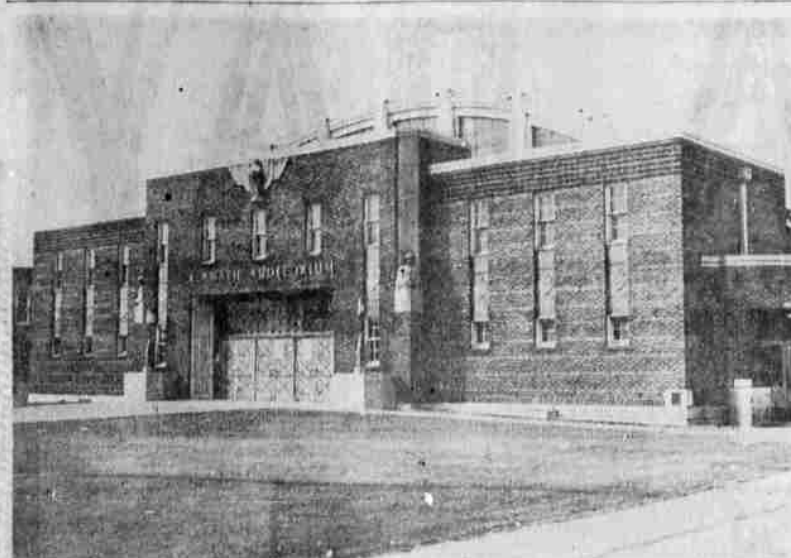




THIS JOINTLY OWNED facility, the Klamath Auditorium, is the home of a community-wide recreation program being conducted by the Klamath Falls Park and Recreation Department, led by George Price. The building has housed activity which included up to 5,000 persons during the month of December, and for the first six months of its operation, paid its own way.

Auditorium Center Of Recreation

Much of the recreation of Klamath Falls is centered, particularly during the winter months, in the Klamath Auditorium at the corner of Main and Spring streets.

A report by George A. Price, city recreation director, shows that the building is being utilized to a high degree by persons of all ages.

A play school for children uses the auditorium for classes five days a week. Two basketball leagues romp up and down the auditorium court while impromptu games are played by youngsters when the court is open.

The Teen Recreation Council, made up of high school students in the area, conducts a full program of recreation in the building throughout the winter months. A feature of its program is "Hi Nite," a regularly scheduled event which includes varied activities such as dancing and sports.

Others using the facilities are a baton and marching class, the Klamath Civic Theater group, the Golden Age Club, Chess Club, Coin Club and various religious organizations.

Approximately 200 persons use the auditorium meeting rooms each month. Rent on the rooms is \$3 per meeting.

'Something For Everyone' In Program

Junior High Nite

The Klamath Falls City Park and Recreation Department expanded its scope recently in the "something for everyone" campaign with the addition of the "Junior High Nite" each first and third Wednesday evening of each month in the Klamath Auditorium. The activity begins at 7 p.m. and continues until 8:30.

Under the direction of recreation supervisor Gary Woodring, the program is open to any seventh or eighth grade student in the Klamath Basin.

Among the activities in which the youngsters may participate are volleyball, basketball, shuffleboard, ping pong and dancing, all under adequate supervision.

A small fee of 10 cents per person is charged, the money collected being placed in a "Junior High Nite" fund to be used for the purchase of records and other necessary items.

Victory League

Both the Klamath Falls City League and Victory League basketball teams have found the recently refinished Klamath Auditorium ideally suited to both league games and practice, it has been noted by George Price, director of the Klamath Falls City Park and Recreation Department.

Between the two leagues 250 young men have access to the facility.

The Victory Leaguers play there each Monday and Thursday and the City Leaguers, although they play their games in the various Klamath Falls school gyms, hold practice sessions on the auditorium floor.

Volleyball Program

A brand new activity was added to the already full Klamath Falls Park and Recreation schedule recently by director George Price when he initiated a volleyball program for both girls and adult women.

The program is guided by Ella Redkey and is conducted each evening in the Klamath Auditorium.

Things started in a big way as approximately 60 seventh, eighth and ninth grade girls responded to the first announcement of the program.

Shortly after noting the tremendous response, it was decided that a like program for the adult ladies would also be in order.

Miss Redkey has been assisted by a number of women who have recognized both the value of and the need for the program.

Among the women lending a hand are Judy Arnold, Terry Wickline, Betty Kring, Ann Gibson, Susan Lunda, Mrs. Florence Pool and Mrs. Pauline Mitchell.

The addition of the volleyball action emphasizes the overall progress of Price's plan that the Park and Recreation Department provide "something for everyone."

"Hi Nite" Meeting

"Hi Nite," a special activity for all high school students in Klamath County, is directed by a Teen Recreation Council which works in cooperation with the Klamath Falls Park and Recreation Department.

"Hi Nite" is held the second and fourth Wednesday of each month in the Klamath Auditorium under adult supervision.

The Teen Council is composed of the junior class presidents of each county high school and assists with the programming of the well-attended affair.

Among the recreations provided in the gym itself are basketball, volleyball, shuffleboard, ping pong, etc. A separate room has been set aside for dancing to records.

Those attending must present a high school student body card for admittance.

Theater-Golden Age

Some of the groups that found homes when the Klamath Falls Park and Recreation Department assumed the operation of the Klamath Auditorium as a social and recreation center include the Klamath Civic Theater group, and the Golden Age Club.

Also provided for in the auditorium are classes studying baton twirling as drum majorettes, a women's recreation night, and free play periods open to all under the supervision of qualified department employees.

Using the meeting rooms available are numerous organizations such as the Coin Club, the Chess Club and many religious organizations. It is estimated that nearly 200 people per month use the building for these purposes.

Semi-Pro Baseball

As the baseball season draws nearer the Klamath Falls Park and Recreation Department is making plans to field the Medo-Bels, the city's lone semi-pro ball club, again this year.

Director George Price has written interested parties in Weed, Ashland and Medford in an effort to establish a separate semi-pro league which will follow a definite schedule throughout the season.

The PRD took over the backing of the club in 1960 when the Klamath Cubs, the former organization, disbanded.

Price noted that the uniforms are cleaned and waiting for the season to get underway.

A manager for the team has not yet been appointed.

Pre-School Plan

On the first of February the Klamath Falls City Park and Recreation Department inaugurated a much-needed pre-school play school held daily in the Klamath Auditorium.

The aim of the school, according to recreation supervisor Gary Woodring, is to provide a socialization experience for the smaller child with no attempt being made toward academic training.

Mrs. Helen Schuckle directs the pre-schoolers through a 2½-hour class which includes simple crafts, songs, stories, games and creative free play.

The winter session which began Feb. 1, will end on March 31, and will be followed by a spring session which starts on April 3 and continues through May 26.

To qualify for the school the youngster must have been four years old as of Jan. 1, 1961.

Children attending are divided into classes of 10 and attend either two times a week or only once depending on the wishes of the parent. Those attending twice weekly pay a fee of \$3 per month while those attending only once a week are charged \$3.25.

The money is used for leader-

Recreation Program Provides Activity For All Ages

A program that provides something for every age group—that's the aim of the Klamath Falls city recreation program administered by the city Parks and Recreation Department.

Under this program, there's hardly a day that a tot, teenager or olderster can't find some organized activity going on that will be of interest.

George Price, parks and recreation director, and Gary Woodring, recreation supervisor, take professional pride in varied programs that range from such sports as pee-wee baseball to the Golden Age Club for persons 50 years or older.

Like most recreation programs, plans here the year around, lean heavily toward sports. There are the 12 teams of high school boys in the Victory Basketball League who would otherwise not take part in this sport.

A new girls' volleyball league has been organized and the mothers who came to watch got so interested they started forming a league of their own.

The baseball and softball programs carry both boys and girls from the lower grade age groups through adulthood.

Girls tend to be neglected in recreation programs because it was felt that they were less adapted to sports, Price explained. But the city program encourages girls' participation.

Minor expenses and for milk served the children during the sessions.

Summer Cage Fun

Much of the success of recent Klamath County high school and college basketball players during their respective school careers has been attributed directly to the fine summer basketball program held each year under the auspices of the Klamath Falls Park and Recreation Department.

The program, which consists of the teaching of fundamentals, daily drills and regular league games, was initiated by Dean White and Jim Johnson both of whom work as PRD employees during the summer months.

The program is open to boys of all ages, welcoming players from each of the county schools, Klamath Falls schools, Oregon Tech and many home on vacation from various colleges across the nation.

It has enjoyed wide popularity with area athletes, many of whom crowd the activity into summer work and play schedules already nearly full.

Swimming Program

Through the cooperation of the Klamath Union High School Board and the aid of athletic director Jim Johnson, Bruce Galloway of the YMCA conducts a very popular swimming program in the new pool at KUHS.

The program, which includes nearly every age group, both male and female, also provides a special class for persons with physical defects and has served an important function in the community.

The activity was inaugurated in the old natatorium at KU, then temporarily ceased during construction, and was resumed upon completion of the new building housing the pool and other athletic facilities.

Plan Of YMCA

Basketball is one of the most prominent participant sports in the Klamath Falls area and two of the largest leagues involved each season are those sponsored by the YMCA in conjunction with all the churches in the area.

The overall operation of the activity is under the direction of Paul Campbell, executive secretary of the "Y," but the uniforms and equipment necessary are all provided through the sponsorship of the churches.

The Y handles the scheduling and arrangement for playing sites and conducts playoff tournaments



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