

AGNES EDWARDS - PIONEER AND PIONEERING WOMAN

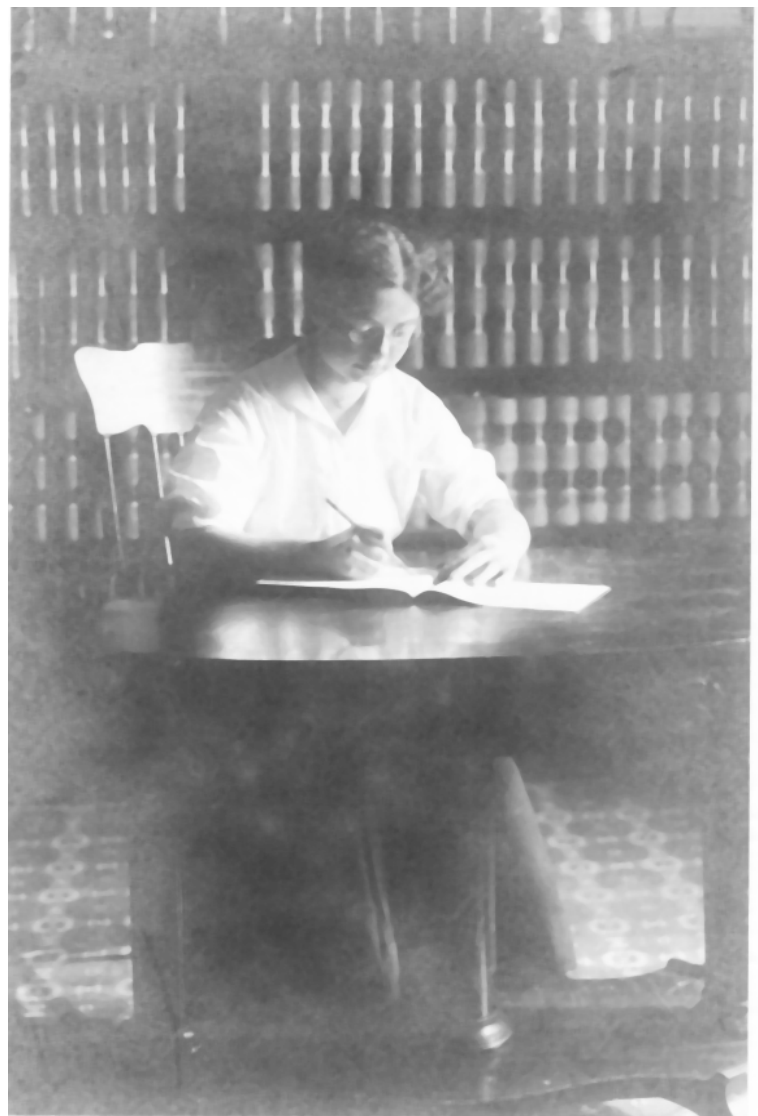
By Bernice Jorgensen, Mildred Thurston, and Sandra Carlone
 Edited by Elizabeth P. Stewart

Editor's note: The following article was submitted by Agnes Edwards's family, who wanted to see their mother and grandmother recognized for her pathbreaking experiences as a city official in Renton. Their timing couldn't be better: 2010 is the centennial of women's suffrage in Washington state, and the Women's History Consortium was formed by the state legislature in 2005 to encourage museums and historic sites to begin planning for it. And whether Democrat or Republican, we can't help being proud of the record numbers of women who will serve in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives starting in 2007.

As you will see from this article, young Agnes Edwards trained as a legal secretary in the 1910s, a time when most young middle-class women expected to make homes and raise children. When her husband's sudden death forced her to find a way to support her children, she used her legal and administrative skills to serve the city of Renton. Her political connections—a mentor in Paul Houser Sr., and a father-in-law, John O. Edwards, who had served in the state legislature—gave her the courage and know-how to run a campaign for City Clerk of Renton. Agnes Edwards's story is truly extraordinary, one of many inspiring stories of women who have served in elected and appointed office in Renton.

Agnes Edwards, former City Clerk of Renton, had an interesting career serving as the first woman City Treasurer and the first woman City Clerk in Renton.

Agnes Morrison was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1890. She moved to Renton in 1910 with her parents, Dave and Jane Morrison, and brothers Dave and John. Once in Renton, the Morrisons enlarged the family with the births of Ethel, Willard, and George. They built their home on First and Pelly, on a large plot of land with space for a vegetable garden, berries, and fruit trees which supplied the family's needs, with extras stored in the basement. Situated near the Cedar River and what is now Liberty Park, their house was one of the first modern homes in Renton.



Agnes Edwards, law student. Photo courtesy of Bernice Jorgensen, Mildred Thurston, and Sandra Carlone.

Masthead Photo: A young Aaron Edwards in a Central School photo, ca. 1900 (third from the left in the back row). Aaron Edwards and Agnes Morrison were married in 1912. (Detail #1974.003.0554)



Renton Historical Quarterly
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Renton Historical Museum
235 Mill Avenue South
Renton, WA 98057
Phone: 425.255.2330
FAX: 425.255.1570

Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00am - 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: Please call the museum for time and location.



President's Message

By Bob Hunt, President

Did you know that the Society has two actual paid employees? I'm always surprised to find out there are members who didn't know that we fund two staff positions, a Volunteer and Education Coordinator and a Collections Manager. The originating action was taken, I think, back in 2002.

We were very fortunate to find some excellent candidates. Dorota Rahn has been with us for quite some time now (darned if I can find the original date, I'll have to ask her) as our Volunteer and Education Coordinator. You will find her article in this quarterly where she talks about some of the programs she has been arranging and the ongoing volunteer training. If you don't know Dorota you should take a minute and stop by. She is passionate about her work and the future of our museum. She doesn't hesitate to tell anyone, including me, what needs to be done to make this a better operation and more successfully meet the needs of the members and the community. I'm secretly in love with her accent, but don't tell her.

Dorota is always on the lookout for new volunteers. Some of the tasks are sustaining, like manning the desk during museum hours, others are clerical, and some are project based. Get with her and let her know what you can do to fill some of the needs. You might find yourself making some neat discoveries in the process.

We have gone through a couple of Collections Managers since we first established a paid position. Our first was Steve Smith, who was only with us for a few months. He had been working on establishing his skills at display work and we lost him to a position that allowed him to extend that experience. We then hired Laura Crawford, whom many of you may remember. She brought a lot of energy to the task and helped us get through the first sort of the Custer Collection, at least far enough to where we could clean out the house and get it sold. Unfortunately, we were second-string to her other job and finally lost out as it began taking its toll on her time.

Sarah Iles came to us at first as an intern through the University of Washington's Masters in Museology program when she started in on a detailed task of sorting and documenting the Custer Collection. She returned to work on her thesis, using our museum as the basis. We have been fortunate that she was able to come work for us this year. You will find her article covers some of the professional aspects of museum operations, along with the fun parts of really getting into some piece of our history.

Hiring staff is a natural part of the changes we see as an operation as we strive towards the next level of professionalism and hopefully more interesting exhibits and events. The tasks that these two support had been covered by volunteers in the past, sometimes with excellent results, but other times the time available was inadequate to the demands. In times past you might also have found board members in the trenches, sorting photographs and writing up donation records, scheduling events, and calling to get volunteers to cover a Saturday shift in the museum.

Times are changing. The sum of our staff, including Daisy Ward in the office, Tom Monahan in research, and of course Liz Stewart as our Director, are leading a team of volunteers that get to do the fun work. I've had more than a few people interested in joining our board until they find out that the history stuff is in the office and not around the board table. We've attracted some excellent people to this table, people who come with good business and organizational strengths and a strong interest in seeing a history museum flourish in Renton. They're also busy people, active in many community groups besides ours that make them integral to the network of our community and connect us with other boards and committees. That means that the day-to-day work that used to be shared by the board members is now taken care of mostly by volunteers and staff.

Continued on page 3

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This isn't a bad thing if we are to grow and advance, but it is different. It holds the risk that the board could become disconnected from the operation we are supposed to be overseeing. That happens sometimes as organizations like this evolve. The methods used to avoid that are to put good people in responsible positions, use the right measures to see that we are on track, and keep an ear open to the membership and the community to try to catch any signs that we've veered off course. I know that we've got good people, some of the best, in the staff of our museum. We're working the measures to make sure that we are progressing, and we are getting feedback from the community. You could be part of that if you like. Drop me an email or a phone call. Look over the list of board members (I'll bet you know a couple of these people and see them regularly) and grab their ear the next time you see them. Let us know what you like, as well as what you think we could do better.

Of course, if there IS an opportunity to do better, you could also volunteer to help make it so. I've said it before, the volunteers will always be the engine that drives the success of our museum.



Planned Giving Series

Part 2: Charitable Giving 101

By Sandra Meyer, Endowment Chair

In the last quarterly two ways that individuals can contribute to the Renton Historical Society Endowment Fund (or other funds) were explained, including outright gifts of cash, stock or securities and charitable bequests. As a 501(c3) nonprofit the Historical Society can accept many kinds of donations that also have financial and tax benefits for you as the donor. In this article we will cover how retirement funds can play a role in planned giving.

RETIREMENT FUNDS

For the average person, the home and retirement funds represent the two greatest assets. Trillions of dollars are held in IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s, and other retirement accounts, and many fortunate people are in a financial position to leave some of these assets to charity. A charity can be named as beneficiary of a portion of an IRA or a qualified retirement plan. After death, that portion of funds will be paid to the charity in a lump sum. The balance can be paid to beneficiaries according to whatever schedule the donor may arrange, and the charitable gift will not affect the distribution schedule.

Those for whom a retirement plan designation might be appropriate include:

- Individuals who—whether they realize it yet or not—have more wealth in their IRAs or in qualified retirement plans than they and any close family members could be expected to need.
- Those who want to retain access to potentially all of their IRA or qualified retirement plan assets during their lifetimes (like those who arrange charitable bequests).
- Those who already know they want to leave some portion of their estates to heirs as well as some portion to one or more charities.

The tax implications of retirement plan designations should always be reviewed with a qualified advisor. Distributions from IRAs and qualified retirement plans are subject to income tax. The tax is paid by the recipient—by the account-owner while he or she is receiving payments, and by his or her beneficiaries following death. In addition to income tax, the assets of IRAs and qualified retirement plans may be subject to estate tax.

From a tax standpoint, a transfer of assets remaining in an IRA or other retirement account is the very best charitable gift, because retirement funds that pass to the Renton Historical Society by a beneficiary designation are not subject either to income or estate tax.

General rule: It is better to make charitable gifts with IRAs and qualified retirement funds (or with other selected assets, such as savings bonds and commercial annuity contracts) and give cash, securities, and real estate to heirs. Gifts of retirement funds are very simple to arrange. The donor merely requests a change-of-beneficiary form from the plan administrator and then names the charity as beneficiary of a percentage of the account balance.

If you have any questions about the specifics of these charitable gifts, contact your accountant or the Renton Historical Society's investment representative, Shane Klingenstein, toll-free, at 1.888.891.8832.

Next installment: Life Insurance Policies and Charitable Giving

Agnes Edwards story continued from page 1

As a young woman Agnes attended Seattle Business College and became a competent legal secretary. She worked for Paul Houser, Sr., a lawyer with offices in the Smith Tower in Seattle. Through her connection to Houser, she became secretary to the Waterway Commission, which supervised the straightening of the Cedar River after the 1911 flood. She remained secretary until the Commission's dissolution in 1956, except during the seven years of her marriage.

In 1912 Agnes Morrison married Aaron Edwards, the son of John and Rachel Edwards. The Edwards family homesteaded on Tobin Avenue and their property later became the site for Renton High School. The Edwards kept a large garden, an acre of raspberries (or so it seemed) and a brooder house with 1500 chickens. Each summer the grandchildren were recruited to gather and clean the eggs and pick the ripe berries. They wore long stockings over their arms and large hats to cover their faces. Crates of fresh berries were taken by the wagonload to Tonkin's Grocery to be sold or bartered.

Aaron Edwards came from a family of Welsh immigrants who proudly settled into a productive life in Renton. In addition to tending to her garden, his mother Rachel also boarded teachers. She made annual trips back to Wales. Some summers she rented a cabin at Alki Beach and her husband would join her on the weekends. Both were active in the Welsh musicals directed by long-time postmaster Tom Harries and held at Renton Methodist Church. Agnes's father-in-law, John O. Edwards, worked in the mines, and in 1897-1898 he was a Populist congressman representing the 43rd District in the state legislature. (Her employer and mentor, Paul Houser, Sr., also later served in the legislature and the state Senate.)



Above: Agnes Edwards, 1943 (#1982.037.1551)

Right: City officials with the Compiled Ordinance Record, ca. 1939-1942. L-R Mayor George Beanblossom, City Clerk Agnes Edwards, Agnes Deacy, and City Attorney Paul Houser, Sr. (#1980.079.1129)





Group of Renton city officials standing by Talbot Hill reservoir, 1930. L-R standing: Fire Chief Joe Wood, Sr., Mayor George Beanblossom, Councilman Bill Avery, Tom Meehan, Councilman Jim Crook, Councilman George Pasco, City Clerk Agnes Edwards, City Attorney Agnes Richmond. L-R kneeling: Councilman Floyd Lawrence, Councilman Doug Miller, Councilman Dave Mitchell, City Engineer Samuel L. Hanley. (#1980.079.1131)

Newlyweds Agnes and Aaron Edwards settled into their first home on Othello Street in Rainier Valley. Their first child Bernice was born, followed by Bob and then Mildred. They later moved to Logan Street in Renton, to a home owned by Aaron's parents. Aaron was employed by Pacific Coast Railway and worked in the office. During the 1918 influenza epidemic he contracted the disease and died tragically within days.

Suddenly a widow at the age of 28, Agnes was left with three small children, the oldest only five. There were no agencies to provide financial assistance to a young widow and her children. Paul Houser offered her a job once again, and family and friends helped care for the children while she worked in downtown Seattle. She rode the Interurban each day to work and back. But the long hours working and commuting kept her from her children, so Agnes decided to look for work closer to home.

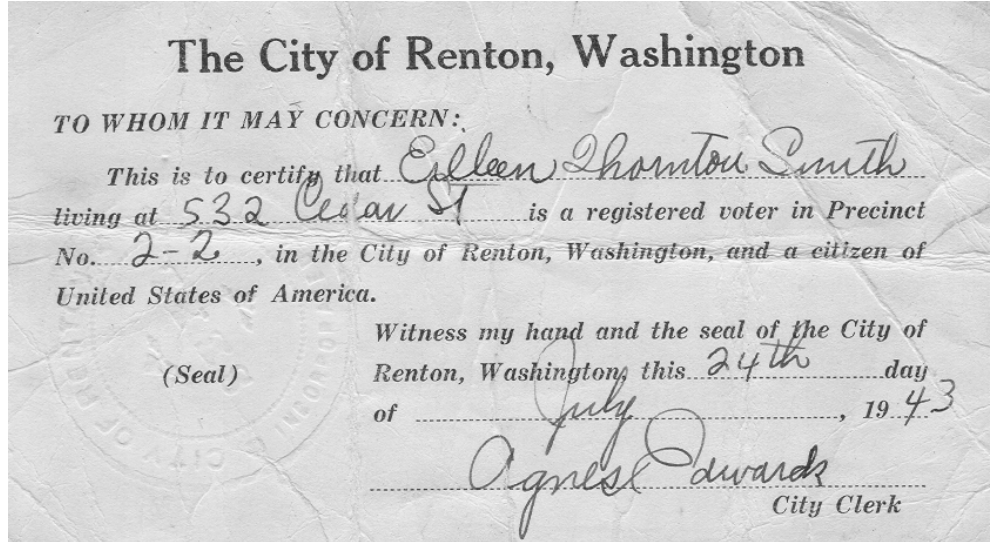
Because of her business experience, Agnes was encouraged to apply for the position of City Treasurer, which she held for four years, from 1923 to 1927. She then ran for the position of City Clerk of Renton, less than 20 years after women had gained the right to vote in Washington. The office of City Clerk was an elected position, and Agnes enlisted the help of her children who campaigned, rang doorbells, and distributed leaflets. In 1927 she became the first woman elected to the position of City Clerk for Renton; she served for 19 years, until 1946. Her responsibilities included taking minutes at the City Council meetings, registering new voters, administering civil service exams to future police officers, collecting bills for the water department, and keeping the books for the City of Renton. In addition to her duties as a city official, Agnes attended night classes in civic administration at University of Washington.

Elliott Farm continued from page 5

Agnes Edwards was active in many areas of city government. In addition to her duties as City Clerk and secretary for the Waterways Commission, she clerked for the Police Department from 1946 until her retirement in 1950. She was also the secretary and chief examiner for the Civil Service Commission for eight years. She was known for her efficient business manner and she knew most of the 3500 Renton residents by name. In 1947 she was honored at a special reception for her life of outstanding service to her community. She was an active member of the Renton Methodist Church, the Dorcas Society, a charter member of the Rosalie Evans Cancer Guild, and a member of the Business and Professional Women.

Her last residence was a lovely apartment at Hilltop House in Seattle where she was able to catch the bus for daily shopping trips downtown. She was well-known at Frederick & Nelson for her weekly luncheons in the Tea Room with her son, Bob. She died in November 1985 at the age of 94.

She will long be remembered for her dedication to the City of Renton and her determination to succeed despite adversity.



1943 voter registration card signed by Agnes Edwards. (#1986.036.001)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

ABOUT WASHINGTON WOMEN AND GOVERNMENT

Coming in December 2006: Washington Women's History Consortium is organizing events and exhibits for the 2010 Centennial of Women's Suffrage in Washington state. www.washingtonwomenshistory.org

"Woman Suffrage Crusade, 1848-1920," Essay #5662, HistoryLink.org: The Online Encyclopedia of Washington State History. www.historylink.org/essays/output.cfm?files_id=5662

Morda Slausen, "Women's Lib in Renton," chapter in *Renton—From Coal to Jets*, 1st ed. (Renton: Renton Historical Society, 1976), 88-92.

Volunteer Report

By Dorota Rahn, Volunteer and Education Coordinator



There are many things going on at the museum since Liz joined us as Director, including educational and volunteer activities we planned and organized for the fall. First of all, we had lots of opportunities to listen to great speakers during our Fall 2006 Speaker Program which started in September.

I can only speak for myself, but I want everybody to know that I am very excited about this program. There is nothing more rewarding in one's job than having fun and learning new, interesting things about the world around us and to offer this opportunity to our community, including all members and volunteers of the

Renton Historical Society and Museum. We try to include in the speaker series different aspects of history, geography, economy, and culture as all of them are closely related to each other.

In September, for the fifth anniversary of 9/11, Professor Faizi Ghodsi from Seattle University talked about different cultural, political, and religious viewpoints in the Middle East. He explained religious differences and similarities between Islam and other religions. He helped the audience to understand the current situation in the Middle East and how it relates to the rest of the world. I hope this was one good way to commemorate the victims of September 11 events by recognizing problems that might lead to such tragedies.

David B. Williams, the October speaker, talked about the natural landscape of Seattle and Puget Sound area. His presentation provided insights into the geology of materials from which buildings in Seattle and Renton are built and feature about local crows. Barry Herem, our third presenter for adults, introduced us to the fascinating story of house poles from the Whale House in Klukwan village of Chilkat Indians in Alaska.

Together with the adult speaker program, the museum offers a family program on the second Saturday of the month. This fall we hosted Karen Haas talking about the Pacific Northwest fur trade. Karen brought a beaver fur and examples of other items that were traded by American settlers and Native Americans more than 100 years ago. She wrapped everything up in exciting stories so the audience could learn while singing and laughing.

Another wonderful speaker, Jill Johnson, introduced us to the true story of Berte Olson, the first woman to skipper a ferry boat on the Puget Sound and own her own ferry boat company between 1920 and 1950. It was a very emotional performance about women entrepreneurs during the time when many women in America were raising kids and staying at home.

One more presentation is planned on Saturday, December 9 at 11:00 am. Families can enjoy "The Real Toy Story: Folk Toys and Whistles from around the World" by Allan Hirsch. In addition, the Spring 2007 Speaker Program is already planned, and we will send details to everyone at the beginning of next year. We welcome everybody to attend presentations as their subjects are very interesting, if not fascinating, and all speakers are absolutely captivating.

In terms of volunteers there were a few events worth mentioning. First of all, the museum hosted a thank you lunch for volunteers at Renton Technical College in September. The food was great and the company was even better. We had fun while sharing personal stories by volunteers and the museum staff. It was a very nice social time for all of us.

A few new volunteers joined us within last couple of months. Bette Seligman is helping with archival assignments on a regular basis. Daumene White joined us as a future tour guide. And the last but not least, Edie-Mae Lawyer, former Renton Historical Society board member, is going to volunteer as a greeter and docent.

New and current volunteers attended training on emergency and other museum procedures. In addition, greeters had an opportunity to refresh their memory about hosting visitors at the museum. In general, everybody strives to make our museum more professional and welcoming. We thank all of you for your involvement in any form and hope you will keep supporting our museum in the future.

HOLIDAY HOURS AND EVENTS

Closed:

Sat., Dec. 23 to Weds., Dec. 27
Sat., Dec. 30 to Mon, Jan. 1

"The Real Toy Story: Folk Toys and Whistles from Around the World" with Allan Hirsch

Saturday, Dec. 9

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

The whole family gets to try out historical toys from around the world!

Renton Historical Society Annual Holiday Party

Tuesday, Dec. 12,

3:00 - 5:30 pm

Carco Theatre

Dessert and beverages, and a performance by Evergreen City Ballet! Free for members and volunteers; \$15 suggested donation for all others

Renton Museum Report

By Elizabeth P. Stewart



The museum has been working hard to offer programs that present history in fresh and different ways to get people engaged. A recent talk by art historian and artist Barry Herem, for example, made me think about how the Renton History Museum and the Renton Historical Society contribute to the preservation of the city's history. In November Barry presented a slide talk about the Whale House in Klukwan, a Chilkat village in Alaska. If you've never heard Barry speak, you must come the next time the museum hosts him. This was his second talk at the Museum; we welcomed him back because he is so knowledgeable and such an enthusiastic student of Northwest Coast art, particularly that of Native peoples. He has been studying Native art for over 25 years, making numerous trips up the Pacific Northwest Coast into Alaska and Canada, and now he incorporates all this firsthand knowledge into fascinating lectures illustrated with slides.

Barry's talk got me thinking about different communities' approaches to the preservation of their heritage. The Whale House story involves a Chilkat family who believed it had rightful ownership of four richly carved house posts from an ancestral house, and wanted to remove them to place them in a major museum in a faraway city. Each nine-foot post is carved and painted with stylized human and animal figures representing stories significant to the people's understanding of their traditions. Homeowners commissioned artists to create these masterpieces that preserved Chilkat history and demonstrated their own wealth and status in the community. In this way, the preservation of history is inextricable linked to community leadership. The family who helped remove the posts took this tradition a step further, believing that these posts could best benefit the Chilkat in a museum where people from around the world could appreciate their culture and long tradition of craftsmanship as one of the richest of the Tlingit tribes.

The posts themselves save history in two ways. First, they preserve and communicate tribal stories visually. For example, the "Strong Man" post—carved with the figure of a disabled man tearing a sea lion in half with his bare hands—illustrates a story about how anyone can become a tribal leader if he's determined enough. In this way, the beautiful carvings become teaching tools to pass along stories and lessons from generation to generation. The second way these posts preserve history is by recording the talents of Tlingit carvers and their dedication to honing their skills and passing them down for generations.

The family who wanted to donate the posts to a grand museum were most interested in promoting international recognition of these talented carvers; they hoped that the posts would teach people who might have preconceived ideas about the "primitiveness" of Native peoples. But for other families in Klukwan, the first reason for preserving history—teaching tribal traditions to future generations—was more important. They did not want to see the posts leave the village to educate outsiders in a museum where their own children would never benefit from them. The controversy was ultimately resolved with the posts being returned to the village.

The debate over the Whale House posts centered around the question of the audience for Chilkat history. Who most needs to know about the Tlingits' history? The Whale House story reminded me what a great responsibility Renton History Museum has to heritage preservation. Some cities have multiple museums, historical societies, and government agencies that save and teach their communities' history; in Renton, the museum and the historical society willingly shoulder the responsibility for it all. But it is a lot to accomplish, and to do it well we all need to be constant advocates for history education and preservation. We need to work together to ensure that history is everywhere you look, and that that history includes everyone. Like the Chilkat our benefactors recognize the importance of history and they are using some of their resources to demonstrate their commitment to documenting and preserving history. But unlike the Chilkat, we don't have to choose between telling outsiders and telling our children how important Renton's history is. With enough of us involved, we can do both.

Liz Stewart

For more about the Whale House story, go to <http://www.ankn.uaf.edu/Curriculum/Tlingit/WhaleHouse/part1.html>.

From the Collections Department...

By: Sarah Iles, Collection Manager

October and November have proven to be busy months in the Collections Department. The museum is currently working on two different grants that pertain to the collections. In early October, we applied for a Collections Assessment Program (CAP) Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). This grant is awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis, and provides funding and contacts to have a conservator and architect visit and assess the



museum's building and collections for two days. The report that results from this visit and assessment will spell out what the museum's priorities should be for improving the storage conditions of the collections. The report will also be a vital tool to be used in obtaining further grant funding for collections. The museum will be notified in early 2007 if we are successful in obtaining the grant.

The second grant that the museum is working on is a Collections Management Assessment Program (CMAP) grant that was awarded to the museum in 2005. CMAP grants are part of a joint assessment program between IMLS and the American Association of

Museums (AAM). The CMAP grant provides the museum funding to have a peer surveyor visit the museum and assess all aspects of our collection management, from policies and record keeping to storage and disaster preparedness. This grant requires that the museum form an "Assessment Team" to complete a self-study workbook that asks questions about collection management and how it pertains to all aspects of the museum's functions. The process is designed to allow us to first understand our current collections situation and then to begin a dialogue as to how we can improve things for the future. This grant, like the CAP, will result with a written report that will also aid us greatly in setting our collection priorities and obtaining grant funding specifically for collections.

Cataloging work is also continuing at a steady pace. We are currently working on the Guitteau Family photograph collection. This is a large collection that was donated by Florence Guitteau Storey and contains over 1500 images. We estimate that we are just over halfway toward completing the cataloging of the collection. Many of the photos contain unidentified people and places, and we are looking for people who might be able to help us identify them. We are also searching for more information pertaining to the Guitteau family in general, and we would greatly appreciate it if anyone willing to share their knowledge would contact the museum.

New Acquisitions

We have received an exciting donation of 49 glass plate negatives. These negatives date to the early 1900s and show businesses and residences in Renton. Though a few of the negatives are damaged, they are wonderful images and we are working with an archival photographic expert in order to have prints and copy negatives made. Because of the negatives' fragile nature and age, the costs of this project are likely to exceed what the museum budget can handle. If you are interested in making a donation in order to help curate this wonderful collection of early 1900s Renton images, please contact the museum.

Contributions to the General Fund

Kevin and Norma McQuiller

Contributor through the Renton Community Foundation

Jerrilyn Hadley

In-Kind Contributors

Denny Dochnal
(storage of coal car during repairs)

Ron Stroben
(registration fee to the Renton Business Exposition)

Pritchard Design
(design of event flyer)

Renton Printery
(invitations to membership party)

New Members

Loann J. Mattson
Lynn Bohart
Tom & Bobbie Gray

To our members:

Please help us keep our mailing list current by notifying us of change of mailing address. Much of our mail is sent by bulk mail postage permit and is not forwarded when there is an address change nor are we notified that the mail was not delivered. Once a year we mail with an address correction request from the post office, but there is a charge for each correction and returned mail. Therefore, it helps us keep our mailing costs down and ensures you of receiving your quarterly Newsletter and other notices when you keep your address current with us. Thank you.

Obituaries

denotes former Society Life Member



denotes former Society member



(from September 15)

Nellie A. Barnes

Katherine Bengtson Cumming

Elmer J. Huffman 

Edna G. Knudson

Franklin D. Lansciardi

William G. Moran, Sr.

Clayton Scott

Carl G. Weiss

October

James E. Banker

George E. Blue 

Ruth Williams Bonzon 

Ernest H. "Tex" Boullioun

Kenneth L. Carey 

Betsy Emmons Derr 

Mildred V. Fauli 

Raymond L. Grover

Arne J. Johnson

Glen G. Judkins

Marilyn A. Neil

Kenneth L. Pottle

Leslie O. H. Quande

John Skoor

Ina R. Sparks

Mae G. Stewart

(to November 15)

Linda Bauer

Emery "Bob" Benson

John C. Bowe

Carleton Christopherson

Leona A. Core

Edna G. Culbert

Betsy L. Derr 

Ralph C. Goetz

Richard P. Hartnett

Betty Pekola Jacobsen

Judy Kirk

Elizabeth Lewis

Barbara Loomis

George C. Nelson

Richard W. Ralston

Eileen Vessey

Join the Renton Historical Society Today!

Name: _____

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 98057-2133

Please Choose Membership Category & Any Donation You Wish To Make:

- Student/Teacher Individual(\$12) _____
 - Senior Individual (\$12) _____
 - Individual (\$20) _____
 - Senior Couple (\$20) _____
 - Family (\$30) _____
 - Patron Benefactor (\$100) _____
 - Business (\$100) _____
 - Corporate (\$100) _____
 - Life (\$500) *One Time Only*
(partially tax deductible) _____
 - General Fund Donation _____
 - Endowment Fund Donation _____
- In Memory of: _____

Total enclosed: _____

Rentonians

Remembered

CLAYTON SCOTT (1905 – 2006)

One of the Puget Sound's best-known aviation pioneers, Clayton Scott died in September. Though not a Renton resident, Scott kept an office at the Renton Municipal Airport from 1954 until his death. He was captivated as a boy by a barnstormer who landed in his uncle's field, and by 1928 he was flying his own plane, ferrying passengers from Seattle. Scott started his Boeing career as Bill Boeing's personal pilot, then moved on to testing military and commercial jets. He stayed at Boeing for 25 years, when he left to run his own seaplane service in 1966. He continued to fly until a few years before his death. On his 100th birthday in July 2005 Renton Municipal Airport was renamed Clayton Scott Field in his honor.

Lewis Argano

Martha Kingen; Al & Shirley Armstrong

Emma Paglia Barrett

Woody & Mary Clare

Ruth Williams Bonzon

Renton High School Class of 1942; Rae Azose; Kay Edwards; Alice Sandstrom

Virginia Busato

Jerry & Barbara Shellan

Frank Caniparoli

Homer Venishnick

Michael Capellaro

Homer Venishnick

Leona Core

Betty Sipila

William Demchuck

Katie Gilligan

Betsy Lynn Emmons Derr

Emmons & Richert families

Mildred Greggs Faull

Randall & Linda Greggs; Mr. & Mrs. Ron Clymer

Ralph Goetz

John & Eleanor Bertagni

Aaron Goodwin

Charles Goodwin; John & Joyce Peterson

Daisy Goodwin

Charles Goodwin; John & Joyce Peterson

Eva Goodwin

Charles Goodwin; John & Joyce Peterson

Lorraine Goodwin

Charles Goodwin; John & Joyce Peterson

Judy Gregor

Charles Goodwin; John & Joyce Peterson

Elmer Huffman

Betty Warren; Beth & Mike Potoshnik; Diane Henry; Larry Branze

Frank Lansciardi

Verna Koshak, Jim & Debbie

Donald Murdock

Al & Shirley Armstrong

John 'Jack' Newell

Homer Venishnick; Katie Gilligan

Juliana Pederson

Katie Gilligan

Kenneth Pottle

Don & Carmen Camerini

Marjorie Richter

Homer Venishnick

Michael Rockey

Martha Kingen; Margaret Bisiack; Jack White

Kenny Satterlee

Katie Gilligan

Virginia Secrest

Charles Goodwin; John & Joyce Peterson

Laura Shook

Jerry & Barbara Shellan

Irene McLean Thomas

Renton High School Class 1940

Mary Utschinski

Katie Gilligan

Frances (Bunny) Venishnick

Homer Venishnick

Ruth Bonzon Williams

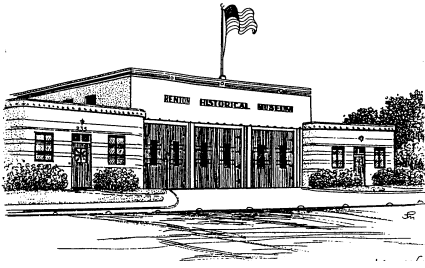
Rae Azose, Kay Edwards, & Alice Sandstrom; Dorothy Swinehart

Sam Zerwoodis

Katie Gilligan

NOTE FROM LINDA GREGGS

"Recently our aunt, and long time Renton Historical Museum enthusiast passed away at the age of 96. Mildred (Greggs) Faull was the family historian. She shared many stories about their beginnings in Newcastle and subsequent years in Renton. When she passed away we decided to make a donation to the museum – something that could continue to live rather than flowers that fade so rapidly. Auntie Mil brought family members to the museum. It was always a special place."



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235 Mill Avenue South
Renton, WA 98057

Centennial Snapshot

Renton Rotary Club Christmas Party, ca. 1950s.
Do you know who these men are? (#5473)



**Happy Holidays
from all of us at
the Renton History
Museum!**