

Next Meeting

Saturday,
March 24, 2007

Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

General Meeting
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Featured Speaker:

Marjorie Ann Reeves
*"A Chapter in Pacific Northwest
History - The United Daughters of
the Confederacy and the PNW"*

Family History Speaker:

To Be Announced

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

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A little-known geographic connection to the PNW **Settlers from the South and their contributions**

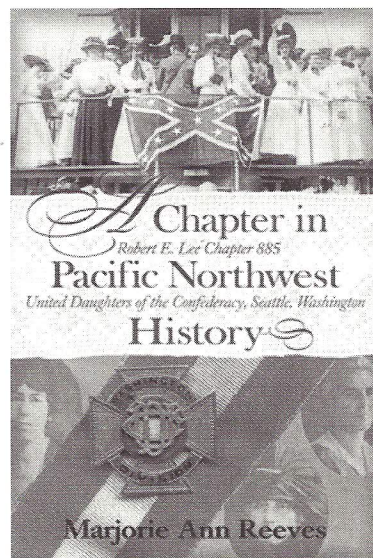
All Pioneer Association members and friends are invited to Pioneer Hall on Saturday, March 24, to hear Marjorie Ann Reeves speak about the contributions made to Washington State by settlers from the South. Reeves is the author of the recently published book *A Chapter in Pacific Northwest History*, whose content was gleaned from the minutes, scrapbooks and historian's reports of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) — Robert E. Lee Chapter #885, Seattle.

It has long been recognized that some of the deepest roots of our state come from not only the North, but from our nation's South, with settlers coming from both regions before the 1840s straight through the Civil War and beyond.

The book illustrates the many contributions made by daughters and wives of the Confederacy and their descendants, including organizing such events as "Dixie Day" during the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in 1909. The group also helped sell war bonds, roll bandages, and entertain troops during both World War I and II.

Marjorie Ann Reeves grew up in Alabama, earning her Bachelor Degree from the University of Southern Colorado and a Master's in Library and Information Science from the University of Washington. She is not only a member of Chapter #885 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, but has served that group as historian and president. She brings factual, thoughtfully researched material — as well as personal experience — about the organization to her writing and presentations.

Come hear Marjorie share the activities and contributions of the United Daughters of the Confederacy from the founding of its Seattle Chapter in 1905 to the present—over a century. The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. Admission is free.





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 | Junius Rochester |
| Secretary | Stephanie Smith |
| Treasurer | Gary Zimmerman |
| Historian | Gary Zimmerman |

Trustees

David Brazier, Bette Palo,
Catherine Spedden, Claire Raam
(term to June 2007)

Helen Langer Smith, Junius Rochester,
Lawrence Puffert
(term to June 2008)

Loren Rankin, Louise Jones-Brown,
Leonard Gayton, Betsy Losh
(term to June 2009)

Pioneer Presences

Jeff Christensen, Editor

Contributors this issue:

Carol Hawkins, Peggy Parietti,
Gary Zimmerman

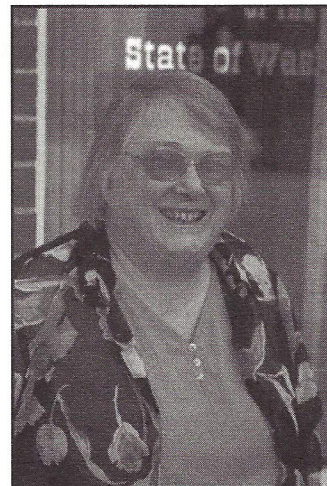
Pioneer Presences (USPS 533-750) is published four times a year as part of yearly membership dues (allocated at) \$5 per person, per year, by the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington, 1642 42nd Ave E., Seattle, WA 98112. Postage paid at Seattle, WA.

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

A message from the President:

Presidential Ponderings

It is pleasant to begin to notice longer days and warmer weather. Since our last *Pioneer Presences*, we have had the October meeting, where I shared my father's maternal pioneer roots in King County. Guest Speaker Allan Hirsch spoke about "The Real Toy Story: Folk Toys and Whistles from Around the World." He had many toys with him that we remember from our childhood but may not have realized their origins. Others he brought with him were new to us. Allan's almost lifelong interest in toys was evident as he shared some of his remarkable collection. He also seemed to enjoy performing on several of his whistles. It was a fun afternoon which ended with the opportunity to examine and play with many of the toys, as well as time for refreshments and visiting.



Carol Hawkins

The Hall continues to be open two Sundays each month, thanks to Open House Chairman Larry Puffert and those who have volunteered to staff the afternoon. We did close the Hall on Christmas Eve afternoon, as well as the Sunday in January at the end of our icy spell. We always are hoping that members and friends of the Association will contact us if interested in helping: simply call Pioneer Hall at 206-325-0888 and leave a short message with your name and phone, and we will contact you.

We continue to receive contributions to the Pioneer Association as memorials or bequests. Board Member Betsy Losh made a donation to replace our old projection screen, which we should have available soon. We also had two flat files donated for storage of display materials.

The Pioneer Association and the Fiske Genealogical Library were both invited to submit a display for a new exhibition at History House. We were two of "34 Museums of King County" included in the exhibition which opened February 3 and will run through September (see History House article on Page 3 of this newsletter).

Currently, we are putting together the program for our **March 24 Meeting**, which will be held from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. **Please note the change of date** from what was reported earlier. We have Marjorie Ann Reeves, the writer of a new book published in 2006 entitled "A Chapter in Pacific Northwest History". It records the purposes and activities of the women of the United Daughters of the Confederacy—Robert E. Lee Chapter #885, Seattle, Washington. Come and hear her presentation, as well as enjoy a family history and refreshments at our next meeting — I look forward to seeing you there. Also feel free to contact us with ideas or concerns about the Association: we are only as strong and viable as the members, working together, make us. We have an important story to share with the residents of Washington.

Pioneers participate in History House Exhibition through September 2007

Saturday, February 3, an exhibit opened at a newer museum in the Fremont Neighborhood in Seattle. History House invited 34 Museums in King County to contribute a display board about their organization, including location and programs. The Pioneer Association of Washington, as well as the Fiske Genealogical Library, were asked to participate.

Catherine Spedden and Carol Hawkins prepared the Pioneer display using pictures of the Hall, showcases, diorama shadow boxes, tri-fold information boards, pioneer photos from the Hall and photos of a couple pieces from the Daughters of the Pioneers' collection.

Carolyn Blount from Fiske was primarily responsible for their display.

The exhibition at History House is open to the public from February to September 2007. The museum's hours are Wednesday through Sunday, from 12:00 noon to 5 PM. The museum's address is 790 N. 34th Street (Seattle), which is just east of Fremont Avenue North at the intersection of North 34th and Troll Avenue North (just under the Aurora Bridge).

You may enjoy a visit to see their Museum, our exhibits and those of other museums in King County. We feel Pioneer Hall is well represented.

Volunteer of the Quarter

Helen Langer Smith

Each quarter, we are pleased to recognize one of the many men and women volunteer their time and energy and who make our organization better for us all.

There are many ways to give to a membership organization like ours: people give their time (and valued opinions) to serving as an officer or trustee, they volunteer their skills and expertise to specific projects or committees and, in some cases, they simply write a much appreciated check.

In this issue of *Presences* we'd like to recognize the continuing support of an individual who, at various times, has done all of the above: Helen Langer Smith.

Helen joined the Pioneers back in 1965, as a descendant of Anton Norum. Since that time, she has served in many different capacities benefiting our organization, including serving as its president.

Along the way, Helen has generously given of her time and made special donations in support of Pioneer Hall and the activities of the Association. She continues serving us to this day, adding her common sense and abilities as a current member of the Board.

Helen is one of the many members who help keep the mission of the Pioneer Association alive and we ask you to join us in thanking her.



Changes on the Pioneer Board

We have two changes to report, regarding the Pioneer Board of Officers.

First is the resignation of Sylvia Gayton Wesley, who has decided it best to give up her seat on the Board, for health reasons. The Board regrettably accepted Sylvia, resignation. Sylvia did agree, however, to serve as our Correspondence Secretary — a job she could do from home.

Sylvia did recommend her brother, Leonard Gayton, to finish her term through June 2008. The Board approved Leonard as her successor. When I talked with Sylvia, She will work with Gary Zimmerman. We thank both Sylvia and Leonard for their willingness to serve the Pioneer Association.

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.

Kitsap 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".

Kitsap County, named after a military leader of the Suquamish Tribe, occupies the northern end of the Kitsap Peninsula between Hood Canal and Admiralty Strait. Loggers cleared the dense forests and fed sprawling mills and thriving company towns. Even before the mills went out of business, the U.S. Navy founded the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard at Bremerton, which became the centerpiece of the county's economy and the largest single employer. Water transportation has dominated the county's culture and economy since before settlement. The Washington State Ferry System carries more than half its 25 million passengers back and forth from the east side of Puget Sound to Kitsap County. In 2005, an estimated 240,000 people lived there.

First Peoples

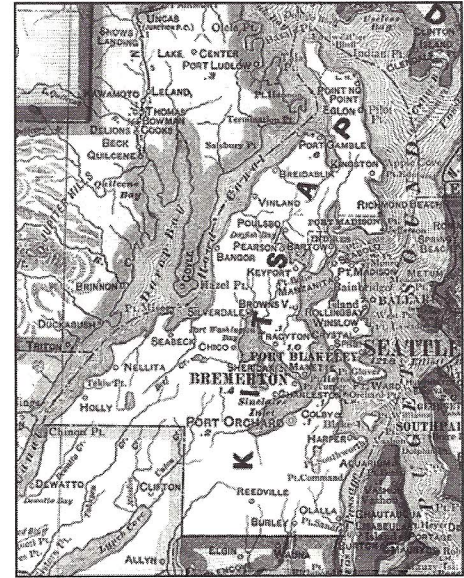
The first residents of the land and islands between Puget Sound and Hood Canal were called Suquamish after the name of their principal village, Suqua, on Agate Passage. They spoke the South Coast Salish or Salishan language and lived in permanent settlements consisting of large communal longhouses built of cedar and sunk several feet into the ground. During the summer months, when fleas often infested the long houses, families foraged along the beaches, rivers, lakes, and uplands to fish, gather shellfish, roots and berries, and to hunt. They caught salmon, the centerpiece of the native economy and culture from the spring to the fall as the anadromous species swam upstream to spawn and die. Salmon, deer, elk, roots, and berries were dried for consumption during the winter.

On the Kitsap Peninsula, Indian communities fell generally into three groups: the Suquamish along the eastern shores, the Klallam or S'Klallam, of northern Hood Canal and the Straits of Juan de Fuca, and the Twanos or Skokomish of southern Hood Canal. The communities generally married their daughters into other groups — exogamy — thereby constructing networks of family relationships practically guaranteeing harmony among the tribes and a common linguistic heritage. Beginning with the first contact with Europeans in the 1780s, several epidemics for which the Indians had no natural immunity decimated the populations from thousands to hundreds.

The Explorers

When Captain Vancouver arrived on Puget Sound in 1792, Suquamish war chief Kitsap was so impressed with the wealth and technology of the visitors that he resolved to build the largest potlatch house ever. Tribal members constructed Old Man House at Suqua on Agate Passage, which was said to be 900 feet long and 60 feet wide, and which featured 40 apartments. Completed around 1815 (other accounts say 1792 and before), the cedar log structure was ordered destroyed by U.S. Government officials in 1870 for health reasons.

British Royal Navy Captain George Vancouver (1757-1798) mapped Puget Sound beginning in May 1792 and named several features in Kitsap County including Port Orchard, Port Gamble, Restoration Point, and Hood Canal. In 1841, U.S. Navy Lieutenant Charles Wilkes (1798-1877) and the U.S. Exploring Expedition performed a more detailed survey and left more names including Bainbridge Island, Port Blakely, Agate Point, Apple Tree Point (mis-identifying dogwood blossoms), and Port Madison.



Treaties and Reservations

In 1855, Washington Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens (1818-1862) persuaded the tribes to sign the Point No Point and Point Elliott treaties, in which they ceded their lands to the United States in exchange for reservations and fishing and hunting rights. The Suquamish, Duwamish (from present-day Seattle), and Skekomish (Muckleshoot) were relegated to the 7,811-acre Port Madison Reservation. In 1886, the U.S. government allotted specific plots of land to individual tribal members. As the members sold their allotments to non-Indians, more than half the reservation passed out of Indian hands.

The Klallam were assigned to a reservation at the south end of Hood Canal with the Skokomish, but few located there. Many Klallam resided at Little Boston, across Port Gamble Bay from the mill town at Port Gamble where many were employed. In 1938, the Klallam received their own reserve in north Kitsap County, the Port Gamble Reservation.

Kitsap County settlers got along well with the area's original inhabitants, but both groups endured raids from "Northern Indians" of Vancouver Island and the Northwest Coast. Haidas and Cowichans from Vancouver Island enjoyed canoeing south by the hundreds and savaging Salish tribes for slaves. Suquamish Chief Kitsap defeated one incursion at what would become Battle Point on the west side of Bainbridge Island. In another fight in about 1825, Kitsap's forces prevailed at Dungeness Spit. In November 1856, Haida raiders besieged residents at Port Gamble Bay, but were driven off with the help of guns, sailors, and marines from the U.S.S. *Massachusetts*. The Haidas did not come back to Kitsap, but the following year, they murdered settler Isaac Ebey over on Whidbey Island.

Sawmills, Shipyards, Mill Towns

The big trigger to white settlement on the Kitsap Peninsula came with the California Gold Rush in 1850. San Francisco, the largest city on the West Coast of North America, burned down several times, and the resulting great demand for lumber sent sea captains and entrepreneurs to Puget Sound where great stands of hemlock, spruce, cedar, and Doug-fir grew to the water's edge. In July 1853, Maine native W. C. Talbot found the mouth of Port Gamble Bay to his liking and after persuading the Native Americans to move, he constructed a mill and a community called Teekaleet, later Port Gamble.

Philadelphia sea captain William Renton (1818-1891) also spotted the potential for logging and milling in early 1853. He tried a mill at Alki Point (present-day West Seattle) where Charles Terry had built the New York Store. But the high winds at the exposed location convinced him to move his operation across the sound to Port Orchard in 1854. The mill employed six white men and five Indians. George Meigs (1816-1897) bought J. J. Felt's mill at Apple Tree Cove and moved it to Port Madison in 1853.

Renton sold the Port Orchard mill in 1862 and in 1864 completed the Port Blakely Mill Co. on Blakely Harbor. The new location on Bainbridge Island offered deep water access for sailing ships, fresh water, and room to sort logs.

The mills on Puget Sound and Hood Canal sawed logs hauled out of the woods by ox teams and shipped lumber all over the world, but mostly to California. Communities grew up around the mills and a Boston geography stated, "Seattle is a lumber town across the bay from Port Madison" (Bowden, 7). In the 1850s, the Washington mills produced twice as much lumber as four times as many mills in Oregon. The Kitsap Peninsula was the wealthiest community, per capita, on Puget Sound. The self-contained mill towns housed workers who were paid in cash or in scrip, redeemable only at company stores or at banks in Seattle. The mill owners themselves tended to live in San Francisco.

The mill towns often boasted shipyards where Kitsap timber was transformed into ships. In the 1870s, Port Madison alone exceeded the production of sailing ships over the entire San Francisco Bay Area. In 1888, Renton's Port Blakely Mill Company suffered a serious fire, but reemerged to become the largest lumber producer in the world. In the 1880s, the steam donkey and the geared steam locomotive replaced ox teams and dramatically increased productivity of the mills and profits to the owners.

After another devastating fire in 1907, the Port Blakely Mill rebuilt again, but market forces indicated a smaller operation. Although modernized with fireproof features, the sprawling facility dropped from the list of top

cont'd Page 6

*Spotlight on Washington
historical groups...*

Kitsap County Historical Society

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

Location: 289 Fourth Street,
Bremerton, WA, 98337.

Phone: 360-479-6226

Hours: Tuesday through
Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to
5:00 p.m. Open until 8 p.m.
the First Friday of the month
for the Bremerton Arts Walk.

Current museum exhibits:
The museum hosts special
exhibits, including its newest:
"Yesterday's Technology".
The display illustrates the
dramatic changes that have
taken place over the past
century with regards to how
we communicate, and it
includes everything from
early typewriters models and
radios to dial telephones -
often a novelty to young
visitors. The museum also
features an ongoing, yet ever-
changing, "Main Street"
display which reflects
everyday life in Kitsap County
as it has evolved, especially
during WWII.

Museum Admission: \$2
for adults, \$5 for families
(parents & children).
Children 7-17 admitted for
\$1.00 (children 7 and under,
free). The museum is also
free to all on the first Friday
of each month.

Kitsap County cont'd...

producers in the world. In 1923, the mill closed forever and Port Blakely slipped into obscurity.

The mill and the company town at Port Gamble at the northern end of the county continued to cut lumber into the 1990s as the oldest continuously operating sawmill in the United States. In 1994, after 142 years, the saws at the old Puget Mill Company powered down and salvagers dismantled the plant. The mill town of Port Gamble, once home to hundreds of family lived on, however. The National Historic Site became a tourist attraction and a venue for special events.

Kitsap County Today

In 2005, the county's estimated population was approximately 240,000. In 1998, 14 to 18 percent of Kitsap County residents commuted elsewhere to work.

As the economy of Western Washington expanded in the second half of the twentieth century, Bainbridge Island became a bedroom community for greater Seattle. Fast and dependable ferry service from Winslow and the Agate Pass bridge made the strawberry farms and second-growth forest prime real estate. Bainbridge Island enjoyed dramatic growth in the last decades of the twentieth century. Population grew by 8 percent over the prior five years, a 26 percent increase since 1990 to approximately 22,000. Ten percent of the island population works off island and island residents bring home median incomes half again higher than the rest of the county. As a reflection of the close connection between Bainbridge and Seattle, the City of Bainbridge Island found it necessary in 2002 to triple parking fines because commuters to Seattle were using downtown Winslow as a parking lot.

At the Port Madison Indian Reservation, the Suquamish Tribe has extracted their own prosperity from a casino that underwrites social programs in the community, and from fishing rights reasserted by a federal court in 1974.

Poulsbo, founded by Norwegians in the 1880s, has a population of some 7,000. The town economy was based on fishing and especially a codfish processing plant. Today Poulsbo draws visitors with its shops and restaurants and Norwegian heritage events.

In the Bremerton area, the construction of a call center by Nextel Communications in 2001 brought 500 private-sector jobs. This was a feather in the cap of the Kitsap Economic Regional Development Council, which sought to diversify the local economy since 28 percent of the jobs were provided by federal, state, and local governments.

Sources:

This snapshot history of Kitsap County is a partial reprint of material produced and published by HistoryLink.org. To read the text in its entirety, reference the material's sources and to learn more about local history, we encourage you to visit www.historylink.org.

HistoryLink.org Online Encyclopedia of Washington State History, "Kitsap County: Thumbnail History, Cyberpedia - HistoryLink Essay 7864", <http://www.historylink.org/> (accessed February 20, 2007).

In the interest of our members...

Meeting Minutes: January 20 Board Meeting

Attendance: Marilyn McLaughlan, Helen Smith, Bette Palo, Betsy Losh, Junius Rochester, Catherine Spedden, Louise Jones-Brown, Loren Rankin, Jeff Christensen, Peggy Parietti, Carol Hawkins, Gary Zimmerman, David Brazier.

Meeting was called to order by President, Carol Hawkins.

Gary Zimmerman gave a membership report. Glenn Nordlie, a member since 1985, passed away in December. Four of his family applied for membership. A longtime member, Tom Anderson, also died in December. A \$100 donation was received in his memory. Sharon Burke was reinstated. The son of Hilton Lyons, who died last year, has applied for membership.

Discussion then centered on membership qualification. Do we accept those with an indirect line of descendant? (Such as a great uncle) The bylaws would have to be changed. This will be discussed further with a decision at our March meeting.

Gary reported an increase in expenses to be the heating bill: it is up 19% from last year. He also followed up on a donation was given by Betsy Losh to be used for a movie screen. Gary presented three different types we could buy, and the majority chose the brighter portable screen.

A request from History House, for our participation in their exhibition of all museums. Thirty-four museums have been invited. The opening will be February 3 and the exhibit closes sometime in September. Carol and Catherine will prepare something with text and photos for the exhibit.

A member, Alan Murray, has some metal flat files which he would like to donate. After a short discussion it was decided we could use two.

The Colonial Dames have requested the possibility of using our building for their meeting place and storage use. They were to have submitted a proposal to us for this meeting, but as they have not, we will delay a decision.

It was noted that Leonard Gayton would be interested in taking his sister's (Sylvia Gayton Wesley) place as a Trustee. Helen Smith moved that he be on the Board; seconded by Loren. Passed.

An attempt was made to name a Nominating Committee. After some discussion, a motion was made that the Nominating Committee be dissolved and the Board will act as the Nominating Committee for the 2007 officers and Board. Motion by Helen, seconded and passed.

The March general membership meeting date will be set after we hear from our prospective meeting speaker: Marjorie Reeves, author of "A Chapter in Northwest History" concerning the part taken by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. We are awaiting the best Saturday for her.

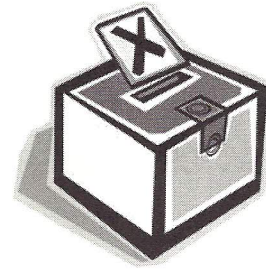
Jeff announced a February 5 deadline for the Presences. He would like to continue featuring Washington counties and needs our help. One resource was Andy Price, a good contact for obtaining history of Kitsap County.

Catherine asked us to consider having group meetings of organizations of which we are members, to meet at the Hall. She and Gary together put on a grand historical tour of the Hall.

Next Open House is January 28.

Meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Peggy Parietti
Secretary Pro-Tem*



Nominations for officers and trustees sought

The current Pioneer Board is drafting a roster of possible candidates and seeking nominations for Association trustees and officers for the 2007-08 operating year and beyond.

If you would like to volunteer yourself or another member of our organization to serve, please contact Trustee Bette Palo at 425-883-3006.

Pioneers eye grants to aid with building fund

Several members of the Pioneers, as part of an effort being spearheaded by Past president Marilyn McLaughlan, have been busy researching and preparing document for grants to aid with the Pioneer Association's Building Fund. Several grants have early Spring deadlines — we'll keep you updated on progress.

**Pioneer Association
of the State of Washington**
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<http://www.wapioneers.org>

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Donations continue to help the Pioneer Association

Life member R Alan Murray recently made a gift of four “flat file” cases to Pioneer Hall. These metal units with five shallow drawers each are perfect for storing the poster board displays that are used to tell the story of the territorial pioneers in the museum on the main floor of the Hall. They will also work well for keeping the large maps used in the genealogy library on the lower level of the building. Murray, who joined the Association in 1972, is a great grandson of pioneer John Luther Murray, who had himself become a member in 1947.

John Luther Murray was a native of Seligman, Missouri, where he was born in May 1859. He was married in Missouri and began his family there, but in 1886 he moved the family to Washington Territory, arriving in Seattle in May of that year. The family soon settled in Friday Harbor. He was elected as County Auditor in 1890. Five years later he was elected to represent San Juan County in the State House of Representatives. In 1898, he became the County Treasurer for San Juan County and in 1902 he became assistant State Land Commissioner. He eventually returned to public service in Friday Harbor as the County Assessor.

John Luther Murray’s oldest son, Otis G Murray, became a civil engineer and had a mapping and blueprint company in Olympia. He was involved in the engineering work done when Camp Murray was created near the present Fort Lewis site and he was involved in the planning for the original Tacoma Narrows bridge. Alan Murray, the present benefactor of the Association, followed in his grandfather Otis’ footsteps and is a practicing civil engineer, residing in Clinton on Whidbey Island.

Next Meeting of the Pioneers: Saturday, March 24, 2007