REMEMBERING THE WILLAPA HARBOR REGATTA

The regattas of Willapa Harbor began in the early 1870s when the oystermen organized the Shoalwater Bay Yacht Club. Almost every oysterman was a member and looked forward to the annual races with great interest. After the races the club always gave a Regatta Ball, ever to be remembered at the crowning social event of the season. Below is a colorful account of the 1876 race taken from an article in a June 1940 Tribune:

At Crellin’s Store preparations were being made for the sixth annual regatta. The first duty was to select judges and timekeepers. In this direction the club was quite fortunate, the gentlemen composing the list being in a measure strangers to those contesting, and consequently impartial. All fully understand what is required of them.

The entries were larger in number this year than heretofore, which augured well for a successful and interesting regatta. The yachts are uniform in length of keel, breadth of beam, and dimension of canvas, with but one or two exceptions. The list follows:

ARTEMESIA Capt. E. G. Loomis
ELLENA Capt. Chas Fisher
MARY J. WELLS Capt. John Brown
SERENA Capt. Harry Finley
LIB SMITH Capt. Jas. Johnson
JULIA WILSON Capt. Thos. S Seastrom
HUMMINGBIRD Capt. Harry Seastrom
MINERVA Capt. A. T. Harris
MARY M. SOULE Capt. Alphonse Soule
DOLPHIN Capt. Chas Seagreen
WAR EAGLE Capt. Isaac Smith.

The total distance about thirty miles. About noon all who desired to witness the race betook themselves to the boats and were either conveyed to the GUSSIE TELFAIR or occupied seats in the boats entered for the race, agreeable to choice.

At 1 o’clock the boats were started, and as they passed the judges’ boat the numbers and time of each were taken. The MARY M. SOULE was the last to start, but she drew off wonderfully as the race progressed. With the exception of the SOULE the other boats kept well together, presenting a grand sight as they proceeded southward and in turning the stake boat. The MARY J. WELLS was disabled after she turned the stake boat and was withdrawn, and the WAR EAGLE met with a misfortune of nearly like character before racing the north stake boat, leaving the race virtually to nine boats. The breeze was just what the sailing masters wanted, and over the course the boats sped—now one leading then falling behind, alternating frequently in this way, this creating a more exciting contest. From the north it was clear that the ARTEMISIA had the best of it, the trial for second place lying between the SOULE and LIB SMITH. From the TELFAIR a splendid view of the race could be obtained. Bray’s Brass Band enlivened the occasion with music, and all on board seemed thoroughly delighted with the exciting scene before them. Almost within four hours the sixth annual regatta was a final. The winners were known ere the boats had returned to shore, and the excitement prevailed. Below we give the time of each boat:

ARTEMISIA WINS!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boat</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTEMISIA</td>
<td>3 0 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARY M. SOULE</td>
<td>3 1 08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIB SMITH</td>
<td>3 3 05</td>
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<tr>
<td>SERENA</td>
<td>3 7 54</td>
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<tr>
<td>MINERVA</td>
<td>3 10 35</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOLPHIN</td>
<td>3 12 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELLENA</td>
<td>3 16 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JULIA WILSON</td>
<td>3 30 02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMMINGBIRD</td>
<td>4 40 55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WAR EAGLE and MARY J. WELLS were disabled.

SNAIL MAIL OR E-MAIL?

The Pacific County Historical Society Board of Directors has been discussing the idea of using E-Mail as an alternate way to send the newsletter to you. Of course we understand this is not an option for everyone, but if it appeals to you please let us know and we will begin sending you a PDF file with the October 2015 newsletter. This will save on paper, ink, postage, and, most precious of all, time. Let us know if this works for you. Thank you.

PCHS - 360-875-5224
**Book Notes**

The Jean Kirkpatrick books continue to be a favorite among our book store customers. They include:

- **Hold tight the Thread:** In a land occupied by foreign powers and torn by confusion and conflict, a mother seeks to weave her family and her past into a fabric that will not tear.
- **A Tendering in the Storm:** Emma Giesy, a strong-willed German-American, believes her young family will thrive in the light of their newfound freedom, after she and her husband branch off from their close-knit and repressive religious community in the spring of 1856.
- **A Name of Her Own:** Into a man’s world of war, ambition, and intrigue steps a woman, a wife, a Mother, Marie. What woman could go two or three years without her husband? Her children certainly couldn’t. No. A mother must find a way. A mother could accomplish all that must be done. It was how a woman earned her mother name.
- **Every Fixed Star:** Following a family tragedy, a battle for survival, and a test of faith, Marie Dorion begins again in the rugged northwest landscape known as the Okanogan settlement.
- **A Clearing in the Wild:** In Methel, Missouri in the 1850’s a spirited young Emma Wagner chafes at the constraints of a culture that values conformity over independent thought, especially in women. What happens when she leaves the warm embrace of community?

Come in and browse the bookshelves.

**What’s Happening?**

**BOOK SIGNING**

Mark your calendar and plan to be here July 16th at noon for a presentation and book signing by Matt Love, author of *Sometimes a Great Movie*.

In June 1970, the biggest movie star in the world traveled to the Central Oregon Coast to film an epic novel about a defiant family of loggers written by a home grown counterculture hero. The star was Paul Newman. The author Ken Kesey. What ensued was a wild working vacation between Hollywood and Oregonians involving beer, sex, scotch, loggers, beaches, and perhaps, a spectacularly vandalized pool table. In Sometimes a Great Movie: Paul Newman, Ken Kesey and the Filming of the Great Oregon Novel, author Matt Love documents the legend of that magical summer and presents over a hundred stunning photographs.

Come and listen as Matt Love tells his story. Remember:

**July 16, 2015—Noon—At the Museum**

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**New Local Brochures**

By popular demand, two new local interest brochures have been revised:

*Paddle and Discover Willapa Harbor*

*And*

*A Walking Tour of Historic South Bend*
NEW MEMBERS SINCE
MARCH 23, 2015
Gary Baker
Dan & Teresa Cearns
Dave & Carolyn Eastham
Les & Vivian Edersheim
Dean Ellsworth
Sharon Feakes
Toni Gwin
Stanley Jackson
Dee Maestas
Craig & Sherri McDonald
Dennis & Marion Oman
Rodney & Norma Poppe
Ken & Linda Ramsey
James Rose
Sandra Roubal
Teri Russell
Dale Rutherford
Judy Sharnes
Greg & Sharon Skadan
Sandra & Michael Spencer
Brian Termunde
David & Sandra Thissell
GA & LL Wiegardt
Frank Wolfe & Kathleen Sayce

MEMORIALS SINCE
MARCH 23, 2015
FOR BILL SAGAN
  Dee Maestas
FOR DORWIN FOSS
  Allen & Sheila Lavinder
  Norris & Maureen Petit
FOR FRAN GIBBONS
  Allen & Sheila Lavinder
FOR DUDE LITTLE
  Joanne Phillips
FOR PAUL NIEMCZEK
  Norris & Maureen Petit

OLD SHIPS MADE “NEW” AGAIN

If you haven’t been in the museum in a while you may not have noticed how the rigging on our four hand-carved ships had been deteriorating. That has now changed.

Mr. Dick Donaldson, award winning model-maker from Lebam and father of Beverly Powers, one of our valuable volunteers, has undertaken the huge project of re-rigging each and every one of those valuable ships. The process is slow and tedious and requires much dedication and patience.

Two of the ships have been completed. Dick is working on the third and will begin work on the fourth and final sometime in July.

The Society is extremely grateful to Mr. Donaldson. Please make a point of coming by and checking out his magnificent skills and workmanship,
MY HOME TOWN

It doesn’t matter much, be its buildings great or small,
The home town, the home town is the best town, after all.
The cities of the millions have sun and stars above,
But they lack the friendly faces of the few you’ve learned to love.
And with all their pomp of riches and will all their teeming throngs,
The heart of man is rooted in the town where he belongs.
There are places good to visit, there are cities fair to see,
There are haunts of charm and beauty where at times it’s good to be.
But the humblest little hamlet sings a melody to some,
And no matter where they travel it is calling them to come.
Though cities rise to greatness and are gay with gaudy dress,
There is something in the home town which no other towns possess.
It is there a mystic something seems to permeate the air,
To set the weary wanderer to wishing he were there.
And be it great or humble, it still holds mankind in thrall,
For the home town, the home town, is the best town after all.

—Submitted by Gordon J King
PLANNED GIVING TO PACIFIC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The word philanthropy often has the connotation of being “upper crust”, but nothing could be further from the truth. Roughly 80% of Americans regularly give money to charities that they support, and that makes them philanthropists, whether they would use that word to describe themselves or not. These “average” Americans make a huge difference in the community they live in, more than they would ever have imagined.

Pacific County Historical Society Museum and Visitor Center in South Bend has been preserving our county history since 1949. We carry your history forward—YOUR history is OUR history. Allow us to persevere in our society’s continuous archives and historical volumes of Pacific County, the people, and the heritage. Please remember Pacific County Historical Society in any estate planning. There are various ways to give:

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM:

- **Life Insurance**
  - If your life insurance policy no longer has the financial significance for your family’s financial security that it once did, you may wish to consider donating the policy to the Pacific County Historical Society. You can do that in one of two ways. First, you can make the Historical society the owner of the policy, which makes your premium payments tax-deductible. Second, you also may name the Society as the primary or secondary beneficiary of the policy.

- **Charitable Gift Annuity & Charitable Trust**
  - Through a charitable gift annuity or charitable trust, you retain an interest in the gift, with the remainder to be received by the Pacific County Historical Society at a later time. There may be specific tax benefits to you and your estate in utilizing one of these planned giving tools in support of the Historical Society.

- **Bequests**
  - A bequest you can make a gift of assets to the Pacific County Historical Society through your will. A provision in your will that names the Society as a beneficiary of all or a portion of your estate will assure that you will leave a meaningful legacy in support of our mission. If you already have a will, you may consider adding a bequest through a codicil, which is a change to an existing will.

- **Cash**
  - Cash donations are the simplest way to support the Pacific County Historical Society. A cash donation can be made by cash, check, or credit card. The impact of your cash donation may also be enhanced through your employer’s matched giving program. Please inquire if your employer offers such a benefit and take advantage of it to maximize your support.

PLEASE NOTE: The Pacific County Historical Society strongly recommends that all donors consult with legal counsel or a financial advisor before making major financial decisions. Information presented here should not be construed as financial advice.