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This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the **Oregon State Capitol Foundation (OSCF)**.

The **OSCF** is a tax exempt organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing the historical integrity of the Oregon State Capitol.

**Editors:**

Scott Burgess, Debbie Miller and Fred VanNatta

### Oregon State Capitol Foundation

900 Court Street NE, Rm 140A  
Salem OR 97301

Phone: 503-986-1654

Fax: 503-986-1684

Email: [capitol.foundation@state.or.us](mailto:capitol.foundation@state.or.us)  
[www.leg.state.or.us/foundation/](http://www.leg.state.or.us/foundation/)

## Capitol Celebrates *Denny Jones Day*

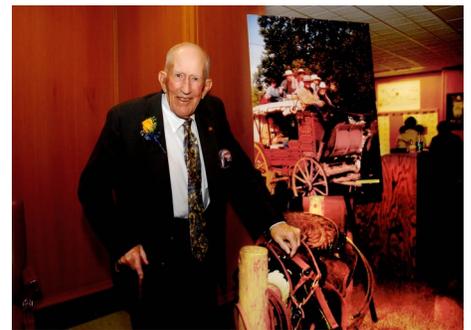
May 26, 2011, was declared *Denny Jones Day* at the Capitol. The Oregon Legislature along with a host of other family and friends—easily identified by their “Denny Jones Day” buttons—gathered to honor the century-old former state representative.

The day began early for Jones by meeting with Governor John Kitzhaber, Senate President Peter Courtney, Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli, and Co-Speakers Bruce Hanna and Arnie Roblan. Later, Senator Ferrioli escorted Jones onto the Senate floor where he was honored by the Oregon Senate with Senate Concurrent Resolution 16. Representative Cliff Bentz then escorted Jones to his former desk on the House floor. Former colleagues and current members of the Oregon House of Representatives presented Jones with House Concurrent Resolution 38.

At noon, a chuckwagon lunch was served in the Capitol Galleria. Former Governor Vic Atiyeh, Senator Ferrioli and former lobbyist Frank Brawner spoke recalling stories from Jones’ years at the Capitol. Congressman Greg Walden provided remarks via video from Washington, DC. Governor John Kitzhaber and former Governor Ted Kulongoski made a surprised appearance. Cowboy singer, Dennis Brutke from Amity, sang “Strawberry Roan,” a song Jones himself has performed many times. Guests had the opportunity to have their pictures taken with him next to a saddle.

People reminisced throughout the day about Jones’ experience, integrity, knowledge and work ethic. A true Oregon icon, he lived his

entire life in southeastern Oregon. Jones rode horses as a jockey and traveled a circuit from Washington to Tijuana, Mexico. He later bought the ranch he worked on and began raising cattle. He broke his own horses and made his own saddles, riding and branding well into his nineties,



*Denny Jones next to a saddle and photo of him riding in the 2010 Pendleton Roundup Parade*

Before coming to the legislature, Jones served as the lobbyist for the Oregon Cattlemen’s Association. At age 62, he was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives, serving for 26 years until he was forced out by term limits. He claims that he didn’t bring any skills to the legislature—just his beliefs and down-to-earth style. He didn’t need a calculator to help him figure budgets and his memory was incredible. He reduced the state budget to a 3X5 card that he kept in his shirt pocket.

At 100 years, Jones may have slowed down some, but hasn’t lost any of his wit, enthusiasm and drive. You just don’t find people like Denny Jones any more. ■



## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 38

**WHEREAS** D.E. “Denny” Jones was born September 21, 1910, in Ione, Oregon; and

**WHEREAS** D.E. “Denny” Jones married Mildred Altnow, and together they had two children and eight grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS** “Denny” and Mildred for over 50 years owned and operated a beautiful cattle ranch on the Malheur River in Malheur County, during that time raising thousands of cows and calves, thus adding significantly to the Eastern Oregon economy; and

**WHEREAS** D.E. “Denny” Jones’ contributions to the public good include service as a director of the American Cattlemen’s Association, president of the Oregon Cattlemen’s Association, president of the Malheur County Livestock Association, president of the Malheur County Pioneer Association, director of the Pacific International Livestock Exposition and a member of the Malheur County Budget Board and the boards of the Public Land Council, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, the Juntura School District, the Malheur County Juvenile Council and the Agri-Business Council of Oregon; and

**WHEREAS** D.E. “Denny” Jones in 1972, at age 62, was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives and served with distinction for 27 years until 1999, including service on the Joint Committee on Ways and Means, the Emergency Board and the committees for agriculture, transportation and education; and

**WHEREAS** in 1995, D.E. “Denny” Jones served as co-chair of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means, where he worked to protect Oregonians’ hard-earned tax dollars; and

**WHEREAS** D.E. “Denny” Jones has received the Malheur County Cattleman of the Year Award, the Harney County Livestock Association Citizenship Award and the Ontario Jaycees’

Citizenship Award; and

**WHEREAS** friend and foe respect D.E. “Denny” Jones’ integrity, experience, knowledge and work ethic; and

**WHEREAS** D.E. “Denny” Jones turned 100 years of age on September 21, 2010; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OREGON:** That we, the members of the Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly, honor D.E. “Denny” Jones for his many contributions to his state as well as to his family, friends, community and country. ■

## BOARD APPROVES WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

The Oregon State Capitol Foundation Board approved the development of a new website as part of creating a comprehensive Capitol History Center. The initial vision for the website is to offer historical information on the Oregon Capitol and the State Legislature through links to other sources of historical information or directly. The website’s development, management and content will align with the Capitol History Center Strategic Planning Project (see related article).

The Capitol History Website is another example that the Foundation is striving to accomplish its mission to ensure that the Capitol and its stories and history are preserved. ■

## CAPITOL HISTORY CENTER PLANS IN PROGRESS

In 2005, the Legislature passed HJR 32, directing the Legislative Administrator to designate a location in the Capitol for the establishment of a Capitol History to educate the 25,000 Oregon students and up to 333,000 annual visitors to the Capitol about Oregon’s rich history. The 2009 Legislative As-

sembly created a funding source for the History Center through SB 961. Senate Bill 961 created the Pacific Wonderland license plate and assigned 50% of the funds it generates to the Oregon State Capitol Foundation for establishing and maintaining an Oregon History Center.

Today, the Capitol History Center continues to move toward reality. The Oregon State Capitol Foundation Board directed Legislative Administration to request proposals for developing a strategic plan for a Capitol History Center. The Canoe Group, a Portland company specializing in strategic initiative planning, has been selected to navigate the Foundation Board through the development process. The strategic plan will define what the Capitol History Center will look like, the historic focus it will take, and how the program will be sustained.

Through the process, stakeholders and interested parties, including the public, will be asked to provide input. Look for project updates and information on opportunities to provide input in upcoming newsletters. ■



## PACIFIC WONDERLAND LICENSE PLATES HITTING THE ROAD!

With over 9,500 sales, you can’t help but notice more and more Pacific Wonderland license plates on the road. The license plate sales help to support the Oregon Historical Society and the Capitol Foundation. Order yours today at any local DMV office or on-line at [www.oregon.gov/ODOT/DMV/](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/DMV/). ■

# Oregon State Capitol Foundation

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I am renewing my membership for 2011.

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Amount enclosed for membership dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed for additional tax-deductible gift: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check payable to: **Fund for OSCF**

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900 Court Street NE, Rm 140A  
Salem OR 97301

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#### **In Memoriam**

##### ***Robert B. Duncan***

Robert B. Duncan died on April 29, 2011, at the age of 90. A Medford lawyer and Democrat, he was elected to Oregon's House of Representatives in 1957 where he served four terms and was the first person to serve two consecutive terms as Speaker of the House. Duncan was elected to Congress in 1963 representing the 4th District—Lane County. After races for the U.S. Senate were unsuccessful (including a 1966 race against then-governor Hatfield), he returned to Congress in 1975 representing the 3rd District—Portland. He was the only person in Oregon history to represent two different congressional districts. Duncan and Hatfield eventually became close friends and working partners. Hatfield later renamed a downtown Portland government building for Duncan. Duncan ended his political career as chairman of the NW Power Planning Council from 1985-87. He is survived by his wife Kathryn Boe Duncan, seven children and ten grandchildren. ■

##### ***Betty Roberts***

Betty Roberts died on June 25 in her Portland home at the age of 88. Despite many obstacles, Roberts followed her ambitions and became one of the great figures in Oregon politics. She was a mother, teacher, lawyer, legislator, judge, mentor, and "true Oregon pioneer." Roberts grew up in Texas and left college early to marry and start a family. Roberts later returned to college and became a teacher. She then earned her master's degree and secured a local school board position. Still teaching, she entered law school after her request to become a doctoral candidate in political science was denied because of her age (39). In 1964, Roberts was elected state representative and state senator in 1968, becoming the only female member of that chamber. Roberts then ran for governor and U.S. Senator but was unsuccessful. In 1977, Gov. Straub appointed her as the first woman justice to the Court of Appeals and, in 1982, then-Gov. Atiyeh appointed her as the first female member of the Supreme Court where she served until retiring in 1986. She is survived by four children, a brother, nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. ■