



Northwest Trails

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

Volume 32, No. 3

Summer 2017

NW OCTA Annual Fall Picnic Saturday, September 23, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Clark County Genealogical Society Annex 715 Grand Blvd., Vancouver, Washington

The chapter's annual fall event will again be held this year at the Clark County Genealogical Society Annex in Vancouver, WA. The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a coffee hour, and the meeting will begin at 10:00. We will include a chapter meeting, a recap of this year's events, and discussion of other important issues for the coming year.

Pre-registration is not necessary. Be prepared to pay \$10 at the door to cover space rental and other picnic expenses.

Bring your own picnic lunch. This is not a potluck. Bring a dessert for the dessert table. The chapter will furnish coffee and tea. Soft drinks will be available for a small donation.

Raffle and Silent Auction. Please bring items you think would make good raffle or silent auction contribution. Please bundle magazines into sets of at least a year.

Program Highlights: Shirlee Evans, member and author, will explain her two new historical fiction books—*Their Troubled Trails* and *No Belonging Place*—and have copies for sale. After lunch, there will be reports by the different committee leaders. Other board issues will be discussed.

Directions and parking:

From I-5. Take exit 1-C (Mill Plain Exit) and drive east on Mill Plain about 1.5 miles to Grand Blvd. Turn right on Grand and half block later turn left into a small strip mall. The CCGS Annex is in the center of the strip mall.

From I-205. Take the Mill Plain exit. Follow signs to Mill Plain and head west about 4.6 miles to Grand Blvd. Turn left and left again into a small strip mall. The CCGS Annex is in the center of that strip mall.

Parking: All day parking is available around the south corner of the mall in the row along the fence and in the lot east of that. **Please do not park in front of the other small businesses.**

Questions? Any questions, email Lethene Parks at Lethene@comcast.net or Rich Herman at buddy259@comcast.net

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President's Message

Well, summer is finally here and it is warmer than usual, which makes for good opportunities to get out on the trail.

The 25th Anniversary of the opening of the NHOT Interpretive Center at Flagstaff Hill, Baker City was well represented by several NWOCTA members on May 25. The NPS had a very interesting program with remarks and remembrances by several good speakers and a performance of "Fanny" by Joyce Badgley Hunsaker.

Great weather followed us to the annual Oregon Lavender Farm's annual Festival on June 24-25. NWOCTA had an information booth for the third year, and a new OCTA Barlow Road plaque was dedicated. I want to thank Henry Pittock for coordinating this event and especially for all his effort in getting the Novalloy plaque designed and installed. We also had a large group of NW chapter members present for both days helping to answer local land owner questions about the Barlow Road. We made several important contacts with locals who are welcoming OCTA to meet with them and verify trail remnants on their land.

Our spirits have been dampened by the loss of four of our good NW chapter members. The NW Chapter was well represented at the funerals for Jim Tompkins, Rene Ford, and Tuck Forsyth. Additionally, I was also just notified of the passing of DeAnn Wilson. Their contribution to the success of our chapter mission has been significant. They were our friends. They will be missed.

This year our annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the NW Chapter picnic, which is scheduled for September 23 in Vancouver at the Clark County Genealogical Society. We were not able to have our usual annual meeting in March because of the OCTA symposium, so it is important that members make every effort to attend. Paul has coordinated the event and put together a good program for our picnic, and I encourage all to attend so we can enjoy each other's camaraderie.

—Rich Herman

Golden Age Passport Alert

The price of the lifetime Senior Pass (for age 62 and older) will increase to \$80 on August 28, 2017. A new \$20 annual Senior Pass will become available at the same time.

Golden Age Passports are no longer sold. However, if you already have one, it will continue to be honored according to the provisions of the pass.

If you don't have one, get it before August 28!

Mapping and Marking Activities for Summer 2017

By Henry Pittock

Research on Barlow Road locations west of the Cascade summit continues with the gathering of property owner lists where finding ruts is the most likely. A few of the sources I have been using include 1988, 1992, and 1993 reports issued by Clackamas County. The online ORMAP program, at some scales (section, ¼ section, 1/16 section), shows the Barlow Road route as determined by the county. It also allows you to zoom in to an individual land parcel, both in map mode and aerial mode. Clackamas County's online CMAP program works in much the same way as ORMAP, except that it does not show the Barlow Road. However, it does allow you to toggle between map view, aerial view, and LIDAR. From Oregon City, the LIDAR coverage stops just NW of Feldheimer Ford and just east of the Sandy River crossing north of Sandy. Hopefully it will be extended before too long.

Saturday, August 5, Hike

Hiking outing at Laurel Hill, Enid Lake Road, and Kiwanis Camp Road. Walk along the Barlow Road, the Pioneer Bridle Trail, and the old Mt Hood Loop Highway in various places. The Enid Lake section is on the north side of US 26, starting across from Ski Bowl West, and we will go as far to the west as we can to the highway road cut. This is about 0.75 miles each way, and flat.

At Laurel Hill, walk along the old loop highway and trail to the top of Chute #3. This is a moderate climb about 0.4 miles. At the east end of Kiwanis Camp road, hike up to the Pioneer Bridle Trail and Barlow Road along the old loop highway. Moderate, perhaps 0.5 mile round trip. If time allows, 0.5 mile hike (each way) to Little Zigzag Falls (not Barlow Road related).

The Laurel Hill section might depend on the results of the highway construction that was completed last year. It is possible the construction might have made the pull-out smaller and limit the number of cars that can park there.

If you are interested, please contact Henry Pittock at hpittock3@icloud.com for more information. **Deadline to sign up is July 28.**

Saturday, August 19, Philip Foster Farm, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

The Philip Foster Farm is holding their annual Family History Day at 29912 SE Eagle Creek Road, Eagle Creek, OR. NWOCTA will have a booth again this year, and there will be about six other booths dealing mainly with local history and genealogy. There will be free ice cream for all at the end of the day.

Saturday, September 16, Hike

Hike on the Barlow Road somewhere in the Barlow Pass, Summit Meadows, Still Creek area. Location to be finalized later.

If you are interested, please contact Henry Pittock at hpittock3@icloud.com for more information. **Deadline to sign up is September 8.**

Saturday September 30, Make-Up day

This will be a make-up day in case either of the August 5 or September 16 hikes need to be canceled because of weather.

Work Party Dates

For several days prior to and also several days after September 16, Rich, Paul, and Henry will be working out of Paul's cabin at Rhododendron. We are hoping that others can join us—perhaps one or two people for a day or two—then maybe a couple of others for a day or two. One of our goals is to have a good start on an “auto tour route.”

If interested, please contact Henry Pittock at hpittock3@icloud.com. **Deadline to sign up is September 1.**

Notes for Hiking Outings

For both of the hiking outings, August 5 and September 16, we will meet in Government Camp before we begin the day. Plenty of restaurants there (our favorite is the Huckleberry Inn) and a good store. There are public restrooms at the east end of Government Camp. There is no water available on either hike, nor any bathroom facilities (except for trees and bushes). Most of the hikes will be in the forest, so it shouldn't be too hot.

If you do not have Jim Tompkins's publication *Discovering Laurel Hill and The Barlow Road*, you should download it and bring it along. It is available online at:

www.octa-trails.org/pages/file_views.php?media_id=168



Remembering Our Friends

Rene Ford

April 8, 1942 – April 25, 2017

Warren L. “Tuck” Forsythe

June 7, 1944 – June 1, 2017

James “Jim” Merle Tompkins

June 8, 1947 – June 3, 2017

DeAnn Wilson

September 12, 1939 – June 22, 2017

25th Anniversary of the Grand Opening of the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center

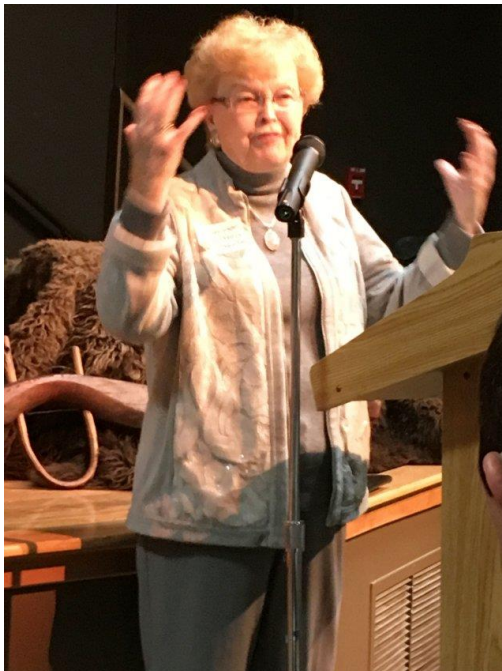
By Susan Badger Doyle

An open house celebration was held Thursday morning, May 25, at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center (NHOTIC) on Flagstaff Hill near Baker City, Oregon. The event was a reunion of people who worked to bring the trail center to completion as well as supporters, volunteers, and distinguished people involved with the center. Center director Sarah LeCompte opened the program, followed by remarks and remembrances by Governor Barbara Roberts, Randy Guyer, Dave Hunsaker, and Don Gonzales.

The speakers detailed the role of BLM, the Trail Tenders support group, and local marketing efforts in the context of trail history and other facilities along the trails. The State of Oregon did a feasibility study in 1988 that promoted the project to build a trail center in Baker City. NHOTIC was fortunate to have significant friends in state government and other organizations. Benefactor Leo Adler gave \$103,000 at the beginning of the project, which progressed in time to open May 25, 1992.

The trail center at Baker City was one of four trail-related centers planned for the Oregon Trail Sesquicentennial in 1993, and it was the first to open. Tamastslikt in Pendleton, The Discovery Center in The Dalles, and The End of the Trail in Oregon City opened later. Today NHOTIC is joined by the BLM national historic trail centers at Casper, Wyoming, and Elko, Nevada.

The program ended with a special encore performance of “Fanny” by Joyce Badgley Hunsaker. Refreshments were served and Hank Cramer and Friends provided music in the lobby. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all.



Former governor Barbara Roberts.



Reenactors mingled with visitors.



Music by Hank Cramer and Friends.

Joyce Hunsaker gave a memorable performance as "Fanny."



The NWOCTA group after lunch at Sumpter Junction.

Front: Lorna Waltz, Susan Doyle, Muriel Carbiener, Jenny Miller.

Back: Rich Herman, Drew Harvey, Gail Carbiener.

Oregon Lavender Farm

By Henry Pittock

NWOCTA had a booth for the third year in a row at the Oregon Lavender Farm on Saturday, June 24, and Sunday, June 25. Members helping at the booth were Rich Herman, Ray and Maura Egan (both in period dress), Gail and Muriel Carbiener (Muriel in period dress), Glenn Harrison, and Henry Pittock. Sharon Brown, OCTA's Western Region Representative, also attended both days. Somehow, we all survived the 100 degree heat of the weekend. Well over a hundred people stopped by the booth to find out more about the trail. About a half-dozen of them talked about the Barlow Road passing through their properties, or at least nearby. We will be contacting them all this summer. Some were interested enough to pick up an OCTA brochure.

The highlight of the weekend was the unveiling of a new OCTA Novacolor plaque commemorating the Oregon Trail and especially the Barlow Road. This all came about thanks to Jim Tompkins. Several years ago, while several of us were working on the TIP project, as we were driving along Gerber Road, Jim mentioned that he thought the Barlow Road went through the corner of the lavender farm. Following many communications between Jim, Jim Dierking, the owner of the Oregon Lavender Farm, and myself, and after much research, the plans for the plaque were finalized. Jim Tompkins wrote the text for the plaque and also made significant suggestions concerning the maps. Without his perseverance, this might never have happened.

The plaque, titled "Barlow Road at the Oregon Lavender Farm," is located at 20949 S. Harris Road, Oregon City, and is set just south of the gazebo.



View of the Lavender Festival grounds.



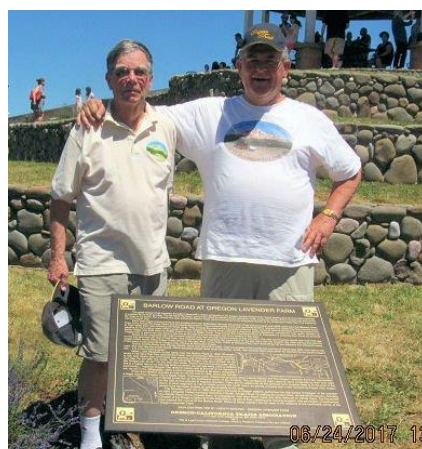
Karen Brown, Rich Herman, Ray Egan, Glenn Harrison, Sharon Brown, Gail Carbiener, Muriel Carbiener at the NWOCTA booth.



Ray Egan, Maura Egan, Henry Pittock, and Muriel Carbiener at the plaque.



New *Muriel Carbiener, Maura Egan.*



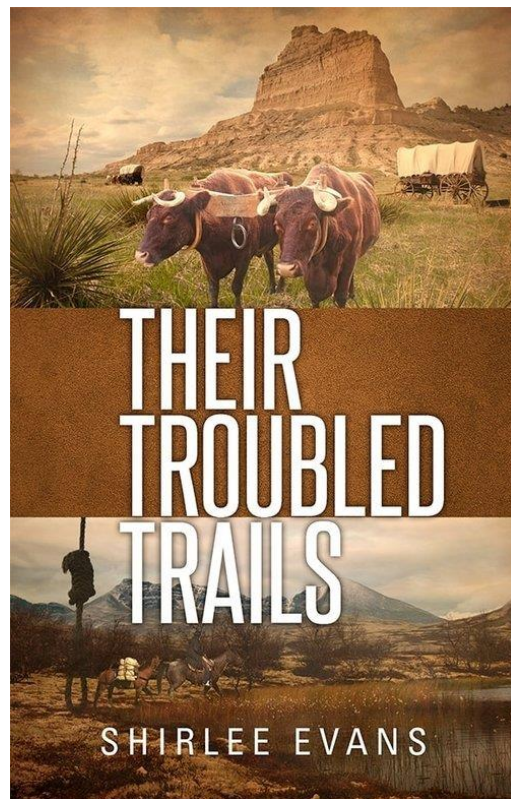
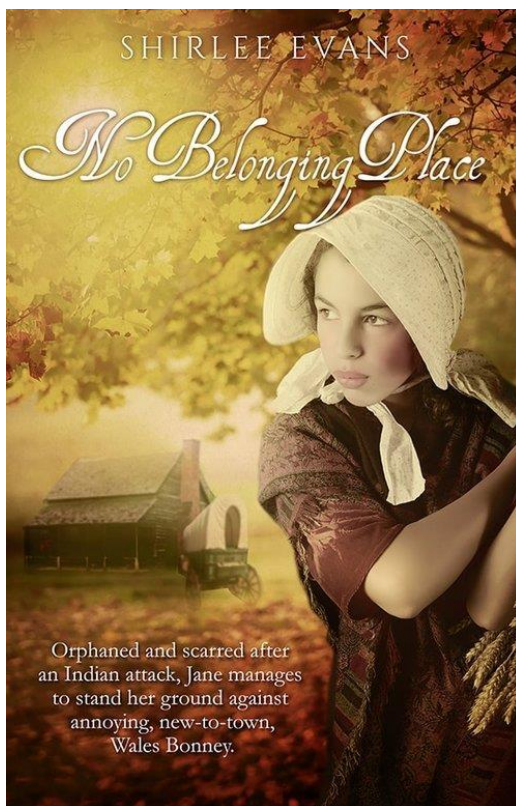
ans *Henry Pittock, Rich Herman.*

My publisher has at last released my latest two books: historical fiction set in the mid-1800s during America's western expansion. I think of them as companion books, even though the second, *Their Troubled Trails*, is actually a sequel to the first, *No Belonging Place*. If you are interested in purchasing them (or are just curious), check out my website at www.westboundbonneys.com.

Each of the two books are pictured on my Home page with a brief summary. Both are for sale as either paperback or eBooks. Also, by clicking on the books pictured on the Amazon site you will be able to read the first 20 pages or so.

Meanwhile, back on the Home page, check out the menu pages listed across the top and you will learn more about me than you mostly ever cared to know.

Warmly,
Shirlee Evans



Shirlee Evans will be the program speaker at the NWOCTA Annual Fall Picnic September 23. But please visit her website at www.westboundbonneys.com before the meeting to learn more about her and her books.

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



**35th OCTA Convention
Council Bluffs, Iowa
August 8–12, 2017**