



Northwest Trails

Newsletter of the Northwest Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association

Volume 32, No. 1

Winter 2017

Vancouver: Layers of History on the Columbia River Symposium and OCTA Board Meeting

The Oregon-California Trails Association and the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation present the 2017 Layers of History on the Columbia River Symposium, Vancouver, Washington, on Friday, March 31, to Sunday, April 2, at the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, a beautiful log lodge tucked in the tall firs along the north shore of the Columbia River.

A no-host reception is Friday evening 6:00–8:00 p.m. The symposium on Saturday will focus on the Ice Age Floods and their influence on regional geography, local American Indian populations, early explorers, the fur trade, Lewis & Clark, the Oregon Trail, and Fort Vancouver. The keynote speaker on Saturday evening will be naturalist and teacher Jack Nisbet, the author of several books on the history of the Intermountain West. An optional bus tour is Sunday, including stops at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, Frenchman's Bar, the Steigerwald National Wildlife Refuge, Fort Vancouver, and the Clark County Historic Museum.

Reserve your discounted room of \$125/night at the Heathman (normal price \$148; special rate expires on March 8) by mentioning OCTA at 888-475-3100.

Registration for the Symposium is \$45 for an individuals and \$75 for a family, plus meals, lodging and the optional tour (\$60 per person). To register visit octa-trails.org and follow the links.

NW OCTA will not hold an annual meeting this spring,
the symposium is presented instead.

NW Chapter members are encouraged
to attend this OCTA event that will bring together
OCTA leadership, members from other chapters,
and Lewis & Clark Trail members.

NW Chapter Directory

President

Rich Herman
360-977-8184
buddy359@comcast.net

Vice President

Paul Masee
253-265-3382
pcmassee@centurylink.net

Secretary/Membership/Web

Polly Jackson
pnjocta@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Glenn Harrison
541-926-4680
gr.harrison@comcast.net

Past President

Jim Tompkins
503-880-8507
tompkins@bctonline.com

Preservation Officer

Billy Symms
541-547-4489
wsymms@peak.org

Directors

Ray Egan
253-584-1528
eganrandm@aol.com

Lynne Alvord
509-697-6818
lalvord@msn.com

Lorna Waltz
541-276-6353
lornawaltz@gmail.com

Communications Chair

Marley Shurtleff
425-271-2485
marleas@outlook.com

Marking and Mapping

Henry Pittock
hpittock3@mac.com

President's Message

Happy New Year and best wishes to all for good health and happiness. You are reminded that you are all important to the success of the NW Chapter, and your continued involvement in chapter activities, outings, and just your presence is valuable and appreciated.

On a personal note, I am already tired of winter and being homebound, as I am currently recovering from lower back surgery. In December, I had my second lower back surgery, with a titanium rod and screws correcting my spinal alignment and hopefully eliminating the numbness I have been experiencing in my legs for several years. Now I can hopefully get out and hike the trail with the best of you.

This next year is going to be eventful and challenging and will start off early with our chapter hosting the 2017 National Board Meeting and Symposium, March 30 thru April 2. Lethene Parks is the chairperson/lead coordinator for this event, which is being held in Vancouver jointly with the Lewis & Clark Heritage Foundation. She has been actively involved in putting together the symposium program and contacting the speakers for the program. Please contact Lethene and offer your assistance for this very important event.

The symposium will be held at the same time when we traditionally have our chapter annual meeting. We may have time for a short chapter meeting on Saturday night following the national board meeting. If that does not work out, because of all the last minute activities which will be coming together, we have the option of having a belated annual meeting at the chapter picnic in the fall.

Billy Symms and Gail Carbiener continue to monitor threats to the trail with B2H still unresolved and wind energy projects being proposed. Henry Pittock and Paul Massey are planning on trail marking and hiking activities. If you have any ideas about an interesting trail outing you would like us to set up, or if you would like to lead an outing, please contact Paul as he is the Outings and Activities coordinator.

Let's get out and have some fun.

—*Rich Herman*

NW OCTA Election Results

Ray Egan was unanimously elected to a second term as Director, 40–0. Results announced by Jim Tompkins November 30, 2016.

95% of the votes were returned by email. This new process is saving substantial mailing costs.

Barlow Road Website

A new website is dedicated to the Barlow Road. The website is www.oregontrail-barlowroad.org. It is an interactive site aimed at educators who teach the Barlow Road, but it is also for anyone interested in the trail. The website contains panoramas, photos, audio stories, and historical context that paint an overall picture of the Barlow Road section of the Oregon trail.

OHTAC Website

Another important website for anyone interested in the historic trails in Oregon, is Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Council, oregon.gov/OPRD/HCD/pages/ohtac.aspx.

The website has meeting minutes, annual reports, and Oregon Trail maps.

35th Annual OCTA Convention August 8–12 Council Bluffs, Iowa

Call for Help with Research Material

By Glen Jones

In November 2016 I went to Prineville, Oregon, to pick up eight boxes of research and books about my Great Grandfather but also included was research on my Great-Great Grandfather that was done by the temporary curator of the New Western History room at the Burns Oregon Library. She has since moved to Prineville and wanted me to have the research and to find a place to eventually donate it, as it contains a lot of history of central and eastern Oregon and Idaho.

My Great Grandfather was Albert Hugh Robie who came with Isaac Stevens and was appointed special Indian agent to the Plateau tribes. He was a founding father of Boise, Idaho, and had several sawmills in Idaho and Oregon, as well as a ranch on Dry Creek in Idaho, now a subdivision of Eagle, Idaho. He died in 1878 in the Bannock War.

My Great-Great Grandfather was William Craig, a mountain man and fur trapper who entered the Oregon Country at the 1829 fur rendezvous in Pierre's Hole. He was the only white man allowed a donation land claim on the Nez Perce Reservation in Idaho, was the guide for the Utter wagon train rescue party, and his brothers-in-law were Joseph meek and Robert "Doc" Newell. He was formally married by missionaries to the daughter of Chief James of the Lapwai Band of the Nez Perce in 1838.

If any OCTA member is interested, I am willing to share this material, as it is going to take a long time to go through it all.

Contact Glen Jones
503-256-5946
glenkc7mbm@outlook.com

Thoughts on the Future of the Trail

By Gail Carbiener

The epilogue of Andy and Joanne Hammond's book *The Look of the Elephant*, published by OCTA in 2009, may be even more appropriate today than when they wrote it. It should make all OCTANs concerned about our Trail.

The "old settlers" are long gone; Even the two children carried up Grizzly Ridge by their mother, Mary Variel, would be approaching 160 years of age if still living. Gone too, are most of the tracks left by the passage of emigrant wagons. By the mid 1850s there were over 6,000 miles of trails stretching between the "jumping off" places along the Missouri River and the various destination in Oregon, California, and Utah. Of those miles, perhaps as little as ten percent remain as visible traces. The rest have been paved over, plowed under, or bulldozed out of existence.

Standing alone in trail ruts on the deserts of Nevada or the plains of Wyoming, with no visible sign or sounds of civilization, is a wonderful experience. Yet it is not for the timid or the non-adventurous, nor is it for those who might venture out unprepared for what may be encountered. Unfortunately, it is an experience that may one day be unavailable even to the most adventurous and well-prepared. Because of ignorance, indifference, and carelessness, trail traces are being destroyed just as the surrounding areas are altered by development. Trail ruts existing in Reno, Nevada, but surrounded by shopping centers and cheek-to-jowl homes, do not convey the same feeling they would if the view remained as it was in 1852. The same is true of ruts in Wyoming where an otherwise pristine view may be marred by wind towers, power lines, and oil wells.

A classic example of the thoughtless or irresponsible destruction of a trail site occurred at the Big Boiling Spring on the Truckee Route in western Nevada. It was this spring that made the route possible. A life-saver, it was mentioned by every emigrant who passed that way. Over hundreds of years, the spring had built up a large surrounding cap of soft stone that bore the many ruts of approaching and departing wagons. Today the cap has been bulldozed away, and the only evidence of the spring is a dry, dusty, debris-filled hole. Close by is an onion dehydrating plant where the hot water and steam that fed the spring are used in the drying process. Meanwhile, thermal energy development continues throughout the area, while dry onion skins waft in the wind.

In Oregon, the Oregon Trail used to cover 520 miles from the Snake River to Oregon City. Today, about 50 miles remain of Class 1 or 2, the pristine ruts. Half is on public land and half on private land. There may be only four or five spots where we can look out over the Trail and see the same view seen by the emigrants. We just cannot afford to lose more Trail.

Charles H. Reynolds

By Roger Blair

At the base of Ladd Canyon on I-84 is a highway rest area called Charles H. Reynolds Rest Area. Who was Charles Reynolds? Why is there a rest area named for him? And why would it be of any interest to a NW OCTA member? It is located at the base of the descent of the Oregon Trail into the Grande Ronde Valley. But Reynolds' significance to trail enthusiasts is more important than a rest area along the highway.



Charles H. Reynolds (1891–1970) was a star athlete at La Grande High School, graduating in 1909. He went on to play football for Oregon State College, later to become Oregon State University. Despite his small size—he weighed 122 pounds and was nicknamed “shrimp”—Reynolds was an outstanding quarterback for the Beavers. After graduating from college in 1913, he returned to La Grande to found Reynolds Insurance Agency and served as the high school football coach, leading his team in 1917 to the state championship.



Charles Reynolds, La Grande Evening Observer, March 28, 1941.

Married in 1914 to Hazel Thiesen, they had two sons who joined their father in the insurance agency. Charles was active in the business until he suffered a stroke early in 1969. The couple died within six days of one another in 1970.

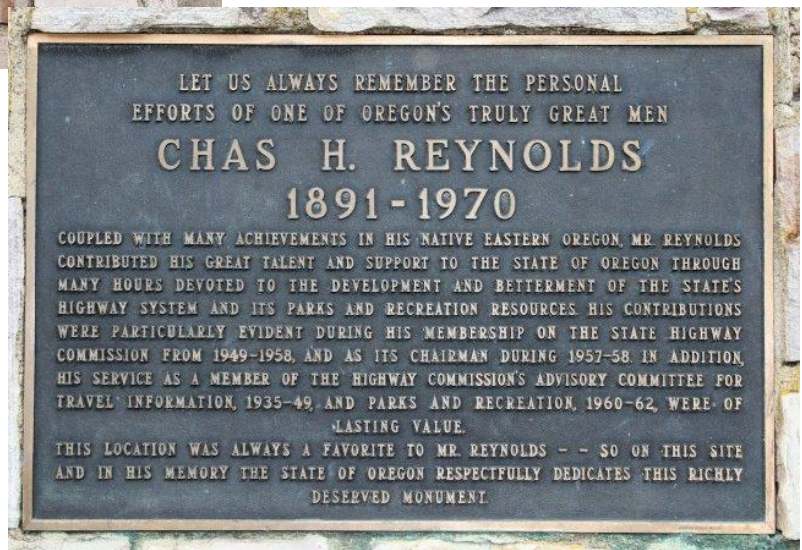
Charles worked tirelessly to further the economic well-being of Oregon and, in particular, La Grande. He was a successful businessman and an active member of the Chamber of Commerce, including service as its president. He served on the board of Eastern Oregon Normal, now Eastern Oregon University, was a Boy Scout leader, was elected president of the Oregon State College Alumni Board, and acted as fund chairman for construction of the road up Mt. Emily. He was active in all aspects of La Grande business affairs. Reynolds and his wife were members of the local country club, and both won numerous golf tournaments.

Beyond his athletic prowess and local business affairs, Reynolds promoted Oregon through his association with the Old Oregon Trail Association (OOTA). His obituary states he “founded” OOTA. I have not found any evidence that he attended the founding meeting of OOTA, which was actually founded by the executive secretary of the Baker Commercial Club, Walter Meacham. Nonetheless, Reynolds

was an active long-term member of OOTA and served as its president several years—his obituary says twelve years—in the late 1930s and early 1940s.

His involvement with OOTA might justify having a local highway rest area named for him, but Reynolds has additional qualifications. Because of his involvement with OOTA, Governor Douglas McKay appointed Reynolds to the Oregon State Highway Commission, a position he held for nine years. In 1958, he served as commission president. During his tenure, the water-level route of the Columbia River Highway from Troutdale to Hood River was constructed, eliminating the climb to Corbett and Crown Point and the many curves and slow speed of the original alignment. Also during his term, Rooster Rock State Park was created and the Old Oregon Trail Highway down Emigrant Hill was improved to more modern standards. In 1960, Reynolds was appointed to the Oregon Parks & Recreation Commission.

The Oregon Highway Department honored Reynolds' service in 1969 with Commemorative Resolution No. 20, which designated the La Grande bypass as the Charles H. Reynolds section of the Old Oregon Trail Highway. When I-84 was completed and a rest area at the foot of Ladd Canyon descent to the Oregon Trail conceptualized, Charles H. Reynolds' service for both the Old Oregon Trail Association and the Oregon Highway Commission made the naming of the rest area an easy choice.



South From the Barlow Road

By Glenn Harrison

Jim Riehl learned that an 1866 trail diary had been donated to the Benton County Historical Society and Museum and let me know. I made contact and received a typed copy of the diary written by Samuel Frantz from Kewanee, Henry Co., Illinois, plus word that a copy of the original is being made. (I hope we get the OK to pass it on to OCTA.) Spencer followed the Barlow Road, and I was interested in how they got south from the Barlow Road.

The diary gives the basics. The last few entries are as follows:

Last of Page 20 [Sept.]

25 Traveled 8 miles. Camped at Barlows gate at the Fort Cascade.

26 Traveled 12 miles, camped on Sandy Deschutes. Came down 2 very steep hills. No grass at all.

27 Traveled 8 miles. Good grass.

28 Traveled 10 miles. Grass.

29 Traveled 10 miles on Zig Zag. Road very bad.

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Came down horrid ?? hill

30 Traveled 12 miles. Camped on Sandy. Road level, very rocky.

Oct. 1 Traveled 10 miles. Road good. Camped at Revenues.

2 Traveled 8 miles. Road goods. Camped on Lyle Creek. Rain.

3 Traveled 12 miles.

4 Traveled 19 miles. Rain. Camped on the Molalla prairie ??.

5 Laid over. Toll on Cascades \$4.70 & \$1.95.

6 Traveled 11 miles. Camped on Creek 2 1/2 miles east of Silverton.

7 Traveled 14 miles. Camped 1 1/2 miles east of Jefferson.

8 Traveled 12 miles. Came 1.2 mile west of Albany.

9 Got to Heney Fullers.

I contacted Jim Tompkins and Jim Renner asking: What are your thoughts? Was this part on the Molalla Trail? Here are their answers.

Tompkins: Looks like they left the Barlow Road at Revenues and headed south on old Indian trail (possibly Kickapoo Trail).

Renner: I agree with you and Jim T that this sure looks like these travelers took the southern branch off the Barlow Road to end up camping on the Molalla Prairie and then routing thru

Silverton to Albany. I think that after camping at Revenue's, their next camp after 8 miles would be on Eagle Creek ("Lyle" Creek) near the Feldheimer ford.

Following what Elwin Shibley told me was his estimation of the Kickapoo Trail, their next 12 miles would put them in camp around Elwood. Then the next 19 miles would get them onto the Molalla Prairie for grazing and a layover. The next 11 miles to camp east of Silverton could be Abiqua Creek.

But then the next two days kind of fall apart for me. After Silverton, going 14 miles would have them closer to Stayton than to Jefferson. And then there is the need to cross the Santiam River(s) to get to Albany. So what route?

Back in 1990, Elwin took me on a field trip to examine some old ruts on private property near Metzler Park that he thought were left from the Kickapoo Trail. He also drew a pencil line on a Clackamas County map to estimate for me the approximate route of the trail over to the Molalla River crossing. Beyond that, I don't know anything more about this wagon route. I'd love to learn more if there is anything known or available.

Thanks for including me in this bit of history hunting. It has stirred some very old embers for me.

* * *

EDITOR'S NOTE: The diary was written in pencil by Samuel Frantz, who settled in Benton County. Glenn Harrison has a copy of the original.

Volunteer Hours & Expenses for 2016

By Chuck Hornbuckle

Northwest Chapter Report:

Hours ----- **19,759.5**

Total Expenses ----- **\$108,281.76** (including mileage)

Miles ----- 96,590 (valued at \$43,465.50 based on \$0.45 per mile latest Fed information I have)

Expenses ----- \$54,140.88 (food, lodging, etc., not including vehicle mileage allowance)

Tim Goodale Genealogy Report

By Tuck Forsythe

I have posted online a Tim Goodale family tree since 2006 from data provided in 2006 by James W. McGill of Idaho, author of *Rediscovered Frontiersman: Timothy Goodale* (OCTA, 2009). The 2016 OCTA convention provided significant revisions; so I have now posted that revision at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=REG&db=whitman&id=I3296> (You have to go to this website to be able to click on names to see any source documentation):

1. **Timothy Ware (dad of mountain man) GOODALE** (NOT_A_FAMILY HudsonsBayCo.etc not_@_list_of_74³, NOT_A_FAMILY just_compendium_of_all_families², many_Metis_here look_though_the_descendancy_METIS¹) was born ABT 3 JUL 1769 in [ie. Event recorded in town records at] Conway, Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, British America, and died 21 NOV 1851 in Potsdam, St. Lawrence, New York, United States. He was buried ABT 22 NOV 1851 in West Potsdam Cemetery, Potsdam, St. Lawrence, New York, United States. He married **Lydia SMITH** ABT 1796 in Russell, Hampshire, Massachusetts, United States. She was born 1779 in Connecticut, United States, and died 5 JUL 1856 in Canton, St. Lawrence, New York, United States.

Child of Timothy Ware (dad of mountain man) GOODALE and Lydia SMITH is:

+2 i. **Timothy mountain man GOODALE** was born 22 OCT 1810 in Potsdam, St. Lawrence, New York, United States, and died 1867 in Murdered At Netarts, Tillamook, Oregon, United States.

Descendant Register, Generation No. 2

2. **Timothy mountain man GOODALE** (Timothy Ware (dad of mountain man) GOODALE⁴, NOT_A_FAMILY HudsonsBayCo.etc not_@_list_of_74³, NOT_A_FAMILY just_compendium_of_all_families², many_Metis_here look_though_the_descendancy_METIS¹) was born 22 OCT 1810 in Potsdam, St. Lawrence, New York, United States, and died 1867 in Murdered At Netarts, Tillamook, Oregon, United States. He was buried in Tillamook, Oregon, United States. He married **Virginia Jennie Jenni (of Lemhi Shoshone tribe) HOWE** BEF MAR 1861 in Lemhi Shoshone, Montana, United States, daughter of NOT_A_FAMILY OtherNativeTribe. She was born 1845 in Lemhi Shoshone, Montana, United States, and died 8 APR 1897 in Spokane, Washington, United States. She was buried in , Spokane, WA. He married **last wife of Crow Tribe reportedly CROW** ABT 1865 in Of, Montana Territory, United States. She was born ABT 1845 in probably near, Montana, United States, and died in Maybe, Tillamook, Oregon, United States.

Child of Timothy mountain_man GOODALE and Virginia Jennie Jenni (of Lemhi Shoshone_tribe) HOWE is:

3 i **Mary Winona Goodale** was born in Brownlee Ferry, Washington, now ID and died 1903. She married William Lawrence HANSON 1890 in Washington. He was born APR 1869 in Ringsted, Vestjylland, Denmark, and died 16 FEB 1953 in Chewelab, Stevens, Washington, United States.

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Editor

Susan Badger Doyle
524 NW 3rd St
Pendleton, OR 97801
541-966-8854
sdoyle@oregontrail.net

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Material may be submitted via email, on disk, or as email attachment in Word or Text format. Pictures (JPG format) may be sent via email, on disk, or originals for scanning. **Please send pictures separately from text document.**

MASTHEAD: Replica of *The Old Oregon Trail* bronze relief sculpture created in 1924 by Avarð Fairbanks for Oregon Trail monuments.



2017 OCTA Midyear & Symposium Heathman Lodge Vancouver, WA

**March 30–31, OCTA Midyear
April 1– 2, Symposium**