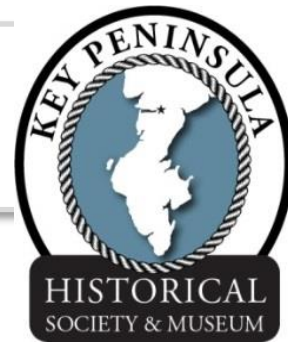


June
2025

MuseumMessenger

Quarterly Newsletter of the Key Peninsula Historical Society



Key Peninsula Historical Society

Goals for 2025 — Preserve Our History

- Continue gathering written, oral and video-taped interviews
- Continue working on the digitization of our collection
- 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
- Work with our schools to educate the youth of the KP about local history

Dear Members and Friends,

Summer is officially here. School is out. It's time for BBQs and beach parties!

Our Annual Meeting at Vaughn Library Hall on March 31 was attended by over 60 people. Greg Spadoni presented a slide show of ads and articles from 60+ years ago. Some on them were hilarious by today's standards. Being in our Library Hall was a treat for everyone. It looks wonderful, and our volunteer crews have been doing a fantastic job with their landscaping efforts outside.

On April 3rd, we participated in STREAM night at Vaughn Elementary. There were approximately 392 guests!

On Saturday, April 12, we hosted 15+ people in the museum for a Magnificent Morning at the Museum event. The participants shared stories and enjoyed seeing each other. And of course, they enjoyed the homemade goodies and coffee that was provided.

Our next **Magnificent Morning will be July 12, 10:30-11:30am at the museum.** Everyone is welcome to join in the fun.

On June 6, the museum hosted Vaughn Elementary for our annual Living History Days event. We had more than 60 kids, parents and teachers come by and learn about egg production, how to move logs around, making butter and hand-grinding coffee, how to write with a quill pen, how to wash clothes in a tub and wring them dry, and play many of the games that the pioneer children played. It was a fun day for everyone who participated.

Between our fundraising dinners at El Sombrero and the IGA Round-up Program we were able to give two Peninsula High School graduating seniors \$1,000 each this Spring. Congratulations to Dylan Shipman and Terissa Cottey. And Thank You to all of you who participate in the dinners and Round-Up Program.

Next fundraising dinner at El Sombrero: Thursday, July 3, 5-9:00pm. Dine in or take out.

Please stay safe this summer. Hope to see you soon!

Cathy Williams (253-347-4313)



WELCOME SUMMER!

Thank You!



A Big Thank You to Our Community Support Network

El Sombrero Family Mexican Restaurant,
Key Center

IGA, Key Center

Purdy Costless Pharmacy

Home Association Band, led by Dr. Roes

ARC, Tacoma

Pierce County Landmarks & Historic
Preservation Commission

Chuck West Construction
and Contracting, LLC

Kohler Heating & Air Conditioning

Angel Guild, Key Center

Vaughn Bay Garden Club

Key Peninsula Parks

Key Peninsula Civic Center

Longbranch Improvement Club
and Marina

KP News

Emily Randall (D - U.S.
representative for Washington's 6th
congressional district)

Michelle Caldier (R-26, Port Orchard)

Ben B. Cheney Foundation

Axia Tree Service

Multiwire Inc

Purdy Topsoil and Gravel LLC

Washington Trust for
Historic Preservation

The Norcliffe Foundation

The M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust

Richard Minor

Glen Cove Repair

The National Society of Colonial
Dames, WA

Haase-Liebergessell Foundation

State of Washington

Peninsula Light

CS Flooring

What Is It? Can you identify this object?



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

Respond to our email address at
kphsmuseum@gmail.com



Meaning of "bell" on a choker hook in logging:
In logging terminology, the "bell" is another
name for the sliding choker hook. It's the
component that, along with a choker knob on
the other end of the cable, forms a strong choke
around the log to be moved.

Vaughn Library Hall — Happy Summer!!

By Paul Michaels and Bart Wolfe

The restoration of Vaughn Library Hall is nearing completion! And we owe it all to everyone who has contributed funds and/or work hours to get to where we are today. In addition to all the wonderful contractors on this project, our volunteers have logged over 10,000 hours doing an amazing variety of tasks, indoors and out. Without them this would not have been possible so thank you, THANK YOU!!!

Exciting news: The last major piece of indoor work is now complete- the Olio Drop Curtain for our stage is now installed and ready for any variety of shows. Leila Luginbill's artwork makes a beautiful curtain! And the curtain works! Our volunteers have designed and built a series of cables, pulleys and counterweights that make it very easy to raise and lower the curtain as needed. No sore muscles needed!



Our Olio Drop curtain is ready for your next show!

Vaughn Library Hall — Happy Summer!!

We've also been very busy outdoors. We completed the first phase of landscaping and our garden areas are ready for you to enjoy! A big thanks to Vaughn Bay Garden Club. We pulled a lot of weeds, did a lot of soil preparation and planted a lot of things that are consistent with what would have been planted 100 years ago (and that the deer won't eat). We installed mulch, donated by Purdy Topsoil, and the gardens are ready for their first summer.

Come and stroll on the pathways and enjoy the sights!

What's still to do? The main focus is planning for a new, historically accurate roof. The existing asphalt shingle roof is nearing the end of its life and it certainly is not historic. We're currently looking at roofing options that will give us the "look" of the original cedar shingles + have the needed fire rating. We hope to get another grant to pay for as much of this as possible but budgets could be tight this year.

We therefore ask: PLEASE consider making one last donation for this important piece of our history.

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

Thank you for all you do!



Living History Day — June 6



Boys admiring the baseball gloves and learning about the long history of baseball on the KP.



Ron and Carla Kingsbury and Joe Dervaes are ready to show the kids how to wash clothes..

Judy Mills is assisting the children with writing with a quill-tipped pen.



Answer the Call — Save the Hall

PHASE 6:

Hardscaping

Levels of sponsorship

Front Door Level	Checks can be mailed to 17010 S. Vaughn Rd. NW, Vaughn, WA 98394 or visit our website and make a gift via PayPal.	\$ 50
Dance Hall Level		\$ 100
Stage Level		\$ 500
Library Level		\$1,000
Tower Level		\$5,000

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

Stage Level

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

Library Level

Anonymous
Boat Cruise Fundraiser
Haase-Liebergessel
 Family Foundation
Matthew & Lisa Mills
Richard Minor
Joyce Niemann
Frank & Myvanway Shirley
Sara Thompson
Bart & Cynthia Wolfe

Tower Level

Angel Guild
National Society of the
 Colonial Dames of America, WA
Robert & Mabel Whitman
Cathy & Ted Williams and
 Mary Anne MacDonald
Paul & Sheri Page
Joseph Pentheroudakis

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
Diane Jackman
Kathleen & Darrell Johansen
Margo & Bruce Macdonald
Jill McJury
William Nicholson
Jan & Dennis Pritchard
Larry & Janie Riebow
Dave & Pat Schweyen
Stephen & Lauri Schweyen (P)
Kurt Solmssen
Nina & John Troutner
Terry & Marlene Wade
Ted & Cathy Williams
Elizabeth Worden

Dance Hall Level

Anonymous
Angel Guild
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
Brian Kamens
Trula Knudson
Marsha Kremen & Jilly Eddy
Bruce & Margo Macdonald
Marianne McColley
Judy Mills
Rod & Gail Mitchell

Dance Hall Level (cont)

Pamela Moore
Joyce Niemann
Norm & Susan Randall
JoAnn Record
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Frank & Myvanway Shirley
Larry (Myvanway) Shirley (P)
Colleen & Frank Slater
James Smalley & Gail Buchanan
Kurt Solmssen & Becky Schofield
James Smalley & Gail Buchanan
Gail Sparks
Don Tjossem & Becky Alexander
Chet Van Slyke & Karen Ray
Ken Visser & Johanna Jensen
Wayne Wasserman & Stephanie Berg
Stephen & Lora Wood
Steve & Denise Wood
Fred Yapunicich & Pam Pruitt

2025 – In Memory of...

Dale Campbell...by Brian & Suzanne Dervaes
Hugh Drennen...by Joe & Peggy Dervaes
Ivar Highberg, Jr....by Gail Rodrick Highberg
DeAnne (Davidson) Kuyper...by Milt Davidson & Sally Jacky
The Lobeda Family...by Marilyn Swartz
Margaret (Davidson) Logan...by April Johnson
Bill Matthaei...by Joan Matthaei
Joyce Niemann...by Noel Niemann
Carol & Crook Nicholson...by William Nicholson
Ken & Stella Retherford...by Leila Lugenbill
The Ruppert & Mills Families...by Jane Glundberg
Dulcie Schillinger...by Steve & Denise Wood
The Schweyen Family...by Stephen & Lauri Schweyen
Janice (Olson) Richards Smith...by Barbara Bordeaux
James Turnbow...by Shirley & Arnold Toland

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. 2025 dues were payable by December 31, 2024, 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 2025

Ronda Anderson
Laurie Austin & Sturges Dorrance
John Battle
Chad & Kellie Bennett
Christopher Budd
Barbara Bordeaux
Judy Bradshaw
Tony & Nicole & Colton Carr
Matthew Cosby (B)
Jack & Liz Cushman
John & Jamie Crase
Michael Dadisman
Roy & Margo Danforth
Milt Davidson & Sally Jacky
Richard & Julie Day (P)
Joe & Peggy Dervaes (P)
Scott & Mapuana Dervaes
Brian & Suzanne Dervaes
Donna Docken (L)
Ernie Donehower
Ralph Drahos & Arlene Littleton
Bob Evans & Eloise Richardson
Beverly & Julia Gibson
Jane Glundberg
Pat & Diane Grant
Bill & Marlene Green
Bob & Barb Green (P)
Jim Greetham
Barbara Haley & Les F.
Daniel Handa (P)
Barbara Heard
Kathleen Herald
Gail Rodrick Highberg
Art Hinzman (P)
Russell Holter
Rob Hord & Ondine Bonser (P)
Diane Jackman
Johanna Jensen (L)
April Johnson
Key Peninsula Veterans (L)
Tim & KJ Kezele
Karen Kiehlmeier
Ron & Carla Kingsbury
Marsha Kremen & Jilly Eddy (P)
Jarvis Krumbein
Betty Kruse & Richard Drummond (P)
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl (P)
Ellen LeVita & Craig Davie (P)
Leila Luginbill (L)
Barb Lutzewitz & Terri Baerwald
Bruce & Margo Macdonald
Mary Anne MacDonald
Joan Matthaei (P)
Susan McNerthney
Paul & Elise Michaels

Judy Mills & Family
Kristine Mills & Family
Martin & Robin Mills & Family
Matthew & Lisa Mills & Family
Richard & Francine Minor (P)
Rod & Gail Mitchell
Dorene (Brones) Moon
Dan & Jane Morgan
Thomas Morris (L)
Colter & Stephanie Mott (L)
Jerry & Patricia Nebel (B)
Sandy Newhouse
Williams Nicholson
Chris Niemann
Noel Niemann
Vicki Niemann
Herb and Chris O’Niell (P)
Jim Olson (P)
Joseph Pentheroudakis
Denny & Jan Prichard
Larry & Janis Riebow
Jo Ann Record (L)
Dave & Janet Robertson (L)
Harry & Brynn Rydell
Dave & Pat Sammeth
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Stephen & Lauri Schweyen (P)
Frank & Myvanway Shirley (P)
Patricia Sindt
James Sobieck & Ann Morris
Gail Sparks (L)
Jay Sparks (L)
Stephenson Sparks (L)
Marilyn Swartz
Tom & Jan Tallman
Don Tjossem & Becky Alexander (P)
Sara Thompson & Richard Gelinaz (P)
Shirley & Arnold Toland
Jeff & Christine Tritt
Clark & Barbara Van Bogart
Vaughn Bay Cemetery (L)
Ken Visser & Johanna Jensen (L)
Russ & Nadiene Van Dyke (P)
Patty Van Valkenburg
Allan & Jeanne Vogel
Terry & Marlene Wade
Diane & Michael Walker (L)
Ted & Cathy Williams (P)
Bob & Mable Whitman
Bart & Cynthia Wolfe (P)
Steve & Denise Wood
James & Jack Wooldridge
Don & Laurel Young

Annual Fund Donors for 2025

Ronda Anderson
John Battle
Judy Bradshaw
Matthew Cosby
John & Jamie Crase
Roy & Margo Danforth
Milt Davidson & Sally Jacky
Richard & Julie Day (P)
Joe & Peggy Dervaes (P)
Donna Docken (L)
Ernest Donehower
Bob Evans & Eloise Richardson
Beverly & Julia Gibson
Jane Glundberg
Pat & Diane Grant
Barbara Haley & Les F.
Barbara Heard
Russell Holter
Tim & KJ Kezele
Karen Kiehlmeier
Ron & Carla Kingsbury
Marsha Kremen & Jilly Eddy (P)
Jarvis Krumbein
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl (P)
Ellen LeVita & Craig Davis (P)
Leila Luginbill (L)
Bruce & Margo Macdonald
Mary Anne MacDonald
Judy Mills
Dorene (Brones) Moon
Dan & Jane Morgan
Sandy Newhouse
William Nicholson
Richard & Francine Minor (P)
Chris Niemann
Noel Niemann
Vicki Niemann (P)
Herb & Chris O’Niell (P)
Joseph Pentheroudakis
Denny & Jan Prichard
Larry & Janice Riebow
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Stephen & Lauri Schweyen (P)
Frank & Myvanway Shirley (P)
Patricia Sindt
James Sobieck & Ann Morris
Marilyn Swartz

Tom & Jan Tallman
Don Tjossem & Becky Alexander
Shirley & Arnold Toland
Jeff & Christine Tritt
Clark & Barbara Van Bogart
Patty Van Volkenburg
Allan & Jeanne Vogel
Terry & Marlene Wade
Bob & Mable Whitman
Bart & Cynthia Wolfe (P)
Steve & Denise Wood
James & Jack Wooldridge

General Museum Gifts

Haase-Liebergessell Family Foundation
Gift of Landscaping at VLH
Jim & Kelly Hettinger (D)
Ellen LeVita & Craig Davis
Leila Luginbill (L)
Gift of painting for stage curtains at VLH
Richard & Francine Minor (P)
Catherine & Ted Williams and
Mary Anne MacDonald
Gift of the Gazebo at VLH
Vaughn Bay Garden Club
Landscaping for the Vaughn Library Hall

In Honor Of:

Joseph Pentheroudakis
by Dan & Jane Morgan

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. Send to checks to KPHS, 17010 S. Vaughn Rd. NW, Vaughn, WA 98394

Museum Activities — Proposed Events for 2025

Calendar of Events	Date and Time
Weekly Work Parties – working on display cases, sorting, cataloguing, etc.	Tuesdays, 10:00-12:00 noon
Society Board Meetings Meetings are held in person at the museum	First Tuesday of the Month year around.. 11:00am meeting starts. All are welcome.
Museum reopens with new display: <i>Finding the Center: the Story of Key Center</i>	Museum is open Tuesdays and Saturdays, 1:00-4:00pm
El Sombrero Fundraising Dinner -- dine in or take out (All funds raised go to our PHS scholarship.)	Thursday, July 3
Mugnificent Morning at the Museum Coffee social hour – come and visit and reminisce about times on the KP	Saturday, July 12 10:30 -11:30
History of Penrose Point -- talks in the park amphitheater	July 12,, 8:00pm; August 16, 7:00pm
Art Walk -- visit our booth	Friday, August 1 4:00-8:00pm
Farm Tour -- Visit our booth at the LIC.	Saturday, September 27 10:00-3:00pm
Winter Warm-up – Visit our booth at the KPCC	Saturday, November 8 9:00-4:00pm
2025 Annual Membership and Fund Drive begins.	Mid-November
Close for Winter	November 25
Additional Education Opportunities Available Upon Request • Home School: History of the Key Peninsula Forest • History of Penrose Park • Boy and Girl Scouts: Museum visit and KP History • Classroom visits	
For special needs/requests, email kphsmuseum@gmail.com	

Membership dues for 2025 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.

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



Key Center IGA Round-up Program for Non-profits

The new IGA in Key Center has a program for non-profits. When you reach the register to check out, you will see a flyer next to the card reader. This will have the name of the local non-profit whose turn it is to collect the “rounded-up” funds from shoppers. The recipient of these rounded-up funds changes each month. This is an easy way for shoppers to give to the non-profits on the KP.

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

Peninsula High School Scholarship

Once a quarter we have a Fundraising Dinner at El Sombrero where we earn a percentage of the take for the evening. These events help fund our Peninsula Hawks Scholarship Fund and enables us to give up to \$2,000 to two graduating seniors for further study.

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, and maps. If you are looking gifts while our store is closed, please email us at kphsmuseum@gmail.com for a special opening to buy a bit of KP history. .

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 to find out what skills you can contribute to your museum.

KPHS 2024 Current Board Members

President

Cathy Williams

Vice President

Diane Jackman

Treasurer

Joe Dervaes

Secretary

Cynthia Wolfe

Membership

Joe Dervaes and Judy Mills

Store Manager

Becky Alexander

Docent Calendar

Cynthia Wolfe

Publicity

Joseph Pentheroudakis

Education / Program Coordinator

Judy Mills

Grants

Don Tjossem

Oral History

Judy Mills, Ron Kingsbury

Sunshine

The Board

Facebook

Cynthia Wolfe, Diane Jackman,
Joseph Pentheroudakis

Webmaster / IT

Rob Hord
Herb O'Niell

Special Projects

Paul Michaels, Bob Whitman, Bart Wolfe

VLH Event Van Driver

Matthew Mills

Newsletter, Publications

Cathy Williams, Judy Mills

Genealogy Research

Joseph Pentheroudakis

Mugnificant Mornings at the Museum

Lisa Mills, Lead

Members at Large

Vaughn – Judy Mills
Key Center – Nicole Niemann-Carr
Longbranch – Don Tjossem
Home – Tim Kezele
Lakebay – Bart Wolfe
Glencove – Paul Michaels
Minter Creek – Robert Whitman
Rocky Bay – Richard Minor
Herron – Joseph Pentheroudakis
Wauna – Ron Kingsbury
Jim Greetham – at large
Lisa Mills – at large

