

# **LACEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**2017 Spring Newsletter**

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



## **Save the Date!**

*Thursday, 28,*  
**Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2017**

**5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

***Lacey Historical Society***

***Annual Meeting and***

***Potluck Dinner***

***and***

***Lacey School Reunion***

***at the***

**Lacey Community Center**

### **Lacey Historical Society Annual Meeting:**

We've decided to go back to an old theme: The PIONEERS. The board is researching several names. More details of the event will follow in the August newsletter.

**Lacey School Reunion:** It was so much fun last year that we've decided to add the school reunion to our annual meeting every year. Plan to spend time with your former classmates and share your stories.

### **2017 Officers & Trustees**

#### **Board of Directors**

**Lanny Weaver, President**

**Richard Yates, Vice-President**

**Sue Goff, Treasurer**

**Susan Hartman, Secretary**

**\*Secretary Emeritus -**

**Bill Bush**

**\*President Emeritus -**

**Shirley Dziedzic**

#### **Trustees**

**Shirley Dziedzic**

**Robert H. Krier**

**Margie Wyllie**

**Amber Raney**

**Lisa Wooden**

*Susan Hartman,*

*Newsletter Editor*

## Memories

The Lacey Historical Society suffered yet another tragic loss with the death of Amy Turner on Oct. 20, 2016. She had been a long time member of the Board of Trustees.

Amy was the type of person who brightened up a room by walking through the door. Her joy, enthusiasm, and dedication were infectious. She maintained her sense of humor even up to the end.

Although born in Kansas, Amy arrived with her parents, Franz and Ruby Anderson, in the Lacey area at the age of 2. She embraced the area and its history. She attended the old Lacey School on Pacific Avenue and for years served as the Lacey School Reunion chair on the LHS Board of Trustee.



*Amy Turner*

Like all students from Lacey at the time, she went to Olympia High School, graduating in 1953. Her yearbook notes that she had been a member of the Olympus staff, O Book staff, Latin Club, Junior-Senior Ball Committee, the ASB Secretary, a Correspondence Club officer and a Quill and Scroll Club officer. On top of that, she was both the Homecoming and May Queen! As with her elementary school classmates, Amy remained close to her classmates from high school.

It was in high school that Amy met her husband, Don Turner, son of Henry and Margaret Turner, who ran Turner's Market at the corner of Pacific Avenue and Lacey Street. Don and Amy were married in 1954. She shared stories of working at the market. She also worked with Don at the Wagon Wheel Meat Market on Capitol Boulevard in Tumwater.

Don and Amy purchased the former Southwick house on Ruddell Road. There Amy started Lady Bug Floral, a business she ran for 30 years, continuing even after Don's untimely death in 1993. Her customers remember her wonderful way of preparing prom and wedding flowers. Her creativity benefited the Historical Society as well when she would come up with unique and thoughtful decorations for the Annual Meeting. She could even turn the table for board meetings into a work of art.

Amy eventually moved to Boston Harbor, where she loved watching the water. But she never lost her devotion for Lacey. The Lacey Historical Society will dedicate a plant to Amy in the 'Remembrance Place' near the Lacey Museum later this year.

By Lanny Weaver



## *The Hunt Continues. A Follow-up for O.C. Lacey*

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*By Lanny Weaver*

In the Lacey Historical Society's 2016 Summer Newsletter, was an article *The Hunt for O.C. Lacey Continues*. I summed up what I had written about Lacey in 1995 while I worked at the Lacey Museum and added a bit of the information that I had gleaned from a recent visit to Hampton, VA. What had led me there was the result of internet searches by various individuals attempting to track down the elusive O.C. Lacey, who left the Olympia area sometime in 1896. I promised to reveal more information at the LHS Annual Meeting. Unfortunately, or fortunately, we were having too much fun telling stories and I did not have the chance to reveal more discoveries. Well, here they are.

Oliver Chester Lacey of Newport News, VA, applied for 2 patents in 1901, one for a fireproofing compound and one for a fire-extinguishing compound. That same year he purchased property in Elizabeth City County, VA. Elizabeth City County no longer exists as a governmental entity, but it was right next door to Newport News. In 1904, his wife, Ida, purchased property in the Plat of Klondyke in Phoebus, now a part of Hampton. His obituary appeared in Hampton's 'Daily Press' on Nov. 29, 1905. Chester Lacey, attorney, is listed for the first time in the 1906 City Directory living on Klondyke Avenue near Mallory.

Was this the same man? Those of us who have been engaged in researching the man have come to the conclusion that he most likely is. In most of the newspapers and documents in Washington, he is usually referred to as O.C.; however the newspaper once referred to him as Chester Lacey. He was born in Virginia; therefore a return to Virginia seems credible. There are Lacey's in the Hampton area. The different spelling also was used for O.C. on more than one occasion. The 1906 City Directory lists him as a lawyer, again another similarity. O.C. and his first wife Emma Lacey had no children. No children are listed in Chester Lacey's obituary.

Now we have a few more tidbits about O.C. Lacey, but obviously, questions remain. Where was O.C. Lacey between 1896 and 1901? When and where did he marry his second wife, Ida? The biggest question of all, of course, is "why does his name appear on the application for a post office for a community in Washington State?" The hunt continues.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Fleetwood Marker Dedication, May 9, 6 p.m.,**

**Woodland Creek Community Park, Lacey, Wash.**

The Fleetwood Marker, honoring the Fleetwood Family, their history & their contributions to Lacey is already in place on the grounds of the Lacey Community Center, to the right of the building. *The official dedication will be held on May 9th.*

**Thurston County Through the Decades, May**

**21 from 10 to 4 pm, Tenino City Park.**

This semi-annual meeting of historical organizations will be highlighting the years 1925-1950. The Lacey Historical Society, Lacey Museum & Lacey Historical Commission are collaborating on a booth \*\*\***We need volunteers.** If you are interested, please email us at [lacey.hist@gmail.com](mailto:lacey.hist@gmail.com) or call Shirley Dziedzic at 360/491-0905. *If you have any questions, please ask. Thank you.*

**Plant Dedication, Fall 2017, Lacey Museum**

**Grounds:** We will be honoring the memory of two trustees, Nora Brown & Amy Turner with commemorative plants in the 'Remembrance Place.' A short reception will follow in the Lacey Women's Club. (Further information in our summer newsletter).