



PIONEER PRESENCES

Newsletter of the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington

January 2016, Volume XV No. 3

Next Meeting:
January 9, Board Only

March 12, 2016,
Board Meeting 10 a.m. and
General Membership
Meeting 1:00 p.m.
Pioneer Hall

Table of Contents

Poem by Long Timer	1
President's Message	2, 3
Board Meeting Minutes	3
Smith Island Estuary Project	4
Ireland and Chief Sealth	5,6
In Memoriam	7

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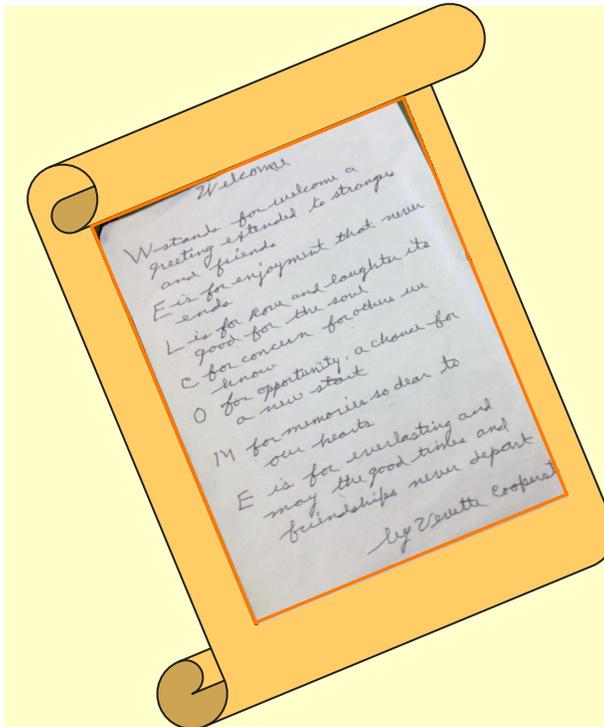
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Randy Sleight,
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Welcome — a Poem by a Long Timer



Vevette Cooperstein

Member, Daughters of
the
Pioneers of Washing-
ton,
Seattle Chapter , #1

W stands for welcome, a greeting extended to strangers and friends
E is for enjoyment that never ends
L is for love and laughter, it's good for the soul
C for concern for others we know
O for opportunity, a chance for a new start
M for memories so dear to our hearts
E is for everlasting, and may the good times and friendships never depart

— by Vevette Cooperstein, member of the Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington, Seattle Chapter #1. The Daughters joined Vevette in celebrating her 101st birthday last summer.



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Pioneer Hall Hours

In September and October, open houses are scheduled for the second and fourth Sundays of each month. In November, December, January and February, open houses are set for second Sundays only. Time: 1:00 pm to 4: pm. —

Board of Officers

- President R. Alan Murray
- 1st Vice President Randy Sleight
- 2nd Vice President OPEN
- Secretary Jeff Rodgers
- Treasurer Sandra Selle
- Historian Gary Zimmerman
- Past President: Junius Rochester

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Peggy Parietti
(Term to June 2016)

Louise Jones-Brown,
Carla Hendrickson, Janis Maloney
(Term to June 2017)

Dave Brazier, Regina Cornish,
Carolyn Kiser
(Term to June 2018)

Pioneer Presences

Teresa Summers, Editor
newsletter@wapioneers.org

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President's Message

Welcome to 2016. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends.

I would like to welcome the following new members who have joined during the last year. They all reside in Washington state:

- Judy Jacobson; Union
- Lance D. Loomis; Seattle
- Owen J. Onsum; Eastsound
- Lynett Stevenson; Tacoma
- Gerald Tuttle; Seattle

If you have received your newsletter, we must have gotten your mailing information correct. If you have questions or wish to make corrections or make changes in your contact information, please drop me a line at member-ship@wapioneers.org .

Many members have either upgraded their membership to Life Member or given membership as a gift to a family member.

I encourage all members to become involved. Visit Pioneer Hall during the monthly open houses. Attend the general membership meetings and the annual meeting/salmon make. Check the web site wapioneers.org to see what is happening at Pioneer Hall.

Randy Sleight, our Vice President for Programs, organized three interesting presentations for our October meeting. Susan Connole from the Friends of the Hiram M. Chittenden (Ballard) Locks Historical Society presented a very informative program on the citing, construction operation and maintenance of the Ballard Locks. (See October *Pioneer Presences*). Donna Harvey and Randy Sleight tagged-teamed about early settlers on the lower Snohomish River (See Randy's article on page 4).

We encourage anyone who would like to tell his or her family story at our general membership meetings. You do not need to prepare a fancy slide show. Just bring some pictures and tell us a short story about your ancestors, where they came from, when they arrived, where they settled and what they did to contribute to the development of the Pacific Northwest. If you are interested, please contact Randy Sleight at randy@sl8.com or call him at (425) 786-3526.

If you prefer, you could write a short article for *Pioneer Presences*. Send your articles to the Teresa Summers, Newsletter Editor, Pioneer Association, 1642 43rd AVE E, Seattle, WA 98112 or by e-mail at newsletter@wapioneers.org . If you need to reach her by phone, call (206) 545-7113.

All members are welcome to attend all meetings of the Board of Trustees. Dates and times for these meetings are posted elsewhere in this newsletter.

Volunteers are needed to fill the following positions:

Vice President for Membership

The Vice President for Membership shall be responsible for marketing the Association, issuing membership applications for each class of membership, acknowledging new members and generally promoting membership growth. The Vice President for



Alan Murray, President

(continued next page)>>

<<(continued from page 2, *President's Message*)

Membership shall maintain an accurate list of current members and shall issue periodic directories of the Association membership. When Junior Members attain the age of 18, the Vice President for Membership shall notify them of their eligibility for membership as a full Voting Member. This officer also shall supervise recovery of mail and messages from Pioneer Hall on a timely basis.

The Vice President for Membership shall see that individual dues notices are distributed to each Voting and Associate Member during the month of July. Each dues response form shall offer separate lines on which to enter dues payments and donations to restricted funds of the Association. At least once each year, Life Members shall be given an opportunity to contribute to one or more restricted funds of the Association.

Open House Committee Chair

Duties include organizing volunteers to staff the open houses, coordinate opening and closing duties and training volunteers. The chair does not need to attend all open houses.

Pioneer Association Webmaster

Make a splash by constructing a “go-to” web site for the Pioneer Association. This is a vital project to the furtherance of our organization.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions, or you wish to discuss anything related to the Association, please contact Alan Murray at (206) 794-9283 or by e-mail at membership@wapioneers.org.

— Alan Murray, President

Board Minutes, October 10, 2015

Treasurer's Report –

Sandra Selle provided her Treasurer's report for the period May 1 to September 30, 2015. We had \$15,661.17 in the checking account as of May 1, 2015. Our largest expense was \$2,409.40 for publication expenses year-to-date. The second largest expense was \$1,806.76 for building repair and cleaning. Home Street Savings account = \$146,709.11. D.A. Davidson Mutual Fund Account = \$84,754.10 as of September 30, 2015. Building fund = \$34,022.56.



Hall and Maintenance - Gary/Dave/Alan

Gary noted that the Hall has been busy. The Newcastle Historical Society, who set up the current exhibit in the Hall, will be having their board meeting in the hall this month.

Painting of Flashing – Alan noted that he is working with the Mylan Company to get the painting and flashing repaired.

Volunteers/Open Houses - Randy

On August 26, 2015, there were no volunteers so we did not have an open house.

Motion: The Board of Directors voted unanimously that, to save costs, the printed version of *Pioneer Presences* will be printed only in black and white rather than having any color. (On line version will still be in color.)

Nominating Committee - Alan

Mary Louise Hammond and Jeff Rodgers volunteered to participate on the Committee. Alan will work on getting the third member required by our by-laws.

Visibility and Membership Initiatives – Alan

Business Cards - Teresa passed around business cards for the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington

Pioneer Database – Alan

Ray Owens has accepted my request to evaluate how we might set up a database with remote access.

Landmark Application – Alan

Ray has offered to photograph the inside of Pioneer Hall for use in the landmark application. Once the dues letters go out, Alan will finalize the Landmark Application.

— Minutes taken by Jeff Rodgers, Secretary. Summarized by Editor



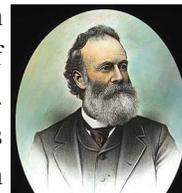
Source: <http://snohomishcountywa.gov/1150/Smith-Island-Restoration-Project>

Smith Island Estuary Restoration Project and Early Pioneers of the Lower Snohomish River

At our October 10, 2015 General Meeting both Donna Harvey and I described the story of two pioneer families that lived or homesteaded along the Lower Snohomish River.

The first person was Dr. Henry A. Smith who came to Seattle in the Washington Territory in 1853. Smith Cove in Elliott Bay was named after him. He was born near Wooster, Wayne County Ohio in 1830 the son of Rev. and Mrs. Nicholas Smith. After emigrating from Ohio, he became noted in this region for grafting fruit and developing orchards as well as being the one who translated Chief Seattle's famous speech of

1854. In 1862, he married a lass named Mary A. Phelan and they had seven children in the years to follow (6 girls and a boy). In 1864, he moved north from Seattle to the mouth of the Snohomish River and secured a donation land claim for 600 acres of tideflats, estuary and some uplands. During the next 14 years he worked hard on the land to cultivate 75 acres, by building dikes and levees that he considered the New Holland. He was also tasked with being the physician to the newly formed (1858) Tulalip Reservation as this was near the Snohomish Indians' earliest known camp on the north side of the river at its mouth. The Snohomish Indians' camp was shown on the original government land office (GLO) maps. He was also what we would call a pioneer journalist who promoted the region very similar to what Ezra Meeker did around Tukwila and Puyallup. In one of his letters around Mukilteo he wrote that 7,500 salmon were caught in three hauls of the purse seine nets by the local fisherman at that location. A salmon cannery had been started at Mukilteo for the fishing industry. He wrote this three years after Snohomish became a county with only approximately 100 residents then living there. After 1878, he returned to Seattle and much of what became of Smith Island in Snohomish County returned to nature, wetlands and estuary habitat. The County along with the current Diking District No. 5, the City of Everett and the Tulalip Tribes have been working for many years now to breach these old dikes in strategic locations along Union Slough to assist in the restoration of salmon habitat on Smith Island. Dr. Smith lived to be 85 and passed away in 1915.



Dr. Henry Smith

Donna Harvey then told of her ancestor John Harvey who ventured further up the Snohomish River. John Harvey born in Devonshire County, England in 1828 sailed to San Francisco in 1849 and jumped ship and became a 49er miner for a few years. In 1852, while still part of the Oregon Territory he came to what would become Seattle in 1869 landing at Alki Point. He worked logging for John Low and later filed a donation land claim on 160 acres over the southerly portion of what would become Seward Park. The 1855, Indian Wars threatened the family and they had to move off their claim for a short period during those raids. After returning to their property the Harvey's and their neighbors the Howes found that the buildings had been burned and property severely damaged. As a result, he ventured out with the Howe family to move to the north to Snohomish County and poled their scow with oxen and goods up the river to the area where Lowell would be, going up during the incoming tides. They continued on up the river eventually settling near what would become the Town of Snohomish at approximately the location where salt water would no longer be an influence in their water supply. In 1859, Mr. Harvey purchased a 160 acre claim from E. H. Tucker and began to clear and work the land raising potatoes and cattle, farming and trading goods on the river. Portions of the homestead were within the floodplain of the river, but the cedar trees were large at this location with good agricultural soils. The Harvey family have lived on portions of this homestead since January, 1860. Donna showed us photos of artifacts passed on by John Harvey to the family as well as pictures of the old buildings. An 80 acre portion of this is now part of the Harvey Airfield today.

How I Spent My Summer Vacation

After settling into a crowded corner of the Courthouse Pub in Dingle, Ireland, I spotted a familiar face pictured on the wall. HUH? What was Chief Sealth doing on a poster thousands of miles from home?

I admit to a disproportionate sense of pride about Chief Se'ahl. I'm sure many Chief Sealth High School graduates do. My first day as a sophomore, Mrs. Eisele endeavored to veer us away from the incorrect pronunciation of our namesake, drilling us to say "See-ahlsh" instead. Since most students had come from either Louisa Boren or David T Denny Jr High Schools [*wonder if they still celebrate Denny Day?*], this was an uphill climb. We were weaned on the football fight song; sadly, it rhymes with "wealth".



In Ireland, the age-spotted poster paid respect to Chief Sealth, attributing excerpts from "The Earth is Precious " to him. It was printed by the Kerry Branch of An Taisce, a non-profit organization dedicated to Irish heritage and the protection of the environment. The photograph caption reads **"In 1854, the "Great White Chief" in Washington made an offer for a large area of Indian land and promised a 'reservation' for the Indian people. Chief Seattle's reply, published here in full, has been described as the most beautiful and profound statement on the environment ever made"**



Instead of sipping cider and jigging to Irish music, I took time to appreciate the wisdom and grace of Chief Sealth's speech. Hmmmm "whippoorwill"? "buffaloes" on the prairie"? "smoking iron horse"? Something rang wrong here, despite the profound sentiments.

Back home, I did some lazy research and found a 1985 article from *Prologue Magazine* (Vol. 18, No. 1) posted on the web [<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1985/spring/chief-seattle.html>]. Jerry L. Clark of the National Archives and Records Administration (who retired in 2012 after 40 years of service), pinpoints an 1887 edition of the *Seattle Sunday Star* newspaper as the source of Chief Sealth's speech, documented by Dr. Henry A. Smith. There is much contention regarding

authorship. Consequently, Mr. Clark concludes that **"this memorable statement loses its moral force."** What do you think? Following is the text formatted by An Taisce:

THE EARTH IS PRECIOUS

How can you buy or sell the sky, the warmth of the land? The idea is strange to us. If we do not own the freshness of the air and the sparkle of the water, how can you buy them?

ALL SACRED

Every part of this earth is sacred to my people.

Every shining pine needle, every sandy shore, every mist in the dark woods, every clearing, and humming insect is holy in the memory and experience of my people. The sap which courses through the trees carries the memories of the red man.

The white man's dead forget the country of their birth when they go to walk among the stars. Our dead never forget this beautiful earth, for it is the mother of the red man.

We are part of the earth and it is part of us.

The perfumed flowers are our sisters: the deer, the horse, the great eagle, these are our brothers.

The rocky crests, the juices in the meadows, the body heat of the pony, and man—all belong to the same family.

NOT EASY

So, when the Great Chief in Washington sends word that he wishes to buy our land, he asks much of us. The Great Chief sends word he will reserve us a place so that we can live comfortable to ourselves.

He will be our father and we will be his children. So we will consider your offer to buy our land. But it will not be easy. For this land is sacred to us.

This shining water that moves in the streams and rivers is not just water but the blood of our ancestors.

If we sell you land, you must remember that it is sacred, and that each ghostly reflection in the clear water of the lakes tells of events and memories in the life of my people.

The water's murmur is the voice of my father's father.

KINDNESS

The rivers are our brothers, they quench our thirst. The rivers carry our canoes, and feed our children. If we sell you our land, you must remember, and teach your children, that the rivers are our brothers, and yours, and you must henceforth give rivers the kindness you would give any brother.

We know that the white man does not understand our ways. One portion of land is the same to him as the next, for he is a stranger who comes in the night and takes from the land whatever he needs. The earth is not his brother but his enemy, and when he has conquered it, he moves on.

He leaves his fathers' graves behind, and he does not care. He kidnaps the earth from his children and he does not care.

His fathers' grave, and his children's birthright, are forgotten. He treats his mother, the earth, and his brother, the sky, as things to be bought, plundered, sold like sheep or bright beads.

His appetite will devour the earth and leave behind only a desert.

I do not know. Our ways are different from your ways.

The sight of your cities pains the eyes of the red man. But perhaps it is because the red man is a savage and does not understand.

There is no quiet place in the white man's cities. No place to hear the unfurling of leaves in spring or the rustle of insect's wings.

But perhaps it is because I am a savage and do not understand.

The clatter only seems to insult the ears. And what is there to life if a man cannot hear the lonely cry of the whippoorwill or the arguments of the frogs around a pond at night? I am a red man and do not understand.

The Indian prefers the soft sound of the wind darting over the face of a pond, and the smell of the wind itself, cleansed by a midday rain, or scented with pinon pine.

PRECIOUS

The air is precious to the red man, for all things share the same breath—the beast, the tree, the man; they all share the same breath.

The white man does not seem to notice the air he breathes. Like a man dying for many days, he is numb to the stench.

But if we sell our land, you must remember that the air is precious to us, that the air shares its spirit with all the life it supports. The wind that gave our grandfather his first breath also receives his last sigh.

And if we sell you our land, you must keep it apart and sacred, as a place where even the white man can go to taste the wind that is sweetened by the meadow's flowers.

ONE CONDITION

So we will consider your offer to buy our land. If we decide to accept, I will make one condition: The white man must treat the beasts of this land as his brothers.

I am a savage and I do not understand any other way.

I have seen a thousand rotting buffalos on the prairie, left by the white man who shot them from a passing train.

I am a savage and I do not understand how the smoking iron horse can be more important than the buffalo that we kill only to stay alive.

What is man without the beasts? If all the beasts were gone, men would die from a great loneliness of spirit.

For whatever, happens to the beasts, soon happens to man. All things are connected.

THE ASHES

You must teach your children that the ground beneath their feet is the ashes of our grandfathers. So that they will respect the land, tell your children that the earth is rich with the lives of our kin.

Teach your children what we have taught our children, that the earth is our mother.

Whatever befalls the earth, befalls the sons of the earth. If men spit upon the ground, they spit upon themselves.

This we know. The earth does not belong to man; man belongs to the earth. This we know.

All things are connected like the blood which unites one family. All things are connected.

Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life; he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself.

Even the white man, whose God walks and talks with him as friend to friend, cannot be exempt from the common destiny.

We may be brothers after all.

We shall see.

One thing we know, which the white man may one day discover—our God is the same God.

<<continued from previous page — Chief Sealth

You may think now that you own Him as you wish to own our land; but you cannot. He is the God of man, and His compassion is equal for the red man and the white.

This earth is precious to Him, and to harm the earth is to heap contempt on its Creator.

The whites too shall pass; perhaps sooner than all other tribes. Contaminate your bed, and you will one night suffocate in your own waste.

But in your perishing you will shine brightly, fired by the strength of the God who brought you to this land and for some special purpose gave you dominion over this land and over the red man.

That destiny is a mystery to us, for we do not understand when the buffalo are all slaughtered, the wild horses are tamed, the secret corners of the forest heavy with the scent of many men, and the view of the ripe hills blotted by talking wires.

Where is the thicket? Gone.

Where is the eagle? Gone.

— submitted by Sandra Selle, Treasurer

NOTE: Pioneer Dr. Henry Smith is also mentioned on page 4 in a separate article.

Deaths recently Reported to the Association

MARY FRANCES (WINTLER) GREGORY passed away in September at the age of 95. A native of Portland, Oregon, she had been a member of the Association since 1993. Her grandfather, John Jacob Wintler, emigrated from Switzerland in 1853 at the age of 16 along with his 12-year old brother. After a couple of years in Buffalo, New York, he came to the Portland area by way of the Isthmus of Panama. In 1866, he settled and farmed near Vancouver, Washington. Her grandmother, Sarah Butler Wintler, drove a mule team and covered wagon from Missouri to the Vancouver area in 1878. She married the widower John Wintler with his five children and they had four more of their own.

M. SPENCER CHAMBERLAIN died in Seattle on October 1, 2015, at the age of 88. He joined the Association in 1994, citing his lineage from pioneer John P. Hoyt who arrived in Washington Territory in 1879. Spence served on the Board of the Association as a trustee from 1998 to 2001.

His grandfather, John Hoyt, was an 1841 native of Ohio who served in the Civil War as a Federal soldier from 1862 to 1866. Following the war he practiced law in Michigan, became a prosecuting attorney and then was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives. In 1876, he was appointed by President U. S. Grant to be Secretary of the Territory of Arizona and the following year he was made governor of that Territory. In 1879, President Rutherford B. Hayes appointed him Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Washington Territory. He resigned from the bench in 1877 to go into business with Dexter Horton. In 1889, Hoyt was elected to represent King County in the Constitutional Convention and became the presiding officer of that body. When the new state was formed, he was elected to the State Supreme Court. He served that capacity for seven years, the last two as Chief Justice. In 1922, Judge Hoyt joined the Pioneer Association and in 1926 served as president of the Association.

MATTHEW STUART AUGUSTINE joined the Association in 1997. He was a native of Seattle, where he passed away in April, 2014, at the age of 64. He was descended from two territorial pioneer families. His paternal great-grandfather, Manuel B. Augustine, was a Wisconsin native who came west to Marysville, California, in September 1863, and later moved to Silver City, Nevada, before arriving in Seattle in 1882. Manuel Augustine joined the Association at the annual meeting in June, 1898, describing himself as a merchant in Seattle.

Matthew Augustine's maternal grandmother was also of pioneer stock. The great-grandfather on that side of the family, J. M. E. Atkinson, was a Boston native who came to Washington Territory from Eureka, California in August 1861. The great-grandmother, Tuolomne (Calhoun) Atkinson, came to Washington Territory in 1867. Both of the Atkinsons joined the Association in June, 1898.

J. LEE TOBEY, of Yakima, was an Associate Member, as the husband of member Bonnie M. Tobey, who was a member from 1967 until her death in 2007. Mr. and Mrs. Tobey are interred by side at Terrace Heights Memorial Park in Yakima.

ROBERT OWEN PORTER resided in Freeland, Washington, at the time of his death in October 2008 at the age of 83. His death was recently reported to the Association. He first appeared in the Association directory for 1975. His death record indicated that he was 83 years old. He and several of his siblings became members of the Association in the 1970s and 1980s based on their Native American heritage in Island County.

— information provided by Gary Zimmerman, Association Historian

**Pioneer Association
of the State of Washington**

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<http://www.wapioneers.org>

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**Wreaths Across America
GAR Cemetery
Seattle
December 12, 2015**

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this newsletter is available
at: www.wapioneers.org

Pioneers of the State of Washington 2016 Schedule

January 9, 2016, Board Meeting
February 14, 2016 Open House
March 12, 2016, Board Meeting and General Membership Meeting
March 13, 2016, Open House
April 2016, Nominating Committee meets
April 10, 2016, Open House
April 23, 2016, Board Meeting
April 24, 2016, Open House
May 8, 2016, Open House
May 22, 2016, Open House
June 12, 2016, Open House
June 20, 2016, Confirm reservations for Salmon Bank
June 25, 2016 – Annual Meeting and Salmon Bake
June 26, Open House