



The ARCHIVE

Fall 2022
E-Newsletter
★
Gresham Historical Society

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

The Summer in Review

Summer 2021 was defined by disaster as we regrouped from a small but destructive fire in our upstairs textile storage area. This summer, by contrast, has been a season of rebirth and growth. Beginning with a successful plant sale fundraiser and a pop-up exhibit at West Gresham Elementary School in May, the season continued with guest speaker Gwenda McCall's haunting and thought-provoking lecture "Minidoka: 80 Years of Unspoken Memories" (see below). Other guest speakers have included Cliff Barackman of the North American Bigfoot Center in Boring, as well as three elders of the Gresham community who joined us to share their memories of growing up (see pg. 2). Two family-friendly tie dye fundraisers capped off the summer event season.

Monthly cemetery tours drew unprecedented crowds in May through September as people from Gresham and beyond gathered to learn about our community's history through the people who lived it. We hope you'll join us for a special Halloween cemetery tour on Monday, October 31, at 6:00 p.m. following the Historic Downtown Safe Trick-or-Treat event—see page 2 for details.

This year's main exhibit, "A History of Gresham in 100 Objects," closes this week, although portions will remain on view through early November. The scavenger hunt associated with this exhibit has been its most popular feature. Our new exhibit, titled "Beyond Main Street," will feature communities and towns that have become absorbed into Gresham's fabric over the years, such as Rockwood, Pleasant Valley, Hillsvie, Orient, and more.

Minidoka: 80 Years of Unspoken Memories

On May 18, guest speaker Gwenda McCall presented a free public lecture on the World War II experiences of local Japanese and Japanese-American residents, including the time that many of them spent imprisoned in Minidoka Internment Camp. Gwenda's many hours of exhaustive research included interviews with survivors, some of whom were in the audience and attended the following reception. Thank you, Gwenda, for a wonderful and informative program!



Gwenda McCall, guest speaker.



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Meadowland Dairy, c. 1960. See pg. 4 for story.

At the Museum **P. 2-3** ★ From the Archives: Meadowland Dairy **P.4**
Museum News **P. 5** ★ Membership **P. 6-7** ★ Contact Us **P. 8**

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Oct. 29	Historic Cemeteries Tour <i>See below for details</i>	11am
Oct. 31	Historic Downtown Gresham Safe Trick-or-Treat Historic Cemeteries Tours	4pm-6pm See below for details
Nov. 26-Dec. 18	Christmas at the Museum <i>Gresham Historical Society</i>	See next page for details

Gresham's Historic Cemeteries HALLOWEEN TOURS

Upcoming Cemetery Tour Dates

Join us on **October 29 at 11:00 a.m.** and **October 31 at 6:00 p.m.** for free historical tours of three of Gresham's cemeteries. Tours begin in the West Gresham Elementary School east parking lot. RSVP at (503) 661-0347 or email info@greshamhistorical.org.



Historic Downtown Gresham Safe Trick-or-Treat October 31, 4-6 p.m.

This year's event will include other festive activities, including awards for outstanding costumes, window decorations, and a pumpkin-carving competition. Check out historicdowntowngresham.org for updates!

Upcoming Exhibit: *Beyond Main Street*

The City of Gresham incorporates over 20 square miles of East Multnomah County, an area once covered with dense forest. However, far from being an unpopulated wilderness, this land was part of the traditional homelands of many local Indigenous tribes and bands, including the Clackamas Chinook, Cascades, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Cowlitz, and Confederated Tribes of Siletz. European and later Japanese settlers logged off the forests to clear the land for farms and later the urban and suburban landscapes that characterize the area today.

While Gresham grew to dominate this landscape, it was not the only town center located within its current boundaries. Outlying communities such as Rockwood, Hillsvie, Pleasant Valley, Orient, Pleasant Home, Cedarville, Powell Valley, Terry/Twelve-Mile, and Wilkes have historically both supported Gresham with their trade and depended on it for communication and access to Portland. Today they all fall within its city limits. But each of these places has a history and identity all its own, which will be the focus of the new featured exhibit ***Beyond Main Street***, scheduled to open **October 12**. Join us to learn about these unique places and how they have changed over time.



Schedeen children at their family farm in Hillsvie, 1915



Rockwood, circa 1900-1915. View is likely on Stark looking west.

Christmas at the Museum -and- 2nd Annual Gingerbread House Competition

*November 26-December 18
Thursdays through Sundays*

It's never too early to start preparing for this year's Gingerbread House Competition. Featuring divisions for both amateur and professional bakers, this contest can be as fun or as serious as you please. Registration is open until November 5 on our website. [Here's the link.](#)

This year's theme: Christmas Around the World

Participants are encouraged to think of creative interpretations. We can't wait to see what you dream up!



**ENTER THE CONTEST
GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION
GRESHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Many thanks to this year's presenting sponsors:



...And to our sponsors:



Holiday Event Rentals Available

From November 25 to December 23, the historic museum gallery will be filled with lavish Christmas decorations, including lights, trees, gingerbread houses, and a miniature village. This is the perfect setting for your staff holiday party, family gathering, club meeting, or any festive get-together. Last year we even hosted a concert!

Now is the time to reserve your spot. Please contact us at info@greshamhistorical.org or by calling (503) 661-0347 for rates, available times, or a copy of our holiday rental contract.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Meadowland Dairy

By Anne Endicott

At the turn of the 20th Century, two Swiss immigrants met on a dirt road now known as Broadway in downtown Portland, pondering what to do “in this big country.”

With little money between them, Henry Anderegg and Henry Naegeli agreed to do what they knew best — milk cows. Their decision led to a near century-long partnership that became one of the most modern and largest dairies in the Portland-Gresham area — Meadowland Dairy.

In the early 1900s, the two men began delivering milk to customers with a horse and buggy from their small farm in southwest Portland. They expanded their operation to land in Beaverton, but were drawn to the rich, abundant grass land on the banks of the Sandy River in Troutdale as a good place for the herd to graze.

Anderegg and Naegeli's cows spent several spring and summer months roaming the area in what is now known as Glenn Otto Community Park. Shortly before winter arrived each year, the herd was moved back to Beaverton.

In an early 1990s interview for the book “Gresham: Stories of Our Past,” Henry Anderegg's oldest son Walter told a Gresham Historical Society volunteer how the cows were moved from Troutdale to Beaverton.

“They walked,” he said. “Put a lead cow with a bell up front and show her the way and all the rest would follow. We went right through the middle of Portland, crossed the Burnside Bridge — the same bridge it is today.”

In 1918, Anderegg leased land for a farm on what is now Powell Butte. Six years later, the operation moved off the hill to 150 acres boarding Powell Boulevard from Southeast 158th to Southeast 174th. The family, however, continued to reside on butte because the view reminded Anderegg of his roots in Switzerland.

With room to grow, the dairy quickly began expanding its product line and operation. A failed attempt at producing cheese gave way to bottling milk and shortly after that, an ice cream Anderegg and Naegeli called “Mt. Hood.” It was later labeled “American Maid” but the partners finally settled on “Meadowland” for all its products. A creamery was added in 1925, followed by two barns in 1940.

Meadowland Dairy was the first local dairy to offer milk in cartons. They provided 100 cases of milk, priced at five cents a quart, for the grand opening of the first Fred Meyer store in downtown Portland. The dairy also boasted the first motorized milk truck in the early 1920s, delivering milk and ice cream to around 5,000 customers at schools and downtown Portland restaurants.



Aerial photo of Meadowland Dairy from the north, 1950s-1960s.

In 1924, when the City of Portland bought the hilly Powell Butte, the Anderegg family purchased the historic 1892 Victorian farm house known as the Kronenberg Estate on their land next to Powell Boulevard. The home still stands today.

Henry's youngest child, Lillian Anderegg Adams, and her husband Wayne continued to run the dairy until 1990, when it became financially unreasonable to continue operations. Segments of the 150-acre dairy had been sold in the late 1970s and early 1980s to make way for Meadowland Shopping Center, a housing development and an apartment complex.

Adams died in June 2020. Prior to her death, she turned the final dairy acreage into a manufactured home park called Meadowcrest. Streets in the development are named for family members.

Museum News



Volunteers practice their tie dye techniques ahead of two successful tie dye fundraisers on July 16 and August 18.



Pete White, Howard Moen, and Betty Chisum sat for an interview with Rik Shiiki at a public speaker event on July 17 following the Annual Meeting.



← On July 9, William and Erica Gresham of New Jersey visited the museum. They are the first known descendants of Walter Quintin Gresham to visit the city that was named after him in 1884. Gresham was, at the time, the U.S. postmaster general, and the local post office was named in his honor—likely as an incentive to grant the application. He never visited the town that bore his name.

We Love Our Volunteers!

Our volunteers have had a busy summer. Special thanks are due to everyone who's staffed our booth at the Farmer's Market, including **Mike, Dorothy, Liz J., Becky, Evan, April A., Eellitta, Erica, Sandra, Sarale, Rhys, and Stephanie H. Joe, Linda, Wayne, Janet, Sandy, and Mike** all hold down weekly shifts on the front desk, with **Judith, Liz M., Bonnie, Peggy, and April A.** also helping out as docents. Collections volunteers **Claudia, Jan, Teresa, Liz J., Dorothy, Mardy, Fred, Jonathan, Wayne, Wanda, Anne, Delilah, Charlotte, Kelsey, and Rose** have collectively added or updated over 2,700 database records since the first of May and performed so much other work that is vital to the wellbeing of the historic materials in our care. The two tie dye fundraisers would not have been possible without **Sue, Leslie, Lon, Natalia, Scott, Delilah, Erica, Evan, Samantha, and Charlotte** contributing their time and expertise to the effort. **Alice** continues to build our obituary archive, and **Nannette** has been steadily digitizing our institutional and research archives. Thank you to everyone who has chipped in!

To learn more about current volunteer opportunities, visit the Volunteer page on our website: greshamhistorical.org/volunteer.



Volunteers and board members assembled on the front steps at the Annual Meeting on July 17.

Become a Member

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.
Please 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 includes a member card, 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
- ☐ **Patron** \$1000 annual parking pass to the Gresham Historical Society lot on 4th Street

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

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.

New and Renewing Members

Thank you to all who have joined and renewed since May 2022!

Jane & Mike Mace
Eric & Jenny Byrne
Noel Carlson
Michelle L. Clark
Jodi Chandler
Joanna Abbott
Beverly McNutt
Loreley Soto
Theoren Ryan
Betsy Bothwell
Heather Merrifield
David Kirkpatrick
Lori Wesson
Scott Terryah
Lorri Nelson
Harvey Johnson
Sandra Wecker
Ron Gallella
Cody Dabb
William Barry
Karen M. Franssen
Angela Voigt
Felicia Bryant
Janice Daughtry
Randall Clark
Dave Nash

Peter Gray
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Christopher Mesker
Tamra Prior
James Upchurch
Laura Allen
Justin Speer
Virginia Stone
Judy Schumacker
Tina Najdek
Neiss Diane
Todd Anderson
Sharon C. Morgan & Alexis Dyan
Cantrell
Joyce Bailey
Ron Arlint & Shannon Barisoff
Michael Lasfetto
Gwenda McCall
Dwight Unti
Beth Gardner
Deloris Schrader
Janine Gladfelter
Sue Piazza
Metro East Web Academy
Tom Fuji
Sue & Frank Hughes & Amy Protz

Mary Taylor
Amanda Ramage
Greg Garcia & Raven Graham
Debby Brown
Janet Patin
Darci Buckland
Jim Barnett
Shannon Chisom
Wanda Harmon
Philip Guernsey
Fred & Teresa Gilbert
Wayne Horine
Carole Linneman
Marilou Bohmann
Jan Corder
Claudell Metzger
Judith Scott
Alina Rocha
Kathy Jordan
Bonnie Jepsen
Mardy & Hank Stevens
Ron & Sheryl Hoak
Ila Lane
Jim Brugger
Jan Rankin
Don & Sharleen Jessup

Our gratitude to the following Business Plus members
for their vital support!





Gresham Grade School students dressed in Halloween costumes, circa 1930-1934.

The Gresham Historical Society is a private, non-profit organization that manages the Gresham Historical Museum and special collections library and archive, located in the 1913 former Gresham Library building in Historic 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. Those levy funds pay for exhibitions and for us to have a full-time museum director, which helps keep us free and open to the public.

Our mission is to collect, preserve, and share our local history.

Museum Hours

Wednesday-Saturday	10am-4pm
Sunday	12pm-4pm
Monday & Tuesday	Closed



Contact

Web: greshamhistorical.org

Email: info@greshamhistorical.org

Phone: (503)661-0347

Facebook: Gresham Historical Society

Instagram: @greshamhistorical

Gresham Historical Society Board and Staff

President Sue Piazza ✦ **Vice President** Guy Edwards ✦ **Treasurer** Leslie Radke ✦ **Secretary** Sandra Rich

Karen Johnston ✦ Terry Nishikawa ✦ Erica Keathley ✦ Fred Gilbert ✦ Lon Shiiki
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Museum Director Silvie Andrews ✦ **Public Historian** Stephanie Vallance