150 years later ...

In the shadow of Seattle landmarks that could scarcely have been dreamed of 150 years ago, the Yankee Clipper, in the role of the Exact, lies at anchor off Alki Beach after playing its part in the reenactment of the landing of the first Europoean-American settlers in Seattle. More stories, photos inside.
President’s Report

Sesquicentennial success

The year 2001 closed with memories of a very successful series of Sesquicentennial events celebrating the 150th anniversary of the landing of the pioneers at Alki on November 13. Many thanks go to Museum Director Pat Filer, who coordinated the activities, and to all the volunteers and descendants of the founding families who participated.

The Volunteer Recognition Tea will be held April 6 at the Villa Heidelberg to pay tribute to the volunteers who give their time and talent for the Log House Museum and Gift Shop and other Society programs.

The Homes With History Tour will not take place this year, as it will become a biennial event, with plans already being made for next year 2003. If you are interested in helping with the tour next year, please call Julie Burrows, (206) 433-6844.

SWSHS will hold a Fun Fundraising Auction Saturday, Oct. 5, at the Brockey Center at South Seattle Community College with a gourmet dinner and many wonderful items including antiques, collectibles and paintings. There will be lots to do, so please call and offer your help to Merrill Hagen, (206) 932-0460, or Sigrid Wilson, (206) 762-1172.

The Fall 2001 Sustaining Fund Drive was a great success, with $12,445 raised toward operating expenses for the Log House Museum and Society programs. This will cover expenses for about three months, so thanks to you wonderful donors who help keep the doors of the Museum open. This year a corporate fund raising drive will be undertaken, in addition to a Fall 2002 Sustaining Fund drive, to aim for more stable long-term support.

Our web site has been expanded in new and exciting ways so please visit and see the new multi-media presentations at: http://www.loghousemuseum.org. The web site will continue to be updated and expanded during the year, so check it out.

-- Joan Mraz, President

Calendar

All activities at Log House Museum unless otherwise noted

Saturday, April 6 – Volunteer Appreciation Tea, 2 - 4 p.m., Villa Heidelberg, 4845 45th Ave. S.W.
Thursday, April 18 – “The Diaries of High Point,” by Chief Sealth High School students, 7:15 p.m.
Thursday, April 18 – Long-Timers Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 9 – “The History of Women in the Military,” by Patti Quirk, 7:15 p.m.
Sunday, May 12 – Mother’s Day, Museum closed
Wednesday and Thursday, May 15-16 – AKCH0 Heritage Expo, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Maritime Heritage Museum
Thursday, May 16 – Long-Timers Meeting, 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 30 – Traditional Memorial Day – Museum closed
Friday, June 7 – WSHS Reunion, Madison Middle School, 6 p.m.
Thursday, June 13 – “Patchwork Patriots,” stories of Revolutionary War heroines Elizabeth Zane and Molly Pitcher, by Debbie Dimitri (in honor of Flag Day June 14), 7:15 p.m.
Sunday, June 16 – Father’s Day
Thursday, June 20 – Long-Timers Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 4 – Fourth of July Ice Cream Social and SWHS Annual Picnic, noon
Thursday, July 11 – Speaker Series, “Safe Passage,” history of Washington State Ferries, by Alan Stein, 7:15 p.m.
New exhibit encapsulates time

Fifty years from now, a time capsule is due to be opened. It was placed at the Pioneer Monument 50 years ago to commemorate the centennial of the landing at Alki.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur spoke, and a landing party re-created the historical event of Nov. 13, 1851.

To celebrate the anniversary of the centennial, Pat Filer, director of the Log House Museum, and Robert Carney and Don Kelstrom assembled a traveling exhibit of memories and artifacts from 50 years ago.

The monument was dedicated nearly 100 years ago. George Shephard was there.

“When we were in the first grade at school in about 1905, they dedicated that little Monument that is still down there at Alki Point as the landing place of the first people of Seattle,” Sheppard, 102, told Filer recently.

Then-Mayor William Devlin re-dedicated the monument as part of the 1951 ceremony, and costumed locals re-enacted the landing.

“I was Mrs. Carsen Boren and my ‘husband,’ Carsen Boren, was played by Bob Nuber,” Lil Thurston recalled. “He referred to me as his wife for years afterward.... My dress was a long print. When we moved from the big boat to the small boat, the water came up over the back of the boat and soaked my dress. I remember wondering how anyone could have gotten around and do anything in those long dresses — I had a lot of sympathy for the pioneer women.”

When the Southwest Seattle Historical Society was founded in 1984, Elliott Couden was presented with some centennial artifacts, including the preserved wreath, the shovel used in burying the time capsule, and the decorated bottle broken in the re-dedication.

Filer, Carney and Kelstrom read, researched and copied newspapers and photos, gathered written memoirs and interviewed people who attended.

Based on old photographs and a vintage newspaper interview with Mrs. Harold Hartman, who headed the time capsule project, the exhibit committee prepared a list of items thought to have been placed in the capsule. Period clothing, books, magazines, telephone directories, record albums, plywood samples and a model B-47 Stratojet were mentioned.

Committee members found pieces with which to recreate the contents of the time capsule to place in the exhibit along with the original shovel used to turn the ground to bury the lead cylinder. Joe Whiting, who purchased the wreath, bottle and shovel, even thought to save some of the dirt from the excavation and some of the Zonolite which was used to keep the contents dry.

The resulting exhibit, which was unveiled during the Sesquicentennial activities on Nov. 13, 2001, is available for loan to exhibition spaces, libraries, community centers and other interested places. A rental fee covers moving expenses and exhibit brochures.

This Sesquicentennial project was made possible with funding from the Department of Neighborhoods Matching Grant Program and King County’s 2001 Heritage Sesquicentennial Sustained Support Program. It is on display through the end of June at History House, 790 N. 34th St., in Fremont.
Honoring people of courage

Following are excerpts from the speech by Natalie (Penny) Earnest, who spearheaded the project to honor the pioneer women and the Duwamish with plaques on the Alki Monument.

I salute the ladies of the Alki Party who left forever their loving family and friends and their comfortable homes to come to this unknown shore and face unknown dangers.... It is said that Seattle is built on the tears of women....

When they arrived, although a cabin had been started on this corner, there was no roof. All their worldly goods were stacked on the beach in the rain. The twelve children were hungry, they had all been seasick for over a week. There was no place to get warm or dry...

But there were helping hands from an unexpected source. The native peoples, who had faced the challenges of survival for more generations than we know ... brought food. They showed them how to cope with the wilderness. They all learned from each other.

As the newcomers gained, the native people lost. Surely, as Seattle grew, the native women wept, too. How can we adequately express our gratitude to the native peoples?

Today ... women have gained a measure of equality those ladies didn’t even expect.

It takes a special kind of courage for a man to allow women equality. Mike, who brought me to Alki, has this courage and ... suggested that we introduce him as “and husband,” but we function as a team. I believe the men of the Alki Landing Party thought of their wives as part of their team, too. When Lenora Denny, one of the children, presented the monument to the Washington State Historical Society in 1905, social conventions allowed a wife’s identity to fade into obscurity. But the husbands would have wanted this monument to list the names of their wives....

(As I) walk the parks, the streets and the beaches of this ever-lovely place ... I am often surrounded by the memory of those who have lived here before me, especially Lydia Lowe, who was the only wife to spend the second winter here. Lydia’s husband left her here while he went to work in a logging camp. She was pregnant, with four children, in a one-room cottage, one window and a door. Lydia’s memory spends a lot of time with me....

Chief Seattle foretold that the spirit of the peoples of the past would be with us.... He had a powerful presence, he was eloquent in his native tongue, and he said: “... these shores will swarm with the invisible dead of my tribe, and when your children’s children think them-selves alone in the field or in the silence of the pathless woods, they will not be alone....” Let us take a moment and feel the presence of the courageous men and women who have lived here before us ... some for uncounted centuries and some for 150 years.

Perhaps the greatest courage of all was shown by the native peoples who accepted these strangers into their midst ... strangers who lived in such a different way ... If the situations were reversed, could any of us do as well today? Could we share our food, our space and knowledge with 24 strangers of such a divergent culture if they disembarked at Alki today? The acceptance of cultural differences may be the ultimate challenge to our courage!

I have asked myself ... After the disaster of September 11, are these recognitions of past courage still relevant? And I say:

Are there still women in the world who labor to sustain their families without any hope or even any expectation of equality? We know there are. Bare survival is the norm for most.

Are there still displaced people in the world who are without hope of ever regaining their spaces? We know there are ... in our midst.

It takes courage to visit the deeds of our past. It takes even more courage to learn from those deeds. Today we are joining in this commemoration of 150 years of learning. We look forward to many more.
Costumed re-enactors come ashore in a small boat, as their predecessors had done 150 years before.

**Rain adds realism to re-enactment**

**By Pat Filer**

With the same spirit that the early pioneers had, as well as similarly soggy garments, a group of pioneer descendants and community volunteers recreated the landing of the Alki Pioneers during Sesquicentennial Activities on Nov. 13, 2001.

The group included representatives from each of the original landing party families eager to honor the courage and spirit of adventure of their forefathers. Vintage clothing collector Melissa Hagen and the Issaquah Theater Company provided authentic pioneer-era costumes.

The relentless rain showers added the finishing touches to authenticate the drenched look that is so often noted in descriptions of the original settlers.

The costumed group met at the Log House Museum for a deli-style lunch prepared by the Liberty Deli. The mood was upbeat and happy with one small last minute glitch – 4-year-old Christian Quirk, daughter of Museum Assistant Patti Quirk, suddenly wanted her Mommy! Patti was assisting Joan Mraz with the Founder’s Day Luncheon at Salty’s and Christian was going to be riding the boat with Museum Director Pat Filer’s son, Zach. Comforting negotiations by another pioneer mom, Brooke Best, who was celebrating her birthday on November 13th by riding the Exact, saved the day.

A Grayline bus whisked the group off to the Yankee Clipper dock. Seeing the group in pioneer garb boarding the bus looked a little like out of “Back to the Future.” There were 12 children on the original boat, two of them infants. The re-enactment group included 10 children and two teenagers who will undoubtedly be available to participate in the 200th anniversary of the pioneers’ arrival at Alki Beach. And should have stories to tell.

The Sea Scout crew and Skipper, John Kelly, of the Yankee Clipper provided a memorable voyage for the pioneer actors. One stowaway was SWHS photographer, [See LUNCHEON, Page 8]
Patricia Wright, great-granddaughter of Arthur Denny, and Cecile Hansen, Duwamish tribal chair, meet at the Sesquicentennial Founders’ Day Luncheon at Salty’s on Alki.

Descendants of the original Alki landing party gather at the Pioneer Monument at the conclusion of the Sesquicentennial events.

Bell descendants Suzanne Selfours and her daughter, Isabelle Ranson, and Stephanie MacLauchlan endure the weather aboard the Yankee Clipper.

Rev. Harvey Rowe

River Echo, a traditional Duwamish canoe carved in 1996, was displayed near the beach during Sesquicentennial events.
celebrate their past

Proving that they come from hardy pioneer stock, John Terry, great-great-great-grandson of William and Sara Bell, and his son Jay ride the waves aboard the Yankee Clipper en route to Alki Beach.

© Deborah Mendenhall
Sam Matsen, great-great grandson of Carson Boren, and his grandson, Alan Matsen, keep drier by staying belowdecks for most of the re-enactment trip aboard the Yankee Clipper, which portrayed the Exact.
Re-enactment was brought to you by ...

The talents, energy, and dedication of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society, the Alki Community Council, and a host of volunteers made the Sesquicentennial events possible. Other community organizations, individuals and businesses made donations of materials, services, and personnel to help make the day memorable. Those donors include:

Museum of History and Industry: Funded buses to shuttle luncheon participants back and forth from the beach activities to Salty’s on Alki; Staff photographers to document the beach activities and group photos of the individual descendant families at the Pioneer Monument.

Alki Bakery: Baked goods for Open House and Reception at the Log House Museum.

Starbucks: Coffee and traveling coffee dispensers at the beach.


Tully’s: Coffee for Open House and Reception at the Log House Museum.

Holy Rosary: Loaned PA system.

Jim McDermott of Alki Market: Site for mural; soup, chowder and sandwiches at beach.

Sea Scouts sailed the Yankee Clipper for the re-enactment of the landing at Alki. They are Jason Shirra (left), Melissa Challey, Elysia Anderson, Casey Collins, Seth McNeil and (front) Jaya Sa.

Seattle Parks and Recreation Maintenance: Cleaned Monument and beach sites.

Yankee Clipper: Ship, skipper and crew.

Melissa Hagen: Loaned specially designed and created pioneer costumes.

Homestead Restaurant: Parking for re-enactment participants and event dignitaries.

Funding for these Commemorative Events was supplied by the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods Matching Grant Program, the King County Sesquicentennial Sustained Support Fund and the City of Seattle Mayor’s Sesquicentennial Fund.

Luncheon guests watch ship sail by

[Continued from Page 5]

Deborah Mendenhall whose daughter and husband were portraying pioneers in the re-enactment. Deborah donned a black watch cap and posed as a ship hand while shooting.

The 247 luncheon guests watched the Exact sail by Salty’s on its way to the beach before boarding buses to the beach. The crowds on the beach pressed to the water’s edge as a small boat made two trips toward the shore carrying the twenty-first century Landing Party. Master of Ceremonies Clay Eals read a narrative based on the original script written Elizabeth Rider Montgomery for the 1951 centennial re-enactment and adapted by Chris L’Ecluse to include information from Colleen Dunas’s “Welcome to the Greenland.” Readers included the Rev. David Rose, the pastor who gave the invocation at the 1951 centennial events; Lillian Thurston, who played Mrs. Carsen Boren during the 1951 re-enactment; and Cecile Hansen, Duwamish tribal chair.
Memories spark afghan project

By Sharon Peck

As an only child, Barbara Roach Callow spent her childhood in a closeknit West Seattle family doing many things with her parents and taking time to make the kinds of memories that Barbara says helped shape their lives.

In February 2001, Barbara came up with an idea to share and preserve our collective memory of well-known southwest Seattle landmarks. Inspired by a similar project in Des Moines, where she now lives, she proposed a fund-raising project to the Log House Museum Long-Timers group: to sell afghans that feature some of West Seattle’s unique, historical places and structures.

Throughout the spring and summer of 2001, Barbara continued to campaign for what she thought would be an attractive, practical item to sell through the Museum gift shop and a timely contribution to the Sesquicentennial celebration. With Barbara’s tenacity — and financial backing — the idea has become a reality. Since the afghans arrived in the gift shop in late October, their sale has been a big success. Seattle’s new mayor, Greg Nichols, ordered two before Christmas.

Just as in the afghan she inspired, the threads of Barbara Callow’s life are interwoven among the people and events of the West Seattle she loves. Her father, Robert Roach, came with his parents to Seattle from Iowa in 1906 when he was 6 years old. Barbara’s father’s parents built the fifth house in what is now called the Holy Rosary area and her grandfather helped in the construction of Luna Park. Barbara’s mother was from Yakima, and she and Barbara’s father met at the University of Washington.

As her father had years before, Barbara attended Lafayette Grade School as a child. She remembers taking the trolley south on California Avenue each day at lunchtime, getting off at Hinds Street and running two blocks home for lunch. She vividly recalls sitting in church with her parents on Dec. 7, 1941, as an usher tugged on the priest’s vestment and handed him the notice of the Pearl Harbor attack, which the priest read at the end of the worship service. Barbara tells that the Hiawatha Fieldhouse, where soldiers were stationed during the war, was off-limits to West Seattle high school female students.

Barbara’s father worked at Fisher Flour Mill for 29 years. Her mother eventually became the second female King County deputy sheriff. Even as a small child, Barbara must have paid close attention to the details of her family’s life. She can recount the scene at the striking mill workers’ meeting tent set up outside the Fisher mill, sometime when she was 6 years old. Her mother cooked meals for the strikers. A petite woman of barely 95 pounds, she stood atop a wooden apple crate, stirring the soups and stews in an enormous iron cauldron. It was during that strike that Barbara got a Shirley Temple doll for Christmas. Her mother fashioned a coat and hat for the doll out of rabbit fur.

Even though she no longer lives in West Seattle, Barbara maintains close ties to her family roots, her childhood and early adult life through her activities at the Log House Museum. Many of her memories have been recorded in Long-Timers group memory book projects.

A color picture of the afghan may be viewed at http://www.loghousemuseum.org/GiftShop.html.
Many thanks and much appreciation go to the donors to the 2001 Fall Sustaining Fund Drive.

It was the most successful ever, with $12,445 raised toward keeping the Log House Museum open and continuing the quality programs the Southwest Seattle Historical Society offers.

We could not do it without the help of these dedicated and supportive members and donors:

**$2000 and under**
- JoAn Schmitz Fulton
- Michael D. and Marjorie Alhadeff
- Fred and Marjorie Dau
- Ruth E. and Wayne Moore

**$500 and under**
- Mrs James H. Egan
- Nels Ekroth
- Judy Pigott and Darryl Swenson
- Lou and Diane Tice

**$250 and under**
- Claire Berry
- Carol and Charlie Vincent
- Joyce Entus
- Jackie C. Kelly
- John E. Kelly
- Virginia and Eilbert Prestegaard
- Clay Eals and Margaret Bakken
- Marty and Ann Dirks
- Mickey Kraut

**$100 and under**
- Verna J. Draper
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- Richard and Vanetta Warren
- Joan Bailey Mraz
- William and Jeanne Ward
- Glenna Gould
- Virginia A. Vinton
- Elizabeth S. McAdams
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- William H. Woodward Jr.
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- Bill and Margaret Neudorfer
- Bette Markley
- Floyd E. and Emma M. Madsen
- Helen and Stacy St. John
- Alexandra Pye
- James and Lanaya Barnes
- George and Jean Manwaring
- Edward A. and Pearl Ebert
- Dorothy Poplawski
- M. Kay Whelan
- Ralph S. Eskinazi
- Aurelio A. and Virginia Bonney
- Elsie C. Sundberg
- Vivian Frye

Volunteer Appreciation Tea
Saturday, April 6, 2002
2 - 4 P.M.
Villa Heidelberg
4845 45th Avenue Southwest

Our volunteers, those wonderful people who give of their time and talent to the SWSHS programs, the Log House Museum and the Gift Shop — we love them. This tea will let them know how much their dedication is appreciated and valued.
In Memoriam

Edward Ebert, man of civic pride

Edward A. Ebert, longtime resident of West Seattle and among the original supporters of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society’s Log House Museum, died in January.

He graduated from West Seattle High School in 1928 and operated two Shell service stations here for 40 years. SWSHS was on a long list of organizations that benefited from his enthusiasm and dedication including Boy Scout Troop 272; West Seattle Kiwanis; Fauntleroy Community Church and YMCA; and the Masons and Royal Arch Masons. In 1975 the American Legion named Mr. Ebert West Seattle Man of the Year.

He is survived by his wife, Pearl; son David and wife Terri, their children Michael and Jasmin, and their two grandchildren; and daughter Glenda Mitchell and husband Bob, their children, Rob and Erica, and their two grandchildren.

Donations to Log House honor Betsy Ross Detroit

Donations to the Log House Museum in memory of Betsy Ross Detroit have been made by Joel and Judy Diamond, JoAn S. Fulton, Curtis H. Grueye, Bette Hill, Deva Huebner, Rose Kaiser, Lucille Ketchum, Vera and Richard Martin, Joan Mraz, Marjorie Rerucha, Carol Vincent, Arlene Wade and the AKCHO Board.

A history lesson on the wall

A sailing ship, a dugout canoe and a Metrobus offer a history lesson on the wall of the Alki Market.

The three are featured in a mural designed by Diana Fairbanks and unveiled during the Sesquicentennial events on Nov. 13, 2001. The sailing ship is the Exact, which brought the area’s first European-American settlers to their first home in what would become Seattle.

The dugout canoe represents the primary mode of water transportation for the Native Americans who met the settlers’ advance party.

The Metrobus is for comparison. It gives an idea of the relative sizes of the two historic vessels.

The Alki settlers, exhausted after their covered wagon trek from the Midwest over the Oregon Trail, booked passage on the schooner Exact, which was heading north to the Queen Charlotte Islands with 21 gold miners and their equipment and other passengers. All 63 passengers traveled in the hold, which was about 55 feet long. Its width has been compared to the interior of a 40-foot Gillig Metro bus, which seats about 43 passengers. A significant difference was that the ceiling height in the hold of the Exact was only about 5 feet, 6 inches so most adult men would not have been able to stand up straight.

The mural’s other craft is a 21-foot river canoe of the kind that was used by the Duwamish peoples who greeted the landing party. These light and sturdy craft could hold two or three passengers and were used on Puget Sound, when the water was calm, as well as on area rivers. The example on the mural was based on a 13-foot canoe carved by Greg Watson of the Muckleshoot tribe.

The mural was sponsored by SWSHS, Alki Community Council and Mayor Schell’s Sesquicentennial Fund. Space was donated by Jim McDermott of Alki Market.

Thanks to members and friends of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society who contributed to this issue of Footprints:

Sharon Peck
Natalie "Penny" Earnest
Patricia Filer
John Loftus
Deborah Mendenhall
Carol Vincent
Clay Eals
Joan Mraz
Harvey Rowe
Patricia Wright
Howard Giske

-- Ann Holiday
Editor
New look for www.loghousemuseum.org

The Log House Museum’s Web site has a new look, featuring a video presentation of oral history from pioneering West Seattle residents and much information about the Log House.

In videos recorded in the past few years, Jessie Shephard, Martin Smith and Erma Schwartz reflect on their experiences as young people during the early years of West Seattle. Placing these video segments on the Internet makes them available to a far-reaching audience that might not otherwise have an opportunity to view it. The Web site address is: http://www.loghousemuseum.org.

Joe Folanbee of Folanbee Consulting, a multimedia production and consulting business, and Dianne Arasim, president of Seattle Creative Inc., a Web design company, teamed up with Museum staff to create the new Web experience.

Arasim has been advertising manager for Drug Emporium NW and director of marketing at Eagle Insurance. She launched Seattle Creative in May 2000. Dianne holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the University of Washington.

Before founding Folanbee Consulting, Folanbee was content manager for RealNetworks in Seattle from 1996 to 2001 and prior to that worked primarily in daily journalism, including five years as an award-winning reporter and news director for Minnesota Public Radio.

Architectural sites sought for study

Brooke Best is working as an independent consultant on behalf of the Log House Museum/SWSHS to prepare a publication on the architectural history of West Seattle’s north end. This research project received a Special Projects Grant from the King County Landmarks and Heritage Commission, and commemorates King County’s Sesquicentennial this year. The final product will be an illustrated publication documenting a segment of West Seattle’s architectural and historical development – Harbor Avenue, Alki, and South Alki (Beach Drive).

The publication will provide an overview of the historic development and architecture of West Seattle’s northern peninsula from its initial settlement in the mid-19th century up to the 20th century. Ten historic properties representing different architectural styles will be selected for inclusion in the publication.

Over the next several months, Ms. Best will be conducting archival and field research to identify older historic properties in these neighborhoods. If you know of any interesting historic properties, or if you would like to share your stories about growing up in this area, she would love to hear from you. She can be reached at (206) 923-2906.