



**November 2024**

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## Christmas World Tour at Winter Festival 2024

It's a world tour of Christmas traditions at Winter Festival this year on Sunday, December 8th from noon to 4pm. There are so many wonderful Christmas traditions to discover all around the world from "mumming" in Newfoundland, Canada to the beautiful Pohutukawa, New Zealand's Christmas tree. Join us at the Museum as we celebrate these and much more. We will learn through crafts, games, and fun how the holidays are observed in different countries including shoes in France, candles in Colombia, stickball in Ethiopia, cedars in Lebanon, and stars in the Philippines. As always, the Storytellers Network and the Lower Columbia Woodcarvers will be sharing their holiday tales and wonderful carvings with visitors again this year. So mark your calendars for Sunday, December 8th and join the fun at our Winter Festival open house from 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm. The event is free, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Be sure not to miss it!



## Local Books Available at the Museum Store

The museum store now has two new local books which were featured at our First Thursday programs this past year. Author Peter Marsh shared his new book "Liberty Factory: The untold story of Henry Kaiser's Oregon Shipyards" about the World War II home front effort in our own backyard. Author Ted Gruber has just published his new book "Postal History of Cowlitz County, Washington" which is the most comprehensive look at this aspect of our history yet written. The Stella Historical Society has recently released Volume III of their "History of Stella" series. This book proudly proclaims, "The stories, poems, and articles in this book span the years from 'way back when,' to just a few days ago. Enjoy!" Another recent book is "Exploring Maritime Washington" by Erich R. Ebel. The book has a section on the Columbia River and even talks about Stella's cigar rafts, among many other topics. Other local books include "Whistles: The Story of the Longview Fiber Company," the Images of America Series books such as "Kelso," "Longview," "Kalama," "Castle Rock," and more.

From the Columbia River Reader Press we still carry "Dispatches from the Discovery Trail" by Michael Perry. The book is compiled from the popular Columbia River Reader series of the same name with new notes and commentary,



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## Historical Society Officers

Lee Kessler

*President*

Nick Fazio

*Past President*

Dena Enyeart

*Secretary*

Bob Chace

*Treasurer*

## Board of Directors

Ted Gruber

Erik Moser

Dean Takko

Brad Thurman

## Museum Staff

Joseph Govednik

*Museum Director*

Joanna Roland

*Office Manager*

Bill Watson

*Collections Curator*

Danielle Robbins

*Education &*

*Public Programs Coordinator*

## MUSEUM HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday 10 am to 4 pm

**Phone** (360) 577-3119

## E-mail

govednikj@cowlitzwa.gov

rolandj@cowlitzwa.gov

watsonb@cowlitzwa.gov

robbinsd@cowlitzwa.gov

## Website

www.cowlitzcountyhistory.org

# Museum Director's Message

Dear fellow CCHS Members,

As the year winds down, I want to thank all our members for their support, membership, and attendance to our programming this year. It has been heartwarming to see our First Thursday programs robustly attended all year. In addition, we had over 200 people attend the ice cream social in partnership with our guest exhibitor, the Children's Discovery Museum, which had interactive displays at the CCHM during its move to Catlin School. If you haven't seen the new location, I encourage you to visit their new space. By now you should have received our Annual Fund Drive letter. The annual fund drive is critical in the Museum's operation and serving our community. In addition to quality exhibits and care for regional historical artifacts, the Museum provides educational programs to local youth through its Traveling Trunk Program. This books completely every year due to its popularity with teachers and students. Any contributions to the Annual Fund Drive directly help the museum deliver this program and other programs which enrich our youth's comprehension of local history. Early in the new year, we will open our next exhibit, "Browsing the Stacks", which will be on loan from the Secretary of State's Office. Browsing the Stacks is a look at some of the "greatest hits" of Washington State History, Stories, and Science all in one exhibit. Objects from the CCHS collection will supplement this exhibit, scheduled to open January 11th. We are grateful for your continued passion for our local history and wish everyone a happy holiday season!



Joseph Govednik  
Museum Director, CCHM



*CDM Exhibits: Children's Discovery Museum set up exhibits at the CCHM during its relocation. We were thrilled to have so many new visitors and families visit over the summer.*



First responders showed off their equipment to visitors during the Ice Cream Social in partnership with the Children's Discovery Museum

## Annual Fund Drive

We are deeply grateful for the responses and support we received for our 2024 Annual Fund Drive so far. To make contributing more accessible, we now offer online donations. Please consider using our QR code to find our online donation website or simply type the URL ([Donorbox.org/annual-funddrive-2](https://Donorbox.org/annual-funddrive-2)) into the internet browser on your phone or computer.

### To use the QR code:

1. Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code
2. Follow the instructions on the screen

### To access the website directly:

1. Open the Internet browser on your computer or device
2. Type "[Donorbox.org/annual-fund-drive-2](https://Donorbox.org/annual-fund-drive-2)" into the address bar



## President's Message

My fellow CCHS members,

Fall is here again. When I was a kid, fall was, by far, my favorite season. Something about the ending of summer, harvest, windstorms, and the beauty of fall leaves held great fascination. Nowadays, fall still exudes beauty, but there is also the aspect of relaxing a bit and looking back at the year in review.



At the museum there were many fine presentations, new accessions, engaging learning programs, and outstanding partnerships. While I can't acknowledge all the presenters, volunteers, and partners individually, these people are instrumental in helping us achieve our goal of keeping history alive and accessible to the community. Some special highlights were the mock "jailing" fundraisers at the Cowlitz County Fair and the Brothels & Brews Tour of Downtown Kelso. We also welcomed the Children's Discovery Museum for summer exhibitions during their relocation.

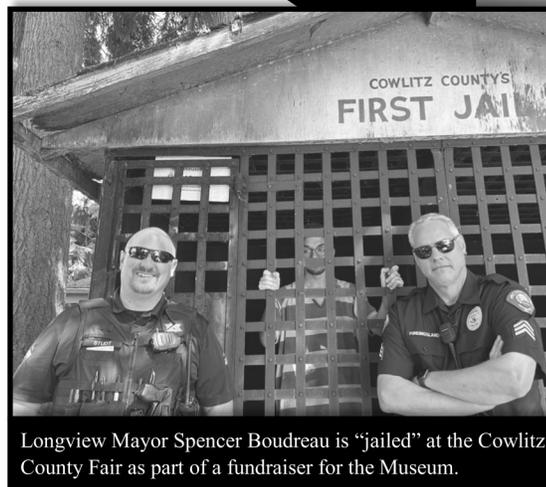
I also want to give a huge "Thank You" to our amazing staff. We are truly blessed to have such fine, dedicated, knowledgeable staff here at the museum. Their dedication to their respective crafts is nothing short of amazing!

As many of you have received our Annual Fund Drive appeal letters, you may rest assured that the funds raised by CCHS are well-stewarded and are instrumental in continuing our ability to preserve history and keep it accessible for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support!

Lee Kessler,  
CCHS President

KLOG Owner John Paul presents at the September First Thursday program.



Longview Mayor Spencer Boudreau is "jailed" at the Cowlitz County Fair as part of a fundraiser for the Museum.

# From The Collections Room

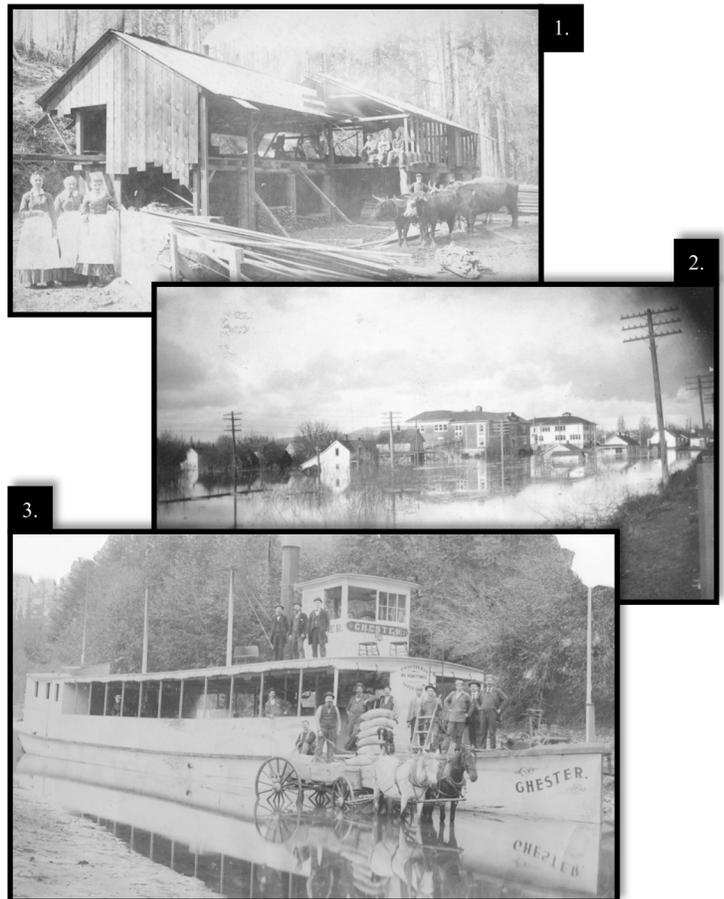
As the last newsletter did not include an update on our collection donations, the list is quite long. It includes: an audio tape of a local radio program shortly after the Mount St. Helens eruption; early Pacific Straw Paper & Board photos; a few Native American artifacts; some World War II uniforms, militaria, documents, local “E” award, and a newspaper. Further donations included a Highland Dairy quart bottle and other local product bottles; an International Paper history book and photo; a few newspaper printing plates and blocks; Pleasant Hill Water District documents; a “Clinton/Gore ’96” poster; some Longview Diamond Jubilee material; an abstract for an old Kelso house; old Ryderwood-related material from the family of June Strovas; a 1971 Tam O’Shanter Park dedication program; a composite photo of members of the Kelso High class of 1930; a 1970s Kelso Lassies sweater and 1937 Scottie pin; a group of Longview photos; aerial photos of Kelso’s centennial parade in 1984; three 1948 Kalama flood photos; 1980s Longview Post Office remodel blueprints; two small school desks from the Sightly School; some Kelso postcards; a Mount St. Helens eruption 30th anniversary poster; a group of metalworking tools; a painting by local artist Martha Boentgen; a pneumatic door closer from a 1925 Longview house, and more material from The Daily News archives. The most exciting donation to come in these last few months, however, has been several boxes of material, mostly photographs, which Leland Jackson had donated to the Castle Rock Exhibit Hall.

When the Castle Rock Exhibit Hall closed in 2015 most of the collection items they had were reclaimed by the original donors or their family members. The Cowlitz County Historical Museum was offered, and took possession of, some of the unclaimed items at that time. One of the larger collections which the Exhibit Hall had come from Leland Jackson, a member of the pioneer Jackson family (of the Jackson Inn, west of Castle Rock) and author of several local history books. Those books include, *Early Castle Rock and North Cowlitz County, Washington* (several editions, last 1994) and *An Early History of Spirit Lake & The Toutle River Valley* (1995, with Trudy Howarth). Leland Jackson died in 1996 at the age of 88, so it was a family member who picked up his items from the Exhibit Hall.

Those items include a plethora of his writings: early forms and editions of his books, research, and manuscripts. There are old school books used by family members in Castle Rock schools in the 1890s, as well as Castle Rock School

report cards from the turn of the 20th century. The gem of the collection, though, is a century’s worth of photographs, dating from the 1880s through the 1980s, documenting life and events throughout northern Cowlitz County. While there are many in the group which duplicate photographs already in our collection, there are at least 300 which are new to us, including images of the community and store of Silver Lake and of the 1906 and 1933 floods in Castle Rock. There are images of all manner of houses, stores, and other buildings in Castle Rock through the years, and logging photos galore, from early oxen logging to modern operations in the 1970s. These are just a few of the myriad subjects covered in this wonderful collection.

We thank all those who have donated items to help preserve our history. If you have items which could help us tell the stories of Cowlitz County, please contact us.



1. John Dickson Sawmill circa 1890.
2. Castle Rock during the 1933 flood. Taken from highway 99.
3. The steamboat “Chester” on the Cowlitz River, circa 1900

# Local Books Available at the Museum Store

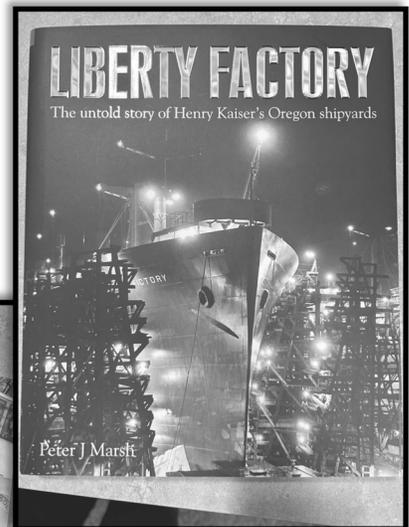
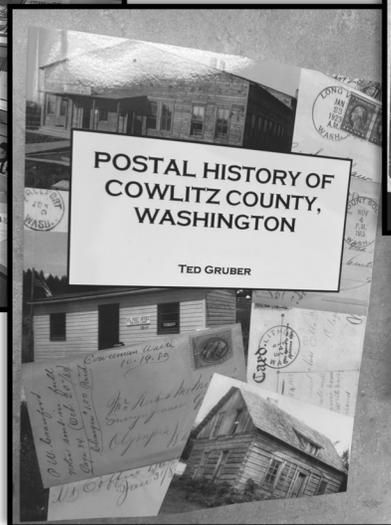
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taking a fresh look at the Lewis and Clark Expedition from the layman's point of view. "The Tidewater Reach: Field Guide to the Lower Columbia River in Poems and Pictures" by Robert Michael Pyle and Judy VanderMatem is a unique field guide that evokes, "a different way of seeing."

Both books include original woodcut art by Debby Neely. For a full book of her art, both visual and literary, we have Debby Neely's "Words and Wood" with her northwest woodcuts and haikus. Also from the Columbia River Reader Press, we carry Rex Ziak's "Eyewitness to Astoria" which is a newly edited and annotated version of Franchère's 1820 journal Narrative of a Voyage to the Northwest Coast of America in the Years 1811, 1812, 1813, and 1814. For young readers interested in Lewis and Clark, we have several informative coloring books and juvenile books including autographed copies of "The Truth about Sacajawea" by Kenneth Thomsma, which gives an

entry-by-entry account of Sacajawea from the journals of Lewis and Clark with commentary and synopses of the events the journal entries refer to. We even have Corps of Discovery dolls including Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, Sacajawea with her baby Jean Baptiste Charbonneau, and York.

If you are looking for a little Christmas Cheer, we have seasonal adult and children's coloring books, a book of carols, "The Nutcracker" paper doll and crochet books, "The Night Before Christmas" story book and coloring book, a wide assortment of sticker books, and more. These and many other wonderful local history books make the Museum a great place for holiday shopping. Don't forget about gift memberships to the Museum. It's a gift that continues to give all year long with our Historical Quarterlies, newsletters, and 10% off in the museum store. Happy Holidays!



## Thank You Supporters!

The Board and Staff at the Cowlitz County Historical Museum and Society would like to take this time to express our deepest gratitude to our members, supporters, volunteers, and donors. It is through your generosity that we can deliver our mission to the community. Happy Holidays!



# *Join us for a Christmas World Tour at Winter Festival*

Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, Open House: Noon to 4pm  
Cowlitz County Historical Museum – 405 Allen St. Kelso, WA

There are so many wonderful Christmas traditions to discover all around the world. From “mumming” in Newfoundland, Canada to the Pohutukawa, New Zealand’s Christmas tree. Join us at the Museum as we celebrate these and much more!

- We will learn through crafts, games, and fun how the holidays are observed in different countries including shoes in France, candles in Colombia, stickball in Ethiopia, cedars in Lebanon, and stars in the Philippines.
- The Storytellers Network’s will be there to tell holiday tales.
- The Lower Columbia Woodcarvers will be sharing their wonderful carvings with visitors.

For more information contact:  
Cowlitz County Historical Museum  
360-577-3119

All event activities are free and open to the public,  
but children must be accompanied by an adult.

COWLITZ COUNTY  
HISTORICAL  
museum

# GIFT MEMBERSHIP FORM

## Give a gift membership to the **COWLITZ COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY!**

The Cowlitz County Historical Society was founded in 1949 to discover, preserve, and interpret the history of Cowlitz County and Southwest Washington for the public's education and enjoyment.

**THE RECIPIENT OF YOUR GIFT** will receive the *Cowlitz Historical Quarterly* and historical society newsletters and invitations to special Museum events, as well as a 10% discount on all items sold in the Museum store as well as a 20% savings on custom printed photos from our collection. Our gift members are also eligible for a discounted membership in the Washington State Historical Society.

A membership in the Cowlitz County Historical Society makes a great gift! If you would like to buy a membership for a friend or family member, please fill in the information below.

**YES**, I/we would like to support the Cowlitz County Historical Society by giving a gift membership!

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the membership category indicated below. (Please check one box)

- General Membership ..... \$50
- Sustaining Membership..... \$100
- Benefactor Membership..... \$150
- Sponsor Membership ..... \$500
- Life Membership..... \$1,500

For gift memberships at the Sustaining Level or higher, the recipient will also receive free admission to all NARM-affiliated museums, Visit <http://narmassociation.org>

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Member's Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
When it is time to renew this gift membership, would you like the renewal notice sent to: <input type="checkbox"/> Yourself <input type="checkbox"/> Your Gift Member

Check enclosed  Visa/Mastercard Visa/MC # \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: *Cowlitz County Historical Society • 405 Allen Street • Kelso WA 98626*

# CALENDAR

Museum QR codes below

*Follow us!*

## Calendar of Events — Winter 2024/2025

**December 8<sup>th</sup> from 12pm to 4pm:** “Winter Festival” – Free Open House Family Event

**January 11<sup>th</sup> at 1pm:** Browsing the Stacks Exhibit Opening with program “Staff Picks from the 2024 Collections”



COWLITZCOUNTYHISTORICALMUSEUM



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