

**PSMHS**  
NEWSLETTER

MAY 2011

PUGET SOUND MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 9731

SEATTLE WA 98109-0731

MAY DINNER PROGRAM:

MEDAL OF MERIT AND

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

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AFTERNOON MEETING:

SUNDAY

MAY 1, 2011

MOHAI MCCURDY GALLERY

2700 24TH AVENUE EAST

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

MENU: A GRAND BUFFET

USE FORM ON PAGE 3

TO MAIL IN YOUR  
RESERVATION TODAY!

BUFFET AT 2:00 P.M.

PROGRAM AT 3:00 P.M.

PROGRAM:

HONORING MEMBERS

RON AND CONNIE BURKE

AND JOHN KELLY

THE BURKES WILL RECEIVE THE

ANNUAL MEDAL OF MERIT AWARD

AND JOHN KELLY WILL RECEIVE

THE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

AWARD.

YOUR RESERVATION FORM

MUST BE RECEIVED

NOT LATER THAN NOON ONWEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2011

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 • MAY 2011

**MAY 1ST AT MOHAI  
SUNDAY AFTERNOON PROGRAM:  
WE HONOR AND SALUTE  
THE BURKES AND JOHN KELLY**

Once each year we meet to honor our MEDAL OF MERIT winner and to salute our VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR. This May 1st we will combine that special recognition with an up-to-the-minute report by keynote speaker, Executive Director **Leonard Garfield** on MOHAI's progress in the transition to the newly remodeled Armory Building at Lake Union Park.

**Ron and Connie Burke** will receive our highest honor, the Medal of Merit. This is the first time the award will be presented to two individuals. Ron, for ten years, has been editor of *The Sea Chest* and his wife, Connie has worked at his side in the production of each quarterly issue. See a special article below.

Our annual Volunteer of The Year award will be presented to **John Kelly**. John is the epitome of a passionate and dedicated volunteer. See the special article on Page 2.

The announcement of the recipients of both awards prior to the presentation is a first for PSMHS. In past years the names were kept as a surprise. The Board of Governors made the change in order to allow for friends and family of the awardees to be present. [continued on page 2]

**Medal of Merit Award Goes to Ron & Connie Burke**

Our Society's highest award, the 2011 Medal of Merit, will be presented on Sunday, May 1, to *The Sea Chest* editor **Ron Burke** and his wife, **Connie**.

Ron will complete his tenth year as the editor of *The Sea Chest* in 2011. For those ten years as editor, and many years previously as an Editorial Board member, Ron has made a major contribution to the preservation of our maritime history and rendered very distinguished service to the Society. Connie is and has been of invaluable assistance to Ron in his duties as *The Sea Chest* editor.

*The Sea Chest* has been the Society's major attraction for recruiting new members and the retention of present members. Producing the quarterly publication is mainly the efforts of a number of the Society's members working in their homes and offices. It is a cooperative project of the Editorial Board but by far the greatest amount of work is contributed by the editor. [continued on page 2]

**PSMHS online: [www.pugetmaritime.org](http://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

**BOOKS BOUGHT AND SOLD.**

Marine, maritime, nautical, naval books and ephemera bought, sold and appraised. Mention PSMHS for a 10% discount. SeaOceanBooks.com at 3534 Stone Way North, Seattle. 206-675-9020. 5/11

**SHIP MODELS FOR SALE OR LEASE.**

Museum quality, built by Errol "Earl" Anderson: WANDERER, tug, static; POLITKOFISKY, tug, static; BLACK PRINCE, sternwheel, static; WILD GOOSE, yacht, r/c yms. All with display cases, are in 3/8"=1" scale. Viewing call 425-788-6803 for appointment. E-mail sawdustinc@hughes.net. 5/11

[continued from page three]

received a donation in memory of **Jack Carver** from the **Lindgren Foundation** and **John Mills**.

Our donations to the annual fund now total \$13,832. Our donations to the Jack Carver memorial fund are now \$4,000.

We thank them all for their very generous donations to help PSMHS in their mission and moving forward to the move into the Armory Building in 2012.

**Membership News**

We thank the following members who have recently renewed their membership at an upgraded level: **Dee Anderson, Scott Anderson, Larry Benson, Al Bostrom, Roy Bourlier, Chuck Cordiner, H. E. (Harley) Crain, Barry Eager, John Graham, Carol Greene, Lisa Haug & Amada Shuck, F. B. Jerrell, Richard Johnson, Leo & Billie Jordan, Tom Kane, John Kelly, Rick Kirsten, Willilam Lyness, Rolf Lystad, Paul & Joan Poliak, Andrew Price, Roger Sherman, Donald & Mary Simpson, Peter Strong, Nigel Tugby, Ian Walker & Jean Muir, Roland Webb, Keith Whittemore, Bob Willard and Michael Wollaston.**

We also thank and welcome aboard new members **Michael Bryant, Donald Fastabend** and the **Hydroplane Raceboat Museum**.

# PSMHS

NEWSLETTER

Membership in the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society is open to anyone interested in maritime history. Membership is solicited and inquires 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

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KAREN MARSHALL

206-324-1126, EXT. 41

#### PRESIDENT: ROGER OTTENBACH

206-262-1265

#### 1ST VICE PRESIDENT:

LEON GESSULA

#### 2ND VICE PRESIDENT:

LISA HAUG

#### TREASURER:

JANICE RIDGWAY

#### SECRETARY:

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TIM BEAVER

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JERRY MATTOX

LISLE ROSE

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#### LEONARD GARFIELD, EX-OFFICIO

#### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

CHUCK FOWLER

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

LARRY HENDERSON

#### JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

MAY 4, 2011

FAX: 206-324-2638

E-MAIL: MARINEART@AOL.COM

US MAIL: PSMHS

## May Afternoon Program at MOHAI

[continued from page 1]

Our May 1st meeting will start at 2:00 P.M. in the McCurdy Gallery at MOHAI. A grand buffet will be served and time will allow for casual conversation. The program will begin at 3:00 P.M.

Make this a special occasion to bring guests as we honor The Burkes and John Kelly plus hear from Leonard Garfield on MOHAI's new home.

Please make your reservations by using the coupon on Page 3 and then we will see you at the Museum of History and Industry.

## Medal of Merit Award Goes to Ron & Connie Burke

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It is Ron's duty to plan issues, recruit and review articles, and coordinate with the editorial board members. Ron and Connie have also devoted hundreds of hours rendering superb drawings and maps to compliment articles. Under their leadership *The Sea Chest* made major graphic changes this year and the result is now a beautiful color publication. Congratulations to The Burkes.

## Volunteer of The Year is John Kelly

On Sunday, May 1, PSMHS will present our Volunteer of The Year award to **John Kelly**. He has been volunteering with our Society and other organizations for the amazing span of 75 years.

With a June, 2011, 90th birthday one month away, John Kelly has not allowed age to interfere with his devotion to special interests. He has dedicated countless hours to the PSMHS research library and our collection of ship's plans.

His first volunteering came at an early age with his involvement with the Sea Scouts. He is still active with that organization and says the time spent with those young people has helped him maintain a youthful outlook.

John's colleagues in our research library call him a walking encyclopedia of naval architecture and boat building dating to before WW II.

After attending Edison Tech (now Seattle Community College) and University of Washington, John worked for **Carl Nordstrom's** father and in 1953 joined Marco Shipyard. He spent his entire marine career at Marco as a shipyard engineer. His former boss, **Peter Schmidt** (Marco CEO) says John was incredibly devoted to his work and his volunteer activities.

John's volunteer activities include our organization, The Sea Scouts and their vessel, YANKEE CLIPPER, and the Log Cabin Museum in West Seattle.

## PSMHS Receives Two More Grants

We are pleased to announce that we are one of 54 organizations out of 164 to receive a prestigious Institute of Museum and Library Services American Heritage Preservation Grant. This grant is for the ship plans collection. We have received a Sustained Support Grant from 4Culture with an American Association for State and Local History StEPs assessment component. Both of these grants will help us with caring for our collection, preparing for the move and overall organizational planning.

## 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, MAY 1, 2011

RESERVATION DEADLINE:

NOON ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2011

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number [at \$22 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.

## Report From "Behind The Scenes"

Karen Marshall, Executive Director

Many thanks this month go to **Ron Jacobsen** who has donated a laptop to help us with our collections inventory work and much more. Since Ron is unable to volunteer on a regular basis, he chose to offer his support through this donation; thank you Ron for being one of our "hidden heroes!"

This spring we have many UW Museum Studies Students working with us including two students completing thesis projects—**Valerie Johnson** is creating a 4th grade level maritime history and technology outreach program and **Andrea Cohen** is creating a collections plan for us to help define what we should collect and why. If you are interested in learning more about these projects, please contact me!

## In Memoriam

PSMHS has lost two of our members. The first one was **Robert "Bob" DeArmond** of Sitka, Alaska. Bob was our Alaska expert and lent his knowledge to confirming facts about

Alaska. He submitted a number of his own articles for *The Sea Chest*. He passed away in Sitka still treasuring his Honorary Life Member Certificate at age 99. His incredible knowledge of Alaska will be missed.

The second person, **Rondel "Ron" Williamson** passed away March 18. He served as our Society president in 1985. After his retirement in 1999, he developed a following of walkers trekking all over Bainbridge Island. In 2007 he was honored as Kiwanis Man of The Year for his volunteer work. The Bainbridge Park Department is naming a trail in their Grand Forest after Ron.

Our condolences go to their families.

## Annual Fund and Memorial Donations

As additions to our annual fund we have received donations from **Roy Bourlier, Chuck & Joan Main**.

We have received a memorial donation from **William DeArmond** in honor of his father **Bob DeArmond**. We also

[continued on backpage]