

## TILLAMOOK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The current Tillamook County Historical Society was formed in 1984 to bring together those persons interested in preserving the history of Tillamook County. The Society concentrates on doing a number of projects such as placing historic plaques, conducting historical tours, printing books about local history and producing a newsletter with local history topics and upcoming events. **Let us know how you would like to participate as a volunteer.** Members are welcome to attend all meetings. Annual dues are \$20.00 for Family Membership and include the newsletter.

**If you would like to keep receiving this newsletter, please make sure your dues are paid for the current year. We will be dropping those who are more than a year behind from the mailing list. Thank you.**


**PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOUR EMAIL HAS CHANGED!**

### 2022 TCHS MEETING SCHEDULE

TCHS is restructuring in 2022 and will be having a program for each meeting, public invited.

Meetings are usually the second Tuesday of each month with occasional field trips to areas of historical interest.

For more information visit: <https://www.tcpm.org/tillamook-co-historical-society.html>

 Watch for updates on our facebook page.  
[www.facebook.com/tillamookcountyhistoricalsociety/](https://www.facebook.com/tillamookcountyhistoricalsociety/)

Are you interested in local history? Do you have stories that need to be preserved and shared? The Tillamook County Historical Society (TCHS) wants you!

REQUEST RETURN SERVICE

<https://www.tcpm.org/tillamook-co-historical-society.html>

P.O. BOX 123, TILLAMOOK, OR 97141

**TILLAMOOK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



## TILLAMOOK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P.O. BOX 123, TILLAMOOK, OR 97141

JANUARY 2022

**ANNUAL MEETING (NO DINNER) TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 15, 2022**  
at the Tillamook County Library. Masks required.

*"All the people we have loved and lost are still among us, in the house we call history."*  
--Graham Masterton

### Tillamook County Historical Society Looks to the Future



Tillamook Bay on a snowy day. Ann Rogan photo

The organization was first formed in 1977 and went on to become a registered non-profit in 1984. Since then, the TCHS has built a legacy of projects and publications that form a cornerstone of our local historical record. Sometimes confused with the Tillamook County Pioneer Association--made up of "pioneers" whose families were born in or have lived in Tillamook County for at least 40 years--the TCHS is open to everyone.

TCHS leadership is very upbeat about the coming year. with the addition of some energetic new members, a full

schedule of monthly meetings with guest speakers, and the anticipated opening of a new office and meeting space on the main floor of the Hoquarton Historical Interpretive Center in downtown Tillamook, set to open in 2022.

"We're also really excited about progress on the Hoquarton HIC. Charlie Wooldridge, Clair Thomas, and our amazing crew of students and volunteers made huge strides last year. For the first time ever the TCHS will have a brick-and-mortar home base, and a new institution where we can apply volunteer hours."

*Written by Rob Russell, the out-going president of the TCHS.*

The TCHS is trying a new format for meetings this year. (*See the schedule on the following page*). With some new members and new ideas, we are hopeful we can entice even more folks to join us in celebrating the rich history of Tillamook County.

*The Tillamook County Historical Society wishes to acknowledge the passing of several of our long-time members this past year. Our heartfelt sympathies to the families of Claire Peterson, Clarence "Bub" Boquist and Ted Jacob.*





**TCHS MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2022**

Masks required except for outside meeting. Meetings will be held Tuesdays at the Tillamook Library, except where otherwise noted. There will be a brief TCHS meeting following presentations if you care to attend.

FEB. 15, 1 pm Jaykob Wood and Peyton Tracy: Pioneer Museum and Collections. ANNUAL MEETING follows. New officers introduced, structure discussed.

MARCH 8, 1 pm Bed turning at Latimer Quilt and Textile Center.

APRIL 9, Saturday 1 pm Jim Reeher and his book "Keeping Memories Alive," At Tillamook Forest Center.

MAY 10, 1 pm Eric Simmons Early logging and use of the steam donkey

JUNE 14, 1 pm Sally Rissel - Old Home Walking Tour, beginning at Hoquarton House

JULY 16, Saturday 1 - 3 pm Children's History Day A month-long local history scavenger hunt for kids grades K-6. Participants with an adult meet at the Hoquarton House (east of the PO) to pick up their booklet. A mini scavenger hunt and other activities will also be presented this day.

AUGUST 9, 1 pm Michele Bradley - the Port /Near Space and more. Learn why our Port is so unique and special. Meet at the Port offices.

SEPT. 13, 1 pm Julie Hurliman talks about the Tillamook County Quilt Trail and future plans.

OCT. 11, 1 pm Lisa Sears - Tillamook Cemetery Group, now officially part of the TCHS.

NOV. 8, 1 pm Tierra del Mar History.

DEC. 13, 1 pm Monday Musical Club.

**AN UPDATE ON .....TILLAMOOK'S HOQUARTON HISTORICAL INTERPRETIVE CENTER**



If you drive by the Tillamook post office much, you've probably noticed the signs of progress at the Hoquarton House--or, more properly, the Hoquarton Historical Interpretive Center—just next door. The turn-of-the-century house and surrounding grounds got a lot of attention in 2021, including the restoration of the front bay windows, installation of several new north-facing windows, the pouring of the science lab floor downstairs, the design and construction of a native-plant trail, and much more. It was a big year, and thanks to some new grants and donations from the project's community partners, the building and grounds will be opening to the public in the fall of 2022.

For those who don't know the back-story, the idea for the Hoquarton HIC came out of an ambitious planning process that created Hoquarton Park back in the early 2000s. That process uncovered a largely forgotten history of the Hoquarton waterfront, a history that chronicled the evolution of transportation and industry in Tillamook. The collected artifacts, photos and stories from that effort culminated in an exhibit at the Pioneer Museum in 2005. That show was among the museum's most popular, and it led to the idea of creating an interpretive center. The vacant Carlich house was suggested as a potential site, and soon after, it became the meeting place for the Hoquarton planning team. Then came the Highway 6-Highway 101 interchange project, which led to the 2013 decision that the Carlich house would have to be moved or demolished to make way for the new interchange. Most of the project partners moved on at that point, but Charles Wooldridge and his fellow Board members at the Bay City Arts Center stepped up to carry the project forward.

"After struggling to find a non-profit to sponsor Hoquarton House, it was amazing that the Bay City Arts Center Board stepped up," remembers Wooldridge. "I credit Gene Norris, Dia's late husband, for giving the Arts Center Board the confi-

dence to take on the project. Gene passed away in 2005, but he really saw the potential, the vision, for what it could be."

The first phase of the Hoquarton HIC project had two components: 1) lifting and moving the house to a newly-poured foundation 70 feet to the north; and 2) creating a new cement-paver parking area.

"That had to be the most monumental aspect of the project," says Wooldridge. "Bergeman Construction did the moving, and they did an amazing job. It was incredible to watch them lift and move the old house. I'd say they made it look easy, but there was nothing easy about it."

The second phase of the project involved enclosing the old back porch, reinforcing the floor structure, and creating an enlarged basement to house the science lab. Clair Thomas, science and natural resources advisor for the Tillamook



The basement ceiling, showing the structural improvements made to create the science lab, BCAC photo.

School District, joined the project early on to plan and oversee construction of the science lab.

"Can you imagine a better place kids to do science?" asks Thomas. "Hoquarton House is such a great location, with an incredible natural area right on the doorstep. Students will be set up to do all kinds of scientific inquiries, some of which will involve kayak trips into the wetlands."

Phase three of the project, which is in-progress now, includes final structural improvements to the building, and final restoration or reconstruction of the interior and exterior. Phase four, which will start this summer, will include the creation of a network of concrete-paver pathways leading into and around the building, a covered back-patio/meeting area--also finished with paver bricks--the completion of the main-floor galleries and offices, and the completion of the science lab downstairs. Three of the main-floor rooms will be devoted to Hoquarton Slough history, featuring photos and artifacts that tell the story of the waterfront's evolution. The back room--what was once the back porch--will house administrative offices for the Tillamook County Historical Society and the Tillamook Bay Watershed

Council, two partner-organizations who will provide volunteers to help operate the facility once opened.

"If all goes as planned, we'll open the main floor and the science lab to the public this fall," says Wooldridge. "We expect to open the upstairs rooms the following year. It's going to be a marathon, but most of the pieces are in place."

Wooldridge stresses that the project is seeking to raise another \$50,000 this year to meet its fundraising goal. That will bring the projected cost to between \$250K and \$300K, including cash and in-kind donations.

"We're writing a couple more grants this winter, and we're going to approach a number of charitable foundations for donations over the coming year."

The Hoquarton HIC project has been made possible by a growing list of community partners and sponsors including Tillamook County, the Tillamook Urban Renewal Agency, Rosenberg's Building Supply, the Tillamook County Historical Society, Hampton Lumber, Tillamook School District #9, the Oregon Cultural Trust, Oregon Community Foundation, the Pastega Foundation, the Gene Norris Memorial Fund, the City of Tillamook, Tillamook Estuaries Partnership, the Tillamook Bay Watershed Council, and the Bay City Arts Center. These partners have contributed critical assistance through grants, in-kind donations, and hundreds of hours of volunteer labor.

If you would like to make a charitable donation to the Hoquarton HIC, contact Charlie via telephone at 503-842-7013 or via email: baycityartscenter@gmail.com



Charlie and volunteer John Goertzen make repairs to bay window structure in the front of the house, BCAC photo.



The final color goes on the building on Halloween, 2021. A long time coming! BCAC photo.