Oswego Heritage House 5th Annual Holiday Art Show and Sale will be held at the historic Oswego Heritage House, featuring original paintings and prints in all mediums from many prize-winning painters in our area, note cards, a variety of holiday gifts that include paintings, glass, puppets, jewelry, and much more.

A portion of the art sale proceeds are a donation to OHC. Please support your local artists and OHC by doing your Holiday shopping at this show.

The quality of art work at this show has attracted an ever-growing number of interested patrons and art lovers. Come to the show, meet with friends and artists, enjoy refreshments and holiday decorations at the beautiful Oswego Heritage House, and start your Holiday shopping early!

Raffle Basket with gifts galore! Do not need to be present to win. Proceeds from raffle ticket sales will benefit the Heritage House in its mission to preserve the past and enrich the future of this community.

This show is chaired by Oswego Heritage Council member, Susan Harris, and Lora Clemenson.

Lora and Susan are wonderful jewelers and will have their jewelry for sale.
The Red Electric Remembered: Hardly a person still lives who rode on the Southern Pacific’s “Red Electric.” But more than a few are aware of its life and times and the possibilities for the future.

For some years, from around 1914 to 1929, Oswego’s residents could commute on a suburban railway to Portland. The full size cars, built by the Pullman Co., had green plush upholstery on the seats and mahogany trim. People from Portland came to work in Oswego and many Portlanders came to enjoy Oswego Lake on the weekends, riding on Southern Pacific’s “Red Electric” trains. By 1920, the company was running 64 scheduled trains between Portland and Oswego daily. In the following years, the automobile began cutting into ridership. The last “Red Electric” ran on Oct. 5, 1929.

During part of this period, the trains began at Portland’s Union Station coming down Fourth Avenue and turning toward the river on Jefferson Street before heading south between the Willamette River and Macadam Avenue (Oregon 43). There was a station at Fourth and Jefferson, too.

Most trains- as many as two dozen a day – ran as far as “Cook” station, just beyond where the rails cross Boones Ferry Road. It was said that a person could get on the train at Lake Grove and alight in Portland 20 minutes later. In some stretches the trains, of one to six cars, reached 60 mph. The distance from “Cook” to Jefferson Street was 10.8 miles.

The dark red electric cars stopped at “Bryant Road”, at the foot of “Reese Road”, at “Gooding” near the end of Twin Fir Road, at “Ladd” near the cabanas, at “Oswego” at the foot of A Avenue and at “Wilsonia” at the foot of Terwilliger on the northbound run. Old timetables indicate “Flag stops” at such places as the Oswego Lake Country Club.

When the overhead wiring was removed in 1929, some passenger service from Jefferson Street continued, using steam power and later a gas-distillate-powered car. Autos and buses helped the phase out of passenger service as the nation entered the Great Depressions of the 1930’s.

What remains today of this transportation system may be assets for the future. We have an operating freight railway coming across the Willamette and passing through Lake Oswego to the west. Both Portland and Lake Oswego have seen fit to preserve the seven-mile-right-of-way that now carries a seasonal trolley and that could connect to the Portland Streetcar system at River Place.

One other relic of the “Red Electric” days is a concrete building long since converted to nice apartments adjacent to Millennium Park. It was originally a substation for the power supplied to the electric railway. They must have built well in those days.

By Henry Germond


Famous visitor takes classic boat ride 1959

Oregon became the thirty-third state on February 14, 1859. A century later, Portland hosted the Oregon Centennial Exposition and International Trade Fair to commemorate one hundred years of statehood. The fair took place on sixty-five acres along the Columbia River north of the city. Exhibits and entertainment were housed in an eleven-acre arena, the amusement park bordered the ten-acre International Garden of Tomorrow, and Adventureland covered eighteen acres. Actor Raymond Burr was the master of the opening ceremonies, and Roy Rogers and Dale Evans performed with their horse, Trigger. Harry Belafonte, Lawrence Welk, and Merle Travis performed and CBS broadcast “Art Linkletter’s House Party” from the site. While Art Linkletter was in Oregon he visited our wonderful town.

Where were you October 12, 1962?

Remnants of Typhoon Freda came ashore in Northern California and turned north toward the Willamette Valley, and Lake Oswego. The killer wind claimed 48 lives across the state. ?, Paul Klein Jr., Dr. Doug Klein, and Nancy Klein Tongue. Thank you Nancy for the photo.

As a personal side note. One of my favorite people, Herald Campbell, shortly before his death, spent many hours telling me his memories of the wonders of the “Red Electric”. It was a pleasure to hear Herald’s excitement and joy in regaling me with its history. It is wonderful to be able to share Henry’s story with you. Jude Graham
JUST FOR FUN

Ghost(s) Lurking At Oswego Heritage House?

A door slams…no one there. The toilet flushes…no one there. Strange noises coming from the kitchen…no one there. The sound of papers shuffling…no one there. Clip clop…clip clop down the stairs into the basement. No trace of anyone entering the building and descending into the basement. The sound of voices. No one there. All unexplained events.

Or is the explanation that a ghost is living at the Oswego Heritage House? Oswego Heritage Council (OHC) board members Timm Grauel and Candee Clark definitely think so, as does Jude Graham, OHC Executive Director. All have experienced manifestations of ghostly behavior. Candee overheard voices one day when she was alone at the Heritage House working on an exhibit; Timm was in the basement alone retrieving something and heard papers being shuffled. Jude constantly hears the toilet flushing when she’s the only one in the building.

Conjecture among the three aforementioned individuals about whose ghost might be making him or her known centers primarily around three individuals with numerous other possibilities.

The first is Paul C. Murphy. Paul Cole Murphy has been credited with the development of exclusive residential neighborhoods in Lake Oswego and he also had a hand in creating the Oswego Lake Country Club.

Murphy actually started developing neighborhoods in Seattle before moving to Portland. He and his partners, Joseph McLaughlin and Frank Mead developed Seattle’s Laurelhurst area. Three years later Murphy became founding partner, vice president and general manager of Portland’s Laurelhurst Company. The reuse of the name Laurelhurst in Portland reflected the success of the Seattle neighborhood. The land on which Portland’s Laurelhurst neighborhood was built was the William M. Ladd Hazel Fern Farm. Murphy and his partners purchased the farm from the Ladd Estate Company in 1909. In 1926 Murphy and his then partner Frederick Strong purchased the Ladd Estate Company which included the landholdings of Oregon Iron and Steel Company. The Ladd Estate Company’s office was housed at what is now the Oswego Heritage House at 398 – Tenth Street.

The ghost of Dr. William Cane is another ghostly possibility. Dr. Cane was a well-known physician during the 50’s and 60’s who not only resided in the Oswego Heritage House but also used part of the building to see his patients. Dr. Cane, only the second owner of the house, was not only a physician but also a musician. He enjoyed playing the violin and was an avid collector of the musical instrument. In fact, one of the shutters in the museum room of the Oswego Heritage House displays several small “f” looking cutouts which represent the “f” strut of many of the violins that Cane collected. Cane not only collected violins but music stands as well.

And who knows if any of Dr. Cane’s patients died while in his office. Perhaps they have come back looking for Dr. Cane to help them.

Anecdote from current OHC board member Trista Nelson about Dr. Cane: Trista says that Dr. Cane pierced her ears incorrectly and her earrings didn’t lie correctly. She asked him to redo the piercing. Instead of piercing another hole, Trista claims that he just re-pierced the original one at an angle. You decide, Trista, have YOU had any ghostly encounters at the Heritage House?

A third ghostly possibility is Lucy Pollard. The Oswego Heritage Council was the lucky recipient of Lucy’s wedding dress. So in 1909, Lucy married Cecil M. Halloween of Portland. Lucy was born in 1881 tostyng in New York and lived here until 1890. It was the discovery of iron that motivated Lucy’s father to move the family to Oregon. Lucy’s father worked at the iron furnace until an accident forced him to give up foundry work. Mr. Pollard fell 40 feet and cut his head open. After that Lucy’s mother resolved that the family become self-sufficient by farming. So the family moved from Old Town to a 10-acre farm on what is now Bergis Road.

When she wasn’t reading or farming, Lucy occasionally visited Helen Grigg’s quilting group. That group is still quilting – and has been for over 50 years. Throughout her life Lucy maintained an avid interest in the history of the area and in local pioneer families. Nellie Kyle remembers that “Lucy used to attend the funeral services at Oswego Cemetery on Stafford Road so she could visit with the old-timers.”

There are many possibilities of whose ghost has taken up residence at Oswego Heritage House besides the three mentioned above. It could be an earlier pioneer who died on the property. Or perhaps just someone who has taken an interest in Oswego history and enjoys all the wonderful exhibits, lectures, and ideas that blossom in the Oswego Heritage House.

Maybe you should come see for yourself, or rather come hear for yourself, and make your own determination. Submitted by Candee Clark Mumm and Nancy Dunis

Lucy Pollard

Cecil M. Halloween Name Card from OHC archives.
Meet John Trullinger


John Corse Trullinger bought into Durham’s sawmill in 1863 and later bought out Durham’s share. Inventor (a water turbine) visionary, and doer, he was involved in manufacturing (wooden sidewalks for Portland) and transportation (railway and boats for moving goods to market). In 1867 he replanted Old Town.

Soon after 1870 he sold the town site and sawmill, a good move in light of the economic downturn that began in 1873 and lasted five years.

But how did I meet him? The restaurant in which we were dining displayed a nice book of 87 pages by local author, Bryan Penttila, titled *Columbia River, the Astoria Odyssey*. It was published by Frank Amato Publication of Portland, Oregon in 2003.

Of Trullinger, Bryan Penttila says, “This wildly successful entrepreneur had tried his hand at everything from panning gold to processing wheat to producing pig iron before settling in Astoria to see his newly constructed sawmill in the late 1870’s.”

Trullinger got lucky again. His sawmill was the only one remaining after the great fire that leveled Astoria in 1883. A lot of Astoria was rebuilt using lumber from his mill.

With his economic interests established, he turned to civic duties. He served a term in the state legislature, and also served for two years as mayor.

An interesting person? More material on Trullinger is waiting to be mined by a student, a scholar, or just a curious person. Any takers?

Henry Germond

(John Corse Trullinger was born on 29 July 1829 in Fountain, Cty, IN. He died on 28 April, 1908 in Astoria.)

As a side note the Trullinger Home in Lake Oswego is for sale. Hopefully a preservation-minded person will buy it and save it for future generations.

Henry Germond