

Footprints

on the sands of time...

ISSUE LXXX SOUTHWEST SEATTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & LOG HOUSE MUSEUM WINTER 2012

COMING HOME TO RIVERSIDE

"Much has transpired from then until now..."

On Saturday, January 28th, descendants of a hardy group of immigrants gathered to honor their forebears on this small patch of land that sits on the shores of the Duwamish River, surrounded now by roaring traffic, rushing trains and a multitude of various industries. This place is a far cry from the fishing community that arose on this spot in the late 19th century. Much has transpired from then until now but the memories remain notably rich in the minds of those who grew up here. Below is the wording on the marker in the plaza that was dedicated that day.

"This marker and all the stones in this plaza are dedicated to those young immigrants who, in the late 1800's and early 1900's, left their homelands with a vision to establish their families and fortunes in a distant land.

These early settlers of Riverside were mostly from Croatia, a region of the Austrian Empire, later known as Yugoslavia. They joined with other ethnic groups to form bonds of friendship that transcended the multicultural barriers of this Riverside community at the mouth of the Duwamish River.

Many of these immigrants were skilled fishermen, who for years had plied the Adriatic and Mediterranean Seas. Riverside's location offered what they were seeking – the closeness of their own kind who spoke their native tongue, moorage and repair facilities for their beloved boats, storage for their nets and gear and crew availability – all within walking distance from the homes they built on the high ground. Within a short time, they built a fishing dynasty in Western Washington.

Here, at Riverside, they raised their treasured families. Their wives produced dishes of salmon from their nets and fresh vegetables and herbs from their



own gardens. Autumn wine making was carried on annually, with a friendly tasting competition to decide whose wine was best.

By the 1990's the Croatian's had all but disappeared from Riverside. Their prosperity had scattered them to the far corners of the larger community. Their needs had changed. The salmon runs had dwindled. English was the language of their children. They worked and married their ways into the fabric of American Life.

The paving stones in the plaza replicate the streets and lots of the Riverside community. The names of the settlers are at the locations of their homes."

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FOOTPRINTS

is the official publication of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum 3003 61st Ave. SW Seattle, WA 98116

(one block south of Alki Beach)

Editor, Carol Vincent

Museum Hours

12 - 4 p.m.
Thursday, Friday
Saturday & Sunday

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Also on Facebook



On Saturday, January 28th "Coming Home to Riverside" attendee's pose for group photo.
Photo Courtesy Jean Sherrard

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY TIES TRANSCEND TIME AND CHANGE

"150+ descendants of West Seattle's Riverside community gathered.."

Just about one block from West Seattle's high rise bridge at Marginal Place South-west, 150+ descendants of West Seattle's Riverside community's early residents gathered on Saturday January 28 to honor their families and dedicate **Riverside Memorial Plaza** where Riverside's **Budinich Grocery** once stood. Keynote speaker, and the project's driving force, **Frank Zuvela**, reminisced about events and families that shaped the area over first half of the last century. Childhood memories have remained vivid in the minds of these descendant's and they delighted in sharing them with childhood friends, children and grandchildren as they warmed themselves with hot coffee and nibbled on the **"Coming Home to Riverside"** decorated cakes. Thanks to all who contributed to making this event a success; **Frank Zuvela, Joe Popich, Mike Budinich, Jerry and Ron Vandenberg, Paul Dorpat, Jean Sherrard, Nicole Vandenberg, Friends of Riverside, SWSHS** and the **Log House Museum**, and these Riverside descendants.

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GALA 160— A DATE TO REMEMBER!
Photos courtesy Gail Ann Photography

PRESIDENT'S BOARD REPORT

"in our larger vision for the Historical Society to grow and flourish..."

Hello and Happy New Year! That sentiment may be a little late in coming since it is February already, but time marches on and the Southwest Historical Society is moving forward as well.

In the fall I reported the Historical Society Board had completed the Museum Assessment Project (MAP) a self-study funded by an **American Association of Museums grant** to help identify our strengths and priorities.

The MAP report gave us along list of recommendations, some of higher priority than others; some things had to do with the Historical Society and others directly related to the operations of the Log House Museum. Some of the recommendations would take longer deliberation and decision making, while others were easier and faster to accomplish, such as updating the computer equipment and changing how we back up our systems.

As you may recall, in the fall of 2010 we made the decision to leave the Museum Director position vacant when **Andrea Mercado** left to pursue other goals. We did this in order to consolidate and save resources while we undertook the Museum Assessment Project. During this interim the Log House Museum has been very well-run by **Sarah Frederick** as the Museum Manager but in our larger vision for the Historical Society to grow and flourish, we knew we would eventually want to hire an executive director again. On January 7th, as we do annually, the

SWSHS Board held an all-day retreat to prioritize and solidify our goals for the year and to adopt a budget that will support the goals. As anticipated, much of the focus of this years retreat was to go through the MAP recommendations, prioritize them, and make the decisions to move forward.



Marcy Johnsen, President

Three top recommendations have been adopted by the Board: **1**-refining our mission and name for better recognition and broadening our visibility; **2**-increasing our membership- the solid base and reason for the Historical Society's existence; and **3**-hiring an Executive Director for the Historical Society who will work for and with the Board to attain the first two goals.

We are now in the processes of working toward these new goals. Stay tuned for updates on our website at www.loghousemuseum.info, stop in to the Museum, and you are always welcome to come to a Board meeting (see the calendar of events). Meanwhile, the committees, programs and events of the Historical Society continue on so there are many opportunities for member-volunteer involvement. Your talent and time can make a big difference and it's fun and rewarding!

Would you be interested in serving on the Southwest Seattle Historical Society Executive Board? We are an active group that is proud to be involved in preserving the heritage of the Duwamish Peninsula and if history is your passion too, we would be delighted to have you join us! There are three open trustee positions and we are also in need of a recording secretary. If you think this is a volunteer position that you would enjoy please leave a message at 206-938-5293 or e-mail loghousemuseum@comcast.net.

TOWS Report

2012 is a big year for the **Telling Our Westside Stories** campaign. So far we have raised \$30,300. And a friendly reminder, pledges made to this campaign are due June 2012. Watch your mail boxes.

Youth from the **Delridge Community Center, South Park Community Center** and an 8th grade class from **Madison Middle School** successfully interviewed 24 adults from all around Southwest Seattle about growing up here and their remembrances of land, work and home. Transcription of the interviews is finally complete (thanks to a handful of wonderful volunteers, **Al Bentley, Gaea Singer, Todd Stephenson, Alan Peterson** and **Kat Overton**) and it is time for exhibit planning to begin.

While an opening date has not yet been finalized it will definitely be taking place in late summer. If you are interested in helping with any part of the exhibit process, or just curious about how it is coming along, please stop in or give the museum a call! There will also be a traveling component of this exhibit, which will be available to schools, libraries and community centers. If you would like more info on hosting one of the traveling exhibits, please let us know. They are expected to be ready by fall of this year. Work on this project is

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**Pop-Up Museum
at Annual
Membership
Meeting
"Thanksgiving"**

★ WELCOME TO THE PEOPLE'S POP-UP MUSEUM
A FEW SIMPLE RULES
① BE RESPECTFUL
② BE KIND
③ BE COMFORTABLE
④ HAVE FUN!
THANKS FOR SHARING TODAY
MICHELLE

The theme for the November, 2011 pop-up museum was "Thanksgiving" and guests brought items and wrote short descriptions that brought that memory alive for them. For **Audrey Zemke**, the hand grinder recalled her Dad's homemade cranberry relish. For **Marcy Johnsen**, it was her grandmothers pumpkin bread! For **Clara Peterson** it was grandma spending the holiday with their family. Volunteer, **Michelle DelCarlo, UW Museology Graduate Program**, developed this unique program. **Michelle** will be doing another Pop-Up Museum at the Log House later this year! Please join us.



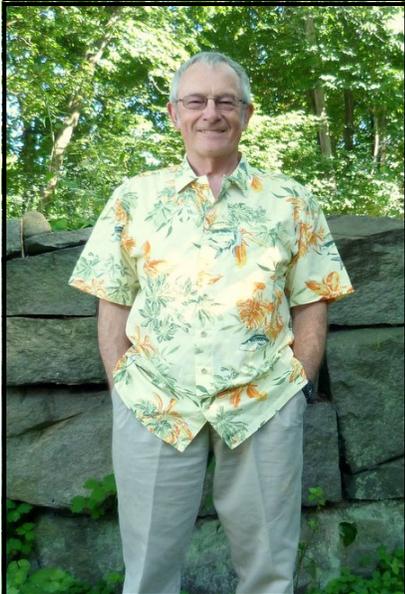
MUSEUM MANAGERS REPORT

"....up next are grant-funded technology upgrades to the gallery"

Happy 2012! This year celebrates the 15th anniversary of the opening of the Log House Museum. Our new year is jam packed – both with projects and with visitors. Already in January we have welcomed 100 2nd and 3rd graders from the **Pathfinder School** to the museum for tours. Volunteer **Pete Covell** has completed some technology upgrades to our computers, making it faster and easier to work on administrative tasks as well as improving the performance of our artifact and donor database software. Up next are grant-funded technology upgrades to the gallery. Funding from **4Culture** and the **Seattle Department of Neighborhoods** made the purchase of these new items possible. We will be updating our media viewing area as well as installing a tablet computer to accompany some of the interactive elements of our planned new exhibit, *Telling Our Westside Stories*,

that is still on track for a late summer opening. On January 28th we co-hosted the **"Coming Home to Riverside"** event, and we have a totem pole we are trying to raise! This project is also still slated for spring, thanks to generous funding from the **National Society of the Colonial Dames of Washington**. Remember to check our website and facebook pages for event updates. If you missed our first ever Pop Up Museum at our annual meeting, don't worry. We are planning hosting another this spring or summer. So many of these projects and updates at the museum would not be possible with the generous support of donors and the dedication of all of our volunteers. Thank you! What would you like to see at the Log House Museum this year? Feel free to stop in, give a call or send an email and let us know! We would love to hear from you. **Sarah Frederick**

Bob Bollen: On becoming a volunteer



"We retired to Seattle in 1999 - came from a town near Boston called Sudbury - the Sudbury militia men were too late for the battle at Concord bridge. I was in the telecommunications industry and worked at a Corporate Research Lab. While on a bike ride over a year ago, I dropped into the Log House Museum; as I enjoy things historical, and noticed the pamphlet on volunteering. I chatted with Sarah and thought I could help out one way or another. My handyman skills and experience have come into play and I find satisfaction in completing small but useful projects around the Log House museum and being docent occasionally; I feel I am making an immediate difference. The folks I've met who are involved in keeping the place alive are a grand bunch and it's a pleasure to be part of that effort. A museum of this nature is an asset to the community."

<p><u>In Memory of</u></p> <p>In memory of Verna Jenson Draper: Judith Platt and Gail Jensen</p> <p>In memory of Mildred Suriano: Judy Maginnis</p>	<p><u>Welcome New Members</u></p> <p>Richard Polintan and Pacita Bunag Max Vekich Caroline Cumming Lita Baum John and Lois Constantine Ron Miller and Murl Barker</p>	<p><u>IN HONOR OF</u></p> <p>In honor of Juda Youngstrom: By Cheryl Roth</p>
<p><u>In Memoriam</u></p> <p>Al Bostrom Robert Kinter Jack Hanning Mike Strong Bob and Lollie Baugh</p>	<p><u>Increased Membership</u></p> <p>Patti Mullen, Sherry Richardson, Donn Smithe, Ruth and Wayne Moore, Larry and Marge Carpenter, John Bennett Properties, Judy Pigott, Ray Owens, Alan Mendelssohn, Patricia Eastly, Flora Belle Key.</p>	<p><u>2011 IN-KIND DONORS</u></p> <p>Al and Judy Bentley, Marcy Johnsen and Joey Richesson, Kerry Korsgaard, Bob and Susanne Carney, Jackson, Morgan and Hunt LLC, Irene Gehring, Luna Park Café, Tia Hallberg, Joan Stover, Sarah Frederick, Juda Youngstrom and Pete Covell, Carol and Charlie Vincent, John Bennett Properties, Jane Conrad, Patricia Kloster, Cecile Hansen, MOHAI, Janie and Giulio Pelligrini, Kat Overton, Northwest Wine Academy, Keller Williams Realty, Vincent/Field Photography, The Pacific Institute, Junction True Value Hardware, Head to Toe Day Spa, Salty's, Bill Spiedel's Underground Tours, ArtsWest, I Cactus, Museum of Flight, Spud's, Ivar's, Burke Museum, Via Salon, Bird on a Wire Espresso, Alki Kayak Tours, La Rustica, Bakery Nouveau, West Seattle Thriftway, Metropolitan Market, Admiral Safeway, Jefferson Square Safeway, Salvadorian Bakery, Clay Eals, Husky Deli, Merrilee Hagen, Inez Lindsey, Goodwill Industries.</p>

Thank you to all our 2011 Donors:

\$5000+

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Cindy Torkelson, Ruth and Wayne Moore, Alan and Jennifer Peterson, Juda Youngstrom and Pete Covell, Joan Stover, Marcy Johnsen and Joey Richesson,

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Up to \$100

Amy Hines, John and Lois Constantine, John and Flora Wunder, Patricia Kloster, Sherry Peterson, Georgie Kunkel, Jordan Hecker, Maryann Brose, Anonymous, Kerry Korsgaard, Kay Francisco, Amy Lee Derenthal, Gladys Penate, Greg Theobald, Tamsen Spengler, Marcee Stone, Carol McClure, Kathy Schwartz, Sarah Dahleen, Carol Frillman, Brian and Andrea Duffy, Mona Nelson, Cheryl Roth, James Kinter, Virginia Vinton, Mile High United Way, Michael and Vicki D'Annunzio, Sue Stone, Celcile Hansen, Flora Belle Key, Murl Barker, Hildie Sheftel, David Keith, Carolyn Matthews, Jackie Standley Scott, Barbara Benish, Marcia Blomgren, Larry and Marge Carpenter, Fritz Fuetterer, West Seattle Art Club, Robert Almquist, Douglas Hurlley, Dan and Eleanor Laxdall, Ken Workman, Mayflower Park Hotel, Judy Maginnis, Michael and Betty Butler, Ray Owens, Dorothy Kaloper, Doug Reed, Gail Ann Photography, Betty Dolan, Jim Del Ciello, Sheryl Guyon, Beryl Ash, Caroline Cumming, Katherine Karpf, Penny Earnest, Jorge Spindola-Reyes, Bill and Kathy Schier, Anne Farrell, Kermit Franks, May Shimbo, Max Wilson, Tibbets United Methodist Church, Jean Osborne Wilhelm, Jim and Carol Shorett, Patricia Jones, Barbara Olson, Lisa Fischer, Peggy Cullor, Mary Ann Johnson, Phyllis Engstrom, Dayle Banks, Betty Aronson, Andrea Mercado, Beverly Barsy, Marge Saffer

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& "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum
3003 61st Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98116

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS CALL THE MUSEUM 206-938-5293 OR CHECK WEB SITE

Tues, Sept 20	SWSHS Board meeting at SSCC President's Board Room
Thurs, Sept 29	"Salute to the South", 3-5 p.m. SSCC 6000-16th SW
Tues, Oct 18	SWSHS Board meeting at SSCC President's Board Room
Sat, Oct 22	GALA- SAVE the Date! Brunch, Salty's
Sat, Nov. 12	Annual meeting; 12 p.m., West Seattle Library Mtg. Room
Sun, Nov 13	14th Anniversary LHM opening & 160th anniversary of the landing on Alki of founding families
Tues, Nov 15	SWSHS Board meeting at SSCC President's Board Room
Tues, Dec 20	SWSHS Board meeting at SSCC President's Board Room