

March MuseumMessenger

2019 Quarterly Newsletter of the Key Peninsula Historical Society



Key Peninsula Historical Society

Goals for 2019 (developed October 2018)

Preserve Our History

- Continue scanning notebooks for future digital access
- Schedule and complete three or more oral interviews
- Develop a recruitment plan for docents and members
- Continue restoration of Vaughn Library Hall

Present Our History

- Research and implement greater methods of visibility throughout the community
- Upgrade our permanent display cases
- Create and display a new one-year display
- Educate the youth of the KP about their local history

Dear Members and Friends,

It has been my honor to serve as your museum society president for these many years. I started as a real greenhorn, but with the dedication and skills of our museum community we have grown in so many ways. I was fortunate to have the support of many distinguished members who have lived and shared much of the history we are living through them.

With support from you and our generous sponsors, we are financially secure. Our museum hosts fantastic programs for all ages and communities, including our yearly changing exhibits. I am most proud of our Living History days provided to our elementary students with support from their teachers and our Traveling History Totes. It provides them with an opportunity to learn about this place they call home by experiencing activities that early settlers lived.

Our collection continues to grow as does our outreach through visibility, technology and individual interactions. Our artifacts and notebooks are in good order. Through our devoted docents, our motto to preserve and present our unique history will continue to be presented to all who enter our doors. Our website and facebook page reach many as demonstrated by the phone calls and emails I receive.

I am grateful to a generous family and the diligence of volunteers for the opportunity to preserve the Vaughn Library Hall, now on the Pierce County and State Historic registry and the National registry, in the future. The fun is just beginning as Phase I starts this spring.

My role will change, but I will not be going away, just wearing a different hat that will allow me to attend to family needs. Please continue to support your museum and the new board as you have done me. Our Key Peninsula Historical Society will continue to grow, evolve and become a more powerful link to our future as we preserve and celebrate the past.

With Warm Regards,

Judy A Mills, President
Key Peninsula Historical Society and Museum
253-225-9759

El Sombrero Fundraising Dinner
Wednesday, March 6 5:00 – 9:00pm
Key Center

ANNUAL MEETING — Saturday, March 16
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
Smart Foods, Bremerton
Purdy Costless Pharmacy
Albertson's, North Gig Harbor
Cape E Farm and Vineyard
Home Association Band, led by Dr. Roes
ARC, Tacoma
Pierce County & Historic Landmarks Commission
Glen Pszczola
Ben B. Cheney Foundation
Nadeau's Old 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
R&R Logging
QFC, Belfair
3 Melon Deli, Tacoma
Close to Home Espresso
Lulu's Homeport
West Sound Auction
Raymond Evergreens
Colleen Slater
Bear in a Box, Allyn
Kayla Kennedy
The Doyle Family
Diane Jackman
Lindsey Yuepp
Baywood Farm
Richard Minor



Upcoming Events

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!

A Big Thank You to
Cathy & Pablo,
Owners

Turn your meal into a more vibrant museum



Annual Meeting

for Members and Guests of the

Key Peninsula Historical Society

March 16, 12 noon to 3 p.m.

Whitmore Room in the KP Civic Center
Bring something to share and table service



Speaker, Jake Soule'
Admiralty Distillers, Port Townsend



"Hooch and spirits in days gone by"

Tastings will be offered with sparkling cider available, too.
A small donation is suggested

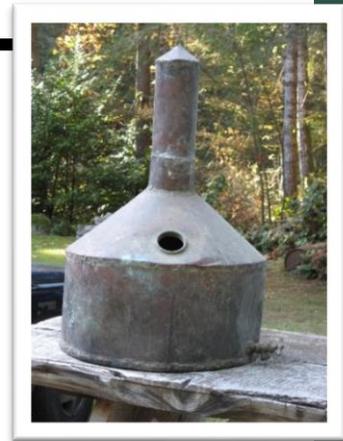


Election of Officers
Make sure your membership dues are up-to-date.
Check the list for your name.

This 'n That

Can you identify this object?

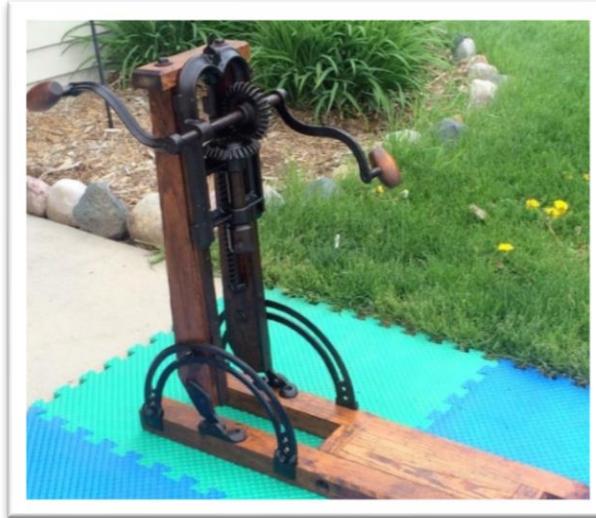
What is it? Our December item was identified by Ralph from Ohio. It is a still. Ralph has a perfect record for identifying our objects.



What is it?

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

Respond to our email address at kphsmuseum@gmail.com

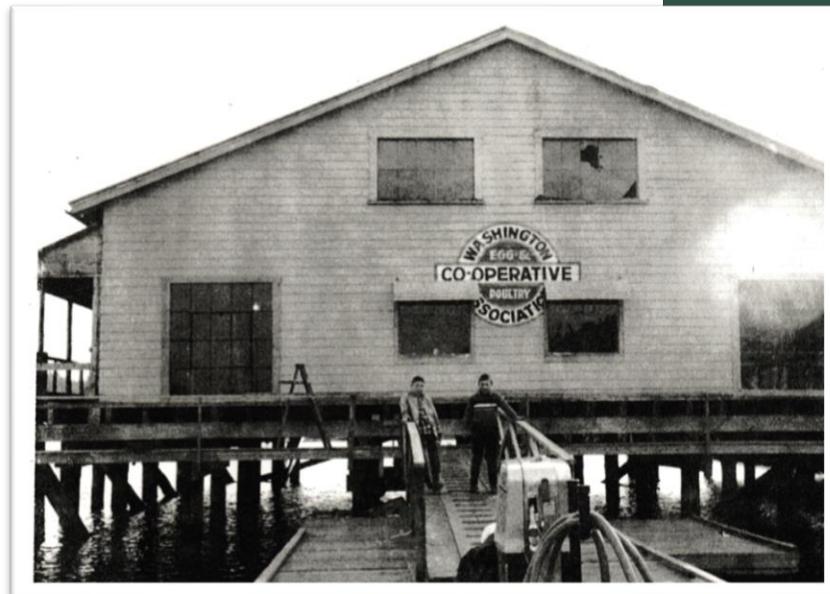


Tidbit from Virginia Tillman's Notes, *Early Days of the Key Peninsula*

A variety of fruit trees were planted on the acreage at Balch's Cove (Glencove). Mr. Peterson obtained fish from two fellows who brought the fish in a scow. Fifteen dollars per scow load. They pulled the scow up on the next high tide, floated the scow out again. Three fish were put in each hole before the trees were planted. Peterson bought forty acres in the area which is now Key Center. He planted the entire forty acres in prune trees. Here again, he put three salmon in each hole before planting the trees.

Status Update on the Washington Co-Operative Egg & Poultry Association, Lakebay Station 1928 – 1956

In 1917, the Washington Co-Operative Egg & Poultry Association was formed from an association of egg producers from Whatcom County, Whidbey Island and Silverdale in collaboration with Washington State College's (now WSU) Western Washington Experiment Station. The Lakebay Station was added in 1928 to provide a larger distribution system for the lower Kitsap Peninsula. The impact of the Lakebay co-op on the livelihoods of the residents on the KP was great. With over 370 members by 1940, it provided a way for the residents of the Key Peninsula to make a living, particularly during the Depression Years. The building was eventually sold and became the Lakebay Marina.



Because of the vital role the Lakebay co-op played in the lives of the residents on the Key Peninsula, the Pierce County Council has placed it on the Pierce County Register of Historic Places as of February 24, 2019.

Vaughn Library Hall gets ready for spring

By Bart Wolfe and Paul Michaels

Vaughn Library Hall,
January 2018



Exciting news at Vaughn Library Hall: After sitting quietly through the long, snowy (VERY SNOWY) winter the first construction work will start very soon!

We started off the New Year right by getting our building permit from Pierce County! Many thanks go to our consultant Terri Schultz of Permit Granted for all her efforts getting this accomplished.

Construction can now officially begin!!! We are pleased to announce that we have secured enough funding to allow us to repair all the foundations + make some repairs to the exterior wall framing. Paul and Bart have met with our General Contractor, Chuck West, to develop a schedule for this. Chuck is coordinating a time line with his crew; Paul and Bart will contact our team of volunteers so we can get our work completed by the time Chuck's team is ready to start. Now that the snow has finally melted we anticipate work can begin sometime in March. So, if you see concrete trucks moving down Hall Road it's a good guess they will be heading for Vaughn Library Hall!

This is just part of phase one. The entire first phase consists of making repairs to the building's structure as well as making the building both secure and weather tight. Future phases will focus on exterior and interior finishes plus new infrastructure.

There is a fair degree of urgency to phase one; the longer it remains in its current condition the more it will deteriorate and that will add even more cost. The main thing needed to get this first phase complete, as well as the future phases, is the capital to pay for it.

We have a good construction team for this restoration made up of both contractors and volunteers and we are working diligently to get the construction done in the most cost effective way. Luckily we have a good group of people willing to volunteer their construction skills so that will save us considerably! We are also pursuing grant \$\$ that can be used for restoration, but we have no guarantee when these might be available. That's why we're asking the community to step forward to financially support this important project.

Any size donations will be appreciated. To assist, we have created ways and levels of suggested giving. For instance you can buy a window or buy a door or some exterior wall repair. Can't decide? Well, you can also contribute by level:

1. Level 1: \$50 - \$99 = Front door level
2. Level 2: \$100 - \$499 = Dance Hall level
3. Level 3: \$500 - \$999 = Stage Level
4. Level 4: \$1,000 - \$4,999 = Library Level
5. Level 5: \$5,000 and up = Tower level

All donors' names will be listed on a commemorative plaque, unless they wish to remain anonymous, that will be on display when the hall is finished. And, because we are a non-profit, all donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law!

We're off to a good start with fund raising but we have a long way to go. We have a great team, who know how to stretch dollars as far as possible, and they're working hard to restore this correctly and in the most cost effective way. We're very aware that construction costs will continue to rise so the more funds we raise now the easier it will be to finish this wonderful project. Please help by giving what you can now. The Vaughn Library Hall needs to be preserved not just for us but for future generations. Many, many thanks to all those who help us do this!

Vaughn Library Hall — Anticipating Construction Phase 1

Answer the Call — Save the Hall!

The VLH is seriously dilapidated and repairs are urgently needed to its structure, as well as to make it secure and restore its weatherproofing. Future work will also restore its interior and exterior finishes.

Help us restore this important historic building!

1. The Vaughn Library Hall is the last of all the original meeting halls on the KP. Once, every community had one. Now all are gone except VLH.
2. The VLH is original and was built in 1893 as the community of Vaughn was founded.
3. The VLH has been recognized as an important building that should be saved and preserved. It is now listed on both the Pierce County Historic Building Register and the Washington State Historic Building Register.
4. It is one of the oldest buildings still standing on the KP. The floor, walls and ceilings are original (125 years old) and were made from trees growing on the site and milled at the nearby Van Slyke sawmill.

JOIN THE CELEBRATION, POUR THE FOUNDATION



New concrete foundation
\$100 per foot, need 200 feet

Foundation:

Kurt & Christine Anderson, 2 feet
Judy & Don Mills, 3 feet
Mywanway & Frank Shirley, 10 feet
Margo & Leroy Danforth, 5 feet, memorial to Marilyn Arnold
Carla & Ron Kinsbury, 5 feet



HELP THE PROJECT GROW, BUY A NEW WINDOW

New small window & frame \$ 700 ea, need 4
New medium window & frame \$1,000 ea, need 3
New large window & frame \$2,500 ea, need 13

RENEW THE DANCE HALL, BUILD AN EXTERIOR WALL



New exterior wall framing and sheathing,
\$200 per lineal foot, need 220 feet



THE HALL BY THE SHORES, NEEDS A COUPLE OF DOORS

New exterior door and frame \$2,000 ea, need 3
New interior door and frame \$1,400 ea, need 2

PHASE 1: *making it structurally sound, secure and weatherproof*

Levels of sponsorship

Front Door level	\$ 50
Dance Hall level	\$ 100
Stage level	\$ 500
Library level	\$1,000
Tower level	\$5,000

Checks can be mailed to 17010 S. Vaughn Rd. NW, Vaughn, WA 98394 or visit our website and make a gift via PayPal.

Friends of the VLH, Phase 1

Front Door level

Kurt Solmssen
Barbara Haley

Dance Hall level

Richard Minor
Donna Docken
Marsha Kremens & Jilly Eddy
Frank & Myvanway Shirley
Gary & Rose Gebo

Stage level

Phyllis Henry
Dulcie Schillinger

Library level

Bart & Cynthia Wolfe
Sara Thompson

Tower level

Robert & Mabel Whitman
Angel Guild

CACKLEBERRIES, HUMBLEBERRIES & HOOCH

Making a Living on the Key Peninsula

By Bart Wolfe and Paul Michaels

Our new exhibit opens at KPHS Museum!

We are pleased to announce our new exhibit at the museum about early industry here on “the Key.” This exhibit replaces last year’s “Timber-r-r-r” exhibit on logging and will be on display throughout the year. Come on down to see and enjoy!

This year’s exhibit highlights how the early settlers made a living here on The Key. Many photographs from the Society’s collection show portraits of some of our early settlers as well as the various types of work they tried in order to survive, and hopefully thrive. Artifacts also show some of the tools used as well as some of the products that they generated.

Some of you may be asking about the title of our show. So, to clarify for those:

- **“Cackleberries”** are eggs. The early settlers had a good sense of humor
- **“Humbleberries”** are huckleberries. This was probably an error from early census takers who either misheard or misspelled the actual occupation of huckleberry pickers. But the error was enjoyed and the name stuck.
- **“Hooch”** is...well you probably know that.

We’ll be talking about all these in upcoming issues of the Messenger.

Who were the early settlers and where did they come from? A lot were farm families, some coming from the New England area but most from the Midwest including the plains states. Their lives were hard and those who were farming in Kansas and Nebraska endured years of drought. So the Pacific Northwest, with abundant rainfall, sounded like just what they needed to make a better life.

But when they arrived they did not find the farmland some probably expected. They found a forest, a deep dense forest. So, before they could farm, they needed to clear the land. They became lumber jacks thus creating the first “industry” on the Key Peninsula. The “learning curve” was steep, especially for those who were more experienced with plows, and not all came through unscathed. But slowly, and with help from some professional logging companies who saw “Key trees” as a great money maker, the land was cleared.

By the 1880’s more and more settlers were arriving. Communities were started up and down The Key and now the settlers could focus on other jobs and ways of making a living more familiar to them. Not surprisingly most had to do multiple jobs to get by, some tasks continued throughout the year while others were seasonal. We will discuss some of these in upcoming issues, plus we’ll talk more about the role of “hooch”. But why not stop by the museum and see it all first hand. Hope to see you there!

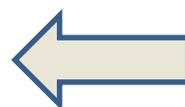


Museum Activities — Proposed Events for 2019

Calendar of Events	Date and Time
Weekly Work Parties	Tuesdays, 10:00am 'til done
Society board meetings	First Tuesday of the Month year round, except January, which will be January 8 th . 10:30 coffee and memories. 11:00 meeting starts. All are welcome.*
Museum re-opens with new exhibit, TBA	Saturday, February 2, 2019
El Sombrero Fundraiser dinner, Key Center	Wednesday, March 6 5:00–9:00pm
Annual Membership Meeting bring something to share and your own tableware	Saturday, March 16, 2019 12–3:00pm, Whitmore Room, KPCC (tentative)
KPHS Spring Open House and Liveable Community Fair	Saturday, May 4 10:00am – 4:00pm
Living History with Vaughn 3 rd and 4 th grades	May or June, TBD
El Sombrero Fundraiser dinner, Key Center	Wednesday, June 5 5:00–9:00pm
Summer event	TBD
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 	
Museum closes For special needs, email kphsmuseum@gmail.com or call 253-225--9759	Closes November 16; reopens February 1, 2010



Remember that with our switch to a calendar year
dues were due December 31, 2018, 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

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. 2019 dues are payable by December 31, 2018, 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.

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

KPHS memberships paid for 2019

Becky Alexander & Don Tjossem (P)
Gail Coblenz Alskog
Kurt & Christine Anderson
Kellie & Chad Bennet
Julie & Bill Bingham
Leona Britt (H)
Jan Brown
Mavis & Ken Brown
Francie & Rick Carr
Nancy & Lynn Carr
Jaime & John Crase
Michael Dadisman
Lucille Daniel
Donna Docken (L)
Nan Feagin
Elvin Floberg
Pat & Diane Grant
Rich & Joy Hanson
Sylvia Hasse & Virginia Liebergesell
Marcelle Hoey
Rob Hord & Odine Bonser
Diane Jackman
Karen Kiehlmeier
Carla & Ron Kingsbury
Jarvis Krumbein
Betsy Kruse & Bill Drummond
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl
Leila Luginbill (P)
Mary Anne MacDonald (P)
Marriane McColley
Paul & Elise Michaels
Don & Judy Mills
Lisa & Matthew Mills & family
Gabe, Zack & Kristine Mills
Robin & Martin Mills & family
Richard Minor (P)
Colter & Steffanie Mott (L)
William & Carland Nicholson
Beverly Niemann
Chris Niemann
Joyce Niemann (H)
Noel Niemann

Jim & Catherine Olson (P)
Sheri & Paul Page
Susan Quigley & Delia McGinnis
Adrienne Reuther
Dr. William Roes (B)
Heather Rogers
Dulcie Schillinger
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Dulcie Schillinger (H)
Frank & Myvanwy Shirley
Gail Sparks (L)
Marjorie Summerfelt (L)
Dennis Totten
Barbara & Clark Van Bogart
Doug & Betsy Wheeler (P)
John Whitman
Mabel & Robert Whitman
Cathy & Ted Williams (P)
Cynthia & Bart Wolfe (P)
James Wooldrigde

Annual Fund Donors for 2018-2019

Kurt & Christine Anderson
Kellie & Chad Bennet
Julie & Bill Bingham
Francie & Rick Carr
Lucille Daniel
Donna Docken (L)
Rich & Joy Hanson
Sylvia Hasse & Virginia Liebergesell
Marcelle Hoey
Karen Kiehlmeier
Jarvis Krumbein
Betsy Kruse & Bill Drummond
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl
Marriane McColley
Jill McJury
Judy & Don Mills, memorial to Michael Mills
Richard Minor (P)
Beverly Niemann
Chris Niemann
Noel Niemann
Jim & Catherine Olson (P)
Susan Quigley & Delia McGinnis
Heather Rogers
Dulcie Schillinger
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Dulcie Schillinger (H)
Frank & Myvanwy Shirley
Gerald & Linda Strand
Dennis Totten
Barbara & Clark Van Bogart
Mabel & Robert Whitman
Cathy & Ted Williams (P)
Cynthia & Bart Wolfe (P)

This is our current list. If you do not find your name and believe you paid your dues, please let us know. You may pay your membership dues using PayPal on our website at www.keypeninsulamuseum.org. Contact us via email at kphsmuseum@gmail.com, or leave a phone message at 253-888-3246. Send to checks to KPHS, 17010 S. Vaughn Rd. KPN, Vaughn, WA 98394

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



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 keeping the museum up and running.

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>

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) #KQ878. 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>

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.

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 2018 Board Members

President

Judy Mills

Vice President

Bob Whitman

Treasurer

Cathy Williams

Secretary

Cynthia Wolfe

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

Mavis Brown – Longbranch

Cathy Williams – Home

Bart Wolfe – Lakebay

Paul Michaels – Glencove

Robert Whitman – Minter Creek

Diane Jackman — Herron

Richard Minor – Rocky Bay

Wauna – Open

Marjorie Summerfelt – at large

Ron Kingsbury – at large

Ron Schillinger – at large

Jim Greetham – at large

Don Tjossem – at large

Joyce Niemann – President Emeritus