

The *Friend-ly* Gazette

February 2019

Editor: Lisa Casten

~ Contents ~

Letter from the President

2019 FHFG Board of Directors Page 1

Recommended Reading

Portraying a Forest Grove Legend Page 2

Be My Valentine (aka the 1st Grade Popularity Contest)

Photo Contest! Page 3

A Busy 2018 for Historic Landmarks Board Page 4

Café Memories Page 6

More Recommended Reading

Amazonsmile Page 7

FHFG 2019 Meeting of the Membership Page 8

Letter from the President

By Mary Jo Morelli, FHFG President

Welcome to 2019!

We live in a challenging, changing world! My 2018 personal focus was to act with intention from a base of wisdom and compassion. I admit that with the economic and political environment we live in, it has certainly been a challenge.

FHFG has gone through another year of change and transition. Most recently we have had an officer transition and have welcomed a new board member. Martha Khoury has joined the board as Secretary to fill the remainder of Amy Weston's board term ending in May 2019. Eddie Glenn has been elected as Treasurer.

This has been good for FHFG in many ways as it has encouraged the Board of Directors to look closely at the values that formed the organization and to evaluate its mission as a not-for-profit entity. The board has weathered changes in leadership which led to an evaluation of its mission. As owners of a National Register property, FHFG is obligated to preserve it in a respectful and sustainable way. As recipients of many artifacts and documentation, the organization has responsibility to those donors who have entrusted us with mementoes from the past. Then, of course, there is educational programming, events, and membership responsibilities.

To do this Friends has to dig deep! The Board has utilized e-Blasts to keep FHFG members up to date on what it's doing, and it always values the input of members. It is pretty unusual (maybe exceptional!) to have accomplished so much as an all-volunteer organization - really! It takes commitment and support from everyone. Your continued support is really appreciated, and it is also essential to an organization such as FHFG.

2018 ended with 70 members attending a holiday social at Old College Hall. The members listened to voices from Forest Grove's past and enjoyed a variety of appetizing food. A Nominating Committee has been established in accordance with FHFG by-laws, and a committee to organize the Annual Membership Meeting May 15th is gearing up. And it is a joy to announce the Garden Tour committee co-chaired by Kathy Juvet and Teresa McGuire will begin meeting soon.

As always FHFG invites all members to participate on any committee. Please email volunteer@fhfg.org to join any current committee or for future events. FHFG has a busy year ahead that's already going too quickly!



2018 FHFG Holiday Social at Old College Hall. Courtesy of Terri Erskine.

President/Historian-Mary Jo Morelli:

president@fhfg.org historian@fhfg.org

Vice President/Volunteer Coordinator-Terri Erskine:

vicepresident@fhfg.org, volunteer@fhfg.org

Treasurer/Webmaster-Eddie Glenn:

treasurer@fhfg.org, webmaster@fhfg.org

Secretary-Martha Khoury:

secretary@fhfg.org

OTS Manager-Don Skinner:

otsmanager@fhfg.org

2019 FHFG Board of Directors

ATS Manager-David Morelli: jo.david.mo@gmail.com

Abigail's Garden-Joyce Sauber: jsaub@juno.com

Research & Grants-Skip Buhler: research@fhfg.org

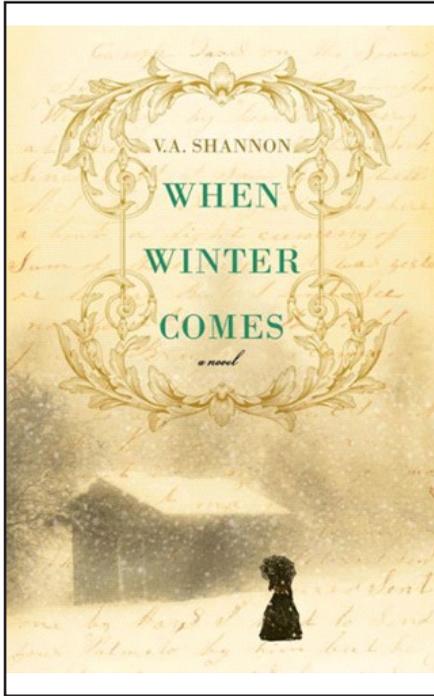
At-large members who can be contacted

through their personal emails: Melody Haveluck,

Marcus Hazelett, Barbara Johnston, Gary Eddings,

Susie Johnson

Recommended Reading



Editor's Rating: ★★★★★

In the voice of an unforgettable heroine, V.A. Shannon explores one of the most harrowing episodes in pioneer history—the ill-fated journey of the Donner Party—in a mesmerizing novel of resilience and survival.

Mrs. Jacob Klein has a husband, children, and a warm and comfortable home in California. No one—not even her family—knows how she came to be out West thirteen years ago. Jacob, a kind and patient man, has promised not to ask. But if she were to tell her story, she would recount a tale of tragedy, mishaps, and unthinkable choices—yet also sacrifice, courage, and a powerful, unexpected love...

1846: On the outskirts of Cincinnati, wagons gather by the hundreds, readying to head west to California. Among the throng is a fifteen-year-old girl eager to escape her abusive family. With just a few stolen dollars to her name, she enlists as helpmate to a married couple with a young daughter. Their group stays optimistic in the face of the journey's hazards and delays. Then comes a

Portraying a Forest Grove Legend

By Marcus Hazelett, FHFG Member-at-Large

When I first moved to Forest Grove I was aware and had a pretty good knowledge of my family history. My mother and grandmother had done quite a bit of genealogy research into our past, including not only the Forest Grove area, but Salem, the Oregon Trail, and our family's participation in the Revolutionary War, Civil War, World War I, and World War II.

From the beginning I knew I was going to get involved with the local historical society, Friends of Historic Forest Grove! They approached me first and asked if I would portray one of Forest Grove's obscure historical figures in their living history presentations, mainly because I physically resembled that particular person.

Ever since I was quite young I had always wanted to be an actor, so I readily accepted the role of Alvin Thompson Smith, Forest Grove's first permanent settler of European descent, who had arrived on the West Twality Plains in 1841. The process of learning about A.T. Smith has been very rewarding for me over the years, as I have shared knowledge of the local history with others who have shown interest in Forest Grove's historical past.

decision that she is powerless to prevent: Instead of following the wagon train's established route, the Donner Party will take a shortcut over the Sierras, aiming to clear the mountains before the first snows descend.

In the years since that infamous winter, other survivors have sold their accounts for notoriety and money, lurid tales often filled with half-truths or blatant, gory lies. Now, Mrs. Klein must decide whether to keep those bitter memories secret, or risk destroying the life she has endured so much to build...

The most recent presentation was an event hosted by the Beaverton Historical Society at the Elsie Stuhr Center in Beaverton. This required a complete rewrite of my scripted portrayal of A.T. Smith. I realized the personal growth this required and felt very fulfilled by my successful portrayal at this presentation.

Three historical societies put on a presentation at the event, sharing slivers of history regarding Garden Home, Beaverton, and Forest Grove. I couldn't help feeling that helping to promote the knowledge of Forest Grove's historical past, helping to promote the restoration of the A.T. Smith house, and promoting the causes of FHFG will be a legacy I leave behind as I take the final steps toward my next awaiting realm.

I heartily believe it is good for a community to acknowledge, embrace, and celebrate the common beginnings we share.



Above: Marcus Hazelett as A.T. Smith.
Below: Alvin T. Smith, settler.



Be My Valentine (aka the 1st Grade Popularity Contest)

By Terri Erskine, FHFG Vice President

Pontiac, Michigan
February 1960

St. Valentine's Day fell on Sunday this year, so the class Valentine party had to be on the 12th. We could hardly stand waiting until 2 o'clock on that Friday afternoon! There would be homemade cupcakes with pink frosting that one of the moms would bring in and someone else would bring red licorice. There would be little pastel conversation hearts that said silly things you could tease your friends with or

more serious things that stated your undying 1st grade love. But best of all was the opening of the Valentine shoeboxes. These were no ordinary shoe boxes - no sir! - they were custom-designed and decorated earlier in the week during craft time to reflect the owners' tastes and personalities. Securely (if not artfully) applied construction paper was glued to cover the entire box, including the top where a large slot was cut to receive classmates' valentine cards. The owner's names and designs of choice were applied with care or abandon, using the richest crayon colors in the box; lots of red and pink, of course, with

hearts, butterflies and flowers. Or maybe cars, devils (a hold-over from Halloween) or pirate ships (go figure!)

Before afternoon recess as we got our coats on to go outside, we filed past each student's desk, delivering our valentines to the appropriate boxes.



Mark Twain School, May 3, 1960. Courtesy of Terri Erskine.

Unlike valentines of today, which display superheros of the Justice League, ours involved die cut cards with pairs of cute little children, animals or objects declaring their love with corny sayings like "Hi, Cookie! You suit me to a tea!" and "Let's strike up a match, Valentine!"



If it was for your very best friend or special 1st grade love interest, you might even make it yourself. Now it's 2 o'clock and party time at last! Yet for some, it might be THE MOMENT OF TRUTH. For those 1st graders with a happy-go-lucky disposition it's "rip open the envelopes and gimme another cupcake!" For those little ones of a more introspective nature it can become a game of 20 Questions - "How many valentines will I receive?" "Will I get as many as my classmates do?" "Is there one from that special someone I like?" "Will the other kids like the valentines I gave them?" And the biggest question of all "What if my box is still empty?" How can they possibly eat treats until these all-important

questions are answered?

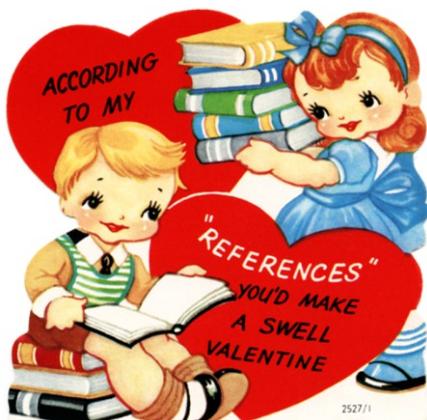
Luckily, the pensive students have carefree friends who would have said, if they had been older, "Just open the damn box! And pass me the Red Hots!" The lid is slowly removed . . . reeeaaally sloooowly . . . and the day is saved! There are more than a few die cut declarations of acceptance with pairs of little children, animals, or objects with corny sayings that really mean "You matter, Valentine!"

Now - please pass me a cupcake with pink frosting!



Photo Contest!

Be on the lookout for the Forest Grove Historic Landmarks Board's Historic Photo Contest coming spring of 2019. More details to follow on Facebook, the city website, and membership e-blast. Includes a youth category and prizes. Have fun sharing your photos of Forest Grove's historic homes and buildings!



A Busy 2018 for Historic Landmarks Board

By Holly Tsur, Historic Landmarks Board Member

Last year marked an eventful year for the Historic Landmarks Board (HLB). Its major accomplishments included:

- Continuation of the Historic Preservation Grant Program providing funding to property owners of historic buildings in Forest Grove,
- Oversight of the efforts of consultants, Historic Preservation Northwest (HPNW), as they resurveyed all historic buildings within the original 1872 town plat, and updated the Context Statement summarizing their town plat updates,
- Outreach to downtown Forest Grove business owners and City Council to gain support for a new Commercial Historic District as per HPNW recommendation, and
- Continuation of our annual public education outreach efforts.

Historic Preservation Grant Program

In July 2018, the Forest Grove City Council and Metro awarded the HLB \$7,975 in CEP grant funding so it could turn that funding into Historic Preservation Grants. These grants help building owners offset the high cost of external and foundational restorations for their historic buildings. Each fiscal year from early July to late June, the HLB grants a maximum of \$1,000 or half the cost of projects, whichever is less, to each qualifying applicant. As of late December 2018, the HLB already granted a total of eight grants to applicants, amounting to a total of \$7,794, and with only \$181 currently remaining. This is the quickest HLB award funding to historic building owners since I joined the HLB in 2009!



Ludwig House, Porch Repair, 1419 Cedar Street.
Owned by Kristen Ludwig

The eight projects the HLB helped fund included four painting projects, two porch repair projects, one roofing project, and one seismic upgrade. Total cost of the projects amounted to \$55,819, providing the City of Forest Grove with a 716 percent return on their CEP grant investment!



Fredericks House, Painting Project,
2324 15th Avenue. Owned by Margie Waltz

Resurvey of Town Plat

From May 2017 to July 2018, the HLB hired consultants, Historic Preservation Northwest (HPNW), to resurvey the original 1872 town plat last updated in 1993. HLB also oversaw their efforts as they completed the resurvey throughout the summer. Because Forest Grove is a Certified Local Government, the HLB is required to resurvey the town plat periodically. On foot, HPNW consultants examined all structures within the original town plat, updated survey maps, recorded all structures, and updated information such as building condition, restorations, additions, and outbuildings. They also recorded whether changes to buildings retained or did not retain the historic integrity (i.e., accuracy) of buildings. Resulting from their resurvey, HPNW produced an updated Context Statement summarizing their findings and contained updated information about Forest Grove's history pertaining to structures built between 1943 and 1993.

In late summer 2018, HPNW submitted the updated Context Statement, and the HLB reviewed and approved it. The updated Context Statement is now available for public viewing on the HLB's website.

Gaining Support for Commercial Historic District

Whenever a town plat is resurveyed, consultants look for potential new historic districts for their recommendation. As part of their update to the new Context Statement, HPNW strongly recommended the HLB designate a new Commercial Historic District within Forest Grove's downtown area. The new district they recommended includes 33 buildings forming a T-shape located at the intersection of Main Street and Pacific Avenue. Fifty percent of the properties within this proposed district are already individually listed on the local register. This means these property owners already must fulfill responsibilities that meet Forest Grove Development Code requirements. However, National Register listing of the district would provide all owners of contributing historic buildings with access to local, state, and federal financial benefits to help them maintain and restore their buildings.

(Continued on page 5...)

Busy 2018 for HLB

(...Continued from page 4)

Proposed Commercial Historic District

In October 2018, the HLB sent educational materials about the proposed district to all owners of buildings within the proposed Commercial Historic District. The HLB informed them about the location and structure of the proposed district and invited them to an informational open house in early November 2018. The HLB also invited a representative from the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (Oregon SHPO.) During the meeting, the representative and the HLB presented information about financial benefits and responsibilities for owners within the proposed Commercial Historic District and answered questions. By the end of the meeting, those owners present unanimously agreed the HLB should pursue application for National Register listing of the district with the understanding they would have the ability to opt out later if desired.



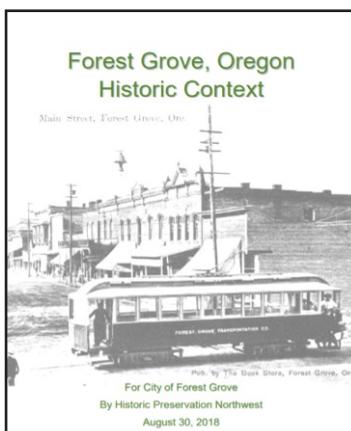
In early January 2019, City Planner James Reitz met with the City Council to seek their approval for the HLB to apply for a SHPO grant so a consultant could be hired to draft the city's application for the National Register listing of the proposed Commercial Historic District. The City Council not only approved this request, they also asked the HLB to include several additional buildings along the north side of 21st Avenue within the district's application!

The process of attaining National Register listing is a lengthy one, with best-case final approval for the listing happening in early 2021. But, the HLB is very excited about this strong possibility to help better preserve Forest Grove's downtown historic buildings!

Annual Public Education Outreach

Each year, the HLB conducts numerous public outreach events intended to educate the public about our historic preservation efforts. In 2018, the HLB conducted the following:

- A photo contest where Mayor Truax awarded plaques to one adult and one youth for outstanding photos of historic buildings in Forest Grove,
- An information booth at the Fire Department open house where the HLB informed the public about its Historic Preservation Grants for seismic upgrades of historic buildings, and provided a fun activity where kids chose important items for an earthquake preparedness kit,
- An information booth at National Night Out where the HLB provided fun activities for kids where they built kit houses and colored pictures of historic homes in Forest Grove, and
- Presented the Eric Stewart Award to Scott and Cindy Kistler for their outstanding preservation of the Oscar Brown House at 2325 A Street.



What Lies Ahead?

Looking ahead, 2019 promises to be another busy year for the HLB. As usual, it plans continuation of the Historic Preservation Grant Program. It will also be busy hiring a consultant and overseeing their writing of the application for listing the proposed Commercial Historic District on the National Register. This will likely require additional outreach to owners of buildings in the proposed district. In addition, the HLB plans to research and hopefully secure additional funding sources for historic preservation projects. As per every year, the HLB also plans to continue its annual public education outreach efforts.

Café Memories

By Gary Eddings, Member-at-Large

Anachronism: an act of attributing a custom, event, object to a period to which it does not belong."

Twice a month a group of friends gather at the Old Train Station building to talk; just talk and enjoy each other's company. Often times discussion at these events will get around to movies we remember seeing as kids, and something will jog a memory of some item which was totally out of its place in time in one of those old movies. Perhaps a wristwatch on the arm of an Old West cowboy or Medieval nobleman; maybe distant jet contrails in the sky above a careening stagecoach being pursued by outlaws; even a highway guardrail on a distant hillside road cut out beyond the travelers stranded on a deserted island. These memories not only bring laughter, but also maybe help ground us in just where our place in time has been, and now is.

Many of our friends and classmates from our early years followed life's path to distant places, but a few of us carried on to adulthood in our parochial little village. When talk at our Old Train Station gatherings turn that direction a whole new set of more adult memories surface. Back in the day, the local Tualatin Valley Transit bus and the Greyhound line served Forest Grove. The bus station was at the Royal Coachman cafe (now the site of Pac Thai restaurant.) I can never forget the times I sat at the counter there listening to local personalities like minister Ivan Marble and mortician Bob Schneider arguing about anything and everything while bus passengers looked on in amusement and perhaps some wonder. Sometimes local small engine repair guru Eldon Bartlett might drop in with some of his hilarious tales, guaranteed to generate a lighter atmosphere than the social, or political arguments which were the norm. Meanwhile Clyde, the café's owner and head



Badger Café. Photo source unknown; contributed by Skip Buhler.

cook, would maintain order by enforcing his strict right to eject anyone from his establishment for any reason he saw fit!

The Coachman was only one of a number of small town cafes within walking distance of home as I became an adult. A visit to the Badger Cafe on Main Street (now a Taqueria) might allow a session of sipping the typically awful coffee of the 1960s & 70s while overhearing local business owners discuss the economy. A short walk east on Pacific Avenue would bring you to the Tip Top, next door to the Grove Theater, where actual handmade soda fountain drinks could be had along with the usual coffee and cafe food choices shared alongside students from Pacific University. Wandering further from the center of town down to the Coffee Shop (now empty and probably permanently out of business) at 22nd Ave. & Douglas St. would be a guarantee of more middling grade coffee accompanied by the talk of local crops and production offered by the supervisors and crew members

from the canneries and cold storage plant on 23rd Avenue behind the cafe. But, my favorite cafe for sentimental reasons passed out of existence many years ago, and even the building is gone.

The south side of Pacific Avenue in the block between Council and Main streets only has two buildings now: Frye's Action Athletics (formerly the J.C. Penney store) on the corner with Council, and WSC Insurance on the corner with Main, with a parking lot between them. But years ago, that parking lot was home to other buildings; structures destroyed by a fire I believe. The building housing WSC Insurance was the local dime store as my Mom called it. Just to the east toward Council Street was a tiny cafe, and next in line was the Music Store ("Floyd's" at one time, "Dunlap's" in other years). That long-gone little cafe, whose name I've even forgotten, remains the one most favorite to my aging memories.

Recent months have found me taking a Sunday morning walk from home

(Continued on page 7...)

Café Memories

(...Continued from page 6)

on the northwest side of Forest Grove over to the United Methodist Church on Cedar Street, and age prompts me to desire a bit of a “break” at about the halfway point in the journey. As luck, or providence, would have it, Diversity Cafe now occupies the building at 21st Avenue and Main Street (home to Gratteri's tire shop as I reached my adult years), and that is a perfect spot for a coffee and light breakfast. Now, I readily admit I'm a creature of habit, and once I find something enjoyable I tend to stick with it; so, having found Diversity's half order of biscuits and gravy to be to my liking I've ordered it regularly.

Last Sunday when I entered Diversity Cafe and sat down the server who is normally there on Sunday brought me a coffee, and asked “Your usual?” That simple question transported me back nearly 50 years to the little hole-in-the-wall cafe next to the dime store. Her question served as a surrogate for a similar, normal, event all those years ago; hence the thought of anachronism.

In the mid-1970s I was working in the Beaverton area, and rode the bus into work Monday through Friday. The cafe next to the dime store was only one block off the eastbound bus route, and if I timed my breakfast routine correctly I could finish breakfast, step out the door onto Pacific Avenue, and see the bus leaving the depot at the Coachman headed west toward B Street. That gave me just enough time to walk down Main Street to 19th Avenue, cross at the light, and watch the bus swing off of B Street around onto 19th Avenue where I waited at the intersection with Main Street. Pulling off this little ballet was aided by my breakfast routine in the cafe.

The family which operated the cafe were what my mom called “shirt-tail relatives,” meaning they were some degree of cousins by marriage. The mother was usually cooking, and one of her daughters was the usual

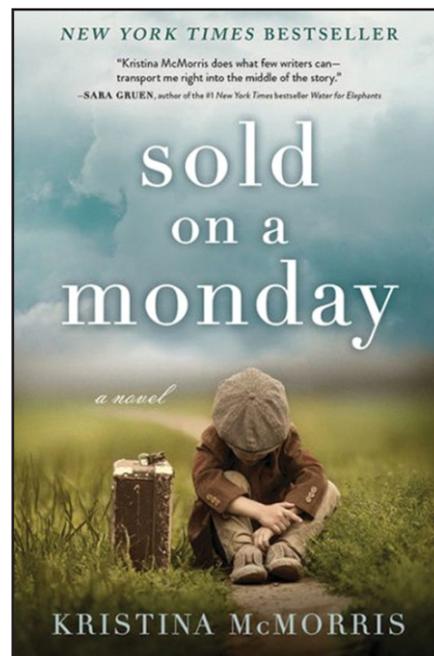
morning waitress. The atmosphere of the place was down-home, with a small number of quiet patrons, and a daily morning newspaper laid out on the counter. When I entered the front door, I'd hear the waitress call out toward the kitchen “Roger's here” (my relatives called me by my middle name in those days) as she poured a cup of coffee. I would pick up some available section of the newspaper, take a seat where my coffee had landed on the counter, and my regular breakfast of two eggs over easy, with wheat toast would appear shortly. I would place sufficient cash to pay for my meal with an appropriate tip on the counter and proceed with breakfast. The easy familiarity of my connection with the family at the cafe allowed me to skip the usual menu questions one would expect at any normal dining establishment, so that I could concentrate on my necessary clock watching for the bus. As crazy as it sounds today, that routine was part of my learning how to be a responsible adult and parent in the family my wife and I had formed. I hadn't realized how I could miss those days in a simpler small-town time of life until last Sunday when I heard “Your usual?” No, not quite the same as “Roger's here,” but it will do, it will do.



Please spread the word! The Friends of Historic Forest Grove is registered with Amazon Smile, there is no extra cost out of your pocket when you shop at Amazon, and FHFG will receive 0.5% of your eligible purchases.

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com).

Recommended Reading



Editor's Rating: ★★★★★

2 CHILDREN FOR SALE

The sign is a last resort. It sits on a farmhouse porch in 1931 but could be found anywhere in an era of breadlines, bank runs and broken dreams. It could have been written by any mother facing impossible choices.

For struggling reporter Ellis Reed, the gut-wrenching scene evokes memories of his family's dark past. He snaps a photograph of the children, not meant for publication. But when it leads to his big break, the consequences are more devastating than he ever imagined.

At the paper, Lillian Palmer is haunted by her role in all that happened. She is far too familiar with the heartbreak of children deemed unwanted. As the bonds of motherhood are tested, she and Ellis must decide how much they are willing to risk to mend a fractured family.

Inspired by an actual newspaper photograph that stunned the nation, *Sold on a Monday* is a powerful novel of love, redemption, and the unexpected paths that bring us home.

Save the Date!

2019 FHFG Meeting of the Membership

Forest Grove Community Auditorium
1915 Main Street
Forest Grove, OR 97116

May 15, 2019 | 6:00pm

Be sure to mark your calendars for this year's FHFG Annual Membership Meeting being held Wednesday, May 15, 2019, at the Forest Grove Community Auditorium. Doors will open at 6:00 pm. Lite appetizers and beverages will be served. More information will be available on the Friends' website:



2017 FHFG Meeting of the Membership. Do you see any familiar faces in this picture?



Friends of Historic Forest Grove
1936 19th Avenue
PO Box 123
Forest Grove, OR 97116



Phone: (503) 992-1280
Email: info@fhfg.org
Web: fhfg.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Like Us On Facebook!

To all FHFG's wonderful members and those who enjoy reading its newsletter, there are other ways to communicate your thoughts to us! One is the use of Facebook. If you are a Facebook subscriber, FHFG has a page in which it tries to promote and inform people on current events as well as history items.

Although Like-ing us on Facebook is a way to get FHFG information out to your Facebook contacts, a better and more effective way is Share-ing us. Selecting Share instead of Like additionally gives you an avenue for adding your comments and thoughts. There are some great events coming up, and what an easy way to let all your family and "Friends" know about Friends! FHFG looks forward to hearing from you through Facebook!