

Next Meeting

ANNUAL MEETING
& SALMON BAKE

Saturday,
June 24, 2006

9:45 am Registration
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting
Presentation to follow
12:00 noon Luncheon
(see insert to RSVP)

Featured Speaker:

Junius Rochester

Noted local author and historian

Family History Speaker:

To Be Announced

Pioneer Hall
1642 43rd Ave East
Seattle (Madison Park)

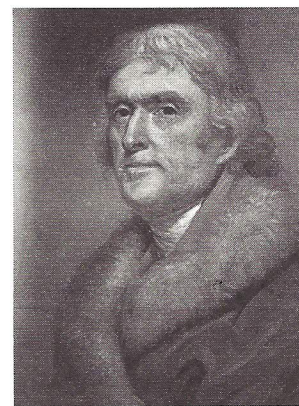
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The man who launched the Lewis & Clark Expedition **Thomas Jefferson visits Puget Sound** **(in his imagination)**

On Saturday, June 24, local author and historian Junius Rochester will give a presentation about Thomas Jefferson, as part of the Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake of The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington.

Thomas Jefferson saw his 18th century world as rural, idyllic, and stretching beyond the Mississippi River. He recruited several adventurers to explore the Columbia River, even before the Lewis & Clark trek. Jefferson's library – perhaps the largest in America in the late 1790s – contained many volumes about the "Oregon Country." He was an avid collector of fur trader anecdotes, Indian myths, and botanical and zoological samples about the West. Jefferson's knowledge about the West, including the North Pacific, Puget Sound, and the great rivers of Oregon, may have been more extensive than any other American of his time.



Thomas Jefferson

Jefferson's version of the Enlightenment replicated the European search for answers to everything. In his old age our third U.S. president never lost sight of his interests. He corresponded with hundreds of people in several languages and undertook founding the University of Virginia. Although the Louisiana Purchase changed the physical character of America, the cultivation of his "Garden" (Jefferson's unknown Western lands) and the charting of North American rivers and mountain ranges continued with gusto.

Let's take a look at what Jefferson knew, or thought he knew, about our Puget Sound country.

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. A member of the Pioneer Association Board of Directors, he is a past-president of the Pacific Northwest Historians Guild.



1642 43rd Avenue East
Seattle, WA 98112

206-325-0888 Telephone
www.wapioneers.org

Pioneer Hall Hours

From October through March
Open Houses are held
on the second Sunday
of each month.
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Board of Officers

- President Carol Hawkins
- 1st vice president Jeff Christensen
- 2nd vice president Marilyn McLauchlan
- 3rd vice president Vacant
- Secretary Peggy Parietti
- Acting Treasurer Gary Zimmerman
- Historian Gary Zimmerman

Trustees

- Carl Nordstrom, Kirk Gerrard,
Betty Kinsman, Chris Raaum
(term to June 2006)
- David Brazier, Bette Palo,
Catherine Spedden, Claire Raaum
(term to June 2007)
- Helen Langer Smith, Junius Rochester,
Lawrence Puffert
(term to June 2008)

Pioneer Presences

Jeff Christensen, Editor

Contributors this issue:
Peggy Parietti, Claire Raaum,
Gary Zimmerman

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Reflections on a year passed...

President's comments

As we approach the Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake, it is hard to realize that it will have been a year since I was elected your president. We have had several excellent speakers at our meetings, met a few of our new members and said good-bye to some dear friends and loyal supporters of the Pioneer Association. Those individuals were preservers of the stories of our forefathers and mothers who came out of the wilderness to carve a new home for themselves and their families. It is hard to believe what they endured on a daily basis in order to build their homes, create jobs and found the cities that are the foundation of the great state of Washington.



Carol Hawkins

Several people have worked hard to continue to maintain Pioneer Hall and to promote the stories we have to tell the many new "settlers" who still come here for the same reasons that our ancestors did.

Catherine Speddon has made many more shadow boxes and tri-fold information boards to relate the history housed in the Hall. Junius Rochester is doing research to help him write short "stories" to accompany Catherine's shadow boxes, as well as about some of the individuals whose portraits hang on the walls at Pioneer Hall.

There are so many others whose contributions need be recognized. There's Kirk Gerrard, for instance, who has helped a lot with Hall maintenance, especially with recent plumbing issues and helping illuminate some of the display cases. Bettie Kinsman helps keep us going by providing refreshments at our meetings. Jeff Christensen sends the interesting *Pioneer Presences*, increasing our yearly issues to four (he also handles the membership drive each year). Peggy Parietti has kept the Board informed as Secretary, and we are including more of that information in the *Presences*. Chris Raaum will be recording the presenters at our meetings - both the featured presenters, as well as those sharing their family histories, so we will have a video reference from those events. Virtually every Board member has served at our Sunday afternoon Open House events, which we have increased to twice a month, year-round. Then, there is Gary Zimmerman - who keeps his hand on the day-to-day operations of the organization, oversees our group's finances, acts as Historian and does whatever else needs to be done, unfliningly.

This is my way of saying "thank you" to each of you for your dedication to purpose of the Pioneer Association. I know that there are many others to thank, as well, and I'll make a point of doing that, as often as I have the opportunity.

I look forward to another great year ahead!

We lose another beloved member...

Shirley Louise Wright (1923-2006)

Shirley, a long-time member of the Daughters of The Pioneers, as well as the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington, passed away on February 25, 2006, in Bothell.

Shirley was born on February 26, 1923, in Seattle. Her pioneer ancestors included her great-great-grandmother, Marietta Settle, who came West with her husband, George Crow, and family in the mid-1800's. Shirley's great-grandmother, Martha Crow Robinson, was born along the Oregon Trail, in Missouri, one of five children born to her mother, Marietta. The family settled on land that is now Milwaukie, Oregon and eventually moved to Portland.

While in Portland, George Crow became ill and a doctor by the name of Settle attended to him. When George Crow died, Marietta Crow married Doctor Settle and, in 1860, the family moved from Portland to Seattle.

Dr. Settle became only the second doctor in Seattle - Doctor Maynard having already settled in the area. Settle often assisted "Doc" Maynard in his practice and eventually became the city's first coroner. He and his step-son, James Crow, were active in building the first Territorial University Building in Seattle, and Dr. Settle was one of a small party of men that explored and helped to open the Newcastle Mines, east of Lake Washington. The oldest boy in the Crow family, James Jermaine Crow, filed a claim on a homestead of 160 acres southwest of Kent, bringing hops to the valley.

Shirley was very proud of her family and their early roots in Washington. She was a loyal member of Seattle Chapter of The Daughters of the Pioneers and the Pioneer Association of Washington - serving as President of both groups. She worked tirelessly for both groups without fanfare. One year, Shirley built a beautiful doll house (complete with lights!), including all the furniture. The dollhouse has an honored place on the second floor of Pioneer Hall. She also made and dressed many pioneer dolls that were won by drawings at historical occasions.

For many years, Shirley published the yearbooks for The Daughters of the Pioneers. She assisted in cataloging and storing 800 garments belonging to The Daughters, as well as 200 hats. As State Library Chairman, she helped to place the State Daughter's special book collection at its current home, in Pioneer Hall. Proving she was a go-getter, Shirley took over the helm of the Pioneer Association when she was already 80 years old.

We will miss seeing her smiling face come bustling into Pioneer Hall, full of enthusiasm for the next assignment. We are thankful for her many (many) contributions and grateful for the opportunity to know her.



Shirley Wright

Make your reservations!

It's that time again! On Saturday, June 24, we'll be holding the 135th Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake of the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington.

This annual tradition includes the election of new officers, presentations of historical interest and a chance to socialize with other individuals with a shared pioneer ancestry.

A color insert in this issue of *Pioneer Presences* provides all the details about this year's event. Please mark your calendars, fill out the form and return it with your payment.

This year's featured speaker will be Junius Rochester, speaking to us about Thomas Jefferson's push to truly explore our own Pacific Northwest.

* * *

Share your family history

The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington is always seeking the written family histories of its members.

Recording the pioneer stories and recollections of your ancestors is a wonderful way to not only share them, but to record them for the enjoyment and education of future generations.

Tribute written by Claire Raam

Nominating Committee announces the names of proposed slate of officers for 2006-07 year

The Nominating Committee of the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington has released a list of nominees for Board and Trustee positions for the 2006-07 operating year. This year's slate of nominees is a mix of familiar faces, returning past officers and new members ready to make their mark in service of the organization.

Association members are reminded that nominations will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 24 at Pioneer Hall. New nominations may also be made during that meeting from the floor of the meeting.

The proposed slate for next year's Board of Officers, includes: Carol Hawkins (President); Jeff Christensen (1st vice-President); Marilyn McLauchlan (2nd vice-President); Junius Rochester (3rd vice-President); Stephanie Smith (Secretary) and Gary Zimmerman (Treasurer and Historian).

Due to some re-organizing required by recent resignations or deaths, several new Trustees are being brought onboard to fill various terms for the coming three years. Among the new or returning Trustees: Loren Rankin, Louise Jones- Brown, Sylvia Gayton Wesley, Betsy Losh (term to 2009); Helen Langer Smith, Kirk L. Gerrard, Peggy Parietti, Lawrence M. Puffert (term to 2009) and David Brazier, Bette Palo, Catherine Spedden, Claire Raaum (term to 2007).

Note: While members of the Association elect officers and trustees each year, it is the combined effort of the membership, as a whole, that makes the organization truly successful. Each of the individuals listed above has graciously volunteered his or her time, skills and energy to working on your behalf, but they can only lead our group forward with your help and support.

Consider volunteering for one of the many committees which oversees such tasks as: organizing the programs presented each meeting, helping make sure our Open House events are fully staffed, maintaining the facilities at Pioneer Hall, managing our membership drive each year and more. To learn more, contact President Carol Hawkins at 425-644-5058.

We spotlight area museums...

Lewis County Historical Society

Each issue, we plan to highlight one of the many fine historical museums in our state.

Location: 599 NW Front Way in downtown Chehalis, Washington.

Mission: The Lewis County Historical Society is a private non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the history and heritage of Lewis County through the operation of the Lewis County Historical Museum.

Phone: (360) 748-0831

Hours: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Tuesday through Saturday; 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Sundays
Closed Mondays & Holidays

Permanent displays: The Museum depicts the early settlements and pioneer life in Lewis County, one of the first areas settled in the region and the oldest county in Washington State.

Permanent exhibits include a Native American display of Cowlitz and Chehalis tribal material, a blacksmith shop, and a second-hand store dating from the early 1900s. A children's hands-on exhibit area features a mercantile store, old time kitchen, and an activity table.

Other displays reflect the predominance of the logging, and a model railroad is currently being constructed.

Rates: Historical Society Members -free; Families -\$5.00; Adults-\$2.00; Seniors-\$1.50; Children (6-18) -\$1.00; Children under 6-Free.

April meeting of the membership a big success as we learn more about the real history of the sloop-of-war *Decatur*

Members of the Association in attendance at the April 1 general meeting of the membership were treated to an early "sneak peek" at new information about the sloop-of-war *Decatur* and the many, varied roles it played during its colored history - including its involvement in the so-called "Battle of Seattle". The presentation featured recent revelations uncovered by local researcher and historian Lorraine McConaghy, of the Museum of History and Industry. McConaghy recently submitted a manuscript of a book on the subject, and the presentation she gave to the forty or so Pioneers at the meeting was truly a rare early look at her findings.



(l to r): Door prize winners Bess Handy, Ruth Moore, Donna Harvey, Mary Frances Gregory, Janet Thingvold

The suprisingly sunny early Spring day provided a wonderful opportunity for members to mix and mingle, as many new and longtime Pioneers met each other for the very first time. Members were reminded about the June 24 Annual Meeting.

Drawings were held and five lucky Pioneers won door prizes (*see photo, at left*). Our tireless Refreshments Committee (namely Bettie Kinsman and Peggy Parietti) provided coffee, cookies and lemonade for everyone, and a good time was definitely had by all.

The meeting concluded with the Pledge of Allegiance and a rousing version of "God Bless America".

Volunteer of the Quarter

Catherine Spedden

Membership organizations rely on the time, energy and overall support of their volunteer members. We're pleased to recognize one of the many men and women who make our organization better for us all.

This organization has given a nod to Catherine Spedden before - in print, at meetings and even on plaques. But it is her continued dedication and ongoing efforts - despite health set-backs and other challenges - that have prompted us to recognize her once again.

To use the word "volunteer" to describe Catherine is a bit of misnomer: Catherine is a tireless advocate for historical education who spends countless hours each year meticulously re-creating actual pioneer stories in shadow-box form, providing a three dimensional glimpse into pioneer life from the crossing of the plains to homesteading and from work to family life.



Catherine Spedden in front of one the many historic shadow boxes she's crafted from scratch

Pioneer Milestones: Recent deaths of pioneer members

Gary Zimmerman, Historian

Since the April issue of Pioneer Presences, the Association has learned of the following deaths which occurred since our Annual Meeting in June, 2005:

Life member **Doris May Carrington**, who first joined the Association in 1967, died in Seattle on September 20th, 2005. Her pioneer ancestors, Charles and Ida Carrington, came to Columbia City in 1889.

Elaine Eldridge died in Seattle on December 23, 2005 at the age of 96 after 40 years of membership in the Association. She was descended from the pioneer Brygger family. Her first husband, Joshua Green, Jr, who had joined the Association in 1947, passed away in 1985. Elaine remarried to Eugene Eldridge who died in 2004 at the age of 100.

On December 1, 2005, **Alice M Holcomb** passed away at the age of 101. A Life member of the Association, she had been a member since 1965. She was descended from her pioneer parents, John A Whalley and Clara (Dickey) Whalley. Alice attended the annual salmon luncheon in June, 2004, at the age of 100.

Silas G Jue died in Sunnyvale, California on October 24, 2005. A member of the Association since 1980, Silas was descended from Seattle pioneer Goon Dip.

Hilton Hayden Lysons, a member since 2002 died on 29 March 2006 in Mercer Island at the age of 92. He was descended from Washington pioneers Jesse Fowler and Crumline LaDu, who came to the present site of Longview in 1850. He also was a lineal descendant of Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island.

Pioneer News and Notes

Historian **Gary Zimmerman** was contacted a while back by a descendant of the **Bagley/Mercer/Jenner** families, who let it be known that her own family was interested in making a split donation of some family memorabilia to the University of Washington, as well as our own Pioneer Association. Among the items are family papers, letters, photographs and other items of local historical significance. Gary will be working with the family member and the University of Washington to arrange details for the donation.

Many Pioneers are stepping forward to make contributions to the memorial fund set up in the name of former President **Shirley Wright**, who died this past February. Similar contributions were made to a separate fund after the death of another former officer, **John Gayton**. Memorials like these not only honor the accomplishments of some of our most beloved members, but they benefit the organizations and programs that were near and dear to those members' hearts.

Chris Raaum, who recently stepped down from the Pioneer Board, has graciously agreed to begin videotaping various Association presentations in an effort to further document pioneer stories. We've had a lot of wonderful speakers over the years and videotape allows us to record their appearances for posterity and for playback at future events (such as our bi-monthly Open House sessions).

The Pioneer Association has received word from local attorneys that it is one of the benefactors listed in the Will of former member **Keith Birkenfeld**, who died this past year. The money came with a stipulation: that it be applied toward the Association's Building Fund, which was established for the preservation and overall maintenance of Pioneer Hall. How the money will be used is still being discussed, but the Association certainly appreciates this wonderful endowment.

In the interest of our members...

Meeting Minutes of the Board: May 13, 2006

Attendance: Carol Hawkins, David Brazier, Jeff Christensen, Betty Kinsman, Bette Palo, Catherine Spedden, Junius Rochester, Helen Smith, Gary Zimmerman, Peggy Parietti.

Meeting called to order at 9:35 a.m. by President, Carol. Minutes of April 1 meeting read by Peggy. Minutes approved as read.

The nominations committee with spokesperson, Helen Smith, gave the nominations as follows: Trustees to June 2008 - Kirk Gerrard, Peggy Parietti, Trustees to June 2009 - Loren Rankin, Louise Jones-Brown, Sylvia Gayton Wesley, Betsy Losh; Video Chairman, Chris Raaum.

Motion was made by David that we accept the slate and thank the committee for their diligent work. Seconded by Catherine. Motion Passed.

A raise for Marge Lutton was discussed. She is now paid \$8 an hour. It was recommended we raise to \$10 an hour. An amendment was suggested by David - If we charge renters a cleanup fee, then give Marge \$20. Seconded and passed. Motion made to increase the hourly wage to \$10. Seconded and passed.

Catherine and Carol will host the Open House this Sunday (Mother's Day). There are still Sundays open with no volunteers. Larry Puffert has offered to chair the Open House committee for 2006-2007.

Kathleen Schumer, Shirley Wright's daughter, has designed bookplates for our library books. Gary showed us the design and suggestions for wording on the plates. We all agreed that books donated to the library should have a bookplate with the honoree name (if given), the donor and date of gift.

Catherine showed us some of her latest work, done with the help of a book Carl Nordstrom loaned her. It contained stories of pioneers, many whose photos are on the Hall walls. Junius also helped by doing some history research. From these aids she typed large nameplates with information on her shadow boxes. They are very professional! Catherine reported there are 276 photos on the wall and she now has 101 stories of these people. She has a book ready to publish containing these stories. The radio group, with whom Marge Lutton put her in touch, are interested in taping these stories to be used in the museum by people touring the Hall.

When asked about using Pioneer members' applications for information, Gary said the early members did not have a story - just dates and ancestors.

Carol showed us the plaque made in memory of Shirley Wright, which will be placed on her doll house. Alongside will be a photo of the actual historical house in Port Angeles and a photo of Shirley and her doll house.

Peggy reported that the caterer for the annual meeting picnic will once again be Terentino's. The menu will be baked salmon, fresh fruit, spinach salad, roasted red potatoes, rolls and butter, apple crisp, coffee and tea. Lunch will be served at 12:30. Total cost, including tax and tip, is \$1,046.05. Deposit of \$500 is due to them by May 20. Gary figured \$22 a plate will need to be charged to the members.

David made a motion for adjournment. Junius seconded it. Passed. Time was 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Parietti
Secretary

Editor's Note: Each month we try to provide some information in the interest of our membership. Some months, that may mean reproducing a report from the Treasurer, publishing pertinent Letters to the Editor or, as in this case, reproducing the minutes of a recent meeting of the Board of Officers. The intent is to provide you, our members, with a better picture of the news and events affecting our organization. If there is information you'd like to see reproduced in your newsletter, feel free to address a note to: Editor, Pioneer Association of the State of Washington, 1642 43rd Ave East, Seattle, WA 98112.

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

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Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake: Saturday, June 24, 2006

New membership roster planned for September

It's been a few years since we published a current roster of our members and plans are in the works to do just that, come September. The Association considers rosters to be a valuable benefit of your membership and it is one of the ways for you to connect with fellow members. The Association does not sell or provide for free any member information outside the Association - the roster is being produced exclusively for your benefit.

To be included in the roster, however, your membership must be current. Dues notices for annual members for the coming year are just being posted now, so please keep an eye out for yours. When you receive it, check to make sure all the information we have on record for you is correct, make your payment (still only \$16 for adult members, \$5 for juniors) and our Membership Committee will make certain that you are included in the roster.

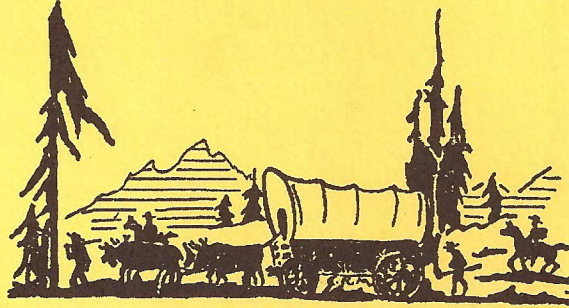
This year, we are hoping to make great strides in recording email addresses for those members who have them. Email is a great way for us to be able to connect with members in between issues of the newsletter or when there is a pressing Association matter at hand.

Membership notices

Membership notices are just now being posted, so please keep an eye out for yours. All members who pay on an annual basis - be they standard, Associate or Junior members - will be receiving a notice. Life members who do not owe anything towards their memberships were not included in this particular mailing, but should be receiving additional information from the Association, soon.

Please plan to renew your membership **no later than Wednesday, July 5!**

135nd Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake



Saturday, June 24, 2006

Pioneer Hall, 1642 43rd Avenue E, Seattle

- 9:45 am REGISTRATION
10:00 am BUSINESS MEETING: Including election of officers
10:40 am FAMILY HISTORY SPEAKER
11:00 am SPEAKER: Junius Rochester, local author and historian
12:00 pm SALMON BAKE: Served in Pioneer Hall

135nd Annual Meeting, Pioneer Association of Washington

ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS WELCOMED

Please reserve _____ place(s) at \$23.00 each = Total \$ _____

*Baked salmon w/mango or tarter sauce, fresh fruit, roasted red potatoes w/rosemary,
rolls and butter, apple crisp, decaf coffee and tea*

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, ZIP: _____

Mail this form with your payment to:

Pioneer Association Picnic, 1642 43rd Avenue East, Seattle WA, 98112

Reservations must be received by Wednesday, June 21