

# REFLECTIONS

Newsletter of an East County Historical Organization

Summer 2019



*E.C.H.O.*

P.O. Box 946  
Fairview, Oregon 97024  
503-618-0946  
www.echohistory.org

*E.C.H.O.*

*Board Meeting*  
Quail Hollow Clubhouse  
21100 NE Sandy Blvd.  
Fairview, Oregon  
Jan, Mar, Jul, Sep, Nov  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday,  
6:30pm  
Open to the Public

*1874 Zimmerman  
Heritage Farm  
17111 NE Sandy Blvd  
Gresham, Oregon*

House Tour  
Open 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
Noon to 4pm

Volunteer in the Garden  
Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday  
9am to Noon

Volunteer in the House  
Call for Days & Hours 503-  
618-0946 or e-mail  
info@echohistory.org

*1893 Heslin House  
60 Main Street  
Fairview, Oregon*

House Tour  
Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
Noon to 4pm

Volunteer in the Garden  
Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday  
9am to Noon

## President's Message

*Take a walk back in time and smell the flowers in our gardens when you visit both of our museums -- the 1874 Zimmerman Heritage Farm House and 1893 Heslin House. Both houses have different stories to tell, and always changing exhibits. Please come and see us this summer: both Museums will be open every Saturday in July and August, 12-4 pm.*

*We are always looking for volunteers to help us restore and preserve our museums; if you have an interest, please let us know. Thank you.*

*-Peggy Olin  
polin@echohistory.org ~ 503-666-4083*

## Preserved in Place

By Alice Duff

The Summer, 2018 issue of Preservation magazine had an interesting article that made me think of the Zimmerman House. It talked about arrested decay in a 1915 Baltimore theater, which has been preserved at great cost, and is being used again. The difference is that the movie palace was not restored to its original grandeur, but is “seemingly suspended in a permanent state of deterioration.” Visitors see a multitude of wallpaper sections from different eras, chipped plaster, etc. But the crumbling plaster has been sealed, the envelope secured against leakage, and the structure brought up to code. This approach is uncommon in the preservation field, but it tells the story of how a building has changed over time. The Zim House looks on the inside very much as it did when Isobel Zimmerman left it, including the chain padlocked inside the front door, cracked plaster, peeling paint, and so on. The house has a newer roof, it has a coat of exterior paint, and code upgrades have been made so that there will be no more weather damage and volunteers inside the house are safe, but the interior has not been sealed, so paint still peels, dust and insects infiltrate the windows, and heating bills are high. In this case, however, ECHO has not chosen to suspend in a permanent state of decay except out of necessity (lack of funds). But that interior does show us a picture of Isobel’s life that would be less compelling if “prettied up.” (Guests have been known to chastise docents/ECHO for not taking better care of the house.) If/when ECHO can afford more on the Zim House, they could choose the option of preserving in place.

One rule of thumb when preserving a historic resource is: “If it’s new, make it look obviously and emphatically new.” Another is: “If something doesn’t exist, but once did, don’t replicate it.” And of course, if something exists and is in good shape, leave it. Look for the articles at: <https://savingplaces.org/stories/>

## Car Show at Zimmerman House July 7, 2019

By Chad Olin

On Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, there will be a vintage/antique car show on the grounds of the Zim House from 10 am to 2 pm. Up to 100 participants are expected. Registration opens at 8 am. The House will also be open for viewing. There will be food and ice cream. The public is welcome.



## Annual Meeting Report

At our April 13th annual meeting we had guest speaker Michael McCloskey on [A Glimpse Into History: What Famous People Have Said About Oregon and the Need to Conserve It.](#) About 25 people attended.

### Come Visit the Antique Dolls Exhibit

ECHO is super-excited to be hosting the Antique Doll Study Club of Oregon on **Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019** at the Zimmerman House  
Noon – 4 pm

The Antique Doll Study Club of Oregon has been a member of the United Federation of Doll Clubs for 45 years. Many antique doll collectors consider their dolls to be representative of history, art and science of the past.

The dolls to be on display were available during Isobel Zimmerman's childhood, 1899-1912. The dolls of that era were made of cloth, wood, papier mache, bisque, china, early composition, and other experimental materials.

We hope you can join us in seeing these beautiful, antique dolls and asking the collectors questions.



### We Invite You to See the New Arbor Sign

By Jana Brey

ECHO is very excited about the new arbor sign at the Zimmerman House. The previous sign, installed in October of 2016, did not withstand the weather. The new sign is made of acrylic, which is durable and easy to clean. Along with the heavy-duty frame, we anticipate this sign will endure for a long time for many to enjoy.

Many thanks go to Edward and William Meyer for the construction and installation of the frame, and to Mike Knopes at Signs Now Northwest for his help and advice on making the acrylic sign.



Donated by Jana Brey

# What's In That Trunk?

By Jana Brey

A few years ago, I was volunteering in the upstairs playroom in the Zimmerman House when I noticed a trunk. The trunk that caught my eye was under another much larger trunk. I asked the long-standing volunteer and Board member with whom I was working, "What's in that trunk?" Twila didn't know off the top of her head so we moved the upper trunk and opened the mystery trunk. There was a note stating the trunk had been opened by volunteers in 1999. It was clear that these photos, clothes, papers and personal items had not yet been organized or cataloged. It was like finding buried treasure!

We learned the trunk belonged to Andrew Inglis McCall. Andrew was Isobel's (the last Zimmerman to live in the House) uncle -- her mother's brother. Andrew had many interesting occupations and lived in various areas around the region, including residing at the Zimmerman House for a period of time.

Come see this new exhibit on what was found in Andrew's trunk.



1868 - 1947

## Volunteer Opportunities

We always have things to do and tasks to accomplish! Contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 503-618-0946 for more information on how you can help.

<p><u>ECHO Board of Directors</u> <b>Peggy Olin</b>, President Open, Vice President <b>Lael Larger</b>, Secretary <b>Twila Mysinger</b>, Treasurer <b>Tom Dooley</b>, At-Large <b>Linda McNerney</b>, At-Large <b>Chad Olin</b>, At-Large Open, At-Large</p>	<p><u>Zimmerman House Volunteer Coordinator</u> <b>Alice Duff</b></p> <p><u>Zimmerman Garden Lead</u> <b>Peggy Olin</b></p> <p><u>Heslin Docent &amp; Garden Lead</u> <b>Lael Larger</b></p> <p><u>Reflections Editor</u> <b>Alice Duff</b></p>
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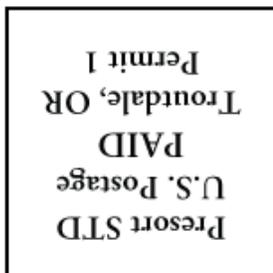
## Fred Meyer Community Rewards

Don't forget, you can link your Fred Meyer Rewards card to ECHO and every time you shop, Fred Meyer will donate to ECHO! This is at no cost to you, and you will continue to earn your reward points as usual. Just visit [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards) and use our organization number RT522 to link your card to ECHO – or stop in at your local Fred Meyer Customer Service desk.

If you have any questions, please call 503-618-0946 or e-mail [info@echohistory.org](mailto:info@echohistory.org).

## Summer Tour Days at the House Museums!

The Zimmerman and Heslin Houses will be open every Saturday in July and August this year. Feel free to stop by and see the new exhibits and say Hello, noon to 4 pm. We are at 17111 NE Sandy Blvd. in Gresham and 60 Main Street in Fairview, respectively.



East County Historical Organization (ECHO)  
P. O. Box 946  
Fairview, OR 97024  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED