

Footprints

on the sands of time....

ISSUE XXXIX

SOUTHWEST SEATTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SUMMER 1999

What makes it look so great?



Photo by Deborah Mendenhall

You do. How? By giving to the Sustaining Fund (below) or volunteering (pages 11 and 12)

Vision, talent, time, money ...

Dear historical society members and supporters:

I was going through some dusty archival material the other day when I ran across a 1901 Seattle Post-Intelligencer article that made me chuckle.

“West Seattle, once a favorite camping spot, is now overrun by pleasure seekers from the city in

search of a day’s outing,” the paper observed, “and it is predicted that next summer it will be abandoned by all but a few gregarious campers who delight in crowds, music and all the attractions of a public park.”

Abandoned by all but a few who delight in

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SWSHS CALENDAR

Footprints is the official publication of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society.

One of SWSHS's major projects is the Birthplace of Seattle Log House Museum, located at 3003 61st Ave. S.W. Seattle, WA 98116 (one block south of the Statue of Liberty on Alki Beach)

Phone (206) 938-5293

Current exhibit: "Alki — Coney Island of the West"

AUGUST

Thursday, Aug. 12

Speakers' Program: Sasha Harmon, 7:15 p.m., Log House Museum. Historian, UW professor and author of *Indians in the Making* will discuss accounts of Indian responses to non-Indian settlement in the Seattle area.

Saturday, Aug. 14

Alki Historic Sites Tour, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., co-sponsored by SWSHS and Jacobsen Road Alliance. Tickets and maps available at Log House Museum and West Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

Saturday, Aug. 14

Sunday, Aug. 15

Art Nature, and Literature Festival, Lincoln Park. Look for SWSHS and Log House Museum outreach booth.

Thursday, Aug. 19

Long-Timers Meeting, 1:15-3:15 p.m., Log House Museum

Children's Reading Hour, 3:15-4:15 p.m., Log House Museum

SWSHS Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Log House Museum

Wednesday, Aug. 25

Volunteer Recognition and Recruitment Tea, 2-4 p.m., Schmitz Parlor of Alki Congregational Church.

SEPTEMBER

Thursday, Sept. 9

Speakers' Program: Walt Crowley, Alan Stein and Heather McIntosh of *HistoryLink*, 7:15 p.m., Log House Museum. Learn about this comprehensive history website and database of Seattle/King County.

Thursday, Sept. 16

Long-Timers Meeting, 1:15-3:15 p.m., Log House Museum

Children's Reading Hour, 3:15-4:15 p.m., Log House Museum

SWSHS Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Log House Museum

Thursday, Sept. 23

Open House for Educators, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Log House Museum

OCTOBER

Friday, Oct. 1

Deadline for November *Footprints*.

Thursday, Oct. 14

Speakers' Program: Greg Watson, 7:15 p.m., Log House Museum. Archaeology Month presentation on the archaeological culture of the Puget Sound Salish people.

Thursday, Oct. 21

Long-Timers Meeting, 1:15-3:15 p.m. at Log House Museum

Children's Reading Hour, 3:15-4:15 p.m. at Log House Museum

SWSHS Board Meeting, 7 p.m. at Log House Museum

Sunday, Oct. 31

Museum open 6-8 p.m. for neighborhood trick-or-treaters.

NOVEMBER

Saturday, Nov. 20

SWSHS Annual Meeting. Time, place, program and agenda to be announced in the November *Footprints*.

Alki tour offers stories, photos and drawing for door prizes

The second annual Historical Sites Tour, co-sponsored by the Southwest Seattle Historical Society and Mee-Kwa-Mooks/Jacobsen Road Alliance, will take place on Saturday, Aug. 14, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The tour will include several historical sites of Alki, where interpreters will tell stories of a bygone era. They will share personal photos, maps and other ephemera to enhance understanding of Alki in the early part of this century.

Tickets, including map, are available for \$5 a person or \$10 for a family at the Log House Museum, Lindas's Flowers (2350 California Ave. S.W.) and Northwest Art & Frame (4733 California Ave. S.W.). Tickets may also be purchased at the Log House Museum on the day of the event.

Each ticket can be entered in a door prize drawing after the event. Prizes are a Gray Line day

tour to Mt. Rainier, tickets to the Sept. 22 Dixieland Jazz Dinner Cruise and Seattle Tours Mini Bus Passes.

Tickets can be dropped off at the place of purchase or any of the tour sites. The winners will be drawn immediately following the tour and will be notified by mail.

Funds raised by the tour will be used to support the Log House Museum, a project of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society, and the Mee-Kwa-Mooks/Jacobsen Road Alliance. The Alliance was formed by concerned residents to save the greenspace on Jacobsen Road from further development.

Sponsors also include the Alki Community Council. Other supporters are Northwest Art & Frame, Liberty Bell Printing, West Seattle Herald, Alki Beacon, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Linda's Flowers and Wildcard Designs.

I witnessed the arrest of a topless bather on Alki Beach in the mid '30s

... It was a man. Those were truly Victorian times."

Doug Viney,
Issaquah

Bellevue doll museum to join Log House holiday celebration

By **KATHY KINGEN**

This holiday season the Log House Museum will be transformed into an old fashioned wonderland.

The Museum is teaming up with the nationally acclaimed Rosalie Whyel Doll Art Museum from Bellevue. The museums are designing an exhibit of antique dolls, bears, toys and decor in keeping with the pioneer spirit.

The Whyel Museum is loaning an exhibit which will be on display from just after Thanksgiving to the new year.

Can you hear the carolers? See children marveling at the sight? Can you smell the cider, see the dolls, bears, trains, the tree? What a special

pilgrimage to make this year. Please join us.

To be successful, the month-long event will need docents, perhaps in period dress, as well as storytellers, doll makers for workshops, decorators, musicians, carolers, additional exhibit items, decorations and your wonderful ideas.

Tell your friends to put the Log House Museum on the list of things they must do for the holidays. This will be a very special season for us and a chance for all of Seattle to come visit its birthplace log house.

Bring your family and friends, but before that, bring your ideas and helping hands. To get involved, please call **Kathy Kingen** at (206) 938-2236 ext.22 or the Log House Museum at (206) 938-5293 to talk to **Pat Filer**.

*Editor's note:
The quotes you see on these pages are from memory books compiled by community elders.*

The steam passenger boats were our "clocks." the Tacoma boats, the Tacoma and the Indianapolis, went by on the hour. they rounded the point at 10 minutes to the hour. The Virginia V going to Vashon went by at 5:45 p.m. That meant head home for dinner.

Stanley Coombes, Salem, Ore.

Was there another natatorium?

It's 1906. Land speculators are trying to sell lots around Alki Point. They draw a map. It shows a lighthouse and, almost adjacent, a natatorium.

Was there really a natatorium at Alki Point long ago?

Paul Dorpat raised the question with the opening slide in his talk at the Log House Museum in June. One of the closing slides hinted at an answer -- apparently Yes.

That photo shows a house and a building that easily could have housed a swimming pool. But it is not the natatorium that local long-timers still remember, nor the natatorium at Luna Park. Dorpat invited those present to research the matter.

He talked about his latest book, *Building Washington*, a history of public works projects in the state. He showed photos of old maps, dams, courthouses, schoolhouses and bridges, including the first trestles that crossed the now-filled tideflats to West Seattle.

Trolleys used the bridges until 1940, when they were replaced by buses. Dorpat's photos took a ride along the tracks from downtown. He also showed the ferries that brought visitors over the water and the horse-drawn luggage cart that



Photo by Deborah Mendenhall
Paul Dorpat adjusts projector to show slides of Washington's public works projects, including many in West Seattle.

followed the trolleys up Ferry Avenue.

Dorpat took the opportunity to show before-and-after "warning" shots, including several buildings that had had their wonderful ornamentation "modernized" away.

One was Doc Maynard's house near Alki Beach. Stripped of its gingerbread, it sits on 64th Avenue Southwest looking like a 1940s war box.

Dorpat also showed the only known photo of the Denny cabin, taken shortly before it was destroyed.

"How could you get rid of that?" he asked. "That means you've really bought into progress, if you can't save the original building, if you don't have the foresight to save the remnants, you are really sunk."

Programs to feature Indians, website

Stories of cooperation and dissension among Natives and settlers and an overview of a computerized history reference source will be featured at the next two Speakers' Programs at the Log House Museum.

Sasha Harmon, an assistant professor of American Indian studies at the University of Washington, will discuss dissimilar accounts of Indian responses to non-Indian settlement in the Seattle area. Her talk is Thursday, Aug. 12, at 7:15 p.m.

On Thursday, Sept. 9, at 7:15 p.m. **Walt**

Crowley, Heather McIntosh and **Alan Stein** of HistoryLink will explain their interactive website and database devoted to Seattle and King County history since 1850.

HistoryLink is the primary project of History Ink., a non-profit organization founded in late 1997 to organize and support historical research and educational programs. **Paul Dorpat**, who spoke in June, is principal historian

For a preview of the September program, log on to <http://www.historylink.org>. The Speaker's Program is open free to the public.

October is state Archaeology Month

The curator of the "Change of Worlds" exhibition at the Museum of History and Industry will present the October Speakers' Program in the Log House Museum Speaker Series in celebration of Washington Archaeology Month.

Greg Watson, director of the Snoqualmie Valley Museum and an expert on Native American culture, will discuss the archaeological record of the Puget Sound Salish people Thursday, Oct. 14, at 7:15 p.m. at the Museum. He will illustrate his remarks with historical photographs that document both the continuity and the change in Native cultures after the treaties with the settlers.

Also in honor of Archaeology Month, the Museum plans a small exhibit featuring treasures belonging to people in the community.

For centuries, Native Americans lived in this area, and signs of their life here are still among us. Pioneer families lived within blocks of Alki Beach nearly 150 years ago. Early in this century, a 12-acre amusement park stood at Duwamish Head.

Things they left behind have become unique historical treasures discovered by generations of local children, beachcombers and homeowners. They are objects that we know now should be studied by experts to learn more.

Anyone who has special cherished prizes from the past — Native American, pioneer or Luna Park artifacts, beach memorabilia, documents, letters and other "finds" — is invited to call the Museum at 938-5293 and arrange to display them in October. The items will be returned.

The beach was a "free play" area for me. We often waded in the water at low tide with a harpoon looking for sole. We used a wooden pole and a spear point that we made by putting the right kind of nail on the streetcar tracks and letting the streetcar run over it. We built fires and sometimes cooked clams by finding a can that had floated in and putting the clams in the can and steaming them over the fire. My first boat was made out of a fish box, which I water-proofed by melting tar and pouring it in all the cracks. It was a combination of rowing and bailing to go any distance.

'Louisa Boren' visits Museum

Professional storyteller **Debbie Dimitri** held a Log House Museum audience of 38 in the palm of her hand while she retold the life story of Louisa Denny, one of Alki/Seattle's first pioneers. Ms. Dimitri wore period costume and used antique props to aid in her storytelling.

Ms. Dimitri whispered to the group as if each alone were the confidential listener to her secrets and fears. She poignantly told of leaving her friend Pamela in Illinois knowing that she would probably never see her again. And when she told of seeing her love David again on the shores of Alki, there was a collective sigh and many moist eyes.



Photos by Deborah Mendenhall

Debbie Dimitri, dressed as Louisa Boren, shows some of the period artifacts she brought to her performance.

Louisa Denny is one of several women in local and national history whose stories are re-created by Ms. Dimitri. We hope to meet another on a return visit.

H. Martin
Smith Jr.,
Mercer Island

In our teens we had beach parties at Alki with hot dogs, potato chips, pop and marshmallows. We would build a big fire after dark and cook our hot dogs on a stick. Alki Avenue was four lanes wide. The outside lanes were for cruising. The inside lanes were for drivers who just wanted to get somewhere.

Merrilee Hagen
Seattle



Founding president Elliott Coudon, past president and picnic organizer Carol Vincent and Erma Couden enjoy the sunshine at the annual picnic.

Sun shines on picnic in Museum courtyard

Marge and Neal Saffer preside over the grill.

On June 27, 1984, a meeting was called to order at South Seattle Community College. Charles E. Jung, temporary secretary, took the minutes. The fifteen people present voted unanimously to form a non-profit organization. They elected **Elliott Couden** president.

The minutes don't reflect the name of the organization. But 15 years later to the day, Couden spoke to members of the group, now called the Southwest Seattle Historical Society.

"It's almost a miracle we could do all we have in 15 years," Couden said.

A couple of miracles surrounded the 60 members and guests who attended

the society's annual picnic the offering of rain. At the Society's most ambitious Log House since its restoration not only a miracle project

The food was piled out hamburgers and hot restaurateurs — Quesada the grill again next year

Among those who past presidents Couden and **Arlene Wade** and

"We should be proud "Of all areas of Seattle reminded members that No. 1 aim. Our children happening today.

"What happens today people involved in the carry on," he said. "Hi

He introduced the **Karl Wahlberg**, who Couden straightened it

Nothing, Couden said the Society.

Carol Vincent again birthday cake for both



Among the longtime members at the picnic was Erma Schwartz (lower right).



Photos by Deborah Mendenhall

Plane? Seagull? Dirigible was memorable sight over Alki in 1932

By Doug Viney

There was a time when the largest object seen flying in the skies over Alki was a seagull filled to the gullet with garbage dumped off the ferry Chippewa.

On May 24, 1932, however, this perspective was changed forever. An excited crowd that must have numbered in the thousands lined the shores of Alki awaiting the much-heralded arrival of the USS Akron, the latest (and next to last) dirigible built in the United States.

I had no idea what to expect, but was concerned that a taller person might obstruct my view, as so often happened at the Portola Theater or the Shriners' parade in downtown Seattle. I didn't know that my vantage point from the observation deck of the Alki Bath House would assure me of a good view of whatever may be coming.

Alerted by the sudden silence of those around me, I looked up in openmouthed awe at the huge silver behemoth that suddenly appeared over Duwamish Head.

Its eight motors droned increasingly louder as its mass — longer than 2½ football fields — seemed to fill the whole sky above us. Its four tail fins were still overhead as its bow neared the Manchester ferry dock. It then slowly receded into the distance on its journey toward Bremerton.

It was a sight that will always be permanently etched in my memory, as I'm sure it was in the memories of all who witnessed it on that special day in May.

The good kids of yesterday are the good parents of the good kids of today. I recall a nice class of seventh graders, except for five crummy, mean, hateful boys who caused the teacher to resign due to stress. Today, those boys would be expelled.

Hazel Frey
Seattle

pic. Above them were partly blue skies that withheld
round them was the garden of the Log House Museum,
itious project. It was the first annual picnic held at the
toration and opening, and the consensus was that it's
ect, but a wonderful place to hold the picnic.

on tables under the sheltering eaves of the Gift Shop.
r kept the grill going in the woodland corner, turning
t-dogs that attested to their experience as West Seattle
ell's and the Shack. They've promised to preside over

at the tables spread over the paved courtyard were
a. **Bob Sumbardo, Carol Vincent, Merrilee Hagen**
a number of charter members.

d of **Pat Filer**, manager of this facility," Couden said.
s, none deserves more attention than this area." He
t we are an educational society, and education is "our
n have got to learn that what history really is is what's

ay affects the lives of all in the future. We must get
historical process. For all you've done, we urge you to
story is the glue that stuck us together."

ast presidents and several other members, including
said he had gone to Couden with a real estate problem.
out for him, and Wahlberg asked how much he owed.
id — then talked him into taking a life membership in

headed the picnic. Among the highlights was a
the Society and Pat Filer, who also born on June 27.

Oral history almost finished

Death of Jessie Shephard, 99, underscores importance of gathering oral histories

Eleven elders with local West Seattle, pioneer or Native American ties have been filmed for the Oral History Project.

The video interviews are being edited by videographer **Valerie Vas**. A composite film that features highlights from each interview is also being produced. The project is to be completed this summer.

Project Manager and Producer **Gloria Pfeif** plans a special preview party this fall for all participants in the project. The public premiere of the films will take place in November during the Museum's third anniversary celebration.

The urgency of capturing these first-hand accounts of a bygone era was made painfully clear with the loss of 99-year-old **Jessie Shephard** in May. The interviews of Jessie and her husband of 80 years, **George**, were treasured glimpses of early West Seattle days, now permanently preserved at the Log House Museum.

Jesse and George were interviewed last October by Jonlee Joseph. Jessie grew up in Youngstown, near the steel mill, and remembered the Plank Road being turned into a street.

It "ran several miles out there, and they had the chain gang," she recalled. "These officers had

prisoners and they all had a big round ball ... chained to their ankles. Big ones, at least 12 inches across."

She went to Youngstown School, which had a high fence around the yard, she said, to keep the cougars out.

There were bears in the woods, too, she found out while berry picking with her father.

"All of a sudden we heard him yell 'Run for your lives!' We couldn't figure out what was wrong. He had been up on the stump ... and fell on the bear.

"Of course the bear went one way and my dad went the other and lost his gallon bucket of berries."

Jessie and George Shephard's and the other individual interview videos and transcripts will be available at the Museum for viewing, research and future publications and exhibitions. The highlight video will be available for loan at local libraries, including the South Seattle Community College library.

The Southwest Seattle Historical Society and the Washington Commission for the Humanities co-sponsored a two-day citywide Oral History Workshop to train community volunteers in camera and interviewing techniques. Host for the sessions was the Pacific Institute.

The Oral History Project was launched with a \$43,000 grant from the City of Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods.

June's low tides bring out the curious

The extremely low tides at Western Washington beaches in mid June encouraged the curious and the nostalgic to visit Duwamish Head, where Luna Park Amusement Park and Natatorium once stood.

The park, which was built out over the water on a wooden boardwalk, closed in 1913 and was destroyed by a suspicious fire in 1931. Today only the pilings and a small park built atop the ruined saltwater pools mark the spot. According to the grapevine, treasure hunters armed with metal detectors unearthed two \$10 gold pieces, a mint 1907 silver dollar and a couple of turn-of-the-

century "V" nickels. Also rediscovered were reminders of what was once called the "Coney Island of the West."

Oral history participant and SWSHS member, **Carroll Mage** was interviewed by King 5 news as he remembered "sneaking in the back door of Luna Park to swim in the warm water" and "riding the carousel to try to catch the brass ring." Mage and his brother **Max** recount those special memories as well as other fond remembrances of growing up in West Seattle 90 years ago in the Oral History Project interviews.

During fire drills at school, Capt. Sanislo and his little black and white dog showed up at Jefferson. That was really exciting for me.

Ruth Martin,
Seattle

Sustaining fund keeps it up

[Continued from Page 1]

crowds? It has sort of a Yogi Berra-esque "No one goes there anymore; it's too crowded" ring to it, don't you think? What a hoot!

The reporter should have stayed away from making predictions. As Yogi once said, "It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future."

OK, I'm stalling. I've already used two Yogi Berra quotes, and I haven't yet mentioned the topic I'm supposed to address here.

Which is . . . Fund-raising.

There, I said it — fund-raising. Are you still with me? Good, because I know that term can have an almost narcotic effect on some people. But if I may, I'd like to share a few important points about our historical society's campaign to raise sustaining funds for the Log House Museum.

First of all, as I'm sure you know, our campaign to "Save the Log House" and establish a local-history museum was astoundingly successful. The opening of the Log House Museum on Nov. 13, 1997, was a banner day for our historical society and the community at large. We should all be proud of what we accomplished.

However, that day was both an ending and a beginning, -- end of our campaign to build the museum and beginning of our task to sustain it.

Although the museum is primarily volunteer-powered, we do have operating expenses. Keeping our doors open will take more than the dollars we

receive in the donation jar, the revenue we generate through the museum store, or the grants we receive for special projects. It will take the ongoing financial support of community members like you, people who care about our community's heritage.

To help keep the museum on a solid financial footing, we've inaugurated an annual sustaining campaign. Letters were mailed to more more than 1,000 Log House Museum supporters and historical society members earlier this year, and so far the campaign has brought in more than \$7,000.

If you haven't yet contributed to the sustaining campaign, I encourage you to clip out the card on this page and mail in your pledge. With your help, we can reach the \$10,000 mark in our first year!

Please note that your contribution to the sustaining campaign is separate from SWSHS membership. If you're already a historical society member, I hope you'll consider making a generous contribution to the sustaining campaign as well.

Yogi once said, "You've got to be very careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might not get there."

Thanks to everyone who shared the vision of establishing the Log House Museum, we "got there" with flying colors. With your help, we can keep our vision alive for future generations.

It'll be like deja vu all over again.

Sincerely,
Brad Chrisman, Chair
1999 Log House Museum Sustaining Campaign

I don't remember ever hearing anyone refer to our "streetcars" as "trolleys." We would have to go out to the middle of the street to climb aboard. If the seats were all taken, you would have to take ahold of one of the leather straps hanging from a rod above the aisles. Strap-hangers would hold on to keep their balance as the street-cars clanked and rattled down the rails. Three rides cost 25 cents. School tokens were provided free for the kids who needed to ride the street-car to school. The end of the line for the Alki streetcar was 61st and Beach Drive. There was a large rail circle for the cars to go around and then head back to town.

Lenita
Sherlock,
Seattle



Southwest Seattle
Historical Society
3003 61st Ave. S.W.
Seattle, WA 98116

*Thank
You!*

PLEASE INDICATE PLEDGE INFORMATION BELOW:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Office phone _____

Pledge amount \$ _____

Pledge to be paid as follows:

Check enclosed. (Please make check payable to SWSHS.)

Please bill me one time in _____

Visa MasterCard

Card # _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____

Check if gift may **NOT** be made public

Childhood find becomes artifact

My family moved from California to Seattle in the early summer of 1940. Our house was one block from the beach. All the neighboring children spent their days at the beach — and so did I. We played on the floating logs — and this is how we learned to swim. We were very careful never to go deeper than “chest deep” in the water. I was 8 years old and decided that summer that we had chosen the best place in the world to live!

Camille Peters,
Issaquah

Marge Christiansen was 5 years old in 1924 when she found what looked like a broken arrowhead on Alki Beach.

She kept it and years later had it studied. It was identified as a “clam scraper” made of pink agate, which is not native to this area and was probably acquired in a trade.

Marge has donated the Native American artifact to the Log House Museum, along with a dance card from the Grand Opening Night Ball at the Stockade Hotel May 25, 1905. The card shows a rare interior view of the lobby of the Stockade.

Elliot Couden has donated several books to the

Disaster plan helps mop up after mishap

The Log House Museum now has a disaster plan to be put into effect come earthquake, chemical spill, fire, flood or other disaster.

Museum volunteer **Doris Rahmig**, a disaster education specialist for the American Red Cross, devised the plan and put it into a notebook.

Copies of the plan have been placed in the Museum and the gift shop, along with first aid supplies, a combination flashlight and radio, and other essentials that may be needed in an emergency. The plan includes instructions for Museum volunteers for what to do to keep themselves and Museum visitors safe.

The plan is required as part of the museum accreditation process. It includes:

- Securing office equipment, office and Museum furnishings and exhibit components so they won't topple during an earthquake.

- Planning and carrying out a disaster training workshop, including CPR certification, for Museum volunteers, staff, SWSHS board members and other interested Society members.

- Researching and preparing a comprehensive plan and manual to protect and salvage archives and exhibits before and after a disaster.

Anyone wishing to participate in this project may call Pat Filer at 938-5293 or Doris Rahmig at 938-8906.

archival library as well as a collection of articles written for the *West Seattle Herald* for a feature called “Remember When.” **Merrilee Hagen** donated two books, *Highlights of Seattle's History* and *294 Glimpses of Historic Seattle* by Paul Dorpat.

Dan Eskenazi brought in an old glass sign (with reverse painting on glass) from Westlund's Barber Shop, which was located on California Avenue Southwest. Also, a 1924 Blue and Gold West Seattle yearbook was donated by **Allan Seidenberg** who was a participant in the “Nearby History” program that SWSHS co-sponsored this spring.

Doug Viney presented the Museum with some nostalgic memorabilia relating to his father, Hess Viney. Hess Viney was the manager of the Alki Bathhouse from the 1920s to the 1940s and retired to coach the Peruvian national swimming team during the Olympics. Doug has donated his father's silver engraved whistle from the Seattle Parks Department and the engraved watch that the children of Alki presented to him when he retired.

Intern studies textiles, provides guide for care

Erica Maniez, recent graduate of the University of Washington Museology program and Log House Museum intern, has completed her thesis, “Practical Recommendations for the Care and Conservation of a Collection of Historic Costumes.”

This document will guide the Collections Committee in the care and handling of the recently acquired Badcom Collection.

Erica's contributions to the Log House Museum also include last year's successful Membership Campaign and the compilation of an ethnobotany list of the Museum's native plant garden.

Ephemera wanted

The Collections Committee is in search of ephemera from West Seattle's past, such as West Side high school year books and privately written family histories of West Siders. Anyone who is interested in submitting items for consideration may call the Museum at 938-9253.

Volunteer of the Quarter

Deborah Mendenhall, photographer

Her name appears in tiny type — Photo by Deborah Mendenhall — but her contributions to the Southwest Seattle historical Society are great.

Deborah Mendenhall brings her camera to many events—the annual picnic, children’s visits to the Museum, speaker programs — and the results appear in *Footprints*. She also spent hours at the Log House while it was being restored, and her photographic chronicle of the project is on display in the video room of the Museum. She also worked on the educational team that designed, researched and developed the heritage education trunks and traveling libraries for local teachers and school children. On top of all this, she’s a museum docent during school tours and special events.

This is all volunteer work for Deborah, who with her husband, **Philip**, and their three children recently moved into a house with a picture-perfect view of the old growth forest of Schmitz Park and Puget Sound and the Olympics beyond. They’ve already begun renovation.

Reception to honor, recruit volunteers

A reception and celebration will acknowledge and honor SWSHS and Log House Museum volunteers Aug. 25 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Schmitz Parlor of Alki Congregational Church.

Prospective volunteers also are invited. There is a particular need for museum volunteers on Saturdays. If more volunteers do not come forward, the Museum may have to be closed on that day. Volunteer shifts at the Museum generally run three hours.

Anyone who would like to volunteer — or who knows someone who could be enticed into helping — may call **Pat Filer** at the Museum, 938-5293 or speak with Volunteer Coordinator **Joan Mraz**.

“I will call them and I won’t even tell them who referred them.” Pat says. “You may remain anonymous!”

Pat will train the volunteers for the various positions that are available with the museum, the gift shop, and other projects.



Deborah Mendenhall

Deborah graduated from Western Washington State College with a bachelor’s degree in visual communications. By “sheer luck and perseverance, being in the right place at the right time and being able to follow through,” she says, she got her first job working as a photographer for La Vos de Michoacan in Mexico. She then worked in television production before turning her energies to being a full-time mom. Now she’s back in business in photography, graphic arts and web design.

People who, like Deborah, donate their talents, time and services are what make the Log House Museum and SWSHS keep on happening.

New editor has designs for quarterly Footprints

Board member **Ann Holiday**, a former editor of the West Seattle Herald, has volunteered to produce the *Footprints* once a quarter. The May issue was the first she edited. In the future, she hopes to have stories and photos lined up in time to put out issues to be delivered the first of August, November, January and April.

Deadline for articles is one month prior to the target delivery date. Anyone wishing to submit articles for consideration may send them by mail to the Log House Museum, 3003 61st Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98116, or by e-mail to Aholiday@juno.com.

*My brother
Kenny Killeen
and I, Mary
Louise Killeen
took one
lesson — free
— at Alki
Beach. We
lived at
Gatewood and
my mother
brought us on
the streetcar.
Because the
water in the
Sound was
so-o-o-o cold,
we didn’t come
back. We were
taken to the
downtown
YWCA where it
cost \$1 per
lesson. We
learned in two
trips and then
could swim
anywhere.
After we
learned to
swim, we went
often to the
pool at Lin-
coln park, as it
was close to
home at
Gatewood. We
called it “the
Mudhole,” but
we had grand
times.*

Mary Lou
Richardson,
Seattle

Board members complete terms; new talent welcome to apply

Thanks to **Kate Farley**, **Julianna Giese** and **Pat Filer** who worked nonstop one Saturday weeding, transplanting, fertilizing, spraying and generally cleaning up most of the grounds. **Kate** and **Marietta Paine** returned the next weekend to finish up. Anybody who is interested in helping to keep our museum grounds in museum quality may call the museum to volunteer. You may also volunteer your friends ... with their permission!

The terms of several members of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society executive board, including officers and trustees, expire at the end of the year.

Board members who will retire then have provided between three and eight years of service to the Society and have been instrumental in seeing the Log House Museum go from dream to reality.

Within the next few months, the remaining board members will be on the lookout for the energetic, resourceful and talented replacements who will take the organization into the new millennium.

Executive board members serve three-year terms. They are expected to attend board meetings from 7 to 9 p.m. the third Thursday of each month and to head a committee, such as fund-raising, special events, museum activities, publicity, newsletter or volunteer management.

Board members whose terms are expiring are officers **Greg Smith**, **Fritz Johnston**, **Lynn Swindlehurst**, **Joan Mraz** (who is replacing

Michael Prihoda) and **Betsy Detroit**, and trustees **Arlene Wade**, **Kathy Kingen** and **Pat Filer**.

Anyone who would like to be come part of the executive board, or who knows of anyone who would be a suitable candidate, may contact **Arlene Wade** at 439-9902.

Joan Mraz replaces Michael Prihoda

Joan Mraz, a founding member and former treasurer of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society, has returned to the Board as Membership Secretary.

Joan is a retired South Seattle Community College art teacher. Recently widowed, Joan said she felt she had more time to devote to volunteer duties with the Society. Joan has been helping **Pat Filer** as volunteer coordinator.

She replaces **Michael Prihoda**, a Board member since 1995 and Secretary from January 1998 to May 1999. He helped set up, organize and purchase inventory for the Museum shop.

He counts among his other pet projects his involvement with the Gala party, annual picnics, Home Tour and other fund-raising events.

Michael, who manages the Floristry program at SSSC, and will be married Sept. 4 to his fiancée, Philomene. They will live in Arlington, "amongst the cows and chickens," he says.

Annual Meeting Nov. 20

The Annual Meeting of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society will be held Saturday, Nov. 20, at a time and place to be announced. The program and agenda will be detailed in the next *Footprints*.

FOOTPRINTS

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