

Holy Names Heritage Center

FALL 2009

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Environmental Program Attracts New Audience

Karen Kinzey, Program Manager

Portland is justifiably famous for its local pub scene as well as its intellectual offerings. Although the two may not seem to go together, they actually dovetail perfectly. The city's drinking venues abound with science presentations, trivia quizzes, spelling bees, and our own wildly popular History Pub series. For new organizations such as the Heritage Center, sometimes the most effective way to reach an audience is to take the Heritage Center to the people. Such is the case for Ecolutions, the Center's first of many educational programs that will promote sustainable living.

Sustainability was a priority for the Sisters of the Holy Names long before it became a popular catchphrase. Today, stewardship of the earth is at the heart of the sisters' work, as indicated by their corporate stand that water is a basic human right. Sustainability is a key component of the Heritage Center's education programs. Ecolutions, the Center's newest program series, is a

happy hour event for those who are passionate about the environment. The program occurs on the second Monday of the month at The Agency, a hip sports pub in southwest Portland.

Ecolutions is intended to be a two-way dialogue between the speaker and the audience. Each month, a sustainability expert delivers a presentation and facilitates a conversation about a pressing environmental issue. At the end of each program, the audience is presented with a challenge that consists of a range of personal actions that contribute to a more sustainable lifestyle. Participants commit to taking one definitive action to reduce their impact on the environment.

Ecolutions is off to a promising start. The speakers' degrees of expertise have been matched by the participants' commitment to personal and collective action to bring about change. Heritage Center staff developed the program with three goals in mind: to inspire positive environmental change through community engagement, to reach a

new audience through the Heritage Center's educational outreach, and to partner with the sisters in their work to promote responsible stewardship of the earth. Ecolutions is already making significant progress on each of these fronts. To follow the growth of this important series and to learn more about upcoming programs, visit the sustainability page on the Heritage Center's website.



Holy Names
HERITAGE CENTER

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Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034
503.607.0595
Fax: 503.607.0609

Administrative hours:
Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Research by
appointment
Wednesday-Friday
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Letter from the Executive Director

In celebration of the beginning of our third year of operation, our second annual Gala will feature speaker Nelson Ferris. In his presentation, "The Incredible Nike Story...A History," Mr. Farris will walk us through the amazing story of the birth and life of Oregon's largest public company, Nike...its beginnings, challenges, successes...with a special focus on Nike's strong stance on corporate responsibility. In 1973, Mr. Farris started with Blue Ribbon Sports, the company that later became Nike, by selling running shoes out of the trunk of his car. He launched the sports promo program in 1978, kicking it into high gear for the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. He's worn 20 different hats, traveled over a million miles and visited 50 countries for Nike. Mr. Farris now serves as head of Corporate Education.

The proceeds from this evening's event will support Holy Names Heritage Center's educational programming.

Thank you,
Tamra Brosseau

Jack and Pat Crocker to be honored at Gala

This special evening we will be honoring two very dear people who have stood by us from the beginning. We are honoring Jack and Pat Crocker for their ongoing commitment to the Heritage Center. The Crockers have been foundational in the growth and development of the Heritage Center since 2007, and we wish to make a public acknowledgement of our deep appreciation for their ongoing partnership. They believed in our vision and shared their wisdom to help us shape this new creation. Even more important than their economic support, their wisdom and wealth of experience have assisted our staff and Trustees to improve in all that we do. We shall be forever in their debt.

Upcoming Events

Ecolutions:

"Cap and Trade Myths and Realities"
November 9, 2009 6PM

Ecolutions takes place on the second Monday of every month at The Agency
1939 SW Morrison St., Portland
Free and open to the public over 21

Evening at the Heritage Center:

"S. Miriam Theresa and Oregon's First
Minimum Wage Law"
November 19, 2009 7PM

Holy Names Heritage Center
17425 Holy Names Drive, Lake Oswego
Free and open to the public

History Pub:

"American Women and the First World War"
November 30, 2009 7PM

History Pub takes place the last Monday of the month at McMenamins' Kennedy School
5736 NE 33rd Ave., Portland
Free and open to the public

LIMITED EDITION OREGON 150 PENDLETON WOOLEN MILLS BLANKET



In celebration of the Sisters of the Holy Names' 150th year in Oregon and as a Partner of the Oregon 150, the Heritage Center was selected to receive this magnificent limited edition Pendleton Woolen Mills blanket valued at \$1,000. One of 150 in existence, the blanket is numbered and signed by Oregon's governor and comes with a letter of authenticity from Pendleton's president. It is 60" x 80". Tickets are one for \$15, two for \$25 or 4 for \$40.

The sales from this raffle will go to support the Heritage Center in its efforts to produce quality educational programming such as History Pub, environmental education such as Ecolutions, Oregon 150 4th grade and many more. Raffle tickets will be available until the evening of November 13th. The holder of the winning ticket need not be in attendance to win. Please contact the Heritage Center to purchase tickets.

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Thank you to our members and supporters

We would like to thank our members and supporters, including all of the sisters, for making all that we do here at the Heritage Center possible.

In such economically challenging times it is often difficult for newly formed non-profits, but with hard work, wise counsel, and a growing support base the Heritage Center is delivering challenging educational programs that continue to grow.

We were proud to be a part of the 150 celebration and look forward to future work with the sisters in developing new educational programs that represent their evolving ministries. Your support is what allows us to carry your work and values into the future.

From the Archives

**Sarah Cantor,
Director of Archives, U.S.-Ontario Province**

As we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Sisters of the Holy Names' arrival in Oregon, let us look back to the beginning of that "foreign mission." Twelve young women, mostly French-speaking, set out on a long, potentially perilous voyage for an unknown land and future in Portland, Oregon. Called by holy obedience, they left the country, community, and families they loved, in some cases forever. That we are lucky enough to have access to their voices 150 years later is a rare gift. Preserved in the archives, the chronicle of the Oregon Foundresses' 1859 voyage to Portland and their initial reaction to what they found when they arrived is historical, poignant, and humorous—about as far from a dry recital of facts as one can get. A few other items survive in the archives to enhance our understanding of this moment: a book, a painting and a photograph.

The book is a tiny, black, cloth-bound 1852 edition of *The Imitation of Christ*, in French. The faded brown ink of the florid English inscription reads: "Farewell, my fond and dear sister. We must part. Oh! How bitter the thought!" It is signed by Sister Mary Francis of Assisium, blood sister of Sister Mary Margaret, an Oregon Foundress. When she penned her note, Sister Mary Francis of Assisium had no way of knowing if she would ever see her sister again. As it turned out, she came to Oregon in 1863 and briefly saw Sister Mary Margaret before the latter returned to the Motherhouse in Hochelaga that same year.

The oil painting is a tattered fragment, a copy of a *Madonna and Child* by Raphael. It was given to the Oregon Foundresses in September 1859 by the Ladies of the Sacred Heart, in whose New York City convent the sisters gratefully stayed until their ship sailed for Key West.

Only one image of the Oregon Foundresses exists. Taken in 1863 it shows the Foundresses grouped on the porch of St. Mary's Academy, white sheets strung up behind them as a backdrop. Their arms are folded, with the left hand touching the crucifix and the right holding a book. All are solemn, unsmiling, and stare fixedly at the camera, the practice of the day when exposure times were long.

These three items, along with the chronicles, are all that remain to tangibly link us to the Oregon Foundresses. During this year of celebration for all the sisters have achieved in 150 years, let us be grateful to those who took the time to save important documents and objects from the past, for it is these that show the unbroken chain of faith and charism that links past to present.



Oil painting copy of a Madonna and Child by Raphael, artist unknown, given to the Oregon Foundresses in September 1859



SNJM Oregon Foundresses, 1863

Holy Names Heritage Center
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17425 Holy Names Drive

Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Tel: 503.607.0595 Ext:1

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www.holynamesheritagecenter.org

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