



LACEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (LHS)

2022 Spring Newsletter

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'To be a voice for the early citizens of Lacey, and to be their stewards protecting the historical heritage they have given us'

Lacey Historical Society 2022 Annual Meeting

We would like to announce that the 2022 LHS Annual Meeting and potluck dinner will be held on Thursday, October 13th, 2022, from 4:30 to 8:30 pm, at the Lacey Community Center. This years theme will be 'South Sound Mall'.

Along with our potluck dinner and special guest speaker, this will be a great opportunity for you to share your personal memories of the mall with everyone. We'd all love to hear what you have to say.

In the meantime, please consider sending in your written memories of Lacey's past so that we can include them in our future newsletters. **If you plan to attend the annual meeting and potluck dinner, RSVP Susan Hartman during the month of Sept. or the first two weeks in October by calling 360/704-0507, OR mail back the RSVP form on the back page of this newsletter.

Best of luck and good health to all of you from your LHS board of trustees.



Good News About the LHS Newsletters

Because we've had such a great response to our twice-yearly newsletter, the LHS Board of Trustees have decided to start sending out 3 newsletters annually, a shorter one in the spring, plus regular length one in the summer and a longer one in the fall. This will allow us to include more individual memories, plus room to cover additional articles devoted specifically to the chosen theme of the year.

We hope you enjoy this new addition to your membership.

2022 Officers & Trustees

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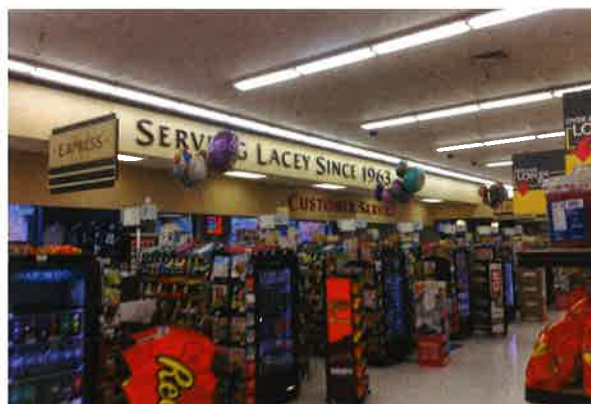
My Memories of South Sound Mall

I had never heard of a "Mall" before South Sound Mall. What a brilliant concept to walk from store-to-store shopping inside a huge building...and stay dry! Each store had its own display window giving a hint of what treasures were inside. My favorite window, of course, was the photography studio's window. I do not remember their name but do remember a photo of my adorable niece about two years old, wearing an orange two-piece bathing suit and holding a bucket and shovel.

The grand opening was what I *really* remember as a kid of 15 years. Each store, but one, had a raffle with tickets that they drew names to see who won. Weisfields had a unique way to pick a winner which was fun. They had a small fishbowl full of glass cut to look like diamonds and they gave you tweezers to pick out what you hoped, and they verified, was indeed a real diamond. Now I do not know if it was luck, or many years my mom worked for Talcott's, but she picked out the only *real* diamond in that fishbowl. That was exciting, but it did not end there. She won a beautiful men's sweater at the Guardsmen, a hand mixer at Peoples, and a desk set at Woolworths! She honestly did not stuff the ballot boxes, as I am sure many figured. But she went onto win the Grand Prize donated from Safeway, a large color tv set! Everyone in our family, except my dad, was SO excited! Safeway, just across the parking lot, did *not* sell Darigold milk products so it was an "unspoken" rule that Darigold drivers would *not* shop there. When the big boss from Seattle heard of our "win" and called my dad, the rule I'm sure became *more* "spoken."

Only now do I think about how that Mall affected Olympia's downtown shops like M. M. Morris, Mr. Earl's Buster Brown Shoe Store, Millers, J. C. Penny's, Mottmans and others... But on a good note, for Lacey, the tax revenues from the South Sound Mall helped Lacey to become a city in late 1966.

Margie Worden Wyllie



Thurston County Historical Journal
By Lanny Weaver

Your membership in the Lacey Historical Society entitles you to a free copy of the Thurston County Historical Journal. The journals have been available at the welcome desk at our annual meetings. If you have not been able to attend the meetings, you may not be aware of this publication. In its own words "The Thurston County Historical Journal is dedicated to recording and celebrating the history of Thurston County. It is published by the Olympia Tumwater Foundation as a joint enterprise with the following entities: City of Lacey, City of Olympia, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington/Olympia Chapter, Lacey Historical Society, Old Brewhouse Foundation, Olympia Historical Society and Bigelow House Museum, South Sound Maritime Heritage Association, South Thurston County Historical Society, Thurston County, Tumwater Historical Association, Yelm Prairie Historical Society ad individual donors.

To date, there have been 16 issues. With the Covid pandemic, we have been unable to have our regular annual meetings, but we would like to make these journals available to you. I am more than willing to deliver copies to you, so please let me know if you are interested by calling me, Lanny Weaver, at (360) 459-2434. For those of you who like reading by way of computer, the City of Lacey carries the digital copies of the earlier volumes on its website. I found them simply by googling Thurston County Historical Journal.

More Memories by Ken Michael

"Need a corsage for the high school dance? The Black Cat Nursery, located across from the Homann home on Pacific Avenue was the place to go! Operated by Mrs. Henry Turner. At the time there were two Henry Turners, one operated Turner's Grocery Store which housed the post office. And the other Turner worked for the State of Washington. His wife ran the nursery and made great corsages at a price we country lads could afford! Ah yes—so long ago.

P.S. Lois Lake was very popular with the youngsters. Good edible dish & a great place to 'skinny dip.'"



.....**Friends Who Have Passed Away**.....



Elizabeth "Liz" Thomas died recently. Although not a charter member, she was very involved in the Society in the early days. She served as president for several years starting in 1983. Along with Shirley Dziedzic, she was on the research committee. She researched and designed the large map that used to hang in the Lacey Museum which showed the early owners of property in Lacey, and included Donation Land Claim recipients.

Norma J. Husk who was born March 26, 1941, passed away on August 30, 2020. Her graveside service was held on Sept. 10, 2021, at the Ruddell Pioneer Cemetery in Lacey with Pastor Doug Knutson-Keller presiding.

If you would like to send photo's or written memories of Norma for presentation to her family, please email them to NormaJHusk@gmail.com

Lillian Schiendelman an LHS member, passed away in December, 2021. She contributed scrapbooks with articles pasted inside of them to the Lacey Museum. Her husband Leon Schiendelman was mayor of Lacey in 1973.

Arlene Welter died February 19, 2022. She was a life member of the Society. Her husband was a longtime member of the Lacey Historical Commission.



Memories of Eugenia Puckett
By Kelly McAllister

“I’m curious about the article by Eugenia Puckett in the latest LHS newsletter. It has “(1942)” in the title so I’m thinking it was either written in 1942 or relates to memories from 1942. My mom used to mention Eugenia Puckett quite often. Whenever we were talking about genealogy or times gone by, she would bring up Eugenia. I believe my mom was a high school chum of Eugenia.

I think my mom would mention something about Eugenia’s son though I can’t remember the details. Eugenia’s article is curious for mentioning a green heron, a species that has expanded its range into Washington & was known to be extremely rare here in the 1940’s. I think the 1953 ‘Birds of Washington’ has a very brief account of the species which described the very few verified sightings in the state at that time.

Now, they are much more common.”



Dear Friends

“Thank you for printing my little piece about Long Lake. I had a grand time going down that watery memory lane! I enjoy reading other people’s recollections of long-gone times (and people!); and the reverence and humor with which they grace their topics!”

Again, thanks Eugenia Lund

