

October
2013

MuseumMessenger

Quarterly Newsletter of the Key Peninsula Historical Society



Key Peninsula Historical Society

Goals for 2013 (developed October 16, 2012,)

1. Achieve complete documentation of all artifacts in the museum to include identifying, labeling, photographing and entering in data base.
2. Collect oral histories from distinguished members of the community.
3. Plan current and future facility growth for increased space, storage, exhibit display, educational programming and presentations.
4. Increase membership and community participation through improved outreach activities.
5. Work toward national museum standards that can lead to accreditation.

The museum board of directors will be developing our 2014 goals on October 15, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the VFW room at the Civic Center. Please send suggested goals to kphsmuseum@gmail.com.

President's Message

In an effort to get the news into your hands quickly, my message will be brief .

Wow! We've had a busy summer with the completion of Kelson Mill's Eagle Scout Project of cataloging artifacts and data entry of those artifacts by Donna Smeall; booths at the Blue Willow Lavender Farm and Old Timer's Day; cruising and learning history about Case Inlet on *My Girl*; picnics about logging at the late Dale Boquist home and learning Lakebay Marina History (formerly the Western Washington Poultry & Egg Co-op) from Colleen Slater; presentations at Penrose Park and "Storytime for Young Learners" by Christine Anderson, Cathy Williams and Connie Hildahl; and a wonderful visit to Fort Steilacoom Historical Museum.

The frosting on the cake was learning that we had been awarded a 2013 Pierce County Historic Preservation Grant from the Pierce County Landmarks and Historic Preservation Commission. The grant was written by Christine Anderson, with help from Connie Hildahl and myself, to continue and expand our ability to provide educational programs about our rich history for a wide range of diversified groups.

We are continuing to do video tape and oral history interviews with some of our distinguished residents so that their stories of life on the Key Peninsula are preserved for future generations.

The accession committee — Noel Niemann, Colleen Slater and Don Mills — met to review and accept many new items, such as a huckleberry cleaner, stock certificates, and a toy John Deere into our collections.

Hope to see you at our upcoming events as listed in our current calendar.

Judy Mills, President
253-884-2511 or djmills@centurytel.net

The belief in a thing makes it happen. – Frank Lloyd Wright



Huckleberry
Cleaner

Fall General Meeting and Logger's Forum

Saturday, November 16th 12:00 noon to 3 p.m. VFW Room

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

Featured Museum Exhibit

The Rise of the Lumber Industry, 1852–1883 Early Entrepreneurs

The California Gold Rush in 1848 and growth in San Francisco brought outside investors. They built wharfs and mills, funded logging operations and started shipping businesses.

Captain Carl Lorenz played a major role in the development of Lakebay as a community. Carl and his family left Germany for the U.S. in 1871, landing in St. Paul, Minn., where they lived for over a year before Carl and his brother Edward headed west to look for a homestead. They had originally planned on settling in the San Francisco area, but reports of untapped resources in the north caught the attention of Carl. He headed north, arriving in Orting in 1873. In October 1875, his wife Louise and their three children arrived in San Francisco and signed on as passengers aboard the *Pacific* for their final leg of the journey west. Though Carl's original plans included building a sawmill somewhere on Puget Sound, the family homesteaded in Orting. However, the flooding Puyallup River swept their home away. For a brief time they lived in Seattle, where Carl, who had trained as a carpenter in Germany, helped build homes. He eventually moved his family to Tacoma in 1878.

In 1882, a chance meeting with Tacoma businessman Henry Mahncke brought Carl's search for a location for his sawmill to an end. Lorenz and Mahncke boarded the *Messenger* together and set out for Devil's Head. They hiked through the Peninsula to Lakebay. Lorenz chose the lake, the stream and bay for his future home and new business. He moved his family again, homesteading in Lakebay, and started putting his plans together for the first sawmill on Key Peninsula.

"With pick and shovel he diverted the water flow into a series of flumes in the Bay Lake stream, which had an ample flow of water at that time. He then built a moveable gate to control the flow of the water to the large water wheel that provided power for the sawmill." *Early Days of the Key Peninsula*
For a short time he operated a partnership with Friedrich Raasch under the name of the Lake Bay Lumber Mill.

Small booms of logs were towed into Lakebay for sawing into lumber. Lorenz and his sons built a large scow in order to transport this lumber to Tacoma. However, they found that trying to row through the Narrows and around Point Defiance was much too difficult. As a result, in 1884 they built and launched a bigger, steam-powered boat — *Sophia*. Lorenz eventually transported not only his lumber to market in Tacoma, but brought many passengers to and from the Peninsula. In 1886, he applied to the U.S. government for a four-year mail contract, which he was granted.

Eventually shipbuilding and steamboating not only became the passion of the Lorenz family, but also provided the growing population of the Key Peninsula a means of staying connected with the rest of Puget Sound.



Farm Day,
Oct. 2012



Cruisers aboard
the *My Girl*
enjoying a history
lesson on
Case Inlet
July 2013

Museum Store

Visit the museum store where we have a variety of books, mugs, t-shirts, maps, and family trees. Dulcie Schillinger, store manager, has just reprinted *Parade of the Pioneers*, an excellent account of the early days in Vaughn by Bertha Davidson. We also have a new book by local author Don Tjossem called *Gig Harbor*. All these items make excellent gifts.

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," on loan from the estate of Dale Boquist, and "Spar Tree," shared by Myvanwy and Frank Shirley.

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 have been received in memory of **Cindy Radonich Walters** from Dulcie Schillinger; Judy and Don Mills; Molly, Heidi, Becky and Marge Radonich; Shirley Olson and Family; Molly McAllister; Laura Rosnagel (BNHS fund). Joyce Niemann made a donation in memory of **Dan Stoican**. All memorial donations are used to preserve and present the history of the Key Peninsula and re a wonderful way to remember loved ones and friends.

Museum Activities — 2013

Calendar of Events	Date and Time
Farm Day: <i>Harvesting Huckleberries</i>	October 5, Gateway Park 10 a.m.– 4 p.m.
KPHS Board Retreat and Planning Day	October 15, VFW Room 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Fall Education Home School Classes on History of Key Peninsula Forests: <i>Native Americans to Early Logging</i>	October 2 rd , October 9 th , October 16 th , October 23 th Primary and Intermediate Classes 9 – 11 a.m.
Pre-School Morning at the Museum: <i>Dads and Doughnuts</i>	October 19, 9:00 – 10:00:a.m.
KPHS Open House and Community Appreciation Day <i>Christmas in the Lumber Camps</i>	November 9, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Fall General Meeting and Logger's Forum Bring something to share and your table service	November 16, VFW Room 12 noon – 3 p.m.
Museum closes <i>Museum closed December 1 – January 24</i>	November 30
Winter Workshop for All Ages: <i>Timeline of Forests on the Key</i>	January 25, 2014 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
<i>Museum board meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at the museum, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. . All are welcome.</i>	

KPHS Members

Betty and Doug Lewis	Lynn and Nancy Carr	Colleen Slater	Katherine and James Olson	Carla and Ron Kingsbury
Mark and Cindy Scott	Sandy Elken	Christine and Kurt Anderson	Barbara and Clark VanBogart	Marlies and Richard VanCise
Michelle Kastner	Olive Reed	Catherine and Ted Williams (P)	Margo and Bruce MacDonald	Jud Morris
Julie and Bill Bingham	Chris Niemann (D)	K.B. Kiehmeier (D)	Rosemary and Dick Brynestad	Sharon and Lloyd Miller (D)
Betty Van Slyke	Mabel and Robert Whitman	Donna Gates-Smeall	Karen Poole	Hazel Kingsbury
Dulcie Schillinger	Carland and William Nicholson (D)	Shirley Olson	Mary Mazur	Nancy and Tom Howard
Ron Schillinger	Judy and Don Mills	Danna Webster	Sylvia Haase and Virginia Liebergesell	Marge Radonich
Janet Botnen	Lisa and Matthew Mills	Barbara and George Heard	Andrea Jewell	Nathan Welsh
Evelyn Evans and Sons	Kristine, Gabe and Zach Mills	Eunice and Richard Werner	Phyllis Henry	Mike Walker
Joyce Niemann	Robin and Martin Mills	Frank Grubaugh	Erik Ferrel	
Nicole and Tony Carr	Helen Fravel	Janet and David Robertson	Richard Minor (P)	
Mavis Brown	Paul Michaels	Connie and Rich Hildahl	Holly and Denise Hendrick	
Curt Knudson (D)	Noel Niemann (D)	Lindsey and Randy Babich	Donald Tjossem	
Marge Summerfelt	Myvanwy and Frank Shirley (P)			

Welcome to our new members:

Anne and Bob Delaney
Tracy Fors

D — Donor
P — Patron

*We are sending this newsletter to our 2012 and 2013 members, so if you don't see your name please renew and join the fun.
Send to KPHS, 17010 S. Vaughn Rd. KPN, Vaughn, WA.98394*

Key Peninsula Historical Society Membership Form

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 E-mail: _____
 Phone: _____

Level of membership: Single - \$10 Family - \$25 Patron - \$100 Business - \$50

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.

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 Thursdays 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 2013 Board Members

President

Judy Mills

Docent Calendar

Shirley Olson

Special Projects

Don and Judy Mills

Vice President

Joyce Niemann

Fund Raising

Connie Hildahl

Newsletter

Cathy Williams

Treasurer

Cathy Williams

Publicity

Colleen Slater

Members at Large

Colleen Slater – Vaughn
Betty Van Slyke – Vaughn
Shirley Olson – Key Center
Marge Radonich – Longbranch
Cathy Williams – Home
Paul Michaels – Glencove
Robert Whitman – Minter
Donna Gates-Smeall – at large

Secretary

Mavis Brown

Education

Christine Anderson and
Connie Hildahl

Membership/Store Manager

Dulcie Schillinger