

September
2020

MuseumMessenger

Quarterly Newsletter of the Key Peninsula Historical Society



Key Peninsula Historical Society

Goals for 2020 (developed October 2019)

Preserve Our History

- Acquire Peninsula High School yearbooks from 1947– current year
- Revise the oral interview form; achieve 1 interview in 2020
- Develop a recruitment plan for docents and get former members to return

Present Our History

- Work with other KP organizations to increase our visibility
- Upgrade all our permanent display cases
- Continue educating the youth of the KP about their local history; take advantage of the opportunities at the schools to do this

Dear Members and Friends,

It's hard to believe that we've already spent the spring, the summer and now the fall, staying away from crowds and wearing a mask. We hope that you have not felt too isolated and have been able to get out to see some family and friends in small groups. We miss you! I have even missed getting stuck behind a yellow bus that is stopping every half mile to pick up our youngsters on their way to school.

Because of the ban on large groups and the continued closure of the Civic Center, we will not be having our annual meeting this year. We will continue on with our current slate of officers as they now stand, and hopefully, we will meet again in the spring.

Since COVID has closed our museum, we have decided to keep our current exhibit up for next year. We will expand on it, and look at what our women ancestors did once they got electricity out here on the KP. Our plan is to take the exhibit up to the 1950s.

We are happy to report that we applied for two grants in 2019-20 and have received funding from them. From the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation – Sivinski Fund we received \$4,700, and from the Pierce County Landmarks and Historic Preservation Commission we received \$20,000. These gifts, plus a couple generous gifts from our members, have enabled us to complete the purchase of the windows and doors we needed, plus build an access ramp so we can easily get into the Vaughn Library Hall. If you haven't driven by lately, please go and take a look.

This year's exhibit – *The Pioneer Women Who Dared* - is still up at Blend Wine Shop, in case you'd like to drop by and see it. However, it will be coming down at the end of the month. It is a shortened version, but the information we most wanted to share with everyone is posted there. If you haven't had a chance to see it, please do stop by, wear your mask, take a look and buy a coffee, beer or glass of wine. There is outdoor seating around the back under the tent. Again, I want to thank Don and Molly Swensen for allowing us to put the display up in there. Don says there has been lots of interest in it. I'm encouraging any of you who are related to these women to please write your name on their card.

We also want to encourage you to start, or continue on, with your own ancestry searches. We have had several inquiries at the museum this summer from people looking for their lost families. It's been fun to try and help them.

Enjoy the fall and the beautiful colors that come with it. Stay healthy, wear your mask, and reach out and connect via phone, email or USPS to those who you have not seen in a while.

Cathy Williams, president
253-347-4313



Thank You!



A Big Thank You to Our Community Support Network

El Sombrero Family Mexican Restaurant,
Key Center
Food Market, Key Center
Purdy Costless Pharmacy
Albertson's, North Gig Harbor
Home Association Band, led by Dr. Roes
ARC, Tacoma
Pierce County & Historic
Landmarks Commission
Glen Pszczola
Chuck West Construction
and Contracting, LLC

Ben B. Cheney Foundation
Nadeau's Old Glencove Hotel
Cabin by the Sound
Subway, Key Center
Angel Guild, Key Center
Key Peninsula Parks
Key Peninsula Civic Center
Longbranch Improvement Club
and Marina
Towey Productions, LLC
Lighthouse Coffee

R&R Logging
Washington Trust for
Historic Preservation
Close to Home Espresso
Colleen Slater
The Doyle Family
Diane Jackman
Richard Minor
Blend Wine Shop

KPHS 2020 Exhibit — Pioneer Women Who Dared

Blend Wine Shop extended the days that the display could be up. If you want to catch it before the end of the month, the hours are:

TUES - THURS: Noon to 6pm
FRI: Noon to 8pm
SAT: Noon to 6pm.

If you go, please note that you will need to wear a mask and keep a distance of 6 feet away from people other than your family.

Buy a coffee, beer or wine – or cider if it's on tap – and take it outside to the big tent in the back. There are tables and chairs available.

And if you see Don or Molly Swensen, please let them know how much we appreciate them letting us put up our display.

There is also some wonderful art on display that has been created by some of our local artists.

Enjoy!

Interested in Exploring Your KP Family Tree?

If you are interested in looking into your ancestors here on the Key Peninsula, please send us an email. We will do what we can to help you out.

kphsmuseum@gmail.com

Vaughn Library Hall —

Covid-19 and wildfire smoke won't stop us!

By Bart Wolfe and Paul Michaels

The old credo of the USPS comes to mind these days. It starts: “Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night...”. For the restoration of Vaughn Library Hall we paraphrase it these days by saying: “Neither Covid-19 nor wildfire smoke stays our volunteers, and Chuck West’s crew, from the swift completion of our ongoing tasks.” In other words, our progress happily continues.

You’ll recall, in the last issue, that we had received the new windows and exterior doors and were in the process of painting them and starting their installation. We are pleased to report that all are now installed and the building’s personality is starting to return!

Their installation completed phase one and, now, we have begun phase 2. This phase will focus on the outside of the building and include:

- Installation of all exterior finishes including new wall shingles and beveled siding to match the original materials, new fascias and gutters + installation of new outside stairs, ramp and landings.
- Completion of all storm drain piping around the building
- Installation of the new electrical service and wiring

Working carefully to protect ourselves from Covid-19, and avoiding days when there was too much wildfire smoke, we’ve almost completed the new front entry, stairs and ramp. Our volunteers completed all the framing and Chuck West’s crew provided the concrete at the base of the stairs and ramp. As of this press date most of the decking has also been installed. We’ll still need to install handrails and guardrail to complete this area.

Our volunteers have also completed the installation of the storm drain system around the building. All that remains is to install the gutters over the entry areas and connect their downspouts to the storm drains so people can get into the building without having to pass through the “waterfall” of rain flowing off the steep roof!

Once these are complete we will have to hit the “pause” button on most construction until we secure more funding. We continue to pursue grants from both public and private sources but many of these entities are directing funds to Covid-19 related issues and there may be little this year for projects like ours.

But grants aren’t our only funding source; you can help as well. Any size donations will be appreciated. To assist, we have created ways and levels of suggested giving. For instance you can buy a light fixture, part of the stage, some library cabinets. 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!

Please give what you can! Even a small amount can add up when enough people give. 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 — Our Sleeping Beauty Awakes



Doors and windows are in —
the Hall's personality is returning!



Front entry decking going in!

Vaughn Library Hall — Anticipating Construction Phase 2

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.

BE ALL THE RAGE

— BUY SOME OF THE STAGE



DON'T BE BORING

— BUY SOME FLOORING



BEFORE YOU GO HANG GLIDING

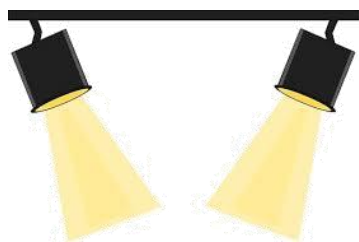
— BUY SOME SIDING



JOIN IN THE FIGHT

— BUY A LIGHT

(fixture)



FOR OUR BOOK DELVING

— BUY SOME SHELVING



CALLING MARRIED AND SINGLES

— BUY SOME SHINGLES



Answer the Call — Save the Hall! Phase 2

PHASE 2: *Installation of exterior finishes and new electrical service*

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.

Front Door Level

Barbara Bordeaux
John & Vicki Bushnell
Beverly Gibson
Milt & Sally Davidson
Donna & Don Clift
JoAnn & Emmott Fisher
Allen & Julie Gillett
Barbara Haley
Molly Hornbeck
Kathleen & Darrell Johansen
Trula Knudson
Jill McJury
William & Carland Nicholson
Jan & Dennis Pritchard
Larry & Janie Riebow
Kurt Solmssen
Nina & John Troutner
Terry & Marlene Wade
Ted & Cathy Williams
Elizabeth Worden

Dance Hall Level

Jim & Dee Adams
Kurt & Christine Anderson
EH & KE Armstrong
Jim, Kathryn & Glenn Arnold
Barbara Bordeaux
Marcie & George Brooke
Joe & Peggy Dervaes
Donna Docken
Jim & Angie Eichholtz
Gary & Rose Gebo
Jane Glundberg Family
David Forbush
Rob Hord & Ondine Bonser
Kathleen & Darrell Johansen
Marsha Kremens & Jilly Eddy
Bruce & Margo Macdonald
Judy Mills
Richard & Francine Minor

Dance Hall Level (cont)

Pamela Moore
Joyce Niemann
Norm & Susan Randall
JoAnn Record
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Frank & Myvanway Shirley
Kurt Solmssen & Becky Schofield
Gail Sparks
Don Tjossem & Becky Alexander
Ken Visser & Johanna Jensen
Stephen & Lora Wood
Steve & Denise Wood

Stage Level

Leona Britt
Richard & Julie Day
Robert Dressel
Phyllis Henry
Trula Knudson
Bill & Joan Mattaei
Richard Minor
Joseph Pentheroudakis
Dulcie Schillinger
James Turnbow
Bart & Cynthia Wolfe

Library Level

Anonymous
Boat Cruise Fundraiser
Judy Mills Family
Joyce Niemann
Frank & Myvanway Shirley
Bart & Cynthia Wolfe
Sara Thompson

Tower Level

Angel Guild
Robert & Mabel Whitman

Friends of the VLH

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 Kingsbury, 5 feet

In Memory of...

Don & Michael Mills ...by Judy Mills

Daphne Buckell Moynihan...by Daphne & Michael Walker

Wesley Ohlson ... by Barbara Bordeaux

Marge Radonich....by Becky Olsen

Norm & Helen Wade ... by Terry & Marlene Wade

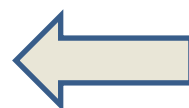
Scott Gallacher ... anonymous

Museum Activities — Proposed Events for 2020

Calendar of Events	Date and Time
Weekly Work Parties <i>CANCELLED 'til further notice</i>	Tuesdays, 10:00am 'til done
Society Board Meetings Meetings are being held via Zoom. If you'd like to join us, please let us know.	First Tuesday of the Month year around. 10:30am coffee and memories. 11:00am meeting starts. All are welcome.
Museum reopens	TBD
KPHS Annual Meeting <i>CANCELLED</i>	
Liveable Fair <i>CANCELLED</i>	
Living History Day <i>CANCELLED</i>	
Farm Tour <i>CANCELLED</i>	
Open House/Winter Warm-up <i>CANCELLED</i>	
El Sombrero fundraising dinner <i>CANCELLED</i>	
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/requests, email kphsmuseum@gmail.com or call 253-225--9759	Closes November 21; reopens February 6, 2021



Dues were due December 31, 2019, 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 its early exploration and settlement to the present.

Membership is important and can be a great gift for birthdays, Christmas or thank you's. 2020 dues were payable by December 31, 2019, 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
B — Business \$50
P — Patron \$100
VIP— \$250
L — Lifetime \$1,000
H — Honorary

KPHS memberships paid for 2020

Dee & Jim Adams
Becky Alexander & Don Tjossem (P)
Gail Coblenz Alskog
Kurt & Christine Anderson (VIP)
John Battle
Kathy & Phill Bauer
Kellie & Chad Bennet
Julie & Bill Bingham
Barbara Bordeaux
Leona Britt (H)
Judy Bradshaw
Marcia & George Brooke
Mavis & Ken Brown
John & Vicki Bushnell
Francie & Rick Carr
Tony, Nicole & Colton Carr
Jamie & John Crase
Michael Dadisman
Lucille Daniel
Margo & Leroy Danforth
Milt & Sally Davidson
Richard & Julie Day
Nancy & Dave Deress
Joe & Peggy Dervaes
Donna Docken (L)
Ernest Donehower
Bonnie Eads
Jim & Angie Eichholtz
Bob Evans & Eloise Richardson
Nan Feagin
Elvin Floberg
Beverly Gibson
Jane Glundburg
Darlene Green
Don Greetham
Linda & Frank Grubaugh
Barbara Haley
Daniel Handa
Robert & Joy Hanson
Robert & Ann Lee
Sylvia Hasse & Virginia Liebergesell (B)
Michael Hemp (B)
Phyllis Henry
Tim Heitzman
Rich & Connie Hildahl
Marcelle Hoey
Rob Hord & Ondine Bonser
Diane Jackman
John & Andrea Jewell
Karen Kiehlmeier
Kathleen & Darrell Johansen
Key Peninsula Veterans (L)
Carla & Ron Kingsbury
Merry Kogut
Marsha Kremen & Jill Eddy
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl
Bruce & Margo Macdonald
Mary Anne MacDonald
Mary Mazur
Paul & Elise Michaels
Judy Mills
Gabe, Zack & Kristine Mills
Lisa & Matthew Mills & family
Robin & Martin Mills & family
Richard & Francine Minor (P)
Eric & Manuela Moreland (VIP)
Colter & Steffanie Mott (L)
Sandy Newhouse
William Nicholson
Beverly Niemann
Chris Niemann
Chuck & Vicki Niemann
Joyce Niemann (H) (L)
Noel Niemann
Becky Olsen
Jim & Katherine Olson (VIP)
Joseph Pentheroudakis
Jan & Dennis Pritchard
Susan Quigley & Delia McGinnis
Norm & Susan Randall (P)
Joann Record & Thomas Morris (VIP)
Larry & Janis Riebow
Janet Robertson (L)
Dr. William Roes (B)
Dulcie Schillinger (H)
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Roger Scott & Laura Heather (P)
Frank & Myvanwy Shirley
Colleen & Frank Slater

Arthur & Marsha Solmssen (P)
Gail Sparks (L)
Jay Sparks (L)
Stevenson Sparks (L)
Gerald & Linda Strand
Marjorie Summerfelt (L)
Marilyn Swartz
Sara Thompson & Richard Gelinias
Jeffrey & Christine Tritt
James Turnbow
Barbara & Clark Van Bogart
Vaughn Bay Cemetery Assoc. (L)
Ken Visser & Johanna Jensen
Terry & Marlene Wade
Daphne & Michael Walker (L)
Gordon & Danna Webster
Doug & Betsy Wheeler (P)
John Whitman
Mabel & Robert Whitman
Cathy & Ted Williams (P)
Cynthia & Bart Wolfe (P)
Steve & Denise Wood (P)
Steven & Lora Wood

Other Gifts

Facebook — Network for Good,
gifts in honor of Tim Kezele's birthday
Ivar & Gail Highberg
Merry Kogut
Margo & Bruce Macdonald
Gail Sparks
Frank & Colleen Slater

Annual Fund Donors for 2020

Dee & Jim Adams
Kathy & Phil Bauer
Kellie & Chad Bennet
Judy Bradshaw
Marcia & George Brooke
Jamie & John Crase
Milt & Sally Davidson
Nancy & Dave Deress

Annual Fund Donors for 2020 (cont.)

Joe & Peggy Dervaes
Donna Docken (L)
Ernest Donehower
Jim & Angie Eichholtz
Bob Evans & Eloise Richardson
Beverly Gibson
Don Greetham
Linda & Frank Grubaugh
Barbara Haley
Rich & Joy Hanson
Michael Hemp
Phyllis Henry
Rich & Connie Hildahl
Marcelle Hoey
Jim and Andrea Jewell
Kathleen & Darrell Johansen
Karen Kiehlmeier
Marsha Kremen & Jill Eddy
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl
Margo & Bruce Macdonald
Mary Mazur
Pamela & Doug Moore
Sandy Newhouse
Chris Niemann
Noel Niemann
Joseph Pentheroudakis
Jan & Dennis Pritchard
Susan Quigley & Delia McGinnis
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Frank & Myvanwy Shirley
Gail Sparks
Sara Thompson & Richard Gelinias
Jeffrey & Christine Tritt
Barbara & Clark Van Bogart
Ken Visser & Johanna Jensen
Gordon & Danna Webster
Doug & Betsy Wheeler
John Whitman
Mabel & Robert Whitman
Cathy & Ted Williams
Cynthia & Bart Wolfe
Stephen & Lora Wood

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 Diane Jackman who does the tabulating, we are able to give up to \$1,000 to the Peninsula Hawks Scholarship Fund.

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.**

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

KPHS 2019 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

Diane Jackman

Oral History

Judy Mills, Cathy Williams, Diane Jackman,
Joe Dervaes, Bart Wolfe

Sunshine

Mavis Brown

Program Coordinator

Judy Mills

Facebook

Cynthia Wolfe, Diane Jackman

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

Leila Luginbill – Home

Bart Wolfe – Lakebay

Paul Michaels – Glencove

Robert Whitman – Minter Creek

Diane Jackman – Herron

Richard Minor – Rocky Bay

Judy Mills – Wauna

Marjorie Summerfelt – at large

Ron Kingsbury – at large

Ron Schillinger – at large

Jim Greetham – at large

Don Tjossem – at large

Joyce Niemann – President Emeritus