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# THE REDMOND RECORDER

REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER  
NOVEMBER 2022 • VOL. 24 • NO. 10

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Every town has a history. Discover ours.

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## SATURDAY SPEAKER SERIES: 'THE RAZOR'S EDGE: THE WASHINGTON RAZOR CLAM PHENOMENON'



Join us on November 12 as author, historian, and clam digger **David Berger** explores the twists and turns of a quintessential Northwest activity from its pre-settlement days to the present. For details, see p. 4.

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- President **John Oftebro** reflects on getting to town in 1900, p. 3.
  - **Tom Hitzroth** explores the origin of "Salmonberg," p. 6.
  - Collections Committee cleans hundred-year-old buggy, p. 7.
  - Time to renew your membership, p. 9.

# 2022

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Our finances are public record and may be viewed at the office.

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### FREE NEWSLETTER

If you don't subscribe, please sign up.  
Call the office at **425.885.2919** or email **info@redmondhistoricalsociety.org**.  
State your preference of email or U.S. Mail.  
The Historical Society prefers email as it's inexpensive and photos are enhanced online.

### FIND US ON FACEBOOK:

**<https://www.facebook.com/Redmond.Historical.Society/>**

### THE REDMOND RECORDER

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HOURS Please contact the office to schedule an appointment

## SOCIETY NEWS

# No DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

There will be no December newsletter. We resume publication in January 2023.  
Safe and Happy Holidays to All!



## SAVE THE DATE! ICE CREAM SOCIAL JANUARY 14



Please join us on January 14, 2023, 2-4 pm, for our annual Ice Cream Social and Membership Celebration—in person at the Happy Valley Grange, 19720 NE 50th St, Redmond, WA 98053. Renew your membership for 2023, enjoy entertainment and ice cream while catching up with your friends from the Redmond Historical Society! Stay tuned for more info.



# GETTING TO TOWN IN 1900

By John Oftebro

My grandfather Henry immigrated to Marysville from Norway in 1894, and a few years later he homesteaded property for a dairy farm. His growing family got to town in a buggy just like this one.

The Quall Family were early settlers in the Redmond area. Their property was on the hill east of Redmond and stretched down to the West Snoqualmie Valley Road. According to recent property owner **Lars Knudsen**, the now-200 or so acres housed an inventory of old farm equipment: this buggy, a Model T, logging equipment, and a sawmill.

When selling the property, Knudsen decided to donate the buggy, which we have recently restored and have moved to a barn located at Juel Park in Redmond on 116th. Thanks to the **City of Redmond**, the new

display will also include a couple of horse-drawn sickle mowers and hay rake. These are examples of only part of the farming culture in Redmond 120 years ago.

Imagine what it would take for you to go to town then. First, get your horse out of the pasture or barn, brush him down, organize all the tack, hitch him up to the buggy, get the family ready to go to town, and then head down the Novelty Hill Road to Avondale and into Redmond to an early Perrigo trading post. Today it takes me just 10 minutes to get from Trilogy to my trading post—Costco—and not on rough dirt road!

Come see our display at [Juel Park](#) and learn more about farming with a [visit to our museum](#).



Finished! Joe Townsend, Dean Jowers, Ed O'Brien, Mary Horabik, and the Quall buggy. Photo: Dale Potter



Grandpa Henry (author is seated on his left).

# WASHINGTON'S RAZOR CLAM PHENOMENON

Note: This is a HYBRID program. Join us online or at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse at 16600 NE 80th St., Redmond, WA 98052. If you do join us in person, masking is recommended but not required.

**Date and Time:** Saturday, November 12, 2022

10:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

**Registration is required for the Zoom component.**

To register for this free online presentation:

<https://tinyurl.com/RHSRazorClams>



**David Berger**

What brings thousands of men, women, and children to Washington's sandy coastal beaches every year, braving weather and surf? The buried treasure known as the Pacific razor clam.

Hunting and gathering these creatures has preoccupied Northwesterners from the time of the Native peoples to the present moment. Challenging to dig, delicious to eat, and providing a sometimes-heady experience of abundance, razor clams are entwined with the state's commerce, identity, and history. Join us on November 12 as author and clam digger **David Berger** explores the twists and turns of a quintessential Northwest activity from its pre-settlement days to the present.

For centuries, razor clamming has been a vital part of life for many Washington coastal tribes. Yet it took

decades of court battles for their rights to be acknowledged. Read this 2018 [feature](#) by David Berger to find out more.

David Berger has worked as a visual arts critic for *The Seattle Times*, executive director of a botanical garden, and as a communication officer for Dunhuang, a World Heritage Site on the Silk Road in China. Berger is also a Metcalf Fellow for Marine and Environmental Reporting. David started razor clamming when he moved to Washington after college. Answering the many questions generated about razor clam lore, history, and biology led to writing a book, *Razor Clams: Buried Treasure of the Pacific Northwest*, published in fall 2017. David is also a visual artist.

# SOCIETY APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR AT LARGE

By Laura Lee Bennett

The Redmond Historical Society is pleased to announce the appointment of **Deb Akerstrom** as a Director At Large. Deb has been an active volunteer since October 2021. You might have seen Deb's byline in this newsletter, or greeted her at the Society booth during a community event.

Deb moved to Redmond in 1977 with her husband and two daughters. In 1979, she was hired as a reporter for the *Sammamish Valley News* and then named editor in 1980. In that role, she was actively involved in Redmond civic events. During her tenure, the paper won five awards, for exceptional investigative journalism. Other large events covered by the paper included a battle over the controversial Evergreen East shopping center, and the location of Microsoft in Redmond.



**Deb Akerstrom**

After the paper closed in 1990, she furthered her career in the employment recruiting industry. In addition to work and family, Deb also volunteered with Hopelink for a number of years.

"I am excited to join RHS as a board member," Deb writes, "and I hope I will be able to contribute to this fine organization."

*Welcome, Deb!*

## Want to make a difference? Join a Committee!

Positions are open in Membership, Fundraising, and Programs.

More info: [programs@redmondhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:programs@redmondhistoricalsociety.org).

# SALMONBERG: TO BE OR NOT TO BE – PART I

By Tom Hitzroth

This month's offering comes with some controversy, but that is the nature of historical investigations. In 1993, while a researcher at Marymoor Museum, I learned that an early name for Redmond was "Salmonberg." Curious, I began collecting information and, over time, realized that the information I had collected all originated from **Clarence Bagley's** 1929 *History of King County*. I began looking for independent references to see what other sources for Salmonberg were out there. I asked the question, "Where in the historical record does Salmonberg appear?" Over the years, the answer was ...other than Bagley's book and the Tacoma Public Library's Place Names database, there were no other independent references.

I know an archivist at the King County Archives and asked him to look for Salmonberg in his available records. The word does not appear. I read the session minutes of the King County Board of Commissioners from 1872 to

1880, and the word Salmonberg does not appear. Salmonberg does not appear in the obituary of **Luke McRedmond** in 1898, or in that of **Emma McRedmond White** in 1932. Collections Committee member **Dean Jowers** searched contemporary newspapers from 1860 to 1940, and Salmonberg is never mentioned.

In 1881 and 1883, **Adam Tosh** and Luke McRedmond referred to the Redmond area as a farming settlement or comparatively new settlement, but made no reference to Salmonberg. No independent evidence has been discovered in the historical records that supports the area was formally called Salmonberg. This suggests that Salmonberg may have been an informal name used by local residents.

That said, there is consistent evidence in the historical record of what the Redmond area called at the same time as Salmonberg. This will be discussed in Part II.

*The village which finally became Redmond was first known as Salmonberg on account of the large number of dog salmon which were found in the streams. Later it was called Melrose after the former home of Warren Perrigo, and finally it was given its present name in honor of Luke M. McRedmond.*

Origin of "Salmonberg": A paragraph from Clarence Bagley's *History of King County*. Source: Author's collection



# HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD BUGGY

## CLEANUP By Mary Horabik

In case you haven't heard, the Redmond Historical Society now has a "buggy" in its collection! This buggy originated with either the Kvaal or Quall families, close to the Education Hill/Vincent Schoolhouse area. Now that this piece is under RHS stewardship, we are displaying it at Juel Park along with some of our large farming equipment—thanks to the City of Redmond's permission and partnership.

But before the buggy could make its debut, it needed some cleaning. **Joe Townsend, Dean Jowers, Dale Potter, and Mary Horabik** went to **Ed O'Brien's** house to clean it. The process was as followed: all dusted the entire buggy with dry cloths, Joe vacuumed the cobwebs and the

floor of the carriage, Dean and Mary rubbed beeswax into the leather seats (to minimize the risk of attracting bugs or animals) and pieces (and did it need it!), and Joe and Dale untangled and de-mouse-nested the assorted leather tack. Surprisingly and thankfully, most critters stayed away from the hay-stuffed leather seats so there was minimal "animal damage." It took about two hours to get the buggy looking "fresh," but good weather and the beautiful site made it easy. Thanks to all the volunteers' work to make the buggy look its best in decades! See the buggy at Juel Park soon.



Mary, Joe, and Dale coaxing the buggy to life.



Buggy seat after beeswax application

# MEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Sharon Terwin	November 1
Deb Akerstrom	November 9
Nancy (Harder) Perry	November 9
Laura Lee Bennett	November 11
Alice Fleck	November 11
John Gustaveson	November 16
Pauline Rice	November 16
Douglas Chatfiel	November 17
Russ Norman	November 19
Sue Stewart	November 23
Janice Korsmo	November 25
Rachid Erekaeni	December 30

If you'd like us to recognize your birthday in upcoming newsletters, please complete the information on your renewal form or email: [membership@redmondhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:membership@redmondhistoricalsociety.org).

## OUR SOCIETY LIFETIME MEMBERS

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Laura Lee Bennett  
David Best  
John and Jay Cogan  
Marjorie Costello  
John Couch  
Cory de Jong  
Sally Jo Eberhardt  
Betty L. Emmanuel  
Tony Emmanuel  
Elaine Sween Etzler  
Don and Mary Fowler  
Frank Garbarino  
Peggy Garbarino  
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Judy Aries Lang  
Judith M. Lankford  
Miguel Angel Llanos  
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\*Gene Magnuson  
Jon M. Magnussen  
Dorothy Matsui  
Diana Morelli  
Panfilo Morelli  
Allison Reed Morris  
Jackie Norris  
Thaddeus Norris  
Edward O'Brien  
Deborah Oftebro  
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LeRoy Olson  
Dale Potter  
Jo Ann Potter  
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Sue-Lynn Walsh  
Patti Simpson Ward  
Donald Glennister Watts  
Joanne Westlund  
James Windle

An asterisk (\*) indicates Family Lifetime members. A full listing of Lifetime Members, both current and in memoriam, is available at [redmondhistoricalsociety.org](http://redmondhistoricalsociety.org).



Our commitment to the Redmond community is to serve through stewardship by collecting, preserving, and sharing Redmond's unique heritage. We can only do this with the support from our members!

### **Current memberships expire**

**December 31, 2022.** When you renew your membership, you continue to enjoy all the benefits, programs, and activities, including:

- [Saturday Speaker Series](#) and Evening Speaker Series program. Members attend for free; a \$5 donation is requested from all non-members.
- [Redmond Historical Society](#) website with a wealth of historical stories about Redmond, including blog posts about people and current events.
- [The Redmond Recorder](#) newsletter featuring articles on Redmond's past, current events, and activities.

And when you renew or join before December 31, 2022, you'll receive a limited edition Tote Bag with artwork illustrated by our [2023 RHS Tote Bag contest winner](#)!

Your dues and any additional monetary donation support the continued growth of our historical collections, archives, and programs. Memberships also make great gifts for friends and family interested in Redmond history!

Renewing or joining is easy!

- Complete the form [online](#) and pay via PayPal
- Print a [form](#) from the website or newsletter and mail with your payment to our office at 16600 NE 80th Street, STE 122, Redmond, WA 98052
- Call our office at (425) 885-2919 and pay via PayPal

Thank you for your continuing investment in the legacy of Redmond's history.

Mark your calendars for our 2023 Membership Ice Cream Social, January 14, 2023, 2-4 pm at the Happy Valley Grange!



# 316 HOURS VOLUNTEERED!

If you missed the October 8th Saturday Speaker Series at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse, you missed a fascinating program and some great treats.

**Cynthia Olsen** and **Mary Sullivan** of Compass Real Estate outdid themselves! We even got goody bags to take home! (BTW, when you use their realty services, they donate a portion of their sales back to the Redmond Historical Society.) Others contributed to the meeting as AV technical advisor, docent, photographer, greeter, and hostess. The membership table was staffed and, of course, room setup and take-down were done. Our booths at the September and October Saturday Markets were hosted by 18 volunteers—clocking 24+ hours! Thanks to all of these dedicated folks.

Contact:  
[volunteercoordinator@redmondhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@redmondhistoricalsociety.org) in order to become a part of our volunteer team. There is much to be done!



Compass Real Estate's Cynthia Olsen brought Halloween-themed treats.  
Photo: Cheryl Strong Magnuson

## VOLUNTEER VOICE

Those who can, do.  
Those who can do more,  
volunteer.

—Author Unknown



**REDMOND  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

## REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2023 MEMBERSHIP

Every town has a history. Discover ours.

### LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP (Check one only)

<b>Trailblazer/Student</b> (1 member)	<b>\$5</b>	_____
<b>Pioneer/Individual</b> (1 member)	<b>\$25</b>	_____
<b>Homesteader/Family</b> (2 members)	<b>\$40</b>	_____
<b>Visionary/Business</b>	<b>\$250</b>	_____
<b>History Maker/Lifetime</b> (1 member)	<b>\$1,000</b>	_____
<b>Legacy/Family Lifetime</b> (2 members)	<b>\$2,000</b>	_____

☐ I'd like to be a Sustaining Partner through annual donations in addition to my membership.

Membership Names: 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit# \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate Member 1 \_\_\_\_\_ mm/dd/yy (optional)

Birthdate Member 1 \_\_\_\_\_ mm/dd/yy (optional)

- ☐ Address Change   
 ☐ New Member   
 ☐ Renewal   
 ☐ Gift membership  
☐ New to Redmond   
 ☐ I am interested in being a volunteer

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

### REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

16600 NE 80th Street, Suite 122 • Redmond, WA 98052

You may also renew or purchase a membership through our website at  
<http://www.redmondhistoricalsociety.org>

Beginning September 2020 *The Redmond Recorder* will be available via email and viewable on our website. You may request a paper copy by contacting our office at [info@redmondhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@redmondhistoricalsociety.org).



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