



LAKE
QUINAULT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND MUSEUM

P.O. Box 35
354 South Shore Road,
Quinault, Washington 98575

Newsletter
Summer 2005

To:

Museum's New Ramp Access and Railing



Photo by Phyllis Miller

Neil Mickleson spent part of the winter months building a handicap ramp and railings for easier access into the building.

While Neil was digging out the foundation for the cement footing he found a walkway that may have been the brick sidewalk put down for Mrs. Martha Mulkey's father. He lived next door to the post office in a small house.

New Benches for Museum



Neil Mickelson's handiwork includes the two sets of benches on the museum's front porch. They have already served the museum well as a number of visitors and museum volunteers have found them ideal for resting, sheltering from the rain, and just a nice place to stop and visit.

Volunteer Hosts

Along with our regular group of volunteers, May Torres, Elizabeth Carlyle, Clarice McDonald and Ginger Robertson, we would like to thank new volunteers MiLee Jolibois, Becky Hansen, Mack McElwee, Janet Coble, Mona Lemmon, and Glen Barkhurst for donating their time as hosts for the many tourists that are stopping by to view the museum. Board members and officers also donate their time as hosts and the Historical Society invites anyone interested in a good visit with people from around the world to come and help present our museum to the public.

Colorful Additions to Museum Porch

Seward's Nursery, 730 Ocean Beach Road, graciously donated the colorful flowers that adorn the museum porch. Bob Seward worked for logging companies in the Quinault area for many years and later opened Seward's Nursery.

Neilton Post Office

Donates Boxes

A set of old combination lock post office boxes was donated to the museum by the Neilton Post Office. They will eventually reside in the area where the original boxes would have been in the Quinault Post Office. For now they have become a floor display and our young visitors enjoy trying to lock or unlock the "little doors". Neilton Post Office also donated large package scales from the 1950's era.

Jerry Jones and the "Hickory Shirt" Story

Jerry's version: Way back in the old days of logging, when the Polson Logging Company needed more workers, they would send out a "man-catcher" whose job it was to go to Olympia, Tacoma or even as far as Seattle, to obtain loggers to work out here on the peninsula. The "man-catcher's" orders were to hire a certain number of people - (such as six) that were wearing hickory shirts, suspenders and "staggered" pants. If they weren't wearing this attire then he needed to hire at least 10 men to do the same job!

President, Criss Osborn
Vice President &
Secretary, Phyllis Miller
Treasurer, Betty Miller
Board Members: May Torres, Tom Northup, John Clayton, Kathleen Praxel, Jerry Jones

Museum Archives

Quinault's first postmaster was Clark Peeler in 1889. Later postmasters were J.A. Ingram, Jack Ewell, A.V. Higley, May Hutton, Martin H. Mulkey, May Torres who served from 1953 to her retirement in 1980 and Jackie Lutz Quinn. The old Quinault Post Office building was vacated and relocated in a new post office, next to the Rain Forest Resort Store. Marge Mefford served in the new building up to the present postmaster, Mary Christiansen.

Ten O'Clock Creek, Lunch Creek

The mail carrier that delivered mail to the Clearwater and Kalaloch area usually stopped for a break at a creek to the north of Quinault. He often arrived there around **ten o'clock** and the creek soon took on that name. Further to the north was **Lunch Creek**, named again for the mail and time of day. The signs along Highway 101 for these creeks were removed when DOT did some road repair and have never been replaced.

New Additions to Museum



Kathleen Thompson and Mike Nowack, have sold their house on the South Shore and have donated a number of items to the Lake Quinault Museum. The small church pew shown in the picture is on loan to us from Kathleen and belonged to her father, a minister. Kathleen is well known in this area even though her "main" home is in Chicago. She is the author of **The Face of Our Past, A Shining Thread of Hope, Children of the Depression, and America's Children**. Photos from Quinault area's families have been featured in the latter book. Mike is an actor, featured garden columnist, and radio talk show host in Chicago.

Wish List

With the renovation of the back room in progress we will be able to find places for more displayed items. The Historical Society's goal is to return a part of the main room to its former use as the post office and telephone company. Does anyone have an old "**crank phone**" or other items that might have been in used in the Post Office building? Old school books and text books are also on our wish list.

"A Bite of History"

Recipes and photos from times past are featured items in the **Lake Quinault Historical Society and Museum's "A Bite of History"**. Also included are old time house-keeping tips such as the proper care for cast iron pans, how to tell when eggs are fresh, and natural polishes for copper utensils.

The recipes are from friends and family members of the Historical Society and many are over one hundred years old and have been handed down through the families. Try Anna Olson's "Dill Pickles", or Eudie Marston's "Klabasa" or, "Cranberry Christmas Pudding", "Sourdough Starter" or "Divinity". Where possible, memories and history have been included with the recipes.

The cover is shown below. There is a suggested donation of eight dollars. For those interested in "*A Bite of History*" contact board members at these numbers: (360)-288-2583, 288-2317, or 288-2417, or write to: **Lake Quinault Historical Society, P.O. Box 35, Quinault, WA 98575**

The Lake Quinault Historical Society presents

A Bite of History



Cutting Grass in the Quinault, circa 1920's

POST SCRIPT from Phyllis.

Dear Members,

We are well into our second summer here in the “Old Quinault Post Office” building. Of course, work is still in progress and will be for quite some time but we are quite comfortable in our little niche in this neck of the woods. All spring the back of the building has been our focus of attention. For about a month or so the “floor” was Mother Earth. Dan has a habit of starting at the bottom and working up. The electrical is in now as well as updated plumbing. However, one wall of our bathroom is a bed sheet. It works! Hey, back in my day it was not unusual to squat behind a stump!

Dan has put in a partition separating our work/kitchen/office area from our projected “homestead display” in what used to be the living room. This partition has, for the last 6 months, been referred to as my “imaginary wall.” Well, it’s now roughed in and sports a 6-pained window salvaged from the shed. Our plan is to face it as an outside wall, using the old shingles which, incidentally, are still intact on the back of the building. Then we had a slight problem of what to do about a door between the two rooms. After quite a few subtle hints (and threats of sudden death) Jerry volunteered to build us swinging saloon doors. He told me last month that he had a few Honey-do jobs to do but would get on it right after. “Jerry, Honey-do has had July. It’s August now and time for Museum-do!” Anyhow, we are really excited about our renovations-in-progress.

Last month Criss and I, on our way to town, went by way of the beach road, to Seward’s Nursery to pick out a few plants for the front porch. We, being “a day late and a dollar short,” found the Nursery closed for the season. After “sincere sniveling” from the two of us, Bob Seward took pity and said that if we wanted something we had better hurry up as they were in the process (right now!) of cutting back the plants and they would be gone....like, soon! Well, given a reprieve, we got carts and went to work! An hour later, three carts full, we said, “We’re done. What do we owe you?” “Nothing,” he replied, “It is our pleasure to help you out. Enjoy.” Car was full...didn’t make it to town....Criss had some old pots and baskets so we finished out the day potting! We now have 4 hanging baskets and 6 large pots of “beautiful” flowers on our porch!.....and...compliments galore!

With the summer season ahead of us and May Torres on a 6-week vacation (the nerve of her!!) we were in need of museum hosts.

However, after only a very few phone calls, we filled up the calendar with eager volunteers. How gratifying it is to have such support when we need it. Thank you all. And May, you're back now, vacation's over. Time to get back to work. I don't know what we would do without her.

WORD OF CAUTION: Beware of volunteering! We WILL put you to work! Neil Mickleson indicated that he had some spare time last fall and look at what we got!! Hum, I wonder if he is going to have spare time this fall?....

At this time I would like to add a few more to our thank-you list. Brooke Dorhofer and Brian "Muddy" Edwards have been adding plants, here and there, as well as other yard care. We have also seen Rodney Perkins pushing a mower around our yard. Last year Kellie Daniels was out there in the rain knocking down weeds and grass and much of our fine paint job is due to the brushes of Don Mullins and Mike August. If I have forgotten anyone it is due to my short term memory...or lack of... Anyhow, it is people like you that make this all work. Thanks again.

I am sorry to say that we lost a good friend and charter board member this spring. Ron Petrick passed on in March after a long illness. His enthusiasm and dedication to the museum was invaluable. He, alone, was responsible for our initial fundraising and restoration of display units and served, not only as an active board member but as our treasurer...when we had no money. Now, let me tell you, THAT is a job in itself! Borrow from Peter to pay Paul?...Ron knew the ropes and did it. We are indebted to him, we honor him and we miss him so very much. Our thanks goes out to his memory and to Nancy, whose patience and understanding for all of the hours he gave us, we truly appreciate.

Today at lunch at JJ's I asked Criss what staggged pants are and that I wanted to explain since others besides myself might not know. This is in reference to the "Hickory Shirt" story. She said, "They are work pants with the hem cut off the pant leg so it (the pant leg) will tear if it gets caught on a stob." Next question, "What is a stob?" Dummy me..... "A stob is a branch that sticks out of the brush and 'grabs' your pant leg." So now we know!

With this, I wish you all a Happy Summer. Come see us at the Museum!