



MUSEUM

NEWS

1611 Riverside Avenue, Hoquiam, WA 98550 360.533.5862

Summer into Fall 2001

1976

Our 25th Year

2001

## Polson to Develop Master Site Plan

At the Polson's September board meeting, the Board moved forward with its long range plan to develop a master plan for its property.

The Board voted unanimously to retain the services of Aberdeen architect Will Foster who will begin work on the project this November.

Of principal concern is the need to improve the methods we exhibit and care for our rare collection of large machinery. The lone remaining Lamb SpeedTrak, the Polson / Rayonier Linn dump truck, and three steam yarders all desperately need protection from the elements.

We'll keep you posted as we move forward with developing, fundraising, and implementing this plan to improve and enhance our park property.

## Consider Donating Your Tax Rebate Check

Have decided what you'll be doing with all that extra money Uncle Sam is sending you this year?

Consider making a tax deductible contribution to the Polson. Your generous and continuing financial support allows the Polson to remain strong in our efforts to preserve, promote, and exhibit your local history.

## Olympians

### Exhibit Continues Through 2001

Through the end of the year, the Polson continues to feature its special temporary exhibit, The Olympians. The exhibit, which chronicles the history of Grays Harbor's famed hiking club, features a wide variety of vintage hiking equipment, historical photographs, and rare artwork from club members. A nearly complete collection of original silk-screened Elton Bennett annual covers from the 1950s through the 1970s highlight the exhibit's featured artwork. Additionally, the exhibit showcases trends in the evolution of hiking equipment. From early "Trapper Nelsons" to the latest high-tech packs, the display features a rich collection of photographs and artifacts from the past of hiking. Whether you're a serious hiker or simply an admirer of the majestic Olympic

Mountains, you'll find The Olympians a fitting tribute to the club that exists to promote "the exploration, protection, and enjoyment of the Olympic Mountains."



*Elton Bennett's depiction of Olympian member Mat Mathias's mythical "Tree Twist." See story on page 2.*

Fall / Winter  
Schedule

Saturday & Sunday  
12:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Weekdays by appointment



# Museum in the Community

## Polson Museum

P.O. Box 432  
1611 Riverside Avenue  
Hoquiam, Wash. 98550

360.533.5862

[www.polsonmuseum.org](http://www.polsonmuseum.org)

POLSON MUSEUM NEWS  
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY



**Fly your flag  
with pride**

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## Booklet & CD in the Works

In conjunction with the Olympians exhibit, the Museum & the Olympians are producing a short booklet and CD recording of "Mat's Tall Tales." We'll be sure to let you know when they're ready for purchase.



*From the cover of the 1958 LP featuring Mat Mathias telling his stories of the Olympics. The original recordings were made in 1942 and 1943.*

*Elton Bennett, long-time Olympians member and well known local artist, created this cover image for the record jacket. Two of only a handful of existing copies are on display at the Museum.*

## Loggers Playday

The Polson again took 1st place honors in the "Antique Logging Equipment" category at the 2001 Loggers Playday parade. This September we brought out both of our straddle carriers — the 1957 Clark-Ross Series 81 and the 1948 Hyster M2.

A big thanks goes out to the Dahlstrom Lumber Company for loaning us a freshly cut load of lumber to display underneath the Hyster.

## Do you remember Bowerman Field during WWII?

If so, we'd love to hear your recollections, see your photographs, or read any documentation of the airfield in the early 1940s. Please let us know if you'd like to share your memories.

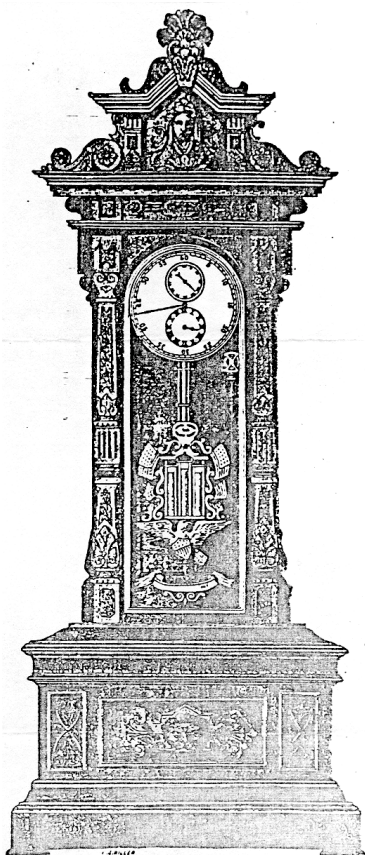
Comments, questions, or correspondence? Reach us by e-mail:  
[jbl@polsonmuseum.org](mailto:jbl@polsonmuseum.org)

# At the Museum

## Electrical Improvements Underway

This Fall, improvements to the Museum's electrical systems are continuing thanks to the City of Hoquiam's electricians, David James and Mike West.

The improvements include the addition of new power receptacles to the office, attic, and boiler room in addition to switched receptacles for florescent lighting throughout the entire attic.



*As advertised in the George A. Jones Clock Company's catalog, circa 1870*

## Kneipp Clock Resurrected

When asked what they remember about a visit to the Polson, many visitors recall the fantastic clock that graces our entry way. Until this February, the grand clock ran faithfully to the delight of countless visitors. The earthquake we experienced this past February, however, put a damper on the clock's Old Faithful-like performance. Apparently, the earthquake set the movement slightly out of balance, causing the pendulum to lose its momentum and stop.

With the generous help of expert clock repairman Thomas Hoover of Ocean Shores, the clock is now back in top working order. Mr. Hoover provided some much needed maintenance giving proper lubrication to keep the clock ticking well into the future.

### A Brief History of the George A. Jones & Co. Model #13 Tall-Case Clock

The massive eleven foot tall clock has a long history on the Harbor. It was first brought to Hoquiam from New York around Cape Horn by Henry Lawrence who moved to Hoquiam in 1908 to work in partnership with Harry C. Heermans at the city's first municipal water works office.

In 1938, Fred Rowe bought the water works building and acquired the clock along with it (the building is located between 7th and 8th Streets along Simpson Ave. — where "Lorna's Line" is today). Carl Kneipp later bought out the Rowe Jewelry Store and got the clock in the deal. Kneipp operated his own jewelry store in that location until 1986 and in June of that year, the Kneipps had the clock restored and placed it on loan at the Polson Museum.

The clock's hand-carved case is made of solid walnut and burl insets. It uses an astronomical type regulator movement which was manufactured by the Howard Clock Company of Boston, Mass. One unique design feature is the use of mercury-filled glass tubes as pendulum weight. The theory behind this innovation is that any changes in temperature or humidity will not unevenly expand or contract the pendulum to disrupt its center of gravity.

Visit us on the web!

[www.polsonmuseum.org](http://www.polsonmuseum.org)

## **Polson Trail Project Completed: *Adam McCambridge Working Towards Eagle Scout***

In the works since the spring of this year, the Polson has a new trail that links the lower park areas with our extensive hillside property. Spearheaded by future Eagle Scout Adam McCambridge of Hoquiam, the trail project's completion is the result of extensive planning, fundraising, and work parties.

Although the hillside trail is a new addition to the park, it uses remnants of an old trail that was established when Alex and Ella Polson resided in the now-demolished Polson mansion that sat where the Burton Ross Rose Garden is now located. The Polson's old brick lined trail follows the base of the hillside and connects with the new section that heads uphill to a concrete base where the Polsons placed a tall wooden flagpole. On that site, visitors can take a breather, eat lunch on the new combination bench / picnic table, or simply enjoy the unique view of Hoquiam's historic riverfront and downtown.

In addition to organizing local scouts to work on the trail, McCambridge received dozens of material and monetary donations to complete the project. Both the Museum and Hoquiam's Parks Department commend McCambridge for helping to create such a beneficial addition to one of the area's regular tourist destinations. As Museum Members and visitors are encouraged to see, the trail adds a fitting touch to the Polson grounds.

The trail and other outdoor displays are accessible to the public free of charge daily during daylight hours.



### **MUSEUM NEWS**

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

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

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***[www.polsonmuseum.org](http://www.polsonmuseum.org)***

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  - ◆ ***Electrical Improvements Underway***
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