

Next Meeting

No December general meeting

Next scheduled general meeting, Saturday, March 15
12:30 - 2:00 PM

NOTE:

A special February social event is being considered — look for more information right after the start of the new year.

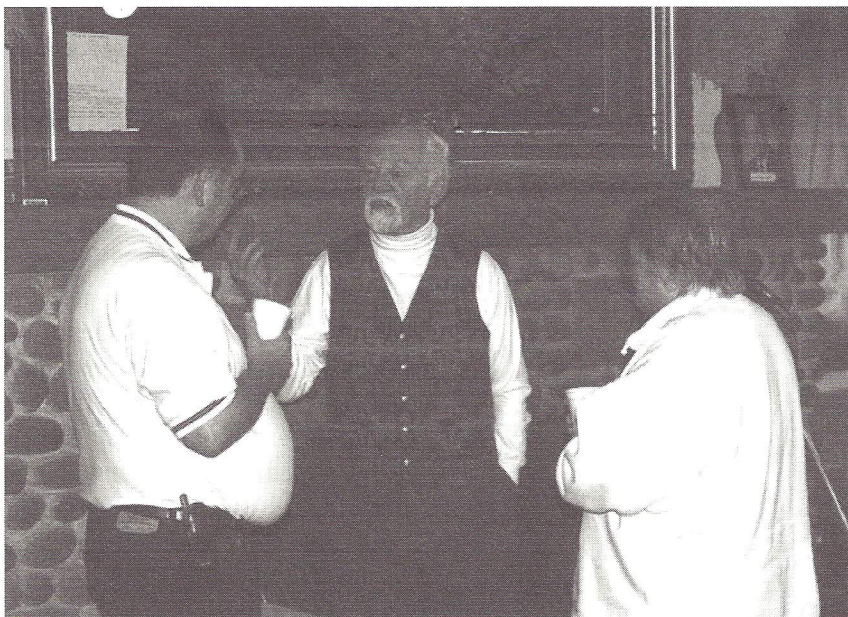
Pioneer Hall
1642 43rd Ave East
Seattle (Madison Park)

Table of Contents

September meeting revisited.....	1
President's Message.....	2
New members welcomed.....	3
Members re-instated.....	3
Cowlitz County Thumbnail.....	4-5
Museum Spotlight: Cowlitz County Historical Museum.....	6
Committees hard at work.....	7
Improvements around Pioneer Hall	8

September meeting provides a fresh look at impact of Whitmans, massacre

On Saturday, September 22, the Pioneer Association hosted a lively and engaging presentation on the subject of Marcus and Narcissa Whitman by local retired history profession Dan Peterson. Also a published author and editor, Peterson provided the assembled crowd of about forty Pioneers and guests a rich context from which to better understand and appreciate one of the more significant events in our region's history.



Presenter Dan Peterson (center) speaks with members David Brazier and immediate Pioneer Past-President Carol Hawkins.

The general meeting was preceded by a meeting of the Pioneer Association Board of Officers, where Treasurer Gary Zimmerman made a report about current Association finances, as well as provided information about membership. In addition, several motions related to building upkeep and improvement of the grounds were passed — more information on those activities can be found in a "facilities update" found on Page 8 of this issue of the newsletter.



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 and fourth
Sunday of each month.
between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m.

Board of Officers

President	Jeff Christensen
1st vice president	Junius Rochester
2nd vice president	Marilyn McLauchlan
3rd vice president	Helen Langer Smith
Secretary	Betsy Losh
Treasurer	Gary Zimmerman
Historian	Gary Zimmerman

Trustees

Kathy Dettmar, Kirk Gerrard, Peggy
Parietti, Lawrence Puffert
(term to June 2008)

Louise Jones-Brown, Leonard Gayton,
Carla Cumins Hendrickson, Loren Rankin
(term to June 2009)

David Brazier, Steven Rochester,
Catherine Spedden
(term to June 2010)

Pioneer Presences

Jeff Christensen, Editor

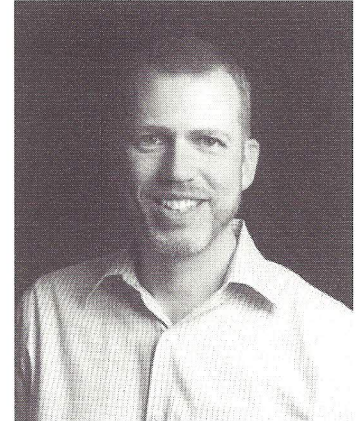
Contributors this issue:
Gary Zimmerman

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 Wash-
ington, 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.

"If you build it...will they come?" President's Message

Looking around the room at our last general membership meeting, I felt pretty good about the fact that I could recognize so many of the faces there. In fact, most of those attending I could actually call out by name. I quickly realized, however, that the reason I knew these names and faces was because they belonged to the same individuals who make the time and effort to join us, each time we gather. Sure, we have occasional guests and are infrequently joined by members we haven't seen in a while - but even with that, it's hard not to be left with a very big question: when you're looking at 40 faces you know, where are the other 800-something that you don't?



We know that many of our members no longer live in our state (or even our country, in several cases) but they continue to support the efforts of the organization, through their continued membership — heritage, thankfully, knows no borders and we greatly appreciate the support. Other members make their home in the Okanagon, along the Pacific shore and the Columbia River or simply far enough away that driving to one of our meetings is difficult, at best. A quick look at our membership list, however, shows nearly 475 active members living between Auburn and Everett: that's 435 faces that we don't really know.

The reality is that getting to meetings, especially with any regularity, can be challenging: we have families, work and other commitments which have to be taken into consideration. I am committed, however, to doing whatever I can to help make greater involvement in the Pioneer Association easier, for those who would like to participate more. Some of the things we can do — like earlier, shorter meetings with topics of broader appeal — are already high on our active agenda. Planning those meetings, whenever possible, around competing events or activities, remains a priority. Bringing in top-of-the-line speakers and trying to find topics both timely and broadly historic, is key. My hope is that, to paraphrase an old movie line: "if we build it, you will come".

I'd hoped to add a December meeting into the mix this year, so that the number of months in between our outreach and activity efforts was lessened. The plan, however, was apparently not meant to be — with holidays already underway and some difficulty getting together the program we were hoping for, we decided to abandon the plan for an actual meeting. The choice became between putting together a meeting just for meeting's sake or deferring so that, when we do gather next, it is the interesting, topical and well-structured meeting that actually brings out some of those faces that I, for one, am still looking forward to getting to know.

Jeff Christensen
President, 2007-08

New members have joined the Association

Since the 2007 Annual Meeting last June, the following people with an interest in Washington Territorial history have joined the Pioneer Association:

Philip N Flash, of Mercer Island, was the featured speaker at the Annual Meeting. Following that contact, he joined as an Associate Member.

Barry C Howard, of Spring, Texas, has become an annual member of the Association. He is descended from John Bomfit Barnum, who died in Washington Territory in 1855.

Steven Raymond Ricketts of Port Hadlock, Washington. His pioneer ancestor, Sidney S Ford, arrived in Oregon Territory in 1846 and settled at Ford's Prairie, which later became Centralia, Lewis County. Steven's mother and his maternal grandfather each joined the Association in 1984.

James Edwin Thomas of Edmonds, Washington, received his membership as a gift from his grandmother, Shirley Jennings Thomas. James is a descendant of John William Denny and Mary McCorkle Denny, who arrived in Seattle on September 1st, 1869. The pioneer, John William Denny, joined this Association in 1900.

Shirley Jennings Thomas also gave a gift membership to Matthew MacDermid Thomas, presently living in Warrensburg, Missouri. Of course, he also is descended from John W Denny and Mary McCorkle Denny.

We welcome re-instated members

When people have moved away or found it necessary to leave the Association, it is a loss to all of the membership. When such people return and reinstate their records it brings their knowledge of their family back to the full group of members.

Shannon Birks rejoins after an absence of twelve years. She currently resides in Hoquiam.

Timothy Lee Simpson of Monroe is once again on the active membership list of the Association.

Samuel Matsen once more becomes active after an absence of four years.

Pat Curry, Washington, Virginia, has renewed contact with the Association and continues enjoying her Life Membership that she received in 1988-89.

Association Treasurer for 2008-09 still sought

The Association is still actively seeking an individual to take over as its treasurer next year. The Association Treasurer is responsible for all finance related matters, including: general oversight and maintenance of our organization's books, collecting and paying out on monies owed, tracking and reporting on Association investments and providing the Board of Officers with timely and accurate reporting on the current state of our finances.

While an Accounting or bookkeeping background would certainly be helpful, it is not required. An eye for detail and willingness to consider a two year commitment are helpful.

Ideally, the volunteer for this position would accept for next year now and begin working on occasion with current Treasurer Gary Zimmerman, before assuming the role completely, come June 2008.

If you have an interest in this position and would like to discuss the role in more detail - without up front commitment - please feel free to call either Gary Zimmerman at 425-803-0938 or else Jeff Christensen at 206-390-6810.

Cowlitz County — A Thumbnail History of the early years

One of the original counties of Washington Territory, Cowlitz County occupies the lower portion of the Cowlitz River and part of Washington's shore of the Columbia River. One of the early conventions to form Washington Territory met at Monticello, which later became Longview. Logging and milling have historically been the big part of the county's economy until the latter part of the twentieth century. A lumber mill led directly to the planned community of Longview, named after lumberman R. A. Long (1850-1934).

First Peoples

The original inhabitants of the lands drained by the Cowlitz River were variously called The Cawalitz, Cowalidsk, Cowalitsk, Cow-e-lis-kee, Cowelits, Cowlitch, Co-litsick, Kawelitsk, Cowalitsk, Kowlitz, Kowlitz, but the most common name is Cowlitz. The Upper Cowlitz, or Taidnapam, and Lewis River peoples spoke Sahaptin, which was more closely related to the languages of tribes east of the Cascades. The Mountain and Lower Cowlitz spoke Salish, which was related to the tribes of Puget Sound. At the time of first contact with Europeans and Americans, there were as many as 6,000 members of the tribe who lived in cedar-plank longhouses in about 30 villages along the Cowlitz River and its tributaries.

Closer to the Columbia, the people known as the Chinooks lived. This tribe's economy and culture was oriented more toward the river whereas the Cowlitz was more an inland people whose lives centered on prairies and horses. All the tribes used the Chinook trade jargon.

In 1855, the Cowlitz refused to sign the Chehalis River Treaty then being imposed on other tribes by Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), since it would require the tribe to move in with traditional enemies on the Quinault Reservation. A small number of members who survived deadly diseases contracted from settlers moved to the Chehalis and Yakima (later renamed Yakama) reservations. Although landless and treatyless, the tribe continued to exist under strong leadership into the twentieth century. The Cowlitz today are a federally recognized tribe with headquarters in Longview.

Contact

The first Europeans to visit the county were British seafarers. Royal Navy Lieutenant W. R. Broughton sailed up the Columbia in the H.M.S. *Chatham* in October 1792 as part of the Capt. George Vancouver Expedition to explore the region. He named Puget's Island and Oak Point, but he learned that he was not the first European on the river. Broughton encountered the brig *Jenny* of Bristol and named Baker's Bay for her master. He also charted a large rock, 400 feet high, as Mount Coffin because it was used as a native burial site.

The U.S. Army's Corps of Discovery led by Lewis and Clark paddled down the Columbia from the east and attempted to land at Mount Coffin on November 5, 1805, but were pelted with rocks by an Indian guarding the burial ground. The explorers camped near the mouth of Kalama Creek and mapped the mouth of the Cowlitz.

Permanent settlers arrived from the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) at Fort Vancouver in 1825, and the first white man credited with ascending the Cowlitz River was HBC Factor George Simpson in 1828. In 1837, Canadian Simon Plamondon established Cowlitz Farms to support company operations and as a settlement for HBC employees who had completed their work contracts. In August 1841, Lieutenant Charles Wilkes traveled down the river as part of the U.S. Exploring Expedition and he used Mount Coffin to make astronomical observations. One of Wilkes's campfires accidentally destroyed the burial canoes on the rock.

Settlement

The Cowlitz became an important artery for trappers and for communication with Fort Vancouver subposts at Cowlitz Farms and Nisqually Farms. Travelers took canoes up the Cowlitz to Cowlitz Landing where they followed Indian trails to Puget Sound. This route became the basis for road building, rail lines, and ultimately Interstate 5.

The first American to settle in the future Cowlitz County was Scotsman Peter W. Crawford (1822-1889), who took a Donation Claim on the left bank of the Cowlitz near the mouth of the Coweeman on December 25, 1847. In 1884, he platted a city on the site, which he named after his home in Scotland, Kelso. Other settlers took up claims across the Cowlitz and farmed the bottomland. They formed the communities of Freeport, Catlin, and Monticello.

In 1851, settlers north of the Columbia met at Cowlitz Landing and petitioned Congress to form a new territory separate from Oregon Territory. When no action was taken, delegates met again in the home of Harry Darby Huntington (1811-1882) at Monticello in November 1852 and drafted another plea for a new territory to be called Columbia. This resulted in H.R. 348 creating Washington Territory.

The Washington Territorial Legislature formed Cowlitz County on April 21, 1854. Monticello became the county seat. In 1865, voters moved the county seat to Freeport just upstream. In 1872, Northern Pacific Railroad employees and contractors swelled the voter rolls. In a new election, the seat moved down the Columbia to Kalama. The Kazana Hotel became the courthouse. But Peter Crawford's Kelso yearned to be the capital of the county. In 1923, after seven attempts over 40 years, voters moved the county seat back up to Kelso. The *Kelsonian* headline proclaimed, "Cowlitz County Casts Largest Vote in History; Settles Long Battle and Brings County Seat to Rightful Location" (Urrutia, 138).

Woodland, near the mouth of the Lewis River grew around a farm built by Squire and Millie Bozarth in 1852. Pioneer Ezra Meeker settled at what would become Kalama in 1853, but Meeker was a restless man and soon moved on to Puget Sound. The honor of founding Kalama goes to the Northern Pacific Railroad, which picked the spot on the Columbia in 1872 to start building a line to Tacoma. In 1854, William Huntington, cousin of the founder of Monticello, settled across the Toutle River from a crude hotel operated by Scotsman James "Hardbread" Gardiner. The Toutle was about halfway between Cowlitz Landing and Monticello and a logical rest stop for travelers. When the new post office needed a name, Huntington christened it Castle Rock after a large rocky outcrop nearby.

River steamers serviced settlements up the Cowlitz as far as Monticello, where travelers took to canoes or a trail that followed the river. Since the Columbia was the main highway, the county became more closely tied economically with Portland and Astoria than with the rest of Washington Territory. In 1872, the Northern Pacific started building a branch of the transcontinental railroad from Kalama through Kelso north to Tacoma. Regular service began in 1874. Travelers took a ferry from Kalama to Portland until the transcontinental railroad was complete in the 1880s. Aside from agriculture, logging became the principal industry of the county, particularly after mechanization in the 1880s. Rivers provided easy movement of logs and ocean-going ships could load finished lumber at mills.

R. A. Long's city

In 1919, Kansas City lumberman Robert Alexander Long's Long-Bell Lumber Co. purchased stands of timber in Cowlitz County from Weyerhaeuser and he made plans for a large mill to process logs for the domestic and foreign markets. The mouth of the Cowlitz River offered both rail connections and deep water for ships. Long spent \$2.6 million in 1922 to buy up 14,000 acres consisting of 245 separate pieces of property for the mill and for a community where the 4,000 workers and their families — an estimated population of 12,000 to 15,000 persons — could live. With guidance from his friend, Kansas City developer J. C. Nichols, Long embarked on the planned community of Longview. Nichols recommended careful control of land use through zoning and an orderly arrangement of residential, commercial, and industrial elements. Construction of dikes and drainage canals to protect the valley from floods cost another \$3.25 million. Long went deeply into debt to build his new logging and milling operations and the planned community.

(cont'd Page 7)

*Spotlight on Washington
historical groups...*

Cowlitz County Historical Museum

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

Location: 405 Allen Street,
Kelso, WA 98626.

Phone: 360-577-3119.

Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday through Saturday,
1:00 - 5:00 pm Sunday.
Closed Mondays and
holidays.

Current museum

exhibits: A Toutle River
settler's log cabin built in
1884, Native American
artifacts, a restored 1913
International Harvester
Motor Truck, an assortment
of decoys, and replicas of a
general store, loggers
bunkhouse, steamboat dock,
and railroad depot highlight
the museum's permanent
exhibits in the Gallery.

Photographs taken by
Wilford Craik are displayed
in the Public Meeting Room.

Changing exhibits of general
historical interest are
featured in the Special
Exhibits Room.

Museum Admission:

Please contact the museum
for information regarding
museum admission and/or
historical society
membership fees.

Deceased members identified since the last Annual Meeting

Months may pass before a family informs the Association that a member has died, but news of their death is a stimulus to collect obituary notices and other anecdotes of their life for retention in the archives of the Association.

Since the Annual Meeting in late June, the following events have been reported to the Association:

Life member **Herbert Scott Woodley, Jr.**, died in Bellevue on April 13, 2007, at the age of 89 years. He was descended from pioneer Orange Jacobs, through his mother, Lucinda (Jacobs) Woodley. Orange Jacobs served as President of the Pioneer Association in 1893 and 1894 and he served on the Board of Trustees from 1888 to 1895.

Doris Marjorie (Warner) Grell died in Lacey, at the age of 87. Doris was a native of Port Angeles and is survived by her sibling, Daryl Masi, who continues as a member of the Association. Doris was a descendant of pioneers Richard and Elizabeth Fowler.

Marion Louise (Cumbo) Kocher was descended from pioneer Granville Moody Cumbo who was in Washington Territory by 1882. Marion died in Bellevue, just three weeks before her 88th birthday.

Elcena (Taggart) Steinmann passed away in October 2006 in Shoreline. She was 91. A Seattle native, she was descended from John W Taggart and Elcena Taggart. Elcena was a teacher for over 30 years, working at Seattle University, Everett Junior College, Seattle Community College, and many elementary schools. She has three daughters who are currently life members of the Association: Elcena Standish of Everett, Margaret Irvine of Everett, and Rae Allen of Olympia.

John Walter "Jack" Doucett of Monroe died February 11th, 2007, at the age of 86. A member since 1967, he was descended from pioneer Agnes Fetterly, who came to Washington Territory in 1882. Jack was in the Navy in WWII and the Korean War and was a survivor of the USS Arizona when it was attacked in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Kenneth E Clark, a member since 1959, passed away July 11, 2006, one day before his 86th birthday. His pioneer grandfather, Howell Kincade Clark, arrived in Seattle in September 1889.

Helen Holly Goodell died on December 20th, just before Christmas 2006, at the age of 95. At the time of her death, she was living with her daughter in Olympia, but Helen was a 64-year resident of Puyallup.

(cont'd Page 7)

Deceased members (cont'd from page 6)

Eleanor (Gillespie) Cooper, who died June 7, 2007, was a descendant of her grandfather Heinrich "Henry" Oeser, who settled in Whatcom County in September 1883. Her mother and her sister were both members of the Association.

Ruth Schultz died on January 11, 2007, at the age of 94. Her nearly 30 years of membership in the Association was linked to her pioneer father, Lawrence Paton Campbell, who arrived in Washington Territory in 1884. Ruth was a native of Hobart, Washington.

Cowlitz County - Thumbnail (cont'd from page 5)

Among the names considered were Long-Bell and Longport, but all featured the name Long. Longview was Long's final choice. But since there was already a Long View, Washington, the Post Office Department rejected the planners' application for a post office. Long-Bell representatives convinced the three families of Long View, a desolate flag stop on the Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railroad, to petition the Post Office Department to change its name. The community's price: \$25 for a covered platform to protect mail sacks thrown from passing trains.

Longview grew around paved streets and the new Monticello Hotel. National magazines featured full-page advertisements. Sadly, in January 1923, during the process of construction, one evening while many workers were returning home from work to the nearby Kelso, the Allen Street Bridge collapsed in the state's worst bridge disaster, with at least 35 deaths. Nearby a new bridge was in the process of being built. It opened in March and the town of Longview was dedicated in July. By December 1923, there were 3,724 inhabitants. It was the largest community in the county.

In June 1924, the Long-Bell mill opened as the largest lumber producer in the world. It featured special catwalks so that visitors could view the giant logs being fed into the saws. Weyerhaeuser opened a mill of its own next to the Long-Bell facility in June 1929 and became the area's largest employer. Mount Coffin, on the site of the Weyerhaeuser mill, was dynamited for gravel and for building stone. The Longview Fibre mill turned wood waste into pulp and paper. In 1930, a spectacular steel bridge linked Longview with Rainier, Oregon across the Columbia. The Longview Bridge was eventually renamed the Lewis and Clark Bridge.

Sources: *This snapshot history of Cowlitz 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, "Cowlitz County: Thumbnail History, Cyberpedia - HistoryLink Essay 7482", <http://www.historylink.org/> (accessed November 27, 2007).*

Pioneer Association Committees hard at work

Association committees are hard at work and are always looking for extra hands and new ideas to help. Current committees include:

Facilities

Steven Rochester (chair), David Brazier, Jeff Christensen, Kirk Gerrard, Leonard Gayton, Bob Selene

Refreshments

Peggy Parietti, Helen Smith

Nominating

Carol Hawkins, Junius Rochester, (one opening)

Program

Junius Rochester, Helen Smith, Gary Zimmerman

Publicity

Kathy Dettmar

Museum

Carla Hendrickson, Catherine Spedden

Membership

Jeff Christensen, Louise Jones-Brown

Correspondence

Sylvia Gayton Wesley

If you'd like to volunteer or provided more information, please contact President Jeff Christensen at 206-390-6810.

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

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Continued improvements in the works around Pioneer Hall

Improvement and maintenance projects continue around Pioneer Hall, as the newly formed Facilities Committee begins tackling some larger and longer-term upgrades around the building.

The next big effort — one of the more noticeable improvements to those visiting the Hall — is the replacement of window shades on the building's main floor. The majority of the roller shades, last replaced sometime in the 1960's, are now torn or inoperable: making it difficult to let the life in when the Hall is open to visitors, as well as to block light out when the Hall is closed, in order to protect our many collections.

A second major project was prompted, in part, by activity from some of the Hall's Madison Park neighbors. When the city become involved in making sidewalk repairs in the neighborhood, Parkshore Condominiums saw an opportunity to make some aesthetic improvements by creating new planting strips and upgrading the medians along its street front. After some discussions with the city by our own David Brazier and working in tandem with Parkshore, our organization is about to benefit from all this activity with the introduction of some low-cost, curb appeal: new, easy-maintenance planting strips in front of the Hall. The new plantings will prevent heavy delivery trucks from using our building's street front as an access route and parking ramp - an activity which, in the past, has created structural damage (and, in turn, led to safety concerns for those attempted to access our entry).

Next meeting of the Pioneers: Saturday, March 15, 2008, 12:30 p.m.