

# Footprints

*on the sands of time....*

ISSUE XII

SOUTHWEST SEATTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AUGUST 1990

## IT'S TIME TO EAT, DRINK -- AND BE HISTORIC!

Second time's the charm, right?

At least that's what we hope for our second annual Membership Picnic.

Most of you probably remember that June 10 was the original date. But the unpredictable early-summer weather prompted us to cancel it that morning.

Since then, we've rescheduled the picnic for **Sunday, Aug. 19**, at West Seattle's Camp Long, 5200 35th Ave. S.W. It will run from 1 to 5 p.m. We'll be at the WEST shelter this year, which means an easier walk from the camp's huge parking lot to the picnic site.

We hope this second stab at a picnic date will yield pleasant weather. Please put the date on your calendar, and we'll look forward to an afternoon of family fun.

Bring whatever food you want to eat, but like last year we'll provide hot dogs, buns, soft drinks, coffee and ice cream. We're even adding hamburgers to the menu.

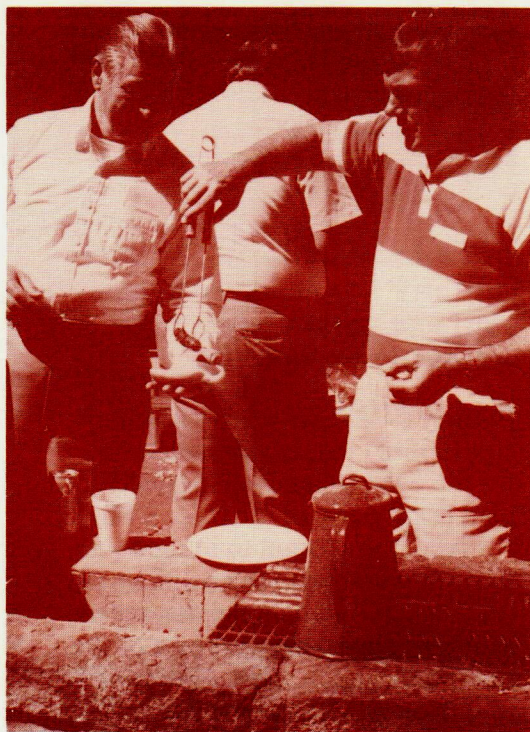
We plan games for the kids -- no matter what age. Feel free to bring your Frisbee, your softball and your enthusiasm.

At 2 p.m., we'll hold a brief official program to honor members who have made significant contributions during the past year.

Camp William G. Long was hailed as America's finest youth camp within a city's limits when it was dedicated on Nov. 8, 1941.

It features a self-guided nature trail (with raised tracks for the kids to make rubbings with crayons and paper), a pond full of aquatic insects and turtles, the famous Schurman climbing rock, vast fields and a friendly, woody atmosphere.

If you have any questions about the picnic, call Carol Vincent at 937-6744.



NEAL LOCKETT serves up a hot dog to Moe Beerman at last year's picnic.

## HOT STUFF: CAN YOU GUESS THE WEATHER AND WIN A SURPRISE?

You can't predict the weather. Or can you?

Give it a try by entering a little contest we've cooked up. It's probably a safe bet that we won't have rain in mid-August.

But the day can be a reasonable 74, a sweltering 93 or

somewhere between.

If you want to predict the high temperature on picnic day, give Carol Vincent a call at 937-6744 and tell her your name and your guess. (If she's not home, just leave a message on her answering machine.)

You need to call in your guess by Monday, Aug. 13. That way you can't consult the five-day forecast. Whoever attends the picnic and ends up having come closest to guessing the correct temperature will receive a surprise gift.

## HISTORIC TOUR PROVES THAT HOME IS WHERE THE HEART (OF A COMMUNITY) IS

This year's tour of historic homes is now, well, history.

But there's plenty to celebrate about the second annual version of what is sure to thrive as a community tradition in the years to come.

The society's Tour of Homes, held on Saturday, May 12, really turned out the public -- in droves. The tour drew 937 paid admissions, topping the 1989 total by 544.

Because more than 70 additional tickets were given away for promotional purposes this year, it's possible that 1,000 people visited some of the 10 tour sites.

An enthusiastic audience of 170 people jammed into the West Seattle Library for the opening ceremony to hear a nostalgic speech by Librarian Karen Spiel and welcomes by local office-olders Greg Nickels and Tom Weeks.

And all through the day, the event generated warm comments from tour-goers.

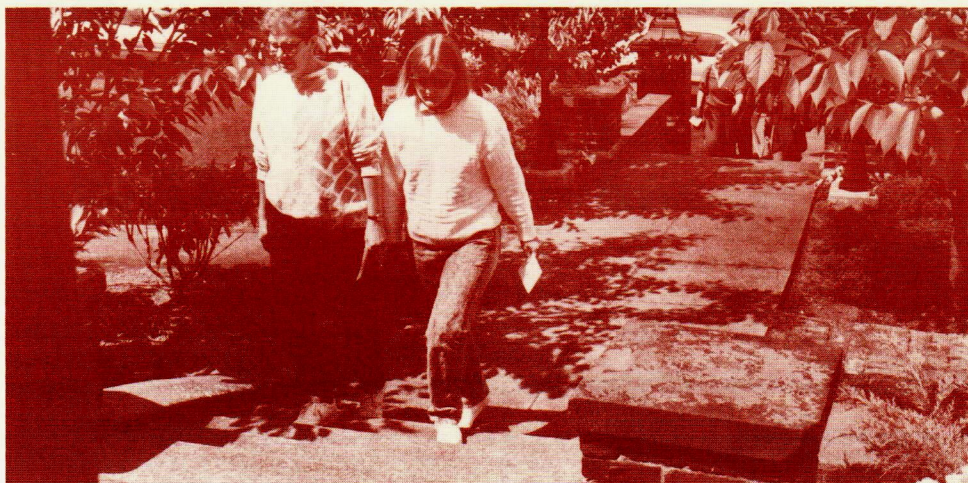
Equally impressive was the turnout of volunteer help.

A hardworking committee of more than a dozen people met regularly for nearly four months to plan the event. But on the day of the tour, 70 members and friends donated at least three hours of their time to serve as hosts and hostesses at the sites.

This year's tour committee held a post-mortem soon after the dust had cleared and came up with a detailed list of ways to make the 1991 tour even better.

The number-one suggestion was to get started earlier on picking the sites.

Accordingly, a game threesome has already started work. Their names and phone numbers are Deb Barker (935-3592), Virginia



THE FRONT steps of Hainsworth House got a workout on the tour.



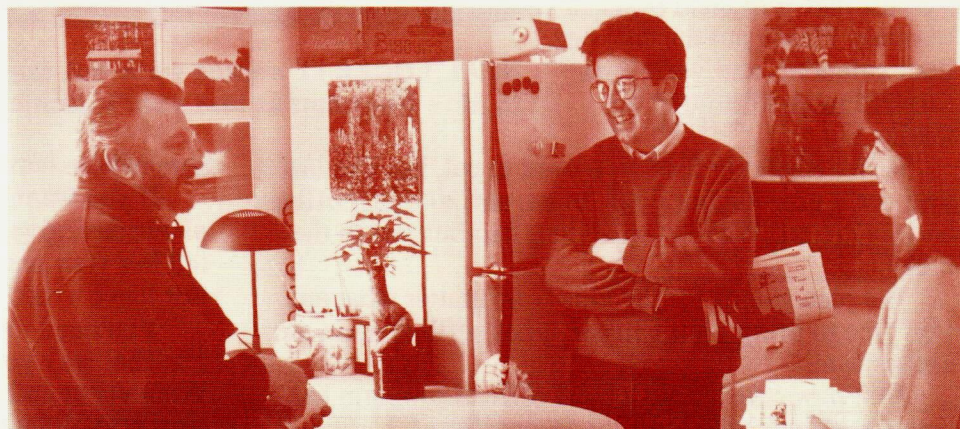
LIBRARY STAFF Karen Spiel (left) and Carol Vincent were dressed in period style.

Bonney (932-9570) and Virginia Cyr (935-8116). If you have ideas for the 1991 tour or want to help plan it, give any of the three a call.

And don't forget to mark down the tour when you start a 1991 calendar. It'll remain the day before Mother's Day -- another part of the tradition!



KENNEY HOME resident William Barnet chats with a young family.



GARTH ROGERS (left), owner of the Frank Lloyd Wright-influenced site at 2715 Belvidere Ave. S.W., talks with tour-goers.



**JIM RILLERA** gets filled in on the history of his house by a tour-goer.



**VOLUNTEER CHIEF Elaine Hilden** and real-estate agent **Tom Kuzniarek**, who loaned his sandwich signs, celebrate at the tour's close.



**VOLUNTEER HOST Aurlo Bonney** discusses the Green house with a tour-going couple.

## Check out the WeatherWatch flyer

You'll find in this quarter's edition of Footprints a fundraising flyer for the WeatherWatch project, captained by Lezlie Jane, a member of our society.

Details are inside the flyer, which tells how people can make their mark on West Seattle history by buying a brick for the park project along Beach Drive.

Lezlie recently secured approval of the project by the city's Board of Public Works.

She wants to borrow old photos of the South Alki area to incorporate in the project. If you can help out, call her at 938-4922.

## Fauntleroy book gets AKCHO honor

The recently published Fauntleroy Legacy history book, reviewed in the April edition of Footprints, has quickly snapped up an award.

The Association of King County Historical Organizations (AKCHO) issued the award at its joint meeting with the King County Landmarks Board on May 22 at the Museum of History and Industry.

Accepting the award was Roy Morse, the book's co-author and a member of our society. Congratulations, Roy!

## Get your rosters, hot off the press!

Elliott Couden, our society's secretary, has finished an update of our membership roster.

The new roster, current to June 22, shows an active membership of 203 and another 36 inactive (former) members.

If you'd like a copy, call Elliott at 932-2290 and he'll send you one pronto.

Rosters are for society use only and may not be copied or used without permission from the Executive Board for any non-society business or activity.

## Work party sorts out the goods

Several members of the Executive Board spent about eight hours on Saturday, May 19, conducting an initial inventory of our society's collection.

The collection, consisting primarily of photos and other printed materials, is housed in a storage room at the South Seattle Community College Library.

When the library expands a few years from now, it is hoped we will obtain use of a more accessible storage and display space.

In the meantime, Collections Chair Flo Lentz is working on a refined policy that will include procedures for public use of the collection.

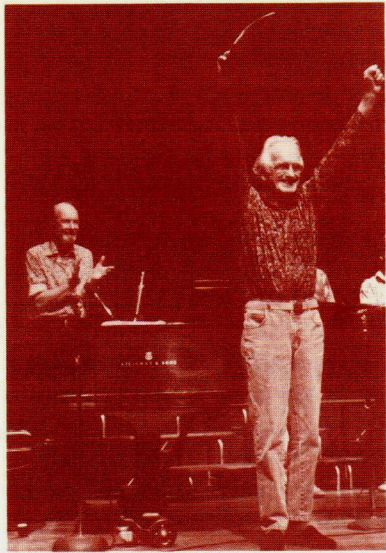
Anyone interested in donating historical items that relate to West Seattle and White Center can contact Flo at 937-7525 or Treasurer Joan Mraz at 764-5371.

## Alumni get pinned and hit the books

West Side Story history books and Alki Lighthouse pins were popular with the more than 300 people attending the annual All-School Reunion at West Seattle High School on June 1.

The alumni added nearly \$200 to the society's treasury with their purchases of the \$5 softcover books and the \$2 pins.

Anyone interested in buying the books can contact Clay Eals at 935-7515, and the pins are available from Elliott Couden at 932-2290.



**EARL ROBINSON basks in applause from the audience and Pete Seeger.**

## EARL WOWS 'EM

West Seattleite Earl Robinson, the composer of *The House I Live In*, *Joe Hill* and many other famous American songs, stood tall at his 80th birthday concert July 15 at the University of Washington's Meany Hall.

Joined by several local performers, Robinson also shared the stage with legendary folksinger Pete Seeger, who sang several topical tunes that the two sang in the 1930s.

Society member B.J. Bullert headed a video crew that taped the concert for an upcoming PBS-TV documentary on Robinson, which our society is sponsoring.

## We hit the bigtime in Centennial book!

The state Centennial's final report, which covers the myriad of history-related activities in Washington's birthday year of 1989, mentions our society -- not just once, but twice!

The handsome, 74-page report is called *The People's Centennial*.

Our Dec. 10, 1988, Centennial Ferry Cruise merited a paragraph on page 4 (along with a photo of our craft, the Virginia V steamer).

Our Nov. 11, 1989, Centennial Finale, which re-enacted the 1851 Denny Party landing at Alki Beach, notched another paragraph, on page 41.

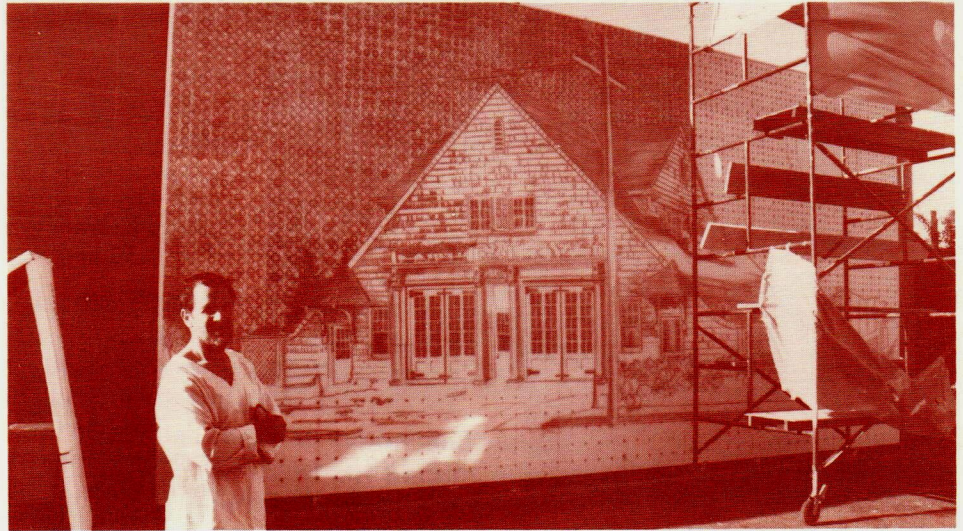
## MURAL FIRES UP THE JUNCTION

Artist Don Barrie began work on the Junction's third historical mural in July.

Barrie's subject, painted on a freestanding surface on the south wall of Don Swanson's insurance building at 4711 44th Ave. S.W., is the old Junction fire station, complete with a horse-drawn wagon.

The trio of horses in Barrie's mural will fit on a separate board at the bottom of the base panel.

At least two more murals are planned for other Junction buildings later in the summer.



**DON BARRIE pauses during the early stages of his firehouse mural.**

## FOOTPRINTS

(Editor: Clay Eals)

Newsletter of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society  
 c/o South Seattle Community College  
 6000 16th Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98106

**BULK RATE  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 SEATTLE, WA.  
 PERMIT NO. 4960**