



# Prairie Gazette

The Official Publication of the Lakewood Historical Society

Summer 2015

## Albert Abner Silcox Buys and Names His Island

Midway on American Lake, a tree-shrouded island rises from the water, like the mythical Lady of the Lake. At one time the island was a gathering spot for Native Americans. At the beginning of the 20th century one man, **Albert Abner (A. A.) Silcox**, was able to buy this 13 acre island from the Tacoma Land Company. Today, the island is home to 26 families.



*A. A.'s island beckons from across the waters.*

According to the family history, provided by **Susan Holm Gierke** to Lakewood author **Nancy Covert**, for her recently published book "American Lake Vignettes," Silcox immigrated to the United States from Ontario, Canada with his wife, **Betsy**, four daughters and a son.

In 1893, Silcox agreed to work for **Stephen W. Nolan**, a turn-of-the-century land baron who owned Tacoma Carriage and Transfer and was a partner in the Tacoma Land Company. During that time, Silcox and his family lived in a cabin on the estate of Mr. Nolan. He earned \$1,900 for clearing 45 acres of land.

Silcox was devastated when their son died unex-

pectedly in 1902. Hard work was the only thing that kept his sorrow at bay. In 1905 he paid \$350 for the island on the lake with money earned from Mr. Nolan. He moved his family, built his home (known as the "Big House") and began construction on a hodgepodge assortment of small cabins.

The Nolan house was a large four-story showplace called Bell Mar Villa. It was built in 1880 but demolished in 1917, when the United States government bought the property for its new military installation, Camp Lewis. That portion of the property was used later in 1923 as the site for the American Lake Veterans' Administration Hospital. A stained-glass window from Nolan's Bell Mar Villa was later incorporated into one of the small "shacks". Porch columns found their way into another home.

With its proximity to Camp Murray and Fort Lewis, according to the Silcox Island family history book, sometimes soldiers (and their lady friends) rowed to the island for some "snuggling."

*See SILCOX, pg. 8*

### Guidelines for Silcox Island Tour

Because the tour is limited to 50 we are setting strict guidelines. This is for **MEMBERS ONLY** (friends or guests may not attend unless they join the Society). For your safety and due to the difficulty in navigating the island, we cannot accommodate anyone with ambulation disabilities. Preference is given to those who have not visited before. **Deadline is July 1st.** If you visited in 2009, you will be put on a waiting list. RSVP to Becky at **253-582-8682** or [craftyhubers@comcast.net](mailto:craftyhubers@comcast.net). Those attending will be contacted and receive detailed instructions.

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### **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 us on Facebook or our website for information on events and activities:

2 www.LakewoodHistorical.org

## *President's Message*

Even if you weren't interested in watching the **US Open**, I encourage you to visit the museum to see the new exhibit, "**Playgrounds of the Lakes District**". Of course, we are showcasing our local golf history with the **Tacoma Country and Golf Club**. But I'm sure many of you have fond memories of the **Lakewood Ice Arena** that is also part of the exhibit.

More great stories in this issue focusing on summertime activities: Lakewood's very own MLB player, **Cap Peterson**; the **playground at Ft Steilacoom Park**; the **Kiwanis First Lions Skate Park**.

We have finally scheduled another tour of **Silcox Island** on July 7th. However, because we have to limit the number going and due to complex logistics, there are restrictions and limitations. See front page for details.

*Have a great summer.*

*Becky Huber*



In the  
**Spotlight**

## **House of Donuts- A Tasty Treat Any Time of the Day**

By Kim Korsgren

Opened by **Bob and Marilyn Cheatham** in 1959, **House of Donuts** has long been a favorite stop and staple among locals clamoring to satisfy their donut craving. For generations, people have been coming, with literally millions sold. Thanks to new owner and Lakewood native, **Tom Peterson**, House of Donuts is destined to become an "experience" donut shop that could gain national attention. They are that good! Out-of-towners are catching on to the quality, freshness, and value found here at our local, historical spot and are coming from as far away as Seattle to have one, ahem, or take home a few boxes.

You could say that "Everything old is new again" at House of Donuts with plans in the works to restore, but not change, the original look in order to preserve and respect the integrity of the iconic building while still allowing for modern amenities and upgrades.

You have to rise very early in the morning to make them fresh and warm, with long hours on your feet, but Tom is used to hard work.



*Tom Peterson offers a tray loaded with House of Donuts' finest.*

He and sister, **Lin**, were competitive athletes in the sport of speed roller skating during their youth in Lakewood, their mom coaching them at their grandparents **Roger and Delores Adams'** business, the Tacoma Roller Bowl on South Tacoma Way.

Tom joined the Historical Society because he says, "Lakewood has been good to my family as far back as my grandparents. I want to give back to Lakewood."

Preserving his iconic building for future generations and giving customers a great value for delicious donuts is just a beginning.

# Drive-In Transforms Into Swap Meet

By Nancy Covert

## Remember when you went to Lakewood's popular South Tacoma Way Drive-In?

That was the place where you could watch larger-than-life actors such as The Duke on the big screen while relaxing in the comfort of the front seat of the old Chevrolet.

That place was the **Star-Lite Drive-In**.

As unique as the business was in its early days, too much rain eventually drove it away. The popular outdoor South Tacoma Way movie theatre opened in 1948 and officially stopped showing films in the 60s. Then it was owned by several people including a **Mr. Rhee**, and **Jack Dallas**. Now it's owned by **Hank Bardon**.



*"Star-Lite, star brite..."*

According to a *Tacoma News Tribune* article in the late 1940s, the drive-in opened on May 5, 1948, showing a double feature of "Golden Earrings" with Ray Milland and Marlene Deitrich, followed by Rory Calhoun and Rhonda Fleming in "Adventure Island." It was 1964 when we saw "A Hard Day's Night."

In its heyday the Star-Lite, says Bardon, had space available (with two speakers to each parking spot) for 31 rows of cars, ranging from seven cars in the front row, to double that amount in the rear. Once the movies stopped the car speakers were removed. Regrettably, they were destroyed years later in a fire.

Showing outdoor movies is an "iffy" venture in this area—where there once were dozens of outdoor movie palaces (many with "Star-lite" in their names—even back in this writer's home state of Pennsylvania: the Wexford Star-Light). Nowadays the majority of outdoor theatres have been transformed into settings for swap meets or flea markets. In a 2008 study, there were 400 drive-ins remaining in the U.S.

Not all of the Washington drive-ins closed. At least one, The Blue Fox in Oak Harbor, remains open. Drive-Ins also are found in Canada and Australia, and they're becoming popular in China.

The swap meet concept traces its roots back to the Middle East where shoppers bartered, traded, and enjoyed the thrill of getting a good deal. The earliest bazaars were located in Egypt, Iran and

Turkey, with the Grand Bazaar of Istanbul having more than 4,000 shops that draw between 250,000 and 400,000 customers daily.

The Star-Lite Swap Meet currently has 734 total spaces: 194 downstairs, 60 on the second floor, and 480 spaces outside—including a small church located in the former projection building.

Local swap meet customers nowadays come from Southern California (bringing cactus leaves), from Idaho and Portland. The biggest group of regulars, though, comes from Seattle, Kent, Spanaway, Tacoma, Des Moines, and Ellensburg.

Seattle's Pike Place Market, opened in 1907, is Washington's version of those bazaars, with its popular indoor-outdoor shopping area, packed with plenty of exotic foods as well as traditional and one-of-a-kind merchandise such as its unique Flying Fish Market and the Slab Market.

Luchador masks (an essential part of the Mexican Luchador wrestling tradition), piñatas and colorful religious statuary, as well as all the Seahawk gear you could want, are just a few of the items you can find at the Lakewood site.

On a rare dry January afternoon, Bardon and veteran swap-meet vendor **Bert Illig**, (a former Pittsburgher and one of six original swap meet vendors) perused Bert's collection of yellowing newspapers from the early 1980s. The Star-Lite once distributed a free, bi-weekly four-page newspaper to its patrons.

# Lakewood Rotary Club Builds Kids' Playground

By Nancy Covert

**Fall of 2004:** Lakewood Rotarians and others from around the area begin planning a fabulous kids' playground in Fort Steilacoom Park.

As **Mary Lou Sclair** says about this project (built during her term as the Rotarians' president), "It's the best thing we've ever done, and we have no regrets." Mary Lou, who grew up in Newton, Iowa, recalled the Maytag Park, which was a big playground built by the Maytag Company, where she and her brothers and sisters—seven total—used to play during their growing-up days in that Midwest community of about 15,000 people. She wanted something like that for her grandkids to experience.

After six months of planning, the playground was built in one intense week in June 2005 by over 2,000 volunteers from Lakewood and Steilacoom, plus soldiers from the 555th Engineer Brigade, Fort Lewis.

The decision to build began after a representative from Leathermen's Associates spoke to the club in the autumn of 2004. The company had been contacted by **Dave Betz**, a Lakewood Rotarian, who heard about the project while attending a conference in Coeur d'Alene, ID. The company sent a "how to" booklet—and a representative, who worked with the group on specifications and design.

The co-chair trio of **Dave Sclair**, Dave Betz and **John Magnusson** oversaw each aspect of the project, soliciting sponsors, food, and tools. Regular planning meetings were held at the Northwest Commercial Bank near the Ram Restaurant, where the co-chairmen reported on progress in getting donations.

Contributions were obtained by "selling" boards—engraved with donors' names by Clover Park Technical College students—for the fence around the playground.

Ideas for "big toys" were collected through a survey at Cherrydale Elementary School in Steilacoom; kids wanted swings, slides, a castle, fort, fire truck and more. Steilacoom High School art students designed a mosaic of a sea serpent. There is even a climbing wall.

So many people helped—including Steilacoom Mayor **Ron Lucas**, Town Administrator **Paul Loveless**, volunteers from local churches, Communications Department students from Pierce College and Pacific Lutheran University—local Rotarians say it's the greatest participation they've seen on any project!

Every once in a while, Mary Lou stops by the park and chats with parents. Recently, one father expressed his gratitude for the park and told her how much his son enjoyed coming there. As Mary Lou says, "Its over-riding purpose is that it's a place to meet other people and enjoy an outing in the park – just like in the good old days."

On April 26, as they have for the past decade, Rotary volunteers spent the day sprucing up the playground. The park continues to attract thousands of kids who know a good thing when they see it.

Had it been built using the city budget, the playground would have cost \$600,000; instead \$200,000 was spent on the project, and it holds a place of pride for those who made it a reality.



*Just one corner of the completed playground.*



*Posted nearby: a sign displaying photos from the playground's various stages of construction*

*Be sure to stop by the Lakewood History Museum and see the park's display in our recently installed exhibit, "Playgrounds of the Lakes District".*

# Puget Power's Summer Camp on American Lake

*A recollection of those "good old days" in the Lakes District*

By Susan McAbee (as told to Nancy Covert)

**M**y grandfather was employed by Puget Power for over 40 years, and one of the "perks" was the opportunity to vacation in a rustic cabin at American Lake.

There were 18 cabins, ranging from a "newer" one that had a bathroom with numerous sets of bunk beds and a common room that served as the kitchen, dining, living area, and had a double bed. Many of the other cabins featured a big room, with bunk beds lining the walls, a kitchen area, and a large picnic table that seated eight diners. Every cabin had screened windows with canvas covers—to allow the air in but keep out the rain. We brought our own linens, but each cabin was furnished with all the kitchen needs including a refrigerator, stove, toaster, pots, dishes, etc., plus an outdoor grill and a picnic table.

Our family included Mom, Dad and four daughters, ages 2-12. Our days at the lake camp were filled with playing on the huge swing set and using board games or playing ping-pong in the huge recreation building. Every day included hikes through a wooded area along a worn path to the lake. Since the camping area was equipped with a large private dock that had a diving board and two large anchored targets we spent hours trying to be the last person still standing on the target. Several life-jacket-equipped rowboats provided us with lots of giggles as we tried to row! We seemed more often than not to row in circles or fall out of the boat. There usually were 10-20 kids around so we had lots of people to play with.

Every year our mother struck up an interest in a

family of ducks and ducklings. She brought a bag of stale bread and spent a lot of time trying to entice the ducks to come closer. Needless to say she usually spent a fair amount of time running up the path with the angry mother duck chasing her. Our mom never gave up, and it provided much laughter for our family and camp guests.

We were fortunate to be at the camp for the annual company picnic, which included all of the employees of Puget Power and their families. Barbequed burgers, hotdogs, lots of salads, chips, soda pop and ice cream! There were carnival games with cool prizes and lots of yard games.

We had a two-week stay, but some years Dad had to work and then join us in the evening at the lake. While we were not well off, sometimes on a Friday before Dad arrived at the lake he'd stop at the A&W Restaurant just up the road from the camp and bring to the cabin hamburgers, fries and milkshakes for the whole family. It was such a treat and a great surprise!

Staying at the lake camp was our summer vacation for more than ten years, and the memories still get talked about with the family. When my Mom passed away in 2005, her eulogy included some remarks about her quest to get her hands on one of those little ducklings!

The property was sold in the early 2000's and became the location for Eagle Point, a gated housing area, adjacent to Camp Murray.

*Note: Susan McAbee, of the Pacific Northwest Store in the Proctor District, shared her recollections about American Lake when she learned of Nancy Covert's book, "American Lake Vignettes".*



By Joe Boyle

I remember back in the late 90s when I was with the Lakewood Police Department, a proposal surfaced to build a skate park. It was thought a skate park would provide our youth with healthy, safe and legal activity where they could hang out with

friends and expend some of the teenage energy that we all wish we still had. Some of our local youth made an organized effort to communicate to our Lakewood City Council their support for building a skate park. Our city council listened and then took action. Isn't that great? Kids talk and adults listen. Kids and adults working together to make our city a better place to live, work and play. Lakewood is a kid friendly city.

I remember there were citizens *FOR* and citizens *AGAINST* the idea. Ultimately the idea got

wheels, pun intended, and a state-of-the-art, in-ground skate park was built with 10,000 to 12,000 square feet of concrete.

The City of Lakewood started their effort to build the skate park with a Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grant. The City of Lakewood, private citizens and local businesses raised additional funds to match the grant amount. Thanks to all of the generous contributors for your donations of money, time and effort. A tile matrix at the park displays the contributors.

See SKATE PARK, pg. 9 5



## Lakewood Puppeteers Exhibit at History Museum

A historic reunion occurred on May 9th at the Lakewood History Museum when sixty hand puppets created by **Jeanne Charlton** greeted over 30 visitors at the Grand Opening of the Lakewood Puppeteers display.

The impressive display was made possible in large part to the hard work of **Jim Curley**, exhibit coordinator, and **Richard Meier**, who constructed special shelving. A special souvenir program with background information on the Puppeteers was given to guests.

Even though Jeanne wasn't there in person, her husband, **Bill**, assured the audience that the display exceeded his



*Bill Charlton delivers a few words before cutting the ribbon. Among his listeners, Dorothy Wilhelm (center) and Richard Meier (right).*



*Vivian Wessel*



*"Refreshments served."*

expectations in honoring her wishes. Other guests included **Vivian Wessel**, one of the original puppeteers, and **Gina Wilhelm**, a modern-day puppeteer, who brought one of the Hollywood Trolls to the reunion.

Unfortunately, the puppets had to be retired at the end of May to make room for the "Playgrounds of the Lakes District" exhibit. But don't be surprised if a few of them make an appearance at another Society event.



# Old School Bell Rings Once More

On the first day of May, Troop 221 Boy Scout **Evan Kasaa** stood shyly before a crowd of Custer Elementary School students to talk about the original school's bell and its history. Kasaa, a Middle School student from Roy, worked to restore the bell for eight months as his Eagle Scout project. Evan's mother, **Melissa**, teaches kindergarten at Custer School, and she recruited her son for the restoration project.

The 300 lb. bronze school bell that once signaled the start of class for dozens of Custer-area youngsters, who trekked across fields to the small, two-room (formerly) yellow schoolhouse built in 1932, has long been silent.

By Nancy Covert



who is credited with saving the bell from being moved from the school when it was removed; **Jack Burkhart**, Clover Park School District's Maintenance Department, Lowe's Home Improvement Store in Lakewood, plus several of Kasaa's fellow scouts who spent several months restoring the rusted, pitted bell.

The finished bell was re-hung inside a replica of its original belfry and relocated to the main entrance hallway where it will remain on view. It required four people to lift the bell into its new "home."\*

On the first Friday of the month, half a dozen former students spoke about their memories of their first school.

**Jane Al-Tamimi**, Custer School Principal, spoke about the school's history. Once the bell had been restored, she said, the clapper, which had been rusted against the bell's innards, was freed up to once more peal out its long-silenced voice.

**Jeannette Hurlow**, a former student, gave the bell bracket a few tugs, and the clang of the long-mute bell echoed around the school's multi-purpose room. Kasaa beamed with pride.

The Custer School, commonly known as "The Little Red Schoolhouse", had been placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987.



Jeanette Hurlow

Evan's family & friends surround his project.

Other "players" in this historic project included **Gerry Halt**, the school's former chief custodian,

*\*America's Liberty Bell, displayed at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, weighs 2,080 pounds (940 kg). Its metal is 70% copper and 25% tin, with the remainder consisting of lead, zinc, arsenic, gold and silver.*

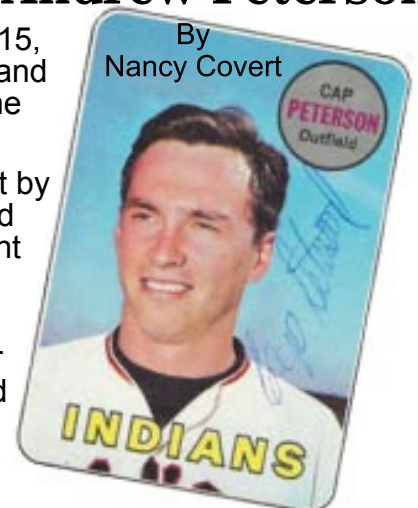
## Lakewood's Own Baseball Star—Charles Andrew Peterson

A 1960 Graduate of Clover Park High School, "**CAP**" was born on Aug. 15, 1942 to **Charles J.** and **Thelma Peterson** of Lake City. Between 1960 and 1969 he played Major League Baseball for the San Francisco Giants, the Washington Senators and the Cleveland Indians.

Famed for his batting prowess, he was signed as an amateur free agent by the SF Giants immediately after graduation for a reported \$90,000—said to be the highest bonus ever paid a Tacoma-area player. He was brought onto the Giants team in 1962 after a stalwart rookie season with the double-A El Paso Suns as an outfielder. He never played a regular season and was traded to the Senators in 1967-68 and the Indians in 1969.

He finished his major league career on Sept. 29, 1969, with 19 runs and a .230 batting average. Overall, he appeared in 536 MLB games with 269 hits in 1,170 at bats. After his MLB career he continued to play with the triple-A teams at Cheney Stadium—the Tacoma Giants and Tacoma Twins—until 1972.

By Nancy Covert



See CAP, pg. 9



In the  
Spotlight

# Parkwood Property Management— A Warm Welcome Mat

By Kim Korsgren

One word comes to mind upon first meeting owner and broker **Valarie Bethel**—effervescent. Her face lights up with a bright smile and her eyes sparkle as she extends her hand in greeting. Valarie is one of those people with the enviable gift of putting people instantly at ease and she is the genuine article. Raised in Minnesota, Valarie has resided in Washington since 1986, and began her career in Lakewood in 1988, as the Office Manager for **Parkwood Property Management**. In the 1980's Parkwood's office was located at 91st & Bridgeport. In early 1990, the business moved to its current location (a neighbor to Lakewood Historical Society and Museum) in the Colonial Center. When **Billie Helland** retired, Valarie took over the business.



Valarie Bethel

This autumn, Parkwood Property Management will mark its 26th year as a proud Lakewood business. Valarie and her expert two-person staff specialize in single family homes and smaller apartment complexes, with a current portfolio of about 300 properties from Fife to Dupont. Her staff understands how to serve both property owners and tenants with fairness. Valarie says that 30% of the properties Parkwood manages are owned by military families. She says she joined the Historical Society because she cares greatly for Lakewood. "It is a beautiful city with lovely people who want their community to be strong and thriving."

If you own a property you would like to rent or are looking for a quality property to call home, the friendly and professional staff at Parkwood Property Management welcome you to stop in or give them a call, Mon-Fri, 8 am-5 pm. 6219 Mt. Tacoma Drive, across from Columbia Bank. **(253) 588-2266**

*SILCOX, from pg. 1*

Silcox usually chased them off, reminding them that the island was private property.

Other times, feeling a bit mischievous, he'd untie a soldier's boat and push it adrift on the lake. When a sheepish-looking soldier knocked at the door of the Big House, Silcox would row the couple back to the shore, lecturing them soundly during the crossing about their improprieties.

The island is only accessible by boat. Residents park their cars on a sliver of land adjacent to Bill's Boathouse in Tillicum, then board their vessels that are moored there for the trip across the water. While a few residents live there year round, for the majority of the residents the island is their personal summer camp where they host many friends and relatives.

8 In 2005, Silcox residents

celebrated the island centennial, collecting photos and memories of 100 years on A.A.'s land.

**Dorothy Johnson Holm** (**Virginia Silcox Johnson's** daughter and Susan's mother) wrote that the island was at first their summer home:

*"At first, we had to go by train to Camp Murray, walk down to the lake laden with eats, etc. We had our boat parked where Murray Creek ran into the lake. We couldn't park a horse and buggy on the lake for two days.*

*"Later we had a big garden, fruit trees, and we girls had to pack water from the pump back of the house to the garden. How well I remember that job! We also had chickens that summer, and Dad also floated a cow across, so we lived "high on the hog" so to speak. Later an electric trolley ran from Town to Tillicum, which made it easier for us as we never had an automobile."*

There were four girls: **Virginia**, **Fannie** (who died in 1936); **Bess**, (now living in Seattle) and **Bertha**, who passed away after marriage. Her husband was **Mitchell Southerland**, who for many years was automobile editor for the *Seattle Times*.

Another recollection by Dorothy about island life:

*"Grandpa Bert was thin, over six feet, with white hair and always wore a black suit with white shirt and suspenders. I was allowed to stand on a chair and brush his hair and suit. When we went to the 'mainland', I begged to row the boat, and at five years of age, he finally let me. He never had to row again. Smart man!"*

The Lakewood Historical Society visited Silcox Island in 2009 and was hosted by Dorothy. On July 7th, Dorothy's daughter, Susan, will again welcome members of the Historical Society for a visit.



CAP, from pg. 7

Cap finally pursued a degree and graduated from Pacific Lutheran University. He joined the family construction business and was president of Peterson Building, co-founded by his father, and was a member of the Tacoma Elks Lodge, Lakewood Rotary Club, Lakewood Chamber of Commerce and the Lutheran Church.

He died May 16, 1980 at the age of 37 following a long illness. He is buried at Mountain View Memorial Park on Steilacoom Blvd.



Above: Cap with the Tacoma Twins.

Cap (left) with S.F. Giants teammates José Pagán and Ernie Bowman

In a column published on May 20, 1980, *Tacoma News Tribune* Sports writer **Earl Luebker** wrote:

“Charles A (Cap) Peterson was more than just another former baseball player—he was something special as a person. Beset by a kidney disease, a problem which would have most people feeling nothing but sorry for themselves, Peterson never complained...”

“While he was not in a baseball uniform at the time of his death”, Luebker added, “He was a big

leaguer through and through.”

**Stan Naccarato**, general manager of the Tacoma Tigers, and the man who brought Peterson to the



Tacoma Twins in 1972, said “I’ve known Cap since he was in high school at Clover Park. I worked some games as an umpire when he was in high school. He never gave you any static. He might question you with his eyes on some calls, but he never would yip. He was a fine person and he touched all those who he met.”

The Lakewood Rotary Club honored the memory of Charles “Cap” Peterson, by raising \$233,000 for the Cap Peterson Renal Dialysis Center. Among the many events that made this financially successful was the appearance of noted economist and academician **Milton Friedman** at a sold-out lecture.

The baseball fields at Fort Steilacoom Park were named in his honor. Even though countless kids, learning the elements of baseball, never knew Cap, they are following in his footsteps in the love of the game.

In August, the Lakewood History Museum plans to have a display of Cap’s career from items collected by Society member and employee of the Seattle Mariners, **Leo Liebert**.

*Big thanks to **Brian Kamens**, Northwest Room curator at Tacoma Public Library, for his assistance with this article.*

SKATE PARK, from pg. 5

It did not take long before graffiti marred the new park, but that was quickly covered up. Our City’s Parks Department does a good job of discouraging the criminal act of vandalism.

Now many years have passed and looking back it is my observation that while

there may have been a few problems, everything has settled down to a pleasant and constructive rhythm of young people having good fun. Long after having spent the money, this city asset continues to serve our community and new generations of youth.

As much as I like having the

park in our city, it is unlikely I will ever use the facility. Should I climb onto a skateboard at my age, it might be likened to a suicide mission. For those of you who are still young and invincible, grab a skateboard and make a run for it. The skate park is located on Bridgeport Way SW, just south of Steilacoom Boulevard SW. 9

# Lakewood History Museum

## *Thank You, Museum Fund Donors and Sponsors*

City of Lakewood Lodging Tax Funds help support and promote the Lakewood History Society and Museum operations, educational programs, events, historical markers, community outreach programs, and Museum displays/exhibits.

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Charlie Eckstrom	David & Kathryn Meyer
Molly & Tal Edman	Tom & Karen Mezs
Carol & Larry Else	Clark & Sharon Montgomery
Ken & Sandra Ferris	Jim and Carol Moreno
Susan B. Fields	John Mounts
Billie (Pearl) Finley	L. T. Murray
John & Linda Forkenbrock	Barbara Lord Nelson
Diane Formoso	Alice Peeples
Gary & Karen Fowler	Dave & Mary Lou Peterson
Horace Gamas	Shirley Petersen
Scott Gamas & Joey Pelgrim	Karen Petrillose
Andrea Gernon	Dale Piercy
Joe & Carolyn Ghilarducci	Geoff Piper
Don & Betty Gilbertson	Richard Rabisa
Al & Lee Grace	Kate Read & Mark Pfeiffer
Ray & Janice Graves	Jan Reeder
Thomas & Patricia Habersetzer	The Raney Family Fund / Beverley Bills
Georgia Hagbo	Janet Rich
Royce and Genny Hansen	Doug Richardson
Debi Harris	Raymond Richardson
Jordon Harris	Dorothy Rider
LTG William (Bill) Harrison(Ret)	Dave Rohrer
Jonathan & Janis Hawkes	Don Russell
Dr. John G. Hewston	Sylvia Sass
Dennis Higashiyama	
Donald Hirte	

**Individual and Family Donors  
(continued)**

John Schreiber  
 Louise Schumock  
 Sookie Schuyler  
 Barbara Scott  
 Sue Scott  
 Joan Shalikashvili  
 Colleen Smart  
 Jim & Kathy Spencer  
 Glen & Marline Spieth  
 Ruth Stevick & Lynn Gracey  
 Dugald & Norita Stewart  
 Patricia Stolp  
 Gail & Joan Strait  
 Darrel Stutesman  
 Ray & Margie Swalley  
 Raye Staples  
 Bob and Candy Tingstad  
 Michael & Mary Jo Tucci  
 Linda VanDyk  
 The Vogt Foundation  
 Joan Walston  
 Ella Washburn  
 West Pierce Fire Fighters  
 Ted & Carole Wier  
 Larry & Darlene Wilder  
 Billy Willis  
 Bonnie Wilson  
 John & Dede Winters  
 Harriet Wolverton  
 Sarah Woodall  
 David & Barbara Young  
 Gift in Memory of Sandra Glasse  
 By Barbara Carrell  
 Gift in Honor of Robert R. Brunke  
 By Bob Warfield

**New Individual and Family  
Members Since Last Report**

Gretchen Burk  
 Don & Betty Gilbertson  
 Jean Gray  
 Pete & Irene Haraguchi  
 Shirley Kapala  
 Winona Knutsen  
 Roger & Donna Laybourn  
 Haley Liu  
 Geoff Piper  
 Lenore Rogers  
 Kate & Frank VanGelder  
 Penny Witt  
 Gene & Ellie Wilson

<b>LAKWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM FINANCIAL STATEMENT January 1 thru June 15, 2015</b>	
Opening Cash on Hand – Jan 1, 2015	\$22,660
<b>INCOME</b>	
Grants	\$ 5,000
Individual & Family Memberships/Business Sponsorships	\$ 8,790
Donations, Memorial Gifts, Bank Interest	\$ 7,595
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$21,385</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Admin, Museum lease, Insurance	\$15,195
Contract Services	\$ 2,251
Marketing, Promotions, Newsletter, Website	\$ 8,153
Graphic Design Services	\$ 5,850
Exhibit research, development & construction	\$ 3,955
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$35,404</b>
<b>Ending Cash on Hand – June 15, 2015</b>	<b>\$ 8,641</b>

*STAR-LITE from pg. 3*

Stories such as this: “The Star-Lite Swap ‘n Shop has chosen **Craig Meyer** as its first “Employee of the Month...” or “Father’s Day festivities proceeded on schedule under sunny skies Sunday, June 15th at the Star-Lite...” and “**Dorothy and Jack Lorenzo** have been coming to the Star-Lite...since July of the first year of operation and are now one of the most familiar sights here on Saturday and Sunday...” and one final item...

“**Paul and Maxine Irmier** won 2nd prize in the “Most Original 4th of July Booth” category with their 49-star flag, which was in commission only seven months in 1959...”

Illig’s collection of this paper “time capsule,” with stories about patrons, employees, special events such as the best-decorated booth, and more, will be available at the Lakewood History Museum in the old Lakewood Colonial Center later this year.

Bardon has many plans in progress for his 27-acre site, such as adding a stage area to host small shows in the upper level of the long, narrow building that’s between the former drive-in area and the South Tacoma Antique Mall. He’s also considering adding a coffee bar.

Presently there are three eateries on site: El Rinconsito’s, Juan’s Restaurant and the Corn Shack. Bardon’s over-riding goal, he says, is to make it a place where there’s “always something new and different to see.”

The site at 84th and South Tacoma Way, identified by the large white star on the tall, red wood screen, remains a regional landmark.

While there are no more 25-cent per-person movie admission fees, swap meet patrons pay a modest admission fee to enter the meet area.

Phone **253-588-8090** for more information or visit its website: [www.starliteswapmeet.com](http://www.starliteswapmeet.com).

***Happy Shopping!***



**Lakewood  
Historical  
Society**

P.O. Box 98014  
Lakewood, WA 98496

(Return service requested)

## **Summer 2015 Lakewood Historical Society's Programs and Events**

**Tues, July 7th**, early afternoon-Tour of Silcox Island. Because the tour is limited to 50 we are setting strict guidelines. This is for **MEMBERS ONLY** (no friends or guests may attend). For your safety and due to the difficulty in navigating the island, we cannot accommodate anyone with ambulation disabilities. Preference is given to those who have not visited before. **Deadline is July 1st**. If you visited in 2009 you will be put on a waiting list. RSVP to Becky at **253-582-8682** or [craftyhubers@comcast.net](mailto:craftyhubers@comcast.net).

**Sat, July 11th**, 10 am, 7 pm- SummerFEST at Ft Steilacoom Park, 8714 87th Ave SW, be sure to stop by the Society's booth to participate in the trivia contest.

**Tues, August 11th**, 10 am-3 pm- Lakewood Farmer's Market at Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW. Be sure to stop by the Society's booth to participate in the trivia contest.

**Thurs, August 16th**, 1 pm- "Playgrounds of the Lakes District" at the Lakewood Senior Activity Center, 9112 Lakewood Dr SW, presented by Becky Huber as part of "Lets Enjoy History Together" series. Free but please register at **253-798-4090**.

**Sat, September 19th**, 2 pm-Celebrating Mountain View Memorial Park's Centennial, 4100 Steilacoom Blvd SW, staff will present rich history of Mountain View in the Garden Chapel on the grounds of the Park. Follow signage. Free and open to the public.

*Find us on Facebook (Lakewood-Historical-Society-Washington-State)  
or check our website for more information and current events: [www.LakewoodHistorical.org](http://www.LakewoodHistorical.org)*