



# MUSEUM NEWS

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

Summer 1999

## ***Fueling the Harbor: Service Station Exhibit Featured this Summer***

If you haven't been in already, don't miss the Museum's special exhibit this summer on the history of service stations on Grays Harbor. *Fueling the Harbor* examines the beginnings, development, and subsequent trends of service stations from the turn-of-the-century to the present.

*Fueling the Harbor* features a wide assortment of artifacts and photographs from both local collectors and the Museum's collection. The exhibit will run through mid-September, 1999. Fuel and oil pumps, oil bottles and cans, signs, tools, and models highlight an examination of the development of fuel stations.

Maps, gas station giveaways, toys, and other promotional items provide examples of the various marketing tactics used by companies to encourage brand loyalty. Additionally, a rich assortment of historic photographs give visitors a nostalgic look at many of the sites where Harborites used to buy their fuel.



Cecil Herrington's 1924 Franklin and Norm Callaghan's 1950s Tokheim gasoline pump graced the Museum's entrance on the opening day of *Fueling the Harbor*.

## **Museum Recarpeting Project Slated to Go Forward This Fall—Donations Still Welcome**

Since we started fund raising for new carpeting back in December, Museum Members, area businesses, and others have contributed a total of \$12,954 towards our much needed re-carpeting project. As noted previously, we anticipate the final approximate cost at \$15,000. Although we are still short of our goal, we are at least within sight of making the project a reality.

As scheduling goes, we're hoping to install the new carpet late in October or early November. By then, we'll have finished with the summer season and all the loaned artifacts from *Fueling the Harbor* will be returned to their owners.

We'll be sure to keep you posted on the progress of this project.

### **Summer Schedule**

Wednesday - Sunday  
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### **Double Issue Featured this Summer**

An exceptionally busy Spring here at the Polson delayed the normal mailing of our Spring *Polson Museum News*. Consequently, you're getting this special Summer double issue now. Read on and see all that's been going on.

# Museum in the Community

## **POLSON PARK & MUSEUM HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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

**(360) 533-5862**

***POLSON MUSEUM NEWS*  
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY**

### **Polson Museum Board of Directors**

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Harold Schmidtke

Doris West

#### ***At Large***

Fred Kletka

Gene Woodwick

#### ***Museum Director***

John Larson

## **Washington Museum Association Conference- Wenatchee**

This June 17-18, Director John Larson attended the annual Washington Museum Association (WMA) conference at the North Central Washington Museum in Wenatchee. The conference included sessions on project management for museums, conducting oral histories, utilizing the internet, managing financial resources, as well as a variety of other topics.

Polson Director John Larson served on a panel presentation that discussed various means of maintaining and renovating museum buildings. He specifically gave details on the Polson's collaboration with its Members, local businesses, the City of Hoquiam, and Americorps to complete roofing, residing and other recent projects.

## **Museum Director John Larson Elected to WMA Board of Trustees**

At this year's annual WMA Conference, Polson Director John Larson was elected to a three year term on the Board of Trustees. The WMA is a statewide organization made up of 200 museums that provides a broad network for museum professionals in offering services, sharing ideas, and linking information from various individual museums.

## **Polson Involved in Making First Class Documentary Film**

As his eighth grade final project, Spenser Bruning of Markham created a film on Grays Harbor's history from pre-American times through the 1920s. Spenser spent numerous hours at the Museum, at home, and on the road doing research, filming historic photographs, and conducting interviews of local individuals.

In addition to using a rich assortment of historic photographs and moving footage, Spenser prominently features Joe De La Cruz, James "Flagg" Locke, Ruth McClausland, R.D. Grunbaum, Helge Erickson, and John Larson in interviews.

Spenser filmed the 45-minute documentary, *Tides of Change*, in Hi-8 format before converting it to VHS.

Although the film is not available for sale, Members are invited to make an appointment to view it at the Museum or check it out to watch at home.

The Museum is also hoping to use the film for educational purposes in area schools and clubs.

### **Prayers Go Out to Long-Time Supporters Harry Berg and Arne Salonen**

Please keep Harry Berg and Arne Salonen in your prayers as they receive care at Hoquiam's Pacific Care Center.

# A t the Museum

## Visitor Attendance Down this Year

Attendance is down somewhat this year from the previous two. Could all the rain we've had be at least partially to blame?

*Totals as of July 4*

1999 — 970  
1998 — 1098  
1997 — 1340  
1996 — 512  
1995 — 663

## Artifact Donations Strong this Year

So far this year, the Museum has received 65 artifact donations, some with as many as 50 separate items. Included are Polson Logging Co. gloves, a restored Vaughn drag saw, a Ted Krache boxing poster, a collection of Grays Harbor postcards from the 1950s and 1960s, and a variety of historic books and photographs.

## Polson Survives Earthquake Intact

Although several artifacts toppled off their shelves, nothing appears to have broken in the area's July 10 5.8 earthquake. The City has, however, scheduled inspections to ensure the integrity of the chimneys.

## Consider Volunteering on the Computer

If you or someone you know would be interested in helping catalog our artifact collection on the new computer, please phone Director John Larson at 533-5862.

Additionally, the Museum is looking to move into cyberspace. If you're good with Web-design and have some free time, we'd love to hear from you.

## Weyerhaeuser Donates New Computer

This July, Weyerhaeuser donated a brand new 333 mhz MMX computer to the Museum. The donation greatly improves the speed at which collection record information can be accessed. While the Museum is still able to use the 486 computer donated by Weyerhaeuser last year, the new machine will be able to serve the majority of the Museum's computing needs—especially in using our new scanner.

Item Registration List				Print	Exit
Accession ID:	*				
Accession ID:	Year	Number	Item	Major Category:	Art Objects
1977.1.1	1977	1	1	Minor Category:	Original Art
				Sub Category:	Painting
Description:	Painting of sailing ship "Cape Horn" along the River Clyde in Scotland in 1878. Painted by Charles A. Miller, father of William Miller of Hoquiam (now deceased). Ship was the first all-steel sailing vessel. It carried sugar as cargo. Painting is in an oak frame.				
Location:	On Exhibit	Provenance History:			
Size:	2' 6" x 4' 3"	Painting last belonged to the son of the painter.			
Condition:	Very Good				
Donor Information:		Donation Date: 5/19/77			
Last Name or Organization Name:		First Name:			
Miller		Mrs. William			
Address:		311 23rd St.			
City:		Hoquiam		State: WA	
Donor Association:		Wife of the son of the painter.			

The Museum's first accession record, 1977.1.1, as it looks in the new computer database.

The database allows rapid access to Museum records in ways never possible with the old card catalog system. Records can be searched by accession number, category, description, donor, or any of the listed fields.

For example, you could print listings of all the artifacts located within a certain storage drawer, all that a particular donor had given, or all that had anything to do with a particular year.

# Thanks to Our Supporters

## Many Thanks to New Carpet Fund Donors

Our carpet fund continues to grow thanks to these generous new supporters.

Bob & Eva Aiken  
Charles & Terry Fultz  
Carl & Kaye Weber  
Holly & Jack Adams  
Theresa Jump  
Peter D. Krohn  
Ron & JoAnn Brown  
Clarence & Colleen Hamre  
Andrew Peterson  
Doris West  
Jerry & Jan Erickson  
The Rayonier Foundation

## Thanks to Grays Harbor Paper, L.P. for Paper Donations

You can thank Grays Harbor Paper, L.P. for the paper that you are now holding in your hands. The *Polson Museum News*, as well as all the Museum's printed and copied work are done on paper generously supplied by our local mill. Such material donations greatly help the Museum each year.

## As Always, Thank You!

Dedicated Members are the backbone of a strong museum.

## Polson Museum Membership — Consider the Benefits

The benefits of a Membership with the Polson are many.

- ♦ 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: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 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

# I n the P ark

## Vintage Car Show September 13

Sunday, September 13 is this year's Twin Harbors Vintage Car Club Picnic at the Polson Museum. Car club members and anyone with a vintage car are invited to park on the lawns and enjoy good company, the Park, and Museum.

We hope to see all of you here enjoying the historic automobiles.

## Museum Closed, July 24

The Museum will be closed Saturday, July 24 for the Director's private wedding reception.

## Lakeside Industries Improves 16th Street Lot: More Parking Available

An especially big thanks goes out to Lakeside Industries and Museum neighbor Mike Wilson for their efforts in improving the Museum's 16th Street lot. Mike organized the volunteer time and equipment to remove the uneven weed-infested dirt from the lot. Once leveled, crews placed and spread pavement grindings taken from the Simpson Ave. repaving job. The result is a serviceable space that will work as an overflow parking lot for Museum visitors.

## Hoquiam Parks Department Busy at Museum

If you've driven by the Museum lately, you've likely noticed the transformation of our yard and gardens. The City of Hoquiam Parks Department has been busy digging out the flower bed areas adjacent to the Riverside Ave. sidewalk, around the Lamb SpeedTrak, and in front of the Museum.

They then placed new weed barrier mats and filled in with beauty bark. Additionally, the crews did extensive brush clearing behind the blacksmith shop. In all, the Park is looking better than ever.



Dan Burnett and Vicki Burnett stand under the trellis they installed in the Burton Ross Memorial Garden.

## Rose Society Keeps Garden In Top Shape

If you haven't seen the Burton C. Ross Memorial Garden lately, you're missing out on the best crop of roses we've seen in years. Thanks to the addition of new roses, bedding material, and the watering system, the roses are looking healthier than ever.

The Grays Harbor Rose Society has spent numerous hours working in the garden this year, and their labors are obviously paying off.

Stop by and enjoy a stroll through the garden to see for yourself.

## New Rose Garden Trellis Donated by Burnett Family

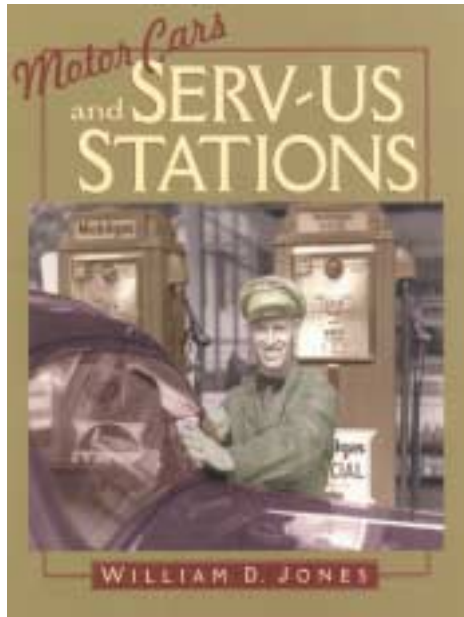
The most noticeable addition to the Ross Garden is the handsome wooden trellis that now graces the entry way. Rose Society member Vicki Burnett, her brother Dan Burnett and his two sons Jeff and Charlie all worked to install the arbor. Dan put the arbor together, Vicki stained it, and Jeff and Charlie set its bases in concrete.

The trellis was donated by the Burnett family in honor of Don and Darlene Burnett.



## Check Out this Summer's Feature Titles

Members receive a 10% Discount on all Museum Store purchases. Mail orders are available. Call or write for a full inventory of both new and used hard-to-find local interest books.



This 30 minute film exhibits previously unseen color 16mm footage taken by Maynard Laing in 1961 and 1962. Features matching sound recorded during the final days of Rayonier's steam operations. VHS \$19.95

We also carry on VHS the Rayonier production, *End of an Era*, which pays tribute to the passing of steam to diesel power in Rayonier's Grays Harbor logging operations. \$19.95

Local author William Jones captures four decades of Grays Harbor's motoring past in this nostalgic photographic record of area service stations. Paperback \$29.95



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Bulk Rate  
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- ♦ *Special Double Issue*
  - ♦ *Fuel Station Exhibit Featured*
  - ♦ *New Carpeting this Fall*
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