

NEWSLETTER

December 1991

Citizen of the Year Proclamation

On the occasion of Lacey's 25th Birthday, December 19, 1991, The Lacey Historical Society, consistent with its mission "Dedicated to Preserve Community History" desires to honor our president, Thomas W. Huntamer. Remembering when, November 8, 1966 he was elected to Lacey City Council where his dedication to duty and fulfillment of many responsibilities benefited Lacey citizens for thirteen years. His peer group of councilmen gave him recognition by appointing him Mayor in 1973.

Tom was drafted to stand for election as President of the Lacey Historical Society in 1987 and is now finishing his fourth term in that office.

As Vice-President of the Society, I, Doctor William Ehlers, am joined by the Secretary Dick Webb and Treasurer, Dick Husk, on behalf of the trustees, Denise Keegan, Genevive Mason, Shirley Dziedzic, Harold Yates, Margaret Ayers, Agnes Kenmir, John Pucket, Harrison Travis, and Gwin Hicks in presenting this tribute as "Citizen of the Year Award for 1991" to Thomas W. Huntamer.

Presidents Message

Since our last Newsletter there have been some events that bear telling about.

In August we did carry out our Second Biannual Old Lacey School Reunion at the Thurston County Fair Grounds Heritage Hall. It was well attended by about two hundred people who enjoyed the event. We owe a great deal of thanks to the various committees who made it a success and to the Thurston County Fair for the use of the Hall. We plan to continue this as a biannual affair.

On Saturday November 23 a display was held at South Sound Center of old photographs depicting the motorcycle clubs of an early era. The photos were of Milo and Myrna Drake and the Olympia Motorcycle Club in 1911 and 1912. There were also newspaper clippings of a their nationwide motorcycle trip. The display was well received.

COMING UP: On January 19, 1992 The Historical Society's General Membership Meeting is scheduled at the Lacey Community Museum at 2:00 p.m. All members and friends are asked to be there as there will be an election of trustees and other necessary business followed by a social hour. Also in January, the County will be celebrating its 140th year. The theme for this years event will be "The Trains of Thurston County". The Lacey Museum is preparing a model train diorama of Lacey and the surrounding area. This will be a "no hold barred" attempt by the museum to gain some well deserved recognition for our community.

Look for more information on workshops to be held monthly at the museum. Dody Green and Karen Mauer have put together a wonderful series of Native American and Pioneer Folklore. We expect these to start in January of 1992 and to continue throughout the year. This will require some volunteer help so those interested please let us know.

In March will be the annual tree planting event. Space is becoming limited so get your request in early.

In April will be the Annual Lacey Fun Fair at Capitol Pavilion. The Society plans to take part in this.

Society Funds

The "Lacey Historical Society" does get by on a comparatively modest budget but it does take money to fund our activities. Our main fundraiser is membership dues. Membership dues start with the calendar year and are due now for 1992. Regular membership is \$10.00, Family \$15.00, Seniors and Students \$5.00. Have you remembered to send your dues in?

Another on-going fundraiser is the Stormans Cash Register 1% rebate. Save all register receipts from Storman stores: Food Pavilion, Hawks Prairie Market Place, Ralph's Thriftway, Bay View Market, and Crown Seafoods and get them to our Society and we will do the rest.

We are grateful to those who have sent in donations to the Society in the memory of loved ones who have died. A beautiful living way to show appreciation for a life well lived.

We still have a few Lacey Post Office Centennial Cache's for sale at \$1.00 each. A wonderful momento.

In Memory

MARJORIE ADELE WEATHERBIE HICKS Marjorie was born March 23, 1923 at Olympia, Washington to George D. Weatherbie and Jessie Adele Mathews-Weatherbie. She grew up with two step brothers and one sister all older and one sister, Doris, three years younger.

She was a beautiful young woman and in her senior year in high school was elected Sweetheart of St. Martin's College, then an all men's College. She graduated from Olympia High in June of 1941 and on August 24, 1941 she married Richard C. Hicks. Their love grew with each passing year and in August 1991 celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

In 1942 Dick became a flight instructor for the Navy. This took them to five different states where they made lifetime friends and had many interesting experiences all of which Marjorie recorded and loved to relate. She was a great story teller as well as record keeper.

Marjorie gave birth to three sons: Richard, 1942 in Texas; (and after the war) Robert, 1946 and William 1948 both born in Olympia. Marjorie was an accomplished homemaker and in the late 1950's won the title "Mrs. Olympia" and was a finalist in the state contest.

She was a superb business woman. In 1951 she and Dick went into the oyster business which became a successful enterprise. In 1970 she started a restaurant at the Puyallup Fair and in '79 a second restaurant at the same fair. In 1974 she took the job of manager of the Panorama City Restaurant. All this while still marketing oyster stew and fries. She had great organizing skills and was active in P.T.A.s, her church, Freemasonic organizations and orthopedic guilds. She chaired the first Old Lacey School Reunion. As was an incurable optimist—her favorite story for children was "The Little Engine That Could".

Marjorie was generous almost to a fault. She had the ability to forgive others—to see the divine spark of God in everyone, no matter how far they had fallen. She lived her religion; she took hold tightly but let go lightly. She knew how to love.

Oh--Oh

In our last issue of *Newsletter* we presented a story contributed by Helen Carkin about the early days in Lacey School. We credited Helen with authorship but we have learned that it was written by her mother and submitted to us by Helen. We apologize—but we now have a story really written by Helen Gallagher Carkins that may amuse you.

It's a Boar

One summer when I was about five, my Uncle Bill Gallagher, then fifteen, came running into the house to tell us that the Huntamer's boar pig was out and coming this way.

Everyone in the family went hurrying out the door, and as they passed the woodshed they picked up hazelwood fish poles that were leaning there. They then ran out into the road to usher the pig, with the use of the poles, though the gate and into the barnyard.

I had climbed up on the gate. As this huge boar came into the barnyard, he suddenly made a running charge at Bill. He didn't have a fish pole so he grabbed up a length of two by four lying nearby and made a desperate full arm swing at the pig. It caught the pig right on the end of its snout and with a grunt the pig fell over and lay very still. Everyone gathered around, poked at the pig, and decided that Bill had mortally wounded it. What would they tell Mr. Huntamer?

Then someone mentioned that here comes Mr. Huntamer!! Different ones of the family quickly suggested what they might tell him. But how could they tell him that Bill had killed his boar? This farm animal was surely valuable to Mr. Huntamer.

Everyone stood in a circle around the pig except me. I still stayed on the gate. Mr. Huntamer greeted me and asked me if I had seen his boar, so I pointed toward the group. Just then the pig seemed to take a deep breath, let out a long rumble type grunt, staggered to his feet, and stood there very docile with his head down.

Mr. Huntamer was happy to find his boar pig and borrowed one of the fishing poles to guide the seemingly bewildered pig back down the road. No one ever told him what had happened.

Attention—Pioneer Families

If you are related or know someone who is related to the following list of deceased persons, please drop us a

note to the address on the letterhead. Our Cemetery Committee is gathering data, family histories, pictures, old news clippings, copies of obituaries, of families buried in Ruddell Pioneer Section of Woodlawn Cemetery in Lacey. We are preparing a history book of this unique and hallowed plot. "A cemetery within a cemetery."

During the Christmas Season when the families will be gathering is an excellent time for a chosen historian to jot down the family history. Who came here first? When? Where did they settle? How many children? Who married who? How many remained here? What are the names? These stories will be included in our booklet. The committee members will assist if help is required. Call if help is needed: Denise Keegan 459-1177; Genevive O'Keefe Mason, 352-7770; Mina and Harold Bowker, 491-2288; Emiline Ruddell Kilber 456-6923; and Gwin Hicks 491-3746.

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| Afhebaugh | Horanson | Palmer | Wiseman |
| Anderson | Hoffman | Parker | Wolfenberger |
| Barnhouse | Hennig | Peterson | Wood |
| Bensen | Hansen | Prathe | Woodbury |
| Bowker | Hartsack | Rawling | |
| Boerner | Horton | Rawlings | |
| Barnard | Hicks | Rearson | |
| Boyle | Jones | Rice | |
| Craney | Jensen | Robinson | |
| Cohrs | King | Roming | |
| Connors | Kagy | Roodsley | |
| Cook | Larson | Rudd | |
| Chambers | Lewis | Ruddick | |
| Clady | Long | Ruddell | |
| Foster | Lambert | Sals | |
| Frenche | Lotz | Scott | |
| Fall | Lilly | Shaser | |
| Foreman | Loucks | Shoedridge | |
| Fitzsimmons | Miller | Shrewsbury | |
| Fink | Mann | Smith | |
| Frase | McPherson | Souerwine | |
| Fleetwood | Munson | Southwick | |
| Greice | Mell | Stansfield | |
| Granger | Montgomery | Stedman | |
| George | Manier | Tanksley | |
| Getchal | Milford | Thoppson | |
| Groves | Grover | Trobridge | |
| Hartman | Nason | Troy | |
| Hurson | Neat | Tuttle | |
| Havens | Nystrom | Walker | |
| Huntimer | O'Keefe | Watson | |
| Huntamer | Oehlerich | Wells | |
| Haller | Parsons | Williams | |

Happy New Year

May 1992

Bring you Happiness

The Lacey Historical Society

Above names taken from 1954 inventory by Harvey Wood. Past President of "Ruddell Pioneer Cemetery Association".