November Dinner Program

At Ivar’s Salmon House:

Hydroplane Memories

Join David Williams, Executive Director of the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum, in reliving the highlights of sport boat racing in Seattle.

Remember the days in the 1950’s and the 1960’s on that certain weekend in August when we all were either down at the Stan Sayres Park or glued to our then very small TV’s watching the Hydroplane races. We had all day parties around this event. Parking around the Lake Washington was a shambles. We all tuned in to Bill O’Mara calling the races from the pits. Our heroes were Miro Slovak and Bill Munsey.

Our November speaker will be David Williams, the Executive Director of the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum. He has been involved in the sport of power boat racing for over 30 years. David began his career racing a 145 CI limited boat in 1978 and by 1979 was working as crew chief on Bill Wurster’s U-8 Unlimited team. In 1980 he was hired by Ed Karelsen at Karelsen Custom boats where they built dozens of boats in every class from A-Hydro to Unlimited.

David started volunteering at the Hydroplane Museum and Raceboat museum in 1993 and became their first full time Director in 1996. David has taken part in over a dozen restorations at the museum. He was also the Raceboat coordinator for the movie Madison—a full length feature film about hydroplane racing released by MGM in 2005.

David has written eight books about Hydroplane racing and his latest title: Dancing with Disaster, the Mark Evans Story released by Pure Image in the winter of 2010.

He has driven more than a dozen vintage unlimited hydroplanes including such great boats as the Slo Mo Shun V, Miss Bardahl, Miss Thriftway and Miss Budweiser. He is still a current race driver and has spent five years driving turbine unlimited hydroplanes.

David will be talking about the history of unlimited hydroplane racing in Seattle and how it has impacted the city and its culture. His presentation will be accompanied by a brief video of racing highlights from the 1950’s. This promises to be a great trip back down memory lane.

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We’d like to have your e-mail address
When we had to get out quickly about the Mayor/MOHAI/Council issue, we realized that we are missing over half of our member’s email addresses. So if you missed out on the communications, it is because we do not have your e-mail address.
We realize many of you wish not to receive e-mail from us, but if you would like to stay informed about timely issues between newsletters, e-mail is the best way for us to do that.
Send your e-mail address to president@pugetsoundmaritime.org with the subject line of “add me” and we will include your email address in our address book. Thanks!

Membership News
We thank the following members who have recently renewed their membership at an upgraded level. We, Sylvia E. Brooke, Jane & Patricia Kent, Tim Lynes, Bill & Gail Lerch, Delmar G. Mackenzie, Jerry Mattox, Robert Redmayne, C.L. Bass, Jr., Errol Anderson, Black Ball Transport, Michael F. Burns, Cherie Christensen, Mark & Janet Gilkey, William S. Hannable, Noel Holley, Karl House, Jeff R. Iller, Anne Lee, John W. Lockwood USCG Ret., Jean Morton, Wayne A. Palsson, Lisle Rose, Richard Shrewsbury and Gary M. White.

Planning Giving Program October 21
Don’t miss the opportunity to learn more about planned giving and estate taxes on October 21. This is not a “sales pitch” but an informational session with estate planning attorney John Creahan who will discuss the implications of the estate tax laws in 2011.

Call for Papers
The Pacific NW Historians Guild holds their annual conference on Saturday March 5, 2011, at MOHAI. This year’s theme of the conference will be “Pacific Waterway.” This will tie in with the 100th anniversary of the Port of Seattle. We welcome presentations on all historical topics but particularly those that critically consider the theme of Pacific Waterways: Labor, commerce and business from pre-contact to global capitalization; the close ties between military development and the Pacific Ocean; the ongoing importance of immigration to the Pacific NW. Proposals should be received by November 15, 2010. Contact Alex Morrow, UW Dept. of History, 315 Smith, Box 353560, Seattle, WA 98195; email: amorrow@uwashington.edu, Web: Pacificwaterways.blogspot.com