



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

I hope you are looking forward to a fun summer and your plans are mostly in place. The museum is sponsoring another cruise this summer, so I'm hoping that your calendar will be able to accommodate that. We are planning a trip into Commencement Bay, starting on Dock Street in Tacoma aboard the *My Girl*. You may recall that this was the boat we used on our last cruise. This event is currently scheduled for August 11, so hold that date. There will be two cruises in one day: a lunchtime cruise and a sunset cruise. Attached to this email is all the information you need to reserve your place on the *My Girl*.

I would like to take this space here to thank Judy Mills for the hard work and dedication she has provided to the museum these past many years. She has done so much for the KPHS and our community. I know I have big shoes to fill. I will strive to continue the level of professionalism that she has established. All of us who have worked with her know how much the museum and the community mean to her, and it's been an honor to work side-by-side and learn. We all feel very lucky in that she has agreed to remain on the Board as the representative from Wauna and will continue working as the head of the Education Committee. She and Joe Dervaes will also work on the Membership Committee, and she's working with Don Tjossem on searching for museum grants. I've also asked her to give me a nudge when/if as needed in case I wander off in the wrong direction.

Vaughn Library Hall now has a new foundation, and the floor has been leveled as much as it can be. Chuck West is the contractor who has been working with us, and we've been very grateful for his guidance on what needs to be done first, etc. Don Tjossem just finished up a grant request to the Cheney Foundation asking for help to buy some windows for VLH. Fingers crossed that they like what they see!

If you haven't been to the museum lately, please drop by and see our exhibit for this year — *Huckleberries, Cackleberries and Hooch*. There are some fun items on display and some new pictures depicting the many and varied ways people made a living here in earlier days on the KP.

Thank you everyone for your dedication to, and support of, the KPHS. You are very much appreciated.

Cathy Williams, president
253-347-4313

August 11, 2019
2 time slots: 10:00-1:00pm and 5:00-8:00pm
See details attached

**LET'S GO
CRUISING!**



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

Please join us for a cruise on Commencement Bay aboard the *My Girl* on August 11. There will be two cruises in one day: a Luncheon cruise from 10:00-1:00pm and a Sunset cruise from 5:00-8:00pm. Food will be provided and there will be a no-host bar available. This is a fundraiser for the continuing restoration of the Vaughn Library Hall.



The attached document has all the information about the cruise and how to sign up for it. There are only 60 spaces available on each sailing, so get your places reserved early. The price is \$100 apiece, and includes food that will be provided by a local catering company. A no-host bar will be provided. Both cruises will board and leave from the *My Girl* docking station, located at 650 Dock Street on Commencement Bay in Tacoma. It has easy access and lots of available parking.

In Memory — Don Mills

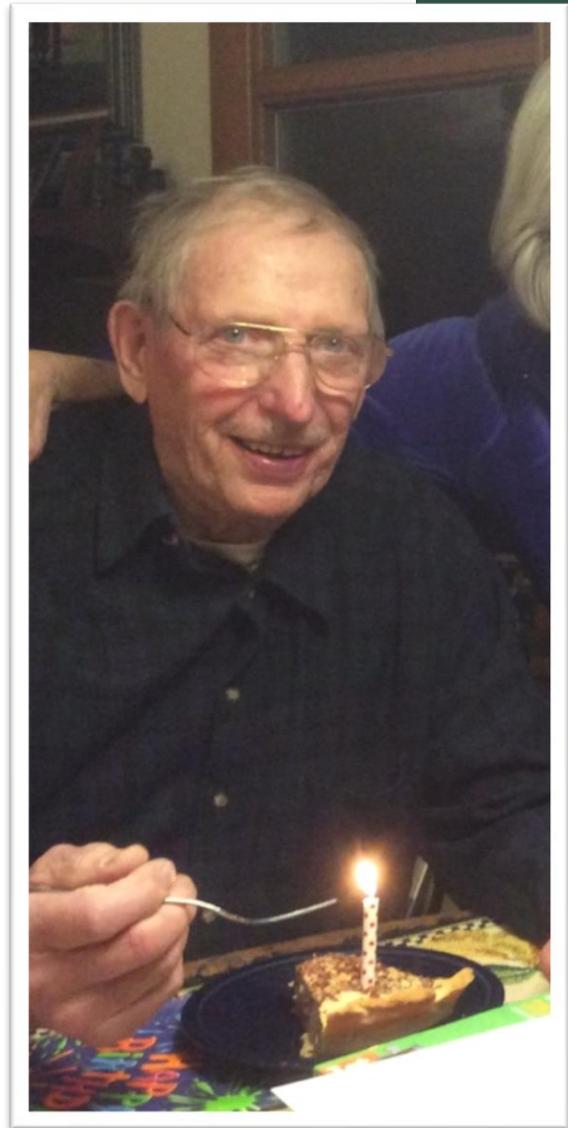
Donald Wayne Mills, born February 27, 1935, passed away peacefully at his fifth-generation family home on June 4, 2019. He was the grandson of Helen and Dominic Mills, a pioneer family of the Key Peninsula, and son of Bertha and Theodore Mills. Don never met a stranger in his life; he was gregarious, fun-loving and witty. Don was a loving husband, father and grandfather who gave generously of himself to the community which was so important to him.

He was proud of his eight years of Naval service after graduating from Peninsula High School in 1953. His first job was logging in the Olympic Mountains and Alaska, and his career as a journeyman master electrician spanned more than 50 years, including ownership of Penelco, Inc. He influenced the lives of many through Boy Scouts of America, Peninsula Athletic Association, and by development of Volunteer Park while acting as an original KP Park Commissioner. He served the Key Peninsula Civic Center for many years as a volunteer and past president. A volunteer firefighter for over twenty years, Don retired as the last volunteer fire chief for Key Peninsula Fire District 16. He was a 50+ year member of the Elks, Key Peninsula Historical Society, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and National Rifle Association. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, camping, boating, hiking in his beloved Olympic Mountains, and crafting beautiful carpentry pieces. He completed all projects with great skill, and his gentle kindness and patience will be remembered.

Don is survived by wife of 57 years, Judy. Together, they raised sons Matthew (Lisa), Michael (Kris), and Martin (Robin), and seven grandchildren: Kelson, Mackenzie, Gabriel, Zachary, Ruby, Bailey and Sawyer. Don is also survived by sister, Lynn, sister-in-law, Jane Glundberg, nephew, Blake Glundberg (Janna, children: Loki, William, and Smith), and niece Melissa Dixon (Brian). Special thanks for the loving care of friend, Nadine, and the Franciscan Hospice team (Rachel, Sandy, Amy, Chris, Eileen and Karen).

The family will gather for a private farewell.

Remembrances may be made to the Key Peninsula Historical Society in support of the Vaughn Library Hall restoration project: KPHS, 17010 S. Vaughn Rd NW, Vaughn, WA 98394 or www.keypeninsulamuseum.org.



Vaughn Library Hall Restoration Has Begun!

By Bart Wolfe and Paul Michaels

Vaughn Library Hall,
May 2019



We are very pleased to report that the first phase of construction to restore the Hall is underway and the building is now safely sitting on a new foundation.

Over the last couple months a lot has happened to get us here.

First, our fantastic group of volunteers removed the old siding in the way of new foundations and found what was left of the original foundations — wood stumps and logs sitting on rocks!!

After installing jacks to temporarily support the building these were removed along with a lot of dirt and debris that has been filling the crawlspace for decades.

Then our General Contractor, Chuck West Construction, + his concrete contractor, Lystad Construction, got to work. They excavated for new foundations and poured the concrete. They then re-framed between the new foundations and the floor framing. They were even able to take some of the slope from the floor, due to settling over time, before setting it back on the new supports. Our floors are now more level and on a solid foundation!

Paul and Bart will meet with Chuck West to determine how much more construction can be done with our current amount of funding.

Speaking of funding, we are still hard at work trying to secure additional funds. The bulk of the restoration is still ahead including new doors, windows, exterior finishes, interior finishes + a new heating / cooling system and new electrical system. We continue to prepare applications for grant funding but, we've learned, there is no guarantee we will receive these. 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!

KPHS is committed to restoring the Hall to its former glory. Our sincere 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

Joe & Peggy Dervaes
Kurt Solmssen
Barbara Haley

Dance Hall level

Jim & Dee Adams
Richard Minor
Donna Docken
Marsha Kremens & Jilly Eddy
Bruce & Margo Macdonald
Frank & Mywanway Shirley
Joyce Niemann
Gary & Rose Gebo

Stage level

Leona Britt
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

Tales from our current exhibit at the KPHS Museum!

Have you had a chance to stop by the museum to see our current exhibit? If not, we hope you'll come on down soon. And bring the family!

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.

In this issue we'll discuss the "Cackleberry" part of the exhibit. The early settlers slowly cleared enough land out of the dense forest they found (timber harvesting thereby was the first industry on the Key) to create farms, the next major industry. Early Key Peninsula settlers saw farming as a multi-faceted operation. They needed food for themselves and they needed enough more to sell or trade for everything they couldn't produce themselves. They planted and harvested a variety of seasonal crops as well as fruit from trees they planted. Most farmers also tried raising a range of farm animals from cows, horses and pigs to turkeys and chickens – especially chickens.

Chickens became a very important component of farming and the farmers saw in the eggs, or "cackleberries" they produced, an excellent way to improve their lives. In 1928, the KP farmers created an egg co-op so they could get their eggs to the fast growing urban areas on the other side of the Sound. They erected a building on the water, the current Lakebay Marina, to be the central point of collection and distribution. Here eggs from each farmer were logged in and briefly stored before getting shipped to the mainland via the Mosquito Fleet boats. And, in return, the boats would deliver supplies each farmer ordered – flour or tires or whatever the families needed but couldn't make themselves. The eggs were bartered for the other goods and another industry was born.

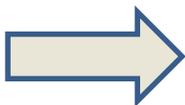
Most families on the Key joined the co-op. Over time, and with a lot of chickens on each farm, thousands of eggs were shipped out every month! It was a hard living, especially before the arrival of electricity, but it helped give the families enough to make a living. It even got them through the Great Depression in better shape than many other folks.

The early settlers were a hardy and inventive bunch – they had to be! Conventional farming was their primary activity but it wasn't their only activity. As they got to know "The Key" they began to see other ways to earn a few more dollars. In the next issue we'll discuss the role of "humbleberries." And, don't worry, we won't forget to talk about "hooch" as well. In the meantime, come by the museum and see the whole show!

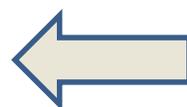


Museum Activities — Proposed Events for 2019

Calendar of Events	Date and Time
Weekly Work Parties	Tuesdays, 10:00am 'til done
Society board meetings	First Tuesday of the Month year round. 10:30am coffee and memories. 11:00am meeting starts. All are welcome.*
Museum re-opens with new exhibit, TBA	Saturday, February 2, 2019
Living History with Vaughn 3 rd and 4 th grades	June 10 and June 11 at the museum
Penrose Point State Park — history of the park given in the amphitheater	June 15, 8:00pm; July 20, 8:00pm; August 17, 7:00pm
Cruise on Commence Bay	August 11; 10:00-1:00pm and 5:00-8:00pm
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 	
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. NW, 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

Dee & Jim Adams
Becky Alexander & Don Tjossem (P)
Gail Coblenz Alskog
Kurt & Christine Anderson
Kellie & Chad Bennet
Julie & Bill Bingham
Leona Britt (H)
Marcia & George Brooke
Jan Brown
Mavis & Ken Brown
Christopher Budd
Francie & Rick Carr
Nancy & Lynn Carr
Tom, Nicole & Colton Carr
Jaime & John Crase
Matthew Cozby
Michael Dadisman
Lucille Daniel
Richard & Julie Day
Nancy & Dave Deress
Joe & Peggy Dervaes
Donna Docken (L)
Bob Evans & Eloise Richardson
Nan Feagin
Elvin Floberg
James Glively
Pat & Diane Grant
James Greetham
Daniel Handa
Rich & Joy Hanson
Sylvia Hasse & Virginia Liebergesell
Michael Hemp
Art & Paula Hinzman
Marcelle Hoey
Rob Hord & Ondine Bonser
Robin Hyde
Diane Jackman
John & Andrea Jewel

Tim & PJ Kezele (B)
Karen Kiehlmeier
Carla & Ron Kingsbury
Jarvis Krumbein
Betsy Kruse & Bill Drummond
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl
Darcy Long
Leila Luginbill (P)
Bruce & Margo Macdonald
Mary Anne MacDonald (P)
Mary Mazur
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
Terry O'Hara & Kathleen Rae
Becky Olson
Jim & Catherine Olson (P)
John Olson, DDS (B)
Sheri & Paul Page
Jan & Dennis Pritchard
Susan Quigley & Delia McGinnis
Adrienne Reuther
Dave & Janet Robertson
Dr. William Roes (B)
Heather Rogers
Harry & Brynn Rydell
Dulcie Schillinger (H)
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen

Frank & Myvanwy Shirley
Colleen & Frank Slater
Gail Sparks (L)
Gerald & Linda Strand
Marjorie Summerfelt (L)
John Taylor
Dennis Totten
Barbara & Clark Van Bogart
Gordon & Danna Webster
Doug & Betsy Wheeler (P)
John Whitman
Mabel & Robert Whitman
Cathy & Ted Williams (P)
Cynthia & Bart Wolfe (P)
James Wooldridge

Annual Fund Donors for 2018-2019

Kurt & Christine Anderson
Kellie & Chad Bennet
Julie & Bill Bingham
Francie & Rick Carr
Lucille Daniel
Richard & Julie Day
Joe & Peggy Dervaes
Donna Docken (L)
Nan Feagin
Rich & Joy Hanson
Sylvia Hasse & Virginia Liebergesell
Marcelle Hoey
Karen Kiehlmeier
Jarvis Krumbein
Betsy Kruse & Bill Drummond
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl
Mary Mazur
Marriane McColley
Jill McJury
Judy & Don Mills, memorial to Michael Mills
Richard Minor (P)
Beverly Niemann
Chris Niemann
Noel Niemann
Becky Olson
Jim & Catherine Olson (P)
Jan & Dennis Pritchard
Susan Quigley & Delia McGinnis
Adrienne Reuther
Heather Rogers
Dulcie Schillinger (H)
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
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. NW, 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

Cathy Williams

Vice President

Ron Schillinger

Treasurer

Joe Dervaes

Secretary

Cynthia Wolfe

Membership

Joe Dervaes and Judy Mills

Store Manager

Becky Alexander

Docent Calendar

Mavis Brown

Publicity

Colleen Slater

Education

Judy Mills

Grants

Don Tjossem

PHS Scholarship Receipts

Mavis Brown

Oral History

Judy Mills and Cathy Williams

Sunshine

Mavis Brown

Program Coordinator

Judy Mills

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 – Leila Luginbill

Bart Wolfe – Lakebay

Paul Michaels – Glencove

Robert Whitman – Minter Creek

Diane Jackman — Herron

Richard Minor – Rocky Bay

Wauna – Judy Mills

Marjorie Summerfelt – at large

Ron Kingsbury – at large

Ron Schillinger – at large

Jim Greetham – at large

Don Tjossem – at large

Joyce Niemann – President Emeritus