

Rainier Valley HERITAGE NEWS



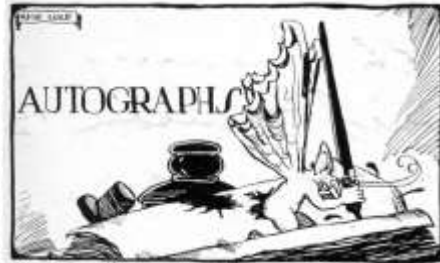
Volume 21, Issue 1

Spring 2012

STORY BOOK

The Annual Meeting of the Rainier Valley Historical Society

Come and find your story at this year's annual meeting for members and friends:



Tolo drawing by Keye Luke, 1922.

Saturday, April 14, 10:00 a.m.
Lakewood Seward Park Community Club
4916 S. Angeline Street, Seattle

This year we will be featuring the stories behind our new book – *Images of America: Rainier Valley*, from Arcadia Publishing. Learn how the project pushed us to move out of our comfort level, identify gaps in our collection, and reach out to the community to fill those gaps. Also: View displays honoring some special anniversaries and learn about our 2012 project, *Remembering Garlic Gulch*.

As always, lunch will follow the presentation and business meeting. Note the new location this year: we look forward to seeing you at the Lakewood Seward Park Community Club. This event is free and open to the public.

9:00 am Doors open for coffee, snacks and socializing

10:00 am Business Meeting:

- o Board Elections
- o Membership Rates*
- o Finance Report
- o The Buzz Anderson Volunteer of the Year Award

10:30 am Program: *Rainier Valley Story Book*

11:30 am Lunch

Gift Shoppe ♦ Historic Displays

*Membership rates at RVHS have not increased in nearly a decade. This spring we will be asking for an increase to help us meet our budget goals.

Saving green: You can help us save green, both the environmental and the financial kind, by submitting your email address to RVHsoffice@aol.com so that we may deliver your newsletter electronically. If you are on our e-News list, then we already have your email. We will continue to mail a printed newsletter to those who wish it.

Take note

Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 14
10:00 a.m. to 11:30; lunch follows.
Lakewood Seward Park Community Club, 4916 S. Angeline Street, Seattle

Guided Walking Tours

This year's guided walking tours are scheduled for "First Sundays" at 11:00 a.m. June through August. No charge for RVHS members; \$5.00 for all others. No reservations necessary.

June 3

Columbia City Traditional Tour

July 1

The Columbia City Back-Alley Tour

August 5

Shifting Ground:
Landscape History in the Valley

Mark your calendar for the Rainier Valley Heritage Weekend

August 18-19

Office Hours:

Wednesday, 1:00–4:00 p.m.
Friday, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
3710 S. Ferdinand Street
Check our voice mail (206-723-1663) for last minute changes to this schedule.

E-News:

Opt-in to our E-News, Past is Present. Just send your email address to rvhsoffice@aol.com.



Find the latest news, announcements, and photos on our Facebook page: **Rainier Valley Historical**.

**RAINIER VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
2011 TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT
SUMMARY**

Operations Income

Member Dues	\$3,110
Sales & Fees	1,007
Endowment Interest Transferred	4,000
Annual Donations	3,738
King County 4Culture Sustained Support	9,000
Operations Income Total	\$20,855

Operations Expense

Personnel	\$13,666
Programs	1,653
Marketing/Fundraising	583
Facility	4,576
Administration	2,431
Operations Expense Total	\$22,909

2011 Donations to Endowment: \$290
Endowment Value 12/31/11: \$178,960

Special Project - Everybody In	
Income	\$4,500
Expenses	\$3,540

Note: Completes this Special Project begun in 2009 and funded by a King County 4Culture Heritage Cultural Education grant.

Welcome New Board Members

We are pleased to welcome two new board members to the historical society this past year.

Roger Ford grew up at the north end of the Rainier Valley near Gai's Bakery. Now retired from a career as a graphic artist and events planner for Boeing, he lives at the other end of the valley in Skyway. Roger was the genius behind many Rainier District Seafair floats, including the 1978 Egyptian-themed "Tribute to Tut" which won the King Neptune trophy. The float capitalized on the Egyptomania occasioned by *The Treasures of*

Tutankhamun exhibit hosted by The Seattle Art Museum that year.

Seattle native **Mary Charles** attended Van Asselt Elementary, Asa Mercer Junior High and Rainier Beach High School. She has been involved in Southeast Seattle activities for many years. Mary enjoyed a career in politics where she worked for Gary Locke (both as state representative and as governor), Mayor Charles Royer, and Senator Gene Lux. She is now happily retired and resides in Seward Park with her husband of 49 years, John, where they raised their two children.

Mary enjoys spending time with her family, including her three grandsons, gardening, and participating actively in the life of the community.

We are fortunate to have these individuals share their unique talents and perspectives with us!

Rainier Valley Heritage News

Editor and Layout..... Teresa A. Anderson

Rainier Valley Historical Society

Office location*.....3710 South Ferdinand Street
Mailing address.....PO Box 18143, Seattle, WA 98118

OR

.....3710 South Ferdinand St., Seattle, WA 98118

Phone and fax206-723-1663

Emailrvhsoffice@aol.com

Website..... www.rainiervalleyhistory.org

Office hours..... Wed 1-4pm, Fri & Sunday 10am-1pm

RVHS Executive Director.....Eleanor Boba

*The Rainier Valley Historical Society office is an accessible facility. Auxiliary aids and assistance are provided upon request to persons with disabilities.

Support for our work comes, in part, from



MOMENTS TO REMEMBER

100 Years of Memories

Franklin High School celebrates its centennial this year. The school opened at its present site in September 1912. From the beginning the school was filled to capacity. These Franklin faculty of 1919 taught classes hit hard by World War I. A number of local boys had enlisted in the armed forces; seven did not return home. Students on the home front supported the war effort with Red Cross work and donations to the YMCA War Fund. This photo appears in our book *Rainier Valley* from Arcadia Publishing.



Student art has always been a hallmark of the Franklin Tolos. Here Tolo Art Editor Floyd Flint, class of 1924, pays tribute to his educators.

Gone but not forgotten

Founded in 1946 in a surplus Quonset hut on Rainier Avenue, Chubby & Tubby grew into a Seattle institution with three locations offering bargains in hardware, house-wares, and garden supplies. Their famous Christmas trees sold for 97 cents in the early years and were still a bargain at the time the business closed in 2003. Grunge musician Kurt Cobain shopped for flannel shirts at the Rainier Avenue store. Musician Dave Matthews was also a fan.

Today a new mixed-use building, which includes affordable housing, stands on the site of the flagship store while Powerful Schools, Prudential Insurance, and RNT Real Estate occupy the neighboring site of the garden annex. RVHS was pleased to be invited to display Chubby & Tubby memorabilia at the February 2nd Powerful Schools open house.

Chubby and Tubby, aka Irv Frese and Woody Auge, clown around in their office, circa 1985.



HONOR ROLL

Many thanks to our members and supporters who make our work possible! Below are those whose gifts we received between September 1, 2011 and February 29, 2012. Help us keep the record straight. Send corrections or omissions to us at 206-723-1663 or rvhsoffice@aol.com.

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Brian and Evelyn Fairchild
 Karen O'Brien
 Mary O'Brien
**History Makers are those making donations of \$250 or more in any category.*

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William and Mildred Earl *In memory of Dick Duncan*
 Carolyn Gould
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Many hands...

We thank all of our fabulous volunteers who have, indeed, made our labor light over the past year.

Anna Bergman
 Norma Close
 Mike Cox
 Evelyn Fairchild
 Stephen Hultberg
 Alan Humphrey
 Kelli Kirk
 Steve Olsen
 Gemma Santamaria
 Donna Schubert
 Bernice Sisson

And all our wonderful board members!

Collections Update

Announcing the Denis Law Collection!

We are honored to be the recipient of a large collection of photographic prints from photographer, newsman, and current Renton mayor Denis Law. These 90 photos, many of which appeared in the pages of the South District Journal during the 1970s, depict many significant events and personalities in the history of our valley, such as the funeral of Jimi Hendrix, the Lucile Street bridge protests, Oberto Sausage Company, crime scenes, and more. Even more exciting, Mr. Law has donated to us a larger collection of photos and negatives which we are still inventorying. Stay tuned!



Art Oberto and one of his classic cars in front of the Rainier Avenue sausage factory, circa 1970. The old Garlic Gulch neighborhood can be seen in the background. Photo, the Denis Law Collection, RVHS.

Loaners

We must make mention of the many people and businesses who loaned us photos for use in our book *Images of America: Rainier Valley*. In the process of putting the book together we were allowed to keep scanned copies of many "loaned" photos. Although not part of our official collection of original images, these great images will be available for us and others to use in our research. A complete list of "Loaners" was included in our fall 2011 newsletter.

Other recent additions to our archives include:

Photos of Hitt Fireworks sheds, Hogan's feed store, Elks Band with T.G. Hitt. Donor, Gloria Cauble.

Oral histories: Joseph Byrne, Geraldine Byrne, Lillian Byrne.

Rainier Chamber Business Directories, 1972, 1973, 1977, 1981, 1984. Donor, Stuart Weiss.

Photos of Italian School, Highway 90 bridge plans, and documents related to Garlic Gulch. Donor, Lucy Salle.



On the Shelf

We are grateful to several folks who have donated books for our bookshelf in recent weeks.

✍ Penny Hutchison Buse, *Stuck in the Mud: The History of Warm Beach, Washington*. The author has donated several copies of her book, featuring a well-researched account of developer C.D. Hillman, for us to keep or sell.

✍ David Eskenazi, *Pitchers of Beer: the Story of the Seattle Rainiers*, by Dan Raley and featuring photographs from the David Eskenazi Collection.

✍ Jack Osborne, *Makers of Mischief: A Boomer's Adventure in Childhood*. The author has donated several copies of his memoir of growing up in the Rainier Valley for us to keep or sell.

✍ David Svendsen, *From Garlic Gulch: A True American Story*, Mr. Svendsen's account of growing up in the Rainier Valley.



Seattle Elks Band at Los Angeles Convention, 1920. T.G. Hitt is 11th from left with French horn. At 40 inches, this panoramic print is the longest original photo in our collection.

Support History

If you haven't joined the Rainier Valley Historical Society this year, we urge you to do so now. Rates may go up soon!
 All membership dues and donations are tax-deductible within the limits of the law.

Please fill in this form and mail it with a check to:

Rainier Valley Historical Society P.O. Box 18143 Seattle, WA 98118

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