

Twelve timely tips for holiday electrical safety

Winter festivities offer unique electrical safety issues

By Alisa Dunlap
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'Tis the season of merriment and gatherings of families and friends. Taking a few minutes to check for safety shows you are a wise man or wise woman and will help ensure a festive and fun holiday season.

The following list of 12 recommendations is the best gift you can give at home:

- Look first. Inspect all electrical decorations for damage before use. Cracked or damaged sockets, loose or bare wires and loose connections

may cause a serious shock or can start a fire.

- Don't overload electrical outlets. Overloaded electrical outlets and faulty wires are a common cause of holiday fires. Avoid overloading outlets and only plug one high-wattage appliance into each outlet.

- Three string rule. Never connect more than three strings of incandescent lights. More than three strands can trip a circuit breaker or even cause a fire.

- Look for the label. Check decorations for certification label. Decorations without a label from an independent testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratories have not been tested for safety and could be hazardous.



Alisa Dunlap

- The outsiders. Make sure all extension cords and electrical decorations used for outdoor decorating are marked for outdoor use.
- Evergreen, ever safe. If you have a live tree, keep it fresh by watering daily. Dry trees are a serious fire hazard. When trimming the tree, only use non-combustible or flame-resistant materials and lights approved by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory.
- Don't flame out. Use battery-operated simulated candles in

place of traditional candles in any location near flammable objects. Almost half of home decoration fires are caused by traditional candles, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

- Three foot rule. Keep combustibles, including Christmas trees, at least three feet from heat sources.
- Get wired. Protect electrical cords from damage. To avoid shock or fire hazards, cords should never be pinched by furniture, forced into small spaces such as doors or windows, placed under rugs, located near heat sources or attached by nails or staples.
- A watched pot. As much as is possible, stay in the kitchen when something is cooking. Unattended cooking equipment is the leading

cause of home cooking fires.

- Turn off, unplug and extinguish all decorations when going to sleep or leaving the house. Unattended candles are a disaster waiting to happen. Half of home fire deaths occur between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.

- Don't kid around. When buying (or, shopping for) electronic toys for children, be sure to read the manufacturer's instructions and warning labels. Check if the item is appropriate and safe to operate for the child's age group, determine whether adult supervision is required and plan accordingly.

Additional details and safety tips are available on Pacific Power's website at pacificpower.net/safety.

OBITUARIES



Richard Robert Schultz

Sept. 16, 1922 — Nov. 22, 2016



Richard Schultz

Richard "Dick" Schultz was born to mother Frances Mattson, the daughter of immigrant Swedes, and father Richard Samuel Schultz, a refugee farmer from the Ukraine. He grew up in the Depression, spending every summer in Gearhart, caddying at the golf course for 35 cents a round plus a 10 cent tip, and roaming the woods, dunes, and beaches barefoot with his .22 rifle, his dog Fritz, and his buddies Gene and Boyd Poppino. The three were amazed at the Clatsop open graves at the Neacoxie, which they considered a sacred place.

He learned how to golf on the Gearhart Golf Course by playing holes 15 to 17 at twilight, over and over until dark. The family stayed first in a Habicost cabin, then at the Habicost house, a converted wing of the old Gearhart Hotel that was salvaged after the burn. His dog, Fritz, died and still lies buried at the Habicost fence line at the Ridge Path. He attended Washington High School in Portland where he met the love of his life, Jeanne Briggs, and they were inseparable for the next 78 years, 71 in marriage.

The day after Pearl Harbor, his sophomore year in the Theta Chi house at the University of Oregon, he enlisted in the Navy, where he trained to fly PBV Catalinas in submarine warfare against German U-boats along the Gulf and east coasts, and was a noted stunt flyer, irritating his superiors, in the skies over Florida and Georgia.

After earning his wings, he and Jeanne were married in Portland. He requested a transfer to the South Pacific, where he longed to fly the lean Grummond TBF Avenger, but as the war wound down he was assigned to teach instrument navigation in Pensacola until the Japanese surrender.

Dick and Jeanne returned to Oregon and bought a house on the Gearhart beach front for \$3,750, lived there one winter with sand blowing through the walls, keeping warm by driftwood fires with their dog, Amber. Deciding they could not live on beach air and razor clams, they moved to Eugene where he earned a master's degree in American literature at the University of Oregon,

spending summers as the golf pro in Gearhart.

The year 1947 was a highlight of his golfing career, when he beat long-standing champ Ralph Dichter at the Gearhart Golf Course Club Championship, at the second hole of a sudden death playoff, which Dichter double-bogeyed. After earning his degree, Dick taught high school English in Bend for several years, renting a different house each year and vacating it for the summer holiday in Gearhart, where he continued to work as the golf pro.

Wary of teaching high school, because "the orders don't come from the bottom up," Dick moved back to Portland where he took a desk job at ESCO and then Hyster, taking the "daddy train" on summer weekends into Gearhart, where he was a regular at the Sandtrap and Gearhart Hotel, and befriended many Gearhart regulars, including the actor Johnny Sheffield of Tarzan fame, and screenwriter Beau Stone from whom he made a small fortune in golfing and chess bets.

He golfed, dug clams, hooked salmon, and with Jeanne, socialized with Roy and June Maden, Pat and Tom Livesley, Brian and Sheila Taylor, Jon Blissett, Ray and Jeanne Weston, Harry McCall, Dave and Emmadine MacDonald, and many others, and was a generous regular at the blackjack table at the Fireman's Ball.

He soon tired of pushing papers and returned to U of O to enter a doctoral program in classical Greek, but his advisor died halfway through, so he finished with a second master's in Greek drama. He then went on to be the first lecturer in classics at Portland State

University, teaching Shakespeare and American literature on the side.

A bibliophile collector of first editions, his immense knowledge of literature inspired that sharp and wicked wit that endeared him to many, unless they were on the wrong end of it.

Dick never lost the connection to Gearhart, where he claimed to have spent the best times of his life. In the early 1970s he grieved to see the Gearhart Hotel razed, but managed to salvage a "Driftwood Lounge" sign for his den, and channeled his anger to win the Gearhart Grandfathers' Golf Tournament, matching the Gearhart course record on the back nine.

In the 1990s he was instrumental in stopping the Sahhalie condominium development at the Neacoxie estuary in Seaside by testifying on the desecration of the Indian grave sites there that he knew from childhood.

He was a life-long athlete, a gymnast in high school and college, and completed two Seaside marathons in his 50s. He was in retirement for 30 years, traveling throughout the U.S. and Europe. He died two months after his 94th birthday, and six months after his 71st wedding anniversary, while enjoying a life of leisure on the Croatian Adriatic coast with Jeanne and two of his children, Stewart and Julie, who are resident in Croatia.

Dick will be remembered as a brash, freewheeling, and irreverent member of the Greatest Generation, a lover and promoter of classical literature and ideas, a natural golfer with nerves of steel, a friend and protector of old Gearhart, and a devoted father and husband who was convinced each of his children was destined for greatness.

He is survived by his wife Jeanne; brother Bill; children Julie, Stewart, and Todd; grandchildren Rick, Erin, Adrienne, Henry and Anne-gret; step-grandchildren Jennifer and Matthew; and several great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. His eldest son Rick, volunteer Gearhart fireman, classified ad manager at The Daily Astorian and champion golfer, preceded him in death.

Marilyn Jean (Paulson) Halbrook

Oct. 22, 1938 — Dec. 1, 2016



Marilyn Halbrook

Marilyn Halbrook left this world peacefully on Dec. 1, 2016. Marilyn had just celebrated her 78th birthday with family, friends and good food ... just the way she loved it.

Marilyn Halbrook was born in Grand Forks, North Dakota, to Gunder and Muriel Paulson (who preceded her in death) on Oct. 22, 1938, along with her beloved sisters, Ganet Moe (who preceded her in death) and Mary Kay Erickson of Seaside.

The Paulson family moved in 1944 from North Dakota to Vancouver, Washington, and then in 1946 moved to Vernonia, Oregon. In 1952 they settled in Seaside, where Marilyn graduated from Seaside High School in 1956.

Marilyn worked at the Times Theater, Leonard's Candy Store and did some live-in babysitting for Dr. McClean. After high school she worked for Avery Law Offices in Seaside.

Marilyn and ex-husband, Harvey Wade "Swede" Halbrook (who preceded her in death) began life with their children, daughter Janet Halbrook, and sons Wade Halbrook and John Halbrook (Abby Tuers). Living in Portland, Oregon, in 1960 Marilyn worked for a law firm. Marilyn and her children moved back to Seaside in 1963, where she lived until her peaceful passing in her home.

Marilyn worked for Crown Zellerbach, Cavanham & Wilamette Industries (same position) from 1965 until her retirement in 2000.

Marilyn brought such joy, laughter and humor to any situation. She never knew a stranger, was considered by all to be a really good friend, and was always thinking of others. Marilyn was the one you called on if you needed something done and done right; she said, "if it had big plates" she would plan it, otherwise it is up to someone else. Her volunteerism proved that over and over, be it for the SMART program, Miss Oregon Scholarship Pageant or Relay For Life.

Marilyn was our matriarch and a planner, be it trips with her sister, Mary Kay, or family get-togethers, Marilyn was the one to start the ball rolling. The

laughter, the love, the adventures, the more the merrier.

The last six and a half years Marilyn has fought a long, hard battle against cancer. She may have had cancer, but cancer never had Marilyn — such incredible strength, dignity and humor, she never gave in or up. Heaven gained an amazing spirit in our Marilyn. Those of us blessed enough to know and love Marilyn are better because of her. She will be missed by her family and many friends.

She is survived by her niece, Kim Gould; nephews David (Tuf) Gould, Kevin Gould, Randy (Tammy) Moe and Scott Moe; great-nieces Nicole

and Samantha Gould, Ashtyn Routh, Ronnie and Sydney Gould and Kaitlyn and Karlee Moe; great-nephews Gregg Gould and Joel and Beau Routh; grandchildren Jessica Heslop, Mindy Olsen, Job and Jalessa Johnson, Gunder Halbrook and Angela Tuers; and great-grandchildren, Alyssa and Madison Burmister, Zion Moore and Elisa Johnson.

Some people come into our lives and leave quietly, and others, like Marilyn Halbrook, leave footprints in our hearts, and are unforgettable.

Those wishing to contribute in Marilyn Halbrook's honor may do so to Relay For Life of Clatsop County or Miss Oregon Scholarship Foundation (Marilyn "Pageant Angel" Halbrook annual memorial scholarship, P.O. Box 1032 Seaside, OR 97138).

A celebration of Marilyn's life will be held 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016, at the Seaside American Legion.

Hughes-Ransom Mortuary & Crematory in Seaside is in charge of arrangements. Visit www.hughes-ransom.com to share memories and sign the guest book.

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LETTERS

letters from Page 4A Sued for our trees

Many people are not aware of the \$1.4 billion Linn County class action law suit filed against the State of Oregon. Nor are they aware of the impact it could have on the place where we live. If the suit succeeds, Oregon Department of Forestry will be under pressure to operate much like the timber industry in order to squeeze more logging revenue out of state managed forests. The mandate to ODF will be to log, mostly clearcut, for greater revenue. We will lose the goal of balance with other values such as environment, species protection and recreation.

Look around you at the clearcut hills. More of this is what we would be choosing. But wait, we don't even have to choose. In fact, if we say nothing, since it is a class action suit naming 15 counties including Clackamas

and Tillamook, we will just silently slide right along with the pack. Incidentally this suit, although called by a county name, was backed and financed by the timber industry.

The hard truth for some of us is that the timber industry does not live with the consequence of their actions. They do not live with hills that have been denuded and sprayed. They do not experience the effect of toxic spray in the water, the mud slides and flooding in the winter, the siltation of the streams and rivers, the dying off of wildlife and fish and the loss of forests. We are, in fact, even forgetting what the word forest means. It is not acres of homogenous trees. A few of us were lucky enough to know forests as children, to play in them and learn from them. This is a value beyond money that we hope to share with our children's children.

We still have time. Contact your County Commissioners.

Ask them to opt out of the Linn County law suit. Ask them not to support a forest management policy destructive to the place where we live.

Gwendolyn Endicott
Nehalem

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