ISSUE XCIX

SOUTHWEST SEATTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (WWW.LOGHOUSEMUSEUM.INFO)

**SUMMER 2017** 



Gathered on May 31, 2017, to celebrate the transfer of the Riverside Memorial to our historical society are (from left) Riverside natives Mike Budinich, Frank Zuvela and Jerry Vandenberg; Karen Sisson, board president; Peder Nelson, vice-president; Marcy Johnsen and Judy Bentley, former presidents; Nancy Sorensen and Kerry Korsgaard, trustees; and Flora Belle Key, Tom Rasmussen and Ken Workman, Advisory Council members.

# Thanks to gift, we acquire Riverside Memorial!

generous gift from the Budinich family has allowed us to acquire a small triangle off West Marginal Way and beneath the West Seattle Bridge called the Riverside Memorial.

The property includes a monument to the Croatian neighborhood, with fishing-boat art and

bricks aligned to the Riverside street grid and adorned with names of historic families.

Our annual Riverside Walking Tour will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, starting at the memorial and preceded by a cleanup at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3. For more info, visit our website.

# Jeff McCord begins as our new executive director

ur Board of Trustees has selected as our organization's next executive director **Jeff McCord**, a 24-year resident of West Seattle who has helped save more than 100 historic homes in the Seattle area, served on several community boards and led the revival of *Continued on page 2* 

Jeff McCord (right), new executive director, speaks at our Annual Picnic on July 4, 2017, in our museum courtyard.



# **Our mission**

"To promote local heritage through education, preservation and advocacy"

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# **FOOTPRINTS**

is the official publication of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society.

# **Editor**

Clay Eals

Printing thanks to



### Where to find us

Our home is the "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum.

### **Address**

3003 61st Ave. SW Seattle, WA 98116-2810 (at Alki Beach)

# **Museum hours**

noon-4 p.m. Thursday-Sunday

# **Phone**

206-938-5293

Jeff McCord's cell: 206-234-4357

# Staff e-mail

Jeff McCord executive director: director@loghouse museum.info

Lissa Kramer, curator: curator@loghouse museum.info

TBD, museum operations coordinator: museum@loghouse museum.info

### **Contractors**

Irene Gehring, gardener Marian "M" Humphreys, bookkeeper

# Want to volunteer?

Call or e-mail us!

# Website

loghousemuseum.info

# 'Like' us on Facebook

Log House Museum

# McCord sees position as 'dream opportunity'

Continued from page 1

a Renton-based nonprofit organization.

McCord is succeeding our first executive director, **Clay Eals**, who resigned in April and has worked four-and-a-half years in the position.

The selection came after an extensive search and interviewing process by the board's

Personnel Committee, chaired by vice-president **Peder Nelson**, as well as by the full board.

"We are delighted to bring Jeff aboard," says **Karen Sisson**, board president. "We are excited about the varied skills, long experience and deep passion that he will bring us."

The start date for McCord, 54, was July 1, 2017. The board retained Eals for July so that he could orient McCord and introduce him to key supporters.

McCord begins work while he transitions away from the executive director's post at the TV cable-access nonprofit Puget Sound Access/Carco Theatre in Renton. That organization hired McCord two-and-a-half years ago in an effort to restore internal infrastructure and stability.

West Seattle Summer Fest.

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One of the transitions away from the executive director's am profit Puget

organization hired McCord two-and-a-half years ago in an effort to restore internal infrastructure and stability.

#### Home rescuer

On the Duwamish peninsula, McCord is perhaps best known as "home rescuer" for Nickel Bros, which protects homes from razing through creative redevelopment or by finding new owners and moving the homes to new locations.

One house that he preserved in place was the home overlooking Lincoln Park in which the REI firm was founded. More recently, he facilitated preservation of the 1908 log home at California Avenue and Findlay Street that is to be moved to the Admiral area this summer.

A resident of Gatewood Hill, McCord also has served as chair of the Southwest Design Review Board and has been involved with the West Seattle Anti-Crime Council and what is now called the Westwood-Roxhill-Arbor Heights Community Council. In addition, he has worked as a graphic design teacher, as a consultant in

Kickstarter fundraising and graphic design, and as a producer of video games.

A graduate of the Evergreen State College, with a bachelor of arts degree in media arts, McCord is a current student of the University of Washington Evans School of Governance & Public Policy, from which he expects to receive a master's degree in public administration in 2018.

McCord says to serve as executive director of our historical society is his "dream opportunity."

"Historic preservation has been a very important part of my adult life, having grown up

among tall trees and beautiful old buildings in Lexington, Kentucky, only two blocks from Ashland, home of the great American statesman Henry Clay," he says.

#### **Perfect blend**

"This job perfectly blends my love of historic architecture, cultural histories and locally focused volunteer causes. I've watched as the historical society has continued to grow in its offerings, becoming a strong and vibrant voice within —

and on behalf of — the Duwamish Peninsula. I am proud and humbled to be given the chance to build on the organization's many successes."

One of his direct connections to the historical society is that his wife, **Rosemary Woods**, designed the logo for the organization's museum 20 years ago. Her drawing of the building is still-used in the organization's logo today.

### **Building relationships**

Jeff McCord (left), new executive director,

and Clay Eals, outgoing executive

director, sign our "We ♥ The Junction"

landmark banner on July 14, 2017, at

McCord looks forward to orienting himself to our wide slate of events and activities and to building relationships with our donors, sponsors and volunteers and with the public.

Primary responsibilities of the position are fundraising, outreach, volunteer recruitment, staff supervision and overall management. In addition to the position of executive director, our historical society has two paid part-time staff positions of curator and museum operations coordinator.

McCord's hours at the Log House Museum will be variable. He can be reached by phone at **206-234-4357** (cell), and his work e-mail address is **director@loghousemuseum.info**.

We deeply appreciate the financial support of:







# Funds to fix 1942 Admiral murals

One-night fundraisers spotlight 'Legends of the Road' documentary and Timothy Brock's return to West Seattle with 'Music of the Silent Giants'

Restoration of the art-deco underwater murals of West Seattle's Historic Admiral Theater got a boost this summer from two one-night fundraisers at the 1942 moviehouse.

The first event was the screening on June 27, 2017, of "Legends of the Road," a local, feature-length documentary showcasing a project by Chief Sealth High School students to research and re-create the black baseball barnstorming phenomenon of the early 20th century.

The film was introduced by **Bob Kendrick**, president of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, and West Seattle resident and former teacher **Gary Thomsen**, who led the "Legends" project at Chief Sealth High School. After the film, Kendrick, Thomsen and others led a question-answer session. The event drew nearly 200 people and raised \$5,000 for the mural fund, overseen by our historical society.

#### 'Silent Film Music Guru'

The second event, on July 25, 2017, featured a West Seattle native whose orchestral scores for classic movies of the pre-sound era have earned him the title of the "Silent Film Music Guru." It was called "Timothy Brock Returns to West Seattle with Music of the Silent Giants."

The evening started with Brock being interviewed by his childhood friend, West

Seattle's **Dave Beck**, a host at KING-FM and longtime former KUOW-FM host. The two reminisced about their West Seattle upbringing and discussed how to score silent classics.

Interspersed were clips from silent films

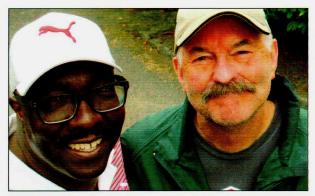


**Timothy Brock** 

that Brock has scored. Brock also introduced the screening of the **Charlie Chaplin** feature "Modern Times," for which Brock restored and re-recorded the original 1936 Chaplin score.

Information on proceeds from the Brock event was not available in time for this newsletter.

Brock, who lives in Bologna, Italy, is renowned for his orchestral scores for the movies of Chaplin and **Buster Keaton** and other silent film classics. Over 30 years, he has composed 27 original scores for silent films, and he has served as the



Bob Kendrick (left), president of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, and former teacher Gary Thomsen.



Charlie Chaplin cavorts in his classic "Modern Times" (1936).

film restorer for the Chaplin estate since 1998. He also conducts symphonies in live performances of his scores to accompany presentations of silent films all over the world.

### **Granada Theater inspiration**

His visit this summer marked a rare return to his boyhood community, where, as a 10-year-old in the early 1970s, he watched silent films accompanied by organ at West Seattle's beloved **Granada Theater** south of The Junction and drew the initial inspiration for his career, which he labels a "lifelong dream." (The Granada was razed in 1977.)

Brock's mother is **Berlena Brock**, former board member of our historical society.

Our historical society, which secured landmark status for the Historic Admiral Theater in 1989, will lead the effort to restore its murals. After being covered for decades, since the theater's twinning in 1973, the murals were revealed earlier this year as part of the theater's \$1.7 million renovation and expansion to four screens.

For more information on the mural restoration, contact Jeff McCord, executive director, at director@loghousemuseum.info.

#### **Our Board of Trustees**

Karen Sisson, president
Peder Nelson, vice-president
Tia Hallberg, secretary
Ron Arant, treasurer
Jenni Bodnar
Burke Dykes
Dora-Faye Hendricks
Marcy Johnsen
Kerry Korsgaard
Barbara Mackey
Nancy Sorensen
Sandie Wilkinson

#### **Our Advisory Council**

Al Bentley **Judy Bentley** Jordan Hecker Scott Hunt Pat Jablonski Flora Belle Key King County Council chair Joe McDermott Andrea Mercado Jack Miller Patricia Mullen Charles Payton Tom Rasmussen Greg Theobald Carol-Ann Thornton Diane Tice Jerry Vandenberg Carol Vincent Jill Wakefield Ken Workman

# Our board backs 'Access for All'

Our board voted in July to urge public support for the "Access for All" measure on the King County ballot Aug. 1. The measure would increase the county sales tax by one-tenth of 1 percent (a 1-cent increase on a \$10 purchase). The funds would create a Cultural Access Fund from which local nonprofits, including the historical society, could receive funding, through a process distributed by 4Culture. The aim is to improve access to arts, science and heritage experiences -- including those offered by our organization -- for children, families and communities that are underserved. For more information on "Access for All," visit the website culturalaccesswa.org/.

# Crowds of love

Centennial Group Hugs salute West Seattle High School and the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse Continuing our Group Hug photo tradition, we collaborated with alumni groups to stage not one but two Group Hugs this spring, to celebrate the 100th birthdays of two iconic buildings: the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse, which has served as an elementary school until 1981 and as a home for nonprofits since (below) and West Seattle High School (right). Fans of the buildings gathered for ceremonies captured on video and available on our website, loghousemuseum .info, thanks to Brad Chrisman and Klem Daniels Productions. The photos were taken by Jean Sherrard, and the lift truck was contributed by Pacific Rim Equipment Rentals. To obtain full-size versions of the photos, e-mail director@loghousemuseum.info.







# Departing

Admiral resident Hannah Chavez, who has served as our delightful 20-hour/week museum operations coordinator for the past year, is returning to her hometown near Spokane. Her last day with us was Sunday, July 23, 2017. We wish her well and hope our paths cross down the road. Our executive director, Jeff McCord, and curator, Lissa Kramer, have begun the process of searching for a successor. If you know of anyone interested in coordinating the operations of our Log House Museum during its open hours of noon-4 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, contact McCord at director @loghousemuseum.info.



Join us for new Log House to Long House bike ride on Aug. 26

It's a family-friendly ride through history, from the Alki Landing Monument at 63rd Avenue to Herring's House Park on West Marginal Way: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26. Ten miles round-trip. Stop to hear stories at five places along the way!

# The word 'exhibit' could be Bob Carney's middle name

In time for the All-School Reunion celebrating the centennial of the West Seattle High School building on Saturday, June 3, 2017, our ace exhibit volunteer **Bob Carney** pulled out items to display there from our 2003 exhibit that focused on the school.

His pop-up display at the reunion proved quite popular with alums that evening. One of our longest-serving volunteers, Bob now is fast at work on an exhibit for our museum this fall that will focus on the history of firefighting on our peninsula. Stay tuned!



For SouthWest Stories, Harriet Baskas speaks June 18 at Southwest Library on "The Ancient Fruitcake."

# SouthWest Stories rolls along strongly

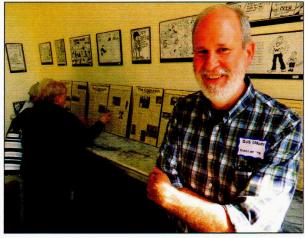
Our third-Sunday series at a rotation of Seattle library branches on our peninsula brings timely speakers. See our website for videos and video invitations!

# Words, Writers & West Seattle thrives

Our first-Friday series at Barnes & Noble showcases local authors. See our website for videos of past talks and video invitations by authors in forthcoming installments!



For Words, Writers & West Seattle, Claudia Rowe speaks June 2, 2017, at Barnes & Noble Westwood Village on her book *The Spider and the Fly.* 



Bob Carney, West Seattle High School Class of 1978, poses next to his display at the June 3 WSHS All-School Reunion.

# We bid farewell to ...

#### **Kwame Turner**

Washington State and supported our organization, attending our 2015 Champagne Gala Brunch, died July 9, 2017. He was 74. After a career with



# Collections Care grant helps us digitize and house photo backlog

Thanks to a recently completed Collections
Care grant from 4Culture, King County's
agency for disbursing heritage and arts funds, we
have made a huge dent in
digitizing and housing a
backlog of photos in our

The \$2,685 grant let us purchase archival supplies and employ an intern to

collection.

update our collection. Gaps in the organization of our photo archive existed stemming from earlier times in which volunteers digitized and stored our materials.

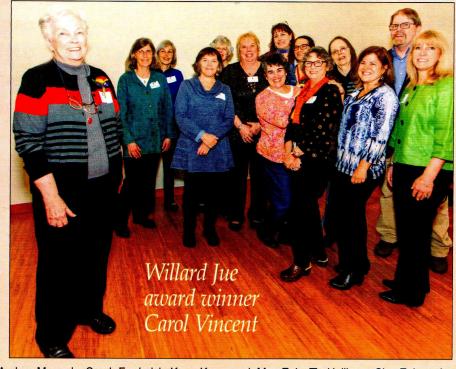
CULTURE

The work is important to our ability to respond to requests from a diversity of individuals, businesses, schools and other nonprofits to seek out and reproduce photos from our collection. Included in the work was a systematic update of our collection database to properly document and store photos and correct the locations of photos already digitized and documented.

We thank 4Culture for its continued support!

# Cheering on our own Carol

Carol Vincent (left) beams after being given the Willard Jue award for lifetime achievement as a volunteer at the 2017 Association of King County Historical Organizations (AKCHO) ceremony on April 25. She posed with West Seattleconnected supporters attending the event at the Northwest African American Museum. Cheering on Carol, former president of our board who has volunteered for our organization since 1989. were (from left) Candace Lein-Hayes, Judy Bentley, Flo Lentz, Edie Neeson,



Karen Sisson, Deb Barker, Andrea Mercado, Sarah Frederick, Kerry Korsgaard, Meg Eals, Tia Hallberg, Clay Eals and Bonnie Gromlich. (Photo courtesy of Tyler Ray)



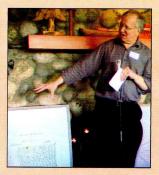
# Garden Tea draws 34, fills courtyard

Our Garden Tea (left) drew 34 people to an afternoon of tea and treats in our Log House Museum courtyard on Sunday, July 9, 2017. Conversations and hats (right) were enjoyed by all.





Susan Shorett (left), former owner, and Greg Lange of King County Archives spoke in the mainfloor living room during the tour's VIP session.



# Turning back clock to 1905 at Sea View Hall

Thanks to gracious hosts Glen Poor and Terry Mann (below) and a cadre of volunteers led by Sandie Wilkinson, our "If These Walls Could Talk" tour of Sea View Hall on June 4, 2017, lured 100 visitors to the restored vertical-log beach getaway. For event video, visit our website.







# Connie returns to our Gala on Nov. 4

For the third straight year, KOMO-TV anchor and West Seattle resident Connie Thompson will be a featured participant in our Champagne Gala Brunch. It is set for 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017, at Salty's on Alki. The theme (above) is "The Power of Community." Graphic contributed by Paul Prentice of Prentice Design. Early-bird tickets will be available in September!



Connie Thompson

Give the gift of a membership!
Visit our website, click Membership, join with a credit card or download the form and mail it in.
Or sign up at an event or at our museum!

**FOOTPRINTS** the newsletter of the



# **Southwest Seattle Historical Society**

c/o "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum 3003 61st Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98116-2810

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**Give the gift of a membership!** It's easy. Visit us at loghousemuseum.info, click "Membership," print the form, fill it out and mail it in with a check or credit-card number. Or sign up in person at an event or at our "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum.

#### Calendar: Summer/Fall 2017

#### 'Welcome Home' exhibit

ongoing, noon-4 p.m. Thursday-Sunday "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum

#### **SouthWest Stories**

Sunday, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, 2 p.m., various Seattle library branches

### **Words, Writers & West Seattle**

Fridays, Aug. 4, Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 3 5-7 p.m., Barnes & Noble Westwood Village

#### **Historic Riverside Walking Tour**

Saturday, Aug. 5, 10 a.m.-noon Riverside Memorial, West Marginal Way

#### **Open Draw (sketch with refreshments)**

Thursday, Aug. 10, 5:30-7 p.m. "Birthplace of Seattle" Log House Museum

### **Booth at Delridge Day**

Saturday, Aug. 12, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

# Log House to Longhouse Bike Ride

Saturday, Aug. 26, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. starting at Alki Landing Monument at 63rd

### **Sunday Funday (for families)**

Sunday, Aug. 27, 1:30-3 p.m.

#### **Gala Preview Party**

6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30 by invitation, call for site info.

# **Champagne Gala Brunch**

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4 Salty's on Alki, 1936 Harbor Ave SW

### Give the gift of a membership!

Visit our website, click Membership, join with a credit card or download the form and mail it in.

Or sign up at an event or at our museum!

### Thanks, Klem!

Stellar videos of our events are contributed by

#### **Klem Daniels Productions**

of West Seattle. Posterity thanks you, Klem!

Our board meetings are held at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the South Seattle College President's Board Room. You are welcome to attend!

# Big thanks to our sponsors and supporters:

























