

FogHorn

Westport-South Beach Historical Society Newsletter
September 2017

Flag Retirement at the Lighthouse - by John Shaw

"Flag Retirement"is the term used to define the proper, dignified way of destroying United States flags that are no longer fit to serve the nation.

We are a group that loves our flags to fly. Westport's iconic "Big Flag" at the Maritime Museum has been a fixture for thirty years and we now are able to display it proudly at the Lighthouse for special occasions as well.

On Flag Day weekend this year we were lucky enough to give a hand with a very special event. Boy Scout Troop and Pack 148 from University Place stayed in the Military Campground next to the Lighthouse. Very nice group of families, Scouts and adult Leaders and they helped out raising our big flag and toured the Lighthouse.

We learned that one of their activities across the weekend would be a formal "Scout" based Flag Retirement Ceremony. The Maritime Museum had recently been given flags from the Coast Guard Station for retirement so we were able to add one or our old small flags along with those of the Station and a retired flag from the "Invincible" CG-52313, for the Scouts to retire along with theirs.

Saturday evening on the beach below the Lighthouse Trail, the Scouts and families performed the formal flag retirement ceremony. Hats off to the Scouts and the Leaders as it was very well done and, as evidenced in some great pictures from member Kris Cox, very moving as well.

After questions from a lot of people about the ceremony, we figured it would be a good time to remind ourselves of this aspect of flag etiquette.

The United States Flag Code, Title 4, Section 8k states - **"The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem of display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."**

How do you know your flag should be retired?

(Continued on Page 7)



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*The Foghorn is a publication
of the Westport-South Beach
Historical Society*

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Message from your President

by Kimmi Kerns

Who Owns the Lighthouse?

My ten-year-old grandson stayed with us for a few days recently, and as we drove by the Lighthouse he asked me, "Who owns the Lighthouse?" I thought for a moment and said, "I do." Then I explained that I'm not the only one who owns our Lighthouse....each one of us belonging to the Westport South Beach Historical Society owns the Lighthouse as well. And as with any ownership of property, that ownership comes with responsibilities as well as enjoyment.

As property owners, we have to maintain the Lighthouse. To that end, your Board has contracted renowned lighthouse restoration expert, Sue Licht, to evaluate the condition of our lighthouse. This process takes several months and we hope to have the final report by the end of the year. The next step will be acquiring funds to do the restoration – more on that later.

We also have the duty to our community to man the lighthouse so people locally and from around the world can see and appreciate it. So far this year, we have had visitors from 42 states and 13 countries – from Sweden, Kenya and Columbia to name a few. In addition, we give tours to school groups so children can understand their past as it pertains to their future.

And then there is the enjoyment..... June 30th, 2018 will mark the 120th anniversary of the dedication of the light in the Grays Harbor Light Station and we are going to have a **BIG** party ! It will be a fun-filled day capped off with the lighting of the Fresnel lens at the top of the lighthouse. Mark your calendars – more details will be coming.

As always, we need volunteers to make all these things happen - each one of us needs to step up and take 'ownership'. So if you have a few spare hours or dollars, please contact Julie at the museum office to find out how you can help.

WE own a Lighthouse !! How cool is that? As my grandson said, "**WOW.**"

Annual Membership Meeting & Potluck Party Friday, October 13th 6:00 pm McCausland Hall

Come out and meet other members and learn what's happening at the Museum & Lighthouse. We will be honoring our 2017 volunteers of the year and we have some exciting things planned!

Main dish will be provided - all you need to bring is your favorite salad, dessert or other accompaniment dish.

PLEASE consider volunteering for a position on the Board of Trustees. For continuity, 3 Board positions out of nine expire each year. Each position is for 3 years. Don Ross has tossed his hat in the ring for the Treasurer position, but we still need 3 more people. The Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. And we always have goodies and chocolate at our meetings. **Contact Kimmi Kerns (360) 589--6695 for more information on becoming part of this FUN group** leading and creating the vision of the Historical Society.

info@westportmaritimemuseum.com / (360) 268-0078

2017 Proposed By Law Changes

by Pete Eberle

The bylaws committee met and reviewed the current bylaws. In order to be more in line with the theory of "Say what you do and do what you say" the committee and Board are proposing the following bylaw changes to be voted on at the annual meeting in October.

1: Article IV Section 2,

The Vice-President shall be chair of ~~the membership~~ Bylaw ~~sub-~~committee.

The reason for this change is that in recent history the work of managing the membership has been turned over to employees and we felt it is more appropriate that the vice president is chairperson for the By-Law committee.

2: Article VI Section 1,

Quarterly membership meetings ~~shall~~ should be held. The annual membership meeting shall be held in conjunction with the October quarterly membership meeting shall be designated the annual meeting.

The reason for this change is that we have not had actual quarterly meetings in each quarter of the year. We actually have two meetings in the October, November and December quarter and none in the July, August and September quarter. The wording of this bylaw says that we 'shall' but we don't hold meetings in each quarter.

3: Article VIII Section 1a,

The committee shall draft and recommend to the board of trustees any needed changes. ~~no later than June of each year.~~

The reason for this change is to give the committee the flexibility to review any time of the year as participants are available and/or issues arise.

Westport South Beach Historical Society 2017 AUTUMN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • 71st Annual Seafood Festival, Crafts & Corvettes | Saturday, September 2nd |
| • 45th Operation Shore Patrol Beach Clean-up | Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 16-17 |
| • 20th Annual 30 Miles of Junque | Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 16-17 |
| • Westport Maritime Festival | Friday & Saturday, Sept. 22-23 |
| • Reach the Beach - Washington | Saturday, September 30th |

October:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| • Cleanwater Classic | Friday - Sunday, October 6 - 8 |
| • Annual WSBHS Meeting & Party | Friday, October 13th 6:00 pm |
| • Cranberry Festival | Saturday - Sunday, October 14 - 15 |
| • Coast Guard Appreciation Dinner | Wednesday, October 18th |
| • Halloween Haunted Lighthouse & Lighting of Lens | Tuesday, October 31st |

November:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • 3rd Annual Holiday Bazaar | Saturday, November 11th |
| • Thanksgiving Day | Thursday, November 23rd |

December:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Santa by the Sea | Saturday, December 3rd |
| • WSBHS Holiday Party | Friday, December 15th |

Executive Director's Corner

by John Shaw

"Serendipitous"

Adjective: **serendipitous**

Occurring or discovered by chance in a happy or beneficial way.

"a serendipitous encounter"

Well that's just what happened to me recently. I always enjoy getting to spend some time working on organizing the collection. Several months back, in going through some saved boxes with some "yet to be organized" piles, I found a group of phone notes with a call from someone saying they had a relative buried on Destruction Island and wanted to know if the Maritime Museum had any information. The note was from many years ago, but anything "D.I." is high on my list, so I called the number and made contact with the "Hillands", who were surprised but very happy to talk. I got the story about a family member who had perished in 1927 after grounding on the West side of Destruction Island during a storm and who was buried on the island. I had never seen reference to this and was a bit skeptical of the story but they said they had a few pictures and an article to go with the story. Ever quick to offer to scan and archive with our new equipment, I invited them to visit or send me what they had. They decided they would visit after a stay they had planned at Seabrook.

This past Sunday, Jack and Jeanette Hilland called at the Museum. In the months between the call and the visit I had hit all our contacts and experts on Destruction Island and no story of a grave marker being seen and a lot of skepticism. Jack and Jeanette are very nice and showed me from their family genealogy files, information on John Maenpaa of Astoria, Oregon. Also a Daily "Astorian" front page from 1927 and just below the fold, a story of an unexpected gale and local fishermen lost on Destruction Island. Then they bring out two wonderful pictures of the boat, the F/V "Pioneer", on the rocks at what looks like the NW corner of D.I. and then a photo of the grave marker. New photos of DI are always exciting for me. The photo's are compelling as is the story of who took them, and how they were sent to John Maenpaa's wife, Jack's grandmother. I am thinking through all of the ways that might have happened and most would have involved the Light House personnel on the Island at the time so I am wondering who to hit up now that I have specific dates.

As I am re-reading the newspaper account, the story next to it on the Front page catches my eye....."AVALON GOES ASHORE" - then it hits me. This is the same event that wrecked the steam schooner "Avalon" which is one of two ships we suspect might be the 'Wandering Wreck of Washaway Beach' that we have been researching. The other being the *Trinidad*. There is some information in this newspaper account of the *Avalon's* actual "twice grounding" and final location that we had not yet stumbled upon. As this is sinking in, and I'm thinking how fun this will be to run down further, that word 'serendipitous' sticks in my head and of course I later have to double check on Google....."discovered by chance in a happy or beneficial way"

Yes, **Serendipitous**. And the icing on this cake: after a really nice long chat with the Hillands, Jeanette asked me my father's name and when I tell her she smiles and tells me she knew him. She was a Freshman at US Grant High School in Portland when he was a Senior and had grown up three blocks away from where my Dad did which was also just a short distance from where I grew up. Then the stories really got started. I am looking forward to more on the Destruction Island side of the story as well as running down the lead on the Avalon and having another chat with Jack and Jeanette.



CAN YOU GIVE US A HAND ??

We will again this year be passing out candy 'severed hands' at our 'Haunted Halloween' event at the Lighthouse. We are asking for candy donations as well as volunteers to help out at the event.

Please drop off your donations at the Museum or you can bring them to the October membership meeting. And please call Julie at the Museum to sign up to be a volunteer. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT !

JUST FOR FUN



Musical Quiz



Find the missing words in the first lines of these well-known nautical melodies.

Song #	Nautical Melodies		Missing Words
___ 1.	Somewhere _____ Somewhere, waiting for me...	A.	surfer
___ 2.	I'd like to be, under the sea In an _____ in the shade...	B.	harbor lights
___ 3.	My bonnie lies over the _____ My bonnie lies over the sea.....	C.	big lake
___ 4.	Little _____ little one Made my heart come all undone...	D.	sailed to sea
___ 5.	We come on the _____ My grandfather and me...	E.	boats go sailin'
___ 6.	The legend lives on from the Chippewa on down, Of the _____ they call Gitche Gumee...	F.	beyond the sea
___ 7.	In the town where I was born Lived a man who _____ ...	G.	boat ashore
___ 8.	Down by the seaside See the _____ ...	H.	octopus's garden
___ 9.	Michael row the _____, hallelujah...	I.	Sloop John B
___ 10.	I saw the _____, They only told me we were parting	J.	ocean

Next, match the song numbers above with their composers

Song #		Composer/ and or origin
___ 1.	A.	Brian Wilson, 1963
___ 2.	B.	Frances Langford, recorded in 1937
___ 3.	C.	U.S. Slave song sung by freed men, 1860's
___ 4.	D.	Jack Lawrence, and Charles Trenet (La Mer) 1946
___ 5.	E.	Scottish folk song, unknown origin, 1746, transcribed in 1861
___ 6.	F.	Led Zeppelin, 1975
___ 7.	G.	Ringo Starr, 1969
___ 8.	H.	Gordon Lightfoot, 1976
___ 9.	I.	Folk song from the Bahamas, unknown origin, 1916
___ 10.	J.	Lennon & McCarthy, 1966



By Noel Kreicker, 2017

(Answers on page 9)

Meet Work campers Earl & Marie



We are Earl & Marie McPeak from So. California with our dog Lucy & have traveled in our RV for the past 16 years.

This year, 2017 we embarked on a new adventure and were blessed to be able to volunteer in Westport, WA at the Grays Harbor Lighthouse.

What a great choice this was for us for the months of June & July. A beautiful lighthouse, the tallest in Washington State.

My husband loves history and really delved into all the history of this spectacular lighthouse. He loved telling the many tourists of all the wonderful facts he had researched and I absolutely loved working in the unique gift shop that used to be the oil house. Loved meeting and sharing the interesting things to do around Westport and of course letting them know about the Maritime Museum at the marina that houses the spectacular lens from Destruction Island Lighthouse.

A wonderful experience; great people to work with and hopefully we will return again!

Westport Maritime Festival

2201 Westhaven Drive / (360) 268-0078

...Family Fun... Vendors... Music... Food... Beer Garden...

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22, 2017

- Vaughn Johannes 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- The Pleasure Hounds 8 – 10 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23, 2017

- All In Noon – 1:30 p.m.
- The Pleasure Hounds 2 – 3:30 p.m.
- The Elvis Tribute (Shane Cobane) 4 – 5:30 p.m.
- Ericka Corban 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- The Kim Archer Band 8 – 10 p.m.



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Proceeds Benefit Westport Maritime Museum and Grays Harbor Lighthouse

Meet Chief Finn

by Julie Smith

Chief Finn will be the mascot at the Westport Maritime Museum, where his mom, Julie, is the Operations Manager/Education Coordinator. Chief is a purebred bi-color German Shepherd puppy, five months old and a real sweetheart. He will be participating in group tours and our traveling history displays.

Come down to the museum and meet Chief Finn and then follow him on his adventures by following him on Instagram...

chief_finn_westport and also by joining the Chief Finn Club... sign up for a monthly newsletter keeping you up to date with photos and stories about his adventures. Starting in October, you'll also be able to purchase Chief buttons, stickers, and magnets in the museum gift shop. To sign up for the club... email:

operations@westportmaritimemuseum.com.

We're really excited about the work being done in the "Coast Guard K9 & Rescue Room." We've been working with the Coast Guard to develop a display on "Canine Coasties." There will also be displays on Coast Guard rescues that include a raft you can climb aboard and immersion suits that can be tried on. The Room is scheduled to open in October, keep an eye on the Westport Maritime Museum Facebook page for more updates as we get closer to the exhibit opening.



Governor Inslee kicks off 120th Anniversary of Lighthouse



Gov. Inslee, John, Lowell & Pete

On July 24th, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee came to tour Westport via boat from Aberdeen. The governor attended a luncheon of local officials at the Westport Maritime Museum's McCausland Hall, followed by a roundtable with various representatives of the region's seafood and fishing industries in The Destruction Island Lens Hall. The Lens was a wonderful backdrop for the group's discussions.



Later that evening, Gov. Inslee was welcomed to the Grays Harbor Lighthouse by John Shaw and members of our Board of Trustees. He was given the tour of the Lighthouse by Pete Eberle and Lowell Deaton. Gov. Inslee then lit the original Third Order Fresnel Lens of the State's tallest Lighthouse to kick off the Historical Society's year-long celebration of the beacon's 120th anniversary. To commemorate the event, Gov. Inslee was given a basket of Lighthouse items by Board President Kimmi Kerns.



Flag Retirement at the Lighthouse

(continued from Front Page)

Sometimes your flag will only need to be cleaned to restore its original appearance. Regular cleaning of your flag can extend its life considerably. Flags can be machine-washed with a mild detergent in cold water. Flags should be hung to dry or laid flat. Do not fold the flag if it is damp.

If it is possible, mend a tattered flag at early signs of wear. The edge furthest from the staff, known as the "fly" end is usually the first part of the flag to show wear. The fly end may start to unravel due to weather conditions.

It is really up to you to decide when your flag is ready to be retired. If the flag is unable to be repaired or is too tattered then the flag should be retired.

Isn't burning the flag an act of desecration and a sign of rebellion?

No, throughout history, burning or cremation has long been considered a dignified way of paying respect to the deceased and to objects worthy of veneration. Burning has been applied to flag retirement to offer the most reverent method of final tribute.

Who is authorized to retire a U.S. Flag?

Anyone. The Flag code does not authorize any particular organization with the duty of retiring unfit flags. Any one person or group can do it. However, flags should be retired in a solemn, dignified event. There is no one official ceremony required or recommended.

An alternate option is to separate the blue star field from the stripes and then to separate the stripes from each other. Once this is done the material is no longer a flag and the pieces may be respectfully interred as part of the ceremony.

Is it permissible to cut up the American flag?

Yes, some organizations even recommend cutting the flags into smaller pieces before placing them in the incinerator or on the fire. When doing this please keep the union of blue intact. Doing so symbolizes that the unity of our union should never be broken.

New Flag Pole at the Maritime Museum

by John Shaw



The Maritime Museum's iconic Flag pole was dedicated in 1987 to Fr. William Quick and was funded by several local businesses and the Historical Society. The new pole was authorized by the Westport City Council to be purchased from Lodging tax revenue recognizing its importance as a tourism draw. Druzianich and Bush families along with Quigg Brothers have made donations as well to the installation and new monuments.

The new pole is a mandrel wound fiberglass composite. This will give better performance in our local marine environment which was so hard on the old steel pole. Of course 30 years service to the Community is not bad.

The flag pole installation was under the direction of Greg Barnes, the head of the Westport Streets department. Using the City Crew and Quigg Brothers crane and operators, the old pole was taken down and the new one installed between 9:30 am and 12:30 pm on July 20th.



There had been a great deal of prep work prior setting up the new base which is a concrete sleeve pier that is a 12 foot deep concrete element. The new base structure include a compass rose.



City Crew and our own Jeff Andrews installing new flagpole.

In final measurements, the old pole was 100' above ground. For years it was thought that the flag pole was 110', which it was. But upon removal it became known that this number included the 10 feet that went below ground into its culvert style base. The new pole finished out at 99' above ground. Some initial worry about being shorter was quickly put aside once the actual measurements were in hand. The new pole is engineered to carry the big 30 x 50 flag. There is a smaller flag that will be flown on a more regular basis to preserve the large flags. The "big" flags will fly for Westport "events". The wear and tear on the big flags gets expensive so this plan will extend their lifespan.

The new Flagpole will be formally dedicated on Saturday, September 23rd at noon as part of the Westport Maritime Festival.

There is still need now for another new large flag in the rotation. It's been two years since the last fund raiser. We expect to have a fundraising opportunity in place for people to support the flag in an ongoing manner shortly. You can always contact the Westport South Beach Historical Society to lend support as well at 360-268-0078.

**PLEASE support the following businesses
who support US by their membership and/or donations:**

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Westport Marina Cottages
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Westport Winery
Windermere-Westport
*** WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !**



As most of you know, one of the Society's Founding Members and First President, Dorothy Harrison passed away earlier this year. In keeping with Dorothy's wishes, the Society has been tasked with working to keep Dorothy's Shell Flair Marine Museum and location alive and available to the community and future generations. Dorothy's daughter, Darlene Burke, along with member Alan Rammer, who was a lifelong friend of Dorothy's and a number of volunteers, have stepped up to begin the task of assessment of the Museum Collection as well as assist the estate in the recent sales.

The Society is planning to honor Dorothy's memory with an event to be announced as settled with the family's schedule and wishes.



Darlene and Alan



Shell Flair Museum

Answer Key to Musical Quiz on page 5:

Missing Words: 1F, 2H, 3J, 4A, 5I, 6C, 7D, 8E, 9G, 10B.

Composer/Origin: 1D -Beyond the Sea, 2G -Octopus's Garden, 3E - My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean, 4A - Surfer Girl, 5I - Sloop John B, 6H - The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald, 7J - Yellow Submarine, 8F - Down by the Seaside, 9C - Michael Row the Boat Ashore, 10B - Harbor Lights

Westport-South Beach Historical Society
Newsletter

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120 years ago...the laying of the Lighthouse Cornerstone



Gray's Harbor Light House, Laying the corner stone, Aug. 23rd 1897.