OceanGate, a privately held company founded in 2009 and located in Seattle, provides manned submersible solutions for commercial, research and military applications. On Wednesday, February 4, Stockton Rush, Chief Executive Officer and Neil McCurdy, Chief Operating Officer for OceanGate will share with us information about manned submersible operations, their various applications and emerging technology.

OceanGate solutions are designed to address five principal markets: commercial enterprises, research and academic institutions, government and defense agencies, nonprofits and NGOs, and film and media content providers. OceanGate’s expedition, charter and citizen science programs provide unique expeditions customized for each client experience. Through submersible solutions that leverage collaborative partnerships and the application of emerging technologies to specific oceanographic programs, OceanGate’s team of professionals provides safe, efficient, and effective operations. The company is committed to opening the oceans while remaining dedicated to the sustainable use of marine ecosystems and the natural resources within them.

OceanGate Inc. provides deep-sea manned submersible solutions for subsea exploration and research initiatives for a variety of research and academic institutions. OceanGate research submersibles allow marine scientists to conduct biological, chemical, geochemical, geological and geophysical studies, viewing and sampling organisms in their natural settings. Manned research submersibles have contributed to some of the major research breakthroughs of the past 50 years, such as the discovery of widespread life at hydrothermal vents and methane seeps, and have allowed marine biologists to study life and collect intact organisms from many deep-sea environments. Through partnerships and joint ventures, OceanGate provides a broader range of technology and
expertise for our clients. They leverage existing assets to better deliver manned submersible solutions that are more efficiently tailored to achieve the specific business or research objective of each client. In partnership with Global Diving and Salvage, OceanGate focuses on projects that include potentially polluting wrecks, salvage operations, restoration, surveys and inspections to help improve safety and cost efficiencies.

Join us at Ivar’s Salmon house for pan-roasted chicken dijonaise on Wednesday, February 4 to learn more or read more about the company and its projects at www.oceangate.com.

Stockton Rush is Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of OceanGate Inc. As CEO, Rush is responsible for OceanGate’s financial and engineering leadership, shaping the company’s strategic direction with a clear vision focused on developing the next generation of manned submersible solutions for subsea operations in the commercial and defense sectors.

In his capacity as chief operating officer of OceanGate, Neil McCurdy is responsible for enabling operational excellence and building capabilities to position the company for future growth. His oversight will support OceanGate’s vision and innovation by managing prioritization, effective resource alignment, measurement and accountability across the company.

ANNUAL FUND REPORT

We thank the following donors for their support during our 2014 Annual Fund Drive. All donations go toward our general operating costs, expansion of our education programming/outreach, and collections care – all of which help us to meet our goals and fulfill our mission! Thank you to these December donors.

$500+
Chuck & Karla Fowler
Nat Howe
Frank Immel
Gil Joynt (in memory of Virginia Sandry)
Judy Kebbekus
John & Gloria Osberg
Roger Ottenbach
Johnnie & Janice Ridgway
Donald & Mary Simpson
Michael Temcov

Up to $100
Scott Anderson
Randle Biddle
Eleanor Boba
Glenn Cannon
John Cox
Miyoko Delanty (in memory of Edward Delanty)
Harry Dursch
Tom Fowler
Mark Goldberg
Joseph Govednik

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Margaret Binnendyk
William de Armond
Jim Hannuksela
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Tom Kane
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Chris & Lisa Woodley

Pat Hartle
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Marshall & Bonnie Johnson
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Alex Otero
Emilie Owens
Steve Rice
Lisle & Harriet Rose
David Shannon
Keith Shaw
Vaughn Sherman
Diane Spaulding (in memory of Philip F. Spaulding)
James Taylor
Robert Turner
Gordon Tweit
Joe Upton
Dick Vanderpool
James Van der Veen
Dick & Vanetta Warren
Norm Werner
Mike & Margaret Wilcox
Anonymous (1)
OBITUARY: RALPH J. STAEHLI (1918-2014)

Ralph J. Staehli lived a long and very full life. He was born May 20, 1918, in Portland, OR. After high school, he worked stoking boilers on the sternwheelers carrying cargo on the Columbia River. He attended the University of WA and after graduation, joined the Navy and commanded a fleet of minesweepers in the South Pacific during WW2. He received the Navy Bronze Star for minesweeping operations on the beaches of Peleliu and Anguar prior to the amphibious landing on these islands. During the war, his ship stopped in Port Angeles, where he met his future wife, Helen. They moved to Seattle where Ralph worked on the waterfront for many years. He was a manager at Pope and Talbot Steamship Company, Foss Launch and Tug Company and Olympic Steamship Company (Salmon Terminals). He obtained his USCG Master License and spent summers boating around the Pacific Northwest. Ralph was active in Seattle’s Transportation Club, Propeller Club, PSMHS. He served as President of PSMHS from 1955-1956. In retirement, Ralph and Helen built a house on Vashon Island. Ralph was also a woodcarver and carved panels depicting various Bible stories on the stairway up to the Burton Church on Vashon Island. Ralph and Helen were happily married for 56 years and travelled extensively until her death in 2000. They had 2 children, Ralene Walls (Burton) and Chris Staehli (Molly). Ralph is also survived by his 6 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

After the Helen’s death, Ralph met Sharon on a Caribbean cruise. They were happily married for 11 years and they continued to travel to Alaska, Europe, South America and Norway until very recently. Ralph passed away on December 18, 2014.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society, PO Box 81142, Seattle, WA 98108 or the Burton Community Church, PO Box 13134, Burton, WA 98013.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - DECEMBER

We would like to thank the current members listed below who renewed their memberships in December and welcome the new members listed in bold.

Admiral Level
John & Barbara Waterhouse

Commodore Level
Harry Dursch
Roger Ottenbach

Captain Level
Robert Barbee, Jr.
Robert Brower
Les Eldridge
C.A. Flavell
Chuck Fowler
Tom Fowler
Nat Howe
Nick Olson

Navigator Level
Jared Van der Veen
John & Barbara Waterhouse

David Hansen
Malcolm Harker
Colin Hermans
Marshall Hibnes
Kundry Haberkern
The Huntington Library
Mike Johnson
Robert Johnson
Lake Union Dry Dock Co.
Laurie Leak
Steve Mayo
Linda McCowen

Dick McCurdy
Robert McQuigg
Mark Miller
John Mitchell
Candy Nigretto
Harley Nygren
Gary Ramstad
Brian Scheuch
Seattle Public Library
Martha Shields
Keith Sternberg
Tacoma Public Library
Dick & Vanetta Warren
Andrew Washburn
University of Washington Libraries

Washington State Library
Bruce Whitemore
Wisconsin Historical Society
Phil Wood

Boatswain Level
Brad Best
Michael “Tug” Buse
Ray Colby
Lee Goodwin
John Jacobi
Carl Mulvihill
Lance Porter
Jim Shields
**FEB MEETING**

**IVAR’S SALMON HOUSE**

Clip and mail for Feb 4 Meeting

Reservation deadline: Monday, Feb 2

Name(s):

________________________________________

________________________________________

Telephone:

Email:

Total # attendees @ $35 per person:

Total Amount of Check Enclosed: $

Make checks payable to: PSMHS

Mail to: PSMHS Dinner Meeting,
P.O. Box 81142, Seattle, WA, 98108

Questions? Email: program@pugetmaritime.org or phone Pat Hartle at 206-938-2397. Thank you.

Reservation and Cancellation Policy:

Refunds will not be given unless the cancellation is made 48 hours prior to the program to cover our catering costs.

Reserve Early:

Walk-ins cannot be guaranteed a meal.

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**Contact PSMHS**

**By Mail**

Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society
P.O. Box 81142
Seattle, WA 98108

**Online**

www.pugetmaritime.org

Membership: membership@pugetmaritime.org
Research: research@pugetmaritime.org
Newsletter: newsletter@pugetmaritime.org
Program: program@pugetmaritime.org
All other inquiries: admin@pugetmaritime.org

**By Phone**

TEL: 206.812.5464

**Social Media**

Find PSMHS on Facebook.
We are on Twitter!
Follow us @psmaritimehs

**Newsletter Deadline**

The March newsletter deadline is Friday, Feb. 6. Please send content via US Mail, or email to newsletter@pugetmaritime.org.