



WMA
Washington Museum Association

MUSEUM MESSENGER

Volume 16 / Number 4 • Spring 2006

STRONG MUSEUMS—STRONG COMMUNITIES 2006 WMA Annual Conference at the Museum of Flight

Don't miss the annual Washington Museum Association gathering this June 21-23 at the Museum of Flight in Seattle. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet your museum peers, share ideas, learn new museum practices, promote your museum's programs, and let your museum's needs be known.

Program Highlights:

- Start early with a pre-conference, hands-on workshop by Balboa Conservation Center: *When to Call a Conservator —Or Not.* Determine whether damaged materials can be

(see Program Highlights, page 4)



THE MUSEUM OF *Flight*

A collection of over 85 historic aircraft awaits you at Seattle's Museum of Flight

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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**

ERIN BLACK

Curator, Kittitas County Historical Society

Spring is upon us and the WMA has already demonstrated the ability to provide a voice for the museums, galleries and heritage organizations of Washington State. On February 1st, WMA hosted Museum Day activities at our state capital. Throughout the day several speakers expressed the relevance of museums and their roles in education and preservation. The day provided an opportunity for museum professionals to meet with legislators as well as offering an opportunity to discuss current issues with other professionals. This was our third year of the Museum Day, and it continues to be a beneficial experience for everyone involved. With continuity comes success, and we are looking forward to Museum Day 2007.

It is imperative to continue the

dialogue within the professional community to ensure that the best museum practices are implemented throughout the state. The WMA annual conference supplies a platform for this dialogue, while providing continuing education for museum professionals. The conference also allows us all to glimpse new and upcoming ideas in our field. This year the WMA annual conference will be held at the Museum of Flight in Seattle on June 21st through June 23rd. Attendees can look forward to a wide variety of sessions along with many opportunities to socialize with other professionals.

Time is a precious commodity; this has become apparent to me as a new mother. I hope this spring you enjoy the time with not only your families but also with the work you undertake.

WMA

NEW MEMBERS

Cheney Historical Museum
Coreen Haydock Johnson
Lakewood Historical Society
Quincy Valley Historical Society
Marjorie Sheldon
Linda Van Nest
Wahkiakum Community Foundation
WSU Museum of Anthropology
Julie Macdonald Zander

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Take Off! ...to the Museum of Flight

(Site of the WMA Annual Conference, June 21-23, 2006)



The “Great Gallery” (above) is just one of the many exhibits at the Museum of Flight.

Work to restore the Red Barn (right) got a boost in 1978 when the building was designated to the National Register of Historic Places in recognition of its status as the oldest aircraft manufacturing plant in the United States, as well as one of the largest all-wooden factory buildings remaining west of the Mississippi River. The Red Barn was opened to the public in 1983. The building now interprets and re-creates the early years of the aviation industry.



World's fastest jetliner retires to The Museum of Flight (right). British Airways has donated one of its recently retired Concorde supersonic airliners to the Museum. The jet, one of only twenty Concorde ever built, is the only one on display on the West Coast and one of only four outside Europe.

A three-story, 88,000-square-foot addition which opened June 6, 2004—the 60th anniversary of D-Day—the J. Elroy McCaw *Personal Courage Wing* highlights the stories of courage, dedication, heroism and human spirit of those involved in fighter aviation in World War I and World War II. It presents the history, aircraft and memorabilia behind those human stories in exhibits that won the WMA Exhibit Excellence Award in 2005 (below and right).



The Museum of Flight is the largest air and space museum on the west coast, with a collection of more than 85 aircraft chronicling the history of flight from its beginning to the advent of the Space Age. Particular stars in the collection are the world's first fighter, the first presidential jet, the nation's first full-size simulated air traffic control tower, the only Concorde supersonic jetliner on the west coast, and the world's only existing MD-21 Blackbird spy plane with drone. The new J. Elroy McCaw Personal Courage Wing is an 88,000 sq. ft. addition featuring 28 World War I and II fighter aircraft, memorabilia and weekend live theater performances. The Cockpits exhibit enables visitors to sit in the nose sections of an F/A-18L Hornet fighter and a SR-71A

(see *Flight!*, page 4)



(*Program Highlights*, continued from cover)

recovered by your museum and how—or when—to call in a conservator. 10 am–4 pm, Wednesday, June 21.

- Network and socialize at Wednesday evening's reception in the historic **Boeing Red Barn**.
- Convene on Thursday morning to hear **Bonnie Dunbar**, former astronaut and now President and CEO of The Museum of Flight.
- Choose from **18 breakout sessions** geared to museums of all sizes, collections, and volunteer or staff responsibilities. A small sample includes:

Handling Disasters

*Teaching Controversial Issues
with Objects*

*Historic House
as Leadership Development Tool*

*Exhibit on a Shoestring:
Mannequin Making*

Strategies for Successful Fundraising

*American Indian Collections
Access and Outreach Programs*

*State Resources
for Heritage Organizations*

Teen Programs & Museum Camp

*Teaching American History
Grant Projects*

*Place, Post & Placard:
Exhibit Planning & Design*

*Nearby History:
Offering Public Research Classes*

- Become inspired by the new **Personal Courage Wing** at Thursday evening's dinner.
- Celebrate **WMA Awards** for exemplary exhibits, projects, individuals, and publications.

Watch for registration materials in your mailbox! We'll look for you in Seattle in June!



Historic aircraft fill the exhibits of the J. Elroy McCaw *Personal Courage Wing* at the Museum of Flight.



The *Amazing Skies Theater* brings aviation history to life (right). The multi-generational drama troupe is comprised of volunteers from all around the Puget Sound and performs throughout the Museum of Flight exhibits.

(*Flight!*, continued from page 3)

Blackbird reconnaissance plane. More than ten flight simulators offer an opportunity to “pilot” a biplane, hang glider, jet, or a space maneuvering unit. The hands-on Flight Zone family area offers children from preschoolers to teenagers a fun way to learn about the many aspects of aviation. The Museum's more than twenty education programs are aligned with Washington State's essential academic learning requirements. Check out the Museum online at www.museumofflight.org.



Planning a Successful Collection Move By Janae Huber

Janae Huber was the Registrar at Tacoma Art Museum for four years. She is currently the Art in Public Places Collections Manager for the Washington State Arts Commission, where she manages over 4,500 artworks in public places statewide.

Designing collection storage and planning a collection move are just facets of a major new building project. They are key facets for collections and/or registration staff, but ones that must be balanced with the needs of exhibitions, acquisitions, and administration. For each of us, regardless of institution size or scope, these key elements must be accomplished within tight deadlines and with limited staff.

The registration staff at Tacoma Art Museum (myself and an assistant registrar) considered ways to make each step of our collection move more efficient. It was critical that we move artworks to our new building and not need to handle them again for a number of months. The collection move immediately preceded the installation of inaugural exhibitions, the building's opening, and a number of publications.

Our decision to move and store three-dimensional artworks in the same housing was a great success. We designed three re-usable, double-wall cardboard boxes of various heights and with lids, each slightly larger than the dimensions of shelving in our new building. (These boxes barely fit through the small doorways in our old building. In fact, we had to remove the lid to get them through the door!)

In assembly line fashion, three to five contract art handlers, staff and student assistants carved Ethafoam cavities or built up supports for each small sculpture or piece of studio jewelry. When possible, we identified multiple artworks to house within the same block of 30 x 40 foam. We then covered foam cavities in Tyvek material and set them into the pre-made boxes.

Artworks were then placed into the cavities within the boxes. Temporary Ethafoam barriers separated multiple artworks in one box. Should an artwork fall, it would not hit the object next to it. Boxes were then lidded and transported from the old building to the new by cargo van.

At the new building, we removed artworks from the box onto pre-prepped, padded tables, placed the cavity on a shelf, and then moved the artwork to the cavity. Typically, two or three art handlers would accompany a vanload to the new building. These steps allowed us to place the artworks immediately into a shelf, where they would be safe until we were able to make final adjustments to the collection storage space. It also reduced the time needed for unpacking and the environmental impact that significant waste would have caused.

Following are a number of other suggestions and elements to consider in planning new storage and/or for a collection move:

- Consider the ways a new building will direct the growth of your collection in the future. We based the design of our collection storage on models of past collection growth. The museum's tenacious curator attracted works of a different scale and scope than the models on which we based our planning. We ended up needing to add sections of painting rack at the last minute to accommodate works added to the collection in honor of the new building.
- A local box manufacturer gave us free misprinted boxes for use in our collection move. We used and reused these boxes with each load and well into our first two years at the new building.
- Consider ways you can borrow resources from your local colleagues. Our neighbors at the Museum of Glass lent their cargo van to us for two months leading up to the building opening, saving us over a thousand dollars in van rental cost.
- Student assistants and volunteers can build archival folders for housing large works on paper. Our student assistants made hundreds of large folders in standard sizes, so that newly acquired works on paper or those recently unframed could immediately be re-housed in a folder and stored safely in a flat file.
- Large works on paper were moved within their flat file drawers. All artworks were either matted or in folders and in drawers of like-sized works. Empty drawer space was filled out with foam and the drawers were wrapped with industrial plastic wrap to help secure artworks into the drawer.

SILENT AUCTION

On June 22nd and 23rd, the Washington Museum Association will host the ninth annual Silent Auction. After much inquiry, it turns out that the history of this event is shrouded in mystery. Non-the-less, this event has evolved to become the only fundraiser to support the WMA Conference Scholarship Program.

Your support does make a difference for the Museum community throughout the state of Washington! Three annual scholarships are supported: The Gus Norwood Volunteer Scholarship, the Ellen Ferguson Student Scholarship, and the WMA Working Professional Scholarship. Each of these scholarship recipients submits an insightful summary of their experience for the newsletter taking the conference experience to all WMA members. Furthermore, the scholarships help disseminate valuable expertise to individuals and institutions in the state that might otherwise not benefit from the network of professionals in the state.

Of course, without the donated services or products, we would not be able to offer these invaluable scholarships to our dedicated colleagues. Your participation is what makes the event so popular and successful. So, search your offices and communities for great contributions. Be assured that the Auction will continue to be as interesting and exciting as in previous years, featuring products and services from museums and business throughout the state. In years past popular items have included custom made art items, escape packages to exciting destinations in Washington, some well loved furniture cast offs, and of course great catalogues and products from museum shops. If you have enviable items, you are invited to be a very important part of the auction. We encourage all WMA members to think creatively and bring from your community great items for the auction. The more variety of items to bid on, the more interesting the event becomes! And remember, the retail value of the product or service is tax deductible.

Bidding will begin after the Keynote speech on Thursday, June 23, and continue through Friday, June 24, for final bidding in the afternoon. Guaranteed bids will be offered for those who want to be assured they get a particular item!

You will find auction donation sheets in your registration packet and in this newsletter. Auction items can be delivered to the Conference registration table or shipped in advance. We look forward to hearing from you about your contributions.

Please contact Rebecca Engelhardt at 253-284-4705 / rengelhardt@museumofglass.org

Museums

Helping Museums in the Gulf Coast Region

Donations to Museums and Museum Professionals Exceeds \$200,000

The Southeastern Museums Conference (SEMC) has awarded more than \$155,000 to museums and museum employees affected by hurricanes in the southeast. As of January 31, 2006, SEMC has received over \$203,000 in donations of cash and stock from nearly 160 museum service organizations, institutions, and individuals, including \$100,000 from the American Association of Museums.

“Financial assistance from museums and individuals throughout the country has been overwhelming, and the museums and museum employees in the affected areas have been so appreciative of the support”, explained Richard Waterhouse, SEMC Executive Director. “Because we know that natural disasters will happen again, we hope to continue a fund to provide museum general assistance and museum employee assistance for the southeast.”

SEMC Hurricane Relief Fund
The 2005 hurricane season devastated much of the Gulf Coast region's artistic and cultural heritage. With structural damage, displaced staff, and few visitors, many institutions remain closed to the public. Financial donations are still urgently needed to assist museums and museum professionals in the area, and the SEMC Executive Committee continues to receive and review applications. Institutions and individuals are encouraged to donate to the SEMC Hurricane Relief Fund. For information on how to contribute, please visit www.semcdirect.net

Project Grants Humanities Washington

Project Grants are available to support projects that have as their primary purpose the public presentation of insights gained from the humanities. Project formats include exhibits, symposia and public forums, extra-curricular school programs, lecture and discussion programs, cultural presentations, web sites, and radio documentaries (the production of documentary films and videos is funded through Humanities Washington's Documentary Film and Video Grants). School programs are not required to be open to the public. Humanities Washington will consider proposals for cultural preservation programs that are not public in nature, but are essential to preserving the diversity of Washington State (for example, tribal language preservation). Project Grants are usually awarded twice a year through a competitive grant process. In recent years, Humanities Washington has awarded Project Grants ranging from \$1,500 to \$8,000. The Project Grant award amount is typically around \$4,000.

Any public agency or not-for-profit group in the United States is eligible to apply for a grant. Applicants need not be incorporated or have tax-exempt status, but they must be constituted for nonprofit purposes. While the applicant organization need not be located in Washington State, the project must take place in the state or, in the case of radio projects, be made available to state residents. Organizations may receive only one Project Grant in a program year (November 1 - October 31). Universities count as one organization. University departments intending to apply for a Project Grant should consult with Humanities Washington staff.

2006 Fall Round Project Grant Application Deadlines

Intent to Apply Deadline - **July 7**

Application Received (or USPS postmark)
Deadline - **August 4**

Grants Awarded - **Mid October**

Funded work may begin as of
November 15, 2006.

www.humanities.org/grants/projectgrantsguidelines.php

Women's History Consortium Gaining Momentum

The Women's History Consortium, a new initiative part of the Washington State Historical Society, is located at the State Capital Museum in Olympia. The Washington State Legislature created the Consortium in 2005 to improve the availability of historical information about women's achievements in Washington. It promotes the preservation of materials related to women's history and creates a special website as part of the WSHS site devoted to listing and cataloguing sources of information about Washington women's history, particularly those related to the last decades of the 20th century.

The Consortium, which is advised by a 15 member board appointed by the Washington State Legislature and the Governor, will also lead the 2010 commemoration of the centennial of the adoption of the fifth amendment to the Washington State Constitution in 1910 which guaranteed women's suffrage.

We are seeking the following kinds of sites/materials that can be indexed and/or linked on the WHC website.

Existing websites with on-line digital materials or collection summaries that are searchable by “women” or similar search words.

Collections of women's history-related artifacts, photographs, ephemera or documents that could be referenced as sources on the WHC website.

We are also seeking ideas for celebrating the centennial of women's suffrage in Washington in 2010. Shanna Stevenson is the Coordinator of the Consortium. If you have information and/or ideas, please e-mail her at sstevenson@wshs.wa.gov or call 360-586-0171.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MUSEUM WORLD

Budget Supports NEH Core Programs and *We The People*

Agency's FY 2007 request seeks level funding

President Bush's fiscal year 2007 budget request for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) seeks funding of approximately \$141 million, including \$15.2 million for the agency's *We the People* program. The request maintains NEH's budget at the current year's level with continued support for the Endowment's core programs and *We the People*, which encourages and strengthens the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture. "President Bush's budget reaffirms his commitment to promoting excellence in scholarship, strengthening humanities education, and enhancing public knowledge of the humanities," said NEH Chairman Bruce Cole. "The *We the People* program has proven its success, and this request will continue its momentum and build on its achievements."

Heritage Capital Projects Fund

The purpose of the Heritage Capital Projects Fund (HCPF) is to "support capital needs and facilities of heritage organizations, tribal governments, public development authorities, and local government agencies that interpret and preserve Washington's history and heritage." Projects need to have a minimum total budget of \$25,000; request a grant of not more than \$500,000; involve property that will be held a minimum of 13 years; and provide a \$2 match for each \$1 of HCPF grant funds. Applicants need to demonstrate that significant heritage interpretive and preservation activities will occur via completion of their projects. New aspects of HCPF grants include the need for applicants to consider the application of the Governor's Executive Order 05-05 and high performance ("green") building standards (RCW 39.35D). Before preparing an HCPF grant, an applicant should determine if it has the capacity and readiness for a capital project. The Deadline is May 11, 2006. For an application go to <http://washington-history.org/wshs/hrc/grants.htm>

Inquiring Minds

Humanities Washington invites you to bring one or more Inquiring Mind programs to your community for an intimate, in-depth, congenial discussion of ideas. 32 speakers offer over 50 presentations on a range of topics, from music and literature to Native American culture and history. In 2005, 98 presentations were given in 22 counties, reaching over 5,000 people in rural communities across Washington State. For more information please go to their website: www.humanities.org/inquiringmind/index.php

Report Predicts Deficit In Nonprofit Leaders

According to The Nonprofit Sector's Leadership Deficit, nonprofits will need to attract and develop 640,000 new leaders during the next decade, or the equivalent of 2.4 times the number currently employed, to replace leaders who retire or leave the field. The Bridgespan Group's report notes that the reasons for the looming deficit are complex, but are related to the sector's growth, the swelling numbers of baby boomer retirees and the lack of internal resources to develop new leaders and provide career mobility for current leaders. The study recommends that nonprofits explore opportunities to invest in leadership capacity, refine management rewards to retain and attract top talent, expand their recruiting horizons and foster individual career mobility. Information: http://www.bridgespangroup.org/kno_articles_leadershipdeficit.html

WMA is looking for your great stuff!!!

Do you have extra copies of great catalogues, a surplus in your museum store, used museum hardware, exhibit furniture, or other items that you'd be willing to donate to a good cause?

PLEASE DONATE TO THE WMA SILENT AUCTION

...to be held at the Annual Conference at the Museum of Flight in June

Donated items help support WMA's **Conference Scholarship Program**

Please Contact Rebecca Engelhardt 253-284-4705 rengelhardt@museumofglass.org

NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM WORLD

Museum Loan Network Announces New Directory of Early American Art

The Museum Loan Network (MLN) recently launched a new initiative, Energizing the Study of Early American Art (EEAA), with the aim of stimulating interest and activity in early American art. In 2005, the project awarded grants to 21 museums to identify early American portraits to be added to the MLN online Directory. The EEAA entries, nearly 500 pre-1840 American portraits, are now available online to museums through the MLN Directory. Descriptive object information is accompanied by visuals and remarks fields which may contain biographies of the artist and subject, historical context for the work, and provenance research. To view these entries, go to the MLN website: http://loanet.mit.edu/Directory/di_Access.htm and click on Directory login. On the pull down menu choose your institution and enter your case sensitive password. If you do not have a password, please contact the MLN at loanet@mit.edu or at 617-252-1888. To see all of the EEAA entries in one search, choose EEAA in the Subject pull down menu. Or to display entries by museum, choose the appropriate name in the Museum pull down menu. For more information on this project or to get a password to access the Directory please contact the Museum Loan Network at 617-252-1888 or loanet@mit.edu.

NEH Preservation Assistance for Small and Mid-Sized Institutions

Preservation Assistance Grants help small and mid-size institutions, such as libraries, museums, and historical societies, improve their ability to preserve and care for their humanities collections. These may include special collections of books and journals, archives and manuscripts, prints and photographs, moving images, sound recordings, architectural and cartographic records, decorative and fine arts, textiles, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, furniture and historical objects. Grant amounts are \$5,000 and the deadline is May 15, 2006. See for <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/pag.html> additional information.

Statewide Short Story Contest

Humanities Washington has announced the inaugural Emerging Writer award to honor talented unpublished Washington short-story writers. Their 2006 theme is Night Watch. The winning writer will receive a \$500 cash prize and a reading at their annual fundraiser, Bedtime Stories, on October 27, in Seattle. Humanities Washington will publish the winning story. The submissions must be 2,000 words or less and postmarked by July 31, 2006. Applications and guidelines can be found at www.humanities.org

PUGET SOUND METRO SEATTLE-TACOMA



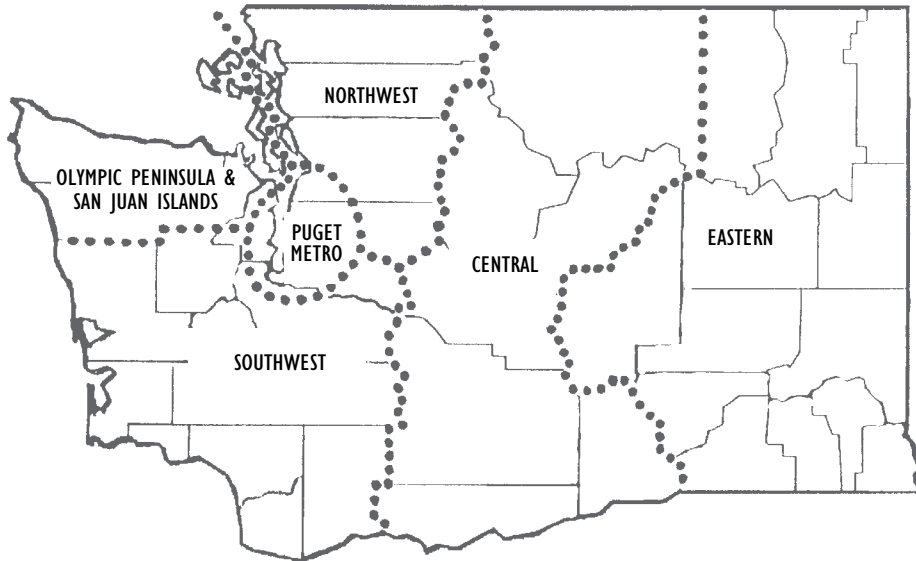
Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture at the University of Washington

is proud to introduce their two new curators. The new curator of vertebrate paleontology, is Dr. Christian Sidor, who comes from the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and is a specialist in mammals and tetrapod evolution. Dr. Peter Lape, has been assigned as the new curator of archaeology. He had been serving as interim curator. The Burke's website for information is www.burkemuseum.org

Henry Art Gallery will be exhibiting Roy Lichtenstein's prints from 1857-97 in exhibit until May 7. The artist's famous comic book images and Benday dot patterns have interested several generations of museum attendees. Visit their website www.henryart.org for more details.

Historic Seattle Preservation Foundation announced in their Preservation News that the Trinity Parish Episcopal Church damaged in the 2001 Nisqually earthquake has completed a successful \$5 million capitol campaign to restore the church. However, the First United Methodist church moves closer to demolition to make way for a 37-story office building. Another successful project completed is the Cadillac Hotel that opened during the winter as headquarters of the National Park Service whose new exhibits will be opening this spring. The newest undertaking is the Seattle Plumbing Building, better known as the flatiron building, near Safeco Field. The Foundation has a catalogue of the 2006 offering of tours, trips and lectures available through their website. Landmark nomination workshops to learn how to research historic buildings, structures, objects and neigh-

REGIONAL NEWS



borhoods will be held April 22 at the Good Shepherd Center in Seattle. The Historic Tacoma Tour is slated for June 10, and the Bungalow Arts & Crafts Fair is to be held October 1 at Town Hall Seattle. Call 206-622-6952 or visit their website: www.historicseattle.org

Issaquah Historical Museum will launch a campaign to preserve the oral history of Issaquah this spring. With funding from 4Culture and area donors, the historical society will work with long-time residents of Issaquah to record and transcribe their personal memories. Text of these memories will be available on the IHS website and will be used in future exhibits, publications, and research. Willing participants will tell their stories on video. For further information, contact Erica Maniez at the Gilman Town Hall Museum, phone: 425-392-3500, e-mail: info@issaquahhistory.org, for more information on the project.

Lakewood Historical Society presents Ezra Meeker: Those Terrible Treaties: A dramatic portrayal of Ezra Meeker by actor/historian Raymond Egan. In Meeker's own words, Egan portrays him in 1926 as a passionate critic of Governor Isaac Stevens and of the Indian treaties of the 1850s. Using clauses of the Medicine Creek, Point Elliott and Yakama Nation treaties as examples, Meeker denounces the governor as impatient and insensitive in his

dealings with the tribes, and for having been intoxicated at the treaty councils and numerous other public events. The powerful dialogue in this play is from Meeker's 1905 Pioneer Reminiscences of Puget Sound, The Tragedy of Leschi, and from Meeker material in the Washington State History Museum's archives. Egan has performed in more than 250 venues in over 100 cities in Washington State, as well as, in Oregon, BC, and California. The Lakewood Historical society is providing this free program on May 7, 2006, at 2 pm. For further information, contact the Museum at 253-682-3480 or lakewoodhistorical@hotmail.com



Museum of Flight in Seattle is anticipating opening the Dahlberg's Center for Military Aviation Research this summer. The research Center will be open to the public, as well as, scholars, researchers, and students. Contact www.museumof-flight.org for further information.

Museum of Glass: International Center for Contemporary Art is presenting Kickin' It with Joyce J. Scott, a thirty-year survey of works created between 1970 and 2003 by this multi-faceted artist. Organized by Exhibits USA, this retrospective opens on June 17, 2006, and will continue through October 22, 2006, in the Museum's West Gallery. The exhibition is part of a national tour that originated in 2000 as a collaboration between the Balti-

more Museum of Art and the Maryland Institute College of Art. Joyce J. Scott will visit the Museum as a Hot Shop Visiting Artist for a three-day residency June 16 to 18, 2006. Her residency will conclude with a Conversation with the Artist at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 18 in the Museum Theater. For more on the exhibit contact: Info Line 253-284-4750 or 1-866-4MUSEUM.



Northwest Railroad Museum in Snoqualmie has poured the concrete floor for their new Conservation and Restoration Center. A steel building subcontractor is scheduled to complete the shell of the building in early April. 4Culture Heritage Capital Projects program awarded \$25,000 to bring the total support amount to \$100,000. The Museum's popular Day Out With Thomas the Tank Engine is scheduled for July 14-16 with pre-event ticket sales in high gear. The email for information is info@trainmuseum.org

Pacific Science Center is giving the public 105 days to Discover the Dead Sea Scrolls, an exhibit that will close January 7, 2007. Fragments of the scrolls that have never been on display before will be on view. Space is limited and it is advised to make reservations for group tours by calling 206/443-2937. For individual tickets and information call 1-877-DSS-1947

TACOMA ART MUSEUM Tacoma

Art Museum will present The Great American Thing: Modern Art and National Identity, 1915-1935 featuring eight Georgia O'Keefe paintings among others by her contemporaries such as Alfred Stieglitz, Man Ray, Arthur Dove, Charles Demuth, and Charles Sheeler. This show runs through May 21, 2006. The Museum is also presenting After Hours with Georgia O'Keeffe. This will showcase the exhibition and invite groups of between 30 and 120 people who will be greeted with a wine and cheese reception, followed by a brief art-history presentation and a stroll through the museum's galleries. After Hours bookings are available at 5:30, 6:15, and 7 pm on the following Tuesday dates: April 11, 18, 25, and May 2, 9, 16, 2006. Please

contact the Tacoma Art Museum at 253-272-4258, www.TacomaArtMuseum.org, info@TacomaArtMuseum.org

Washington State Library will have Humanities Washington Inquiring Mind Speaker Jill Johnson give her living history presentation of "Little, But Oh My!" The Story of Berte Olson. Berte Olson was the first woman to skipper a ferryboat on Puget Sound and own her own company. Between 1920 and 1950, she ran two different ferryboat companies with four different ferry runs. The performance is scheduled for Thursday May 4, 2006, at 6:30 PM. For further information about this and other free events at the Washington State Library contact Rändi Coleman at 360-704-5269 or wslevents@secstate.wa.gov

OLYMPIC PENINSULA & SAN JUAN ISLANDS



Bainbridge Island Historical Museum recently published a revised version of *Port Blakely: The Community Captain Renton Built* by Andrew Price, Jr. It is available in the museum gift shop. Their 7th Annual History Series continues with monthly programs such as an Antiques "Road Show" Expertise Day, Walking Tours of Historic Neighborhoods, a Horse & Carriage Driving Demonstration, and an Archaeology Slide Lecture. Now on display, *Spotlight on Island Sports: 1900-1960* continues through Fall 2006. Museum information: www.bainbridgehistory.org or 206-842-2773 or info@bainbridgehistory.org

Kelly Art Deco Light Museum, a new Port Townsend venue, which opened February 14, is a rare glimpse of the decorating style of 1928 to 1938. It features over 200 fixtures, including chandeliers, sconces and table lights. This is the only American Art Deco slipshade light museum in the world. Located at Vintage Hardware, 2000 Sims Way. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free Admission. <http://www.thedecomuseum.com/>

Museum & Arts Center at Sequim, former director, Margaret DeWitt, has passed away. In her honor the Board of Trustees voted to amend the name of the Dan DeWitt Administrative Building to add her name. The Museum is now on the web at www.museumandartscenter.org



Museum of Northwest Art at LaConner began its 25th year anniversary in January

by opening with three new exhibitions: Glass artist Eric Franklin from the Museum of Neon Art in Los Angeles; Carl Morris, a Northwest abstractionist; and a collection of works from the Museum collections. Information is available at www.museumofnwart.org



Naval Underwater Sea Museum bid farewell to the Museum Store's longtime manager, Deita Gravensen who is relocating to Bellevue. A new exhibit on Women Navy Divers will be opening in the late spring. Past WMA President, Barbara Moe, who retired December 31, worked for more than six months with women divers to record their stories, obtain loans of artifacts, and plan the exhibit text. Museum information is available at 360-396-4148.

San Juan Historical Museum at Friday Harbor hosted a Friday Harbor High School "Winterterm" class that brought seven students to the museum every day for six weeks. The students created a digital inventory of artifacts in each of the buildings, with photos, as well as, assigning accession numbers. Students also performed minor repairs, created a garden space, revamped signage and created several quizzes for visitors to the museum. For information about the museum visit their website at www.sjmuseum.org

SOUTHWEST

Clark County Historical Museum presents *Native Perspectives on the Trail: A Contemporary American Indian Art Portfolio* through May 31, 2006. This is the exhibition's only stop on the west coast. The exhibit includes 15 contemporary works of art commissioned by the Missoula Art Museum and produced by Native American artists from the west. The art is used as a venue to provoke thought about the impact the Corp of Discovery had on native societies. The exhibit is enhanced by selections from CCHM's Native American collection. The CCHM is asking PNW artists of all ethnicities who wish to express their thoughts and feelings about Lewis & Clark and the Westward Expansion to submit their work for consideration in a juried art exhibition entitled, *After the Journey: a regional perspective on the Corp of Discovery*. The exhibit runs from June 10 to September 30, 2006. Both exhibits feature a lecture series. Entries due April 26. Contact the museum at 360-993-5679 or visit www.cchmuseum.org for more information.

North Clark Historical Museum at Amboy is progressing with the work on their steam-logging donkey. Alpha & Omega Ice Blast cleaned the boiler seams with soda. The boiler was inspected by U2 Technologies, Inc. in Vancouver. The insurance issue is being studied so the donkey can be used in the near future. The museum is converting their extensive 18-year collection of VHS tapes to DVDs. For information please call 360-247-5800.

Pacific County Historical Society at South Bend recently hosted Gary Johnson, chairman of the Chinook Tribe, who spoke on the Indian perspective concerning the Lewis & Clark Expedition. He described Indian communities visited by the Expedition and how recent archeological work at Station Camp has brought new life to the issues of sovereignty and legal status of the Chinooks. Historical Society information may be obtained at www.pacificohistory.org



Pomeroy Living History Farm at Yacolt is embarking on restorative repairs in the fall to the log house and barn, which are on the National Inventory of Historic Places. They are in the process of raising necessary funds. Please note the Living Farm's new email address is staff@pomeroyfarm.org

NORTHWEST

Anacortes History Museum welcomes spring by hosting a special exhibit, "Focus on Community: The Wallie Funk Collection," which opens April 29, 2006 on Wallie's 84th birthday! Funk is a beloved Skagit County personality whose contribution to the area's history spans more than 50 years. As a newspaper owner, son of pioneers, and an active community member, he is known by sight and reputation by his first name. The exhibit shows the evolution of the Anacortes community through the photos of Ferd Brady, Charles Judd, Glenn Davis, and others whose photography documented the city's history and daily life. Information is available at 509-293-1915 or on their website www.anacorteshistorymuseum.org

Museum of Snohomish County in Everett honors notable women from the county's past who influenced

Washington's history. The new exhibit, Crusaders for Better Lives provides context for viewing the changes women made in various areas using an historical timeline. A special program by Margaret Riddle on The Women's Legacy Project was held in conjunction with the exhibit. Information is available at Mosch@att.net.

Skagit County Historical Society in LaConner is offering a program, Caring For Baskets, on Thursday, April 20 at 7 p.m. Emily Hartley, conservator and author of The Care and Feeding of Baskets will answer questions and demonstrate how to properly maintain baskets of all types. Contact them for further information at 360-466-3365 or www.skagitcounty.net/museum

CENTRAL

East Benton County Historical Museum in Kennewick sends an invitation to "Experience the Kennewick Man Display" at their museum. The skeletal remains of a person, possibly 9,000 years old, have generated much interest since discovered in 1996. Although the skeleton is now at the Burke Museum in Seattle, a cast was made of the skull that is the center point for a display on the discovery. The Society is participating in the 100th anniversary celebration of Lodge 153 of the Free and Accepted Masons' this year. Further information is available via email at ebchs@verizon.net.

Franklin County Historical Society is proud of the newly renovated Franklin County Courthouse with its gleaming gold eagle fronting the building and the copper dome with its new clock glowing in the sunlight. The 1912 courthouse was designed by Seattle architect E. Lewis Wilson in the Ecole de Beaux Arts style and completed at a cost of \$82,016 in 1913. In 2002 Franklin county voters approved a \$10.2 million bond issue and in December 2005 the county was awarded a \$2.7 million grant from the Washington State Department of Archeology & Historical Preservation to restore the building. Society information is available at www.Museum@FranklinCountyHistoricalSociety.org

Kittitas County Historical Museum invites you for a luncheon talk with Karen Blair entitled "The True History of Central Washington University" on May 19, 2006. Born and raised in Long Island,

NY, Karen Blair has been a Professor of History at Central Washington University since 1987. She is the chairman of the History Department and researches United States women's history. As she has researched Central's history, Karen has found many surprises about its early years in the 1890's and its evolution from a normal school to teachers college to state college to university. For more information call 509-925-3778 or see them on the web at www.kchm.org



Maryhill Museum of Art

Maryhill Museum of Art

has unveiled A People's Legacy:

Romanian Folk Life through Dress, Textiles & Arts. Despite a century of political turmoil, the beauty and spirit of Romanian folk art has survived. The traditions of language and clothing in Romania started with the Romans. Today over ninety areas of distinct folk cultures still exist – emerging from close contact with invaders and neighbors such as the Saxons, Turks, Armenians, Bulgarians, Hungarians and Ukrainians. This exhibition features colorful traditional costumes, folk and sacred art from the Museum's comprehensive permanent collection, and is complemented by objects from the Henry Art Gallery, Seattle WA, the Folk Art Museum, Santa Fe NM, and the Kent State University Museum, Kent OH. Sponsored by the Walter Bailey Foundation. This exhibit is open until November 15. Contact: Lee Musgrave 509-773-3733, fax 509-773-6138, lee@maryhillmuseum.org, www.maryhillmuseum.org

Upper Valley Museum at Leavenworth opened the new year with the Iron Horse in Leavenworth Heritage Series Program featuring Conquest of the Cascades & Leavenworth Railroad History presented by Mark Behler, museum curator. For information please call 509-664-3340.

EASTERN

Jundt Galleries on the campus of Gonzaga University is presenting an exhibition of ceramics, drawing, paintings, and prints by the University's Studio Art faculty. Exhibitors include Robert Glimore, senior member of the Art Department; Mary Ferrell, director of the printmaking program; Gina Freuen, potter and Terry Gieber, long time Chair of the Arts Department. For information call 509-323-6611.

Loon Lake Community Heritage will hold the Clayton Community Fair Plow Day April 29, at the new fair grounds. Anyone having an older tractor or tagalong plow is welcome to show up and become a part of the event. In the spirit of old-fashioned country fun, a free lunch will be served to all attending. For information call Del Lentz at 503-276-5648.



Northwest Museum of Art and Culture

presents a dazzling array of clothing, photographs, and ephemera drawn from the MAC's collections juxtaposed with iconic American automobiles from regional and national collections in the exhibit Mutual Seduction: Cars & Costumes opening April 22 and running through January 28, 2007. Visitors may explore downtown Spokane during the annual Mother's Day Historic Neighborhood Tour on Saturday, May 13, 2006 and Sunday, May 14, 2006, from noon to 4 p.m. A self-guided tour booklet highlights private homes and commercial buildings open for tour. For more museum information contact them at 509-456-3931 or go to their website www.northwestmuseum.org

Pend Oreille County Historical Society is restoring the covered wagon that has been on the grounds for a number of years. Work is continuing on the icehouse from Sacheen Lake and the chimney on the Hunter's Cabin will be completed by late spring. A semaphore has been purchased for the railroad display and is in the process of being cleaned and repaired for installation. Museum information is located at www.pocmuseum.org

Put Your News in

MUSEUM MESSENGER REGIONAL NEWS

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

(360) 289-2805

or email: glw@olynet.com

Include your logo if possible.

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