

PSMHS
NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2012

PUGET SOUND MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 9731

SEATTLE WA 98109-0731

SUNDAY AFTERNOON PROGRAM

AT THE MOHAI MCCURDY GALLERY:

TALES ABOUT DISASTERS AT SEA

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE WA
PERMIT NO. 349DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER
PROMPTLY**MARCH**

AFTERNOON MEETING:

SUNDAY

MARCH 4, 2012

MOHAI MCCURDY GALLERY

2700 24TH AVENUE EAST

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

WINTER BUFFET MENU

USE FORM ON PAGE 3

TO MAIL IN YOUR
RESERVATION TODAY!

BUFFET AT 2:00 P.M.

PROGRAM AT 3:00 P.M.

PROGRAM:

RAINCOAST CHRONICLES 21:

TALES OF

DISASTERS AT SEA

MARITIME HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR

RICK JAMES WILL SHARE SOME OF

HIS STORIES FROM HIS BOOK. HE

HAS NO SHORTAGE OF TALES

ABOUT THE FASCINATING AND

TOO OFTEN TRAGIC EVENTS THAT

HAPPENED IN LOCAL WATERS.

YOUR RESERVATION FORM

MUST BE RECEIVED

NOT LATER THAN NOON ON

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2012

OR CALL PAT HARTLE

AT 206-938-2397 OR

PATHARTLE@COMCAST.NET

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND

RESERVATION CHANGES ONLY

PSMHS
NEWSLETTER

PUGET SOUND MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY • MARCH 2012

**MARCH AFTERNOON PROGRAM AT
MOHAI MCCURDY GALLERY—
RAINCOAST CHRONICLES 21:
TALES ABOUT DISASTERS AT SEA**

Few places on earth have more tales about disaster at sea than BC's rock-bound coast. Maritime Historian and author **Rick James** will be sharing some of these stories from his book, *Raincoast Chronicles 21: West Coast Wrecks and Other Maritime Tales*. Rick will present a slide show that recounts the experiences of unique coastal characters and reveal a number of mysteries—such as the story of GEO S. WRIGHT—an American Steamer that was thought to go down somewhere near Cape Caution (close to Alert Bay off the coast of northern Vancouver Island).

There may have been survivors, but after the wreck was reported to authorities, the story became more and more convoluted as rumors in newspapers became increasingly sensationalized. At the center of the story was Alden Westly “Wes” Huson, the Alert Bay storekeeper who informed a British Columbia newspaper of the wreck, saying “I have no doubt but that all are past and gone.” However as Rick James presents various artifacts and newspaper articles from the time, we find out that there may have been more going on with Wes Huson than meets the eye.

Rick James is a writer, maritime historian, photographer and field archaeologist, whose work has been published in numerous periodicals, including *British Columbia Magazine*, *The Beaver: Canada's History Magazine*, *The Sea Chest* and *Western Mariner*. He is the author of *Ghost Ships of Royston* and co-author of *Historic Ships of BC's Central Coast*, *Historic Shipwrecks of the*

[continued on page 2]

PSMHS online: www.pugetmaritime.org**PSMHS Classified Ads****SHIP MODEL RESTORATION.**

Cleaning, repairs, re-rigging, and/or reconstruction of ship models in any condition or size. Thirty-five years experience in restoration, appraisals, and conservation. For a museum quality restoration contact Gary White, The Ship Model Dockyard, 253-952-4612 or garyw39@aol.com 5/12

GET NAUTICAL FACTS.

When your nautical project requires facts about Alaska maritime history, contact SeaCat Explorations. Archival research of primary source documentation in Alaska repositories: public/private documents, microfilm, photographs, charts, letters, logbooks, business, personal papers. Consulting services for governments, business and community groups. Non-profit rates. cybricat.com/akmh/alaskamaritime.html. Telephone: 907-227-7837 12/12

QUALITYUSEDNONFICTIONBOOKS.

Biography, history and some nautical. No Dearth of Books, 253-851-3627 3/12

Let's Move!

Over the next two months dramatic changes will be occurring at MOHAI. In addition to our move with MOHAI's library and artifact collection, galleries are closing as artifacts move around. Thanks to all of you who have contributed so generously to our Annual Fund Campaign.



Membership in the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society is open to anyone interested in maritime history. Membership is solicited and inquiries should be addressed to: PSMHS, P.O. Box 9731, Seattle WA 98109-0731. Monthly meetings are held September through June on the first Wednesday of each month. Meeting place and programs are announced to members by mail. The PSMHS Newsletter is published monthly, September through June, and is free to members.

PUGET SOUND

MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MARCH 7, 2012

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Global Diving & Salvage

March 4, 2012

Afternoon Program

[continued from front page] *Sunshine Coast and the Comox Valley.* Many people recognize him from the television documentary series *The Sea Hunters*, in which he played a role in the episode "Malahat: Queen of the Rum Runners."

Rick James has no shortage of stories about the fascinating and too often tragic events that happened in waters of the Pacific Northwest. You will enjoy this program.

Membership News

We thank the following new members and members who have recently renewed their membership at an upgraded level:

NEW MEMBERS:

Marshall Hines & Kundry Haberkern, Bruce Lanham, Mark & Cindy McCaffrey, Marty Meador and John Mitchell.

Members renewing at a higher level: **Arnold & Ellen Andersen, Tim Beaver, Randle M. Biddle, John Braitmayer, Laura Carroll, Harry Dursch, Earl Ecklund Jr., Capt. Ralph Edwards USN (Ret.), Lee Godwin, Devon Grennan, Nat Howe, Judy Kebbekus, Mary Kuhlman, Steve Lloyd, Gary Ritzman, Martha Shields, Frederic Smith, Gordon Tweit, James Van der Veen and George Willock.**

Medal of Merit Nominations Sought

In the last *PSMHS Newsletter* we asked for nominations for our Medal of Merit Award. At our May 2012 meeting the Society will honor an individual who has made major contributions to the preservation and promotion of the maritime his-

PSMHS Membership Application

- Individual/Family Membership \$40
- Associate (Libraries, Museum, Non-Profit) \$40
- Sustaining Member \$50
- Sponsor \$75
- Patron \$100
- Corporate Membership \$500
- Benefactor \$500
- Navigator \$1000
- Work(ed) for a Matching Gift Company
- New Member Renewal

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (H) _____ (W) _____
 E-mail _____

I/we would like to receive information about how I/we can remember the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society in my/our estate planning or planned charitable giving program.

MAIL TO: PSMHS MEMBERSHIP,
 P.O. Box 9731, Seattle, WA 98109-0731 (Include your check)

PSMHS Afternoon Meeting Reservation

CLIP AND MAIL FOR MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2012

RESERVATION DEADLINE:

NOON ON WEDNESDAY, FEB. 29, 2012

Name(s): _____

Telephone: _____

Total Number [at \$20 per person]: _____

Total Amount of Check: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PSMHS MAIL TO:

PSMHS DINNER MEETING,
 P.O. BOX 9731, SEATTLE, WA, 98109-0731

Call 206-938-2397 or pathartle@comcast.net for changes, cancellations or questions. Guests are always welcome. Please include payment.

Reserve Early and Notify of Cancellation. A member who makes a reservation and then does not attend a dinner or give notification of their cancellation in a timely manner (48 hours) will not be refunded their money for the dinner. The Society must pay for the number of meals we have reserved in advance, regardless of the number of meals actually served since the caterer orders several days in advance. Walk-ins cannot be guaranteed a meal.

tory of Puget Sound, or has rendered distinguished service to the Society.

The winner for 2012 will be selected by an anonymous selection committee. **George Osborn** and **Pat Hartle** are Co-Chairpersons of the Awards Committee, but do not take part in the selection process.

Nominations should state why the nominee should receive this prestigious award. All nominations will be kept confidential, known only to the judges and the Award

Committee. Past recipients of the Honorary Life Member and Medal of Merit awards are not eligible. A list of those recipients can be found in the Awards Section of the Society website at www.pugetmaritime.org/Awards.

Nominations can be e-mailed to georgeosborn@comcast.net or pathartle@comcast.net or mailed to George Osborn 3823 N Frace Ave., Tacoma, Wa 98407. Nominations must be received by March 25 if e-mailed, If

mailed postmarked no later than March 24th.

We Think the Move Date is Set!

As of February 1, the latest word is that the PSMHS office, artifact collections and Maritime Research Center are expected to move to our new location with MOHAI in Georgetown the first week of May. With this in mind, research services will close March 22. We anticipate reopening the Maritime Research Center in early June. Stay tuned for additional updates.