

Key Peninsula Historical Society
Goals for 2026 — Preserve Our History

- Acquire Peninsula High School yearbooks from 1947– current year
- 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
- Finish upgrading 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 in full swing, the kids are out of school and the slugs are having a terrific time in my flower beds.

On May 30, we had a book launch for the new book about Vaughn Library Hall – *That They Might Have Books: The Story of Vaughn Library Hall* – by Joseph Pentheroudakis. We had 30+ guests, who all enjoyed his talk on the process of writing the book. Many books were sold.

We had the 3rd graders from Vaughn Elementary visit the museum on June 8th for Living History Day. They enjoyed playing games that didn't required power or a PC, making butter by shaking cream in a jar, writing with a quill-tip pen, washing clothes in a tub using a washboard, and moving a log around with a peavy. It was a fun day for everyone.

On June 27th, The Model A Club visited the museum and Vaughn Library Hall. They spent several hours in both and enjoyed their visit. We are going to open the Vaughn Library Hall once a month on Saturdays, the same hours as the museum. **The next open house there is July 25 from 1-4:00pm.** Come and take a look, bring your family and friends, and talk with the docents about the changes in the building.

Our monthly talks about the history of Penrose Point have started. The next one is **August 15, 7:00pm** in the park amphitheater.

The next **Mugnificant Morning at the Museum** is **July 25 from 10:30-11:30am**. Come join us for coffee and homemade cake. It is celebrating the July Buck Moon. In the tradition of the old pioneers, it is held on the first full moon of the month, when they could travel in the evenings and have some moonlight.

On **August 22** we are participating in **Pioneer Days** at the Civic Center. Come on out for the fun!

Your hard-working Board is grappling with the problem of getting younger people involved in the museum. We have been talking about having an evening meeting at 6:30pm on Tuesdays or a Saturday morning meeting at 11:00. Or perhaps alternating them with our usual meeting time of 11:00am on the first Tuesday of the month. We welcome suggestions, so if you have ideas, or would like to join us, please contact us!

There is no current status update on the Lakebay Marina. However, we need to let the DNR know that we want the building saved. Please send a letter of support to LakebayCAC@gmail.com. A strong showing of support is vital in saving this historic building on the KP.

Be well and stay safe —

Cathy Williams (253-347-4313)



Hello 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 Valdez (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

Glen Cove Repair

The National Society of Colonial
Dames, WA

Haase-Liebergesell 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



This object was
never identified. It
is a bicycle horn!

Recent Activities

Book Launch Party – May 30th



Guests are busy discussing the new book!



The author making a point.

Photo by Lila Silverstein

Living History Day – June 8th



The boys are washing and wringing the laundry, while Joe D. supervises..



Meantime, the girls are moving logs with the peavy.

Model A Club visit – June 27



The Model A Club enjoys their visit to the Vaughn Library Hall.



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who has made our campaign to "Answer the Call and Save the Hall," a success.

We are retiring this portion of our newsletter! With the financial support of members, friends, neighbors and over 10,000 hours of volunteer labor, the Vaughn Library Hall is now open for regular visitors. Beginning July 25, a Library Hall docent will be on duty for tours on the last Saturday of each month from 1-4 p.m. Our main museum located at the Key Peninsula Civic Center is also open from 1-4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Enjoy an outing and visit both locations in one afternoon! The current exhibit at the main museum will be on display through November; Logging the Great Forests of the Key Peninsula.

Future plans for the Hall include writing grants to fund the installation of a new roof. It will then be fully protected and our major projects completed.

While at the Vaughn Library Hall, honor the 250th Semiquincentennial celebration by looking at the beautiful quilt hanging in the area of the original library location. It is a pleasure to remember this quilt that was designed and sewn by local women. The quilt was created for the Bicentennial year of 1976 in recognition of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The quilt was auctioned and the winner of that auction was Florence Jones of Vaughn. Many years later, upon her passing, her daughter found the quilt in her mother's cedar chest and gave it to the Dr. Roes and the Key Peninsula Health Center. It hung there until 2021 when Dr. Roes generously donated it to the Key Peninsula Historical Museum. Now, 50 years later it is hanging in the Vaughn Library Hall.



Can you help us identify?

Many of our quilt squares have only initials and we are searching for the artists who created them! If you made one or know someone who did, please contact us at the museum and let us know which square is yours.

2026 – In Memory of...

Ken & Doris Brones...by Dorene Moon
Dale Campbell...by Brian & Suzanne Dervaes
Hugh Drennen...by Joe & Peggy Dervaes
Deanne Davidson...by Milt & Sally Davidson
Don Greetham...by Judy Mills
Ivar Highberg, Jr....by Gail Rodrick-Highberg
Margaret (Davidson) Logan...by Mark & April Johnson
Ken McLaughlin...by Judy Mills
Carland Crook Nicholson...by William Nicholson
Charles R Niemann, Jr....by Vicki Niemann
Joyce Niemann...by Noel Niemann
Don & Shirley Olson...by Debby Englund
The Ruppert, Mills & Glundberg Families...by Jane Glundberg
The Schweyen Family...by Stephen & Lauri Schweyen
Norman & Helen Wade...by Terry & Marlene Wade

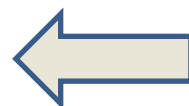
Museum Activities — Proposed Events for 2026

Calendar of Events	Date and Time
Weekly Work Parties	Tuesdays, 10-12:00 at the museum or Vaughn Library Hall
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 an Open House for the new exhibit: Logging the Great Forests of the Key Peninsula	Museum is open February-November, Tuesdays & Saturdays, 1:00-4:00pm
Mugnificent Mornings at the Museum Coffee and snacks provided	Saturday, July 25 10:30-11:30am
Vaughn Library Hall OPEN for tours	Saturday, July 25, 1-4:00pm Saturday, August 29, 1-4:00pm
History of Penrose Point SP -- presentation in the park amphitheater	Saturday, August 15, 7:00pm
Pioneer Days – Civic Center	Saturday, August 22
El Sombrero Fundraising Dinner – dine in or take out (All funds raised go to our Peninsula High School Hawk's scholarships.)	Thursday, Sept 3, 5-9:00pm
Art Walk – Civic Center	Saturday, September 5, 10-6:00pm
Fiber Arts Fair + Farm Tour – Visit our booth at the LIC.	Saturday, September 26, 10-4:00pm
Madrona Fest – Civic Center	Saturday, October 3, 10-9:00pm
Winter Warm-up – Civic Center	Saturday, November 14; 8:00am-9:00pm
Close for Winter	Tuesday, December 1
Additional Education Opportunities Available Upon Request • Home School: History of the Key Peninsula Forest • Boy and Girl Scouts: Museum visit and KP History • History of Penrose Park • Classroom visits	
For special needs/requests, email kphsmuseum@gmail.com	



Membership dues for 2026 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. 2026 dues were payable by December 31, 2025, 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 2026

James & Dee Ann Adams	Jill McJury
Gail Coblentz Alskog	Susan McNerthey
John Battle	Paul & Elise Michaels
Barbara Bordeaux	Vickie Minney
Christopher Budd	Richard & Francine Minor (P)
Robert & Ann Campy	Judy Mills
Tony Carr, Nicole Niemann-Carr & Colton Carr	Kelson & Katy Mills
Terissa Cottey	Martin & Robin Mills
Matthew Cosby (B)	Matthew & Lisa Mills
John & Jamie Crase	Rod & Gail Mitchell
Roy & Margo Danforth	Dorene (Brones) Moon
Milt Davidson & Sally Jacky (VIP)	Thomas Morris (L)
Pablo & Kathy De La Cruz (L)	Colter & Stephanie Mott (L)
David & Nancy Deress	Bruce & Joyce Murray
Brian & Suzanne Dervaes	Pam Murray
Joe & Peggy Dervaes (P)	Jerry & Patricia Nebel (B)
Scott & Mapuana Dervaes	Sandy Newhouse
Donna Docken (L)	John Nichols (P)
Ernie Donehower	Williams Nicholson
Ralph Drahos & Arlene Littleton	Chris Niemann
Debby Englund	Noel Niemann
Bob Evans & Eloise Richardson	Vicki Niemann
Judy Fisher	Herb and Chris O'Niell (P)
Jane Glundberg	Jim Olson (P)
Pat & Diane Grant (P)	Paul & Sheri Page
William Gray (P)	Colona Palmer (P)
Jim Greetham	Joseph Pentheroudakis (P)
Sylvia Haase (S)	Denny & Jan Prichard
Daniel Handa (P)	Jennifer Rassbach
Barbara Heard	Marion Ray
Kate Herald	Jo Ann Record (L)
Gail Rodrick-Highberg	Jim & Ruth Reynolds (P)
Art Hinzman (P)	Dave & Janet Robertson (L)
Russell Holter (B)	Heather Rogers
Rob Hord & Ondine Bonser (P)	Dr. Bill & Ruth Roes
George & Pat Hovany (L)	Dave & Pat Sammeth
Gail Howe-Jennings	Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen
Adam Jachman	Stephen & Lauri Schweyen (P)
Diane Jackman	Frank & Myvanway Shirley (P)
Mark & April Johnson	Dylan Shipman
Brian Kamens	Frank & Myvanway Shirley (P)
Key Peninsula Veterans (L)	Patricia Sindt
Tim & PJ Kezele (P)	Frank & Colleen Slater (L)
Ron & Carla Kingsbury (L)	James Sobieck & Ann Morris (P)
Marsha Kremen & Jilly Eddy (P)	Gail Sparks (L)
Betty Kruse & Richard Drummond (P)	Jay Sparks (L)
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl (P)	Stephenson Sparks (L)
Lynn Lester	Linda Strand (P)
Ellen LeVita & Craig Davis (P)	Marilyn Swartz
Karen Lovett	Tom & Jan Tallman
Leila Luginbill (L)	Don Tjossem & Becky Alexander (P)
Carole Lyle	Kristin Tolliver
Bruce & Margo Macdonald	Jeff & Christine Tritt (P)
Joan Matthaai (P)	

Annual Fund Donors for 2026

James & Dee Ann Adams	Tom & Jan Tallman
Gail Coblentz Alskog	Don Tjossem & Becky Alexander (P)
John Battle	Jeff & Christine Tritt (P)
Robert & Ann Campy	Clark & Barbara Van Bogart
Matthew Cosby (B)	Russell & Nadiene Van Dyke
Roy & Margo Danforth	Patty Van Valkenburg
Dave & Nancy Deress	Terry & Marlene Wade
Joe & Peggy Dervaes (P)	Bob & Flavia Whitman (P)
Donna Docken (L)	Bart & Cynthia Wolfe (P)
Ernest Donehower	Stephen & Lora Wood (P)
Debby Englund	Steve & Denise Wood
Bob Evans & Eloise Richardson	James & Jack Wooldridge
Jane Glundberg	
Pat & Diane Grant (P)	
Barbara Heard	
Gail Rodrick-Highberg	
Mark & April Johnson	
Brian Kamens	
Ron & Carla Kingsbury (L)	
Marsha Kremen & Jilly Eddy (P)	
Fred Leenstra & Wanda Buhl (P)	
Ellen LeVita & Craig Davis (P)	
Leila Luginbill (L)	
Bruce & Margo Macdonald	
Judy Mills	
Richard & Francine Minor (P)	
Dorene (Brones) Moon	
Jerry & Patricia Nebel (B)	
Sandy Newhouse	
William Nicholson	
Chris Niemann	
Noel Niemann	
Vicki Niemann (P)	
Jim Olson (P)	
Joseph Pentheroudakis (P)	
Denny & Jan Prichard	
Jim & Ruth Reynolds (P)	
Dr. Bill & Ruth Roes	
Heather Rogers	
Ron Schillinger & Janet Botnen	
Stephen & Lauri Schweyen (P)	
Frank & Myvanway Shirley (P)	

General Museum Gifts

Joseph Pentheroudakis
Vaughn Library Hall Book Editing
Ellen Le Vita ^=& Craig Davis (P)
Richard & Francine Minor (P)

In Honor Of:

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

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 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, t-shirts and maps. . If you are looking for 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 2026 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

Jim Greetham, Tim Kezele

Sunshine

The Board

Facebook

Cynthia Wolfe, Diane Jackman,
Joseph Pentheroudakis

Webmaster / IT

Rob Hord

Special Projects

Paul Michaels, Bob Whitman, Bart Wolfe

KP Civic Center Rep

Herb O/Niell

Newsletter, Publications

Cathy Williams, Judy Mills

Genealogy Research

Joseph Pentheroudakis

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 – Bruce Murray

Jim Greetham – at large

Lisa Mills – at large

