



# Northwest Trails

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

Volume 23, No. 1

Winter 2008

## Northwest Chapter Annual Meeting

March 1

### Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, The Dalles, Oregon

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the Northwest Chapter will again be held at the Gorge Discovery Center, in The Dalles, Oregon. This has been a successful venue and central location for the past two years. The registration flyer will be sent out in February. Registration will include the luncheon, coffee all morning, room rental, and the technical equipment. It also allows a small donation to the Center.

We will convene at 10:00 a.m. in the theater of the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, but come as early as 9:00 a.m. to socialize and drop off raffle items before the meeting starts. When you enter the Center, tell the receptionist you are attending the NW OCTA meeting.

Please bring donations for the raffle, which is always a great success. Please bundle issues of the same title of loose journals or magazines together. All types of raffle items are welcome, trail-related or not. The wide array of interesting and unusual items on the raffle tables makes this an especially interesting and fun event.

The annual business meeting—reports, announcements, awards, and discussions—will be from 10:00 a.m. until noon. A chapter bylaws change will be on the agenda to be voted on. The exact wording of the change, which the board will decide on soon, will be in the flyer.

We will break at noon for lunch in the Center's Basalt Rock Café, with its expansive view of the pond and restored natural grounds. Lunch will be a sandwich bar plus a beverage bar.

At 1:00 we will return to the theater for a program. Our guest speaker will be Mary Michaelson, Assistant Curator at the Lynden Pioneer Museum, Lynden, Washington. The title of her program is "Pioneer Family Connections of Phoebe Goodell Judson, the Mother of Lynden, Washington." She will introduce us to "Aunt Phoebe" Judson and explain her role in the founding of Lynden and her connections to the Goodell, Roeder, and Ebey families who were significant in the settlement of the Pacific Northwest.

The meeting will end with the ever-popular raffle. See you in The Dalles!

**Check out OCTA's ONLINE HOTELS page for reservations in The Dalles**

<http://www.octa-trails.org/trail-hotels/hotels/us-or-the-dalles.html>

**A REGISTRATION FLYER WILL BE SENT OUT IN FEBRUARY**



## NW Chapter Directory

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## President's Message

Well, here I am in the second term of my "retirement." The membership had the shortsightedness to elect me to another term as president. I still covet your impeachment nominations. I will help you with any suggested executive (not personal) shortfalls if you are short of ideas on which to base the impeachment. I must, however, congratulate the other members elected to board or officer positions. I truly appreciate the help these and other chapter members who work to make OCTA and the Northwest Chapter the fine organization it is. I have lived in three other states with OCTA chapters and am a member of several of the other chapters; I have no reservations in stating that Northwest Chapter is the best. It has active, hard-working members who pull together to get the job done—any job—for the good of OCTA. Thank you to all who have served the last two years.

Let me take this opportunity to discuss an important item of business to be discussed at the upcoming annual meeting in March: the adoption of proposed bylaws changes. The exact wording of the changes will be sent out with the flyer in February announcing the meeting. Watch for it and plan to attend the March 1 meeting, not only to consider the bylaws changes but also to enjoy the program and socialize with old friends.

*The first proposal is to adopt a chapter fiscal year beginning October 1 and ending September 30.* Chapters are now expected to provide summary financial information to OCTA national headquarters for reporting to the government following the end of OCTA's fiscal calendar year. The fiscal calendar year for the Northwest Chapter currently begins July 1 and ends June 30. In contrast, both the government's and national OCTA's fiscal calendar begins October 1 and ends September 30. If the chapter fiscal calendar year matched the national fiscal calendar, it would simplify record keeping and reporting from the chapter to the national association.

Developing the Northwest Chapter's yearly report for OCTA currently requires the chapter treasurer to remove three months of data from the beginning of one fiscal calendar year's records (July, August, and September) and add them to the next fiscal calendar year's records to prepare the report. This system is cumbersome at best. Furthermore, making this fiscal calendar year change would have an added benefit for the chapter. Currently, the "activity year" for the chapter ends in September. A shift in the fiscal calendar year would allow all records for the activity year to be collected into one fiscal calendar year rather than splitting them in the middle of the summer. This would allow for a more rational accounting of yearly expenses to the board. Expenses and income for chapter activities and programs would accurately match the actual fiscal year in which they were accrued or expended.

*A proposed addition to the bylaws would allow general business to be transacted at the members' fall meeting (picnic).* Currently, only general business—approval of minutes and reports—can be conducted at times other than the annual meeting. Major business that requires general membership approval—such as bylaws changes—can only be conducted at the annual general membership meeting each March. This imposes a significant lag in proposing, adopting, and implementing necessary actions. Since the fall meeting is well attended, allowing major general business matters, e.g. bylaws and budget changes, to be raised and approved at one additional meeting during the year would permit more responsive management of general chapter business.

I hope to see you at the annual meeting.

—Roger Blair

## Applegate Trail Video

By Glenn Harrison

Assisted with funds from the Oregon Trails Fund, Southern Oregon Public Television (SOPTV) produced *A South Road to Oregon: The History of the Applegate Trail*. This made for television program traces the construction and controversy surrounding the long southern branch of the Oregon Trail from Fort Hall, Idaho, through parts of Nevada, California, and southern Oregon into the settlements of the Willamette Valley. More information about the program is at [www.soptv.org](http://www.soptv.org). It is available in video or DVD for \$19.95 plus \$5 shipping. Some OCTA members, including Leta Neiderheiser, a descendent of Jesse Applegate, were interviewed for the video.

This video received a Silver Davey Award, given for achievement by small firms, agencies, and companies that derive their strength from big ideas rather than big budgets. It also won a MarCom Creative Platinum Award from the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals. The international organization, which consists of several thousand marketing, communication, advertising, public relations, media production, and free-lance professionals, establishes excellence standards.

*Northwest Trails*, Winter 2008

## Website Update

By Marley Shurtleff

Our chapter website has been updated. The people running for office for 2008–2009 are listed on the home page. The Northwest has some beautiful trail venues, a few of which are shown in Top Northwest Sites, A great picture from Glenn Harrison, just added, opens that section. Also, a seven-year collection of chapter newsletters is available online at the Chapter Newsletter link.

Consider bookmarking the National OCTA website so you can reach it and the chapter website easily. Take a look around the national site. Then, to get to the chapter site, click on the "Chapters" link on the left side of the page. Scroll down to the Northwest link in the box at the bottom of the center section. OR, go directly to the Northwest Chapter website.

The National OCTA website is:

[www.octa-trails.org](http://www.octa-trails.org)

The Northwest OCTA website is:

[www.octa-trails.org/chapters/northwest](http://www.octa-trails.org/chapters/northwest)

### NWOCTA Election Results 2008–2009

President: Roger Blair	Secretary: Lynne Alvord
Vice President: Jim Tompkins	Treasurer: Joyce Bolerjack
Director: Wendell Baskins	

## Volunteer Hours and Expenses

Chuck Hornbuckle, NW Chapter Volunteerism Coordinator, reported that members of the Northwest Chapter contributed 8739.5 hours and \$38,865.70 in un-reimbursed trail-related expenses in 2007. The numbers are down. The hours are 25 percent less, and the expenses are 5 percent less than they were in 2006.

# STAGE COACH IS A'COMING!

by Suzanne Hornbuckle

“Was it a rough ride?” “How many people were inside the coach?” “How many horses pulled the coach?” “Did you like the ride?”

These are some of the questions asked after I rode in the stage coach from Grand Mound to Tenino, Washington, on September 22, 2007. The answers are “No, very smooth,” “Five,” “No horses, but four mules,” and “Yes, very much.”

It took about 2 hours and 15 minutes to make the ten mile journey in the stage coach, and fifteen minutes to travel the same distance in my car. What a difference! As we traveled by stage coach, I saw details along the way that I had never noticed before, as well as closely observing the people, horses, dogs, alpacas, beef cattle, and dairy cows. The most excited group of all was the dairy herd. I imagine the dairy farmer didn't get much milk on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, as the milk cows were amazed and discombobulated to see the stage coach traveling by. The beef cattle didn't pay any attention, but the horses and dogs had the time of their lives running back and forth and announcing the presence of such a strange sight! Perhaps it was the noise, which was produced by the iron wheels on the blacktop road. Most of the humans along the route were excited and rushed out to wave and enjoy a unique sight.

Travel by stage coach in the 21<sup>st</sup> century was very comfortable. With only five passengers, we were not crowded inside. How many passengers on the top? There were several, and they did get a few raindrops. None of us had the dust to contend with that passengers in the 1860s would have had. Also, 2 hours 15 minutes cannot compare to 28 hours seated on a hard wooden plank, dust boiling up—or pouring rain and mud splattering everywhere.

I'm probably not ready to trade in my Subaru for a stage coach, but I would take advantage of the opportunity to ride in that beautiful coach any time!

*The September 21–22–23, 2007, ninety mile Territorial Express Stage Coach run from Monticello (Longview) to Olympia, Washington, was sponsored by the Tumwater Historical Association and supported by the communities along the route. In addition to passengers, the stage carried U.S. mail and freight. Profits from the run support the Tumwater Middle School's "Homesteaders" program.*



## **Job Henry Inman, Young Emigrant of 1852**

*By William R. Symms*

Last August, after wheezing my way up the trail to the top of Chute Number 3 on Laurel Hill, I decided to walk to the south where the Barlow Road intersects the Old Mt. Hood Loop Highway. As I stood on the Loop looking down at the mass of rock and trees, I was wishing I could find the bottom of chute number 2 where I knew an infant was buried by his father in 1852. The grave had never been properly marked. Cecil Inman, a 93-year-old relative of the baby, badly wanted to mark the infant's final resting place, but it was difficult to pinpoint with all the natural changes in the mountain the last 150 years: different highway constructions, the sparse information, my knowledge of how nearly impossible it would be, and the Forest Service bureaucracy.

As a history teacher for 23 years I have always been interested in American history, especially the Northwest and the Oregon Trail. In my study of the Oregon Trail, I tend to focus on the adults who came west. This experience has caused me to broaden my overall view of the emigrants; many came west not necessarily voluntarily. They were forced because they were too young to have a vote in the journey or wives whose husbands made the decision for them. I was at the top of Mt. Hood walking around in the forest, wondering about a grave of one who had little time to make a mark before he died.

In early July of 2006, Ms. Joan Myers contacted NWOCTA member Muriel Carbiener on behalf of Cecil Inman of Sunriver about the possibility of doing a memorial plaque for Mr. Inman's relative. Mr. Inman claimed to know the approximate location of the grave of an ancestor who was thought to have been born and died on the Barlow Road in 1852. The first name is unknown but the last name was Inman. Mr. Inman wanted to honor the infant with a marker and was willing to fund the project. Other folks in the organization were not

available to look into the request so Muriel asked me if I would look into it.

After talking with Ms. Myers and Mr. Inman I started doing a search for information about any Inman of 1852, a task which took about four and a half months to complete. I was able to find information at Stephanie Flora's website and from Barbara Herrings research on the Roots website. I learned the infants name was Job Henry Inman, born in Missouri on January 4, 1851, and died on October 9, 1852, at Laurel Hill on the Barlow Road. His parents were Joel Cowan Inman and Sophia Jane Hinton Inman. I did an Internet search for Joel C. Inman and followed the several references.

I came across the following information from "Illustrated History of Lane County, Oregon" by A.G. Walling in 1884:

Joel C. Inman was born in Madison County, Alabama and is now about sixty years of age. When quite young he had the misfortune to lose his parents, when he resided with relatives in Franklin County, Missouri, about eight years. On April 2, 1852, accompanied by his wife and three children, our subjects crossed the plains to Oregon, where they arrived, after enduring many hardships, the loss of one child, and most of his stock, in October of that year. Coming direct to Lane County, Mr. Inman took up the donation claim on which he resides, comprising three hundred and twenty acres, to which he has added five hundred and sixteen more, making in all an estate of eight hundred and thirty-six acres of fine land. He married, March 4, 1846, Miss Sophia J. Hinton, and has a surviving family of ten children, viz: William C., John T., Joel T., Sarah H., Joseph s., Varian Alice, Warren W., Benjamin P., Emily Elizabeth Annie, Charles W. A view of Mr. Inman's residence will be found in this work.

An article in the Lane County Historical Society Publication of November of 1963 by

Lois Inman Baker about Joel C. Inman and the family related:

The Blue Mountains proved to be a very difficult stretch of the journey for the members of the train who were nearly exhausted after so many weeks and miles on the trail, most of which had been covered on foot for many of them, in order to help the poor animals which also were near exhaustion. The baby Job was ill and fretting and Grandfather had to carry him all the way across the mountains. . . . The baby Job died on the Barlow Road as his father was carrying him to keep him from fretting. He was buried at Laurel Hill. A wagon bed was torn up to make a little coffin and the wagons were driven across the grave to prevent the Indians from locating it and opening it up to steal the clothing. Grandfather Inman always regretted that he did not return to the spot and bring the coffin to the family cemetery on his donation claim near Elmira, OR.

Job was 1 year, 10 months and 5 days old when he died. There is no explanation as to the cause of death, only that he had always been a sickly child.

Since this occurred in 1852, I assumed the young infant was buried at the bottom of Chute Number 2 at Laurel Hill, as it was the one in general use in 1852. With all the road building and changes in the area Chute Number 2 is the hardest to find. I went up to Laurel Hill and walked around one day in August with my youngest son. After a visit to Chute #3 where the interpretive panel is located, we walked south on the Barlow Road until it intersected with the Old Mt. Hood Loop Highway and walked back down to our vehicle, to avoid negotiating the steep trail leading up to the top of the chute.

Armed with this knowledge I made a request of the U.S. Forest Service for the procedure to put up a memorial to young Job Inman, whose burial site is on Forest Service land. The initial response was that they had no record of an

infant death at that particular location on the Barlow Road. I sent the Lane County Historical Society article to them. They responded that there may be a grave there but, obviously, the infant's father did not want it found or disturbed, so why worry about it 150 years later? In other words, we did not know the precise location, just the general area, so there would be no marker. I countered with a request to place a memorial plaque on the Old Mt. Hood Loop Highway in the approximate area of Chute Number 2, so that people would be able have something of a historical nature to read while walking back to their vehicle. I included a sample of how the plaque and signage would look and read. Mr. Inman had already read the memorial and agreed to its content.

The response was "No," as that would lead to everyone wanting to put up signs to their relatives and it would detract from the natural environment. I could understand their concern but we were proposing a nice Novacolor sign, which is now the current standard for marking sites on the Oregon Trail. I pointed out that most people would not be willing to pay the \$660+ for a Novacolor sign. I told them that it would not cost the Forest Service a cent. Mr. Inman was willing to pay for the sign, and I would take care of the installation. All they had to do was show me the spot to put it, a ribbon and stake in the ground, and I will plant the sign. "No way!!" It was suggested that maybe one of the three area historical societies might be interested in a memorial, if a donation was made by Mr. Inman. To this date, and to my knowledge, there has been no response from any of the historical societies.

So, by the end of October I could tell there would be no sign there to read, and Mr. Inman would not get to place a memorial to his infant relative where he died. It is too bad, as I thought that Job's grave might represent all the "young emigrants" who perished on the trail and left without a marker, sort of like the Pioneer Woman's grave on the Old Loop Highway, or Baby Morgan's plaque at Mt. Hood Meadows. In this case however, it did not work out.

The Forest Service did say that the idea about some interpretive panels along the old

loop highway had some merit, and they would keep the information just in case they decided to do something like that. They are considering some more signage in the area they just don't know exactly what they want to do. Maybe I planted a seed for an idea but only time will tell.

So, if you are ever in the area, walk up to the top of Chute Number 3 on Laurel Hill, walk back along the old loop highway and think of young Job Henry Inman, one of the "youngest emigrants." He represents the many who had no vote in coming west.

This story does have a happy ending, however. On September 11, 2007, about a dozen descendents of Job Henry Inman, led by Cecil Inman who is now ninety-four years old and in excellent condition, met at the family cemetery on the original homestead north of Elmira for a ceremony to place a bronze plaque next to his parents, Joel and Sophia Inman. Cecil's son, Kent, and daughter, Robin, were there, as was Thelma Inman whose husband Ben was also a direct descendent of Job Inman.



*Thelma Inman, Kent Inman, Cecil Inman, and Becky Lentz (caretaker for the family cemetery).*

I was fortunate enough to be invited to the ceremony. I attended because I had a very strong interest and tie to young Job after all of my work and research, and I needed to say goodbye in my own way. It was a beautiful fall day overlooking Fern Ridge Reservoir, and I was finally able to meet Cecil Inman, Joan Myers, and the others who were instrumental in making this all take place. I think it is much more fitting, especially from the families' standpoint, to have the memorial here.



*Cecil Inman holding the plaque before it was placed in the cemetery.*

From a historical standpoint, it would have been nicer to have a marker closer to his grave, but this will do. It is a fitting end to young Job's journey. He will always be a remembered part of the Inman history for future generations. Now, Job has made his mark.



*Job Henry Inman's final marker.*

## *Northwest Trails*

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Material may be submitted via email or on disk or as email attachment in Word or Text format. Pictures can be sent via email, on disk (JPG format), 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 Avarad Fairbanks for Oregon Trail monuments.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

### **2008 NW OCTA Annual Meeting**

**Saturday, March 1  
at the  
Columbia Gorge Discovery Center  
The Dalles, Oregon**

**Speaker**

**Mary Michaelson**

**“Pioneer Family Connections to  
Phoebe Goodell Judson,  
the Mother of Lynden, Washington”**

**A registration flyer will be sent out  
in February**

## *Northwest Trails*

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