



FogHorn

Westport–South Beach Historical Society News Letter

3rd Quarter 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Message from President, Dann Sears

Although I have been involved with museums for over 20 years, I encountered a moment of apprehensive when invited to become a member of the Westport South Beach Historical Society Board. However, I decided to give the position a try, thinking it would give me some valuable insight by sitting on the other side of the fence. I was correct, and it has been a learning experience to say the least.

Today I have no regrets, the Westport Maritime Museum is holding its own, and I am elated and consider it a privileged to be associated with the museum and wonderful people who have such solid commitments that they stay the course. Although, there are a few more changes to establish in order to make the museum and lighthouse the total jewels they are. Current staff and volunteers are working hard to achieve these changes, and there is no doubt in my mind they will succeed.

Events which had to be canceled this past few months are already being planned for next year, and one new exhibit has opened, with another being developed. The new *King Cyrus* exhibit is a wonderful beginning, and receiving good reviews from distant visitors and local Grays Harbor residents alike. The exhibit interprets the life of seven year old Grace Rosendal growing up aboard the lumber schooner *King Cyrus* which plied the waters of the Pacific Ocean, eventually running aground off Point Chehalis, July 17, 1922.

This exhibit is sure to unleash the imagination of any visitor, young or old, as they listen to a young woman read excerpts from Grace's personal diary while viewing accompanying photographs. For the nautical enthusiast the display features a number of artifacts and ephemera from the ship. Staff and volunteers are also busily working on the Commander's office exhibit, open during development; it will be another great addition to the museum's collection of exhibits.

Thursday, September 4, will usher in the board's final interview in the museum's search for a new Director, everyone on the board is excited, including Leslee Lindstrom, who again has done an outstanding job in the museum's time of need. Leslee has agreed to remain aiding in a smooth transition. The new director will be introduced at the quarterly meeting in October.

Thanks to "The Out to Lunch Bunch" for their service and input on all matters concerning Historical Westport. To Ashley Johnson, who did great job handling the injured Gull, and preventing any visitors from being harmed due to curiosity; you were on top of the situation. Thanks Barb Aue for the great *King Cyrus* article in the South Beach Bulletin. A big thanks also goes to Jeff Andrews and Nicki Kollar for the excellent paint job in the *King Cyrus* room, as well as moving display cases.

DIGITAL AUDIO EXHIBIT

The digital audio equipment has been installed. One unit is located in the Day Room Exhibit and because of the electrical issues in the Coast Guard Exhibit room, we are placing this unit in the Fishing-Whaling Exhibit room. We are moving the third unit to the base of the Lighthouse to cover this area therefore reducing the number of volunteers needed to work at the lighthouse.



The mission of the Westport South Beach Historical Society is to preserve and interpret the history of the South Beach, with an emphasis on natural resources and advocating for preservation of our local historic structures in our maritime community.

~ FogHorn ~

A publication of the Westport-
South Beach Historical Society

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Drawing by Dann Sears

THE FERNDALE SHIPWRECK (Taken from one accounting)

Change in your contact information? Don't forget to tell us!

Every quarter, as the newsletters are sent, several are returned for inaccurate addresses. These include both email and postal mailings. Additionally, some phone calls to members or supporters in recent months have reached "no longer in service" messages. PLEASE REMEMBER to let us know of any changes to assure that you continue to receive *The Foghorn* and other information from the WSBHS. Call our office at (360) 268-0078 or send an email to the address above to update your contact information. Please leave a complete message with whoever answers your call or on the voicemail system. Or, send a change of address notation by postal mail to the Westport South Beach Historical Society, P.O. Box 1074, Westport, WA 98595.

Not very often does a woman figure as the heroine in a shipwreck. In that of the British bark "Ferndale", however, one gained international fame. Her name was Mrs. Edward White. On the morning of January 29, 1892, she and her husband came down to the beach from their farm about 15 miles north of Grays Harbor. As they walked along, hand in hand, suddenly amid the parting strands of fog they came to a complete halt. Before them was the dim outline of a great ship mortally wounded and nearly submerged in the outer breakers. Immediately, Edward White left his wife and ran over the dunes in search of help. As Mrs. White gazed seaward she saw the form of a man being jostled about in the breakers, too weak to gain the shore. Imperiling her own life, she ran into the surf and pulled him to safety. No sooner had she made him as comfortable as she could then she saw another survivor staggering about in the breakers. Again, she braved the towering surf, struggling desperately. Clutching the man, she exerted her full strength, somehow managing to pull him away from the roiling maelstrom.

Still no sign of her husband or the lifesaving crew. Then for the third time, still shaking from the cold, she found herself out in the combers in a desperate struggle to save another man. He was by far the largest of the three, a Russian, now in a state of delirium. She battled with him frantically and began making some progress in getting him toward shore when a wave knocked her feet out from under her and sucked her down. She was carried until her breath was nearly spent. With sand in her ears and eyes, her body aching from terrible pummeling, she kept a vise-like grip on the oversized Russian. When success seemed assured, the half-crazed man turned on her and began beating her severely. She was able to defend herself only because the seaman was nearly exhausted. In a wild disarray he finally sank to his knees, clawing and scratching at the sand.

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THE FERNDALE SHIPWRECK

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When at last help arrived, this heroine had the three survivors lying side by side above the reaches of the tide, administering to their needs like an angel of mercy.

These were the sole survivors. Eighteen perished trying to escape from the ship. The “Ferndale” was 50 miles off the mouth of the Columbia River inbound with coal from Newcastle. On approaching the river entrance she was enveloped in fog and was obliged to stand offshore. At 3:30 a.m. on January 29, 1892, she struck hard on the beach.

The trio of survivors owed their lives to the courage of a gallant woman. For her act of bravery she was awarded an elaborate gold lifesaving medal from the Royal Family of England. A gift of money came from the people of the Grays Harbor area. Mrs. White was modest and overwhelmed by the tribute paid her. “I’d gladly do the whole thing over,” she said, “if I thought I could save a life.”

KING CYRUS EXHIBIT

On August 15th, the museum hosted a Members Only Preview of the King Cyrus Exhibit. Christine Yuckert, the granddaughter of Grace Rosendal was present to share her grandmother’s stories.

Members enjoyed delicious food catered by Bay West Emporium of Westport. The exhibit opened to the public on Saturday, August 16th and has generated a number of positive comments from our visitors. They expressed enjoyment in watching a video of photographs and readings from Grace’s diary. Be sure to stop by and visit the new exhibit. Thank you Christine Yuckert for sharing your families memories with Westport Maritime Museum!

COMMANDING OFFICER EXHIBIT

The next exhibit we are developing is the Commanding Officer Exhibit. This is open to view as we continue to develop the exhibit. We are looking for anyone that may have pictures of the Commander’s during the time the museum was operating as the Coast Guard Station. Below is a list of Commander’s who served from 1938—2006, L.V. Barnett, R. Van Hine, J.W. Mathews, M.G. Alvey, W.G. Kincaide, J.J. Miller, E.S. Klock, J.J. Hardy, R.E. Miller, F.B. Barnett, R.W. Dowell, D. Dixon, F. Gold, P. Linquest, W. Hake, C. Lippincot, Yarrington, J.B. Alexander, G.M. Vanderhoof, W.K. Herrel, Chidester, S.H. Smith, J. Duncan, S. Gordon, P. Trapp, D.J. Booth, R.D. Lewis, W. Pedersen, M.B. Hoag, D.E. Wallace, M. Oglesby. If you have a picture, please contact the museum at 360-268-0078.



BY LAW CHANGE

Dear Members:

Below is the proposed change to the current by-laws of Westport South Beach Historical Society which will be voted on at the annual general membership meeting October 15th. In accordance with Article VII, Section 1 the general membership is being notified.

ARTICLE II GOVERNMENT

Sections 1: The officers of the corporation shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a board of seven (7) directors. Persons must be current members of the corporation for a minimum of one year to qualify for nomination, election, or appointment as officers or directors. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be combined upon recommendation of the board of directors and approval by the majority of the members voting at the annual meeting.

PROPOSED CHANGE: The officers of the corporation shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer and a board of **three (3) directors**. Persons must be a current member of the corporation for a minimum of **six (6) months** to qualify for nomination, election, or appointment as officers or directors. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be combined upon recommendation of the board of directors and approval by the majority of the members voting at the annual meeting.

The following positions on the Board of Directors are up for re-election:

Secretary	Ashley Johnson	Position #1	Temporary fill-Eileen Correia
Treasurer	Sue Thomas	Position #2	Vacant since April
Vice President	Vacant - February	Position #3	Vacant since July

WE ARE IN NEED OF MEMBERS TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE AS BOARD MEMBERS!

If you are interested in running for a board position, please submit your name in writing to Westport South Beach Historical Society, PO Box 1074, Westport, WA 98595 or drop it off at the museum Thursday - Monday 10 - 4 pm before October 1, 2014. We also will be taking nominations from the floor at the Annual Membership Meeting October 15, 2014.

Calendar—3rd Quarter 2014

October

- 5 - Annual Wine Festival at Westport Winery
- 11 - 12 Cranberry Harvest Festival-Grayland
- 12 - Jog for the Bog and Beach-Grayland
- 31 - Haunted Lighthouse Halloween-Grays Harbor Lighthouse

November

- 2 - Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 7 - 9 Children’s Hospital Craft Show-Ocosta
- 11 Veteran’s Day
- 15 - Bazaar at McCausland Hall-WSBHS
- 27 - Thanksgiving Day-Museum & Lighthouse Closed

December

- 6 - Santa By The Sea-Westport Mariana & Westport Maritime Museum
- 25 - 26 Christmas Day Museum Closed
- 31 - Jan 1 New Years Eve & New Years Day Museum Closed

Interim Executive Director Report

Angie Fuller did a wonderful job orchestrating the 4th of July celebration. Thank you Angela and a big thank you to all the VOLUNTEERS that helped with the event. Our VOLUNTEERS are awesome, so helpful and willing to go the extra mile.

Museum visitor totals 2014 YTD:	3524
Lighthouse visitor totals 2014 YTD:	6584

Big Thank You!

OSKAMP FAMILY FOR THE \$500 DONATION
 MIKE COVERDALE FOR ARRANGING TO HAVE THE WINDOWS ON THE WHALE BUILDINGS CLEANED
 PEGGY COVERDALE FOR BEING THE VOICE FOR THE AUDIO EXHIBIT SYSTEM

OPERATIONS CORNER

We are in need of VOLUNTEERS to watch stand at the Museum & Lighthouse. We are forced to cut back the days the Lighthouse will be open because of the lack of CLIMBERS. Please call the museum to help keep our facility open.

As of Sept. 1st the Lighthouse will be open Friday - Sunday from 12:00 - 4 p.m.

We are looking for another RV space for our Work Camper Program. If you have a RV space with hook ups on your property that you would be willing to donate for this program, please call the museum.

THE LENS BUILDING CAN LOOK LIKE THIS FOR YOUR WEDDING!

CALL TO INQUIRE ABOUT RENTAL RATES. 360-268-0078



PO Box 1074
2201 Westhaven Dr.
Westport, WA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Announcements and Activities

WE NEED WRITERS FOR THE FOGHORN NEWSLETTER. IF YOU LIKE TO WRITE STORIES, HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR STORIES or HAVE INTERESTING FAMILY HISTORY OF THIS AREA, PLEASE CONTACT THE MUSEUM. WE COULD RECORD YOUR STORY & TYPE IT FOR YOU.

HAUNTED HALLOWEEN AT THE GRAYS HARBOR LIGHTHOUSE

VOLUNTEER SIGN UP FOR Haunted Halloween at the Lighthouse, call the museum to put your name on the list. We offer a chance for parents to bring their children under 12 years of age to trick-or-treat. If you enjoy dressing up, decorating the lighthouse and handing out candy be sure to call and sign up. Donations of individual wrapped candy can also be dropped off at the museum Thursday - Monday 10 - 4 p.m.

