

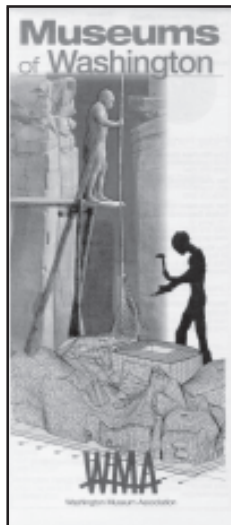
MUSEUM MESSENGER

Volume 11 / Number 3 • Fall 2000

Do you have ...Do you need... Museums of Washington Maps?

By Andy Granitto, Curator of Exhibits and Programs
Yakima Valley Museum, Yakima

Travelers in Washington State can now find museums and historical institutions anywhere in the state, with the help of the new WMA Museums of Washington map. Although the idea of a handy map promoting our state's museums has been talked about for years, the dream did not become a reality until two years ago, when past Board Member Patricia Warren submitted a successful "Millennium Project" grant to the Institute for Museum and Library Services. Since that time, information has been sought and compiled, product designs have been proposed and discussed, and a final map/guide has been designed and produced. Distribution is now occurring.



As anyone who attended the Annual Conference in June remembers, 50,000 maps were delivered to the Lacey Community Center just minutes before the opening address was made. Throughout the conference, attendees were mercilessly reminded of the maps' presence, and everyone was urged to take maps home and distribute them to local visitor centers, chambers of commerce, museums, libraries, etc. At the close of the conference, all 50,000 maps had been taken, hopefully on their way to statewide distribution.

Where are the maps now?

WMA is now assessing the success of map distribution, and we need your help. If you took maps home

See **MAPS** page 3

2000 WMA Museum Conference a Success

Pre-Conference Workshop

By Deirdre Schleigh

The WMA, in partnership with the Heritage Resource Center, was very pleased to present a pre-conference workshop to the Annual Meeting in June. The workshop focused on planning a web site, considering and understanding many technical issues that come to play when creating web pages, and getting the most out of the Internet.

Lorin Catudio, a web designer and owner of Lorin Catudio Software Services, shared his knowledge and experience, leaving workshop attendees with a concise worksheet of steps to consider in the process of planning a web site.

Lorin presented a list of "Top 10" mistakes when creating web pages. After spending several hours on the web recently to research a project, I have a new appreciation for Lorin's words. Having easy readability and clear navigation through a web site is so important for the user. Another important aspect he mentioned included

See **CONFERENCE** page 6

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Masthead images derived from the book "Washington - a Guide to the Evergreen State," compiled by workers of the Writer's Program of the Work Projects Administration, and sponsored by the Washington State Historical Society © 1941.

Editor's Note:

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President's Message

Karen Marshall
Skagit County Historical Museum

I am honored to become the president of WMA at such a vibrant time in our twenty-year history. In June we reflected upon our past at our 2000 Annual Conference in Lacey. I think we can all be proud and grateful of the work the Washington Museum Association has accomplished during this time, and I strongly believe we are in the midst of a very positive period of development. Our recent conferences have been very successful, allowing us to expand our reach and plan for a future of improved service to the statewide museum community.

I am most proud to be a member of this board of talented and dedicated individuals who generously give many, many hours of their time to make our programs and projects a success. Derek Valley and the staff of the State Capital Museum, Anna Mary Fitzgerald and the members of the South Sound Heritage Association produced a fabulous conference, and for all of their efforts we say thank you! The recent Washington State museums map project spearheaded by Andy Granitto was a tremendous endeavor. We have encouraged feedback through the E-Messenger for this project, and I personally thank all of you who have taken the time from your busy schedules to let us know what is incorrect, missing and magnificent about the brochure. We all wish it were mistake-free, but any first-time project of this magnitude is bound to have difficulties, and we appreciate your candor so we can



improve upon the brochure if we are able to repeat the project. We are hoping that all of you have received the Museum Map brochure; if not, we are setting up a statewide distribution system so please contact us. Another major project underway is the development of our WMA web site, and we thank Lorin Catudio of Lorin Catudio Software Services for jump-starting us on this project, and I thank all of you who have volunteered to serve on the committee to make this project a reality. I hope that we'll have our site available for use before the 2001 Conference.

*"To grow is to
change, and to
have changed
often is to have
grown much."*

June's Annual Meeting always brings transition to the WMA Board, and the change this year was Jim Barmore's departure to become Director of the Nevada State Museum in Carson City. Jim was

saddened that he was unable to remain in Washington through the 2000 Conference, and his experience and leadership were missed by all. Jim, we are wishing you all the best in Nevada, and thank you for your many years of leadership and service to the WMA. Please join the Board in welcoming Ann Cook,

See **PRESIDENT** page 3

Maps

Continued from cover

with you from the conference, please contact Andy Granitto (email: andy@yakimavalleymuseum.org or phone: 509-248-0747; email preferred) and let him know: 1) How many maps did you take? 2) Where did you take them? 3) How many do have left? 4) What was the response to the maps?



50,000 Museums of Washington maps arrive at the conference in Lacey.

If you or your town need maps, please contact Andy and let him know. We hope to create several distribution sites around the state, so that maps can be readily available to anyone who needs them. In order to do this, locations in need of maps must be identified, all the maps must be found and possibly relocated to distribution sites, and a final inventory and redistribution carried out. This can't be done without your cooperation.

Do you like the new Museums of Washington map?

If you are pleased with the new map, you are not alone. Almost everyone who sees or uses the this new traveler's tool finds it a welcome informational resource ...despite the errors and omissions.

Errors and omissions?

Yes, there are some of those also. The most significant error we are

aware of is "Ilwaco." Because of a formatting error, the city name for Ilwaco is not prominent in the list of museums, and, as a consequence, the museums of Ilwaco appear to be listed under "Hoquiam." Other minor errors also exist, mostly misspelled names and incorrect addresses or phone numbers. How could this happen?

To compile the information for the map, we began with the *2000-2001 Museum Directory of Washington State*. Survey questionnaires were sent to all known museums and heritage institutions, for the stated purpose of obtaining or verifying information for the map. We received few replies. We repeated the effort with the same result. While organizing and proofreading our data, we identified several questionable entries and made phone calls to check our information. Despite these repeated

efforts, the map does contain errors, and these were ultimately the result of institutions failing to respond to our initial surveys.

The final step in the quality control process is happening right now. Many who failed to respond to our surveys will not hesitate to respond to a "final product" which lists them incorrectly. And we have received a number of calls and emails informing us of corrections which need to be made. All these corrections are being entered into our files and database so that future editions of the map will be correct. Please read the map carefully and inform us of any corrections, omissions, or additions which need to be made (contact Andy Granitto—email: andy@yakimavalleymuseum.org or phone: 509-248-0747; email is preferred).

Yes, response has been so favorable it seems imminent that future editions will need to be printed. According to our rough estimates, the 50,000 copies of the map will last 2-3 years, and then public demand will require we print more. With your help, the new Museums of Washington map will be distributed and used, and will continue to be updated and used in the future.

President

Continued from page 2

Director of Public Relations and Marketing of the Seattle Children's Museum to the Board. Ann brings great experience to our organization, and we appreciate her future contributions to the WMA. Within the past few months we have also experienced many changes in Board member's positions. Most notable

and far-reaching is Bob Gruhn's retirement from his law practice at Davis, Wright, Tremaine. Steve Crowell has become Director of the Paul H. Karshner Memorial Museum, Bill Rietveldt is pursuing private enterprise in a family business, Deirdre Schleigh is enjoying the freedom of consulting in the San Juan Islands, and I have become Director of the Skagit

County Historical Museum. Recently I was told, "To grow is to change, and to have changed often is to have grown much." These changes within our museum community reflect how dynamic our profession is, and it is my goal to ensure that the WMA remains a dynamic organization committed to the needs of our membership.

2000 WMA Conference ~ Notes

By Karen Marshall, Skagit County Historical Museum

The beautiful setting at the Lacey Community Center gave us opportunities to enjoy the outdoors while using a first-class public facility. Longer breaks between sessions gave us more time to talk to each other, and one of the special treats was the ability to learn a little about the ecology of Woodland Creek with a walking tour given by Lisa Dennis-Perez, Water Resources Specialist with the City of Lacey.

Our Call for Proposals for the conference gave us diverse and informative sessions.

I would personally like to thank everyone who took the time to submit a proposal, and to all who came and shared their experiences and knowledge with our attendees. I would also encourage everyone to start thinking about creating a session proposal for 2001. We'll be announcing more conference details in our next issue.

Our 20th Anniversary Awards and Scholarship Luncheon gave us the opportunity to honor outstanding service in our museum community.

This year's highlight was the Progressive Dinner through Olympia and

Tumwater. We enjoyed a beautiful evening, great food, and entertaining visits to the Bigelow House, The Hands-On Children's Museum, the Henderson House Museum, and the Historic Crosby House and Pioneer Log Cabin, complete with quilters and a working blacksmith. Many thanks to all of the staff and volunteers of these museums who made the evening such a memorable occasion.

Our WMA Conferences would not be possible without the support of the host organizations and the hundreds of volunteer hours that go into creating the conference. Many thanks to Derek Valley, Local Arrangements Chair, Annamary Fitzgerald, SSHA President, and the staff and volunteers of all of the participating South Sound Heritage Association Member Museums for a truly collaborative and fun conference.



^ Bob Gruhn received one of two WMA Board Awards awarded this year. Bob received the award in recognition of his years of dedicated service to the WMA as legal counsel and participant in the Heritage Caucus.



^ This round table discussion on "Restoration vs. Conservation" was one of many that took place during lunch at the conference.



< Derek Valley, who helped coordinate local arrangements, and WMA President Karen Marshall, who chaired the conference, take a moment to relax during the busy two day conference.

Many Thanks to
all who donated
to the WMA
Conference
Silent Auction!

Anacortes Museum
Cashmere's Pioneer Village and Museum
Cowlitz County Historical Museum
Derek Valley
Kitsap Historical Society
Nordic Heritage Museum
Odessey Maritime Discovery Center
Polson Museum / Weyerhaeuser

Renton Historical Society
Skagit County Historical Museum
Suquamish Museum
Washington State Arts Commission
Washington State Capital Museum
Whatcom County Museum of
History and Art
Willapa Seaport Museum

2000 WMA Conference ~ Breakout Session Notes

Interactive Exhibits

Museums represented at the table used these strategies to offer hands-on exhibits to their patrons:

- The use of deaccessioned items
- Items that were turned down by the collection committee but donated with the stipulation they could be used by the education department
- Indestructible collection items (ie. stone mauls, sad irons)
- Objects that have multiples in the collection
- Replicas
- Damaged objects (with the caveat that the public be informed that it was already damaged so the perception wouldn't be that the museum has allowed the misuse of a collections item)
- The collection of an item that is not museum quality with the expressed purpose of it becoming hands-on
- Tables that have the items wired to them so that they cannot be removed (the wire does allow some movement of the item as it stretches out)
- Separate areas that clearly define touchable exhibits from nontouchable ones
- Handprint symbols to indicate an interactive exhibit

When accessioning objects, one museum has added an extra three digits to its accession number to indicate it was donated with educational purposes in mind. This allows staff to know which artifacts in storage can be used interactively.

All at the table acknowledged that supervision is necessary with any hands-on item as misuse is common. It is also important to know the value of items on display in your hands-on area (hood ornaments and gear shift knobs were used as examples). Security cameras have been valuable for a number of museums. Problems with parents leaving children unsupervised in hands-on areas have been solved with signs clearly indicating that children must have an adult with them at all times.

The group recognized that there is a need for interactives in a museum setting but that hands-on exhibits and touchable artifacts are not the only way to obtain that goal. Interactive can mean an intellectual challenge, such as a game of finding things indicated with signage or it may mean audio and olfactory suggestions. The creation of an unusual environment can be used with great effect or a computer with relevant software can be used as an interactive component of an exhibit.



Restoration vs. Conservation

Questions:

When should an object be returned to its original appearance?

When should it just be stabilized and the appearance left the same?

When is intervention needed?

When should you compromise and why?

Example raised by a participant: A museum has received a donation of a 75 year old purse seiner. It has been altered and outfitted with updated equipment several times during its history. The museum wants to use it as exhibit and needs to make it accessible and safe for visitors. Should the boat be returned to its original state or some intermediate state? One of the intermediate alterations makes it more accessible. Should that be a deciding factor? What should be retained? How far should restoration go?

Second example raised by a participant: An ox yoke has been on display out of doors and has dry rot. Should it be brought inside? Can it be repaired? Other participants suggested that the historic significance of the item should be a factor. They also asked whether or not the museum has other examples.

Third example raised by a participant: A square grand piano with a damaged surface. The museum had it stripped and re-finished. The museum believes it's new appearance draws people to it. Does this exhibit benefit override the loss of the original surface?

Fourth example raised by a participant: Old block planes with missing or rusty blades. Should the blades be cleaned or replaced? On one hand this may enhance the appearance for exhibit, but cleaning may cause loss of information about use. Replacing the blade may confuse future research by combining elements from different planes. There was a discussion of the need to be careful not to mislead people. Examples of replacing beads in Indian beadwork, caps on Chinese snuff bottles, or repairs to historic clothing. People pointed out the need for careful documentation for any repairs or replacements you do.

Use of replicas. Should you acknowledge them in the exhibit label? Most agreed you should.

2000 WMA Conference ~ Scholarship Recipients Share Impressions of the Conference

Matthew O. Houle

Intern/Museum of History and Industry

The Olympia/Lacey area was a great location for the conference. I liked the fact that it was not held in the middle of a larger, congested urban area. The Lacey Community Center was easy to find and close to many hotels. I had not been through the area in a long time, so the progressive dinner, aside from being quite good, was a nice way to learn the local geography.

History museums were well represented at the conference. This is not surprising, of course, since most museums are history museums. I was pleasantly surprised, however, that the sessions were not completely dominated by history museum topics, which could have easily been the case.

The session that I looked forward to the most was Lorin Catudio's "Museums and Computer Technology." I was, however, disappointed in his presentation. The presentation covered some web technologies but with very little depth. Mr. Catudio is certainly a qualified, knowledgeable professional, but the session had no useful information for me.

I enjoyed both keynote speakers. Thomas Purce's discussion on distance learning was interesting. I would not mind picking up this topic again at another conference. Are Washington State museums getting involved in distance learning programs at universities and community colleges? Is there a significant role for museums to play? I don't know.

The concurrent sessions were good, but it was hard to choose which session to go to. I suppose this is a good dilemma. In retrospect, I may have chosen differently, but this might be an example of the "grass is greener" effect.

Gregg Wilson

Greetings from the land of Sun, Sand, and Sea. Here I am writing from Barbuda, trying to beat the newsletter deadline while listening to the surf break and the tree frogs whistle. Ah... Paradise. But, back to work:

The WMA Annual meeting in Olympia and Lacey was very helpful in consolidating my ideas for the proposed museum of Barbuda. As the objective of all museums, we want to educate and entertain the community and the visiting tourists while keeping the bottom line out of the red.

The workshop on websites for museums by Lorin Catudio showed me a very powerful way to introduce Barbudan History to the world, advertise our activities, and solicit funding all from one location with the push of a few buttons.

Since very little has been written about the island, oral histories are the main source of information. Pat Filer and Cathy Fulton have a wonderful "memory book" project that is going to help me collect stories from our community elders while they are still with us.

Trying to find the best use of a limited budget, the panel discussion by Steve Anderson, Charles Payton, Jerry Ramsey, and Keith Williams provided useful information. As soon as I can secure a building to display some items, all income will go towards the museum's endowment. Gradual growth is the key to achieving great things in the long term. The Lacey Community Center is such an ideal site. I had a great time meeting WMA members there and at functions such as the Progressive Dinner. I really appreciate being in this museum community.

Thanks again for making me a scholarship winner. I bought a silent auction item to help bring someone new to next years' meeting. I invite everyone to come to Barbuda after I finish my Master's program CMU to see how we are progressing. Irie mon!

Conference

Continued from cover

avoiding animation and distracting audio and visual effects. Just because it can be programmed, and may even be fun for the programmer, doesn't mean that it produces helpful effects for the user of the

web site. These effects may just drive the user away.

Success of a web site is dependent on many factors, but defining clear goals, both short and long term, will clarify your purpose and provide a clear message to the end user. Building and maintaining a web site requires a commitment

from dedicated staff. In this age when more and more visitors are searching and using the Internet for travel, recreation, education, and entertainment, there is an opportunity to present our heritage and cultural institutions in their best light, by providing visitor information that will inspire their interest and bring them in your door.

Educator's Corner: eMuse



By David Lynx, Curator of Education,
Yakima Valley Museum

The WMA conference is the perfect opportunity to connect to other museum professionals in our own neighborhood. We share ideas, learn about what we are accomplishing in our institutions. I often ask others questions like "how did you do that?" or "where did you find?", but once the conference is over, it is difficult to keep the conversation going.

Two wonderful sources for these same kinds of discussions can be found on the internet. Using your email program, you subscribe to a Listserv discussion list. This is a program on a computer server located somewhere on the internet that houses a list of subscribers under one topic, and it is the responsibility of the server to redistribute the email to subscribers of the list. In other words, if you send a question via email to the email address of the Listserv, your email will be distributed amongst the subscribers to that list.

In addition, as a member of the Listserv, you will receive all emails sent to the list.

One of the Listservs I subscribe to is called CHILDMUS, a list for children's museum professionals. This list is hosted by a computer at Rice University. CHILDMUS was started by Jane Jerry and her husband George while at the Children's Museum of Houston. Jane Jerry is now Director of Cheekwood Museum of Art and Botanical Garden, Nashville, Tennessee. To subscribe to the list, you send an email to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.RICE.EDU. In the body of the email (not the subject line) you type "SUBSCRIBE CHILDMUS FIRSTNAME LASTNAME" (without the quotation marks). The computer will reply to you with an email which gives you instructions on how to send messages to the list.

Another list was created in response to an EDCOM luncheon at AAM in Philadelphia (1995). At that luncheon, museum educators expressed a need to create a network for the easy exchange of information. Kris Wetterlund and Larisa Somsel created the list with the help of the Minneapolis Telecommunica-

tions Network. MUSEUM-ED is an open, unmoderated discussion list which serves as a forum for museum educators. To subscribe to this list, send an email to LISTPROC@MTN.ORG. In the body of the email type `SUBSCRIBE MUSEUM-ED FIRSTNAME LASTNAME`.

Both these lists are extremely useful, even for the simplest of questions. I recently asked the list if anyone had a successful scavenger hunt in their museum. I received several responses via email, and five educators who mailed me scavenger hunts and related material from their own museums via the regular mail, often called "snail mail" by people on the internet. One problem I have had with these lists, is the plethora of email that suddenly fills my inbox. Between the two lists, I receive 7-10 emails each day. One way to keep this email from mixing with your regular email, is to add a Rules option to your email program. For example, using Microsoft's Outlook Express, you can have the program identify emails coming from a particular list and send them to a separate folder, rather than your inbox.

Opportunities

Executive Director

The Eastern Washington State Historical Society/Cheney Cowles Museum seeks a dynamic and motivated individual to provide leadership and vision for a highly regarded accredited comprehensive museum located in Spokane. The executive director reports directly to the president, Museum Board of Trustees, and is charged with the responsibility to oversee the entire museum operation. In addition to significant museum experience and arts background, the candidates should provide leadership through specialized knowledge of the

disciplines of the museum; be responsible for policy making and financial matters, with the governing board; planning, organizing, and directing activities through the staff; and be responsible for professional practices such as acquisitions, deaccessions, preservation, research, interpretation, and presentations. In addition, the candidate must be an effective communicator, and able to work with a variety of constituents. For a complete job description and application information, contact the museum at 509/456-3931 or inquire at lindaq@ztc.net. *SPECIAL NOTE: A delegation from the museum will be at the Western Association Conference in*

Victoria B.C. in October. If you are interested in this position, a meeting can be arranged with a museum representative.

Volunteer Coordinator/ Office Assistant

The Nordic Heritage Museum seeks full time energetic person for Volunteer Coordinator/Office Assistant. Strong communication, organization, interpersonal skills. Duties include volunteer training, recruitment, record keeping, special events and office assistance to Director and Business Manager. Occasional weekend work.

Regional Member News

OLYMPIC PENINSULA

Victorian Fashion

The **Museum and Arts Center** brought clothing history to Sequim for the month of August at the Dungeness School. The exhibit, *Victorian Twilight*, featured historic designer clothing from the 1890s and 1900s from the Neil Vincent Collection. Proceeds from ticket sales to the exhibit go toward the center's capital campaign for a new exhibit building.

Antiques Appraised

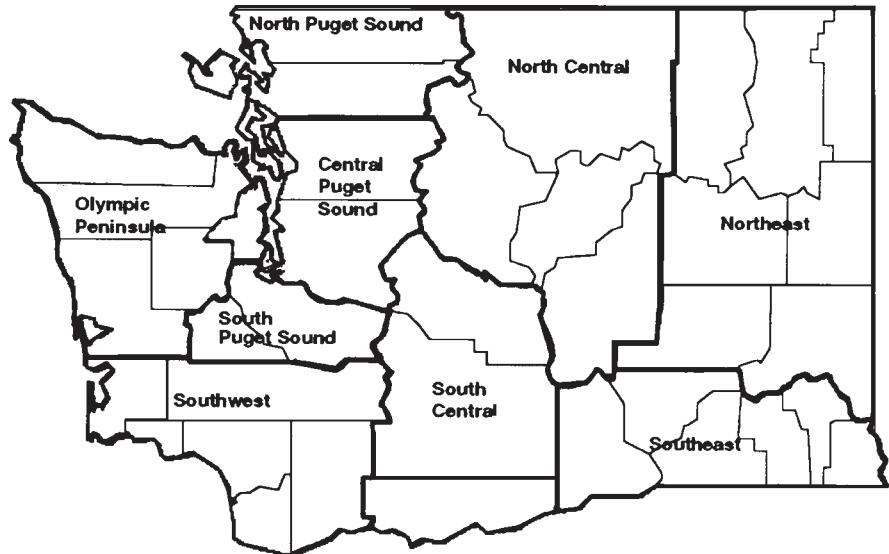


The **Polson Museum** in Hoquiam planned to hold an Antiques-Road-Show-style appraisal program in August featuring appraiser James Kemp-Slaughter who has been an antique and fine art appraiser since 1977.

Awards for Museum Staff



The American Association of Museums presented the Nancy Hanks Memorial Award for Professional Excellence to Ms. Joyce Jensen, educator at the **Naval Undersea Museum** in Keyport during AAM's annual meeting in Baltimore in May. The Historical Diving Society has selected the Naval Undersea Museum to receive the 2000 Nautiek Trophy in recognition of exhibitions which have done the most to enhance knowledge of diving history to the general public.



Tour for fun and history

In June the **Kitsap County Historical Society** in Bremerton and the Sidney Museum and Arts Association co-sponsored a tour of several historic homes located in Port Orchard.

SOUTHWEST

Traditional Crafts



Learning traditional crafts was the theme as the **Pomeroy Living History Farm** in Yacolt hosted its first special event weekend June 3 and 4. Young and old were invited to participate in numerous turn of the century craft activities such as rope making, candle dipping, drop spindle spinning, card weaving, and corn husk doll making.

NORTH PUGET SOUND

New Website for Whatcom Museum

Three computer science students at Bellingham Technical College have designed an entirely new website for the **Whatcom Museum of History & Art** in Bellingham, located at www.whatcommuseum.org.

Donna Revell, Shelagh Considine, and Roddy Stuberg completed the new website in 9 weeks as their final project for instructor Ken Russell's Webmaster Technology class during spring quarter 2000 at BTC.

Auto Gallery Opens



The **Lynden Pioneer Museum** has opened *And the Survey Says... The Best Known Cars of All Time*. The new auto gallery presents the best known cars and why it is we remember them. To celebrate the opening of the exhibit, the museum held a children's contest, inviting kids to design the car of the future. The winners are exhibited in the Auto Gallery.

Exhibits in La Conner



Works by Seattle glass sculptor Kait Rhoads are being featured through Oct. 1 in the glass gallery at the **Museum of Northwest Art**, 121 S. First St., La Conner. *Shelters* is an exhibition about the imagination of personal spaces. Rhoads has worked with a number of major glass artists and has been awarded a residency at the Pilchuck Glass School. Her exhibition at MoNA is made in conjunction with the William Traver Gallery in Seattle.

CENTRAL PUGET SOUND

New Director for Marymoor



Greg Watson, formerly at the Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum, was named Executive Director of the **Marymoor Museum of Eastside History** early this summer. The boards of the Marymoor Museum and the Bellevue Historical Society are currently exploring a merger. The discussions are part of Marymoor's efforts to collaborate with nearby societies to create a state-of-the-art Eastside History museum.

New Exhibits at SAM



In June *Language Let Loose* and *African Wax Print Clothes* opened at the **Seattle Art Museum** downtown. The first exhibit is a small exhibit of printed cotton fabric from West Africa. The second exhibit focuses on use of words in art. *Twentieth Century American Art – The Ebsworth Collection*, opened in August. The exhibit features Barney Ebsworth's collection of American modernist art. The show includes work by Edward Hopper, David Hockney, and Georgia O'Keefe. September 10 is opening day for *Eastman Johnson: Painting America*.

Astronauts land at Museum of Flight



In July the **Museum of Flight** in Seattle hosted the largest gathering of astronauts the city has ever seen at a star-studded gala to celebrate the opening of the *Rendezvous in Space* exhibition dedicated to Pete Conrad. More than 20 astronauts attended the event which included a black-tie dinner, show, and dance. Funds raised during the event will

go towards the development of original space-related education programming for children.

Viking Festival and Glass Exhibit



July 8 and 9 were Tivoli/Viking Days at the **Nordic Heritage Museum** in Seattle.

The event included a pancake breakfast, ethnic foods, crafts, a Viking encampment, music, craft demonstrations, story telling, folk dancing, and a beer garden. Festival goers had the opportunity to see the work of Erik Hoglund, Swedish Master Glass Artist, on exhibit in the museum.

Volunteer Recognition



The Center for Wooden Boats in Seattle recently honored John Randall

as volunteer of the year. The award is given annually in recognition of the highest qualities of volunteerism: Dedication enthusiasm, leadership, and commitment to the goals of the Center for Wooden Boats.

New Exhibits at the Frye



The **Frye Art Museum**, 704 Terry Ave. in Seattle, has the

works of Bellingham native Helen Loggie (1895-1976) on display through Oct. 8. *This Flowering Earth: The Etchings and Drawings of Helen Loggie* features works that show Loggie's intense, lyrical realism using trees and plants of the Northwest landscape as her subject.

Amusement Park Subject of Traveling Exhibit

The **Shoreline Historical Society** has a new traveling exhibit, *Once Upon A Time in Playland*, which is available to community centers,

libraries, non-profit organizations and schools. The exhibit tells the story of Playland Amusement Park which operated just north of Seattle from 1930 to 1960.

New Members and School District History

The Greater Kent Historical Society Bereiter House Museum reported that as of May 1 the society has 315 paid members. The museum also has received a grant to research and write a history of Kent School District 415, which is made up of many small school districts of the past. Bud Battles is researching and writing the history.

Warhol at the Henry

Andy Warhol: Drawings 1942-1987 is on exhibit at the **Henry Art Gallery** in Seattle through Oct. 8. The exhibit includes more than 200 drawings plus paintings, films, photography, and documentation of Warhol's social milieu. The drawings begin with a self-portrait drawn at age 14 and ends with works created in 1987, the year of the artist's death.

Sculpture Unveiled in Auburn

Issei, a life-size bronze sculpture of Kisa Iseri, was recently unveiled at the **White River Valley Museum** in Auburn. The work by sculptor Reynaldo Rivera of Iseri, who came to the United States from Japan as a young woman in 1907, is intended to honor all first generation (Issei) Japanese women who worked so hard to create life for their families in the Auburn and Kent Valley. *Issei* was made possible by many private donations and is a permanent addition to the museum's collection.

New Museum nears Completion

Topping out of the new **Bellevue Art Museum**, located at Northeast Sixth and Bellevue Way, was scheduled for June 30. Plans are being made to open the Steve Hall designed building to the public Jan. 6, 2001, when it will host the exhibition, *Luminous: Light as Material, Medium and Metaphor*, along with *Juan Alonso: Give/Take and bit plane*. Visit the museum's web site at www.bellevueart.org.

Book wins Awards

The latest addition of local printed histories from **The Snohomish County Museum**, *Collected Memories: Recollections of Alvin B. Peterson*, has received The Everett Historical Commission's William F. Brown Award and the Washington Museum Association Award of Excellence for Publications. Elsie Sheehan, who proposed the idea and edited the book, has been designated a co-recipient of the awards.

Special Exhibit Announced



The Burke Museum will host a photo exhibit, *The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition* June 7 through Dec.

31, 2001. The exhibit originated at the **American Museum of Natural History in New York** in 1999. It tells the tale of how explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton and his crew were stranded off the continent of Antarctica in 1914 when their ship, the *Endurance*, was trapped and crushed by sea ice. After many months of sub-zero cold, storms, and an incredible open-boat voyage, Shackleton managed to rescue all of his men.

Volunteers Work on Boats

Over the past year, volunteers at the **Northwest Seaport Maritime Heritage Center** worked hard replacing the forward bulwarks on the *Arthur Foss*, resteping the foremast on the *Wawona*, and working on the deck and radio house on the lightship *Swiftsure*. Volunteers also catalogued the center's photo collection. The salmon troller *Twilight*, built in 1933 at Fisherman's Terminal, also has been added to the center's fleet of ships.

SOUTH PUGET SOUND

Native Quilts on Exhibition

This summer the **Washington State History Museum** in Tacoma presented *To Honor and Comfort: Native Quilting Traditions*, a comprehensive exhibit developed in part by the National Museum of the American Indian and the Smithsonian Institution that celebrates the quilt making traditions of Native Americans and Native Hawaiians. Hopi, Sioux, Lakota, Navajo, Odawa, Yup'ik Eskimo, and Hawaiian are among the many different cultures represented in the exhibit.

Summer Exhibits at TAM



The **Tacoma Art Museum** hosted three exhibitions this summer offering fun for all ages. *Almost Warm and Fuzzy: Childhood and Contemporary Art* was an exhibition of work that evokes the imaginative world of Childhood. *Intimate Landscapes: Photographs from the Hoffman Collections* is an exhibition of more

than 50 contemporary photographic landscapes, most made in the American West. *Instruments for a New Navigation* features the work of artist Morris Graves.

A Tale of Two Bridges



The current exhibit at the **Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society**, *A Tale of Two Gerties: How and Why We Bridged the Narrows*, has received local media attention.

The exhibit includes a section on the history of public sentiment about tolls on the Narrows Bridge, an issue that strikes a cord with audiences due to the contemporary controversy over suggested tolls for the new bridge, due to begin construction soon.

New Gallery Opens

The new *Army Family Gallery* opened in July at the **Fort Lewis Military Museum**. The exhibit will continue to be a "work in progress" as photographs or memorabilia are added as a tribute to Army family members throughout history. The friends of the Fort Lewis Military Museum donated all the funds for the gallery.

SOUTH CENTRAL

Fundraising Moves Forward in Yakima

Preserving Yakima's Legacy: a New Museum for a New Century is the title of a major fund development effort at the **Yakima Valley Museum** that began over two years ago. The project was awarded \$400,000 through Capital Projects for Washington's Heritage and over the past nine months, a number of lead donors have quietly stepped forward with an additional

\$1,450,000 in gifts and pledges. Although many have been aware of the campaign, the museum is now going public with its effort which seeks a total of \$3,958,000.

Baseball Subject of Exhibit

A Double Play: Baseball in the Basin Exhibit and Baseball As Art – Juried Art Exhibition was on display at the **Adam East Museum and Art Center** in Moses Lake through the end of August. The exhibit featured a pictorial collage spanning 70 years, juxtaposed with contemporary paintings and sculptures by 23 regional and national artists.

NORTHEAST

Grant Paves the Way for New Director

A \$120,000 gift from Avista Corp. has provided critical funding for the hiring of a Director for the **Cheney Cowles Museum's** new Center for Plateau Cultural Studies in Spokane. The new director will have a critical role in the establishment of the Center, collaborate with local tribal cultural program

leaders and elders, and work closely with staff to develop exhibits and programs.

SOUTHEAST

Grandfather Clock Helps Raise Funds

A generous patron donated a grandfather clock to use in a raffle to support the **Franklin County Historical Society** in Pasco. Funds raised through the raffle will go toward the society's operating expenses.

Books Donated

Researcher and author Martha Berry Parker, recently donated to the **East Benton County Historical Society** \$10,000 worth of her book, *Ken-I-Wak, Kenewick, Tehe, Kenewick*. The book tells the history of the town of Kenewick in chronological order from 1883 through 1943. Parker has two other books available at the museum, *Washington and Oregon – A Map History of the Oregon Country* and *Tales of Richland, White Bluffs and Hanford, 1805-1943 – Before the Atomic Reserve*.

Upcoming Conference

Oregon/Washington Heritage Conference

At this year's Joint Oregon/Washington Heritage Conference, in Portland and Vancouver, Sept. 28 through 30, there will be a discussion of how to define and measure a community's "heritage health." Heritage proponents need to establish that definition and articulate those measures so they can help community leaders understand what should be done about heritage and how well it is being done.

As a departure point for discussion, it can be suggested that heritage activities in a community should at least include: care for, assurance of accessibility to, and interpretation of (1) written records, published and unpublished; (2) oral traditions; (3) culturally significant three-dimensional objects; and (4) culturally significant districts, sites, buildings, and structures. How, and to what extent, a community chooses to undertake the fundamentals of heritage activity usually are and should be community decisions. Whether, and to what extent, a community chooses to undertake these fundamentals can be measures of its heritage health.

For conference information, contact the Heritage Resource Center, Washington State Historical Society, 211 West 21st Ave., Olympia, WA 98501 (360/586-0219) or the Oregon Heritage Commission, 1115 Commercial St. NE, Salem, OR 97301 (503/378-4168 ext. 299). Information is available on the Oregon Heritage Commission website <http://www.prd.state.or.us/ohc>.

Membership Report

Member count : 250
(as of 7/31/2000)

Business	22
Individual	74
Institutional	134
Patron	4
Senior	16

In an effort to save the WMA mailing costs on second and third renewal notices, I have begun sending reminders via e-mail to those members that have an e-mail address. If you would prefer to have all renewal notices and correspondence via e-mail, please let me know at schleigh@rockisland.com. For any other questions or concerns regarding membership please call me at (360) 370-5526.

Opportunities

Continued from page 7

\$10 per hour, 40-hour week, some benefits. Send resume by Sept. 15, to: Director, Nordic Heritage

Museum, 3014 N.W. 67th St., Seattle, WA 98117, email: mariannef@nordicmuseum.com
Position starting Oct. 2, 2000.



WMA Membership benefits are many...

- A network of people dedicated to museum advocacy, professional standards, clear communication, education, and diversity.
- An Annual WMA Meeting for exchange of ideas (at a reduced registration fee), plus voting privileges in electing the Board and setting WMA direction.
- A voice in regional and national museum associations.
- The *Museum Messenger* quarterly newsletter, including articles, reports, photos, calendars, and job listings.
- A WMA Directory of museums, organizations, and vendors providing museum-related services.
- WMA-sponsored special events.
- Heritage Resource Center workshop discounts of 10%.

Organizational Member Benefits:

- Expanded Directory listing.
- 10% discount of rental fees for Exhibit Touring Services exhibitions.

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- 1/8 page ad in Directory.
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