



Rainier Oregon Historical Museum

Established. 2015

Find us at “www.rainiermuseum.org”

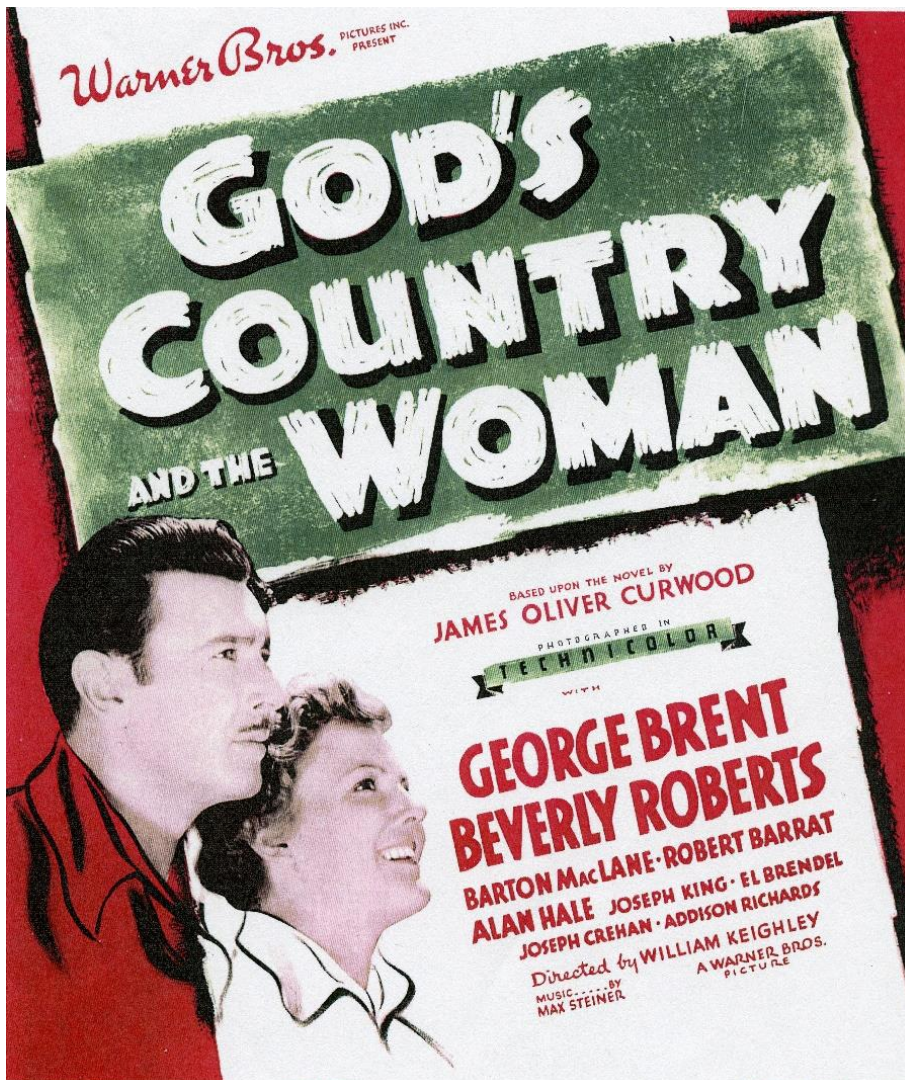
Number 3

2019

Special Announcements!!

The Rainier Oregon Historical Museum is holding special activities. All members and the public are welcome. There will be a special showing of the 1937 movie “GOD’S COUNTRY AND THE WOMAN.” Also, a Benson Cigar Raft presentation by Kay Heflin and a Logging Exhibit with a special display on the YEON-PELTON Logging Incline. Museum members are also welcome to attend this year’s Annual Meeting on September 19th. On Saturday, November 9, ROHM will hold its annual Veterans' Day event.

GOD’S COUNTRY AND THE WOMAN



**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 7, 2019**

**RAINIER OREGON
HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

at the RAINIER CITY
HALL, 2nd floor

**MOVIE SHOWN AT 11
A.M. and 1 P.M.**

Free Admission!

See scenes filmed locally at
the Clark and Wilson Mill
at Prescott, Spirit Lake,
Toutle River and Cathlamet.

See a giant tree being
felled!

See a log jam being blown
up!

BENSON CIGAR RAFT PRESENTATION

By Kay Heflin

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2019



at the RAINIER CITY HALL, 3rd floor

Presentation times as follows:

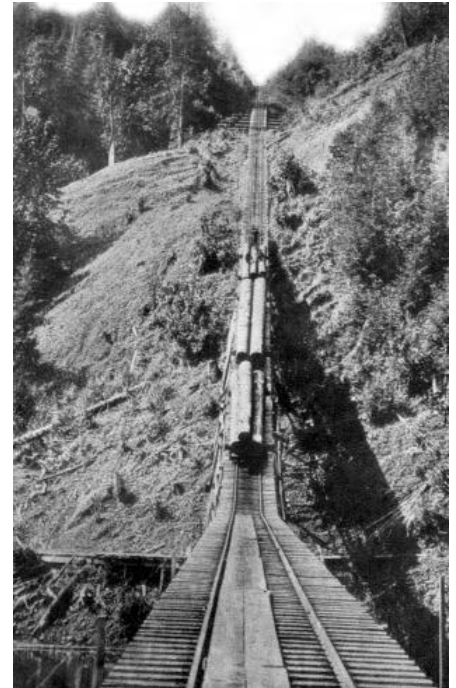
11:30 A.M. 11:45 A.M. 12:15 P.M. 12:30 P.M. and 3:15 P.M.

LOGGING EXHIBIT

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2019
RAINIER OREGON HISTORICAL MUSEUM
at the RAINIER CITY HALL, 3rd floor

with a special display on the
YEON-PELTON LOGGING INCLINE

KIDS! LOAD LOGS WITH A LOGGING GRAPPLE AND HAVE
FUN WITH A LOGGING MATCHING GAME



ROHM ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, September 19th at 1:00 in the museum

The Annual Meeting is open to all our members. The meeting will be held in the Rainier museum on the 3rd floor of the City Hall. We will be voting on the position of President and the position of Director. In addition to voting for these offices, we will be conducting a general meeting to discuss upcoming events and projects, and to report on ROHM's current fiscal status.

Rainier Days in the Park, July 12, 13, 14, 2019



This year's ROHM Grand Marshall was Marjorie (Lepin) Clark, born in Kentucky Flats (in the western end of town) in 1929. Marjorie at left in the ROHM booth with second cousin Martha Van Natta. (photos by Kay and Mike Clark)

All-School Alumni Picnic, July 28, 2019

By Kay Heflin and Martha Van Natta

The all-class picnic at Hudson-Parcher Park was a huge success with around 213 visitors who signed up at the registration table this year, 31 more than last year. We gained 10 new memberships for our museum at the picnic.

We had a large variety of food: salads, desserts, vegetables, fruits, and lots of chicken and other meats. Beverages included coffee and water. People had a wonderful time talking to others, some who hadn't seen each other for years.

Two raffle baskets were on display at the museum sales table. The adult raffle basket was won by Karen Harding, a new member who just joined the museum at Rainier Days in the Park. The children's basket was won by Member Mary Ellen Keith.

Next year's picnic (2020) will be held on the last Sunday in July. Please put this on your calendar. We are looking forward to seeing you there!



The ROHM sponsored All-School Alumni Picnic was successful this year with a turnout of over 200 people. In the photo at right is Marvin Wilburn (class of 54) and his wife Barbara (class of 56) talking to ROHM president Kay Heflin at right. (Photos by Mike Clark)

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS after 5-14-19 through 8-8-19. We now have 156 total members.

Beverly Anderson
Bonnie Appel
Mike Avent
Juanita Baumgardner
Jim & Patty Blayney
Don Calvert
Diana Davis
Carol Roberts Dinges

Delbert Granland
Karen & Rod Harding
Robert Lee
Cindy Modin
Leona Ogren
Darlene Ollila
Beth & Bill Rauch
Doug & Judy Reid

Les & Shirley Roberts
David Stafford
Larry Stennick
Dayton Thorp
Tim Vasey
Melvin & Linda Wilson

Early Rainier Businesses

Over the last 168 years Rainier, Oregon, had a large assortment of businesses. In days of old, most common seemed to be sawmills, hotels and saloons. Others, gone but still remembered by the old timers, include the Rainier Soap Factory and the Barbey Cannery on the wharf. But Rainier had some other very interesting businesses that are worth mentioning. Below is an excerpt from the July 26, 1951, issue of the Rainier Review.

Kittering's Tannery

In the 1860's Mike and John Kittering operated a tannery on the west side of Nice Creek, approximately at the junction of Fern Hill road and the Columbia River highway. Hemlock bark was sledged in from the hinterland and soaked in water pits. The hides of cattle were soaked in this solution. The tanned hides were shipped out on river boats.

Chinese Laundry

Who remembers Ku Num, the Chinese laundryman, and his son Sam Sing? In the 1880's and early '90's they washed and ironed by hand in their little establishment on the dock that went past the present bank to the river. When the local boys pestered and teased them, they grabbed the first thing at hand to chase them away. The two Chinese were very kind friends to those who accorded them their natural respect.

Duffy's Match Factory

About 1899 Mr. Duffy manufactured sulphur matches (made in blocks) in his factory near Blanchard's Dock. He hired local girls to pack the matches in boxes, which were piled in tiers. The least jar would cause friction and set them ablaze. One group of employees was the "Big Four", the Misses Lois Perry, Ethel Muckle, Jessie Smith and Myrtle Dietz. They drew the young blades of the village, who made Duffy's the trysting place, as they watched the girls pack matches. Accidently (naturally) the boxes were often jarred, and the girls would dash out yelling, "Fire"! Finally this was more than Mr. Duffy could stand, so he fired the girls, one by one, and took on a more mature crew.

Friedberg's Cigar Factory

In 1903 a cigar factory had been located in Rainier and a superior grade of cigars were made and sold almost exclusively in the town. A. Friedberg, the operator, gained an enviable reputation as a cigar maker. Victor Malcom was associated with Mr. Friedberg in a cigar and confectionery stand, where all kinds of choice candies, fruits, cigars and tobaccos were kept in stock.

Rainier Oregon Historical Museum Receives Award

ROHM was given the award as Business of the Month on August 1 by the Rainier Chamber of Commerce. Vice President Duane Bernard was thrilled and surprised to accept the above plaque on behalf of the Rainier Oregon Historical Museum on Thursday, August 8, 2019. It will be proudly displayed in the museum.



Frederick Trow and Paul Poetsch, General Merchandise and Clothing



This photo, about 1910, shows the Frederick Trow store where the Rainier Appliance store is now located on “A” Street (across from E 2nd St.). Trow sold his business to Paul Poetsch in 1921. On the sidewalk curb in front of the Rainier

Appliance store is written “POETSCH – SON 1922.” The Rainier Historical Museum is working with the city to save this sign when the street is modified this coming year. In the photo it also shows Frederick Davis’s dentist office upstairs. Dr. Davis started his practice in Rainier in 1906 and continued until he died in 1957. Steps in the center of the building led up to the Odd Fellow’s meeting room. The I.O.O.F. on the globe that hung above the stairs entrance, stood for Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In 1920 The Odd Fellows built a new hall (still located on the south side of City Hall) and moved there. On June 28, 1924, it was in the rear of the Poetsch building that a fire started that destroyed most of the businesses along the north side of the A street. Paul Poetsch quickly built a new building at the same location continuing his business. Dr. Davis moved into an upstairs office. Paul Poetsch passed away on March 5, 1937. (Photo provided by Mike Clark)