

SAVE THESE
2015 DATES!

- May 9th,
Thurston County Through the Decades
- June is Lacey History Month
- June 28th,
Historic Walking Tour, Lacey Historic Neighborhood
- August 9th, 2pm
Afternoon at the Lacey Museum

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

Drive-In Speaker	2
Parade Photo	2
City Council Tours	2
New Commissioner	3
Crazy Forms	3
Wanted	4
Thank You	4

Museum Musings

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

FALL 2014

Caring for Your Historic Treasures

Do you have fabulous heirlooms saved for generations in your attic and no idea how to take care of them?

Although it is important to understand the materials that your item is made of to really care for it properly, there are some general guidelines that will assist in many situations.

The first step in caring for any antique is to accept that it is old. Some of its charm comes from the patina, a historic repair, some yellowing or even a stain.

Next, it is best to avoid cleaning antique objects unless you have expert advice. Many items have been destroyed or lost value from improper cleaning. Never dry clean and keep it to light dusting and you will be safe.

The Lacey Historical Society held their annual meeting on September 25, 2014. The theme this year was "School Memories" and the house was packed with alum of the Lacey School who pored over notebooks of their class photos. Guests enjoyed a school lunch of delicious chicken noodle soup and a variety of sandwiches

Light damage is irreversible and it adds up over time. If you want them to last, keep your antiques out of direct sunlight. Any light or heat damages over time.



Historic carpet ruined by the vacuum cleaner beaters.

Keep your antique in a place that will avoid large changes in temperature and humidity. Avoid basements, attics, places near a constantly open door and exterior walls.

and veggies. Topping it off was dessert of Dixie cups and Hostess HoHos.

Local historian, Lanny Weaver, shared her incredible knowledge of North Thurston County Schools. Greg Couio was a terrific emcee, honoring special guests, including the vibrant 103-year old Mary Zindt.

If storing, be sure to use inert materials. Cotton and polyester pillowcases make great cases. Polyethylene plastics (recycle #5), steel, glass and acrylic are also ok. Wood, especially oak and cedar, are very damaging as the acids and tannins will eventually leach into your antiques and deteriorate them faster.

Good housekeeping, including taking the trash out and regularly dusting and vacuuming your house will help protect your treasures by avoiding pests. Make sure you check on stored antiques regularly to avoid coming back to finding them eaten up by bugs or mice.

Would you like to see information in the newsletter about how to care for a specific type of antique? Let us know!

Lacey School Chums Share Stories

The Lacey Museum has numerous class photos in its collection, but there are some missing and some that are poor quality copies. If you have one you would like to donate or if you would like to assist in identifying your classmates, please contact Museum Curator, Erin Quinn Valcho.

New Acquisition Spotlight...



Do you recognize this item from Lacey's history?

Pictured at the left is a memory from a bygone era—a speaker from the Lacey Drive-In. Not shown in the photo, the speaker has a little hook on the back that would allow you to attach it to the inside of your car window so that you could hear the movie's sound while you and your companions remained nice and dry inside.

The Lacey Drive-In was located in the area where the Fred Meyer shopping center is to-

day. In fact, the marquee sign still stands on Sleater-Kinney Road.

The Lacey Drive-In Theatre opened on April 29, 1953. It boasted room for more than 500 cars and could hold an estimated 1500 movie-goers. Modern-day conveniences included spacious restrooms and a concession stand selling soda, ice cream and hot dogs. A playground, equipped with a merry-go-round, swings and a slide was provided in front of the movie screen for kids to

entertain themselves before the show.

In 1977, the movie theater was sold to Tom Moyer's Luxury Theaters of Portland, Oregon. A huge windstorm in November of 1981 damaged the screen tower and the marquee. The Lacey Drive-In Theatre closed in 1981, but was not torn down until 1988, to make room for the shopping center.

*Lacey Museum Collection
2014-007 Gift of Brian Stretch*

Photo courtesy of
Margaret Turner
Lacey Museum
Collection
1996-004

A Peek Into the Collection



Olympia Centennial Parade, 1949. Henry Turner is driving the team of horses pulling the steam fire engine. He and his wife owned the Turner Cash Market located on Pacific Avenue in Lacey (where the Domino's Pizza is today).

City Council to Tour Area Museums

Gig Harbor's Harbor History Museum successfully raised \$9M for their museum.



On October 15th and 17th, the Lacey City Council, the Lacey Historical Commission and staff will be heading north to visit the Harbor History Museum in Gig Harbor and the White River Valley Museum

in Auburn. They will be meeting with museum staff members and touring their museums to learn as much as possible about their staffing levels, budget, exhibits, educational activities, functional spaces and the relationship of those spaces.

City Council wants to ensure

that the new Lacey Museum will be planned for just the right size and with the right budget and staffing levels for our City.

The next phase of the project will be to wrap up schematic design and strategically plan the capital campaign.

Meet our New Historical Commissioner

Erich Ebel was appointed to serve on the Historical Commission by the Lacey City Council on August 14. He's a lifelong Washington resident and has a passion for celebrating the history, heritage and culture of our state.

Making his home in Lacey with his wife and two children (and a third on the way!), Erich works as a public information specialist for Pierce County – a job he began six months ago. Prior to that, Erich had been a commu-

nications manager for the Washington State Senate for the past nine years.

Erich enjoys writing, serving as both the "History Insider" for ScenicWA.com – a Washington State-centered travel and experience blog – as well as maintaining his own blog, WashingtonOurHome.com. When he's not writing about Washington, Erich can often be found with his family enjoying all the natural beauty it has to offer; from fishing and hiking to camping to

hunting. Lacey is lucky to have him!

You can follow Erich at facebook.com/washingtonourhome, twitter.com/waourhome, pinterest.com/waourhome, and youtube.com/washingtonourhome.

To contact Erich, please e-mail him directly at ebel.erich@gmail.com.



"History has always fascinated me. I want to find ways to make it accessible, engaging and exciting for others so they can develop a similar fascination, especially about the places they live and work every day."
 -Erich Ebel, Historical Commissioner

Why am I getting this form 2 years later?

The Museum Curator has been diligently working to enter past donations into the PastPerfect database and match the physical items with their records. As this process continues, many donations are discovered to be missing ownership transfer documents. These fabulous treasures must have the appropriate

legal paperwork in order to be fully used for public benefit. Washington State law (RCW 63.26) requires several steps (with associated costs) to ensure that loaned or abandoned property is properly returned to its original owner. By signing a deed of gift at the time of donation, or later if necessary,

we can avoid all these hassles and potential costs. For this reason, some people may find themselves being asked to sign a deed of gift for something they gave years ago. If you receive such paperwork, your assistance is greatly appreciated in returning them so that our records can be accurate!

Thurston County Through the Decades



Kids enjoyed paper dolls, cats cradle and jacks at our booth.

Staff and volunteers were dazzled by the turnout at Thurston County Through the Decades. October 5th was a gorgeous, sunny fall day at Tumwater Falls Park and the Lacey booth had 325 visitors!

We were surprised that so many people had never heard of the museum and it was great to get the word out and invite people to

come on by. Lacey Historical Society President, Lanny Weaver, was on hand to share pioneer history. Lacey Parks & Recreation staff member, Joey Everett, enticed kids over to play jacks and enthusiastically cheered them on. Museum Curator, Erin Quinn Valcho, shared the new museum plans with visitors and regaled kids with her cat's cradle yarn game.

TIP:

Want to remember how to play yarn games with your hands?

Go to youtube.com and search for "cat's cradle game" and you, too, can relive the memories.

We Want to Share Your Story

If you have items that tell Lacey's story past or present that you no longer want to store, we'd love to have them and tell your story at the Lacey Museum. Here is what interests us the most:

- Original historic photographs of Lacey area people, businesses, schools and events
- Original writings, such as diaries, journals, or letters of local people
- Artifacts, photographs, political memorabilia or stories relating to Lacey's **incorporation** in 1966
- **Evergreen Ballroom** photographs, ticket stubs, programs, posters or stories about your fun times had there
- **Lacey Drive-In** tickets, photographs, memorabilia or stories about experiences there
- Anything with a great story to tell about Lacey's history

Thank you!

After the summer newsletter, we received some much needed donations of cotton pillowcases and sheets. These come in very handy for a variety of uses in the museum. We use them for drop cloths, cushioning while we work with fragile artifacts, and covers for textiles. They get dirty quickly and need to be washed so it's great to have a lot on hand. We appreciate your generosity!



WANTED:

- A sturdy clothing rack
- Plain white cotton T-shirts
- Sturdy hangers (not wire)
- Kid's size table & chairs

Lacey Museum

829 Lacey Street SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Open Thursday & Friday 11 am - 3 pm
Saturday 10 am - 4 pm
FREE Admission

Phone: 360-438-0209
E-mail: museum@ci.lacey.wa.us
www.ci.lacey.wa.us



Preserving the past for the future

The Lacey Museum's mission is to collect, interpret, and display historical materials that illustrate the history of the Lacey area in all periods of its development.

Museum Staff Contact

Erin Quinn Valcho, Museum Curator
Phone: 360-413-3557
E-mail: equinnva@ci.lacey.wa.us

Lacey Historical Commissioners

Kimberley Bauman, Chair	Fernnell Dowell III
Kristina Trebil, Vice Chair	Erich Ebel
Yasemin Alptekin	Susan Goff
Shirley Binkley	Amber Granger, Youth Commissioner