

Footprints

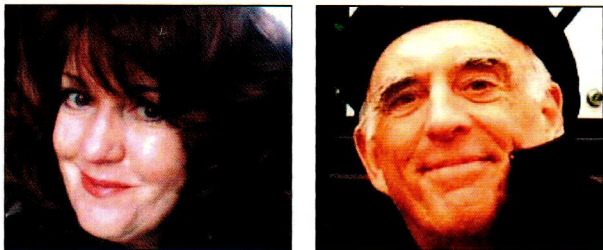
on the sands of time ...

Duwamish Tribe and 'first contact':
For first story in a series, see page 4

ISSUE XCII

SOUTHWEST SEATTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (WWW.LOGHOUSEMUSEUM.INFO)

FALL 2015



Gala speakers Catherine Gruye Alexander and Rob Gruye

Gala 'comes home'

Have you purchased your tickets yet for our **Champagne Gala Brunch**? Don't wait long: The early-bird deadline for \$85 tickets is **Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015**.

Here's what's in store at our "Coming Home to the Homestead"-themed social event of the year:

□ An inspirational presentation by **Catherine Gruye Alexander** and **Rob Gruye**, daughter and son of **Robert Gruye**, original 1950s-era chef of the Alki Homestead.

□ "Wait, Wait, West Seattle ... Don't Tell Me!", a panel hosted by **Marty Riemer**, quizzing luminaries about what they really know about the Alki Homestead and Duwamish peninsula.

□ **Golden Ticket Drawing** to win a Fall Colors cruise for two to New England and Canada.

□ Inspiring **Live Auction** surprises.

Order tickets and get event details by calling **206-938-5293**, or visit loghousemuseum.info.

For info on sponsors, see the back page!

Totem graphic in invitation (right) by Kelsey Green



See Marty Riemer's video Gala invitation at our website!

COMING HOME to the Homestead

OUR 2015
CHAMPAGNE
GALA
BRUNCH

11 AM
Saturday
Nov. 7, 2015
Salty's on Alki

To benefit



Southwest Seattle
Historical Society

FOOTPRINTS

is the official publication of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society.

Editor
Clay Eals

Printing thanks to

**Where to find us**

The Southwest Seattle Historical Society's home is the "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum.

Address

3003 61st Ave. SW
Seattle, WA
98116-2810
(one block south of Alki Beach)

Museum hours

noon-4 p.m.
Thursday-Sunday

Phone

206-938-5293

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@loghouse
museum.info

Want to volunteer?

Call or e-mail us!

Website

www.loghouse
museum.info

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Log House Museum

Reaching the souls of youth with history

I never get tired of quoting a resolution proposed by our founder, **Elliott Couden**, and passed by our board 20 years ago. Eloquently it states that "our highest priority" is "the interests and needs of our young people."

Elliott died in 2004, but his spirit permeates our every event and activity. To me, he was like a second father. He also delighted in the joy of accomplishment, with the ebullience of a child.

We drew on this spirit to create two landmarks in our organizational history -- the unveiling of our totem pole on June 6, 2014, and the "Group Hug for the Homestead" earlier this year on June 5. The former event drew 900-plus elementary-age children, the latter more than 1,000.

The gleam in the eye

It's not about the numbers as much as it is the gleam in each and every eye. The kids absorb instantly that they are part of something special. We saw it this past summer at festivals during which we displayed posters of the group photos. Again and again, they rushed forward, searched, lit up in recognition and screamed, "That's me!"

The sneaky secret is that, without knowing it, they were screaming in their hearts, "That's my community." History is binding them memorably and indelibly to the touchstones of their greater home -- not a bad result.

'Interested in becoming involved in steering our course?'

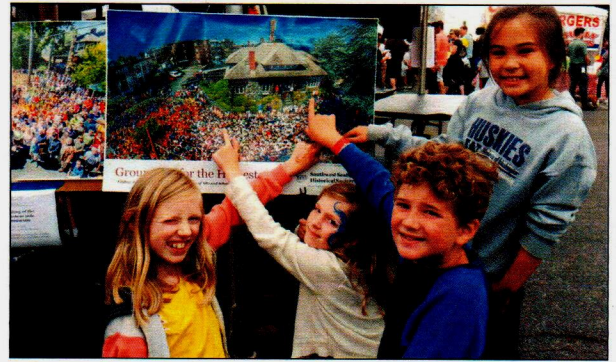
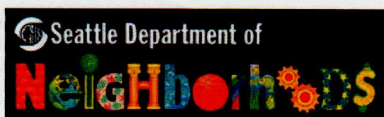
Hello, friends. I hope you have had a most enjoyable summer and participated in some of our events. We are coming into a busy fall, with the sure-to-be fantastic Champagne Gala Brunch and our Annual Meeting that includes election of our officers and several board trustees.

The Annual Meeting is to be held **Saturday morning, Nov. 14, 2015**. All members and guests are encouraged to attend. Stay tuned for details on venue and program!

We always need volunteers who can help with myriad tasks from gardening and maintenance, greeting visitors during open hours, helping organize, scan and file, calling members and



We deeply appreciate the financial support of:



Schmitz Park Elementary School students (from left) Indie and Jesse Oleson, Phoenix Knadler and Lydia Mellott point to themselves in our "Group Hug for the Homestead" poster on display at our booth at 2015 West Seattle Summerfest. (Photo by Deb Barker)

Someone told me a year or so ago, "You get the kids, you get the adults." True enough. But I believe the truth goes further: You get the kids, you get everyone. For who among us doesn't rejoice in our souls when our youths get charged up about our shared heritage?

Burgeoning tradition

This group-photo phenomenon is a burgeoning tradition. We already are pondering a backdrop for the next one in June 2016. A contender, given its renovation progress, is the Admiral Theater, for which we secured landmark status in 1989.

Whatever the site, the goal is to reach the kids. They, as the saying goes, are the future. As they age, they will become our (and Elliott's) proxy in a world we grownups will never see.

Clay Eals, executive director

helping with mailings. Hands-on or hands-off, we have a need you can fill. Come to a Volunteer Intro session the first Saturday of every month.

Perhaps you are interested in becoming more involved in steering the course of our organization? We are looking for you!

Officers and board trustees make the executive decisions that govern our historical society. This higher level of volunteering means participating in a committee and attending monthly board meetings at which proposals are discussed and voted on that determine how we operate.

It also means working together with terrific staff, volunteers, members and the community on a mission to promote local heritage through education, preservation and advocacy.

Does that sound like something you're ready to do? If so, please contact me, marcyjohnsen@comcast.net, any of our board members or our executive director, **Clay Eals**, to learn more!

Marcy Johnsen, board president

A jazz tribute to Richard Hugo

Free concert, film set Oct. 11 at White Center Fieldhouse

The famed native-son poet **Richard Hugo** will be given a jazzy tribute on Sunday evening, Oct. 11, 2015, at White Center Fieldhouse, 1321 S.W. 102nd. St., sponsored by our organization and funded by 4Culture.

Named after one of his poems, "Some Places Are Forever Afternoon: A Tribute in Music, Words and Film to White Center's Richard Hugo" will begin at 6 p.m. Admission is free.

Helming the show is Rainier Beach composer and pianist **Wayne Horwitz**, whose Hugo tribute CD, released in July, has won raves in *The New York Times* and more than a dozen other journals.



Composer/pianist Wayne Horwitz and (inset) Richard Hugo

The White Center concert is the ninth and last of a Hugo-themed Northwest tour and the only presentation whose admission is free. To be screened at the Oct. 11 show is the hour-long 1976 film on Hugo, "Kicking the Loose Gravel Home."



Visit loghousemuseum.info, our website, to see and hear video of previous authors' talks in this series!

'Words' rolling into third year!

"Words, Writers & West Seattle" is about to complete two trips around the sun.

Join us for the popular series on the **first Friday of each month** at **Barnes & Noble Westwood Village**. All sessions run **from 5 to 7 p.m.** The 24th installment is this month!

Thanks to Barnes & Noble, from any purchases made while attending, **10 percent** of proceeds go to us:

Friday, Sept. 11, 2015, **David Kannas**, *Still Life with Badge* (CreateSpace, 2013, novel)

Friday, Oct. 2, 2015, **Stephanie Guerra**, *Betting Blind* and *Out of Aces* (Skyscape, 2014 and 2015)

Friday, Nov. 6, 2015, **Shirley Enebrad**, *Over the Rainbow Bridge: My Son's Journey from Here to Heaven* (Book Publishers Network, 2009)

Contact chair **Dora-Faye Hendricks** at 206-280-9983 to book new installments.

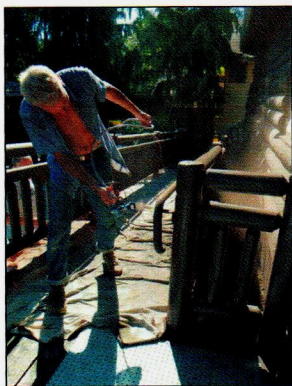
West Seattle Garden Tour awards us \$3,090 for new signs, brochure

The Native Plant Garden that surrounds our "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum received a boost this summer from the West Seattle Garden Tour.

From proceeds from this year's garden tour, \$3,090 was awarded to us to cover the costs of new plant signs, additional interpretive signs and an updated, self-guided tour brochure.

These elements, says **Lissa Kramer**, museum manager, will help our Native Plant Garden become an ongoing exhibit about ethnobotany – the study of human interactions with plants – that is available to the public regardless of museum hours.

West Seattle Nursery also has agreed to donate native plants to our garden, with a focus on rare and hard-to-get species.



John Bullard spray-paints back railing of our museum while Scott Tuzzolino hauls away a load of garden trimmings.



These steps are aimed at our Native Plant Garden becoming a site on the 2016 West Seattle Garden Tour, to be held next July.

This quest would not be possible without the support and passion of volunteers including **Carol Vincent**, Garden Committee chair; committee members **Scott Tuzzolino** of

GardenmakersNW and **Kerry Korsgaard**; as well as volunteers **Deb Barker**, **Judy Demetre**, **Irene Gehring**, **Merrilee Hagen**, **Judy Maginnis** and **Bobbie Meehan**. To join this group, e-mail **Bethany Green**, volunteer coordinator, at volunteer@loghousemuseum.info.

Also enhancing the exterior of our museum have been volunteers **John Bennett**, **Pete Heintz** and **John Bullard**, who painted the south wall and railings in August.

'School Daze' exhibit, reception to 'pop up' Friday, Oct. 16, at The Kenney

Free to the public, we are collaborating with The Kenney to co-host School Daze Pop-Up Museum, an exhibit and reception at 2-5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, 2015, in the lobby of The Kenney, 7125 Fauntleroy Way S.W.

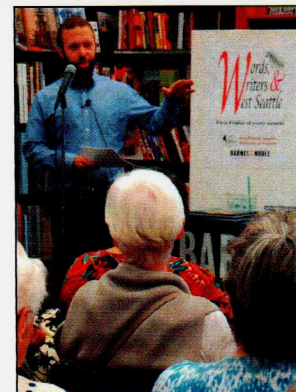
We will feature items from the museum's collections as well as those from residents and members of the public.

Anyone is welcome to bring a photo or object

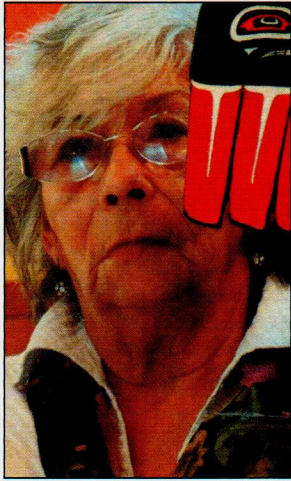
related to the theme of "school," but it isn't required.

Stories to be shared include the romantic tale of a teacher exchange between Gatewood Elementary and a school in England resulting in two marriages. Collections items will include dramatic photos of how the 1949 earthquake affected Lafayette Elementary School.

The Kenney will provide light refreshments.

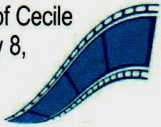


Joe Gustav discusses his book *In Deep* on July 10.



Cecile Hansen, Duwamish tribal chair, speaks about the July 2, 2015, rejection of federal recognition for her tribe six days later during a press conference at the Duwamish Longhouse. She called it a "disgusting" ruling and asked for support to overturn it. "There is something wrong here. ... There should be an uprising," she said. "We are not going to give up. We are still here."

Visit loghousemuseum.info to see video of Cecile Hansen's July 8, 2015, press conference.



Kevin Roderick Donald, PhD, is a visiting instructor of cultural anthropology at Duke University. Tia Hallberg, PhD, RN, is board vice-president for our historical society.

This is the first of what is planned as a three-part series in *Footprints* on the Duwamish. Find more info at www.duwamishtribe.org.

Our historical society and the Duwamish people

The importance and relevance of first-contact scenarios

BY KEVIN RODERICK DONALD
AND TIA HALLBERG

As the months of summer came to a close, we had the opportunity to think about just how luxurious our weather has been – maybe a bit on the warm side for the salmon runs, but absolutely pleasant for a place that is customarily inundated by rain and clouds for the better part of any given year.

It has been one of the warmest summers on record, dating back as far as the late 1800s. One has to wonder how often summers like this one occurred prior to recorded history.

Warm weather influenced the activities and movement of the original people of this region, as reflected on the website of the Duwamish Tribe:

"Upon the arrival of spring and warmer weather, families would often divide, leaving the winter villages by canoe in order to hunt, fish, gather, visit relations and trade. The dwellings constructed during this time of the year consisted of mats used as walls like a tent and planks taken from the winter village."

The complex society and culture of the region's first people, the Duwamish, was intact when the settlers arrived.

When two cultures meet

The mid- to late 1800s mark the historical period of major European migration into Puget Sound and Seattle. This period ushered in a new cultural and historical era that could be characterized as first-contact scenarios that mark the intersection when two distinct cultures meet.

Granted, there had been fur trappers and traders before the major migration. This is seen in the introduction of epidemics in the indigenous populations and the devastating effects on their communities. This impact and more waves of

immigrants also would have similar and more deleterious effects on local populations.

Regardless of the results of these first-contact scenarios, indigenous populations and European immigrants co-existed, and still do. The immigrants' lives ultimately were dependent upon the environmental genius and cultural generosity of the indigenous people.

Native generosity

If the patterns of history hold true to form, scant few immigrants would have survived had it not been for those Native Americans. Specifically, the Duwamish were generous and willing to come to the aid of their new neighbors, strangers who struggled to gain a foothold in a foreign and unfamiliar land.

In recognition of this kindness, the immigrants named their new settlement after one of the Duwamish leaders, Chief Seattle.

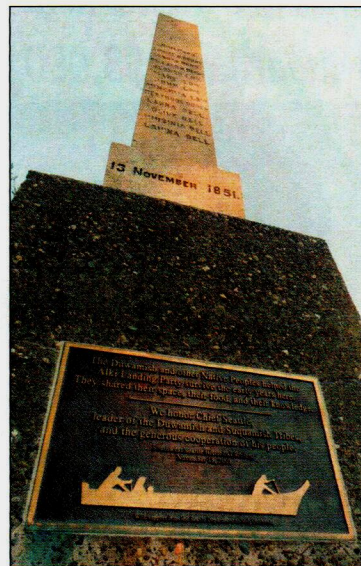
According to archaeological information, the Duwamish and their ancestors have lived and died in the general vicinity of Seattle for more than 12,000 years. Yet repeatedly, and as recently as July 2 of this year, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) of the U.S. Department of the Interior has denied them federal recognition.

This denial came on the same day that the Pamunkey, an indigenous tribe from Virginia with about 200 members, was granted federal recognition. This group met the BIA criteria of demonstrating that they have been an "American Indian entity" on a continuous basis since 1900 and existed as a distinct community from historical times until the present.

It appears that the Duwamish meet and exceed these criteria. The Duwamish are able to demonstrate that they are an "American Indian entity," a distinct community that has existed on a continuous basis. Ninety-nine percent of tribal members are able to prove their Duwamish ancestry prior to 1880.

The Duwamish are culturally and historically an important part of modern-day Seattle. They are the most permanent residents of Seattle, our city's namesake, and among the first people of King County. They are entitled to all the cultural and economic benefits outlined in the Port Elliott Treaty of 1855 as well as benefits that accompany

(Story continues next page)



A plaque honoring the native people adorns the west side of the Alki Landing Monument at 63rd and Alki avenues. It was added by our historical society and unveiled on Nov. 13, 2001, at the city's sesquicentennial celebration.

A gift of life, from lives past

Carolynn Crawford, a Low great-great-granddaughter, gifts family notebook to our museum

By CLAY EALS

When one eyes the stately obelisk commemorating the Nov. 13, 1851, landing of 24 settlers on Alki Beach, it's easy to quickly absorb the family names that have become familiar to many in Seattle: Bell, Boren, Denny, Low and Terry.

But behind each name is a multi-faceted story. And for **Carolynn Crawford**, a great-great-granddaughter of pioneers John and Lydia Low, the story has become tangible.

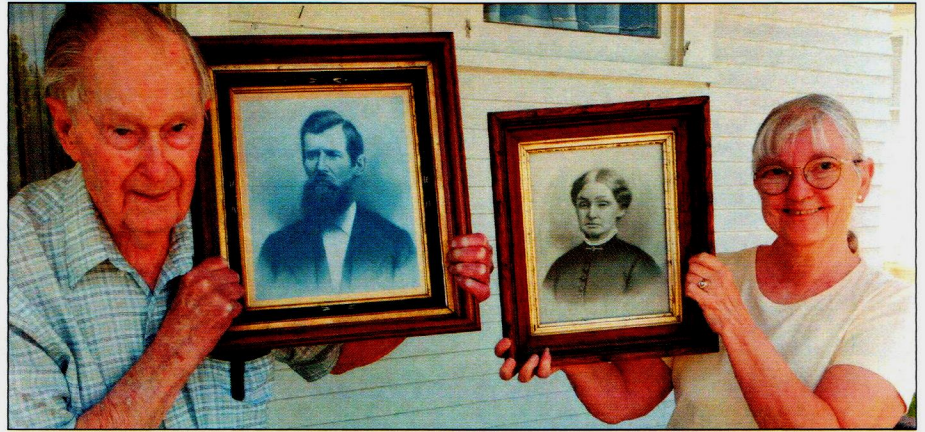
Crawford, a Kansas resident who lived in Seattle for 35 years, has assembled a notebook about 100 pages thick that is a genealogist's model and researcher's dream.

She and her father, **Wayne Moore** (husband of the late **Ruth Moore**, a direct Low descendant), presented the notebook to our historical society this summer, for storage and use at our "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum.

Special significance

Also receiving a copy of the notebook are University of Washington Special Collections and the Fiske Genealogical Library in the Madison Park neighborhood. The copy given to us has special significance, however, given the Low family's connection to the city's establishment on our shores in the mid-19th century.

"The family has always been interested in our history, and mother and I belonged to the Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington," Carolynn says. "We're not trying to perpetuate our family, but we want the legacy to go on. We are trying to leave behind things that provide a broader context and shed light on how our family



is embedded in the founding of the city."

The notebook includes plentiful information on how **John and Lydia Low**, along with four young children, boarded the schooner *Exact* that led them from Portland up the Pacific coast, into Puget Sound and – on a fateful and miserably rainy day – onto Alki Beach.

But the items, each encased in a glassine folder, reveal much more, in both form and substance.

Photos, memoirs and more

Mixed between carefully arranged genealogical charts are photos, typed memoirs, library and cemetery records, news articles, blog posts and monographs, all arranged by family name. Some ties go back to Jamestown and the *Mayflower*.

Carolynn, a former Seattle Symphony harpist who recently retired from a career as an architectural engineer specializing in solar applications, volunteers that despite the voluminous material she amassed, not all of the genealogical work is complete.

"I've double-checked and gone over the whole thing, and this is as good as I can do," she says.

The result is more than many families take on and benefit from. It is available, by appointment, for visitors to examine at our museum.

Wayne, a cabinetmaker who married Ruth in 1946 and who has lived in the family home in Wallingford since 1949, is thrilled by the compilation. The purpose, he says, is both simple and profound: "It's to remind us of the past, so we can evaluate the future."

Wayne Moore, a longtime supporter of our historical society, and his daughter, Carolynn Crawford, display framed portraits of their ancestors, settlers John and Lydia Low. Crawford assembled an extensive research notebook on the Low family and gifted it to our historical society.

Our Board of Trustees

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Tia Hallberg, vice-president
Peder Nelson, secretary
Ron Arant, treasurer
Bonnie Gromlich
Dora-Faye Hendricks
Kerry Korsgaard
Inez Lindsey
Tasha Miller
Nancy Sorensen

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Carol Vincent

(Continued from previous page)

federal recognition. Remember, they chose to save the lives of the early immigrants.

We wonder, as a local historical society, what can we do to return the generosity shown to the struggling, first-contact immigrants? How can we assist the Duwamish in their struggle for federal recognition? How can we, as a local entity, garner support for the Duwamish?

Our mission is "to promote local heritage through education, preservation and advocacy."

What better way to contribute to the rewriting of first-contact scenarios, fulfill our mission and return the generosity shown to the early immigrants than to foster a deeper relationship with the Duwamish to assist them, in a way they deem beneficial, in their quest of federal recognition?



Samish surprise

Merrilee Hagen, former board president, shows off her painting "Canoe," purchased by the state and hung on the new San Juan Islands' ferry Samish last May. Hagen, a Samish tribal member, did not know who bought the art until friends saw it on the ferry.



Long legacy on South Alki

(Above) Bremerton's Florence Meyer, granddaughter of Percy and Carrie Copp, who built the home at 5963 S.W. Carroll St. in 1903, is proud of its status as apparently the oldest house on South Alki, the former name of Beach Drive. She seeks details about the two-story structure, which she visited recently and which now houses Alki View Massage and Wellness Center (next to La Rustica). She would like to confirm that it was originally closer to the water. The Copsps were charter members of the first Alki Congregational Church across the street, and their daughter, Vera Copp Peterson, was in the first graduating class of West Seattle High School in 1910. Meyer can be reached at 360-830-2548.

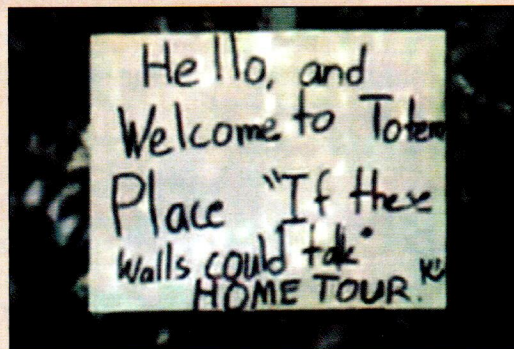


Kippy Alexander (left) and Annie Tigdig embrace *Seattle Times* columnist Paul Dorpat, who attended our July 4 picnic and featured them in an Aug. 30 "Now and Then" installment on the Alki Homestead's fireplace.



Up for the count

(Left) YMCA preschoolers line up to guess the number of Lincoln Logs in the jar displayed by volunteer Colleen Schau at our 2015 West Seattle Summerfest booth in the Junction. The log contest ran all summer at festivals and events.



Signing in for Standley

Joe James (right), grandson of Joseph Standley, laughs with some of the 100 visitors to the 109-year-old Standley home on June 28 during our annual tour. It was accurately depicted (left) in the upstairs window by Olivia Walum, daughter of owners Katy and Erik Walum.



Illuminating the alumni

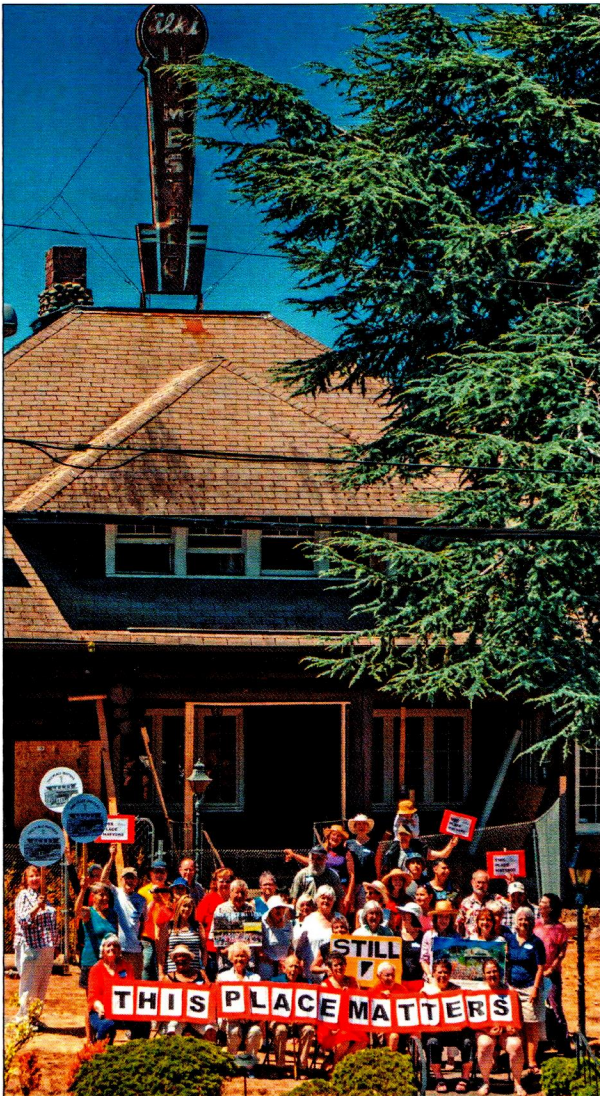
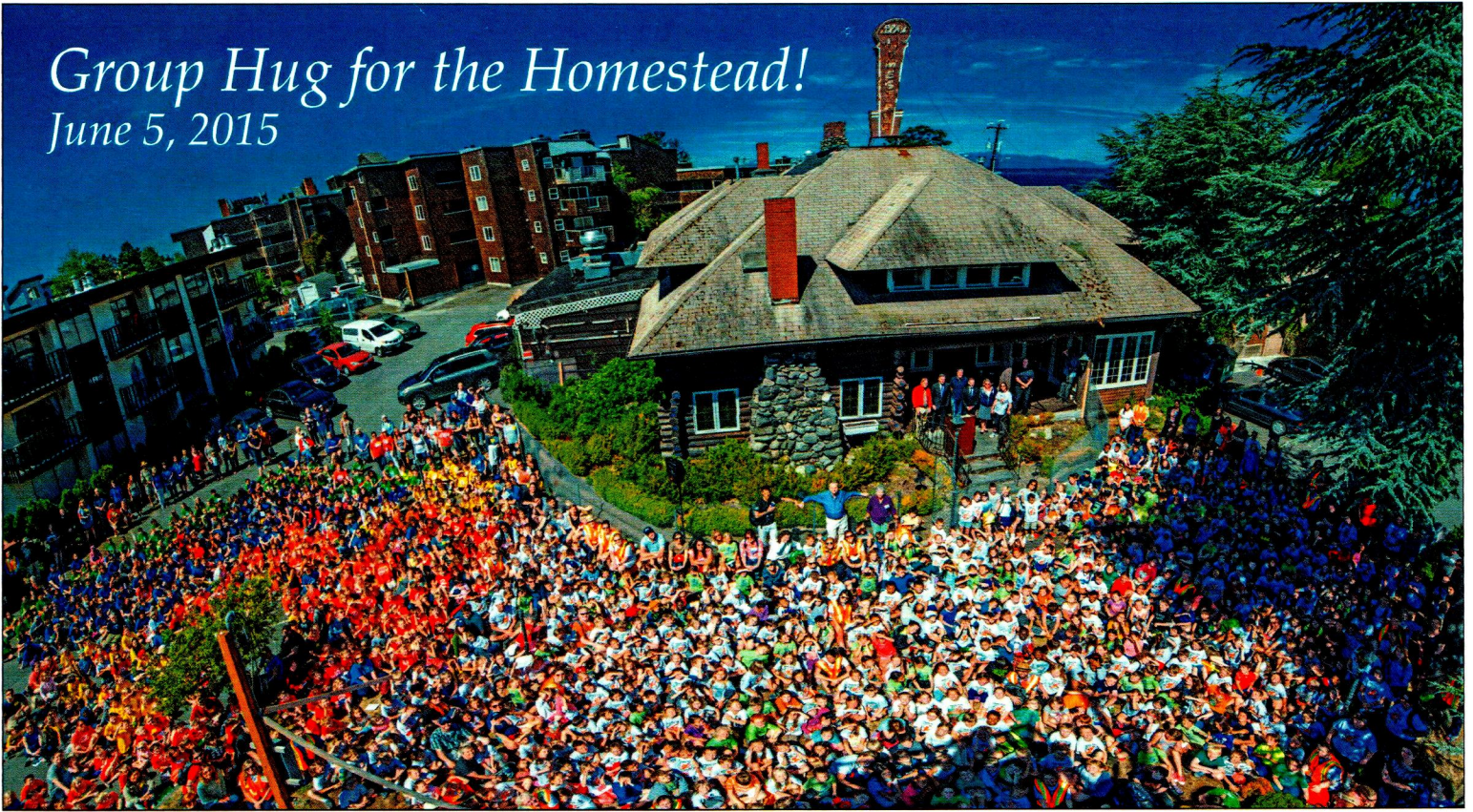
Marcy Johnsen, our board president, talks with visitors to our booth at the West Seattle High all-school reunion on June 6.



Up by the Riverside

Atop the low-level Spokane Street Bridge and with his childhood Riverside neighborhood behind him, the ageless Frank Zuvella (92, right) leads a two-hour tour of the fishing community for 18 people on Aug. 15. (Photo by Ann Anderson)

Group Hug for the Homestead! June 5, 2015



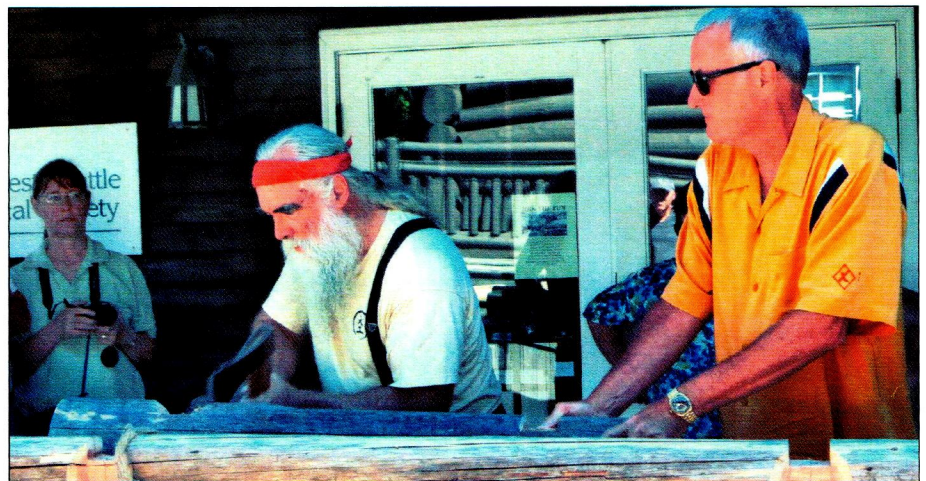
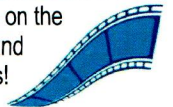
(Above) Our "Group Hug for the Homestead" on June 5, 2015, draws 1,000-plus students from Alki and Schmitz Park elementary schools, with scores of chaperones. A total of 1,134 are pictured, including new Alki Homestead owner Dennis Schilling (center on porch), flanked by (from left) Clay Eals, our executive director, King County Executive Dow Constantine, Seattle City Council member Tom Rasmussen, Alki Principal Shannon Stanton and Schmitz Park Assistant Principal Liora Minkin. (Photo by Jean Sherrard, lift truck from Pacific Rim Equipment Rental, count by Suzanne Hartley. For large version of photo, see loghousemuseum.info.)

(Left) Our "This Place STILL Matters" rally on July 4, 2015, an echo of its antecedent five years earlier, draws 43 people to the Alki Homestead lawn. (Photo by Jean Sherrard)

Here's to the Homestead!

From rallies to a visit by our restoration contractor **David Rogers**, we are celebrating the launch of restoration for the Alki Homestead. Watch for our Virtual Chicken Dinner web page!

Visit loghousemuseum.info to see videos on the Homestead and David Rogers!



Assisted by John Bennett (right), David Rogers demonstrates log notching on Aug. 9, 2015, for 30 attendees in our Circle Courtyard as Ann Martin looks on. (Photo by Lissa Kramer)

FOOTPRINTS newsletter of the



Southwest Seattle Historical Society

c/o "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum
3003 61st Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98116-2810

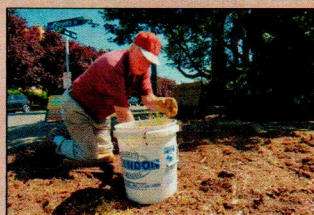
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Do we have your e-mail address? Let us know so that you can stay up-to-date! To get on the list, please e-mail volunteer@loghousemuseum.info.



Give the gift of a membership! It's easy. Visit us at loghousemuseum.info, click "Membership," print the form, fill it out and mail it in with a check or credit-card number. Or sign up in person at an event or at our "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum.



Bill Fitch, volunteer docent, pulls weeds in our parking strip on a recent summer day.

Thinking of volunteering? Come to Volunteer Intro

Saturdays, Sept. 12, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5,
11 a.m., Log House Museum,
3003 61st Ave SW

Or e-mail volunteer@loghousemuseum.info

Calendar: Fall 2015

Words, Writers & West Seattle

Fridays, Sept. 11, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, Dec. 4,
5-7 p.m., Barnes & Noble
Westwood Village, 2600 SW Barton

Alaska Totem Cruise

Saturday, Sept. 19, through Sept. 26,
ms Westerdam

'Some Places Are Forever Afternoon: A Tribute in Music, Words and Film to White Center's Richard Hugo'

Sunday, Oct. 11, 6 p.m.,
White Center Fieldhouse, 1321 SW 102nd St

'School Daze' Pop-Up Museum

Friday, Oct. 16, 2-5 p.m.
The Kenney, 7125 Fauntleroy Way SW

Champagne Gala Brunch

Saturday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m.,
Salty's on Alki, 1936 Harbor Ave SW

'Keep Clam and Carry On: The Ivar Haglund Story'

through Sunday, Nov. 8
Nordic Heritage Museum, 3014 NW 67th St

Annual Meeting

Saturday, Nov. 14, 10:30 a.m.-noon,
venue and program TBD

Our board meetings are held at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the South Seattle College President's Board Room. You are welcome to attend!

Big thanks to our sponsors and supporters:

