gresham Library building in Downtown Gresham.

Founded in 1976 and funded through donations from the community, the Gresham Historical Society was run exclusively by volunteers for the majority of its history.

In 2010, Multnomah County voters passed a property tax levy to support local history. These levy funds pay the salary of a full-time museum director, which helps keep us free and open to the public.

Our mission is to preserve and share our community's past to enrich its present and future.

HOLIDAY HOURS (NOV.-DEC.)

Thursday-Saturday	10am-4pm
Sunday	12pm-4pm
Monday-Wednesday	Closed

Closed Dec. 17-Jan. 23

CONTACT

Web: greshamhistorical.org/contact

Email: info@greshamhistorical.org

Phone: (503) 661-0347

Staff and Board

President Sue Piazza ✦ **Vice President** Lon Shiiki ✦ **Treasurer** Leslie Radke ✦ **Secretary** Stacey Rustad-Smith

Board of Directors Karen Johnston ✦ Terry Nishikawa ✦ Fred Gilbert ✦ Scott Terryah

Cassie Rafalski ✦ Anne Endicott ✦ **Emeritus** Utahna Kerr ✦ Carla Piluso

Museum Director Silvie Andrews ✦ **Public Historian** Stephanie Vallance