

REFLECTIONS

Newsletter of An East County Historical Organization

Fall 2015



E.C.H.O.

P. O. Box 946

Fairview, Oregon 97024

503-261-8078

www.echohistory.org

E.C.H.O. Society

Board Meeting

Quail Hollow Clubhouse

21100 NE Sandy Blvd.

Fairview, Oregon

Every 4th Monday,

6 to 7PM

Open to the Public

1874 Zimmerman

Heritage Farm

17111 NE Sandy Blvd

Gresham, Oregon

House Tour

Every Third Saturday

Noon to 4PM

Volunteer in the Garden

Every Second Saturday

9AM to Noon

Volunteer in the House

4PM to 8PM

Call for Days

1893 Heslin House

60 Main Street

Fairview, Oregon

House Tour

Every Third Saturday

Noon to 4PM

Volunteer in the Garden

Every First Saturday

9AM to 1PM

Volunteer in the House

4PM to 8PM

Call for Days



Villa Garden Club's Annual Picnic - July 23, 2015

The Villa Garden Club held its annual picnic this year under the shade of the Pound Pear tree at the Zimmerman House near the Butterfly Garden they maintain. It was a perfect day for a picnic.

The assorted potluck dishes and desserts were spread out on tables under the grape arbor. After lunch, Dodi Davies led tours of the house and then everyone reconvened for a Garden Hat Contest and a drawing for door prizes. Everyone went home with a flower photo album, compliments of Duane Duvall.



The HESLIN HOUSE is sporting a NEW ROOF – Thanks to the City of Fairview! The City owns the Heslin House but ECHO has been funding the majority of the building's maintenance including installing the previous roof in 1995. But last year, the lease agreement was modified and now the City will maintain the structure and ECHO will be responsible for the interior. Recently, ECHO upgraded the light fixtures on the first floor and several of the exterior porch lights. Visit the Heslin House soon and be sure to look up and admire the new roof.



Drusilla Missouri Dunbar Heslin (1848-1912) traveled the Oregon Trail in 1850 with her parents, three siblings and several relatives. In 1864, Drusilla married John Patrick Heslin (1835-1917), an Irishman from Virginia. They lived most of their lives in Fairview with John running a local sawmill.

Drusilla started a diary on March 3, 1867 and most of what is known of the Heslins is through her diary. The diary was transcribed several years ago by Richard Ferguson.

See Page 3 for the first installment.



Happy 100th Birthday!

A shout goes out to the Fairview City Jail that was commissioned in September 1915. A birthday celebration was held at the Heslin House on September 19th that included this yummy cake.



GIFTS

General Fund

Jo Callister
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George McDade
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Heslin House Museum

George & Joyce Lingelbach
Anna Bell Rosene
James Workman

Zimmerman House Museum

Bob & Sylvia Bouneff
Doreen Davies
Dave & Judy Lenhart
Robert Salter

Zimmerman Gardens

Oregon State Federal of Garden Clubs

Zimmerman Utility Sponsor

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Thank you!



Also this year, we remember George Zimmerman (1852-1915). In 1881, George took over running the dairy farm (660 acres) from his father and manufactured butter and cheese. The "Z" brand had a reputation of excellence and the farm was considered well equipped. In 1883 George married Jessie McCall; the couple had four daughters, the youngest being Isobel who willed to us the house and a small parcel of land. Much has changed in a hundred years since George's passing but we keep his memory alive at the Zimmerman House.

It's that time of year to start considering supporting your favorite charities with a donation and secure a tax deduction or two.

We are a 503 (c) organization, so your membership and donations are tax deductible...and are very much appreciated! We have a variety of membership levels to choose from and you can earmark a donation to a variety of programs including a specific museum, garden, or utility sponsor fund.

Also consider a donation the Oregon Cultural Trust and receive a state tax credit up to \$500. If you donate to a cultural non-profit (like us) and then to the Oregon Cultural Trust, you will get that same amount back as a tax credit.

For more information, please contact your tax professional and/or visit <http://www.culturaltrust.org/frequently-asked-questions>

Are you moving?

Please contact us so your Reflections newsletter will be delivered appropriately.

Email us at
info@echohistory
or leave a message at
503-261-8078



With the arrival of fall, it's time to settle in with a good book and a hot cup of tea. If you had lived in the Heslin House, you would have made yourself a pot of tea in a Streamline Blue Art Deco teapot from Hall China circa 1930.

The Hall China Company was founded by Robert Hall in 1903 Ohio. His son took over the business and began researching glazing techniques leading to the development of producing vivid colors to American china.

While we can't offer you a cup of tea at the Heslin House, do stop by and admire this Hall China teapot.

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Zimmerman House Garden Lead

Peggy Olin

Heslin House Garden Lead

Lael Larger

Reflections Editor

Jana Brey

Drusilla's Diary



Drusilla and John Heslin

Below are Drusilla's first entries starting March 3, 1867. At this time the Heslins lived in Portland, Oregon. As you can read, she was rather regular the first month but had limited activity entries thereafter. Sometimes her entries were out of order.

Mar 3, 1867: Portland Oregon: I have been trying to think of the most appropriate way of commencing my Journal, but it is not as easy a matter as I supposed, so I will leave it for the present until I can think of something to write about.

Mar 6: Today is a beautiful day, the sun is shining birds are singing all nature seems to say Spring has come. My Sister has moved up close to our home. I helped her arrange her furniture for housekeeping today.

Mar 11: My sister's Husband started for San Francisco today. He expects to be gone two weeks. My sister is going to stay with us tonight.

Mar 13: I am at my Sister's today. My husband has taken his horses to the Country will not be back tomorrow.

Mar 14: My husband has got back from the country bringing with him my youngest sister. She is going to live with my oldest sister and go to school. My brother's wife has come also to make us a visit. She is going home Tues. I expect to go with her and spend a week with my Parents and brothers.

Mar 17: I went to Church today the first time in Portland for over a year.

Mar 19: I am at my old home today. We arrived here about 1:00 found all well.

Mar 22: I was at a burying today one of our neighbors Mrs. Douglas was buried. She leaves a husband and two sons to mourn her loss.

Mar 25: I am at home again it rained a little on us before we arrived at home.

Mar 27: I went to Church to hear the new Evangelist Rev. Earl. He came on the last steamer and has been preaching twice a day ever since.

Mar 28: My Brother in law Mr. Ballard has returned bringing his Brother with him, Andy Ballard.

Sept 30: Today My husband started for Astoria to be gone a month. I am going to make a visit up in Polk Co. to see my Aunts, uncles and Cousins.

Nov 20: My husband has returned from Astoria we are going to spend the winter in the country. We will board at my brother Dan's.

Mar 23, 1868: Today there was a little girl born to us. I am staying with my mother now. We will move back to Portland next month.

June 18: My husband has the measles. My Sisters family has them also.

July 4: We are at my Sisters now. Our two children and myself have just recovered from the measles. My husband was well enough to help take care of us when we took them. We are going to see the fireworks tonight.

Aug 25: I was at another funeral today. My oldest Bro. little girl of only nine months old was buried by the side of our little Tulu hers was a sudden death. She died while sleeping on the bed. Her father and mother knowing nothing about it till they found her dead. Tis a warning to us to be ready to meet death at any time, for we know not what moment the fell destroyer death may lay his cold hand upon us.

Sept 15: Today my husband and Mr. Ballard commence work for Mr. Coffin on the railroad. They have bought two lots a piece and are working to pay for them.

Sept 28: My Sister went out home today. Mother is not well. She has the pleurisy. My youngest Sister is at the State fair at Salem.

Mar 11, 1869: My sister's family has been living in part of our house for several months. Today they moved away we are alone again. They live a few blocks farther down town.

Aug 24: My youngest Sister died today of consumption. She has been sick since Feb. She died very happy shouting and praising the Lord with her last breath. Oh may we all die the death of a Christian and may our last end be like hers.

December 1869: We have moved in the country on our farm. I do not think we will move to town again.

Notes:

At this time, Daniel Dunbar and his family lived in Goldendale, WA. He ran a mercantile business which he sold in 1898 and moved to Fairview, Oregon.

March 23rd entry was the birth of Tulu. Most often people of this era would wait a few days before naming a child due to the high rate of infant mortality.

John and Drusilla moved to Fairview, or as she called it, "in the country on our farm". This is where they would live the remainder of their lives.

The two illnesses, Pleurisy (inflammation of the thorax) and Consumption (pulmonary tuberculosis), were common of early pioneers and often fatal.

"An Evening at Zimmerman House"

The historic Zimmerman House was built in 1874 and was home to three generations of the Zimmerman Family. Their furnishings and personal articles remain in this two-story Victorian home, including children's toys, games, Christmas postcards, and winter clothing.

If you have visited the house before you know it's special, but visiting the house in the evening, decorated for the holidays is truly special. We hope you will come and see for yourself.

Holiday evening tours will be held on:

Tuesday, December 8th and Thursday, December 10th from 3 to 7PM.

Parking is limited so please consider car pooling and reserve the time you'd like to visit the House. Give yourself approximately 45 minutes to explore both floors of the home.

For reservations, please visit our website at www.echohistory.org

Admission is free, but the suggested donation for this special event is \$5 per person 18 and older.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Fairview, OR 97024

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