

PIONEER PRESENCES

Volume XXV, No. 1 October 2001

NEXT MEETING

OF THE PIONEER
ASSOCIATION OF THE
STATE OF WASHINGTON

Saturday, October 27

1:00-3:00 p.m. (Board meets 11:00 a.m.)

Pioneer Hall

1642 43rd Ave East Seattle WA 98112

Speaker: Art Knutson "Paddlewheelers to the Yukon Gold Rush"

> Family History: Sheila Mottern

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North to Alaska!

Fall Meeting Saturday, October 27

Summer is over, relegated to photos and memories. Did you take a vacation? Was it to Alaska or the Yukon?

The Pioneer Association's fall meeting will be held Saturday, October 27, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Pioneer Hall. At the meeting, Art Knutson (seen at right) will present "Paddlewheelers to the Yukon Gold Rush", titled after a book on the subject that he has written.

Knutson began researching his book in 1970, after years of experience serving as a ship's mate on sternwheelers in the Yukon. We are pleased he is sharing his experiences and unique perspective with our organization.

In connection with the "gold rush" theme, new member Sheila Mottern will share her family history, as well as a brief history of Renton. Sheila has researched more than 100 Renton-ites who went to Alaska and the Yukon for the Gold Rush of 1884. She also will share remembrances about the Wood family - a family prominent in the early development of Renton - attending Pioneer Association picnics in the early 1900's. The Wood name is recongized for its active family members (including Mayor Joe Wood), and as appearing on the Wood Building, an early Renton landmark.

Refreshments and songs will be provided at this meeting by Jean Roberts, descendant of an Alaska-Yukon pioneer family, and her accompanist, Guy Edwards.

Metropolis 150 exhibit at MOHAI

The Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) has put together an exhibit to celebrate 15 decades of Seattle and King County history, from wilderness to world city.

The exhibit will feature interactive displays, plus hundreds of artifacts and photos from the 1850s to the present, many never-before-seen.

"Metropolis 150" opens Saturday, September 29 and will be on view through 2003. For more information, call 206-324-1685.

A message from the president

On September 11, 2001, terrorists espousing religious fanaticism and an unwarranted hatred of our great country committed crimes against humanity in New York City, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. The result was the death of more than 6,000 innocent civilians. Through the rising smoke and scattered ashes of the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and wreckage of Flight 33, a basic fact has made itself evident: the assassins have committed a very basic error, and one that will lead to their ultimate destruction. What is that error? They have re-awakened the American spirit.

As pioneer descendants, each of us can look back to the ancestors who first came to this land and laid the foundations of our nation, and our freedoms. Each of us can look back to the descendants of those first immigrants, who settled and developed the nation while working to eradicate wrongs that - unjustly - restricted the



freedom of Americans. We can look back and remember when we, as American citizens, took up arms to defend the freedom of others in great world conflicts. Each of us can also look back on September 11. What happened on that day was no different than what happened to our ancestors when others tried to restrict their freedoms. Just as our forefathers won their freedom, and then defended it on countless occasions, so we will do the same. That spirit inherent in the breast of every American - the spirit that defines what it is to *be* American - has been roused against our enemies. Let those enemies beware.

We remember Bunker Hill, the Alamo, Gettysburg, the Great Wars and all the other occasions when Americans fought and died for our American dream. So let us remember the victims and the heroes of the treachery of September 11. So let us pray for Americans who, defending that freedom yet again, will bring to the doorsteps of our enemies just retribution for their actions.

Robert Teague President, 1999-2002

Exciting times at Pioneer Hall

Bob Teague, President

With the Master Plan for Pioneer Hall now completed, we are focusing on developing and implementing a fundraising strategy so we can complete the upgrades necessary to the building. At the June 4 board meeting, Trustee Junius Rochester moved (and Gary Zimmerman seconded the motion) that the board accept the Bumgardner Architects plan as the goal and vision for the future planning of Pioneer Hall.

Member Catherine Spedden is spearheading a team whose goal is to create new displays that tell the story of pioneerism in the State of Washington. She had great new ideas, and has put together a survey/guidelines in order to gain valued input from our members (see page six for more details). Concurrently, three-time Pioneer president Barbara Krohn has formed a team to revamp and improve our membership efforts.

I hope you can attend the general membership meeting on Saturday, October 27. That meeting, which begins at 1:00 p.m., will provide more information about the coming improvements to your organization.

For those of you who (wisely) plan ahead, the dates of some upcoming Pioneer meetings: Saturday, October 27, 2001 (10:00 a.m. board, 1:00 p.m. general); Saturday, January 12, 2002 (10:00 a.m. board); Saturday, March 9, 2002 (10:00 a.m. board, 1:00 p.m. general); Saturday, May 11, 2002 (board); and Saturday, June 29, 2002 (10:00 a.m. board and general membership).

Pioneer Presences is published by the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington, and has been compiled and edited by Barbara Krohn since 1977. It can also be found online at http://www.wapioneers.org.

Contributors this issue include Carol Hawkins, Barbara Krohn, LuciBelle O'Grady,

Gary Zimmerman, Robert Teague, Catherine Spedden and Jeff Christensen.

The "Exact" arrives

For the past year, a number of artifacts from Pioneer Hall have been on exhibit at the Log House Museum in West Seattle. The items are part of the "Spirit Returns" exhibit, which commemorates the 150th anniversary of the landing of the Denny Party at Alki in November of 1851. Although the walls of Pioneer Hall have been partially bare of the loaned artifacts, the items were viewed by a steady stream of visitors to the Log House Museum.

On Saturay, November 3, the Southwest Seattle Historical Society sponsors a day of events to further commemorate the landing of the Denny Party. Among the events of special interest will be a re-enactment of the actual landing of those Alki pioneers, the unveiling of new commemorative plaques and a special viewing of the documentary video "Alki, Birthplace of Seattle". A luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Salty's on Alki, and is open to our membership. While the luncheon program at Salty's is in progress, the Landing Party re-enactment participants will sail past the restaurant on their way to Alki Point.

Reservation forms for lunch may be obtained from the Pioneer Association office by calling 206-325-0888, or by contacting the Log House Museum in West Seattle at 206-938-5293.

If you have descendants of the original Alki landing party in your family, you may want to participate firsthand in the recollections of that day. Also, if you have photographs, artifacts or anecdotes to share, the Log House Museum would like to hear from you.

Pioneer Association Board Members and Trustees

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A family history...

The Crow and Settle families, pioneers of Seattle

By Shirley L. Wright

The story of my family, and how they came west, would not be told if my grandmother, Bertha Price, had not been so good at saving old clippings from the newspapers she read - and saved - in her lifetime. These clippings were my inspiration to start researching our family history. Many of the clippings were of family marriage notices and obituaries, as well as articles containing good information. With the help of my dear mother, Kathleen Lane, and a lot of research, the story of my family can now be told.

My great-great grandfather, George R. Crowe, married Marietta Howdershall on November 20, 1838 in Lincoln County, Missouri. They lived a few years in St. Charles, Missouri, and had four children while living there: Louisa, James, Susan and William.

In early spring of 1849, the family joined a wagon train and started west. Somewhere near St. Louis, my great-grandmother, Martha Ann, was born on April 20, 1849. The family had been headed to California, but met up with a wagon train on its way to Oregon Territory that was in need of a mill-wright, and they were persuaded to change routes.

The Crowes arrived in the Oregon Territory in early September of 1849. They settled on Donation Land Claim #1259, near where Milwaukie (Oregon) is today, and built a mill there. A year and half later, on April 5, 1851, son Joseph W. Crowe was born.

In 1853 George Crowe became ill, and died. The doctor who

attended him was Dr. Josiah Settle who, over the course of his care, became quite fond of Marietta and her children. Marietta Crowe and Josiah Settle were married in 1854, moved to Portland, and welcomed a daughter, Mary Etta Settle, in October of 1855. The eldest daughter, Louisa, married Charles Bunnell on September 2 of the same year, and they took over half of the Settle land claim.

About this time, there was a lot of talk throughout the local territories about the Denny Party's landing in the Puget Sound area. In May of 1860 the Settle-Crowe family Josiah, Marietta and six children sailed north to the newly developed town of Seattle, which then only had

The basement of the house had a clear water spring bubbling up in the center of it, and water ran off through a cement drain...behind the spring, was the milk cupboard, where pans of milk and cream were kept for churning - the spring kept everything cool and fresh.

a population of 200 people. The family is listed in the 1860 U.S. Census, and the Crowe name was changed to "Crow" (without its last consonant).

The Crow family rented a house on First and Columbia streets in Seattle owned by Thomas Russell. Russell married 16-year-old Susan Elizabeth Crow on October 2, 1860. Their marriage was a double wedding, the first in the city's short history. Sadly, Susan lived only two more years, and her grave was the first placed in the family plot at Lakeview Cemetery.

Lilly Dale Settle was the first child in the Crow family actually to be born in Seattle, on November 12, 1860. In her later life, Lilly wrote an excellent story about her life in early Seattle: telling of her father buying the Stillman house on Second and Cherry street, and giving a good description of the dwelling. The house is next to the white church, where the old Chamber of Commerce building used to be. The property took up one-quarter of the block, the white church another quarter, and the Dexter Horton home the remaining half block. The basement of the house had a clear water spring bubbling up in the center of it, and water ran off through a cement drain. The basement was also fitted with shelves and bins for fruits and vegetables and, behind the spring, was the milk cupboard, where pans of milk and cream were kept for churning - the spring kept everything cool and fresh.

Josiah Settle was the second doctor in Seattle, but could not practice because Dr. Maynard was here first. He was sometimes asked to assist Dr. Maynard's nurse. Settle did keep busy, though, and soon he was elected as the first coroner in

Seattle, a position he filled for several years. He also served on the City Council. He and his stepson, James Crow, were active in the building of the first Territorial University building in Seattle. Dr. Settle was one of a small party of men who explored and helped to open up the Newcastle Coal Mines east of Lake Washington. He owned an interest in the mines for many years.

James Jeremiah Crow was the oldest boy in the family. In September of 1862, at the age of 20, he eloped with Emma Russell, and they paddled their canoe up the White River to where Kent is now. The Russell family had already claimed property nearby. James Crow filed a claim on a homestead of 160 acres southeast of Kent. He brought hops to the valley, and grew them there for many years. Crow later became one of the early mayors of Kent, after it became a town. In 1883 "Captain" Crow purchased the steamboat Lillie, and operated it on the White River between Kent and Seattle.

Crow also engaged in prospecting in the early days and, in 1880, discovered the famous Black Diamond coal mine just twelve miles east of Kent. He built a three-story home in Kent which included a huge ballroom on its third floor. The home was later destroyed by fire. Crow lived most of his life in the Kent area, and was a good friend of Clarence Bagley, who mentions Crow frequently in the Bagley History of King County.

My great-grandmother, Martha Ann Crow, attended the early schools along with her younger brother, Joseph. Both were taught at one point by Asa Mercer who, in 1862, had about 60 students in his charge.

In 1864, Martha Ann met Charles Robinson, a seafarer and millwright from Ludvik, Norway. Robinson worked at the mill in Port Discovery, and he and Martha Ann lived near there for a short time after their marriage in 1865. They moved to Port Madison, where a son, George, was born in 1866. grandmother, Bertha, was born to the couple in 1868, in Seattle. have a photograph of Bertha during her years attending the old Central High School in Seattle. Robinson home, where the Standard Furniture Company used to be - on Second and Pine streets - later sold for \$200.00. The family's next house was on Queen Anne and Aloha streets, at the counter balance where street cars attached to cables

Forty people from Port
Blakely lost their
lives...including Rowland,
who saved 13-year-old
Alice Simpson
before perishing.

in order to climb the steep grade.

In 1876 Dr. Josiah Settle died, and Marietta was left to raise the rest of the family, alone. On April 10, 1886, my Grandmother Bertha married Henry Thomas Price, a Welshman she met at Port Discovery. Grandpa Price became the Postmaster at the new Port Blakely mill, where he also served as the telegraph operator for almost thirty years. The Prices had three children: son Rowland, and two daugh-

ters, Ethel May and (my mother) Kathleen Elizabeth. Rowland Price was involved in a shipping accident on Puget Sound at the age of 19, when the steamer *Dix* was rammed by another ship. Forty people from Port Blakely lost their lives during the incident, including young Rowland, who saved 13-year-old Alice Simpson before perishing.

To continue the story of my family I must now mention Joseph W. Crow. After studying to become an engineer, and helping to run some of the boats his brother Jim was involved with, Joseph Crow became an engineer on the *Chehalis*. The boat was hauling loaded coal cars to portage on Lake Union under Captain Bailey, one year, when they hit a storm and lost 18 coal cars off the shore at Madison Park: the cars are still submerged there today.

In 1881, Joseph Crow married Miss Annie Moran, sister of the shipbuilder Robert Moran. The couple had five children: Etta, Jean Margaret, Norah, Wilber and wellknown Seattle artist Louise Crow.

I find it interesting that, with such a rich and involved local history, only one or two of my ancestors belonged to either the Daughters of the Pioneers (which I have proudly joined) or the Pioneer Association, even though it is clear that the family were all true pioneers!

A REMINDER:

The Pioneer Association is looking for YOUR family history as it creates new exhibits for the Pioneer Hall museum. See page 6 for more information

Your help is needed, to tell the pioneer story:

Cooperation and materials sought for new "interactive" displays at Pioneer Hall museum

As plans for a new and improved Pioneer Hall museum are developed, new ways of presenting our state's history are being planned. The idea is to create exhibits for the museum which are vibrant, highly illustrative and captivating to visitors both young and old. Pioneer Trustee Catherine Spedden is spearheading an effort to reach this goal, and she has created a checklist of items which she believes can be used to "interactively" tell the pioneer story. Catherine, a former art teacher, has a strong background of working with various museums across the country.

Your help, however, is needed.

Members are able to contribute to this plan in several ways: by providing items, by sharing stories and information, by giving of their time and special talents, and by offering valuable input and suggestions. A four page questionnaire has been created by the Pioneer Association, and is available by calling its offices at 206-325-0888. A brief summary appears below, including a list of items the Association seeks for new exhibits. Items may be donated, or provided on a LOAN ONLY basis.

- Clothes of all ages: work or dress
- Jewelry
- Military items
- Certificates: marriage, birth, awards or mining
- Kitchen items: cherry pitters, dishes, etc.
- Furniture
- Old maps and charts

- Dolls, toys, trains and scenery
- Sports equipment
- · Labeled cans or fruit boxes
- Victorian lamps, household doo-dads or object d'art
- Native American artifacts such as beading, brackets, and tools
- Pictures of towns and forts

- School records (pictures, rosters, books)
- Tools (garden, household, work or special trade)
- Old books and magazines (especially cooking, costume, lifestyle and history)
- Old photos (people, places, buildings, activities or events, and scenery)

Perhaps most importantly, ALL members are encouraged to share stories and photos of your pioneer families. When submitting either, please be sure and include: your name, address and telephone number, dates when known, name and description of item (if not obvious), the names of any persons identifiable in photos or written histories.

Illustrating our state's history with tangible items and personal stories creates a richer, more vital vision of the pioneer experience. Please take time to consider how you may help to bring the past to life. Volunteers are needed to help catalogue items and create the new displays, as well as to put into use any special skills, such as model making or set construction.

Now is the time. The Pioneer Association moves into the twenty-first century with vision and concrete goals. Please help if possible. Your assistance now not only will help preserve history in Pioneer Hall, but help create it.

Completed checklist/surveys, family histories, or inquiries about this project may be forwarded to: Catherine Spedden, 10507 NE 151st Street, Bothell WA, 98011-4852 (or call her at 425-488-3164).

www.wapioneers.org

Pioneer Association launches web site

Thanks in large part to the hard work of Pioneer Association member, and first vice president, David Fauver, the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington finally has a presence on the World Wide Web.



The new site, found at http://www.wapioneers.org, features meeting notices, information about special events, membership guidelines and online copies of current and past issues of <a href="https://example.google.go

A special "members" section of the site is currently being developed. All Pioneer members currently "online" are encouraged to explore this new resource.

In Memoriam

Among those members who have died, the Pioneer Association has recently learned of the following:

Temple Witt COBB, who died 30 April 2001 in Seattle, was descended from pioneer Lewis WITT.

Life member Frank Louis DELESHY, who joined the Association in 1982, and was descended from pioneer Louis Cass SMITH, died last November while a resident of Bothell.

Rose S. ANDERSON died in June, 1988, while residing in the Edmonds/Lynnwood area. She joined the Association in 1985 on the basis of her descent from Peter and Elvira St. Luise.

Associate member Richard Edward GREGORY died in Seattle during November 2000. He was the husband of member Mary Frances (Wintler) GREGORY, who is descended from John Jacob Wintler, who came to Vancouver, WT, in 1865. The Gregorys joined the Association in 1993.

Mary Ann NICKELL passed away in May of this year. Her grandparents, Franz Jacob Schroeder and Theohila Klawa, came to Ballard in the summer of 1889 and then relocated to Issaquah in 1891. Mary Ann died in Tacoma after a brave battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease).

Catherine A. SMITH died last November, while a resident of Lacey. She was the sister of member Mary Helen DOONAN and the daughter of Helen L. KEEGAN. The family is descended from Asa Mercer and Rachel (Mercer) Vaughan.

Loren C. MOOS of Edwall, Washington, passed away recently in eastern Washington. He had been a member of the Association since 1988. He was descended from Joseph B. SANDERS, who came to Walla Walla in 1865.

Betsy Ross DETROIT died in Seattle on August 3, 2001. A native of Wenatchee, she had been a member of the Association since 1977. She was descended from pioneer George W. Parrish.

New members, welcome!

Among recent applications for membership in the Pioneer Association, we find:

Charles Arthur GARRETT (Seattle) is descended from Willaim and Bridget LEMON, who came to Cowlitz Prairie in Lewis County in 1852. Mr. Garrett's paternal grandmother joined the Association in 1940.

Paul Andrew KLEIN (Seattle) is descended from Henry Levi DENNY and Lucinda (Baker) DENNY. Both Henry and Lucinda joined the Association in 1899, having come to Washington Territory in 1869. Mr. Klein also is descended frm Harvey J. Moss and Rhoda (Denny) Moss, who joined in 1924.

Harry Monroe LEWIN (Rochester) is descended from John C. Lewin Jr., who came to the Fremont area, north of Seattle, in 1888.

Jeffrey George PASCO (Ninilchik, Alaska) is descended from Levi Alexander Cline, who came to Port Orchard in 1884. Jeff is the son of current member George Pasco, who joined in 1975. Jeff's sister, Nancy Faye (Pasco) FONTAINE (Lynnwood) reinstated her membership, first begun in 1975.

Laurel R. JOHNSON (Seattle) is descended from John Skinner and his wife Ellen (Backus) Skinner, both of whom arrived in Seattle from Iowa in 1888.

Pioneer Association of the State of Washington 1642 43rd Avenue East Seattle WA 98112

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