

To Serve the Community and its History, Study the Future

By Mary Ann Acosta, Director of Operations

The Poulsbo Historical Society Board of Directors has embarked on a summer learning series, gathering information on internal practices, the local community, and the future of museums. Having been involved in purchasing and paying for museum facilities since 2016, the opportunity is coming for the organization to examine its practices and plan for growth — in depth and breadth — to the community it serves. The first learning session (See photo below.) focused on a conversation on IDEA — Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility.

A July 22 panel discussion will look at Poulsbo and North Kitsap from “The View from 10,000 Feet.” Mayor Becky Erickson will give an overview, and fellow panel members will add from their expertise as City Council members, county officials, tribal liaison, and developers. Topics will include opportunities for inclusion, demographic trends, development both downtown and in North Kitsap, tourism, and traffic corridors—as they exist now and how they are projected, three, five, and eight years into the future. This larger perspective will guide PHS as it seeks to engage the broader community.

Then on August 10 the topic shifts to the work of museums. Staff members Jessica Wall, Judy Driscoll, and Mary Ann Acosta will be joined by staff from area museums/collections institutions to share their insights on museum/collections trends emerging in a post-pandemic landscape.

The goal is that by September the PHS Board and other leaders may sort through all the summer’s learnings and begin to build a vision of how — in the coming years— PHS can reach deeply and broadly to fulfill its mission to record, preserve, and exhibit the history, heritage, and culture of Poulsbo and its surrounding communities.



Great IDEA!

Sam Hampton, PhD, consultant from 510 Commons, guides a discussion on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility — concepts and perspectives that will inform PHS as it takes its mission into the future of Poulsbo and North Kitsap.

Don't give it away yet!

Save the date of Saturday, July 29, for a Yard Sale on the Front Street Campus!

We'll be accepting donations the week before the event. Think of this like a sidewalk sale, doodads and gadgets — small items that would fit in a car. Please no large furniture, appliances, or sports equipment.

For details, contact Mickey Albanese, 425.359.2709

Can you help us cross the finish line?

TOTAL COST:
\$850,000

**Already
raised
\$310,000**

We have exciting news. Poulsbo Historical Society has been awarded \$300,000 from the State of Washington toward the purchase of the Nilsen-Sonju house. This amount, combined with the \$310,000 we've already raised, puts us just \$240,000 from being able to complete the purchase.

The challenge? We can't accept the state funds until we're able to fully purchase the house.

Can you help us raise the remaining \$240,000 so we can accept the state award?

Finalizing the purchase of the Nilsen-Sonju house would secure its place as a preserved historic building on Front Street and free up PHS funds and fundraising energy for other important mission-focused work.

We're excited to continue sharing Poulsbo's history with our community and our museum visitors. Finishing this campaign will help us do that even better. Thank you!



**State
award
\$300,000**

**Yet to
raise
\$240,000**



POULSBO
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Capital
Campaign
Update**

Please help us preserve this historic home.

1908 Nilsen-Sonju House
Now the Heritage Museum



Many thanks to our capital campaign supporters!

Scandia – \$25,000+
Jay & Sandi Dahlquist
Darryl & Carole Milton

Lemolo – \$10,000-\$24,999
Steve & Lana Swann
Central Market

Pearson – \$5,000-\$9,999
Joan Carson
Constance Lightbody
Douglas & Lin Murray
David & Donna Rice
Dan & Stephanie Sluys

Vinland – \$1,000-\$4,999
Mary Ann Acosta
Norman & Denise Bailey
Michael Burns
Sigurd & Bonnie Chrey
Lions Club
Judee & George Daniels
Tom & Judy Driscoll
Christopher Fuhrer
Mike Hattrick
Wally & Nan Heffner
Tom & Patty Henderson
Dennis & Gerri Johnson
James Kressler
John & Liesl Lewis
Bruce & Lynda Nilsen
Port Madison Enterprises
Jay Roof
Rotary Club of Poulsbo/NK
David & Karen Shields
Jim & Ginger Shields
Margene Smaaladen

Suquamish Tribe
Damien & Jessica Wall

Breidablik– \$500-\$999
Kitt & Wendy Baldwin
Marianne Brooke
Steve & Karen Calhoun
Jean Cardon
Jean Charters
Tim Cleveland
Julia Crosara
Jerry & Becky Erickson
Craig & Margaret Gresham
Glen & Mari Hilborn
Megan Holmberg
Kathy Holodnak
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James Kinnard
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Eidsmoe
Marlene LeMire
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Wade & Kathy Moncrief
Carin Nelson
Talliene Pierre
Margaret Smith
Jeanne Snouwaert
Jon & Hollyo Westerlund
Bill Weymer
Bob Whitaker

Lofall – \$250-\$499
Grant & Farrel Alexander
Steve & Molly Apel

Elda Armstrong
Ernie & Stacey Bogue
David & Tasha Davis
Ray Donahue
Kyle Griggs
Tom & Bobette Hall
Kristin Klassert
Kimberly Lewis
Pat Martinson
Jeff & Julie McGinty
Von & Kristen Morley
Bill Parnell
Jon Pavey
Rich & Pam Ramsey
Eleanor Randall Worsham
Scott & Diane Sabo
Geoff Schmidt
Kurt Serwold
Steve & Cora Smaaladen
Sonny Woodward

Front Street – \$100-\$249
Catherine Ahl
Ann Armstrong
Remo Barr
Todd & Lora Benson
Sharon Brown
Nancy Coffee
Jerry & Barbara Cooper
Donna Davidson
Arlene Endresen
Don & Linda Flynn
Candy Gratton
Thomas Hackett
Mel & Kathy Haug
Mitch & Kim Jones
Helen Kaupanger

Jim & Sharon Lee
Janice Lofall
Kent & Connie Lord
Donn & Valerie Martinson
Arlene Mateicka
Rhonda Mitchusson
Mark & Karen Molinari
Charles & Judy Morgan
Robert Morgan
Ardis Morrow
Roger Ottenbach
Rom & Cammille
Regenitter
Bob & Jane Reinach
Joanie Reitan
Peter Riley
Alan & Lyn Robertson
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Mike & Christi Ryan
Kevin & Bittina Sheen
Jim & Becky Shields
Gary & Diana Smeland
Helen Langer Smith
Scott & Cheryl Standard
Gordon Stenman
James & Yvonne Swalwell
Colleen Swanson
Roger & Amy Swenson
Courtney and Troy Turnley
Bill & Sandra Walgren
Terese and David Walters
Don & Linda Watson
Chuck Weaver
Karl & Deonne Werner
Katelynn Whitaker
Bill & Vickie Whiteley
Grant & Nancy Wood

You're Invited!

Summer Evenings ON THE LAWN!

Please join us for an open-house style gathering with entertainment, summer treats, and an update about the Historical Society's effort to purchase and preserve the historic Nilsen-Sonju House.

5 - 7 p.m.

On your choice of dates:

Poulsbo Heritage Museum
1902 Front Street NE

June 29
Thursday

July 13
Thursday

August 1
Tuesday

There are a lot of activities to squeeze in this summer!

Sunday afternoon, July 9, at Martinson Cabin

Watch for a “pop up” event announcement in social media. Expect to find a scavenger hunt and other activities, with pre-packaged ice cream bars available!

Tuesday, July 11, 1 PM at the Archive and Research Center: Genealogy Interest Group

A friendly gathering of genealogy researchers who share tips and help one another with research projects.

Wednesday, July 12, 1 PM in the Maritime Boat Yard: History LIVE! Cannery Row and the Puget Sound

Local historian Michael Kenneth Hemp will share stories from his extensive research.

Thursday, July 13, 5—7 PM on the Museum Campus Lawn: Summer Evening on the Lawn

A social time for members, donors, and associates of PHS to mingle and hear updates on PHS projects.

Saturday, July 15 beginning at 4 PM on the Museum Campus Lawn: Movie Night at the Museum

Expect fun activities for children and families, with a featured movie beginning at dusk. Watch your emails for the movie title, to be announced soon!

Saturday, July 22 in the SEA Discovery Center classroom: Panel Discussion “The View from 10,000 Feet”

See the story on Page One. Contact Mary Ann Acosta 253.363.1287 or MaryAnn.PoulsboHistory@gmail.com to arrange to attend.

Saturday, July 29, 10 AM—4 PM on the Museum Campus Lawn: Yard Sale

See announcement on Page One. Donations definitely welcome!

Tuesday, August 1, 1 PM at the Archive and Research Center: Genealogy Interest Group

A friendly gathering of genealogy researchers who share tips and help one another with research projects.

Tuesday, August 1, 5—7 PM on the Museum Campus Lawn: Summer Evening on the Lawn

A social time for members, donors, and associates of PHS to mingle and hear updates on PHS projects

Thursday, August 10, 6:30 PM tentatively scheduled for zoom: Emerging Museum Trends

See story, Page One. Contact Mary Ann Acosta 253.363.1287 or MaryAnn.PoulsboHistory@gmail.com to arrange to attend.

Saturday, August 12, on the Museum Campus Lawn

Watch for a “pop up” event announcement in social media. Expect a Camp Adventure theme, maybe some S’mores :-). Bring a blanket to sit on the lawn and enjoy! (Chairs will also be available.)

Friday/Saturday/Sunday—August 25—27 Liberty Bay Festival and Poulsbo Boat Rendezvous

See announcement, Page Six.

Monday, September 4: Labor Day Picnic

Watch for invitations to a potluck picnic at the home of Dennis and Gerri Johnson to celebrate our members, donors, and associates as we wrap up an amazing summer of activities!

Spring Wrap-Up in Pictures



Left to right: Hildur Gleason and Judy Driscoll at a volunteer training/celebration meeting. Chris Morrison on the team upgrading the Heritage Museum front porch. Mug at the Maritime Museum Store, part of a collection of merchandise celebrating local maritime history. Patty Henderson as Martin Bjermeland in Footprints Across Poulsbo.

Those Elusive Troths

By Judy Driscoll, Curator/Museums Director

The son of Elton and Elizabeth Troth contacted us recently, saying his parents lived in Poulsbo from about 1943 to 1953. He said they owned a berry farm on Vinland Road, called Panorama Berry Farm. He was trying to find the farm. His only clues were two newspaper ads, one with berries for sale “7 miles north of Bangor main gate” in 1950, and one offering the farm for sale in 1952. It sounded gorgeous—panoramic view of Hood Canal and the Olympics, strawberries, raspberries, a wooded lot, and “modern” house (by 1940 standards). The only other clue was a summons from a court to clear title to property in 1960, with a legal description that put the property near Tytler Road on Highway 3.

Mr. Troth said the family talked about Denton Road. Looking at maps and relying on my knowledge of the area (since I live near there), I spent a few days scouring maps, trying to locate the property. I finally found a very small plot matching the court description but in no way resembling the description of the property for sale. On the county assessor’s website, a parcel search showed photographs of the property. No sign of a panoramic view was to be found. We exchanged numerous emails for a week before finally finding the answer. A Herald note mentioned the berry farm and been sold to the “Hoeck” family (which we later realized was the Hoech family). Those of you who have lived here for a long time will remember Dee and Kay Hoech. Now we had a clue worth pursuing.

The 1955 map showed the property of the Hoech family. We finally located a map from 1950 which showed the small lot we had found with the Troth name on it. But when we looked up the Hoech property in a different section there were the Troths, right where they belonged on the panoramic property, and the description fit perfectly. There were actually two parcels in the section. Today that land is found near Vaa Road, very panoramic property indeed, and sitting right on the line that would divide Vinland from Breidablik—even though that is a blurry definition! The question still remains: what were they doing with that little piece of land on Highway 3?

I tell this story for those of you who might be trying to find elusive properties. It often takes comparing two or more maps with snippets of information from newspapers, assessor’s websites, and family lore. Keep up the search; the rewards are so satisfying! Our archives hold many of these maps and news clippings. Feel free to make use of them! Also, if any of you remember the Troth family, I can forward stories to our researcher, if you send them to me at PoulsboHistory@gmail.com Elton Troth worked as a reporter at least parttime for the Bremerton Sun, which was probably the Bremerton Searchlight at that time. Elizabeth Troth worked as a teller for the First National Bank of Poulsbo. Their son was born after they moved.



Leave a legacy
to your hometown

Making gift to the Poulsbo Historical Society
in your will can benefit our town for
generations to come.

Volunteers Welcome (And Needed)!

Heritage Museum — Greeter needed for the Tuesday morning shift

Martinson Cabin — Greeter needed the third Saturday afternoon of every month

Maritime Museum — Greeters needed

- Alternate Friday mornings
- Saturdays swing shift (hours can be arranged)

Archive and Research Center — researchers welcome!

Front Street Campus—Yard work (especially weed removal)

To volunteer or learn more: Leave a message, 360.516.3975 or contact Mary Ann Acosta at 253.363.1287 or email her MaryAnn.PoulsboHistory@gmail.com



POULSBO HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

LIBERTY BAY FESTIVAL

AUGUST 25-27, 2023

**Boat tours, On the Water Demonstrations,
Bayside Showcase, Children's Activities,
Live Entertainment, and Much More!**



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www.PoulsboHistory.com