

KBND Memories from My Youth

During the winter of 1945, KBND radio station became very important for one 8-year old child in Bend. Jean Drost has the story!

See Page 2



Join DCHS Sustaining Circle Membership

The Deschutes County Historical Society has a new Sustaining Circle membership program. Join and have your dollars matched!

See Page 5

The Homesteader

Deschutes County Historical Society Newsletter – May 2018

Historic Preservation Month Activities Announced

May is Historic Preservation Month and once again the preservation month planning committee has assembled a full month of activities.

THIS PLACE MATTERS®

DCHS is excited to support the Tetherow Crossing Pioneer Day, May 26 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Tetherow Homestead owned by the Redmond Parks and Recreation District.

This family friendly event will highlight one of our most important heritage sites – one that will be our region's next great preservation success story!

Mark your calendars and don't miss it.

See page 4 for more information.



The G.P. Putnam house as it appears today

A Weekend at G.P. Putnam's House

The winning raffle ticket was all it took!

Purchased on November 10, 2017, at the Deschutes County Historical Society's annual two-day Chili Feed and Heritage Fair, that ticket was pulled out of one of the many raffle ticket jars on the next day. A telephone call that evening from Executive Director Kelly Cannon-Miller informed me that Pat and I were the winners of a weekend at the historic 1910 "Pinelyn" house of perhaps Bend's most-famous-ever citizen, George Palmer Putnam.

Putnam, "scion of G.P. Putnam's Sons, Publishers, of New York City"—as I described him in the back cover blurb of James L. Crowell's *Frontier Publisher* published in 2008 by the Deschutes County Historical Society—"went West 'to

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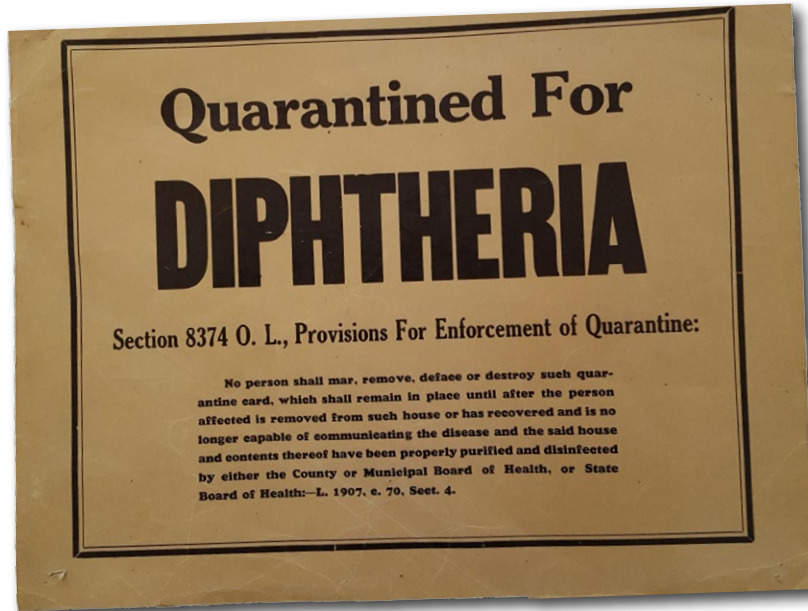


Jean Drost – KBND and Indelible Memories From My Youth

For a period of time during the winter of 1945, KBND radio station became very important for one 8-year old child in Bend. That child was me, Jean Marie. During that time-frame, I had become very ill after contracting the disease Diphtheria (previously unable to be immunized due to an allergic reaction). Because Diphtheria is a highly contagious disease our house needed to be quarantined. As provision for my father to continue working and my sisters to attend school, the Deschutes County Health Department determined that I would need to be isolated in one room in the house for 30 days. Only my mother would be allowed to enter the room and was to wear a required mask and gown.

The long hours of being in bed alone and feeling very sick seemed endless. There was nothing else to do but to exist in that state and be strong as I was taught. Our family radio was placed in the corner of the living room, just outside the room where I was being kept isolated. Listening to the various programs that were on KBND radio throughout the day became my lifeline. I was able to “escape” into my imagination during those long hours and days of confinement. I will always remain grateful for the existence of radio during that time. Being able to listen to KBND and the programs that it provided got me through each day.

Another vivid childhood memory of KBND radio was on December 7, 1941, during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Even though I was only four-and-a-half years old the memories of that time left a lasting imprint. As in most every household in America, my family gathered



around the radio to listen to the news of Pearl Harbor. Even at such a young age I seemed able to understand from my parents’ and adult reaction that this was a very significant event. On more than one occasion during the KBND broadcasting that day I remember there would be a knock at the door of our home. Our visitors on that Sunday were employees of the City

coming to tell my father, W.P. Drost (Bend Water and Street Superintendent) that they were leaving to go fight the war. KBND radio took on significant importance bringing Bend the news on that ominous day and throughout WWII.

An additional personal favorite KBND memory took place one morning when I was around 3 ½ years of age. I was sick with the measles and my mother had submitted a request for the Rev. Holly Jarvis to sing for me during the morning “Request Show”. Of course, I had no idea of what my mother had planned for that morning. Sitting in a wooden rocker that she had placed near the family radio, she held me in her arms waiting for the show to begin. When I heard the announcement of the song dedication to me it made me feel special. Rev. Jarvis sang “I Dream of Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair”. It was a lovely childhood memory.

Thank you KBND for all of the many wonderful hours and years of listening to music and the various programming that was provided by your station during my youth in the 1940s and 1950s!

– Jean M. Drost



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:

Marsha Stout, President

Sue Fountain, Vice President

Adrian Bennett, Secretary/Treasurer

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Andrea Hunnell DuPree, Beau Eastes,

Greg Fulton, Karen Green, Tor Hanson,

Loren Irving, Heidi Kennedy, Bill Olsen, Nate

Pedersen, Susie Penhollow, and Jane Williamson.

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



Pat Joslin and her daughter, Amy McLaughlin, enjoy an evening cup of tea in the G.P. Putnam house living room.

A Weekend in Putnam's House

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seek my fortune,” as he put it. He found himself at age 21 in Bend, Oregon.

“It was May 1909, and the Central Oregon town of some 500 souls was on the cusp of change,” I continued in that cover blurb. “Young Putnam’s fortune—to help him mold that change—proved Bend’s and Central Oregon’s good fortune.” At 22, George Palmer Putnam was publisher of The Bend Bulletin, and at 23 was mayor of Bend.

By the time he went to Salem in 1914 as the governor’s personal secretary, he’d influenced Central Oregon’s future more than any other. While in Salem, he was instrumental in carving Deschutes County out of Crook County.

Back in New York by 1919, his career as publisher, publicist, and motion picture executive brought his 1931 marriage to America’s most famous woman, aviatrix Amelia Earhart, his second wife.

But what George Palmer Putnam left in Bend, Oregon, was monumental. In addition to his newspaper, now The Bulletin and 115 years old, his legacy includes the historic G.P. Putnam House at 606 Congress Street, just a couple blocks from the Deschutes Historical Museum, which he built in 1911.

There he and his first wife, Dorothy Binney Putnam, daughter of the Crayola crayon inventor, lived the first few years of their marriage which ended in divorce in 1929. There his and Dorothy’s son, David Binney Putnam, was born. And there the three Putnams lived until Governor George Withycombe called Bend’s leading citizen to Salem to serve Oregon’s interests until he returned to New York and the family business in 1919.

And there, now, in Bend’s most famous home, now a vacation rental, you may stay and eat and sleep—and

perhaps even imagine the life of Bend’s most famous resident. That’s what Pat, our elder daughter Amy and her husband and son, and our younger daughter Wendy did on the weekend of March 24 and 25, 2018.

We found the historic G.P. Putnam House a great place to stay, a great place from which to explore aspects of Bend not yet explored during our 30 years in Central Oregon, and a great place in which to again read Jim Crowell’s Frontier Publisher, a romantic review of Putnam’s career as a leading citizen of our fair city, available at the Deschutes Historical Museum shop for \$18.00, or \$16.00 if you are a Deschutes County Historical Society member.

You can do it, too! The beautifully decorated house, now owned by Rick Denton, sleeps eight. Go to www.vrbo.com/707673 online for complete rental information and to reserve your stay in Bend’s most historic home.

— Les Joslin

New Online Resources at the Library

Your Deschutes Public Library has several useful online resources for genealogists and we are very pleased to announce that we are adding Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest to our genealogical databases.



To find the genealogy resources from the DPL home page, select History & Genealogy from the Research and Learning drop-down, or go to the page directly with this link: deschuteslibrary.org/research/history

Ancestry Library Edition is for in-library use only, meaning you will have to visit one of the branches of Deschutes Public Library to access the content. We have six branches: Downtown Bend, East-side Bend, Redmond, Sisters, La Pine, and Sunriver. You can visit any of them to use the Ancestry Library Edition.

For more information about Ancestry Library Edition: proquest.libguides.com/ancestrylibraryedition. With the Library Edition, you can search, view and download billions of worldwide records available on Ancestry.com. You cannot use the Library Edition to build an online tree or look at your DNA results, since you are not accessing Ancestry as yourself.

HeritageQuest can be accessed either in the library, or remotely, which means you can use your library

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CELEBRATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

HIGH DESERT HERITAGE EVENTS THROUGHOUT MAY

Events

- May 2 5-7p Preservation Month Showcase, Redmond City Hall
- May 3 6:30p "Presidents Who Shaped the West", Bowman Museum
- May 7 6-7p Know Heritage: "Quackery: The Heritage of Medicine", Downtown Bend Library
- May 9 12-1p Something Old is New in Sisters, Sisters Park & Recreation District
- May 10 6:30p "The Roots of History: Oregon's Heritage Trees", Bowman Museum
- May 15 6-7p Know Heritage: "Savages in My Family Tree", Downtown Bend Library
- May 15 7:30p "Historic Fire Lookouts of Central Oregon", COAR Building
- May 16 6-7p Know Heritage: "Queens of the Rodeo", Downtown Bend Library
- May 17 6-7p "Pioneer Settlers of the Fort Rock Valley", High Desert Museum
- May 17 6:30p "Wandering the High Desert with Stories and Poems", Bowman Museum
- May 18 12-1p Know Heritage: "Savages in My Family Tree", Sunriver Library
- May 19 10-3p Nels & Lilian Andersen Homestead Days, 63160 Nels Anderson Rd., Bend
- May 24 6:30p "Of Plants, Rocks and Peoples: a Geobotanical Tour", Bowman Museum
- May 25 4-7p "Cowboys and Settlers in Sisters", 401 E Main Ave., Sisters
- May 26 12-4p Tetherow Crossing Pioneer Day, 5810 NW Tetherow Rd., Redmond
- May 29 7p History Pub - "Camp Abbot: Training for War on the High Desert", McMenamin's

Guided Tours

- May 3 10a-12p History + Geology Walk at Willow Springs Preserve, Deschutes Land Trust
- May 5 10a-12p Hindman History Wander at Camp Polk Meadow Preserve, Deschutes Land Trust
- May 17 5:30-7p History Wander at Indian Ford Meadow Preserve, Deschutes Land Trust
- May 22 6p Redmond: Know Heritage - Redmond City Hall Project, Redmond City Hall
- May 23 4-7p Santiam Wagon Road Walk at Whychus Canyon Preserve, Deschutes Land Trust
- May 30 10a-1p Santiam Wagon Road Walk at Whychus Canyon Preserve, Deschutes Land Trust

Ongoing Activities

- May 15-31 Preservation Success in Central Oregon, La Pine Library
- May 25-28 Ponderosa Mountain Men Little Deschutes Spring Rendezvous, La Pine
- Fri's. & Sat's. 10a Guided Tour of Historic Downtown Bend, Visit Bend Office

Historic Preservation Meetings

- May 7 5:30p Deschutes County Historic Landmarks Commission Meeting, 1300 Wall St.
- MAY 15 6p Bend Historic Landmarks Commission meeting, Bend City Council Chambers
- MAY 24 4:30-6p Redmond Historic Landmarks Commission meeting, Redmond City Hall

FOR COMPLETE INFO: WWW.DESCHUTESHISTORY.ORG

PRESENTED BY: DESCHUTES, BEND, & REDMOND LANDMARK COMMISSIONS,
AND THE PARTNERS BELOW



New Online Resources

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card to access this database from anywhere in the world with an Internet connection. For more information about HeritageQuest: proquest.libguides.com/hqo.

HeritageQuest has a comprehensive treasury of American genealogical sources – rich in unique primary sources, such as the census collection; many local and family histories; and a map collection. PERSI (the Periodical Source Index) is also available, which is the largest subject index to genealogy and local history periodical articles in the world.

If you find a promising record in the index, you can usually order a copy of the article from the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center. Searching PERSI is also free on FindMyPast.com, but if FindMyPast has an image of the article, there is a fee to see the image.

MyHeritage – For the time being, we will also maintain our subscription to MyHeritage, which can be accessed either in the library or remotely with your library card. MyHeritage is a major competitor to Ancestry.com and offers billions of records, some of which Ancestry does not have, such as indexed ArchivDigital images of Swedish Household Examination Books (1860-1930). There is also a new collection of US school yearbooks.

Gale Genealogy Basics – Learn or review genealogical research basics with an online Gale course you can view

at home: education.gale.com/1-deschutes/online-courses/genealogy-basics?tab=detail.

Need Help? Consider the “Book A Librarian” service for a tutorial on using our databases or for help with indepth research questions: deschuteslibrary.org/services/book-a-librarian

— Nate Pedersen

I took a DNA Test – Now What? Genealogy Society Has the Answers

We have Lisa McCullough coming to our monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 15 at 10:00 am. Her topic is: “I Took a DNA Test. What’s It All Mean?” She is a DNA specialist from Portland, and can explain DNA concepts very clearly to help you make the most of your autosomal DNA test results.

Bring all your DNA questions on May 15, and if interested in a double-dose of DNA, stay for the Brown Bag following the presentation. After our time with Lisa, we should all have a clearer understanding of using DNA for genealogy.

*Sandy Thompson, Treasurer
Bend Genealogy Society*

Join Our Sustaining Circle: Get Your Membership Matched

The Deschutes County Historical Society has a new Sustaining Circle membership program, and thanks to members of our board of directors, you can join and have your dollars matched!

Sustaining Circle membership programs are great for non-profits and members. First, they provide stable gift giving over the course of a full year for non-profits, who regularly struggle with fundraising boom and bust periods. Second, they create a paper-free, don’t-worry-about-renewal-dates way for members to maintain their membership. They are also great for members’ budgets, too, enabling a way to provide support at a higher level without breaking their budget. Just \$5.00 a month adds up to big support over the course of a year.

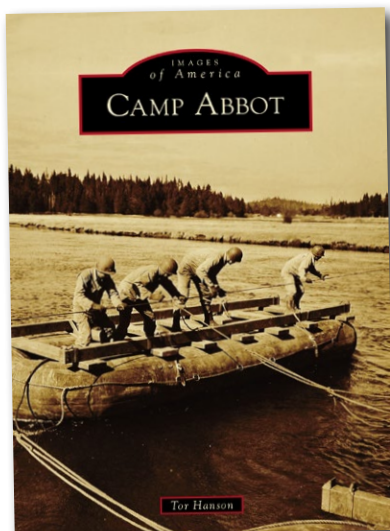


How does it work? We use two secure software programs, “Donorperfect” and “SafeSave,” to securely store your debit or credit card information with your membership. Each month, the amount you pledge is deducted from the

designated account. You get can relax knowing that your membership is up to date and you’re helping keep history alive in Deschutes County. We keep working to preserve our history, make new exhibits, provide tours for school field trips, and more.

You can securely join online through our website at <https://www.deschuteshistory.org/sustaining-circle/>. Need assistance? Message Tracy Alexander at tracy@deschuteshistory.org to get signed up.

Camp Abbot: Central Oregon's Major World War II Story



With the May 7 publication of his superb new book, *Images of America: Camp Abbot*, Tor Hanson, editor of the Deschutes County Historical Society's monthly, *The Homesteader*, assumes the role of Central Oregon's foremost Camp Abbot historian and interpreter.

Publication of Tor's new book culminates months

of research, photograph searching, writing, and editing that have produced the best—and likely the best we'll ever see – textual and pictorial interpretation of the World War II U.S. Army Corps of Engineers training center called Camp Abbot. From May 1943 through June 1944, 90,000 combat engineers trained for front-line duty – just 15 miles south of Bend. Camp Abbot also headquartered a major maneuver for another 100,000 troops.

After relating the construction of Camp Abbot, Tor walks the reader through the arduous basic training, specialist training, and field training exercises that prepared U.S.

Army combat engineers to build the bridges that enabled infantry and mechanized divisions to advance on the battlefield. He also depicts the massive 1943 Oregon Maneuver, headquartered at Camp Abbot, critical to the successful invasion of Europe. But he doesn't stop there. Life at Camp Abbot and in Bend, and Camp Abbot's enduring legacy, get due attention.

After reading Tor's new book, Central Oregon old-timers will have relived and perhaps gained a renewed understanding of their and their parents' World War II home front experience. Central Oregon newcomers will have learned more about their new home, and Sunriver residents will have gained an enlightened perspective on the site of their community which, of course, was the site of Camp Abbot.

Tor Hanson is scheduled to present an illustrated talk on Camp Abbot at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 21, at the Deschutes Public Library in downtown Bend at 601 NW Wall Street, and at the popular 7:00 p.m. History Pub on Tuesday, May 29, at McMenamins Old St. Francis School, also in downtown Bend, at 700 NW Bond Street.

Images of America: Camp Abbot is for sale at the Deschutes Historical Museum bookshop, 129 NW Idaho Avenue, in downtown Bend, and at other Central Oregon sales outlets for \$21.99. Member receive 10 percent off.

– Les Joslin

Mark Your Calendars

MAY

1-29 HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

For more information, please see page 5 in this month's Homesteader

15 VOLUNTEER MEETING Deschutes Historical Museum

Noon - 1 p.m.

Please RSVP to vanessa@deschuteshistory.org

29 HISTORY PUB: CAMP ABBOT – Training for War on the High Desert. Presented by local historian and DCHS board member Tor Hanson 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.*

