**January Dinner Program:**

**Scandinavian Maritime Museum Trends: Lessons for Seattle & Puget Sound**

**Nat Howe**

Nathaniel (Nat) Howe, a Seattle native and one of our younger but still longtime Society members, will reflect on lessons he has learned during his current year of post-graduate study in Scandinavia. Nat is a graduate of Beloit College in Wisconsin. As a Fulbright Scholar he is studying museum operations and maritime history at the world-renowned Vasa Museum in Stockholm, Sweden.

Energized by his undying interest in the maritime heritage of the Pacific Northwest and its potential for the future, Nat has expanded his research on maritime museum organization and operations to visit, examine, and study other maritime museums across Sweden, Denmark, and Norway.

In addition to his own research, Nat is also working for the Vasa Museum as an exhibit designer and an artifact researcher (currently studying Vasa’s more than 500 rigging and gun-tackle blocks). In his “spare time,” he is studying exhibition management at Stockholm University’s School of Business.

As an appropriate follow-up to our December “State of the Society: Past, Present and Future” program and comments by Museum of History and Industry board president Jeff Peace, Nat will present a look at how progressive museums in Northern Europe protect, preserve, and present their own rich maritime histories. Bring a friend and perhaps potential new member, and don’t miss this eye-opening, new idea-generating January program at the Swedish Cultural Center.

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2007 Officers & Governors

Our officers and board of governors for 2007, which were approved by the general membership meeting on November 1, 2006, are George Osborn, President; Chuck Fowler, 1st Vice President; Margaret Binnendyk, 2nd Vice President; Dan Withers, Treasurer; Karl House, Membership Secretary; Gary Syverson, Recording Secretary; Eric Lindgren, Past President; and the governors are Chuck Main, Jerry Mattox, John Mills, Roger Ottenbach, Vicki Stiles, and Ed Wortman.

There are three new board members and they come to us with a wealth of maritime knowledge. Jeremy “Jerry” Mattox has his own company Jeremy Mattox & Associates, Inc. which publishes the Marine Directory and the Environmental Services Directory for Washington. Roger Ottenbach is the proprietor of Cuttysark Nautical Antiques in Pioneer Square, and Dan Withers has been guiding the Combatant Craft of America Organization.

We extend our appreciation to the hard work and dedication to our outgoing board members. Dick Vanderpool has been Membership Secretary for the last three years, and prior to that one year as a governor; Larry Myhre has been Recording Secretary the last two years, and prior to that one year as a governor; and John Fitzgerald has served as governor for the last two years.

Swedish Cultural Center Selected as 2007 Dinner Meeting Site

After a lot of searching we have decided to stay with the Swedish Cultural Center for our monthly meetings. We have become familiar with the location and the food has been quite good. You simply cannot beat the view overlooking Lake Union. We remind everyone that they have three parking lots. One is adjacent to the building, one just below that to the east and one directly across Dexter Avenue to the west.

Make Dinner Reservations Early

Please make your dinner reservations as soon as possible because the deadline is New Year’s Day and an early head count can make things easier for everyone involved. Thank you.

Fundraising Update

First a big “Thank You” to those who have already contributed to the 2007 campaign. This is our largest fundraising effort of the year and we encourage you to contribute to the health of your Society, helping to maintain our position as the leading nonprofit maritime heritage organization in Puget Sound. If you need more flyer copies for friends or businesses, contact Ed Wortman 206-433-4657.