



SEARCH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY OREGON

(YOU DON'T LOOK A DAY OVER 145.)

It has been an honor for Oregon 150 to plan and execute Oregon's sesquicentennial in 2009. As of October 1, 2009, Oregon 150 will have closed its doors. The Oregon 150 website will be archived and viewable via the [Oregon State Archives](#). Please direct any questions to Kyle Jansson at the [Oregon Heritage Commission](#). Our thanks to each and every Oregonian who made this celebration a success!

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- Envision the future with [Project 2059](#)
- Help Us to [Take Care of Oregon](#)
- View Photos & Videos in the [Oregon 150 Gallery](#)
- Listen to [Oregon 150's Radio Talk Program](#)
- Tell Us Your [Oregon Stories](#)
- Blog your dreams on [Imagine Oregon](#)
- Explore with [I AM OREGONIAN](#)
- Become an [Oregon 150 Partner](#)
- Participate in [Youth Legacy Projects](#)
- Get ready to sing [Oregon! Oregon! 2009](#)

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FEATURED STORY:



SISTERS OF PROVIDENCES' OREGON STORY



OREGON 150 VIEWBOOK

The Viewbook showcases the ways in which Oregonians traveled the state, cleaned up communities, shared family histories and envisioned the future.

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Secretary of State
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Official compilation of rules and regulations having the force of law in Oregon.



Oregon Blue Book

The official state almanac and directory.



E-files Document Center

Searchable online archive of public records



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Get help with training, review retention schedules and access storage options.



State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB)

Learn how the board works to preserve Oregon's records legacy.



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Public Records Advisory Council created by SB 106.

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HOME > PROJECTS > PROJECT 2059

PROJECT 2059

PROJECT 2059

OREGON 150'S "ACTIVATE OREGON" TO CONTINUE UNDER OSU 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM!

Oregon 150 is pleased to announce that Oregon State University has been chosen to continue the visioning and community action program initiated in 2009 by Oregon teens through "Project 2059: Activate Oregon." The announcement was made Thursday September 24, 2009 (read the [press release](#)). In upcoming weeks, Oregon 4-H will begin the process of assembling a leadership team for the project and begin planning for a second "Activate Oregon" leadership summit in 2010. 4-H personnel located across the state of Oregon will engage with existing youth leadership groups and 4-H clubs to catalyze local actions focused on education, the economy, and the environment.

To find out more about the future plans for Project 2059 visit www.project2059.com or contact Oregon 4-H at 541-737-2421.

PROJECT OVERVIEW & RESOURCES

The [Youth Engagement Module](#) is to be utilized as a framework for future efforts of similar scope, highlighting key goals, program formation and language, project team assembly and roles, message development and outreach, event planning, work share and outcome evaluation through narrated process points and descriptions specific to "Activate Oregon."

The [Youth Took Kit](#) is meant to act as a resource guide for aspiring organizers and change agents. It is a compilation of existing reference writings in and around youth leadership development, new media literacy, and grassroots organizing aimed at increasing youth engagement and civic participation through awareness. The exercises, models, excerpts, and hyperlinks should provide the budding change agent with enough referential tools to plan and execute a relevant action plan.

LET'S BE FRIENDS

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MOREGON STORIES

See what we did there? Find out *even more* about how to [tell your Oregon Stories](#).

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PHASE I: DISCOVERY



The goal of Project 2059 was to create a place for youth to come together, plan for, and discuss important issues relevant to Oregon's next 50 years. To initiate this process, Project 2059 and Voice Box Media organized a the statewide road trip, visiting 43 Oregon high schools and interviewing more than 170 students about public issues important to them and the actions that should be taken by 2059. You can watch those interviews on Oregon 150's YouTube page, [here](#).

After conducting statewide interviews with high school students, it became evident that the three issues teens discussed the most were [education, the economy and the environment](#), providing captivating responses and first-hand examples to illustrate their concerns for Oregon's future.

PHASE 2: ACTIVATE OREGON YOUTH SUMMIT



The next step in prompting Oregon's youth to continue conversations about issues important to them was to create an actual venue to facilitate regular interactions. Given the prominent role technology and the Internet play in the lives of today's teens, Oregon 150 developed the [Project 2059 online social network](#). Once the network was up and running, a call to youth went out, asking them to submit their visions for Oregon in written, video, song or image form.

[These vision statements](#), in conjunction with [an online survey of Oregon teens](#), expressed the youths' hopes for Oregon's future and helped shape "[Activate Oregon's](#)" two-day program. Speakers and panelists from Oregon's economy, education and environmental sectors presented during the two-day summit, engaging with Oregon's future business and political leaders regarding important, statewide actions on which to focus for the next 50 years.



The "Activate Oregon" summit ended with teens presenting their [group action plans](#) to Governor Ted Kulongoski and State Superintendent of Schools Susan Castillo. Videos of these presentations can be seen [here](#). Please take a moment and visit www.Project2059.com to watch footage from the summit and join in the conversations teens continue to have regarding the future of the state they know and love.

If you have any questions, please e-mail project2059@oregon150.org, or call the Oregon 150 office at 503.445.7120.

Oregon 150, DemocracyLab and the Chalkboard Project have teamed up to create an online think tank. Through your participation, DemocracyLab can harness the thinking of Oregonians from all corners of our state to collaboratively create a vision of Oregon's future. Ready to get started? Click on DemocracyLab's link below.



Ready to have your voice heard? Join Project 2059 today!

All information received by Oregon 150 shall be treated as confidential and will not be disclosed/shared with any individual or organization for purposes other than those agreed to by participants in Project 2059. Oregon 150 does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, class, national origin, ancestry, marital/parental status, sexual orientation, or disability. Oregon 150 reserves the right to select youth regional representatives and their vision plans to participate in a two-day event at Willamette University in Salem on August 7th-8th, 2009.

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HOME > PROJECTS > TAKE CARE OF OREGON DAYS: MAY 2009

TAKE CARE OF OREGON DAYS: MAY 2009



We wanted Oregonians to join together and take on community projects that would keep Oregon strong for the next 150 years. The *Take Care of Oregon Days* project inspired citizens across Oregon to roll up their sleeves and give back to their communities. The goal? To have 500 projects and 20,000 volunteers improve the quality of life for everyone throughout the month of May.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

THANK YOU! To the thousands of Take Care of Oregon Days volunteers who turned all through the month of May to give back to our state. We will have our final volunteer and project count very soon. Take a moment to [check out photos](#) taken at project sites and upload your own at the [Take Care of Oregon Days Flickr](#) site.

Have a Take Care of Oregon Days project planned this summer? Although the TCO Days project officially ended May 31st, we would still like to hear what your church, organization, or school is doing to give back to Oregon on her birthday. Email [Aili Schreiner](#) with the who, what, when, where, and how for your project. Thank you for volunteering to take care of Oregon in 2009!

HOW DID WE DO?

The final numbers are in! Read our [FINAL REPORT](#) for the whole scope. Our final numbers include:

Total number of sites: 636

LET'S BE FRIENDS

Got your own ideas about celebrating Oregon? [Submit your project now!](#)

MOREGON STORIES

See what we did there? Find out *even more* about how to [tell your Oregon Stories](#).

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PHOTO GALLERY

Take a look though our photos from various Take Care of Oregon projects around the state. [View Gallery Now!](#)

Number of volunteers: 24,413

Number of students: 11,030

Pounds of trash removed: 737,464

Pounds of invasive weeds removed: 385,462

EVENT COORDINATOR RESOURCES

- [Download the Take Care of Oregon Days Logos for Web Use \(.gif, 6KB\)](#)
- [Download the Take Care of Oregon Days Logos for Print Use \(.eps, 907KB\)](#)
- [Download the TCO Editable Flyer \(.doc, 145KB\)](#)
- [Oregon 150 Editable Flyer \(.doc, 345KB\)](#)
- [Download the TCO poster\(.pdf, 240KB\)](#)
- [Download a radio TCO public service announcement \(.mp3, 460KB\)](#)
- [Download a TCO newspaper ad \(.eps, 642KB\)](#)



Does the *Take Care of Oregon Days* campaign sound like a community service opportunity or school project? It is!

Download [150 Project Ideas](#), or view the list [here](#). Complete with content standards, essential skills, and online resources, use this list for your city, group, or classroom! Teachers, you can host your own future Take Care of Oregon Day projects by downloading our [Service-Learning Project Planning Guide](#).

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ONE MORE PAIR OF HANDS
kgw.com/volunteer

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MEDIA

Do you have photos from an Oregon 150 event? Send them to us and we will post them here in our media gallery! To submit your photos, email them to: oregonstaff@yahoo.com

OREGON 150'S VIDEOS

Watch videos from Birthday events, Project 2059, Seski sightings, and more!

OREGON 150 PARTNER PROJECTS

Oregon 150 Partners are Non-Profit organizations from all across the state spreading the word about Oregon's birthday.



OREGON STORIES

FEATURED STORY
submitted by Katherine Keniston
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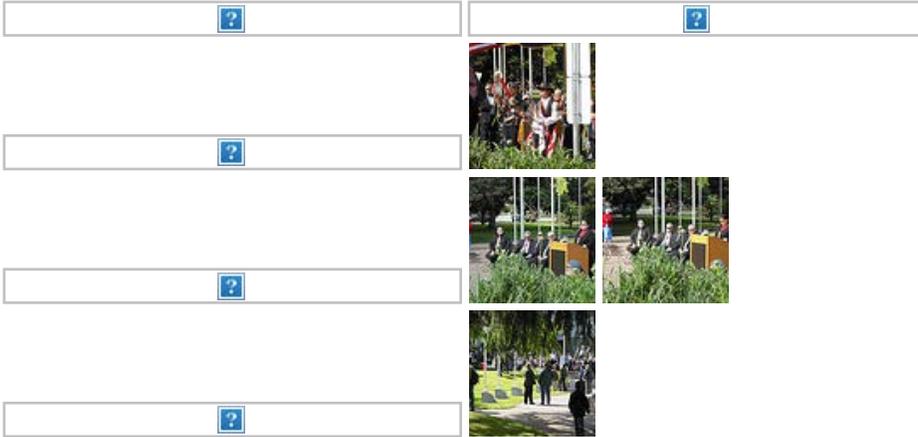
YOU CAN HELP.
We need your help to get this party started right. Please consider making a [donation](#).

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Get on the least-exclusive guest list around and [stay current](#) with all things Oregon150.

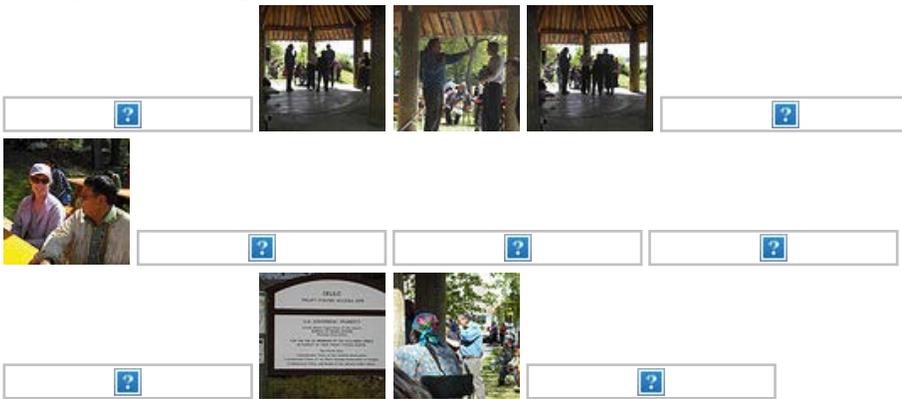
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TRIBAL GOVERNMENT DAY

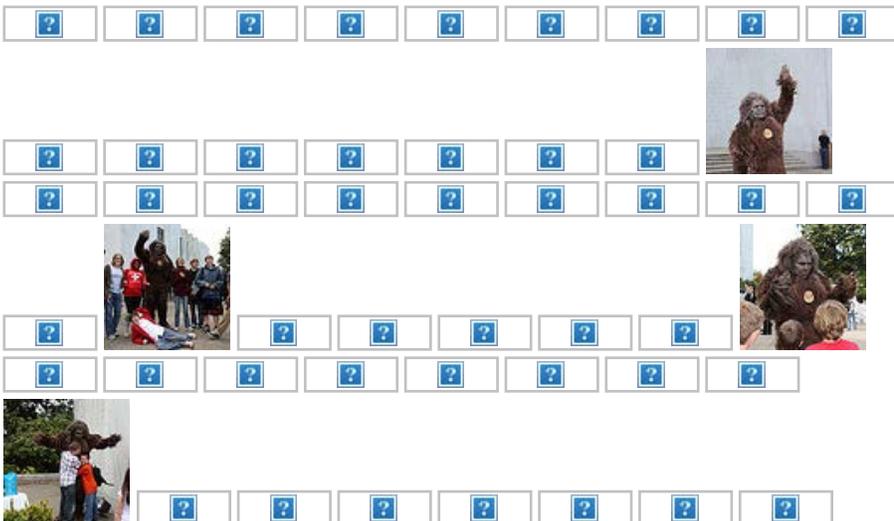


THE GATHERING OF THE TRIBES

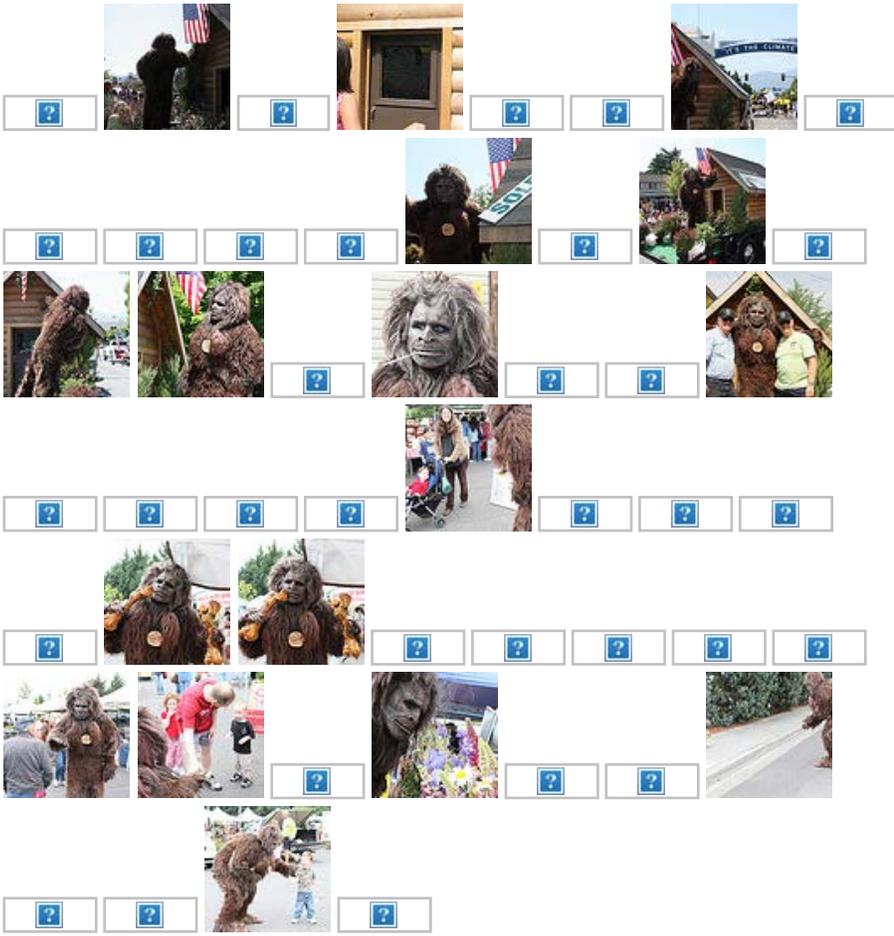


SESKI AT THE CAPITOL "TAKING CARE OF OREGON DAY"

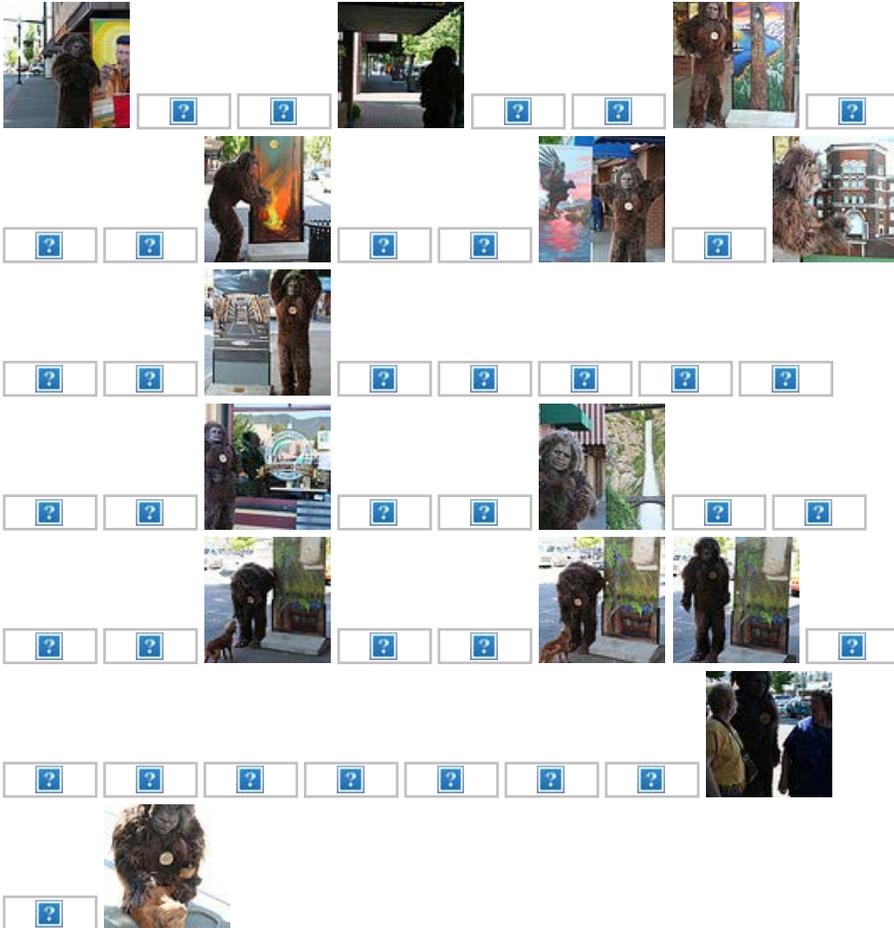
April 30th, 2009 Seski makes a stop at the State Capitol in Salem.



MAY 22-23 GRANTS PASS BOATNIK PARADE



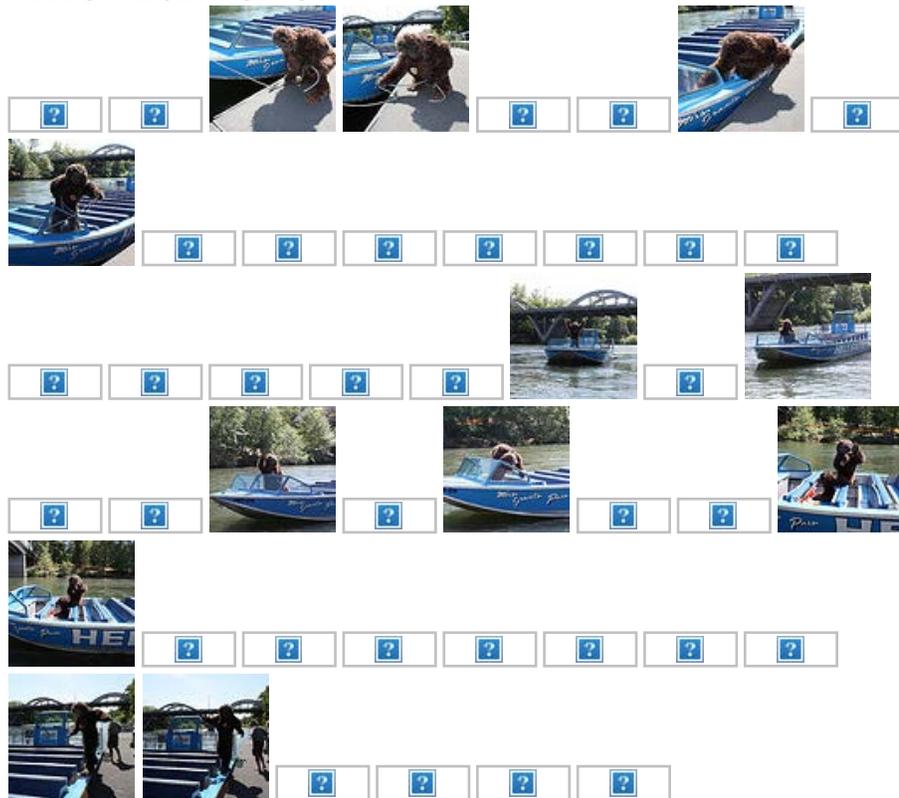
OREGON DOOR TOUR BY SESKI



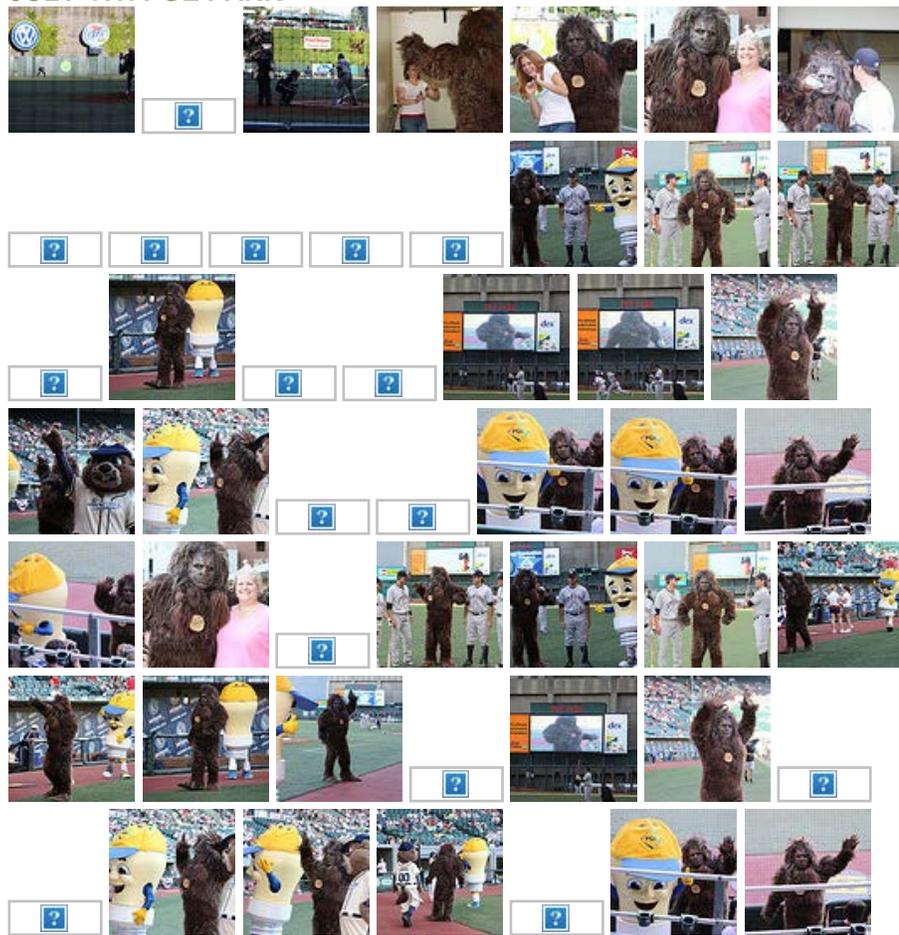
BOATNIK PARADE AND GROWERS MARKET



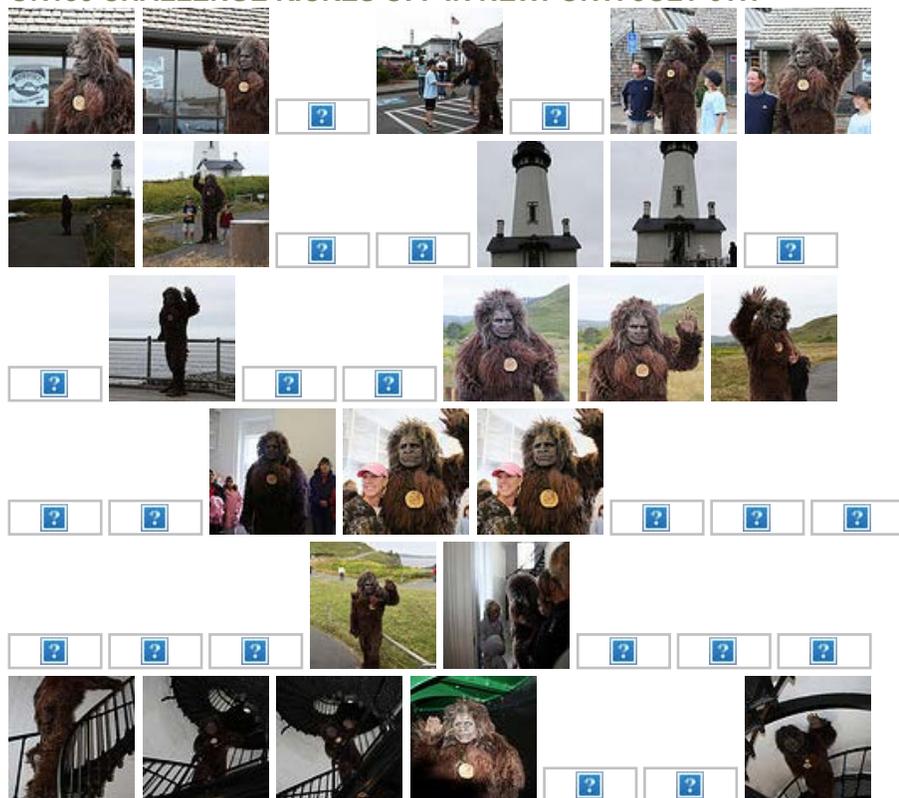
HELLGATE JET BOATS



JULY 4TH PGE PARK

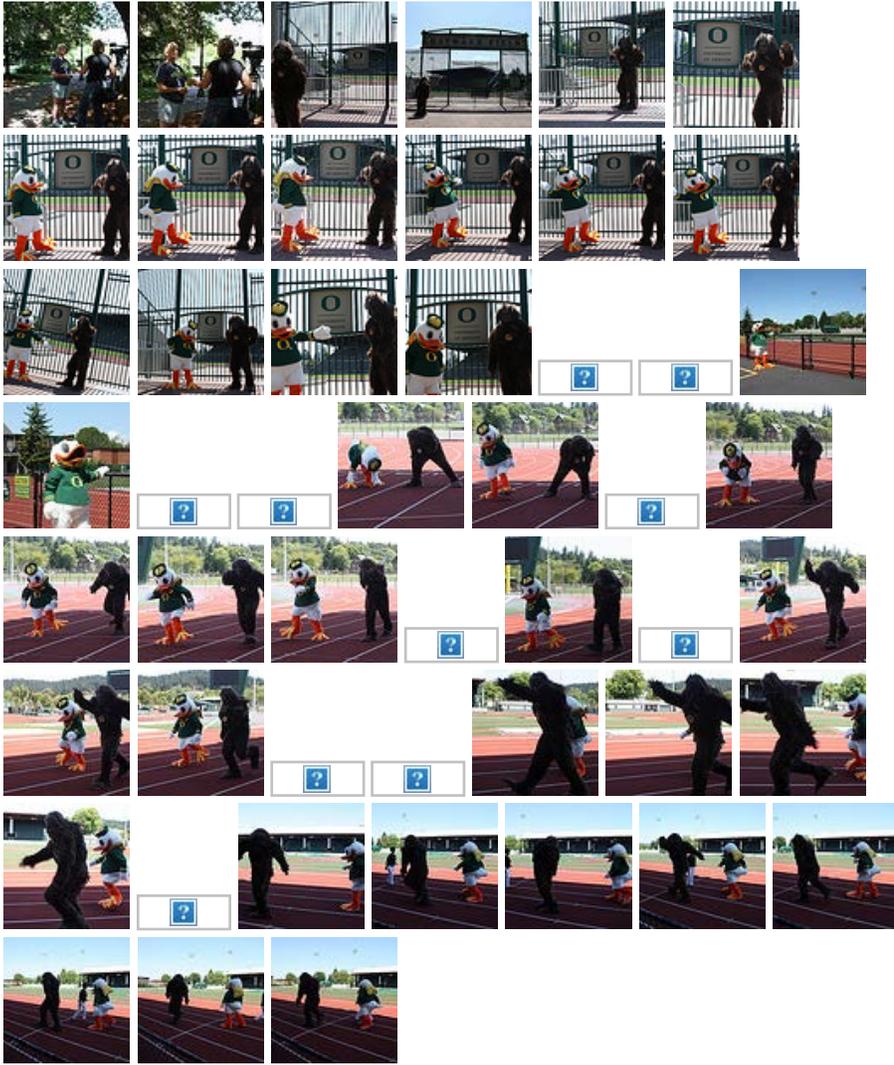


OR150 CHALLENGE KICKS OFF IN NEWPORT! JULY 6TH

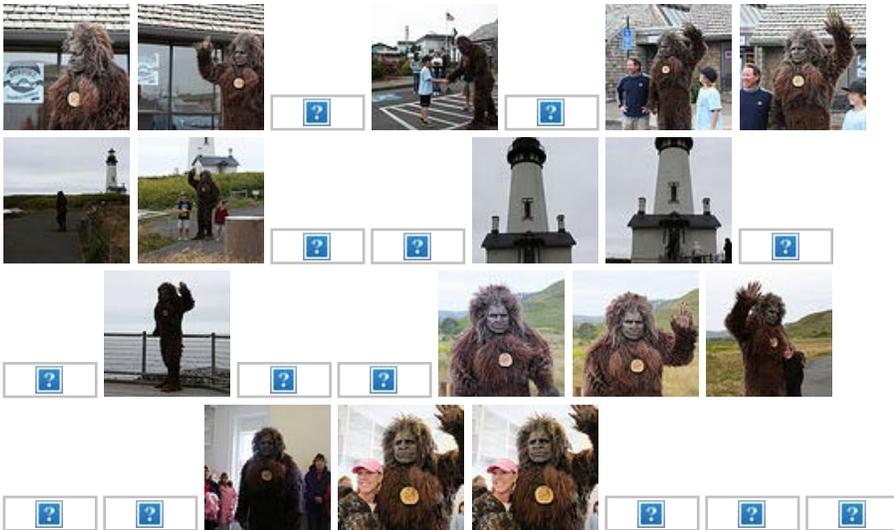




OR150 CHALLENGE IN EUGENE JULY 7TH

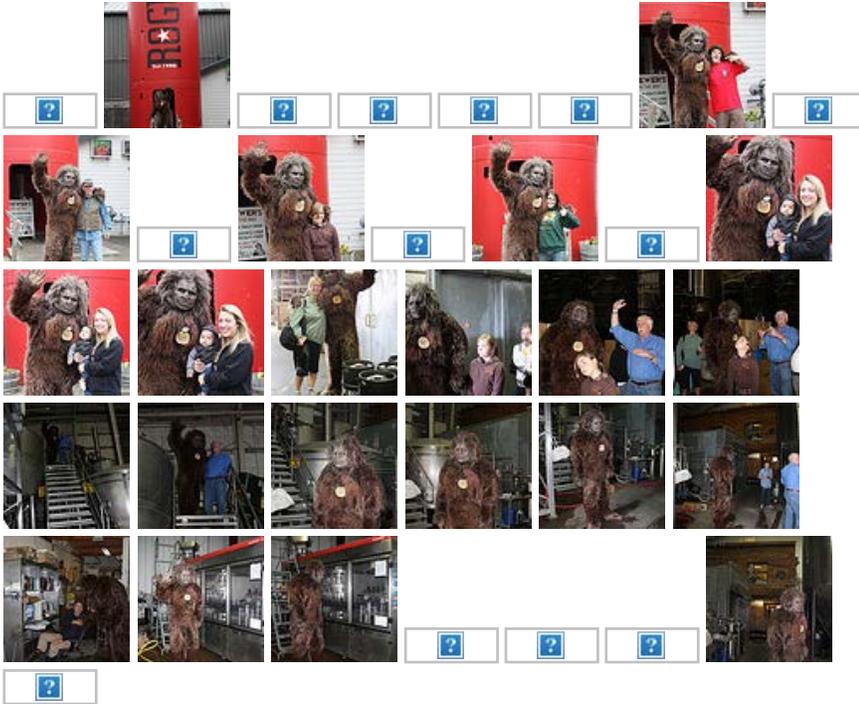


YAKUINA





ROGUE



AQUARIUM





HAYWARD FIELD



MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

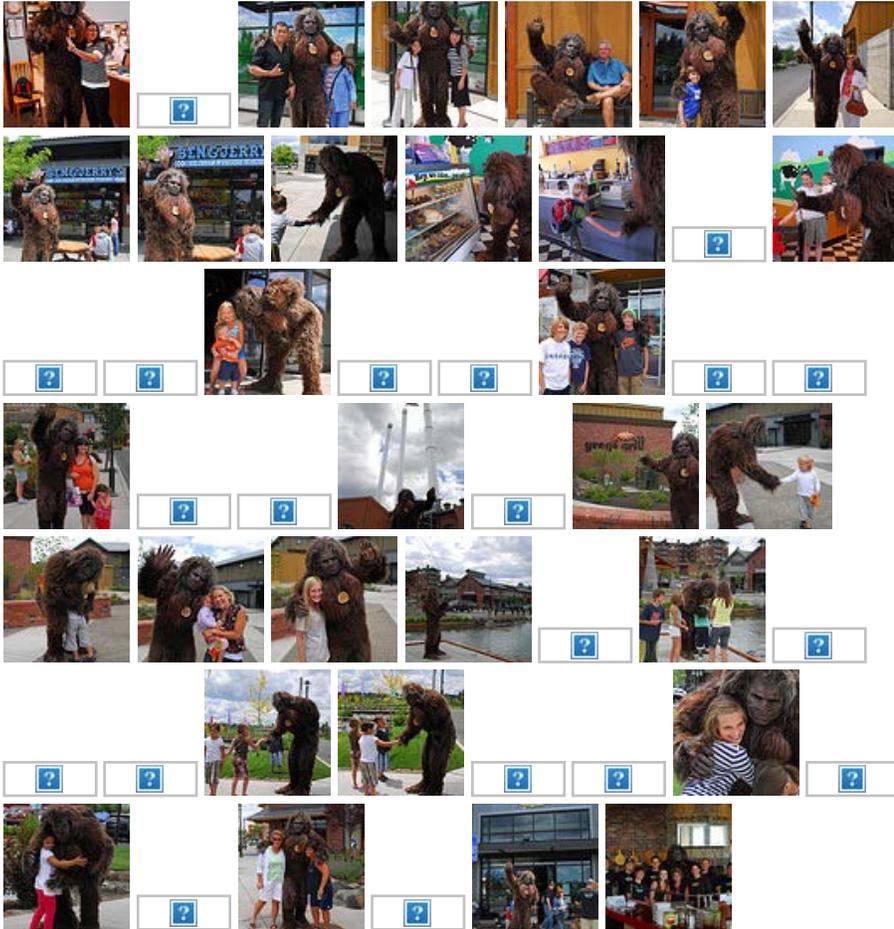


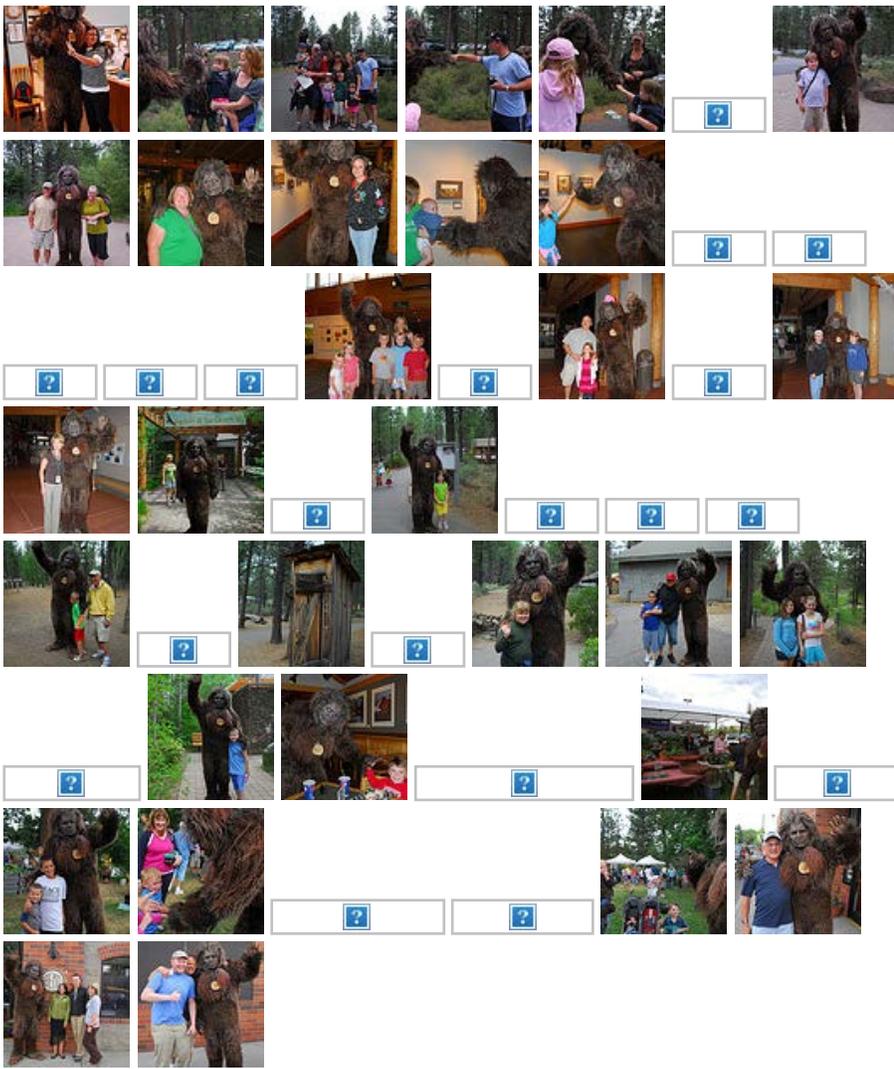


MISC. EUGENE

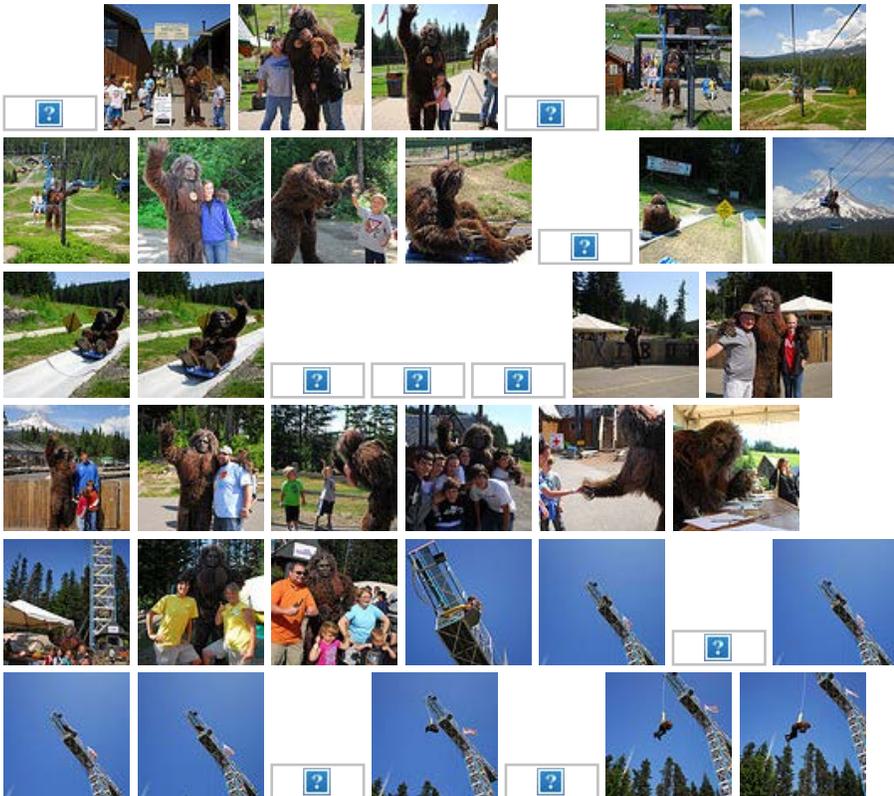


BEND VISIT





MT. HOOD SKI BOWL

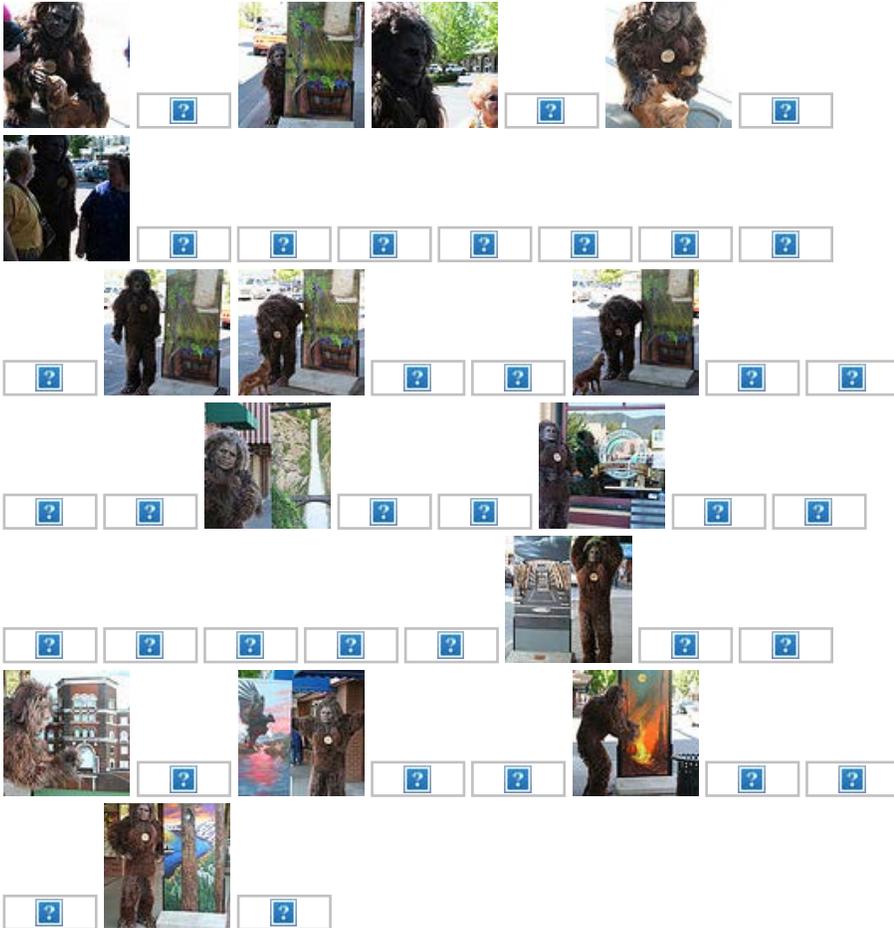




SANDY PARADE



GRANTS PASS2



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Episode 18 – Molly Gloss, author, Oregon Book Award • Monday, September 14th, 2009

Molly Gloss, author, Oregon Book Award.

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Episode 17 – Oregon State Fair • Monday, September 14th, 2009

Speaking with Oregonians about the Oregon State Fair.

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Episode 16 – Lawson Fusao Inada, Oregon Poet Laureate. • Thursday, August 13th, 2009

Great conversation with Lawson Fusao Inada, Oregon's Poet Laureate. He reads poems he wrote for the Tillamook County Fair, about being "Live in Oregon", about the Oregon 150 experience and how poetry is an accessible art form.

[Download audio](#)

Episode 15 – Broadcasting from the Oregon 150 Happy Hour at Pioneer Courthouse Square • Thursday, July 30th, 2009

A great music panel discussion with Darrell Grant, Martha Davis, Thomas Lauderdale, Terry Currier, Marty Hughley and Connie Wohn. We discuss music trends in Oregon, what makes Portland a great music city, music styles of Oregon, the Oregon Music Hall of Fame and the Leroy Vinnegar Jazz Institute. Plus, a teaser performance of Oregon! Oregon! 2009.

[Download audio](#)

episode 14 – AAA Oregon and Oregon Travel • Tuesday, July 21st, 2009

A chat with AAA Oregon/Idaho President and CEO John Porter, and AAA Director of Travel Services, Doreen Loofburrow. We talk about travel in Oregon, plus short interviews with folks from Crater Lake National Park and OMSI.

[Download now](#)

Episode 13 – Community Oregon Stories • Thursday, July 2nd, 2009

Dennise Kowalczyk from [MetroEast Community Media](#) chats about gathering Oregon Stories and the Sesquicentennial Project, plus how the Oregon Stories project came about.

[Download audio](#)

Oregon! Oregon! 2009 Press Conference • Thursday, July 2nd, 2009

Listen to the audio from the Oregon! Oregon! press conference, from July 1, 2009 at Posie's Cafe in North Portland, featuring Pink Martini's Thomas Lauderdale, plus Metro Council President David Bragdon, Sarah Dougher, Pat Janowski and members of the Oregon National Guard's 234th Army Band.

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Episode 12 – Writing in Oregon • Friday, June 19th, 2009

We talk with three Oregon writers/authors/publishers about Oregon as inspiration and a place to write. Guests are Matt Love, Dianne Hammond and Helen Vandervort.

[Download audio](#)

episode 11 – live from lep high school • Thursday, June 4th, 2009

Live broadcast on location at the LEP High School in Portland for “Project 2059: The Future is Ours to Create.”

[Download audio](#)

episode 10 • Thursday, May 21st, 2009

This week's guests are Wally Van Valkenburg, Co-Chair of the Oregon Way Advisory Group; David Van't Hof, Sustainability Policy Advisor for Governor Ted Kulongoski.

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FEATURED OREGON STORY:



THAT REMARKABLE GROUP OF WOMEN

submitted by Katherine Keniston

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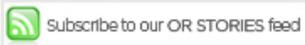
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IMAGINE OREGON BLOG

WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS FOR OREGON'S FUTURE?

Help us to Imagine Oregon in the next 5, 10, 50 years. Each week, we will introduce a new "Hot Topic" about which we invite all Oregonians to share their thoughts and opinions.

THIS WEEK'S HOT TOPIC REMEMBERING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL

By: Governor Ted Kulongoski & First Lady of Oregon, President of the Oregon 150 board, Mary Oberst

Share Your Opinion- Write a Post!

LATEST IMAGINE OREGON POSTS:

REMEMBERING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL

SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2009

Dear Oregonians:

Our sesquicentennial year is coming to a close. The celebration that started on February 14, 2009, has been extraordinary for many reasons. We have learned together, remembered together, had fun together, and most of all - pulled together. In a year that was difficult for many Oregon families, our celebration of 150 years [...]

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Posted in: [Blog](#) Comments are closed at this time.

TOUGH LOVE

SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2009

By: Neal Keny-Guyer, CEO of Mercy Corps

It's easy to praise Oregon on her 150th birthday. Our state is gorgeous and livable, a national leader in the art and science of what makes a region work.

Yes, Oregon asks a lot of us. Where else is civic duty so celebrated and public planning [...]

IMAGINE OREGON HOT TOPICS

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Posted in: [Blog](#), [Tough Love](#) Comments are closed at this time.

YOUTH MERIT VOICE IN DECISIONS TODAY

AUGUST 24TH, 2009

The following opinion editorial was submitted to The Oregonian by Ari Strudler and was published on Sunday, August 23rd, 2009.

By: Ari Strudler- Junior at LEP High School, Portland, Oregon

Youth across Oregon are standing up for what they believe in. Whether they are young voters who recently cast their first ballots or dedicated high school [...]

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IN TUNE WITH OURSELVES AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

JULY 17TH, 2009

By Dawn Rasmussen

As a non-native Oregonian transplanted almost 25 years ago to this incredible state, I've grown accustomed to thinking about everything I do in a green way since setting foot here. From recycling or composting as much waste as possible, to not consuming as much, to consciously thinking about how I am going to [...]

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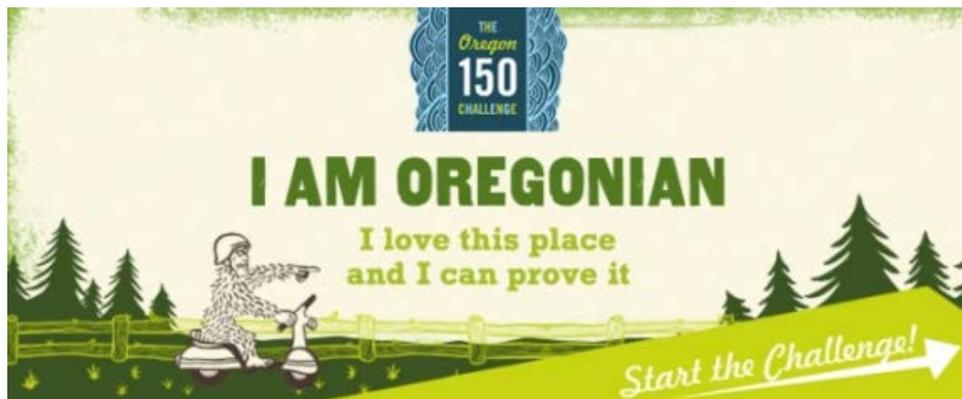
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SEARCH

HOME > PROJECTS > I AM OREGONIAN

I AM OREGONIAN



Celebrate our beloved state's 150th birthday by doing The Oregon 150 Challenge.

THE OREGON 150 CHALLENGE

Celebrate our beloved state's 150th Anniversary by taking The Oregon 150 Challenge. Prove that you've been to five of the destinations on the list at traveloregon.com/oregon150. When you're done, you'll be eligible to win a Grand Oregon Tour filled with special lodging, dining, and adventures. Start [The Oregon 150 Challenge](#) now!

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HOTEL *deLuxe*

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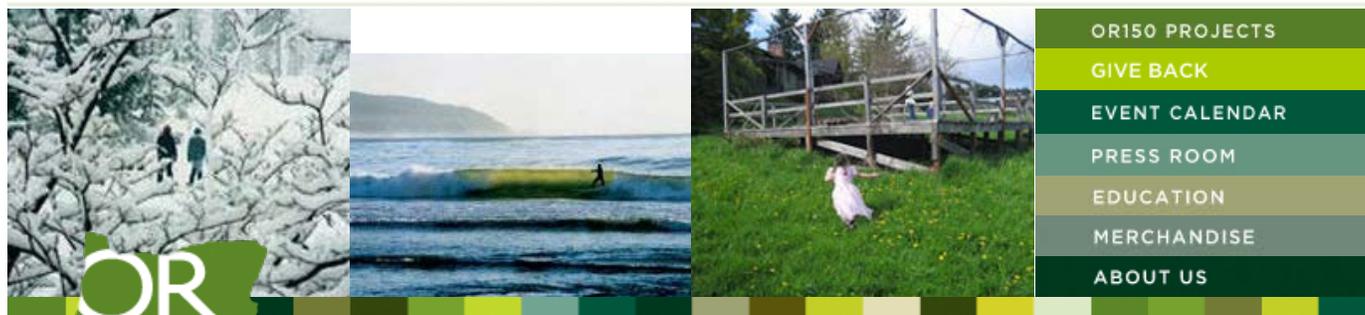
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- OR150 PROJECTS
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SEARCH

HOME > PROJECTS > PARTNER WITH US!

PARTNER WITH US

You've got a voice and a pioneering spirit - that's why you live here.

So how are you celebrating Oregon's 150th birthday?



JOIN THE PARTY!

Join the party and become an Oregon 150 partner! If your special sesquicentennial project upholds Oregon 150's mission and values, we will help you promote it!

What is a sesquicentennial project? Click on our partner links below to find examples. Projects or events that qualify commemorate or celebrate Oregon's 150th birthday in 2009.

Applying is easy- if you are a city, county, or tribe, fill out and send us a [1-page application](#) form. State agencies are encouraged to [notify Oregon 150](#) of their events as well. Registered non-profit organizations are also encouraged to fill out a [project application](#) and apply to become our official partners.

PARTNER BENEFITS

Oregon wants to celebrate *you!* Official Oregon 150 project partners can:

- Place the Oregon 150 logo on their website and with other co-branding efforts
- Have a link to their project or organization's website on the Oregon 150 Partner Page
- Use our free promotional material to help market your project/event (posters, flyers, etc.)
- Be featured as an official sesquicentennial event on the Oregon 150 [Event](#) page

All promotional material is available on a [special-access website just for our partners](#).

LET'S BE FRIENDS

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We would love for you to add our webbadge to your site, blog or social media profile!



[CLICK HERE]

If your project is a "Take Care of Oregon Days" initiative for May, 2009, contact the project organizers at tco@oregon150.org. Non-May projects can apply separately to become a partner and list their event on the Oregon 150 Event page.

So just complete your application and send it to us by email or regular ol' mail. We'll let you know when we've received it and will notify you of our decision within 2 business weeks of receiving your application. Thanks in advance for joining in Oregon's party of the century!

Questions? Contact Wendy at 503.445.7120 or wendy@oregon150.org.

MEET OUR PARTNERS

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

A

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B

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Community College](#)

[Bohemia Mining
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L

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Museum Friends](#)

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M

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[Mission Mill Museum](#)

[Mochitsuki, the
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[Mt. Angel](#)

C

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[Cannon Beach Chamber](#)
[Cannon Beach History Center & Museum](#)
[Cascade Aids Project](#)
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[ChristieCare](#)
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[City of Hillsboro](#)

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N

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O

[Oakland Museum](#)
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[Oregon 4-H Program](#)
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[Oregon Bed & Breakfast Guild](#)
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| | |
|--|--|
| Parks & Recreation Department | Oregon Hispanic Employees Network |
| City of Hubbard | Oregon Historical Society |
| City of Jacksonville | Oregon Housing & Community Services |
| City of La Pine | Oregon Library Association |
| City of Lake Oswego | Oregon Main Street |
| City of Lowell | Oregon Medical Education Foundation |
| City of Lyons | Oregon Museums Association |
| City of Milwaukie | Oregon National Guard |
| City of Molalla | Oregon Nikkei Endowment |
| City of Monmouth | Oregon OSHA |
| City of Myrtle Creek | Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD) |
| City of North Bend | Oregon Public Broadcasting |
| City of Oregon City | Oregon Public Health Association |
| City of Phoenix | Oregon Real Estate Agency |
| City of Portland | Oregon Sesquicentennial Film Festival |
| City of Reedsport | Oregon Shakespeare Festival |
| City of Rockaway Beach | Oregon Stamp Society |
| City of Roseburg | Oregon State Bar |
| City of Salem | Oregon State Capitol |
| City of Sherwood | Oregon State Hispanic Employees Network |
| City of Sisters | Oregon State Library |
| City of St. Helens | Oregon State Marine Board |
| City of Sweet Home | Oregon State Parks Heritage Programs |
| City of West Linn | Oregon State Society Daughters of American Revolution |
| City of Wilsonville | Oregon State University Hatfield Marine Science Center |
| Clackamas County | Oregon Symphony |
| Clackamas Heritage Partners | |
| Clatsop County | |
| Columbia County | |
| Community of Writers | |
| Convention & Visitors Association of Lane County | |
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| Corvallis OSU Symphony Orchestra | |

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D

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F

[Filipino American National Historical Society](#)

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P

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[Polk County](#)

[Polk County Museum & Historical Society](#)

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[Portland Taiko](#)

[Pottsville](#)

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R

[Redmond Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Reed College](#)

[Reedsport/Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Resource Assitance for Rural Environments \(RARE\)](#)

S

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G

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T

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[The Bite of Oregon
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[The Britt Festival](#)

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J

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[of Commerce](#)

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- [Umatilla County](#)
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[UO Museum of Natural and Cultural History](#)

V

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W

- [Wallowa County](#)
- [WASCO County](#)
- [Wasco County Historical Society](#)
- [WASCO County Master Gardener Association](#)
- [Washington County](#)
- [Washington County/Yamhill County/Pamona Grange](#)
- [Wheeler County](#)
- [Wilderness International](#)
- [Willamette Valley Vineyards](#)
- [Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council](#)
- [World Beat Festival](#)

Y

- [Yamhill County](#)
- [YOUthFILM Project](#)

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HOME > PROJECTS > YOUTH LEGACY PROJECTS

YOUTH LEGACY PROJECTS

Even at 150, Oregon should be forever young. We're offering projects specifically for our youth - you know, those who don't need coffee to feel energetic. Young leaders will go online to collaboratively create a vision of Oregon's future, rehabilitate public parks, and actively participate in a policy-development process that will be carried out for the next 50 years. Our past is full of unique voices. Let's nurture new ones for the future.

PROJECT 2059: THE FUTURE IS OURS TO CREATE

Calling all high school students! This sesquicentennial project is all about you. Join students from across Oregon to discuss, debate and propose your vision for Oregon's future. This youth-led process is part of the sesquicentennial celebration - Oregon's 150th year of statehood. Sponsored by Oregon 150, a special organization created by Governor Kulongoski, Project 2059 is putting the power to shape the future of the Beaver State into your hands.

[Visit the Project 2059 page now and learn how you can get involved!](#)

LEGACY PARKS

Oregon 150 and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department ([OPRD](#)) are gearing up to celebrate this remarkable state—its history, the outdoor recreation it affords us, and the natural resources we are entrusted with. Oregon's system of public parks system is the envy of the nation, and it is one of the most important legacies Oregon gives its citizens.

That's why OPRD and Oregon 150 teamed up to help reconnect kids with nature. OPRD created a special allocation of \$202,450 in OPRD Lottery-funded grants for five Oregon 150 Youth Legacy Parks projects.

These grants are dedicated to getting children out into nature, and will also have a sesquicentennial commemorative aspect. The five are:

- City of Seaside, **Broadway Park**: June 20, 2:00 p.m.
- City of Hood River, **Waterfront Park**: June 28, 2:00 p.m.
- City of Creswell, **Garden Lake Park**: July 4, Time: 5:00 p.m.
- City of Lebanon, **Cheadle Lake Park**: July 8, 1:00 p.m.
- City of Grass Valley, **City Park**: July 11, Time: 2:00 p.m.

All projects are scheduled to be completed before July 1, 2009.

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Ralph & Adolph Jacobs Foundation

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OREGON! OREGON! 2009



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Click [here](#) to listen to the original Oregon! Oregon! song.

Hold on to your myrtle wood as Pink Martini and the Oregon National Guard 234th Army Band and Oregon 150 present "Oregon! Oregon! 2009: A sesquicentennial fable in IV acts," which will debut August 28, 2009 at the Oregon State Fair and then tour the state - the icing on the cake of the state's 150th birthday party.

Listen to the audio from the [Oregon! Oregon! press conference](#), from July 1, 2009 at

Posie's Cafe in North Portland, featuring Pink Martini's Thomas Lauderdale, plus Metro Council President David Bragdon, Sarah Dougher, Pat Janowski and members of the Oregon National Guard's 234th Army Band.

CONCERT DATES AND VENUES

8/28: Opening night, Oregon State Fair, Salem

8/29: Les Schwab Amphitheater, Bend

8/30: The Britt Festival, Jacksonville

9/5: Oregon Zoo, Portland (CONCERT MOVED FROM MEMORIAL COLISEUM)

FOR MEMORIAL COLISEUM TICKET REFUNDS:

All previously purchased tickets for the Memorial Coliseum show are not valid for entrance to the Zoo show. Those who purchased tickets for the Memorial Coliseum event via credit card at the Rose Quarter Box Office, ComcastTIX.com or by phone will automatically receive a refund. Ticket holders who purchased tickets at Safeway/TicketsWest outlets can receive refunds at the place of purchase. Tickets purchased by cash at the Rose Quarter Box Office can receive a refund at the box office. For any further questions about tickets please contact the Rose Quarter Box Office at 503.797.9619.

TICKETS

Salem - Oregon State Fair - [Tickets](#) on sale here and all participating Safeway TicketsWest outlets in Oregon and at the Oregon State Fair office (2330 17th Street NE Salem, OR; 8:00 AM-5:00 PM on weekdays).

Bend - Les Schwab Amphitheater - [Tickets](#) on sale now!

Jacksonville - The Britt Festival - [Tickets](#) on sale now!

Portland - The Oregon Zoo - [Tickets](#) on sale now!

In 1959 - to celebrate the Oregon's centennial (100th birthday) - the Blitz-Weinhard Brewing Company commissioned the Grammy Award-winning radio personality Stan Freberg to write a 21-minute-long musical comedy about the beaver state. What resulted was a hilarious tale of two explorers in 1859 named Harry and David, their encounter with a witch, and the subsequent birth of a state which must go back into the bottle after 100 years ... that is, if the citizens of 1959 can't break the spell. Sound confusing?

Well, because a team of Oregonians - including Metro Council President David Bragdon, 'Chariots of Fire' conductor Harry Rabinowitz (age 92), Thomas Lauderdale of Pink Martini, PICA Flash Choir's Sarah Dougher & Pat Janowski and the writers of Livewire! - have teamed up to write a new Act IV ... complete with brand new songs and rollicking plot! Unlike the 1959 "Oregon! Oregon!" the show is being performed live, with Pink Martini and the Oregon 234th Army Band joined by a surprise cast of special Oregonians.

ABOUT PINK MARTINI



"Pink Martini is like a romantic Hollywood musical of the 1940s or 50s - but with a global perspective which is modern," says founder and artistic director Thomas M. Lauderdale. "We bring melodies and rhythms from different parts of the world together to create something which is new and beautiful."

The Portland, Oregon-based 'little orchestra' was founded in 1994 by Lauderdale, a Harvard

graduate and classically trained pianist, to play political fundraisers for progressive causes such as civil rights, the environment, affordable housing and public broadcasting. In the years following Pink Martini grew from four musicians to its current twelve, and has gone on to perform its multilingual repertoire on concert stages and with symphony orchestras throughout Europe, Asia, Greece, Turkey, Lebanon, Canada and the United States.

SPONSORS

Consider joining our proud sponsors and take care of Oregon during its sesquicentennial.



THE WESSINGER
FOUNDATION



HOTELlucía

HOTEL *de Luxe*

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SEARCH

HOME > TELL YOUR OREGON STORY

TELL YOUR OREGON STORY

Oregon is more than a place — it's a source of inspiration, a setting for adventure, and a journey of discovery. Share your Oregon stories with us today.

All forms of expression are welcomed, from poetry to photographs to video. This is your Oregon story! To submit your story, please observe the following guidelines:

Written Work: Your story should be 500 words or less. [To submit online](#) please complete the form on this page. [To submit by mail](#) please send a WORD document, or plain text to the address below.

Photos: Photos should be .jpeg or .gif files with a maximum file size of 9MB. [To submit online](#) please complete the form on this page. [To submit by mail](#) please send files to the address below.

Audio Files: Files should be .mp3 and should not exceed 4MB. [To submit online](#) please complete the form on this page. [To submit by mail](#) please send file to the address below.

Video Files: Files should be .flv or .mov files and should not exceed 4MB. [To submit online](#) please complete the form on this page. [To submit by mail](#) please send file to the address below.

Once submitted, entries are the property of Oregon 150 and may be edited for length or clarity. [The deadline for submission is September 30, 2009.](#)

To submit by mail, please send files to:

Oregon Stories Project
Oregon 150
1211 SW Fifth Ave., Ste L17
Portland, OR 97204

ONLINE SUBMISSION FORM

Your Information:

We do not know who you are. Please supply your name and email address. Alternatively you can [log in](#) if you have a user account or [register](#) for a user account if you do not have one.

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OREGON STORIES



FEATURED STORY
submitted by Katherine Keniston
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Photo

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Release

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<http://www.oregon150.org> 144 144 <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/around-the-horn/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/around-the-horn/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:50:06 +0000 Marcia Allen
<http://www.oregon150.org/?p=1720> by Marcia Allen
Cottage Grove, OR

Upon my engagement in 1940, I was delighted to find that my future husband also claimed elite forebears in the settlement of the early Oregon country. This story is about a young man who “sailed around the Horn”. Imagine my delight in later years to find an article printed in the ‘Illustrated Historical Atlas of Marion and Linn counties of Oregon by Edgar Williams & Co. 1878’. I’d like to share it with you:

Edwin Napper Tandy was born in Christian County, Kentucky and remained there until he reached manhood. He received a good education in the schools of the state, and at age 19 commenced reading law under the prominent attorneys Grey & Knight. Mr. Tandy made such rapid progress that at age twenty-one, he was admitted to the Kentucky Bar. He immediately began a law practice in the town of Hopkinsville in the year of 1851. According to family lore I picked up at the TANDY family reunions held every year here in Oregon, he decided to “come west” and sailed around the Horn, through storms and high seas, bringing his rocking chair and his law books. It was 1854. Emigrating to California, he went into the mines, and as the story goes, “met with tolerable success”. By now, it was 1857.

He came to Oregon and purchased a farm in Lane County, near Junction City. He succeeded well, rapidly improving the land, building good buildings and fences. In 1862, he was appointed Judge of Lane county by Governor Whiteaker, to fill an unexpired term. In 1868, he was elected to the Oregon Legislature, serving his time with credit to his party and himself. In 1870, he moved to Harrisburg and opened a law office. In 1871, he was elected Mayor of the City of Harrisburg; in 1872, he was elected County Judge of Linn county, a position he held for four years. Through all his long official career, he performed his duty and won the respect and confidence of all. On January 3, 1858, he married Nancy Liggett, who came to Oregon in 1846.

The ‘Illustrated Atlas’ story continues: ” The judge is the father of four children” [one of whom was my husband's grandfather Charles Hershel Tandy]. “The judge is considered one of Linn County’s solid men; he has always taken an active interest in the welfare of the county, or in whatever could be improved and benefit the people. Now practicing law in Harrisburg, he owns a fine farm which he personally superintends. ”

I heard at the last Tandy Reunion we attended that portions of that farm were still in the Tandy family. Judge Tandy was a lifelong Methodist, and a staunch Democrat. He was well read and in his advanced age became frail, but retained a wonderful mentality. He was the oldest member of the Thurston A.F.& A.M. Lodge, and died at the age of 96 years.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/around-the-horn/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/pony-express-stagecoach-routes/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/pony-express-stagecoach-routes/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:41:14 +0000 Susan Reed <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=1822> by Susan Reed
Beaverton, OR

While growing up in Eastern Oregon there were quite a few stories about the Pony Express coming through there. My dad, Harry D. Proudfoot Jr., had a place named Sarvis Springs Ranch. It was 40 mi from Pendleton, 30 mi from Heppner, and 20 mi from Hermiston on Butter Creek. Our address was Star Route, Echo, OR, but that was our post office. It was 10,000 acres of mostly wheat until the government intervened and paid the ranchers to plant certain crops if they wanted to or not, which proves you never really own the land you think you do.

If you rode your horse straight back through the property, it was 20 miles. Part of that road was a section of the Pony Express and Stagecoach route. There was an old building and a corral still standing. The building was the home of the station manager and there were fresh horses kept in the corral for the Pony Express rider. Depending on the destination, the stagecoach occupants could spend the night there. On the hill above it, you could still see the wagon ruts in the ground. At one time, there was a water well too.

It was an integral part of the Old West until the railroad came through with the mail and passenger cars. The Columbia River ships could bring the mail just so far, then it had to be handed off to the Pony Express.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/pony-express-stagecoach-routes/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/learning-male-driving-habits/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/learning-male-driving-habits/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:36:24 +0000 Robert Canaga <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5579>
by Robert Canaga
Eugene, OR

My dad enjoyed driving as much as I do. On random Sunday mornings, very early, he would say “Let’s go!”.

We usually drove east and he NEVER turned around and seldom stopped. My mother would see something of interest and point it out as dad drove passed, oblivious. We once ended up at the end of a gravel road far above Green Peter Dam’s site, then merely a deep canyon. He sat for a very long time peering ahead trying to figure out a way through, but finally turned and drove straight back home, defeated.

We often went over the Cascades on Highway 20, always stopping at the Mountain House Café for a hamburger and a visit with the cursing Myna bird. He was trained by the log truck drivers and had quite a vocabulary. Peterson’s Rock Garden, Lava Butte, the ice cave, the forest of petrified wood and many other wonders, waited for us on those long Sunday drives.

We visited all the dams on the Columbia, the redwood forest, all the Oregon coast, Oregon Caves, Mount Hood, and as far east as the Malheur county, always returning home very late, but in time for sleep before school the next day.

Today I drive all over the state gathering wine for Oregon Mozart Players’ annual auction, one bottle at a time. I hate to turn around, and seldom stop unless there is a blue sign nearby.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/learning-male-driving-habits/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/twentieth-century-pioneer/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/twentieth-century-pioneer/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:33:20 +0000 Ric Minich <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5582> by Ric Minich
Portland, OR

From my youth, having been born and raised in Delaware, the west coast was my dream destination for life. Opportunity arrived in the Spring of 1974 and like the forefathers a century before, our family (my wife, two sons, and I) left Pennsylvania headed for the Willamette Valley. A week before the journey began, my wife had a miscarriage.

A schedule to meet, furniture packed and house sold, we loaded the two children, house plants, and two dogs in our 1973 Plymouth Duster, a “U-haul” trailer behind (somewhat similar to a Conestoga wagon), the Willamette Valley our destination. The family recovering and sleeping in the back of the Duster, the dogs in the trailer, we arrived in Portland, five days later, the same week as Bill Walton. This is the time of Governor Tom McCall, “Visit Oregon but don’t stay” proclamation. We feared hostility from the natives. Our family was of good stock; soon many good Oregonians (the natives) befriended us. Like many pioneers, our family grew with the addition of two native Oregonians, by birth. We experienced the 1997 Blazers NBA Championship and the 1980 St Helen’s eruption (the two defining NW Oregon events of the second half of the century).

In 1977, using the Oregon Veteran’s loan process, we purchased and developed property in Boring that in fact was part of the last leg of the Barlow Trail to Oregon City. Within six short years, we had truly become Oregonians. Thirty five years later, our family boast of three Oregon college graduates (the universities of Oregon, Eastern Oregon, and Multnomah) as well as a Mt Hood CC Associate. We have started two businesses and begun the careers of numerous young Oregonians in both the electrical field and special education. In the field of limited energy electrical, our family is synonymous with success (another second half-century phenomenon).

We rejoice, cry, laugh, suffer, enjoy, volunteer, participate, preserve, and defend nearly everything Oregonian. In a

single generation, our family has become integrated Oregonians (three native born daughter-in-laws, one son-in-law). Today, our Oregon family reunion consists of sixteen people with more grandchildren to come, me being the patriarch. Perhaps after many more generations will the significance of our family be fully recognized in the longer history of Oregon. Meanwhile, having begun life outside Oregon, we more than many appreciate the natural, plus created, beauty, environmental, and progressive thinking of our wonderful state. We are an Oregon story, because we are the Twentieth Century Pioneers.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/twentieth-century-pioneer/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/january-7-1979/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/january-7-1979/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:28:13 +0000 Rose Garacci <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5593> by Rose Garacci
John Day, OR

I arrived in Eugene Oregon, at 6pm in the evening on January 7, 1979. It was raining and cold. The trip was long, coming from the bayous of southern Louisiana. I stayed the winter in Eugene, but fate took me over the Cascades into Eastern Oregon, Grant County, June 16th, 1979. And this was the moment my soul connected with my special spot on earth. The sunshine, the desert wind, the smell of juniper and sage, I knew I had found the place. That was 30 years ago. I still appreciate the sunrises and sunsets in the John Day Valley, I will never take this for granted. My children were born and raised here, so I have given them a very special gift. I love eastern Oregon and while I was not born or raised here, I will most certainly die happy here. My ashes will be spread on the top of Strawberry Mountain, and in the Alvord Desert. I am home.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/january-7-1979/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/my-way-here/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/my-way-here/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:23:55 +0000 Marilyn Moore
<http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5598> by Marilyn Moore
Sheridan, OR

The year was 1980, my husband at the time was in the military, and we were to transfer from California. Our choices were Detroit, Michigan or Portland, Oregon. We chose Oregon to remain close to our families. We divorced shortly there after, and he transferred away, and I decided to stay and make Oregon my home. I raised two kids here, and remarried to a man with 5 kids, we moved to Sheridan eventually and this is where the kids finished growing up. Eventually, I sent for my brother, my sister, and after my father's death, I brought up my mother. Only a few of my siblings remain in California now. As each sibling, and my mother came to love Oregon, they finally understood why I chose to stay and make this my home. The peace of mind, the great scenery, and the general atmosphere of the public was really quite serene compared to California. My kids now have roots here, and my grandsons attend Willamina Elementary. I work in Newberg, have been for the last 16 years, another great town. Oregon is my home and always will be.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/my-way-here/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/sixty-years-later/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/sixty-years-later/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:20:57 +0000 Helen Torney
Randall <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5602> by Helen Torney Randall
Portland, OR

When my husband and I drove into Eugene in September 1949, we had been married only two weeks. Neither of us had ever lived in Oregon, and we thought our stay would be temporary, a year or two, while my husband worked on a graduate degree at the University of Oregon.

Sixty years later, it's September 2009. We are still here! We fell in love with Oregon. We never left. When it was time to leave Eugene, we moved just up the road to Portland where my husband began teaching in the Portland Public Schools. I worked downtown at the FBI and later at Reed College. We had a marvelous time exploring the beautiful parks and many things to see and do in Portland. We loved shopping at the Farmer's Market at SW 3rd and Yamhill, lunch at the Bohemian Restaurant, shopping at Meier and Frank, Lipman's, Olds & King, symphony concerts at the old Civic Auditorium, plays at Civic Theater, getting acquainted with the Mormon community in Portland while attending church and volunteering at the chapel on SE 30th and Harrison, playing tennis at Laurelhurst Park, having friends over for dinner, movies, hiking, camping, trips to the beach. When relatives visited from Washington or Utah it was such a

pleasure introducing them to Portland and Oregon.

Looking back over these past sixty years, we realize what a great place it has been to raise our four children. How thankful we are that three of them have settled in this area. We have been able to see grandchildren as newborns, toddlers, first graders, and all of a sudden as graduates from high school, who go off to college, get married and have their own children. Our two highest priorities throughout these past sixty years have been our family and service in our church. As our family has grown and expanded, so has the church (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) in the Portland area and Oregon. Today it is the second largest church in Oregon. We served for many years as volunteers in the LDS temple in Lake Oswego. Our children and grandchildren enjoy the peace and serenity as they also enjoy the spirit of the temple.

Our favorite drive is still the old Scenic Highway to Multnomah Falls, at any and all times of the year—never complete until we stop at Chanticleer Point viewpoint, then at Latourell Falls, and finally Wahkeena Falls on the way. Lunch at Multnomah Falls Lodge is a treat. As we drive home on the freeway, I often think about this beautiful Oregon country—this is where so many people, pioneers and others, came and do come, from all parts of the country, to see and some to settle. And just think—we're right here, we live here, and we're staying.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/sixty-years-later/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/call-me-oregonian/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/call-me-oregonian/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:18:23 +0000
Kathleen Lewis <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5603> by Kathleen Lewis
Provo, UT

The first mark of an Oregonian is that we actually refer to ourselves as Oregonians. Nobody else in the nation even knows that that's what you call somebody from Oregon. The second mark of a true Oregonian is a near obsession with the rain. And I've got it.

I love the summer sun and fun days at the beach or the park, but nothing makes me feel the way the rain does. I think the only time I find myself disappointed that it's raining is when I've planned an outdoor party (like my birthday party. Sad day. At least we got to play with the parachute). Everybody says they love the way the rain smells, and I do, but even more than that I love how the sky takes on it's hue of overcast gray and lets out the beautiful pit-pat-pat-pit-pit of raindrops on the world. Can't you just hear the sound of rain falling in a tin can? Or on the plastic overhang on the side patio? I can.

Oregonians also know how to puddle-hop. This was a talent I took for granted until I moved out of the state for college where my husband and I started dating and going for long walks all the time. Even in the dark I had no problems stepping or daintily (I'm so sure) leaping over the puddles in my path. Meanwhile, my poor, doting hand-holder was walking around with wet feet. I tried to teach him, but to no avail.

Another thing about rain- there are different kinds. Downpour, torrential downpour, just rain, spittle rain (makes me itchy), the list goes on. Just rain, or a good hard rain (especially when you're already crying anyway) are the kinds that set my heart right.

Perhaps my favorite way to get caught in the rain is wearing a cozy hoodie. I picture myself running in from the parking lot in high school wearing one of the many promotional sweatshirts from the plays I was in. Why on earth did I ever pack those away in a box and leave them at home? I miss them. They are like old friends. So many memories.

Life feels right when it's raining on the world. Perhaps that's why I find myself feeling so thrilled every time it rains here in this place I'm in that's not Oregon. Today about lunch time we heard the thunder roll in loud and booming. I started feeling excited. Then, the torrential downpour began. It was one of those rains that comes down in sheets and makes the spaces in between the color of trees and buildings look white. I couldn't help myself- I got up from my lunch to join my two year-old nephew on the balcony to watch the rain.

Ahh. Everything is beautiful.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/call-me-oregonian/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/summer->

days-on-the-farm/ <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/summer-days-on-the-farm/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:15:00 +0000 Susan Wheeler Woods <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5604> by Susan Wheeler Woods
Salem, OR

I was born soon after my father returned from World War II, the second of 10 children. We lived on a farm that our ancestors had homesteaded in 1853. As soon as I could walk, I got to help bottle-feed the orphan lambs in the barn. Soon, I was big enough to gather eggs and feed calves. It was great entertainment to watch Dad milk the cows, squirting milk into the open cats' mouths, and I learned how to do that too. Helping round up sheep came next; however, the best thing was hanging sacks on the grass seed combine when I was 6, because I earned a quarter an hour! I was rich! A savings account held my riches not used to buy school supplies and clothes. As I grew, I progressed from sack hanger to sack sewer at 8, and combine driver at 10.

Combines then were open-air affairs, with platforms welded on the side to hold workers and a chute. Sacks were filled, sewed, and stacked in the chute to be dumped at a spot each trip around the field. A crew loaded the sacks onto a flat-bed truck for transport to the warehouse, where the seed was cleaned and sacked for sale. I never got to be on that crew, because I was a girl.

I got to operate a wind-rower (reaper) at 13 to cut the grass and lay it in rows for combining or hay, and help with the field burning. The tractor work was mostly done in the spring during school hours, so I missed out on that. As I grew, my wages (and the state minimum wage) increased until I was earning 95 cents an hour during college vacations!

I had other money-making opportunities. At 9, I bought a ewe, a dairy calf, and a horse for 4-H projects. I sold the lambs and calves every year; the horse was just for fun.

Being a girl, I also helped in the house. Those days were spent preparing and cleaning up after 3 meals (no dishwasher); canning fruits, vegetables, and jams and jellies; washing, hanging outside, and folding 5-7 loads of laundry; cleaning; and watching 2-3 children under age 5. I preferred working in the fields, because the 10-hour work days were shorter!

On Sundays, we'd load up the car, take a picnic lunch, and drive into the Cascades to collect specimens for 4-H forestry books. The county fair was an exciting opportunity to exhibit 4-H projects and sell an animal at the 4-H auction. The best exhibits got to be shown at the State Fair!

Harvest over, I was eager to return to school each fall. My savings paid for 8 terms of college. I had learned the relationship between income and labor, and the importance of saving up for what you want.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/summer-days-on-the-farm/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/two-friends-a-burned-down-capital-and-the-key/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/two-friends-a-burned-down-capital-and-the-key/#comments> Thu, 24 Sep 2009 20:10:09 +0000 Jamie Harwood <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5768> by Jamie Harwood
Lake Oswego, OR

My great-grandfathers were good friends as well as colleagues in the house. One, was the Secretary of State, Earl Snell and the other was Daniel J. Fry, the Democratic Representative from Marion county. Dan was given the key to the capitol by Earl on February 5 1935. The capitol then burned down on April 25 1935. I have the key; it too got a little burned! Dan completed his term and Earl went on to be the Governor. He died during his second term in a plane crash that killed him, the pilot, and the Secretary of State. That was in 1947.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/24/two-friends-a-burned-down-capital-and-the-key/feed/>



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THAT REMARKABLE GROUP OF WOMEN

submitted by Katherine Keniston
Portland, OR

"To me, as we grow, we don't have to necessarily be the first, or the biggest; we simply need to stay concerned for the poor and vulnerable and we need to meet the needs of people today. It is about how good we can be - in the service to others." - Sister Rita Ferschweiler, S.P., Providence Health & Services in Oregon



While Oregonians were celebrating their new statehood in 1859, just across the Columbia River a remarkable group of five women were making history of their own. They had completed an arduous journey from Montreal, Quebec, two years earlier, stepping off a steamer at Fort Vancouver in the Washington Territory.

These pioneering Sisters of Providence in their distinctive black habits settled into a land where there were no hospitals, few schools, and scant charitable services for people suffering the misfortunes of frontier life. The sisters were led by a skilled carpenter and architect of great compassion and vision named Mother Joseph of the Sacred Heart. Equipped with simple tools, enormous gifts for creating and building, and a deep faith, Mother Joseph and her sister companions set to work teaching children and giving tender care to the poor and vulnerable.

The Sisters of Providence went on to build hospitals, schools, orphanages, homes for the elderly and shelters for the mentally ill. In 1875 they established Oregon's first permanent hospital, St. Vincent Hospital, which began as a three-story wooden structure in northwest Portland.

"Sometimes in dealing with...challenges, I think of that group of women....I think of them facing great need with limited resources - and of their loving, giving hearts." - Russ Danielson, chief executive, Providence Health & Services in Oregon.

Over the decades, the Sisters of Providence health care ministry has evolved into today's Providence Health & Services. People of Providence continue the sisters' works by living a Mission of revealing "God's love for all, especially the poor and vulnerable, through our compassionate service." Providence serves communities in Oregon, Washington, Alaska, California and Montana.

In Oregon, the not-for-profit Providence Health & Services operates seven hospitals - Providence St. Vincent Medical Center and Providence Portland Medical Center in Portland,

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FEATURED STORY
submitted by Katherine Keniston
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Providence Milwaukie Hospital, Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital, Providence Newberg Medical Center, Providence Seaside Hospital and Providence Medford Medical Center.

Providence also includes physician clinics, health centers, home care services, health plans, and care centers for medically fragile children and older adults. With some 16,000 employees, Providence is now Oregon's largest private employer.

Providence provided Oregonians with more than \$165 million in community benefits during 2008, including more than \$77 million in free care to patients in need. The work of serving the poor and vulnerable remains as real today as when Mother Joseph knelt to comfort an orphan child or to ease an elder's pain.

"What is truly wonderful about working at Providence Medford Medical Center is that sense and feeling that the Sisters of Providence still walk our halls." - Elaine Ritchey, R.N.

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Activate Oregon 2009

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Posted in News, Press Releases on Saturday, September 26th, 2009 |

"YOUTH MERIT VOICE IN DECISIONS TODAY," BY OREGON 150 INTERN AND ACTIVATE OREGON PARTICIPANT, ARI STRUDLER

Click here to read Ms. Strudler's Sunday Oregonian Op-Ed article that appeared on August 23, 2009.

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Posted in News on Monday, August 24th, 2009 |

INTERVIEW WITH OREGON POET LAUREATE - LAWSON INADA

Tune in Thursday, August 13th, at 1:00 pm to hear Oregon 150 Radio interview Lawson Inada, Oregon's state poet laureate.

Lawson Fusao Inada is an emeritus professor of writing at Southern Oregon University in Ashland. Inada is the author of five books: Legends from Camp, Drawing the Line, In This Great Land of Freedom, Just Into/Nations [...]

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OREGON'S COLLECTIVE YOUTH VOICE CONVERGES AT THE CAPITOL

Fifty to 60 Oregon teens will gather at Willamette University for Activate Oregon, a youth leadership summit taking place August 7-8. Presented by Project 2059, a youth legacy initiative created in honor of Oregon's 150th anniversary of statehood, Activate Oregon is an opportunity for selected high school students to come together, discuss the future of [...]

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Posted in News on Thursday, August 6th, 2009 |

OREGON! OREGON! PORTLAND SHOW VENUE CHANGE - OREGON ZOO

The Oregon! Oregon! show scheduled for September 5th has been moved from the Memorial Coliseum to the Oregon Zoo. To purchase tickets, click here!

All previously purchased tickets for the Memorial Coliseum show are not valid for entrance to the Zoo show. Those who purchased tickets for the Memorial Coliseum event via credit card [...]

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OREGON 150 HAPPY HOUR - PIONEER COURTHOUSE SQUARE - JULY 28TH, 5PM

July 24, 2009:

Join us for incredible music, food and FUN!

Start your evening by watching the live broadcast of the Oregon 150 Happy Hour Variety Show featuring Pink Martini's Thomas Lauderdale, Live Wire's sketch comedy performers, an intimate discussion of the Oregon music scene with some of Oregon's most notable music experts, and free [...]

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Posted in News on Friday, July 24th, 2009 |

LISTEN TO THE ORIGINAL OREGON! OREGON! SONG

July 9, 2009: Click [HERE](#) to listen to the original Oregon! Oregon! song.

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Posted in News on Thursday, July 9th, 2009 |

PINK MARTINI, THE 234TH ARMY BAND—OREGON NATIONAL GUARD AND OREGON 150 TO PRESENT OREGON! OREGON! 2009

July 1, 2009: Pink Martini, the 234th Army Band—Oregon National Guard and Oregon 150 to present Oregon! Oregon! 2009 : A sesquicentennial fable in IV acts

-Tickets Start at \$12; on Sale Statewide!-

Hold on to your myrtlewood as Pink Martini and the 234th Army Band—Oregon National Guard and Oregon 150 present Oregon! Oregon! [...]

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RECORD VOLUNTEER NUMBERS TURN OUT TO "TAKE CARE OF OREGON" THROUGHOUT MAY, 2009

June 19, 2009: Record Volunteer Numbers turn out to 'Take Care of Oregon'

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Posted in News, Press Releases on Friday, June 19th, 2009 |

FIVE YOUTH LEGACY PARK PROJECTS CELEBRATED DURING SESQUICENTENNIAL

June 18, 2009: Youth Legacy Park Dedications

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<http://www.oregon150.org> 144 144 <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/26/oregon%e2%80%99s-official-sesquicentennial-commemoration-ends/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/26/oregon%e2%80%99s-official-sesquicentennial-commemoration-ends/#comments> Sat, 26 Sep 2009 22:03:05 +0000 admin
<http://www.oregon150.org/?p=6345> [83% Awareness Generated of State's 150th Birthday](#)

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<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/26/oregon-150%e2%80%99s-activate-oregon-to-continue-under-osu-4-h-youth-development-program/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/26/oregon-150%e2%80%99s-activate-oregon-to-continue-under-osu-4-h-youth-development-program/#comments> Sat, 26 Sep 2009 21:59:16 +0000 admin
<http://www.oregon150.org/?p=6341> [Activate Oregon 2009](#)

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20:31:38 +0000 admin <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5472> 

Click [here](#) to read Ms. Strudler's Sunday Oregonian Op-Ed article that appeared on August 23, 2009.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/08/24/youth-merit-voice-in-decisions-today-by-oregon-150-intern-and-activate-oregon-participant-ari-strudler/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/08/12/interview-with-oregon-poet-laureate-lawson-inada/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/08/12/interview-with-oregon-poet-laureate-lawson-inada/#comments>
Wed, 12 Aug 2009 23:20:07 +0000 admin <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5417> 

[Tune in Thursday, August 13th, at 1:00 pm to hear Oregon 150 Radio interview Lawson Inada, Oregon's state poet laureate.](#)

Lawson Fusao Inada is an emeritus professor of writing at Southern Oregon University in Ashland. Inada is the author of five books: *Legends from Camp*, *Drawing the Line*, *In This Great Land of Freedom*, *Just Into/Nations* and *Before the War*. He is the editor of three important volumes, including the acclaimed [Only What We Could Carry: The Japanese-American Internment Experience](#).

On two previous occasions, in 1972 and 1985, Professor Inada won Poetry Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and his work has appeared in *The Best American Poetry*.

Lawson Inada will share examples of his work, including "Saying the Name," a poem written for Oregon on her 150th birthday, and answer questions about writing in Oregon, poetry, and his work on the Japanese-American internment experience.

Listeners can instant message questions to Mr. Inada live by going to <http://oregon150.sprnetwork.com>.



]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/08/12/interview-with-oregon-poet-laureate-lawson-inada/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/08/06/oregons-collective-youth-voice-converges-at-the-capitol/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/08/06/oregons-collective-youth-voice-converges-at-the-capitol/#comments> Thu, 06 Aug 2009 21:16:57 +0000 admin <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5386>



Fifty to 60 Oregon teens will gather at Willamette University for Activate Oregon, a youth leadership summit taking place August 7-8. Presented by Project 2059, a youth legacy initiative created in honor of Oregon's 150th anniversary of statehood, Activate Oregon is an opportunity for selected high school students to come together, discuss the future of

Oregon's economy, environment, and education, and represent the collective voice of Oregon's youth.

Governor Ted Kulongoski will deliver the closing remarks during the leadership summit.

This is Phase II of our Project 2059 youth engagement project where we have [63 high school students](#) from around the state attending.

Please take a quick look at the [list of students and their respective cities](#) and reach out to congratulate anyone on the list in your area.

Oregon 150 wishes to thank the following sponsors for their support of Project 2059 and Activate Oregon:

The Oregon Community Foundation
The Collins Foundation
Columbia Sportswear
The Verizon Foundation
The Ford Family Foundation
Bank of America
The Autzen Foundation
OPUS
Hotel deLuxe & Hotel Lucia

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/08/06/oregons-collective-youth-voice-converges-at-the-capitol/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/30/oregon-oregon-portland-show-venue-change-oregon-zoo/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/30/oregon-oregon-portland-show-venue-change-oregon-zoo/#comments> Thu, 30 Jul 2009 17:06:47 +0000 admin <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5356> The Oregon! Oregon! show scheduled for September 5th has been moved from the Memorial Coliseum to the Oregon Zoo. To purchase tickets, click [here!](#)

All previously purchased tickets for the Memorial Coliseum show are not valid for entrance to the Zoo show. Those who purchased tickets for the Memorial Coliseum event via credit card at the Rose Quarter Box Office, ComcastTIX.com or by phone will automatically receive a refund. Ticket holders who purchased tickets at Safeway/TicketsWest outlets can receive refunds at the place of purchase. Tickets purchased by cash at the Rose Quarter Box Office can receive a refund at the box office. For any further questions about tickets please contact the Rose Quarter Box Office at 503.797.9619.

For other Oregon! Oregon! shows and tickets, click [here!](#)

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/30/oregon-oregon-portland-show-venue-change-oregon-zoo/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/24/oregon-150-happy-hour-pioneer-courthouse-square-july-28th-5pm/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/24/oregon-150-happy-hour-pioneer-courthouse-square-july-28th-5pm/#comments>
Fri, 24 Jul 2009 18:32:23 +0000 admin <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5312> **July 24, 2009:**

Join us for incredible music, food and FUN!

Start your evening by watching the live broadcast of the Oregon 150 Happy Hour Variety Show featuring Pink Martini's Thomas Lauderdale, Live Wire's sketch comedy performers, an intimate discussion of the Oregon music scene with some of Oregon's most notable music experts, and free Oregon! Oregon! 2009 ticket giveaways. Oh, and while you're indulging in some of the local food and drink offerings, after the variety show, settle in to watch 5 Portland bands that are guaranteed to make you even prouder than ever to be an Oregonian. Did we mention that Martha Davis & The Motels will be there?

You really don't want to miss this. Join us in celebrating Oregon's 150th birthday!



Go [HERE](#) for more details!

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/24/oregon-150-happy-hour-pioneer-courthouse-square-july-28th-5pm/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/09/listen-to-the-original-oregon-oregon-song/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/09/listen-to-the-original-oregon-oregon-song/#comments> Thu, 09 Jul 2009 20:51:21 +0000 admin <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5119> **July 9, 2009:** Click [HERE](#) to listen to the original Oregon! Oregon! song.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/09/listen-to-the-original-oregon-oregon-song/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/01/pink-martini-the-234th-army-band%e2%80%94oregon-national-guard-and-oregon-150-to-present-oregon-oregon-2009/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/01/pink-martini-the-234th-army-band%e2%80%94oregon-national-guard-and-oregon-150-to-present-oregon-oregon-2009/#comments> Wed, 01 Jul 2009 22:41:29 +0000 admin <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5064> **July 1, 2009:** Pink Martini, the 234th Army Band—Oregon National Guard and Oregon 150 to present Oregon! Oregon! 2009 : A sesquicentennial fable in IV acts



-Tickets Start at \$12; on Sale Statewide!-

Hold on to your myrtlewood as Pink Martini and the 234th Army Band—Oregon National Guard and Oregon 150 present Oregon! Oregon! 2009: A sesquicentennial fable in IV acts, which will debut August 28, 2009 at the Oregon State Fair and then tour the state – the icing on the cake of the state’s 150th birthday party. Tickets are on now on sale statewide.

In 1959 – to celebrate Oregon’s centennial – the Blitz-Weinhard Brewing Company commissioned the Grammy Award-winning radio personality Stan Freberg to write a 21-minute-long musical comedy about the Beaver State. What resulted was a hilarious tale of two explorers in 1859 named Harry and David, their encounter with a witch, and the subsequent birth of a state which must go back into the bottle after 100 years ... that is, if the citizens of 1959 can’t break the spell.

Fifty years later a team of Oregonians – including Chariots of Fire conductor Harry Rabinowitz (age 92), Thomas Lauderdale of Pink Martini, PICA Flash Choir’s Sarah Dougher & Pat Janowski and the writers of Livewire! – have teamed up to write a new Act IV ... complete with brand new songs and rollicking plot! Unlike the 1959 Oregon! Oregon! the show is being performed live, with Pink Martini and the 234th Army Band—Oregon National Guard joined by a surprise cast of Oregonians.

“We are so proud to have Oregon’s own, internationally-renowned Pink Martini and our amazing 234th Army Band performing Oregon! Oregon! 2009 across our state,” said First Lady Mary Oberst, chair of Oregon 150. “This will be a fantastic, memorable and hilarious birthday present for Oregon, and the Governor and I invite everyone to join us for the performances and blow out the candles on our official sesquicentennial celebration.”

Lauderdale, a member of the board of directors of Oregon 150, the non-profit organization appointed by Governor Ted Kulongoski to plan this year’s sesquicentennial celebration, is a collector of Oregon kitsch and was entranced by the 1959 soundtrack. The 2009 update is made possible through generous support of The Kinsman Foundation, The Wessinger Foundation, Stoel Rives LLP, PICA, and the Hotel DeLuxe and Hotel Lucia in Portland.

With sets by Portland-artist Scrappers and an all-star Oregonian cast backed by the 234th Army Band—Oregon National Guard and Pink Martini, Oregon! Oregon! 2009 will debut on the opening night of the Oregon State Fair, followed by performances in Bend and Jacksonville. The final performance – in Portland – will be presented in the bowl of the historic Memorial Coliseum (built in 1959) for one night only – Saturday, September 5! Each performance will be followed by a full set by Pink Martini.

Oregon! Oregon! 2009 Performances and Tickets
Schedule

8/28: Salem, Oregon State Fair,

8/29: Bend, Les Schwab Amphitheater

8/30: Jacksonville, The Britt Festival (reserved seats sold out! General admission tickets still available)

9/5: Portland, Oregon Zoo (concert moved from Memorial Coliseum)

Tickets - start at \$12.00

[Salem \(State Fair\)](#)

(1-800-992-8499 or www.Ticketswest.com) and all participating Safeway TicketsWest outlets in Oregon, and at the Oregon State Fair office (2330 17th Street NE Salem, OR; 8:00 AM-5:00 PM on weekdays).

[Bend](#)

[Jacksonville](#)

[Portland](#)

More information is available at www.oregon150.org or by calling Oregon 150 toll free (877) 355-6905.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/01/pink-martini-the-234th-army-band%e2%80%94oregon-national-guard-and-oregon-150-to-present-oregon-oregon-2009/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/06/19/record-volunteer-numbers-turn-out-to-%e2%80%9ctake-care-of-oregon%e2%80%9d-throughout-may-2009/>

<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/06/19/record-volunteer-numbers-turn-out-to-%e2%80%9ctake-care-of-oregon%e2%80%9d-throughout-may-2009/#comments> Fri, 19 Jun 2009 20:48:45 +0000 admin

<http://www.oregon150.org/?p=4960> **June 19, 2009: [Record Volunteer Numbers turn out to 'Take Care of Oregon'](#)**

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/06/19/record-volunteer-numbers-turn-out-to-%e2%80%9ctake-care-of-oregon%e2%80%9d-throughout-may-2009/feed/>

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OREGON 150'S "ACTIVATE OREGON" TO CONTINUE UNDER OSU 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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« "Youth Merit Voice in Decisions Today," by Oregon 150 intern and Activate Oregon participant, Ari Strudler

Oregon's Official Sesquicentennial Commemoration Ends »

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<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/28/remembering-the-sesquicentennial/#comments> Mon, 28 Sep 2009 23:23:50
+0000 oregon <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=6352>

Dear Oregonians:



Our sesquicentennial year is coming to a close. The celebration that started on February 14, 2009, has been extraordinary for many reasons. We have learned together, remembered together, had fun together, and most of all – pulled together. In a year that was difficult for many Oregon families, our celebration of 150 years of statehood reminded all of us who we are as a people, why we love Oregon, and how blessed we are to live here.

It also gave us the opportunity to honor our diversity, breathtaking landscapes and seascapes, and cultural traditions that form the mosaic we call Oregon.

There are many people and organizations to thank for making our sesquicentennial an unqualified success, starting with the board of Oregon 150, our dedicated and hardworking staff, and countless volunteers, who together and without a lot of fanfare, pulled off one of the biggest birthday celebrations in Oregon history. But the work of the board and staff would not have been possible without the generous support of partners – individuals, tribes, state agencies, businesses and non-profit organizations – that stepped up with donations of money and services. Without their help, turning the board’s strategic plan for the sesquicentennial into reality would not have been possible. But our biggest thank you goes to the citizens of Oregon. You embraced our birthday celebration by partnering with Oregon 150, creating and holding community events and clean-ups, traveling the state, posting your Oregon Stories on the Oregon 150 website, sharing family histories, and setting the stage for Oregon’s bicentennial in 2059.

The board’s strategic plan included six signature projects, which you can read more about in this report. They were:

- Oregon Stories
- Take Care of Oregon
- Travel Oregon 150
- Imagine Oregon Blog
- The Youth Legacy Projects
- Oregon! Oregon!

We hope you enjoy reading about all that you and your fellow Oregonians accomplished during this great sesquicentennial year. You’ll find descriptions of projects, testimonials and recollections, and lots of pictures. So enjoy. And please remember that while the official sesquicentennial celebration will soon be over – the spirit, enthusiasm, hope and joy we found together this year will continue. Because that’s what it means to be an Oregonian.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kulongoski

Governor

Mary Oberst

President of Oregon 150, Inc.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/28/remembering-the-sesquicentennial/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/21/tough-love/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/09/21/tough-love/#comments> Mon,
21 Sep 2009 19:51:00 +0000 oregon <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5808> 

By: Neal Keny-Guyer, CEO of Mercy Corps

It's easy to praise Oregon on her 150th birthday. Our state is gorgeous and livable, a national leader in the art and science of what makes a region work.

Yes, Oregon asks a lot of us. Where else is civic duty so celebrated and public planning so exhaustively scrutinized? Yet we know that the choices we make directly affect our own daily lives, and those of our children and grandchildren. And so we make them carefully.

Our civic dues are a fair price for the privilege of living on this beautiful land. Our forebears made some wise decisions so that we can live as we do, and we owe them a debt of gratitude even as we carry on the work they began.

It is easy to praise Oregon.

Oregon has been a wonderful home for Mercy Corps for 30 years. That's why we have chosen to stay here, to invest in Oregon, to build our new headquarters here.

Here we draw strength from a community whose people are a model of engaged, connected citizenry. In a recent study, the Portland metro area ranked #2 nationally in volunteerism. Even during the current downturn, the number of people giving their time to help others hasn't wavered. And the metro area ranked *first* among states in the volunteerism of our young people – the so-called “millenials” born on or after 1982. What a testament to the willingness of our youth to walk the talk.

Oregonians were among the first to travel to New York after 9/11 and to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, bringing our powerful homegrown blend of concern and can-do spirit to people struggling to recover from catastrophe. Oregonians generously support Mercy Corps and other international agencies, extending their compassion to help people around the world who are applying their own grit and determination to overcome the most daunting hardship.

Yes, Oregonians seem to get it: Our lives on this precious planet are bound together by shared needs and interests. When we remember that, and work together, we can achieve remarkable things.

But I didn't join this discussion simply to sing praises. We Oregonians prefer straight talk – and tough love, as well.

Here it is:

With all due respect, we are too self-satisfied. We too often show smug pride about the “Oregon way” – as if we already have it all figured out – that limits our capacity for greatness. We can be parochial and insular, shut off from new ideas and influences. We aren't concerned enough about the kind of society we are becoming. And our standards should be higher.

Oregon should aim to lead the nation, or at the least be among the top ten states, in every quality-of-life metric. Right now, we're nowhere near that.

Take unemployment. Our jobless rate – at 12.2% in June 2009, the third-worst in the country – is unacceptable. Or hunger. In the three-year period *before* the current recession, Oregon was ranked third in the nation for hunger and food insecurity – a dramatic increase from our ranking of 18th in the previous reporting period.

Our schools are foundering too. In reading, Oregon fourth graders ranked 40th in the nation, while eighth

graders ranked 23rd. In math, Oregon fourth graders ranked 42nd and eighth graders ranked 19th. In science, Oregon fourth graders ranked 25th, while eighth graders ranked 20th. And, as reported on August 6 in The Oregonian, “the number of Portland and east metro schools that face federal sanctions for failing to meet standards has doubled, from nine in 2008 to 18 this year.”

As for income inequality, between the late 1980s and 2006, the gap between our middle 20% and our richest 20% increased more than in any other state except Connecticut. It is unacceptable that almost 17% of Oregon’s children live in poverty.

It is simply intolerable for Oregon, which has the resources, the capacity, and so many smart, progressive and good citizens, to not aim to lead.

We should be at the forefront in caring for our children. In health, education and employment. In income opportunity and sustainability. That’s how we live up to the dream of our beautiful state. That’s the real Oregon way.

We may debate the politics of getting there, even as we rally around the value of community service and of setting high standards for leadership.

When each of us makes the personal commitment to act, there’s nothing we cannot accomplish together. Will you choose one or two great local organizations to volunteer with? What if every single Oregonian volunteered? We would have a cadre of 3.8 million people working to better our state. Wow. Now that’s an unstoppable force.

As for Mercy Corps, our local affiliate, Mercy Corps Northwest, works with low-income entrepreneurs here in the Pacific Northwest. Just like people around the world who are trying to build a better life for their families, our neighbors here – many of them minorities or immigrants – just need an opportunity to get ahead. We offer a hand up so they can apply their own ideas and energy to start a business and create a brighter future for their children.

Mercy Corps welcomes Oregonians and visitors alike into our new Action Center in Old Town Portland, after it opens on October 9. There you’ll learn more ways you can help people in your community – and your world.

I’d love to hear your thoughts. What cause or issue or organization is closest to your heart? What’s the connection to your own life? Are you passionate to help others overcome an obstacle that you yourself faced? How are you going to make that happen?

There has never been a better – or a more urgent – time to build a stronger Oregon. Let’s get going now, so that in 2059 this sesquicentennial will be remembered as the turning point, the time when Oregonians stood up and said: “Enough. Too many people are lagging behind. We can do better. And I’m going to help.”

An African proverb says, “The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago. The next best time is today.”

Oregonians, let’s get planting!

Neal Keny-Guyer, CEO of Mercy Corps, encourages everyone to visit Mercy Corps’ new Portland Action Center (28 S.W. First Avenue, information at actioncenter.org/portland), after it opens on October 9, for ideas about engagement and service.

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Aug 2009 20:23:39 +0000 oregon <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5464>

The following opinion editorial was submitted to The Oregonian by Ari Strudler and was published on Sunday, August 23rd, 2009.

By: Ari Strudler- Junior at LEP High School, Portland, Oregon

Youth across Oregon are standing up for what they believe in. Whether they are young voters who recently cast their first ballots or dedicated high school students, they are making change.

An example is the youth leadership summit in Salem, where I and more than 60 high school students debated Oregon's future. The Aug. 7-8 summit at Willamette University gave students the opportunity to present their vision of an ideal Oregon to Gov. Ted Kulongoski and state schools Superintendent Susan Castillo.

The summit, presented by Oregon 150 as part of its [Project 2059](#) online social network, was called Activate Oregon. The speakers challenged the students, the activities sparked creative energy and, most importantly, the presence of different-minded people created debate.

The power of the youth voice at Activate Oregon was remarkable, and it left some adults provoked with thought and new ideas. Martin Tull, a committed environmentalist and a facilitator at the summit, said: "There's an opportunity to blend youth leadership and enthusiasm with the existing process, and really, the best solutions will come from existing leadership and new vision."

We high school students are the people who will deal with the repercussions of choices made now. The bailouts, plans and choices that lawmakers push through are going to have consequences. Whether these consequences are good or bad, in 50 years today's students will be in their 60s and living with the decisions their parents and grandparents made.

If what is being decided now is going to affect my age group the most, it's important that my generation has more of a voice. We have goals and opinions about every single issue in Oregon. We want more foreign language and government in school, environmental progress, equal rights and an end to homelessness. In four years, today's high school freshmen will be old enough to vote. We will change Oregon when we exercise that right.

Until then, high school students are speaking out. We are going to summits, talking to officials and learning about the political process. At Activate Oregon, Kulongoski and Castillo were seen taking notes on students' presentations. Theirs is a good example to the older generations and future generations to come.

Take note. This is a time of change, and today's high school students will be spearheading this change.

About: Ari Strudler is a junior at LEP High School in Portland. She is an intern at Oregon 150 and a youth adviser to state schools Superintendent Susan Castillo.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/08/24/youth-merit-voice-in-decisions-today/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/17/in-tune-with-ourselves-and-our-environment/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/17/in-tune-with-ourselves-and-our-environment/#comments> Fri, 17 Jul 2009



21:29:08 +0000 oregon <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5171>

By Dawn Rasmussen

As a non-native Oregonian transplanted almost 25 years ago to this incredible state, I've grown accustomed to thinking about everything I do in a green way since setting foot here. From recycling or composting as much waste as possible, to not consuming as much, to consciously thinking about how I am going to connect various errands so I reduce my driving (and subsequent carbon footprint), it's a green way of thinking. I probably wouldn't have adopted this perspective if I had stayed in any of my previous residences in Wisconsin, North Carolina, or Louisiana. It's a different mentality in those states. To me, Oregon's forward-thinking is completely cutting-edge, and is producing some of the technology that will provide power and resources for future generations. The Green Revolution is starting right here with the explosion of renewable energy companies, recycling programs, connections to local producers, and mass transit. And it is extremely exciting to be at the heart of all of this enterprise!

Maybe this evolution of thinking has a lot to do with the hordes of outdoor enthusiasts (I count myself among them) that are out in nature in all seasons, reveling in nature's majesty. Being in the outdoors brings you closer to environmental impacts. I've seen a profound respect and awareness for our environment here, and how it impacts us really become a core belief to many residents. This is shaping what we do now on a daily basis, and how we will live in years to come.

Out of this synergy for our environment has also come a sense of responsibility. I can tell you that there is one secret spot that I enjoy visiting in Eastern Oregon, far up in the vast folds of a wilderness area, where the only sound you'll hear is the wind sighing in the tops of the mountain pines, and the occasional bird calls. It is peaceful, serene, and ageless, without disruption from humans.

That, to me, is the sound of infinity, and as stewards of this great state, it is ever so important to protect and preserve this for not just future generations, but for the planet as well. Will development ever touch this region, I wonder? I sure hope not. These isolated pockets of undisturbed natural landscape may play an even greater role in the future health of the planet than we might even suspect.

I spend a lot of time in reflection while visiting these sacred remote areas, thinking about how I can do a better job of being a caretaker of this planet. I feel grateful that Oregon has taken giant leaps forward to instill in every citizen a sense of responsibility, including the child that came up with the sign posted near curbside storm drains "DUMP NO WASTE-DRAINS TO RIVER" - the messages are everywhere. Little things add up to big things, and that's where momentum begins.

Others from outside the area may scoff at the "Greenie" Oregonians, but if they look a little closer, they will realize that there's a reason why we want to protect this precious resource. It's our living room. Our dinner table. Our vacation spot. Our livelihood. Our home.

I predict that there will be a day when gasoline will be a faded memory, and the days of supermarkets being chock-full of vegetables and products literally from around the world will seem the epitome of excess and gluttony. We currently take it for granted, not really factoring in the amount of travel a vegetable from California or a wine from Chile had to reach our local grocery store shelf.

Understanding how intertwined our commerce is with transportation systems will help us plan for the future of our state, our nation and our planet. As economic conditions fluctuate and businesses go boom or bust, it is also important to take individual responsibility to do better despite external market forces. Use more efficiently. Buy less. Be innovative. Demand technologies that will help us be less wasteful. It's not just an economic condition, but an environmental one too, as global climate change continues to shift weather patterns and alter our environment forever.

Oregon is home to an amazing blend of rural and urban landscapes, scenic beauty, and diverse peoples. It's also a hotbed of ideas, can-do innovation, and a careful concern for others and the environment. I feel lucky to be part of an amazing area that is getting in tune with the surroundings and taking steps to protect it. For all of our sake.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/17/in-tune-with-ourselves-and-our-environment/feed/>
<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/06/notes-from-the-road/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/06/notes-from-the-road/#comments> Mon, 06 Jul 2009 19:41:38 +0000 oregon <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5080>

By Travis Huntington, Project 2059

Continued from last weeks post for Project 2059 

We left Portland on a picture-perfect, sunny Saturday afternoon in mid-May, armed with a camera and a wellspring of excitement to start hearing and sharing what Oregon's youth have to say about Oregon and our future. For the first leg of the journey, we covered 1,050 miles—ten towns in four days. The weather was incredible and the tour of the rural, eastern part of the state was educational for this native son of Oregon. The young people that I talked to had a lot to say about what's important to them in their communities and in Oregon as a whole. Most students pointed to the economy as an area of great concern, with the lack of available jobs being pointed to as the biggest problem. Gangs have also been highlighted as a problem. Other youth celebrated the many outdoor pursuits that are possible in Oregon, a state that is so full of diverse terrain—mountains, deserts, ocean, forests, rivers, and so on— but lamented environmental problems such as deforestation and pollution.

The next leg of the journey led Project 2059 from Portland to St Helens to Astoria, Oregon, and carried us all the way down the coast to Brookings. From there we cut inland, cheating a little and winding through the redwoods of Northern California on the easterly highway, and making our way back to the I-5 corridor to Ashland, and on up through Grants Pass, Medford, Eugene, Corvallis, and Salem. Yes, that's a lot. That's 18 towns in three days!

The following leg spanned 879 miles on (mostly) Oregon ground. This leg of the trip revealed more insight on the part of the bright and vibrant youth that live in this great state. Community engagement continued to be a concern, with many young people either praising the opportunities for engagement that exist in their communities, or stressing that more opportunities were needed.

Given that Oregon is made up mostly of many smaller towns, community was an important element to almost every person we talked to. People know each other, support each other, and hold each other accountable, and many of the young people that we talked to cited their close-knit communities as the very thing that helped them to stay on a "good" track and become the engaged people that they are today.

The final leg of the journey led us back to the greater Portland area, where Project 2059 visited schools in Arlington, The Dalles, Hillsboro, Forest Grove, and, lastly, Portland itself. Things of importance to Oregon's youth continued to reflect a concern for the economy and the environment, and community engagement and strong community programs were stressed. While many of the youth said that the educational system in Oregon is great or "phenomenal," some expressed worry at the seemingly never-ending budget cuts and the subsequent cutting of what some considered to be essential programs.

From the arid side of Oregon to the green and rainy coastal areas, young people in Oregon love the weather. They love the mountains, they love the desert, they love the ocean, they love the sunshine and the rain. They worry about the economy and wish there were more jobs out there for their struggling family members. They plan to go to college, and most of those asked expressed that they would be taking the more economically feasible route and go to community college before transferring to a four-year university.

The youth are the future. Young people know that what happens today affects the reality of tomorrow, and most of them think that their voice should be heard (save two home-schooled girls from near Medford, Oregon who believed that their voice should matter when they became old enough to vote).

Therefore, in an attempt to build something sustainable, Project 2059 will seek to facilitate a new community of statewide youth focused on understanding the trade offs of change, active and more importantly vocal in their communities and finally, engaged in crafting elements to help Oregon continue its proud legacy of resource stewardship, emerging industries and provocative culture.

About: Travis is the key program architect for Project 2059. His roles in Project 2059 include: Core Team Orientation & Planning & Steering, Strategic Communications planning and execution, Peer Community Development, Earned media, Youth facilitator, Media mentor, Executive media producer, Media spokesperson.

Photo Caption: Travis interviewing a student about the future of Oregon on his trip across the state.

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/07/06/notes-from-the-road/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/06/26/project-2059-2/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/06/26/project-2059-2/#comments> Fri, 26 Jun 2009 18:17:15 +0000 oregon <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=5032> By: Travis Huntington 

We all start with an idea. Who are we? Where are we? What do we want? How are we going to get it? So marks the era of human evolution spanning several ages, continents and life ways. One hundred and fifty years later, Oregon celebrates its past, its present and, with Project 2059, its future. How do we celebrate the future? By reaching out to the next tangible thing. Our youth.

Have we done our job as a community to raise productive, wise and functional prodigy? Perhaps. Regardless, they're out there. Walking the streets, attending our schools, patronizing local businesses and learning how to overcome issues they have been given as a condition of citizenship.

Given that change is on the rise, it makes sense to engage those who will usher in the results of our work now, while there's still room for them to help make decisions. Project 2059 began with a series of assumptions: the youth of Oregon have something to say. They care about their future, and given the opportunity, they would collaborate in creating a vision for what Oregon should look like in the future, and would come up with some ideas for what needs to be done to ensure that the future that they envision can be realized.

With that notion the youth visioning portion of Project 2059 began with a series of questions.

- * Who are the youth of Oregon?
- * What do these young people think are the most important issues facing their communities, and Oregon as a whole?
- * Do they feel empowered, that their voice matters, that their voice has weight on issues that pertain to them or their future?

Stay tuned: Later this week we will have "Notes from the Road" an account of Travis' travels around the state talking to youth about the future of Oregon and what is important to them.

About: Travis is the key program architect for Project 2059. His roles in Project 2059 include: Core Team Orientation & Planning & Steering, Strategic Communications planning and execution, Peer Community Development, Earned media, Youth facilitator, Media mentor, Executive media producer, Media spokesperson

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/06/26/project-2059-2/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/06/09/the-written-word/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/06/09/the-written-word/#comments> Tue, 09 Jun 2009 17:57:47 +0000 oregon <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=4869> By: Ellen Waterston, The Nature of Words 

I'm all about the written word.

Why all this fuss about the written word? I am persuaded that the ability to clearly articulate one's place in the world through writing goes a long way toward ensuring a more informed and "present" present as well as enlightened future. I'm convinced that the ability to step back and put oneself in context and consider others' perspectives produces individuals with more compassion and understanding of themselves and the world they live in. Sitting down at a desk with the intention of writing about something is not the same as talking, e-mailing, Twittering, Facebooking, MySpacing. The act of creative writing starts with an honest Q&A with self with no real or imagined audience. When done well oddly it guarantees a universal audience, engages others, inspires their own honest expression.

In addition, putting this rich English language to work in imaginative and provocative ways keeps the language alive as

much as the act of writing enlivens the writer. English, historically a rich blend of Germanic, Latin and French, and now more recent contributions from all over the world and from new technology, has more words than any other language. This is a big and colorful box of paints.

There are a growing number of nationally acclaimed writers from Oregon, many of whom are showcased at annual literary events throughout the state. These authors and poets are making waves on the national level by not only retooling their Oregon experiences into stories but also by using the language in a distinctly Oregon way. Regional writing at its best. The Oregon Stories Project, as part of Oregon 150's celebration, is a grassroots example of the richness of regional language and experience shared through writing and underscores the truth (and urgency) of the old adage: "We can't know where we're going unless we know where we've been."

My dream for Oregon's future is that schools and colleges continue to make skilled written communication a priority, that all Oregon's young children are taught to read and to make reading a lifelong habit, and that the fruits of these educational efforts are manifested in the high level of informed discussion between all Oregonians and an every-growing number of outstanding authors and poets from Oregon who help keep us honest.

Relative to this dream and to writing in general, I have some questions I'd love your help with:

Is written expression, creative and literary, under assault or being enriched by all the different ways of communicating that currently exist?

With the advent of electronic, "virtual" books, will only the rich be able to afford the real thing? Does it matter?

Is the best way to encourage reading through writing or vice versa?

Is the English language being strengthened or weakened due to texting, e-mails and Twitter or is it being reduced to its lowest common denominator? Can a language only grow richer as it adapts to new uses or can it be reduced in variety and texture?

Can you picture?

About: Ellen is a writer and the founder and director of The Nature of Words, a literary non-profit in Bend, Oregon. Check out the website: <http://www.thenatureofwords.org/>

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/06/09/the-written-word/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/05/29/leave-oregon-better/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/05/29/leave-oregon-better/#comments> Fri, 29 May 2009 17:59:24 +0000 Lee Weinstein <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=4656> 

Leave Oregon Better

By: Lee Weinstein

"Do we want to breathe? Do we want to drink water? Do we care about all the other species not only man? It's turning in to a toilet out there."

– Ringo Starr, responding that the environment is the most pressing issue facing mankind, Rolling Stone, 2007

My dream for Oregon for the coming 50 years is that we agree to pass down our values to each generation about what it means to be an Oregonian.

Growing up in Salem in the early 1970s, I well remember some of the No Litter campaigns of the time and, particularly, the posters that SOLV (then 'Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism') sent to me, one of which was "Get Up Off Your Apathy."

The antilittering efforts during the Gov. Tom McCall era led to our state's passage of the first Bottle Bill in the nation – legislation that will hopefully be reinvigorated by the current Legislature.

Keep America Beautiful national campaigns from the era are still deeply embedded in my generation's memories,

especially the “Crying Indian. [Watch it here](#)

Oregon is a spectacular state, but at 150 years, the fraying around the edges caused by mankind’s presence is noticeable. Litter is bountiful alongside Oregon’s highways. Plastic grocery bags adorn many a bush. And not a stream or lake in Oregon doesn’t contain refuse.

As part of this month’s Oregon 150’s *Take Care of Oregon Days*, we spent last Friday with neighbors cleaning up trash along Skyline Road here in The Dalles. More than 20,000 Oregonians are out volunteering around the state this month. It’s truly been inspiring!

We found the usual beer cans and trash, but also 14 tires, an oven, 3 refrigerators, a car engine and more. It felt good to clean up “Whiskey Gulch” and we vowed to return regularly to keep it that way.

When was the last time Oregon had a strong antilitter public service campaign that resonated with the public? No Oregonian should litter.

Community is defined as “a group of people with a common background or with shared interests within society.” Do we have a sense of community in Oregon? I read that 54 percent of the people now living here weren’t born in Oregon. How many people know who Tom McCall was? Why we have strong land use planning laws?

Every Oregonian who wants to drive gets a drivers manual. What if everyone who they also received an *Oregon Owners Manual*? That manual could include our antilittering values and other maxims about what citizenship entails in Oregon.

SOLV produced a terrific Oregon Owner’s Manual in 2002. What if we started with that? The Oregon Owners Manual could even be paid for with a \$1 drivers license surcharge.

Every generation has a responsibility to Leave Oregon Better. I for one hope Take Care of Oregon Days isn’t a sesquicentennial one shot, but a movement that grows, and that we look for ways to all become better citizens, and to pass down our values.

We are truly fortunate to live in the best place in the world. Let’s keep it that way.

Photo caption: The Dalles residents Lee Weinstein, Melinda Weinstein, Steve Talbot, Judith Rizzio (arm raised), Jim Dixon and Tim McClure cleaning up Skyline Road

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/05/29/leave-oregon-better/feed/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/05/12/keeping-it-fresh-keeping-it-oregon/> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/05/12/keeping-it-fresh-keeping-it-oregon/#comments> Tue, 12 May 2009 19:50:32 +0000 oregon <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=4538> By: Doug Zanger, Founder of Xhang Creative

One of the greatest things about Oregon is the food. There is no denying that it is the best on the planet. Now that rhubarb and asparagus are in season, my mouth is watering even more as the other seasons approach. When I first moved here in 1992, I didn’t really have as much appreciation for the bounty of Oregon as I do today. My family and I love going to the Beaverton Farmer’s Market. We live very close to farm stores west of Murray Hill off of Scholls Ferry Road. At each point in the season, we have the opportunity to really feel (and taste) what Oregon has to offer. When the berries come out, we head out to Smith Berry Barn to pick. When the apples are harvested, we go to Oregon Heritage Farms to load up. (We do the same when it’s time to pick our pumpkin for Halloween) When walnuts and hazelnuts call it a season, we visit Loughridge Farms. One of my favorite summer dishes is potato salad using fresh reds from Baggenstos Farm Store. It makes me feel good to know that the potatoes are being grown just around the corner and it’s obvious that the taste is unmatched.

Though these observations are just about produce, every individual that works in agriculture works very hard to ensure that we have the very best. From fishing to ranchers and everywhere in between, I can’t think of a better group of people who are endlessly passionate about the possibilities of what we can raise and grow. Our agricultural industry is vibrant and I’m sure that all of us want to keep it that way. We all can do our part by consistently supporting the industry. And it’s not just about buying Oregon. It’s about sharing stories of why we love everything that is so delicious about the state

we all love so much. Now, tell us, what do you do to support local businesses?

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/05/12/keeping-it-fresh-keeping-it-oregon/feed/>

<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/04/23/oregon-national-guard-oregons-best-ambassador/>

<http://www.oregon150.org/2009/04/23/oregon-national-guard-oregons-best-ambassador/#comments> Thu, 23 Apr 2009 21:16:37 +0000 oregon <http://www.oregon150.org/?p=4223> By Lt. Col. Alisha Hamel, Oregon National Guard



My name is Lt. Col. Alisha Hamel, and I joined the Oregon National Guard after I finished ROTC at Portland State University.

Can you imagine going to PSU during the 1980s and having to wear your uniform on campus on Tuesdays? I solved that problem by not scheduling any classes except ROTC on Tuesdays.

Things are much different now. I deployed shortly after getting commissioned as a second lieutenant as part of the 206th Air Terminal Movement Control Detachment. We were the first Oregon Army Guardsmen to be deployed as a unit in 49 years since WWII.

After I returned from my deployment to Saudi Arabia, my step-father, a door gunner during Vietnam, thanked me and my fellow soldiers because for the first time he was getting some respect for his own service because of our work. I think our return to the United States was much more positive because previous generations made sure we were treated better after our deployments were over.

The Oregon National Guard is now sending close to 3,000 soldiers to Iraq. This is the largest deployment of soldiers from the Oregon National Guard since the 41st Infantry Division was activated in September 1940. These soldiers go because they volunteered to serve their country. I hope that Oregonians support them as well as they did when the 41st Infantry went during WWII, and when I went during Desert Storm.

The thing that I love most about being in the Oregon National Guard is that we are truly a cross section of Oregonians. We are conservative, liberal, good and the not so good. We are the best and brightest, and the ones who need a little extra help to make it through this life.

We are all brothers and sisters. We are your brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, mothers, fathers, neighbors. We are Oregonians, and we are so proud of that. Ask anyone wherever we go, we are bragging about being from this wonderful state of Oregon. We are the best ambassadors for Oregon that we can be.

Lets talk, I want to know your thoughts. Who do you know in the National Guard? What part do you see the Oregon National Guard playing in Oregon's future?

We have been here since before Oregon became a state. What will we be doing when Oregon turns 200 years old? Will we continue to have our dual mission of supporting Oregonians during crisis and supporting federal missions overseas? Will the National Guard become streamlined? Will we have the most up-to-date equipment?

Photo Caption: Lt. Col. Hamel in Saudi Arabia

]]> <http://www.oregon150.org/2009/04/23/oregon-national-guard-oregons-best-ambassador/feed/>



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REMEMBERING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL

Dear Oregonians:

Our sesquicentennial year is coming to a close. The celebration that started on February 14, 2009, has been extraordinary for many reasons. We have learned together, remembered together, had fun together, and most of all - pulled together. In a year that was difficult for many Oregon families, our celebration of 150 years of statehood reminded all of us who we are as a people, why we love Oregon, and how blessed we are to live here.



It also gave us the opportunity to honor our diversity, breathtaking landscapes and seascapes, and cultural traditions that form the mosaic we call Oregon.

There are many people and organizations to thank for making our sesquicentennial an unqualified success, starting with the board of Oregon 150, our dedicated and hardworking staff, and countless volunteers, who together and without a lot of fanfare, pulled off one of the biggest birthday celebrations in Oregon history. But the work of the board and staff would not have been possible without the generous support of partners - individuals, tribes, state agencies, businesses and non-profit organizations - that stepped up with donations of money and services. Without their help, turning the board's strategic plan for the sesquicentennial into reality would not have been possible. But our biggest thank you goes to the citizens of Oregon. You embraced our birthday celebration by partnering with Oregon 150, creating and holding community events and clean-ups, traveling the state, posting your Oregon Stories on the Oregon 150 website, sharing family histories, and setting the stage for Oregon's bicentennial in 2059.

The board's strategic plan included six signature projects, which you can read more about in this report. They were:

- Oregon Stories
- Take Care of Oregon
- Travel Oregon 150

IMAGINE OREGON HOT TOPICS

- [The National Guard](#)
- [Local Business](#)
- [The Written Word](#)
- [Taking Care of Oregon](#)

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We hope you enjoy reading about all that you and your fellow Oregonians accomplished during this great sesquicentennial year. You'll find descriptions of projects, testimonials and recollections, and lots of pictures. So enjoy. And please remember that while the official sesquicentennial celebration will soon be over - the spirit, enthusiasm, hope and joy we found together this year will continue. Because that's what it means to be an Oregonian.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kulongoski

Governor

Mary Oberst

President of Oregon 150, Inc.

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TOUGH LOVE

By: Neal Keny-Guyer, CEO of Mercy Corps



It's easy to praise Oregon on her 150th birthday. Our state is gorgeous and livable, a national leader in the art and science of what makes a region work.

Yes, Oregon asks a lot of us. Where else is civic duty so celebrated and public planning so exhaustively scrutinized? Yet we know that the choices we make directly affect our own daily lives, and those of our children and grandchildren. And so we make them carefully.

Our civic dues are a fair price for the privilege of living on this beautiful land. Our forebears made some wise decisions so that we can live as we do, and we owe them a debt of gratitude even as we carry on the work they began.

It is easy to praise Oregon.

Oregon has been a wonderful home for Mercy Corps for 30 years. That's why we have chosen to stay here, to invest in Oregon, to build our new headquarters here.

Here we draw strength from a community whose people are a model of engaged, connected citizenry. In a recent study, the Portland metro area ranked #2 nationally in volunteerism. Even during the current downturn, the number of people giving their time to help others hasn't wavered. And the metro area ranked *first* among states in the volunteerism of our young people – the so-called "millenials" born on or after 1982. What a testament to the willingness of our youth to walk the talk.

Oregonians were among the first to travel to New York after 9/11 and to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, bringing our powerful homegrown blend of concern and can-do spirit to people struggling to recover from catastrophe. Oregonians generously support Mercy Corps and other international agencies, extending their compassion to help people around the world who are applying their own grit and determination to overcome the most daunting hardship.

IMAGINE OREGON *HOT TOPICS*

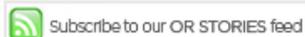
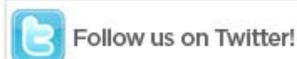
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Oregon is more than a place—
it's a source of inspiration, a
setting for adventure, and a
journey of discovery.

GET ON THE LIST.

Get on the least-exclusive
guest list around and stay
current with all things
Oregon150.



Yes, Oregonians seem to get it: Our lives on this precious planet are bound together by shared needs and interests. When we remember that, and work together, we can achieve remarkable things.

But I didn't join this discussion simply to sing praises. We Oregonians prefer straight talk – and tough love, as well.

Here it is:

With all due respect, we are too self-satisfied. We too often show smug pride about the “Oregon way” – as if we already have it all figured out – that limits our capacity for greatness. We can be parochial and insular, shut off from new ideas and influences. We aren't concerned enough about the kind of society we are becoming. And our standards should be higher.

Oregon should aim to lead the nation, or at the least be among the top ten states, in every quality-of-life metric. Right now, we're nowhere near that.

Take unemployment. Our jobless rate – at 12.2% in June 2009, the third-worst in the country – is unacceptable. Or hunger. In the three-year period *before* the current recession, Oregon was ranked third in the nation for hunger and food insecurity – a dramatic increase from our ranking of 18th in the previous reporting period.

Our schools are foundering too. In reading, Oregon fourth graders ranked 40th in the nation, while eighth graders ranked 23rd. In math, Oregon fourth graders ranked 42nd and eighth graders ranked 19th. In science, Oregon fourth graders ranked 25th, while eighth graders ranked 20th. And, as reported on August 6 in *The Oregonian*, “the number of Portland and east metro schools that face federal sanctions for failing to meet standards has doubled, from nine in 2008 to 18 this year.”

As for income inequality, between the late 1980s and 2006, the gap between our middle 20% and our richest 20% increased more than in any other state except Connecticut. It is unacceptable that almost 17% of Oregon's children live in poverty.

It is simply intolerable for Oregon, which has the resources, the capacity, and so many smart, progressive and good citizens, to not aim to lead.

We should be at the forefront in caring for our children. In health, education and employment. In income opportunity and sustainability. That's how we live up to the dream of our beautiful state. That's the real Oregon way.

We may debate the politics of getting there, even as we rally around the value of community service and of setting high standards for leadership.

When each of us makes the personal commitment to act, there's nothing we cannot accomplish together. Will you choose one or two great local organizations to volunteer with? What if every single Oregonian volunteered? We would have a cadre of 3.8 million people working to better our state. Wow. Now that's an unstoppable force.

As for Mercy Corps, our local affiliate, Mercy Corps Northwest, works with low-income entrepreneurs here in the Pacific Northwest. Just like people around the world who are trying to build a better life for their families, our neighbors here – many of them minorities or immigrants – just need an opportunity to get ahead. We offer a hand up so they can apply their own ideas and energy to start a business and create a brighter future for their children.

Mercy Corps welcomes Oregonians and visitors alike into our new Action Center in Old Town

Portland, after it opens on October 9. There you'll learn more ways you can help people in your community – and your world.

I'd love to hear your thoughts. What cause or issue or organization is closest to your heart? What's the connection to your own life? Are you passionate to help others overcome an obstacle that you yourself faced? How are you going to make that happen?

There has never been a better – or a more urgent – time to build a stronger Oregon. Let's get going now, so that in 2059 this sesquicentennial will be remembered as the turning point, the time when Oregonians stood up and said: "Enough. Too many people are lagging behind. We can do better. And I'm going to help."

An African proverb says, "The best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago. The next best time is today."

Oregonians, let's get planting!

Neal Keny-Guyer, CEO of Mercy Corps, encourages everyone to visit Mercy Corps' new Portland Action Center (28 S.W. First Avenue, information at actioncenter.org/portland), after it opens on October 9, for ideas about engagement and service.

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ONE RESPONSE TO "TOUGH LOVE"

Darlene Fletcher says:

September 22nd, 2009 at 11:03 am

Right On!! Thanks, so much for a well written, Tough Love, article. I am a native Oregonian and have been in love with this state since I can remember.....but there certainly are many areas that need attention. Especially our children, who are abused, hungry and neglected.

We support Mercy Corps and hope that you continue to share your compassionate caring for many years!

Thanks you,
Darlene Fletcher

1

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REMEMBERING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL

Monday, September 28th, 2009

Dear Oregonians:

Our sesquicentennial year is coming to a close. The celebration that started on February 14, 2009, has been extraordinary for many reasons. We have learned together, remembered together, had fun together, and most of all - pulled together. In a year that was difficult for many Oregon families, our celebration of 150 years [...]

[Read More »](#)

Posted in Blog | Comments Off

TOUGH LOVE

Monday, September 21st, 2009

By: Neal Keny-Guyer, CEO of Mercy Corps

It's easy to praise Oregon on her 150th birthday. Our state is gorgeous and livable, a national leader in the art and science of what makes a region work.

Yes, Oregon asks a lot of us. Where else is civic duty so celebrated and public planning [...]

[Read More »](#)

Posted in Blog, Tough Love | 1 Comment »

YOUTH MERIT VOICE IN DECISIONS TODAY

Monday, August 24th, 2009

The following opinion editorial was submitted to The Oregonian by Ari Strudler and was published on Sunday, August 23rd, 2009.

By: Ari Strudler- Junior at LEP High School, Portland, Oregon

Youth across Oregon are standing up for what they believe in. Whether they are young voters who recently cast their first ballots or dedicated high school [...]

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IN TUNE WITH OURSELVES AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

IMAGINE OREGON HOT TOPICS

- [The National Guard](#)
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Friday, July 17th, 2009

By Dawn Rasmussen

As a non-native Oregonian transplanted almost 25 years ago to this incredible state, I've grown accustomed to thinking about everything I do in a green way since setting foot here. From recycling or composting as much waste as possible, to not consuming as much, to consciously thinking about how I am going to [...]

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Posted in [Blog](#), [In Tune With The Environment](#) | [No Comments »](#)

NOTES FROM THE ROAD

Monday, July 6th, 2009

By Travis Huntington, Project 2059

Continued from last weeks post for Project 2059

We left Portland on a picture-perfect, sunny Saturday afternoon in mid-May, armed with a camera and a wellspring of excitement to start hearing and sharing what Oregon's youth have to say about Oregon and our future. For the first leg of the journey, [...]

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PROJECT 2059

Friday, June 26th, 2009

By: Travis Huntington

We all start with an idea. Who are we? Where are we? What do we want? How are we going to get it? So marks the era of human evolution spanning several ages, continents and life ways. One hundred and fifty years later, Oregon celebrates its past, [...]

[Read More »](#)

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THE WRITTEN WORD

Tuesday, June 9th, 2009

By: Ellen Waterston, The Nature of Words

I'm all about the written word.

Why all this fuss about the written word? I am persuaded that the ability to clearly articulate one's place in the world through writing goes a long way toward ensuring a more informed and "present" present as well as enlightened future. [...]

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Posted in [The Written Word](#) | [No Comments »](#)

LEAVE OREGON BETTER

Friday, May 29th, 2009

Leave Oregon Better

By: Lee Weinstein

"Do we want to breathe? Do we want to drink water? Do we care about all the other species not only man? It's turning in to a toilet out there."

- Ringo Starr, responding that the environment is the most pressing issue facing mankind, Rolling Stone, 2007

My dream for Oregon for [...]

[Read More »](#)

Posted in Taking Care of Oregon | 2 Comments »

KEEPING IT FRESH. KEEPING IT OREGON

Tuesday, May 12th, 2009

By: Doug Zanger, Founder of Xhang Creative

One of the greatest things about Oregon is the food. There is no denying that it is the best on the planet. Now that rhubarb and asparagus are in season, my mouth is watering even more as the other seasons approach. When I first moved here in 1992, I [...]

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Posted in Local Business | 4 Comments »

DO YOU SUPPORT THE OREGON NATIONAL GUARD? WHY?

Thursday, April 23rd, 2009

By Lt. Col. Alisha Hamel, Oregon National Guard

My name is Lt. Col. Alisha Hamel, and I joined the Oregon National Guard after I finished ROTC at Portland State University.

Can you imagine going to PSU during the 1980s and having to wear your uniform on campus on Tuesdays? I solved that problem by not scheduling [...]

[Read More »](#)

Posted in The National Guard | 31 Comments »

WHAT MAKES A VACATION IN OREGON SPECIAL?

Tuesday, April 14th, 2009

By: Todd Davidson, Travel Oregon

I am often asked which of Oregon's attributes and amenities makes it a more desirable travel destination. For all her beauty and diversity and vistas and experiences - which one makes Oregon special...memorable...cherished?

On September 11, 2001 a plane full of female Japanese junior high school students were flying into [...]

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Portland General Electric (PGE) is a recognized leader in the utility industry with more than a century of experience delivering safe, reliable electricity to 808,000 retail customers in the Northwest. PGE supports the communities it serves through a variety of efforts, focusing on education and environmental sustainability.



Portland General Electric

OPRD

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) takes care of thousands of special places across Oregon, including 240 properties that encompass nearly 100,000 acres. Parks, campgrounds, historic buildings, waterways, trails, and even cemeteries are all part of one of the busiest and most diverse state park systems in the U.S. Our properties and programs cherish the past, serve the present, and build the future.



Nature HISTORY Discovery

Spirit Mountain Community Fund

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde through the Spirit Mountain Community Fund fulfill their Native tradition of potlatch, a ceremony at which good fortune is distributed. The Spirit Mountain Community Fund's focus is to improve the quality of life in Northwest Oregon through community investments that provide lasting benefits consistent with the Tribe's culture and values.



Hotel deLuxe & Hotel Lucia

Hotel deLuxe (www.hoteldeluxe.com) and Hotel Lucia (www.hotellucia.com) - both awarded to Conde Nast Traveler Magazine's Gold List for consecutive years - embody Portland's cultural and independent spirit with unique personalities ranging from the Golden Era of Hollywood film to a modern gallery of Pulitzer-prize winning photographer David Hume Kennerly. Located in the downtown area, these hotels offer luxurious amenities, such as Pillow Menus, Spiritual Menus and 24-hour room service. Experience Portland from the most comfortable beds in the city.



Columbia Sportswear Company

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fund**

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Cultural
Trust**





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Ford Family Foundation
Swigert Foundation
Warren Foundation

TRUE OREGONIAN CIRCLE <\$10,000

The Autzen Foundation
The Chambers Family Foundation
ESCO
Georgia Pacific Wauna Mill
Halton Caterpillar
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Tweets **287** Following **1,304** Followers **1,811** Likes **2**

Oregon 150

@OR_150

The year-long celebration of Oregon's 150th year of statehood has officially ended. For questions about this account please contact [@sasquatcha](#).

- Portland, Oregon USA
- [oregon150.org](#)
- Joined March 2009

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Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 29 Sep 2009
RT [@seski](#): Seski go to [@oregonzoo](#) m:
<http://bit.ly/1GwLit>

1 3



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 28 Sep 2009
RT [@seski](#): [@TwisitBend](#) [@or_150](#) [@sasquatcha](#) [@VisitCentralOR](#) Seski blog moonlight sonata of Wanderlust canoe ride <http://bit.ly/18eqhN>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 24 Sep 2009
Getting ready to spend an evening with some of the wonderful folks who helped make OR150 happen over this past year.



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 24 Sep 2009
Join us for the Tour de Parks ride in Hillsboro this Sun. We'll have a 150km loop to celebrate OR150. <http://bit.ly/9IzP6>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 24 Sep 2009
A tale of Sasquatch and fishing in Oregon by our own [@sasquatcha](#). Submit your story by Sept. 30. <http://bit.ly/ykMUt>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 24 Sep 2009
Douglas County celebrates OR150 w/ plenty of Bluegrass & fireworks this weekend. <http://ow.ly/qVnK>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 23 Sep 2009
Seski the Sasquatch visits Oregon wine country just in time for this year's crush! <http://bit.ly/dLVw1> [#oregon](#)

Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 21 Sep 2009

115K Tweets

#تذکره_السينما_٧٥_ريال

20.5K Tweets

#NationalHighFiveDay

41.8K Tweets

#BURCHE

16.2K Tweets

#TPMP8ans

26.2K Tweets

Morata

27.5K Tweets

#GameStruck4

104K Tweets

Fenerbahçe - Beşiktaş

51.2K Tweets

Urrutia

40.6K Tweets

Kanye

193K Tweets

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New Imagine Oregon blog post by Mercy Corps CEO @nealkg <http://bit.ly/IBsPw>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 17 Sep 2009

Every Oregonian has a story. Share yours now on Oregon Stories & help make history. <http://www.oregon150.org/oregon-stories>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 15 Sep 2009

Seski Sasquatch tries out for the Portland Lumberjax. New video: <http://bit.ly/MJOo0>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 14 Sep 2009

Celebrate your Oregonian spirit with \$5 Oregon Tshirts , \$2 Oregon mugs and more. <http://bit.ly/wWLMz>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 14 Sep 2009

The "I Am Oregonian" challenge named one of the 10 best travel campains by Forbes. <http://bit.ly/ZN78f>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 11 Sep 2009

New Oregon Story: "Recollection from a Native Oregonian" <http://ow.ly/p2cl>



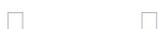
Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 10 Sep 2009

Oregon 150 Radio starts now! Interview with award winning Oregon author Molly Gloss coming up. Live stream: <http://bit.ly/P4039>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 10 Sep 2009

Plenty of Oregon 150 events to keep you busy this weekend: <http://bit.ly/v0SKF>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 10 Sep 2009

Join Oregon 150 Radio today from 1-2pm for our interview with award winning Oregon author Molly Gloss. Live stream: <http://bit.ly/P4039>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 10 Sep 2009

"Oregon Tales Tall and True" opens tomorrow in PDX. Come hear 150 years worth of Oregon stories. <http://bit.ly/9vH4D>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 9 Sep 2009

Portland Mayor Sam Adams & Seski Sasquatch - together at last in this amazing video: <http://bit.ly/oiGgH>





Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 8 Sep 2009

String ties? Oh my! Read "String Ties," by Umatilla County Commissioner Bill Hansell of Pendleton: <http://bit.ly/ljDp6>



Oregon 150 @OR_150 · 8 Sep 2009

Seeking someone to run our successful teen program, Project 2059, when we disband 9-30. Please RT. <http://bit.ly/1PJ2s6>




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HOW TO GET INVOLVED (BECAUSE WE KNOW YOU WANT TO)

By now, you're probably saying to yourself, "Enough jibber jabber—how can I help celebrate Oregon?" You've come to the right place.

Take a gander at the full slate of projects listed below. Whether you're interested in preserving Oregon's past or protecting its future, we've got the activity for you.

OREGON STORIES

You may already have noticed the link to Oregon Stories on the homepage. We think it's a fun project—and we think you'll agree—so we'll go ahead and mention it again.

We want you to share your Oregon Stories with us. No one knows Oregon like you. Share with us a story about Oregon that you cherish—the way things used to be, or what you hope they can become. Tell us about hardships that you've faced. Tell us a joke. Tell us what you would like other Oregonians to know and to remember.

Then, we'll share the best stories with you. Starting in September 2008 and continuing every week throughout the year, we'll share your Oregon Stories with the whole state on TV, radio and the web.

To find out more about Oregon Stories and to submit an Oregon Story of your own (hint, hint), just [click here](#).

I AM OREGONIAN

Get this—Oregon is 98,466 square miles. And if that's not big enough for you, it's also 255,026 square kilometers! That's a whole lot of Oregon, and in partnership with Travel Oregon, we'd like to send you out to parts of the state you may never have seen.

TAKE CARE OF OREGON (OR TCO, AS WE LIKE TO CALL IT)

TCO is an opportunity for Oregonians to come together in order to tend and mend the Beaver State. You can clear trails, paint schools, plant trees or lend a hand in any of the many other service projects aimed at beautifying this already beautified land—and getting to know your fellow community members even better.

OREGON YOUTH LEGACY PROJECTS

It's fun to remember where we've come from, but it's just as important to consider where we are going. The Oregon Youth Legacy Projects will bring tomorrow's leaders together today and

LET'S BE FRIENDS

Got your own ideas about celebrating Oregon? [Submit your project now!](#)

MOREGON STORIES

See what we did there? Find out *even more* about how to [tell your Oregon Stories](#).

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invite them to envision the changes they wish to see in Oregon over the next 50 years. Then, they'll help design and rehabilitate four parks around Oregon focusing on youth rediscovering nature and recreation through an [Oregon Parks and Recreation grant process](#). Finally, throughout the entire education system in the state, youth will be exposed to curricula, projects and activities focusing on the 150th

IMAGINE OREGON BLOG

The Imagine Oregon Blog will encourage people of all ages to share their dreams for the next 50 years.

OREGON!OREGON! 2009

An updated musical by Stan Freeberg called Oregon!Oregon! Originally performed for Oregon's 100th anniversary and now, being updated for the Sesquicentennial and re-enacted by Pink Martini in a signature series of performances throughout the state. Pink Martini will tour the state and perform four regional performances in the Northern, Southern and Central areas of Oregon in August- September, 2009.

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Oregon is a state worth celebrating every day, let alone on its 150th birthday. And a state with so many caring, creative residents deserves a celebration that's equally great. So, please consider making a donation to help us celebrate Oregon right. You can give by clicking down below and donating online. Easy as that!



Or, email us at donate@oregon150.org for any questions. Donors to Oregon 150 may deduct contributions as allowable by law; Oregon 150 is a registered 501 (c) 3, its EIN is 93-1264342.

GET YOUR BUSINESS INVOLVED

We want everyone to get in on the party - especially businesses and foundations. After all, Oregon is home to some of the proudest, most progressive companies in the world. Help in ways big and small by sponsoring a signature project or promoting Oregon 150 events.

Or, perhaps your business has another idea on how to show its support for Oregon. We'd love to collaborate. Your company will get to tell its unique story while having its message heard, and we'll get to increase our partners. Show Oregonians how much your business loves its state. We want to make this party huge.

Email us at sponsor@oregon150.org to get the conversation going.



Oregon 150 is an eligible cultural nonprofit of The Oregon Cultural Trust.

The Oregon Cultural Trust is an innovative public/private partnership building a permanent endowment fund for culture and providing direct grant support for arts, heritage and humanities nonprofits across Oregon. To learn how you can match your donation to Oregon 150 with a gift to the Trust and be rewarded with a 100% dollar-for-dollar tax credit for your generosity, visit www.culturaltrust.org

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HOME > CELEBRATION 2009: IT'S A BIRTHDAY YEAR!

CELEBRATION 2009: IT'S A BIRTHDAY YEAR!

Oregon's turning 150- that's a big enough birthday to celebrate all year! And that's exactly what we are doing- so join in the fun! Fairs! Festivals! Concerts! Tours! Fiestas! Fêtes! You name it, Oregon's theme in 2009 is "sesquicentennial."

[Sign-up your town's annual celebration or special sesquicentennial event here!](#)

Check out our list below. Find all of Oregon 150's Signature and Partner events -and every other kind of sesquicentennial event- taking place in Oregon throughout 2009. Hosted by Oregon's resident event experts at Travel Oregon (aka the Oregon Tourism Commission), your 2009 sesquicentennial itinerary is just clicks away. And hurry- Oregon only turns 150 once!

Event questions? Contact us at info@oregon150.org or 503.445.7120.

Event coordinators interested in using the Oregon 150 logo should [apply to become an official sesquicentennial partner](#).

UPCOMING OREGON 150 EVENTS (VIEW ALL »)

| EVENT | LOCATION | DATE |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| "Celebration Oregon" Annual Exhibition | Bend | 10-1/10-30 |
| A Ferry Tale - Wilsonville, Oregon's Transportation Town | Wilsonville | 10-02/10-10 |
| Opening Artist Reception "Celebration Oregon" Plein Air Painters of Oregon | Bend | 10/2 |
| Falling in Love With the Arts A Taste of Sandy | Sandy | 10/17 |

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FEATURED STORY
submitted by Katherine Keniston
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MEDIA RESOURCES

- Members of the media may [send a request](#) to receive Oregon 150's logo and styleguide
- [Download logo guidelines \(PDF\)](#)

OREGON 150 RADIO

Tune into [Small Plate Radio](#) to listen to Oregon 150's bimonthly radio talk program.

Episode One: Thursday, January 15th, 2009, *An Overview of the Oregon 150 Campaign*

Episode Two: Thursday, January 29th, 2009, *Tribal Sovereignty in Oregon*

Episode Three: Thursday, February 12th, 2009, *Oregon's Sesquicentennial Events around the State*

Episode Four: Thursday, February 26, 2009, *What Makes Oregon Unique from the other 49 States*

Episode Five: Thursday, March 5, 2009, *Envisioning Oregon in 2059: Aspirations and Ideas for Success*

Episode Six: Thursday, March 26th, 2009, *Bicentennial Oregonians: Project 2059*

Episode Seven: Thursday, April 9th, 2009, *The Oregon 150 Challenge: Sesquicentennial Travels across Oregon*

Episode Eight: Thursday, April 23rd, 2009, *In the Eyes of the World: Oregon as an International Travel Destination*

IN THE NEWS

Visit our media partners to catch up on Oregon 150 news and learn about what's happening across the state for the sesquicentennial. Listen to radio "Oregon Stories" and download mp3 files to share.

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FEATURED STORY
submitted by Katherine Keniston
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EDUCATION

Welcome to the Oregon 150 educators' page, designed to serve as a resource for students, educators, and learners of all ages.

YOUR RESOURCES

Oregon Department of Education
View and download "[legacy curriculum](#)" [lesson plans](#) from Oregon's Virtual School District. Submitted by teachers across the state, these are classroom ready lessons to help your class commemorate the sesquicentennial.

Read Oregon's [Story of Statehood](#) courtesy of the Oregon Historical Society!

Take Care of Oregon Days:
150 Projects and Educators' Guide
Start planning your Take Care of Oregon Day projects by downloading our [Service-Learning Project Planning Guide](#), or download [150 Project Ideas](#), complete with content standards, essential skills, and online resources for your classroom!

Youth Legacy Project

This sesquicentennial project is aimed at Oregon's high school students- the state's future leaders and decision-makers. The goal is to actively engage today's youth to envision Oregon's next 50 years and create a blueprint for realizing that vision. [Click here](#) to learn more, including lesson plans, a video, and symposium application!

Oregon University System

Sign up for college and university campus-based sesquicentennial events on the [Oregon University System](#) website.



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FEATURED STORY
submitted by Katherine Keniston
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OPB
Oregon Experience:
Road to Statehood



Celebrate Oregon's 150th birthday with stories of statehood.

Premieres February 16th, 2009 at 9:00 p.m. on OPBTV

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OFFICIAL OREGON 150 COMMEMORATIVE MERCHANDISE

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OREGON 150 MERCHANDISE LOCATIONS

7/31-8/2

[Benton County Fair](#)

8/4-8/8

[Douglas County Fair](#)

8/3-8/9

[Morrow County Fair](#)

8/14-8/16

[Mt. Hood Jazz Festival](#)

OREGON
STORIES

FEATURED STORY
submitted by Katherine Keniston
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8/16

[Sunday Parkways](#)

8/28-8/30, 9/4-9/6

[Oregon State Fair](#)

OREGON 150 COMMEMORATIVE LABEL MERCHANDISE

All around the state you will find great products bearing "Oregon 150 Commemorative Labels". We are proud to associate with these products as they represent natural resources, a sustainability philosophy and the premium spirit that shouts: "Oregon!"

Are you an Oregon merchandiser interested championing this birthday by bringing some of your inherently Oregon products to the party? If so [click here](#) for details on how to participate in our commemorative label program!

OREGON STATEHOOD STAMP 1859-2009

AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE. With the issuance of this stamp on February 14th, 2009, the U.S. Postal Service® commemorates the sesquicentennial of Oregon's statehood. Beaverton artist Gregory Manchess' oil painting depicts the rugged Oregon coastline in the design used for the stamp.

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ABOUT US

First off, we're Oregonians who love Oregon, and we're using the sesquicentennial to launch a celebration of this magical place.

From this starting point, we developed a vision and a set of values to help guide us as we commemorate our home state.

We want to remember Oregon's past, celebrate the present, and inspire people to dream of the future. This is our mission, and we invite all of Oregon—young and old, urban and rural, lifetime residents and recent arrivals—to join us in accomplishing it.

We want to remind people too of all the things social, cultural, and natural splendors that Oregon has to offer its residents, and to entice those unfamiliar with this bounty to get out there and start familiarizing themselves.

We want to establish a robust, sustainable future by knitting the entire state together as one community with a shared interest in seeing Oregon excel for the next 50 years and beyond.

And we want to have some fun, too.

[Read more about our Vision, Mission and Values »](#)

OREGON 150'S STRATEGIC PLAN

Oregon 150's strategic plan sets forth a full slate of sesquicentennial projects starting February 14, 2009 (Oregon's 150th birthday)! Thanks to all the Oregonians who commented on the plan and contributed their ideas and passion. [View the Strategic Plan »](#)

OREGON 150'S BROCHURE

[Take a look at our brochure!](#)

PUT NAMES TO FACES
But who are we really? Get to know our [Board of Directors](#).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS:
9/25, 2:00 - 3:30
Final Board Meeting
NW Natural
Hospitality Room, 4th Fl
220 NW Second Avenue
Portland, OR 97209

Please call 503.445.7120 for details

START SPREADING THE NEWS
Get the lowdown on what we're up to in our [Press Room](#).

SESQUICENTENNIAL?
How do you pronounce *sesquicentennial*? Jessica Robinson from Jefferson Public Radio finds out. [Listen to Board Member Lee Weinstein's interview](#) (MP3 file download).

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THE PARTY PLANNERS

(GIVE US A HOLLER!)

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