

## A Printer's Gift of *Desert Poems*

*Norman McKnight, a printer from Berkeley, CA., recently presented the museum with a gift of High Desert poetry.*

*See Page 4*



## The Klamath Cometh...

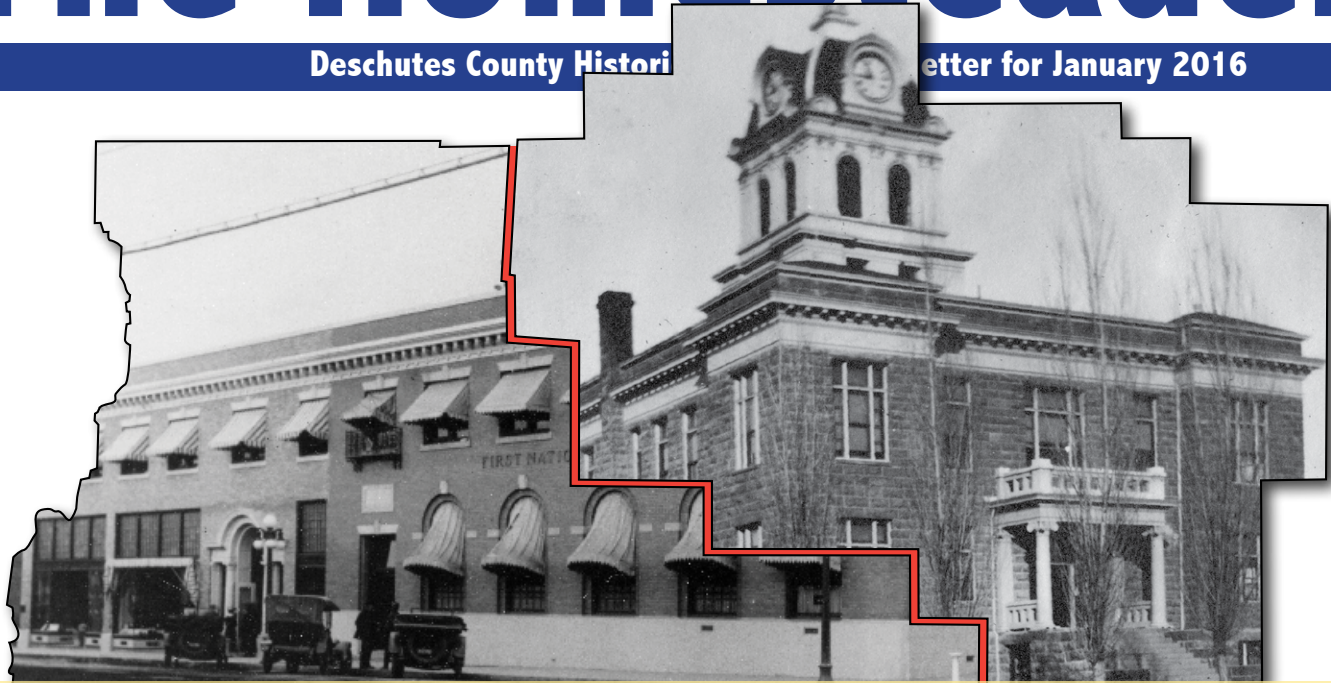
*Ski legend Emil Nordeen's trophy "The Klamath" is back in Bend after being away for 55 years.*

*See Page 6*

# The Homesteader

Deschutes County Historical Society

Letter for January 2016



## 2016 Marks Deschutes County Centennial

*Symbolizing the split of Deschutes County from Crook County in 1916: Deschutes County Courthouse can be seen to the left of the First National Bank building on Oregon Street in Bend. Crook County is represented by the courthouse in Prineville, built in 1909.*

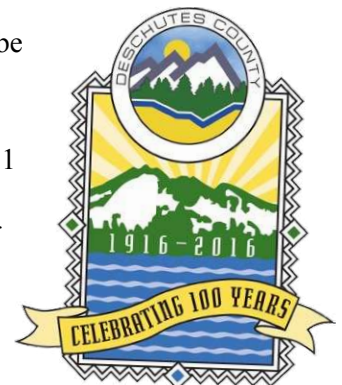
**The Deschutes County Historical Society and Deschutes County are ready to kick off a year of celebrations marking the creation of Deschutes County, the last county to be formed in the state of Oregon.**

When Oregon entered the union in 1859, most of Central Oregon was Wasco County, which stretched from the Columbia River to Silver Lake. In 1882, the southern half of Wasco broke away to form Crook County. Prineville, first settled in 1868, was selected as the county seat. The area eventually known as Deschutes County was still scantily populated with its first ranchers and homesteaders.

By 1900, businessmen with big ideas and investments to make eyed the Deschutes River and the pine forests. Towns were platted with the intention of recruiting over 100,000

people to the area and reshaping them into metropolitan cities by the sheer will of its new residents. Madras, Terrebonne, Redmond, Bend, La Pine, Laidlaw – all vied to be the jewel in the shadow of the Cascades.

When the railroad came in 1911 and left Prineville heartbroken and dreaming of a line all their own, political power shifted quickly. With Madras, Bend and Redmond populations exploding, the sheer number of voters willing to split the



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# Descutes County Centennial

– continued from page 1  
county increased as well. Had a vote in 1914 to move the county seat from Prineville to Bend succeeded, it still would not have saved Crook County’s existing shape – voters that same election approved the creation of Jefferson County to the north, with Madras as its county seat. Two years later, the idea of simply moving the county seat was abandoned and voters approved the creation of Deschutes County. Crook County would fight the election results and claim voter fraud, but after a recount, Governor Withycombe officially approved Deschutes County’s creation on December 13, 1916.

To stay up-to-date with the County’s Centennial celebration and upcoming events, visit [www.deschutes.org/100years](http://www.deschutes.org/100years) for news, updates, history and photos – past and present. On Twitter and Instagram, use and search the hashtag, #DC100Years. Of course, stay tuned to The Homesteader as well!

## Centennial Poster Contest

The first event to kick off the centennial is a contest for local artists to create the County’s official Centennial poster. Poster designs should represent the past 100 years of Deschutes County history.

### Poster Contest Guidelines:

- Only original artwork will be considered
- The winner’s work will become the property of Deschutes County
- Please submit your poster as a .jpeg or .pdf. It may be emailed or sent on a CD.
- The winner will be asked to submit a high-resolution .jpeg.
- Artists may submit multiple posters.



*A month shy of Governor Withycombe’s official proclamation, The Bend Press published the first map of the new county.*

The winner of the Centennial poster contest will receive a listing on the Centennial website and will be featured in a news release. Please email [100years@deschutes.org](mailto:100years@deschutes.org) for a submission form.

## Upcoming Centennial Events

### • **Theatrical Production**

The Deschutes County Historical Society is working with a local production company to create a four act

play that will highlight the people, ideology and issues that motivated residents to split apart from existing Crook County and create a new county named Deschutes.

The play will feature four characters whose livelihoods are impacted directly by the creation of a new county. The work can be performed in its entirety or in small educational programs featuring individual characters only. The play will be performed at least once in Bend, Redmond, Sisters, and La Pine, pending location of venues.

Individual one-act performances will be scheduled as appropriate. The finished script will belong to the Deschutes County Historical Society’s educational programs for use beyond the Centennial in both on-site and off-site school visits.

### • **Traveling Historical Display**

The Deschutes County Historical Museum and local community partners are working to recondition a 1907 Holsman to drive and display at community events throughout the year.

### • **County Clerk’s Art Contest for Deschutes County Voters Pamphlet**

In late winter, the County Clerk will invite students in grades 4-7 to submit art depicting Deschutes County’s history. Winning art will be featured on the cover of the 2016 Deschutes County Voters’ Pamphlets.

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## Deschutes Historical Museum

129 NW Idaho Avenue, Bend  
Open Tuesdays-Saturdays  
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
541.389.1813

### Museum Staff:

Kelly Cannon-Miller, Executive Director  
Vanessa Ivey, Museum Manager  
Shey Hyatt, Registrar  
Linda Orcelletto, Development Manager  
Tor Hanson, Homesteader Editor



### 2015 DCHS Board of Directors:

Nate Pedersen, President  
Marsha Stout, Vice President  
Sue Fountain, Secretary/Treasurer

### Board Members:

Tony DeBone, Andrea Hunnell DuPree,  
Greg Fulton, Karen Green, Robin Gyorgyfalvy,  
Tor Hanson, Loren Irving, Heidi Kennedy,  
Courtney Lupton-Turner, Bill Olsen, and  
Susie Penhollow

Complete minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors are on file with the Museum office.



[www.deschuteshistory.org](http://www.deschuteshistory.org)  
[Info@deschuteshistory.org](mailto:Info@deschuteshistory.org)

# MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS REWARDED FOR HARD WORK

**On December 6th over fifty volunteers for the Deschutes Historical Museum came together and shared brunch in celebration of another successful year at the museum, and what a year it has been!**

This year we introduced two new exhibits, welcomed over 3000 visitors, logged many hours in research requests both for the public and for museum projects, hosted outstanding events, and so much more.

“The museum has been active with volunteers all through the Reid School building this entire year, from the third floor down to the main floor and even out the door. It’s been wonderful to come to work and see so many people excited about what is happening here and wanting to be a part of the action”, Museum Manager Vanessa Ivey announced at the afternoon gathering.

This year six recipients were praised for their outstanding dedication and hard work with the museum.

**Kim Boddie** came to us January 2015 and as one of our newest volunteers received this year’s Rookie of the Year Award. Already Kim has recorded



172 volunteer hours, spending his time on the third floor photographing objects for the Deschutes Historical Museum’s database Past Perfect. Artifacts which have been entered into the database need a picture to go with their description. Kim takes images of clothing, documents, trophies, furniture, and any item that finds a home at the museum and this is no small task as the collection is continually growing. When he’s not photographing history Kim spends his time photographing birds in any sort of weather and is an avid birder with the local Audubon Society.



**Michelle Patrick** has been connected with the Deschutes Historical Museum since 2010 and this year was made Volunteer of the Year. Recently mentioned in

the Homesteader for her mystery solving skills as a history detective Michelle continues to be a familiar friendly face at the front desk, welcoming visitors while introducing them to the local history. She spends hours processing information into the database, including memberships both new and renewed, keeping it up to date, and there isn’t an event she hasn’t been a part of. If something needs doing Michelle never hesitates to lend a hand.

New in 2015 was the Golden Pie Plate Award, presented to two long time Chili Feed volunteers, **Phoebe DeGree** and **Jackie Plath**. For over twenty years Jackie and Phoebe have worked behind the scenes at this favorite annual fundraiser, cutting pies into equal portions to be served beside Millie’s famous chili. Together they make sure everyone gets their slice of pie with ala mode and a smile. This year they retired passing the pie slicers to another veteran volunteer **Ann Maudlin**. Both ladies were given gold painted pie tins as a thank you for their dedication.



*The winners of the “Golden Pie Plate Award, Phoebe DeGree (left) and Jackie Plath (right) with Vanessa Ivey, museum manager in the middle announcing the prize.*

**Tor Hanson**, a DCHS board member and editor of the Homesteader, added co-curator to his volunteer repertoire in 2015. His current work on the new *Winter Comes* exhibit, not to mention the success of his Viking Snow Dance, gained him the honor of receiving “Thor’s Hammer.”

**Loren Irving’s** enthusiasm for John C. Fremont is infectious. His commitment to bringing the story of John C. Fremont and introducing the Finding Fremont exhibit to as many people as he could was tremendous. During this year Loren made numerous speaking engagements to groups all over Central Oregon creating a buzz for Fremont, contributing to the recent exhibit’s popularity. Loren was honored with “The Pathfinder” award.

*A well-deserved “Thank You” goes out to all the Deschutes Historical Museum volunteers for their commitment in making Deschutes County history available to everyone.*

– Vanessa Ivey

# 2016 Election of Board of Directors is Nearing

January 8, 2016

Dear Members:

**It is time again for elections to the Board of Directors for the Deschutes County Historical Society. DCHS is proud to have five individuals willing to serve DCHS for the next three years; two new candidates and three current board members returning for another term. New board members will be welcomed at the Annual Meeting of the Membership, which will be on February 19 in conjunction with the opening of our new exhibit.**

Up for re-election in 2016 for new three year terms are:

- **Marsha Stout**
- **Susie Penhollow**
- **Nate Pedersen**

And we have two new board members seeking election:

- **Mike Berry**
- **Beau Eastes**

Both of the new names are familiar to most, if not all, of our current board:

## *Mike Berry*

I am a history enthusiast and a professional land surveyor currently serving as the Deschutes County Surveyor. I'm a 40 year resident of Bend. My wife Maureen and I have a daughter, Allison, a freshman at Portland State University.

My parents were natives of St. Johns Oregon. I was born in Camp Zama Japan and our family lived at various Army post throughout the country during my dad's career as a US Army pilot. After I graduated from high school in Lawton Oklahoma we returned to Oregon and settled in Bend to be near family.

In 1977, I graduated from the forest technology program at C.O.C.C. and began a lifelong career in the related field of land surveying. Besides my employment at Deschutes County, I also worked for the local firms of George Cook Engineering, Colvin and Hoerning Surveying & Engineering and Century West Engineering.

My appreciation of local history began in 1975 when my cousin Ovey Summers lent me Keith Clark's book about the 1845 Meek Wagon train's arduous journey through Central Oregon. Maureen and I are avid hikers and often combine our love of exploring Central Oregon with trips to long forgotten historic sites. Additionally, in the course of

researching various survey projects throughout Deschutes County I often find myself drawn deeper into the backstory of the men and women who walked these same lands generations ago. To date, two of these chance encounters with historic events have initiated additional research which resulted in presentations at the monthly History Pub.

Having been a member of the museum for over a decade, I have a deep appreciation for its resources and feel strongly about its continued growth and success.

## *Beau Eastes*

I am a native of Kansas and cover community sports and the ever-growing local beer scene for The Bulletin. I graduated from Sterling (Kan.) College with a history degree in 2001 and later attended the University of Oregon's journalism school as a post-baccalaureate student. Before moving to Bend, I worked at The Spectrum & Daily News in Cedar City, Utah, and The East Oregonian in Pendleton.

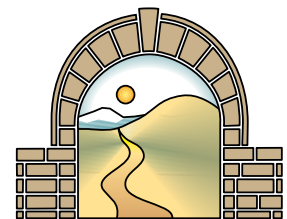
Like many Central Oregon transplants, I've fallen in love with this area and grow more and more attached the deeper I dive into its history. I hope that by joining the DCHS board I'll be able to help preserve parts of the past that make this such an intriguing and interesting area to live. I'd also like to help in any way I can to share the great stories of Deschutes County's history.

Please sign and return your ballots and signature by February 16. Thank you for your support and being a member of the Deschutes County Historical Society. If you have any questions, please call us at 541.389.1813.

Sincerely,

*Kelly Cannon-Miller*

Executive Director



**Deschutes Historical Museum**

# Deschutes County Historical Society

## 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION BALLOTS

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### Deschutes County Historical Society 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS BALLOT

Family memberships are entitled to two votes;  
organizations may appoint one member to vote.

The following candidates have been nominated to serve  
on the Board of Directors for three year terms that will  
expire at the end of 2018.

#### VOTE BY PLACING A CHECKMARK BY EACH NAME

\_\_\_\_\_ Marsha Stout

\_\_\_\_\_ Susie Penhollow

\_\_\_\_\_ Nate Pedersen

\_\_\_\_\_ Mike Berry

\_\_\_\_\_ Beau Eastes

\_\_\_\_\_ (write-in)

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#### PLEASE MAIL OR RETURN BALLOT BY February 16, 2016

Sign the stub at the bottom of the ballot, tear off,  
and return both halves of the ballot to:

*Deschutes County Historical Society  
129 NW Idaho Street  
Bend OR 97703*

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***Please tear here and return with ballot***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please print name

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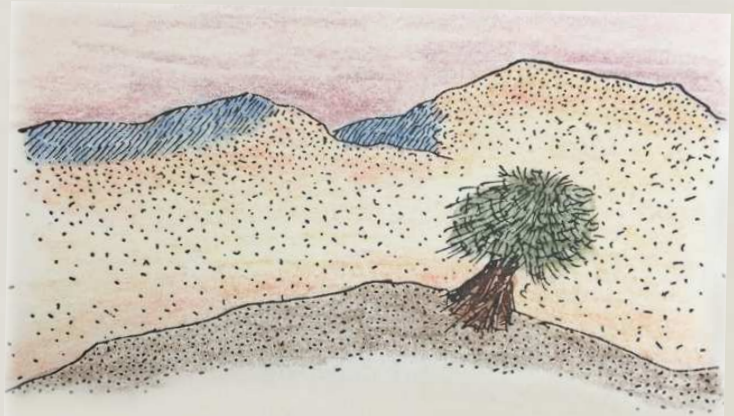
***Please tear here and return with ballot***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please print name



## ADA HASTINGS HEDGES: DESERT POET



They grew more passive with the meager years,  
Upon their lips and hearts the desert lay  
The silence that had throbbed upon their ears ---  
And after all there was not much to say.  
Disheartened neighbors vanished one by one,  
A hill grave claimed the last child of the four,  
She watched the sagebrush billow in the sun,  
A lonelier exile on a lonelier shore.  
Then life so long a tread of weariness  
Waned suddenly, perhaps to her surprise,  
And one blue-aproned, faded woman less  
Stared from a door with hunger in her eyes...  
And he surrendered what faith he had kept  
To an empty kitchen and a hearth unswept.

*(Desert Wife, Sonnet XII)*

**The Deschutes Historical Museum often receives, and often relies on donor's gifts. Each one comes to us with a story, and sometimes a poem or two.**

Norman McKnight, a printer from Berkeley, California, came to the lobby desk one day and handed over a brown-paper parcel saying, "This is for you. I want the museum to have this." He presented a new book of old treasures; *Desert Poems* by Ada Hastings Hedges, a poet who lived in the Oregon High Desert from 1912 to 1919. She wrote from the perspective of the women who accompanied their husbands in the task of trying to prove up their claims to land in the high desert region.

McKnight, who briefly lived in Bend, was familiar with the High Desert and said, "I have always had a great affinity for this remote region." When he found a 1930 edition of Hedges' finely-crafted sonnets, he was so affected by her poems he decided to create a special edition with selections from the book.

A printer and bookmaker, McKnight created a beautiful edition in letter press format. He set the copy himself and had copper plates made of his own sketches which he then hand-colored using oil-based pencils. He chose a marbled paper for the cover and the book binding was hand-sewn. McKnight felt that the Deschutes Historical

Museum should have this limited edition of which only 17 were produced. She Hyatt, Deschutes Historical Museum registrar, gladly accepted his gift with grateful appreciation of his work.

Ada May Hastings was born in Illinois in 1884 and was educated at a teacher's college there. She and her husband, William E. Hedges, came to Portland in 1912 but soon moved to Juntura, between Burns and Vale on the Malheur River, where he was a railroad physician and she taught high school. The desert region had always fascinated Hedges and she found it "full of mystery and beauty in its own bleak fashion...strangely haunting and baffling." She saw it as a "symbol of an awesome, terrifying, and indifferent cosmos and powerless to change her fate in it."

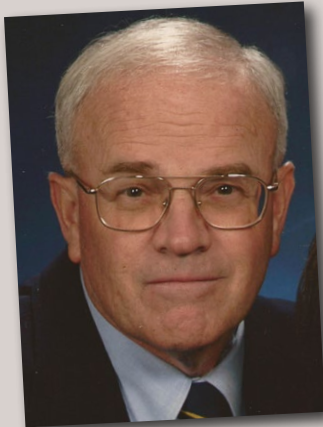
Her poems were written in traditional sonnet form, with a feminist outlook, formed by the rough-edged railroad and cattle town of Juntura and the surrounding "sagebrushed lava-miles...indifferent and timeless as the stars."

Ada Hastings Hedges' poems spoke for those early Oregon pioneers who made their home in the "promised land" of the High Desert and its harsh existence that took its toll on their lives.

After leaving her high desert home, Ada Hastings Hedges

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## Local News Items



### Les Joslin Talks About, Signs New Book Legendary Locals of Bend on Feb. 6

Les Joslin will talk about and sign copies of his new book *Legendary Locals of Bend* at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 6, in the Old Classroom at the Deschutes Historical Museum.

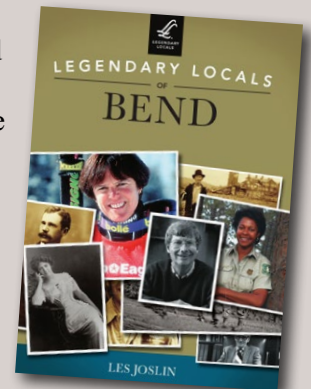
Just published by Arcadia

Publishing for release on January 25, 2016, *Legendary Locals of Bend* is “a fascinating mix of local legends who could be characterized as ‘the right people, in the right place, at the right time’ who arrived in Central Oregon during the past century and a half to make Bend the fascinating city it has become” according to the blurb on the back cover.

“Some of these people – explorer John Charles Fremont, publisher George Palmer Putnam, economist William A. Niskanen, and ‘World’s Greatest Athlete’ Ashton Eaton among them – gained national prominence and even global stature,” the blurb continues. “Others were and are more ordinary people who have done and continue to do extraordinary things in an extraordinary place...” called Bend, Oregon.

Some of these *Legendary Locals of Bend* are people you know, people who are members of the Deschutes County Historical Society and read *The Homesteader*. They are people likely to be with you in the Old Classroom at the Deschutes Historical Museum to listen to and talk with another member of the Deschutes County Historical Society about what he calls the “mission impossible” of selecting and writing about the people who populate the pages of this brand new book.

You know Les, a retired naval officer, who moved to Bend just over 28 years ago, worked on the Deschutes National Forest, taught for Central Oregon Community College and Oregon State University, and has long been a member and board member of the Deschutes County Historical Society. Come to the Museum on February 6, see what he’s discovered about his adopted home town, and get him to sign a copy if you decide to find out what he’s found out about the *Legendary Locals of Bend*.



## Descutes County Centennial

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- ***Centennial Time Capsule***

Throughout the year, residents will be invited to share ideas for the contents of the capsule, which will be revealed at the Centennial Celebration in December. The time capsule will be placed into Deschutes Historical Museum collections with instructions that it be re-opened during the County’s bi-centennial.

- ***Centennial Celebration at the Deschutes Historical Museum***

The Centennial Celebration will culminate in December with an open house at the Deschutes Historical Museum, with light food and a sampling of the theatrical production.

***We look forward to sharing the Centennial celebrations.***



## Welcome New Members

Jeffrey Nelson

Don Wooley

Sandra Thompson

Tom & Darlene Stenkamp

Greg Walsh

Dave & Sam Davis

James Phillips

James Simmons

Mark & Liz Gimpl

Bruce & Kelly Hazen

David & Karen Nielsen

Janet Havern

Debbie Foster

# The Klamath Cometh – Nordeen’s Trophy Back in Bend



We are pleased to announce that we are bringing back Emil Nordeen’s trophy, “The Klamath,” from Sweden as a part of the *Winter Comes* exhibition.

It has been 55 years since the trophy last resided in Bend and we are excited to have it on loan from the Västerbotten Museum in Umeå, Sweden.

Nordeen retired the trophy in 1931 after winning the 42-mile Ft. Klamath-Crater Lake race twice (1929 & 1931). The trophy was

first up for grabs in 1929 when Nordeen placed first. Manfred Jakobsson, another Swede, won the race in 1930, and it all came down to the 1931 race.

“The Klamath” measures 39 inches tall and is made from solid silver. On top is a gold-plated winged figurine. It is one of the three largest trophies ever manufactured by Wallace Trophies in Pittsburgh.

The history of Nordic skiing in Bend and Central Oregon has never been told in a comprehensive way. The Deschutes Historical Museum is changing that.

Under the leadership of museum director, Kelly Cannon-Miller, co-curator Tim Gibbons and local historian Tor Hanson, the museum is gathering material and oral histories for the upcoming *Winter Comes* exhibit beginning February 20 and running through mid-November at the Deschutes Historical Museum in Bend.

## Ada Hastings Hedges: Desert Poet

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taught high school, was active in the veterans’ rights movement, served as supervising editor of fifty-four writers in the Works Progress Administration who produced the Oregon State guide, and was assistant editor at Binsford-Mort Publishers. She last taught English literature and creative writing at Warner Pacific College in the 1960s. Her abiding interest was writing, and most of all, poetry.

She died in a Portland nursing home in 1980 at the age of 96.

In the forward of McKnight’s “Desert Poems” he dedicates the book “to her memory and to the memory of those women who struggled in her poems to find their place in this magnificent and challenging region.”

– Bonnie Burns

## Mark Your Calendars

### JANUARY

- 19 **VOLUNTEER MEETING**  
Deschutes Historical Museum from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
- 26 **HISTORY PUB: TIMBERLINE LODGE**  
Presented by Sarah Baker Munro, **McMenamins Old St. Francis**  
Father Luke Room, 7 p.m., doors at 5:30 p.m.
- 30 **GREAT NORDEEN SKI RACE AWARD CEREMONY**  
Deschutes Historical Museum at 1 p.m.

### FEBRUARY

- 16 **VOLUNTEER MEETING**  
Deschutes Historical Museum from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

McMENAMINS OLD ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL  
HISTORY PUB NIGHT

# TIMBERLINE LODGE: A New Deal Masterpiece

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

PRESENTED BY **SARAH BAKER MUNRO**  
Historian of Timberline Lodge and director of the Hoover-Minthorn House Museum  
7 p.m. · Doors at 5:30 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome  
Sponsored by Oregon Encyclopedia,  
Deschutes Historical Museum & Oregon Historical Society

700 N.W. Bond St. · Bend · (541) 382-5174  
mcmenamins.com/history

THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
McMenamins History  
The OE  
Deschutes Historical Museum





# **Bend Genealogical Society**

**Monthly General Meeting  
Public Welcomed to all activities**

**When: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 – 10:00 am - Noon**

**What: Case Study in  
Scandinavian Genealogy**



**Presented by  
George Larson**

**Where: Williamson Hall at Rock Arbor Villa  
2200 NE Hwy 20, Bend (Behind Chevron/Jake's Diner)**

## **Other Resources/Activities:**

**Genealogical Research Library .. Come check us out!  
WE HAVE SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONS TO OUR LIBRARY**

**Tuesdays & Wednesdays 1:30 - 5:00 pm**

**Thursdays & Fridays 10:00 - 1:30 pm**

**Call to confirm that library is open: 541 317-9553**

**Writer's Group meets Jan. 26, 2016 at 2 until 3:30pm**

**This is a new group for BGS! Do you need inspiration to write that story, begin that blog or book, whatever you are thinking about for sharing your family story? We will work out the details at this first meeting. The intent is to help you become the writer YOU want to be! Come join us!**

**Questions??? Call BGS at 541-317-9553**

**Or check out our website: [www.orgenweb.org/deschutes/bend-gs](http://www.orgenweb.org/deschutes/bend-gs)**