

Footprints

on the sands of time...

Issue II

SOUTHWEST SEATTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 1987

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVES

Nothing in recent memory aroused interest in local history such as that engendered by the production and distribution of the "West Side Story". History can be so exciting when tied in with one's personal experiences, perspectives and interests that it takes on a whole new dimension. People are not only "eating it up", they're already asking for more!

It all fits into the reasons this society came into being. We have been aware that a virtual treasure-trove of old photographs, artifacts and documents are stored away in many homes but it took a special project such as the "West Side Story" to bring these to view. It is now our concern that much of this be directed to our archives and collections so that they may be adequately identified and preserved for generations to come.

Interest in our society has also been stimulated. Virtually all of our members are remaining on our rolls and more are being added. This is an excellent time for you to take the Membership Application distributed in our last newsletter and secure a new member.

NOMINATIONS FOR HONORARY MEMBERS

Only Executive Board members may nominate and elect Honorary Members but all members are invited to submit recommendations for such members to any Officer or Trustee of this society. These must be done well in advance of our October Annual Meeting. Pertinent data relating to the prospective nominee will be appreciated.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

This will serve as the sole and official notice to all members of Southwest Seattle Historical Society, of the 1987 Annual Meeting.

DATE: Tuesday, October 6, 1987

TIME: 10:00 a.m. to Noon

PLACE: Room RS79
South Seattle Community College
6000 16th Ave. S.W.
Seattle, WA 98106

AGENDA: Reports; Election of Officers and Trustees; such other business that may come to the floor.

Please mark your calendar now!!
Your participation is important!

Elliott N. Couden
President

NOTE: Room RS79 is located at the south side of the large building fronting on 16th Avenue S.W. A parking lot is located just south of the building.

YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD

OFFICERS

Elliott N. Couden President	932-2290
John F. 'Jack' Van Gilder Vice President	938-0550
Mary A. Bondeson Secretary	937-1688
John C. Ashford Treasurer	764-5395

TRUSTEES

	Term Exp.
Charles E. Jung	1987
Elsie A Pollock	1987
Gerald Robinson	1988
Dr. Aurlo A. Bonney	1988
Allan R. Cunningham	1989
Candace Lein-Hayes	1989

STATUE OF LIBERTY PROJECT

This Society heartily endorses and supports the current drive to raise funds for the purpose of restoring Alki's replica of the Statue of Liberty, located in New York Harbor.

The project is spearheaded by the Southwest Seattle Community Relations team of Pacific Northwest Bell from West Seattle and White Center.

As reported in the West Seattle Herald on July 15 the cost of restoration is estimated at about \$5,000.00. The 35 year-old replica's damage repair will be under direction of the Seattle Park Department.

To facilitate the fundraising this society will accept donations from its members and friends and see that any such funds received are channelled to the proper recipients. Checks can be made out and mailed to "Southwest Seattle Historical Society", c/o S.S.C.C., 6000 16th Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98106. They should be inscribed, "Statue of Liberty Repair".

The sponsors are also selling lapel pins depicting the Alki Lighthouse at \$2.00 each as part of the fundraising effort.

For additional information contact team project chair Carolyn Fabel at 345-7967 or 248-0888.

ONWARD! FROM WEST SIDE STORY TO FILLING IN THE GAPS

The West Side Story is a tremendous history of West Seattle.

The Herald has done a wonderful job.

Now it is up to us to fill in the gaps, flesh out their work, research the questions.

Call Al Cunningham at 937-0592. Let him know your area of interest. He will help you.

What names has your street had? Who named it? For whom is it named? Who was the first owner of your home? How much did he pay for it? When was it built?

All this knowledge is available. Why don't you let Al help you discover the answer to these and many other questions about West Seattle?

Allan R. Cunningham
Research Director

Washington State will celebrate its 100th birthday at 5:27 A.M. on November 11, 1989. A century earlier President Benjamin Harrison (our 23rd President) declared this to be the 42nd state in the union. Our first Governor was Elisha P. Ferry.

FOOTPRINTS

Newsletter of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society.
c/o SSCC, 6000 16th Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98106
Editor: John F. Van Gilder
Editorial Board: Elliott N. Couden, Margaret Mary Davies,
Clay Eals.

KING COUNTY CENTENNIAL COMMISSION PLANS

This commission was formed to plan the participation of King County in a 1989 celebration of Washington State's entry into statehood 100 years ago in 1889.

The commission has had three meetings since its official "birth" this spring. The Executive Committee created at the July 1 meeting has had three subsequent meetings in July. By-laws have been adopted (subject to the King County Council's approval), and other actions to comply with the ordinance of our creation are going forward.

There is lots of red tape, but properly so, and we are looking forward to the "fun" part of our agenda. This will consist of coordinating various groups in their plans to celebrate the 100th birthday of our organization as a state in 1989. We hope to have some funds available from our share of the sale of Centennial license plates - (BY THE WAY, DO YOU HAVE YOURS YET??).

We encourage the formation of local groups for the specific purpose of community support of our activities. Personally, I am not sure how West Seattle and White Center can "top" the recent publication of the West Side Story!

We hope to have brochures available this fall with detailed information regarding a mini-grant program and plans for a Centennial Calendar to be put out prior to the Centennial year listing all appropriate activities. 340-4779 or 344-7610 are the telephone number to call to be put on the mailing list by staff.

Betsy Detroit

(Ms. Detroit, a member of our society, was appointed to the King County Centennial Commission in June of this year.)

MOHAI CHANGES

The Historical Society of Seattle and King County, parent organization of the Museum of History and Industry, has elected Mary Ann Mangels as President of the Board of Trustees. Reilly Rhodes has been appointed Executive Director of the museum.

IMPORTANT EXHIBIT COMING

Few Sagas of the sea embody more romance and adventure than the United States Exploring Expedition of 1838-1842 led by U.S. Navy Lieutenant Charles Wilkes.

Beginning October 3 and ending December 27, 1987, the Washington State Historical Society Museum in Tacoma will host the prestigious Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibit of the Wilkes Expedition. Commencement Bay, named by Wilkes, is where the exploring and charting of Oregon Territory and the inland waters of Puget Sound began in 1841.

POST "WEST SIDE STORY" THOUGHTS

For many West Seattle and White Center residents, July 1 was the day the history book of their area landed on their doorstep.

But for the staff of the West Seattle Herald and White Center News, it was the culmination of more than a year of strenuous, exhilarating, exhausting, exciting effort.

The result -- the 288-page "West Side Story," in both softcover and hardback "Collector's Edition" -- was more than anyone realistically expected when the project was hatched in the spring of 1986.

The statistics alone are stunning. The book (yes, a true book, not a newspaper product) had 20 chapters with more than 300 photos and maps (both color and black and white). Interspersed are 200 historical ads with at least that many additional photos and graphics. The softcover version weighs 2 and 1/4 pounds, while the hardback "Collector's Edition" tips the scales at 3 and 1/2 pounds.

More than 36,000 copies of the softcover "West Side Story" were printed, half of which were delivered free to subscribers of the West Seattle Herald and White Center News on July 1.

A limited pressing of 3,000 "Collector's Edition" copies was printed. Each was hand numbered to enhance the value of each book's collectability.

Sales of the books has been brisk. By mid-July, 1,300 of the hardback "Collector's Edition" copies and 2,800 of the softcovers had been sold. That's good news, because from the sale of each book, \$1.50 is being donated by Robinson Newspapers, the publisher of the book, to the West Seattle and White Center Chambers of Commerce. The Chambers, in turn, are sending proceeds to the South Seattle Community College arboretum and the Southwest Seattle Historical Society.

Clay Eals

SOUTH PARK SEEKS OUR HELP

The town of South Park was incorporated in 1890 and became a part of the City of Seattle in 1907. The South Park Fieldhouse was constructed in 1912 and has served as a significant community center over the intervening years. The Parks Department now wish to demolish this structure in order to replace it with a new recreation center. The South Park neighbors want to have the new structure sited elsewhere on the grounds and have the historic field house redeveloped as a library and museum of local history.

The South Park Field House is significant because it is one of the Pacific Northwest's purest examples of consistent, true Craftsman-style architecture, rare in that this architecture was usually used in private residences, not public buildings.

We can appreciate the feelings of the residents in the area and are inclined to support their aspirations in this matter.



CHET HILL PASSES AWAY

CHESTER A. "CHET" HILL, our member No. 38, died suddenly on July 5, 1977, at age 78. A Minnesota native, he lived a few years in Canada before his family moved to White Center in 1917. Chet worked with Perry Clemans at Clemans Furniture Store in White Center, now occupied by the VFW Post #3075, and he was also active with the local Kiwanis Club. He moved to Bothell a few years ago and is survived by his wife Margaret.

Three Historic vessels have been officially designated Washington Centennial Flagships. They are: the 1913 schooner ADVENTURESS, the 1922 steamer VIRGINIA V, and the 1889 tugboat ARTHUR FOSS.

The City of Columbia was incorporated in King County in 1892 and was annexed into Seattle in 1907. A core area of the old town is now designated by the City of Seattle as the "Columbia City Landmark District".

Co-Chairs of the 1989 Washington Centennial Commission are Jean (Mrs. Booth) Gardner and Ralph Munro.

For General information relating to King County Historic Preservation call: Cheryl

Cronander,

Acting Deputy Preservation Officer 587-4859

Charles Payton, Museum Advisor 340-4781

Flo Lentz, Cultural Resource Specialist ... 340-4782

King County Centennial Commission

Co-Chairs:

Rosanne Zemp/North Bend

Lloyd B. Robinson/Seattle

Staff: Deborah Swets, King County

Centennial Coordinator 340-4779

HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN KING COUNTY

King County Designated Landmarks

Beck-Wilson House, Newcastle
Black Diamond Railroad Depot
Bothell Historical Museum
Carnegie Library, Auburn
James W. Clise Residence, Marymoor Park
Company House No. 75, Newcastle
Crawford Store, Richmond Beach
Dodds Farm, Highline
Doughterty Farmstead, Duvall
Norman Edson Studio, Burton
Fall City Hopshed, Fall City
Ferncliff/Wise Mansion, Vashon
Hill Grove Cemetery, Highline
Hjertoos Farm, Carnation
Hollywood Farm, Woodinville
Hotel Skykomish
Issaquah Railroad Depot
Peter Kirk Building, Kirkland
Lagesson Homestead, Maple Valley
Lester Depot
Luther Burbank School, Mercer Island
Morasch House, Hilina
Muckleshoot Mission Church, Enumclaw
Neely Mansion, Auburn
Newcastle Cemetery

Norman Bridge, Snoqualmie
Odd Fellows Hall, Vashon
Gunnar T. Olson House, Redmond
Prescott-Harshman House, Fall City
Red Brick/James Mattson Road, Redmond
Reinig Road Sycamore Corridor, Snoqualmie
Renton Fire Station
Reynolds Farm and Indian Agency, Auburn
Thomas Rouse Road, Newcastle
Erick Sanders Mansion, Federal Way
Snoqualmie Falls Substation, Renton
Snoqualmie Railroad Depot, Snoqualmie
Vashon Hardware Store
Vincent Schoolhouse, Snoqualmie Valley
WPA Buildings at Des Moines, Enumclaw,
Mt. St. Preston, White Center

(For detailed information on any of the above, call
Elliott Couden at 932-2290)

HAVE YOU MOVED?

It is important that we be notified of any changes in address or telephone numbers of members. There will be mailings going out with some frequency to all members in good standing and we need accuracy to do the job.

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