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Plaid shirts, blouses ‘in’ at Museum

Summer events include patron trip, car show, annual meeting

Remember when checkered shirts, Levi’s and red hats were the official garb of Albany before, during and after the Fourth of July?

That’s right, this attire signaled the arrival of the World Championship Albany Timber Carnival from 1941 through 2000, a celebration that often lasted several days every July and was organized by the Albany Jaycees. The celebration ran consecutively through those years, with a brief time off during World War II.

This year a shorter version of Albany’s Fourth of July event is being planned by another group of volunteers.

But you can relive those earlier Timber Carnivals by visiting a new exhibit at the Albany Regional Museum. Timber Carnival buttons, red hats, scrap books, both still and moving pictures and other artifacts will be on display.

The exhibit opens

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 28 — Timber Carnival exhibit & reception, noon to 4 p.m.

July 23-26 — Albany Quilts Downtown

July 26 — Historic Homes Tour, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Aug. 9 — Patrons trip to Mission Mill, Salem

Sept. 6 — Thunderbird car show and Antiques in the Street, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sept. 14 — Annual meeting, election of board members, program featuring retired Linn County sheriffs Art Martinak and David Burright, 2 p.m.

Saturday, June 28, noon to 4 p.m., which includes a reception for former Jaycees and their spouses who made the original Timber Carnival a signature Albany event.

The Museum has scheduled a number of other Chautauqua activities this summer.

These include the **Albany Quilts Downtown** event, sponsored by the Albany Down-

town Association, on July 23-26, and the annual Historic Homes Tour, Saturday, July 26. Quilts will be displayed throughout the downtown area, including at the Museum. The home tour is sponsored by the Interior Home Tour committee.

Patrons of the Museum will travel to the Mission Mill Museum in Salem on Saturday, Aug. 9. This event is by invitation only. Patrons will be bused to the site in the morning and be returned to Albany by mid-afternoon. Admission and travel will be paid by the Museum. A no-host box lunch will be available.

Mission Mill Museum affords a look at missionary family life from the early 1840s, as well as operations of the Thomas Kay Woolen Mill, established in 1889.

The trip is a thank-you to patrons who support the Albany Museum with extra financial gifts.

The summer season



1947 Timber Carnival Princesses Pat Nelson, left, of Lebanon and Shirley Gilkey of Jefferson wear official dress of plaid blouses, jeans and red hats. Queen of the carnival that year was Pat McGee of Sweet Home.

will end with a **Ford Thunderbird** car show on Saturday, Sept. 6, from 10 a. m. to 4 p.m. at the Museum, and the **annual meeting** at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 14. The annual meeting will feature a program by retired Linn County sheriffs Art Martinak and David

Burright. They will tell stories from their careers as law enforcement officials in Linn County. The car show highlights a museum exhibit by a one-time Albany resident, Rhys Miller, who was the designer of the 1956-57 T-Bird for the Ford Motor Co.

Looking Back: Downtown changes

BY JACK GILLESPIE, MUSEUM MEMBER

It is great to see so many of the historic buildings in downtown Albany being restored to their original magnificence and others being repaired and “polished up.” We all should give a special thanks to those city leaders, property owners and others who worked so hard to get these projects approved, financed and underway.

I have written of downtown Albany (as I saw it) from the mid-1930s through most of the 1950s — the years that Albany was “my town.”

Early in 1959 I had an opportunity to begin a newspaper hot-type printing apprenticeship at the Camarillo News, a weekly newspaper in southern California, some 40 miles northwest of Los Angeles. So I hopped on the next south-bound Greyhound bus leaving the Albany depot on Lyon Street and away I went to Camarillo, where I was to work as a printer for the next 13 years. During those years I married the newspaper’s receptionist, Margie, a widow with two teenage sons, David and Richard. Later, a son, Mark joined the family.

In 1973 Margie and I purchased the Jefferson Review weekly newspaper and Margie, Mark and I moved to Jefferson. We published the newspaper for over 25 years.

However, the downtown Albany of 1973 was

certainly not the Albany I left in the late 50s.

Gone completely along First Avenue were Cleo’s Confectionary, Rufus Hale’s Shoe Shine stand, The Club Cigar pool hall and the Granada Theater. In their place was a parking lot. (Cleo’s had moved up the street to the Venetian Theater building as did the shoe shine shop.) The J.C. Penney department store had relocated to a shopping center off Geary Street on land where Albany people use to hunt pheasants and gather mistletoe.

(Gone too were all the downtown parking meters — but nobody was unhappy about that.)

The Montgomery Ward department store on Second Avenue and Broadalbin was now a furniture store. Sears and Roebuck had closed on Second Avenue and moved to a new and larger building on the southwest corner of Second Avenue and Lyon Street and was soon off to the same shopping center as Penney’s

At present there are a fine variety of small stores, restaurants, upstairs apartments and service businesses popping up downtown and still others are in the planning stage. Extensive plans are in the works for historic Water Avenue and results are already showing.

Perhaps in the near future we will again hear Albany and area citizens saying “let’s go DOWNTOWN and see what’s going on.”

Museum Directors:

John Buchner,
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Vice Chairman
Michael Kok,
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Shannon Willard,
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Mary Arnett
John Boock Jr.
Mary Jacq Burck
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Tami Sneddon,
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Jennifer E. Jameson,
Cataloger
Kim Jackson,
Newsletter Editor

Hudson Field: Where schoolboys smacked line drives

BY EDWARD LOY

MUSEUM MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER

The old wooden stands have long since been razed and the ball diamond plowed under at Hudson Field, but people who went out to the games there during the early 1940s know that better high school baseball has never been played in Albany.

With a population of only 9,000 people, Albany had more talented schoolboys smacking line drives, gobbling up ground balls, and making batters look foolish than in any comparable period before or since.

The place where this talent came together was originally named Central Field because of its location east of the

present Central Elementary School. It was named Hudson Field after longtime Albany High principal E. A. Hudson. The wooden stands were built around 1930 and were typical of small-town ballparks of that era, with bleachers, covered grandstand, dugouts and

View from Second & Lyon: Growing assets

BY JOHN BUCHNER
BOARD CHAIRMAN

Keeping the Museum open and running on a day-today basis is one thing. But keeping the big picture in focus is important, too.

As a board, we have an obligation to help build a secure future for the Museum through financial development. Since we don't rely on any taxing support, the challenge is one that remains constant.

That's why the number-one goal of our development committee, chaired by Mary Jacq Burck, is to grow the Museum's endowment fund.

Many of you may not realize that more than 50 percent of our \$100,000 annual operating budget revenue comes from the earnings of the endowment fund. (The rest is the result of paid memberships, annual gifts, rent and retail sales.) Established a number of years ago by an



Here for Oregon. Here for Good.

anonymous Albany philanthropist, the Museum's endowment is managed by The Oregon Community Foundation in Portland. OCF is the premier manager of non-profit assets in the state.

Our partnership with OCF assures donors that their gifts will be part of a professionally managed program where investment returns are among the best in the nation. OCF also provides investment efficiencies and access to planned giving advice and services.

OCF gives the Museum credibility as an organization with a solid donor base, a strong and active board with a track record of pru-

dent management in meeting its mission to preserve, exhibit and encourage knowledge of the history and culture of Albany and its immediate surroundings.

Our development committee, with the help of OCF, can assist interested individuals and families who plan to give something back to their Albany community in memorializing themselves or someone else, or just buying a bit of immortality.

If any of this piques your interest, Mary Jacq, myself, Museum founder Jerry Brenneman or other board members are ready to answer as many questions as we can about the Museum and its operations. In addition, The Oregon Community Foundation has a very informative web site at www.ocf1.org.

On an unrelated topic, a number of our friends have noticed that the front windows of the Museum facing

Lyon Street and Second Avenue are much darker than they used to be. In fact, while driving by, one can no longer see exhibits in the window.

No, the Museum is not closed nor are we trying to hide anything from passers-by. There are new blinds that help cut down on destructive ultra-violet light that tends to damage and fade our exhibits. The new shades are similar to those found at a lot of museums, including the Benton County Historical Society and Museum in Philomath.

The addition of the blinds is another step in better preserving our collection of artifacts, documents and photographs. The blinds also may help us keep our building both cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. Don't let those shades keep you from stopping by for a visit!

Thank you to our patrons of the Museum

Patrons are those individuals who make an extra financial commitment* to the Albany Regional Museum.

This qualifies them for a special event and recognition.

The 2007 event was a reception with hors d'oeuvres and a classic movie at the Pix Theater. For 2008, the event will be a July trip to the Mission Mill Museum in Salem. The 2007 patrons include:

Mary Arnett/Richard Aplegate
Linda and Larry Bardell
John Birchfield
Jan and Jim Blodgett
John Boock Jr.
Katie and Jerry Brenneman
Kitty and John Buchner
Jay Burcham
Mary Jacq and Wayne Burck

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Robert Lowry
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Betty McCoy
Molly and Bob McIntyre
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Linda and Frank Morse
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Carolyn Palmer
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Liisa and Richard Reid
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Kim and Claus Sass
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Bea and John Schlegel
Rosmary Schoblom
Kristen and Steve Schuttpelz
Catherine and Robert Shine
Laine and Joe Simon
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Russell Sprague
Sally Steelhammer
Linda and Darrel Tedisch
Randy Tripp
Marty and Rodney Tripp
Duffy and Russell Tripp
Judy Weissert/Rolland Brower
Shannon Willard
Martha and Roger Wells
Marilyn and Don Wimer

*\$115 minimum

Our mission statement: "To preserve, exhibit and encourage knowledge of the history and culture of Albany, Oregon, and its immediate surroundings through collection of artifacts, documents and photographs.

Exhibits change, programs add variety

BY TAMI SNEDDON
ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Exhibits are continually being updated and changed.

The current apron exhibit will be removed to make room for the new Timber Carnival display. We also have a collection of items that are on loan from secretary/bookkeeper Shannon Willard from both the Paarman and Sternberg Saddlery.

Some of the new objects in our collection include military remembrances of Roland Martin, Albany school memorabilia, photographs (including the first Timber Carnival queen in 1941), framed photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Parrish of Albany, and a framed watercolor of Trinity Chapel.



Students and parents learn about Lewis & Clark.

Our Chautauqua programming has provided a variety of subjects which have brought about new insight of the travels of Sacajawea, vintage aprons and the electric rail and trolley system of the Willamette Valley.

We took advantage of the Lane County Historical Society's educational outreach program during school vacation in March.

Students heard tales of Sacajawea and a fur trapper as they traveled along with the Corps of Discovery's Lewis



Museum board member Mary Arnett (in apron) makes sure everyone has enough food during the annual Chautauqua "tea."

and Clark. While this event was geared toward students, a number of parents and grandparents also enjoyed the program.

It was a special event to have Albany native son Richard Thompson share his

knowledge of the Willamette Valley railways. That presentation and book signing was topped off with a downtown trolley tour, narrated by Jerry Brenneman and Thompson.

"What's the program next year?" were among the responses to our second annual "tea" and Chautauqua program on

aprons. After a successful program last year on handkerchiefs, this event on vintage aprons from folk art historian Bobbe Shaffer proved even more popular.

The event was sold out and several wishing to attend had to be turned away. Member Virginia Koos shared a poem she had written about aprons.

Member Diane Price wrote a thank-you note after the event. Her response included this quote: "The aprons pres-

Aprons can be useful

BY VIRGINIA KOOS, MUSEUM MEMBER

When World War II was over
And my soldier husband came home,
We settled on a farm in Oregon
And vowed nevermore to roam.

Denim overalls became the uniform
He wore to work each day.
Mine a cotton dress and apron
Flowered with print so gay.

The apron's bib held pins or needles

That I often chanced to find.
Its ample pockets held clothespins
That attached small garments to the line.

The pockets held clean handkerchiefs
For drying my children's tears,
And sometimes some special sweets
Which diverted their minds from fears.

Caught up by the hem, an apron basket was ours
To hold fresh eggs, garden vegetables, or flowers.
Aprons were useful, don't you know?
Why did we ever let them go?

MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP FORM

To renew or begin your annual membership, indicate the type and fill in the form below.

___ Individual	\$10
___ Family	\$15
___ Patron	\$115
___ Business	\$50
___ Major Sponsor	\$250
___ I want to learn more about the Pioneer Society, Founders and Benefactors levels.	

Amount enclosed \$ _____

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

The Museum is a non-profit
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Albany Regional Museum

136 Lyon St. S., Albany, OR 97321
(541-967-7122)
www.armuseum.com

Growing up in Albany

Stable collapse claims my Shetland pony

SHANNON PRICE WILLARD
BIRTH DATE: 1939

One of the most dramatic memories I have of growing up in Albany was when the barn fell down.

The Albany Tannery building, located at the north end of Lafayette Street and along the Willamette River, was built before the turn of the Twentieth Century by the late Albert Sternberg. The building housed the hide and leather works of Sternberg and Shea. It was the home and a landmark of one of Albany's earliest industries, when steamboat shipping made Albany a thriving port. The tannery business operated until World War II.

The building was then purchased in 1946 by Wesley B. Price Sr., who had been an employee of the Sternberg Saddle. Price turned the two-story building into a riding stable with an adjacent corral area and continued making saddles, bridles and other leather goods.

At 9:50 a.m. on July 21, 1952, the building's roof, second floor and walls all collapsed. At the time, Price had



Wesley B. Price Sr. in front of Albany tannery.

four Shetland ponies stabled inside. Two were killed immediately and two others miraculously escaped being crushed.

City police, workers at the nearby Red Crown Mills (one of them being George Poorman) and members of the Price family worked frantically to free the two live ponies and to determine the fate of the other two, found dead by the workers about an hour later.

Mill workers said the old frame building came down with a loud rending noise that sounded like a train had

“Growing up in Albany” is a series of stories submitted by area residents about their youth in and around the Hub City.

jumped the river trestle, which ran by the building. They found a 2 ½-year-old sorrel kicking in free space about four feet high and less than three feet wide, injured about the head and shoulder.

After debris was removed from around the trapped horse, it narrowly missed breaking its legs in a wild jump from the raised floor to the ground, where it landed in a pile of timbers. City police officer Bob Burkhart caught the animal when it bolted. By 11:30 the workers had freed a second animal similarly trapped farther back in the building. It was unhurt. Price lost a black and white Shetland stud, valued at \$250, which had been my pet, and another pony valued at \$100.

Grocery shopping an experience at Dixon's Corral

GERALD BRENNEMAN
BIRTH DATE: 1931

Living in the middle of the block that ran from Salem Avenue to Santiam in Albany gave me two choices when Mom wanted to send me to the store for groceries in the 1940s. I would either go north to Norris Grocery at Salem Avenue and Geary Street or south to Santiam and Geary to Dixon's Corral.

At Norris Grocery, which was quite small, I would hand Mom's list to whoever was working and that person would wander through the store, pick up the items and then place them on the counter and stack them up. They would give me a slip to take home with the items listed and the cost and Dad would pay up once a month. No cash involved.

Shopping at Dixon's was a whole different event. Earl Dixon was a pretty good businessman but a little eccentric. In any case, he was



Jerry Brenneman, 14, in 1945.

always doing strange things to attract customers.

I remember in the summer he would dress in shorts with a white tank top, stand on a wooden platform he had in the middle of the store and shout out specials (plus anything else he wanted to shout about).

The store was quite large

with the roof held up by large poles, like telephone poles. Part of the store flooring was actually dirt. One could never find an item in the same place the following week as he continually changed everything in the store. It was his belief that if you knew where the item was you would go to the right place, pay for it and leave. However, if you had to look around for your item, you would come across other things and possibly buy more than you came in for.

Our family had eight cherry trees on our lot and we could pick cherries, take them down to Dixon's, and Earl would buy them and put them out for sale. He also bought quince from our backyard tree.

Dixon got in trouble with the manufacturers of food products because he would pay customers cash for manufacturer's coupons whether they bought product or not.

Food manufacturer coupons

were relatively new at the time and most were for three, five or 10 cents. Food was much cheaper in those days and if you gathered enough coupons you could literally get free food at Dixon's. Earl would then attempt to collect the money from manufacturers.

Dixon's "Coupon Crusade," as it was called, eventually caused his downfall. It was in 1955 when I was serving in the military in Hanau, Germany, when I sat down with the Stars and Stripes newspaper, and what should be on the front page but a picture of Earl Dixon with a coonskin hat, buffalo rifle in hand and walking down Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. Earl was attempting to promote his case in the nation's capital against the food manufacturers who wouldn't redeem his coupons.

I suppose we could call Dixon's Corral the first grocery supermarket in Albany.

Hudson Field: Home to the mighty Bulldogs

■ Continued from Page 1

lights for night contests. In those simpler days, the games were popular community events because of gas rationing during World War II and because television had not yet secured its grip on the populace.

From 1941 through 1944, the Albany High Bulldogs were considered the elite high school program in the state, even though there was no state tournament. They compiled an overall record of 41 wins against 8 defeats, with only three of those losses coming against other high schools. Back in those days, the Bulldogs also scheduled games against the University of Oregon and Oregon State College freshman squads, and army teams from Camp Adair.

The Bulldog lineup of that period included several players who either went on to play professionally or were of that caliber. Bud Fortier, an all-around athlete, was a slick fielding shortstop and dangerous hitter, who filled a key role on the great teams of 1941 through 1943. Fortier earned the praise of L.H. Gregory, sports editor of The Oregonian, who recommended Bud try out for the Portland Beavers of the Pacific Coast League. While he never played for Portland, Fortier later signed with



The 1942 Albany High baseball team, left to right: Back row — Zed Merrill, Don Bileau, Tom Cowgill, Gene Blaylock, Bud Long, Paul Kennel, Jack Boylan, Archie Hayes, Coach Dwight Adams. Front row — Leo Schlegel, Harry Sharp, Bob Jacobsen, Bob Hermans, Bud Fortier, Earl Kennel, John Kelley, Denny Miller, Bud Spencer.

the San Francisco Seals and played for its farm team in Yakima, WA.

Earl Kennel, a big, strapping farm boy, was perhaps the best pitcher ever to play for the Bulldogs. A visiting newspaperman from Cleveland described Kennel as another Bob Feller in the making and told a local reporter the Bulldogs were "one of the best high school teams that I have ever watched play a game of ball." A right-handed power pitcher with a wicked curve, Kennel had the additional weapon of a deceptive delivery that baffled most of the batters who faced him. During the 1942 season he put on his most dominating performance when he pitched a perfect game against the North Salem Vikings, striking out 18 batters in a seven-inning contest. Primarily because of family religious convictions against playing games on Sundays, Kennel never played professional ball.

Archie Hays, another farm boy, was the team's durable ace left-hander, whose best pitch was his fastball, which broke up and away from right-handed batters. Hayes later pitched for several seasons for farm teams of the Cincinnati Reds, Philadelphia Athletics, Boston Red Sox and New York Giants.

Bob Morris, who played primarily in the outfield, could run like a cheetah,

was a good hitter and possessed a strong, accurate arm. Morris also excelled in football and basketball and is even today remembered by his teammates as one of the best all-around athletes ever to wear a Bulldog uniform.

Another fine Bulldog player of the early 1940s was Zed Merrill, a second baseman who rarely made an error and, along with Fortier, formed a superlative double-play combination. Other outstanding players were Bud Spencer, rifle-armed catcher who was one of the team's best hitters; Bill Mikkelsen, steady fielding, good-hitting first baseman; Bob Jacobson,

fine outfielder who swung a potent bat; Bud Long, who followed Mikkelsen at first base and could hit for power and average; Paul Kennel, Earl's younger brother and a very good pitcher in his own right; and Jean Blaylock, rangy southpaw pitcher and outfielder.

At the conclusion of the high school season, many of these players would put on the uniform of the Cummings Movers, the local American Legion Junior Baseball team, and play games deep into the summer. Coached by M.O. "Bill" Wilkinson, the Movers won the state championship in 1942. They earned a trip to Stockton, CA., for the Coast Regional Tournament, where they lost to Sunrise of Los Angeles, the eventual national champions.

One player of note on the 1942 team was Leon Simon, a pitcher who moved to Albany from Toledo at the start of the Legion summer season. Simon was an excellent right-handed pitcher who also could hit. In March 1943, in his senior year of high school, he signed a contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers organization and never played for the Bulldogs.

Soon after high school graduation the baseball playing days of most of these young men were interrupted by military service. Many of them returned to Albany after WWII to play semi-professional ball for the Albany Veterans team of 1946 or for the Albany Alcos. As in their schoolboy days, Fortier, Morris, Jacobson, Hayes, Merrill, Mikkelsen and Spencer sparked their teams to other wins and still more championships.

The site of the old baseball park is now an empty grass playing field, but if the gray-haired fans among us pause there on a quiet summer evening and listen intently, they can imagine a faint echo of the umpire's cry of "play ball!"



Membership committee at work

Membership chairman Diane Price, center, with Pat Thompson, left, and Karen Carnahan, and Virginia Glaser (not pictured) have taken on the 2008 drive. Goals include increasing general memberships by five percent and business support by 10 percent. Membership funds help finance the Museum's operations.

MEMORIAL LIST GROWS

The names of Dorothy Hull and Fred Pengra have recently been honored with memorial gifts to the Albany Regional Museum.

Gifts can be mailed to the Museum, 136 Lyon St. S., or dropped off at the Museum with proper instructions enclosed.

Carnival venture 'sticks in my mind' 50 years-plus

Before the Albany World Championship Timber Carnival moved to Timber Linn Lake and ended its first life in 2000, its home was Waverly Lake just across Pacific Boulevard from the present day Kmart and Costco retail outlets. In this first-person account, Gary Kingston recalls the last Timber Carnival at Waverly Lake in 1958. Kingston was a volunteer and Jaycee at the time. A new effort at reviving the Timber Carnival is under way by another group of volunteers for the July 4th weekend.

BY GARY KINGSTON
MUSEUM BOARD MEMBER

The spring of 1957 was my first visit to Albany. I vaguely recall some talk about Timber Carnival preparations, but I left before the July 4th event took place.

My reason for being in Albany was a job interview. I rode the Greyhound bus, one of those two-level kind that were somewhat new for the day, and instead of coming all the way to Albany I stopped in Eugene. I spent the night there at the Eugene Hotel. The thought was that there might not be a place to stay in Albany.

In those days communications and information were not available like today. There was no internet in 1957, and regular folks did not easily make long-distance telephone calls. They were expensive and proper communication was considered to be the postal service.

Besides being interviewed in Albany, I was taken to lunch at Top's Drive-In on Pacific Boulevard just a block or so south of a brick-making operation. I recall asking what it was and thinking it sure was a mess right there in town. Today I wonder why there isn't something to honor it and its contribution to the community. Top's was a nice clean place that seemed like a diner and not a drive-in. I ordered more food that I should have, but it was a free meal.

I got the job and was back in Albany not long after the Timber Carnival was over. I read that a young participant practicing for the show had fallen and was killed. It cast a



The 1958 button.

feeling of sadness on me about the event of which, at that point, I knew nothing, and it made me recall my grandmother's admonition, "don't be a daredevil."

An associate from my workplace belonged to the Jaycees and invited me to join. Not being a joiner I was not particularly interested in getting involved, but after attending a few meetings the enthusiasm of the members, their diversity and friendliness encouraged me to participate and I did. This was 1958, the year after my arrival. Preparations for Timber Carnival were the main Jaycee project. Officers and board members of the event were drawn from the ranks of the Albany Jaycees. It was a swirl of activities within the Jaycee organization and the Albany community in general. Work parties gathered most every night to put up the stage and make other preparations for the show. I had never been involved in an event in which the whole town and surrounding areas were in such focused frenzy. I was glad I got to participate.

This year of the Timber Carnival turned out to be the last time it was held at Waverly Lake, just down the road from Top's Drive-In. Waverly Lake was created in the construction of the Pacific Boulevard railroad overpass, one of Albany's most handsome features of the time. The north shore of the lake, bordering Old Santiam Road, was the site of the logging competition. The stage and spar poles (two of

TIMBER CARNIVAL PRESIDENTS DURING WAVERLY YEARS

1941 — D. Bland
1942 — 1945*
1946 — F. Merrill
1947 — Rod Tripp
1948 — O. Swenson
1949 — L. Roth
1950 — B. Scharpf
1951 — T. Lovelace
1952 — J. Kingsley
1953 — H. Evans
1954 — D. Catt
1955 — B. Scott
1956 — D. Moen
1957 — Russ Tripp
1958 — R. Richards

*1942 -1945 recessed for WWII.

them) had to be put in place for each show. The east and southerly bank of the lake formed a natural arena-like seating area. Bordering that part was Pacific Boulevard, or Highway 99E, that carried all the traffic now traveling Interstate 5 and the local traffic of Pacific.

Traffic was never a whole lot, and at night it seemed almost deserted. We knew this first hand since my wife and I lived a short distance away at Seventh and Hill Street. Carnival parking was across



The Timber Carnival at Waverly Lake in 1958. Pacific Boulevard borders the lake on the left.

Pacific Boulevard from the lake, more or less where the Kmart parking lot is today. Those attending the carnival streamed back and forth across the traffic halted by local police, much to the frustration of truckers plying the north-south route with interstate loads.

During the T-C show I worked the Coca Cola concession. Dick Radcliffe was the local distributor and a Timber Carnival board member. The concession always made good profits for the carnival, so the

Jaycees provided the manpower.

My worst memory of my efforts at the concession was going to get ice at the ice plant on the west side of town. Radcliffe had me use his van and told a young fellow he had hired to go with me. It was big ice. Each rectangle must have weighed more than a hundred pounds. There was no front seat in the van, so the helper sat on a block of ice. At the first stop the ice slid forward, slowly shoving the helper's legs into the truck dashboard and glove



A large crowd lines the south bank of Waverly Lake, which was formed when material was dug and used to create the Pacific Boulevard rail overpass in the 1930's.



A competitor meets his end in the log-rolling competition.

box. He had sore knees and legs but no serious injury. The truck, on the other hand, had rather large indentations. These indentations remained there for as many years as Dick had the truck, which for me was all the subsequent time of my Timber Carnival involvement.

Most of my memory of the 1958 show is lost in a swirl of noisy music, such as the "Purple People Eater," and lots of people milling about, some of whom would get a little rowdy but would be quickly brought to order by a cowboy-tempered admonishment from Bill Bodtke, attorney and city judge, and the carnival's vice-president that year.

Ron Richards was the president, the fourteenth and last year at Waverly Lake. I remember Ron as a fun-loving person who liked practical jokes, and frequently was the target of the same. Larry Roth, an auctioneer and future mayor, and Whitey Coker, KWIL radioman, were the master-of-ceremonies. Tommy Leonard was MC of the Queen's coronation. Joan Podpeskar, sponsored by Wah Chang Corporation, was the winner of the Queen's contest. The winner was determined by sales of admission

buttons.

Thinking back as to what made Timber Carnival work in those days I conclude it was a group of high-spirited, enthusiastic, civic-minded young men motivated by an esprit-de-corps that existed through the business community. The checkered shirts, red hats with carnival pins, and blue jeans, were the uniform of service (wives and girlfriends wore checkered blouses and denim skirts or jeans). It was a chemistry that came out of World War II which was fought by many of the early T-C and Albany business leaders.

My last recollection is helping to take down the stage and loading the planks for transport to storage and never to return to Waverly Lake. Ken and Lorraine Carter supplied at cost the last refreshment in support of the 1958 carnival workers, a Black Label brew. It was a symbolic libation of the carnival and a treat that helped turn out work parties.

One of the Jaycee wives commented at a Timber Carnival potluck that, for many of us, this would be one of the most significant experiences of our lives. It has stuck in my mind for fifty-plus years. Yes, it was!

Volunteers keep Albany Regional Museum in motion

Many thanks to the volunteers who support and assist staff in maintaining, caring and improving the Museum's building and its historical collection. This sharing of time and talents give visitors and guests a great experience, while learning about mid-valley history.

Four new additions to our growing list of volunteers completed docent training at a workshop on April 21. They include Linda Bardell, Larry Bardell, Cindy Hoover and Anthony King.

The following have recorded hours

at the Museum since Jan. 1, 2008:

Mary Arnett, volunteer coordinator; Linda Bardell, Larry Bardell, Eugene Bendel, John Boock, Lois Bottomley, Jerry Brenneman, John Buchner, Kitty Buchner, Mary Jacq Burck, Dean Butts, Karen Carnahan, Brooks Cavin and Bill Clotere.

Nancy Daniels, Florian Deurloo, Linda Ellsworth, Virginia Glaser, Jack Gillespie, Beverly Hall, Cindy Hoover, Maxine Humphrey, Kim Jackson, Anthony King, Gary Kingston, Treva Kingston, Bob Knight, Al Kok, Michael Kok, Vir-

ginia Koos, Kathleen Larson, Lee Lehman, Stephanie Long, and Edward Loy.

Bill Maddy, Melissa Martinez, Elisa Marvin, Diana Miller, Carol McKay, Robert Phillips, Amanda Pool, Berry Price, Diane Price, Michael Richardson, George Rowlett, Evonne Rutherford, Claus Sass, Kim Sass, Kris Schutpelz, Genny Sneddon, Jeff Sneddon, Sprague, and Ada Squires.

Pat Thompson, Roger Wells, and Shannon Willard. (Our apologies to any volunteer name overlooked.)