

# Footprints

*on the sands of time....*

ISSUE LII

SOUTHWEST SEATTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL 2003

## See you at the Dinner/Auction!

Our historical society will hold its second annual Dinner/Auction on Saturday, Oct. 18, 6 p.m. at the Jerry Brockey Center on the South Seattle Community College campus. Tickets are \$35 per person.

Those who attended last year's event know it was great fun, featuring wonderful food and an interesting assortment of collectibles, antiques and gift items. So mark your calendar. Don't miss this chance to mingle with friends, purchase unique gift items (keep Christmas in mind) and at the same time help support the Log House Museum.

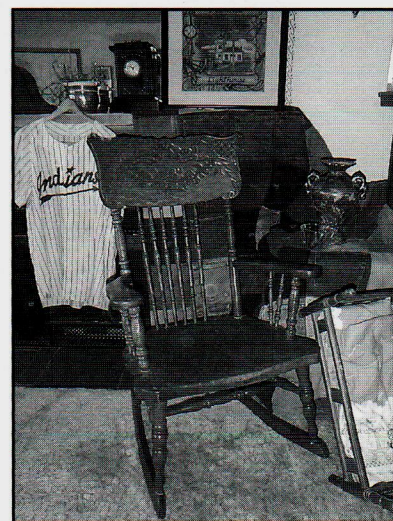
One of this year's most sought-after items promises to be a package offered by Seattle writer/historian Paul Dorpat. The winning bidder will get to invite 35 friends to a special event that will include lunch at Ivar's Acres of Clams and a presentation

by the colorful author about the history of Ivar's.

Other items include Native American basketry, china, original paintings from local artists (both famous and new talent), marble statues, a hand hooked rug, and sample baskets of unique foods and gifts from Australia and Washington State.

Auction organizers are actively soliciting items, so please use your imagination and think about what you could contribute. "We would love to have some handcrafted items and services from our members," said committee member Merrilee Hagen.

Please see the enclosed flyer to find out how to order tickets or to make a donation.



An antique rocking chair and a vintage West Seattle High School baseball jersey are among the items that will be offered at this year's auction.

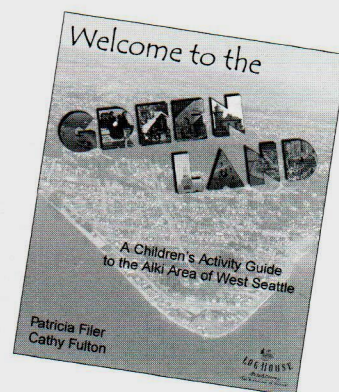
## Society publishes children's guide

**W**elcome to the Green Land: A Children's Activity Guide to the Alki Area of West Seattle is our historical society's newest heritage education resource.

Developed for school groups to help youngsters rediscover and appreciate the history and legacy of this notable and historic area of Seattle, the activity guide was designed and written by Log House Museum Director **Pat Filer** and **Cathy Fulton** of Capturing Memories.

The full-color, 40-page guide includes

brief histories and authentic photographs of local pioneer, Native American and beach landmarks, as well as walking-tour information, a section on vocabulary, map activities, and identification charts for native wildlife and plants. It also features a series of postcard activities with an accompanying set of vintage postcards and interesting and relevant excerpts from oral histories and Memory Book stories of

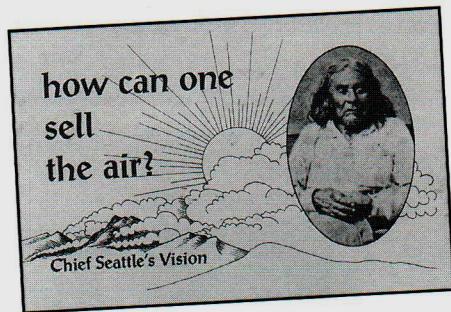


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# On a quest for history? Stop at the shop

**H**ave you visited the Log House Museum gift shop recently? Located in the “backyard” of the museum, the gift shop is a perfect stop on your quest for local history. In addition to a



variety of publications and original gifts, the shop carries cards and art prints created by local artists – all with that Great Northwest flair.

There is always something new, and the warm and creative volunteers that staff the

shop can assist you with finding the ideal gift.

Surfing the Internet and shopping from home? Soon you can visit our online gift shop at [www.loghousemuseum.org](http://www.loghousemuseum.org) and have your purchase delivered to your front door.

## Featured Books of Autumn:

Nov. 13 will mark the 152nd anniversary of the first Seattle pioneers disembarking on the shores of Alki. In celebration of Chief Seattle’s guidance and friendship

extended to those first settlers, we have these books now available at the shop.

***How Can One Sell the Air?*** Edited by Eli Gifford & Michael Cook. 80 pages. \$7.95.

Chief Seattle’s impassioned plea to respect “the Sacred Web of Life” has become an inspiration to many. But what did Chief Seattle really say? Historical background explains the evolution of the speech and clears up the controversy

surrounding its authenticity.

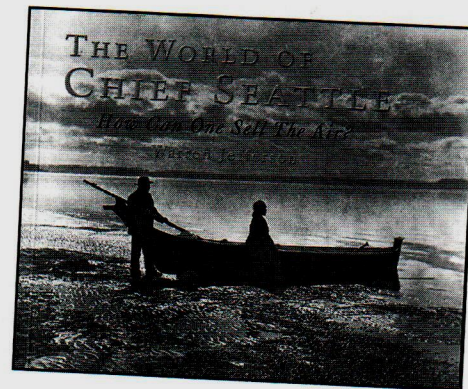
***The World of Chief Seattle***, Warren

Jefferson. 128 pages. \$13.95

Chief Seattle, in his youth a great war chief, became an advocate for peace and friendship with the white settlers. He is renowned today for an eloquent speech given during treaty negotiations with the U.S. government in which he expressed a hope for peaceful coexistence and respect for the environment. This book puts the great Chief’s life into the context of his time and gives a brief history of the region and its many tribes, with particular emphasis on his tribe, the Suquamish. The book includes the complete speech and many rare 19th and early 20th century photographs of village life.

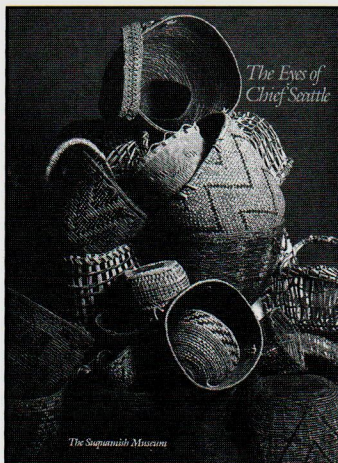
***The Eyes of Chief Seattle***, The Suquamish Museum. 56 pages. \$16.95.

*The Eyes of Chief Seattle* marks the beginning of an increased understanding by the general public of the lives and experiences of the original inhabitants of northwest



Washington. It was compiled through the research and collection efforts of the Suquamish Tribal Cultural Center, which has received national recognition for its study of Native American peoples and their struggle to adapt to the ways of a foreign culture. The text is beautifully complemented with turn-of-the-century black-and-white photographs and full-color photos of tribal artifacts from the Suquamish museum.

The gift shop is open during museum hours. Visit us soon! Keep an eye on our web site, [www.loghousemuseum.org](http://www.loghousemuseum.org), for new and favorite gifts. All proceeds from the gift shop benefit the Southwest Seattle Historical Society/Log House Museum.



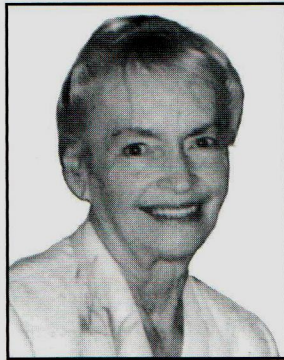


# President's message:

## *Support of members important as Society faces an eventful, challenging year*

BY JOAN MRAZ  
SWSHS PRESIDENT

The Southwest Seattle Historical Society has seen an eventful summer with the opening of the West Seattle High School exhibit in June, the festive annual Fourth of July picnic, an entry in the Hi-Yu parade, a booth at the West Seattle Street Fair, and the High Tea fundraiser at Villa Heidelberg in August. (See photos on pages 8 and 9.)



It has been eventful, too, in that the Society has been struggling within the current economic conditions that have made it necessary to cut the budget down to "bare-bones" operating expenses, and to cut staff time down to less than minimum, but still keep the Log House Museum open on schedule with the help of volunteers.

The membership has been very supportive by bringing in new members, supporting our activities, and volunteering to help.

The board is moving to establish an endowment fund, which would eventually provide a stable base for the long-term operation of the Society and Log House Museum and thus ensure its future.

We have received a pair of King County Cultural Development Authority grants: a sustained support grant for \$3,500 for 2003, which helps with operating expenses; and an education grant that allowed us to add a children's activity guide to our Heritage Education program. The guide (see story on page 1) augments the traveling libraries and heritage kits that go out to the schools.

We are applying for a King County Cultural Development Authority emergency grant that would provide funds to help with replacement of the deteriorated railing on the ramp to the museum, and installation of safety lighting and stair treads to the museum's front entrance.

The SWSHS Annual Fundraising Letter to the membership, requesting help for operating expenses for the museum, will go out this fall. We have always had a good response from the members and this would go a long way toward keeping the museum open.

*'The membership has been very supportive by bringing in new members, supporting our activities, and volunteering to help.'*

## *Now kids have their own guide to local history*

(continued from page 1)

local community elders. Copies of the guide are available for purchase at the Log House Museum gift shop.

*Welcome to the Green Land* is the title of our Society's comprehensive heritage education program, which includes other popular outreach resources such as education trunks, resource libraries and school tours. The name is derived from the Reader's Theater script in which a young Duwamish boy welcomes 7-year-old Louisa Denny to Alki Beach in 1851. Looking at the history of this area through the eyes of the First People as well as those

of the settlers who came to this land and developed a city has been an important theme in developing all of the SWSHS Log House Museum heritage education materials.

Funding for all of the *Welcome to the Green Land* projects has been provided by three generous grants from the King County Cultural Development Authority (formerly known as the King County Office of Cultural Resources), which receives its revenues from the county's hotel/motel tax fund.

***Copies of the guide are available for purchase at the Log House Museum gift shop.***



# AKCHO honors 'First Response' exhibit, youth 'Diaries' project

The Association of King County Historical Organizations (AKCHO) bestowed two awards on Southwest Seattle heritage projects at its annual awards luncheon in April.

Exhibit of the Year honors went to the Log House Museum for its moving memorial to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Titled "First Response: A Community's Grief, Horror, Hope and Prayer," the exhibit – which opened Sept. 11, 2002, the first anniversary of the tragedy – displayed

dozens of items that were placed by grieving citizens at Alki's Statue of Liberty in the days following the attacks.

Log House Museum director **Pat Filer**, who accepted the award on behalf of the SWSHS, thanked the "amazing group of

talented, dedicated and resourceful community volunteers" who poured more than 800 hours into preserving artifacts, planning events and preparing the exhibit. They included **Brooke Best, Teresa Anderson, Cathy Johnson, Karin Enger, Joe Follansbee, Dianne Krouse, Cathy Fulton, John Loftus, Lynn Swindlehurst, Don Kelstrom, Bob Carney, Chris L'Ecluse, Patti Quirk and Adam Sheridan.**

The exhibit was funded by a grant from the Department of Neighborhoods Matching Fund grant program and matched by more than \$22,000 in volunteer time and resources.

Members of the Chief Sealth High School television and video production class were presented with AKCHO's Youth Award for their "Diaries Project," a series of community oral histories that now includes *Diaries of High Point*, *Diaries of Chelan*, *Diaries of Bremerton*, *Diaries of Delridge* and *Diaries of West Seattle*.

Under the direction of teacher **Gary Thomsen**, the student honorees included **Jessica Labensky, Chung Do, Brenee Mullen, Jordan Davis and Cindy Bach.**

For information about showings of *Diaries of West Seattle* on Sept. 27, 29 and 30, see page 12.



Teresa Anderson, Pat Filer, Cathy Johnson and Brooke Best were among those who contributed hundreds of hours of volunteer time in planning, preparing and installing the "First Response" exhibit.

## Annual meeting set for Saturday, Nov. 15

Our Society's annual membership meeting will be held Saturday, Nov. 15, at the West Seattle High School library.

Following a business meeting at 10 a.m., historian **Roger Van Oosten** will give a presentation about the library's historic murals, painted in the 1930s by renowned WPA artist Jacob Elshin. The murals, which had been stored out of sight since 1974 and nearly forgotten, were restored and installed in the library in time for the school reopening in the fall of 2002.

Come enjoy the program and refreshments!



Historian Roger Van Oosten will be the featured speaker at our Society's 2003 Annual Meeting, set for Saturday, Nov. 15, at the West Seattle High School library. He is shown here discussing the "Landing" panel of the Jacob Elshin mural during a May 29 SWSHS program at the library.



# Exhibit celebrates 'Rich Traditions'

**W**est Seattle High School: *Rich Traditions*, the new exhibit at the Log

House Museum, celebrates the cultural and historical significance of this newly restored neighborhood landmark. Be sure to stop by on your travels, and plan to attend the special reopening of the exhibit from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27, when new items will be unveiled.

The exhibit – which opened on June 6, the same day as the annual All-School Reunion – examines the school's 85-year commitment to excellence and diversity in educational, extracurricular, athletic and community activities for more than 27,000 WSHS students. Creative use of traditional Chi-

nook school newspaper layouts lends interest to the nostalgic look at this beloved alma mater. Quotes from the eloquent Gordon Hannaford, a 40-year WSHS teacher and administrator, are used to illustrate the exhibit's theme.

*Rich Traditions* features art, awards, Kimtah yearbooks, music, sports, spirit,

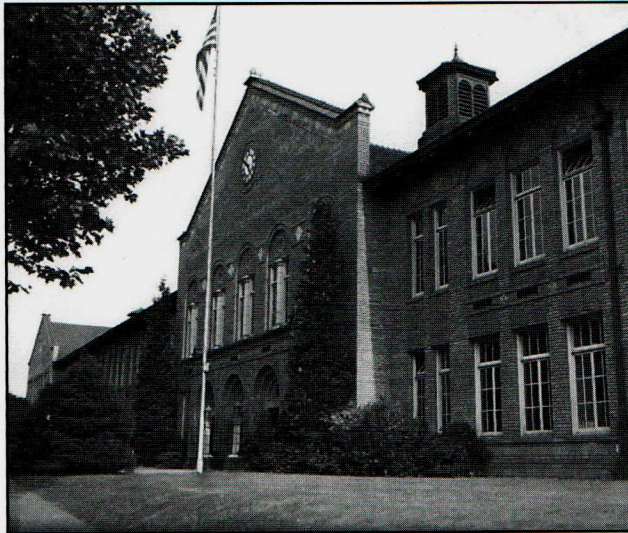
eats, Chinooks, cartoons – all manner of things to transport you back to your high school days. For \$5 you can even carve your initials on a tabletop like Mac's & Zesto's (afterschool hangouts depending on your era). After your visit, be sure to stop by the museum gift shop, where you'll find an impressive variety of West Seattle-focused items.

Come by for Third Thursday Get-togethers featuring a hall of fame guest, Kimtahs and Chinooks. October's focus will be graduates from 1910 to 1930. November's Third Thursday will focus on 1930 to 1940 graduates.

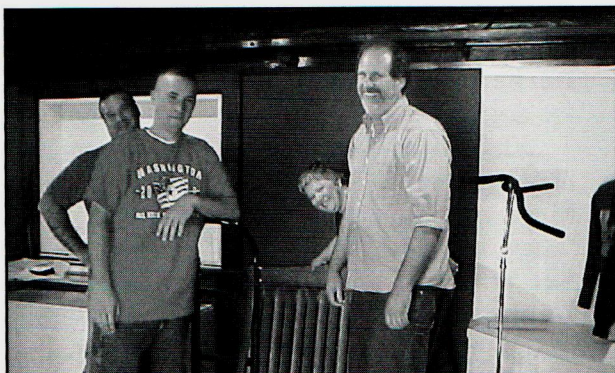
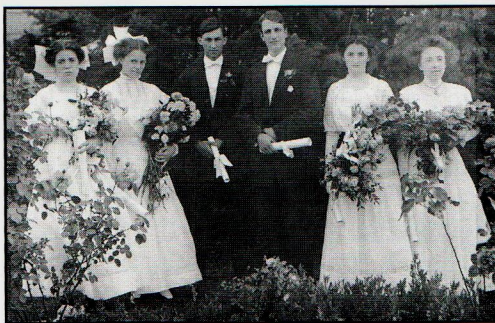
(January 1940 to 50,

February 1950 to 60, March 1960 to 70, April 1970 to 80, May 1980 to 2000).

Thanks go out to our great director, **Pat Filer**, whose vision made this a wonderful reality and her hard-working committee including **Karin Enger, Bob Carney, Don Kelstrom, Andrea Mercado, Patti Quirk, Joanne Jugum, Teresa Anderson and Shirley Tupper.**



*West Seattle High School is the star of the Log House Museum's new exhibit. Below: The high school's first graduating class, in 1910.*



*Log House Museum volunteers Craig, Bryan and Shirley Tupper and Bob Carney take a break during installation of "Rich Traditions."*



*Pat Filer, Karin Enger and Carol Vincent were part of the hard-working team that planned and designed our historical society's nostalgic tribute to WSHS.*

**The Chinook**  
WEST SEATTLE  
HIGH SCHOOL



# Thanks to our volunteers...

## **SWSHS Board of Trustees**

*Joan Bailey Mraz,  
President*

*Clay Eals,  
Vice President*

*Aleta Woodworth,  
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*Joey Richesson,  
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*Merrilee Hagen*

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*Diane Tice*

*Shirley Tupper*

*Patricia Kloster*

*Dick Sherman*

*Audrey Zemke*

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*Pat Filer,  
Museum/Education*

*Andrea Mercado,  
Collections/Gift  
Shop*

*Carol Vincent,  
Office Manager  
Volunteer*

*Kathleen Anderson,  
Bookkeeper  
Volunteer*

### **Active Ex-board Members**

*Founder,  
Elliott N. Couden*  
*Footprints Editor,  
Brad Chrisman*

*Every week, SWSHS members take time out of their busy lives to help the Log House Museum be such a successful venture. Here, we take time out to thank them – our valuable volunteers!*

**T**he Log House Museum gardening and cleanup crew donned work clothes and wielded garden tools on the afternoon of June 4 to do a massive building and yard cleanup in preparation for the pre-exhibit opening. After three hours of nonstop weeding and cleaning, everyone sat down to a refreshing picnic dinner of chicken, salad, baked beans, iced tea and watermelon. Voila! Clean yard, clean building, happy well-fed campers and a bright shiny face for the “WSHS: Rich Traditions” opening on Friday, June 4. We couldn’t have done it without you. Thanks to the whole crew: **Dick Sherman, Joey Richesson, Merrilee Hagen, Carol Vincent, Charlie Vincent, Jane Conrad, Don Kelstrom, Barb McGlothorn, Bob Joyner, Joan Mraz, Kate Farley and Stacy Thurston**

A special thank-you to **Bill Ransdell** for creating some attractive buttons for museum volunteers to wear on their lapels. Now visitors know immediately that the person they are talking with in the gallery or shop are members of the Log House Museum volunteer staff. Thanks, Bill, for your imaginative ideas!

Welcome to a new troupe of volunteers that have been trained to work in the museum gallery and gift shop. A training session — held on Saturday, May 10, and led by **Andrea Mercado**, volunteer manager, **Patti Quirk**, museum assistant, and **Carol Vincent**, SWSHS office manager — brought new volunteers **Jane Conrad, Larry and Marge Carpenter, Andrew Ojalla and Sigrid Wilson**. Jane now works rotating Thursday afternoons in the gallery, as does Larry Carpenter. Andrew rotates Saturdays with longtime volunteer **Barb McGlothorn**. Marge will be helping

## *What’s your specialty?*

**T**he Log House Museum is creating volunteer positions that can fit your schedule and abilities. We need someone who can assist with retail sales or introduce tour groups and individual visitors of all ages to our wonderful local history. We’re also on the lookout for volunteers who have a flair for gardening, maintenance and other important tasks. What’s your specialty?

Volunteer hours can be scheduled for special once-a-year events such as our popular home tour or upcoming auction, or for a set time every week. New volunteer training classes are held monthly. There you will learn about the history of the Duwamish Peninsula, practice exciting and effective touring techniques, and receive a full introduction to the Southwest Seattle Historical Society’s exhibits.

Come join our volunteer team! For more information or to register, please call the Log House Museum at 206-938-5293 or e-mail [loghousemuseum@comcast.net](mailto:loghousemuseum@comcast.net).

staff in the office with her organizing skills, and Sigrid, a SWSHS board trustee, will serve as reserve staff.

The July 11 to 13 West Seattle Street Festival was another opportunity for volunteers to shine, and shine they did at our Society’s booth. Special thanks go to **Dick Sherman and Carol Vincent** for coordinating this year’s venture to advertise the museum and its programs and events to our neighbors. Thanks also go to **Marcy Johnsen, Joey Richesson, Jane Conrad, Barb McGlothorn, Ann Owchar, Audrey Zemke, Barbara Callow, Clay Eals, Deb Barker-Shaw, Pat Filer and Lois Cassidy** for doing friend-making duty in the booth.

When a call went out for a volunteer photographer to document the Log House Museum’s about-to-close 9/11 exhibit, “Even in the Darkest Night,” **Harold and Sue Williams**, with a push from **John Applegate** (thanks John!), responded with amazing speed, and the professional results of their work will remain with us as a record of that moving story of an anguished

*(continued on page 7)*



## ... and business sponsors

**B**usinesses in Southwest Seattle are a big part of our community. We shop, we make friends, and we make history together every day. And history is, of course, what the Southwest Seattle Historical Society is all about: Preserving and telling others about the past.

Our relationship with the business community, and the support of our business sponsors, is vital to help sustain the operations of the Log House Museum, our Society's biggest project.

One of our newer sponsors is **Judy Burbrink**, owner of **Villa Heidelberg Bed and Breakfast**.

Burbrink has owned and meticulously maintained the lovely European-style home for the past four years. Built as a private home in 1909 – and named by its original

owner, Jacob Mades – the building features wood-beam ceilings, an open staircase, original gas/electric “mission” light fixtures, leaded glass windows, fireplaces in the living room and master guest room, a wraparound porch, and a panoramic view of Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains.

On Sunday, Aug. 11, Villa Heidelberg was the site of our historical society's first-ever High Tea. (See story on page 9.) Hosted by Burbrink, the event

was a huge hit, raising more than \$1,500 for the SWSHS, and earning rave reviews from the 57 who attended.

A master caterer, Burbrink prepares breakfasts that definitely are worth waking up for in the morning. Schedule a relaxing getaway without driving far from home, and tell your out of town guests!



*Villa Heidelberg is located at 4845 45th Avenue S.W., Seattle, WA 98116. Phone: (206) 938-3658; toll-free: (800) 671-2942; e-mail: info@villaheidelberg.com; Web: www.villaheidelberg.com.*

## *Cleaning, filing, photographing, smiling – volunteers do it all*

*(continued from page 6)*

time in U.S history as it played out on Alki's shores. The collections staff thanks Harold and Sue for taking time from their business to volunteer their skills, thus providing our archives with a high-quality record of the exhibit committee's award-winning work. Remarkable!

As the database at the museum continues to grow, we can thank volunteers **Chris King** and **Ann Owchar** for putting their fingers to the computer. They've helped process membership information, donation letters and new contacts and have done a super job keeping information updated. What they do makes mailings go smooth as silk. Thanks to both of you for pulling duty on a tedious but very needful task.

One of the museum's most versatile volunteers is **Glenna Martz**, who works as volunteer docent the second Thursday of each month from 3 to 6 p.m. Between visitors at the museum, Glenna sets up the

event and volunteer calendar in the upstairs hallway so staff and board members can see at a glance what is happening at the museum during the next three months. When there's a lull in the action on the gallery floor, she finds time to file, fold, cut, insert, copy or whatever other small task needs doing. And if that isn't enough, Glenna, a retired librarian, has provided expert guidance to the collections team as they work on setting up a reference library for the museum. Three hours a month may seem like a small amount of time, but Glenna's three hours are action-packed, and the benefits to the Log House Museum are incalculable.

One final note of thanks ... to the wonderful “cast” that shows up on a pretty regular basis to do our “Footprints” mailings: **Dorothy Kaloper, Barbara McGlothorn, Marge Saffer, Joan Mraz, Carol Vincent, Pat Filer and Marcy Johnsen.**

– Carol Vincent

### **SWSHS Business Sponsors**

*Admiral  
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*Alki Homestead  
Restaurant*

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*Evergreen  
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*Hecker and  
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Frame*

*The Pacific  
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Concrete and  
Materials*

*Villa Heidelberg*

*Washington  
Title*

*Wiseman  
Appliance*



## Star-spangled picnic



Our Society's annual membership picnic, held at the museum on the Fourth of July, was attended by more than 75 members and guests. Attendees included Elsie Freeland (seated at left), Jane Conrad (standing at left), Dorothy Poplawski (seated at back table, facing camera) and Verda Hansberry (seated at right).



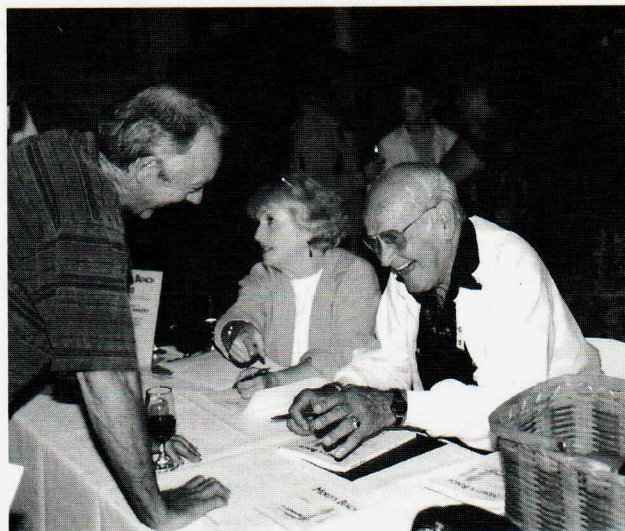
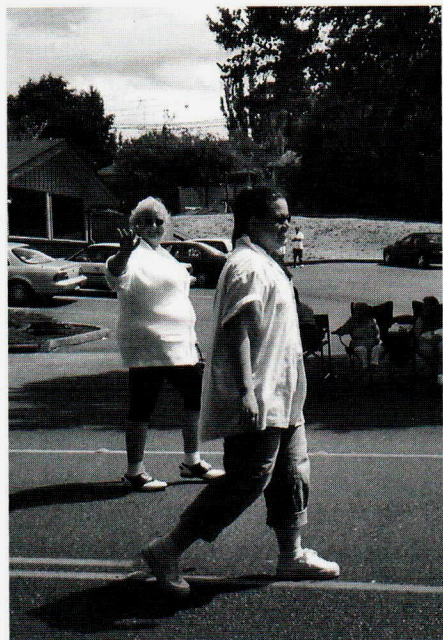
Dr. James Warren, former director of the Museum of History and Industry, autographs a copy of his book on Seattle's first 150 years for SWSHS board member Sigrid Wilson.



## Hi, you!

Above: Dressed in '50s finery, Melissa Cooper, Susan Colicott, Helen Free and Terry Cooper (left to right) represent our historical society at the July 19 Hi-Yu Parade.

Right: Colicott gives a friendly wave as Cooper marches on.



## 'Bench' mark event

Ninety-year-old historical society member Morey Skaret (right) autographs a copy of his recently published memoirs, "Morey's Bench," at an Aug. 6 book-signing event at the Fauntleroy School courtyard.

A collection of short tales that takes the reader on an episodic journey from the author's place of birth on the Alberta prairie to his current home on Fauntleroy Cove, the 128-page book is available for purchase in the Log House Museum gift shop.

The book's title is a reference to the bench that Skaret installed at one of his favorite spots, the park-like strip of city land across from the Fauntleroy ferry terminal.



# High Tea receives high marks

*First-ever event at Villa Heidelberg a hit*

The soft rain that fell just before the 1 p.m. seating could not dampen the spirits of enthusiastic tea drinkers who converged at Villa Heidelberg to take part in SWSHS' first benefit high tea for the Log House Museum on Sunday, Aug. 10. The guests arrived, dressed in eye-catching summery outfits, full of anticipation for an afternoon of pleasant conversation embellished with traditional tea savories, tarts, finger sandwiches, fruit, confections, scones with cream and jam and rich chocolate tidbits prepared by **Judy Burbrink**, talented caterer and owner of **Villa Heidelberg Bed and Breakfast**. A wide variety of teas flowed throughout the afternoon as guests relaxed, nibbled and chatted as if they had been transported to an earlier era.

As the time melted away and guests reluctantly returned to their faster paced lives, the volunteer helpers and servers began preparation for the 4 p.m. seating. **Pat Filer, Marcy Johnsen, Kate Karff, Patricia Kloster, Alix Kloster, Joan Mraz, Joey Richesson, Chris Suksdorf, Carol Vincent and Audrey Zemke** outdid themselves as teatime hostesses. Truth be told, the servers enjoyed themselves as much as the guests.



Volunteer hostess Kate Karff serves up tea and a smile. Goodies were prepared by Judy Burbrink, talented caterer and owner of Villa Heidelberg Bed and Breakfast.



**Burbrink**, who generously shared her beautiful inn with SWSHS guests and provided the sumptuous delicacies at no cost to the Society, and **The Pacific Institute and Diane Tice**, who provided free printing of the tickets, posters and flyers.

The event raised more than \$1,500, which will be used to cover operating expenses for the Log House Museum.

Thanks to Society volunteers **Dick Sherman**, for doing publicity and PR, **Carol Vincent**, for ticket design and sales, and **Patricia Kloster and Andrea Mercado** for

providing flowers for the tables.

— Carol Vincent

*A wide variety of teas flowed throughout the afternoon as guests relaxed, nibbled and chatted as if they had been transported to an earlier era.*

*Everyone, 57 attendees in all, had a marvelous time. Again and again the guests asked that the tea become a regular event for the Society.*



Teatime hostesses Patricia Kloster, Audrey Zemke and Joan Mraz enjoyed themselves as much as the guests.



# Log House Birthday Quiz

**T**he building we know today as the Log House Museum will turn 100 years old next year, and members of our Society are beginning to plan the birthday celebration. Watch for news of centennial activities to celebrate the Log

House's 100th birthday.

In the meantime, we encourage you to test your knowledge of local 1904 history by taking the following quiz, which was put together by board member Audrey Zemke (Answers appear below.)

*1904 was a significant year in the history of the Log House (built originally as the Fir Lodge carriage house).*

*The property was bought to construct the Fir Lodge (today's Alki Homestead Restaurant) in 1903.*

*1904 was the year the first guests stayed at Fir Lodge.*

1. In 1904, the City of West Seattle held an election to vote on a proposal for an electric railway system which included a power plant, two cars, one mile of track and the overhead trolley wires. How much was the bond issue to build the system?  
A. \$80,000    B. \$18,000    C. \$8,000    D. \$25,000
2. What was the name of Southwest Seattle's newspaper in 1904?  
A. West Seattle News Observer  
B. West Seattle News  
C. West Seattle Tribune  
D. West Seattle Observer
3. Which club started in Southwest Seattle in 1904?  
A. West Seattle chapter of Woman's Christian Temperance Union  
B. Alki Lodge No. 152, Free and Accepted Masons  
C. West Seattle Women's Improvement Club  
D. Fourteenth Ward Improvement Club
4. The population of the city of West Seattle in 1904 was:  
A. 2,589    B. 10,038    C. 970    D. 1,539

## Answers:

1. B (\$18,000). On December 28, 2004, the first publicly owned streetcar system opened in the city of West Seattle.
2. A (West Seattle News Observer). A year earlier the West Seattle News and the West Seattle Observer had merged to form this paper. The merge lasted two years. In 1905, the West Seattle Tribune opened.
3. C (West Seattle Women's Improvement Club). Mrs. Mazie Outerbridge organized the club whose purpose was to unite the women in a crusade against untidiness of this suburb. The other three clubs were started soon thereafter: Alki Lodge No. 152, Free and Accepted Masons (1906); Fourteenth Ward Improvement Club (1907) and Woman's Christian Temperance Union's West Seattle Chapter (1907).
4. D (1,539). The census was taken July 5 to validate that West Seattle qualified as a city of the third class in order to qualify to issue the bonds for the electric streetcar it had approved.

## In memoriam

A gift in memory of Hans Martin Smith was received from Arlene Wade. "Martin Smith is a founder of the Log House Museum and good friend. He will be

greatly missed but never forgotten."

Nancy Viney chose to memorialize her Mother-in-law, Ida Betz, mother of Log House Museum supporter Doug Viney. Mrs Betz passed away on Easter Sunday.



# *Ring in the rich history of West Seattle's Quarante Club*

BY PEGGY CULLOR

**I**n 1910, Alki was a long, narrow park, filled with small houses and tents. Life was rugged, conveniences were few, and entertainment was of the homemade variety.

In August of that year, a small group of people met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Baker. Though few in number, they were mighty in enthusiasm.

Mr. Baker, a persuasive and earnest man, outlined an organization whose main purpose was for each member to prepare a paper and present it to the group for later discussion. The group's social life would include songs and refreshment, with occasional parties. They would meet in homes, and the entertainment would be by members.

So began a literary group with the object of bringing mutual benefit to members by enlarging their scope of interest and knowledge and to provoke active discussion.

## **40 in French**

Since they would meet in homes, it was decided that 40 members would include all those interested and be about the right size. Fittingly, the word "Quarante," meaning 40 in French, was chosen for the group, and the club is still in existence in West Seattle.

This group of people — so different in age, occupation and income — and with a desire to learn — finds an interest in Quarante that makes them willingly take their part and do so for years.

The club's procedures, embodied in a constitution and bylaws adopted in 1910, are much the same today.

The requirement for membership is residence in West Seattle for one year. The club meets once a month, half as often as the original club did. The program format is still the same, two members reading original paper on an assigned subject. A

social hour with refreshments follows the program.

Two parties are held each year: a Christmas gathering and Hi-Jinks (fun and games). An installation banquet in June replaces the earlier custom of a picnic.

## **Early club members**

Early rosters list the following members:

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. LeClerq, Emma Van Wickle, Mrs. W.R. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Jedd Fuller, Mrs. Caroline Humphrey, Mrs. Caroline Hazelgreen, Dr. and Mrs. W.C. Kintner, Mr. and Mrs. A.C. Rienhardt, Mrs. Hartman, Mr. and Mrs. W.S. Alger, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hussey, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gutberlet, Mr. and Mrs. John Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ritchie, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Deering, Mr. and Mrs. G.W. Aiken, Mr. and Mrs. Robey Banta and Helen Banta Sears.

In 1980, the club donated its records to custody of the Archives and Manuscripts Division of the University of Washington Libraries.

When the Log House Museum opened in November 1997, the Quarante Club presented a brass bell to the Southwest Seattle Historical Society. The bell, six inches high and four inches wide at the base, originally made its way to Washington by way of the Oregon Trail.

The family that owned the bell settled on what is now known as Beach Drive Southwest. Whenever a new pioneer family settled in that area, the other families formed a procession and walked together to greet the new family. Someone led the way, carrying the bell, and rang it as a welcome sign. Each year, traditionally, it also was used to ring in the New Year.



*The brass bell presented by the Quarante Club to your historical society in 1997.*



# Calendar

## Footprints

is the official publication of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society, which operates the Birthplace of Seattle Log House Museum, 3003 61st Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98116, one block south of the Statue of Liberty on Alki Beach.

## Museum hours

**Thursdays:**  
noon to 6 p.m.

**Weekends:**  
noon to 3 p.m.

## How to reach us

By phone:  
206-938-5293

By mail:  
3003 61st Ave. S.W.  
Seattle, WA 98116

By e-mail:  
loghousemuseum  
@comcast.net

Web site:

www.  
loghousemuseum.org

## 2003 Fall Schedule

### Southwest Seattle Historical Society

#### September

Saturday, Sept. 27 – *Diaries of West Seattle* week begins with a reopening of the *Rich Traditions: West Seattle High School* exhibit at the Log House Museum, 1 to 3 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 29 – Premier showing of *Diaries of West Seattle* at West Seattle High School Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 30 – *Diaries of West Seattle* showing at ArtsWest Theater (4711 S.W. California Ave.), 7 p.m.

#### October

Thursday, Oct. 2 – Historic Speaker Series: *The Unique Architecture of Historic Southwest Seattle*, 7 p.m., Fauntleroy Church Fellowship Hall (9260 California Ave. S.W.) with architectural historian, Brooke Best.

Monday, Oct. 6 – *Diaries of Delridge* week begins with first showing of *Diaries of Delridge*. For more information, contact the museum.

Thursday, Oct. 9 – Annual **Educator's Open House**, 3:30 to 6 p.m. at the Log House Museum.

Thursday, Oct. 16 – **WSHS Alumni** (1900-1930 graduates) **Open House** at the Log House Museum, 3 to 6 p.m., with special Hall of Fame guest.

Saturday, Oct. 18 – Southwest Seattle Historical Society **Benefit Auction**, South Seattle Community College Jerry Brockey Center (6000 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW), 6 p.m.

#### November

Thursday, Nov. 13 – **Founder's Day Celebration** at the Birthplace of Seattle/Log House Museum, 3 to 7 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 15 – **Southwest Seattle Historical Society Annual Membership Meeting** at the West Seattle High School library. Business meeting at 10 a.m. followed by Historic Speaker Series: **"WPA Murals of West Seattle High School,"** with historian Roger Van Oosten.

Thursday, Nov. 20 – **WSHS Alumni** (1930 through 1940) **Open House** at the Log House Museum, 3 to 6 p.m. with special Hall of Fame guest Morey Skaret, who will be signing his new book, *Morey's Bench*.

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## FOOTPRINTS

Newsletter of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society  
c/o Birthplace of Seattle Log House Museum  
3003 61st Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98116

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