

PIONEER PRESENCES

Newsletter of the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington

October Volume XXXVIII No. 1

Next Meeting:
October 18 2014

Board 10 a.m.
General Membership Meeting
1:00 p.m.
Pioneer Hall

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Contributors for this issue:

Stephen Harris, Ernest Lopez,
Alan Murray, Junius Rochester,
Jeff Rodgers, Teresa Summers,
Gary Zimmerman

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The History of Time

Ernest Lopez, Executive Director and Head Curator of the West Coast Clock and Watch Museum in Bellingham, Washington, is our featured speaker for the October 18 general membership meeting.

Lopez has been collecting antique clocks and watches since his pre-teen years and spent a thirteen year apprenticeship under a master clockmaker starting at the age of seven.

That was followed by a 22 year career in the U.S. Navy Submarine Force with assignments in numerous locations on the East and West coasts of the USA and overseas in both Europe and Scandinavia. After retiring from the Navy Lopez now works as a Submarine Warfare Systems Engineer at the Naval Submarine Base in Bangor, Washington, supporting the U.S. Pacific submarine fleet.

Mr. Lopez has been a member of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors since December of 1967, and the Executive Director of the West Coast Clock & Watch Museum in Bellingham, Washington, since September of 2000. He currently resides near Silverdale, Washington.

— information provided by Ernest Lopez



Photo from West Coast Clock & Watch Museum Website

http://www.wccwm.org/wccwm_exhibit.html

Strategic Plan Update Session Set for October 25

The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington is going to update their strategic plan. We are inviting all members to participate.

The strategic planning meeting will be held on October 25, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with refreshments provided. Our goal is to develop a strategic plan that will provide direction for the organization in the areas of new member recruitment and retention, marketing and communications, community engagement, fundraising and much more.

We hope you will seriously consider being a part of this process so that the updated plan becomes a reflection of Association membership, not just the opinions of the Board.

To RSVP and for questions, please feel free to contact Gary Zimmerman at gzim@wapioneers.org, 425-652-3381

or Gayle Johnson at gaylejohnson5151@yahoo.com, 206-721-1288.



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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	Junius Rochester
1st Vice President	Robert Selene
2nd Vice President	Alan Murray
Secretary	Teresa Summers
Treasurer	Saundra Selle
Historian	Gary Zimmerman
Past President:	Jeff Christensen

Trustees

Dave Brazier, Gayle Johnson,
Jeff Rodgers
(Term to June 2015)

Kathy Durgan, Randy Sleight,
Peggy Parietti
(Term to June 2016)

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

Pioneer Presences

Teresa Summers, Editor
newsletter@wapioneers.org

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President's Message – Robert Moran and His Pioneer Roots

Our last General Meeting (June 21) was addressed by sons of immigrant families: John Nicon from the Greek-American Historical Museum and Doug Barnett on the travails and travels of his African American grandparents. With disturbing stories from America's borders in today's news, we try to make sense of why, how and when our forefathers and mothers arrived in the Oregon country. They came from everywhere. They walked, rode and struggled across plains, mountains and over watery byways. Many of us have preserved their stories and our Hall is festooned with examples of their courage and stubborn spirit.



Junius Rochester

In August we invited the local branch of The Colonial Dames of America, founded in 1891, to use our address and facilities. Members of The Colonial Dames are comprised of women with pedigrees stretching from (mostly) Europe and forward to the American colonies – another immigrant link.

Robert Moran, a son of immigrants, on June 6, 1939, at age 82, was elected president of our Association. He took the bit by describing his own immigrant story to a gathering in our Hall. That meeting was billed as the "Fiftieth Jubilee Meeting" of the Pioneers. His story included "Irish-Dutch blood" on his father's side and an all-Scottish background for his mother. He didn't speculate about how or when his parents arrived in North America, nor did he mention why they came to the New World. But he noted his birth near the East River and Grand Street in New York City on January 26, 1857. At fourteen, for whatever reasons, he was out in the world, entirely on his own.

Moran's ambition and teen-age grit took him to Cincinnati by foot and eventually to San Francisco aboard a Pacific Mail steamship. At age 18, in 1875, he spent his last \$15 for a boat ticket to Seattle. He describes eating "salt horse" and "California potatoes" on that northward voyage. He was then "dumped," without breakfast, on Henry Yesler's wharf at 6:00 a.m. on November 17, 1875. Seattle's population at that time was about 1,500 persons.

With ten cents in his pocket Robert Moran walked up the dock and arrived at William Gross's restaurant, "Our House." Gross staked Moran to meals until the youngster could find work. In my 2002 book, *The Last Electric Trolley*, I describe Gross (sometimes spelled Grose) as one of Seattle's first African American residents and "founder" of the City's Central Area between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-seventh Avenues at Howell and Olive Streets. The serendipitous meeting of Gross and Moran was another example of Seattle's – and the Pioneer Association's – immigrant mix. It was also an example of our region's polyglot blend of visitors from everywhere, who by chance built one of the nation's most interesting and successful regions. The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington represents this cross-section of immigrants and pioneers through its libraries, displays, artifacts, meetings and membership.

— Junius Rochester, President

(Editor's Note: according to HistoryLink.org, William Gross was a member of "The Washington Pioneer Association." See HistoryLink.org Essay 393. Also, see page 5 for an entertaining Robert Moran anecdote.)

Minutes — Board Meeting, August 2, 2014

Present: Dave Brazier, Carla Hendrickson, Gayle Johnson, Louise Jones Brown, Janis Maloney, Alan Murray, Peggy Parietti, Bob Selene, Randy Sleight and Gary Zimmerman. A quorum was confirmed.

Alan Murray chaired the meeting in the absence of President Junius Rochester, who was unable to attend.

Finance Committee: Investment Manager. Gayle Johnson recommended selection of Fred Sirianni with D. A. Davidson (DAD) as the Association's Investment Manager. A draft Investment Policy Statement prepared by the Finance Committee was presented. Dave Brazier questioned the target allocation, which was clarified to be Mutual Funds with a target allocation of 40 percent equities (stocks) and 60 percent fixed income (bonds).

Investment: The Finance Committee recommended a motion, which the Board approved, that \$82,000 be invested in American Funds Income Portfolio; that the President, Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee be listed as owners of the account, with two owners required to authorize all transfers to/from DAD; the Finance Committee review the account quarterly to determine if rebalancing would be recommended; and that Randy Sleight, the Secretary Pro-tem, could sign the "Non-Corporation Organizations and Associations Resolution."

Strategic Plan: Gayle Johnson suggested the Association needs a strategic plan. Discussion followed with a conclusion that a day-long meeting to develop said plan would be held on Saturday, October 25, between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Alan asked Gayle to prepare an article for the newsletter. An announcement would be made at the October 18 general meeting. Any members wishing to participate would be invited to attend.

Colonial Dames: The Board approved a motion allowing use of Pioneer Hall as official address for the local chapter of the National Society of Colonial Dames of America. Gary Zimmerman agreed that Fiske volunteers can sort the Society's mail, as they do for the Pioneers and the Daughters.

Hall Open Houses: With Volunteer Coordinator Carol Hawkins stepping down at the end of last term, Dave reported that there have been three Sundays that the Hall could not be opened due to lack of volunteers. Alan and Dave emphasized the importance of open houses as a service to the public, and required for the Association to maintain Pioneer Hall as a Museum for tax-exempt status. Alan asked for volunteers to staff open houses. The board agreed that someone is needed to organize the volunteers, and that person does not need to attend all open houses. Alan and Randy agreed to put their heads together to help find a new volunteer committee chair. Several Board members signed up to support August-September Open Houses.

Fire Alarm and Building Security: Dave Brazier confirmed that the back-up fire alarm upgrade is completed.

Newsletter: The Board requests articles celebrating the 125th Anniversary of Washington Statehood on November 11, 2014. Deadline for submitting articles for next issue of *Pioneer Presences* is September 6, 2014.

Nominating Committee: Selection of a nominating committee for selection of the 2015 slate of officers was discussed. The committee was to have been selected at the annual meeting. Since this was not the case, it was the consensus that volunteers be requested in a newsletter article which Jeff Rodgers will write, and at the October 18 meeting.

— Minutes taken by Randy Sleight, Secretary Pro Tem, and summarized by Teresa Summers, Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Investment Policy Statement, Pioneer Association of the State of Washington - August 2, 2014

I. Objective

Growth of portfolio for long-term financing Lifetime Membership Fund (recognizing that cash is available to fund near/mid-term Lifetime Membership)

II. Guidelines

Risk Tolerance - Moderate

Time Horizon- 5 years to perpetuity

Liquidity Needs – Inter Funds as needed

Tax Considerations- Since the Pioneer Association is organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, tax considerations are not a concern for this account.

Special Circumstances– No special circumstances or restrictions for securities that can be held going forward.

Permitted Holdings Cash and Equivalents, Mutual Funds

Target Allocation: Mutual Funds 40% Equities (Stocks), 60% Fixed Income (Bonds)

Rebalance: Quarterly, ongoing monitoring and reporting

Celebrating 125 Years of Washington Statehood



U. S. flag at Pioneer Hall

On November 5, 1878, the voters of the Territory of Washington approved a resolution asking the U.S. Congress for admission to statehood. Due to partisan political conflicts regarding Idaho and other territories, Congress declined. Eleven more years passed before statehood was achieved.

On November 11, 1889, Washington was the 42nd state admitted into the Union. Washington had been a Territory of the United States since 1853, shortly after Oregon became a state. The initial legislation included the “Territory of Columbia” as the official name. After much debate, and a concern that the name would be confused with the District of Columbia, Washington was selected, honoring George Washington.

At its largest, the Washington Territory included all of Idaho and parts of Montana and Wyoming. These territories were authorized to be admitted as states by the Enabling Act of 1889. Voters had to ratify their state’s constitutions and elect state officers in October. The proclamation or statehood bill was signed by President Benjamin Harrison.

A 42-star flag graces the wall on the first floor of Pioneer Hall. This was the official flag of the United States of America for only 172 days. Washington was admitted just three days after the State of Montana (November 8) and nine days after North and South Dakota (November 2). Idaho became a state on July 3, 1890. Wyoming followed on July 10, 1890.

Elisha Peyre Ferry (August 9, 1825 – October 14, 1895) was the first Governor of the U.S. State of Washington.

—article and photo submitted by Alan Murray, using Wikipedia as a source for the majority of the data. See also HistoryLink.org

Talcott Family Donates Tools Used to Create State Seal for Permanent Display in the Office of the Secretary of State

A short time before Washington became a state in 1889, a committee asked Olympia jeweler Charles Talcott if his jewelry store could engrave a State Seal in time for the meeting of the first Legislature in November of that year. George Talcott cut the die with an image of George Washington and Grant Talcott did the lettering.

Almost 125 years later, the Talcott Family has generously donated the tools used to create the first State Seal to the Office of the Secretary of State. The tools will be on permanent display in the front lobby. At the exhibit unveiling, Richard Talcott explained the history behind the design of the State Seal, and Secretary Kim Wyman thanked the Talcott Family for preserving such an important part of Washington's history and for making such a generous gift.

The emblem on the state flag is the state seal, which was first

designed in 1889 by Olympia jeweler Charles Talcott. Talcott used an ink bottle and a silver dollar to draw the rings of the seal, and then pasted a postage stamp in the center for the picture of George Washington. His brother L. Grant Talcott lettered the words "The Seal of the State of Washington 1889" and another brother, G. N. Talcott, cut the printing dye. In the seal used on the state flag, the picture of George Washington has a blue background and is encircled by a gold ring with black lettering. This is the only U.S. state flag that pictures a president and the only one with a green background.



Secretary of State Kim Wyman and Richard Talcott

— Article by Steve Excell, State Archivist, March 2014 Archives Newsletter
(See next page for more on the Talcott brothers.) ⇨

Talcott Family Connection with Pioneer Association

As described in the article on the previous page, George Noyes Talcott, and his Brothers Charles and L. Grant, were chosen as the designers and makers of the great Seal of the State of Washington.

George Noyes Talcott served as Pioneer Association President in 1933, then served as Board Trustee from 1934 to 1936. He returned to the Board in 1938 for one year. In 1941, he became Historian and served in that capacity for three years. Later, G. N. Talcott came on the Board as a Trustee in 1971 and served for two years. In the Association Directory of 1975, the brief sketch of G. N. Talcott as president in 1933 notes that the Talcott Brothers' jewelry business in Olympia was the oldest jewelry store in the state.

— information provided by Alan Murray, Vice President for Membership



Robert Moran (1857-1943), 1888.
Seattle Municipal Archives

**Moran served as
Mayor of Seattle from
1888-1890**

Reminiscences of former Association Member, and Seattle Mayor

On the occasion of the “Fiftieth Jubilee Meeting of the Pioneers Association of the State of Washington,” Robert Moran, shipbuilder, former Seattle mayor, and newly elected president of our Association, addressed the annual meeting on June 6th, 1939. While briefly reviewing his life Moran included a few stories, indicating that he was an industrialist, traveler, raconteur and humorist. These are Moran’s words:

“In the trial of a case, counsel present included our late friend and (Pioneer) member, Thomas Burke, who, you old timers will remember, was rather short in stature. There was also in the case an old time lawyer from Olympia, Judge McFadden. He stood, as I remember, nearly seven feet high. He and Burke were seated together before the Court; Burke standing was not as tall as McFadden when sitting, so when Judge Burke arose and started to address the Court, Judge Green directed him to stand up when addressing his Court. To which Burke replied that, if it pleased his Honor he *was* standing, whereupon Judge Green commanded Judge McFadden to sit down. To which McFadden informed Judge Green that if it pleased his honor, he *was* sitting down.”

— contributed by Junius Rochester

News from the Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington

Before taking off for the summer, the Daughters of the Pioneers honored Vevette Stokes Cooperstein on her 100th birthday. Her buddy Paul Dorpat came by and gave a presentation on early Seattle history including photos of previous Daughters’ luncheons he has attended over the years at Vevette’s invitation. Vevette is also a member of the Pioneer Association and we all wish her the very best on this momentous occasion! In this picture see Vevette cutting into her birthday cake, which was lovingly created by fellow Daughter Val Bruns.



— Editor



Robert J Clark called to let us know that his wife of 53 years, Glenda L. Clark, died June 10, 2014. Glenda joined the Pioneer Association in 1991. She was a native of the Olympic Peninsula. Her grandfather was born in England in 1842 and at the age of 16 he was shanghaied into the British Navy. He jumped ship off of Dungeness, to join his brother who was already living there.

The Board conveys its condolences to the Clark family on their loss.

— information contributed by Gary Zimmerman, Association Historian. Photo from *Peninsula Daily News*

Poetry Submittal from One of Our Own Pioneer Members

Hello folks, I am Stephen Harris, a member some 30 years or so. Being as my great grandpa grew pears in Wenatchee before there were suburbs, I am proud of our ancestry. I enjoyed reading the poems in the last Pioneer Presences newsletter and wish to share one I wrote after a few years logging for Weyerhaeuser.

Puget Catholic

In spite of a pervading sense of Bellevue in the land

I choose a different task. I wonder at
that withdrawn gaze and rain matted hair
worn by dogs, old walkers, and a few loggers.

Stepping, I breathe
wind blown ocean clouds, fog, rain drops
and glacial ice half a mile thick
making the land.

Of course,
there were the natives and their ways.

Oily king salmon on cedar bark
and smoky darkness with the family
as winter drizzles its cool quiet.

Though not fierce as the Bella Coola up north,
they did send their enemies down Snoqualmie Falls
tied to a log.

Fog obscures all but
raven croaks
and this wooden forest giant a few yards away.

The land takes away only dry warmth
and sets the mind spinning.

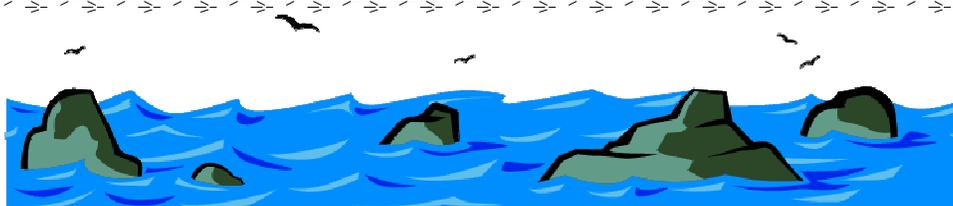
Devoutly being a part of this land.

I feel and imagine
past and future
and work to remain true
to this quiet personality,
this gray, rain shrouded mother church

Puget Sound.

There yee be, Stephen Harris, G'day.

Written December 1977



Opportunities to Serve and Participate in Our Association

Nominating Committee Needs Help in 2014 - 2015



Article 5 of our Bylaws require that each year a Nominating Committee be formed with the purpose of providing a recommended slate at the June Annual Meeting. The Committee is to consist of one (1) member appointed by the President and two (2) members who are selected from the general membership. Accordingly, at the October 18, 2014 General Membership meeting we will be seeking two (2) general members to serve on the nominating committee.

If you are available, or know someone who may be interested, please contact Jeff Rodgers at (206) 351-7871 or rodgersjeffrey@hotmail.com.

Strategic Plan Update Workshop Set for October 25, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pioneer Hall

see further details on page one of this newsletter

Heads Up: Dues Notices Arriving Soon

Please watch your mail for the 2014-2015 dues notices. Annual members who have not paid their dues by December 31, 2014 will have their names dropped from the mailing list. If you still wish to receive *Pioneer Presences* in 2015, do not delay. Annual membership is \$25 per year or a one time only contribution of \$250 for a lifetime membership. Thank you for your support.

— Alan Murray, Vice President for Membership

Open House Committee Chair Wanted

The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington needs a member to serve as chair for this important task. Carol Hawkins, who held this position for many years, can no longer serve in this capacity. A volunteer is needed immediately.

The Open Houses held at Pioneer Hall are an important service provided to the community. It is also important for the Association's tax status as a Museum. Open Houses are held on the second and fourth Sundays between 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM between March and October. The hall is only open on the 4th Sunday between November and February. Duties of the Open House Committee Chair primarily include scheduling volunteers from the ranks of the general members to staff the Open Houses. It is not necessary that the Committee Chair staff all of the Open Houses.

This is really important. Our tax exempt status may be in jeopardy!

Please contact Alan Murray at ramsplace2@aol.com or by calling (206) 794-9283 if you would be willing to fill this vital need of the Association.



Welcome to Pioneer Hall!

Welcome, New Member

Recently, Trustee Jan Maloney gifted her granddaughter Theresa Anne Maloney with a new Pioneer membership. Theresa is a descendant of Hazard Irwin Miller, who arrived in our state in June 1889. The 1900 federal census shows Miller, his wife Minerva, and their three daughters residing in Seattle. The census data shows his occupation as "Gold Miner." Miller was born in Kentucky in 1863 and died in Seattle in 1954 at the age of 92.

— information provided by Gary Zimmerman, Association Historian, U.S. federal census, and Wash. State Death Records

Free Speakers Forum presented by Lewis & Clark National Park Association and In Their Footsteps

Sundays at 1:00 p.m. in the Fort Clatsop Visitor Center Netul River Room

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, Astoria, Oregon. Park office (503) 861-2471 ext. 214

December 21, 2014 *Jefferson's Bible*

Junius Rochester, Historian (and Pioneer Board President)

— <http://www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice>

**Pioneer Association
of the State of Washington**

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Pioneers of the State of Washington 2014 Schedule

Next meeting October 18, 2014 — Board 10 a.m.

General Membership Meeting 1:00 p.m.

Pioneer Hall

Strategic Plan Update Set for October 25

10 a.m.- 4 p.m., Pioneer Hall

Refreshments Provided

Please plan to attend ~ RSVP

See page one for details