

Footprints

on the sands of time...

ISSUE LVI

SOUTHWEST SEATTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

— SPRING 2005

Mark your calendar for May 21, a rare opportunity to tour these . . . Homes With History

BY JOEY RICHISSON

Our society's popular Homes With History Tour will be held Saturday, May 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year's tour will range from north Admiral to Lincoln Park. Kenyon Hall – the former Hokum Hall at 7904 35th Ave. S.W. – will serve as the first stop on the tour for the 10 a.m. opening ceremony.

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 on the day of the tour and may be purchased by e-mailing loghousemuseum@comcast.net, calling 206-938-5293, or visiting the Log House Museum, Celtic Swell, In Bloom, or Northwest Art & Frame.

The tour will offer a mix of neighborhoods and architectural styles, including several Craftsman homes and a quaint and cozy residence in Southwest Marguerite Court on Alki.

But for many tour-goers, the star of this year's show will be the Sumbardo mansion on Sunset Avenue Southwest.

Built in 1909 in the Greek Revival architectural style, the three-story mansion was the first home on Sunset. The dining room is adorned by a 12-foot coved ceiling with tempera frescoes modeled on the

Sistine Chapel. The home also boasts its own art gallery, fashioned as a Greek temple and attached to the home with 12-foot Doric columns crowned by Corinthian capitals.

The second floor features three restored Victorian bedrooms. From there, visitors will discover a commanding view of Puget Sound, including Alki Point, the Olympic mountains, Bainbridge Island and the Magnolia peninsula.

The home's original owners were **Capt. Charles L.** and **Martha K. Sumbardo**, who lived in the home from 1909 to 1960. Martha was born in 1874 in Hamburg, Germany. In her teens, she worked in architectural and design firms, and in 1892 she went to Italy to work as a copyist in Florence's Uffizi Gallery and Pitti Palace. In 1906, Charles, a widower and retired Civil War officer, met Martha and commissioned her to do a painting of him. Charles, 68, and Martha, 33, married in England, then came to America to continue Martha's career and build the mansion.

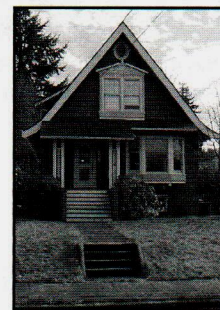
Charles died in 1928 and Martha in

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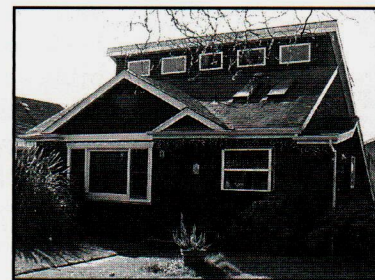


Built in 1909 in the Greek Revival architectural style, the Sumbardo mansion was the first home on Sunset Avenue.

PHOTOS BY DICK SHERMAN



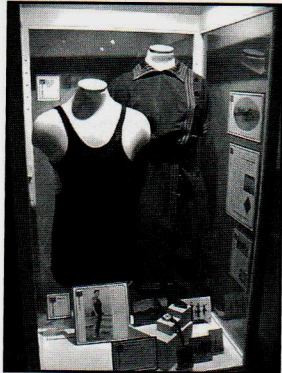
This historic Gatewood-area home, one of the stops on this year's tour, is owned by society board member Audrey Zemke.



Charming Marguerite Court is the setting for this cozy residence.

New exhibit celebrates Log House centennial with '100 Facts, Fotos and Fabulous Finds'

On Dec. 5, the Log House Museum opened its new exhibit: "Centennial: 100 Facts, Fotos, and Fabulous Finds Celebrating the Birthplace of Seattle."



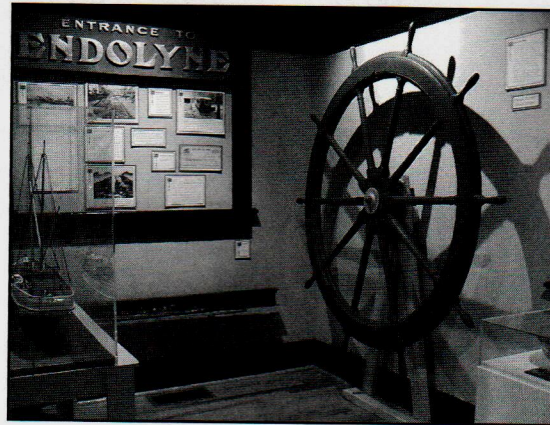
Bathing costumes like these were in fashion when the Log House was built in 1904.

Marking 100 years after the building of the log structure which is now the Log House Museum, the exhibit displays many "fotos" and fabulous finds from the society's collection of area history. Visitors also will see several special items on loan: Duwamish baskets, Charles Terry's walking cane, early bathing costumes, a photo of "The Junction" with streetcar tracks crossing at California and Alaska, Seafair Pirate

paraphernalia, the twisted piece of metal that left the West Seattle Bridge stuck open, and a very detailed model of the King and Winge, a halibut fishing schooner.

The exhibit was mounted under the direction of former staff member **Patricia Filer**, with archive support and artifact preservation by collections manager **Andrea Mercado**. They extend their thanks to the many volunteers who assisted, including **Teresa Anderson, Robert Carney, Clay Eals,**

Marcy Johnsen, John Kelly, Jackie Kelly, Don Kelstrom, Patricia Kloster, Joey Richesson, Richard Sherman, Shirley Tupper, Kerry Tupper, Carol Vincent and Charlie Vincent.



The exhibit includes the imposing wheel from the steamship H.B. Kennedy, on loan from Wayne and Jeanne McNeil.

West Seattle glows in 1920s billboard layouts

BY ANDREA MERCADO

In the 1920s, artist **L.B. Hamshaw** created a series of four panels to advertise West Seattle as the place to be – the perfect community. These richly colorful and visually expressive Foster & Kleiser billboard layouts were designed to be seen around the city of Seattle to alert the citizenry about the wonders of the Duwamish Peninsula.

It is not known if they were ever used for that purpose, but they tell a magnificent story of early West Seattle through Hamshaw's skillful use of vibrant color and classic design elements.

Without the action of the artist's son,

Leonard Hamshaw, who donated the artwork to the Southwest Seattle Historical Society on the recommendation of local friends, this visual part of our story might have been lost.

The panels are currently on display at the museum. One popular image has been recreated on a T-shirt available in the Carriage House Gift Shop.

The society is now accepting new items into its collection. If you have papers, photographs

or an artifact pertinent to the history of any of our West Seattle neighborhoods, please contact collection manager **Andrea Mercado** at 206-938-5293, or send an e-mail to amercado@loghousemuseum.org.



SWSHS COLLECTION

One of a series of four colorful billboard layouts created in the 1920s by artist L.B. Hamshaw.

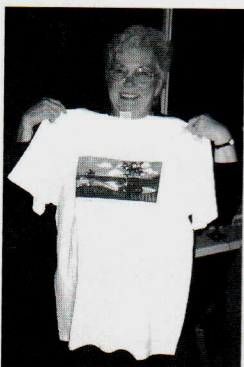


PHOTO BY CLAY EALS
Membership secretary Carol Vincent models a "Boulevards of West Seattle" T-shirt.

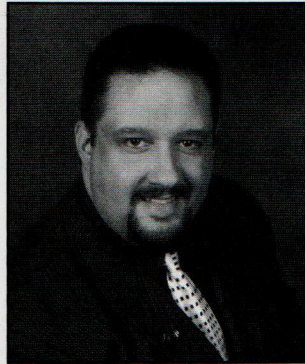
Log House Museum needs your 'time, talent, treasure' in 2005

BY TOM MONAHAN
MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Since officially taking over the position of director on the first of December, I have been

keeping myself busy by learning how things work at the museum and meeting all the great staff and volunteers who make the Log House Museum what it is. I plan to spend my first several weeks doing community outreach events, and brushing up on my West Seattle history, as well as reviewing museum policies and procedures.

For those of you who were not able to come and meet me at the annual meeting, let me give you a short biography of myself. I was born and raised in Renton, where I currently reside. I grew up with a strong interest in the history of this area, and this interest lead me to seek a bachelor's degree in history from Seattle University. Shortly after graduation, while I was beginning to choose a career path, I began volunteering at the Renton History Museum, and found that I really enjoyed it. I enrolled in the Museum Studies certificate program at the University of Washington shortly thereafter, and managed to work my volunteer position into a paying job. I have spent the last seven years at the Renton Museum, working with their director to practice my skills and gain experience. I hope to be able to apply the knowledge I've gained in that time to my new position here at the Log House. As we go forward into 2005, there are some key areas which we must address in



order to continue our growth as a successful heritage organization. I have no doubt that you have recently received letters from charities asking for your "time, talent & treasure." Here at the Log House Museum,

we have many talented people, so let's focus on time and treasure. Our volunteers do a tremendous job at producing quality exhibits and educational experiences for our community. Think of how much more we can accomplish with just a few more people donating an hour or two of their time to us each week. If you see yourself having any extra time this year, I urge you to consider spending some of it

with us. Even one hour of effort can produce amazing results!

The other area we will be focusing on this year is treasure. Thank you once again to all the individual and institutions that have given us the funds we so dearly need to operate. Keep up the good work! Your contributions have started us along the road to acquiring more trained staff, which will lead to more public visibility and recognition by our peers in the heritage community. So when you are mailing in your annual contributions to your favorite organizations this month, consider giving the gift of history to the entire West Seattle community, through your most generous gift to the Log House Museum. No gift is too small. I would like to encourage anyone who would like to meet me to come by or call during our regular hours of operation on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. I welcome your comments and suggestions, and look forward to meeting you.

'Our volunteers do a tremendous job at producing quality exhibits and educational experiences for our community. Think of how much more we can accomplish with just a few more people donating an hour or two of their time to us each week.'

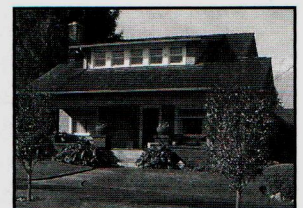
Sumbarado mansion highlights Homes With History Tour

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1960. Their eldest son, **Alesandro**, also an artist, moved into the house and lived there for nearly 30 years. From the 1930s through 1980s, the mansion's upper floors were used for apartments. A third generation of Sumbarados moved into the mansion

in November 1988 and worked to restore much of the house to its original style and grandeur.

Thanks to the following businesses for sponsoring this year's tour: AAA of Washington, Talon Title, Endolyne Joe's and Northwest Art & Frame.



One of the several Craftsman homes on this year's tour.

Four new faces grace 2005 Executive Board

BY CLAY EALS

The 2005 Executive Board

President:
Joan Mraz

Vice president:
Patricia Kloster

Treasurer:
Aleta Woodworth

Board secretary:
Joey Richesson

Membership secretary:
Carol Vincent

Trustees through 2005:

Jane Conrad

Larry Carpenter

Dick Sherman

Audrey Zemke

Trustees through 2006:

Judith Bentley

Dickie Crumm

Clay Eals

Trustees through 2007:

Susan Christ

Marcy Johnsen

Laura McKay

Diane Tice

Staff

Museum Director:

Thomas Monahan

Bookkeeper

David Keith

Collections Manager

Andrea Mercado

Gift Shop Clerk

Joyce Anderson

The leadership of our society will look much the same this year as it did in 2004, but the slate approved

by members at the Nov. 13 annual meeting reflects a couple of new wrinkles along with four brand-new trustees.

Joan Mraz, Aleta Woodworth and Joey Richesson will

continue in 2005 as president, treasurer and board secretary, respectively. Each position has a one-year term. Here are the new wrinkles among the other one-year officers:

Patricia Kloster has switched from a trustee position to vice president, a slot held in 2004 by **Shirley Tupper**, who resigned from the board in October. (**Dickie Crumm** graciously filled in as vice president for the last two months of 2004.)

Carol Vincent has formally become membership secretary, a job previously held by **Betty Broughton**. Vincent had assisted Broughton in recent years.

The four new trustees bring active and varied backgrounds to the board:

Larry Carpenter will fill out the last year of a three-year trustee term. He is retired after a 35-year career as an analyst for the National Security Agency in Maryland. He and his wife, **Marge**, moved in 2001 to West Seattle to be near their two daughters, and both have been stellar volunteers for the society. Larry is a member of the Alki Community Council, which will make for a healthy liaison between that group and our society.

"It was Kismet," he says of his histori-

cal-society involvement. "The week after we arrived in Alki after decades in Maryland marked the Sesquicentennial of the Denny Party landing. Admiring the pluck and cool costumes of the enactors that rainy

November 13th shortly after the tragedy of 9/11, I wondered 'Who are those guys?' The answer led to volunteering with the Log House Museum and the Alki Community Council. Now I'm on the boards of both! Only in America."

Susan Christ will serve a full, three-year term through 2007.

With extensive education, employment and volunteer work in social work and health-services administration in her background, Christ last year moved to West Seattle after plunging into community activity with her marketing activities for the two Merrill Gardens facilities, on 35th Avenue Southwest and in the Admiral district.

"I love West Seattle, and it just feels like I'm putting down roots here," she says. "I recently changed jobs, so working with the historical-society board is one of the ways I plan to stay closely connected to my neighborhood."

Jane Conrad will fill out the last year of a three-year term. A social worker for 20 years, she became real-estate agent in West Seattle seven years ago. She has served as a museum docent, gift-shop clerk and collection volunteer and brings expertise in the valuation of antiques.

"I have loved history since childhood," she says. "My dad was a Navy officer, so we moved around a lot, and one of the places we lived was Washington, D.C., so everyone who visited was taken to the



PHOTO BY JOEY RICHESON

The Log House Museum's new director, Tom Monahan (left), is flanked by four new trustees – Susan Christ; Larry Carpenter, Jane Conrad and Laura McKay – at our society's Nov. 13 annual meeting.

(continued on page 5)

Board members, public officials gather for an evening of remembrance and celebration at the Alki Homestead

With the death of society member and Alki Homestead restaurant owner **Doris Nelson** (see "Passings" on page 10), **Marcy Johnsen**, who grew up nearby in the log house, planned an evening of remembrance and celebration at the restaurant on Dec. 22.

Attended by 40 board members and invited guests – including Seattle Mayor **Greg Nickels**, City Council member **Tom Rasmussen**, and County Council member **Dow Constantine** – the dinner evoked many fond memories of the Homestead and its gracious owner.

The event also underscored the importance of historic preservation, because although the Homestead has been designated by the city as an historic landmark, its future is by no means certain. A provision in Nelson's will offered our society the first right to purchase the 100-year-old building, and our executive board is giving the matter careful consideration.

Clay Eals welcomed guests and embraced the chance to celebrate the Homestead, "the treasure that it is."

Constantine, who recalled attending a family gathering at the restaurant as a youngster, was hopeful about the landmark's future. "This is one of those places where that kind of bonding takes place, the kind of glue that holds this community together," he said. "I'm very optimistic that we'll be able to have a



PHOTO BY CLAY EALS

Marcy Johnsen (left), who organized the event, shares her thoughts with Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels.

future for this building and especially for that living that goes on inside it."

Historic preservation is "incredibly important," Rasmussen said. "It helps us to understand where we came from. It gives us some guidance to know where we want to go and where we should be going in the future."

Nickels remembered Nelson and the late **Elliott Couden** as "wonderful people that we cherish who are not with us tonight. They had so much to do with shaping this community and the values of this community, and I think it is very appropriate, though, that this is a celebration because they did so much, and I think enjoyed so much living in this community and contributing to this community."

'This is one of those places where that kind of bonding takes place, the kind of glue that holds this community together.'

New trustees aim to 'stay connected,' 'give back,' 'become involved'

(continued from page 4)

monuments and Mount Vernon, and it became an instant hit with me. Also, my mom and dad were interested in antiques and preserving them so the next generations can appreciate and handle them. I just feel that everybody should give back to their community."

Laura McKay will serve a full, three-year term through 2007. She is an executive with the American Automobile Association (AAA) and has worked in the travel industry since 1978. With strengths in marketing and e-commerce,

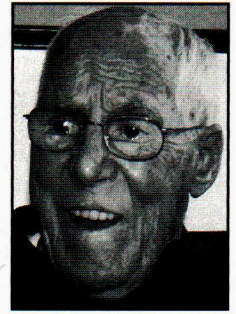
McKay also was a docent for historic home tours in Charleston, S.C., for three years. Her husband, **John**, does collection and exhibit work for the Experience Music Project and will be volunteering for the society.

"Although Seattle is still a 'young city,' now is the time to bring focus and awareness to the public about the importance of preserving our history, before it's too late," she says. "That's why I feel the need to become involved and hopefully help to make a difference and preserve our heritage."

'Now is the time to bring focus and awareness to the public about the importance of preserving our history, before it's too late.'

Remembering Elliott

Historical society founder embodied a loving 'sense of the common life'



BY CLAY EALS

Integrity, passion, curiosity, faith and — above all — love.

The nearly 300 people attending the Jan. 17 memorial service for **Elliott Couden** heard these words to describe the long life of the real-estate broker who bucked his profession to beat back the redlining of housing sales in the 1960s and 20 years later launched the Southwest Seattle Historical Society.

Speakers at Fauntleroy Church, United Church of Christ, including Seattle Mayor **Greg Nickels**, praised Couden's eloquent pursuit of racial harmony and his use of humor to cope with personal and professional challenges. And it was not lost on the speakers that the service for Couden, who died on Dec. 8 at age 93, transpired on the legal holiday that recognized the birth of one of Couden's heroes, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"It is an honor to join with each of you today to celebrate really the lives of two men — two men who were very different but who also shared some, I think, wonderful traits," Nickels said.

Couden's advocacy for "open housing" ordinances, including one in 1964 that Seattle voters defeated by a 3-to-1 margin,

was unpopular, the mayor noted, "but it was an important idea, and it was an idea that reflected a sense of justice and fairness and inclusion."

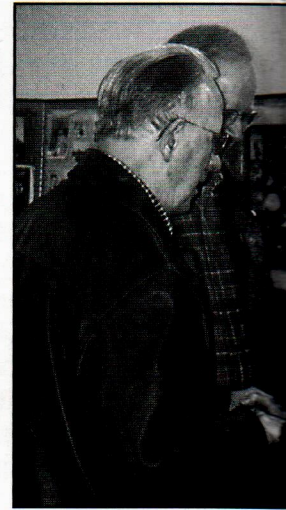
Nickels said his memories of Couden — and **Erma**, his wife of 64 years — "will always revolve around that sense of welcoming, that sense of including a person, whether they're a stranger or a very close friend, as part of the family."

Couden was as fearless about heritage preservation in the 1980s as he was about civil rights in 1960s, said **Clay Eals**, who counted Couden as a mentor and succeeded him as historical-society president in 1989, five years after Couden founded the organization.

"Stop and think for a moment how much more monumental it is to start a group from scratch than to join one that's already there," Eals said. The historical society's



Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels praised Couden's eloquent pursuit of racial harmony.



Erma Couden, Elliott's well-wishers at Fauntleroy

Nearly 300 people attended the memorial service and reception held Jan. 17 at Fauntleroy Church, United Church of Christ.



"award-winning preservation and education work and its museum on Alki would not exist without Elliott," he said.

Couden's son **Bill** cited his dad's unending curiosity and delight in sparking curiosity in others, as well as his skill in word games, his penchant for to-do lists and his interests in reading, aviation and music. His father always has been the person he most admired, the younger Couden said.

"He loved Jesus Christ, he loved his family and his extended family, he loved his community, his country, and he loved the people of this world," he said. "Dad would walk into a room, and people would see him and smile. The reason was not hard to discover. He showed a genuine interest in people with whom he interacted. He would greet them by name and be interested in their families and their background. He made everyone around him feel special."

David Kratz, Fauntleroy Church pastor, amplified the observation, noting that Couden "had this wonderful ability to

turn the ordinary relationships of life that so often pass simply as commerce or service into friendships. ... He had a sense of the common life, of the ordinary life,

which he found to be so valuable. He loved being a human being. It was what made his humor, for instance, so appropriate. He didn't go around collecting jokes and telling them in odd places. Rather, he was paying attention to the people and the words and the flow of the conversation, and then he would say something out of his keen wit that would turn everything upside down, and we'd be made to look ridiculous or at least laugh at ourselves that way."

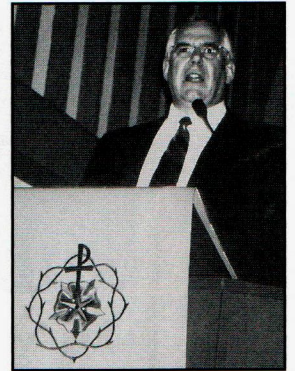
Kratz' predecessor, **Hal Fray**, who served at Fauntleroy from 1972 to 1984, identified Couden as an instant compatriot and likened him to an older brother. Fray said that Couden's middle name, Noble, was especially apt, and he quoted passages from Couden's many speeches, concluding that integrity was the cornerstone of his life.

Fray cited Couden's advice to a group of UCC teen-agers in 1964: "How many of you are willing to listen to the cries of the lonely, the oppressed, the hungry and the neglected? ... How much easier to say, 'Ideals, convictions, commitments are fine, but I have to make a living. The world is not ready for Christian ideals. I'll wait for a happier day.' If I were to say this and do this in order to avoid economic death, I would only achieve spiritual death."

Donations in memory of Couden can be made to the historical society or Fauntleroy Church. A 48-page booklet of Couden's written and spoken words, compiled by Eals, is available for perusal at the society's Birthplace of Seattle Log House Museum.



PHOTOS BY ENID HAVENS
ife of 64 years, greets
y Church.



"Dad would walk into a room, and people would see him and smile," recalled Couden's son Bill.



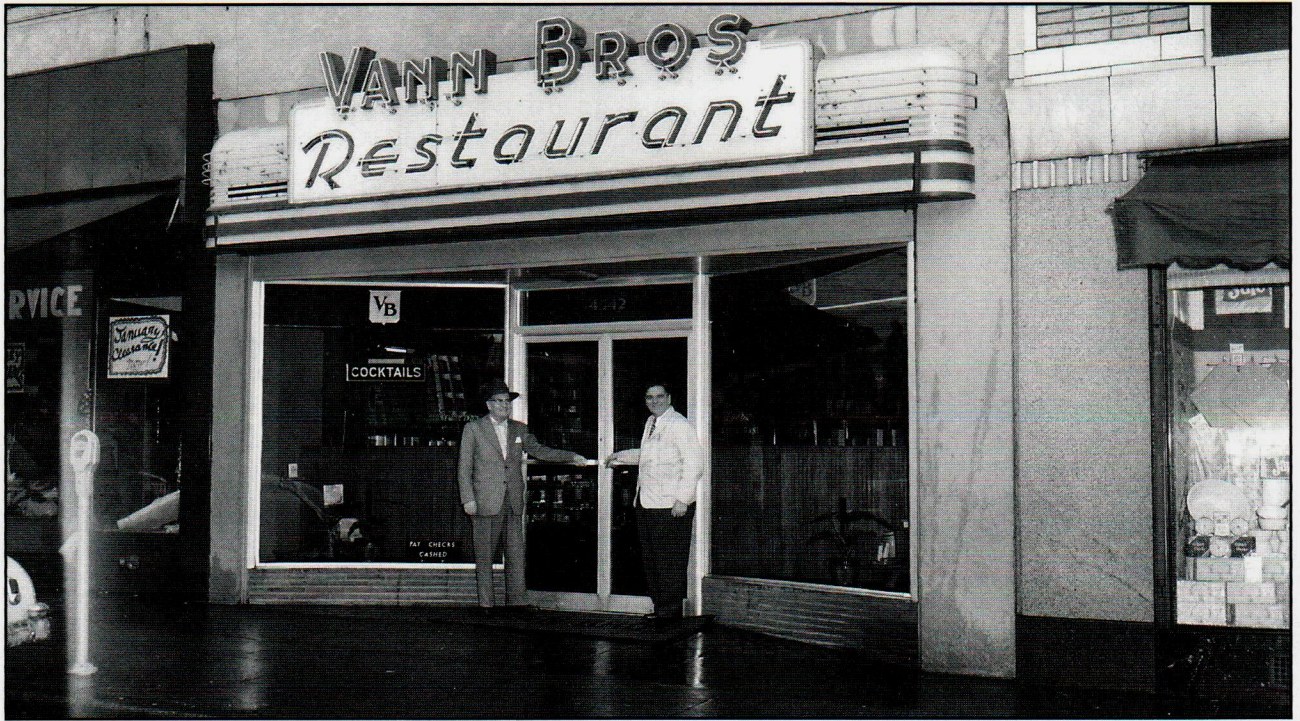


PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL DORPAT

In 1934, Vann Brothers moved to its last location, a former shoe store at 4542 California Ave. in the Junction.

'Four generations of Vanns'

For many years, Vann Brothers was a Junction landmark, but that's not where the restaurant got its start

Leonard Vann recalls the origin of his family's business

Following is an excerpt from Leonard Vann's recollections for the Southwest Seattle Historical Society Oral History Project. This story is included in the "Memories of West Seattle Businesses" book funded by a grant from the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods and available for purchase in the Carriage House Gift Shop.

Back in 1922, Vann Brothers was originally located in the Admiral District on the present grounds of the Safeway Store at Admiral Way, across the street from Lafayette Grade School. The reason it was located there was because it was in close proximity to the high school. It was not a restaurant, it was just a place for the young folks at West Seattle High School to gather and had kind of a gym. It also had a soda fountain and candy bars. It wasn't until approximately a year later that my grandmother started to cook roast and hams and so forth. My cousin and my dad's younger brother were going to school across the street at Lafayette. When he'd go home for lunch, he'd load up his little wagon and bring the meat, roast, hams, and whatnot up to the restaurant. They would slice them and serve sand-

wiches, and that was the beginning of Vann Brothers serving food.

There was a group of Puget Power lineman that would show up every noon to eat lunch. My dad and my uncle always had a soft spot in their heart for that Puget Power crew. In the back of the restaurant they had kind of an athletic program and a punching bag to hit. They actually supported smokers. They sponsored baseball and football people and did quite a bit of sports activities around the community. And they were part of forming the West Seattle Athletic Club. At that time, every community had their own football team, and every Sunday they would travel to one of the towns or some of them would come here and they would play a football game.

In addition to having the restaurant, they started to sell sporting goods. They had the first franchise, for example, for Johnson Outboard Motors in the area. They'd sell guns and fishing tackle and rent skis, and that type of thing, because there weren't too many sporting goods stores in the area. And when liquor-by-the-drink was passed, they had to make a decision, to expand the sporting goods store which would have taken a lot of inventory, or to stay with the good business which could expand with a

liquor license.

Four generations of Vanns, including my grandmother, worked there. We served real veal cutlets, the types of food that people would come clear from Issaquah or the north end on a regular basis to have. We were a neighborhood restaurant and depended on repeat trade to make it. My dad and uncle started the business under the premise that if we would serve good food, keep the place clean, and give food service at moderate prices, people are going to come back. And that's basically what happened.

One time, my dad told me that the health inspector came in and told my dad, "I had a visitor from the East Coast, and I told him I was going to take him to the cleanest restaurant in the city of Seattle." We

I attribute our success through the generations to the fact that family members were in the management and there practically around the clock.

thought that was a very good feather in our cap at that point. That's what my dad and uncle wanted to do, to have a good, clean restaurant. My dad would always say, "Check the rest rooms. If the rest rooms are clean, you are probably going to have a very clean operation." And I think that's been a good yardstick down through the years.

I attribute our success through the generations to the fact that family members were in the management and there practically around the clock. They were on top of things and would see that things were kept up and done. They were meticulous in keeping the standards that my dad and uncle had established. Also, our help was just super. We had a waitress who retired after 32 years with us, and a bartender who retired after 25 years with us. You don't keep people that long unless you treat them right.

In 1928, Vann Brothers moved to Alaska Street. With the end of Prohibition, we decided we wanted to have beer and wine available, but were too close to the front door of Jefferson School. This is when Vann Brothers moved to its last location, a former shoe store at 4542 California Avenue in the Junction. It was located between two 10-cent stores: Woolworth's and Kresses.

Volunteers needed: Can you donate a few hours each month?

The Southwest Seattle Historical Society relies heavily on volunteers to help in every aspect of Log House Museum operations. Volunteers may work as docents, greeters, gift shop clerks, and conduct school tours and educational programs. They can help with a variety of office duties, building and garden maintenance, as well as assist with research and cataloging.

Volunteers are the foundation for our society's successful fundraising and marketing events throughout the year. Take time to donate a few hours each month at the Log House Museum. Your work will be valued and appreciated by the community.

Homes With History Tour, May 21: For the Saturday, May 21, Homes With History Tour, the tour committee is seeking volunteer hosts and greeters for homes. The committee also needs a volunteer with PR and marketing experience and a photographer to document the event.

Junction Sidewalk Sale, July 15, 16, 17: We will need volunteers to staff our society's booth at the sidewalk sale for three-hour shifts, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 1 to 4 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. on those three days. If you can help out, please let us know.

Garden Tea, August 14: We need volunteers to work as servers and as set-up and clean-up crews.

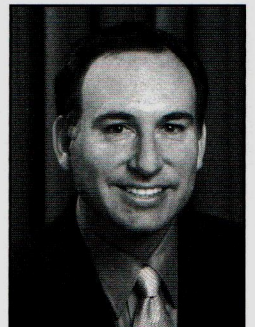
Think about what area of volunteering most appeals to you and contact **Tom Monahan** at 206-938-5293 today. Every volunteer makes a difference!

King County capital grant supports Log House Museum

Thanks to King County Representative and historical society member **Dow Constantine** for securing a \$20,000 capital grant for the Birthplace of Seattle Log House Museum for 2005. The money will be used to make capital improvements to the Log House Museum building. Museum Director **Tom Monahan** is currently prioritizing the building's needs.

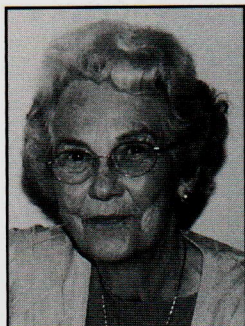
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Dow Constantine

Former board member JoAn Schmitz Fulton, 87



JoAn Schmitz
Fulton

JoAn Schmitz Fulton, a former trustee of our historical society and a member of one of West Seattle's most prominent founding families, died March 8, 2005, at age 87.

Born May 14, 1917, to **Eugene** and **Frankie Close Schmitz**, Fulton was raised along Beach Drive Southwest. She spent many youthful days on the Schmitz estate, picking fresh berries in the woods and harvesting treasures from the beach. She attended Alki Elementary, James Madison Junior High and West Seattle High schools and was proud to be selected for art school in southern California before attending and graduating from the University of Washington in art.

Fulton met her future husband, **Robert Fulton**, when they were teen-agers in West Seattle. They married in 1939, and she was widowed in 1982. They designed their home and gardens along Beach Drive while raising three children: **Bill**, **Ken** and **Gayle**. Fulton had five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Fulton was active in the West Seattle Garden Club, the Arboretum Group and Ladies Aid. She also was proud of her family's legacy, which included donations by her great uncle (and park commissioner) and aunt, **Ferdinand** and **Emma Schmitz**, that resulted in Schmitz Park (1908, 1909 and 1912), Emma Schmitz Memorial View

Point (1945) and Me-Kwa-Mooks Park (1979), as well as her uncle **Dietrich Schmitz's** leadership of Washington Mutual Bank and service on the Seattle School Board.

As befit her interest in painting and heritage preservation, Fulton was a major supporter of the Murals of West Seattle, speaking enthusiastically at the Feb. 14, 1992, dedication of the Bank Day mural by **Alan Wylie** on the north wall of Washington Mutual in the Junction. The painting depicts her and other elementary children making deposits in their classroom in 1923.

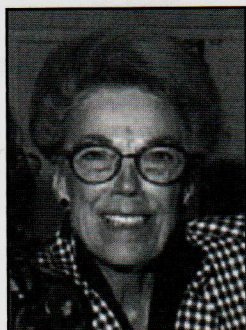
Fulton, who served on our society's Executive Board from 1989 to 1992, was a major supporter of the organization. Just four days before her death, she forwarded a contribution of \$10,000 to the society.

"When you have the heritage of a family that has always given back to the community, I've just always tried to follow the pattern, as I've seen a need," she said in a January 2004 essay.

"We are stewards of the good places and people who have built this community over the years, and we don't want to forget our roots, so we must continue to feed them."

A memorial service was held March 11 at Fauntleroy Church, United Church of Christ. Remembrances can be made to the Southwest Seattle Historical Society and Arboretum Group 83.

Homestead restaurant owner Doris Nelson, 80



Doris Nelson

Doris Nelson, owner of the Alki Homestead restaurant and a key supporter of our society's Log House Museum, died Nov. 18, 2004, at the age of 80.

The restaurant, which Nelson bought in 1960, was known for its rustic elegance and homestyle menu. Dining at the Homestead – which Nelson carefully decorated with antiques, fresh flowers and lace tablecloths – became a tradition for generations of local families. "Mrs. N" was a familiar face in the dining room, where she often took time to visit with patrons.

Built in 1904 as a residence, the log structure that contains the Homestead was designated as an historic landmark in 1997. The Log House Museum was originally the home's carriage house.

Lawrence J. Pierce, 104

Lawrence J. Pierce, a longtime Fauntleroy-area resident and world-renowned rhododendron cultivator, died Nov. 14, 2004. He was 104.

Born June 3, 1900, Pierce grew up in Massachusetts, then relocated to Seattle in 1926. In 1929, he married **Isabel Colman**, whose prominent family's holdings included a large tract in the Fauntleroy neighborhood now known as Lauretide. There, the couple started a rhododendron garden that eventually covered nearly four acres and included more than 1,000 varieties of rhododendrons. In 1982, Pierce was presented a gold medal for excellence from the American Rhododendron Society. A rhododendron species, *piercei*, is named for him, an honor bestowed by the Royal Botanical Garden in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Thanks to our contributors in 2004!

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4Culture Sustained Support
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Aleta Woodworth

Endowment fund opens new channel for charitable giving

With the establishment of an endowment fund in the fall of 2004, there is now a channel available for donors to take advantage of tax incentives by naming the society in their wills or bequests.

Donations to 501(c)3 charities are the most advantageous possible under the tax law. A planned gift to a charitable organization such as our historical society allows you to create a legacy for the society while meeting your own financial and personal objectives. Depending on your circumstances, you may be able to:

- Reduce income, gift, and estate taxes,
- Secure a source of cash flow for the rest of your life,
- Reduce or eliminate capital gains taxes.

All memorial gifts will be placed in the endowment fund. Gifts of \$25,000 or more may establish a named endowment fund restricted to a specific purpose.

The fund has been growing steadily since its official formation in the fall of 2004. A donation was received from **Lorraine Toly** in memory of **Frank Sardaron**. Recent donations in memory of Couden were made by the following individuals: **Patricia Bostrom, Clay and Meg Eals, Winifred Harmeling, Esther Instebo, Marcy Johnsen, Joan Bailey Mraz, Barbara Ochs, Alma Rice, James and Terry Rose, Neal and Margaret Saffer, Marian C. Spath, Dr. Virginia C. Stimpson, Carol and Carnot Thomas, Carol and Charles Vincent, and Ruth Windmuller.**

All memorial gifts will be placed in the endowment fund. Gifts of \$25,000 or more may establish a named endowment fund restricted to a specific purpose.

Footprints

is the official publication of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society, which operates the "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum, 3003 61st Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98116, one block south of the Statue of Liberty on Alki Beach. Editor: Brad Chrisman.

Museum hours

Thursdays:
noon to 6 p.m.

Weekends:
noon to 3 p.m.

How to reach us

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206-938-5293

By fax:
206-937-4475

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3003 61st Ave. S.W.
Seattle, WA 98116

By e-mail:
loghousemuseum
@comcast.net

Web site:
www.
loghousemuseum.org

Calendar

April

Saturday, April 2 – **Membership spring garden cleanup** at the Log House Museum, 10 a.m. to noon. Coffee and donuts.

Saturday, April 23 – **Volunteer reception** for volunteers and anyone interested in volunteering, Merrill Gardens of West Seattle, 2 to 4 p.m. Refreshments.

May

Saturday, May 21 – **Annual Homes With History Tour**, 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Advance tickets: \$15. Day of tour: \$20.
Order by calling 206-938-5293, or by e-mailing loghousemuseum@comcast.net.

July

Monday, July 4 – **Annual membership picnic and raffle**, Log House Museum courtyard, noon.

Friday through Sunday, July 15 through 17 – SWSHS booth at **Hi-Yu Sidewalk Sale & Street Festival**, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

August

Sunday, Aug. 14, **Garden Tea**, Villa Heidelberg bed and breakfast, 1 p.m. first seating, 3:30 p.m. second seating.

Museum receives emergency 4Culture facilities grant



Facing an emergency situation with the deterioration of the Log House Museum's handicap railing, our society received some timely support with a \$7,000 grant from

4Culture toward the ramp's rebuilding.

Formerly the Cultural Developmental Authority of King County, 4Culture is a tax-exempt cultural services agency. It is the largest source of annual public funding for heritage activities in the state of

Washington.



SWSHS PHOTO

The museum's ramp now sports a new handrail, thanks to a facilities grant from 4Culture.

FOOTPRINTS

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c/o "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum
3003 61st Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98116

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