

# REFLECTIONS

Winter  
2013



Newsletter of the Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society

## Lillian Heslin Chapman Carpenter 12/11/1908 – 12/11/2012



Lillian died peacefully 12/11/2012 on her 104th birthday at Aldersly San Rafael. She was born December 11, 1908 in Cleone (now Fairview) Oregon to Helen Maude (Littlepage) and Edward Eugene Heslin, the last of their four children.

Lillian grew up in the Heslin House located at 60 Main Street Fairview, Oregon, which is now a museum and headquarters for our society. Ted, her older brother, was the last Heslin to live in the house. He died in 1991.

In 2004, at the age of 96, Lillian visited her childhood home. It was her wish to see it one last time. Nancy Hoover reflects on that visit...

*"Lillian Carpenter was one of the sweetest ladies I have ever known, and so modest. I met her when*

*her good friends, Bob and Ruth Parker, drove her up from San Rafael, Calif., to Fairview in 2004 to see the Heslin House Museum, the house in which she spent her childhood. In her quiet way, I could tell she was so pleased to tell us all the things she remembered about her family, the family home and yard, their barn and the little City Jail next door. Lillian was academically able to skip two grades while she attended Fairview Grade School. I am so pleased that our Society has some wonderful examples of her schoolwork in our artifacts collection at the Heslin House Museum. Lillian and I kept a telephone contact for quite some time after her visit and I treasure these telephone visits with her. She was a very special lady!"*

## Mabel Zimmerman's Travel Journal 1909-1910 Trip to the East Coast of the United States

In 1914, Mabel Zimmerman, George and Jessie's 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest daughter, died unexpectedly at the early age of 23. In 1909-1910, she traveled with her parents and sisters Olive and Isobel on a 6 month Transamerica trip to Washington DC and back. We know much of their trip because each kept a travel diary. One of the first stops on this trip was to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle, Washington. Below are entries from Mabel's diary describing their days in Tacoma, Washington.

### Sunday, Aug. 29. Tacoma

*As we were tired, stayed in bed till late. After breakfast began to search for a Methodist church, as the phone book gave none of that kind, we started out to see if we could find one, after about a dozen people we at last "got there." In the afternoon went out, passed the new Tacoma High School, this built in 1896 for a hotel but later sold to the city. It is an immense building. Saw the Annie Wright Seminary and then went thro' the Wright Park. In the evening went to Presbyterian Church and heard a very good sermon. Continued page 2...*



FRWHS  
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### Important Dates

**1874 Zimmerman  
Heritage Farm  
17111 NE Sandy Blvd  
Gresham, Oregon**

House Tour  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Volunteer in the Garden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday  
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Volunteer in the House  
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Call for Days

**1890 Heslin House  
60 Main Street  
Fairview, Oregon**

House Tour  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Volunteer in the Garden  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday &  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday  
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Volunteer in the House  
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Call for Days

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***Thank You!***

***Mabel*** from page one

**Monday, Aug. 30. Tacoma**

*Today went out to American Lake after breakfast. This lake is situated about 12 miles from the city and a quite large body of water, surrounded by beautiful groves of trees. Then coming back transferred to Point Defiance car, Point Defiance is sort of an amusement resort on the Sound. Had our lunch in a pavilion on the water and then wandered thro' the park, and gazed at the animals, birds and flowers. It was really a very pretty place and the flowers were lovely. I have conceived several ideas for gardens next summer. On the whole a very enjoyable day alltho' I hate street cars.*

**Tuesday, Aug. 31. Tacoma**

*Saw more of this city today and I am so tired forever going up or downhill – the natives here say that if we think Tacoma is hilly, just to wait till we see Seattle; I'm sure I don't see how it could be much worse, still Tacoma is a pretty decent town I'll concede that much, in spite of hills. Saw the "largest totem pole in the world" in front of Tacoma Hotel. We also went thro' the Carnegie Library and the Court House which "which cost a million dollars."*

## A Focus on Artifacts

One of the popular items at the Zimmerman House is the Victorian photo album. It is on exhibit in the Sitting Room, and guests often ask to take a look inside. It is an interesting piece that has its own stand, which includes a small drawer. We've heard that the stand was found first when we began to go through the house, and we didn't find the photo album until sometime later. Fortunately, someone noticed that the material on both artifacts was the same, and the pieces were reunited! We've begun the process to scan the photos in this album and put these originals away in archival sleeves. We're printing copies of the photos to put back into the album. Many of the photos barely fit in this album – they are almost too wide and too thick – and the pages show some subsequent wear/tear.



## Curation Mini-Projects



Patty Brost, apparel expert,  
inspects a Victorian blouse

We'll be tackling a series of mini-projects during the Tuesday curation work parties. We'll be identifying a variety of specific projects to complete over the course of a few weeks. We've launched a couple of projects at the Zimmerman House, including a review of the stored apparel. We are inspecting each piece, cleaning as warranted, refolding it differently (folds create stress on the fabric) and repacking with fresh lavender sachets to ward off moths. Another project at the Zimmerman House is replacing the original photos in the Victorian album with scanned copies. We'll be identifying additional projects for both museums.

## Volunteers Needed!



Cameron Thiessen  
Zimmerman Garden Volunteer  
wearing the Christmas garland from  
the house.

We are an all-volunteer organization and desperately need your help.

We have two House Museums to support, and here are some of the opportunities:

Host/hostess for tour day, the third Saturday of the month  
Yard work and minor building maintenance

We work every Tuesday afternoon/evening at one of the museums and need help as follows:

Assign and affix a number to each artifact in the house  
Create new exhibits with the available artifacts  
Enter data about the artifacts into the computers

If you'd like to stay informed on these opportunities, please contact Twila Mysinger at [tmysinger@frwhs.org](mailto:tmysinger@frwhs.org) or 503-695-2597.

*Zimmerman House Rotating Displays*

*February - Victorian Valentines*

*March and April - Button and Glass Fishing Float Collections*

*House Tours, every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each Month*

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