FIRST SATURDAY MARKET OF THE SEASON

Volunteers Dean Jowers and Cindy Cheng at the Society booth. Photo: Mary Hanson

May 5th was Opening Day, and the start of the 43rd season of the Redmond Saturday Market. Mayor John Marchione cut the ribbon at 9:00 am, and the Redmond High School Pep Band gave a rousing performance. Highlights included bluegrass alt/country Tangletown String Band, King County Master Gardeners, and Greyhound Pets, Inc.

Volunteers Needed: July 7 • August 8 • September 1 • October 6

We will be at the Market Pavilion, 7730 Leary Way, on the first Saturdays, 9 am–3 pm. Stop by and see us, or better yet, sign up for a shift! Contact our office at 426-885-2919 or email info@redmondhistoricalsociety.org.

Also inside:

Eagle Scout Louis Norred develops Winfred Wallace exhibit, p. 4
Edgar Turner, early Redmond teacher, p. 6
Collections volunteer spotlight: Dean Jowers, p. 8
Society News

Society Picnic Cancelled
The annual June picnic is cancelled. The Society is working on new venues and ways to engage our membership. Stay tuned for updates on member events.

Poets in the Park on Saturday July 7, Anderson Park
Bring a blanket and picnic lunch to enjoy on the park lawns while listening to poetry at Redmond’s first and oldest park, 11 am–6 pm, 7802 168 Avenue NE. Look for the Society’s display on the history of Anderson Park in the bookfair. Sponsored by the City of Redmond and Redmond Association of Spokenword (RASP). For more information, visit www.raspread.com.

Join the Society at Redmond Derby Days on Saturday, July 14
Do you want to march in the Grand Parade or ride on the school bus? We’re always looking for volunteers to staff the booth at Redmond Derby Days. It’s a great opportunity to enjoy food, crafts, bicycle races, and show your town spirit. To sign up for a shift, contact our office at 426-885-2919 or email info@redmondhistoricalsociety.org.

Bain
Coldwell Banker Bain real estate broker Bliss Ong has formed a unique partnership with the Redmond Historical Society in an effort to help raise money for the Society. Coldwell Banker Bain will give 10% back to support the Redmond Historical Society when you or someone you refer is looking to buy or sell property. Coldwell Banker Bain established its Community Partnership program as a way for the company and its brokers to give back to the organizations that are committed to the welfare of our communities. For more information, contact Bliss Ong at 425.445.8006, or call the Society Office at 425.885.2919.
This month I am continuing the series of officer profiles. Previous columns have showcased Mary Hanson and John Oftebro. This month we are celebrating our Vice President Collections Management Halee Turner (pronounced Holly).

Halee first came to the Society as an employee, Administrative Manager, in the fall of 2016, and then became Manager Administration and Archives, with added responsibilities for collections. Halee transitioned from employee to volunteer in the fall of 2017. She was appointed as VP Collections Management in October 2017. Halee has strong archivist skills developed by working for the Society as well as prior jobs with Florida Maritime Museum (FMM), and Seattle’s Center for Wooden Boats (CWB).

Halee holds a BA in Liberal Arts from New College of Florida, with a concentration in British and American Literature. She enjoys working with small nonprofits and cultural institutions. This has allowed her to develop a broad set of skills and interests. Her experience with collections comes from not only a lifetime of museum patronage, but also the experience cited above. In addition to marketing and program development at FMM, she worked on a number of exhibits, including “The History of Cats at Sea.”

We are very pleased to have Halee as an Executive Committee Member and VP Collections. The Collections Management Committee is responsible for acquiring, maintaining, and protecting the Society’s historical documents, photographs, and physical artifacts. They manage the PastPerfect museum software to create and manage the archival database. The committee ensures that we have proper written procedures for acceptance and care of artifacts and archives donated to the Society. Finally, they manage Society-owned publications—printed or electronic.

With Halee’s guidance and the capable assistance of our well-qualified Administrative Manager, Tasia Williams, the job is nicely handled. Thank you Halee.
In 2017, Eagle Scout Louis Norred collaborated with the City of Redmond and Eastside Heritage Center to develop and exhibit a project “celebrating the significant contributions” of Winfred Wallace. Wallace, a Redmond resident and photographer active in the early 1900s, is known for his iconic images of the town in its early development. The exhibit featured Wallace’s photographs and a textual interpretation “of the formation and pattern of Redmond’s first business core and the transition of the City from a settlement to incorporation in 1912. The exhibit was on display at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse March–December 2017, and a digital archive is available through the City’s website. For questions about the exhibit, contact Kimberly Dietz or Jessica Rubenacker.

Norred is currently a history major at Fordham University in New York City. He earned his Eagle Scout Badge with Boy Scout Troop 577, Sammamish Trails District, Chief Seattle Council.

What prompted you to select this topic for your project?

I got in touch with this group first through a family friend. I knew that I wanted to do something concerning the history of the area, and he had some helpful ideas. He got me in contact with the City of Redmond. From there, I met with Tom Hitzroth, the person interested in the completion of this project. He held a lot of important photos.
What Eagle Scout badge did you earn?

This was the final project for the Eagle Scout badge. It requires the completion of several merit badges and a self-led service project.

How did this project increase your understanding of Redmond’s history as a town?

I was interested to learn the way the downtown area built up and still relies on that basic structure. It also helped me learn about how old zoning regulations effect permanent changes in the layout of the city.

What was your research process? Did you contact the Eastside Heritage Center first, or the City of Redmond?

I worked almost solely with the City of Redmond. Kim Dietz directed me to Tom Hitzroth, a well-informed individual in regard to these photos and the source of them. Through him, I worked to write captions and create the exhibit as it stands today.

Did you write the captions for this digital archive of the exhibit?

My group did! As is standard for an Eagle Scout project, I recruited scouts and friends to meet with Mr. Hitzroth and write captions. They then sent their writings to me for compilation.

What are your plans for the display of this exhibit? Are you looking for new venues?

I do not have plans for its display, but I would have to check with the City of Redmond if I were to proceed any further.
EDGAR TURNER – EARLY REDMOND TEACHER  By Tom Hitzroth

Standing on the far right in the iconic log school photograph, thought to have been taken in the autumn of 1887, is Edgar Turner, one of the early teachers in Redmond.

Edgar Charles Turner was born December 31, 1862, in Ervington, Gallia County, Ohio. In early 1885, he moved west with his family and settled in Snohomish County. In August 1885, Edgar obtained a certificate from the King County Superintendent of Schools to teach in King County, and by 1887, he was teaching at the log school in Redmond. Edgar was recorded as the teacher for the school by the King County Superintendent during the periodic visits made to district schools. In this instance, Edgar was noted during the visits to the Redmond school located in the Congregational Church on October 31, 1888 and January 25, 1889. Edgar’s sisters Mary and Alice as well as his brother Homer also taught in King County in the late 1880s, although there is no record of them after 1891. During this time period, the Territorial Statutes only required school to be conducted a minimum of three months within a twelve-month school year. Therefore, teachers often taught in different locations throughout the year so that the districts could meet the requirement.

On July 27, 1886, Edgar and his brother Frank filed for homesteads north of Woodinville in an area known today as Turner’s Corner. On July 25, 1900, Edgar married Elva Nettleton of Seattle, and they moved permanently to his farm in Snohomish County. Elva died June 19, 1913, and is buried in the Woodinville Cemetery. Edgar continued to live on his farm until his death May 6, 1929. He is also buried at the Woodinville Cemetery.

Edgar Turner and his family made an important contribution to the education of Redmond youth in the early days of the community.
In 2002, local historian Tom Hitzroth and Society co-founder Naomi Hardy developed a walking tour, which was an enhancement of one developed by Dorothy White Hanscom (daughter of Judge William White and Emma McRedmond White) in 1976. Since 2003, Tom has led walking tours of Redmond’s historic district. Over the years, the tour has evolved from one hour to two, with the script changing as new information is discovered. “I’m looking for the question I can’t answer, which means I need to look further into a particular area.”

A lifelong Eastside resident and chair of the City of Redmond Landmark Commission, Hitzroth continues to work at identifying details of Redmond development from its earliest times to 1930. He is currently researching the historic site of the settlement of Melrose that preceded Redmond.

2018 Walking Tour Schedule
Sunday June 10, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday June 24, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday August 12, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday September 9, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

There is a suggested donation of $10 for each person with a limit of 10 people per group. You can pre-register for the event by calling our office at 425.885.2919. You can also drop by our office, or mail in a check to 8525-163rd Court NE #120, Redmond, WA, 98052. You can also pre-register on our website: www.redmondhistoricalsociety.org/. Registrations must be received by the Friday before the tour.

Tours include a significant amount of walking and standing, with limited opportunity for resting. We recommend comfortable shoes and weather-appropriate clothing. If you have any further questions about our tours, please call our office. Tour begins across the street from the Hotel Redmond (Jensen/Fey Architects) at 7730 NE 76th St.
SOCIETY NEWS

COLLECTIONS VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: DEAN JOWERS By Halee Turner

The Redmond Historical Society depends on hardworking volunteers to collect, preserve, and share Redmond’s unique heritage. They fill a wide variety of roles as board members, greeters at our Saturday Speaker Series, representatives at the Redmond Saturday Market, and much more! Some volunteers work with our collections—researching, organizing, and caring for archives and historical objects. Dean Jowers is a member of this great team, and his support has been invaluable!

Dean is a longtime Redmond resident and retired operations engineer. He has many fond memories of growing up in the area and attending school in the Old Redmond Schoolhouse. He is passionate about genealogy and is very knowledgeable about a number of topics, including the slough races, and railroads—but especially classic cars!

In addition to coming in weekly to work on a variety of research and collections projects in the office, Dean volunteers as a member of the Collections Management Committee, which just finished a detailed revision of the Society’s “Collections Management Policy.”

This document defines the procedures and operations by which the Society manages its objects and archives, and includes a number of important forms, such as our Deed of Gift.

In our recent move, Dean generously donated packing materials and helped carefully pack and inventory over 250 boxes of artifacts and historical documents. As we moved into our temporary office space, Dean has worked diligently to unpack, set up, and create new displays.

If you see Dean at one of our events, or working on a project at the Redmond Historical Society Office, be sure to say hello!

Dean Jowers and Halee Turner packing and making an inventory in the Society office. Photo: John Oftebro
Redmond Reflections Book
$15 (INCLUDES TAX)*

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NOTE: REDMOND REFLECTIONS is also available at the Redmond Historical Society Office at the Vision 5 Building 8525-163rd Court NE #120 Redmond, WA 98052. (Hours of operation on page 2.)

Great Gift Ideas for History Lovers
Need something special for someone who appreciates our history?
These are available at our Society office:

Books

Historic Downtown Redmond Walking Guide
The Redmond Historical Society’s updated Historic Downtown Walking Guide. Suggested donation is $8.

Our Town, Redmond
History of Redmond by Nancy Way. $12 (includes tax)

Postcards
Of historical photos

Magnets
Featuring artwork by Patti Simpson Ward

This painting of Marymoor Park, Flying Kites at the Clise Mansion, is the work of fine artist Patti Simpson Ward.

Visit her website to see more images of Eastside settings—pattisimpsonward.com.
Leonard Emery Vallene, 88, passed away April 21, 2018 at home in Kirkland, WA. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Arlyn Bjerke Vallene, son Brian and his wife Michelle, and three grandchildren, Briana, Brittany, and Kevin. Len was born August 14, 1929 to James and Helen Vallene in Spokane. He graduated from Lincoln High School, served in the U.S. Navy Reserve, and attended Seattle University. Len moved to Redmond after he was married in 1963. He began his career in the trades, carrying hod (plaster) for his dad and doing construction work for his uncle, but his passion was engineering. Len worked at Boeing for over 30 years, specializing in weights and balance engineering. In 1966 he designed and built a summer cabin on South Whidbey Island, which was a source of joy his entire life. Len was very active and enjoyed skiing, golf, bowling, and bridge, but family was most important.

Len’s wife Arlyn was one of our first volunteers, office sitting, taking oral histories, and adding a wealth of Redmond history to our archives. She is a Lifetime Member.


Our Society Lifetime Members

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A full listing of lifetime members, both current and in memoriam, is available at redmondhistoricalsociety.org
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LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP (Check one only.)

- $5.00 TRAILBLAZER (Student)
- $25.00 PIONEER (Individual)
- $40.00 HOMESTEADER (Family)
- $200.00 ENTREPRENEUR (Supporter)
- $250.00 CORPORATE (Business)
- $1,000.00 HISTORY MAKER (Lifetime)

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fill out the form below, cut out and mail with your check to:

Redmond Historical Society
Attn: Membership
Vision 5 Building
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Redmond, WA 98052

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