



# Benn's Bulletin

A Publication of the Friends of the Aberdeen Museum  
December 2018

MONTESANO UNITED METHODIST CHOIR  
AND FRIENDS

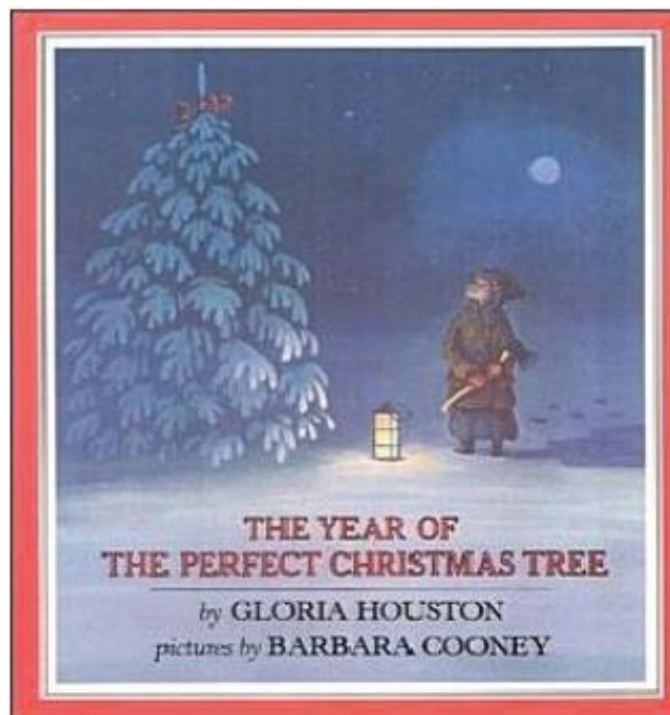
PRESENT:

THE YEAR OF THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS TREE

WRITTEN BY GLORIA HOUSTON, PICTURES  
BY BARBARA COONEY, PUBLISHED BY THE PENGUIN GROUP

DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> 7PM @  
DRIFTWOOD PLAYHOUSE IN ABERDEEN

ADULT \$10 CHILD/SENIOR 65+ \$5



TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED:  
AT THE FRIENDS OF THE  
ABERDEEN MUSEUM OFFICE  
AND CITY DRUG IN ABERDEEN  
TICKETS WILL ALSO BE SOLD AT THE DOOR  
UNTIL CAPACITY IS MET.  
FOR QUESTIONS CALL  
360-533-1976

*Hear the musical story of an  
Appalachian Christmas during  
the Armistice of  
World War I*

SPECIAL THANKS TO  
AA STAR TRANSFER

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE FRIENDS OF THE ABERDEEN MUSEUM

# Friends of Aberdeen Museum Business & Community Support 2018

## THANK YOU

The citizens of the area have been wonderful in giving their moral & financial support as the Friends & the Aberdeen Museum work toward the future. But what has been heartwarming is the way the community organizations & businesses have stepped forward. We know others would if the need was there, but these businesses have given the Friends assistance this year and it is appreciated.

5 Star	Aberdeen Fire Dept.	Aberdeen High School Band
Aberdeen High School Alumni	Hoquiam Push Rods	Aberdeen High School Art Dept.
Aberdeen Art Center	Jodesha Broadcasting	Bi-Mart
Aberdeen School District	LeMays	Grays Harbor Community Foundation
Alder Creative	Museum of the North Beach	International Longshore & Warehouse Union Grays Harbor Local 24
Alpha Media Grays Harbor	Pacific Northwest Printworks	Montesano Methodist Church
City of Aberdeen	Polson Museum	Nancy's Bakery
Dennis Company	Quigg Brothers	Party To Go
Driftwood Playhouse	Quilt Harbor	St Mary's School & Church
Duffy's Restaurant	Rognlin's	The Daily World
Economy Cleaners	Sierra Pacific	Tinderbox
Eternal Love Tattoos	St Mary's School & Church	Washington Tractor - Olympia
Grays Harbor Stamp Works	Staples	Weatherwax Class of '66
Great Northwest Credit Union	The Bank of the Pacific	Westport Winery
Harbor Blooms		



### Did you know?

The Willits Brother's canoe that the beautiful wooden canoe that sat above the Aberdeen Museum gift shop in the Armory was a true rarity?

There were only 1000 Willits Brothers canoes hand crafted in Tacoma. An example of their work is of two canoes hanging in the Smithsonian.

With it's unique removable keel and rudder it was a great sailing canoe, used by the Aberdeen American Red Cross for their canoeing classes for many years.

Maybe you remember the little canoe house at the back of the football practice field along the Wishkah River?

# The Friends of the Phoenix

## What's that about?



The Phoenix, from Greek mythology, is a bird that rises from the ashes.

Most notably the Phoenix is recognized for its ability to recover from a fiery death and rise to a new and hopeful future.

We chose the Phoenix to represent the members of The Friends of the Aberdeen Museum because it represents our vision well.

After all rising from the ashes is what we do.



Harbor

If you missed the dinner honoring John Larson as Harborite of the Year, you missed a lovely evening. The Rotary Log Pavilion made a nice back drop, although we miss our museum. John Hughes spoke on John's behalf. It was great to have Hughes back from his new role as Chief Historian for State of Washington. John Hughes donated a framed photo of early Aberdeen and a signed poster from Sam Benn production he wrote & acted in.

John Larson spoke too. His statement: **"Museums matter and when they are harmed, human civilization loses an irreplaceable record of itself."** really hit home. He was so right and we thank him for the reminder.

Special thanks also go out to those who made the evening come together, Skooter Scherieble, Karin Larson, Barb Caskey & Becky Carossino.



## THE FRIENDS OF THE ABERDEEN MUSEUM are open for Business

The Friends of the Aberdeen Museum have opened new offices in the Art Center at Market & K. (Enter on the K Street side.) Our regular office hours are from 1 to 4 on Tuesdays & Thursdays (although you may find our volunteers there working at other times.). We also open for the Art Center “First Friday” event from 5:30 to 8 the first Friday of each month. Our office is small but we have some photos and just a few of the artifacts which have been recovered & loaned from the Museum Collection. So feel free to come visit us when you are in the neighborhood.

Our intention is to have a “Pop-Up” display at each area event. This newsletter just missed our first set up at the Winterfest on December 1. If you have ideas, want to suggest an event, or would like to join in next time, contact us.



You can reach us at 360-533-

1976. There will actually be two Facebook pages. There’s the one you know for the Aberdeen Museum of, maintained by the curator, Dave Morris. But there will be a second for the activities of the Friends of the Aberdeen Museum to keep history alive in the community while the new museum gets underway. Also in about a week, check out the new web site at [aberdeenmuseumfriends.org](http://aberdeenmuseumfriends.org). We planned to release it with this newsletter but fell a few days behind.

### Future Newsletters

For many years we have mailed newsletters to our members. We are now thinking of modernizing – a shocking thing for a history oriented organization. If you would like to receive future newsletters via email, or at least give it a try, please send an email:

**Subject: Newsletter to Friends98520@gmail.com.**

We will send your next newsletter via email. That way you can quickly stay up to date with historical happenings on the harbor.

We know some of our members would like to stay on paper so that won’t go away for any members that so choose.

\*\*\*\*\* **1<sup>st</sup> Friday** \*\*\*\*\*

The Friends participated in the Art Center’s First Friday event on November 3. There wasn’t a crowd but the folks attending were great. The display of Kristi Ayres Aberdeen architecture photos was a hit and we send her our thanks for her contribution. We know her photography will be featured many times in the future.

**Don’t miss the next 1<sup>st</sup> Friday December 7, 5:30 – 8:00. We will focus on history of the Holidays around Aberdeen. If you’ve got some good shots, please bring them along.**

**Friends of the Phoenix  
Membership Application and Record**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Member/Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to receive the quarterly newsletter. - mail \_\_\_ or email \_\_\_?

I choose the following Memberships:

__Family/household	\$50 per year	__Youth/Student	\$5 per year
__Individual	\$25 per year	__Senior 65+	\$20 per year
__Business	\$100 per year	__Sustaining Individual/Business	\$300/\$500 per year

I wish for my name to remain anonymous and not be displayed in person or in any Friends of the Aberdeen Museum or Aberdeen Museum publications.

Would you like to be contacted directly about volunteer opportunities?

If so, please list areas you have interest in (i.e. event volunteer, office volunteer, data entry, fundraising, board member, etc...)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in the volunteer waiver program. I understand that I can earn my membership after completion of 10 volunteer hours. This waiver can be requested again once my membership year ends.

Memberships start from date of payment and last one year.

Membership funds go towards preserving and celebrating history in our community.

Please make checks payable to: **Friends of the Aberdeen Museum** P. O. Box 722 Aberdeen, WA 98520

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**Aberdeen Museum of History Status**

The Museum recovery is moving well now. The site was appropriately shored for personnel safety. The contractor has finished clearing the Armory of all recoverable items. They did basic cleaning and drying on site after review by Museum & City staff.

The next phase will be further cleaning and a review by the staff and by the City Advisory Board Collections Committee. Then there will be further restoration, all the records work---the undertaking is massive. The Grays Harbor Historical Seaport has stepped forward to accommodate the larger recovered items. The City Parks & Recreation Director, Stacie Barnum, has the task of issuing and reviewing bids for a more permanent place for offices & storage until the new museum is in place.

Anyone interested in making a monetary or artifact donation can contact the Parks & Recreation Dept. at 360-537-3229.

## Relive History While Making History: Our 2019 Summer Event

In 2018 we took you back to relive your high school days with the first All Class Reunion. Mark your calendars for our big 2019 event when we take you back to some of the Harbor's history.

In its heyday Electric Park was the place to go for all the Harbor events. Baseball games, community events, festivals and even masquerade balls were held at the park which was located near Cherry & Myrtle Streets next to the current PUD. So what better place to have this year's celebration?

The Friends of the Aberdeen Museum in partnership with The Polson Museum are hosting a "**Myrtle Street Dance**" on **August 10th from 2pm to 7pm**. We are closing down Myrtle Street from Sumner to Cherry and dancing in the street. Stan Foreman, Bruce Hughes, and the Harbor All Stars will be back playing those songs from the 60s and 70s that helped make this summer's reunion such a hit. We're still on the hunt for a second band to keep those dancing feet going, and also planning for food vendors and a beer garden. So put on your dancing shoes and come out to enjoy a fun and relaxing day filled with music, food and good friends.

*This year the citizens of Aberdeen and Hoquiam have shown such compassion and caring for our communities and each other. We want to show our appreciation to everyone with this free "thank you" event. Join your friends from both sides of Myrtle Street as we reach across our borders to thank each other for being great neighbors.*

If you would like to be a part of our planning team, you can contact the committee through the Friends new office in the Aberdeen Art Center building at or email the committee at: [friendsplans@gmail.com](mailto:friendsplans@gmail.com).

### \*\*\*\*\* Aberdeen Fire Dept – 1920's \*\*\*\*\*

*Courtesy of Eva Brown, Montesano*



## Class Weatherwax Reunion 2018

What a day! Bands played music covering all 110 years. The dancing picked up when it started hitting the rock & roll years, & country western was a hit too. The beer garden was a smash. The food made the tummy sing. Tour of the new Weatherwax left some in awe.

But best of all was the old friends, past teachers & other staff.



The oldest grad we talked to was Jim Messmer at 95.



### Did someone top that?

The memories flowed all day. The Friends had a booth which never stopped humming with wonderful stories.

The day inspired our 2019 project to interview some of our citizens. You'll hear more about that in our next newsletter issue – or before!

\*\*\*Thanks for the Memories\*\*\*

Vendors and attendees were generous.

An incredible \$14,567 was raised.

