

TUALATIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
LEONARD POHL

Transcript #25

This is an oral interview with Juanita Pohl, shortly after the death of Leonard
Done on June 20, 1996
Interviewer was Diane Barry

Leonard was descended from Oregon Pioneers Captain Henry Knighton, who came out in the 1845 wagon train, and Cuthbert Stump, who arrived with 1851 wagon train. Another of his ancestors was Anthony Cline, who went around the Horn and arrived in Oregon in 1848. Leonard was a member of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers.

Leonard's great grandfather, Leonard Stump, for whom he was named, married Charlotte Cline. Their daughter, Leonard's grandmother, Marvilla Stump married Sagarlin Knighton, whom she later divorced. She then married Ed Morse and moved to Tualatin in 1912. Their farm was located where I-205 and I-5 now intersect. Leonard's mother, Eva Stump Knighton married Gustave Pohl. She moved to Tualatin in 1930. She divorced Gustave Pohl, and later married Asa Mack of Tualatin.

Leonard graduated from the original Tualatin High School in 1934. He was a charter member of the Tigard/Tualatin School Foundation. In 1994 he established scholarships at Tualatin High School for a senior boy and a senior girl to be presented each year.

He served in the U. S. Army during World War II. He was a sergeant in the 20th Armored Division and taught others to drive the big tanks.

He met Juanita Randolph in Cincinnati in 1942 and 1943, they were married in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Juanita was an elementary teacher who taught in the Sherwood School District for 26 years, many of those years at Hopkins Elementary.

Leonard was chairman of the Advisory Committee for the Tualatin/Durham Senior Center which opened in December 1982. In 1983, he received one of the five awards given statewide for his outstanding volunteer service to the elderly and his work with the Center, given by Oregon's Governor Vic Atiyeh. He was a life member of the Winona Grange and the Camp Nehalem CCC.

He had many hobbies – traveling, hunting, fishing, farming, building birdhouses and other woodcraft, and especially music. He played bass guitar with the Rose City Banjoliars, the Portland Accordion Club and frequently at the Tualatin/Durham Senior Center. He helped the Tualatin Historical Society tear down the old Hedges House and store it for future reconstruction.

In 1950, the Pohls moved to the Pennington place. Later they moved the house closer to Boones Ferry Road in order to be able to sell part of the property to the Tigard/Tualatin School District for the eventual build of the new Tualatin High School. Tualatin High was built on a combination of three different pieces of property that had previously been filbert orchards. Leonard was quite pleased with the fact that he was able to provide part of the land that would become home to the school. That once again brought a high school to his home town.

Leonard was a farmer and lock tender at the West Linn Locks for the army Corp of Engineers.

Leonard had two sisters: Margie Pohl Larsen, who married Dean Larsen, and who resides in Tigard; and Stella Pohl Furgason, married to Everett Furgason, who live in Portland.

Leonard is buried in the Winona cemetery in Tualatin, as are Eva Knighton Pohl Mack (his mother) and Asa Mack, Marvilla Stump Knighton Morse (his maternal grandmother) and Ed Morse.