

# THE FRIENDLY GAZETTE

May 2022 | [www.fhfg.org](http://www.fhfg.org)



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FRIEND-LY NEWS  
& EVENTS

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LONG JOURNEY

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THE HAWAII  
CONNECTION





Edna Gehring graduated from Pacific University with her MEd in 1974. "Aunty Edna" served as advisor to the Nā Haumāna O Hawai'i club for about 35 years. FHFG members may remember when she brought the luau dancers to the Holiday Social in 2017.

*Photo courtesy Pacific University Magazine (Spring 2010).*

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**ON THE COVER:** For Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we honor Forest Grove's connection with Hawai'i represented by Pacific University's club Nā Haumāna O Hawai'i (Students from Hawai'i). This photo is from the recent Lū'au and Hō'ike. Photo by Jill Thornton, Pacific University.

# Letter from the President

BY MEGAN HAVENS, FHFG PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

What fun it was to read through all the online responses to the Catching family photos that were posted in our Facebook group. We certainly learned a lot.

I loved that we got a glimpse of a brick factory and a brand new chicken shed. The bricks were used to build Marsh Hall and the existence of a brick factory says a lot about the economic relationship between Forest Grove residents and the University.

The chicken barn represents the more scientific farming of the “modern” era. Large structures like the one in the photo say a lot about the ability of local farmers to access bigger markets due to improved transportation.

We learned about a woman who ran a successful business as a milliner in downtown Forest Grove. She made hats for a whole generation of women in Forest Grove, and continued to make hats for some of her clients even in retirement.

All of these pictures were given to us as electronic files. The Catching family wants to keep their photos, and we think that is just fine. We can scan photos and turn them into electronic images. With the photos the Catching family shared, we can follow the history of a family through multiple generations, from donation land claim to family reunions in the 1950s. While I have some reservations about social media, I can only celebrate the aspect of it that allows us to do this.

I hope this donation encourages other families to share with Friends of Historic Forest Grove.

One thing that concerns me is that it is easy to focus on the people who had the money and the time to take photographs. It is easy to find the stories and memories of people who were educated and could write. Small businesses tended to advertise in the local newspapers. We know a lot about the lives of professors at Pacific University and the business class of Forest Grove. However, there are other people who were a part of Forest Grove’s history whose stories are more ephemeral.

Whatever census year you look at for Forest Grove, there are people listed who we know a lot about. However, there are more people whose names we don’t recognize and whose histories we don’t know. It is important that we capture the stories of people whose stories are rarely told.

The big question is how to do this. It is my hope that more families have old photos, old letters, and old scrapbooks and that these families will choose to share so that we can learn some of those lost stories. Keep us in mind!

With respect,  
Megan Havens

president@fhfg.org  
831.402.9819

# Friend-ly News & Events

*Save the Date!*

MAY  
25

## **FHFG Annual Meeting**

Join us Wednesday, May 25, 6:30 p.m. at the FG Community Auditorium, 1915 Main St. Exciting

times are ahead for FHFG. We need YOU to vote on a slate of new board members and officers, and you won't want to miss the presentation!

JULY  
10

## **Annual Picnic**

Sunday 4-7 P.M. at the A.T Smith House

OCT  
8

## **Cemetery Tour**

Saturday, October 8.  
At Forest View Cemetery

## **Sesquicentennial Open House & Gardens Series**

Tickets are on sale now! Each event is planned to include beverages (wine and non-alcoholic), snacks, and music. Events are scheduled for Sunday afternoons 2 - 4 P.M. except for August.

Tickets will be \$10 each with discounts for members and an additional discount for a season pass. A limited number of tickets will be sold, so don't wait to get yours! Tickets can be purchased individually or as a season pass online at FHFG.org or call 503-992-1280.

Events are:

**May 22** Open House at Oscar Brown House, sponsored by Dauntless Wine Co.

**June 5** Open Gardens + A.T. Smith House with Abigail's Garden

**June 26** Open House + Garden in Blooming area sponsored by Sidereus Winery

**July 17** Open Garden in Gales Creek + Gales Creek Schoolhouse Museum

**August 13**, Saturday, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.  
Mimosas and Muffins in this Forest Grove Garden

**FHFG Museum at the Old Train Station** is open Wednesdays 10-1 and Saturdays 1-4, or schedule an appointment by calling 503-992-1280 or email [info@fhfg.org](mailto:info@fhfg.org).

Volunteers Ross and Shawne Imada (seated), Melody Haveluck, Jim Hilsenkopf, and Joyce Sauber handed out eggs in the Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt (top). Pat Truax at a previous garden tour (bottom). The Open House/Garden series starts this month.



# SNAPSHOT— FOREST GROVE

Take a look at Forest Grove and discover a vibrant history and host of characters, ideas, and innovations that have made us who we are today.

## 1850s

**1850:** Post Office established. A.T. Smith is postmaster. Old College Hall built. Teachers at the Academy are often paid in land. Other businesses: one store, a grist and sawmill, a tanner, a shoemaker and a blacksmith. Mary Richardson Walker organizes the Maternal Association. Members pledge to pray with and for their children.

**1851:** Missionaries disagree over land issue. A split occurs in the Congregational Church. Harvey Clark suffers a heart attack.

**1854:** Pacific University receives a charter. A.T. and Abigail Smith build a New England style home south of Forest Grove.

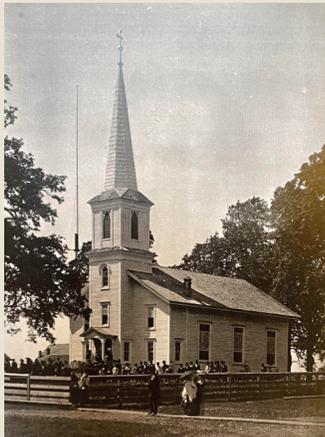


A.T. Smith House

**1856:** Two churches reconcile. In the footsteps of Harvey Clark, Thomas Condon and Sidney March, Elkanah Walker becomes the new preacher for the Congregational Church.

**1858:** Both Harvey Clark and Tabitha Brown die in this year.

**1859:** Oregon becomes a state. Census officially changes name from West Tualatin Plains to Forest Grove. In October, after a difficult decade, the new Congregational Church is dedicated.



### FOREST GROVE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

This was the second church building used by the congregation now known as the United Church of Christ at 21st and College Way. Note the fence that surrounds the building. It was built to protect the windows and grounds from the cattle that roamed everywhere.

*Courtesy of the United Church of Christ Archives*



### LOOKING UP

*Courtesy of the Pacific University Archives*

Intelligent and compassionate, this woman was loved by many in her church community despite her acerbic wit. Who was she?

ANSWER AT THE BOTTOM OF PAGE

### TIMES PAST

**Sept. 11, 1851** Called on Mrs. Naylor and at the store. Went inside the (Tualatin) Academy the first time. A splendid monument to the folly of somebody. Wonder who will live to see it completed and filled with students.

**Feb. 1-3, 1852** Was called to attend on Mrs. Naylor again... found her very sick. But hoped she would recover till about midnight when I perceived the chill of death was coming over her. Called her husband who had lain down to rest a little... Mrs. N. died about noon leaving 6 children three girls and 3 boys...the family attended the funeral. I remained at home to do some washing I took home from Mr. Naylor's...

*—Mary Richardson Walker's Journal*

ANSWER TO LOOKING UP: *Mary Richardson Walker*

## Featured History...

# A Robe's Long Journey

With Stephany Anderson, FHFG Member

**I** get tingly thinking our home property was used and managed by people for thousands of years before us (probably an oak savanna managed for bulbs and acorns).



My ancestors came across the US in the 1850s to Oregon's Newberg area to claim their "free" land. They are buried in the old cemetery in Forest Grove. Descendants continued on to Alaska to mine and build the military installations at Haines, AK. As a child I heard all the stories, and the interactions with indigenous people were the ones that captured my imagination.

My mother was a fiber artist (weaver) and I inherited all her equipment and materials. She had explored some basketry and geometric wool weaving in the North Coast style with Cheryl Samuels. Cheryl (non-native) had researched this lost art of ceremonial weaving and has been instrumental in its revival in indigenous communities.

I searched out teachers, mostly native, and I have completed a ceremonial robe in a transitional style of early geometric design and Chilkat design telling my settler family's story as it interfaced with the first peoples.

The concept for this robe came from page 159 in Cheryl Samuel's book "The Raven's Tail." Twinning geometric patterns in wool was one of the things which most intrigued me. John Beard was my first teacher and after completing my first sampler I really thought I could do a robe! 2008, what hubris!

The sketch on page 159 was done in 1783 by Sarah Stone, who had been hired to illustrate the Cook collection. It was a strange robe showing both Ravenstail and Chilkat characteristics. I felt it was an interesting palate on which to tell my family's story of migration across the American continent to settle in the West and on to a new frontier in Alaska, building a military installation, mining for riches, and intersecting with the people already there for thousands of years.



Stephany Anderson offered a Land Acknowledgement at the start of the plaque presentation for their home.

As I was planning this robe, I sought input from each of my teachers. Cheryl suggested I start with a border I liked and drop in the elements. Clarissa Rizal said, "Draw from what you know, build on what you have done in past weaving."

I hesitate doing traditional patterns as my non-native culture does not own or have rights to those elements. I like to draw from the work that the Ravenstail Guild publishes of members' contemporary designs. I did use the Haida Spider pattern as it seems to be ubiquitous in baskets and wool. The zig zag pattern I drafted while thinking about the possible early development of the Ancestors pattern and it is used across many cultures. Capping off the deep zig zag is a U and split U unit that I changed to split U's within a U.

The next section of four units was unlike anything I could find in any Chilkat weaving. Four big eyes would be out of scale on a robe. Back to Clarissa's advice to look to something you know. I had photographed

a robe collected by a branch of our family in Haines, AK and took from that the common element of two eyes above boxes with circles. Perfect scale for across a robe and those eight eyes gave life and a name to the robe "Spider Woman", the first weaver.

The concentric boxes gave me the opportunity to put treasured family stories. The large split U's represent a gift of moccasins. A lone wagon camped on the prairies containing my ancestors with a newborn baby was approached by a hunting or scouting group of natives. Not wanting a confrontation with firearms my great, great, grandfather brought out the baby and subsequently the native people returned with gifts including moccasins for the baby.

The canoe is drawn from a treasured picture of my great grandmother and ten of her children plus family friends, a pressed back rocker on the bow and the American flag on the stern ready for a Fourth of July picnic probably to the island out of Mud Bay AK which brings to mind many other stories of adventures in Haines. The background surrounding the canoe is the "Breaking Waves" pattern designed and graphed by Marcia Stier. In the waves is a "Copper" woven with the help of Evelyn Vanderhoop who offered to teach this via video during the time of Covid.

The warp is thigh spun and purchased through the Guild. The weft is merino and silk blend. The yellow is dyed with Clarissa's recipe found in her book "Jennie Weaves An Apprentice." The green is my mother's recipe using copper and ammonia. A big Thank You to the Ravenstail Guild for their support and resources.

**Editor's Note:** Our FHFG members have some interesting avocations! If you have something history-related that you would like to share with us, please reach out to [marketing@fhfg.org](mailto:marketing@fhfg.org).

# RECOGNITION~

FHFG presents plaques to five outstanding Forest Grove historic homes

Research by Jim Hilsenkopf and Skip Buhler

## ***South Park House c.1893***

1504 ELM STREET

South Park Addition, the first expansion to the original Forest Grove plat, occurred in August of 1891. It was made up from land owned by Charles Keep and William and Mary Kane. Long known as the Barnes House, it remains a mystery why this structure became associated with the bow maker, Friend Barnes.

For much of its early existence, the house was a rental property, and was owned by banks, realty companies or individuals who didn't reside here. It is believed that Charles Keep probably built it to serve as a symbol for the new South Park district, and the South Park House name best suits it.

Keep sold the South Park House in 1893 to Frank Davey. The following year, Davey sold it to E. W. Haines. Haines, along with Charles Keep established the Bank of Forest Grove in 1889. Haines resold it in 1896 to Lavina Watt who lived there for nearly six years before moving across the street to the new home she built.



## ***Holloway House c.1907***

328 FIFTH ST / AKA 1624 ELM ST

The Holloway House is located on lot 1 of Block 37, part of the original Harvey Clarke farmland. The property passed through the hands of several owners until it was bought by Ferdinand Starrett. He was a Forest Grove architect and farmer, who at the time, lived in the neighborhood east of Maple and 18th Ave called "Fruitvale." Starrett arrived in 1901 from Silverton, Oregon where he had designed several downtown buildings, some of which are still standing. He also designed several homes in Forest Grove's South Park, and in most cases, his brother Stephen built them. Though still speculative, it is very likely the Starrett brothers (with additional help from Stephen's son Porter) designed and constructed the Holloway House.



Local newspapers note that "Mrs. Margaret Holloway, a sister of Sam Carlyle, has purchased the Starrett property on Fifth Street. Mrs. Holloway is from Grants Pass and will take possession the first of 1907." Margaret came to Forest Grove shortly after her husband Alpheus died in December of 1906. Her brother Sam, had been living in Forest Grove for some time, and it's likely she moved up north to resettle near him. Margaret ended up finding a place a block away from his home. Her deed for this property does not declare that it included a house, but the sale price of \$2000 implies that one existed on the lot.



### *Fred & Clyda Watrous House c.1912*

1623 ASH ST

The Watrous House is a distinctive bungalow with a handsome exterior that includes a full-length front porch. The interior boasts original fireplaces, leaded glass, and original light fixtures which enhance the charm of this pre-World War I home.

Built about 1912 for Ives John Hoar and his wife Elizabeth, by 1920 it had been sold to Fred and Katherine Fischer.

In 1923 Fred and Clyda Watrous bought this house and for nearly one hundred years it has been owned by the Watrous family.

Fred opened Forest Grove's first movie theatre, The Scenic, on

New Year's Eve, 1910. His wife, Clyda Watrous died in 1932. Their son, Don had attended Pacific University and graduated from University of Oregon and went into business with his father Fred. First they operated the Grove Theater and then in 1939 they opened the very popular Tip Top Restaurant. After World War II they opened the Forest Theater.



### *Verhoeven House c. 1907*

2417 15TH AVENUE

In 1903 Forest Grove had a population of just 1100 when 39-year-old Sarah Porter and 41-year-old Felix Verhoeven married. Sarah had been living in Cornelius with two of her brothers and Felix who had arrived in the U.S. from his birthplace in Brussels, Belgium, in 1890, was in the real estate business. Sarah and Felix purchased lots 10, 11, 12, and 13 of block 10 in the South Park Addition and in 1907 built this home on that land. Soon thereafter, Felix got out of the real estate business and opened a nursery and floral company. On a couple of the lots adjacent to the home, they built large greenhouses in which to grow plants.

In July of 1914 Sarah and Felix moved to Portland and sell the property to Mary Miller who in turn then sold it to Harley L. Ford. We do not have proof that either of them lived in the home but in September of 1919 Ford sold the home to Edna and Gavin Duncan who in the 1920 and 1930 census are shown living here with their seven children. Gavin was a mechanic and went on to become an engineer at the Forest Grove Power Plant.



### *Carnation House c. 1907*

1417 ELM ST

Pacific Coast Condensed Milk Company opened its second milk condensery just a few hundred feet south of here in February 1903, at the very beginning of its business life. Elbridge Stuart was the founder, and he placed his nephew Harry H. Stuart in charge as Superintendent. One of the products made there was named Carnation Milk and the area surrounding the processing plant became known as "Carnation".

After working there for four years, and while living on present day 17th Avenue, Harry Stuart purchased this lot in 1907. He immediately put it into the ownership of the Pacific Coast Condensed Milk Company, which was later renamed the Carnation Milk Company. This home was occupied by its superintendents. First, from 1907 and 1908 by Harry H. Stuart and his family. Then in October of 1908, another employee Mr. Phillip G. Kinzer lived here. Both men went on to hold important offices in the Carnation Company.

On June 30, 1912 Ernest F. Burlingham bought the home from the Carnation Milk Company and moved his family in. Burlingham was a businessman and his Burlingham Seed Company celebrated its 100 year anniversary in the year 2011.

## At the Old Train Station

By Terri Erskine with  
Don Skinner

### Happy Days Are Here Again! The OTS Reopens

With a new manager, fresh paint courtesy of Jake Scott from Knock Out Painting, and a new crew of volunteer docents, FHFG's Old Train Station Museum and Library has officially reopened to the public. Closed for safety's sake during the major part of Covid-19, the OTS reopened on Saturday April 2nd. Come and see a great collection of photos, tools, communication devices, maps and more. Current exhibits are early Forest Grove pharmacies and a barbershop display from Chuck and Bev Olson. A great showcase of F.G. restaurants and businesses sports menus, glassware and advertising from the 1950s through the 1970s and a curious collection of things found between the walls of some of Old Town's historic homes rounds out our spring presentation. The Museum is free and until further notice masks are welcome and optional.

**Open Hours**  
Wednesdays 10 A.M. – 1 P.M.  
Saturdays 1 P.M. – 4 P.M.

### New Manager Ashley Roth

Don and Cheryl Skinner - Mr. and Mrs. OTS! For 10 years now these two have made our headquarters what it is today - an interesting and fun place to come and learn about Forest Grove history. Both raised in Forest Grove, they know how to give us an authentic look and add so much of their own history and knowledge to boot. Now wanting to spend more time on accessioning items for the museum's collection, they are turning over the management reins to Ashley Roth.



Don and Cheryl pass the train car chamber pot to Ashley – an OTS scepter!



Preston Alexander – our first visitor!

Ashley has done a lot of things for FHFG already and you may best know her as an administrator of our Facebook group Historic Forest Grove. She comes with organizational and practical skills, a love of Forest Grove and a number of local contacts. She also has a skilled husband and 3 kids who are willing to help out as needed.

Ashley says, "My main goal now that we are open is to start getting people in to see us again. We recently had Girl Scout Troop 22040 come through to earn their history badges. They were mesmerized with the museum."

Many thanks Don, Cheryl and Ashley – enthusiastic volunteers!



# OTS Treasures

Curious Items from the Museum Collection



by CHERYL SKINNER

**T**his edition's Treasure is a collection of Mustache Cups. It's fun to show them to visitors, especially young ones, because they are unique and not well known.

Mustache Cups were invented in the mid 1880s and were popular through about 1916. Back then fancy and impressive handlebar mustaches were popular with most men.

Many men waxed, curled and dyed their mustaches in those days. Of course when a man drank hot tea or coffee the wax would melt and the dye would run which was embarrassing I'm sure. So the inventor of Mustache Cups created "Mustache Guards" with an opening to be able sip the beverage through without affecting the mustache. The cups are in a wide variety of sizes, styles and shapes. Most are of a delicate nature and look to be difficult for manly hands to handle.

The Mustache Cups on display at the OTS originally belonged to Walter Clark who had collected them for over 25 years. Walter Clark and his wife Margaret were long time Forest Grove residents. They lived in their home on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Walter kept his collection of antique cups there, which numbered over 300 cups. His collection was said to be one of the largest and best in the United States. Their home was destroyed in a fire in the 1940s. The cups on display at the OTS were salvaged but were blackened by fire

and smoke. When Walter died, Margaret gave the cups to Chuck and Bev Olson who restored them as they are today. The Olsons donated them to the Museum several years ago and they are on display along with some of Chuck's other Barber Shop collections. We are very grateful to have them.

Now that the OTS is open again, I hope you can stop by and see this collection.



## Arab-American Heritage Month

# Vic Atiyeh's FG Connection

by EMILY JOHNS, CULTURAL RESOURCES  
ASSISTANT AT PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

**V**ictor Atiyeh was not only Oregon's last Republican governor, he was also the first Arab-American to serve as governor in the United States. He was the youngest son of immigrants from Syria who grew up in Portland and settled in Washington County. He served as State Representative and State Senator for Washington County between 1959-1978, before serving as Oregon's Governor for two terms between 1979-1989.

When Governor Victor Atiyeh is mentioned either on social media or in conversation, people love to share their personal interactions they had with him. Stories abound about how kind and personable Governor Atiyeh was. He took the time to listen and get to know people. During his time as governor, Atiyeh prioritized meeting people. His schedule was filled with visits to local events such as fairs, festivals and other community gatherings where he could interact with Oregonians. Atiyeh attended the annual Banks BBQ held in Banks, Oregon at least twice between 1978 and 1983. He also spoke at the annual Oregon Agriculture Economic Activities dinner held in Forest Grove in 1983. Because of his commitment to get out and meet the public, he amassed a devoted following of Oregonians on both sides of the political spectrum. Governor Atiyeh understood the importance of personal connections, especially when it came to politics.

It is perhaps this understanding of personal connection that drew Presidents to Governor



Atiyeh as well. He spent time with Presidents Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, and George H.W. Bush during their respective terms in office. President Ford and Governor Atiyeh shared a love of golf and would continue golfing together well past both men's time in politics. President George H.W. Bush called on Atiyeh during his greatest crisis as president, the Gulf War. Atiyeh served on a delegation of Arab-Americans in the White House just prior to President Bush initiating Operation Desert Storm.

During Atiyeh's first term as governor, Oregon's economy suffered through the largest recession in the state's history since the Great Depression. Oregon's reliance on the timber industry decimated the Oregon economy as new construction plummeted across the country. There was a desperate need to diversify Oregon's economy. One of Governor Atiyeh's greatest achievements was how he achieved this diversification. Atiyeh cultivated the "Silicon Forest" rooted right in the middle of Washington County and pushed the concept that Oregon was open for business.\* He completed many international trade missions during his time as governor to East Asia with the singular goal of bringing tech companies to Oregon.

The biggest hurdle in attracting international companies to invest in Oregon was the



Top Left: Governor Victor Atiyeh speaking at the Oregon Agriculture Economic Activities dinner in Forest Grove, Oregon.

Center: Governor Victor Atiyeh visits his father's hometown of Amar, Syria in 1984.

Photos courtesy of Pacific University Archives

Top Right: Victor Atiyeh with Pacific University President Faith Gabelnick and Pacific University Board of Trustee member Gene Brum after he received an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree in 1996.

Bottom Left: Victor Atiyeh and his wife, Dolores, attend the Banks BBQ in 1978.

Bottom Right: Victor Atiyeh and the Arab-American Delegation meet with President George H.W. Bush in the White House.

Unitary Tax that Oregon had. The tax essentially required companies to pay extra money to do business in Oregon, even if their headquarters were based elsewhere. Governor Atiyeh knew this had to change in order to diversify Oregon's economy. He was successful in getting the Oregon Legislature to understand this and the Unitary Tax was finally repealed in 1984. With the Unitary Tax out of the way, many tech companies began migrating to Washington County. Companies like Epson America, Fujitsu America, and NEC Corporation set up shop in the Silicon Forest. According to Governor Atiyeh, by 1987 nine Japanese companies alone had either expanded or acquired land in Oregon since his first trade mission to Japan in 1979. He claimed that these companies had the potential to bring \$773 million dollars in capital investment and would create 6,200 jobs.

While the Silicon Forest's origins date back to the mid-1970s with Intel and Tektronix, Governor Atiyeh's efforts to bring more tech companies to Oregon solidified Washington County's position as a tech industry hub. The landscape of the Hillsboro area changed dramatically over the next two decades. This was both good and bad. Tech brought many jobs and wealth, but it also displaced prime farmland and led to much greater density and traffic.

Forest Grove felt the ripple effect of this growth as demand for housing and new infrastructure increased as well.

After his time in office, Governor Atiyeh served on the Board of Trustees at Pacific University until 1995. Pacific University awarded him an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree in 1996. He surprised many people when he decided to donate his personal papers to the Pacific University Archives rather than his alma mater, the University of Oregon, or the Oregon Historical Society. However, he resided in Washington County for most of his life and changed the landscape of this county during his time as governor. It made sense for his collection to remain right here where he felt most at home.

\*Note: The Silicon Forest refers to the cluster of high-tech companies in Washington County located along the Sunset Highway corridor. The name is a play on the Silicon Valley, a cluster of high-tech companies in the San Francisco Bay Area.

# Volunteers of the Month

Photos by Terri Erskine, Volunteer Recognition Coordinator



## **January: Stephanie Rose**

New member Stephanie Rose hit the ground running, doing some heavy lifting with the Holiday Social where her server's license came in handy at the beverage bar. Stephanie is ready and willing to help out, most recently typing up the Decades of Forest Grove files from the poster project created in the 90s from the Eric Stewart Collection. We are thankful to have her energy and enthusiasm on our volunteer team.

## **February: Cilicia Philemon**

Local realtor Cilicia Philemon has been volunteering with FHFG, Habitat for Humanity's ReStore, and other local non-profits since she moved to Forest Grove. Always willing to lend a hand, she was nominated for her help prepping the quarterly FHFG newsletters for mailing and personally delivering newsletters to local retirement communities. Cilicia is always encouraging and a delight to work with!



## **March: Eva Guggemos and Wil Hunt**

This dynamic duo fearlessly took on the huge job of transferring our website and membership database to a new platform within a very tight deadline. They spent countless hours transforming the data to a format that should be easier to maintain for posterity.

Wil actually does this type of work for a living as an Analyst/Developer. And it turns out Eva has done this type of work in a previous career. Eva currently serves as Secretary of our Board of Directors. She readily lends her expertise as Pacific University Archivist to consult with the FHFG Museum & Library team. Her knowledge and connections with historically local Indigenous people have broadened the scope of FHFG's reference.



## **April: Jeff Roth**

Jeff Roth has been working on the heating system at the Old Train Station. It took some detective work, but he was able to correct the matter and we have had heat. (Until a new issue arose which he is helping to work out!) At the recent work party at the AT Smith house, he dug out scrub trees in the center of the lawn. Jeff was a huge asset to the success of the 2021 Holiday Social, especially with setup and tear down. We are fortunate to have someone with his skills and devotion on the FHFG team!



# Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month

## Forest Grove connects to Hawai'i through Pacific University

WITH JENNI LUCKETT, ASSOC. VP FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS, PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

Pacific University began actively recruiting students from Hawai'i in the 1940s. In 1959, when faculty members Hap Hingston and Fred Scheller started the Hawai'i Club on campus, the partnership really started to hit its stride. That year, there were 16 students from Hawai'i at Pacific's Forest Grove Campus. By 1962, there were 60 students from Hawai'i. Today, about 20 percent of incoming undergraduate students at Pacific hail from Hawai'i.

In 1960 the club, now known as Nā Haumāna O Hawai'i, or NHOH, put on its first Lū'au, which would become the largest student-run lū'au on the mainland. In 2019, the event name changed to Lū'au and Hō'ike (hō'ike means a sharing of knowledge). In 2021, NHOH presented a virtual Ho'omau due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 61st annual Lū'au and Hō'ike returned to campus April 9, 2022.



Edna Gehring met her husband Hans at Pacific and they have recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

For 35 years, until her retirement in 2018, one of the most influential figures was Edna Gehring. A Pacific student herself, graduating in 1972 with an MSED, as the club's advisor "Aunty Edna" related to her students, encouraging them to achieve and creating strong familial bonds - Ohana.

On campus in Oregon, NHOH makes incoming students from Hawai'i feel instantly at home, helping arrange travel and accommodations, and even taking them shopping at move-in time. Families enjoy discounted travel rates to Oregon, where they often visit campus to support their students through athletics and special events like Lū'au.

Back in Hawai'i, alumni, students, and family have a built-in Pacific connection. More than 1,800 Pacific alumni live in Hawai'i, and Pacific hosts recruitment, family and alumni events on the islands. The College of Optometry has hosted its renowned Island Eyes optometry conference in the state for nearly 40 years, and each July, undergraduate admissions and advising staff meet with incoming students and families for registration and transition events. In 2016, Pacific hosted the first Division III football game ever played in Hawai'i.



The 61st annual Lū'au and Hō'ike returned to campus April 9, 2022.



At the inauguration of the 12th President of Pacific University. Left to right: Gov. William F. Quinn, Hawaii; Pres. M. A. F. Ritchie; Judge George Rossman, Chair Pacific Trustees; Gov. Mark Hatfield, Oregon. When Hawaii entered statehood in 1960, Pacific University bestowed an honorary degree on its inaugural Gov. William F. Quinn.

# Help tell our stories...

- Join us and volunteer.
- Donate refundable cans/bottles with BottleDrop blue bags.
- Designate FHFG with Amazon Smile and Fred Meyer Community Rewards.
- Host a birthday/event fundraiser through Facebook.
- Remember FHFG in your estate planning.

If you need help with any of these, email [info@fhfg.org](mailto:info@fhfg.org) or call 503-992-1280

**Thank You** because none of our work could continue without you!



Circa 1960s. Group photo of participants in one of the Pacific University lū'aus hosted on campus since 1950.

<https://washingtoncountyheritage.org/s/wcho/item/53579>



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