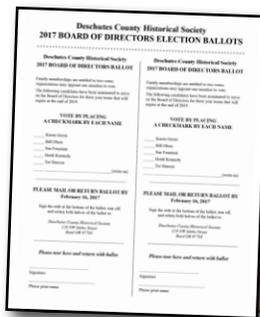




Historic Guard Station Log Cabin

Deschutes Bridge Guard Station, on the Cascade Lakes National Scenic Byway, offers a rare glimpse at U.S. Forest Service guard station history.

See Page 2

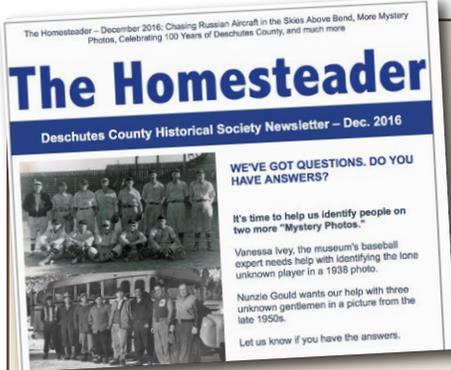


Election of Board Members Nearing

It is time again for elections to the Board of Directors for the Deschutes County Historical Society. The ballot for this year's election can be found on pages 7-8.

The Homesteader

Deschutes County Historical Society Newsletter – January 2017



The Homesteader Leaps Into the 21st Century

You may have noticed that the email messages announcing the publication of the latest Homesteader has changed. No longer a plain text email with a single link to the newsletter, the new email looks more like a billboard with pictures and text.

The monthly Homesteader newsletter is sporting an updated, contemporary look and we wanted to carry over that look and feel to the monthly emails as well. Last month we successfully tested the new delivery system. Now we're ready to take on the new millennium wholeheartedly. Enjoy!

Tor Hanson, Homesteader editor

LAVA BEARS' 1940 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL RETURNED



The football from the 1940 State Championship game between the Lava Bears and Medford is back in Bend. Manufactured by Wilson Sporting Goods Company in Chicago, Illinois, it carries the names of the players, coaches and the manager of the team.

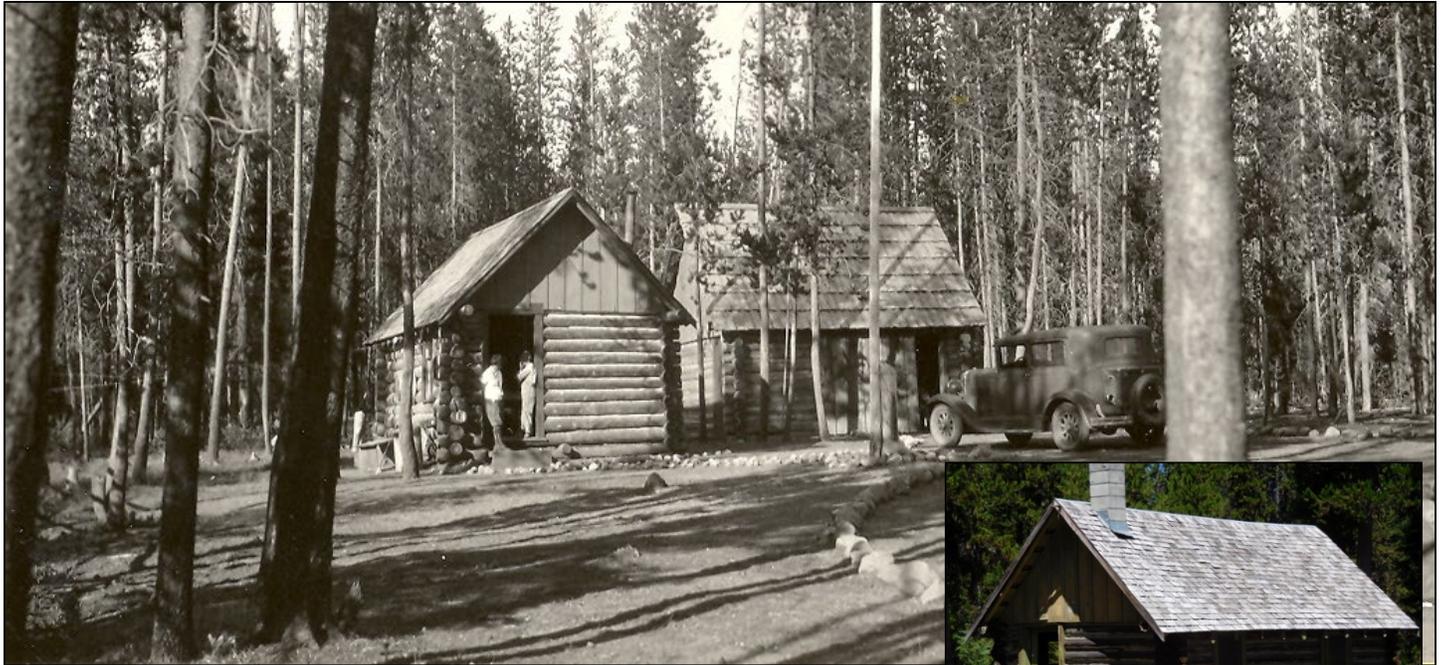
A relic from one of Central Oregon's greatest prep gridiron teams has finally made its way home.

Last month, Portland resident Jim Byers donated a football from Bend High's 1940 state championship team to the Deschutes Historical Museum. The ball includes the names of all 20 players, coaches Joe Huston and Hank Nilsen, and manager Clarence Cunningham.

"Bend high's (sic) bruising Lava Bears, with power to burn and an aerial attack that flared brilliantly when touchdowns were in sight, captured Oregon's 1940 prep football championship yesterday," The Medford Mail Tribune wrote in its Dec. 1, 1940 edition. "It was simply a matter of a good little team playing a good big team. ... (Medford) couldn't cope with Bend's power when it was turned on

-- continued on page 3

Deschutes Bridge Guard Station Awaits its Destiny



The original Deschutes Bridge Guard Station log cabin, shown on the left side of this 1930 U.S. Forest Service photograph (above). The Guard Station log cabin still stands as shown in this 2016 photograph and could be maintained in a state of arrested deterioration and interpreted. Photo: Les Joslin.



Historic Deschutes Bridge Guard Station, not quite 40 miles from Bend on the Cascade Lakes National Scenic Byway, offers a rare glimpse at U.S. Forest Service guard station history. At the river crossing for which it is named are both the early 20th century log cabin and the 1930s structure that housed Deschutes National Forest personnel serving in the field for most of the national forest's history.

Guard stations were seasonally-staffed satellites of ranger stations at which district forest rangers posted seasonal assistants called forest guards who performed fire prevention and control, recreation facility and trail maintenance, public information and education, and any other jobs distant from the ranger station for the forest ranger. These stations also came in handy when the district ranger found himself far from the ranger station when the

sun set and needed a place to bunk for the night.

One or more guard stations were located on each of the four ranger districts into which the Deschutes National Forest was subdivided for most of its history. Three guard stations which still exist are located west of Bend. From north to south, these were Elk Lake Guard Station on the northwest shore of Elk Lake, Deschutes Bridge Guard Station about eight road miles south of the Elk Lake Station, and Fall River Guard Station about a dozen miles south of Deschutes Bridge at the headwaters of the river for which it is named.

The forest guards posted at these three guard stations worked for the district ranger headquartered in La Pine until 1933 when the district name was changed to Bend Ranger District with headquarters in Bend. These guard

-- continued on page 4



Deschutes Historical Museum
129 NW Idaho Avenue, Bend, OR 97703
Open Tuesdays-Saturdays
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
541.389.1813

Museum Staff:

Kelly Cannon-Miller, Executive Director
Vanessa Ivey, Museum Manager
Shey Hyatt, Registrar
Tor Hanson, Homesteader Editor



2016 DCHS Board of Directors:

Nate Pedersen, President
Marsha Stout, Vice President
Sue Fountain, Secretary/Treasurer

Board Members:

Tony DeBone, Mike Berry, Andrea Hunnell DuPree,
Beau Eastes, Greg Fulton, Karen Green,
Robin Gyorgyfalvy, Tor Hanson, Loren Irving,
Heidi Kennedy, Courtney Lupton-Turner,
Bill Olsen, and Susie Penhollow

Complete minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors are on file with the Museum office.



www.deschuteshistory.org
Info@deschuteshistory.org



Bend High's 1940 State Championship team in front of the Mt. Hood Stages' bus in Medford. The Lava Bears won the title game against Bill Bowerman-coached Medford, final score 20-7. Lava Bears' coach Joe Huston (right).

Championship Football...

— continued from page 1

full blast, and they couldn't crack that grand Lava Bear line consistently."

The Lava Bears topped Bill Bowerman-coached Medford 20-7 that year in Oregon's first sanctioned high school football state championship game. Sherman Nicarc caught two touchdown passes, "Big Jim" Byers – the uncle of the Portland Jim Byers - ran for a score on offense and grabbed an interception on defense, and Billy Eby threw a touchdown pass and converted a pair of point-after kicks to lead Bend. The Lava Bears finished the season 8-1-1 and allowed more than a single touchdown in a game just once.

"They say that teams back then couldn't compare to the ones today, but the hell they couldn't," Bowerman was quoted saying in *The Bulletin* newspaper 40 years later. "It's a matter of blocking and tackling and those guys could block and tackle."

Like the rest of their generation, the 1940 Lava Bears were thrown into the chaos of World War II a year after knocking off the Black Tornado in what was then the city's four-year-old Medford Stadium.



Jack Chambers

All told, every member of the Lava Bears' 1940 state championship team, including coaches Huston and Nilsen, served in the military in some capacity during World War II. Here's a few of their stories:

Jack Chambers, the starting center for the championship team, enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces after graduation in

June, 1941. Less than a year later he was taken prisoner by the Japanese army following the fall of Bataan. Chambers spent three years in Japanese prison camps and survived the infamous Bataan Death March. On July 31, 1944, Chambers was forced to amputate his own leg when it became entangled with a cable in a Japanese steel mill he was forced to work at. His captors refused to cut the cable,

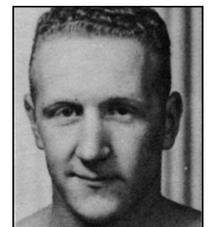


Bill Eby

according to a later report in *The Bulletin*, so Chambers and a fellow American POW cut off the leg to save his life.

Bill Eby, the halfback and kicker, was also taken prisoner by the Japanese after the fall of Bataan. He later died in a POW camp from "dysentery and malaria," according to the U.S. military.

Jim Byers, who played football at the University of Washington before the war and at the University of Oregon briefly after, went on to become a decorated fighter pilot for the U.S. Army Air Forces, the predecessor to the U.S. Air Force. He ended the war with 68 combat missions in Europe, including three successful



Jim Byers

missions over Utah Beach during D-Day, June 6, 1944. Byers was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross for his service and later flew combat missions in the Korean War.



Clarence Cunningham

Clarence (Jim) Cunningham, the team manager, died in a plane crash during naval flight training.

-- continued on page 6

Guard Station...

– continued from page 1

stations were connected to each other, the surrounding fire lookouts, and the district ranger's office by Forest Service telephone lines and later by radio. Elk Lake and Fall River guard stations were in active use by Forest Service fire control or recreation personnel until the middle 1990s before those functions were centralized in Bend. After Forest Service personnel were no longer stationed at Deschutes Bridge Guard Station, it was used through summer 2005 as an administrative site for supervision of Oregon Department of Corrections crews working in the Deschutes National Forest on forest health improvement projects.

The Elk Lake and Fall River guard stations have been restored for reuse as recreation and heritage resources. After four summers of restoration work, Historic Elk Lake Guard Station has served every summer since 2002 as a volunteer-staffed information station and interpreted historic site that serves thousands of visitors annually. And, after restoration, Fall River Guard Station has been a popular recreation lodging program rental for almost a decade.

Meanwhile, Deschutes Bridge Guard Station awaits its destiny. Unless positive action to rehabilitate and reuse this still sound historic 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps-built structure, its still-standing early 1900s log cabin predecessor, and a couple compatible utility buildings is taken soon, this destiny will be the loss of a valuable recreation and heritage resource in readily accessible and scenic location.

The Deschutes National Forest has a proud history of successful restoration and reuse of historic administrative sites it has returned to public service in a way that also preserves and interprets the Forest Service's unique role in natural resource management. In addition to Deschutes



The Deschutes Bridge Guard Station structure built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s, shown in this 1948 U.S. Forest Service photograph (left), remains sound and relatively readily restorable as shown in this 2016 photograph by the author (below).

Bridge Guard Station's two sister guard stations mentioned above, this includes the historic Paulina Lake Guard Station now serving as a visitor information station within the Newberry National Volcanic Monument. The Deschutes National Forest has accomplished such tasks by availing itself of the Forest Service's own Passport in Time (PIT) heritage resource program volunteers as well as other sources of unfunded labor and materials. It also has recent experience with U.S. Army National Guard and U.S. Marine Corps Reserve construction and engineering teams.

Additional good news for such a project in this era of declining appropriations for recreation and heritage resources is the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act permits the Forest Service to reinvest fees charged to national forest visitors who rent historic ranger and guard stations and fire lookouts in the restoration and maintenance of those facilities.

The time has come for the historic Deschutes Bridge Guard Station to achieve a destiny as an affordable and beneficial recreation and heritage resource.

– Les Joslin



Local News Items

Grant Provides New Technology



Deschutes Historical Museum's new Square cash register.

Being a historical society, we love old things. Unless we are still trying to use them for conducting business, then out of date technology is less of a love story.

Thanks to a 2016 grant from Trust Management Services, the Deschutes County Historical Society has entered the 21st century with both a new point of sale cash register system, new donor database, and new email service.

At the front desk, a new Square cash register system streamlined sales and admissions. Everything needed to track our visitor numbers, gift store sales, and more can all be done in one spot, without the extra work of handwritten sales logs. As an added bonus, the new register doesn't make ear piercing squeals that can be heard in every corner of the building. Not that we didn't

love our old, stalwart cash register; it had just gotten rather needy and loud.

Our membership database is now managed through a program called Donor Perfect, a program designed for saving membership information and is better connected for sending emails. Not without a few bumps—the newsletter emails sometimes get sorted into spam or 'promotions' folders, particularly for those using gmail—and occasionally old addresses migrated into the new system instead of current address. In the end, the work converting will have been worth it in the time saved for staff and volunteers.

Winter Comes Exhibit Makes Oregon Cultural Trust Map

The Deschutes Historical Museum was honored to receive an Oregon Cultural Trust grant to support Winter Comes.

We were even more excited with the Trust chose to feature our project on their map of 2016 funded projects, complete with a little video from our curators, Tim Gibbons and Tor Hanson as they discuss the Ft. Klamath to Crater Lake race of 1931.

Follow the link below to see more! Thanks to the Oregon Cultural Trust for their continued support.

culturaltrust.org/about-us/oregonculturemap/

First Snow

Excerpt from "Beautiful Snow"

Oh, the snow, the beautiful snow.
Filling the sky and the earth below.
Over the housetop, over the street.
Over the heads of people you meet.
Dancing and flirting, skimming along.
Oh, the snow, the beautiful snow.
How the flakes gather and laugh as they go.
Whirling about in their maddening fun.
It plays in its glee with everyone.
It lights on the face and sparkles the eye,
And even the dogs with a bark and a bound
Snap at the crystals that eddy around.
The town is alive and its heart in a glow
To welcome the coming of the beautiful snow.

– John Whitaker Watson 1858



Three weeks later –

Oh, the snow, the beautiful snow.
Filling the streets and paths below.
On the housetops, piling deep.
Icicles cling on eaves that weep.
Dripping by day, freezing by night
Two feet, three feet, a scary sight.
Oh, the snow, the beautiful snow.
How the flakes tumble and attack as they go.
Whirling about and blinding us all,
Laughing as they see our icy fall.
They freeze the face and cover the ears,
My dog in a snowdrift disappears.
The town is quiet except for the plow
We wait for a thaw but dig us out now.
Beautiful snow. Oh yeah, the snow.

– Bonnie Burns 2017 (museum volunteer)



Championship Football...

– continued from page 1



Gene Gillis

Maybe the best all-around athlete on the 1940 Lava Bears squad, **Gene Gillis**, the only sophomore on the team, fought in the South Pacific with the Marines and then started on the offensive line for Oregon his first year back from the war. He quit the “Webfoots” after just one season, though, to focus on skiing. He made the 1948 U.S. Winter Olympic team, but was injured in a practice run just before competition and did not compete in the Games. Gillis went on to play a pivotal role in the creation of Mt. Bachelor, as well as Stratton Mountain in Vermont and Keystone in Colorado.



George Chambers

Halfback **George Chambers**, who was a senior on the 1940 team, also joined the Marines and was part of the honor guard at President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s funeral. He settled in Albany first as the city’s recreation director and later as a life insurance agent. He passed away at the age of 93 this past November.



Dick Cooper

Senior tackle **Dick Cooper** went on to fight in the South Pacific with the U.S. Army and died on Okinawa. His daughter Sharon Marie Cooper was born several days after his death.

– Beau Eastes

Photos from Bend High school Pine Murmurs, 1941 yearbook

New Members

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Barbara Pace | Lorlee Ackerman |
| Brock McCormick | Mary Ellen Deckelmann |
| Carol Schunk | Norma Barnes |
| David Tilton | Paul Claeysens |
| Elfida Davalos | Ruth O’Brien |
| Glen Bates | Terry Sena |
| Jacob Riggle | Walter McKnight |
| Jim Fancher | William Tweed |

Mark Your Calendars

JANUARY

- 28 The last day... WINTER COMES: Oregon’s Nordic Ski History**
This your last chance to check out the *Winter Comes* exhibit and Emil Nordeen’s *The Klamath* trophy.
- 31 HISTORY PUB: WORKING WOMEN – Caroline Gleason/Sister Miriam Theresa and Oregon’s First Minimum Wage Law**
Presented by Janice Dilg, independent historian from Portland, Oregon
McMenamins Old St. Francis
Father Luke Room, 7 p.m., doors at 5:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- 18 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON**
Pine Forest Grange Hall
63214 Boyd Acres Road, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
For more information, please see attached ballot.

McMENAMINS OLD ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL
HISTORY PUB NIGHT
WORKING WOMEN:
Caroline Gleason/Sister Miriam Theresa
and Oregon's First Minimum Wage Law

In 1913, Caroline Gleason, later known as Sister Miriam Theresa, worked in Portland factories, surveyed working women across Oregon, and helped craft the nation's first compulsory minimum wage law

Presentation by **JANICE DILG**
Independent historian from Portland, Oregon
Tuesday, January 31, 2017
5:30 p.m. doors; 7 p.m. event • Free • All ages welcome
Sponsored by **Deschutes Historical Museum,**
Oregon Encyclopedia and The Oregon Historical Society

700 N.W. Bond St. • Bend • (541) 382-5174 • mcmenamins.com/history

2017 Annual Meeting of the Membership and Election of Board of Directors

January 9, 2017

Dear Members:

It is time again for elections to the Board of Directors for the Deschutes County Historical Society. DCHS is pleased to announce that five current board members have agreed to return for another term.

Up for re-election in 2017 for new three year terms are:

- **Karen Green**
- **Bill Olsen**
- **Sue Fountain**
- **Heidi Kennedy**
- **Tor Hanson**

Please sign and return your ballots and signature by February 16. Thank you for your support and being a member of the Deschutes County Historical Society. If you have any questions, please call us at 541.389.1813.

Additional Board Changes

Due to a hectic work schedule, board member Robin Gyorgyfalvy has decided to give up her position on the Board of Directors. We will miss her positive attitude and ideas and thank her for volunteering!

The Executive Committee of the board has tapped new DCHS member and volunteer Adrian Bennett to serve out the remainder of Robin's term. Adrian has attended board meetings since last fall to get a feel for the board and his desire to serve, so it was a natural fit to have him fill the remainder of her term. This also kept the board on a five/five/five year schedule for our 15 board members coming up for renewal, so as to not have too many vacancies come up all at once.

Adrian is a former professor of history who relocated to Bend, Oregon to be near family. Here is a brief look at his career as a professor of history:

Curriculum Vitae:

A.B. Antioch College, 1964 (History)

MA University of California, Davis, 1966 (Chinese History)

PH.D. University of California, Davis, 1970 (Chinese History)

Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, 1970-2000, Professor

Emeritus, 2000+

Courses taught: Introduction to Asian Civilization, Modern Chinese History,

Modern Japanese History, numerous graduate seminars

Learning in Retirement Program, Iowa State University, 1995-2003, Instructor,

Curriculum Chair, Board Chair

Learning in Retirement Program, University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, 2009-2015

Instructor

Publications:

John Fryer The Introduction of Western Science and Technology into Nineteenth Century China. Harvard East Asian Monographs, Harvard University Press. 1967.

Research Guide to the Chiao-hui hsin-pao ("The Church News"), 1868-1874. Chinese Materials Center. San Francisco. 1975

Research Guide to the Wan-kuo Kung-pao ("The Globe Magazine"), 1874-1883.

Chinese Materials Center, Inc., San Francisco. 1976.

Missionary Journalist in China: Young J. Allen and His Magazines, 1860-1883.

University of Georgia Press. Athens. GA. 1983.

(Numerous articles, reviews, papers are part of the record).

SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Saturday, February 18, 2017

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Pine Forest Grange

63214 Boyd Acres Road

Join us for lunch, history, and a celebration of the work DCHS is doing at our annual meeting of the membership. Cost for lunch is \$12.00 per person.

Deschutes County Historical Society

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION BALLOTS

Deschutes County Historical Society 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS BALLOT

Family memberships are entitled to two votes;
organizations may appoint one member to vote.

The following candidates have been nominated to serve
on the Board of Directors for three year terms that will
expire at the end of 2019.

VOTE BY PLACING A CHECKMARK BY EACH NAME

Karen Green

Bill Olsen

Sue Fountain

Heidi Kennedy

Tor Hanson

_____ (write-in)

PLEASE MAIL OR RETURN BALLOT BY February 16, 2017

Sign the stub at the bottom of the ballot, tear off,
and return both halves of the ballot to:

*Deschutes County Historical Society
129 NW Idaho Street
Bend OR 97703*

Please tear here and return with ballot

Signature

Please print name

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129 NW Idaho Street
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Please print name



Bend Genealogical Society

**Monthly General Meeting
Public Welcomed to all Activities**

Tuesday, Jan 17, 2017

10 am – Noon

Sandy Thompson

Presents

**“Extra, Extra!
Read All About It
in the
Newspaper”**



**Williamson Hall at Rock Arbor Villa
2200 NE Hwy 20, Bend (Behind Chevron/Jake's Diner)**

Other Activities:

Genealogical Research Library... Come check us out!

Tuesdays & Wednesdays 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Thursdays 10:00 am - 1:30 pm

One-On-One Genealogy Mentoring...

**Arrange to meet with a mentor during library hours –
Visit our website to make an appointment.**

Writer's Group meets 4th Tuesday each month 2 - 3:30pm

For Genealogy Researchers: working to write together.

**Questions? Call BGS at 541-317-9553 or visit our
website: www.orgenweb.org/deschutes/bend-gs**