

# Rainier Valley HERITAGE NEWS

Spring, 2017

## A Horse, A Cow, Chickens, and Turkeys, Oh My!



Image courtesy of Puget Sound Regional Archives.

By **Teresa A. Anderson**

"At this place we had a horse and a cow, a few chickens and turkeys. My wife would take care of the chickens and milk the cow and it was my job to look after the horse." In An Immigrant in 1887, John W. Nordstrom, co-founder of the Nordstrom department store chain, tells his story of emigrating from Sweden to New York in 1887, and finally settling in Seattle where he once owned property in Rainier Valley.

John Nordstrom was 16 years old when he left Sweden. He arrived in New York with only five dollars in his pocket and not a word of English to his name. He made his way across the country and eventually to the West Coast, laboring in mines and logging camps and doing odd jobs. In "the summer of 1896 I went again to Seattle, as I liked it there. My work there was in a Fremont sawmill at a dollar and a half a day." In 1897, while living in

*continued on page 2*

***The Rainier Valley Historical Society's mission is to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret the history and heritage of the Rainier Valley and its people, and to promote public involvement in and appreciation of its history and culture.***

***Our geographic boundaries are from Dearborn Street on the north to the city limits on the south, and from the I-5 freeway to Lake Washington.***



## News & Notes

### RVHS 126th Annual Meeting

April 29, 2017

10:00am

(doors open at 9:30am for coffee)  
Pioneer Hall

### Dismantling Racism: A Forum for Southeast Seattle

2nd Tuesday of the month

7:00pm - 9:00pm

Rainier Arts Center

### Office Hours:

Tuesday 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Friday 10:00am - 1:00pm

Sunday 10:00am - 1:00pm

& by appointment

### E-News:

Opt-in to our monthly E-News, "Past is Present."

Send an email to [news@rainiervalleyhistory.org](mailto:news@rainiervalleyhistory.org) and we'll add you to the list.

### Connect with us online:



[facebook.com/rainiervalley.historical](https://facebook.com/rainiervalley.historical)  
[twitter.com/RVhistory](https://twitter.com/RVhistory)  
[pinterest.com/RVHistory](https://pinterest.com/RVHistory)



**CULTURE**

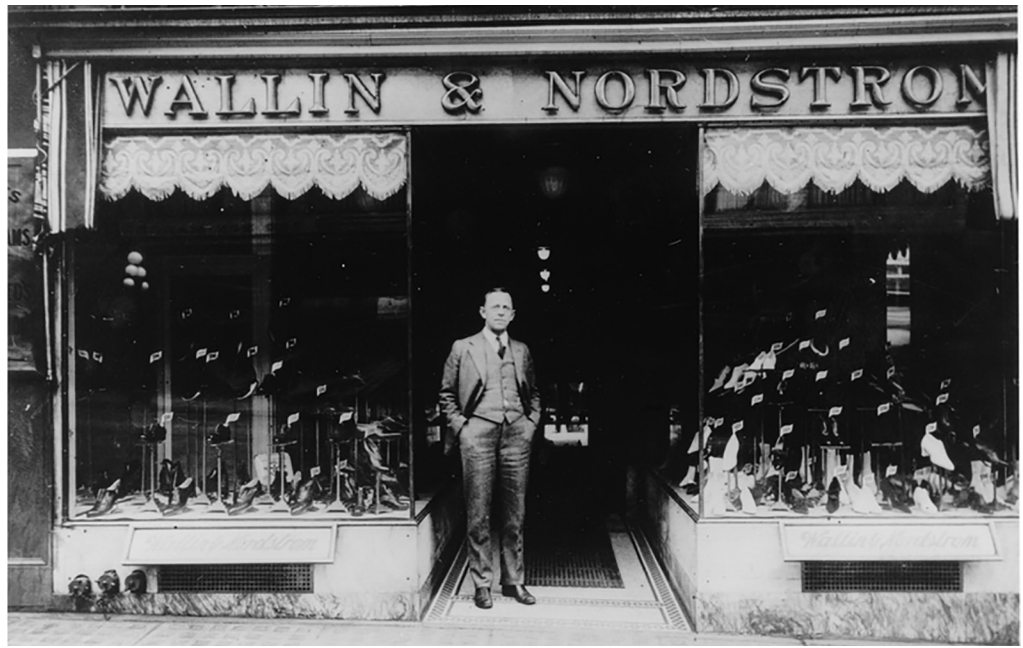
Thank you to 4Culture  
for supporting our work!



*continued from page 1*

Arlington, Washington, he saw the headline in a Sunday morning Seattle Post-Intelligencer that gold had been found in the Klondike of Alaska. The next day, in Seattle, he bought a ticket to Alaska. In The Seattle Daily Times, August 8, 1897: "Willamette Goes to Dyea [Alaska] Tomorrow with Eight Hundred Passengers and Two Hundred Head of Horses." J.W. Nordstrom was listed as a passenger. Two years later, with \$13,000 from his share of a claim, Nordstrom returned to Seattle. "I was certainly happy to be back and at my sister's house. I had my first bath in over two years."

Nordstrom invested his money in real estate. He bought a lot on Bellevue Avenue between Pike and Pine Streets (\$800) and had two 7-room houses built there (\$2,500). On October 3, 1899, he bought a 10-acre tract of land in Rainier Valley on Juneau Street just west of Renton Avenue South. The sellers were Birdsey and Sarah Ella Wetmore. Purchase price: \$1,300.



*image property of the Nordstrom family*

That same year, Nordstrom renewed his acquaintance with a "girl I had taken out a few times before going to Alaska. The next spring this girl, Hilda Carlson, and I were married. This was in May 1900." After a honeymoon in Sweden, they returned to Seattle and lived in one of the houses on Bellevue Avenue. Later that year, Nordstrom

Mrs. John W. Nordstrom entertained with a luncheon Friday at her home, 2516 Juneau Street. Covers were placed for fourteen.

*Image courtesy of The Seattle Daily Times, June 8, 1916.*

began to improve the land in Rainier Valley but realized, after working on it a few months, he couldn't make a living from the land and started looking for a small business to get into. He had met Carl Wallin, a shoemaker by trade, in Alaska and on Mr. Wallin's return to Seattle he had set up a shoe repair shop on Fourth Avenue and Pike Street. Nordstrom often visited Mr. Wallin in his shop -- one day Wallin suggested that they join in partnership and open a shoe store.

In 1904, when the shoe store business was three years old, Nordstrom had a house built on his property in Rainier Valley, at 3516 Juneau Street. The Nordstrom family moved to "the country" with their three children who were born by that time.

Later that year, according to The Seattle Daily Times, December 11, 1916: Nordstrom exchanged "two acres with residence in Rainier Valley at Juneau Street and Empire



*Baist Map from 1912 showing Nordstrom property*

*continued on page 5*

## Honor Roll

Many thanks to our members and supporters who make our work possible! Below are those whose gifts we received between November 10th, 2016 and April 1st 2017. Contact us with any corrections or omissions: 206-723-1663 or info@rainiervalleyhistory.org.

### Lifetime Memberships

Andrea Watson

### Patron Memberships

Grover & Wanda Haynes

Hikari Products

Margie Hunt

Lakewood Seward Park

Neighborhood Association

Susan Larsen

LR Isabella LLC

Susan Parker

Stephanie Ragland & Jerry Johnsen

Windermere Real Estate NW Inc.,

Mt. Baker Office

### Sponsor Memberships

Cederstrand Rentals

Dorothy Taylor Fields

*in memory of Mort Taylor, Dad*

Genesee Merchants Association

Pizzeria Pulcinella

Elizabeth Stewart

Herb Tsuchiya

### Individual/Family Memberships

Bill Barclay

Janet, Russell & Lola Battaglia

Judith Clarridge

Laura Day

Frank & Margaret Fickeisen

Carol Higgins

Reiley Kidd

Marie Martell

Jerry & Roz Mascio

Stephen M. Peringer

Rainier Valley Orthodontics

Scott Ringgold

Kiri Schultz & Michael Wills

Evelynn Shasteen

Mark Sherman

Kathleen Tracy

Allan & Sally Urlin

June Hellenthal Vynne

John & Marilyn Warner

Cathy Wickwire

Mikala Woodward

Jody Zumwalt

### Senior/Student Memberships

Chuck & Marylou Adams

Abe Angell

Don Bearwood

Dave Chesnutt

Roy Correa

James Creevey

Beverly Denton

Stephen Galey

Gary Gibbon

Carolyn Gould

Nancy & Leon Hevly

Jan Kumasaka

Judy McGough

Suellen McHugh

*in memory of Fred & Ellen Mondale, owners of Rainier Jewelers*

Theresia McLynne

Theodosia Skowronek Nassar

Andy Opacich

Diane Rasmusson

Sharon Richards

Donna M. Schubert

Don Shaffer

Betty Smith

Laura L. Weese

### Gifts to Endowment

Connie Cox

Nancy Dulaney

Karen O'Brien

### Gifts to Collections

Stephen & Laura Day

*in memory of Mildred Weiss*

### Gifts to Operating Fund

Joanne Anderson

Abe Angell

Janet, Russell & Lola Battaglia

Paul Cabarga & Ann White

James Creevey

David Eskenazi

Sheila Harvey

Nancy Hevly

Carol Higgins

*in memory of Patrick Higgins*

Kroger Foods

Kubota Garden Foundation

Jan & Ham Kumasaka

Jerry & Roz Mascio

Judy & Paul McGough

Diane Rasmusson

*in memory of TJ Womach Family*

Gerald Razwick

*in honor of George & Ellen Razwick and Buzz & Joanne Anderson*

Bonnie Riach

Donna M. Schubert

*in memory of Peter & Anastasia Bigley*

Betty Smith

*in memory of Buzz Anderson*

Marilyn Tilbury

Cathy Wickwire

Mikala Woodward

## Treasurer's Annual Report 2016 Summary

### REVENUE:

Memberships.....\$3,450

Earned Income.....\$1,970

Interest/Dividends.....\$5,611

Donations.....\$15,318

Grants.....\$992

Outreach & Fundraising.....\$19,010

**REVENUE TOTAL.....\$46,351**

### EXPENSES:

Facilities.....\$6,297

Administration.....\$1,941

Personnel.....\$24,845

Communications/Marketing.....\$2,735

Collections.....\$2,046

Merchandise.....\$548

Outreach & Fundraising.....\$4,703

Depreciation.....\$1,157

**EXPENSE TOTAL.....\$44,272**

### LIABILITIES:

Sales Tax Payable.....\$115

Payroll Taxes Payable.....\$836

Consignment sales.....\$45

**LIABILITIES TOTAL.....\$996**

### ENDOWMENT VALUE

**12/31/16:.....\$235,242**

## LIFETIME MEMBERS

James Adderson

Kenneth and Marleen Alhadeff

Beverly Almoslino

Joanne Anderson

Mary Ellen Anderson

Teresa Anderson

Katherine Bailey

Mario Banchemo

J. Barclay

Rachel Bianchi

Conrad Bosworth

Kalman Brauner

Tim Burdick

Elsa Burr

William and Bonnie Carrabba

Gloria Cauble

Barbara Chamberlain

John and Mary Charles

Fredric Cooper

Connie Cox

James Creevey

Daphne Dejanikus

John DeRocco and Eileen Ryan

Mark DeRocco

Duane Dolan

Nancy Dulaney

John and Doris Ellis

David and Sharon Eskenazi

Brian and Evelyn Fairchild

John and Linda Flaherty

Rebecca Frestedt

Betty Fuson

Betty Goetting

Clarajane and Robert Goux

James and Christine Graham

Carole Grayson

Gerald Gribble

Mark Hannum

Raymond and Claire Harper

Gwen Heuer

Nancy Hevly

Jim Hilton

Suzanne Hittman

Marlene Houtchens

Henry Howard

Beverly Huntington

Faith Ireland

Ron Jacobson

Bobbie James

Virginia Johnson

Charles Kapner

Patricia Knutson

Dorothy Kribs

Daniel Lane

Florence Larson

Robert and Anne Latz

Denis and Patti Law

Catherine Le Viseur and Zan

Scommodau

Nancy Leimbacher

Paul Lewis

Sylvia Loftus

Jeanne Louvier

Amy Mcquade

Robert Mohn and Shelley

Morrison

Darla Morton

Linda Myers

Kristi Nelson

Joan Neville

Inez Nichols

Bailey Nieder

Edward and Barbara Nilson

Kenneth and Mildred Nornholm

Jeannie O'Brien

Karen O'Brien

Mary O'Brien

John and Ann O'Neil

Susan O'Neill

Grace Orchard-Levesque

Priscilla Paoletta

Martin Patricelli

Shirley Peringer

Bonnie Peters

Barbara Potter

Nancy Prescott

Frank Pritchard

Rainier Avenue Free

Methodist Church

Franklin Raines

James and Sherry Raisbeck

Gerald Razwick

Julie and Ellen Razwick

Bonnie Riach

Robert and Ruth Ridder

Lorraine Ring

Chelsea Rodriguez

Resha Sabre

Barbara Sand

Lorraine Saxen

Donna Schaller

Mary Ann Schleer

Harold and Bernice Scoones

Elizabeth Sedenquist

Pete and Helen Sikov

Jo and Sam Simone

Jean Sisson

Ervin and Florita Skov

SouthEast Effective

Development

Allan Smith

Norma Smoczyk

Joe and Sandy Suchoski

John and Azile Swafford

K.W. Taggart

Paul Talbert and Lizabeth Collier

Dick and Marilyn Tilbury

Bill Tremblay

Sylvia Tulip

B.K. and Shirley Uptagrafft

Sal Vacca

Gary Vandersanden

Jean Veldwyk

Sheila Harvey and Thomas

Verhulp

Warren Walters

Andrea Watson

Stuart Weiss

Dona and Henry White

Keith and Ann Wiltse

Vinnie Worrell

Deehan Wyman

Judith Yarrow

Jody and Ed Zumwalt



# 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

Celebrating the Locks, the Lakes, and a Century of Change

**Saturday, April 29th, 2017**  
**10:00am - 1:00pm**



*Leschi Beach Dock, Kirkland Steamboat Side-wheeler, circa 1890, Rainier Valley Historical Society Collection, 1998.007.0002*

Celebrate RVHS at our annual meeting for members and friends! This year the meeting will be at historic Pioneer Hall along the shore of Lake Washington in Madison Park. Lunch will be served after the program.



**Pioneer Association of the  
State of Washington**

**PIONEER HALL**

1642 43rd Ave E, Seattle 98112

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>9:30 am</b>  | <b>Doors Open</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coffee &amp; socializing</li> <li>• Lowering of Lake Washington displays</li> </ul>   |
| <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Business Meeting:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance Report</li> <li>• Collections Update</li> </ul>  |
| <b>10:30 am</b> | <b>Program:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pioneers of the Ship Canal video by Vaun Raymond, from his documentary series, Legacy of the Locks</li> <li>• Guest speaker, Jennifer Ott, co-writer of Waterway: The story of Seattle's Locks and Ship Canal</li> <li>• Drawing the Line: 1916 Lake Washington Shoreline, video by Mikala Woodward and Andrew Kidde</li> </ul> |
| <b>noon</b>     | <b>Lunch</b>   |



continued from page 2

Way, owned by J.W. Nordstrom, for a residence at 2811 Montlake Boulevard, owned by A. Laney," and the family moved north. Everett Nordstrom, the eldest of the three sons, had attended Franklin High School and entered the University of Washington in 1919, at the age of 16. He also attended Whitworth.

In 1929, after many years of working together in many locations in downtown Seattle, Mr. Wallin wanted to sell out, which turned out for the best. Mr. Nordstrom then sold the business to his three sons, in 1930. And the rest, they say, is history. With a little Rainier Valley history in the mix... John Nordstrom died in 1963 at the age of 92.

*Note: Quoted material from An Immigrant in 1887, John W. Nordstrom, 1950, unless otherwise referenced.*

## Honoring Bonnie Bosworth

RVHS extends our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of long-time Rainier Valley resident Bonnie Jean Bosworth, who passed away in December of 2016. Bonnie was a great supporter of RVHS and donor to our collections.



She was also the founder of the Franklin High School Alumni Association. In the photo to the left she is shown with other members of the Association (far left, front), after 7 years raising money brought the FHS reader board to the school.

The photo below shows Bonnie (back, left) during the time she spent at Gonzaga University as a cheerleader.



## Seattle Public Schools Creates New Hall of Fame for Athletes

On February 16th, 2017, the SPS High School Athletic Hall of Fame held its inaugural induction ceremony at the Washington Athletic Center. The first class of inductees spanned many generations, and included athletes from each of the major high schools in the Seattle School District, including several from schools in Southeast Seattle.

From the Hall of Fame website:

*The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to identify outstanding SPS high school student athletes, teams, coaches, administrators and athletic supporters and to celebrate their accomplishments.*

*The Hall of Fame is also designed to engage the larger Seattle sports community with SPS Athletics, help reconnect inductees and their families with the Seattle Public Schools, enhance the current student-athlete understanding of and pride in the history of SPS athletics, and encourage and facilitate donations supporting high school athletics.*

These were this year's inductees from schools in Southeast Seattle:

**Cleveland HS:**  
Cheryl Taplin 1990

**Franklin HS:**  
Fred Hutchinson 1937  
Ron Santo 1958  
Rhonda Smith 1991  
Jason Terry 1995

**Rainier Beach HS:**  
Ginny Crawford 2002  
Nate Robinson 2002



Fred Hutchinson photo courtesy of David Eskenazi



## Collections Update

**RVHS thanks the following donors of items recently added to our collections:**

**Lee O'Connor:** "Take Cover, Spokane," book by Lee O'Connor, A History of Backyard Bunkers, Basement Hideaways, and Public Fallout Shelters of the Cold War. 2016.001.0001

**Mark Holtzen:** "A Ticket to the Pennant," book by Mark Holtzen. 2016.002.0001

**Buzz Anderson Family:** Columbia Merchant baseball uniform owned by Arthur Anderson, father of Buzz Anderson. Pants, top, jersey, and socks. c. 1930. 2016.003.0002

**Buzz Anderson Family:** navy uniform. 2016.003.0002

**Franklin Alumni Association:** Franklin Tile Program Notebook, 2015, reference to tile project at the school. 2016.006.0001

**David B. Williams:** "Too High & Too Steep," book by David B. Williams. 2016.007.0001

**Nancy Dulaney:** "Steamboat Days on Seattle' Lakes," by Ralph Johnson in The Sea Chest Journal of the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society March, 1970. 2016.009.0001

**Nancy Dulaney:** Italians in Washington State 1853 - 1924 by David L. Nicandri. 2016.009.0001

**Carleen Bell:** "Captain Burrows Summer-Winter Pleasure Resort," water color print of Captain Burrows Summer-Winter Resort 1897-1916. 2016.011.0001

**Carleen Bell:** Homer Venishnick interview of June 29, 1989. Oral history transcription interviewer Carrie L. Bergquist from the Renton Historical Museum. Homer, born 1926, was a descendant of Captain Burrows and Renton lifetime resident. 2016.011.0002

**Carleen Bell:** reproduction of family portrait c 1915, Captain Ferry Burrows with wife Martha and daughters Ruth and Melba. 2016.011.0003



*Print of watercolor "Captain Burrows Summer-Winter Pleasure Resort." Resort was in Bryn Mawr, along Black River on Lake Washington.*

**NOW**  
MORE THAN EVER.



**give**  
**BIG**  
SEATTLE  
FOUNDATION

**May 10**  
**#GIVEBIG**

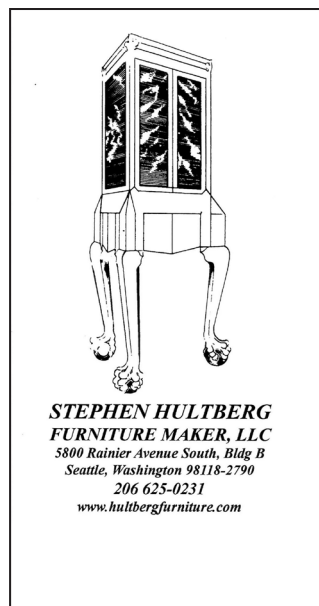


## 5th Annual Founder's Dinner

Save the date! The 2017 Founder's Dinner will be October 15th, at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church, starting at 5:30pm. Tickets will be available now on our website.



(right) The Tarantellas, performing Italian songs at the 2015 Founder's Dinner.



## RVHS Board of Directors

Sheila Harvey,  
*President*  
Karen O'Brien,  
*Vice President*  
Mary Charles,  
*Secretary*  
Nancy Dulaney,  
*Treasurer*  
Teresa Anderson  
Tim Burdick  
John DeFranco  
David Eskenazi  
Mark Hannum  
Joan Neville

## Advertise with us!

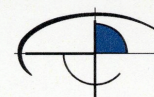
We have opportunities for advertising in all of our publications for a full year, or a one-time ad in the program for the Founder's Dinner in October. For details and pricing, contact Executive Director Virginia Wright, [director@rainiervalleyhistory.org](mailto:director@rainiervalleyhistory.org).

### Our Policy is Service



Phone: (206) 723-1680  
Fax: (206) 725-3416

5215 Wilson Avenue S.  
Seattle, WA 98118



### Burdick's Security

"Peace Of Mind Since 1959"

Tim Burdick

P 206.725.6072 F 206.723.0773  
[tburdick@burdicksecurity.com](mailto:tburdick@burdicksecurity.com)

4700 Rainier Ave. S. • Seattle, WA 98118 • [burdicksecurity.com](http://burdicksecurity.com)

## Rainier Valley Heritage News

Editor and Layout ..... Virginia Wright

## Rainier Valley Historical Society

Office ..... 3710 S Ferdinand Street, Seattle, WA 98118

Mailing Address ..... PO Box 18143, Seattle, WA 98118

Phone & Fax ..... 206.723.1663

E-mail ..... [office@rainiervalleyhistory.org](mailto:office@rainiervalleyhistory.org)

Website ..... [www.rainiervalleyhistory.org](http://www.rainiervalleyhistory.org)

Office Hours ..... Tuesday 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Friday & Sunday 10:00am - 1:00pm

RVHS Executive Director ..... Virginia Wright

Auxiliary aids and assistance are provided upon request to persons with disabilities.

## HomeStreet Bank

MARK HANNUM

NMLS ID: 698258



Senior Loan Officer

[mark.hannum@homestreet.com](mailto:mark.hannum@homestreet.com)

office : 206 389 4409 SEATTLE LENDING CENTER  
toll free : 800 654 1075 601 Union Street  
cell : 206 229 1349 Suite 1800  
fax : 206 454 8123 Seattle, WA 98101

## Leschi Market

103 Lakeside Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122  
MAIN 206-322-0700 • FAX 206-325-4990  
[WWW.LESCHIMARKET.COM](http://WWW.LESCHIMARKET.COM)

Steve Shulman Owner

[steve@leschimarket.com](mailto:steve@leschimarket.com) [main@leschimarket.com](mailto:main@leschimarket.com)



PO BOX 18143  
SEATTLE, WA 98118

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
SEATTLE, WA  
PERMIT NO. 1491

## Support History

If you haven't joined the Rainier Valley Historical Society this year, we urge you to do so now.  
RVHS is a 501(c)(3) organization. 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**  
**PO Box 18143**  
**Seattle, WA 98118**

Books and memberships can also be purchased on our website: [www.rainiervalleyhistory.org](http://www.rainiervalleyhistory.org).

Name .....  
Address .....  
City/State/ZIP .....  
Phone .....  
Email .....

Please provide us with an email to receive our E-News, "Past is Present!"

### Book Order

Please send me *Images of America: Rainier Valley*.  
Each book in-state is \$29.00 (includes King Co. sales tax/shipping).  
Each additional book in-state is \$24.00 (includes King Co. tax/shipping).  
Each book out-of-state is \$27.00 (includes shipping).

Number of copies: \_\_\_\_\_ Total book order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Lifetime Member ..... \$500  
☐ History Maker ..... \$350  
☐ Patron ..... \$100  
☐ Sponsor ..... \$60  
☐ Individual/Family (per household) ..... \$30  
☐ Senior/Student (per household) ..... \$20  
☐ Additional donation to Operating Fund ..... (amount)

Donation in honor/memory of (please circle one):

Name .....

\*Address .....

City/State/Zip .....

\*If you provide us with an address, we will be happy to send an acknowledgement of your gift.