



Next Meeting

Saturday,
October 21, 2006

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Featured Speaker:

Allan Hirsh
*"The Real 'Toy Story':
Folk Toys & Whistles"*

Family History Speaker:

To Be Announced

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

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Special Insert

A full roster of all current
Pioneer Association members
can be found within this
issue of the newsletter.

Come play with us!

The Real "Toy Story": Folk Toys and Whistles from Around the World

We often have serious topics for our programs. This year's first program, presented on Saturday, October 21 from 1-3:00 p.m., will be: "The Real 'Toy Story': Folk Toys and Whistles from Around the World."

Allan Hirsh has loved toys since childhood and has accumulated a large and diverse collection. His curiosity caused him to explore how they were made and used. Did you know that a Chinese toy inspired the helicopter? Or that weapons and tools also became toys?

Come learn where many toys and gadgets originated and how they traveled from place to place. That story may make you think about which ones your own ancestors brought with them or learned to make when they arrived in Washington Territory. What toys are like the ones you used growing up? Are your children or grandchildren still using some of these toys?

Feel free to bring children ages 8 or older. There will be plenty of "hands on" time after Allan's presentation. You are also invited to come up to try your hand with some of the exhibit items.

Prior to Allan's presentation, there will be a short business meeting, as well as a Family History speaker. Refreshments and music will complete the afternoon's activities. Do please come to enjoy the program, catch up on Pioneer plans, renew old friendships and make new ones! We look forward to seeing you at Pioneer Hall.



*Allan Hirsh displays some of his collection
of antiques toys and whistles*



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:
Carol Hawkins, Peggy Parietti

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A message from the President:
Presidential Ponderings

Summers are wonderful — a time to relax, change our pace and sometimes even change our scenery. We certainly had a chance to soak up the sunshine this year! Summer can also be a time to enjoy new adventures and reflect on the past with family and friends.

Now, however, we are officially into Autumn. The weather changed right on schedule, as children and grandchildren returned to school. There seems to be a new expectancy and energy to start the “new year” as a teacher might say.

The newly elected Pioneer Board met on September 9 for its first meeting. Some of the faces from last year are gone: Betty Kinsman, Carl Nordstrom, Bob Teague, and Shirley Wright. I want to express my appreciation for each of them — their commitment to, and support of, the Pioneer Association helped to make it a better organization for all our members, the nearby community, and those who believe in the importance of preserving the history of Washington’s founding settlers.

Our Board members continue to carry on the planning and organization that preserves our building and its contents, as well as plan the activities that (hopefully) interest the members and help promote the “stories” of our ancestors. Those Board members are David Brazier, Jeff Christensen, Kirk Gerrard, Marilyn McLauchlan, Bette Palo, Peggy Parietti, Larry Puffert, Claire Raaum, Junius Rochester, Helen Smith, Catherine Spedden and Gary Zimmerman. Chris Raaum has stepped down from the Board, but will hold a position as Video Chairman to record our family history presentations and guest speakers.

To fill the vacated positions on the Board, the membership elected several new members, including a few who have agreed to return to service, after a hiatus — I would like to welcome Stephanie Smith, Loren Rankin, Louise Jones-Brown, Sylvia Gayton Wesley and Betsy Losh. Together, I believe we can address issues such as building maintenance and improvements. We will look for activities that bring more members into involvement in the Association. It is so very important to create activities that will bring more people to the Hall to enjoy its special character and to learn about the history of Washington from its first residents to early settlers and from territorial status into statehood.

There are two other responsibilities that our Board members accept: to preserve the building and its contents and to wisely save and use the Association assets. A fairly recent aspect of the Boards role is to work



Carol Hawkins

(cont'd on page 3)

We welcome the public...

2005-06 Pioneer Hall Open House Schedule

Carol Hawkins

This past year was the first that Pioneer Hall was open to the public for two Sunday afternoons each month (except November, December, January, and April). Attendance ranged each Sunday from one visitor (which happened only twice) up to eighteen. Open Houses are held on the second and fourth Sunday afternoons of each month from 1-4:00 p.m. The total count of attendees for the Sundays we were open was 157.

Attendance at our general membership meetings ranged from 18 members at our October 2005 meeting, to 26 in April, 2006, with 48 members or guests have signed-in at the Annual Meeting this past June. We also had 15 people attend the new member potluck, last November.

Many people coming to Open House are locals who have "always wondered what was in this building." Others come as part of their journey to do research downstairs at the Fiske Genealogical Library. Some come to us and find they may be eligible for membership and go downstairs to research the possibility, while others come to do research and come upstairs to see what we and the Daughters of the Pioneers have on display.

This past year, visitors came from California, Vancouver (BC), Missouri, Massachusetts, Maine, Texas and Oregon. A young man living in Kyoto, Japan, came with his mother and sister to do research on their family at the Fiske and left excited about what they had discovered.

The Open Houses also unearthed potential new members - at least 12 of the individuals who signed in at the Hall qualified for membership and a couple are now members of the Association or the Daughters.

If you were one of those people: welcome! If you would like to help the Association keep the Hall open for visitors, contact Larry Puffert who is in charge of staffing the Open Houses for the coming year. You can reach him by leaving a message at Pioneer Hall (206-325-0888) or talk to him at one of our meetings.

Presidential Ponderings (cont'd from page 2)

cooperatively with the two other tenants of the building: The Daughters of the Pioneers and the Fiske Genealogical Library. We benefit each other and make possible greater accomplishments as we share the wonderful resource of the Hall and strive to improve both it and its capability to share our unique resources with the larger society.

The Board will continue to meet to address the issues mentioned above. Another article in *Presences* will speak of some of the ideas that have already been discussed. We need all our members, however, if we are to be most successful. We NEED your input of ideas and involvement. We NEED your support and contributions. We NEED you to communicate with us so we know if we are moving in ways that fit your "vision" for Pioneer Hall and the Association. Write to us at the Hall, call or e-mail. For us to do our best, we need you, too.

Pioneer news and notes

Pioneer Association Board Member **Junius Rochester** was honored this past September as a recipient of an Award for Merit from the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH). The award, for Junius' work educating the public about local history through books, newspaper columns, radio narratives and presentations, was presented at the 2006 AASLH Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

The AASLH Leadership in History Awards, now in its 61st year, is one of the nation's most prestigious recognitions of achievement in the area of preservation and interpretation of state and local history. For 2006, only 84 organizations and individuals from the United States were recognized for their achievements.

Congratulations, Junius!

Share your family histories

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

If you'd like to share yours, simply send it to: Pioneer Association of the State of Washington, 1642 43rd Ave East, Seattle, WA 98112.

Jefferson County — A Thumbnail History

Editor's note: The organization that we belong to was founded as The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington for a reason and, although the organization's home, Pioneer Hall, is located in Seattle, our group was formed to celebrate the history of the people and places of the entire region formerly known as Washington Territory. With that in mind, we hope to spotlight the history of various counties across our great state. Ideally, these "thumbnail histories" would be submitted by current descendants of local pioneers - this month, we reproduce a sample sketch as published by Historylink.org. We encourage you to consider drafting your own county history, for submission to a future issue of "Pioneer Presences".

Jefferson County, located on the Olympic Peninsula in northwestern Washington, was created by the Oregon Territorial Legislature on December 22, 1852 from a portion of Lewis County. It was named in honor of President Thomas Jefferson who, by commissioning the Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804-1806), was instrumental in the exploration of the Pacific Northwest. Jefferson County has a total area of 2,184 square miles; 1,814 square miles of land and 369 square miles of water. Approximately 60 percent of the county comprises the Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest; another 20 percent



is under the jurisdiction of other federal and state agencies. The boundary lines were determined by the Washington Territorial legislature in 1877. It is bounded on the north by Clallam County and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, on the south by Grays Harbor and Mason Counties; on the east by Hood Canal and Admiralty Inlet; and the on the west by the Pacific Ocean. The county seat is Port Townsend.

Exploration and Contact

Although several explorers sailed along the shores of the Olympic Peninsula and into the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the most thorough work was accomplished in 1792 by Captain George Vancouver (1758-1798) of the British Navy who commanded an expedition into Puget Sound. Captain Vancouver charted and named many natural features: bodies of water, capes, headlands, inlets, and mountain peaks. His predecessor, Captain John Mears, a British mariner searching for the Northwest Passage, named the highest peak on the peninsula, Mount Olympus (7965 feet), after the mythical home of the Greek gods, on July 4, 1788. Captain Vancouver followed precedent and wrote the name "Olympic Mountains" on his charts. Eventually, the "Olympic" designation was extended to the peninsula itself.

For thousands of years the only occupants of the Olympic Peninsula were Coast Indians who lived in large communal longhouses, subsisting on fish, shellfish, and wild game as well as roots and berries. With the exception of periodic wars with other Coast Indian tribes, life was relatively quiet for many centuries. In the late 1700s and early 1800s the Indian population was decimated by disease transmitted through contact with white explorers. In some areas diphtheria, smallpox, and measles killed 90 percent of the Indians. By the time white settlers arrived some local tribes had populations of only a few hundred and were so depleted they could not effectively resist the intruders. In the mid-nineteenth century, Indian tribes located in what is now Jefferson County, included the Chem-a-kum (or Chimacum), Hoh (a subset of the Quileute), S'Klallam (or Clallam), Quinault, Snohomish, and Twana (or Quilcene). By signing of the Point No Point Treaty and the Quinault River Treaty in 1855, local Indian tribes ceded their lands and waters to the United States, reserving the right to continue fishing, hunting, and gathering in the ceded territories. After the treaties were signed, settlement proceeded rapidly.

Port Townsend

White settlers came to the north Olympic Peninsula in the mid-1800s but the rugged interior remained unexplored. Like the Indians, the settlers chose town sites along the waterways and were mainly occupied with logging, fishing, and farming. The first permanent American settlement on the peninsula was Port Townsend, founded on April 24, 1851, when Alfred A. Plummer (1822-1883) and Charles Bachelder selected homesteads and registered the claims with the surveyor general's office in Olympia. They named the new town after the bay on which it was situated, so named by Captain Vancouver on May 8, 1792, in honor of the Marquis of Townshend — the "h" in the original name was later dropped.

Port Townsend, on the Quimper Peninsula at the extreme northeastern tip of the Olympic Peninsula, was perfectly situated for sailing ships. At a time when commerce and travel in the Pacific Northwest were almost entirely waterborne, it was the first safe harbor encountered on Puget Sound.

In 1854, the Treasury Department moved Washington Territory's Port of Entry into the United States, from Olympia to Port Townsend. Sailing ships usually stopped for a least a few hours, both entering and leaving Puget Sound, to clear customs and await favorable winds and tides for continuing their voyage. Port Townsend residents believed their city was destined to become the San Francisco of the Pacific Northwest.

On January 16, 1860, the Washington Territorial legislature passed an act declaring Port Townsend a city, entitled to self rule. The city was officially incorporated by the legislature in 1861. But because the transcontinental railroad never reached Port Townsend, it never grew as expected.

The great land boom of 1889-1890 was predicated on the arrival of the Union Pacific Railroad, linking Port Townsend with the rest of the nation. Due to financial difficulties, the Union Pacific Railroad abandoned the project, causing the boom to collapse in 1891.

When the Panic of 1893 hit the nation, people in the city left in droves, abandoning their houses, buildings, and properties. Port Townsend's economy went bankrupt and within months, the population dwindled from more than 7,000 inhabitants to fewer than 2,000. The city may have been perfectly situated for sailing ships, but steamships could proceed into Puget Sound without concern. The loss to Seattle of the U.S. Customs Office in 1913 was a final blow to Port Townsend's grand ambitions.

The city languished until 1927 when the Crown Zellerbach Corporation built a kraft paper mill there, spending more than \$5 million and employing 600 construction workers and later, hundreds of mill workers. Today, the Port Townsend Paper Mill remains the largest private employer in Jefferson County. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in the year 2000, Port Townsend had a population of 8,334.

Sources:

Material reprinted from: *HistoryLink.org Online Encyclopedia of Washington State History*, "HistoryLink.org Essay 7472". Generated from amongst the following sources:

Indians of Puget Sound: The Notebooks of Myron Eells ed. by George Pierre Castile (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1985); Robert Hitchman, *Place Names of Washington* (Seattle: Washington State Historical Society, 1985); James Hermanson, *Rural Jefferson County: Its Heritage and Maritime History* (Port Townsend: James S. Hermanson, 2002); Andrea Jarvela, *The Washington Almanac* (Portland, OR: West Winds Press, 1999); Ruth Kirk and Carmela Alexander, *Exploring Washington's Past: A Road Guide to History* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1990); James G. McCurdy, *By Juan de Fuca's Strait* (Portland: Binford & Mort, 1937); Edmond S. Meany, *Origin of Washington Geographic Names* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1923); Edmond S. Meany, *History of the State of Washington* (New York: MacMillan Co., 1950); Murray Morgan, *The Last Wilderness* (New York: Viking Press, 1955); Karen Russell and Jeanne Bean, *Marrowstone* (Port Townsend: Port Townsend Publishing Co., Inc., 1978); William D. Welsh, *A Brief Historical Sketch of Port Townsend, Washington* (Port Townsend: Chamber of Commerce, 1941); *With Pride in Heritage: History of Jefferson County* ed. by the Jefferson County Historical Society (Port Townsend: Jefferson County Historical Society, 1966); Wayne Suttles, *The Handbook of American Indians: NW Coast* (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1990); "First Steel Made On the Pacific Coast to Be Turned Out at Irondale Next Month," *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, April 17, 1910, real estate section, p. 1; "U. S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder: Jefferson County, Washington," U.S. Census Bureau website accessed August 2005, (<http://factfinder.census.gov>); "County and City Information: Jefferson County," State of Washington Office of Financial Management website accessed August 2005 (www.ofm.wa.gov/localdata/jeff.htm); "2003 Washington State Data Book: Jefferson County Profile," State of Washington Office of Financial Management website accessed August 2005 (www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/county/jeff.htm); "Answers.com: Jefferson County, Washington," Answers.com website accessed August 2005 (www.answers.com/topic/jefferson-county-washington). By Daryl C. McClary, September 26, 2005

Spotlight on Washington historical groups...

Jefferson County Historical Society

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

Location: 540 Water Street, Port Townsend, WA. The Museum has been located in Port Townsend's 1892 landmark City Hall building since 1951. While the building is temporarily closed for restoration, the Museum has moved to the 2nd floor of the historic Kuhn Building in downtown Port Townsend at Water & Polk Streets.

Phone: 360-385-1003

Hours: Daily, 11 am to 4 pm

Current museum exhibits:
The First People: Area Natives, Captain Vancouver's NW Coast Exploration, Jefferson County Timeline - The First 150 years, James Swan and the Native Americans, The Chinese in early Port Townsend, Our Maritime Heritage, Historic Preservation and Port Townsend Goes Hollywood

Museum Admission: \$3 for adults, \$1 for children 3-12 and \$5 for a Passport to the Museum & Rothschild House. Free Admission the first Saturday of every month for Jefferson County residents.

Calendar for the New Year

Carol Hawkins

At the September 9 meeting of the Pioneer Board of Officers, the following schedule was set for meetings during the 2006-07 business year:

Event Date	Board Meetings	Membership Meetings
Saturday, September 9	9:30-11:30 am	None
Saturday, October 21	9:30-11:30 am	1:00-3:00 p.m.
Saturday, January 20	9:30-11:30 am	None
Saturday, March 17	9:30-11:30 am	1:00-3:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 5	9:30-11:30 am	None

Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake:

Saturday, June 23	10:00 am - 12:00 noon (business) 12:30-2:30 (luncheon)
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The Pioneer Board of Officers also announced dates for future special events, including: a "photo" work party on Friday, September 29 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; a Fall maintenance and cleaning work party Saturday, November 4 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and another Harvest Ingathering New Member potluck on Saturday, November 18 from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Members are welcome and encouraged to attend any of the above activities. The more you become involved, the more members you'll meet and the stronger our Association will become.

Association hosts annual new member reception, November 18

The Association once again welcomes new members when it hosts its annual Harvest Ingathering on Saturday, November 18. This fun event is our opportunity to welcome newly-joined members to the organization, introduce them to our Board members and Trustees, treat them to a potluck buffet and get our first introduction to the many interesting pioneer stories they bring with them to the Association.

All members are invited to attend this event, which kicks off at 11:30 a.m. at Pioneer Hall (1642 43rd Ave E, Seattle). New members needn't bring a thing, but all other members are asked to bring a food item - such as a salad, dessert or entree - and plenty of stories about your own pioneer ancestry to share.

Please RVSP before Monday, November 13 by phoning Membership Committee member Jeff Christensen at (206) 390-6810.

In the interest of our members...

Meeting Mintues: September 9 Board Meeting

Attendance: Jeff Christensen, Gary Zimmerman, David Brazier, Bette Palo, Catherine Spedden, Peggy Parietti, Claire Raalum, Larry Puffert.

The meeting was called to order at 9:45.

Carol Hawkins gave a review of this past year, including: twice a month open houses proved to be a good move when looking at the total number of visitors; the Harvest Ingathering (potluck for new members) has been well received and worth doing again ; Catherine Spedden's continued shadow box work and looking this year for more quality spaces and hanging files; Shirley Wright's memorial on the second floor. A good year with much more to accomplish.

Gary Zimmerman reported that Kirk Gerrard's volunteer work has been extensive: electrical work in illuminating the cases, attention given to men's bathroom plumbing problems and continued diligence in tackling a virtual laundry list of "to dos". Larry said he could help in putting up shelves for the shadow boxes.

Gary said there is a indoor check made of the hall by Terminex each month for carpenter ants. Big mess after last treatment as they rushed to get out of the hall and had no exit. The rat infestation outside has diminished as the three properties have bait boxes.

Junius Rochester has been given a national award by the Association of State and Local History Associates.

A review of the calendar was done: Board meetings - October 21, Jan. 20, March 17, May 5 (all at 9:30 a.m.); Membership meetings schedule -October 21 (1-3:00 p.m.), March 17 (1-3:00 p.m.), June 23 (Business Meeting 10:00 a.m. to noon and luncheon 12:30 -2:30 p.m.)

A "photo research" Fall work party will be held on Friday, September 29 at 9:30 a.m.

The Association will also host another of its annual Fall Harvest Ingathering potlucks for new members on November 18 (11:30 a.m.) - Board members will supply the food.

Another Fall work party - this one focused on cleaning and maintenance around Pioneer Hall - is slated for November 4 (9:30 a.m.) and will consist of work such as that needed up high and things like replacing torn blinds We are in need new blinds in some places - Jeff has some material information for new blinds and Gary has the name of a person in Yakima who can do blinds for us.

Catherine Spedden requested, once again, that we give her the history and story of an ancestor whose picture is on the wall.

Gary reported that the estate of member Keith Birkenfeldt left a gift of \$25,000 to be used for the Building Fund. He asked the Board for approval to move from Bank of America a \$23,016.16 Certificate of Deposit and Bank of America savings of \$26,999.85 and put into Washington Mutual along with the \$25,000. The interest rate is much better. Larry made a

(cont'd on page 8)

Volunteer of the Quarter

Peggy Parietti

We're pleased to recognize one of the many men and women who make our organization better for us all.

Normally when we turn the spotlight on one of our volunteers, we like to run a photograph of the individual. That was a harder task this quarter, because the volunteer we're honoring, Peggy Parietti, tends to spend a lot of her time at Pioneer functions *behind* a camera. Among the many hats Peggy wears is that of roving photographer and hers are often the images you see reproduced here in *Pioneer Presences*.

Photography would be just one of the many contributions Peggy makes to our organization, however. A current Board member, Peggy has served for years, on-and-off, as the Association's Secretary, as well as dedicated her time and effort as a member and officer of the Daughters of the Pioneers.

Although also committed to several other social organizations, Peggy continues to make time to be a regular presence at Association events and frequently assists in the preparation and service of refreshments while there.

We'd like to recognize and formally thank Peggy for ALL of her many contributions.

**Pioneer Association
of the State of Washington**
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Meeting Mintues of the Board (cont'd from page 7)

motion that "Gary be allowed to terminate the Bank of America certificate of deposit and the savings account to put into a Washington Mutual certificate of deposit at his discretion." Seconded by Jeff. The motion passed.

David Brazier made a motion that the Vice President be added to the list of Signature Authority. The motions was seconded by Larry Puffert. The motion passed.

A new membership directory is forthcoming. Gary has sifted through the membership list and with the help of Social Security found a few deaths whose families are still receiving our mailings.

Motion made by David, seconded by Larry, to discontinue the yellow pages ad that costs \$30 per month. This motion also passed. The web site has been used and is a good advertising bit for us.

Jeff reports the membership list is late. He is restructuring the data base and working on roster updating. The plans are to combine the roster with fall newsletter, which will save money. September 6 was the dues deadline, but we are still taking dues. September 22 is his newsletter deadline.

Suggestions were given for the June meeting program. Carol was thinking of the early times of medical history, with a family history of someone whose ancestor was a doctor. Ralph and Yvone Dine were given as family history prospects.

Larry Puffert has taken on the position of Open House chairman. He passed a sign-up sheet and will do so at the membership meeting.

Catherine discussed some books concerning the rendezvous and women's dairies of westward journey. She asked for a photo history corner in the Hall. She needs our ideas for shadow boxes and can use small figure donations.

Next Meeting of the Pioneers: Saturday, October 21, 2006