

BECAUSE OUR HISTORY MATTERS



Brairie Gazette

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LAKEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fall 2008



Lakewood Historical Society
10th Anniversary Celebration

You're Invited!

Oct 16 at 7 pm

Clover Park Technical College

McGavick Student Center

Steilacoom Boulevard - Lakewood



BCRA 
LAKEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Rendering of proposed Lakewood Historical Society Museum in Mueller-Harkins Hangar at Clover Park technical College campus on Steilacoom Boulevard.



Lakewood Historical Society

President

Becky Huber * 253-582-8682
E-mail craftyhubers@comcast.net

Vice President

Natalie Humphrey * 253-584-0419

Secretary

Sue Scott * 253-588-6354

Treasurer

Gary Fowler * 253-584-3958

Directors

Doug Babbit * Kris Kauffman
Sandra Glasse * Shannon Krueger
Brad MacGowan * Walter Neary
John Simpson * Glen Spieth
Johnny Williams

Directors Emeritus

Cyrus Happy III
Elizabeth Pointsett

Executive Director

Janda Volkmer * 253-222-7941
E-mail: jandavolkmer@msn.com

Prairie Gazette

Prairie Gazette is the official publication of the Lakewood Historical Society. The newsletter is published six times a year. Distribution is directly to members and available at the Lakewood Historical Museum, 6211 Mt Tacoma Dr. SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

The staff of Prairie Gazette actively encourages input from the Society's members as well as the general public regarding story ideas or any other aspects of this newsletter and the Lakewood Historical Society.

Content of this publication is copyright protected by the Society and/or the authors and artists.

MEETINGS

The Lakewood Historical Society formed in 1998 to preserve and share Lakewood's rich history through programs, displays and publications. The Society offers frequent programs on topics of historical interest. Most programs are free and open to the public. Visit the website for information on events and activities.

www.lakewoodhistorical.org.

EDITOR

Dave Sclair
e-mail: dsclair@comcast.net

President's Message

As you can see from this issue we are continuing to celebrate our news in selecting the Mueller-Harkins Hangar as the site for our permanent museum. Be sure to plan on attending our 10th Anniversary event at the McGavick Center. If you have not visited this facility before, this is a perfect time to do it. It is a wonderful venue that many groups have been eager to use and we are no exception. This event is just the first of others that we hope to share with our community over the next year.

Our Annual Meeting on November 6 is also an important event to not miss. We will again be in Prairie Hall at Little Church on the Prairie and Beverley Bills has promised to provide another wonderful dessert from the German Bakery so I know you don't want to miss it. Meeting will start at 7 pm.

We have several positions open on the LHS Board that need to be filled. In order for us to function and move ahead with our plans for the Hangar we must have each vacancy filled. If you are interested in a Board position, contact Becky Huber at 253-582-8682, e-mail craftyhubers@comcast.net or SueScott from the nominating committee at 253-588-6453, e-mail Sue.scott@amedd.army.mil

My greatest need is having a Vice President. Unfortunately, Natalie Humphrey is not able to finish out her term that ends in November 2009. It has become very clear to me that I have been trying to do too much and I need someone to share some of the responsibilities of leadership. I am not expecting anyone to spend the amount of time I have during the last year. But I do want someone who is passionate about our history and dedicated to accomplishing the goals we are setting for ourselves. The next few years are crucial to our future and we must maintain the momentum we have started. Interested? Contact me: 582-8682

Another concern I have is the necessity to limit spending on some of our projects because contributions to our Annual Fund are below plan due to the current economic situation. I fully understand all of us have had to do much soul searching and have had to cut back on donations to organizations that we normally support. I appreciate any amount you have given.

We can not let the current national and global concerns stop us from pursuing our dreams. As long as we keep our resolve and commitment we will reach our goal. It may not come as quickly as we'd like or as easily as we'd wish but as long as we are moving ahead, we'll get there. After all, our country has faced a lot worse circumstances and many of you are survivors of those times. Please continue to remain involved and maintain your support.

Your humble leader,
Becky Huber



LAKEWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

**MUSEUM FUND CONTRIBUTIONS
September 15, 2008**

Thank you, Museum fund donors and sponsors

GIFTS - \$10,852 YTD

Goal : \$25,000 by Dec 31, 2008
For operations, Education Exhibits,
Programs and Community Outreach

City of Lakewood Lodging Tax
Supports museum promotions

NEW MUSEUM FUND DONORS
(since last Newsletter)

Mike Carrell Jennie E. Crook
Charles Herberle Larry and Natalie Humphrey
John and Rebecca Huber Tal and Molly Edman
Carl and Ingrid Fynboe Gary and Karen Fowler
Kris Kauffman Donald P. Hirte
Barbara Koch Karen MacAnally
Col and Mrs James A. Manning Dave and Mary Lou Sclair
Sue Scott Irwin Sternberg

New Members

Steve & Bridgette Allen
Dewey & Kathy
(Isacson) Brock
Stan & Gwen Carlson
Rory Dixon
Pearl (Billie) Finley
Gloria A. Hill
LeMay Enterprises
Helen McClure
Herb Mellor
Carole & Ted Wier
Ms George Wilson
Paul & Becky Wulfestieg

Sponsors

Comcast
Freelance Graphics
Gramor Development WA
Paktek Inc
The Suburban Times
Sound Transit
Water Rights Inc.

***Can you help the
Lakewood
Historical
Society?***

Do you have articles of historical significance that can be placed on display in the museum?

Volunteers are also needed in many areas. Please call: 253-682-3480

Your experience and willingness to help is needed.

LHS efforts result in creation of Museum

For many, many years a number of Lakewood residents thought there was a great deal of value in preserving the history of the Lakewood area. After all, a great deal of history occurred in what is today's City of Lakewood.

However, despite the interest among individuals, some new to the community and a number of them among the city's pioneer families, nothing came of the oft-spoken desire – until 10 years ago.

With the incorporation of the City of Lakewood, came a renewed interest in establishing a local repository for the area's history and so, finally, the Lakewood Historical Society was formally organized.

In the 10 years since the organization came into existence there has been considerable progress toward the goal of creating a meaningful place to gather, preserve and display the history and artifacts of the area.

Since its formation only a decade ago, the Lakewood Historical Society has accomplished the following:

- Opened a storefront museum in the Lakewood Colonial Center;

- Produced monthly programs on the area's history;
- Created a website that provides historical information and updates viewers on local events and attractions;
- Produced a regular newsletter for the benefit of Lakewood Historical Society members and to provide information to others;
- Developed a membership base for the society;
- Agreed to establish a permanent home for the museum

Now, with all these accomplishments during the 10 years of effort, the Lakewood Historical Society is ready to celebrate the decade of progress and formally announce the location of the site for the permanent museum.

Becky Huber, Society president, said plans are underway for a community-wide event Oct. 16 at the McGavick Student Center on the Clover Park Technical College campus. Coincidentally, the new home for the museum will be the historic Mueller-Harkins Hangar building on the college campus.

The celebration will

include special recognition of charter members, book signing of "Images of America: Lakewood" by co-authors Walter Neary and Steve Dunkelberger, and a slide show of the many Lakewood historical sites. Additional activities and participants are still being finalized, according to Huber.

The public is invited to the free event that will get underway at 7 pm.

Additional information is available by contacting Huber at 253-582-8682 or online at www.lakewoodhistorical.org

LHS joins READS Program

The Lakewood Historical Society will be a participating partner for the Pierce County READS campaign. The book title will be announced Dec 15.

The Lakewood Library will have several special programs in January and February related to the title. The program will conclude with a presentation by the author on March 14 at the McGavick Center on the campus of Clover Park Technical College.

If you are interested in joining a LHS book club call Becky Huber 253-582-8682 or sign up at the Museum.



Artist rendering of potential Hangar Museum

The site for the permanent museum of the Lakewood Historical Society is the Mueller-Harkins Hangar on what is today the Clover Park Technical College campus on Steilacoom Boulevard.

Becky Huber, Society president, said the site was selected by the board of directors following a lengthy process of researching a number of potential locations. BCRA, a Tacoma architectural and engineering consulting firm, provided in-depth analysis of several of the prospects and recommended the hangar site to the society.

The Clover Park Technical College grounds was at one

stage a general aviation airport, a US Navy facility and also the home of a nationally-known auto race track. The race track is gone and the runway that provided small, private planes access to the hangar, has also been eliminated. However, the hangar, located just south of Steilacoom Boulevard, survives. Over the years it has served a variety of purposes for the school as well as others. Today, it houses some carpenter training programs.

Huber said the building has numerous features that made it especially attractive to the society as a permanent museum home. Among those

aspects making it a logical site is its proximity to a major street, its size and both the willingness and interest of college officials in housing the museum on the campus and cooperating in the museum development.

The hangar contains 13,000 square feet of space usable for display and meeting rooms. The solid historical background in the community is another positive feature, according to Huber. An agreement for the long term use of the building is currently in the works as is a plan for raising the funds that will be necessary to finance the upgrading of the building. BCRA is also developing a cost estimate to go along with the schematic for the building.



The Mueller- Harkins Hangar on the Clover Park Technical College campus as it appears today from Steilacoom Boulevard.

It is time for all good members to come to the aid of their Society!

One of the necessary elements of ensuring that the Lakewood Historical Society continues to establish and accomplish goals is having a motivated engaged Board. At the Nov. 6 Annual Meeting, LHS members will have the responsibility of electing Officers and Directors for the next year. There are several vacancies that need to be filled. The Nominating Committee is seeking members in good standing who are interested in applying for the open positions. Please call Sue Scott (253-588-6354) for questions or to volunteer. The duties of Board members include attendance at monthly meetings, promoting

Society activities and supporting fund raising.

When the bylaws were changed in 2006, Board member terms were staggered. Only the following are up for re-election this year: Becky Huber, President; Gary Fowler, Treasurer; and Glen Spieth, Director.

The following positions need to be filled: Vice President - term ending November 2009; two Directors to start a 3-year term ending in November 2011.

Bill Harrison, Lakewood's first mayor, has volunteered to fill a Director vacancy expiring in 2010. We thank Bill for his continued service to the Society and the city.

Do you have items of historical significance?

The Lakewood Historical Society is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. Gifts to the society are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Please contact the museum if you have questions or want to consider making a contribution.

6211 Mount Tacoma Dr SW, Lakewood, WA 98499 253-682-3480

**LAKESWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FINANCIAL REPORT
August 31, 2008**

Cash on Hand	07/31/2008	12/31/2007
Checking	\$ 2238.95	\$ 2414.68
Money Market	\$16,087.86	\$10,260.29
Certificate of Deposit	\$ <u>0.00</u>	\$ <u>0.00</u>
Total	\$18,326.81	\$12,674.97

Income	August 2008	8 Months 2008 YTD
Grants	\$ 0.00	\$48,586.19 (1)
Memberships	\$ 130.00	\$ 3460.00
Donations - Museum Fund	\$ 740.00	\$ 9102.00
Sponsorships	\$ 0.00	\$ 1750.00
Special Fund Raisers	\$ 0.00	\$ 2100.00
Bank Interest	\$ 43.63	\$ 239.20
Other	\$ <u>56.00</u>	\$ <u>427.54</u>
Total Income	\$ 969.63	\$65,664.93

Expenses

Operations & Administration	\$ 196.38	\$ 3480.18
Web site	\$ 300.00	\$ 660.00
Contract Services	\$ 0.00	\$20,325.00 (2)
Insurance	\$ 0.00	\$ 2033.00
Museum lease	\$2100.00	\$16,300.00
Museum exhibits	\$ 595.92	\$ 4958.10
Postage, copies & printing	\$ 98.79	\$ 2560.06
Museum Annual Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 2855.15
Special Fund Raiser	\$ 0.00	\$ 1000.00
Marketing/Publicity	\$1415.05	\$ 9578.11
Other	\$ <u>0.00</u>	\$ <u>0.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$4706.34	\$63,749.60

Closing Cash on Hand 08/31/2008

Checking	\$ 1282.14	\$ 1282.14
Money Market	\$13,308.16	\$13,308.16
Certificate of Deposit	\$ <u>0.00</u>	\$ <u>0.00</u>
Total	\$14,590.30	\$14,590.30

(1) Includes \$12,309.37 received in 2008 from 2007 grant

(2) Includes \$6615.00 paid in 2008 for 2007 services

Prepared 09/02/2008

Programs & Events

Thursday, October 16, 7-8:30 pm
Sharon M. McGavick Center
10th Anniversary Celebration

Thursday, November 6, 7-9 pm
Little Church on the Prairie, Prairie Hall
**Annual Meeting and Election of
Officers and Directors.**
Refreshments provided.

Saturday, December 13, 2-4 pm,
Holiday Open House at Museum
Come celebrate the holidays

Upcoming Exhibits

October 1 - November 29
"Vintage Kodak Cameras" - A selection
of cameras from collection of LHS
member Don Tempel.

October 1 - December 13
"70 Years at the Lakewood Playhouse"
- Posters, play bills and stage props
from the vast collection of the Lakewood
Playhouse will be on display.

**We're 10 years old!
Join us Oct. 16 for
the Big Celebration
at McGavick Center**

Lakewood Historical Society
POBox 98014
Lakewood, WA 98496