



Garden Home History Gazette

Fall 2013

Website: www.GardenHomeHistory.com

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Thanks to all of you for your interest, your stories and your contributions.

Historic Garden Home Events



2014
Third
Edition

The Garden Home Post Office, officially established in 1882, was in a corner of Gust Johnson's service station in the 1950s. Gust's daughter, Dorothy Johnson, was Miss Oregon 1955 and first runner-up to Miss America. She writes:

"President Franklin Delano Roosevelt died on April 12, 1945. My mother took a photograph of me holding flowers in front of the Post Office as a tribute to FDR. We all took such pride in being patriotic Americans."

Photo courtesy of Dorothy Johnson



Our 2014 Historic Garden Home calendars are now available

This third edition features events that changed Garden Home such as opening and closing the school, the advent of the trains, the horse activities and so much more. It is filled with vintage photos, wonderful memoirs and research about Garden Home's history.

This keepsake calendar is available at the Garden Home Library and at Lamb's Thriftway for \$12 or 5 for \$50. Makes a great gift for family and friends! This is our prime fundraiser and we thank you. See back page of newsletter to order by mail.

Vintage Photos Note Cards Sets

Virginia Vanture has compiled wonderful sets of notecards/envelopes featuring vintage photos from historic Garden Home. These sets include photos of the Gertsch dairy cows, wash day on the Van Bergen farm, 1930s Garden Home baseball team, the old Community Church, the first class of GH School children and more! \$10 for each distinctive set containing eight different historic photos!

Buy your notecard sets and calendars at the Holiday Bazaar at the Garden Home Recreation Center on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 to 4 pm. Stop by to say hello!

Previews of new stories on GardenHomeHistory.com

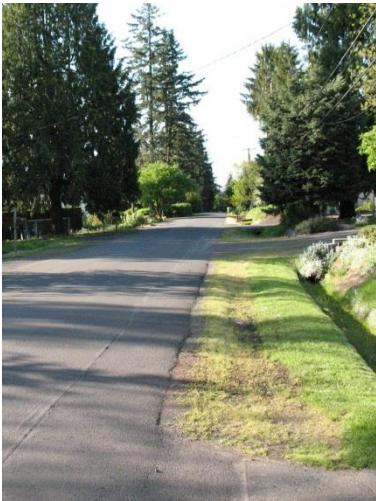
Lillian and Olive Oleson

These daughters of Ole and Polly Philena Oleson were raised on Ames Way, just north of Vermont. They both graduated from Good Samaritan Hospital in 1915, and served in WWI as RNs. "On April 8, 1918 the nurses along with the other members of Base Hospital No.46 departed Portland on a train bound for the east coast. Some 500 Portlanders showed up to wave good-bye to those leaving for France.

"In March Lillian was administered the oath of office as a member of the Army Nurse Corps. Olive and Lillian traveled to France sailing on the *RMS Aquitania*. The *RMS Aquitania* traveled the Atlantic with all lights out and camouflaged against submarine attack. Upon leaving Liverpool the ship was escorted to France by five destroyers. Upon landing at LeHavre, the hospital personnel then traveled through Paris ending up at Bazailles-sur-Meuse near Argonne." *Read the full story on website (under People, Oleson family) Written by Virginia Vanture.*

A Short History of Westgard Avenue (now SW 87th Avenue)

This history of Westgard, now called SW 87th, (Garden Home Rd. south to Alden) was written by Anne Olson. Gary and Anne Olson live on 87th in the former Nebert home and have been collecting information about the street. They also are long-time hosts for the annual 4th of July picnics held under their cool canopy of conifers. Below are some amusing excerpts from the story.



87th Ave
today



Olson home
on 87th

“The children who lived on Westgard Avenue in the 1940’s had a wonderful time playing in the woods and fields surrounding our street. One day, Dan and Dave Nebert and Roger Holman were feeling daring and mischievous. They pretended they were commandos, crawled under the Heltzel’s garage door, ‘captured’ a jar of pickles, and then crawled into the trees behind to eat their treasure.



4th of July picnic



Jack Godwin, Babe, home on Westgard

“The children often went to the Godwin pasture to visit Jack Godwin’s burro whose name was Babe. There was also a salt lick in the pasture, and the children would break off chips of salt and eat them. The fence around the pasture had one wire that was electric. The children would grab onto this, get shocked, and laugh and scream at each other at such fun.

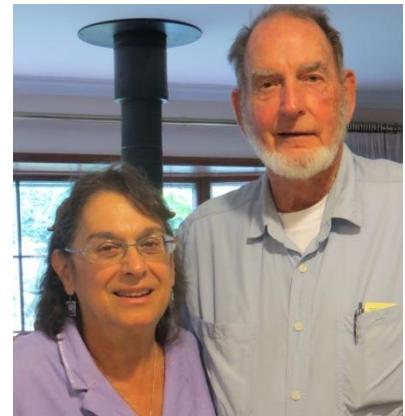
“For a very short time, Jack Godwin also had a pet raccoon which he caught and kept in a cage. The raccoon was a bit of a menace so Jack soon thought better of it and set him free. Jack also had a de-scented pet skunk.

“The biggest news of the decade: an elephant visited our street!!! In 1989, Tiki, an elephant who lived at Wildlife Safari in southern Oregon, was appearing in the Portland Opera’s performance of Aida. At the time, the elephant keeper at the Oregon Zoo lived in the house at 8200 SW 87th. He brought Tiki to our street and paraded her around, much to the delight of the neighborhood children. Tiki then spent the night in the elephant keeper’s backyard, right here on SW 87th.” *Read the full story on our website (under PLACES, Westgard)*

History of the Garden Home After-School Care Association

“It all began because Jan Pinniger got tired of babysitting the neighborhood kids.” Larry Monk writes how and why the After-School Care got started in the 1970s and 1980s. Larry was Pastor of the Garden Home Methodist Church and took the lead on organizing the Association and making it work. A big job. Larry and Linda Monk played a vital role in our community.

Read the full story on our website (under PLACES, GH School)



Thanks to our Volunteers!

Thanks to **Bob and Delia Day** for designing the layout of the calendar and getting it printed and then keeping track of supplies and sales at Thriftway and the Library. Bob also contacts the local businesses.

Thanks to **Colin Lamb** for arranging with the store to give us the total sales price of the calendars. They sold about 100 calendars for us this past year. Thanks to **Mike Babbitt**, store manager, for our table at Holiday Vendors day.

Thanks to **Will Worthey**, Director Garden Home Library, for displaying and selling our calendars.

Thanks to **Stan Houseman**, our webmaster. We have changed the template to improve easier navigation and allow for slide shows using more photos. Also for keeping track of the local businesses. He advises us on technology issues, solves transcription problems and is our chief photographer.

Thanks to **Patsy VandeVenter**, our Treasurer, for her dedication and excellent reports.

Thanks to **Chris Gilson** for reviewing a hundred year old Abstract of the Community Church property (71st and GH Rd.) here in Garden Home and making sense of it all. We'll soon have a story to put on the website.

Thanks to **Virginia Vanture** for working with Delila and Bob to develop the vintage photo note card sets.

Thanks to **Marie Pacella** for keeping the database accurate and up-to-date. She also sends out the group emails. We had a close brush with spam which she quickly solved. Thanks to **John Pacella** for being a willing volunteer. He found the 1982 photo of the last school children at Garden Home School.

Thanks to **Gerry Frank** for his generous time and use of his photos regarding the horse activities in G.H.

Thanks to **Ryan Moloney**, Manager of Starbucks for inviting us to have a table at the Grand ReOpening, Oct. 13.

Special request for photo of Ray Wilson's barber shop in the Ernster (Scotty's) building on GH Road?

Special good wishes to Virginia, our Co-Chair, for recent health problems, hoping she will improve soon.

Thanks to all of **YOU** for your memoirs, information and old photos. Keep them coming.

To get involved, please contact Co-Chair and Editor **Elaine Shreve** at 503-246-5879 or email.

Garden Home History Project

7240 SW 82nd Ave.

Portland, OR 97223



Gathering the stories of our Garden Home families

Garden Home History Project

2014 Historic Garden Home Calendar.....	\$15	by mail (or \$12 at Library)
2013 Keepsake GH Calendar.....	\$6	(while supplies last)
Vintage Photo notecard set.....	\$10	(set of eight notecards and envelopes)
Postal mailing of Newsletter.....	\$10	per year

Join the Club! Your donations support this project with funds for printing, paper, events, signs and publications.

Fanno Creek Club.....	\$ 10
Oleson Gardens Club.....	\$ 25
Oregon Electric Club.....	\$ 50
Hunt Club.....	\$100

Your Total Check _____

Name/Business _____

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Please make checks payable to: **Garden Home History Project**
and mail to our Treasurer: **Patsy VandeVenter, 7520 SW Ashdale Court, Portland, OR 97223**
and THANK YOU!