

THE BANDON LIGHT

A P U B L I C A T I O N O F T H E B A N D O N H I S T O R I C A L S O C I E T Y

Lt. Pete Goodbrod: Ambassador of Good Will

A doll may seem like an odd gift to give to a young man in his twenties. But Second Lieutenant Pete Goodbrod had learned enough about the culture of the country he was serving in to understand the significance of the gift and be honored by the sincerity of the gesture.

The Goodbrods recently donated the Korean doll, the letter that accompanied it, and other memorabilia of Pete's time in the service, to the Bandon Historical Society Museum. Those items are currently on special display and later will be incorporated into the section of the museum dedicated to the community's veterans.

Pete admitted that he did not choose the military as a career and was not eager to go to Korea. He said, "I got that letter with Harry Truman's name on it," answered his country's call and went where the service sent him.

He took ROTC at Oregon State and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant at graduation.

At a time in his life when he would rather have been playing baseball, his enlistment took him to Fort Belvoir, Virginia; Wolters Air Force Base, Texas; and Fort Slocum, New York, an Army training ground, "in sight of the Polo Grounds, Ebbets Field and Yankee Stadium."



2nd Lt. Pete Goodbrod

Lieutenant Goodbrod was on his way to the war in Korea in 1953 when the cease-fire was signed. The mission changed from fighting to rebuilding.

Personnel and Labor Officer was the assignment that opened up when Pete landed at his base in Taegue, South Korea. Among his responsibilities was establishing a working relationship with the indigenous population.

His liaison with the local population was a civilian, Young Min Lee. They worked together to recruit teams of local workers to complete projects on and off the base.

"We worked hand-in-hand," said Goodbrod. Through Pete, the US Army found jobs for a population recovering from war. Pete said Young Min Lee made sure the right pay went into the right hands.

When Lt. Goodbrod's stay ended, Lee presented him with a gift on behalf of the local, civilian population: a ceremonially costumed doll about 18 inches tall.

In a letter dated 3 April 1954, written on a typewriter with a badly aligned letter A, Young Min Lee spoke for the people Pete worked with.

"I and other personnels who have worked under your guidance have been deeply impressed by your behaviour and kindness. Now, we want you to accept a doll which we dare to present you, though we are afraid we should make you disappoint for it. But, still we hope it pleases you and keeps you remember this people always. It may be a sign of our good friendship for the past days.

"Good bye, Lt Goodbrod! I must close for now, and I pray that you have the happiest of days always."

Pete was aware that not every soldier who dealt with Korean civilians did so with respect and sensitivity. He valued his "great relations with the local people."

Perhaps Pete's experiences growing up prepared him to enter a new culture with an open mind and compassionate heart. Pete calls Union in Eastern Oregon his hometown but depression era economics sent his family on an odyssey across the west.

The family left Union when Pete was in grade school. In a tiny Eastern Oregon town, he had to find strategies, as a boy, to carry groceries past a houseful of "hillbilly ruffians" as he walked home from the store.

Living stops included Phoenix and Flagstaff in Arizona. He lived for a time in a neighborhood near the Los Angeles Coliseum and attended a junior high school with an enrollment larger than the population of most of the Oregon towns he lived in.

The family moved back to Oregon when Pete was in high school and he graduated from Mollala High School in an era when Mollala was a sports powerhouse. His athletic ability got him noticed. Baseball was his best sport.

At Oregon State, basketball coach Slats Gill picked Pete up midseason and he played several games for the Beavers. However, Gill wouldn't give him a scholarship unless he quit the baseball team. Pete stuck with baseball.

Pete was captain of the 1952 Oregon State University baseball team that played in the 1952 college world series, something the Beavers did not do again until 2005.

Beaver baseball teammate Jim Scott's father managed the Millers, a semi-pro baseball team that played in Bandon under the sponsorship of Moore Mill.

His friend assured Pete that if he would go to Bandon, he could get a job at Moore Mill and get paid to play baseball. He was right.

In Bandon, Pete met a neighbor girl, Joan DeCosta, and they were married in Bandon's Holy Trinity Church in 1951. *(see photo on page 3)*

Joan accompanied Pete from base to base when his service was in the U.S. but returned to Bandon when he was shipped to Korea. They have been married 63 years. The Goodbrods kept the doll, a symbol of good relations between an American soldier and the local population of the country he served in, until donating it to the Bandon museum.

Most American soldiers don't see combat. The story of Pete Goodbrod's service in Korea illustrates the wide range of ways veterans honor our country.

The Bandon Historical Museum continues to collect and preserve the service stories of Bandon's veterans.

The Bandon Light
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Bandon Historical Society

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Bandon Historical Society Museum

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Andy Christensen, Ron Knox,
Donna Mason, Jim Proehl, Brian Vick

The Board members meet the 4th Tuesday of
each month at 4 pm at the Museum. All
members and guests are welcome to attend.

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If you have an interest in Bandon's history and
would like to help preserve our past for future
generations, call us - we need you. The Museum is
OPEN Monday through Saturday 10-4 pm. June
through September we are open 7 days a week.
The Museum closes for the month of January. Our
volunteers are waiting to help you and answer your
questions about Bandon's history.

Enjoy Bandon's rich and wonderful history
270 Fillmore & Hwy 101
(at the only stop light downtown).



Judy Schultz Knox

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah,
Happy Holidays, and
A Very Happy and Healthy 2015 to All of You!

We hope the past year has been a good one for you.
As busy as you all are with the ups and downs in
your lives, we hope you have had time to visit
Bandon's museum in 2014. It is a great place to
learn about local history.

The museum has had a pretty good year. The visitor count
has been steady. It is always nice to see out-of-town guests and our
community still interested in history. We feel Bandon's history is
unique and we try to present that to our visitors.

Admission to the museum has stayed the same: Adults \$3.00,
Members and 12 and under, Free. Memberships have also stayed the
same: Individual \$15, Family \$25, Business \$35, Life Member \$250,
Benefactor \$500, and Patron \$1000. We hope you will continue your
membership. Your support is vital and helps keep our doors open.

The gift shop is open Monday through Saturday, with many
historical books and photographs, collectable posters, and items not
found anywhere else. Within the museum you will find a great
collection of photographs with explanations of the displays, and
exhibits that are always being updated and enhanced. We are
handicap accessible to over 3500 square feet of exhibit area.

As the year closes, I especially want to thank our volunteers
for their continued efforts. We are so pleased to have the many
dedicated members who give their time to help keep the museum
strong and growing. It takes hundreds of hours behind the scenes to
generate the public face of the museum. For example, there is a
volunteer who coordinates the shifts of the other volunteers who
greet and welcome visitors to the museum. She also bakes tasty treats
throughout the year.

Volunteers do the paperwork that it takes to record donated
items. Some volunteers help preserve our documented history and
wonderful collection of photographs, and others work with
exhibits. The gift shop is attractive because of volunteer help.

Volunteers give tours to school children. Some speak at
Bullards Beach State Park and at special events throughout the year,
and volunteers provide refreshments during those events. We have a
volunteer who regularly brings history to the community by research-
ing and writing articles for the *Western World*. That same person
successfully applies for grants, which has greatly increased our ability
to purchase specific supplies and equipment.

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From the Director

Volunteers help with maintenance of the building, and others form the governing body of the historical society. This newsletter is a team effort between volunteers and the museum staff. Staff contributes office-related information, and volunteer members research and write articles, submit photographs, proofread the content and submit it to the volunteer design and layout person, who makes everything fit attractively on eight pages. Volunteers meet to copy, fold, and apply address labels to the finished newsletter.

Many of our members contribute time to more than one task. As we continue to grow, there is always a need for volunteers, and we would welcome you to join us.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter; if you have suggestions as to what might be of interest to other readers, please give the office a call at 347-2164.

Thanks to all of you for making Bandon's museum what it is, and for your continued support.

Judy Schultz Knox, Executive Director



**PETE GOODBROD AND JOAN DECOSTA WERE MARRIED IN
BANDON'S HOLY TRINITY CHURCH IN 1951.**
SEE STORY ON PAGE 1

WE LOVE OUR COOKIE LADY!

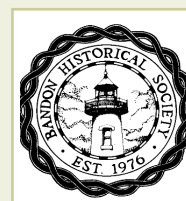


Thank you Kathy Dornath for the dozens of cookies that you bake throughout the year to keep all of the volunteers going!

Thank You

Thanks to our members, all 330 plus, of you. Your continued membership and your support is very important in helping us preserve Bandon's history.

Although we cannot list all our members in this newsletter, we **THANK YOU** so very much for your help.



Journalist Saves Early Negatives Museum Benefits

Mary Schamehorn preserved a significant piece of the community's history the day she arrived for work at the *Western World* and found the company's new ownership throwing away the newspaper's collection of photographic negatives.

LD Felsheim, Mary's grandfather, founded the paper in 1912 and her uncle, Louis Felsheim, owned and operated it for many years after her grandfather retired.

Mary began her journalism career reporting for the paper and continued as reporter and editor after her family sold it. She took the bulk of the photographs herself.

Because she had a personal stake in the paper's photo archives, Mary took home the boxes and boxes of negatives that were headed to the dump. They remained in storage in her basement for many years.

As the technology developed to convert film negatives into positive, printable, digital images, Mary began to scan her collection into digital images. She shared the results with the museum.

Museum volunteers are now sharing the task of digitally scanning the collection.

Trust Management Services awarded the museum a nearly six thousand dollar grant to upgrade the computer system and equipment the museum uses to digitize and store its photo collection. That grant has allowed the volunteers to work with the *Western World* negatives at a faster pace and a higher quality than would have been the case before the grant.

Grant money from Trust Management and the Coos County Cultural Coalition is being used to put the negatives into museum grade storage.

Fires and floods, pie eating contests, visits by Santa, car wrecks, school concerts, burglaries, football games, storms, parades, contest winners and beauty queens are among the subjects recorded in the pictures.

The negative collection begins in the late 50s. Before then, the *Western World* ran few local photos because the process of turning pictures into plates for the printing press was slow and expensive. As that process became easier, the number of pictures in the paper grew.

Because they were taken for the newspaper, the pictures are especially useful as historical documentation. Usually, the negatives are labeled with a date and a note about the subject matter.

The photos can be cross-referenced with the *Western World* to find the story of the event each illustrates and often, the identities of the people in them.

Mayor Schamehorn has posted a number of the pictures in her "As I See It" column on the *Bandon TV* website. Many pictures from the collection have appeared on the museum's *Facebook* page. Several have been printed and displayed.

Pictures from the collection were the heart of the well-received museum program in April that Mary narrated about the fire that destroyed Bandon High School in 1974. More programs are in the works.

During the transition from film to digital photography, lots of film negatives have been thrown away. Bandon is lucky to have the Mary Schamehorn negative collection and the museum is fortunate she is sharing it with us.



CONTEST WINNERS APRIL 1956, WESTERN WORLD PHOTO

Bandon's First Golf Course

By Jim Proehl

It started as an idea tossed around a Chamber of Commerce meeting but by the end of 1927, Bandon had its first golf course. A series of articles in the 1927 *Western World* traces the beginnings of golf in Bandon.

The first mention is buried at the end of an article about Chamber activities in the June 9, 1927 edition of the *Western World*. "The matter of a golf course for Bandon was given further consideration. Although no definite decision was reached, plans are maturing for the achievement of this desired attraction."

By the end of June, "To Consider Golf Course" was the headline of the article about Chamber business. A committee of HS Ellis, Dr. RE Donahey, Geo. W. Moore, Jr., Archie H. Rosa, OC Shindler and LD Felsheim was formed to look into starting a golf course.

A July 14 article reports the committee had visited six possible course sites. A July 21 article headlined "Golf Fans to Organize" announces a meeting open to anyone who wants to help establish a golf course.

"Geo. Moore to Head Golf Fans," is the headline of a July 28, 1927 *Western World* article. The article reported, "Monday evening at Jerry's a group of local golf fans met and effected an informal organization for the purpose of promoting a golf course for Bandon."

"Geo. W. Moore Jr. was elected president and Otto Shindler secretary-treasurer." George Moore, Jr, was a junior partner in the Moore Mill and Lumber Company. Otto Shindler owned a pharmacy.

The Monday meeting ended with news that Lee Smith, "a well known golf architect," who had recently completed a course at Tillamook was interested in helping to develop a Bandon course.

With Smith's help, the committee took out an option to buy property known as Ledgerwood Farm that spanned the banks of Johnson Creek to where it flowed into the ocean.

September 29, the paper reported Geo. Moore received a telegram that Lee Smith was on his way to Bandon to meet with "The Bandon Golf association."

A week later, the headline reads "Golf Course Work Starts."

The October 6 article says, "Construction work has started on the golf links that are to be located on the Ledgerwood farm on Bandon beach, about a mile south of Silver Spray Gardens. Lee E. Smith of

Tillamook arrived Friday morning and by Monday noon contract arrangements were completed with the committee representing the membership subscribers and the option on the farm was closed.

"On Tuesday morning Mr. Smith and his assistants started laying out the course and the following day men were put to work making certain necessary clearings."

In the next week's paper, an article opened with, "Wanted! A name for Bandon's golf links. What have you to suggest?" The article laid out the rules for the contest to name the new course.

"Nine Greens are Seeded" was the headline of the October 27 article. "In just three weeks, Lee E. Smith and his crew, consisting of 15 men and three teams (of horses) have done the necessary clearing, the heavy grading and the seeding of the nine holes, together with banks and aprons." Smith credits the unusually good weather for the rapid progress on the course.

"Westmost is Name Chosen," was the headline for November 3, 1927. Erma Boyle suggested the name and won the prize of a set of hand-made golf clubs. "The selection was made because of the peculiar fact that the local links are the westmost links in the United States, and Mr. Smith believes that this distinctive feature has wide advertising possibilities," reported the *Western World*. The course remained the westernmost in the country until Alaska and Hawaii became states.

Temporary holes were established on the upland portion of the golf property so that new club members could begin play. Lee Smith opened a golf shop in town and gave lessons in the evenings. A December article reported that George Moore played the first, nine hole, par round in Bandon and that Ed Capps won Bandon's first golf tournament.

Since it was seeded in 1927, the course has gone through name changes and reconfigurations. Currently Troy and Kim Russell operate it as Old Bandon Golf Links. They have returned the course to its roots, and offer golfers the opportunity to play with 1920's style equipment.

The Bandon Historical Society Museum is seeking photographs of the golf course from its beginning as Westmost through its time as Face Rock Golf Course.

GOLF EXHIBIT IN MUSEUM'S FUTURE

The Bandon museum lacks a golf exhibit, but a gift from the Bandon Dunes Golf Resort will help museum volunteers build that feature.

The Dunes donated 14 photographs by professional photographer Wood Sabold to include in a golf exhibit. They also donated some pieces of course memorabilia.

The photographs feature iconic holes from each of the resort's courses, plus buildings and some lesser seen parts of the property.

Lee Ann Remy, archivist for the resort, guided the process of choosing and obtaining the photos and items for the museum.

Museum volunteers have been combing the museum's collection for golf photos and objects related to the Westmost/Face Rock golf course, and would love to find more from the community.

Volunteers will also be looking for pictures of Bandon Crossings.

As golf becomes a larger part of the community's story, it makes sense to include more about it in the museum.



Harry Peltz and his wife Billy (Simpson) managed Westmost Golf Course in the middle of the 1930's. He defended the course during the 1936 Bandon Fire.

MORE RESCUED PHOTOS- SEE STORY ON PAGE 4



LANGLOIS SCHOOL DURING EDUCATION WEEK, NOV 1958,
WESTERN WORLD PHOTO



DAIRY COOP, FEED STORE FALLING INTO FAIRY CREEK, 1956,
WESTERN WORLD PHOTO

Your membership is very important to Bandon's museum. A membership does not mean you are required to volunteer or take part in the museum, just that you support what we are doing. But if you would like to become a volunteer we would love to have you, and we always need volunteers.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

April - December, 2014

A memorial donation may be made in memory of a family member or friend who has passed away. The name of the honored one is engraved on a plaque and the plaque is placed on our memorial wall. Memorial donations begin at \$15, but can be as much as you would like to donate in memory. The Historical Society notifies the family that the donation was made and a thank you is sent to the donor.

In memory of: Mary Ann Wilson, Trula Goss, Bonnie Goss, Ruth Elliott, Janet Wright, James H. Scott, Wayne Scherer, James Russell, Buster Jacobs, Lowell Meyer, Ellis Roth, Bud Baird, Wilfried Schroeder, Ella Weston, Derrill Moody, Melody Gwyn Morlan, and Sharonlee Danielson.

Donors were: Cyndi Smoot, Tom Goss, Pete and Joan Goodbrod, Harvey and Betty Hiley, Carolyn Russell, Coreen Pierce, Floyd Danielson, James & Alma Russell, Eric Morlan, and the Knoxes.

ARTIFACTS

Artifacts donated to the museum are catalogued, accessioned and either put on display or properly cared for and stored until we change exhibits. If an artifact is damaged or no longer usable for display, we try to contact the donor to see if they want the item returned. We do not sell or give away any Bandon artifacts given to the museum. The following items have been donated within the past three months:

- ❖ Black marble door knob, circa 1940's.
- ❖ Mortar and pestle, G. Swenson collection.
- ❖ 1920's RCA tube radio, belonged to John & Mildred Spring, donated by S. Greif.
- ❖ Thank you letter addressed to Pete Goodbrod & Korean doll in a kimono, donated Pete Goodbrod coll.
- ❖ 1950's Langlois cheese maker's hat, J. Alvey coll.
- ❖ A collection of memorabilia of coins, photographs, and score pads, from the Bandon Dunes, Pacific Dunes, Bandon Preserve, and Old McDonald golf courses.
- ❖ A full length beaver coat and a fox coat owned by Jean Ray, donated by L. Thorn Fitzgerald.
- ❖ A U.S. Coast Guard uniform owned by Rupert Boak, donated by his son, David Boak.
- ❖ Bandon High School annuals 1947 and 1948, donated by Kathy Dornath.
- ❖ 1962 BHS annual, donated by N. Goddard Murphy.
- ❖ Croxall and Perry grocery statement, circa 1960's, donated by J. & A. Cawdrey.
- ❖ A Vietnam War jacket, belonged to Ron Kramer.
- ❖ 1900's pressure cooker, B. Hiley coll.
- ❖ 1962 BHS class ring, owned by Susan Gant Winnings.
- ❖ 1936 adding machine, owned and used by Elmer Gant in his store, the Clothier.
- ❖ Chamber pot, crocheted lid cover.
- ❖ 1940's tea cup and saucer, belonged to Mary Schultz, donated J. Schultz Knox coll.

JOIN THE BANDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YES! Please accept my membership in the Bandon Historical Society

Enclosed is my check

(please check one)

\$15 Individual _____ NAME _____

\$25 Family _____ ADDRESS _____

\$35 Business _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

\$250 Life _____ PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

\$500 Benefactor _____

\$1000 Patron _____

If you would like to contribute to the Bandon Historical Society's

Sustainability Fund, please fill out the information below

I pledge \$_____ to be paid _____ monthly or _____ quarterly or _____ annually

A check is enclosed for \$_____

Please make check to BHS and mail to: Bandon Historical Society, PO Box 737, Bandon, OR 97411

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