



April 2025

Winter Festival World Tour was a Whirlwind of Fun!

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Calendar of Events

Visitors to Winter Festival last December had the opportunity to celebrate the holiday on every continent except Antarctica. For North America, kids learned about "mumming" in Newfoundland, Canada, which is a cross between Christmas caroling and how American's celebrate Halloween, only far older than our "trick-or-treat" tradition. Mummers dress up in silly ways, trying to hide their identities, and go house to house singing silly Christmas songs and being rewarded with hot cider or other treats. To celebrate, our visitors got to decorate their own mask to have a little silly fun with.



For South America, Columbia was the holiday destination. Kids decorated coloring sheet candles with tissue paper flames in honor of Dia de las Velitas on December 7th where Columbians line streets and sidewalks with candles, sometimes in elaborate designs, in honor of Mary. For Europe, France was featured. Kids got to make little paper shoes for Papa Noel to leave presents in for St. Nicholas Day on December 6th. We also had an Advent Calendar game where kids could win a small prize.



For Africa, kids learned about Ethiopia's Gena celebration on January 7th in the Julian calendar. Gena is a very traditional and solemn holiday, and many people still wear a traditional Shamma shawl to celebrate. Kids wove colored paper strips into a paper "Shamma" of their own. In Ethiopia there is also a stick ball game called gena played during the holiday, and so we had a small foosball game set up in its honor. For Oceania, we featured New Zealand which, being in the Southern Hemisphere, celebrates the holidays during their summer when the Pohutukawas tree blooms. It has become known as New Zealand's Christmas tree, so to celebrate, kids got to make a pipe cleaner ornament of these pretty, red flowers. They also had a chance to try a traditional Māori game called tī rākau.



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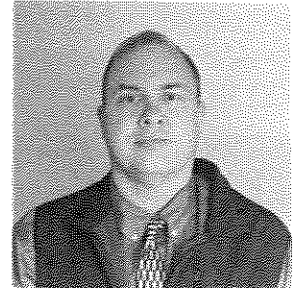
Website

www.cowlitzcountyhistory.org

President's Message

My fellow CCHS members,

It appears that old-man winter is finally making a slow departure from our locale. With that in mind, I was recently struck by some of the certain signs of spring in Southwest Washington: the rhythmic croaking of the frogs, trees arrayed in bud and blossom, and the perpetual rain.



In his book, *The Good Rain*, Timothy Egan aptly described the Pacific Northwest by saying "moisture is predatory in this part of the world". While these sporadic storms at times cause me to cancel a bicycle workout, I appreciate the springtide rains that presage the natural beauty we will welcome in just a short while.

If you have not been to the museum lately, come in soon to see the Annual Spring Art Show (closing April 12th!) in our meeting room. We have partnered with the Columbia Artists Association for a fourth year, which has been a success for both of our organizations.

Also, I want to take a moment to express gratitude to our donors whose generosity makes it possible for us to continue the education, preservation, and stewardship so beneficial to our ongoing mission which includes the preservation, collection, and interpretation of our region's heritage.

Regards,

Lee Kessler,
CCHS President

Museum Director's Message

I would first like to thank everyone who contributed to our 2024 Annual Fund Drive last year. We received \$41,114 from donors exceeding our fundraising goal of \$35,000. The Annual Fund Drive is our most crucial campaign. Your contributions directly support the work the Museum does in the community with preservation, exhibits, youth education, and adult and family programming. We are grateful for your generosity and assure you your contributions enhance and enrich the greater community. Thank you for your support!

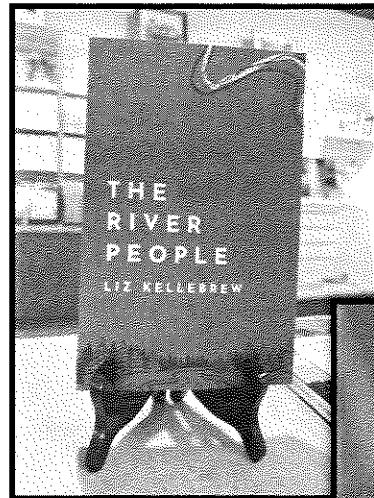


Our 2025 memberships renewals went out in January and we are appreciative of all who renewed their membership. Your membership helps cover the costs of our Cowlitz Historical Quarterly publication, assists with operations expenses, and just as importantly, it is a badge of affiliation that affirms your support of local heritage, education, and historical programming in our community. Remember that if you join at the Sustaining Member level you receive reciprocal membership benefits with NARM affiliated museums. See our membership flier later in this newsletter for more information.

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Gift Shop Featured Book

We were pleased to have local author Liz Kellebrew present her newest book, The River People, at our March “First Thursday” event and author’s book signing. The River People is a haunting and lyrical exploration of 19th-century westward expansion into the Pacific Northwest. Through the intertwined journeys of Marilla, John, and Walter—each navigating rivers that serve as both roads and unforgiving forces—the book weaves together fiction, historical documents, memoir, and poetry. As these characters face hardships and triumphs, their choices and loves reverberate through generations. Kellebrew delves into the myths and realities of migration, revealing the harsh lessons the West has to offer. This powerful, evocative story of love, loss, and survival exposes the relentless environment of the land where nature shows no mercy. The book sells at our giftshop for \$18.95, or you may order online from the website at: <https://cowlitzcountyhistory.org/store/>.



New Exhibit Open Through November

The Cowlitz County Historical Museum’s new temporary exhibit, “Browsing the Stacks: Washington State Archives & Library Staff Picks”, opened earlier this year! This exhibit is on loan from the Secretary of State’s Office and shares such diverse stories including loggers in the 1800s, the Seattle World’s Fair, and even UFOs, all while discovering various topics that make our state unique. With topics ranging from arts and culture to science and industry, there is something for everyone. Experience interesting stories of Washington state history curated by the staff from the Secretary of State’s Office. This exhibit is highlighted with many items from the museum’s permanent collections to enrich the visitors experience and learning. “Browsing the Stacks” will be on display through November this year. Come by and experience this cosmopolitan exhibit and “visit” Washington state without having to drive to the four corners of our great state.



From The Collections Room

Happy Spring everyone! Since the last newsletter we have received: an 1880s Bush family pump organ, various industrial and tourism brochures, a Monticello Junior High School yearbook, more Mt. St. Helens photos, some local World War II veteran papers and photos, an Eagle Scout plaque for Troop 514, a 1929 Daily Tribune & Kelsonian newspaper, a couple maps, a 1905 souvenir handkerchief, an early Victor phonograph, and a locally made record with songs about Harry Truman and the Mt. St. Helens eruption. Another donation, which came from the Cowlitz County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, provides an interesting glimpse into criminal activity in the county nearly a hundred years ago.

In January the Prosecuting Attorney's Office sent over four old annual reports they had found, for the years 1927, 1928, 1929, and 1930. Each is a small booklet of only eight pages. In the first two, the Prosecuting Attorney is Joseph Mallery, with deputies Cecil C. Hallin and J. E. Stone. For the last two, Cecil Hallin is the Prosecuting Attorney and Stone is the only deputy. Mallery would go on to be a State Supreme Court judge in the 1940s and '50s, and Stone would become a district Superior Court judge, himself.

The statistics inside are broken down, first by the court they were in: Superior Court criminal cases, Justice Court criminal cases, criminal cases in the state Supreme Court, and civil actions, each with further divisions by crime prosecuted. For each crime is listed the number of cases handled and the outcome of those cases, whether convicted, acquitted, pending, dismissed, dismissed for purpose filing new information, or fugitive. The civil actions were broken down into: civil suits, county tax foreclosure, divorce cases, suits to refund taxes, Coroner's investigations, Coroner's inquests, and guardianship cases.

As these years were the height of Prohibition, it's little wonder that many of the crimes with higher numbers were liquor related. The most common crime in Superior Court was liquor possession (9) in 1927, jointist (running a liquor establishment, 22) in 1928, liquor possession (15) in 1929, and possession with intent (22) in 1930. In Justice Court they were violation of liquor laws (64) in 1927, violation of game laws (62, edging out liquor violations by 1), in 1928, violation of traffic laws (48) in 1929, and violation of game laws (36) in 1930. Among the crimes listed are also some which are rarely prosecuted anymore, such as bastardy, breaking glass on street, family desertion, stealing ride on railroad, or removal of mortgaged property.

The reports indicate the Prosecutor's Office in these years had a pretty good conviction rate. In 1927 their conviction rate was 60.3% (32/53) in Superior Court and 62.5% (199/318) in Justice Court. In 1928 the rate was 62.8% (44/70) in Superior Court and 72.0% (265/368) in Justice Court. For 1929 the numbers were 79.0% (83/105) for Superior Court and 64.2% (196/305) for Justice Court. And in 1930 the rates were 71.3% (87/122) in Superior Court and 52.8% (169/320) for Justice Court. One thing I found surprising was the number of fugitives from Justice Court in three of the four years – 50 in 1927, 47 in 1928, and 73 in 1930.

The reports end with a small statement from the prosecutor listing additional duties. An example of one reads, "[I]n addition to the foregoing business this office attended the hearing of Insanity and Juvenile cases when called upon; rendered written opinions to the Board of County Commissioners, County Officers and School District Officers when so required; examined and approved official bonds for County Officers, and prepared contracts, obligations, notices and like instruments of official nature for the use of said officers."

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.



Joseph Mallery in his youth at Sandy Bend, 1914. (CCHM 1992.31.25)

Museum Director's Message

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We have had a busy start to the year with the installation of a new temporary exhibit, "Browsing the Stacks: Washington State Archives and Library Staff Picks". This exhibit is on loan from the Washington State Secretary of State's office and is a walk through many unique stories of Washington history, including themes from our southwest Washington region. This exhibit includes diverse topics including agriculture, music, the 1962 Worlds Fair, and civil defense.

Most recently the Columbian Artists Association Spring Art Show opened at the Museum on March 22. This is our fourth year partnering with the CAA and we are delighted to see the show grow. The Spring Art Show closes on April 12, which is soon after you receive this newsletter, so please come visit the show if you have not yet. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the talents of local artists and the opportunity to purchase local art. All purchases support the CAA and the Museum.

Thank you for your continued interest and support to the Cowlitz County Historical Museum and Society. We are most grateful for your commitment to preserving our local history!

Joseph Govednik
Museum Director, CCHM



The Spring Art Show opening reception on March 22 was well attended.



A sample of art from the Spring Art Show. This year there were over 30 more entries into the show over last year.

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For Asia, we featured two countries: Lebanon and the Philippines. Lebanon has been famous for its cedar trees since ancient times. Today, children plant seeds in little pots hoping they will sprout to use as greenery to decorate their nativity. Children at Winter Festival got to make their own little newspaper pots where we planted sunflower seeds. They also got to color ornaments with the cedar from the Lebanese flag. Last but certainly not least was the Philippines' Parol star decoration. The Philippines have the reputation of the world's longest Christmas season. They start decorating in September and the festivities don't end until early January. The Parol star lantern is one of the most common decorations. Everyone who made our paper plate version at Winter Festival agreed it was their favorite.

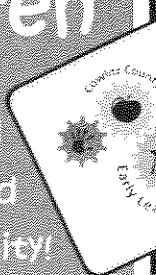


A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped kids have fun making crafts and playing while learning about our world and to the Story Tellers network who entertained guests with their wonderful stories. We could not have done it without you!



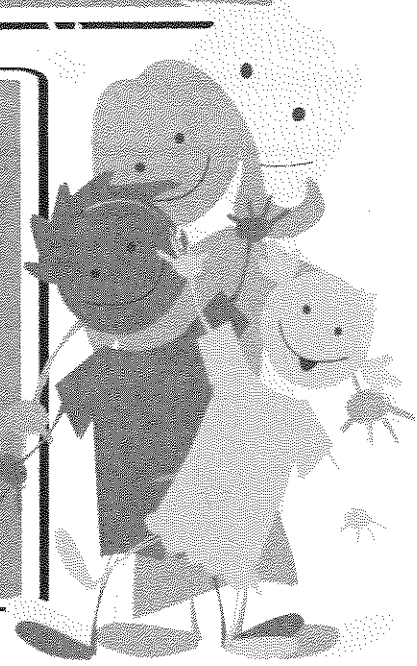
Youth and Family Link is hosting the 7th Annual Celebration of Children on the first Saturday of April. The CCHM will be one of many tables with fun kids' activities. Visit our table to learn about pioneers and to play an Oregon Trail game. We hope to see you there!

The Cowlitz County Early Learning Coalition presents the
7th Annual
Celebration of Children
April 5th 11:00am – 3:00pm
 Join us to "Explore Our Neighborhood" and
 celebrate children, families, and our community!
At Youth and Family Link
 907 Douglas St., Longview WA



A Free Family Event!
Children's Activities
Free Food & Balloon Animals
Information Booths with Activities
"Grab & Go" Activity Bags & Prizes

Find us on:
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@cowlitz_woyc

Thank you to our generous sponsors and community partners who prepared this event:



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 _____

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When it is time to renew this gift membership, would you like the renewal notice sent to: Yourself 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

Calendar of Events — Spring 2025

March 22nd - April 12th: Columbian Artists Association's Spring Art Show at the Museum

April 5th from 11am to 3pm: "Celebration of Children" at Youth and Family Link (907 Douglas St., Longview).
Come visit us at our table.

May 1st at 7pm: "History of the Longview Community Church"

June 5th at 7pm: "Woodland Elephants"

Follow us!



COWLITZCOUNTYHISTORICALMUSEUM



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