October 24, 2019 celebrated the 100-year anniversary of the formation and establishment of the Oregon Section of ASME.

The centennial celebration was held at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland, OR. This event consisted of an engineering artifacts exhibition, special guest speakers including Evelyn Taylor - ASME Director of Section Support, past president of ASME Dr. Said Jahanmir and Oregon section volunteer leaders.

There was an unveiling of a proclamation by the governor of Oregon declaring October 24, 2019 as the centennial of the Oregon section as the 35th local section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Over 100 members and guests attended this event which culminated in the sealing of a custom designed and fabricated time capsule containing items representing Oregon engineering in 2019. Materials and labor were donated by GK Machine, Inc. in Donald, OR. In December the time capsule will be purged and sealed with Argon to preserve the contents until October 24, 2119 when it will be opened again.

A 51-page book was distributed to the attendees documenting the history by local member Harvey Schowe. His research uncovered the stories of the people in places that define the Oregon section of ASME. Members Carl Wolf and Shawn Richardson described the process to design the time capsule and the materials they chose.
Oregon Section Chair, Trevor Scheck gave a rousing speech on the role of local sections and the special commendation of a Governor’s proclamation. Centennial Committee Chair Colleen Kennedy described the actions and events that led to the centennial celebration. Emcee Pasquale Dell’Aquila rounded out the event and described all the things to see in the event venue. This event was possible only through the support of ASME staff as well as the efforts and dedication of local volunteers including: Remco Waszink, Bryan Fischer, Jerry Kordonowy, Paul Giroux and George Kent.

A Special display was created depicting survey results received from past presidents of ASME and local section chairs.

A partnership has now been set up between ASME, the Oregon Historical Society and the other local professional engineering societies in Oregon to create a joint exhibition at the museum in approximately three years’ time. This exhibit is tentatively called Engineering Oregon; Engineering Societies and Their Role in Oregon History.