



# Newsletter

Fall & Winter, 2016

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## LAKE QUINAULT SCHOOL GIRLS CIRCA 1919

The Lake Quinault School, built in 1918, was located directly across the road from the Quinault Post Office (now the Museum). Included in the Quinault School District No. 53 were the Milbourn, Kestner and Neilton schools. In the 1930's the Humptulips School District No. 44 consolidated with Quinault to form the present

District No. 97. The "new school" in Amanda Park was built in 1954 and, with many additions over the past 63 years, continues to provide excellent education to our local communities.

The Kestner family had four girls, Clara, Rose, Josie and Carrie. We are sure that they are among the nine lovely ladies shown here. Identification is difficult to obtain so if anyone could help us out here it would be appreciated.

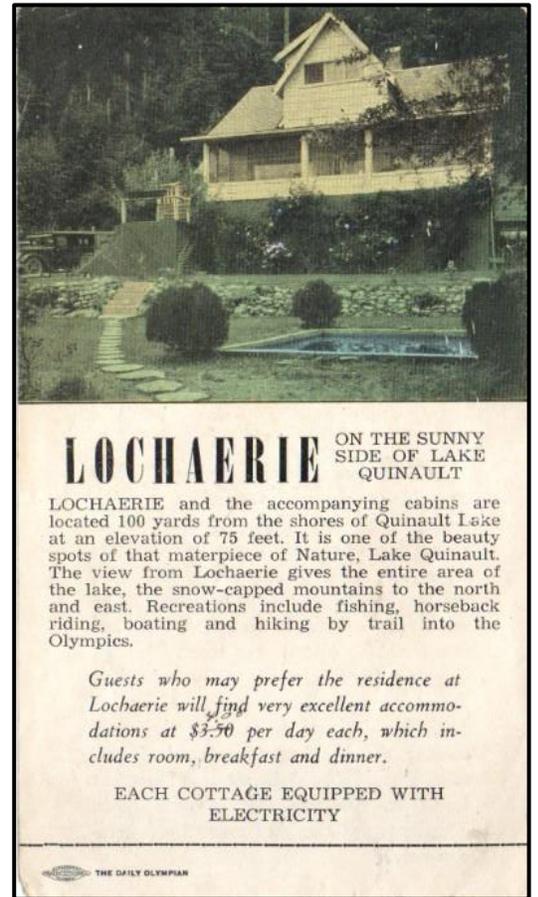
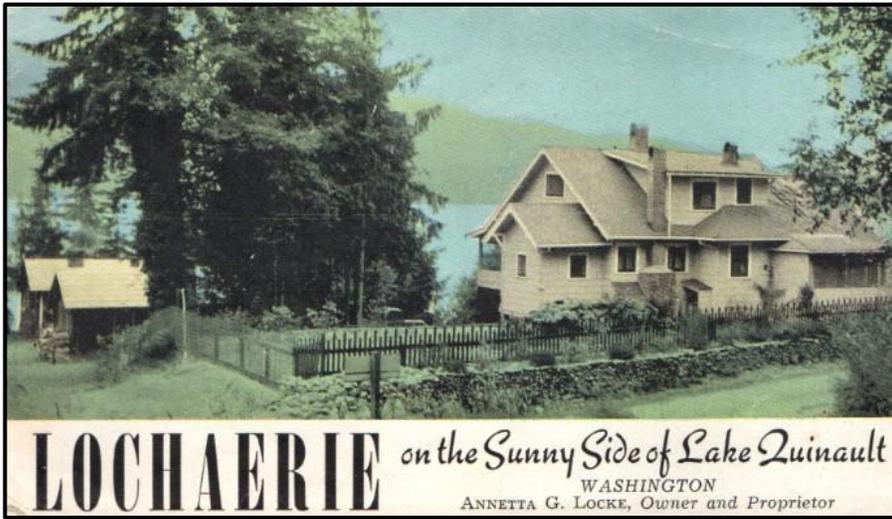
Their backs to us, featuring a singular braid, this lower photo exemplifies the photographer's imagination. Unfortunately the photos were not signed so we wonder who it was that created this interesting work of art.



Knowing the year the school was built and observing the undeveloped state of the school yard we are putting the time period here at 1919.

The scaffolding appears to probably support a water tower. Beyond that in the lower level (close to Falls Creek) is the Falls Creek Fish Hatchery. We're having difficulty finding information on the hatchery but it was in operation here in 1919. Ted Loeff managed it in the 30's and 40's. The hatchery was dismantled in 1948 and Ted and Mary relocated to Quilcene where he managed the Quilcene Hatchery until his retirement.





**Lochaerie Resort** was originally built in 1926 by Phil and Annetta Locke of Aberdeen as a boarding house and cabins. Rooms rented for \$3.50 per day including breakfast and dinner. The furnished cabins rented for \$5.00 per day. The Resort was purchased in the mid 1940's by Bill and Irene O'Connor of Chicago who raised a family and operated the Resort as O'Connor's Lochaerie. Bill worked the mills and fished. Irene operated the Resort and became a local artist and author of note. Both had an immense knowledge of mushrooms. In 1981 Bill and Irene convinced Chris and Tom Iversen of Seattle to purchase the tired old Resort and so began years of cleanup, basic repairs and upgrades as absentee owners. In 2009 the Iversens moved to Quinault to begin major upgrades and operate the vintage Resort. Lochaerie has a predominance of returning guests (Mernie Mathews, granddaughter of the Locke's), and guests of note (Pearl Jam). Lochaerie Resort celebrated 90 years of continual operation this year, 2016, and continues to be a quiet retreat from which to explore and enjoy the wonders of the Olympic Peninsula.

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Mernie (Locke) and Dave Mathews on Lochaerie's front deck with Chris and Tom Iversen. They joined the Iversens in the celebration of Lochaerie's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mernie celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2016 also. She has many fond memories of those childhood years and the special times with her Grandfather, Phil.

**Marie (Mulkey)** and her husband Clarence Locke divided their time between Aberdeen and Quinault where they assisted in the operation of Lochaerie. Their two children, Mernie (Locke) Mathews and Clarence S. Locke Jr. AKA "Google," graduated at Quinault High School, Google in 1940 and Mernie in 1944.



Lochaerie's Cabins today... Looking down from the front deck.

## LAKE QUINAULT 1946 GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Left to Right:

Inis (Ashenbrenner) Paull,  
Jackie (Olson) Persson,  
Eda Esses – Coach,  
Betty (Fishel) Miller,  
Dorothy (Marston) Esses,  
Arlenee (West) Worthy,  
Betty (Randle) Worthy,  
Letha (Huntley) Fulleton,  
Bonnie Drumond, and  
Rose (Wilson) Cardoza.



### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON:

We again held our yearly appreciation luncheon at the Quinalt Lodge. It's a time when we're all together and can relate and enjoy the events of the season. Conversations invariably run to yearly experiences and anecdotes about guests, usually humorous but also informative. Suggestions on improving our services were discussed as well as what to do when the unexpected happens. Our afternoon was quite productive as well as pleasurable. Thank you all for your time, interest and dedication to the Museum. You are the major link in our operations.



Museum President, Tom Northup at the appreciation luncheon with our 2016 high school student representative, Alejandra Arreguin.

### **In Memory**

Justine "Butch" James passed away on November 6, 2016 at the age of 77. His childhood years were here in Quinalt growing up in the family floating home on the South Shore. He later settled in Taholah. He was active in tribal affairs, including the tribal government, fisheries and law enforcement.

Justine attended several of our "Recollections...of the past" programs at the Quinalt Lodge. Always with a good dose of humor, he and the others put life into the stories they told of those long-ago times. As a major donor and respected elder, we are grateful for his part in our community and the museum.



Justine (R.) with Terry O'Connor and Jim Northup



*Raleigh Wilson*

## Raleigh Wilson

Branch of Service/Rank **Army/PFC**  
Dates of Service **1953 - 1955**  
Basic Training **Fort Ord, CA**  
Discharged **Ft. Lewis, WA**

I went to Fort Lewis for a few days and while there I was put in charge of keeping the furnaces going at night. They burned coal and I'd never seen coal before. Luckily, one of the guys was from the Midwest and he knew what to do so he helped me out. I was then sent to Ft. Ord, California for basic training. It was different there and the first day of training we were told to get in the back of a two and a half ton truck (deuce and a half) and then we waited. Some guy was reading a Mickey Spillane book and the drill Sgt. saw him and started cussing him out and said - "we'll show you what &&\*\*%\$ basic training is like." I was 16 weeks at basic and then came home for leave. I then went back to Camp Stoneman, California. I remember walking around there and they were playing Christmas carols in October. In basic I was given three choices of where I wanted to go. My first choice was Alaska, then Germany and then the Far East - so I was sent to the Far East.

I took a barge down the Sacramento River to San Francisco and under the Golden Gate Bridge and got on a troop ship in San Francisco Bay. It took a couple of weeks to get to Sasebo, Japan. I went to "High Speed



Radio Operator school" at the Japanese Naval Academy in Itajima, Japan for 16 weeks.

From there I was sent to Korea and landed at Pusan, which was a bleak looking place by then. Part of the job was helping to practice simulated air strikes on the east coast, not too far from the 38th Parallel. We had a radio jeep with UHF and VHF and when a practice air strike was planned, a message was sent to put out a smoke bomb. Usually a prop plane would guide the jets in to the target.

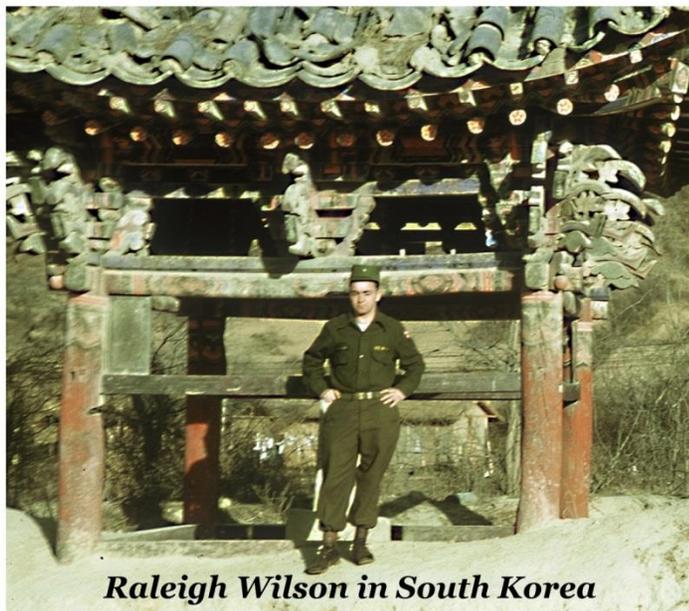
One time we went to the chow hall in a pickup and I was driving. On the way back some other guys wanted a ride back and it ended up with eight of us in the cab of the truck. The last one in was pulled through the window and laid across everyone. Some one did the gear shift and I steered and did the gas. We use to go swimming at a beach near the 38th Parallel (the treaty line between North and South Korea.) There was white sand for as far as we could see and it looked like a beach in Tahiti.

While walking guard duty I saw a light that I thought was off in the distance and it was a surprise when I saw it was a firefly. That was the first time I'd ever seen a firefly.

I was in Korea about 12 months. When we were leaving Seoul we had to change to all new clothes. There was a line of us and the fellow passing out the socks was hollering up the line, asking everyone "what size do you want?" When we got up to him, they were all size 12 socks!

It took several weeks to come back by ship to Seattle. In Seattle when we got off the dock and were walking along I heard, "Raleigh" being called. My Aunt Ellen and the family had come to meet me. Aunt Ellen had told her husband to look for somebody tall as I was the tallest of all the Wilson family. I'm 5'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "!

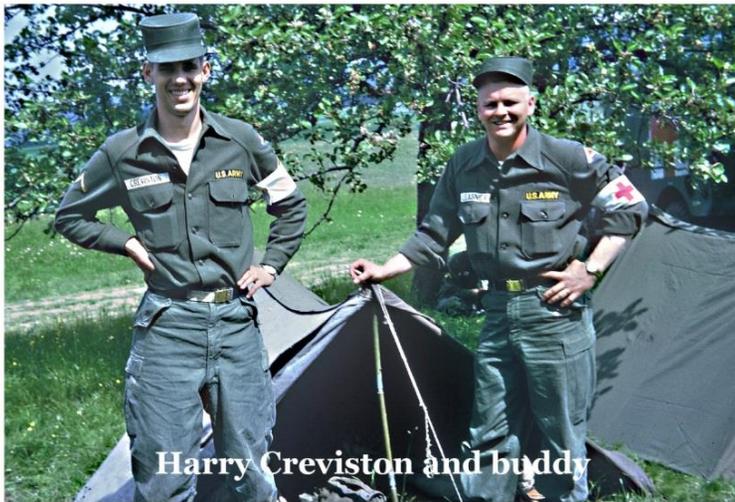
The armistice was signed while I was in basic training and I wasn't disappointed in not being in the war. The service didn't hurt me any and it was a good experience.



*Raleigh Wilson in South Korea*



*South Korean tank*



## Harry Creviston

Branch of Service/Rank **Army/PFC**  
Dates of Service **1961 - 1963**  
Basic Training **Ft. Ord, CA**  
Discharged **New York, NY**

I was in an ambulance company stationed in Darmstadt, Germany where I drove ambulance to a hospital in Frankfurt, Germany. (95th Medical Company, 7th Army)

A lot of our duties were supporting other Army units on training maneuvers or clinics serving military dependents. This was called TDY (temporary duty.) I spent about a third of my time on TDY.

One night the doctor told me to go to the hospital and then the morgue. The doctor said there was a dead man in the back and he was sending an old man who was having heart trouble with me as well, but he was to be up front with me and to be sure to drop him off first. It was near midnight and the older fellow never knew our cargo in the back of the ambulance.

One time I decided to ride with the other medic who also ran ambulance to the Frankfurt hospital. It was about 50 miles by autobahn, which had no speed limit. The ambulance engine was roaring but we were only going about 45mph. I asked the driver why he didn't shift gears - he said, "you mean there's another gear!" He'd been doing this for over a week and I can't imagine what the people in the back of the ambulance must have thought.

I was almost on board when I got married; I owed Sears for four retreaded tires. In a year Karen, my wife, and I had the down payment for a brand new "made in Detroit car."

Within three months I was drafted. They didn't draft married men, or so I had thought. My pay was \$78.00 a month plus \$25.00 because I was married. Karen moved in with her folks and meanwhile I'm in Germany and shopping for the cheapest razor blades and other necessities but, we made the car payments.

Two years serving your country is a privilege. I didn't expect it so my initial attitude wasn't that great but I came out a more mature person.





## Donald J. Helser

Branch of Service/Rank **Navy/EO Chief Senior E8  
(Equipment Operator)**

Dates of Service **1951 - 1955 Navy Reserve  
1956 - 1977 Active Duty**

Basic Training

Discharged

**Pacific Beach, Washington**



I was a member of 5 different **SEABEE** battalions in my 22 years as a career Navy man. **SEABEES** were self-contained and had everything a battalion ever needed. This included guns, carpenters, doctors building materials, etc. We use to practice loading a battalion (1000 men) on to an LST (Landing Ship Tank) and seeing how quickly it could be done. I was never on a ship but unloaded lots of cargo from and to them.

**SEABEES** are part of the Navy but support the Marine Corps. We wear the Navy uniform but are self sufficient. "**SEABEES**" is an acronym for **U.S. Navy mobile Construction Battalion**. The battalion was formed in 1942 after WWII and built all the runways and facilities on the captured islands of WWII - such as Guadalcanal. The **SEABEE's** are a small branch of the Navy and compared to the rest of the service have less than 20,00 men during peacetime and probably around 30,000 during the Vietnam era.

From August 1964 to February 1966 I was stationed at AMPHIB Base, California but in 1966 I got orders for "Bravo" MCB58, which was a WWII Battalion that had been decommissioned and was recommissioned in March 1966 in Davisville, Rhode Island. From there I was deployed to Vietnam in November 1966 and redeployed in 1967 and came back to Davisville in August of 1968. In Vietnam the Marines landed at "Red Beach", north of Da Nang and the **SEABEES** came in

and built the roads and camps. The Koreans had moved in and relieved a Marine Regiment and we were sent down to support them. A Korean Captain had been assigned as a liaison officer to translate/interpret. I spent eight months of my last deployment attached to the Korean Marine Corp. We were in the 1968 Tet Offensive. For about a week we had no food except Korean "K" rations which weren't very good. I learned a lot about "kimchi" which is like a sauerkraut but made of soured vegetables. I spent 17 months in Vietnam. (**SEABEES** always had two deployments where most everyone else had one deployment)

From January 1956 to June of 1975 I was stationed in Guam (MCB10), Okinawa (MCB3), Point Mugu, California, Sasebo, Japan, Amphib Base, California, Davisville, Rhode Island, (MCB58) (during that time I was in Vietnam), Navscon, California, Thailand, Okinawa, Philippines, Puerto Rico (MCB5) and Adak, Alaska. I retired in 1977 at Pacific Beach, Washington.

**SEABEES** do dangerous work but it pays to advance and as a professional I encouraged the new enlistees to try and advance in the ranks.

*Compiled April 12, 2012*

## LAKE QUINAULT HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM 2000 - 2016

During the March, 2000 Forum meeting it was mentioned that a large room in the Forest Service office building was vacant and available. After the meeting Betty Miller & John Olson discussed community use of this space and the possibility of a museum. On April 5, 2000 a meeting was called at the library to discuss forming a museum. Attending this first meeting were Betty Miller, Leslie and Roger Blain, Karen Creviston, Clarice McDonald, Phyllis Miller, Criss Osborn, Nancy Petrick, Kathleen Praxel and May Torres. A committee was formed with Kathleen Praxel as chairperson. We drew up Articles of Incorporation and By-laws, and a mission statement. Following that came the checking and savings account, employer identification number, insurance and our "logo" by Sudi. After months of preparation, the Lake Quinault Historical Society and Museum opened its doors on September 23, 2000. One hundred and thirty people attended the "preview opening."

We were in business! Artifacts, large (2 racing canoes) and small (vintage eye glasses) were being acquired and displays were starting to form. We had a board of directors and officers as the working body (things haven't changed much in that department...) and acquired our 501c(3) non-profit status and number. Museum memberships had been formed as well as sponsors and memorials to provide working capital. We also had a 1-time dinner/auction fundraiser which was very well received and helped us out greatly financially. We have occasionally received tourism funds and grants and also a \$5000 grant from the Quinault Indian Nation. Volunteer host's and hostess's served the public and permitted us to be open throughout the summer months. We have never charged admission but have always appreciated donations at the door.

**February 22, 2001 minutes:** *P.O. BLDG: Bobby Rotter, of the Quinault Lodge, says that the Lodge is aware of our interest in the post office building. She needs a letter from us, to send to the corporate office, expressing this interest and subsequent plans for the building. Ron will inspect the building to determine what repair may be needed. Also, there will be considerable renovation and restoration involved. This was the beginning of our hopes and dreams of having a permanent home for the museum.*

On May 1, 2002, a lease was signed by Betty Miller, representing the museum and Bobbie Rotter, for Aramark. With the volunteer labor of the community and museum members extensive renovation/restoration on the building began. It included, but was not limited to, foundation, structural repair, siding and staining, new porch and drainage issues. The interior required ceilings, walls, insulation and electrical throughout, flooring refinished or replaced, plumbing, cabinets and painting. When the exterior was completed and work began indoors we focused on one-room-at-a-time beginning with the downstairs "great" room. It was Memorial weekend, May 29, 2004 that we opened the doors to the public with one room completed and seven rooms to go, plus our private bath and kitchen. We had our work cut out for us but with the wonderful community support extended to us and the skill and dedication of our carpenter, Dan Chandler, we were well on our way.

It was 3 years later, in the summer of 2007 that we moved into our 2<sup>nd</sup> room, the pioneer kitchen. Criss Osborn's son, Ryan Aigner, restored and refinished all of the hardwood floors and installed all of the tile flooring. We had Dan build a faux exterior wall to separate the display room and our private area and, to the specifications of Criss and Phyllis, Jerry Jones made and installed the swinging saloon doors. Incidentally, the shingles on the wall were salvaged from the back of the building. We were now a 2-room museum! That was short-lived! The December 3, 2007 storm sent a tree through the roof of our new room. **2008 Spring and Summer Newsletter:** *"THE BAD NEWS WAS that we no longer had a ceiling or roof. The three exterior walls were bowed out, all the sheetrock and insulation were water-saturated and beyond salvation. At that time the only things that looked to be relatively undamaged were our shingled interior walls and our beautiful tiled floor which we could hardly see for days to come because of the tree and all its trimmings, the ceiling and roof which were now on the floor as were much of the wall material. We were injured."* Museum security was compromised and EVERYTHING removable was taken out and stored elsewhere. We had no insurance since we were still in the lease process of acquiring ownership of the building. Aramark was self-insured and didn't choose to fund the damage. However, on Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>, Hiedi Olson, who had recently become manager of the Quinault Lodge, sponsored a benefit dinner with the proceeds to go to the museum for repairs. This was a huge help and appreciated!

Our lease agreement was to be up on May 1, 2008 and the building was then scheduled to be turned over to the historical society and museum. It didn't happen at that time and we began a waiting process, fearful that problems might be coming our way. In the meantime, things went on as usual. We continued the renovation process, room by room, and put up the outdoor pole building which Harry Creviston designed and built. We were also getting more artifacts, many of which we were able to incorporate into very interesting and unique displays. Our volunteer hosts were doing their jobs relating interesting stories, helping with the operations and doing it all with good cheer. Bi-annual newsletters were sent out with museum updates and histories.

**2010 Spring & Summer Newsletter:** *"THE DEED IS DONE"* ARAMARK/Lake Quinault Lodge, has officially transferred the deed to the Old Post Office building (Lake Quinault Museum) to the Lake Quinault Historical Society. Final papers were signed in April between ARAMARK and LQHS, with professional guidance from attorney, Jim Parker of Hoquiam.

*Lake Quinault Historical Society board members would like to thank Tom Northup, Jim Parker, Lake Quinault Lodge representatives, and Forest Service personnel for their efforts in achieving the deed transfer. And to ARAMARK/Lake Quinault Lodge, thank you so very much for your generosity and for all of the support you have given us throughout the years.*

*In recognition of this momentous occasion the LQHS board would like to invite community, friends and neighbors to an Open House scheduled for mid-July, honoring ARAMARK/Lake Quinault Lodge.*

We could now breathe a sigh of relief. All of those years of hard work had paid off. The Lake Quinault Museum was finally established in a very permanent building! We were here to stay!

**2010 Fall & Winter Newsletter headlined:** *DOWNSTAIRS IS COMPLETED -or- THREE ROOMS AND GROWING...* Our next phase would be upstairs where we had 4 rooms to design and complete, plus the loft. We continued our “work-in-progress.” By this time most of the upstairs rooms had been restored... wiring, insulation, walls, electrical, floor finishing, etc. The last being the loft which Phyllis (me) insisted be turned into a child’s bedroom. With not as much funding going into the building itself, we splurged a bit and bought 4 full female mannequins and 1 male mannequin. They actually had arms, legs and a head! Betty’s parachute-silk wedding dress was now properly displayed! Our logger was now truthfully a man with a head, arms & legs. For many years our “logger” had been a female “torso” mannequin placed backwards on a stool, (boobs in the back...) dressed in hickory shirt, tin hat balanced on the neck, pant legs dangling down from the body & caulk boots down there...somewhere. You should see him now! He’s hot! With approval from the family, we named our logger, Johnny, after Johnny Northup who lost his life in a logging accident in September, 1958.

In 2010 we did our “*Recollections...of the past*” whereby we gathered local senior citizens for informal discussions, memories and history of the area... logging, homesteading, schools, etc. We inconspicuously filmed these sessions and have them on disks. We need someone to edit (that’s going to be a whopper of a job!) and put it into media that we can view and/or display. It was our goal to get this history down before it was too late. Our “subjects” included May Torres, John Olson and Terry O’Connor...all passed. Also, to name a few others, were Justine James, Jim Northup, Harold Brunstad, Jerry Jones, Elizabeth Carlyle, Elizabeth Tarbox, MaryLou McDonald and Frank Slater as well as ourselves.

It was in 2012 that Kathleen Praxel created the Veterans exhibit, honoring all branches of the military and the men and women who served their country. **2012 Spring & Summer Newsletter:** *Throughout this winter Kathleen Praxel has been working on a project to recognize and honor the veterans of our communities. Hours were spent talking with the vets, recording their histories and writing up their stories. Initially it was slow but as time went by and the word got out it became evident that our communities were well represented in the military. She then compiled all into a book titled, “Hear Us!” Over the years we have gathered many military items, including a WWI uniform and mess kit belonging to George Washington Streater. After starting this project many more uniforms, medals and military representation came our way. For proper display of this honored material we had local woodcrafter, Steve Rutledge, make us a large cabinet which we designed. With our Veterans Memorial arranged, on Armed Forces Day, May 19<sup>th</sup>, we had an Open House in honor of all branches of the military and the men and women who served their country.*

We have continued with our annual Armed Forces Day Open House, this year being our 5<sup>th</sup> annual.

We’ve had sad times in the loss of several of our board members as well as family, friends and neighbors. In Memory: Board members Ron Petrick, John Clayton, Criss Osborn and May Torres. Ron was noted for designing and building the things that couldn’t be built, John was duly noted for, among other things, drainage and landscaping. “You’ve got to have drainage,” he’d say. (All of the drainage had been “under” the building!) Criss (my very best friend in this whole world) took control of everything, seeing that things were done correctly and May served as our primary hostess and would “tell it like she saw it!” Other museum members included Barbara Northup, John Olson, Becky Hansen and Jean & Glen Barkhurst.

In 2014 we started an annual scholarship program for Quinault and Taholah graduates. Scholarship funding is through the sales of the Community Birthday Calendar which we have taken over from the Lake Quinault Community Circle.

**Student Representatives:** **2016 Spring & Summer Newsletter:** *In a new museum initiative, two Lake Quinault High School seniors have joined the museum as student representatives and assistant hostesses. Initially, Alejandra Arreguin and Espy Silva will be primarily familiarizing themselves with museum procedures and exhibits, then greeting and guiding visitors. They will also attend board meetings when possible. During the next school year we intend that they facilitate class field trips and promote the museum as a resource for students.*

**To update:** The museum is now on Facebook. We have an email address: [lakequinaultmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:lakequinaultmuseum@gmail.com) (and you can always reach us at my email address: [phyllisandrodney@hotmail.com](mailto:phyllisandrodney@hotmail.com)) and a terrific website, [www.lakequinaultmuseum.org](http://www.lakequinaultmuseum.org). It’s there (and on Facebook) that you can see our latest newsletters and events.

We’ve gone a long way since April 5, 2000 and are all very proud of what we’ve accomplished.

Phyllis Miller, charter board member and board secretary.

**The Lake Quinault Historical Society** and Museum Board of Directors have had a busy off-season and the 2017 season will be upon us before we know it. Visitation in 2016, drawing from our Guest Register, is estimated at about 2700 people and shows a few surprises. We had visitors from 47 states (all but Delaware and the Dakotas) and 28 foreign countries including six continents and four island nations. Countries represented include Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada (British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec), China, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, the Philippines, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan (o.k. – in modern times considered a part of China, not so much by us older folks), Thailand, Turkey and United Kingdom. The surprise is that about 55% of our visitors were from out-of-state or foreign countries and almost 95% traveled over 50 miles to Quinault. This, of course, spells a lot of tourist dollars coming into the local economy.

**For 2017** we are looking forward to the annual Armed Forces Day event on May 20<sup>th</sup> and have a very exciting presentation tentatively scheduled. We hope to see you there (refreshments will be provided). The museum will open for the summer season on Memorial Day weekend.

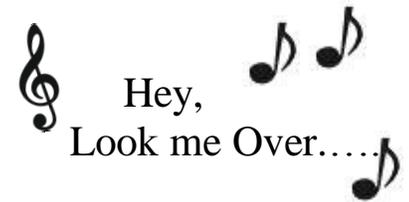
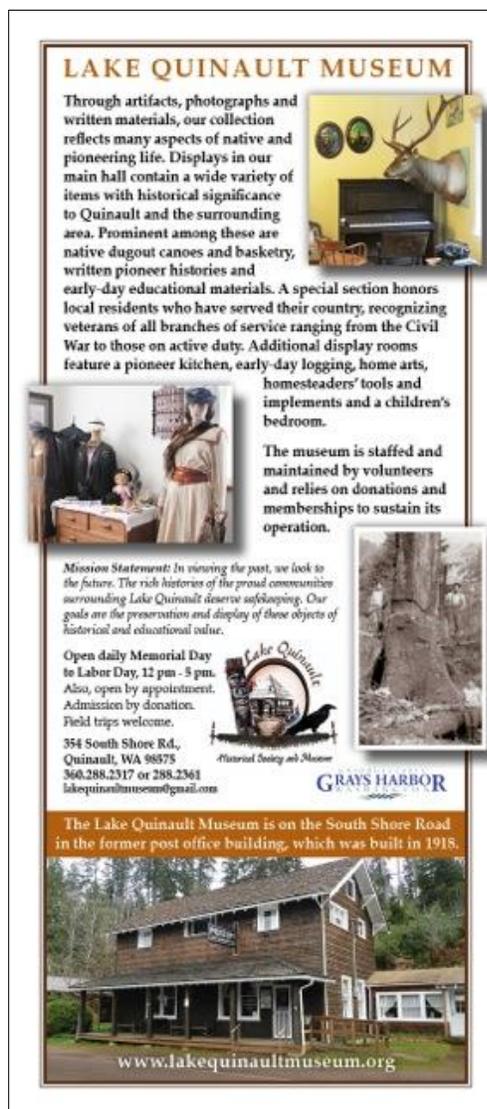
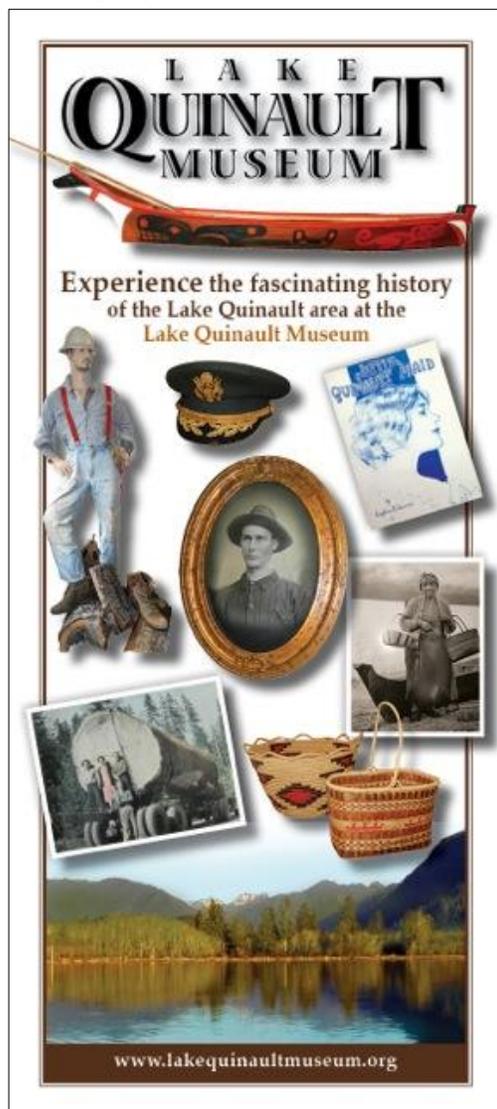
**We are currently** preparing an off-season display of artifacts at the Lake Quinault School with the intent of gaining a bit more exposure to the local community and promoting the museum as a resource for students.

**Finally,** we are in the development stage of a cooperative “Passport” program involving all twelve museums in Grays Harbor County (Yes, there are 12 museums in our county!) in a mutual effort to promote increased interest and visitation.

Stay tuned for further details.

**Thanks to a grant** from Grays Harbor County Tourism, we have up-dated our brochure with some new pictures and slightly revised narrative, and to reflect that, we now have a website. We were able to print 15,000 copies

which we intend to spread far and wide to promote our area.



**We Love our New Brochure!**



**Our little Garden:** A pumpkin seed found its way into our garden this year and voilà..we grew a pumpkin. I know it's not the biggest and best pumpkin in the world but we were so excited! We also had zucchini and tomatoes.