

Boyhood Days in Renton

By Sam K. Smyth

Today's children would be astounded, I imagine, by our activities as children in pre-television days. Parents encouraged us to leave the house, consciously or not, by thinking up chores for us to do, such as preparing wood and kindling for the stove, or taking out the ashes. Going to the woods to cut down trees, saw them into stove lengths, and haul them home in a wheelbarrow was a big deal for my brother and me growing up in the 1920s and 30s.



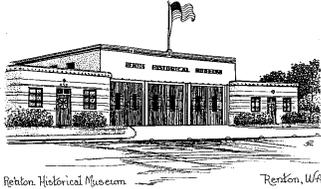
Luckily for us, in our neighborhood, there were plenty of vacant lots for games, nearby woods and swamps for adventures. A little farther away were the Cedar River and Lake Washington, our swimming and fishing resources. For a few years after we moved into our

house, the roadway was dirt, with ruts six or eight inches deep. After a rain the ruts were filled to the brim and made ideal sailing courses for our toy boats. The boats consisted of pointed narrow boards. A hole bored with one's pocketknife accommodated a mast made from a sliver of cedar. We made a sail by punching a suitable piece of paper onto the mast. Needless to say, this was wet work, but the competition was fierce! Such boats were also sailed in any convenient pond, like those at the nearby gravel pit.



Rocks played a huge part in our lives and most boys became highly skilled throwers. The rocks were extremely abundant. Fights often were caused by or ended up in rock throwing. We threw at birds, fish, rats, signs, telephone poles, windows, and each other. Slingshots were a step up which required learning the art of making them. You can imagine how this kept boys occupied for days. Then came tests for accuracy, shooting at cats, dogs, bottles, cans, insulators, streetlights, and eventually each other.

Continued on page 4



Renton Historical Quarterly

Steve A. Anderson, Managing Editor,
Susie Bressan, Graphic Design & Layout
Louise George, Copy Editor
Daisy Ward, Text Input & Copy Editor
Deborah Willard & Karl Hurst
City of Renton Print and Mail Services

Contributing Authors

Tom Monahan
Sam Smyth

**Renton Historical Society
Board of Trustees**

Barbara Horton, *President*
Bill Gaw, *Vice President*
Derek Almo, *Secretary*
Jennifer Sharp, *Treasurer*

Allan Unbedacht, '04
Ted McLendon, '04
Vicky Persson, '04
Eric Black, '05
Bob Hunt, '05
Marge Richter '05
Larry Sleeth, '06
Dan Foley, '06
Doug Kyes, '06
Laura Clawson, '06

Ken Becker, *Endowment*
Terri Briere, *City Liaison*

Museum Staff

Steven A. Anderson, *Director/Museum Supervisor*
Daisy Ward, *Administrative Assistant*
Stan Greene, *Archivist/Records*
Laura Crawford, *Collections Manager*
Dorota Rahn, *Volunteer Coordinator*
Tom Monahan, *Museum Assistant/Research*
Pearl Jacobson, *Registrar*
Louise George, *Secretary*
Dick Hawkins, *Grounds/Maintenance*

Ernie Tonda, *Director Emeritus*
Ethel Telban, *Librarian Emeritus*
Rose Mary Green, *Curator Emeritus*

Renton Historical Museum
235 Mill Avenue South
Renton, WA 98055-2133
Phone: 425.255.2330
FAX: 425.255.1570
Email: saanderson@ci.renton.wa.us

Renton.
Ahead of the curve

President's Report

By Barb Horton

It's hard to believe that this brand new year is nearing an end. Time flies when there are so many things happening! Throughout this year, I have been reporting on the work that your Executive Board has been doing with the City of Renton to ensure the continued vitality of the Society and Museum. We have been documenting the relationship and expectations between the City and RHS, so that each organization has a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities, with regard to each other and the community.

I am happy to say that our new Community Services Director, Dennis Culp, has taken the lead on the City/Society Agreement. Dennis replaced Jim Shepherd, who retired earlier this year and has brought a great "working together" approach to our City/Society Agreement activities. Dennis is now the keeper of the document draft. We've been working on it together in one room, with a laptop and a projector. There are no more handwritten comments to interpret and no multiple drafts floating around to confuse us! We've had two good long working session on it, circulated it through the City stakeholders and brought semi-final draft to the RHS Board of Trustees for review and comment in the October Board Meeting.

The Board of Trustees believes that the language in the City/Society Agreement must foster our next big project as a Board. That is the Society's goal of qualifying for and achieving Museum accreditation. Accreditation is a major step for the Society and the Museum toward growing our organization to the next step of professionalism. We will feature an article on Accreditation in our next newsletter that will answer all your questions about it. To prevent us from re-inventing the wheel, Dennis asked me to go out to communities that have accredited museums and do some investigation on their operating agreements. It makes sense to examine the way that others have gone before us on this endeavor. I will be focusing on gathering this information, so that we can determine if we can tailor the City/Society Agreement to foster conditions that would support Museum accreditation.

As we head into the end of the year, it may be a challenge to get everyone to pay attention to governance documentation instead of sugar plums dancing in their heads, but we'll sure give it a try!!!

Barbara Horton
President, Renton Historical Society

The Renton Historical Society Board meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., at either the Renton Community Center or the Renton Historical Museum. Please call the museum for meeting locations on the following dates: January 25th, February 25th, March 24th and April 28th.

Public hours for the Renton Historical Museum are Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00am to 4:00pm and by appointment for archival and photographic research purposes Wednesday through Fridays, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Admission: \$3 per adult, \$1 per child (ages 8 - 16) and Renton Historical Society members are always free. Free days: first Wednesday and third Saturday of the month.

The Wonderful World of Ebay

By Tom Monahan

Recently, several people have asked me questions about the Museum's process for obtaining objects through Ebay. For those who are not computer friendly, Ebay is an Internet auction site on which people can bid on an enormous variety of objects from sellers all over the world. On Ebay, one can find literally everything; from real picture postcards to automobiles, statues to campaign buttons, and pretty much any other item it is legal to buy and sell.



The way the whole process works is fairly simple. We bid under the screen name RTNMUSEUM, and when we find an item we want, we place a bid for the highest amount we are willing to pay. The catch is that you can't see what everyone else's maximum bid is, and they can't see yours. Your highest bid is not visible on any other bidders screen; only the minimum highest bid is shown to all the other bidders. All the hopeful bidders then wait until the last few seconds before an auction ends to place their highest bid, hoping that no one will place a greater bid at the last moment. It can be quite an exciting feeling when we have an item that we really want, and we see 7 other people bidding on it. It can also be a great disappointment when you believe you're the

only bidder on a particular object, only to be outbid at the last second.

A few years ago, the staff at the Renton Museum received a tip from a fellow King County heritage colleague that an important Renton artifact was up for sale on a newly created online auction service. The item was an original stock certificate, dated 1875, for the Renton Cooperative Coal Company. We did not get to acquire that piece, but it placed us on a track that we've continued on ever since.

Since that initial failed attempt, the Renton Historical Museum has had great luck in finding many rare Renton related items this way, which we would otherwise not been able to acquire. At the time of this writing, we have recently acquired an 1891 land deed regarding property in Renton, and several photographs from the 1930s and 40s showing downtown landmarks. In the past we have acquired other interesting items, such as antique ceremonial swords from fraternal organizations for one of our satellite "History Zone" exhibits, ephemera dealing with Renton's industries, and a large number of rare and one-of-a-kind photographic images from the earliest times in our city's history.

We are aware that other members of the Renton Historical Society as well as other residents of our city like to use Ebay too. It would be helpful to us for everyone reading this article to not bid against us if you see if you're bidding against RTNMUSEUM. Items that we acquire will be available to everyone as part of our collection. More bidders can also drive the price up on an item that is not actually worth as much as it sells for. We do have our limits, and have let items go that went beyond the market value. By letting our museum bid on items of historical interest to Renton, you insure that each item is auctioned off for a fair price, cared for and preserved by professionals, and available to the most number of Rentonians.



The difficult art with the knife was flute making. Green segments of swamp willow were chosen, about six inches long and one half inch in diameter. By careful working, the bark of the segment could be totally loosened, and by sliding it back and forth whilst blowing in the end, a whistle sound could be produced.

Another game, a type of field hockey, involved whittling a "puck" of one-inch diameter maple about five inches long. The game started with a "shinny," in which a player from each of the two teams stood opposite each other with the puck on the ground between them. The ritual included saying "Hockey one, hockey two, hockey three," each time ceremoniously extending one's stick forward. However, after "hockey

three," each player tried to be first to bash his stick down on the pointed end of the puck nearest him. The puck would catapult up in the air, and while airborne, it was supposed to be batted toward the opponent's goal.

Other games, often played at night or after supper on summer evenings generally included some kind of hiding and seeking. Leapfrog was harmless and common. A form of jousting was popular where a smaller boy clinched his legs around the waist of the larger boy (horse). Together "horse" and "knight" would charge similar twosomes with intent to topple them either by bumping or pulling them down. Marbles was a common grade-school game, played with great intensity and high emotions, usually at recess. In grade school, a favorite game on rainy days was "Boom My Bear." The boy who was "it" must kneel on the floor to be the Bear. The boy who previously had been the bear grasped the bear's belt with one hand and held his own belt in his other hand. All the remaining boys circled around this pair, belts in hand, swatting "the bear" when the opportunity presented itself. If the bear's handler managed to smack one of them with his belt, the person being "smacked" became the bear.

A more dangerous game played outdoors was "Duck on Rock." First, a rectangular area about six feet wide and thirty feet long would be scratched in the dirt. At the center of this space a flat "Rock" was placed and on it, the rock or "Duck" of the person who was "it." The rest of the boys, each with a rock in hand, gathered at one end of the rectangle. Their purpose was to throw or bowl their cobble-sized rocks (one or two pound each) at the



Duck with the intent to knock it off the Rock. Of course, the person who was "it" had to step back to avoid getting clobbered. If and when the Duck was off the Rock, the participants had free passage to the other end of the rectangle, scooping up their rocks as they ran, but as soon as "it" got his Duck back on the Rock, he was free to tag anyone he could reach who was still not across the end line. Anyone tagged fairly then became "it."



We were lucky to have Cedar River and Lake Washington as close as they were to our neighborhoods. The river especially provided opportunities to swim and fish. One could usually catch a couple trout in an hour's time. Other strange species in the river included chubs, bullheads, suckers, eels, and red fish, a salmon variety. We actually learned to swim in the Cedar River, quite naked, aided by the swift current. Upon grounding on a gravel bar, the swimmer would hasten back to the fire built prior to ever going in the water. Whilst huddled around the fire, there was the opportunity to smoke "smoke wood," pieces of hollow roots from the stream. We also swam off the log booms in the lake at what is now Coulon Park. A large sawmill was located there. Lake fish we caught were mostly perch, but occasionally we caught a trout or two. There were also elusive bass.



Just north of the hill on which Mt. Olivet Cemetery is located, a small stream issues from a spring and flows gently west toward what was once a Sartori farm, a dairy farm in our day, run by a family of Swiss immigrants. A little farther downstream, where we boys had a great time making small dams, another family approached me one day as I knelt, dabbling quietly in the water. It was a mother hen and her brood of tiny little ones, come to drink. It was somewhat later that it dawned on me that she wasn't a Plymouth Rock chicken but actually a grouse.

A proliferation of old logging roads on the hill below the cemetery were just right for wild trips down in my wagon, or in winter for sledding or skiing. Another skid road led from the Sunset Highway eastward to Plute's Pond, another boyhood retreat. Although only about a foot deep, we managed to build and operate rafts on this hide-away in the deep woods. You may correctly gather that the woods were a favorite place with the boys, and especially me. You may also correctly infer that this pre-television atmosphere, together with a stable family life, went far in the development of a scientifically curious and inventive youth who was at the same time attuned to the beauties and attraction to be found in the great outdoors.

Editor's Note: The preceding story was published in *Nostalgia Magazine* in July 2003 and was reprinted here with permission from the author. Also, images used in illustrating this story came from the Guitteau family collection.

Holiday Happenings

Holiday Party

The museum staff and the Society Board are organizing a Holiday Party for Society members and volunteers at the Carco Theater on Tuesday, December 9th from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. Please make a note in your calendars. Formal invitations with details were sent out in mid-November. One of the attractions will be a performance by the Ballet Bellevue Company. Victoria Titova, former soloist for the Bolshoi Ballet, will be dancing together with her students. Her achievements are listed on the opposite side of the invitation. If you want to become familiar with Ballet Bellevue, Victoria Titova, and her cast before the Holiday Party, you will have a chance to see *Sleeping Beauty* at the Maydenbauer Center, November 28 through 30, with a gala performance (special guest, Ekaterina Shipulina, current principal dancer of the Bolshoi Ballet) on November 29 at 7:00pm. For tickets, call Ticketwindow at 206-325-6500.

Holiday Closure

The museum will be closed for the Winter Holiday season starting Sunday, December 21 through Tuesday, January 6. Low public visits during this period, combined with staff holidays, vacations and busy volunteers make the closure a practical method for conserving energy and re-energizing for the New Year.



FROM THE RENTON HISTORICAL MUSEUM FILES

Alfred Fabre, deceased November 16, 1998, wrote music and played the accordion. He was a life member of Local 360 Renton Musicians.

***My Vocation
is to become an Accordionist
1937***

Forward

This essay has been assembled in the hopes that it will interest new prospects in a field which I hope will prove as interesting and entertaining to them as to myself.

Dedication

To Pete Delaurenti, my patient and friendly teacher. I, Alfred Fabre, dedicate this essay in honor of his everlasting interest in me and my undertakings.

Reasons for Selecting this Occupation

Accordion music has always been very sweet and soothing to my nerves and I have always had a desire to take up the study of the accordion.

It happens that I am very fortunate to have an uncle who took to playing the accordion when just a boy and who has worked along with it until now. He is a teacher of the instrument. So when he began looking for a prospective relative to teach, his eyes were upon me. At first it was a very tedious process, this continual drilling on runs, chords and rhythm and trying not to forget the combining of the bellows manipulation with right and left hand playing.

Now that I am learning to play popular music and old favorites, it is becoming very fascinating. I would rather practice on my accordion than go out to play ball with the other boys. Music seems to satisfy my recreational and emotional desires.

Whenever there are any social functions in my community and the entertainment committee want entertainers, then I can accept their invitations to play as I have developed a talent which makes me an asset to the social world.

Another reason for selecting the piano accordion for my profession is that it is just in its infancy. The field is not competitive and promises a good harvest to the industrious player.

In Europe and particularly England, hundreds of accordion clubs are in existence and now the accordion fever is spreading throughout the United States. There is a great demand for accomplished accordionists and this demand will continuously increase, as this is a new profession.

One cannot acquire really fine results upon the accordion unless as much time is given to practice as would have to be given to mastering the piano or violin. Efficiency on any instrument can be acquired only by long and hard work. Enthusiastic accordion students practice from three to four hours a day.

The qualifications to become a proficient player are numerous. The most important requisite is to have the desire to learn the instrument. Next comes the necessity for a good conservative accordion. Another point is the ambition to practice until perfection and not to give up at any obstacle that confronts us. And last but not least, a good conscientious teacher, for without a good teacher, you can have the best of all the requirements and still never reach the top of the ladder.

My physical condition is beyond reproach. My future outlook in the musical field is very bright as I feel that I am improving more and more every day. My greatest desire is to keep on working on my instrument so that I may become an accomplished player in the class of Pietro Deiro, Paul Donath and Pietro Frosini.

##



Front row: Alex Cugini, Mario Tonda, Tony DalSanto, Vaughn Miller, Carol Prandi, George Woods, Tillie Favro. Middle row: William Favro, Louis Traverso, Aldo Scappini, Pete Delaurent (deceased), Fred Miller, Evelyn Hosko, Dorothy Dalloco. Back row: Hugo Toschi, Elmer Lund, Al Fabre, Pete Delaurenti, Harvey Delaurenti.

Renton Museum Report

By Steve A. Anderson, Museum Supervisor



This past year, record-breaking sunshine followed by the sudden arrival of clouds, 5 inches of rain in one day! and, well, more clouds, prompted a steady increase in the number of leaks within the museum. If you've driven by lately, you've no doubt noticed a large amount of equipment around the museum structure. This equipment belongs to the Lloyd Lynch Company and its subcontractors, who have been hired by the city (for about \$72,000) to re-roof the museum. The project consists of several steps: (1) removing the existing years and multi-layers of built-up roofing material and, (2) placing 2" rigid insulation on the decking and then (3) torching a Soprema Modified Bitumen Roof Coating System over

the whole lot. A final step is to completely install new flashings, scuppers, insulation, and other incidental work as may be necessitated by these operations.

The work is noisy, loud, smelly and obnoxious, but those of us who have had numerous buckets on the floors in the exhibition and collections storage areas to catch the many drips and leaks appreciate every minute of their efforts. Work is scheduled to be completed by the end of November.

While that has been going on outside, within the walls of the museum things are continually moving ahead. Our new collections manager Laura Crawford has charged into the Custer Collections and has indicated to me that the photograph portion of the project will be accessible via computer by the end of the year. Now, that is no small statement, as the photographic imagery from this one collection is estimated at being over 1,000 images at the very least. That's 1/7th the size of our entire photographic collection! We have a number of dedicated volunteer registrars (those individuals who type in data regarding images or objects) and even I'm getting in on the act, learning the Past Perfect programming and assisting when and where I can.

We have also discovered that the Renton Historical Museum has a vast "phantom" collection – objects and photographs that came to the museum in the past 30 years but were never accounted for within the museum's record keeping system. Now, this presents a far more challenging proposition than we first estimated. For every one item that has entered the record books here, we are now estimating between 20 to 30 objects, photographs or old paper, never got into the books. We'll be having to do a recovery program of those "old accessions" to bring them up to speed and make them a formal part of our overall collections. This is especially important if the museum ever wishes to attain the coveted "accredited" stamp of approval.

Another staffing note: our office's administrative assistant, Daisy Ward, took a tumble this past month at home and unfortunately broke her leg! Because of that, we've lost her services for the rest of the year, but will be getting by with Amy Neff, who comes from the library where she is working part time. For contact info on Daisy, please call the museum or send your notes here. We'll make sure she gets them.

Christmas is upon us . . . please consider giving the gift of membership in the Renton Historical Society to a friend or neighbor. A great deal is happening here and we'd love to have more folks interested in Renton's past come along for the ride!

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Steve Anderson,
Museum Supervisor

Membership Dues

A reminder for those who have not paid their dues for 2004....Your continued support of the Renton Historical Society is appreciated.



Happy
Holidays



George W. & Annie Lewis Custer Endowment Program Report

The Endowment Committee met on the 21st of October with the Chair, Ken Becker presiding and committee members Allan Unbedacht, Naomi Mathisen, Steve Anderson, and guest Diana Girard, attending. It was reported that the fund rested at \$1,228,000 on September 31st, due to the influx of \$1 million of Custer money recently committed by the board. Currently 92% resides in fixed income investments and 8% resides within equity investments. Most of the meeting centered on returning the fund to a 60/40 spread of investments, with chairman Becker leading the discussion. The committee voted to spread the funds out amongst its current holdings in mutual funds, all of which have four or five star ratings. As there were no other investment decisions to be made, the meeting adjourned. The committee meets quarterly, with the next meeting on January 28, 2004.

All memorials, life membership dues and directed gifts go toward the fund's working capital. All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law. Consult your tax advisor. Only the interest generated by these invested funds will be used as sustained support to the Renton Historical Society. Please call 425.255-2330 for more information, or email at saanderson@ci.renton.wa.us for more information regarding including the Renton Historical Society in your living will or bequest.

Volunteer Messenger

By Dorota Rahn, Museum Volunteer Coordinator

Our 86-year-old volunteer Furman George Carter died this past September. We lost a very devoted volunteer who helped with cleaning and refurbishing our mining exhibit. Born Feb. 21, 1917, in Seattle, he graduated in 1935 from Highline High School and lived in Renton since 1942. Furman worked as a machinist at PACCAR for 37 years, retiring in 1978. He enjoyed tinkering and repairing things, making wine, hunting, fishing, gardening and genealogy. He was preceded in death by his wife, Violet, on April 2, 2002. He is survived by his sons James Carter of Bellingham and Wayne Carter of Renton; daughter, Patricia Adams of Enumclaw; brothers, Wilbur Carter of Seattle and Willis Carter of Federal Way; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren."

Also, our office administrative assistant Daisy Ward broke her leg, had surgery and is currently resting at home in Renton. We are missing her tremendously and hope she will be able to come back to the museum sooner than later. Amy Neff from the Renton Public Library is temporarily substituting for Daisy.

On the brighter side of life, some of our volunteers visited the Tacoma Art Museum and were impressed by the Mille Fiore special installation project by Dale Chihuly. If you haven't had opportunity to see it yet, you have time until the middle of January when the "glass garden" will be taken apart and sent back to his studio in Seattle.

The Docent Training Program, which started on September 18th, was followed by a second training session regarding Puget Sound Salish Indians (including Duwamish) on October 22nd. The third training session will be held in February next year. The exact date will be given at a later time.

As my due date (Twins!) is approaching very quickly, I am going to be out of the office from November 10th till middle of February. I do not know the exact date of return, as it is very difficult to forecast how I will be handling twins. However, I am definitely planning to be back in the museum and working as a Volunteer Coordinator. I enjoy working with our volunteers too much to leave now. In the meantime, I will try doing some work from home including scheduling greeters so please do not be surprised if I call you at home at different hours than usual. I will appreciate your cooperation very much. Enjoy your Thanksgiving dinner and have a very Merry Christmas.

New Members

Rosie Morris
Jack & Lorraine Swisher
Marsha Bonfiglio
Joy Allison
John Sneddon
Edwin & Claudia Gillispie
Jennifer Scott
Velma Evans
Marilyn Wooton

Donations

Boeing Gift Matching Program
(Basil Simpson)
Anita Burkett
Lydia Nelson
Keith Pearson, M.D.
Anne Butko
United Way of Tri-State Companies
Pat & William Borek

New Business Memberships

Holman Real Estate Services

New Benefactor

Keith Tonkin
Colleen Cole-Bowron
& Roy Bowron

Centennial Snapshots

Howard Bonner Custer

Howard Bonner “Fats” Custer was one of the Custer family’s youngest, and little heralded members. Born the last child of the Custer’s twelve siblings, Howard made his way west in the latter 19th Century and eventually established a home on Renton Hill. From there, he spent 30 years of his life working at the Pacific Car Foundry from around 1915 to the middle 1940s. This image shows Howard at a family gathering in about 1919-20. We do not know much about Howard, or his family. If you know of him, or are a descendant, we’d love to hear from you, for we have other images we think may be him.



Sarah Florence (Newland) Tonkin

When you think of the many people you relate to and are friends with on a daily basis, it is no surprise that you end up with pictures of them. And so it was with George and Annie Custer, who obtained this image of a very young Sarah Florence Newland, who eventually married William Tonkin in 1883 and moved to Renton with him (the Tonkin Family currently operates a Taco Time Franchise on Rainier Avenue South.) The Tonkins married into the Custer family (or vise/versa) – a genealogical line that eventually produced a Renton mayor – Don Custer. The Custer Albums have many images from the Illinois area, circa 1880-90, which could only be the Tonkin connection, because no other part of the Custer/Lewis/Edwards/Harris families came from that part of the country. We’d like to know if any Tonkin family members could help us identify other Chicago/Illinois images that just may be more Tonkins. Please give us a call – it may be the only chance we have in identifying past Rentonites from your family.

Rentonians

Memorials shown were received from those noted in reduced print from April 15, 2003 to July 15, 2003.

Remembered



denotes former Society Life Member



denotes former Society member

Boyd Ankney

Katie Gilligan

Belmont Beattie

Jack & Lois Gannon

Eleanor Bausano Beattie

Jack & Lois Gannon

Dorothy Bruce

Harold Bruce

Betty Carr

Catherine Rutkowski

Furman Carter

Mr. & Mrs. B. L. Cocanower

Tony Cenkovich

Lillian Rosenstrom

Gene Church

Ric & Theresa Anderson

Jerome Faul

Dr. Howard Miller; Virginia Lucke; Helen Kennick; Zelima Vidmar; Richard & Corinne Lucotch; Carole & Douglas Toschi; E. Jane Lawrence; Roger Hulbush; Jack & Lois Gannon; Harold Bruce; John & Charlotte Cline; Mary Hulbush; Homer & Bunny Venishnick

Aldo Favro

Ethel Telban

Kei Fujikado

Al & Shirley Armstrong

Rose Gigli

Ethel Telban; Jerry & Barbara Shellan

Roger Goodspeed

Al & Shirley Armstrong

Aaron Goodwin

Lorraine Goodwin

Eva Goodwin

Lorraine Goodwin

Daryl S. Hartman

Greg & Carrie Bergquist

Floyd U. Hewitt

Lee Newton & sons; Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Wicks; Lucille Miller

William Koshak

George & Chrissie Grubestic; Robert & Nancy Phelps; Beth & Mike Potoshnik; Sarah Jane & Bruce Hisey; Anne Butko

Helen "Ginger" Kugler

Greg & Carrie Bergquist

Mary Jane LaJoy

Katie Gilligan

E. Jane Lawrence

Nesika OES Past Matrons Club; John & Charlotte Cline

Michael Mack

Louise George; Anonymous; Ila Hemm; Homer & Bunny Venishnick

Blanche Marenakos

Beth & Mike Potoshnik

Velma McKean

George & Chrissie Grubestic; Betty Warren; Anne Butko

Thelma F. Newton

Lee Newton & sons

William Richards

Betty Richards

Todd Richardson

Steve & Lynn Anderson

Elmer Spring

Jack & Lois Gannon; Renton Creative Arts; Carolina Spring

Hugo Toschi

Jerry & Barbara Shellan

Thomas Williams

Lillian Stephenson; Richard & Corinne Lucotch; Marilyn Tharp Clise

Hildur "Tommie"

Williamson

Carrie & Greg Bergquist

Marion Witt

Dorlene Bressan & family

MEMORIALS: \$100+

Velma McKean

Shirley Moretti

Lois Anderson

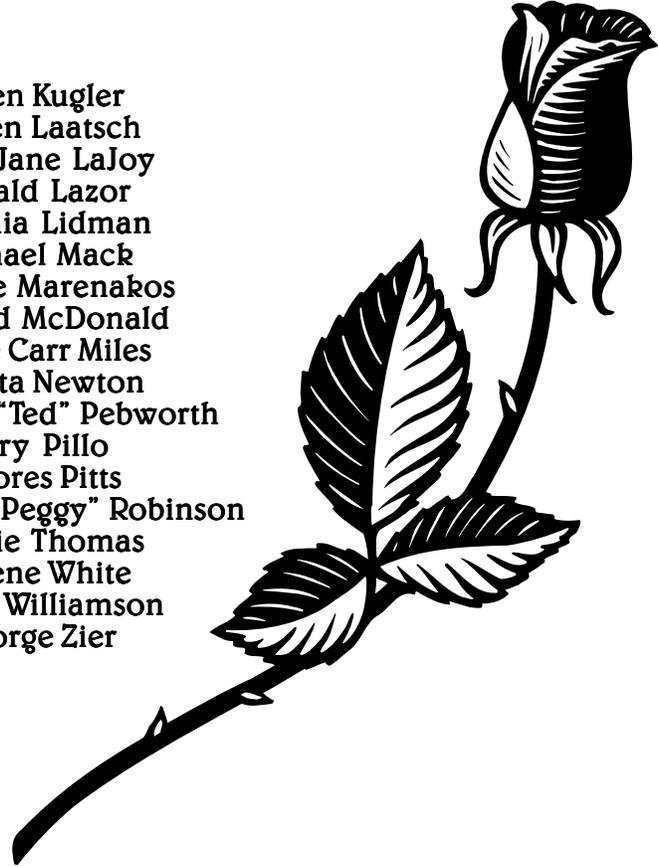
Glenn Anderson

Rentonians Remembered

Obituries

Adron Bishop
 Mary Ball
 Furman Carter
 Alma Christman
 Elsie Collins
 Grace Cople
 Harold Davison
 Catherine Doeleman
 Velma Dragin McKean
 Phyllis Draper
 Lester Elzig
 James Ferguson
 Jack Fisher
 Ira Franklin
 Daryl Hartman
 Janice Hubbard
 Melvin Katzer, Sr.
 Grace Kortez
 William Koshak

Helen Kugler
 Steven Laatsch
 Mary Jane LaJoy
 Ronald Lazor
 Antonia Lidman
 Michael Mack
 Blanche Marenakos
 Richard McDonald
 Bessie Carr Miles
 Loretta Newton
 Theodore "Ted" Pebworth
 Gary Pillo
 Delores Pitts
 Marguerite "Peggy" Robinson
 Bobbie Thomas
 Eugene White
 Hildur Williamson
 George Zier



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 98055-2133

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

- Student Individual(\$8+) = _____
- Senior Individual (\$8+) = _____
- Individual (\$10+) = _____
- Senior Couple(\$12+) = _____
- Family (\$15+) = _____
- Benefactor (\$50+) = _____
- Business (\$40+) = _____
- Corporate (\$1000+) = _____
- Life (\$250+) _____
One Time Only
- General Fund Donation _____
- Endowment Fund Donation _____
 In Memory of: _____

Total enclosed: _____

Polling Results On Future Bylaws Votes

By Derek Almo, Secretary, Renton Historical Society

Recently, the Renton Historical Society (RHS) Board of Trustees polled the membership on their preferences for how the Society's bylaws should be revised in the future. There had been controversy over how this was done in the past, which included direct conflict with the Articles of Incorporation - which vests the authority to make and revise the bylaws in the Board of Trustees. A previous revision of the bylaws by a previous Board had given this authority to the membership, in direct conflict with the Articles of Incorporation - which is the controlling document.

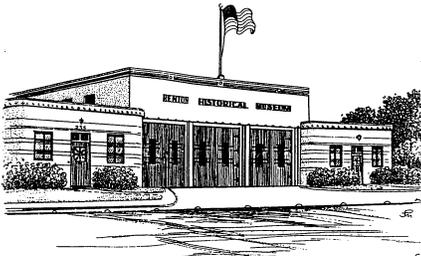
In the most recent revision of the bylaws, the Board of Trustees restored the authority to make and revise the bylaws in the Board of Trustees, in alignment with the Articles of Incorporation. And as a result of that action, we received several comments back, both for and against this move. Because of this feedback, the Board wanted to hear from the full membership to determine the best course of action in serving the Renton Historical Society membership.

A poll was taken of the full 720+ members. The results, as of September 24th are below.

- ◆ **188 prefer to have the Board of Trustees of the RHS approve future Bylaws changes.**
- ◆ **92 prefer a membership vote of the RHS to approve any future Bylaws changes.**

The result was a two-to-one margin favoring the Board of Trustees maintaining the authority for approving revisions to the bylaws. We, the Board of Trustees, also heard the many comments that were provided with the poll responses. Based on these comments, and the strong showing for a membership vote, the Board will present future bylaw revisions to the membership for comments and feedback prior to a motion by the Board of Trustees to approve such revisions.

Thank you all who responded to the poll. And thank you to those who included a monetary contribution to the society with their response. As a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, we rely on your contributions, as well as the time and efforts of our volunteers.



***Renton Historical Museum
235 Mill Avenue South
Renton, WA 98055***