

Next Meeting

Saturday,
June 23, 2007

Registration:
9:45 a.m.

Business Meeting:
10:00 a.m.

Speakers & Presentations:
11:00 a.m.

Salmon Lunch:
12:00 Noon

Featured Speaker:
Philip Flash

"A History of Mercer Island"

Family History Speaker:

Bob Solene, Olympia

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

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Our 136th annual gathering

Annual Meeting and Salmon Bake, June 23, features presentation about Mercer Island

The Annual Meeting of the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington will be held Saturday, June 23, at Pioneer Hall. The day will feature special presentations, the election of officers and our traditional Salmon Bake.

The event begins with our official Business Meeting at 10:00 a.m., which will include: reports by our officers, a reading of the minutes from the 2006 Annual

Meeting and other general announcements. That will all be followed by the election of officers and trustees for the 2007-08 business year. As we go to press, there is still an opening for another trustee — if you are interested in nominating yourself of someone you know for the position, contact a current board member or leave a message at the Hall. Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the course of the election.

Our Family History speaker this time around will be Bob Selene, Olympia, who will tell about his ancestor, Robert Selene.

The featured speaker for the afternoon will be Philip Flash from the Mercer Island Historical Society. The Society was founded in 1954 as a way to preserve the unique history of the island once known as "East Seattle". Flash will present an oral and visual history of the settlement on Mercer Island, beginning in the 1860s and throughout the community's several periods of change. He will also share some the efforts currently underway to designate historic sites on Mercer Island.

Come enjoy these speakers, followed by a traditional Salmon luncheon once again held inside our beloved Pioneer Hall (see colored insert for more information about making your reservation for this wonderful event).

We look forward to seeing you there!



*Mercer Island's Calkins Hotel,
circa 1890*



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 McLaughlan |
| 3rd vice president | Junius Rochester |
| Secretary | Stephanie Smith |
| Treasurer | Gary Zimmerman |
| Historian | Gary Zimmerman |

Trustees

David Brazier, Bette Palo,
Catherine Spedden, Claire Raaum
(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

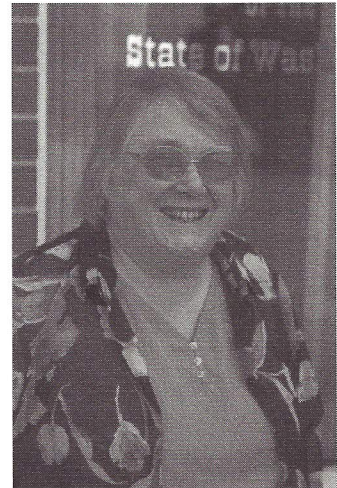
Pioneer Presences (USPS 533-750) is published four times a year as part of yearly membership dues (allocated at) \$5 per person, per year, by the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington, 1642 42nd Ave E., Seattle, WA 98112. Postage paid at Seattle, WA.

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

A message from the President
Presidential Ponderings

The Annual Meeting of the Pioneer Association is rapidly approaching. At that time, my term as your President will end. Looking back at the last two years, overall, it has seemed to be a time of maintaining the status of Pioneer Hall as both a meeting space and a museum that tells the story of settlers from around the world who came into the area inhabited by Native Peoples and helped it grow to become Washington State.

Looking back over this last year, we have expanded *Pioneer Presences* to a quarterly newsletter and Open Houses are held twice a month on the second and fourth Sundays from 1:00-4:00 p.m. The Hall has hosted a variety of groups who met and learned from Gary Zimmerman, Catherine Spedden and Claire Raaum about the Fiske Genealogical Library, Daughters of the Pioneers and the Pioneers of Washington and what each group has to offer.



Carol Hawkins

This past year the Board has been approached by several organizations who have wanted to rent space to establish commercial ventures. Your Board discussed these suggestions at length and then agreed, by concensus, to uphold our organization's policy not to rent to commercial organizations. We would consider cooperative efforts with organizations or individuals whose purpose is to preserve and promote the history of present day Washington state. With that in mind, we are keeping in contact with a new non-profit organization called Historic Madison Park which is hoping to gain community support of Madison Park residents, business and other organizations. The purpose of the affiliation would be to preserve and recapture some of the "character" of earlier times.

Maintenance, operating expenses, and the need for improvements continue to be a concern. The costs for heat, electricity and utilities have risen at the Hall as they have for all of us. The restroom facilities need major repairs and to upgrade them to allow even greater accessibility by all visitors, while maintaining the building's historic integrity. Another change being considered is to provide ways for all members and guests to be able to get to each floor. These are major projects which will have to be completed during the tenure of a future Board and Officers.

I want to thank those who have served this past year, including: Betty Palo and Claire Raaum, whose Trustee terms end in June and who are stepping down; Sylvia Gayton Wesley, who retired from the Board earlier this year but agreed to become Correspondence Secretary — persuading her brother, Leonard Gayton, to fill her unexpired term 'til June 2009!

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New officers and trustees to be elected during Annual Meeting, June 23

It's that time of year again when the membership of the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington elects its leadership at the Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake. This year's Annual Meeting will take place Saturday, June 23, 2007 at Pioneer Hall (see colored insert for details about making your reservation).

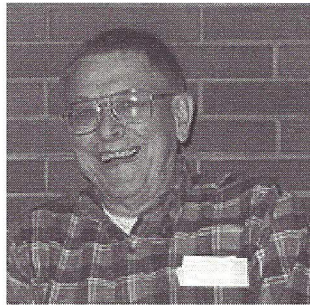
At that meeting, a slate of candidates will be presented and nominations will also be sought from the floor, as part of the election. Those individuals currently nominated include: Jeff Christensen (President); Junius Rochester (1st Vice president); Marilyn McLauchlan (2nd Vice president); Helen Langer Smith (3rd Vice president); and Betsy Terry Losh (Secretary). As we went to press, the position of Secretary was still open on the ballot.

Also up for election are new nominees for the position of Trustee, including: Kathy Detmar (Term to 2008); Carla Cummings Hendrickson (Term to 2009) and Stephen Rochester (Term to 2010). There is still one open slot for a trustee to serve the latter term, yet to fill.

Volunteer of the Quarter **Lawrence Puffert**

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.

One of the best ways for the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington to show others what we're about is all about is to show them — we do that by throwing open the doors to our museum at Pioneer Hall twice a month during our Open Houses. Coordinating those events and working with volunteers to staff them, can be challenging, at best, and the individual who tackles the job — like previous Open House Chairperson Bette Palo — takes on a great responsibility on behalf of our organization.



This past year, one of the newer members of our board, Larry Puffert, stood up and gave his time and energy to helping assure that visitors from our state, as well as from across the country and beyond, were given the opportunity to see our museum's collections, hear some of the many Pioneer stories and gain access the genealogical resources of the Fiske Library, housed in the lower level of Pioneer Hall.

Our thanks goes out to Larry for his continued dedication and good service.

Membership Drive 2007 kicks off this month

This month, dues notices go out to all annually renewing members of the Pioneer Association, as part of the organization's annual Membership Drive. This is your opportunity to truly demonstrate your ongoing commitment to preserving the pioneer heritage of our state.

In order to accomplish our goals and stay ahead of rising expenses, we've had to raise our dues with this year's drive. We know that doing so is the only way for our organization to thrive and we appreciate your understanding and continued support.

When your dues notice arrives, please take a moment to review the contact information we currently have on record for you, then mail the completed form and your payment to:

*Membership Drive
Pioneer Association of
the State of Washington
1642 43rd Ave East
Seattle, WA 98112*

We truly value your membership and look forward to another great year serving you!

Asotin County — A Thumbnail History

Asotin County is located in extreme southeastern Washington. In the 2000 Census, the county population was 20,551, and the population of Clarkston, its largest town, was 7,337. The county seat is the small town (pop. 1,095 in 2000) of Asotin, seven miles south of Clarkston. At 636 square miles, Asotin County is the sixth-smallest county in the state. It has a fertile agricultural region in the north-central region, while farther south, the terrain becomes more rugged and is marked by creeks and gullies. Elevations dip to as low as 740 feet in the northeastern corner near Clarkston, and rise to exceed 6,000 feet in the extreme southwestern region in the Blue Mountains. Asotin County's history has been primarily an agricultural one centered on farming and fruit orchards.

Early Days

The Nez Perce tribes lived in Asotin County for many years before Lewis and Clark arrived in 1805. The word Asotin comes from the Nez Perce word for eel, Has-shu-tin, so named because of the eel that abounded in Asotin Creek. Though indigenous to southeastern Washington as well as east into Idaho, the tribes lived a rather nomadic life and every season trekked across the Rockies on the Nez Perce Trail to hunt buffalo in the Great Plains. The Nez Perce Trail extended east from the Columbia River at the present-day town of Wallula in Walla Walla County through Garfield and Asotin counties, crossing the Snake River at the Red Wolf Crossing below Silcott, about seven miles west of present day (2006) Clarkston, Washington, and then continuing east across the Rockies to the Great Plains.

Lewis and Clark passed through the county on their expedition, both outbound to the Pacific Ocean in 1805, and on their return trip to Missouri in 1806. The Expedition camped at the Nez Perce village of Alpowa on October 11, 1805, and again on May 4, 1806.

Captain B. L. E. Bonneville led the next major expedition through Asotin County in February 1834, surveying the region on behalf of the United States government (which declined to pay him for his efforts) and spending several weeks with Native American tribes in their tribal villages, first in the southern part of the county on the Grande Ronde River, then farther north on the Snake River.

Chief Timothy

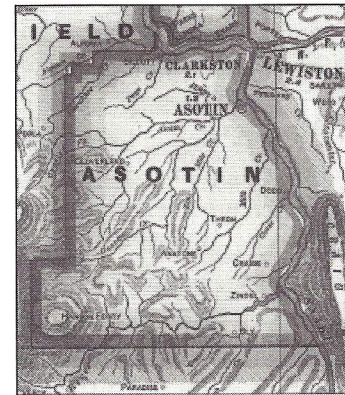
One Native American who has gone down in the annals of early Asotin County history was a Nez Perce by the name of Timothy (1800?-1890), also known as "Old Timothy" and "Chief Timothy." Timothy lived with his tribe for much of the nineteenth century near the mouth of Alpowa Creek on the Snake River, and said he remembered seeing Lewis and Clark pass through the area when he was a young boy.

As chief of the tribe in the 1850s, he provided members of his own tribe to assist the U.S. military in the Indian Wars. He is most remembered for helping a United States force of some 100 men, under the command of Colonel E. J. Steptoe, escape across the Snake River from hostile rival tribes in May 1858, possibly saving the entire force from annihilation in the process.

In the mid-1850s part of what would later become Asotin County (as well as part of adjoining Idaho) became an Indian reservation, resulting in the relocation of a fairly significant number of Native Americans to the future Asotin County. Although the reservation was moved farther east into Idaho in 1862, the Native Americans remained, and the county remained largely "Indian Territory" through most of the 1860s.

White Settlement

Whites made a few tentative settlements in Asotin County during the 1860s. The first settler, Sam Smith, arrived near the confluence of Alpowa Creek and the Snake River on June 10, 1861, and opened a small store and hotel for travelers on their way to and from the Orofino gold mines in Idaho. However, Smith didn't stay long, and for much of the 1860s, the only activity in the county was from gold prospectors, who found little gold. In the late 1860s, a few more permanent homes were built, mostly along Asotin Creek.



In 1877, a number of settlers arrived and built cabins on Asotin Flat near present day Anatone. By the end of the 1870s accounts put the population of the area between Anatone and Asotin between 200 and 400.

Anatone established its first business in 1878 and was an early important trading post, but the town itself was not platted until 1901. Although Anatone is the third largest town in Asotin County, its population over the years appears to have never exceeded 100 or so people; a sign at the edge of town in 2003 read "45 people, 27 cats, 22 dogs and 21 horses" (*Lewiston Tribune*).

Assotin City and Asotin

Eighteen miles north of Anatone, Assotin City was platted in 1880. There were actually two Asotins in the early years: Assotin City, located on the southern end of present day Asotin, and the town of Asotin, just to the north, on the southern flank of Asotin Creek. Asotin was platted in 1881 and by 1883 had outgrown its rival to the south; in February 1886, Assotin City changed its name to Asotin and within a year the merger was complete.

Asotin County was formed from the eastern portion of Garfield County in 1883. On October 20, 1883, the Washington Territorial Legislature voted to create Asotin County, and Territorial Governor William Newell (1817-1901) approved the law on October 27. Asotin County "officially" came into being on November 12, 1883.

Agriculture

Asotin grew steadily during the 1880s and 1890s. Wheat and later barley were early crops, followed by cattle farming. Plum, peach, and especially apple orchards were also planted and actively maintained.

Asotin County's growth was assured in 1896 by the construction of an 18-mile-long irrigation canal running from Asotin Creek above Asotin to Jawbone Flat, an area of potentially fertile — but at that time barren — land along the Snake River in and to the west of present-day (2006) Clarkston. On July 18, 1896, the canal began providing water to Jawbone Flat, and the effect it had on the area was remarkable: Population of the area that would soon become Clarkston boomed from perhaps 15 people in 1896 to approximately 2,200 in the Clarkston-Vineland area in 1903. (Vineland, a community just west of Clarkston, merged with Clarkston shortly after 1903).

The Growth of Clarkston

Clarkston's growth was further aided by the opening of the Lewiston-Clarkston Bridge on June 24, 1899, which connected Clarkston to Lewiston, Idaho. The first Clarkston settlers wanted to name the new town Lewiston, and applied for a post office with that name. The United States Postal Department rejected the request, reasoning that Lewiston, Washington, would cause too much confusion with Lewiston, Idaho, just across the Snake River. Thus in 1897 the town was officially named Concord (after Concord, Massachusetts), but by 1900 the post office had changed its name to Clarkston. In 1901 the legislature made the name change official, and Clarkston was incorporated on August 4, 1902.

The irrigation of Jawbone Flat and the subsequent rapid growth in the early years of the twentieth century of a wide variety of fruit and berry orchards and vegetable farms in this newly irrigated region had a profound effect on Asotin County. Whereas during the last two decades of the nineteenth century most of the county's growth had been in or near the town of Asotin, Asotin and Anatone both peaked in their population growth shortly after 1900 and — with some fluctuations — both towns have remained relatively stationary in population since, with Asotin averaging near 1,000 and Anatone about 100. Clarkston meanwhile quickly grew to a population of 6,209 in 1960 and 7,337 in 2000.

Floods and Flash Floods

Asotin County was fortunate in that its towns escaped destruction by fire, which was so common to many Western towns in the nineteenth century. But Asotin County has had another recurring problem unique to its rugged terrain: flooding. One significant flash flood struck Asotin Creek after a thunderstorm in May 1897, inflicting considerable damage, but causing no fatalities.

Asotin County has also experienced river and creek flooding caused by heavy rain and snowmelt. At least four significant floods linked to rain and snowmelt struck the county between 1960 and 2000.

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*Spotlight on Washington
historical groups...*

Enumclaw Plateau Historical Society

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

Location: 1837 Marion
Street, Enumclaw, WA
98022.

Phone: 360-825-3356.

Hours: Open Thursdays and
Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Current museum exhibits:
Pioneers-Early Settlers,
Enumclaw Beginning,
Farming, Tools, Schools,
Homemaking, Enumclaw Co-
Operative Creamery, Timber
Industry, White River
Lumber Co. & Camp
Ellenson, Community Life,
Home & Family Life, Toys of
the Past, Railroading,
Needlework of Enumclaw,
Medical Community, Farman
Pickle Co., Victorian era
home and office furnishings
(many fully restored). The
Museum has a large
collection of catalogues
featuring: Births, Weddings
& Anniversaries, Obituaries,
Historic Homes & Buildings,
Local History and Family
Histories. Extensive
computer records and
photographs provide for
quick location and visitor
printouts of Accessioned
subjects.

Museum Admission:
Admission is free. Donations
are welcomed.

(Asotin County cont'd)

Prohibition Days

During Prohibition in the 1920s and early 1930s, the rugged remote areas of Asotin County favored moonshine making, and "any of us who were raised in (these) more remote areas during that time knew the location of stills," wrote Asotin County historian Robert Weatherly in *The Best of Jawbone Flat Gazette*.

But the remoteness of much of Asotin County also made it difficult to bring it into the twentieth century: Even in the early 1930s it was common to see people in the remote areas of the county riding a horse instead of driving a car, whereas in the larger cities the automobile had been basic transportation for nearly 20 years. Electricity did not reach some of the remotest areas of Asotin County until the late 1940s.

Development of the Lower Snake River

Agriculture continued to dominate Asotin County's economy through the 1950s. Thanks to the irrigation of Jawbone Flat, a wide variety of produce and fruit was grown in the regions west of Clarkston along the Snake River. Abundant meat and dairy farms complemented vegetable and grain farms and orchards.

From the early days of settlement on the Snake River, people had talked of opening the river to make it navigable all the way to the Pacific Ocean. Finally in 1945 Congress authorized the Lower Snake River Project. Beginning in the early 1960s the project began to take shape with the construction of four dams along the Snake River in Washington state. Asotin County was affected by the construction of the final dam, the Lower Granite Dam. Construction on the dam began in July 1965.

Though the Lower Granite Dam bridges Whitman and Garfield counties, it has had far reaching impacts on Asotin County. It created a large lake, the 39-mile-long Lower Granite Lake, which reaches into Asotin County. Preparation for filling the lake took more than two years after the Lower Granite Dam was completed before the lake was allowed to begin filling on February 15, 1975. In the meantime, a new port was built on the Snake River at Clarkston (the second farthest-inland port in the United States), which was dedicated on June 20, 1975.

Although Clarkston is actually the smallest of a trio of area ports, which include ports in Lewiston and Wilma (Whitman County), the port has brought an incalculable economic boost to Clarkston since 1975, adding a new dimension to life in Asotin County.

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 7643", <http://www.historylink.org/> (accessed May 10, 2007).

*Giving recognition to Native Peoples***Upcoming events celebrate the contributions of Duwamish**

Anyone who knows history, knows about the intertwined and complex relationship between the native tribes of North America and the European settlers who immigrated to what was then-known as the "new lands". What is now Washington State was home to many native tribes but, because of the importance of Seattle to the state's history, it is the Duwamish tribe — whose one-time leader, Chief Sealth, gave the city its name — who perhaps played the most critical role of all and one can never tell the story of our pioneer descendants without it being intertwined with the lives of the native people.

This summer, two special events will recognize the contributions of the Duwamish to our area's roots.

On Sunday, June 10, 2007, Duwamish Tribal Services — an organization providing support to the more than 550 members of the Duwamish Tribe — and the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) will be co-hosting the "1st Annual Duwamish Tribe Gala Dinner & Art Auction", a celebration of Duwamish culture and Northwest art on Sunday, June 10, 2007.

The event will feature a vibrant live show by Gene Tagaban and special guests The Little Big Band, as well as a cocktail reception and silent art auction. There will also be performance by T'ilishubdub ("Singing Feet"), and a traditional feast and live auction of valuable art from Northwest artists such as Preston Singletary and Marvin Oliver.

Proceeds from the gala will benefit Duwamish Tribal Services (DTS), a nonprofit organization that provides critical support to its tribal members.

Doors to the event, held at the Museum of History and Industry (2700 24th Avenue East, Seattle), open at 4:00 p.m. Tickets for the full gala evening — including performances, dinner and auction — are \$100 per person; individual tickets for the live show and reception only are \$30 (on site parking is free).

You can get your tickets by calling Brown Paper Tickets at (800) 838-3006.

Later in the summer, on Sunday, August 26, the Daybreak Star Cultural Center in Discovery Park will play host to a special "Thanksgiving" ceremony intended to honor the native people. The event will be presented in traditional native style, with dancing, drumming, speaking and eating.

If you have questions about the event or would like to participate in the planning of this onetime event, please contact Amy Johnson at (425) 454-9293 or johnson_amy@netzero.net.

(Presidential Ponderings cont'd)

Chris Raaum stepped down as Video Chairman after filming several of our programs. My thanks go out to each of them!

I also want to thank the current members who are continuing or changing to new positions. We could not function without their faithful work. My thanks to: Jeff Christensen, Marilyn McLaughlin, Junius Rochester, Gary Zimmerman, Loren Rankin, Louise Jones-Brown, Betsy Losh, David Brazier, Catherine Spedden, Helen L. Smith, Kirk Gerrard, Peggy Parietti and Lawrence Puffert. If you see them at the Annual Meeting, make sure to thank them too!

Membership and active involvement are a little less this year, but those who do volunteer seem to enjoy their activity. Maybe this new year some of you will consider becoming more involved. There's help needed on the photo project, the web site, museum displays or maybe you have another idea to suggest. I will not be walking away from Association activities and would look forward to seeing YOU at the Hall.

Carol Hawkins
President, 2005-07

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

<http://www.wapioneers.org>

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May 30, 2007

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pioneer Board responds to recent commercial requests

Jeff Christensen, 1st Vice President

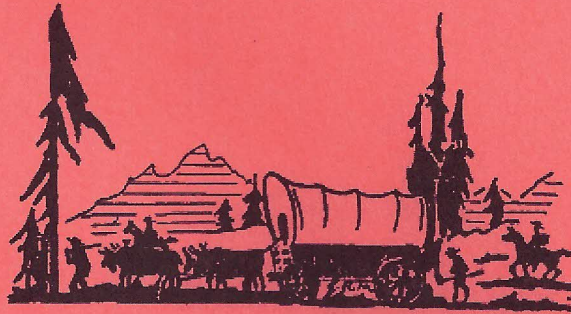
The Pioneer Association has been approached several times in recent months by individuals or groups hoping to solicit the organization as either host or a participant in several commercial ventures — something that is not only contrary to the mission and charter of the Association, but which would also endanger the group's status as a nonprofit entity.

The Board of Officers of the Association have respectfully declined several recent proposals which did not align with the founding principal, outlined in Article XIV of the organization's bylaws, that: "This Association is formed for purely historical, educational and charitable purposes". Further, entering into commercial enterprise above and beyond a small number of regulated evening rentals of our space a couple of times each year, would cause forfeiture of our tax and postal nonprofit status as it was designated.

The goal of the Pioneer Association is and always has been to record, preserve and promote the pioneer history of early settlers of what is now Washington State. The organization remains fully committed to the further stated goals of those bylaws, that it serve: "as a repository and museum for all books, records, archives, pictures, recordings and other historic memorabilia deposited with the Association for safekeeping and preservation and for display to the public." To enter into commercial or political ventures not only runs contrary to that mission, but would distract the group and its members from our true goal: keeping the pioneer history of our area alive for this and future generations.

Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake: Saturday, June 23, 2007

136th Annual Meeting & Salmon Bake



Saturday, June 23, 2007

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: Bob Selene, Olympia
11:00 am SPEAKER: Philip Flash "A History of Mercer Island"
12:00 pm SALMON BAKE: Served in Pioneer Hall

136th 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 20***