



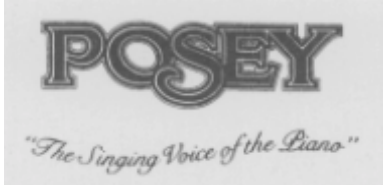
# MUSEUM NEWS

1611 Riverside Avenue, Hoquiam, WA 98550

(360) 533-5862

Summer 1998

## Posey Exhibit Opening this Summer



This July, the Polson pays tribute to the employees of the Posey Mfg. Co. by opening an exhibit chronicling the company's extensive history.

The exhibit, examining the company's turn-of-the-century beginnings to its move to Hoquiam in 1909 and its long history since, will give visitors a glimpse into the operations of Grays Harbor's longest-operating woodworking company. Of special interest will be the wide assortment of spruce products on display.

Keep your eyes peeled for advance notice of this revealing exhibit. You'll not want to miss this fitting tribute to Posey's proud history in Grays Harbor.

*Letterhead from Alfred Dolge and J.V.G. Posey's company in Los Angeles. Circa 1902 - 1909.*

## Garage Sale Donations Needed

This June 27, the Museum is looking to help you clean house. As a fundraiser event, the Museum is hosting a garage sale from 9:00 to 3:00 and needs your support to make it a success.

If you have household items you've been wishing to donate, there's no better place to contribute them than the Polson Museum.

If you have things you'd like to contribute, please call Director John Larson at 533-5862 or stop by the Museum.

Between June 9 and 16 the Director will be out of town so either bring your donations to the Museum during open hours or contact Pat Lanning at 532-9083 or Dave McDougal at 532-8366.



## Museum Stabilization Project Continues

Have you noticed all the recent improvements to the Museum grounds and building?

With new insulation, extensive foundation repairs, and refurbished chimneys, the Museum is now not only structurally but thermally and aesthetically much improved.

Work will continue into the summer as the Hoquiam Americorp workers finish siding



the Museum's entire backside. Once finished with the front, they will focus their efforts on refinishing and painting the building's trim.

Pending the acquisition of future grants, the City of Hoquiam and the Museum hope to improve handicap access to the Museum as well as enhance landscaping on the grounds.

# Museum in the Community

## Moclips Display Created in Conjunction with the Ocean Shores Interpretive Center

The Museum has loaned a variety of photos to the Ocean Shores Interpretive Center as part of a feature exhibit on life at turn-of-the-century Moclips.

As the western terminus of the Northern Pacific Railway, Moclips served as a thriving tourist destination as well as an important fish and lumber-producing community. With its grand hotel, extensive business district, and thriving residential population, Moclips is revealed through this collection of by-gone photographic images.

The Ocean Shores Interpretive Center, now directed by Polson volunteer Gene Woodwick (members will recall her work with our Native American exhibit), is located at 1013 Catala Ave. S.E. near the Marina and is open from Memorial Day through Labor Day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday through Monday. Admission is free. For more information call Gene Woodwick at (360) 289-4617.

## Summer Events Planned

This summer you'll not want to miss the variety of events being held at the Museum. Please note the following dates.

### June 27 Garage Sale

### Mid-July Posey Exhibit

### Harold Schmidtke Honored as Citizen of the Year

A big congratulations goes out to Harold Schmidtke who is this year's *Daily World* Citizen of the Year.

As a past president and current member of the Museum's Board of Directors, Schmidtke continues to serve the Polson's historical mission. We couldn't think of a more deserving individual for such a coveted award.

Way to go Harold!

### July 18 Open House / History in the Park

On Saturday July 18 the Museum will hold a public open house and History Day celebration in conjunction with Hoquiam's River Festival. Volunteers will offer demonstrations not only on early-day machinery operation but on a variety of traditional domestic tasks.

To complete the day the public is invited in the evening to enjoy free outdoor silent movies shown on the back side of the Museum.

Come one and all.

### August 16 Historic Autos

On Sunday August 16 the Twin Harbors Vintage Car Club will exhibit classic American automobiles throughout the Museum grounds. If you're a fan of original cars dating from the 1920s through the 1960s, you'll not want to miss this event.

Of course, the Museum will be open as well, so encourage your friends who haven't visited us in a while to stop in and see what's new at the Polson.



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# A t the Museum

## Computer Project Continues

We now have over 1,300 records entered into our new collections database. Volunteers have completed entry of all records from 1977 through 1982. Judging by the volume of records yet to be entered, we are on a pace to finish the project by the latter part of 1998.

If you have an interest in assisting with this vital project, we could surely use your help.

## Rose Garden Transformation

The most notable addition to the museum grounds is a variety of improvements to the Rose Garden, including a new concrete walkway to and through the garden, a relocated sundial pedestal now set in concrete, and, above all, a wide variety of new roses watered automatically by a new irrigation system donated by the Grays Harbor Rose Society. If you haven't stopped by to see the Burton C. Ross Memorial Rose Garden, you'll be in for a real treat.

## Clothing Collection Inventoried

Museum volunteer Alta Reay has been busy taking inventory of the Museum's extensive clothing collections stored in the Master and Guest Dressing Rooms.

## Take Aim! Exhibit a Bullseye

The Museum's historic firearms exhibit, *Take Aim!* ended a successful two-week run from April 4 to 19. Over 200 visitors viewed the nearly 40 firearms on display in the living room exhibit space.

It was especially pleasing to see so many local visitors who had never visited the Museum before.

We hope to continue short-duration exhibits like this into the future, attracting both new and returning audiences.

## Museum Docents Sought

Are you or is someone you know interested in becoming a docent at the Museum this summer?

Would you like to meet interesting people from throughout the nation and world?

If you have the time, whether once a week or once a month, stop by or call Director John Larson and he will happily schedule you in.



## From the Collection:

*This photo of Mrs. Ella Polson was taken shortly after her marriage to Alex Polson in 1891. Check out the From the Past section on page 4 for more details on their wedding.*

With physical inventory now well under way, we will be better able to determine exactly what clothing we have, what condition it is in, and how it may be incorporated into future exhibits.

# From the Past

## Alex and Ella Polson Wed in 1891

In the past few months, Museum volunteer Alta Reay has diligently inventoried our historic clothing collection in the master and guest dressing rooms. Among artifacts she has uncovered are articles worn by Alex and Ella Polson at their wedding on February 18, 1891.

The "Locals" section of February 19th's *Hoquiam Washingtonian* gave a most colorful description of the wedding, dubbed "The Society Event of the Season."

"Last evening was the occasion of a very happy wedding at the residence of Mr. F. D. Arnold, Mayor of Hoquiam, and father of one of the contracting parties. Miss Ella Marie Arnold and Mr. Alexander Polson were the bride and groom. The event was a very auspicious one, as it united in marriage one of our oldest and worthiest citizens to a charming and lovable young woman. . . .

All the best wishes of the good friends of the bride and groom and none of the fears sometimes entertained, follow them into the new life they have begun, and upon which they have entered so well equipped in moral strength, maturity of character, devotion of purpose and mutual regard. . . .

"At precisely six o'clock the bride and groom entered the folding doors at the rear of the double parlors, and after walking the length of the rooms, turned and took their stand in the bay window at the front and facing the few but deeply interested friends assembled. . . .

As they entered and took their places, the company arose and the clergyman stepped forward and married them, using the beautiful and impressive ceremony with the ring, after which Dr. Pomeroy turned and introduced Mr. and Mrs. Polson to the company, and the happy husband and wife received the congratulations of their friends.

The bride was richly and elegantly attired in pale blue velvet en train, the corsage and flaring de Medici collar trimmed with white ostrich tips, while long, white, undressed mosquetaire gloves, Duchess lace handkerchief enclosed in a dainty party bag of white brocade, with white ostrich feather fan and pale blue satin slippers completed this lovely toilet. . . .

A delicate and delightful collation was served at intervals during the evening.

The wedding party left on the early morning boat for Victoria and the Sound cities."

### Membership

The Museum derives a significant portion of its operating budget from Membership dues. If you have friends who are interested in preserving our local history, please pass this newsletter along and encourage them to join. Thanks to all of you for your continuing support.

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



## MUSEUM NEWS

**ARNOLD POLSON PARK & MUSEUM HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
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### Inside This Issue:

- ◆ *Garage Sale Donations Sought*
- ◆ *Posey Exhibit Opens this July*
- ◆ *Museum Stabilization Project Continues*