

Next Meeting

OF THE PIONEER
ASSOCIATION OF THE
STATE OF
WASHINGTON

**Saturday,
March 15**
1:00-3:00 p.m.

Pioneer Hall
1642 43rd Ave East
Seattle WA 98112

Speaker: Junius Rochester
"The Last Electric Trolley"

Family History:
Donna Harvey family

Table of Contents

The Last Electric Trolley _1
President's message . . . 2
Membership changes . . . 2
Sesquicentennial Event _ 3
Fiske Library History _ 4-5
New Member Event . . . 6
Fall meeting summary . . 6
Editorial 7
We need your help 8

March 15 meeting of the Pioneers

Take a trip on "The Last Electric Trolley"

The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington will hold its Spring meeting on Saturday, March 15 at Pioneer Hall.

At this meeting, local historian, writer and researcher (and Pioneer member) Junius Rochester will present a history of Madrona and Denny-Blaine and the nearby lakeside communities as he's chronicled them in his recently published book, "The Last Electric Trolley".

Junius is the author of five books on Northwest history, is a frequent contributor to magazines and for the last seven years has been a weekly commentator on KUOW FM radio. In 1995, he was given a Project Award by the Association of King County Historical Organizations (AKCHO) and the King County Landmarks and Heritage Commission. A member of the Pioneer Association Board of Directors, he is a past-president of the Pacific Northwest Historians Guild.



Junius Rochester

Also at this meeting, Pioneer Donna Harvey will present a history of her family's life in the Pacific Northwest. Donna's great-grandfather, John Harvey, arrived at Alki, Oregon Territory, on March 17, 1852, just four months after the Dennys, Lows, Borens, Bells and Terrys. John Harvey's land donation claim of 160 acres along Lake Washington included the southern part of Seward Park. After the Indian War, he sold his claim in 1859 and headed up the Snohomish River, where many of his descendants still live.

The meeting will begin at 1:00 with a short business meeting, followed by the speaker presentations. There will also be music, door prizes and refreshments, as well as ample opportunity to visit with your Pioneer friends. Pioneer Hall is located at 1642 43rd Ave E, in Madison Park (Seattle).



1642 43rd Avenue East
Seattle, WA 98112

206-325-0888 Telephone
www.wapioneers.org

Pioneer Hall Hours

Open Houses are held on the second Sunday of each month. Please call for times.

Board of Officers

President	Bob Teague
1st vice president	Margaret Parietti
2nd vice president	Claire Raaum
3rd vice president	Junius Rochester
Secretary	Marian Spath
Treasurer/Historian	Gary Zimmerman

Trustees

Jackie Cedarholm, Pamela Hillman,
Betty Kinsman, Barbara Krohn
(term to June 2003)

Kathy Dettmar, Carol Hawkins, Catherine
Spedden, Muriel Winterscheid
(term to June 2004)

Mark Chamberlain, John C. Gayton III,
Shirley Wright, Marilyn McLauchlan
(term to June 2005)

Pioneer Presences

Barbara Krohn, Editor

Contributors this issue: Carol Hawkins, Margaret Parietti, Claire Raaum, Junius Rochester, Helen Langer Smith, Muriel Winterscheid and Jeff Christensen.

Pioneer Presences (USPS 533-750) is published three times a year as part of yearly membership dues at \$5 per person, per year, by the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington, 1642 42nd Ave E., Seattle, WA 98112. Periodicals postage paid at Seattle, WA.

Postmaster: send address changes to *Pioneer Presences*, 1642 42nd Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112.

President's comments

Happy 2003! I hope each of you had a great holiday season and are about to enjoy a wonderful spring.

Great things are happening at Pioneer Hall. Most obvious to visitors is the work of member Catherine Spedden, who has continued to upgrade the displays and artifacts in the show cases. Other great work is being done by Claire Raaum, who is leading the effort to bring about a 150th Washington anniversary of the territoriality party on Saturday, April 5. That event promises to be a wonderful time for all, and I strongly recommend

you come by and join in on the fun. Barbara Krohn and the Membership Committee have done a great job in streamlining the membership process, especially making new members of the organization feel welcome.

Very shortly, our antiquated security and fire alarm system will be replaced, giving us better and more complete protection, as well as expanding that protection to include the Fiske Library, downstairs. In the process of installation, we will rewire the telephone system.

Finally, Carol Hawkins has taken on the responsibility of determining the identities of those depicted in the photographs on display in the Hall. The great strides she is making with this project will help greatly in our attempts to fully tell the stories of our pioneer ancestors.

I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Meeting on Saturday, March 15. The speaker on that day will be our own Junius Rochester. Please plan on coming, if you can.



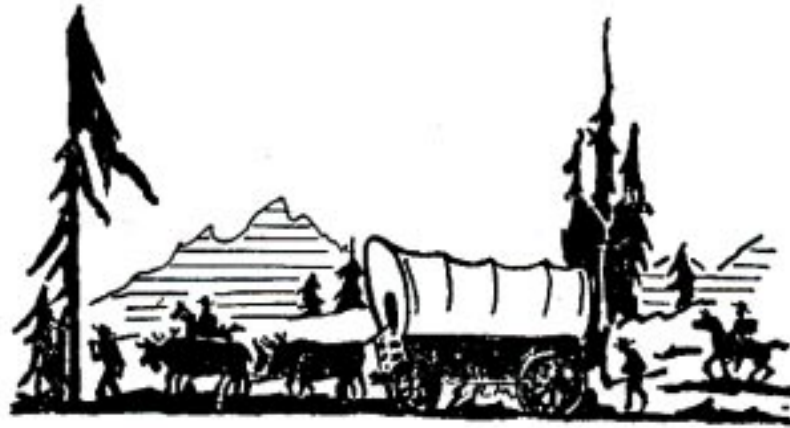
Robert Teague

Membership committee looks at changes

Over the past several months, the Membership Committee of the Pioneer Association has been reviewing ways to better identify and serve potential and current members. The committee has already put together a set of goals, and is working with the Board to streamline how current members are classified and new members solicited.

The result of some of that work has already made itself known (such as the "Harvest Ingathering" welcome of new members, last November), but look for more news and some necessary changes in membership over the next few months. The changes will not be anything drastic, according to Chairman Barbara Krohn. The overall goal is to see that members feel welcomed, in touch and encouraged to become involved in the many activities of the Pioneer Association.

More information about membership will appear in future issues of *Pioneer Presences*. If you have suggestions or ideas about how you think the membership might be better served, you are encouraged to contact Membership Committee Chairman Barbara Krohn at 206-323-6725.



Territorial Sesquicentennial Celebration 1853-2003

Come help celebrate Washington Territory's Sesquicentennial
with the *Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington* and
the *Pioneer Association of the State of Washington*

Saturday, April 5, 2003

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

at historic Pioneer Hall
1642 43rd Avenue E
Madison Park, Seattle

Enjoy songs by "The Washington Squares" barbershop quartet, and tap your toes to the music of "The Coyote Choir", a cowboy instrumental trio!

Stroll down Memory Lane with autoharpist and singer Maggie Bennett, as she performs songs from the Mercer Girls era!

See live spinning, weaving and quilting, and displays of early coverlets and quilts.

See live demonstrations of pioneer life.

Look at pioneer portraits, photos of early Seattle, clothing and artifacts.

Find bargains at the book sale and enjoy homemade pies, coffee and cider.

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation Library: The move to Pioneer Hall

Muriel Oliver Winterscheid

The year 1992 marked the beginning of the Fiske Library on the lower floor of Pioneer Hall. This milestone represented not only a major change of address for the Fiske Library, but also a new tenant for the Pioneer Association.

Pioneer Hall, built on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. John McGilvra, was built with funds contributed by Sarah Denny. The building, dedicated in 1910, was registered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1970. Built for lineal descendants of pioneers who were residents of Washington Territory prior to statehood in 1889, Pioneer Hall has become the repository of valuable memorabilia of Pioneer Association members. One other organization, the Daughters of the Pioneers (Chapter #1), has maintained historical displays on the upper floor, and has worked closely with the Pioneer Association since 1911. The "Daughters" are direct descendants of pioneers who established residence in Washington Territory by 1870.

Arthur Fiske, a nationally recognized genealogist active in the Seattle Genealogical Society for many years, decided to start his own library in a Queen Anne duplex. But early in 1992, the owners needed this space for their own use. Barbara Giles and Mary Stoebeck, board members of the Fiske Library, asked members of Arthur's classes to help find a new place. Muriel Winterscheid, a Daughter of the Pioneers member, contacted Edith Johnson about the possibility of moving the Fiske Library to the lower floor of Pioneer Hall.

Johnson discussed this proposal with Gary Zimmerman, a fellow Pioneer board member. They visited the Queen Anne Library, where Edith remembers the many books overflowing on shelves. Both came away believing the Fiske Library could be a strong addition to Pioneer Hall by fulfilling one of the stated purposes of the Pioneer Association: "the preservation of lineage data for the benefit of posterity". So the Pioneer Board decided to offer Arthur the opportunity of moving the Fiske Library to Pioneer Hall. Upon the recommendation of Charles Payton, adviser to the King County Landmarks and Heritage Program, Edith asked attorney Robert Gruhn to draw up a contract providing the terms for the rental. This included the lower floor space of Pioneer Hall, with the exception of the area in the NW corner used for storage of chairs. Several benefits to both groups were decided on. Paid-up members of the Pioneers would be allowed free access to the library. Arthur would establish a card-file on Pioneer members and develop a section of special books on Washington history. The rent was agreed upon, with a sharing of utility costs. Mr. Gruhn charged no fee for his legal work.

The move from Queen Anne was started in late spring, after Arthur's classes were completed. When his board members resigned because of family pressures, Arthur appointed Muriel Winterscheid as vice-president and Ruth Fricke as secretary-treasurer. This new board immediately became involved in the plans for moving. Ruth Fricke applied for a donation of office supplies from the Boeing Company. Arthur, Ruth, Ruth's husband Ace and Muriel spent a day hauling chairs, cabinets, a typewriter and other supplies from the Boeing Company to Pioneer Hall. Mary Peters and other volunteers packed the cartons of books to be moved from Queen Anne. Mary also obtained finished black-stained lumber from a former student who was a building contractor. These boards and old bookcases from Queen Anne were moved to the new location by Mary and Frank, her husband.

On the lower floor of Pioneer Hall, Ace measured and planned for the new shelves to be build from the donated lumber. He created a plastic tent to control the sawdust as boards were cut into proper lengths.



Arthur Fiske, 1924-1996

Throughout the summer, the hum of the buzz-saw and the pounding of nails could be heard. Arthur, Ruth and Ace were busy deciding where shelves should be located. Finally, when the shelves were competed and placed properly, George Winterscheid (with the help of others) hauled the cartons of books from Queen Anne. George also moved a donated glass case from Historical Society headquarters on Mercer Island. This case was then renovated by Ace and Bill Eberle to become the showcase for Arthur's old and valuable books.

Ace and Bill moved new and old bookcases, including filing cabinets, along the south wall. These cabinets - many obtained from University of Washington surplus - hold more than 4.5 million reference cards. Darlene Hamilton, genealogy librarian at the Seattle Public Library, has called this collection "the most valuable resource of the Fiske Library". Bill also re-wired the bathroom where Karen Winterscheid painted the walls.

Many other people volunteered time and effort during this time, especially longtime volunteers Dolores DeLascio and Mary Stevenson. When new classes started in the fall of 1992, everything was in place. Families including those of Vic and Ada Evans, Lyn and Bill Melton, and Muriel and Loren Winterscheid, painted the floor during fall weekends. Mary Stevenson made attractive gray draperies to enclose the storage space of the Pioneers. All were delighted with the new location, which proved to be convenient to bus service and became recognized as a pleasant place to visit in the Madison Park neighborhood. The Fiske Library was cool in summer and warm in winter, conducive to good working conditions.

Several events of mutual interest to Fiske and Pioneer members alike were inaugurated by the new library. The Fiske Family Fair, an annual event, took place for the first time in Pioneer Hall. More than 100 exhibitors and guests found the main auditorium a delightful place to gather. Christmas parties and other events were also shared with the Pioneers. Lyn Melton chaired a tea which raised money for both the Fiske Library and Daughters of the Pioneers. Various seminars were held, such as one with a Welsh speaker brought in by Jackie Cedarholm. Betty Kay Anderson served as president of the group called "Friends of the Fiske", who were volunteers who proved helpful to the Library in many ways. Anderson also planned tours going to Salt Lake City and other points of interest to genealogists. These proved popular.

Mary Stevenson and Bill Eberle were publishing newsletters and brochures which advertised the new location. Arthur was teaching, speaking and welcoming interest groups from all over the state. Many new members were gained by the Pioneer Association, while old members were helped with their family histories.

Especially good news came when Robert Giles, husband of former board member Barbara Giles, completed the legal work enabling the Fiske Library to become a non-profit foundation.

The following years brought many challenges to the Fiske Library. The astonishing growth - from Arthur's original 7,500 volumes - will be described in another article. The Fiske Library has fulfilled the vision seen by Edith Johnson and Gary Zimmerman with a purpose common to the Pioneer Association and the Daughters of the Pioneers. In the present, the compatibility of the three groups using Pioneer Hall is indeed gratifying. All three groups have developed a spirit of cooperation which promises many benefits for the future.

Sunday "Open Houses" continue at Pioneer Hall

Once a month, typically on the second Sunday, volunteers staff Pioneer Hall and "open house" for visitors. The idea behind these special Sundays is to allow visitors a weekend opportunity to visit the Hall, walk among the exhibits and learn more about our pioneer ancestors.

Coordinator Shirley Wright encourages all members to spread the word about our open houses, which are currently scheduled to be staffed by the following volunteers: Claire Raaum and Shirley Wright (March 9); Bettie Kinsman and Peggy Parietti (April 13); John Gayton and Jackie Cedarholm (May 11); and Marian Spath and Shirley Wright (June 8).

New members welcomed at fall "Harvest Ingathering"

The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington's Board of Trustees took pleasure in welcoming new members to the organization at a November potluck dubbed the "Harvest Ingathering".



Gail Trezise (left) and Juanita Nordin

The group was welcomed to the Pioneer Hall event with opening remarks by Pioneer president Bob Teague. Members were encouraged to use maps posted at each of the Hall to illustrate where their ancestors originally settled in our region and where they, themselves, lived today. Attendees then formed small groups where they could introduce themselves and give some background about their pioneer ancestry. After a short time, individuals were encouraged to rotate groups, but most stayed and continued sharing and building friendships.

Food for the event was provided by members of the board, and a good time was had by all in attendance. The Membership Committee, who organized the event, plans to hold similar "welcomes" regularly in the future.

Pioneer fall meeting re-cap

Submitted by Carol Hawkins

At our fall meeting in October, we met a wonderfully creative and practical nun who was instrumental in civilizing Washington Territory. Joan Tucker, in the guise of Mother Joseph, shared her entrance into the Sisters of Providence, her sometimes hair-raising trip west and her humanitarian work. This work, especially that in the Vancouver area, included providing the design, funding and construction of 29 hospitals, schools and orphanages over a span of 46 years.

When Mother Joseph and her companions arrived in Vancouver, the church officials there had been hoping and planning for the arrival of priests (not nuns) and had not prepared any place for her and her companions to stay even the night. Lodging was quickly prepared and, within a short time, they were able to start a school.

In the character of Mother Joseph, Joan Tucker mended, knitted and displayed actual tools to demonstrate how the nun went about her tasks as well as made great accomplishments. She went into detail about the immense fund-raising efforts of Mother Joseph, including a trip to Idaho to request funds from settlers and gold miners there. The Idahoans were generous, and Joseph had to be quick-witted in getting the money back to Vancouver (every cent of it accounted for) after being stopped on the road, by bandits.

Joan Tucker's characterization of this famous woman captivated those Pioneers in attendance at this meeting. For those who weren't able to attend, her performance has been captured on videotape and you may contact me for information about how to acquire it.

Also presented at this meeting was an informative family history by Larry Puffert, whose family came to Waterville, Douglas County, Washington Territory in 1887. Guests also enjoyed refreshments and plenty of socializing. Our thanks to Larry, Joan and everyone who helped make this meeting such a success.



Joan Tucker as Mother Joseph

Where have all the Pioneers gone?

Jeff Christensen

In 1966, the year I was born, the membership directory of the Pioneer Association of Washington listed the names of almost 3,000 members. Today, our membership stands closer to 1,100 members and, as fewer active members are left doing more and more on behalf of our organization, a natural question comes to mind: "where have all the Pioneers gone?"

In many ways, nobody knows better than our membership that times change. Things move fast today, more people are working longer and harder, and living busier lives. Today, it's often considered less feasible, much less fashionable, to associate oneself in fraternal orders, membership organizations or social clubs. In a world of two-career families, it can be difficult to find time to meet our individual and familial needs and responsibilities, much less make time to electively attend meetings and volunteer our precious time. By limiting what it is we give, however, aren't we inadvertently missing out on what we are able to receive?

Membership organizations such as the Pioneer Association allow us to connect with others like ourselves: people of shared experiences, goals and - in our case, particularly - history. Those of us who have chosen to join the Association have done so with the historian's keen recognition that understanding where we came from is an important key to knowing where we are going. But when it comes to the Pioneers in Washington State...where have they gone?

Changes in communication and transportation have made the world seem smaller, and more accessible. Today, people move around the country and the globe with much freer ease, and it's just not that common for any us to live and die in the same state (much less small town) as it was in our parents and grandparents times. Today, we are expected to be members of the Global Village, but don't all of us have someplace in our hearts we still tell ourselves is home?

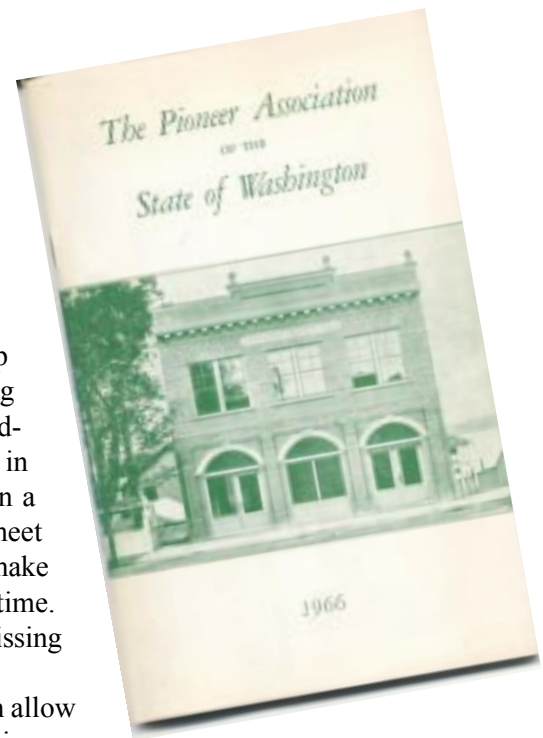
Recognizing that fewer lineal descendants of Washington pioneers still live in our beloved state - and that those who do remain feel pressure from many different directions when it comes to their time, energy and money - perhaps the real question then becomes: "how do we make it worth their while?" What is it that we, as an organization, offer (and how do we best extend that offer)?

Add these concerns to those of member retention (keeping our members is just as important as bringing in new ones), and getting more members to be *active* members, and the tasks begin to seem daunting. Clearly, it isn't just a game of higher numbers: more doesn't always mean better (sometimes it just means "more").

The truth is that the membership numbers of 1966 might be those of an all-time high, pushed to that level by a truly zealous campaign effort. But aren't we capable of similar efforts?

There isn't any one answer to how best to improve and grow our membership. But with 1,100 members, we have the resources to generate and implement many different ideas, if we only come together. We must never forget (or underestimate the power of) the fact that we all come from a long line of true pioneers: men and women who had to rely on their wits and hard work to accomplish goals under very tough circumstances. I like to believe - coming, as we do, from such solid stock - that we're capable of doing the same, today, if we set our minds and hearts to it.

Almost 120 years ago, our ancestors decided it was critically important to preserve and maintain our unique local history. Who among us wouldn't agree that goal is as important today, if not more than it ever was?



**Pioneer Association
of the State of Washington**
1642 43rd Avenue East
Seattle WA 98112
<http://www.wapioneers.org>

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE WA
PERMIT NO. 1210

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Next meeting of Pioneers, Saturday, March 15, 1:00-3:00 pm at Pioneer Hall

The Pioneer Association needs your help

All membership organizations rely heavily on the active participation of their members and, sometimes, just plain require their members' help. Some ways you might assist the Pioneers:

- Carol Hawkins has taken on the challenge of helping the Pioneer Association identify all the pioneers whose portraits currently hang in Pioneer Hall. Think you might be able to assist? Call Carol directly, or mail information about a portrait you loaned, donated or simply can identify to: Pioneer Hall, Attn: Pioneer Membership Committee, 1642 43rd Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112.

- One of our goals is to keep in better touch with members, and one means of doing that in some situations is via e-mail. We'd like to have your e-mail address, if you have one available, on record. Please contact Pioneer Secretary Marian Spath at mspath@speakeasy.net with current information.

- Think you've missed an issue of *Pioneer Presences* newsletter? Concerned the address or contact information we have on file for you may be incomplete or incorrect? Just added a winter residence or mailing address? Let Gary Zimmerman know by leaving word for him at the Hall at 206-325-0888.

- Heard about an event you think all our members should know about? Like to see your family history published in a future edition of *Pioneer Presences*? Want to express an idea or an opinion? Newsletter editor Barbara Krohn would like to hear from you. Contact Barbara at 206-323-6725.