

Newsletter

FOR CLATSOP COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

Fall 2010

www.cumtux.org

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DINNER TO BENEFIT OREGON FILM MUSEUM

Before the whirlwind of shopping and gift-giving, marketing blitzes and holiday parties takes over, remember to mark Saturday, December 4 on what is probably your already-crowded calendar. Otherwise, you might miss the Clatsop County Historical Society's Annual Holiday Dinner and Auction, sponsored by Clatsop Community Bank.

In joining us on what promises to be a very special evening, you'll be able to enjoy the event's traditional offerings—a fabulous, five-course dinner and silent auction.



Added to the night's mix, however, will be some new features designed to entertain and amuse you.

While we're not prepared to reveal too much about the new twist given to our upcoming seasonal bash, we can disclose that festivities will be in keeping with our fund-raising focus. Funds raised will be used towards the Phase II development of

the Oregon Film Museum. Consider adding to the fun by coming dressed as your favorite film character as a show of support for the OFM and to help celebrate the more than 300 movies made in Oregon. Costumes are not required, of course.

The Loft at the Red Building, located at 20 Basin Street in Astoria is the place to be. What's more, the gastronomical wizardry of Executive Chef Christopher Holen from the Baked Alaska Restaurant and Lounge will be one of several event highlights.

A social hour and no-host bar will start things off at 6:00 p.m. Also at that time, the silent auction will officially open. Take in the impressive display of items that have been donated expressly for this occasion. Have fun bidding on whatever catches your eye.

At 7:00 p.m., dinner will be served. You might even meet some of your favorite ... See Dinner on page 7



Nancy Anderson, Patricia Roberts, and Rex Anderson enjoying the party last year.

Heritage Museum Prepares for 2011

As Astoria's 2011 Bicentennial approaches, staff at the Heritage Museum is gearing up for an exciting new permanent exhibit.

The new exhibit, slated for the Museum's gallery two, will tell the story of John Jacob Astor and his bold plan to control a goodly share of the fur trade industry west of the Mississippi River and the need for a permanent U.S. trading post at the mouth of the Columbia River.

It's quite a tale. Astor, himself, never stepped foot on Astoria soil. He did, however, finance an expedition to establish a fur trading outpost for his company, the Pacific Fur Company. The ship, *Tonquin*, was purchased by Astor and U.S. Navy lieutenant Jonathan Thorn was put in charge of the vessel. The ship and crew left New York harbor bound for the Columbia River in 1810. When they reached their destination and crossed the bar, they laid anchor in Baker's Bay—ultimately, a trading post, a shed and a small boat were built at a location we now call Astoria. The story doesn't end there, though. An Indian attack aboard ship, War with

Britain and other things happened which, in the end, kept Astor from acquiring his much-sought-after share of the fur trade in the Pacific Northwest. Only real life could take the twists and turns this particular story does in its entirety.

Look for this exciting new exhibit in May.



St. Mary Star of the Sea students explore the current Native American gallery soon to become the Astoria trading post.



CLATSOP COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Newsletter is published by the Clatsop County Historical Society for its members and friends.

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Musings

Dear Friends & Members,

Thank you for all of your support in the past and especially in 2010. It has been a tremendous year for the Clatsop County Historical Society. In addition to playing a lead role in the planning for the Astoria Bicentennial Celebration, we undertook the creation of the Oregon Film Museum.

For years we have watched the Goonies fans from around the world take their pictures in front of the old County jail adjacent to the Flavel House. In 2005, as part of the 20th anniversary of the film, the Heritage Museum hosted a temporary exhibit of Goonies memorabilia. It was our busiest weekend, month, and summer the Heritage Museum had ever experienced. We began a conversation with the County leadership shortly afterwards about acquiring the Jail to create a movie museum. After the generous intervention of CCHS Board Member Randy Stemper, a lease was signed in December 2009.

Keys and an empty building were turned over to us in late February 2010. With a little more than three months to go before the Goonies 25th Anniversary celebration, Historical Society staff, volunteers, and the design firm Interplay, put forth a Herculean effort to open in time.

We anticipated 10,000 visitors in the first twelve months. At the end of October, in just six months of operation, we have already had 8,500 visitors from around the world! If you have not visited I would encourage you to do so. Also, a fun web site has been created – www.oregonfilmmuseum.org – that has information about the 300+ movies that have been made in Oregon. There's also rather engaging "messages" left from our visitors, movie quotations, and visitor "mug shots."

Plans are underway to continue the development of the museum with a Phase II that will incorporate more than the Goonies and be far more inter-active.

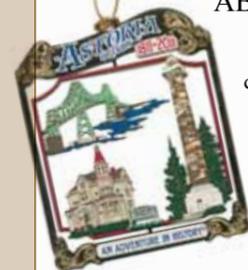
Next year will be a wonderfully busy year for Astoria and the Clatsop County Historical Society. The Bicentennial, Oregon Film Museum, new permanent and temporary exhibits at the Heritage Museum, and tons of activities. None of this would be possible without the enthusiastic and loyal support of all of you. . . THANK YOU!

McAndrew Burns
Executive Director



ABC Update

By Paulette McCoy,
ABC 2011 Director



The holidays are here and with them comes the new Astoria Bicentennial ornament featuring the Astoria Column, Flavel House, and the Astoria-Megler bridge. Also, check out the Official Commemorative Program on page 6. You will want to reserve your copy now.

The Russian Exploration of the Northern Pacific, 1741-1823 is the title of the next Adventure in History Lecture Series January 27 at the Liberty Theater. Author and professor of history at University of Portland, Mark Eifler is the guest speaker.

The evening includes music performed by Con Amici Chamber Players, dessert bar and beverages, lecture and book signing.

Tickets available at the Liberty Theater Box Office.

Don't forget to drop in at the storefront on the 12th St. Docks in Astoria and check out the official Astoria Bicentennial merchandise! (Open Tue.-Sat. 10:00 am-5:00 pm.) Call 503-325-5889.



December 1810

"7th, arrived Falkland Islands, had excellent diversion shooting Sea-Lions, Seals, Foxes, Geese, Ducks, and Penguins; all of which are very numerous in those parts..."

News Briefs

Collections Corner

Ongoing efforts to catalog the thousands of objects, documents, photographs, and books within the Clatsop County Historical Society's collection have gotten a little easier recently. Three local high school and college students have volunteered a few afternoons sorting, cleaning, photographing, and cataloging.

Diane Bond, a nursing student at Clatsop Community College, has photographed items from the collection of medical instruments and equipment, along with a large number of pharmaceutical bottles. In addition, she has taken time to assist in the scanning of photographs.

Chelsea Backlin, a senior at Clatskanie Middle/High School, and in the Running Start program at Clatsop Community College, has inventoried a number of books to be added to the archive library. Currently, she has taken on the task of inventorying the extensive photograph collection donated by Art Chan.

Nathaniel Harper is an Astoria High School senior. As part of his senior project he has been photographing and inventorying our collection of artifacts in the attic of the Heritage Museum.



The result of these students' combined efforts will make more of the collection accessible to researchers, members, and visitors. The next phase of this work will be to enter the information into the collection database. Anyone interested in helping with this?

Diane Bond with an oxygen metabolator made for the former St. Mary's Hospital by the Sanborn Co. of Cambridge Mass.



From the Archives

In plentiful supply in both the past and the present, Bibles can yield up fascinating, often important, clues to history. Not surprisingly, then, CCHS has accumulated quite a large assortment of Bibles, some with family information dutifully recorded in them but many without.

An especially intriguing specimen is a Bible that was recently donated by the Clatsop County Circuit Court. It's one of the oldest to join our collection, dating back to 1847. Looking every bit of its 163 years, this good book is stained, torn and burned in spots. A hole burned through the cover and several pages underneath looks as though it was caused by a smoldering cigar or cigarette. While there were originally over 1,144 pages in this particular Bible, hundreds of pages have been torn out. Regardless of the damage sustained by the book over time, written "messages" from across the decades are still legible.

Inside... along the top of the first page, in old-style writing that's barely discernible, are the words "Astoria House." It's possible that this refers to one of Astoria's early hotels. Penned in the same writing style is the stern admonition, "Read and believe. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." In a different handwriting and scrawled at a later time, the words "County Jail" appear along with a list of names. Included on the list are the distinctly Irish monikers "Frank Kelley" and "F. McKegnay."



It turns out that at least one of the men, Frank Kelly, was a defendant in a court case brought against him by the State of Oregon, according to Clatsop County Judgment Roll #917. A person with this name also shows up on the Oregon State Archives web site as an inmate in Clatsop County's penitentiary as of January 11, 1881. He's not in the index to the newspapers at the Astor Library but could still be mentioned in the newspaper on that date.

Such questions come to mind... like who first owned this Bible? How many different individuals have held it in their hands over time? Did it serve as a piece of evidence in some old court case? Perhaps someone out there can tell us a bit more about its history.

Oregon Film Museum Opening



With a three, two, one, ACTION! the Oregon Film Museum is officially opened June 5th, 2010. Participants were, left to right: City Councilman Blair Henningsgaard, County Commissioner Patricia Roberts, former Astoria Mayor Edith Miller, State Senator Betsy Johnson, CCHS Board Members Jean Harrison, Randy Stemper, Kent Easom, actors Joe Pantoliano, Kurt Hanson, Jeff Cohen, guest Isabella Pantoliano, Astoria Mayor Willis Van Dusen, and CCHS Executive Director Mac Burns.

The Oregon Film Museum (OFM) opened with a bang on June 5. This prompted Goonies fans from all over the world to come to Astoria to help celebrate the movie's 25th anniversary. More than 1,500 people visited the museum in the first three days of its operation!

Needless to say, CCHS staff members worked very hard within an awfully short period of time to make this happen. But they really didn't mind. It was too darn rewarding seeing the excitement on the faces of visitors at the prospect of actually going inside the jail and seeing the fabulous collection of Goonies memorabilia on display. Several members of the original cast were on hand to mark the opening of

the museum. There was even a staged recreation of the opening "jail break" scene.

Since June, the number of visitors to the OFM has held steady. Hopefully, visitation will continue to be high as the museum evolves over the next few months into much more than just the Goonies.



Mama Fratelli's getaway Jeep and crowd await the opening of the museum.



Media from around the world, like the cameraman above, came to film the opening of the new Oregon Film Museum.

Annual Holiday Dinner and Auction

Mark your calendar for our Annual Holiday Dinner and Auction, which takes place this year on Saturday, December 4th. Our most successful of fundraisers will be happening again this year at the Red Building on the waterfront, beginning at 6 pm. Exceptional cuisine and beverages, provided by Chef Chris Holen of Baked Alaska, will complement a fantastic array of auction items to peruse and vie for. Cost per person is \$75 with advance reservations a must. Call 503-325-2203 to reserve your seat or e-mail us at CCHS@cumtux.org. This lively special event is the perfect kick off to the Holiday season—good food, good fun and good friends will all be yours for the taking. This year's funds will be used for the further development of the Oregon Film Museum.

Old-Fashioned Christmas in the Flavel House

Join us for a unique night-time look at the beautifully decorated Flavel House on the evening of Monday, December 20th. There is an entirely different perspective in the house after dark, where refreshments will be served, stories will be told and kids (and grown-ups too) can make hand made ornaments and whisper in Santa's ear. The festive, Victorian era decorations are lovely to behold and hot chocolate and holiday cookies are always a pleasure. Non CCHS members will pay regular admission for this special night, while CCHS members are free (as always).

Tea and Plum Pudding

While on the subject of Christmas, don't forget to plan for an afternoon of tea and plum pudding in the dining room at the Flavel House as one of your holiday activities. Tea will be served every afternoon from 2 pm to 4 pm beginning Saturday, December 11th and running through December 30th. (The Museum is closed on the 24th and 25th.) The very traditional holiday treat is served warm and sweet, the perfect antidote to the wintery, December weather. Take a little time to relax from the hustle and bustle of the holidays and step back in time to a quiet and relaxing tea time. The cost of Tea and Plum Pudding is \$10 per person and includes a self guided tour of the house.

Past Events Spotlight:



Louise Tallant Carruthers (Susan Wentworth) welcomes visitors to her grave site.



Seeing the interior of the Henry Hoefler house (1656 Jerome Ave.) was a real treat for participants during the Astoria Historic Homes Tour this past August.

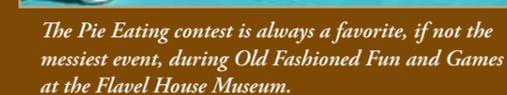


left: Sherman Lovell and son Bob (Steve and Bryce Nurdling) play croquet while picnicking with the gramophone playing during Talking Tombstones VII, Think Inside the Box held October 31st.

photo by Hugh McKenna—For The Daily Astorian



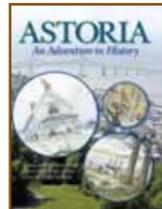
below: Rope maker extraordinaire Kenny Ginn assists a young man during the annual Old Fashioned Fun and Games event in September.



The Pie Eating contest is always a favorite, if not the messiest event, during Old Fashioned Fun and Games at the Flavel House Museum.

From the Museum Gift Shops

Several new Bicentennial-driven and other offerings in the form of books about Astoria history—both past and in-the-making—have come out recently. History buffs, film aficionados, ambitious readers or folks who relish a good story will find at least one of them, probably more, entertaining and high-informative reads from the list below.

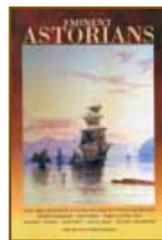


Astoria: An Adventure in History, John Goodenberger author

Published by the Clatsop County Historical Society and made possible through a grant from the Oregon Heritage Commission and a generous contribution from NW Natural.

Goodenberger has said he wrote the book to get kids excited about both Astoria and history in general. A few of the story elements featured in this “children’s book” are... the Chinook Tribe, recent efforts to preserve historic landmarks and Hollywood’s interest in Astoria. There are also activities like how to weave a basket or construct a miniature Astoria.

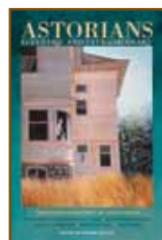
Described as “A fourth grade-level local history book but... enjoyable for all ages,” this is something families can read and enjoy together. It was illustrated by Roger McKay and edited by Betsey Ellerbroek. Its design and layout is the work of Eric Savage. A definite keeper. Cost: \$12.00



Eminent Astorians, published by the East Oregonian Publishing Company

Recalling Lytton Strachey’s book, “Eminent Victorians,” this volume contains twelve essays of “movers and shakers” in Astoria’s history. In it, authors John Terry, Robert Michael Pyle, Stephen Dow Beckham, William F. Willingham, Frederik L. Schodt, Jean M. Ward, Sandra Haarsager and Liisa Penner tell the story of such notables as John Jacob

Astor, Captain George Flavel, and Chinook Chief Comcomly. You’ll also enjoy learning about other dynamic individuals who may not be as well known. Their stories overlap and connect in ways that help make this book a history primer for the area. Great photos, drawings and other “visuals” too. Treat yourself or purchase one for friends or family. Cost: \$19.95



Astorians, Eccentric and Extraordinary, published by the East Oregonian Publishing Company

In this companion volume to “Eminent Astorians,” local and Oregon authors M. J. Cody, Amy Hoffman Couture, John Goodenberger, Nancy Hoffman and Liisa Penner have deftly fashioned short biographical profiles on 54 individuals who spent time in Astoria and left their mark. Some were notorious, others fascinating or colorful; still others achieved remarkable things. Regardless, these subjects come to life in just a few short pages on each. Once again, photos and visuals contained in the book are terrific. Chances are you’ll find somebody

depicted in the book who’s connected to you in some way, so get your copy today! Cost: \$19.95



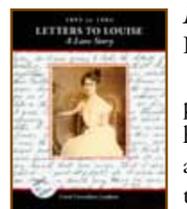
A Pictorial History of Astoria: The Early Years (Second Edition)

This, the second edition of “A Pictorial History of Astoria: The Early Years” is much improved over the edition released in 1997... featuring new content and photos. A special project by the Clatsop County Historical Society and The Daily Astorian, this “coffee table” book (that is so much more) still contains hundreds of old photos with captions, dating from the earliest years up through the 1940s. Culled from CCHS’s photo collection, which contains more than 35,000 images, this handsome edition makes the perfect Christmas gift! Cost: \$39.95



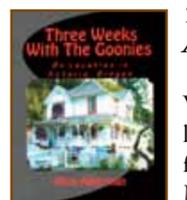
Bicentennial Celebration Official Commemorative Program

This beautifully designed, full color guide contains over 128 pages of information about Astoria’s extraordinary history, featuring photos, essays, and articles on present day Astoria and a comprehensive program of events for the entire 2011 year. \$10. Available Dec. 4, 2011.



Letters to Louise: A Love Story, Carol Carruthers Lambert author

Over a five-year period, author Lambert painstakingly transcribed correspondence between her grandmother, Maria Louis Tallant Carruthers and Richard Ervine “Dick” Carruthers during their eight-year courtship and a few years after their marriage. The result is a fascinating portrait of another time. Interspersed between the letters (written between 1893 and 1904) are the author’s discussions of historic events, e.g., the Spanish–American War, the Chicago World’s Fair, the discovery of the “Sandwich Islands” and developments in Hawaii during the reign of Queen Lili’uokalani. Give this book to someone you love. Cost: \$25.00



Three Weeks with the Goonies on Location in Astoria Oregon, Mick Alderman, author

In the autumn of 1984, a production team from Warner Brothers Studios descended upon the quiet little town of Astoria, Oregon. Their mission... to film a kids’ adventure movie called “The Goonies.” More than a quarter of a century later, its fans still flock to Astoria to rekindle some of the excitement of their first viewing and pay a kind of tribute to the wildly popular film. “Three Weeks with the Goonies” really captures what it was like to be on the set during the shooting in Astoria. Alderman shares anecdotes from the time he spent with Goonies’ cast and crew. He also explains how things work on a professional movie set. Illustrated with 80 photos taken during the shoot, this book is a must for any die-hard Goonies fans. Get your copy today! Cost: \$14.95 Available at the Oregon Film Museum.

Dinner ... continued from page 7

Oregon film characters. Prepare as well to help bring in the holidays in the time-honored fashion... in the convivial company of friends old and new. Tickets cost \$75 per plate and advance reservations are a must. Call 503-325-2203 to make a reservation or e-mail CCHS@cumtux.org.

If you’d like to 1) be a sponsor; or 2) donate an item for our silent auction, there’s still time! Additionally, it’s not too late to sign up as an event volunteer. Help is needed in several areas, e.g. food serving, table bussing, helping with decorations and more. Call 503-325-2203 for more information by no later than December 4th.

Memorials

In Honor of Isabella Chappell’s Birthday

Gary and Suzanne Nelson

John A. “Bolo” Abola

Ethel L. Wilson
Ike and Gail Vice

Patricia Ann Alfonse

James and Ruth Hope

Elva Amburn

Scott and Rochelle Hagnas
Glenn and Lori Hauser
John and Violet Hagnas

Jean Anderson

Lloyd Billings

Leona E. Brandenburg

John and Violet Hagnas
Scott and Rochelle Hagnas
Glenn and Lori Houser
Lloyd and Grace Swanson

Allen V. Cellars

John S. McGowan

Margaret “Peg” Christie

Philip and Nettie Blair

Gail Swennes Collins

Orabelle R. Bruneau
Mary J. Lovell

George H. Corey

John S. McGowan

Myrtle Naomi Dreyer

Philip and Nettie Blair
Darlene Story

Robert E. Everard

Buddy Hoell

John Henry Freeman

Buddy Hoell

Priscilla A. Gauthier

Buddy Hoell

Laverne Hubbard

Rae Goforth

Clifford Johnson

Curtis L. Olson

Helen D. King

Ella P. Hill

Eugene H. Knutsen

John S. McGowan

Bonnie Ladd

Philip and Nettie Blair

William J. “Bill” Leaby Sr.

J. Gordon Chester

Family

Rod Leland

Buddy Hoell

Robert S. “Bob” Lovell

John S. McGowan

Steven M. Lund

Ike and Gail Vice

Gilbert L. “Gib” Marxen

Lois Jean Rose
Hugh and Carol Seppa
Margery E. Warila
Loretta M. Sloan
Beverly Aspino
Donald and Helen Fastabend
Marthann M. Hall

Diana Lund Nelson

Jon B. Lund

John D. Palmrose, Sr.

Buddy Hoell

Betty Jane Phillips

Buddy Hoell

Rae Goforth

Everett E. Pietila

Ike and Gail Vice

Kalle Valio Rautio

Ronald Larsen

Stephen L. Recken

Bruce and Kristina Berney
Michael Foster
Mark Barnes and
Heather Reynolds

Margaret M. Roman

Ethel L. Wilson

Aubrey Schmidt

John S. McGowan

Hugh Seppa

Shirley Tinner
Dan and Kim Supple
Buddy Hoell
Rae Goforth
Mary J. Lovell
Joan Pratt
Robert and Margaret Chopping
James and Ruth Hope
Marthann M. Hall
John S. McGowan
Ruth Shaner

Ruth Ann Acton Sides

Donald B. Acton
Helen C. Acton
Elvin E. Sides

Alfbild Stanley

Ethel L. Wilson

Nancy Thorsness

Shirley Tinner
Ethel L. Wilson
Susan Orr
McAndrew Burns
Faith Swanson

Dick Wendt

George and Jean Harrison

Wendell Wyatt

John S. McGowan

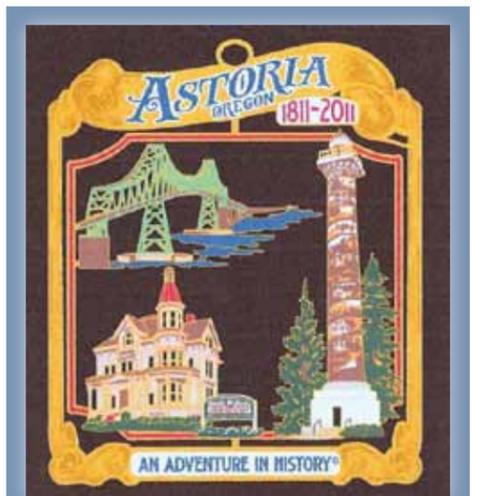
Andrew E. “Andy” Young

Curt and Shelley Ahola
Lois Henningsen Ahola
Kenneth and Esther Lampi
Donald and Helen Fastabend
Philip and Nettie Blair

Don G. Ziak

Buddy Hoell

Thank You!



NEW Astoria Bicentennial Ornament only \$10

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CCHS Calendar of Events

	<i>Dec. 4</i>	<i>Holiday Dinner and Auction</i>	<i>Fun begins at 6:00 pm</i>	<i>Loft at the Red Building</i>
	<i>Dec. 11-30</i>	<i>Tea and Plum Pudding</i>	<i>2:00–4:00 pm</i>	<i>Flavel House Museum</i>
	<i>Dec. 20</i>	<i>Old-fashioned Christmas</i>	<i>6:00–8:00 pm</i>	<i>Flavel House Museum</i>
	<i>Jan. 27</i>	<i>Adventure In History Lecture Series II</i>	<i>7:00 pm</i>	<i>Liberty Theater</i>
Exhibits		<i>The Most Wicked Place on Earth</i>	<i>Daily</i>	<i>Heritage Museum</i>