

## *Next Meeting*

### **NEW DATE!**

Next scheduled  
general meeting,  
Saturday, March 29  
12:30 - 2:00 PM

Featured speaker:  
Shanna Stevenson  
Coordinator, Women's History  
Consortium,  
Washington State  
Historical Society

Family History  
Speaker: TBA

Board of Officers  
will meet 10:30 am

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

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*The Pioneer Association celebrates Women's History Month*

## **"Women's Voices, Women's Votes — the Washington State Women's Suffrage Centennial in 2010"**

On Saturday, March 29, Shanna Stevenson, Coordinator for the Women's History Consortium at the Washington State History Society, will present information about the Consortium; the history of the women's suffrage movement in Washington; and plans for the suffrage centennial.

Washington was an early leader when it came to women's rights in our country, especially when it came to the right to vote. Writes Stevenson: "As a territory, Washington could enact voter qualifications by legislative action under its Federal Organic Act. As early as 1854, a mere six years after the first women's rights convention was held in Seneca Falls, New York, the first Washington Territorial Legislature considered enacting women's suffrage. House member Arthur A. Denny introduced an amendment for women's suffrage to a pending voting bill and the amendment failed by only one vote."

"Women's voices and influence have always been a part of Washington's history, even without the vote. The fight for permanent woman's suffrage in Washington, however, spans over 50 years in territorial and state history. Washington was the first state in the 20th century and the fifth state in the Union to enact women's suffrage. Washington women's success in 1910 helped inspire the campaign that culminated in passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920, when women won the right to vote nationally."

Shanna Stevenson is a long-time local historian in Olympia. Formerly the Historic Preservation Officer for Olympia, Thurston County and Tumwater, she joined WSHS as the Coordinator of the Women's History Consortium project in 2006. She has a B.A. in History and Education from Gonzaga University and a Masters in Public Administration from The Evergreen State College. As Coordinator of the WHC, Shanna staffs a 15 member advisory board composed of Governor's appointees and legislators, leads the WHC website initiative and the planning for the commemoration of the Washington Suffrage Centennial.

## Pioneer Association OF THE State of Washington

1642 43rd Avenue East  
Seattle, WA 98112

206-325-0888 Telephone

[www.wapioneers.org](http://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
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3rd vice president	Helen Langer Smith
Secretary	Betsy Losh
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Historian	Gary Zimmerman

### Trustees

Kathy Dettmar, Kirk Gerrard, Peggy  
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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

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"Pioneers are all around us"

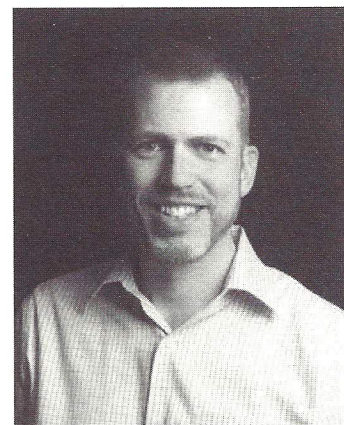
## President's Message

So I sat down recently and re-read my first message to you all and spent some time reflecting upon what I had written. At the time I wrote that initial article, I had just accepted the honor of serving as your president. By the time I sat down to re-read the piece, I found myself somehow speeding past the midway point of my term and, perhaps self-indulgently, wanting to assess how I thought things were going. In all honesty, I ended up giving myself only a middling review. For a host of reasons I won't bore you with, it's been a challenging year full of life events that have distracted me from some of the many projects and goals I'd committed to taking on, on behalf of the Pioneers. Granted, I came into the role with a lot of high hopes and plans for shaking things up a little (in my own little way). I suppose, to some degree, every person stepping into a similar role does, and should, come into things with a somewhat similar idea.

So I came out of the process with my own self scores definitely in need of some improvement. Ratings went up, however, when I thought about all the wonderful people who make up the Pioneer Board and general membership: we have a fiercely supportive and highly energetic group of people in our organization who would give any of the original pioneers a run for their money. Some of these individuals man our open houses, thanks to the diligent work and guiding hands of board members Larry Puffert and Catherine Spedden; others, like Helen Smith and Peggy Parietti, provide refreshments and much valued logistics support at our meetings. Still others, like Kirk Gerrard and Steven Rochester help keep our building facilities going, consistently working to maintain the upkeep of our beloved Pioneer Hall. I've leaned on these individuals in the past eight months.

It really isn't fair to call out only a few names here: I am regularly surrounded by an active (and opinionated) board of officers; I am frequently engaged in fascinating conversations on any number of topics with members of our membership and I find myself continually saying 'thank you' to our many volunteers, who give so much and ask so very little in return. I am also struck by the active role so many in our organization take not only in supporting the Pioneer Association, but other historical and civic groups that make our communities strong.

So as for me - I've still got a lot of work to do. I continue on with that work, however, surrounded by shining examples of strong and giving people with a seemingly endless amount of energy and new ideas. Truth is, that I am surrounded by pioneers. How can I go wrong?



Jeff Christensen  
President, 2007-08

## Departed members of the Association

Since the appearance of the December 2007 edition of *Pioneer Presences*, the deaths of the following persons have been reported to the Association. Family members who have anecdotes or memorial notices about these people may send them to Pioneer Hall for retention in the archives of the Association.

**Frederick G "Fritz" Foster** died in his native town of Aberdeen, Washington on 9 December 2007. A Life member of the Association, he was descended from his pioneer grandfather, also named Frederick G Foster, who arrived in the Gray's Harbor area in 1886 and managed the North Western Logging Company general store in Hoquiam. Grandfather, father and son built that operation into mercantile stores in Hoquiam, Raymond, Aberdeen and Lewis County, where they offered everything from hardware to logging supplies, linens and general groceries!

**Colleen Gibson** (a member since 1982) died in Bellevue on 4 Dec 2003 at age 75. She was a Life member, descended from James B Dick, who settled at Dungeness on the Olympic Peninsula in 1879.

On 12 Feb 2007 in Gig Harbor, **Addie Kate (Boyce) Morford** died at the age of 100 years. She was a descendant of her paternal grandparents, George and Sarah Boyce, who came to Tolt (later called Carnation) in 1869. Mrs. Morford was a member of the Association for over 42 years.

Dead at the age of 98, on 6 Feb 2008 in Des Moines WA, **Laura Ada Rutledge** was descended from James and Bertha Adair. She was a native of Littlerock, Washington.

**William J Sroufe** died on 16 Jan 2008 at the age of 87. He had been a member of the Association since 1967. His paternal grandparents, Adrian H and Sadie Sroufe, came to Puget Sound in 1882 and were a founding family in Port Orchard. His maternal grandfather came from Bergen, Norway in 1886 and was an early mayor of Renton. His brother, Thomas A Sroufe, was president of the Association in 1967. Bill was an electrical engineer in Seattle.

## Pioneer Association Treasurer still sought

The Pioneer Association is still actively seeking a volunteer to step into the vital role of Treasurer for the organization. You don't need an Accounting degree or to have spent your career as a CPA - just an eye for detail and a willingness to help shepherd the financial well being of our organization. To learn more or to volunteer yourself (or others!), please contact Jeff Christensen at: 206-390-6810.

## 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.

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*Mar 19, 2008*

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## Improvements continue around Pioneer Hall

There is more progress to report on the many projects underway around Pioneer Hall. After delays caused by weather, vendors and suppliers, we're one step closer to the new blinds for the Hall. Not as simple as going to your local home store, finding blinds that were protective, durable and in keeping with the historical background of the building (from a solid vendor who stands by their product) took a little doing, but we are nearly there.

Facilities Chair Steven Rochester has been busy addressing leaks and drafts around the Hall, helping address existing damage and prevent any new issues. Thanks to the handiwork of Steven and others on his committee, we've got working sinks and toilets again and are further along the way to planning more major repairs and renovations.

Another project moving forward is the visual improvement to our property, thanks to the addition of planting strips in front of the Hall and throughout our end of the Park. Thanks to the efforts of members like David Brazier, we were able to take advantage of recent activity by our condominium neighbors and the City of Seattle. Soon, we hope to have low maintenance, aesthetic additions to our streetfront in the form of new shrubs and plants. Creating more than just visual appeal, the changes will also prevent large trucks and others from driving across our property and creating damage which, in the past, has led to cracks, leaks and other damage.

We continue to explore still further updates and changes to improve Pioneer Hall - look for another update (and more improvements), soon!

**Next meeting of the Pioneers: Saturday, March 29, 2008, 12:30 p.m.**