



Key Peninsula Historical Society

Goals for 2018 (developed October 10, 2017)

Goal A: Preserve our history

- Organize and scan originals and place in archival sleeves and notebooks.
- Once done, copy and assemble notebooks for public access.
- Continue preservation/restoration of the Vaughn Library Hall.
- Increase oral history interview to at least 3 next year.

Goal B: Present our history

- Provide educational opportunities to school children and other community groups.
- Explore options for providing KP history and community recognition through a variety of methods and funding.
- Increase our visibility by joining with other community groups for signage.

Dear Members and Friends,

It's February 22, a beautiful, sunny, snowy, day. After a short walk in the cold and wind, I'm sitting by the fire thinking about our year ahead. Seeing the hellebore and snow drops peeking through the snow reminds me that spring can't be far away. With it brings new activities for the year at the museum.

Our exhibit, *TIMBER-R-R-R, Tales of Logging the Key Peninsula*, has been launched with exciting new pictures and information about the Rainier Logging Company in the Minter area. As a bonus, at our Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 17, 2018, 12 to 3 p.m., we will have a speaker presenting on early logging, with a special emphasis on Rainier Logging Co. (1903-1922). This is probably the most important meeting of the year when you get a chance to vote for your officers and representatives. Now is the time to become an active participant by being a part of your Board of Directives. We are looking for more area representatives, so please let me know if you would be willing to serve. It is also an opportunity to bring a dish to share, such as main dish, salad or dessert along with your table service. Lunch together is a great time to catch up on happenings at the museum and with friends.

Early in March, we will gather at El Sombrero for our semi-annual dinner to raise funds that support our Peninsula High School scholarship fund. Pablo and Cathy de la Cruz generously donate 10% of the gross to our fund. Mark your calendar for Monday, March 12, from 5 to 9 p.m.

May 5th will see us hosting our Open House at the museum in conjunction with the Livable Community Fair at the Civic Center. Activities for children are always a highlight.

This spring we will again share our history with the Vaughn Elementary students for a "Living History Day." Their teachers present local history via our Traveling History Totes. This social studies curriculum features the history of the Key Peninsula from Native Americans through homesteaders. This gives students an opportunity to learn about the specific communities where they live.

Plans for a fundraiser are still in the works. If you have any ideas to share for an event please let me know.

Please check out the events calendar, progress on the Vaughn Library Hall, our exhibit and the membership list in this issue of your newsletter. Make sure your name is correctly listed, and if not, renew your dues now or check with me to correct any errors. Membership is required to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Thank you to those of you who dedicate your purchases at Amazon Smile and Fred Meyer. It is a painless way of adding income to our treasury and supports the work of the Society.

Warm Regards until we meet again,

Judy A. Mills, President

Djmills@centurytel.net or 253-225-9759

El Sombrero Fundraising Dinner
Monday, March 12 5:00 – 9:00pm
Key Center

ANNUAL MEETING — Saturday, March 17
12 noon – 3 pm Whitmore Room

Please bring a dish to share.
Remember to bring your own tableware.



Thank You

A Big Thank You to Our Community Support Network



El Sombrero Family Mexican Restaurant, Key Center
Food Market, Key Center
Trader Joe's, University Place
Cash and Carry, Bremerton
Purdy Costless Pharmacy
Albertson's, North Gig Harbor
Cape E Farm and Vineyard
Home Association Band, led by Dr. Roes
Main and Vine
ARC, Tacoma
Pierce County & Historic Landmarks Commission
Glen Pszczola
Ben B. Cheney Foundation

Olde Glencove Hotel
Cabin by the Sound
Subway, Key Center
Angel Guild, Key Center
Rusty Roots Bluegrass Band
Key Peninsula Parks
Key Peninsula Civic Center
Longbranch Improvement Club and Marina
Blue Grass Minstrels Band
Towey Productions, LLC
Lighthouse Coffee

Can you identify this object?

What is it? Our December item was a milking stool and was not identified by anyone.

First correct answer wins a copy of *Logging the Great Forests* by Leroy Challenger.

Respond to our email address at kphsmuseum@gmail.com



Turn your meal into a more vibrant museum

Join us for dinner at

El Sombrero Family Restaurant

Key Center, WA

and earn 10% of the receipts for the Key Peninsula Historical Society Museum!

Our thanks to Cathy & Pablo, Owners



Peninsula Food Market Receipts

Please keep your grocery receipts and turn them in at the museum. Through the support of you, the shopper, and the generosity of the Stolz Northwest Inc. at the Food Market, and Mavis Brown for tabulating, we received \$308.58 toward our Peninsula High School Scholarship.

Remember to use Amazon Smile and Fred Meyer for your shopping. Every penny helps provide preservation, presentation and education for our members, friends and our community.

TIMBER-R-R! Tales of Logging the Key Peninsula

By Paul Michaels, Bart Wolfe and Cynthia Wolfe

We are pleased to announce our new exhibit at the museum about the history of logging here on “The Key.” This exhibit replaces last year’s “Then and Now” exhibit and will be on display throughout the year. Come on down to see and enjoy!

This year’s exhibit highlights one of our area’s major industries.

Many photographs from the Society’s collection illustrate local logging practices, ranging from individual land owners, one tree at a time, to timber companies clearing large tracts of land. We point out the methods used through the years to harvest timber starting with floating logging camps that cut trees along the shore, to dragging logs along skid roads with oxen and horses, skidding logs with steam donkey engines and transporting them on railroads and eventually trucks. Artifacts also help to explain the working life of Key Peninsula loggers.

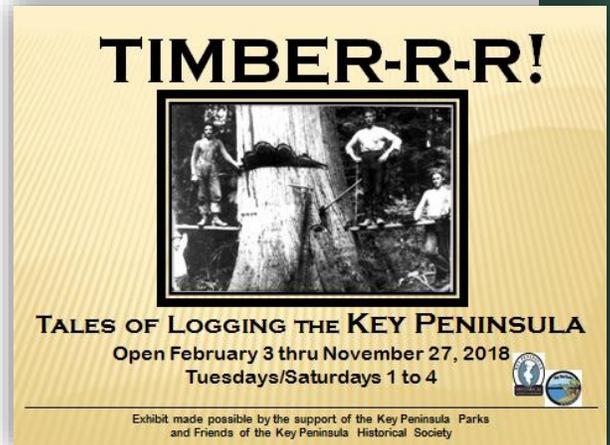
Early logging on the Key: The story begins in 1852. Lumber was in great demand, especially in California for the gold rush. Sea Captain Lafayette Balch of Steilacoom, looking for a source for large amounts of timber, “discovered” the Douglas Fir and Cedar trees growing right to the shoreline of the Key. That same year William Vaughn, also interested in timber, made the first land claim on, what is now, Vaughn Bay. Timber harvesting had begun.

Early logging was typically small scale. The first settlers cleared enough timber to build their homes and plant crops. This changed in the early 1870’s when Harry Winchester bought land in the Balch Cove area (now known as Glencove) and began shoreline logging. Trees were cut with axes and dropped directly into the sound where they were towed to sawmills. The nearest were in Steilacoom on Chambers Creek and in Tacoma. This lasted until the economic downturn of 1873 forced him to close. But by the late 1870’s he was back logging as well as owning and operating the “Messenger” one of the earliest steam ships in what would become the Mosquito fleet.

In 1883, Hans Nicolaus Petersen became Winchester’s partner. They created the first floating logging camp by Minter Creek. Floating log camps were literally that; logs tied together with buildings on top. The camp had bunk houses, a cook house, family quarters for the owners and, later, barns for oxen.

Floating log camps were convenient and cost effective. When an area was logged the entire camp could be floated to a new location and the process would be repeated. Even after shoreline logging ended and loggers had to move farther inland for timber, the floating camps were still used.

Logging operations evolved as technology met the demands of necessity. In upcoming issues of the Museum Messenger we will discuss changes to the logging operations.



Vaughn Library Hall restoration continues ...

By Bart Wolfe

The Vaughn Library Hall has successfully made it through the winter. We are moving forward and making progress toward its restoration. We are getting closer to securing a building permit and receiving historic designation from Washington State.

Most construction will have to wait until we get our building permit and the weather warms up.

However, our contractor, Chuck West, was able to replace the basement doors which were in very poor condition both weather wise and security wise. The new

doors are solid, secure and have a “look” that is consistent with what the building looked like 100 years ago.

We have received a plaque from Pierce County designating the hall as an historic place. The plaque is currently part of the museum’s display of Vaughn Library Hall and will eventually be installed in the hall itself after restoration is complete.

The “Washington State Advisory Council on Historic Preservation” will meet in Seattle on March 8 to vote on granting State historic designation for Vaughn Library Hall. The public is invited. Receiving State historic status is critical; it gives us the ability to secure the grant money necessary to pay for construction. The Washington State Historian also told us he believes we will qualify for the “National Register of Historic Places” after we complete some of our restoration!

Aspen Surveyors is completing a survey of our property including property lines and grades.

This is necessary so we can complete the site plan that Pierce County requires to secure our building permit.

Our structural engineer, John Hodge, has provided drawings for the hall’s repairs. Paul Michaels, Bart Wolfe, and Chuck West Construction will begin getting costs for the first construction phases. We will focus on repairing the building’s exterior plus work on the building’s electrical and mechanical systems. Budget numbers will be given to Don Tjossem who will pursue grant money.

With a bit of luck the first parts of “Vaughn Library Hall Restoration Construction” could start this year!

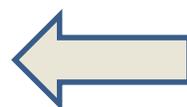


Museum Activities — Proposed Events for 2018

Calendar of Events	Date and Time
Weekly Work Parties	Tuesdays, 10:00am 'til done
El Sombrero Fundraiser, Key Center	Monday, March 12, Key Center 5:00-9:00pm
Annual Membership Meeting — bring something to share Rainier Logging Co. Presentation and Election of Officers	Saturday, March 17, 12:00–3:00pm
KPHS Spring Open House and Liveable Community Fair	Saturday, May 5 10:00am–3:00pm
Living History Day – Elementary students	June, TBD
Camping at Penrose — Penrose Park presentation	Saturdays: June 16 8:00pm, July 21 8:00pm, August 18 7:00pm
August Fund Raiser	TBD
Farm Tour Booth — Gateway Park	Saturday, October 6 10:00am–4:00pm
Teacher Open House	TBD
Annual Planning Retreat	Tuesday, October 16, 10:00am–4:00pm
El Sombrero Fundraiser, Key Center	Wednesday, October 24, 5:00–9:00pm
Little Buddies visit to the museum	TBA
Appreciation Open House/Winter Warm-up	Saturday, Nov. 10 10:00am – 3:00pm
Additional Education Opportunities Available Upon Request <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home School: History of the Key Peninsula Forest • Boy and Girl Scouts: Museum visit and KP History • History of Penrose Park • Classroom visits 	
Close for winter	November 27
<i>Society board meetings are held the first Tuesday of the Month year around. 10:30 coffee and memories. 11:00 meeting starts. All are welcome. Weekly work parties – 10:00am</i>	



Remember that with our switch to a calendar year
dues were due December 31, 2017, and are payable now.



Individual \$10, Family \$25, Patron \$100, Business \$50, VIP \$250, Life Time \$1,000



Key Peninsula Historical Society Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Level of membership: Single - \$10 Family - \$25 Patron - \$100 Business - \$50 VIP –\$250 Life Time – \$1,000 or more
 New Renew

Museum donation or gift: _____ Total _____ Check _____ Cash

Are you interested in volunteering? Yes No Maybe later

Mail to: Key Peninsula Historical Society, 17010 S. Vaughn Rd. KPN, Vaughn, WA 98394.

Museum Business

Key Peninsula Historical Society

Mission Statement

The mission of the Key Peninsula Historical Society is to gather, record, preserve and disseminate information on the history of the Pierce County area generally known as the "Key Peninsula," so that succeeding generations of residents will have a firm and accurate record from early exploration and settlement to the present.

Membership is important and can be a great gift for birthdays, Christmas or thank you's. 2018 dues are payable by December 31, 2017, to be current, but your membership is extremely important to us at any time as the strong foundation of the Key Peninsula Historical Society. Have you thought about the value of our historical society to our community?

Together we:

1. Collect, preserve, study, interpret, share the history of the Key Peninsula.
2. Act as a resource for research to individuals, families, businesses, organizations, governments, schools and authors.
3. Encourage members of the community to explore and celebrate our ongoing history.
4. Develop community bonds between friends and neighbors.

KPHS memberships paid for 2018

Dee & Jim Adams	Richard Minor (P)
Becky Alexander & Don Tjossem	Carland & William Nicholson
Christine & Kurt Anderson (P)	Walter Nordleaf
Ronda Anderson	Beverly Niemann
Kellie & Chad Bennett	Chris Niemann
Leona Britt (H)	Joyce Niemann (H)
Mavis & Ken Brown	Noel Niemann
Cathy Skahan Carlson	Terry O'Hara & Kathleen Rae
Nancy & Lynn Carr	Kathryn & Jim Olson
Francie & Rick Carr	Steve & Janie Powell
Nicole, Tony & Colton Carr	Jan & Denny Pritchard
Lucille Daniel	Susan Quigley & Delia McGinnis
Michael Dadisman	Dr. William Roes (B)
Julie & Dick Day	Dulcie Schillinger (H)
Nancy & Dave Deress Family	Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Peggy & Joe Dervaes	Colleen & Frank Slater
Donna Docken (L)	Gail Sparks (P)
Elvin Floberg	Marjorie Summerfelt (L)
Barbara Heard	Dennis Totten
Michael Hemp (The History Co.) (B)	Danna & Gordon Webster (P)
Phyllis Henry	Betsy & Doug Wheeler
Connie & Rich Hildahl	Robert & Mabel Whitman
Marcelle Hoey	Cathy & Ted Williams (P)
Diane Jackman	Barbara & Clark Van Bogart
Rob Hord & Ondine Bonser	Marlies & Richard Van Cise
Karen Kiehlmeier	Cynthia & Bart Wolfe (P)
Ron & Carla Kingsbury	
Betsy Kruse & Bill Drummond	
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl	
Leila Luginbill	
Mary Anne H. MacDonald	
Marianne McColley	
Elise & Paul Michaels	
Don & Judy Mills	
Martin & Robin Mills & Family	
Kristine, Gabe & Zack Mills	
Matthew & Lisa Mills & Family	

Annual Fund Donors for 2017-2018

Dee & Jim Adams	
Becky Alexander & Don Tjossem	
Christine & Kurt Anderson	
Ronda Anderson, memorial to Louise Turnbow	
Cathy Skahan Carlson	
Francie & Rick Carr	
Jamie & John Crase	
Lucille Daniel	
Julie & Dick Day	
Donna Docken, memorial to Gary L. Docken	
Barbara Heard	
Phyllis Henry	
Connie & Rich Hildahl	
Karen Kiehlmeier	
Ron & Carla Kingsbury	
Betsy Kruse & Bill Drummond	
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl	
Leila Luginbill, memorial to Leila & Harry Edmonds	
Mary Anne H. MacDonald	
Marianne McColley	
Elise & Paul Michaels	
Judy & Don Mills, memorial to Michael	
Carland & William Nicholson	
Beverly Niemann	
Chris Niemann	
Noel Niemann	
Terry O'Hara & Kathleen Rae	
Kathryn & Jim Olson	
Steve & Janie Powell	
Jan & Denny Pritchard	
Susan Quigley & Delia McGinnis	
Olive Bell Reid, memorial to Samuel Reid	
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen	
Gail Sparks	
Dennis Totten	
Danna & Gordon Webster	
Betsy & Doug Wheeler	
Robert & Mabel Whitman	
Barbara & Clark Van Bogart	
Marlies & Richard Van Cise	
Cathy & Ted Williams	
Cynthia & Bart Wolfe	

D — Donor
P — Patron
B — Business
L — Lifetime
H — Honorary

Ways you can support our efforts to preserve and present the history of the Key Peninsula



Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program

Fred Meyer will donate up to \$2.5 million each year to non-profit organizations like the Key Peninsula Historical Society. All you have to do is link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Key Peninsula Historical Society or use our NPO (non-profit number) #81208. You can also use our name -- Key Peninsula Historical Society. Every time you shop at Fred Meyer and use your Rewards Card, a portion of the purchase price will be donated to support the museum. Customers have to update their status once a year. You can do it online.

www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4

'B' Caring Program through Bartell's Drug Stores

Next time you visit your local Bartell's ask for a B Caring card application and designate the Key Peninsula Historical Society as your non-profit of choice and up to 4% of your purchase price will be donated to the Museum. Already have a card and want to add KPHS? Log into your account online or call 800-931-6258 and add the Key Peninsula Historical Society. <http://www.bartelldrugs.com/b-caring-card>

AmazonSmile Program

Do you shop at Amazon.com? If you do Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Key Peninsula Historic Society whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Just log in using the following link and you can get started. <https://smile.amazon.com>

The projects of the Key Peninsula Historical Society and Museum would not be possible without the generous support of our members and donors.

Museum Store

Our museum store offers a variety of books, mugs, t-shirts, maps and family tree charts. . If you are looking gifts while our store is closed, please call 253-884-2511 for a special opening to buy a bit of KP history.

Videos

On your next visit to the museum be sure to ask the docent to show you our videos on logging: "Steam Logging in History and Models," "Spar Tree," the "Geoduck Film" and "Our Town."

Peninsula High School Scholarship

This year we participated in the valuable scholarship program at PHS. In an effort to increase our support for next year we are asking you to save and send us your Food Market receipts so we can receive 1% of the sales through the generosity of your local Food Market in Key Center and Lake Kathryn. You can either drop off the receipts at the museum or send to KPHS at 17010 S. Vaughn Rd. KPN at Vaughn, WA. 98394.

Memorial Donations

All memorial donations are used to preserve and present the history of the Key Peninsula and are a wonderful way to remember loved ones and friends.

You can help!

Short on funds but you want to help the museum this year? Here are some ideas that might work for you:

- **Be a docent for the museum.**
Help keep the museum open by donating three hours once or twice a month on Tuesdays or Saturdays.
- **Help us compute.**
Share your computer skills with those who are just learning.
- **Help us sort and categorize current items in the museum.**
- **Help us with some carpentry and other maintenance projects.**
- **We need representation on the board from the Wauna and Horseshoe Lake area.**

Call 253.884.2511 or 253.884.5403 to find out what skills you can contribute to your museum.

KPHS 2017 Board Members

President

Judy Mills

Vice President

Bob Whitman

Treasurer

Cathy Williams

Secretary

Cynthia Wolfe/Christine Anderson

Membership

Bob Whitman and Judy Mills

Store Manager

Becky Alexander

Docent Calendar

Mavis Brown

Publicity

Colleen Slater

Education

Christine Anderson

Grants

Don Tjossem

PHS Scholarship Receipts

Mavis Brown

Oral History

Colleen Slater, Bob Whitman

Sunshine

Mavis Brown

Program Coordinator

Christine Anderson

Facebook

Leila Luginbill

Webmaster

Rob Hord

Special Projects

Paul Michaels, Bob Whitman, Bart Wolfe

Newsletter, Publications

Cathy Williams

Members at Large

Colleen Slater – Vaughn

Darcie Long – Key Center

Christine Anderson – Longbranch

Cathy Williams – Home

Jim Greetham – Lakebay

Paul Michaels – Glencove

Robert Whitman – Minter Creek

Wauna – Jack Shirts

Bart Wolfe – at large

Marjorie Summerfelt – at large

Diane Jackman — at large

Ron Schillinger — at large

Joyce Niemann – President Emeritus

Herron – Open

Rocky Bay – Open