

BUCKAROOS, BRONC BUSTERS & BEARDS:

The Story of Frontier Days, Renton's 1st Major Festival
 By Tom "Two Guns" Monahan

As the lyrics to the famous country and western song go, "my heroes have always been cowboys."¹ This popular sentiment was never expressed more fervently than on the streets of Renton during the "Frontier Days" celebration. For one week every year, the city of Renton went "plum loco" for everything western. This event united Renton's culturally diverse population with their neighbors in one common purpose: to celebrate the idealized time in American history known as the Old West.

Dust Off Your Spurs and Stetsons

On 13 July 1939, Renton's first annual celebration of Frontier Days officially got underway with a massive 16-event Rodeo, featuring some of the finest ropers and riders from all over the United States and Canada. Prior to the big kick-off, several smaller events took place, designed to whet the appetites of locals for the main event. These included a parade, beard growing contest, and cowboy movies at the local theaters.

Cowboy and western culture were experiencing a high point in popularity, especially among the youth during this time. For a few cents, people would pack into movie theaters to watch heroic cowboys in white hats, battle villainous bandits in black hats and escape from seemingly impossible situations, which always amazingly resolved themselves by the next week's episode. Every child in town had to have a cowboy hat, vest, chaps and six-shooter on their hip. With Cowboy-mania in full swing, Renton's leaders decided to capitalize on this phenomenon with a festival. They enlisted the local Renton chapter of the Lions Club to help sponsor the festivities, and Frontier Days was born.

Town Folk Get Into the Spirit

Businesses all over town realized the economic windfall they would experience from a large event, and began to use their advertising talents to get people in a cowboy frame of mind. Weeks before the festival started, local businesses began running cowboy and western

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Young Renton boy dressed as a cowboy, Circa 1950

Masthead Photo: Local club known as the "Rat Brothers" promote the rodeo.



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Renton, WA 98055-2133
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Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00am - 4:00pm

By appointment:

Wednesday-Friday 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Admission:

\$3 for adults

\$1 for children

Always free to members and to the general public on the first Wednesday and third Saturday of the month.

Board Meetings:

April 27 6:00pm

May 25 6:00pm

June 22 6:00pm

Please call the museum for location.

President's Message

By Bob Hunt, President

Capture the Past, Educate the Present, Inspire the Future

This is the Vision Statement the board voted in November. It is the result of some hard work by a committee working to help us make the Museum and the Society even better. Some people might want to fuss with the words, add more detail, maybe even change the grammar. But if you look at it, you'll see that this is what we've been for most of our existence, even if we were just focusing on one aspect at times. A good vision helps you choose the next steps on the path to where you want to be, and when you achieve that, points the way yet again.

The Renton Historical Society exists to provide governance, resources and strategic planning for a local history museum, which delivers heritage educational services.

That is our Purpose Statement, practically lifted from the original charter of the Society. We sometimes forget that the Museum and the Society are not one entity, but rather a symbiosis; neither having much point without the other. It helps us remember how we connect to the Vision. We make it live through the efforts we exert molding the Museum and it's associated activities and events. The Society is more than the Board, it is the composite of the membership that finds value in contributing to the future of the Society and the Museum.

The Mission of the Renton Historical Society is to preserve, display and interpret the history of Greater Renton by supporting a history Museum, which is accessible to diverse people of all ages.

The Mission spells out the Purpose in more detail than what the original charter defined. It allows us to look at our geographical scope, suggest how we might best serve the Museum and finally how that service supports the community.

At their first retreat on March 12th, the Society Board met to discuss the ideas above and to learn a little about our history, the evolution of historical museums in general and how we might best put some of these ideas to work now and in the future. It turns out that a day isn't long enough to do it all, but we made a very good start.

One thing we discovered is that the evolution of our Museum has been modeling, and in some cases leading, the changes occurring in the field world-wide. Museums were once regarded as places to keep 'stuff', artifacts that were displayed to a limited audience who knew their significance. That model has been changing as museums of all types have come to look at how they can reach a larger audience. For historical museums, this means that the artifacts need context, and even that the artifacts are often secondary to the stories that illuminate that context. It seems it is the stories that are most important. They help a community tie itself together, they lend understanding to the Now by showing us how we got here. Those stories are not bounded by the walls where we keep the 'stuff'. We can take them out into the community and share them, and use the 'stuff' to help bring them to life so that people can see and understand why these stories are important.

The most important task the Board identified was to apply all of these new ideas in ways that help the Museum get those stories heard in our community. We want to connect with groups in the area that are interested in hearing them and seeing them. We will be working on ideas to make this happen (in fact it is almost impossible to stop the flood of possibilities being suggested). There is one way that the Society can begin right now. Don't say you didn't see this coming. I mentioned early on that the Society is more than just the Board. After you've read whatever is on the backside of this page, cut out that our Vision Statement. Put it in your wallet or your purse. Take it out and discuss it with some of the people you know in the PTA or the Arts Commission, those you see at neighborhood events, business functions and or charitable organizations. Be a part of the Vision by making connections that...

Capture the Past, Educate the Present, Inspire the Future.

Docent Trainings and Third Grade School Tours

The museum started training docents in March. We have already talked about logistics of the third grade school trip to the museum this year so docents know how to handle a new way of giving a tour. Carol Hawkins and Nancy Fairman presented the Native American, and Early Industries exhibits and ways to introduce the subject to third graders.

The attendance was good and we were very happy to welcome a few new docents who are joining us this year. The museum was very lucky to have Roger Fernandes, an enrolled member of the Lower-Elwha Band of S'Klallam Indians, give a lecture on *Savages and Civilization: First People and Civilized Cultures* after the first training.

The presentation examined how tribal cultures worldwide were challenged to maintain their cultural integrity in the face of interactions with "civilized" cultures. Particular attention was given to the local populations of indigenous people of the Puget Sound region.

The next presentation was given by Linda Carlson who talked about *Company Towns: Their importance in the Modern West*. This informal lecture described how people in company towns lived, ate, worked, shopped, educated their children and worshipped – a way of life that largely disappeared when commuting became easy and television antennas went up. It was full of anecdotes about daily life in communities that were usually remote and often subject to severe weather.

Next docent training sessions are scheduled on April 5 and April 19. General public is welcome at 1:00 p.m. to attend presentation *Sisters in Time* following the training on April 5. Karen Hass, storyteller, musician and historian, dressed in the clothing of the era, portrays four different woman of the summer of 1855 in the Puget Sound area.

Membership Renewals for 2005

Notices were sent out in November for renewal. Those not paid are past due.

2005 Membership Rates	
Student/Teacher/Senior	\$12
Senior Citizen Couple	\$20
Single	\$20
Family	\$30
Patron Benefactor	\$100
Lifetime Membership	\$1,000
<i>*One time fee. Lifetime Memberships will be transferred to the living spouse.</i>	

New Members

- Betty Hardie Morgan**
- Gloria Grace**
- Robert & Dolores Nielsen**
- Patty Tonkin**
- Karalee Rae**
- James Klepach**
- Nicholas Vacca**

Valentine's Day for Volunteers

As promised, the museum staff prepared a small lunch for volunteers. I brought bigos, the Polish dish, and all invited ladies and gentlemen bravely tried it in spite of its color and texture. Daisy prepared her famous potato salad which disappeared before lunch was over. Steve took cooking lessons from Safeway and came up with a delicious Valentine's cake. Tom 'cut out'



Below: Volunteers at the Renton Historical Museum

all the decorations and he and Steve hung them on the wall. Additionally Steve shared a few words about the museum plans with everyone. We hope that attending volunteers enjoyed their time and felt appreciated. Thank you again for all the work you have done for the museum.

Dorota Rahn, Volunteer Coordinator

Left: Simona Castro and Marilyn Behar



Right: Anna Batchvarova

Frontier Days continued from page 1

themed advertisements, often for items that had nothing to do with cowboys at all. For example the Piemonte Grocery store on 3rd avenue ran an ad featuring a bucking bronco with the caption, "Our food prices don't jump up and down, they're consistently low."²

Another great ad for used cars ran the headline, "Bulldog one of these Gas Horses and Drive'er Home!" Each "Gas Horse" was then described as if it were a real horse rather than an automobile. Describing the 1928 Ford Cabriolet, the ad read, "This nag has a slight limp, but it's gentle and dependable. Eats right out of your hand - might eat ya out of house and corral. Buy this car and get acquainted with our feed store on 2nd & Wells." The advertisement concluded with the proprietors being listed as "Socks" Williams & "Butch" Swanson, "dealers in Plain and Fancy Horses and Gas Buggies."³

With all the excitement generated by the local media and businesses, it's no wonder that the parade, which started off the weeklong celebration, was such a success.

One local newspaper reporter looked on in wonder as "the junior drum and bugle corps of the Veterans of Foreign Wars played, the Eagles band joined in, and the Paddy Wagon slunk along behind. Three hundred bearded men followed in a line as even as their beards, as thousands watched from the sidewalk."⁴ The parade began in front of Stokes Mortuary at 6:30pm, and also included dozens of Cowboys and Cowgirls in their most vibrant western outfits.



Renton Lions Advertising the rodeo in Seattle, 1944



Left: Local business owner Umberto Barei in hat and beard for Frontier Days



Above: Staff of Flashes 10-cent Store in Western outfits , 1939.

Baby-Faced Desperados

As the description of the parade alludes to when describing the “300 bearded men”, another important part of the festival was a beard-growing contest. Renton’s male population began growing their beards out weeks in advance, in the hopes that they would be judged to have the best “chin whiskers” in town. A panel of five “Master Barbers” was given the grueling task of examining the 300 contestants, to determine whose beard was the fullest, thickest, reddest, blackest, scrawniest, silkiest, blondest, grayest, and most comical or unusual. The winner of each sub-category won a prize, ranging from \$1.25 in merchandise from the Square Deal Grocery Store (which could buy a surprising amount of food in ’39), to 1 month’s green fees from the Earlington Golf Club. The very first winner of the contest for best beard overall was Ed Hougardy, who received five dollars in cash from the Renton News Record, a 100 pound sack of sugar from the U&I Sugar Company, and had his suit cleaned and pressed for free from the Service Laundry & Dry Cleaners. The first runner-up, Elmer Pistoresi received five dollars, a novelty footstool donated by the Magnuson Furniture Store, and one free car lubrication from William & Swanson Garage.⁵

Those gentlemen who didn’t wish to grow beards were given a chance to purchase an exemption, but once the festival was underway, clean-shaven men officially became “wanted outlaws.” A special posse of “law enforcement officers” were empowered by the mayor to seek out clean-shaven men and demand to see their exemption pass. If the correct paperwork could not be produced, the baby-faced desperado would be promptly thrown into the hoosegow (a special outdoor plywood cell, serving as a makeshift jail). The desperate felon would then have to appear before a kangaroo court named “The Court of Renton Shavers,” presided over by “Sheriff & Prosecutor” O.N. “Oats” Cochran and his jury of deputies. The “accused” didn’t get a defense attorney, and suspects were generally considered to be guilty until proven innocent (which never happened). The judge would declare the penalty, (usually between 50¢ and \$10, depending on how rich the offender was) which had to be paid before the lawbreaker could regain his freedom. All proceeds from fines were used to buy more decorations for the next year’s festival. In the first week alone, over \$250 was donated by apologetic outlaws.

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Sheriff Cochran even informed the newspapers of a rumor that “bootleg shavers” were operating an underground network in town to sabotage the mandatory beard law. He pledged that the “detective” division of his law enforcement agency was following up on every clue, in an effort to apprehend every male over the age of 21 who had not allowed their beards to grow. Taking place twice a week each Saturday and Tuesday evening, “The Court of Renton Shavers” was a popular part of the preparation for Renton’s Rodeo and Frontier Days in the weeks leading up to the contest.⁶

Ride ‘em, Cowboy!

All the other events however, paled in comparison to the size and scope of the final event during Frontier Days, the big Rodeo. While participants in events like the parade and beard-growing contest were mostly concerned with having fun, the Rodeo was a different story. Professional rodeo cowboys traveled to Renton from all over the western United States and Canada to participate in sixteen different events.

The Rodeo was held in the newly built Liberty Park Stadium that had a capacity in the bleachers of 5,000 people, which quickly filled to maximum capacity at 50¢ per seat. In fact, such a large crowd was expected, that Renton newspapers urged local citizens who lived within walking distance to leave their cars at home, to help Renton, “maintain its reputation as a friendly city.”⁷



Right: Princesses entertain at Lions Club event.

Range Slang Dictionary

The following cowboy terms should put you well on your way to being able to “talk the talk” around authentic rodeo folk:

Buckaroo- A cowboy. Taken from mispronouncing the Spanish word for cowboy, “vaquero”

Bronco or Bronc- A type of horse used in a rodeo.

Buster- Cowboy who successfully stays on the back of a bucking bronco for 8 seconds.

Hand- Someone who works as a laborer for a ranch or a rodeo, managing the horses and cattle.

Grabbing the Apple- When a Bronc rider grabs the saddle horn to keep from being thrown off.

Salty- When a cowboy is salty, he’s an experienced rodeo hand, when a horse is salty, it is a hard buckler.

Buzzard Head- A range horse with a mean temper.

Close Herdin’ - Dancing cheek to cheek with a cowgirl.

Dogies- Cattle, usually referring to a little calf.

Tenderfoot- An inexperienced cowboy or a person raised in the city.

Roundup- Bringing cattle in from the open range to a ranch to be branded.

Savy?- From the Spanish word “Sabe”, this question means “Do you understand me?”

Piled- Being thrown from a horse, as in “that Buzzard Head piled me!”

Bicycling- Spurring with first one foot and then the other in the manner of peddling a bicycle.

Coasting- When an inexperienced cowboy tries to calm down a bronc by holding its head and not spurring.

Crow Hops- Term of contempt describing the motion of a horse that is not bucking very hard, and thus, will not lead to a very high score.⁹

To start the show, the newly crowned First Queen of The Renton Rodeo, Ms. Billie Jean Hardy, rode in to the arena accompanied by her court of Rodeo Princesses. Ms. Hardy had defeated thirteen other contestants in competitions including not only the traditional tests of poise and beauty, but assessments of horsemanship as well, which were held at Longacres racetrack. It just wouldn’t be proper to crown a Rodeo Queen who couldn’t handle herself on a horse.

After the Queen had made her grand entrance, an assortment of stunt performances took the audience’s breath away with death-defying wonders. Tex Darrow, a Hollywood stunt man who wore the moniker “Hollywood’s Daredevil Ace” emblazoned on his uniform, rammed his Harley Davidson motorcycle at high speed through a flaming wooden barricade to the delight of the crowd. A reporter described Darrow walking away at the end of his act looking like, “a small grass fire, smoking from the elbows and knees.” Darrow played down the difficulty of the stunt, stating “Ain’t really nothing to it, but when I drive an automobile through a brick wall, now that really IS something.” As if one fire act wasn’t enough, Bill Harbison of Douglas, Arizona brought in his famous trained

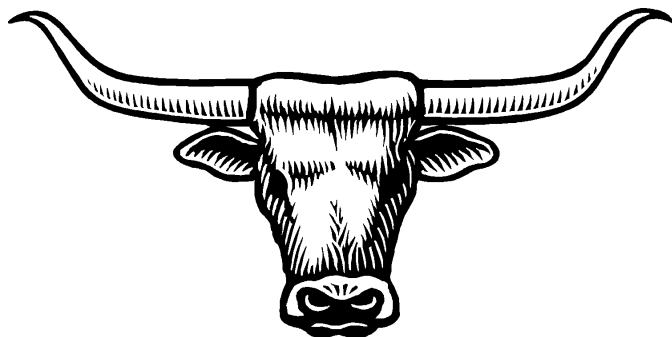


Above: Floyd Hughes of the Renton Lions Club covered his car with advertising for the Rodeo in 1945.

steer, which jumped over a full sized automobile and through a hoop of fire, bringing forth a chorus of ooohs and aaaahs from the stunned onlookers. Next, an exhibition of trick riding and roping was performed by Princess Sunbeam and her father, George Sky-Eagle, a Native American duo from the Ottawa Tribe, joined by Trixie McCormick, a famous female roper from Deer Lodge Montana.⁸

After all the warm up acts had driven the amazed crowd into a frenzy, anticipating what was to come, the real rodeo show began. Over 60 of the most capable cowboys in America, matched their wits and bravery against Longhorn Mexican cattle, Brahma bulls, and the roughest Broncos north of the Rio Grande. Among the long list of famous names participating was Champion Bronc Rider Nick Knight, purse winner in national rodeo events for three years running. The featured bucking horse was named Tornado, and was infamous for not allowing a single cowboy to complete a qualifying ride of eight seconds the entire year before.

Mrs. Rose Wall, a rodeo promoter from Ellensburg, provided all of the livestock. Rose had joined the circus as a trick rider at age 12, and spent most of her youth as a rodeo performer. She eventually met and married "Strawberry Red" Wall, and the two of them opened a 2,500-acre ranch where they raised horses for rodeos across the Pacific Northwest. Her distinctive contributions to the Renton Rodeo included specially bred Brahma bulls, which she shipped up by train from Texas and Mexico. This breed of bull had a nasty reputation for violent bucking (a fact which Mrs. Wall happily reminded people of in every promotion for the Rodeo), and to stay on the back of one, a cowboy had to have exceptional riding skills. Mrs. Wall even brought in Russel "Jack" Okey, a world famous rodeo announcer to do the play-by-play.



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Riding Off Into The Sunset

The Renton Rodeo and Frontier Days celebration was a huge hit in 1939, and it remained a popular annual event in Renton for many years. By the 1970's, Frontier Days had changed its name to Western Days, although the theme of the festival and accompanying parade was the same as before. But as trends come and go like tumbleweeds in the wind, the popularity of cowboys and the west began to wane in Renton. As time passed, and the city grew in size and technological advances, residents saw fewer and fewer ties between the old west's culture and their own. By 1985, Frontier/Western days had been completely replaced by the current Renton River Days Festival. River Days is now the primary event in Renton's yearly social calendar, and only a few long time residents even remember the glory days of the Rodeo. Will there ever be a resurgence of cowboy culture in Renton again? Only time will tell. Like the serial western movies that were so popular six decades ago, we'll just have to wait for the next chapter in our history to see if the hero in the white Stetson comes galloping back into town some day.

¹ "My Heroes Have Always Been Cowboys" words and music by Willie Nelson, from the album, "Wanted: The Outlaws" Copyright 1976

² Renton News Record, July 18th 1939. pg.5

³ ibid. Pg.14

⁴ Renton News Record, July 13th 1939. pg.1

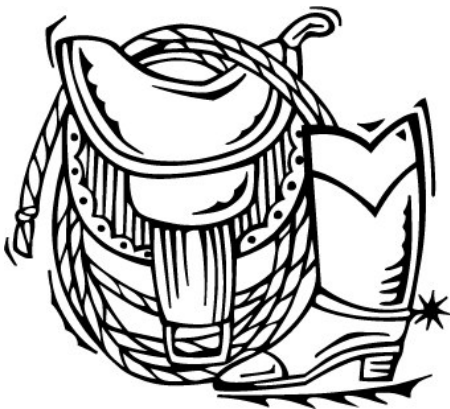
⁵ Ibid. pg.1

⁶ ibid.pg.1

⁷ Ibid. pg.1

⁸ Seattle Post Intelligencer, Sunday, July 21, 1939

⁹ Renton News Record, July 18, 1940. pg.1



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McLendon Hardware

More on the History of Renton Hospital Published in the December 2004 Quarterly

Roberta Benedict submitted an article from the Renton News Record dated July 4, 1957 which states that when Dr. Bronson died on May 26, 1937, the hospital was closed. The hospital was then leased and the equipment purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Adams. Remodeling of the the building, including the addition of a laboratory was started on August 1, 1937. The hospital was renamed Bronson Memorial Hospital at that point.

Renton Museum Report

By "Cisco" Steve Anderson, Museum Supervisor

It's funny how art sometimes imitates life – and visa-versa. Here at the museum, we're constantly running into examples of this throughout Renton's past.



Tom's story on the western revival period of Renton in the 1940s is a good example. But there are others.

A few editions back, we published a story on Harm and Nancy Snow's plight while here in town. The story drew a few comments from the membership, but nothing outrageous or argumentative. Most thought it was interesting and a different view of Renton as a not-so-ready-for-prime-time town of the 1870s.

By way of introduction, our University of Washington graduate candidate, Sarah Iles, is from South Dakota. During her summers, she has been working as one of the student archaeologists digging up the town of Deadwood. Yes, the same 1877 Deadwood, South Dakota that is currently being depicted in the HBO mini-series. So, it's natural that our discussions of the profanity-laden series have cropped up from time to time. Mostly focusing on the historical versus fictitious depictions shown in the series, these discussions have

led me to rent the entire first season. Initially, I just wanted to see what all the hullabaloo was about.

Boy did I get an earful and an eyeful.

For those unwashed who have not experienced the series, it depicts an 1877 gold mining town in South Dakota's Indian Country. Everything is wide open: no law, no justice, and no boundaries on any business activity whatsoever. And did I say the language is rather blue? Well, let me clarify. It is a deep, deep, blue. Anyone offended by raw, reportedly period correct swearing, depictions of prostitution and other unmentionables might well stay away from this series. After an episode or two, my ears finally became somewhat numbed to the eloquently phrased cussing – if it could be referred to as such.

What struck me though, and I must say it was like a two by four between the eyes, was the similarity of what I was experiencing (as I watched "Deadwood") to what Nancy Snow had reported about Renton's vulgar street scenes in the late 1870s – which were exactly the same. Gun shots in the street, loud, vulgar language at all hours, dogs barking – a certain undefined level of muddy lawlessness. Now, I realize that gold miners and coal miners cannot be placed in the same sluice box with regards to their pursuits. Gold brings out the competitive, greedy, even wicked side of humanity, where as coal mining generally does not. But both parties (gold and coal miners) worked the earth, risked huge dangers and, I want to believe, were cut from the same Euro American cloth in terms of ethnicity, background and belief systems.

Which brings me back to my original point. How much of what we see on "Deadwood" could be construed as occurrences in good old Renton town during the same time period. To my knowledge, there is only one incident of someone being killed here in 1877. The famous case went from incident to a hanging in less than a week – the kind of "can do pioneer justice" you'd expect to see on "Deadwood." But that was real, historical fact. I think the reason that case gained so much notoriety was the fact that the murdered man was an innocent bystander who happened to be knifed while attempting to break up a drunken brawl. I think that if those involved had killed each other, it probably would not have made the news.

That leads me to the big question: What other events happened in Renton that perhaps would show its nature during this period. We now know about the Chinese laborers, incessant mud, the dogs and profanity. Lots of single men, eight saloons, several working brothels and no churches – that's a documented fact – for Renton. One observer once stated that the town's primary landmark was the coal mine's slag heap. "Deadwood's" often-bleak scenery both natural and cultural seems to say the same thing: here be a touch of civility, but not much else.

Maybe HBO will be knocking at our door next. Until next time -

"Cisco"

Steve Anderson

Obituaries

(December 2004)

Henry D. Plano
Robert F. Morris
Lauretta Peterson Akesson
Donna Barrus
Myrtle Larson
Margo Barrett
Vivian Merritt Ballard

(January 2005)

Victor Carpine
Harold W. Moeller
Raymond R. Stewart
Michael J. LaJoy
Gladys Williams Hiatt
Robert E. Christensen, Jr.
Mabel J. Hogan
David C. Mitchell

(December 2004)

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Lilian Rumsby
Irene Johnson
Margaret Garver
Doris Gulbranson
Neil Bonfils Walsh
Donald Mobley
Charles O'Neil
David W. Boisseau, M.D.
Carol Dobson (Buettner)
Bernadine Gaffney Gebenini
Lena Balzarini
Fred Gasparach
Charles "Bill" Miller
Violet Bliss
Norma Taynor
Helen Wilson
Lina Bailey
Leota Archer
Arnt E. Olson
Carolyn Mitchell
Orville Eid
Roger M. Grinolds

In Memory of Barbara Shimpoch

June 19, 1931 - March 9, 2005



Barbara Shimpoch was born on June 18, 1931 in Reedpoint, Montana. Renton Historical Society Life Member, supporter of the heritage and cultural past of the city and Renton booster extraordinaire.

We'll miss her.

**Memorials - \$100
and Over**

Victor Carpine 
The Fred Carpine Family

**Mary Lopan
Petersen Wolfe** 
Karalee Rae

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Membership Level: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City:State: _____ Zip: _____ + 4 (_____)

Please make checks payable to the Renton Historical Society.

VISA/MASTERCARD# _____ Ex.Date: _____

Your Signature: _____

- Please share your e-mail address with us: _____
- Please send me a volunteer application form. (32/1)

Mail To: Membership Secretary, Renton Historical Society
235 Mill Avenue South, Renton, Washington 98055-2133



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Total enclosed: _____

Rentonians

Remembered

denotes former Society Life Member 
denotes former Society member 

Lee Poli Anderson
Florence Murray

Kenneth Baker
Connie Kerr Baker

Lena Suffia Balzarini
John & Eleanor Bertagni

Donna Anardi Barrus
Betty Sipila; Shirley & Al Armstrong

Eddy Beslow
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Merna Lasco

Agnes Clark
Mike & Sue Moeller

Carol K. Dobson
Bert & Shirley Custer

Matt Dragin
Shirley Moretti

Phyllis Dragin
Shirley Moretti

Walter Dragin
Shirley Moretti

Elizabeth Swales DuBois 
Hazelle DuBois

Donna Edwards
Nesika #54 OES Past Matrons

Diane Ford
Florence Murray

Fred Gasparach
Mike Rocky; Beth & Mike Potoshnik

George Hannah 
Florence Murray

Gladys Williams Hiatt
Louise George; Florence Delaurenti; Marilyn Sharp Clise; Margaret Loe

Mabel Hogan
Fred & Pauline Carpine

LeRoy M. Hokenson
Beth & Mike Potoshnik

Roger Johnson
Mae Kokko

Thomas Kerr 
Connie Kerr Baker; LoRayne Kerr

Leo Lasco
Merna Lasco

Howard McKean 
Shirley Moretti

Velma McKean 
Shirley Moretti

Michael F. Miller
Bertha Miller

David C. Mitchell 
Louise George; Florence Delaurenti; Rachel Mitchell Beatty & family

Harold "Hal" Moeller 
Beth & Mike Potoshnik

James Murray
Florence Murray

Shirley Newing
Hazel & Peter Newing

Mary I. Peterson
Beth & Mike Potoshnik

Anna (Susie) Phinney
Shirley, Tim, Debbie, Tony Phinney

Harold (Buck) Phinney
Shirley, Tim, Debbie, Tony Phinney

Henry "Hank" Plano
Louie & Pam Barei; Beth & Mike Potoshnik; Pauline Kirkman; Richard & Corinne Lucotch; Rose Camerini; Mae Kokko; Martha Kingen

Barney Poli
Florence Murray

Dan Poli
Florence Murray

Esterina Poli
Florence Murray

Alice Samuelson 
Bertha Miller

Doreen Carr Smith
Flora Katzer, JoAnn Olson, Rosalyn Tinel & Bill Zobbi

Frances (Bunny) Venishnick 
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Venishnick; Mae Kokko

Mildred Weber
Al & Shirley Armstrong

Jobie White
Agnes & Judy White

William A. White
Agnes & Judy White

Alice Williams
Ruth & Donald Bonzon

Florence Williams
Ruth & Donald Bonzon

George H. Williams
Betty Warren; Kenneth & Alice Pottle

Margaret Williams
Ruth & Donald Bonzon

James R. Williams Family
Ruth & Donald Bonzon

James T. Williams
Ruth & Donald Bonzon

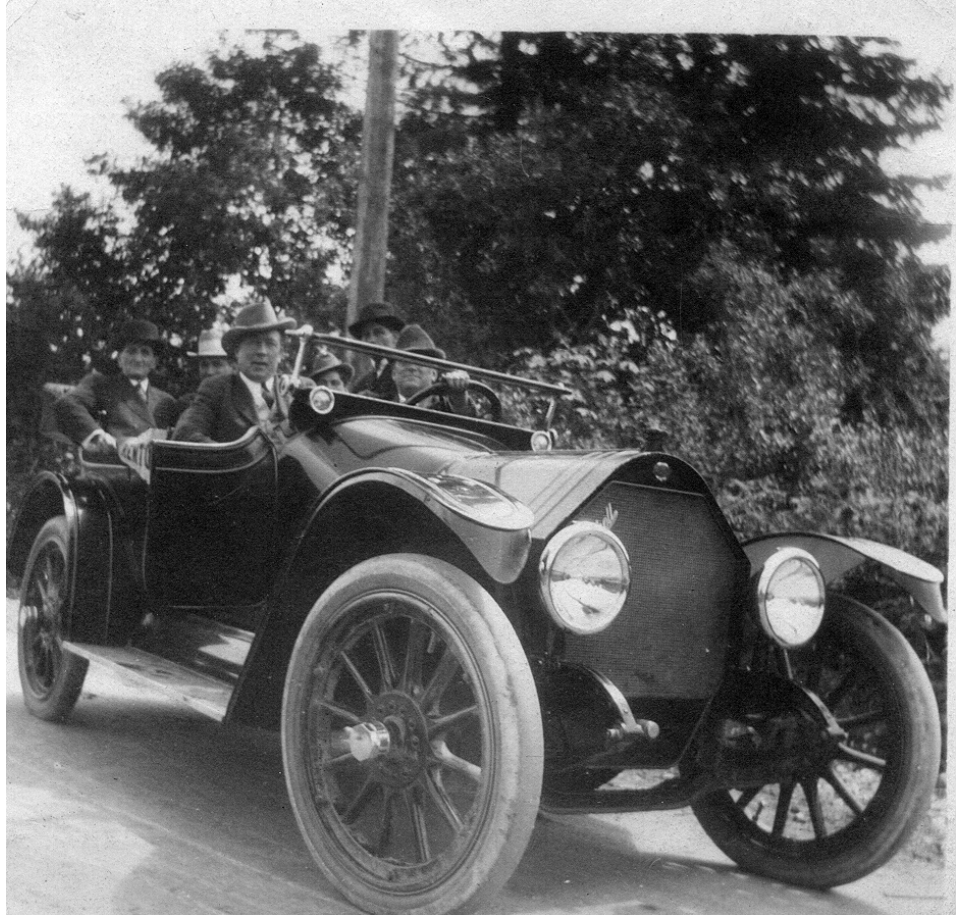
Centennial Snapshot



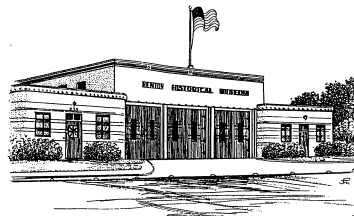
SILVER CLOUD
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Renton

The Board of Trustees of the Renton Historical Society wish to extend our thanks to the Management and Staff of Renton's Silver Cloud Inn for recently supporting our efforts to bring Renton's history to life. Through the Silver Cloud's support, we are working toward greater relevance and service to the citizens of the city by capturing our past, educating our citizens and providing inspiration for the future.



Above: Renton's first automobile owned by Dr. Dixon. Reported to be involved in the first auto accident in Renton. Riding is Joe Woods, Dr. Dixon, Mr. McKinley and others. Circa, 1909.



Renton History Museum
235 Mill Avenue South
Renton, WA 98055

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