



THE REDMOND RECORDER

REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2020 • VOL. 22 • NO. 4

Every town has a history. Discover ours.

Women's Lives in the Issaquah Valley 1890-1930



Photo: Issaquah History Museums

APRIL 11 SATURDAY SPEAKER SPEAKER PROGRAM, “WOMEN IN OUR VALLEY,” HAS BEEN CANCELLED

In light of the recent news and local cases of COVID-19, we determined this precaution would best prioritize the health and safety of our constituents. Please contact our office at 425-885-2919 if you have additional questions or concerns. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Inside:

- Saturday Speaker program cancelled; “Boots & Bowties” fundraiser is rescheduled. See p. 3.
- Tom Hitzroth looks at ledger from early Redmond’s Valley Hotel, p. 6.

2020

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

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:

[facebook.com/Redmond.Historical.Society](https://www.facebook.com/Redmond.Historical.Society)

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HOURS Please contact the office to schedule an appointment

SOCIETY NEWS

WE'VE MOVED!

Our new office is at 8345 - 154th Ave NE. The office is on the second floor, and it's 22 steps to get there! If you would like to view our new interim space or schedule a research appointment, please contact our office at info@redmondhistoricalsociety.org or 425-885-2919. If you have accessibility concerns or other needs, please let us know in advance, so we may make accommodations.



Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Society Partners with Sotheby's International Realty

Marketplace Sotheby's International Realty brokers **Cynthia Olsen** and **Mary Sullivan** have formed a unique partnership with the Redmond Historical Society in an effort to help raise money for the Society. Sotheby's International Realty will give 10% of commissions to support the Redmond Historical Society when you or someone you refer is looking to buy or sell property. Ask Cynthia Olsen, Mary Sullivan, or the Society for details. Marketplace Sotheby's International Realty established this program as a way to give back to organizations that are committed to the welfare of our communities. For more information, contact Cynthia Olsen at cynthia.olsen@sothebysrealty.com, 425.877.9904, Mary Sullivan at mary.sullivan@sothebysrealty.com, 425.449.2841, or call the Society Office at 425.885.2919.



SATURDAY SPEAKERS SERIES CANCELLED; DINNER AUCTION FUNDRAISER IS RESCHEDULED!

By John Oftebro

Dateline: January 28. 1970.
***Sammamish Valley News*, Page 4**

Health Department confirms flu's here.

"Local outbreaks of influenza-like illness have caused increased absenteeism rate in several Washington schools, according to Byron J. Francis, M.D., chief division of epidemiology, Washington State Department of Health."

Buried on the fourth page of the *Sammamish Valley News*, this article may not have caused the same degree of panic, fear, and lifestyle changes that we're experiencing today with all of the media and social media coverage, and all the practical measures taken by government, organizations, sports, transportation, and families. History shows us that the previous influenza outbreaks (see [Hippocrates 400 BCE](#))—including the avian flu, swine flu, and the devastating Spanish flu, where 50 to 100 million perished—have been going on routinely, especially with the ease of worldwide travel.

So, with an abundance of caution, and bearing in mind the vulnerable ages of many of our Society members, we have decided to cancel our Saturday Speaker Series program for April, and **RESCHEDULE** our 3rd Annual Dinner/Auction Fundraiser for October 17, 2020. We know you have been enjoying our events, and we were looking forward to having a fun Boots & Bow Ties Western-themed party to celebrate our successes and generate needed funding for our move back into the Old Redmond Schoolhouse this fall.

The COVID-19 situation is unsettling, and we hope our health professionals can help "flatten the curve" to slow the spread of the virus. Meanwhile, we appreciate your understanding our precautions. We want you to stay safe. Our thoughts and best wishes are with those already impacted. Let's hope for a speedy development of a vaccine and better self-protection measures while we wait.

Stay healthy, and we look forward to seeing you in the fall.

VOLUNTEER CORNER By Jo Ann Potter



BOOTS AND BOWTIES



Dinner, Auction, and Fundraiser
at the new Hilton Garden Inn
New date: October 17, 2020

The Society fundraiser is now rescheduled for October. We have an additional 4 to 5 months to prepare. Have you asked a business that you patronize to donate? Local businesses may be struggling with the economic effects of the coronavirus, so it may be more difficult than usual to get donations. We still encourage you to ASK the businesses you frequent, whether it's a restaurant, a hair salon, or other service.

Sponsorship is another great way to contribute. Buy a table; invite your friends and relatives to spend a fun-filled evening with "historical" people. See the Sponsorship categories listed in this newsletter. Be a Grand Marshall for \$5,000, Cattle Baron for \$2,500, Town Council member for \$1,000, Rancher for \$500, or Cowboy for \$250.

Come help us with all the many preparations for this event by contacting volunteercoordinator@redmondhistoricalsociety.org. We need you to make our fundraiser, and the Redmond Historical Society, a success.

A Volunteer Voice...

I volunteer for the Redmond Historical Society Facebook page because I love sharing Redmond's history. We now have 936 "followers" and I love that folks are so generous sharing their memories of growing up in Redmond. You don't have to belong to Facebook to look at our page. — Cheryl Magnuson, Facebook Contributor

HUGE HISTORIC THANK YOUS

With the help of many contributors and volunteers, the Redmond Historical Society has moved out of the Vision 5 Building and into a new space. Many thanks to: **Nishit Mehta** of **Hygen** for helping arrange donated office space from March through October from **Wayne Morse** of **Bellegrove Medical**; **Paige** and **Russ Norman** and **Jim Kerrigan** for helping **John** move shelving to the new space; **Robert Pantley** and **Natural & Built Environments**, for 24 months of space donated at Vision 5; **Mike Nelson** of **Nelson Legacy Group** for 24-plus months of storage at **Redway Self-Storage**, and **StorQuest Self Storage** for storing our office furniture for the next 8 months; and **Redmond Parks and Recreation** for use of the Redmond Public Safety Center for our Saturday Speaker programs.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

The Legacy of Genius and the significance of the recent inscription of eight F. L. Wright buildings to the UNESCO World Heritage List

Sunday, May 24, 2020, 2-4 PM
Redmond King County Library, (425) 885-1861
15990 NE 85th St, Redmond WA 98052
Free
Watch for further schedule announcements



Fallingwater. Photo: Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau



Taliesin West. Photo: Andrew Pielage

Speaker: Larry A. Woodin a graduate of the UW Department of Architecture has studied the work of America's most famous architect F.L. Wright since first encountering his work in Junior High School. He is past president of the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy and currently serves on that organization's Executive Board. He played a major role in saving the only Wright house built in Oregon and wrote the book to tell the story: *The Gordon House: A Moving Experience*. He continues to serve on the board of the Gordon House Conservancy as liaison between the Gordon House and the FLWBC, the only organization dedicated to preserving the entire built legacy of the famous architect. The FLWBC nominated a series of Wright buildings for consideration



to become World Heritage Sites. The project took 18 years! Success was achieved last summer. The presentation will cover the many achievements of Wright's career and their influence on the profession and the public in his own time, in the present and for the future.

Participants will also have an opportunity to register to tour a privately owned Frank Lloyd Wright House located in Sammamish July 18th and a tour (details currently being determined) of the work of award-winning Seattle architect George Suyama. Details will also be provided at the presentation. For tour information send an email to ecohomefoundation@gmail.com.

kcls.org

EcoHomeFoundation.org

THE VALLEY HOTEL LEDGER By Tom Hitzroth

An early Redmond document I've recently spent time with is the original ledger of **William E. Sikes**. I have copies of 32 pages from the book, and review them periodically.

The ledger includes a record of the Valley Hotel that Sikes built in 1889. The hotel, formerly located on the west side of Gilman, was one of only three buildings in that part of town during 1889. The others were the railroad depot and, south of the tracks, **Emma McRedmond's** post office.

The ledger spans from 1881 to 1885, when Sikes lived in California and then moved to the Tolt (Carnation) area. He used the same book to chronicle operations from December 1890 to October 1891, and it is a rare glimpse into the operations of a pioneer hotel. From the ledger, we learn the hotel operated a complete kitchen, sold alcohol and beer, took in washing

for guests, and had at least six boarders. Sikes purchased goods locally from **William Perrigo**, **Luke McRedmond**, **Adam or John Tosh**, and from Emma McRedmond, whose building was likely operated as more of a general store than exclusively a post office. The ledger shows that other goods were transported from Seattle by train.

Rooms were \$.25/day, which today is between \$75 and \$175; meals were \$.25 each, and 90 pounds of beef sold for \$6.30, today that would be \$224; 20 pounds of pears cost \$.50. Today that would be \$50 and 48 pounds of potatoes was \$.50 now is \$62.

The ledger is a rare document, and is the only original document I've found from the earliest days of Redmond as it was transforming from a settlement to a village.



The Valley Hotel, 1889. Source: Eastside Heritage Center.

SOCIETY CELEBRATES 17 YEARS OF WALKING TOURS



Tom Hitzroth in front of Justice White House/Hotel Redmond.
Photo: John Oftebro

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 Hitzroth continues to work at identifying details of Redmond development from its earliest times into the 1930s. He is currently researching the historic site of

the earlier settlement of Melrose that preceded Redmond as well as the historic development of the downtown.

2020 Walking Tour Schedule

Sunday May 17, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday June 14, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday September 6, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

There is a suggested donation of \$10 per 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 8345 – 154th Ave NE, Redmond, WA, 98052. You can also pre-register on our website: www.redmondhistoricalsociety.org. Registrations must be received by the Wednesday 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 Justice White House/Hotel Redmond (Jensen/Fey Architects) at 7730 NE 76th St.

MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT – FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (HOMESTEADER)

We have a membership level for every budget! Our most popular level is the **Family/Homesteader** Membership. This level allows **TWO** people to be members for the price of \$40 per year!

All members receive **FREE** admission to our six Saturday Speaker Series *and* two Evening Speaker Series events. At \$5 per event, your membership pays for itself every year; plus members receive discounts for major events like our Auction & Dinner in October and allows the Society to host our Ice Cream Social in January *at no charge!*

Members at the **Family/Homesteader** level also receive *two* votes at annual business meetings. Membership funds allow Redmond Historical Society to continue to distribute our marvelous newsletter, *The Redmond Recorder*, 10 issues each year.

If you're not a member, **JOIN NOW!** If you're currently a member, consider purchasing a membership as a gift for a family member or friend who would enjoy the Redmond Historical Society!

Level	#/Members	Cost	Renews
Trailblazer/Student	(1 person/Show ID)	\$5	Annually
Pioneer/Individual	(1 person)	\$25	Annually
Homesteader/Family	(2 people)	\$40	Annually
Visionary/Business		\$250	Annually
History Maker/Lifetime	(1 person)	\$1,000	
Legacy/Family Lifetime	(2 people)	\$2,000	



Society members enjoying the ice cream social. Photo: Patsy Rosenbach

FUNDRAISER MOVED TO OCTOBER 17, 2020

The year 2020 seems to be “the year of the move” for Redmond Historical Society! By the time you receive this newsletter, our offices will have moved to our new building across town, which will be our temporary home until the fall, when we’ll move our offices **back** to the Old Redmond Schoolhouse.

We’ve also decided to **move** our Boots & Bowties Fundraiser to Saturday, October 17th, 2020. Watch for updates on what’s happening with Boots & Bowties!

The good news is that you can continue to support Redmond Historical Society by becoming a SPONSOR for the event! We have many levels of support, from Cowboy to Grand Marshall, and all levels include tickets to the event!

Sponsorship Levels

\$250 – Cowboy 2 Tickets	\$2,500 – Cattle Baron 10 Tickets
\$500 – Rancher 4 Tickets	\$5,000 – Grand Marshall 10 Tickets
\$1,000 – Town Council 8 Tickets	

If you’re interested in supporting Redmond Historical Society through a sponsorship for this event, please contact our office at **425-885-2919**.

Thank you for your support of the Redmond Historical Society!

Financial support may be tax deductible; please check with your tax advisor. **Redmond Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit group (Tax ID 91-1994957).**



Redmond Historical Society Presents

BOOTS AND BOWTIES

DINNER & AUCTION

Saturday October 17th

Doors open at 5 pm

Hilton Garden Inn Redmond Town Center, (16630 Redmond Way)

Ticket info: www.redmondhistoricalsociety.org

Proceeds benefit new office
and museum space at
Old Redmond Schoolhouse



Silent & Live Auction, Dessert Dash,
Heads or Tails, No-host bar, Giving Board,
Fund a Need, and Raffle

IN MEMORIAM: MARGERY MOUW HANSON 1939–2020

By Judy Aries Lang

Margery Mouw Hanson was a long-time member and volunteer of the Redmond Historical Society. You might have had a chance to visit with her at one of our programs, see her at our booth at the Redmond Saturday Market, Derby Days celebration riding on the fire truck, or school bus driven by her husband **Roy Hanson**. She and Roy recently celebrated over 50 years of marriage.



Marge was born on June 19, 1939 and grew up in the Redmond-Avondale area, and she attended Redmond schools and Lake Washington High School. She will be remembered for her fun-loving nature, being a good sport, a wonderful traveling companion, and a fun friend. Marge passed away on February 2, 2020. She is survived by her husband Roy, two sons Rory and Thor, their families, a brother John Mouw and sister Brenda Mouw. Ms. Mouw has purchased a Lifetime membership to the Society in Marge's name.

OUR SOCIETY LIFETIME MEMBERS

Sharon Freeman, Ballisty
Louise Graep Barnes
David Best
John and Jay Cogan
Marjorie Costello
John Couch
Cory de Jong
Betty L. Emmanuel
Tony Emmanuel
Don and Mary Fowler
Frank Garbarino
Peggy Garbarino
Madeleine Roberts Hagen
Suzanne Hall
Wayne Hansen
Mary Hanson
Jerry Hardy
Chris Himes
Rosemarie Ives
Patricia Weiss Jovag

Barbara Weiss Joyce
Allen Lang
Judy Aries Lang
Judith M. Lankford
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*Cheryl Strong Magnuson
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Diana Morelli
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Allison Reed Morris
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Dale Potter
Jo Ann Potter
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Dave Rockenbeck
Laurie M. Rockenbeck

Margy U. Rockenbeck
William Rockenbeck
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Dick Shinstrom
Frederick Springsteel
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John C. Stilin
Sherry B. Stilin
Fred Stray
Larry O. Sundholm
Subhadra Terhanian
Doris Townsend
Joe Townsend
Roger Trepanier
Arlyn Bjerke Vallene
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.



JOIN REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Every town has a history. Discover ours.

CONSIDER A GIFT MEMBERSHIP FOR A FAVORITE HISTORY BUFF.

LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP (Check one only.)

- \$5.00** TRAILBLAZER (Student)
- \$25.00** PIONEER (Individual)
- \$40.00** HOMESTEADER (Family)
- \$250.00** VISIONARY (Business)
- \$1,000.00** HISTORY MAKER (Lifetime)
- \$2,000.00** LEGACY (Family 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
8525-163rd Court NE #120
Redmond, WA 98052**

**RENEW
Now!**

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION • Application effective for year: 2020

Membership Names: 1) _____ 2) _____

Address: _____ Unit# _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☐ Address Change

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

Newsletter Delivery Preferences

☐ New to Redmond

☐ I would like to volunteer

☐ Email

☐ US Mail

How did you hear about the Redmond Historical Society? _____



REDMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vision 5 Building

8525-163rd Court NE #120

Redmond, WA 98052

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City of Redmond



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