

Cannon Beach is a little town with a lot of history

One of my favorite comments from museum visitors is, “Who knew your little town had so much history!” The truth is Cannon Beach’s past might not be as lengthy as that of European towns or as rich as New York, but Cannon Beach can hold its own with tales of rum running, misused dynamite, and even eccentric British bachelors. Over the next few articles, I was hoping to focus on some of the true characters of Cannon Beach, some of whom were true remittance men.

Due to British primogeniture law, daughters and second sons of the British aristocracy were unable to inherit. During the 1870s these sons and daughters were often sent away, sometimes with a small lump sum of family heirlooms or funds. Some even received annual or monthly lump sums from their families. The remittance men (or women) weren’t just sent away due to lack of inheritance, for some it was due to an unapproved marriage or to save the family from some kind of embarrassment.

Some of these British bachelors found themselves in Cannon Beach. Names like Joe Walsh, Herbert Logan, Marmaduke Maxwell, and even Robert (Jack) Astbury pop up in Cannon Beach’s historic records. Early settlers like John Delbert Griffin, whose parents were some of the earliest settlers in Cannon

REFLECTIONS

ELAINE TRUCKE



Beach wrote, “Reflection on Early Cannon Beach.” In his book, Griffin remembers local remittance man Joe Walsh. It seems Walsh was partial to using his remittance funds for alcohol in Seaside and on one return Griffin recalled, “I remember one time the tide was well in and here comes Joe on his horse dragging through the soft sand and drift logs. Just as he reached our place Joe fell off his horse.”

Many remittance men had never held a job and had little to no skill to speak of. They were often considered to be lazy drunken scoundrels. While Joe Walsh might have had some of these habits, the other remittance men in Cannon Beach were industrious to say the least. Walsh also helped Herbert Logan with his properties and was a ranchman at Seaside. Herbert Logan built the Elk Creek Hotel, the first hotel in Seaside, and campaigned the area as a sportsman’s paradise, perfect for rest and respite. He also purchased property in Seaside and managed the Elk Creek Toll Road – and so much more! Jack Astbury was a popular fellow in the area. He was an excellent dancer, very active



CANNON BEACH HISTORY CENTER

Robert (Jack) Astbury with the Astoria Football Club in 1894. The Astoria Football Club was one of the sponsors of the first Astoria Regatta. Astbury is seated, second from the left.

in the community, was mannerly, and was an excellent county surveyor. Or at least, so the stories go. In 1895, Astbury was made captain of the Seaside cricket team.

As county surveyor, Astbury surveyed parts of Astoria, Seaside, Elk Creek Road and even the area south of Tillamook Head known as Elk Creek, now Cannon Beach. This plat map is currently on display at

the museum in our exhibit, “The Long Road Home.” He conducted surveys during various years, but it seems as if the first survey he conducted was done in Seaside in 1896. He continued surveying the area until 1906, but by 1908, Astbury had moved to Gold Hill, Oregon and began growing apples. He never married and passed away peacefully in 1945.

Other notable characters include Marmaduke Maxwell, Joe Walsh and James Jacob Mahar, also known as Jimmy the Tough.” Jimmy the Tough homesteaded north of Silver Point before 1894.

The remittance men practice continued until World War I. Just a few years after World War I primogeniture law was abolished in England, in 1925 to be exact. The remittance men and women of Great Britain did not just end up in America, many were sent to New Zealand, Canada, Australia, and much farther. As one historian surmised, this probably helped spread the use of the English language.

These men definitely had an impact on the character of Cannon Beach. They contributed substantially to the character of our community just by bringing a little bit of home with them through their construction, entrepreneurship and ideals. Cannon Beach has had a series of wonderful characters that have added to the charm of our small town; you’ll hear their stories over the next few articles.

If you would like more information, the museum is home to an extensive oral history collection, over 12,000 historic documents and photos, and a great research library. The Cannon Beach History Center & Museum is open 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Wednesday through Monday. Located at 1387 South Spruce St., stop on by and see what we have!

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY, Feb. 6

Cannon Beach City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

THURSDAY, Feb. 8

Cannon Beach Academy, 5:30 p.m. 3718 S. Hemlock St.

TUESDAY, Feb. 13

Cannon Beach City Council, 5:30 p.m., work session, City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

THURSDAY, Feb. 15

Cannon Beach Parks and Community Services Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Cannon Beach Design Review Board Meeting, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

TUESDAY, Feb. 20

Cannon Beach Public Works Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Seaside School District Board of Directors, 6 p.m., 1801 S. Franklin, Seaside.

Can you tell me what assault rifles are good for?

GUNS!!! OK, now I have everyone’s attention. Whether you are a left-wing pinko Commie sympathizer that hates guns or a far right wing NRA passionate gun lover, you can’t take your eyes off of the page when guns are mentioned.

Where do I stand? I am a gun owner and I believe in the right to keep and bear arms as provided in our constitution. I am NOT a member of the NRA as I believe that they have consistently opposed logical and reasonable controls over the sale and possession of firearms.

Do we need controls over the sale and possession of firearms? Yes, just as you can’t yell “fire” in a crowded theater, we as a country need to protect ourselves from guns.

The argument will be made that

MAKING WAVES

JOHN HUISMANN



we already have a lot of regulations. This is certainly true. However, the regulations that are there are not being observed or enforced in many instances. Just look at the Air Force’s failure to properly report crimes that could have prevented another recent shooter from buying an assault rifle.

So, let’s talk assault rifles. What are assault rifles good for? Simply put, they allow the user to kill people with extreme efficiency. They are appropriate for the military but have no place in a civilian population. Very frankly, if you want to kill people, I would prefer that you not be able to do it efficiently.

I want you to have to think about each life that you plan to end in the process of doing your dirty deed. I want to make it difficult for you to do it quickly. I don’t want you to be able to buy an assault rifle at your local gun store.

I was a hunter for years. The state in which I was raised has a large deer hunt every year. There was also bird and varmint hunting similar to Oregon. I hunted elk here too. Having done so, I can tell you that an assault rifle is not suitable for any hunting. That is unless you are hunting human beings.

The one common denominator in most of the mass shootings in the past 10 years has been the use of assault rifles. Isn’t that enough to get us to band together, say enough and ban assault rifles except for use by the military and police? If it were just us citizens, the answer would be a

resounding yes. The problem is, it’s not just us.

The NRA is one of the strongest special interests. It is funded by both the gun industry and all of those passionate gun lovers out there. They have demonstrated that they are willing to fight each and every effort to get some common sense into our gun laws.

They literally own enough of our legislators to prevent any national action to curb the availability of any weapons. Some states have made strides in that direction. But, without national action, state laws can be avoided by simply going to a neighboring state.

So, do you really need an assault rifle in your life? Do you have a need to kill fellow human beings with great speed and efficiency? Unless your answer to the second question is yes, you don’t need an assault rifle.

MUNICIPAL MEMO

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION
MAYOR: Sam Steidel
COUNCILORS: Mike Benefield, Nancy McCarthy, Brandon Ogilvie and George Vetter
CITY MANAGER: Bruce St. Denis

MEETINGS

DATE	MEETING	TIME
6	City Council Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
13	City Council Work Session	5:30 p.m.
15	Design Review Board	6:00 p.m.
20	City Council Work Session	5:30 p.m.
21	City Council/Budget Committee	5:30 p.m.
22	Planning Commission	6:00 p.m.

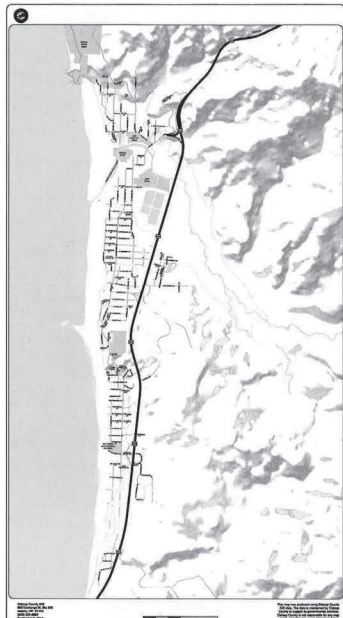
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, January 2, 2018

- Adopted the FY 2016-17 Audit Report;
- Cannon Beach Farmers Market Manager, Philomena Lloyd presented the CBFM 2017 annual report;
- Appointed Les Wierson to the EPREP Committee, Barb Knop to the Parks & Community Services Committee and Jenee Pearce-Mushen to the Public Works Committee. Re-appointed Lisa Kerr and Janet Kilpatrick to the Planning Commission

Discussed topics and projects and agreed on a schedule to review each in detail at future work sessions.

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL WORK SESSION, January 23, 2018

- The Arts Council of Clatsop County gave a presentation “Arts Means Business”;
- Council and Tourism and Arts Commission members met to discuss the program and the commission;
- Discussed possible changes to the Event Signage ordinance; as agreed at the retreat.



DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

The Design Review Board did not meet in January. They are scheduled to meet February 15th at 6:00pm.

PLANNING COMMISSION - The Planning Commission met December 19, 2017, and discussed:

- SR 17-04**, Vanbeek et al, Request for a Setback Reduction in Conjunction with a Remodel at 179 W. Surfcrest. **Denied.**
- P 17-01**, OTAK, Inc., Request for a Partition for Two Lots Located on N. Hemlock Street. **Approved.**
- V 17-02**, Mike Clark; Request for a Variance to the Minimum Allowed Off-Street Parking Spaces in Conjunction with the Rebuilding of the Sealark Apartments at 124 N. Larch. **Approved w/Conditions.**

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION, January 9, 2018

- Haystack Rock Awareness Program Coordinator, Melissa Keyser presented the HRAP 2017 annual report;
- Emergency Management Consultant, Stacy Burr presented an update on projects;
- Finance Director, Laurie Sawrey presented and led a discussion regarding a possible agreement with AirBnB; consensus among Council was to not proceed with the agreement;
- Council consensus to direct staff to proceed with writing transient room tax ordinance changes and bring it back to the Council for discussion.

CITY COUNCIL GOAL SETTING RETREAT, January 13, 2018

CITY HALL CLOSED

Monday, February 19th in observance of Presidents Day

WEATHER IMPACT REPORT

Impact associated with the January 18, 2018 storm to the overall community of Cannon Beach was minimal. There was minor damage to the stairs leading to Haystack, as well as, significant debris along our beaches, beach access points and parks but no significant structural or infrastructure damage was reported.

BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FORUMS

Wednesday, January 24, 2018 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm, Wednesday, February 28, 2018 1:30 pm - 4:00pm, City Hall Council Chambers

No business is immune to the effects of an emergency situation and every business should have a plan of action that is commensurate with their needs. This forum will focus on the importance of preparing your business, your employees, and protecting your assets in the event of a disaster.

Instructor: Stacy M. Burr, Cannon Beach Emergency Management Consultant. Please RSVP to: email@stacy-burrconsulting.com

HAYSTACK ROCK AWARENESS PROGRAM

Why does HRAP need volunteers?
Thousands of people visit Cannon Beach every summer, and many are drawn to our local monolith, Haystack Rock. With a small seasonal staff team and limited funds, HRAP depends on volunteers to accomplish its goals. Volunteers play a crucial role in educating the public and visiting school groups while promoting stewardship of our natural treasure.

What do volunteers do?
Volunteers do all sorts of things. Most visible are the beach interpreters who educate visitors about the amazing marine and bird life at Haystack Rock. Some on the beach duties include: setting up the trailer display, manning bird scopes, guiding tidepool tours, and reminding people about the rules of the rock. Volunteers also help organize potlucks, update educational materials and many other activities.

Why volunteer?
HRAP volunteers are part of an exciting outdoor education program! Our staff and volunteers have diverse backgrounds and talents making our team dynamic and interesting. Volunteering is a great way to meet people from all over and to learn more about this special part of the world. Our program began with volunteers in 1985 and will only persist in the future with the help of volunteers.

I know nothing about tidepool life or birds. Can I still help?

Of course! The only requirements are interest and enthusiasm! Staff is always present on the beach to help answer questions. Many of our volunteers start with little knowledge, but gain a lot quickly by simply volunteering. HRAP also hosts three trainings each year to help both volunteers and staff gain the knowledge needed to be a successful interpreter.

Until the next training, check out our links page to find websites that provide basic marine biology, fun tidepool tidbits, photos and seabird information. Also check out our HRAP resource links below.

I’m not sure about being on the beach. How else can I help?

We can use you! Serving on a committee, donating equipment and services, assisting with mailing –again, interest and enthusiasm are the only requirements.

Okay, you convinced me. How do I sign up?
Simply contact HRAP’s volunteer coordinator at (503) 436-8064 or Habecker@ci.cannon-beach.or.us.

NOTICE OF VACANCIES

The City of Cannon Beach is seeking applications for the following vacancies:

BUDGET COMMITTEE: ONE (1) vacancy to fill a three-year term beginning January 2018. The primary responsibility of the Budget Committee is to review and recommend the proposed annual budget for the City. The Budget Committee meets on several occasions between April and the end of June. Meeting times vary.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (EPREP) COMMITTEE: TWO (2) vacancies to fill four-year terms. The EPREP Committee meets regularly for the purpose of providing evacuation planning and public education regarding emergency preparedness. The Emergency Preparedness Committee normally holds its regular meetings on the last Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m. and may schedule work sessions as needed.

TOURISM & ARTS COMMISSION: ONE (1) vacancy to fill a four-year term beginning in January 2018. The seven-member Tourism and Arts Commission develops grant guidelines and procedures, and distributes and accounts for the monies in the “Tourism and Arts Fund” which are to be used by local non-profit groups to promote tourism and the arts in Cannon Beach. Each member shall have experience in one or more of the following areas: public relations, marketing, advertising, tourism, lodging, promotions, events promotion, art and/or publicity. The Tourism and Arts Commission holds its meetings as needed.

Note: Tourism and Arts Commission applicants are not required to reside in Cannon Beach and are eligible if he or she has worked, at least part-time, within the City of Cannon Beach for at least one year, immediately preceding appointment.

To be eligible to serve on a City committee, applicants must have resided within the city or its urban growth boundary during the one year immediately preceding appointment; or at the time of appointment, shall have owned real property located within the city or its urban growth boundary for at least one year immediately preceding appointment. (See “Note” re: TAC). Applications with questionnaires are available at City Hall, 163 E. Gower Street, Cannon Beach, by email addressed to riggs@ci.cannon-beach.or.us, or on-line at www.ci.cannon-beach.or.us. For consideration at the February 6, 2018 City Council meeting, applications and questionnaires must be returned to Colleen Riggs, Assistant City Manager, Cannon Beach City Hall, at P.O. Box 368, Cannon Beach, OR 97110 by Friday, January 26th. Late applications will not be accepted. For more information, please contact Colleen Riggs by email or phone at (503) 436-8052.