



In Memoriam: Helen Barrett & Shirley Ray

DCHS members mourn the loss of Helen Rastovich Barrett and Shirley Gribkov Ray, long-time members of the organization.

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Local Radio Station KBND Turns 80

Housed in the basement of the Pilot Butte Inn, KBND went on the air in December 1938 and featured news and national & local entertainment.

See Page 2

The Homesteader

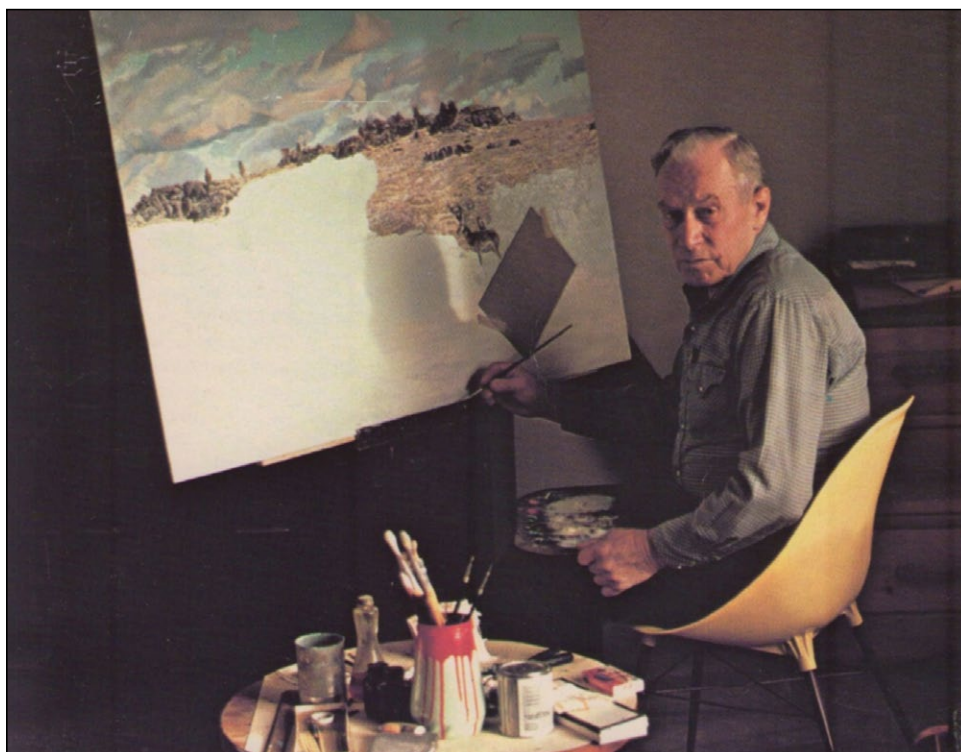
Deschutes County Historical Society Newsletter – February 2018

Annual Meeting of the Membership Scheduled for March 3

Board of Directors elections and updates to the Deschutes County Historical Society Bylaws will be on the agenda, followed by a screening of Zolo Media's Bend in 1967 program.

Join us Saturday, March 3, 2018 at the Pine Forest Grange Hall for our annual meeting of the membership, your chance to meet members of our Board of Directors and learn what planning is underway at the Deschutes Historical Museum. This year is especially important as we need our membership to help us update our bylaws and keep the society governance in good working order.

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Ray Eyerly in front of his canvas. Photo courtesy of Ray Eyerly Jr.

Ray Eyerly: Tinker, Sailor, Soldier, Artist

The Deschutes County Historical Museum's new exhibit of the art of Ray Eyerly makes one think, here is an artist, native-born who has a love and understanding of a beloved homeland.

The high desert landscapes are detailed with a draftsman's precision and a keen knowledge of having been there. And wanting to go there if you haven't. The horses run through lush landscapes, donkeys and dogs wait patiently for their owner's needs. Local faces of cowboys, miners, mischievous smiles of tribal children, and the colorful headgear and beadings of local Native Americans reflect the Central Oregonian lifestyles so familiar to those who long for these passing years.

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KBND – BEND'S LOCAL RADIO STATION TURNS 80



View of Mirror Pond and Pilot Butte Inn in 1939. The KBND radio tower is visible to the left just beyond Newport Avenue Bridge.

December 1938 was a monumental year for Central Oregon residents as our own local radio station came on the airwaves as KBND.

Owned by The Bend Bulletin, the station promised not only all the local news, but entertainment as well. The station was installed in the basement of the Pilot Butte Inn, and a 175 foot radio tower erected nearby. Painted orange and white with required blinking safety lights, it was a big addition to the view of downtown as evidenced by the photograph above.

We are gathering memories of KBND to add to the collection – if you have stories of being on the air, had a relative who presented their own radio show, or were a part of the many elementary school groups who came to the station, we want to hear about it.

We are also collecting photographs, and if anyone has any recordings hiding somewhere—you'll be our hero.

Please contact the museum for more information on how to donate your KBND memorabilia.



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
Tracy Alexander, Membership Officer
Tor Hanson, Homesteader Editor

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2018 DCHS Board of Directors:

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

Board Members:

Tony DeBone, Adrian Bennett, Mike Berry,
Andrea Hunnell DuPree, Beau Eastes,
Greg Fulton, Karen Green, Tor Hanson,
Loren Irving, Heidi Kennedy,
Bill Olsen, and Susie Penhollow

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

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www.deschuteshistory.org
Info@deschuteshistory.org

Ray Eyerly: Artist...

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Has Been – Ray Eyerly 1968. Print from original oil.

But Ray Leslie Eyerly began life in Canton, Illinois, something of a flatland farming community. Born in 1894, he grew up on a farm, contributing whatever was needed to help his large family. He worked outside and inside, not balking at kitchen chores nor shoveling out the barn. Multi-tasking was not a common word then, but all his life, Ray did just that; whatever needed doing, he did, with exceptional skill. He was a perfectionist and pretty much self-taught when it came to his love for drawing and painting. Amid his other chores and obligations, Ray always found time for sketching, especially horses. He often entertained his classmates with his drawings and cartoons. His love for horses intensified when he was able to attend Buffalo Bill's traveling Wild West Show when it came to Canton. Like many young boys in the audience, the excitement of the cowboys performing trick riding and galloping hard around the arena, the Indians parading in their brilliant costumes were glorified dreams of the wild west. Ray knew then and there he wanted to see it all for himself, especially, the mountains.

When Eyerly was 13, encouraged by his mother, he attended the Beam School of Art in Canton. Not having much money, he worked cleaning up the studio for his tuition. This brief training was the only formal art schooling he would have and it served him well throughout his life. Here he learned basic drafting; the basic structures of line and perspective, mass and light, suited his perfectionist style as he preferred classical realism to abstract art.

All of his life, he and his extended family traveled from place to place, one entrepreneurial endeavor after another. They were hard-working and fairly successful. Eyerly finally got to see his mountains when his family moved to Montana in 1909, enticed by the Homestead Act. The Judith Basin promised acres of productive wheat farming. Here he had his second, and most important art lesson. He met his idol, Charles Russell, the famous western artist.

“Charlie” showed Eyerly how to correctly proportion the dimensions of a horse; lessons so evident in Eyerly's future works.

It would be nice to say that Eyerly was on his way to fame and fortune as an artist, but work and family once again, took precedence. As did World War I. Ray was called up in 1918, where he was assigned to the Army Signal Corps in France. He came through unscathed except for a bout with the Spanish flu. His time in Europe widened his scope of the world and war, and he took the opportunity to study as much of the art, architecture, and cathedrals of Europe as much as he could.

Arriving home, Eyerly discovered the old west in his Montana valley was gone. Plowing up the native grasses and a severe drought had destroyed the farm land. He and his family moved on to Salem, Oregon where they found employment with The Oregon State Highway Department. It was a time for Eyerly to let loose and travel the state with the road crews, especially east of the Cascades. On the road he learned to play the banjo and with his fellow co-workers, formed a band that played local dances on weekends. Eyerly loved the ladies and loved to dance so these opportunities suited him fine. That all changed when he met and married his wife Lois in 1926. Eyerly's adventures expanded to include heir 3 children.

More towns, more jobs before he and his wife, Lois, found their home in Sisters, Oregon, in 1960. The town was peaceful and friendly. The area reminded Eyerly somewhat of his old Montana home. Central Oregon offered places and people to stimulate his senses. At last he and Lois could spend time together camping and fishing while he sketched subjects for his oil paintings. Eyerly managed to make friends with the Klamath tribe and had written permission to fish on their reservation. Future paintings depicted more and more tribal members in traditional outfits as well as daily life.

After a lifetime of providing for others as farmer, cowboy, sheep herder, highway worker, soldier, Army boxing

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Quiet, Mom's Sleeping – Ray Eyerly 1976. Print from original oil.

In Memoriam: Helen Barrett and Shirley Ray



HELEN RASTOVICH BARRETT

January 4, 1924 - December 20, 2017

Helen Rastovich Barrett died suddenly at home December 20, 2017, with husband Jim at her side. She is survived by husband, Jim, three step-daughters, numerous nieces, nephews, step-grand and great-

grandchildren. She was the last survivor of George and Anna Rastovich's family, preceded by her father, mother, brothers, Robert, Mike and Danny; sisters, Millie Chopp, Marie Barnum and Martha Blair.

Helen was born January 4, 1924, in Bend, Oregon, delivered by Dr. J.C. Vandever and a mid-wife. She grew up on the farm homesteaded by her parents nearly a century ago. She attended grade school at Richardson, a two-room school house once located at the NE corner of Hwy 20 and Hamby Road. She graduated from Bend High School, located between Wall and Bond streets in 1941. Four days after graduation, she went to work for former District Attorney A.J. Moore in the O'Kane Building with a salary of \$15 a month. Five months later, she moved across the hall to work for Craig Coyner Collection Agency at \$60 a month. In February 1943, she began her life career with the U.S. Forest Service, working as a clerk-stenographer under a war service appointment for the Deschutes National Forest. In 1951, she transferred to the Deschutes Research Center, later known as the Silviculture Laboratory, until her retirement, January 5, 1979.

On June 30, 1973, she married James W. Barrett III, a research forester with the U.S. Forest Service, born in Independence, Iowa. Together, Jim and Helen built a home on Ward Road, land purchased with her savings. Growing up, her father would buy the groceries, clothes, medicines, etc., while her mother stayed on the farm, tending to the seven children. Many of the girls' dresses were made of printed flour sacks and made-over hand-me-downs. Helen learned to pinch pennies early and in 1948, she purchased a new Plymouth Coupe in cash with U.S. Government Bonds.

She was a member of the Eastern Star Grange. She sewed many of her clothes, loved to cook, garden, can, paint pictures and to learn about conserving energy and healthy living. She and Jim enjoyed fishing, boating and traveled most of the U.S., Hawaii, Fiji, Australia, New Zealand and best of all, Alaska.

SHIRLEY GRIBSKOV RAY

August 1, 1926 – January 12, 2018

Shirley Vivian Gribskov was born in Junction City, on August 1, 1926, to parents, Thorvald Gribskov and Jorgine (Jennie) Paulsen. Her family, including brothers, Russell, Ejnar, and Leslie, moved to Central Oregon in 1927 to farm in the area of Pleasant Ridge and Deschutes Junction. Brother, Neil was born in 1928. In the midst of the Depression, her father died suddenly and within a few days, her mother with five young children, moved back to Junction City, where they had work opportunities and extended family.

Shirley went through school in Junction City, but at 10 years of age, she started spending summers in Bend with her aunt, Maren Gribskov, founder of the Pine Tavern Restaurant. Shirley's first jobs at the restaurant included shelling peas and swatting flies. Shirley attended Willamette University and graduated from Oregon State University in home economics and dietetics.

In 1951, she married George Dalton Ray in Bend and a year later daughter, Myrna, was born. Shirley continued to work at the Pine Tavern as assistant manager until Maren sold the business in 1967.

George contracted polio in 1954 and was confined to a wheelchair until his death in 1988. Shirley and George Ray were a wonderful team - successful in business, generous to the community, excellent parents, devoted friends to many, and despite the wheelchair, they traveled extensively. Shirley continued the pattern of generosity as a huge supporter of many local and national charities, including COCC Foundation, Cascade Culinary Institute, and OSU-Cascades. She received the COCC President's Award in 1997 and was the 2010 Meal of the Year Honoree.

Shirley was a longtime member of First Presbyterian Church, Chapter AI P.E.O. Sisterhood, Deschutes Pioneer Association, Deschutes Historical Society, and the Bend Picnic Group started by George in 1961. In 2009, she reigned as Deschutes Pioneer Queen.

Shirley loved Central Oregon. She died, age 91, at her home in Bend, overlooking the Deschutes River, surrounded by loved ones. The family gives special thanks to the dear caregivers of Partners In Care Hospice and Home Instead Senior Care.



Ray Eyerly: Artist...

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champ, miner, appliance salesman, deep-sea fisherman, and musician, Eyerly was a bona fide artist – no more side jobs. The rest of the family, except for his mother and an aunt, hadn't taken his talents seriously as there was always "real work" to be done. Now, however, all his life experiences contributed to his art. At the height of his career, many of his paintings sold for \$10,000 and up. It is estimated that Eyerly produced over 1000

pieces of art during his lifetime. No one really knows the exact amount as he gave many pieces away or bartered for services. He was known to throw out drawings if he didn't feel they were perfect. (There were those, however, that secreted them away before he caught them at it.)

Eyerly's beloved wife, Lois, died in 1970 and he remained in his adopted town of Sisters until his death in 1980. He wandered to the Gallery Café on Main Street 3 times a day where he had a sacrosanct seat at the counter. Woe to him who might be sitting in his place for they were summarily required to exit and find another seat. Eyerly continued painting and playing his banjo on Saturday nights in the Gallery saloon. It became his home away from home where his friends and townsfolk met. Many of his paintings hung on the walls of the Gallery.

After many years of chasing mountains, Ray Leslie Eyerly became a premier painter of the Oregon landscape and people. He was honored by the Oregon State Legislature and Governor Tom McCall in 1971. Eyerly's paintings are in many private collections and museums. It is interesting to note that his first painting exhibited in a museum was in the Buffalo Bill Historical Center of the Whitney Gallery of Western Art in Cody, Wyoming. Eyerly joined the legends of his idol, Charles Russell, coming full circle with his boyhood dreams of the Wild West.

— Bonnie Burns

The Landscapes of Ray Eyerly on Exhibition Through May 2018

Members of the Deschutes County Historical Society are invited to an opening reception of a new exhibit of Eyerly's work donated to the museum by Ray and Bev Clarno.

The member reception is scheduled for February 22, 4-6 p.m. Light refreshments are provided. Please RSVP at 541.389.1813 or info@deschuteshistory.org.



Harriett Langmas, Deschutes Pioneer Queen for 2018 is accepting the honor at the annual board meeting at Elks Hall in Bend on January 20.

Harriett Langmas – Deschutes Pioneer Queen for 2018

The Deschutes Pioneer Association has crowned a new queen for 2018. Taking over from last year's queen, Carolyn Blakely Nelson, Harriett Langmas will be the face of the Deschutes Pioneer's Association throughout the year, attending the Fourth of July Parade and Veteran's Day Parade among many other official duties.

Langmas has had a long distinguished career. In 1952, she graduated with a journalism degree from the University of Oregon. Over the years she has been teaching English, journalism, and writing at schools in Eugene, Portland, and at Bend High School. She also taught English and journalism at Central Oregon Community College (COCC).

Many of her former students were in attendance at the Deschutes Pioneer Association's annual board meeting at Elks Hall on January 20, 2018 to celebrate her induction as Pioneer Queen.

Memorials

Helen Rastovich Barrett

Paul and Ann Reynolds
Mike and Susie Penhollow
Edward Barnum

Shirley Ray

Paul and Lydia Dudley
Sue Frewing

Annual Meeting...

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This year's ballot for voting on new and returning board members already arrived in your email or mailbox. Four current board members are on the ballot for an additional three-year term: Adrian Bennett, Andrea DuPree, Greg Fulton, and Loren Irving. In addition, Paul Claeysens and Jane Williamson are on the ballot as brand new members. We thank you for participating in the management of the society by voting. The vote is non-competitive, as there are as many board positions available as are running for a seat.

Catering by Paula Simila will provide lunch again this year pulling from Maren Gribskov's Pine Tavern Cookbook. Doors open at 11:30, lunch and business meeting at 12:00. Cost for the luncheon is \$12.00.

Leaving the board after six years of service is Courtney Lupton-Turner. Bringing the insights that only a veteran teacher can, Courtney has aided us with how we can partner with local schools better. A tireless advocate for History Day, Courtney will continue to volunteer at the Deschutes County Historical Society at events and on our educational planning committee, but excuses herself from the board to have more time at home. We appreciate both her service and her continued support, just in a different volunteer capacity!

Finally, our entertainment for this year's annual meeting is a screening of Zolo Media's recent program, Bend: 1967.

Please sign up for the Annual Meeting by calling 541.389.1813, email info@deschuteshistory.org, or stop by the museum during open hours.



A LOUIE LOUIE REVIVAL IN BEND

SAVE THE DATE

The Deschutes Pioneers Association is celebrating the music of Sixties with a Louie Louie Revival in Bend on Friday, August 3, 2018.

Part of Bend's Flash Back Cruise, August 3 & 5, the event is sponsored by and for the benefit of the Pioneers Association, a local non-profit organization.

Please join 1960s KGRL Radio Celebrities, Ben Tracy and Pat Cashman. Tracy was the sole rock-n-roll promoter bringing the best of 1960s garage bands to Bend's Armory, among them, Paul Revere and the Raiders, The Kingsmen, and The Wailers.

The Louie Louie Revival is also supported by ZOLO Media.

Mark Your Calendars



FEBRUARY

- 20 VOLUNTEER METING**
Deschutes Historical Museum
Noon - 1 p.m.
Please RSVP to vanessa@deschuteshistory.org
- 22 RAY EYERLY MEMBER RECEPTION**
Deschutes Historical Museum
4 to 6 p.m.
Please RSVP to info@deschuteshistory.org or at the museum front desk.
- 27 HISTORY PUB: WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS – Liberty & Wilderness**
Presented by John Cocillo, producer of Liberty & Wilderness, a William O. Douglas film project.
McMenamins Old St. Francis
Father Luke Room, 7 p.m., doors at 5:30 p.m.
Please don't forget to reserve seats at deschuteshistory.org or by calling 541.389.1813.

McMENAMINS OLD ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL HISTORY PUB NIGHT

WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS: LIBERTY & WILDERNESS

Supreme Court Justice Douglas was a beacon for the preservation of wild places and individual freedom, by word and by example.



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018

Presentations by **JOHN CONCILLO**
Producer of Liberty & Wilderness, a William O. Douglas film project working in association with the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission.

Liberty & Wilderness weaves Justice William O. Douglas's life and writings in the context of wilderness and its importance to the human condition. Join us for a presentation, followed by a short documentary screening and Q&A with film producer and writer John Concillo.

7 p.m. • Doors at 5:30 p.m. • Free • All ages welcome
Now Accepting Reservations! Make yours today at www.deschuteshistory.org

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