



MUSEUM NEWS

1611 Riverside Avenue, Hoquiam, WA 98550 (360) 533-5862

Fall 2000

www.polsonmuseum.org

Polson Museum Receives \$4,000 Grant from the Washington Commission for the Humanities: *Vanishing Logger* Exhibit Planned

This October, the Polson was awarded \$4,000 from the Washington Commission for the Humanities to develop a traveling exhibit entitled *The Vanishing Logger*. The grant was written by sisters Cheryle and Char Easter, of Amboy, Wash., who are working with the Polson to create this photo-journalistic exhibit documenting the logger in the 21st century.

Providing an historical perspective, the exhibit will record where loggers stand after a century of attitudes and landscapes in flux. Told in the loggers' image, it is a testimonial to an historical profession in transition.

The *Vanishing Logger* will debut at the Polson next year before being moved throughout the Northwest. We'll be sure to keep you informed of the progress in developing this exhibit.

Join Us at Our Annual Christmas Open House, Saturday, December 9

This December 9th from noon to 4:00 p.m., the Polson hosts its annual Christmas Open House. See the Museum decorated for Christmas and join us for refreshments in front of the living room's open fire.

Although Museum Members are always admitted free of charge, please consider bringing a can of food to the Open House for donation to the local food bank.

If you haven't been watching the new Grays Harbor Y.M.C.A. being built, you'll want to check out the progress.

This was Hoquiam's first Y.M.C.A., circa 1913. It was located on 6th Street between "I" (now Simpson) and "J" Streets.



Fall - Winter
Schedule

Saturday - Sunday
12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
or by appointment - Wed. to Fri.



Museum in the Community

POLSON PARK & MUSEUM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**1611 RIVERSIDE AVENUE
P.O. BOX 432
HOQUIAM, WASHINGTON 98550**

(360) 533-5862

www.polsonmuseum.org

***POLSON MUSEUM NEWS*
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY**

Polson Museum Board of Directors

President

Carl Weber

1st Vice President

Cecil Herrington / Ilene Klein

2nd Vice President

Ada Spencer

Secretary

Alta Reay

Treasurer

Sally Brennand

Members

Norm Callaghan, Jr.

Don Cates

Sherry Drake

Yvonne Jump

Pat Lanning

Mary Alyce Lundberg

Evelyn Murnen

John Ogren

Harold Schmidtke

Lee Thomasson

At Large

Gene Woodwick

Museum Director

John Larson

Request for Proposals: 2001 Polson Lecture Series

Since our unsuccessful attempt to host an "Antiques Roadshow" style program this past August, we've been looking for an alternative event to take its place. Rather than simply hold one program, the Polson Board is planning to host an entire series of history and antiques related lectures for 2001.

We are most interested in holding public programs, on a monthly basis, that feature a single type of antique. Guest lecturers will be encouraged to set up a small, single-case display for the month and give a presentation where the public is invited to bring in pieces of their own for "show and tell."

If you have a certain area of expertise and would like to participate, please let us know.

Mark Your Calendars: January 18, 2000 WCH Inquiring Minds Lecture at Polson

Mark your calendars now for the first program of our 2001 lecture series when historian Mary Kline Rose will present "Navigating the Maritime Routes of Washington Heritage," at the Museum on Thursday, January 18, 2000.

This Washington Commission for the Humanities lecture is being sponsored in conjunction with the Hoquiam Friends of the Library and the Timberland Regional Library.



Museum volunteers Amanda and Dalilah Plumb carried the Polson banner in front of the Museum's Loggers Playday Parade caravan. Following were John & Scott Larson in the Ross lumber carrier, Alta Reay on the National tractor, Elaine Alexander and her 1928 Model A, and Gloria Callaghan in her Ford Model A hotrod. The Polson took home a 1st place trophy this year with its parade entry.

Comments, questions, or correspondence? Reach us by e-mail:
jbl@polsonmuseum.org

At the Museum

New Collections Storage Shelving Installed

Thanks to the Aberdeen Library, the Polson now has a fully shelved attic storage area. This September, upon its move back to their remodelled building, the library offered the bulk of its surplus shelving to area non-profits — among them the Aberdeen Museum, Hoquiam Friends of the Library, Grays Harbor Historical Seaport, Grays Harbor Genealogical Society, and the Polson Museum.

An especially big thanks goes to Museum volunteer Scott Lucas for his extensive help in dismantling, moving, and installing the shelves.

The bulk of this shelving now occupies two rows down the middle of the Museum attic. The steel shelves are in excellent condition, stand nearly seven feet tall, and are fully adjustable.

The addition of this shelving dramatically improves our ability to store and preserve our artifact collection. It will also allow us to better link our new computer collections database with a physical location for each artifact.

U.S.S. Hoquiam Reunion

This September, the Polson welcomed four crewmen who served on the U.S.S. Hoquiam during World War II and the Korean War.

During their visit, we learned a few interesting facts. The U.S.S. Hoquiam — designated PF-5 (Patrol Frigate) — was the first ship in the U.S. Navy to be integrated.

During WW II, enroute to Alaska, the ship nearly made a stop at Hoquiam. Unfortunately, there were no bar pilots available at the time they passed by



At left, Museum volunteer Dick Bogar tinkers with the National Mower tractor donated earlier this year by Earl Kallas. The tractor was originally used by Hoquiam High School as their field mower. Bogar spent numerous hours restoring the machine's single-cylinder Wisconsin engine.



Above right, U.S.S. Hoquiam crewmen George Barber, Mr. Hill, Harold Vira, and James DeLeo pose in front of the Museum, September 22.

Collections Storage Extends Beyond the Museum's Walls

Thanks to the City of Hoquiam, the Polson Museum is now able to store some of its large equipment artifacts indoors. The blue building behind City Hall on 9th Street (formerly a beer distributorship), is now the home of our Ross lumber carrier and the soon-to-be home of our new Hyster lumber carrier and Dolbeer donkey engine.

Below, the U.S.S. Hoquiam PF-5 at dock in Adak, Alaska, 1944. Photo donated by James DeLeo.



the mouth of Grays Harbor. According to crewman James DeLeo, who told us the story, his shipmates were quite disappointed that they couldn't visit as they were all convinced that every bar in town would willingly serve them unlimited free drinks. While they missed their chance at becoming Hoquiam's home-town royalty during the war, many of the men who served aboard the ship have since visited Hoquiam to see what they missed.

Keeping the Past Alive

Posey Mfg. Co.'s Hyster Lumber Carrier Added to Polson Collection

1948 Hyster Straddle Carrier



We're very excited to announce the addition of Posey Manufacturing's Hyster "No. 2" straddle carrier to the Polson's collection. Thanks to Bill and Doug Watson, who purchased the carrier at Posey's May 1998 auction and generously donated it to the Museum this fall, the Hyster will be preserved for the education of future generations.

Although the carrier needs some aesthetic improvements, it is in full working order. On November 4, Museum Board member Norm Callaghan and Director John Larson fired up the International "Green Diamond" 6-cylinder engine and drove the machine to town. If you'd like to see the carrier, it's currently parked at Norm's shop, Gordon's

Service, on the corner of 7th & K Streets in Hoquiam.

Thanks to the City of Hoquiam, we'll be able to store the Hyster, along with our Ross, at their 9th Street facility, enabling us to focus on the machines' conservation and restoration.



Willamette Lumber Carrier in operation at Posey Manufacturing Co.

Polson Museum Membership — Consider the Benefits

The benefits of a Membership with the Polson are many. Won't you help keep the past alive?

- ♦ Free Admission to the Museum.
- ♦ Quarterly Newsletter — *Polson Museum News*
- ♦ Advance notice and special invitation to programs, events, and exhibits
- ♦ 10% Discount on Museum Store purchases
- ♦ A stake in ensuring the future preservation and presentation of Grays Harbor's history

- ☐ Corporate.....\$200
- ☐ Sustaining.....\$30+
- ☐ Family.....\$20
- ☐ Couple.....\$15
- ☐ Individual.....\$10
- ☐ Student/Senior.....\$8

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

☐ New ☐ Membership Renewal ☐ Gift Membership

Already a Member? Dues paid? If so, pass this newsletter along to friends and ask them to join. Annual Membership dues are a crucial component of the Museum's yearly operating budget. It is the financial support of all who care about Grays Harbor's history that keeps the Polson Museum active in our community.

Detach and mail with your check to
Polson Museum, P.O. Box 432, Hoquiam, Washington 98550

The Holiday Season Nears

Museum Store Open Extended Hours this December

Museum Store Open: December 13 - December 23

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday - Sunday (Closed Monday the 18th and Tuesday the 19th)

Stop in and browse the best selection of local history books in the county.

Listed below are selected titles currently in stock.

Natural History

Pacific Coast, A Rugged Harmony

Beyond the Trails by Herb & Lois Crisler

Logging

Kinsey Photographer: The Locomotive Portraits

Rayonier by James Spencer

Railroad Camp by Adolf Hungry Wolf

Saginaw Timber Co. by Finley Hays

Rigging Shack by Finley Hays

The Cinderella Tree by Werner Mayr

Logger's World: The First Ten Years, 1964-1970
compiled by Finley Hayes

My Timber Roots by Bill Palmroth

Big Trees & Steam Lokies by Dave James

Grisdale, Last of the Logging Camps by Dave James

The Final Forest by William Dietrich

Rare Out-of-Print Books

Half Century in the Timber: Schafer Brothers Logging Company by Stuart Holbrook

The River Pioneers by Edwin Van Syckle

They Tried to Cut it All by Edwin Van Syckle

Green Commonwealth by James Stevens

Grays Harbor: 1885 - 1913 by Robert Weinstein

Lady on the Beach by Norah Berg (signed)

Captain Gray in the Pacific Northwest
by Francis Cross & Charles Parkin

Timber by Ralph Andrews

Glory Days of Logging by Ralph Andrews

General Local History

A History of Lake Quinault Lodge by R.H. Jones.

Rebels of the Woods by Robert Tyler

Frontier Legacy: A History of the Olympic National Forest
by J.R. Rooney

Who Killed Laura Law? State Archives publication

The Viewless Winds by Murray Morgan

Guilty by Circumstance by Ron Fowler

Bearkiller by Warner Karshner

Books by Local Authors

Serve-Us Stations by William Jones

Land of Trees by Larry Workman

A Whistling Girl and a Crowing Hen by Leona Auer

Pebbles in Your Path by Roni Bisset

Common Sense by Velma Cozutto

Fiction

A Gathering of Finches by Jane Kirkpatrick

The Emerald Cathedral by R.H. Jones

VHS Films

Rayonier, The Last Steam Logger

Farewell to Steam: Northern Pacific

Geared Doubleheader: Climax and Heisler Steam Locomotive

End of an Era Rayonier's last days of steam

Tides of Change Spencer Burning & Polson Museum's history of
Grays Harbor

Art Work

Elton Bennett matted lithographs

Walton Butts signed silkscreens

Betty Wilson notecards

Jones Photo Co. postcards

Clothing

Polson Museum embroidered shirts and sweatshirts

◆Please call or write for further details and pricing.

◆Members receive a 10% discount.

◆We ship books anywhere in the country.

◆Stop by to see the full selection of merchandise and additional new and vintage books available at the Museum Store.

You're Invited to Our Annual Membership Meeting, November 8

Join us at 7:00 p.m. this Wednesday, November 8, at the Museum for our Annual Membership meeting. You'll have the chance to meet the current board and enjoy light refreshments.

We also invite you to offer suggestions regarding the ways in which the Polson will celebrate its 25th Anniversary. Yes, the Museum is turning 25 in 2001 and we're looking to celebrate our past and plan for our future.

We hope to see you here.

Loggers Playday 2000

Museum Director John Larson and his brother Scott navigate the turn from 8th onto K during the Grand Parade.

The Museum's Ross Straddle Carrier was pictured in the October 2000 edition of *Log Trucker* magazine.



Pioneer of the Year Nominations Sought

Each February, the Polson Museum honors as "Pioneer of the Year" a long-time Harborite who has contributed in a significant capacity to the shaping of our community. If you have anyone you would like to nominate, please submit names and a brief written explanation of their merits to the Museum at P.O. Box 432, Hoquiam, WA 98550.



MUSEUM NEWS

POLSON PARK & MUSEUM HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1611 RIVERSIDE AVENUE
P.O. BOX 432
HOQUIAM, WASHINGTON 98550

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Hoquiam, WA
Permit No. 182

-
- ♦2001 Lecture Series Planned
 - ♦Christmas Open House, December 9
 - ♦Polson Receives \$4000 WCH Grant
-