



Garden Home History Gazette

November 2022

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Mission: Enriching the lives of our community by sharing the history of Garden Home

Visit GardenHomeHistory.com for over 250 stories and 2500 photos.

Hello Garden Home Friends: Welcome to our Fall Gazette! This will be our 3rd printed Gazette that is mailed free to all 400 subscribers. Thanks to the Pacellas, Jan Fredrickson, and Kevin Mistler for their help getting this newsletter out. In this issue: installing a Century Home plaque, displaying our dolls in the Library along with their histories, and reader responses about The Big Blow of 1962 (The October storm). You'll also find the digital version of this Gazette on our website where the underlined names are linked to their corresponding stories.

Century Homes Plaque Placement

We are honored to have about 30 homes built over 100 years ago here in Garden Home. These homes help to tell our history. Stan Houseman and Sharon Vedder will be sending out letters to these home addresses. If your home was built over 100 years ago, write to GardenHomeHistory@gmail.com or call Stan at 503-679-3691 or Sharon at 503-828-8827.



Carol Kochenderfer and Stan Houseman with the Century Homes certificate and installed plaque.



Carol with Godwin sisters, Jerri and Janene



7765 SW 87th Ave

Carol Kochenderfer enjoys living in this 1920 home of [William and Mary Steele Godwin](#) at 7765 SW 87th Ave. After the Godwins moved here in the 1930s, Bill dug the basement with a shovel to put in a sawdust burning furnace and clothes line for drying clothes (the granddaughters tell us that he brewed beer down there also). Stan placed the plaque denoting the 100 year anniversary beside the main door. He is also holding the Century Certificate which will be offered to all the 100 year homes. Our Board of Directors enjoyed the event. By special invitation, two of Jack Godwin's daughters, Jerri and Janene, came early for an opportunity to see inside the house where their grandparents had lived and where they had often visited, eaten, and played as grandchildren.

New Doll History Display at the Garden Home Library

Dolls from several of our residents are displayed in the glass display case in the Garden Home Library. Each doll has a caption that tells the doll's story along with how that story ties into Garden Home's history. The two large dolls on the top shelf are from the 1940s and are very similar. One doll tells her connection to World War II and how our citizens had to use ration books for special foods and other products. The Toni doll reminds us of the Toni Home Permanents of the early 1950s. The oldest doll has a lovely porcelain head. The foreign dolls reflect the many immigrants who helped to create Garden Home.



Two displayed photos from our website show the 1930s Hickman and Norris cousins clutching their dolls while being assisted by Betty, the HUGE St. Bernard. Magdalena Von Bergen is shown with her grandchildren. She and her husband Andreas had a dairy on the east side of Oleson, south of Vermont.



Fanno Creek History Walks

Elaine Shreve has researched and developed the script and background history of our section of the Fanno Creek Trail. This has been shared with our Garden Home Library and the Garden Home Recreation Center for their youth program. Thanks to Heather Weisanen from the Library for the official registrations and for guiding half of the trail history and for Tom Shreve for guiding the first half of the trail history.

Each of the three Trail Walks has been limited to twelve registrants. More Walks will be scheduled when the weather turns dependable, probably next Spring.

Selected reader response about the October 12, 1962 Big Blow storm

Colin Lamb: The electricity was off in the Garden Home area for about a week after the Columbus Day storm in 1962. Of course, many homes had no heat so Dad left the presto logs out in the front of the store with a note to pay for them the next day. I think we got full payment. We lost our perishable food but then we didn't have as many freezer and refrigerated items as we do now. Most of the produce section was root crops and winter stable foods. We just added up the grocery charges with a pad and pencil at the check stands.

Jan Fredrickson: My dad told me to get inside the house. Mom and Dad ran outside to batten down the hatches. I was seven, all I could remember during an earthquake was to stand in the doorway, which I did. It was like The Wizard of Oz. Limbs and trees falling, the house shaking a big boom and flash and the power went out!

My parents were back inside. My dad said sit in front of the fireplace. The whole house could blow away but that won't move. A locust tree fell from our property and broke the power pole in half and blocked the street. The metal roof blew off the chicken coop. We were 20 days without electricity. Heating, cooking, and heating hot water to take a bath were all done in the fireplace.

Joanne DeHaan: (She lived on Mayo then) It was a dark and stormy night...the strong winds continued into the early morning hours. But we were safe and only had minor damage to our roof. We realized we wouldn't have electricity for a long time. We had to make plans. We could use some food from the small freezer the next day; but everything else had to be thrown away. Our son had no milk to drink; only water or juice. We had a large corner fireplace with a raised hearth that worked very well for cooking. Dave's parents lived just 1 ½ miles away. They could keep warm with their wall gas furnace; but couldn't cook or drive. I cooked dinner for both families on our fireplace, Dave drove their dinner to them, and then came home to eat. The whole city was without electricity and phone service. Phone service was restored first; then after a week, the power returned. We were lucky; the neighbors behind us on Stewart Street had to wait another week.

Mickey Lindsay: My dad, Ken Mistler, who grew up in Garden Home, was a student at PSU at the time. When I was a little kid, he told me about the storm. He said he was out walking around, checking out the storm (probably not a great idea, but he was young) and the windows of John Helmer Haberdasher on Broadway blew out. Hats were blowing up and down the street. He and John Helmer were running around trying to gather up as many hats as they could. For his efforts, Mr. Helmer let him pick out any hat he wanted. I asked him if he still had the hat, but he didn't. He said he wished he'd kept it because they made really nice hats, but at the time, hats for men were going out of style because John Kennedy didn't wear one.

In Memoriam

See our website for full obituaries.

Helen Winberg 1934-2022: Helen was one of our cooks at Garden Home School and made especially nice luncheons for our older residents who attended our monthly meetings back in the late 1980s. She often sent nice notes and short stories, such as the favorite food of the students being the baloney boats with mashed potatoes.

Barbara Ann Green 1931-2022: Barbara began school at Garden Home School. She attended one of our early reunions and was so pleased to see the Becvar sisters. She sent her memoirs and felt that the joy of starting school helped her to choose to be a primary teacher for 30 years.

Patty Bonney 1930-2022: Thanks to Patty's son Keith for a fascinating recounting of Patty's life, filled with so many things we didn't know about Patty. "Her father, brother, and sister each earned doctorates in history. She was an avid reader her whole life beginning at the age of three and wanted to explore all of the wonderful places she had spent a lifetime reading about. She made many trips culminating with a nine month trip around the world making friends along the way." Do read the full story on our website.

Remember

Thanks to our local businesses and facilities for being willing to share our Garden Home history. The Old Market Pub displays large pictures and our Garden Home Postal safe. The Garden Home Library displays more photos and our history display case. The THPRD Recreation Center will again permit us to meet there when their reconstruction is complete. We worked with the artist for the Trader Joe's murals to include our history, in addition to their choice of our photos for their wall.



Display inside Old Market Pub



Mural inside Trader Joe's

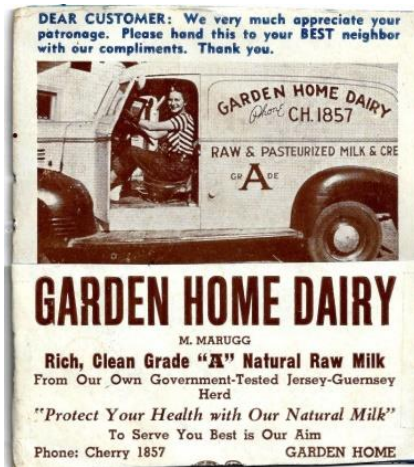


Photos and display cabinet at library

Discover Garden Home

When walking the Fanno Creek Trail, take a few steps into Firlock Lane (at the multiple signs posted) to visit the information booth. Thanks to Jan Fredrickson and Kevin Mistler, who live at Wormwood Manor on SW 78th Ave. They keep up their Garden Home History bulletin board with the latest Garden Home news, newsletters, brochures, maps, and such.

Some of our favorite photographs



Garden Home History Project
7240 SW 82nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97223



Gathering the stories of our Garden Home families

Garden Home History Project

The Garden Home History Project is a tax-exempt non-profit under IRS 501(c)(3) and is listed under the Oregon Cultural Trust. Our Board officers are Co-Chairs: Elaine Shreve and Esta Mapes, Treasurer: Marie Pacella, Secretary: Sharon Vedder, Outreach: Mickey Lindsay. Other Board Members: Stan Houseman, Susan Houseman, John Pacella, Jan Fredrickson, and Kevin Mistler. Other community members serve on our Advisory Board. Whatever your interest or talents, or if you just wish to learn and advise, we'd love to hear from you. Guests are welcome at Board meetings; please let us know so we can plan seating.

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