From The President…

As your newly elected President of the Board of Directors this is my first chance to report to our membership on the Camas-Washougal Historical Society and Two Rivers Heritage Museum. I can report that things are moving at a fast pace here in Washougal.

The updates and maintenance during the winter shutdown brought many favorable comments from our museum visitors. Thanks to Walt Eby and his volunteer group, the new displays are drawing much attention. The acquisition of the old Camas wood mill saw blade brings many uh’s and ah’s from our visitors. Thanks to Dick Lindstrom for his efforts to acquire and display the blade.

It has taken some time for me to catch up with the activities of the museum. It is like stepping into a fast moving stream and trying to stay afloat. Volunteers who keep the museum running move at a steady pace completing their everyday duties. We see the museum, the artifacts and the displays and the work done by our display volunteers. What we don’t see is the work accomplished by Betty Egger, our treasurer who pays the bills and balances the books, Steve Daniels, chairman of our finance committee, Colleen Daniels, bookkeeper and computer support, Lois Cobb, volunteer coordinator, Alma Ladd, the plant lady, Walt Eby, maintenance man and Karen Johnson, Past Perfect computer support. Also quietly doing their jobs are Marilyn Brown and Rene Carroll newsletter and publicity, and Dick Lindstrom, tool curator. I can’t imagine how the museum could operate without any one of them. All I can say is my job is easy, all I need to do is step into the stream and flow along.

Past president, Richard Johnson warned me about the added duty of Museum Director which has been placed on the president of the board. I find it interesting to be acting in that position until we can find a director. Planning for the future of the TRHM is exciting and somewhat daunting. Our Museum is growing and improving, thanks to you, our members, and volunteers.

Stop by and visit with us.

- Jim Cobb, President,
Camas-Washougal Historical Society

Membership Has Many Benefits

2016 is half over and I want to thank those Camas-Washougal Historical Society members who have renewed their membership and welcome new members that have joined this year. Why become a member? The CWHS provide members the following benefits:
- Free admission to Two Rivers Heritage Museum
- 10% sales discount at the Museum Store
- Discounts at many other museums
- Opportunity to volunteer and help history live in Camas-Washougal
- Help support the Museum and receive this newsletter

If you have not renewed your membership for 2016, now is a good time to do so. A membership application is on the back of this newsletter. If your year of renewal is printed in red on your address label, your membership is due to be renewed. Thank you!

- Colleen Daniels, Membership Coordinator
Local Archeologist to Speak about Columbia River Artifacts

The Camas-Washougal Historical Society (CWHS) will host a presentation about archaeology along the Columbia River by Harvey Steele. His presentation will be held on Saturday, August 20 at 2 p.m. at the Camas Police Station, 2100 NE 3rd Ave, Camas. CWHS members and the entire community are invited.

Steele is retired from the United States Treasury Department where he worked as an Antique Specialist, appraising government antiques and artwork. He joined the Oregon Archeological Society in 1960 and was very active in the group’s survey work.

Steele spoke to the CWHS in 1996 and again in 2007 about the archaeological work at Lady Island and says much has changed since those presentations. “We have a lot more information from surveys of the beach in Washougal and additional investigation of Lady Island,” he said. “We know more about what really happened.”

For instance, Steele said he has learned the Native American population in the Camas-Washougal area is much more closely associated with the Cascadia tribes up the gorge than the Multnomah groups who were located in Portland. “We have upgraded what we know about Chinook people in this local area,” he said. “We have discovered more artifacts and more information on plank houses.”

Some archeological materials and local artifacts will be displayed as a part of the presentation. Light refreshments will be served.

Telling Our Local Story

Since the Two Rivers Heritage Museum’s 2016 season reopened on March 3, acceptance of the refreshed displays, three new displays and the reconfiguration of the Native American basket display has been very positive. If you have not yet been into the Museum to see the updates, please consider making a visit soon.

The work done by Donna Martinez, Native American Basket Curator, has clarified and enhanced the information about our local Chinook culture. Carol Phillips and Cynthia Purdy, Schoolhouse Curators, invite you to recall your early school experiences with them while you view many school items from the past that came from several of the local schools.

As the board of directors and curators continue to create new and interesting ways to reflect our local history, we encourage our membership and other friends to share their ideas and new information for future displays. Send your ideas to TRHM Display Curator, P.O. Box 204, Washougal, WA 98671.

-Walt Eby, Display Department
Museum Receives Beals Grant for Sixth Year

For the 6th year in a row, Camas-Washougal Historical Society has been honored to receive the Chester and Marion Beals Memorial Grant. The CWHS board members have approved several projects for 2016. Projects include a master landscape plan, floor replacement, display lighting, replacement printer and volunteer appreciation activity planned for later this year.

From 2011 to 2015 the Beals Memorial Grants have enabled CWHS to do many things for the Two Rivers Heritage Museum, including:

- Insulating, cover the walls and install an inside security system for the Carriage House.
- Over the years, purchasing computers, copier, prints, video equipment, cameras and computer software.
- Replace old carpet and flooring.
- Install UV sun shield screening on windows.
- Purchase signage, display lights, office chairs, donation boxes, storage shelving and portable canopies.
- Repair dry rot on the exterior of the Museum and paint the interior and exterior of the Museum and the Carriage House.
- Create a Heritage Herb Garden.
- Annually hold a Volunteer Appreciation Lunch.

The continual support of the Beal Family is greatly appreciated and has helped the CWHS and the Museum provide for the community a place ‘…where history lives’.

- Steve Daniels, Beals Grant Committee Chair

Museum Full of Research Information

Did you know that the Two Rivers Heritage Museum has a large collection of photographs? Its collection includes images of local businesses, buildings and people. We also have information on dairy farming, logging, musical instruments, kitchen displays, antique furniture, toys and tools. Also included in the research department are books, land records, cemetery records, and many family history notebooks.

Visitors, locals, journalists and writers come by to research events, property and family heritage. If you are interested in doing research, we have volunteers that can help. Call the Museum at (360) 835-8742 to make an appointment. In addition, the Museum gift shop offers published history by local authors.

Heritage Day September 17

Mark your calendar to celebrate Heritage Day at the Two Rivers Heritage Museum on Saturday, September 17, 11am to 3pm. A great day to visit vendors, listen to live music, eat hot dogs and enjoy root beer floats, enter a drawing for a Pendleton blanket and shop for plants and books. Best of all, it is a day to invite your neighbors and friends to tour the Museum free of charge.

View the new exhibits created this season in the Museum and see the colossal saw blade that has been newly installed on the outside of the Carriage House. Watch the Museums loom weaving rugs with wool from Pendleton Woolen Mills and see the newly refurbished ‘walking spinning wheel’ in action.

Don’t miss this day of celebration of your home town museum and reconnect with the past at the Two Rivers Heritage Museum ‘…where history lives.’

Families love Heritage Day fun!
Museum on Parade

In a 1929 Model A Ford, owned and driven by Duane Markel, Two Rivers Heritage Museum was represented in the 2016 Camas Days Parade. Duane, Camas-Washougal Historical Society member and volunteer, was accompanied by Dick and Diane Lindstrom. Dick is a Historical Society Board member and tool curator for the Museum. He procured the 7 foot blade from the Camas saw mill which has been installed on the wall of the Carriage House at the Museum.

Our parade entry helped the community see that the Museum is “…where history lives’ in Camas and Washougal.

Many Hands Assist in Annual Plant Sales

The two plant sales at the Two Rivers Heritage Museum were busy and successful despite rainy May 14th and very hot June 5th. Special thanks to Lila Larsen, Carol Phillips and Jack Ross for their large donations of plants and then taking the time to dig and pot plants for the sales. Jack Ross also was great for being on-call to pick up plants such as those donated by Lois Cobb and Pauline Eby. These two ladies also donated many hours to preparing plants for the successful sales.


There are many healthy plants waiting at the Museum for a new home. The plants from the sale are especially hardy and originated from local gardens. Purchase plants any time the Museum is open and take time to look them over on Saturday, September 17 during Heritage Day. Plants available include Chinese Lanterns, Fall Naked Lady Lilies, Double Orange Day Lilies, Thornless Blackberries, Marion Berries, Phlox, Peonies and Trumpet Vines.

-Alma Ladd, the Plant Lady

Editorial Note- Without Alma Ladd and her cultivation of plants, donors and volunteers, the Museum would be a pretty ‘weedy bunch.’ Thank you Alma, for your expertise, time and energy.

WANTED: WEEDERS
Tired of weeding your own flower beds? Try helping Alma Ladd at the Two Rivers Heritage Museum. Call 835-8742 and leave a message that you would like to schedule a time to help weed flower beds and potted plants. Alma will return your call to work out a time to weed.

WATERING HELP NEEDED
All these great plants at the Museum need water and sometimes 2 times a day. Call Alma Ladd at (360) 835-8742 and leave a message that you can help. Water and hoses provided. Just walk up and water.
Camas Schools History, Part III

**Camas School** - On October 11, 1883 School District #58 was approved to be organized by the Clark County School Board. In January of 1884, a school board was organized for school district #58 and a school house was planned for construction the following winter. A small one room school was built near 4th and Dallas St. and that fall 19 year old Elizabeth MacMaster started teaching at the school. Soon the new building was bulging at the seams and the school board began looking for a bigger building. By November it was decided to rent Judge Marsh’s 20x40 foot hall for a school. It would share the space with a church and the community activities. After Christmas, the school was held in Marsh’s hall and by February of 1885 there were 63 students enrolled in the new school.

In 1886 a new school was built at what would be the NW corner of Hayes and 14th St. The acre of land for the new school was donated by the Colony Company of Henry Pittock. The small community building, now located on the south end of Crown Park, had once been an annex to the 1886 school on its north side. It was moved make room for a school bus barn. A new brick high school was built in 1935 on the west side of the 1886 school which, in turn, became a Junior High School. School #58 consolidated with #117 in June of 1950.

**Oak Park School** - The school was built in 1917 at the SE corner of SE 7th and Polk St. This building is now the Camas Community Center, headquarters for Camas Parks and Recreation.

**Central School** - Central Elementary School was built in 1924 between Dallas St. and Garfield St, below the mill ditch and above NE 7th St. An annex named for Nora Self was located east across Garfield and was used by Central School. In 1967 Central was replace by the JD Zellerbach School at 824 NE 22nd St. Central School was known for many years as Highland Terrace and is now Prestige Care Center.

**Forest Home School** - Forest Home School, on south side of NW 10th, facing NW Hill St. was opened in 1917 and used until 1953 when it was put out of service. In 1956 it became the State National Guard Armor. The building was used as the Camas Library while the new library was being built downtown on 4th Ave and now is a school of gymnastics.

- Curtis Hughey, Historian

**CWHS website and Facebook**

Check out the Museum’s website [www.2rhm.com](http://www.2rhm.com) or find us on Facebook to keep up on all the happenings at the Two Rivers Heritage Museum. Karen Johnson does a great job of posting pictures and information of upcoming events and work and new things at the Museum.

The Museum welcomed its newest artifact in June, representing the paper mill heritage of Camas. The impressive nine foot, approximately 700 pound saw blade was used in the paper mill’s wood mill.
CAMAS-WASHOUGAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – YEAR 2016
Two Rivers Heritage Museum, PO Box 204, Washougal, WA 98671 – 360-835-8742

Name __________________________________________________________

Mailing Address __________________________________________________

City, State, Zip __________________________________________________

Phone Number ___________________________ Email ______________________

(E-mail not shared)

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Note: Active members membership dues cover one year from January 1 to December 31. New members joining between January 1 and July 31, pay the full annual dues. New members joining between August 1 and October 31 pay 50% of the annual dues. New members joining between November 1 to December 31, pay the full annual dues to cover the remainder of the current year and the following year. Please make checks payable to Camas-Washougal Historical Society.

We are a nonprofit organization depending on memberships and private donations to operate. Thank you.

We always need volunteers!! What are you interested in?

___ Museum Host ___ Display Work ___ Research Assistant ___ Computer Entry ___ Inventory
___ Gardening _____ Records and Archives _____ Cleaning Team _____ Heritage Day

Camas-Washougal Historical Society
Two Rivers Heritage Museum
Box 204
Washougal, WA 98671

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CAMAS-WASHOUGAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MISSION STATEMENT
The purpose of the Society is to solicit, receive, assemble, collect, research, preserve and make available for the present and future public, historical data, information, oral histories, artifacts, documents and photographs that tell the story of the history and development of the Camas and Washougal area of Clark County, Washington State, U.S.A. The Society is to operate and maintain the Two Rivers Heritage Museum at One Durgan Street in Washougal, Washington and such libraries and archives and carry out any other activities that may be necessary or desirable to display and preserve its accessions.