



Veatch the Peach

*Back to School memories of
a Bend Senior High math
Teacher See p. 2*

They're Back!

*Oregon Festival of
Cars Returns to DHM
See p. 3*



The Homesteader

Deschutes County Historical Society Newsletter—September 2021



Friday, September 3

VIP Entry:

4-5:00 p.m.

General Admission:

5-10:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 4

Kids Welcome:

12-6:00 p.m.

General Admission:

12-10:00 p.m.

The barrel-aged beer, cider and whiskey festival is back and returns to the grounds of the Deschutes Historical Museum Friday, September 3 and Saturday, September 4, with all its merrymaking of times past; specialty brews, axe throwing, live music, local food vendors, and, of course, gnomes.

What is the Little Woody you ask? Each Labor Day weekend since 2009, this favorite fete celebrates craft barrel-aged beer and cider from across the Northwest. Using the historic technique of brewing in aged wood barrels, brewmasters feature small-batch beers resonating with flavors of vanilla, tobacco, and stone fruit. Over the past decade, the event has grown to include cider and whiskey tasting.

Infuse this historic fermentation with the historic local landmark, Reid School, and you have yourself an epic outing. The stone building, now home to the Deschutes Historical Museum, is not just a pretty backdrop to this party; it is also the event's beneficiary. Admission to the museum is free and participants are encouraged to explore the stories of Deschutes County on display. Check out the museum's newest exhibit, *Quarantine, Quinine and Moonshine: Medical Stories from the Archives*. Volunteers are on hand to answer questions, share the local history, and sign up new members.

For more information and to purchase tickets to the event, visit The Little Woody website: thelittlewoody.com.

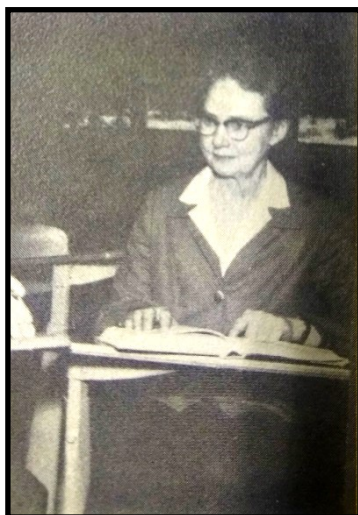
Remembering a Teacher: Sylvia Veatch, 1900 – 1985

By Sue Fountain

When a group of Bend High School alumni get together, someone is bound to bring up the subject of Miss Veatch. “Did you have her for a teacher? Remember her ruler?” The image of her that comes to mind is that of an older woman with her hair pulled back in a bun who wore long skirts, dark jackets, and sensible shoes. She had quite a reputation as a tough teacher who walked up and down the rows with her ruler. If someone was goofing off, she might just smack their hands with that ruler. Mostly she went after the boys, but the truth is, she had a twinkle in her eye when she approached them. She wasn’t a mean teacher, just strict.

The museum stores many family files containing historical information. Recently I found such a file with several typed pages written by Sylvia Veatch. There is no date on the document, but it is a review of her years as a teacher in Bend. I was surprised and fascinated by what I learned.

Miss Veatch first traveled to Bend in 1921, coming across the old McKenzie Pass. She thought Central Oregon was such a beautiful place she wanted to return someday as a teacher. When she finished her training at the University of Oregon, she applied for a position in Bend, but she was turned down. The district did not hire inexperienced teachers. Undaunted, she took a job in Springfield for two years, and in 1927



she applied again and was hired. Sylvia Veatch taught mathematics at Bend High School from 1927 until her retirement in 1965. Her long tenure meant she taught generations of students from the same families.

The image of Miss Veatch that her reminiscence conjures is of an adventuresome young woman. After two years in Springfield, she and her sister drove to California and Arizona for a summer vacation. She liked Flagstaff and thought she would enjoy teaching there someday. I don’t know what kind of automobile they were driving, but in 1927 I’m sure it took them a good while to cover that territory. On the road, she received mail through general delivery in Durango, and that is how she received her contract to teach in Bend for \$150 a month for nine months.

Looking through old yearbooks, you can see she was an attractive young woman when she first arrived. In later years her photos show her aging into maturity. She wrote she knew some of her students thought of her as an “old crank.” But she also said she made many friends among the students and the staff. In fact, I found a poem a student wrote to her. Here is the first verse:

Dear Miss Veatch,

There once was a teacher named Veatch,

At trig teaching she was a peach.

She’d drop us a slam

And fake an exam

But she loved us all to teach.

P.M.

It’s not great poetry, but it is a fun and friendly view of

- Continued on page 3



**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
Rebekah Averette, Collections Manager
Tracy Alexander, Membership Officer



2021 DCHS Board of Directors:

Sue Fountain, President
Adrian Bennett, Vice President
Jane Williamson, Secretary/Treasurer

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Mike Berry, Mark Capell, Paul Claeysens,
Tony DeBone, Beau Eastes,
Dan Ellingson, Terry Foley, Greg Fulton,
Karen Green, Loren Irving, Heidi Kennedy, 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

Continued from P. 2— *Sylvia Veatch*

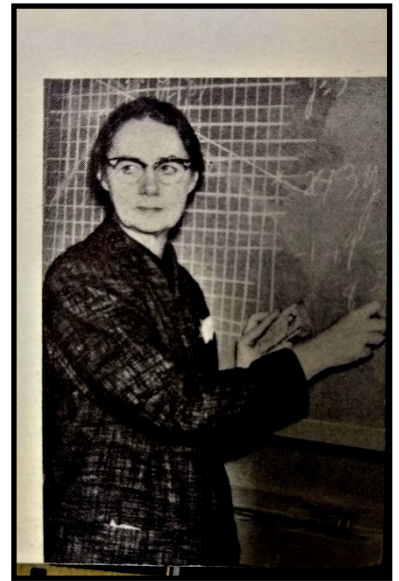


her. It would be interesting to find out who "P.M." was. I'm sure that he or she would have some good stories about Miss Veatch.

Aside from teaching all levels of math, she also was asked to help at athletic events. She had taken a term of track and field when she was a student at the University of Oregon, so she was assigned to be a timer at track meets. It was a challenging task because if the race was close it was hard to tell who came in first. She didn't have any help except from Phil Brogan, well-known writer for the Bulletin. They would compare notes to see if they agreed. Later in her tenure, she continued to help at athletic events as a ticket taker or wherever she was needed. She wrote about a football game on Thanksgiving Day when it was 20 degrees and there was

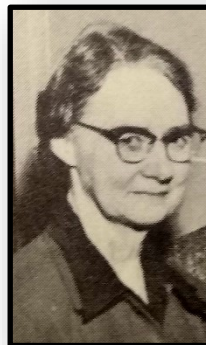
snow on the field. She claimed she was never as cold as she was that day. Assisting at sporting events may have increased her interest in athletics because later she managed to attend three Olympic Games: in Los Angeles in 1932, London in 1948, and Montreal in 1976. She was obviously a determined woman who was not afraid of adventure.

Miss Veatch ended her notes with a comment on growth. When she arrived in Bend in 1927, the population of Bend



was 8,000. When she left Bend in 1965 to return to her family home in Cottage Grove, the population was around 13,000. Her comment at the end of her notes will sound familiar. "I am not against growth, but I feel that Bend is not the same place it was in years past."

"The student body of Bend High School would like to dedicate the 1954 Bear Tracks to Miss Sylvia Veatch, mathematics teacher."



Oregon

Full Weekend Event:
September 17-19, 2021

Festival Saturday Show:
Deschutes Historical Museum, Bend
September 18, 2021 / 10am-3pm

FESTIVAL of CARS

THE NORTHWEST'S PREMIER CAR ENTHUSIAST WEEKEND

VROOM.... CARS, CARS, and MORE CARS

Northwest's Premier Car Enthusiast's Show Sept. 18

The Oregon Festival of Cars has been showcasing beautiful automobiles on the lawn of the Deschutes Historical Museum since 2018. After a lost year, the cars are back in 2021, better than before. Drop by the museum Saturday September 18, between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm to wander among some very attractive examples of automotive technology.

The show is free and the public is encouraged to vote for their favorite auto in a number of categories. Voting closes at 2:00 pm.

While you are here, come into the Deschutes Historical Museum to visit Bosco, a 1907 Model 3 Holsman motor buggy, brought to Bend by H.C. Ellis for use as a service vehicle by the Deschutes Telephone Company. Discover the car's story and uncover more history about Deschutes County. General Admission is \$5 and kids 17 years and under and members are free.



Volunteer Corner

Bill and Jan

This Month It's a Couple's Corner.

Lewis

By Sue Fountain

Jan and Bill Lewis have been volunteering at the museum since 2007. They arrive together, but generally they work on different floors. Though Jan has done some work on the third floor, she now enjoys working the admissions desk and greeting people. She says she has performed many jobs at DCHS, from filing documents to sewing buttons on an old dress. Bill likes to work on the third floor where the archives and donations reside. He has identified and organized all the guns that have been donated.

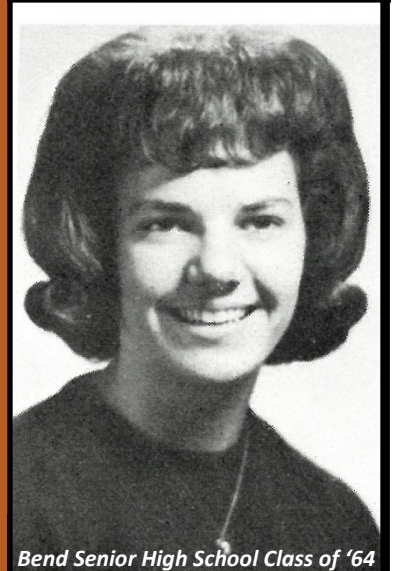
Jan was born and raised in Bend, and can claim to have been born in the old hospital on Franklin Avenue. She started her education at COCC, then transferred to Southern Oregon College in Ashland. When she returned to Bend with her teaching degree she was hired at Kenwood School. Later she moved to Juniper Elementary where she taught first and second grades for 30 years before retiring. An activity that she really enjoyed before retirement was participating in a clogging class. She danced for six years as they performed all over the state. Now she enjoys spending time in her garden.

Bill has been organizing all of the maps that are in the upstairs area. He catalogued and sorted through boxes of donated maps. A former engineer, he enjoys the methodical task of setting things straight. He also sorted through all of the saddles in the collection, some of which are stored in the Wall Street storage facility. Bill's main interest, however, is guns and the military history of our area.

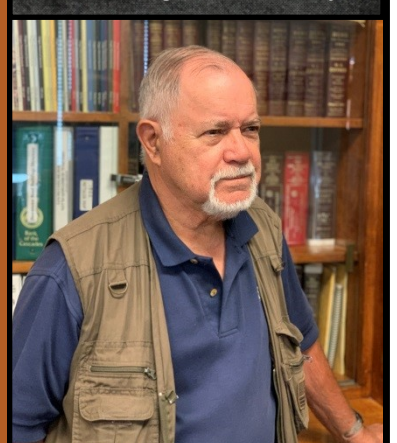
When Bill moved to Bend from Centralia, Washington, he secured a position with the Nosler Bullet Factory. As a former gunsmith he knew how to build and repair guns, so the Nosler factory was a good fit for him. Now, Bill is the director of a shooting range east of Bend near Millican. The Central Oregon Shooting Association is the largest in Oregon; a member's only association. People come from all over the world to take part in shooting exhibitions. As many as 150 people show up for weekend events.

Jan and Bill have an affinity for the desert area around Millican, and they can guide you to some interesting spots. They enjoy hiking around and looking at old homesteads that are now falling down. Jan had an early interest in Millican because she had a friend who lived there. One time she and some other girls rode their bikes clear out there for a visit. It took them all day to get there, and as Jan noted they just had "regular old bikes," not fancy ones with gears. Of course they had to ride back home the next day.

The Deschutes Historical Museum is lucky to have Jan and Bill as volunteers. They bring with them knowledge and history about Central Oregon.



Bend Senior High School Class of '64





KEG LEG

Start: Deschutes
Historical Museum

*For more information or
to register a team for the
Bend Beer Chase:*
Cascaderelays.com

Like many other quintessential Central Oregon events, the Bend Beer Chase, a Cascade Lakes Relay event, is making its triumphant return on September 25, 2021. Spanning approximately 55 miles, the Beer Chase is a one-day, six-person running relay consisting of twelve legs, each between four and eight miles. Each team member tackles two legs in a course traveling from 10 Barrel Brewing in Bend, over country roads to Redmond, then back to the finish line at the Deschutes Historical Museum. Local breweries along the course host exchange points in which participants can sample craft beers between runs. When tired teams reach the finish line at the museum, they can celebrate by selecting a pint from among over twenty featured local beers. Decorated vans and costumed team members lend a festive air to the entire event!

Registered teams that have completed the race have the option to participate in the **Keg Leg**, which starts from the Finish Line Party at Deschutes Historical Museum at 3:00 pm. The course is open from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Teams participating in the Keg Leg run/walk a three-mile route through downtown Bend (see map below), sampling beer from eight local breweries. All breweries will provide samples and runners will receive a raffle ticket from each brewery they visit.



Collections Manager Rebekah Averette at the 2019 Bend Beer Chase



Memorials

Cecil "Curly" Montgomery

Robert Montgomery

Marsha Stout

Adrian Bennett
Carol Johnston
Gordon Pennock
Mary Wallis

Lee Wick

Ruth Douglass

Tributes

Ralph C. Curtis

Jean Rotter

SAVE THE DATE!



Historical Haunts of Downtown Bend

Walking Tours

Friday October 15 & Saturday October 16

Last year we brought you our tenth anniversary tour virtually. Join us this year as we recreate this celebratory walk in-person. Stroll through downtown Bend escorted by a museum guide, stopping at the Deschutes County Historical Society's favorite locations from a decade of Historical Haunts tours. People and places of Bend's past will come alive, weaving their history and the mystery of the paranormal into an eerie hour of family fun.

Twelve one-hour tours will be offered each night with the first tour leaving at 4:00 p.m. and the last leaving at 7:30 p.m. All tours begin at the Museum and end in Downtown Bend.

Beware...this event does sell out!

Tickets go on sale October 15 at 10:00 a.m. for Friday tours, and October 16 at 10:00 a.m. for Saturday tours. Tickets are \$10 per person for non-members and \$5 for DHM members. All tours are on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, contact the Deschutes Historical Museum 541-389-1813, or email info@deschuteshistory.org.

Mark Your Calendars

SEPTEMBER

- 3 THE LITTLE WOODY Barrel-Aged Beer, Cider, and Whiskey Festival
5—10:00 p.m. Deschutes Historical Museum
- 4 THE LITTLE WOODY Barrel-Aged Beer, Cider, and Whiskey Festival
12—10:00 p.m. Deschutes Historical Museum
- 18 FESTIVAL OF CARS **FREE EVENT!**
10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Deschutes Historical Museum
- 25 BEND BEER CHASE KEG LEG START & FINISH LINE
3—7:00 p.m. Deschutes Historical Museum
- 28 HISTORY PUB: "CLIMATE CHANGE AND MEGAFIRES: AN OREGON STORY"
Presented by William Robbins, emeritus professor of history, Oregon State University.
McMenamins Old St. Francis
Father Luke Room, 7:00 p.m., doors open at 6:00 p.m.
See inset at right for new attendance guidelines



McMenamins HISTORY PUB

To continue meeting our desire to return to in-person programs while meeting COVID safety precautions, September's History Pub will be by reservation only. Attendance is limited to a socially distanced 45 people.

Masks required while not eating or drinking. Reservations will open on September 10 on the Deschutes Historical Museum website, www.deschuteshistory.org under the events calendar.

