

## OUR MISSION

*As the steward of Oregon's history, the Oregon Historical Society educates, informs, and engages the public through collecting, preserving, and interpreting the past.*

# THE 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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# Message from the President & Executive Director



Dear Members and Friends,

When we became the leadership team at the Oregon Historical Society in April 2011, we knew that there were three priorities on top of our “to do” list. The first was strengthening the financial stability of OHS, which, like most non-profits, had gone through challenging times during the national financial downturn. The second was to increase the visibility of OHS, so that more people were aware of our museum, our research library, and our programs. Priority number three was ensuring that our exhibits and our programs maintained top quality. As we look back on 2011, we are proud to say that with the support of members and friends like you, OHS has made substantial progress on each of these priorities.

Our financial situation has been greatly strengthened by receipt of the first installment of funds authorized when the voters of Multnomah County approved a levy in November 2010. Also, the Oregon State Legislature chose to invest \$2.5 million in OHS, understanding our critical role in preserving Oregon’s remarkable heritage. We are grateful that individuals, foundations, and corporations also gave generously over the course of 2011. OHS was saddened by the passing of businessman and philanthropist Fred Fields in December 2011, and we were incredibly honored by his bequest to OHS of \$2 million.

Interesting, enlightening, and high quality exhibits like Peace Corps: 50 Years of Service and Bringing the World Home; Pedal to the Metal: Oregon Motorsports Tradition; and Treasures of the Vault increased attendance at the Oregon History Museum. Memorable events included a fascinating series of the Mark O. Hatfield Distinguished Historians Forum and a special evening spent with a true American hero, Band of Brothers veteran Don Malarkey, on the 70th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Another highlight of 2011 was greatly increasing the hours that our world-class research library is open to the public, allowing more individuals, students, and researchers access to our incredible collection.

As fans of history, we do like looking at the past—but we also love to look to the future. We are confident that 2012 will also be a banner year, highlighted by the June opening of Oregon Voices, our state-of-the-art exhibit telling the story of the changes and challenges Oregonians faced—and continue to face—in modern history.

Thanks to you—our members and our friends—for all that you have done, and all that you will continue to do to ensure that the best days of this grand organization are yet to come.

Sincerely,

Kerry Tymchuk  
Executive Director

Dr. Jerry E. Hudson  
President, Board of Directors



THE OREGON  
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SOCIETY  
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*Oregon Historical Society volunteers act as docents, assist with the Oregon Historical Quarterly, and serve in the Research Library, at the Oregon Vault in Gresham, in the Museum Store, at the Visitor Services Desk, in the Development Office, in the Finance Office, and during special events.*

*Volunteers serve in every department at the Oregon Historical Society.*



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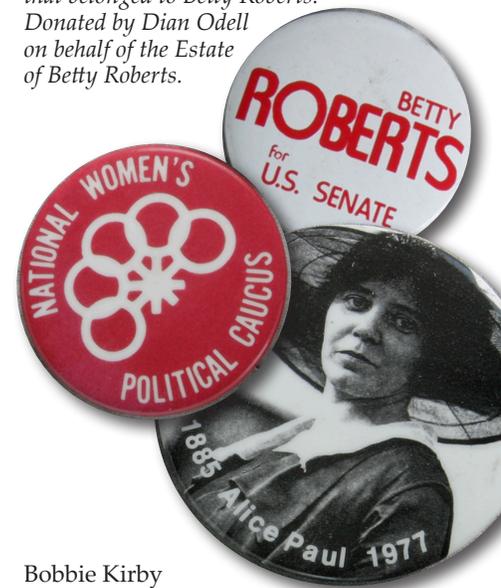
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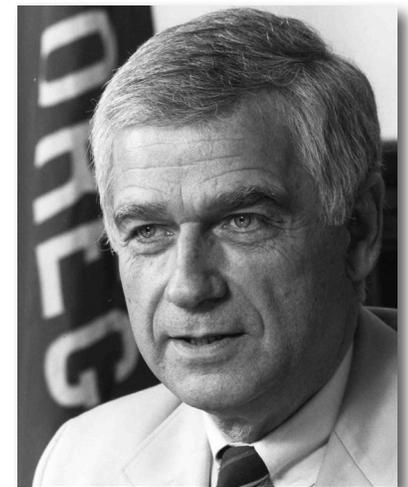
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*Ken and Joan Austin escort Don Shervy and Parker Johnstone in the Starlight Parade to promote our Pedal to the Metal exhibit.*

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*continued...*

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*Budding race car drivers showed off their Quarter Midget cars during the Pedal to the Metal exhibit.*

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Kerry Tymchuck and Teddy Roosevelt repriser Joe Wiegand talk presidential history.

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# 2011 Highlights

## DAVIES FAMILY RESEARCH LIBRARY

In 2011, Multnomah County tax levy funds enabled the library to restore research library hours and hire a trained genealogist and professional librarian, resulting in expanded services to researchers and educators.

As part of the Oregon Historical Society's commitment to history education, the library hosted student groups at all age levels, from elementary school to graduate programs; produced a series of video programs for Portland Public Schools designed to guide history teachers in making the library resources available to their students; worked with secondary school teachers as part of an annual training program; and provided internships for library school students from around the country.

The library also increased services for genealogists by beginning a series of Genealogy Workshops in the fall of 2011, launching a monthly Genealogy Newsletter, and presenting at off site events.

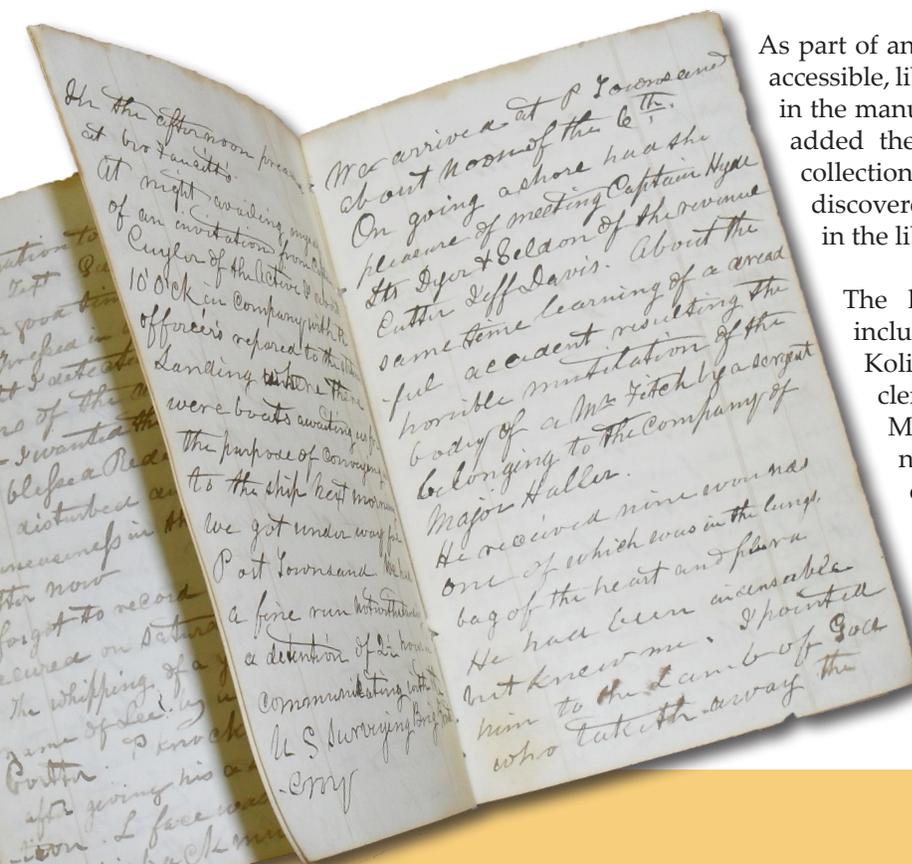
Illustrating that the library serves a wide range of needs, staff also assisted a researcher from the Portland Police Department Homicide Cold Case squad who was researching a thirty year-old crime scene in downtown Portland.



As part of an ongoing effort to make the collection more accessible, library staff converted more than 4,600 records in the manuscript card catalog into electronic form and added them to the online catalog. Previously, the collections represented by these cards could only be discovered by people using the manual card catalog in the library itself.

The library received 246 accessions in 2011, including the photographs of Marian Wood Kolisch and an original 1852 diary of a pioneer clergyman. Staff also processed the Fred Meyer collection of photographs, scrapbooks, newsletters, and other materials that documented the entire history of the firm, from its founding by Mr. Meyer in the 1920s to the present.

Library staff also worked with the National Basketball Association to supply historic footage filmed by Don Zavin of the Portland Trail Blazers.



### OREGON HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

In 2011, the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* introduced a new feature: Local History Spotlights. These short articles are designed to document and bring attention to history projects, events, and organizations around the state.

All over Oregon, volunteers, students, and professionals are doing the work necessary to create a shared understanding of our past, and Local History Spotlights are designed to make us all more aware of that work. Through spotlight articles, *Quarterly* readers learned about new archaeological finds in Klamath County, collections and programs at the historic Wasco County Courthouse, the centennial railroad day celebration in Madras, and a Willamette Heritage Center exhibit on canoe culture of Western Oregon, organized in collaboration with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Local History Spotlights are not only good stories that document important historical work in Oregon, they are also helping fulfill OHS's strategic goals to demonstrate the *Quarterly's* relevance across the state and deepen working relationships with other cultural organizations.



### EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Oregon Historical Society served 280 school groups and more than 10,000 students in 2011. Groups toured exhibits with our trained docents, examined primary source materials in the Davies Family Research Library, and created their own historical crafts, drawings, and projects with our education staff.

Free admission for all school groups and bus scholarships for qualified schools made a field trip to the Oregon Historical Society possible for more students than ever this year.

In collaboration with the Citizens for the Memorial of Tom McCall Fund, the Oregon Historical Society launched a multi-disciplinary, service-learning curriculum focused on Governor Tom McCall's legacy to Oregon citizens. *Tom McCall: A Better Oregon* is designed to teach students about Tom McCall's life and work and help them gain the knowledge, skills, and commitment to act boldly and responsibly in civic matters.

In April, OHS partnered with the Theodore Roosevelt Association, Oregon Roughrider Chapter, to present Joe Wiegand, the nation's premier Theodore Roosevelt impersonator. In period costume, Weigand gave a special performance to local high school students based on his extensive knowledge of Roosevelt's life and writings.



Credit: Paul Colvin

## 2011 Major Events

### MARK O. HATFIELD DISTINGUISHED HISTORIANS FORUM

In 2011, four extraordinary historians presented thought provoking evenings of history. Steven Hayward spoke on President Ronald Reagan; Rex Ziak shared a snapshot of Oregon history with his lecture on the founder of Astoria, John Jacob Astor; noted historian David Hackett Fischer talked about the presidencies of iconic leaders George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin Roosevelt; and Edith Gelles closed the series with a lecture about the marriage of John and Abigail Adams.

### OREGON ROCKS CONCERT

Marking the opening of the Oregon Rocks exhibit, the Oregon Historical Society and the Dill Pickle Club co-hosted a special concert featuring local talents Ural Thomas, The Kingsmen, Pierced Arrows, Quasi, and DJ HWY 7.

### THE 2011 OREGON HISTORY MAKERS DINNER

Each year the Oregon Historical Society honors Oregon's living leaders who have made history in their own time. 2011 honorees were innovative entrepreneurs Ken and Joan Austin; groundbreaking timber industry leader Allyn Ford; pioneering cardiovascular surgeon Albert Starr; and award-winning film director Gus Van Sant.

### HOLIDAY CHEER

In its 44th year, Holiday Cheer hosted over fifty Oregon authors for an afternoon of book signing and selling. Guests met popular children's writer Bart King, former governor Barbara Roberts, and Jean Auel, award-winning author of the Earth's Children Series.

### SUNDAY LECTURES

In 2011 our Sunday Lecture series grew in size and scope, featuring speakers on topics ranging from WWII to the Portland Timbers. Programs were free for members and included in museum or library admission for visitors.



*Oregon Rocks Concert*



*History Makers Dinner*



*Holiday Cheer  
Courtesy of Ned Thanhouser*

# Exhibits

2011

## PEACE CORPS: 50 YEARS OF SERVICE AND BRINGING THE WORLD HOME

This exhibit gave visitors a small glimpse of what it's like to live and work in the most remote corners of the world. The multimedia exhibit featured leatherwork, carvings, furniture, art, and personal stories and mementoes, all collected by Peace Corps volunteers from around the globe.

## PEDAL TO THE METAL: OREGON MOTORSPORTS TRADITION

In a summer partnership with the Portland Art Museum's Allure of the Automobile exhibit, the Oregon Historical Society filled its exhibit hall with historic Indy cars, motorcycles, and soap box derby cars showcasing a breathtaking display of racing history.

## SOCCER CITY, USA

In 2011, Oregon launched a new era in sports history with the Portland Timbers' inaugural season in Major League Soccer. This exhibit provided an inside look at Timbers history. An unmatched collection of photos, videos, equipment, uniforms, and other memorabilia was gathered together for the very first time.

## OREGON ROCKS: A HISTORY OF POPULAR MUSIC IN OREGON

For generations, Oregon has been a hotbed for great music. Visitors uncovered Oregon's rich music scene in this original exhibit showcasing musical instruments, clothing, records, and concert posters from some of Oregon's most influential performers.

## TREASURES OF THE VAULT

From the rare and priceless to the peculiar and mysterious, the artifacts in the Oregon Historical Society's collection document everything from key moments in Oregon history to the minute details of daily life. We searched the vault and selected the most historic, intriguing, and unique items, many of them never before displayed, for this remarkable exhibit.

## RED SHIELD OF THE ROSE CITY: 125 YEARS OF THE SALVATION ARMY IN PORTLAND

125 years ago, the very first Salvation Army headquarters was established in the Pacific Northwest. To commemorate this anniversary, The Salvation Army collaborated with the Oregon History Museum to create this original exhibit.



*Pedal to the Metal exhibit  
Courtesy of Ned Thanouser*



*Soccer City USA exhibit*

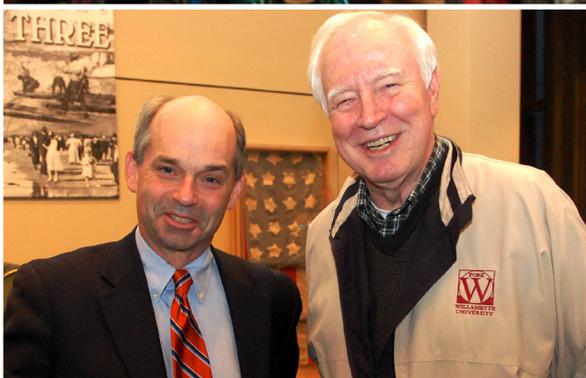


*Treasures of the Vault exhibit*

# 2011 in Pictures

We were pleased to open our doors to friends and members in 2011 for a variety of special events including our annual History Makers Dinner and exhibit opening receptions.





# Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

Year Ended December 31, 2011  
With Comparative Totals for 2010

## OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY & SUBSIDIARY

	2011	2010
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,796,692	\$ 1,795,253
Short-term investments	-	1,151,722
Contributions and grants receivable	2,608,294	152,605
Accounts receivable	10,101	16,434
Prepaid expenses	102,465	113,497
Inventories	46,840	56,426
Other assets	108,952	110,111
Beneficial interest in assets held by the Oregon Community Foundation	6,929,438	7,236,023
Beneficial interest in charitable trusts	517,747	539,557
Land, buildings and equipment	9,628,804	9,903,058
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 22,749,333</b>	<b>\$ 21,074,686</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	217,607	211,159
Deferred revenue	3,052	10,951
Liability to trust beneficiaries	24,630	33,699
Long-term debt	2,638,453	2,713,891
Deferred compensation	13,179	40,521
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,896,921</b>	<b>3,010,221</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted:		
Board-designated reserves	1,853,259	2,060,382
Cumulative endowment losses	(878,749)	(389,052)
Net investment in capital assets	6,384,923	6,611,038
Net investment in operating subsidiary	833,466	763,093
<b>Total unrestricted</b>	<b>8,192,899</b>	<b>9,045,461</b>
Temporarily restricted	3,377,263	975,201
Permanently restricted for endowment	8,282,250	8,043,803
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>19,852,412</b>	<b>18,064,465</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 22,749,333</b>	<b>\$ 21,074,686</b>

# Consolidated Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2011  
With Comparative Totals for 2010

## OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY & SUBSIDIARY

	2011			Total	2010
	Unrestricted	Temporarily restricted	Permanently restricted		
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT</b>					
Contributions and grants	\$852,456	504,286	-	1,356,742	1,326,198
Memberships	252,635	-	-	252,635	277,256
Multnomah County levy	896,798	-	-	896,798	-
Other government funding	356,788	45,721	-	402,509	575,206
<b>Total public support</b>	<b>2,358,677</b>	<b>550,007</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,908,684</b>	<b>2,178,660</b>
<b>REVENUES AND GAINS</b>					
Admissions	134,876	-	-	134,876	155,970
Product sales	232,956	-	-	232,956	232,678
Program income	29,205	-	-	29,205	48,200
Rental income	619,317	-	-	619,317	639,713
Investment income	38,036	-	-	38,036	21,147
Other	85,667	365	-	86,032	157,753
<b>Total operating revenues and gains</b>	<b>1,140,057</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,140,422</b>	<b>1,255,461</b>
Appropriation of endowment assets for expenditure	300,824	35,862	-	336,686	362,706
Net assets released from restrictions for operating	586,563	(586,563)	-	-	-
<b>Total operating revenues, gains and other support</b>	<b>4,386,121</b>	<b>(329)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,385,792</b>	<b>3,796,827</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Program services	3,083,044	-	-	3,083,044	2,881,226
Supporting services	1,215,909	-	-	1,215,909	1,446,203
Jefferson-Madison Corporation	549,647	-	-	549,647	564,913
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>4,848,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,848,600</b>	<b>4,892,342</b>
<b>Net operating results</b>	<b>(462,479)</b>	<b>(329)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(462,808)</b>	<b>(1,095,515)</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>					
Endowment gifts	-	-	246,531	246,531	-
Contributions restricted for capital acquisition	-	59,700	-	59,700	-
State appropriation restricted for debt retirement	-	2,500,000	-	2,500,000	-
Net change in the beneficial interest in assets held by OCF	(188,873)	(27,557)	-	(216,430)	782,365
Net change in the fair value of split-interest agreements	-	(4,657)	(8,084)	(12,741)	(39,640)
Net gain on the sale of collection items	-	10,381	-	10,381	-
Appropriation of endowment assets for expenditure	(300,824)	(35,862)	-	(336,686)	(362,706)
Net assets released from restrictions for capital acquisition	99,614	(99,614)	-	-	-
<b>Total non-operating activities</b>	<b>(390,083)</b>	<b>2,402,391</b>	<b>238,447</b>	<b>2,250,755</b>	<b>380,019</b>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(852,562)	2,402,062	238,447	1,787,947	(715,496)
<b>Net assets at beginning of year</b>	<b>9,045,461</b>	<b>975,201</b>	<b>8,043,803</b>	<b>18,064,465</b>	<b>18,779,961</b>
<b>Net assets at end of year</b>	<b>\$ 8,192,899</b>	<b>3,377,263</b>	<b>8,282,250</b>	<b>19,852,412</b>	<b>18,064,465</b>

## ABOUT THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Since 1898, the Oregon Historical Society has served as the state's premier historical arm, gathering and preserving documents, manuscripts, publications, films, recordings, and artifacts. The Society preserves the significant cultural traditions of the diverse peoples of Oregon and has received high honors for its exhibits, its historical journal the *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, and educational programs for the public. The Society's award-winning exhibits include Oregon My Oregon, a permanent exhibit that won a MUSE Award from the American Association of Museums. The Society's artifacts collection includes ancient objects from the region's earliest settlements as well as items donated by contemporary Oregonians. Its vast and priceless collections include some 85,000 artifacts, 2.5 million photographs, 25,000 maps, 12,000 linear feet of manuscript materials, a library collection of 35,000 books, a film archive of 15,000 titles, and more than 2,000 oral histories.

## HOURS

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Tuesday - Saturday  
Noon - 5 p.m.  
Sunday

## LOCATION

1200 SW Park Avenue  
Portland, OR 97205  
503-222-1741  
WWW.OHS.ORG



*Purchase historic photographs  
from the Oregon Historical Society  
online at [shop.ohs.org](http://shop.ohs.org).*

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE  
OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY