



MUSEUM MESSENGER

Volume 14 / Number 3 • Spring 2004



New Approaches in Challenging Times

The 2004 WMA Conference is coming... June 9-11 at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Ballard. Save the dates now! You can't miss this opportunity to learn new museum techniques, debate new perspectives, enjoy museum colleagues, and return to work professionally inspired! Registration materials are available on the WMA website, www.washingtonstatemuseums.org or email info@washingtonstatemuseums.org.

Pre-Conference Workshop, Wed. June 9, from 9 am to 5 pm
Emergency Preparedness and Response for Museum Collections — Is your institution prepared for an emergency? What risks do you face and who will respond?

Participants will develop a risk assessment document and build or strengthen a response team for their institution. They will also respond to a mock emergency and carry out salvage techniques.



Presented by the Balboa Art Conservation Center of San Diego with support from the NEH. \$40 registration; open to 30 participants.

Lunch Entertainment

Making Movies for Fun and Profit

Working with the entertainment industry without losing

(see *WMA Conference*, page 3)

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Editor's Note:

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Barbara Moe

Curator, Naval Undersea Museum

Museum Day, February 11, what a grand success. Governor Gary Locke proclaimed Museum Day 2004, Senator Jim Honeyford sponsored the Senate Resolution, and Representative Pat Lantz the House Resolution. I was privileged to brag about all the good work museum professionals and volunteers are accomplishing all around the state when I addressed the Legislative Caucus at 7:00 a.m. It was a bit early in the morning but the audience was attentive and eager to learn about all your successes as well as the areas of need. Many people took the opportunity to meet with their legislators during the next two hours, and at 10:00 we rallied at Tivoli Fountain on the Capitol Campus. We weren't sure how

many to expect, so the Board was pleased to see about 30 chilly, but brave folks turn out. We used the theme "Talking Up Museums" with wind-up, chattering-teeth toys. Due to the coolness of the day, I wasn't sure whether it was my teeth chattering or the wind-up toys. A special thanks to the WMA Board's Legislative Advocates, Chris Erlich and Steve Crowell, for putting this all together. Derek Valley, Director of the State Capitol Museum also deserves recognition for all his behind-the-scenes effort. My closing comment to the Legislative Caucus was "We'll be back next year!" I hope you will join us. Collectively, we can make our voices heard.

In the last issue of History News, Winter 2004, Vol. 59, Carol Kammen makes the following statement: "It is not usually the problem of lack of money that leads an organization to dissolve. Rather, there are too few people to do the work, and too few people who care to come out to meetings and programs. The rest are left shoring up an organization that is really too heavy for so few shoulders. Consequently, some of these organizations are beginning to decline in number." I encourage all WMA members to read this article, "On Doing Local History." In the survey recently completed by museums around the state, lack of funds was one of the top three concerns. I invite you to read the entire article, and we can continue dialogue for solutions.

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Opinions expressed in the articles within this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the WMA. Unsolicited articles, photographs, and graphics are always welcome. WMA reserves the right to edit material submitted.

(WMA Conference, continued from cover)

your shirt, your sanity, or your organizational integrity. Contrast the experiences of the “Lady Washington” in *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl* and the “HMS Rose” in *Master and Commander*.

Plenary Session

Big Business or Big Headache? Historical Societies and Curation of Archaeological Collections in Washington State. *Benefits, responsibilities, and challenges of accepting systematic archaeological collections.*

Breakout Sessions

- Transporting Collections on a Low Budget
- WA State Essential Academic Learning Requirements: Partnering with Teachers
- Education Kits
- Washington Art Consortium
- Building Cultural Facilities as a Mechanism for Building Community
- Institutional Change and Interpretive Exhibit Development
- Digitizing Images
- Building Community through Restoration Projects: Street Clock
- Painting Restoration
- Building Museum Websites
- Growing Operating Funds
- Cultural Tourism
- Interpretation Outside the Gallery
- Personnel Relations
- Heritage Capital Fund Projects

Events celebrating the conference location and Nordic Heritage:

- Reception at Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture.
- Evening Scandinavian Extravaganza: food, music, dance, living history, film, art, educational programs.
- Lunches and Scandinavian Desert-making Demonstrations.

The Nordic Heritage Museum is located in Seattle’s Ballard neighborhood, a community well known as home to Nordic immigrants past and present. In addition to the

CONFERENCE PREVIEW:

Washington Art Consortium: A Model For Collaboration

by Patty Relay, Program Coordinator

Over the last thirty years Virginia Wright has taken part in the development and supervision of the Washington Art Consortium. There are many reasons why museums, such as this model, find joint ownership attractive. Consortia can strengthen community partnerships and open up future possibilities that, on its own, an institution cannot afford. The Washington Art Consortium, the first organization of its type in the nation, is a unique partnership of seven institutions that agreed to work jointly to acquire a major collection of works on paper and photographs by important American artists of the twentieth century. The Consortium was organized in 1975 by four Washington institutions which

(see *Art Consortium*, page 4)



The Nordic Heritage Museum

Ballard Locks, the neighborhood offers Scandinavian food shops, gift stores, and contemporary boutiques and restaurants. During the conference, Nordic Heritage Museum exhibits will include contemporary art by Norwegian-Danish artist Royal Nebeker (presented in collaboration with the Lisa Harris Gallery) and local Nordic-American artists Randy James and Libbie Masterson; as well as an historical exploration of Jewish life in Norway, *The Wergeland Legacy: Jewish Life and Culture in Norway Resettlement of Displaced Jews in Norway after 1945*.

Also featured are three floors of permanent exhibitions on the history of Nordics in the Pacific Northwest and Nordic folk arts. Discover colorful textiles, cherished china, books and Bibles, woodworking tools, photographs, and a myriad of



other treasures brought from the old country to enrich life in a new land. Gathered in the Museum’s five ethnic galleries, one for each country, they illustrate the differences and bonds linking Scandinavian people in the Northwest and applaud their achievements. Dedicated to collecting, preserving, and educating since its founding in 1980, the Nordic Heritage Museum is the only museum in the United States to honor the legacy of immigrants from the five Nordic countries, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Iceland.

(*Art Consortium*, continued from page 3)

would have undivided interest in the collection and sharing responsibility of ownership: the Western Gallery, Western Washington University, Bellingham; the Museum of Art, Washington State University, Pullman; the Tacoma Art Museum; and Cheney Cowles Museum (now called the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture) of the Eastern Washington State Historical Society in Spokane. Joining later were the Whatcom Museum of History and Art (1979), the Henry Gallery of the University of Washington (mid-1980s), and the Seattle Art Museum (1993).

Currently the Consortium holds three significant collections of 20th century art. The first two collections, *Works on Paper: American Art 1945-1975* and *American Photographs: 1970-1980*, were acquired for the institutions through the Virginia Wright Fund and a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The *Works on Paper: American Art 1945-1975* collection includes 97 works by 52 of the period's most noted artists. Today this collection remains a significant modern art resource in the region. The second collection, *American Photographs 1970-1980* features 184 works by 31 of the period's well known photographers. Inaugurated in 1981, this collection has been exhibited throughout the state and in California and Arizona. The third collection, a 1998 gift from Richard and Margaret Aiken, focuses on American and European artists from mid-century to the present. In several cases this collection of 23 works features later works by some of the artists represented in the earlier collection, such as Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenberg, and Frank Stella. Because it has only recently been accessioned by the consortium, the *Mary Margaret Aiken and Richard Aiken Collection* has had limited exposure. Combined the collections represent a 'Who's Who' of 20th century art, in which on its own an institution could not afford. The impact of these col-

laborative efforts has created a prestigious resource of 20th century art, from which the public will benefit.

Expanding Our Audience

The Consortium also takes an active role in encouraging collecting, study, and exhibition of art from the Northwest, with emphasis on the development of modern art in the region and the continuing contributions of contemporary artists. After first identifying a common ground, the Consortium has moved on to discover deeper mutual benefits. The Washington Art Consortium is currently using their collections in ways that are increasingly inventive and beneficial to the public. With their shared collections, the Washington Art Consortium is creating a web-based database which will not only engage a wider audience, but make these collections, and those held by the individual museums, available for research and scholarship. Made possible with endowments from the Kreielsheimer Remainder Fund and matching funds from the Bagley & Virginia Wright Fund, the consortium has the ability to expand the boundaries of the museums' walls and in doing so enhance public knowledge of 19th, 20th, & 21st century contemporary art from the Northwest and beyond.

Defining Northwest Art & Database Development

Stage one of development was to identify Northwest Art. In as much as the essence of Northwest Art is centered on the geographical location of the region, our first step in deciding what objects should be selected has been based on delineating a working definition of where the Northwest is located. The general consensus is that the Pacific Northwest is the region that encompasses the area North of the 42nd parallel and the area West of the Rockies. Another definition, according to the Library of Congress, for cataloguing purposes, is Oregon, Washington, Idaho, parts of Montana,

By integrating diverse platforms, phase two addressed various questions.

What elements of information should the database include? How specific should the information be? Should there be different levels of information available? How will the initial information be gathered? Because each institution maintains sensitive information in their database, security of the site has been the paramount issue. Given that every member utilizes a different platform to store information combined with the accepted working definition of Northwest Art and concerns for copyright issues, mapping the information has been our first concern.

In anticipation of the final version, a working model has been implemented. Each member institution sent 5 (or more) records, a sample of the Pacific Northwest Art objects within their collection(s). Ellen McDermott, Western Washington University's Academic Technology Specialist, took each set of records and mapped the fields from those records to the Northwest Art database fields. Intended to be a simple proof of concept, the test model has set the stage for the final web-site.

Evaluation of Collaboration

Creating an environment and setting the stage for collaboration, maintaining momentum and achieving goals, the Northwest Art web-based databank has transformed the Consortium's alliance to engage new audiences, create access to new resources, and augment new perspectives. Expanding the boundaries of each museum and setting up a new dynamic with their audiences, the collaborative process engaged by the Washington Art Consortium generates provocative relationships. Reaching out to broader communities, the virtual catalogue of Northwest art will surely become a precedent for future collaborative efforts.

Patty Relay, Program Coordinator for the Washington Art Consortium, will present a session at the Washington Museum Association Annual Conference, June 9-11, 2004 at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Ballard.



LAW NOTES

by Robert Gruhn, Attorney

THE BOX OF STUFF

I was talking to my friend Lisa Hill Festa about a presentation I gave to her class for future curators on the Unclaimed Property Act, RCW Chapter 53.67. This is the Washington Statute that established a mechanism for museums to acquire title to items in the collection for which there is no documentation. How is it that museums seem to be continually acquiring property for which there is no documentation? A substantial part of the answer lies in the "Box of Stuff". This is probably the source of most of the items that later are identified in the inventory as "found in the collection"

Here is a common scenario. One cloudy day (remember I live in Seattle), a guy comes into the museum and plops a Box of Stuff on the Receptionist's Desk. "We just cleaned out Grandma's attic and my wife thinks some of this stuff may have historic value, so here it is. You can do whatever you wish with it, but I do not wish to be bothered by filling out any forms or signing any papers and stuff like that". Worse than that, the Box of Stuff may be sitting on the doorstep when the museum opens. What to do?

The museum could adopt a policy not to accept such material. However, experience has shown that there often is material in the box that does, indeed, have historic significance and it would be a shame to have it go to the dump.

Whichever is done, it should be done in accordance with a written policy adopted by the Board of Trustees as part of the museum's Collection Policy and written procedure, which implements that policy. The objective is to build a paper trail to support the right to make whatever disposition is made of the stuff in the box.

The first person or persons who come in contact with the box of stuff should prepare a statement setting forth exactly what happened. This statement may be in the form of an affidavit, which is subscribed and sworn to before a Notary Public, or may be in the form of a Declaration Under Penalty of Perjury, in which the party making the statement declares under penalty of perjury that the statement is true. Each one has the same legal effect. Each is like testimony in court. The affiant, like a witness, can only testify as to what he or she did or what he or she observed being done, not about something somebody told him or her happened (hearsay). For example:

DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY

My name is Janice Doe. I am a volunteer at the Pioneer Museum in Alpha, Washington. One of my duties is to act as Receptionist for the Museum. Every visitor to the Museum will come past the Reception Desk.

This identifies the witness, her position with the Museum, and what duties she performs that gave her knowledge of the event.

On Thursday, June 10, 2004, I was acting as Receptionist for the Museum. At about 10:30 A.M., a man came to the museum with a box, which he said contained things he thought the Museum might be interested in having. I thanked him for the donation and asked him where the items in the box came from. His answer was "My wife and I were cleaning out the garage and found this stuff, which

I think came from her grandmother's attic". He declined to give me his name or address.

I gave him a copy of the museum's policy with respect to donations of this kind. I told him that we would inventory the contents of the box and give him a receipt for the items that he could use to support a tax deduction if he would tell me where to send it. He said we need not bother, he doesn't itemize. I said if he would give me his name and his wife's name, we would show a donated by card each time we displayed any item from the box. He said he was not interested. I asked what he wanted done with any of the things the museum did not want for its collection. He said he didn't care. He then said he was in a hurry and left.

This is what Janice could testify to if she was in Court.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

—Janice Doe

The Policy statement given to this "donor" should state as a minimum:

1. That the contents of the box are an unconditional gift.
2. That the museum will inventory the items as soon as practical.
3. That items will be divided into four categories:
 - a. Items that will be accessioned into the collection.
 - b. Items that will be made available to other museums.
 - c. Items that may be sold.
 - d. Items that may be recycled or disposed of as junk.

The person who finds the box of stuff on the doorstep should prepare a similar affidavit. Of course that person cannot report any conversation with the "donor". Instead they would state where they found the box of stuff and that there were no indications that it was not intended for the museum.

The Policy adopted by the Board of Trustees will contain much more detail, for example: who makes the inventory, the standards for deciding the disposition of the items, and who decides what will be accessioned into (see *Box of Stuff*, page 6)

(*Box of Stuff*, continued from page 5)

the collection, or be offered to other museums, what will be sold and how, and what will be otherwise disposed of.

Items that do not fit in with the museum's collection, but are of historic significance should be offered to other museums. I believe that, as a matter of ethics, items of historic significance once held by a museum in public trust should remain in the public trust and should not be sold to private collectors. Items which are not of historic significance but which have value may be sold to private parties, dealers, thrift stores, the museum store or by the museum itself at periodic auctions. However, in no event should any items be given or sold to an insider, i.e., a trustee, an officer, employee, or volunteer. Such sale or gift would represent a conflict of interest since the insider would have knowledge of the value of the item that is unavailable to the public. Further, a gift or sale to an insider would violate the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code against benefits that inure to insiders.

Does this procedure guarantee clear title to the museum? No, it does not. A spouse could appear claiming that the items were community property and he or she did not give consent to its disposition (This is why both spouses should always sign a deed of gift). I recommend that the museum secure an appraisal of any items of other than nominal value to keep with the records of the transaction. This will prevent the spouse coming in and claiming an inflated value for the object. Also someone could appear and establish that the stuff in the box was stolen from him. Since a thief can never give good title, the person from whom the article was stolen may claim the stolen item from whomever has it. This is not limited to the stuff in the box. This condition would obtain even if the museum had a properly executed unconditional deed of gift from other than the original owner. I suggest that if anything in the box of stuff appears to be of unusual value, the museum check with the local police to see if the item may have been reported as stolen.

If there are such policies in place and if the procedures are being followed, the museum can put the stuff from the box in the collection with confidence that its title is as good as it can get. The museum then will not have to wait five years and go through the procedures of the Unclaimed Property Act.

The procedures suggested herein are my own suggestion. If anyone already has procedures and/or has any experiences in dealing with a box of stuff, I would like to hear from you and get a copy of your procedures. I am sure improvements can be made in what has been suggested here that may benefit all museums. My e-mail is rsemgruhn@comcast.net.

MUSEUM DAY 2004

We Talked Up Museums!

by Stephen Crowell



David Nicandri speaks at Museum Day in Olympia

With a proclamation in hand declaring February 11th, 2004 as "Museum Day" by Governor Gary Locke, individuals from the museum and cultural community came to the Capital Campus to talk, listen and promote the good things that museums and cultural institutions are doing all over the State of Washington. After listening to several interesting early morning Heritage Caucus presentations, including one from our very own WMA President Barbara Moe on WMA's first Museum Survey, several of the attending representatives made appointments after the meeting to speak to their local elected officials concerning various topics and concerns.

At around 10:00 a.m. on the 11th, many of the museum and cultural individuals made their way to the Tivoli Fountain to listen to WMA representatives and Museum Day speakers. With a wind-up chattering teeth in our hands (and some in our mouths due to the somewhat cool conditions), representatives of Washington's museums, historic homes and cultural organizations gathered around the fountain to celebrate and "talk up" Washington's first annual Museum Day. These speakers "talked up" the impact of museums in Washington and how they preserve and educate their communities on local and regional history. Following the fountain gathering, museum day people made their way to the Capital Museum and enjoyed a round table discussion and lunch with friends and colleagues. A fine day was had by all and discussion has already started for next year's activities (which will be held inside to avoid any further chattering teeth jokes!).

The WMA wishes to thank Governor Locke for the Museum Day proclamation and Senator Honeyford and Representative Lantz for Senate and House Resolutions. Also thanks to Linda Moon, Derek Valley, Steve Crowell, Chris Erlich, and Garry Schalliol for their help and assistance in making Museum Day 2004 a reality and success.

With this first Museum Day under our belts, we are planning to be involved in Olympia to advocate for Washington's museums and cultural organizations for many years to come. Please join us and let's get people "talking about museums and cultural institutions"!

WMA MUSEUM SURVEY RESULTS

By Chris Fiala Erlich, WMA Vice President

Many thanks to all of you who completed WMA's Washington State Museum Survey. We mailed and emailed 184 surveys to museums across the state, 92 of the surveys were returned. Below you will find a summary of the survey results. We will be posting the survey results on our website in the next month.

The survey provides a valuable sketch of our "average" museum; audience, collection, hours, governance, staff, etc. It will probably not come as a surprise, but about two thirds of our museums are small, not-for-profit, historical museums or sites, and operating with an all-volunteer staff or a paid staff of 1-3 people. You'll find more details in the results below.

WMA will be using the survey information to determine how we can best help museums across the state. For example, respondents overwhelmingly named their greatest need as the necessitate for additional operating funds. The

WMA will address this need by offering corresponding sessions at the annual conference, as well as, investigating various avenues in assisting museums with this concern. As we plan future activities and programs, we will be looking at your additional needs and your comments about how we can help. As you review the following results, you will discover information on various topics, such as salaries and lodging tax funds that may assist in future planning.

While analyzing the results of the survey, we realized there were questions we wished we would have asked, some we wished we would have asked differently and others that we probably did not need to ask. We hope to repeat this survey next year, with a few changes. Let us know if there are things about our State's museums you would like to know, and we will see about adding to the next survey. If you have questions or comments please contact me at moderator@washingtonstatemuseums.org.

Top Four Needs

- < Larger Operating Budget
- < Board Development
- < New/Improved Museum Facilities
- < Higher Visitor Figures

Note: More operating funds was overwhelming listed as the greatest need. The next three needs were virtually tied.

Audience (2002)

Average Audience: 21,304
 Estimated Total Audience: 6,391,095
 Residents: 44%
 Schoolchildren: 18%
 Tourists: 34%
 Other: 2%

Collection Holdings

Average Collection: 38,459
 Estimated Total Holdings: 11,537,572
 % museums without count of collection holding: 25%

Type of Governance

Private Nonprofit: 78%
 Municipal: 9%
 County: 4%
 Tribal: 2%
 State: 2%
 Federal: 1%
 Coll/Univ: 1%
 For Profit: 1%
 Other: 1%

Type of Museum

History Museum/Hist. Society: 57%
 Historic Home/Site: 12%
 Specialized Museum: 14%
 General Museum: 9%
 Art Museum: 2%
 Natural History/Anthropology: 1%
 Nature Center: 1%
 Children's/youth Museum: 1%
 Aquarium: 1%

Operating Hours

% of Museums Open Year Round: 66%
 Average Open Hours per Week: 26

Admission

% museums that are free: 37%
 % museums that suggest donation: 21%
 % museums that charge admission: 42%
 Average Admission Fee: \$3.53

Annual Operating Budgets 2002

Up to \$50,000: 38%
 Between \$50,000 and \$250,000: 45%
 Between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000: 9%
 Over \$1,000,000: 8%

Operating Income Sources*

Private Not-for-profit (non-government affiliated)

Government Sources: 12%
 Private Sources: 41%
 Earned Income: 41%
 Investment Income: 6%

Government (municipal, county, state, tribal, state university)

Government Sources: 62%
 Private Sources: 13%
 Earned Income: 24%
 Investment Income: 1%

**Government Sources: monies provided directly by federal, state, local, or tribal governments including grants, exchange agreements, or line item appropriations.*

Private Sources: monies provided by private individuals and organizations including foundations, parent organizations, corporations, grants, donations, fundraising events and activities, Earned Income: monies earned by providing goods or services where the amount paid is comparable to actual value of goods or services provided. Includes membership, admission, food and museum store sales, facility rental, workshops, fairs and festivals, etc. Investment Income: the portion of operating income derived from investments.

Lodging Tax Funds

% museums receiving some lodging tax funds: 30%
 Average lodging tax funds received: \$8,763.52

Paid Staff and Volunteers

Up to \$50,000

Paid Staff
 Full Time: 0.20
 Part Time: 0.40
 Seasonal Full Time: 0.08
 Seasonal Part Time: 0.08
Volunteers: 23.84

Between \$50,000 and \$250,000

Paid Staff
 Full Time: 1.24
 Part Time: 2.00
 Seasonal Full Time: 0.55
 Seasonal Part Time: 0.66
Volunteers: 37.59

Between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000

Paid Staff
 Full Time: 6.00
 Part Time: 8.33
 Seasonal Full Time: 0.33
 Seasonal Part Time: 1.33
Volunteers: 228.33

Over \$1,000,000

Paid Staff
 Full Time: 45.40
 Part Time: 33.20
 Seasonal Full Time: 0.00
 Seasonal Full Time: 0.60
Volunteers: 270.00

(continued on next page)

(Museum Survey, continued from page 7)

Museum Director/CEO/Manager Salary

Full Time (30 hours or more) Salary Range

Up to \$50,000 Operating Budget

\$20,700 – 31,200

\$50,000 – \$250,000 Operating Budget

\$15,500 – 60,000

\$250,000 – \$1,000,000 Operating Budget

\$39,000 – 52,000

Over \$1,000,000 Operating Budget

\$59,000 – 178,000

Museums and WMA

WMA Members: 63.74%

How Did You Hear About WMA?

Word of Mouth: 36

Conference Mailing: 15

Other: 6

Website: 1

Which WMA Benefits are Useful?

(1 = very useful, 7 = not useful)

Directory: 2.84

Conference: 2.94

Newsletter: 2.95

Advocacy: 3.47

e-messenger: 3.56

State Museum Map: 3.81

Awards/Scholarships: 4.40

What Can WMA Do for You?

(representative comments)

- < As a voice to the legislature, citizens and business encouraging support of historic, heritage, and cultural programs through funding, laws, and participation
- < Provide affordable training
- < Help with getting grants
- < Source of information regarding how other historical societies gained funding, planned, and developed museums.
- < Help promote in your handouts and map; Helping museums develop joint marketing opportunities would also be helpful
- < Take a leadership role in museums' evaluations and the measurable benefits they provide to their community.

Thank you to all the museums that participated in the WMA Museum Survey:

Aberdeen Museum of History	Moses Lake Museum and Art Center
Anacortes Museum	Naval Undersea Museum of the Pacific
Arthur D Feiro Marine Life Center	Nordic Heritage Museum
Battle Days Museum	North Clark Historical Museum
Benton County Historical Museum	Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture
Bigelow House Museum	Othello Community Museum
Bothell Historical Museum Society	Pacific County Historical Society Museum
Burke Museum	Palus Museum
Cashmere Pioneer Village and Museum	Paul H. Karshner Memorial Museum
Central Washington Agricultural Museum	Polson Museum
Chehalis Valley Historical Museum	Pomeroy Living History Farm
Children's Museum of Tacoma	Port Gamble Historic Museum
Clallam County Historical Society	Port Townsend Marine Science Center
Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science & Technology	Poulsbo Marine Science Center
Cowlitz County Historical Museum	Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum
Cranberry Museum	Quinalt Museum
Crosby House	Rainier Valley Historical Society
Douglas County Museum	Renton Historical Museum
Dr. Burroughs Historical Home & Ritzville RR Depot	Riverlife Interpretive Center at Redmen Hall
Edmonds Historical Museum	Seattle Art Museum
Ferndale Heritage Society	Sedro-Wooley Museum
Foothills Historical Society	Shafer Historical Museum
Fort Lewis Military Museum	Skagit County Historical Museum
Fort Nisqually Living History Museum	Sky Valley Historical Society Museum
Franklin County Historical Museum	Snohomish County Museum & Historical Association
Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society	Southeast Spokane County Historical Society
Grant County Historical Museum and Village	Stanwood Area History Museum & DO Pearson House Museum
Hand's On Children's Museum	Sunnyside Historical Museum
Henderson House Museum	Suquamish Museum
Highline Heritage Museum	Tacoma Art Museum
Historic Fort Steilacoom	Tacoma Historical Society
Inland Empire Railway Historical Society Museum	The Center for Wooden Boats
Issaquah Historical Society	Waitsburg Historical Museum
Kitsap County Historical Society	Washington State Railroads Historical Museum
Kittitas County Historical Museum	Western Heritage Center
Klikitat County Historical Society	Westport Maritime Museum
La Conner Quilt Museum	Whatcom Museum of Art and History
Lewis County Historic Museum	White River Valley museum
Loon Lake Historical Society	Whoop-n-Holler Museum
Lopez Island Historical Museum	Wing Luke
Mason County Historical Society	Working Waterfront Museum
Mercer Island Historical Society	World Kite Museum & Hall of Fame
Molson Museum	Yakima Valley Museum

Give us your valuables!

Support the WMA Scholarship Program—donate to the WMA Conference Silent Auction.

Here are some donation suggestions:

Books, Holiday Vacation Packages, Gift Baskets, Artwork, Vouchers for Services, etc.

For additional information or to offer an item, please email Andy Granitto at
andy@yakimavalleymuseum.org

...or just bring your item to the 2004 WMA Conference on June 9 or 10.

Washington Museum Association Board Nominations Sought

Nominations are now being sought for two three-year board positions that will be vacant as of the June Annual Meeting. If you or someone you know would like to take an active role in leading the WMA in its mission to serve the museums of Washington State, consider this opportunity to join your colleagues in leading our organization. All current members of the WMA are eligible to serve, self-nominations are strongly encouraged, and nominees need not be associated with a museum. The following is a short listing of board member responsibilities.

Specific Board Member Duties:

- ⟨ Attend all board meetings. Board Meetings are held at members' museums or places of business and usually last 3 or 4 hours. Board Meetings are normally held on Fridays, six times a year, depending upon the needs of the board. Since the WMA board is comprised of individuals from museums statewide, meetings are held in geographically diverse locations and afford members an opportunity to see a wide variety of museums. Depending on location, Members may need to devote a full day to travel and meeting time.
- ⟨ Serve without compensation.
- ⟨ Attend the WMA Annual Meeting and Conference.

Individual Board Member Expectations:

- ⟨ Consider ways to promote the WMA through your contacts in the museum community.
- ⟨ Seek new information and ideas that can be applied to the WMA in its efforts to strengthen Washington's museums.
- ⟨ Periodically submit articles for publication in the WMA's newsletter, Museum Messenger.
- ⟨ Participate in planning and organizing the WMA's annual conference. Offer help at the conference when needed.
- ⟨ Serve on at least one of the WMA's standing committees or help with ongoing and periodic projects.
- ⟨ Initiate projects that further the WMA's mission.
- ⟨ Maintain an active Membership with the WMA.

Nominees are asked to submit a brief letter detailing their background and interest to the Nominating Committee Chair, John Larson, c/o Polson Museum, P.O. Box 432, Hoquiam, WA 98550 or by email to jbl@polsonmuseum.org.

Collaborations: Recording, Researching, and Writing Pacific Northwest History, May 6-8, 2004

For the first time in many years, the Northwest Archivists, the Northwest Oral History Association, and the Pacific Northwest History Conference are meeting together. The theme recognized the importance of each of these groups in the preservation and interpretation of our regional history. The conference will be held at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia, May 6-8, 2004. The 57th Annual Pacific Northwest History Conference is permanently sponsored by the Washington State Historical Society in conjunction with the annual conferences of the Northwest Archivists, Inc. and the Northwest Oral History Association with co-sponsorship from the Idaho State Historical Society and Oregon Historical Society. For detailed information on workshops, sessions, and registration, visit www.washingtonhistory.org/wshs/hrc/workshops.htm.

NEW WMA MEMBERS

Renaissance Art
Restoration & Architecture
Spacesaver Northwest
Turner Exhibits, Inc.
Thomas Consulting Services
VF Zoom

...have joined us in the past year.

Thank You!

WMA Thanks Its Business Members!

Support the businesses that support us:

ArtTech Fine Arts Services
Interpretive Exhibits, Inc.
Jones & Jones, Architects
Paragon Research Assoc.

Renaissance Art
Restoration & Architecture
Spacesaver Northwest
Turner Exhibits, Inc.
Thomas Consulting Services
VF Zoom

The Western Museums Association announces applications are available for the Wanda Chin Professional Development Support Fund which helps to defray costs of the WMA (Western Museums Association) Annual Meeting in Tacoma & Seattle, Washington, October 6-10, 2004. The postmark deadline for applications is June 1, 2004. The Wanda Chin Professional Development Support Fund helps to fund travel and registration for WMA members and non-member students who meet the qualifications as stated below. This program is funded through annual auctions and donations, and is meant to make the annual meeting financially accessible to individuals who otherwise could not attend. We have targeted three eligibility categories, student, incoming professional and mid-career professional. We encourage applications from members of diverse communities, and subscribe to EEO/Affirmative Action principles. Funds are awarded in the following three categories: (1) Student (need not be a member), (2) Incoming Professional (must be a member of WMA for at least one year and have been in the museum field for 1-5 years), (3) Mid-career professional (must be a member of WMA for at least one year and have been in the museum field for 5+ years). This is a competitive process and awards based primarily on financial need. In order to assist as many qualified applicants as possible, awards are generally partial amounts requested, as it is expected that the recipient or their institution will share some cost. For further information and an application go to www.westmuse.org.

TAX NOTE Nonprofit corporations [501(c)(3)] who have gross revenue of \$25,000 or more in a fiscal year must file a form 990 or 990EZ with the IRS, for organizations whose fiscal year ended December 31, 2003 that return is due May 15th. New temporary regulations (26 C.F.R. section 1.6081-9T) provide that exempt organizations may automatically extend the time for filing Form 990 (series) return for three months without a signature or an explanation of why the extension is need. To get this extension the corporation must file a Form 8868. However, only fill in Part I, Part II is for corporations who have more that \$1,000 in Unrelated Business Income and must file a Form 990-T

The Washington State Curation Summit

will meet Monday, May 10, 2004
at Yakama Tribal Heritage Center,
10:00-2:30 p.m.

Last year the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation in Olympia issued 21 permits for archaeological excavation or survey in Washington State, 19 of which resulted in collections. Washington State law mandates that archaeological material from public land be curated in a public institution, meaning your institution may have been contacted in recent years to accept archaeological material or may be contacted soon. Like archaeology sites, archaeology collections are often not much to look at. They typically have very little material suitable for exhibition, but the information contained within them may hold answers to many questions about past life ways when analyzed by professionals with the proper tools. For smaller institutions, these collections can rapidly consume valuable storage space, while providing minimal opportunity to actually use the collection. In spite of this, the immediate response by many museums when approached to curate such collections is to accept them, only to be dismayed when boxes of rusted tin cans, glass shards and soil samples are delivered. What do you do when approached to accept such a collection? What is entailed in curating archaeology collections? How do you accommodate researchers interested in destructive analysis, such as some dating methods? Paula Johnson, Owner of Paragon Research Associates, Stephenie Kramer, Assistant State Archaeologist at the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Betty Ramsey, Director of the Two Rivers Heritage Museum in Washougal, and Steven Denton, Program Manager at the Burke Museum, will present information on this issue and answer your questions in a plenary session at the upcoming WMA meetings in June. The Washington State Curation Summit is also working on this issue. For more information on that group visit their website at <http://staff.washington.edu/sdenton/index.htm>.

GRANT DEADLINES

NEH www.neh.fed.us

Challenge Grants: May 3, 2004

Collaborative Research Grants:
November 3, 2004

Consultation Grants for Libraries,
Museums, or Special Projects:
September 16, 2004

Grants to Preserve and Create
Access to Humanities Collections:
July 15, 2004

Planning Grants for Museums,
Libraries, and Special Projects:
September 16, 2004

Preservation Assistance Grants:
May 14, 2003

Preservation and Access Education
and Training Grants: July 1, 2004

Preservation and Access Research
and Development Projects Grants:
July 1, 2004 & October 1, 2004

Reference Materials Grants:
July 15, 2004

Stabilization of Humanities
Collections Grants:
October 1, 2004

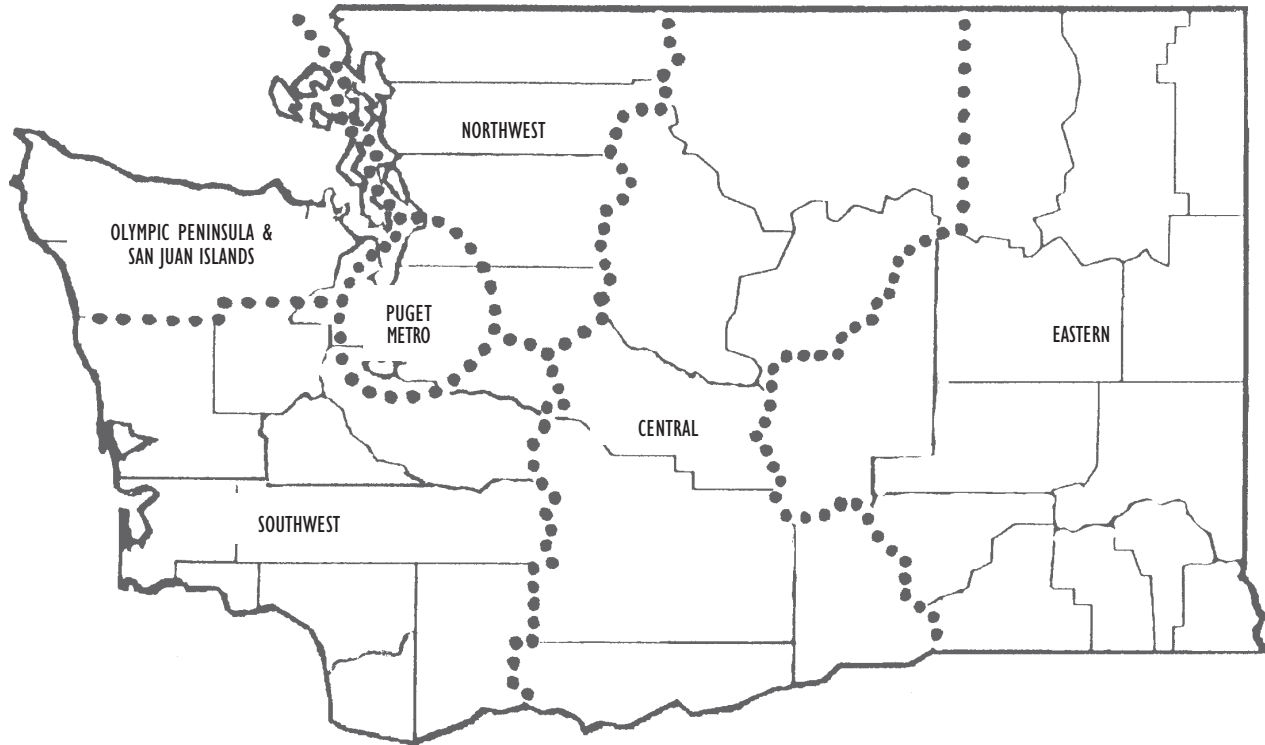
**Heritage Resource
Center (HCPF) & Wash-
ington State Historical
Society**
www.washingtonhistory.org

Heritage Capital Projects Fund
Grant: May 7, 2004
(application available online)



Washington
Museum
Association
will have its annual
business meeting on
Friday June 11, 2004
from 12:00-1:00 p.m.

REGIONAL NEWS



PUGETSOUND/SEATTLE-TACOMA METRO REGION



Burke Museum presents *Dinosaurs of Darkness*, March 25-October 10, an international touring

exhibit featuring recently discovered dinosaurs that lived in Polar Regions of the globe. This kicks off the Burke's "Year of the Fossil", a 12-month program on cutting edge paleontology and fossil education. 206/543-9762 or email maryannb@u.washington.edu.



Center for Wooden Boats will have their annual Lake Union Wooden

Boat Festival, *Experience the Craft*, July 3-5. The Center is looking for wooden boats of good design, workmanship, and condition or items to display involving the design, craftsmanship, or handling of wooden boats as well as related displays or demonstrations. Contact the Center at 206/382-2628. www.cwb.org



The Frye Art Museum will feature three exhibitions this summer. *Here I am! Passages in Portraiture* will run from April 10-June 27; *Scott Fraser: Still Lives with Magic and Mystery* will be on exhibit from May 7-August 8; *Prints, Drawing, and Watercolors from the Permanent Collection* will be on display from May 28-September 19. For more information visit their website at www.fryeart.org.

Historic Seattle will offer several programs, lectures, and tours throughout the spring and summer. Some of which include, *Wallingford Then And Now* on April 27 from 7:00-9:00p.m. at the Hamilton Middle School Auditorium, *Landmark Nomination Workshop* on May 8 from 9:00-1:00p.m. at the Good Shepard Center, and *Eastlake Modernism Tour* on July 10 from 11:00-3:00p.m. with the meeting location mailed prior to event. To register or learn about more programs, visit their website at www.historicseattle.org.



The Museum of Flight in Seattle is ready for spring with their three year project entitled

Leonardo da Vinci Ornithopter where art, history and science come together. A team of museum volunteers have completed *I Cigno (The Swan)*, a full-scale model of a human-powered, flapping wing ornithopter first sketched by Leonardo da Vinci in the 16th Century. There is no evidence that the Italian Renaissance genius ever actually built a real machine, but the Museum's version was built entirely by hand using only materials available during the 1500's. In March *The Swan* became a permanent exhibit in the Museum's new lobby.

The Museum of Glass: International Center for Contemporary Art announced it will be closed to the public on Tuesdays. The Museum will continue to be closed on Mondays and operate during regular hours for the rest of the week: 10:00a.m.-5:00p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and

12:00-5:00p.m. on Sunday. The Science of Art education program for pre-arranged groups will be held on Tuesdays as scheduled. The decision to close on Tuesdays was made based on the desire to concentrate Museum staff and resources on the busiest days of the week, in order to provide the highest quality of experience for visitors. Their information line is 253/284-4750 or 1-866-4Museum.



The Naval Undersea Museum is pursuing paperwork for a grant to extend their three-year

Science Education Alliance program, which involves nine school districts. During the last three years, more than 18,000 students visited the museum and received instruction on oceanographic science, which is fully integrated into the curriculum of the school districts. The museum has made the transition to the Community Programs Department of Navy Region Northwest and the change is going smoothly. For museum news and information contact 360/396-7944.

The Snohomish County Museum and Historical Association in Everett is celebrating their 50th Anniversary this year. During 2004, industries and enterprises that shaped the character of the county will be the focus of exhibits and events. In addition to exhibiting information on mining, logging, milling, maritime and other related commercial ventures, changing exhibits will focus on particular communities within the county. Information is available by phoning 425/259-2022.

The Washington State Historical Museum will feature a temporary exhibit, *Family of Strangers: The First Century of Jewish Life in Washington, 1840-1940*, May 24-December 12. The exhibit uses artifacts, photographs, and stories from 1840-1940 to illuminate the richness and breadth of Jewish culture that has developed across the state of Washington. This exhibit was developed in conjunction with the Washington State Jewish Historical Society. For more information call 1-800-238-4373 or visit their website at www.wshs.org.

The White River Valley Museum will host a family event, *Wild and Woolly*,

of Spinning and Weaving and Such on May 1 from 12:00-4:00p.m. On exhibit through July 11 is *Auburn Yard: Northern Pacific Railway's Western Terminal*, which features 40 historic photographs. For information call 253/288-7433 or visit their website at www.wrvmuseum.org.

OLYMPIC PENINSULA & SAN JUAN ISLANDS

The Museum and Arts Center of Sequim received a \$1,950 grant from the Sequim Community Foundation to install a lift to the second floor of the Dungeness School. The Center and Peninsula College have combined efforts to offer an Adult Interest Course called *Olympic Peninsula History*, a 10 week, no credit course. Fourteen different instructors will give lectures on their areas of expertise. Visit their website at www.sequimmuseum.org or email info@sequimmuseum.org for more information.

SOUTHWEST

The Aberdeen Museum of History is in the process of creating a Kurt Cobain exhibit and is looking for any photographs, t-shirts, memorabilia, etc. to help them complete the exhibit. Please contact Dann Sears at 360/533-1976 if you have items to loan or contribute.

Fort Lewis Military Museum has recently received an ample supply of the new Fort Lewis and I Corps collectible coins. The new coins are bronze with red, white, and blue enameled designs. The front of the coins feature the unit insignia of I Corps and the reverse depicts the familiar "Liberty" gate of Fort Lewis. They are available at the museum Wednesday through Sunday. For further information contact The Friends of the Fort Lewis Military Museum at 253/967-4523.

The Moclips By The Sea Historical Society and The North Beach Historical and Preservation Society, located in northern Grays Harbor, unanimously voted to merge the two organizations at a meeting on January 12, 2004. The decision will benefit both organizations and benefit

the general public and North Beach residents according to Moclips President Kelly Calhoun. The board of directors has been increased from six to ten. The new entity will be known as Moclips By The Sea Historical Society and Museum of the North Beach. Further information is available from Kelly Calhoun at 360/276-4826.

North Clark Historical Museum at Amboy has been awarded \$2,000 by the Southwest Washington Independent Forward Thrust (SWIFT) to continue to develop the history of Native American Trails, *Fire and the Seasonal Round*, from Mt. Adams area traversing the foothills of Mount St. Helens to Fort Vancouver. Original maps were obtained from the McClellan Trail exploration which identified over 16 campsites. Descriptive panels have been designed that will incorporate into a transportable display to share with other museums. For more information contact them at 360/247-5800.

Pacific County Historical Society in South Bend has issued their first newsletter in a new, slick format. The Pacific County Museum Information Center is open seven days a week year-round and is operated by six volunteers coordinated by Museum Director Bruce Weilepp. As one of two Pacific County's information centers a portion of the Museum's funding comes from county lodging tax funds. The Historical Society will continue the publication of the genealogy resource books formerly published by the Pacific County Genealogical Society. Museum information is available at www.pacificcohistory.org or by emailing museum@willapapbay.org.

Pomeroy Living History Farm will host their 24th Annual Herb Festival in Yacolt May 16-17. The event features a large selection of fresh herbs, unusual plants, and scented geraniums. This family event includes tractor-pulled hayrides, petting, and feeding farm animals. Contact Steve Zedekar 360/686-3537 for further information.

The Washington State Library in Olympia, is offering a program on May 4 at 6:00p.m. with Roger Wendlick, thought of as the "dean of Lewis and Clark book collecting." He will be talking about book collecting in general plus his Lewis and Clark collecting

career. His collection is now owned by the Lewis and Clark College in Portland. Part of the collection will come to Washington State next year. The topic of his lecture will be *The Lewis and Clark Bibliomaniac that Had to Have It All and Assembling the World's Largest Print Collection of Lewis and Clark Materials*. For more information contact Betty Craig at bcraig@secstate.wa.gov or 360/704-5269.

Westport Maritime Museum is taking part in the Senior Community Service Employment Program, which provides volunteers for non-profit organizations. Restoration of the Grays Harbor Lighthouse, recently transferred to the Museum, is underway and on schedule. For information contact 360/268-0078 or their website at www.westportwa.com/museum/.

NORTHWEST

LaConner Quilt Museum will feature quilts from all provinces of Canada and Transitions in Quilting through May 16. Call 360/466-4288 for more information.



The Museum of Northwest Art at LaConner has named Tamera Toffeson as the new Art Educator. She will develop and coordinate a new museum-based education program for school children, which fulfills a recent Learning Opportunities grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The funding allows museum staff and docent volunteers to provide art education in partnership with seven Skagit County school districts. For further MoNA information phone 360/466-4446 or visit the website at www.musaemofnwart.org.

W **The Whatcom Museum of History and Art** will feature an exhibit, *Icy Hell and the Pacific Northwest: Will E. Hudson, Newsreel Cameraman* from May 9-September 5. Will Hudson captured the essence of life in the Pacific Northwest through his moving images. Selected footage in several thematic experiences will provide viewers with an insight to a variety of cultural events, explorations, environmental, and economic facets of the region. For more information visit their website at

www.whatcommuseum-.org or phone 360/676-6981.

CENTRAL

The Clymer Museum of Art, Gallery One, and Kittitas County Historical Museum are currently hosting a joint exhibit, *What a Jewel!*, which will run through May 1, 2004. This one theme, three location exhibit features Native American jewelry, jewelry as sculpture, and jewelry styles of the decades. For more information call 509/925-3778.

Franklin County Historical Society will host a lecture on April 22, *SMOKE: Native and Trade Tobacco on the Columbia Plateau*, by Jack Nisbet at the Richland Public Library. For more information call 509/547-3714 or email fchs@bossig.com.

The Maryhill Museum of Art will be showing an *Outdoor Sculpture Invitational* March 15-November 15 to complement its extensive collection of Auguste Rodin sculptures. The 2004 exhibit will feature 14 contemporary artists. On April 24 from 2:00-5:00p.m., Rex Ziak, noted author of *In Full View* will speak. A Lewis & Clark enthusiast reading from the Corps of Discovery journals will lead an easy to moderate hike through sage and wild flower covered hills to view the vistas of sites that the Corps visited and documented while in the vicinity. During July 17-November 15 an exhibit, *A Passion For Plants: Before and After Lewis and Clark* has been slated. For a full program of Lewis & Clark events during 2004 contact: Lee Musgrave at 509/773-3733 or lee@maryhillmuseum.org or visit the website at www.maryhillmuseum.org.

EASTERN

Eastern Washington University, Department of History Social Studies Education Program won two Department of Education "Teaching America History" grants totaling \$1.4 million and have revised and expanded the curricula for their bachelor and masters degrees. The teaching material being generated by these grants are accessible via links from the History Department website: <http://ewu/csbs/depts/hist/programs.html>.

The Loon Lake Historical Society is working with the owners at Shore Acres Resort to record their history. A plea has been made to the public to share stories or photos about the Loon Lake resort. The photographs will be copied and returned to the owners. The history will become a part of the resort and be available at the Old Schoolhouse for the public to see. If you have memorabilia to share call Bernie at 509/233-2474.

The Moses Lake Museum and Art Center will feature several exhibits for spring and summer, including a Columbia Basin High School Art Exhibit from April 17-May 15, a Smithsonian Exhibit, *Yesterday's Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future* from May 8-June 16, and *Enlaces/Intersection*, a photograph exhibit by Graciela Iturbide. For more information phone 509/766-9395 or email museum@moses-lake.com.



The Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture, in collaboration with Eastern Washington University students, is turning SR26 from Colfax to Vantage into a 133-mile long museum. Through a series of proposals by the students, the hope is to increase awareness of its dramatic landscape and residents. The result is a series of histories, myths, geologies, forms and politics of the highway. The exhibit will run until May 2, 2004. For more information call 509/456-3931 or visit www.northwestmuseum.org.

Put Your News in Museum Messenger Regional News!

Submit news to:

Gene Woodwick, Regional News
P.O. Box 1531
Ocean Shores, WA 98569

or email: glw@olynet.com

Include your logo if possible.

Submissions must be less than 150 words (900 characters).

If you do not give us your news, we will choose what, if anything, to mention about your facility!

Please join WMA and support this service.

- 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.

**Commercial/Business
Member Benefits:**

- 1/8 page ad in Directory.
- Bi-annual renewal.

JOIN TODAY!
(Fill out form below)

Contact WMA

Question about your WMA membership? Need to reach any of the WMA board members? Have an item for the Museum Messenger? A suggestion for the 2003 Conference?

Reaching us by sending an email: info@washingtomuseum.org

Visit our web site: www.washingtomuseum.org or www.washingtomuseum.org

Please mark email attention to:

Membership Coordinator/WMA

Directory updates: Amy Geise

Newsletter Editor: Gene Woodwick

Newsletter Designer: Andy Granitto

Web Site Coordinator: Steve Crowell

2004 Conference Program Chair:

2004 Conference Local Arrangements Chair:

Vice-President/Advocacy & Legislative Liaison/Western Museum Association Representative: Chris Erlich

President — inquiries, suggestions, complaints: Barbara Moe

E-Messenger: contact at moderator@washingtomuseum.org

Address Service Requested

PO Box 5817, Factoria Station
Bellevue, WA 98006-0317

WMA Museum Messenger



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**WMA Membership
Application**

Please select one of the following membership choices in the Washington Museum Association:

Personal

- ___ \$20 Individual
- ___ \$10 Student
- ___ \$10 Senior, 62+
- ___ \$100 Patron

Organizational

- ___ \$30 Institutional (non-profit)
- ___ \$100 Business/Commercial

Name _____
(Mr/Ms/Miss/Mrs or Organization Name)

Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

e-mail _____

For Organizational members, please name Representative who acts as voting agent and will receive the WMA mailings:

(Mr/Ms/Miss/Mrs)
(Title) _____

Please list the amount of your payment:

- \$ _____ Membership dues
- \$ _____ Additional tax deductible contribution
- \$ _____ TOTAL (Check payable to WMA)

By selecting a higher category of membership or giving a contribution in addition to your membership, you promote the Association's goals. Thank you for your support!

Please mail your information and check to:
WMA, Attn: Membership Coordinator

P. O. Box 5817, Factoria Station, Bellevue, WA 98006-0317