

STATE CAPITOL HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY MEETING, EXECUTIVE BOARD.

DIGEST OF HAPPENINGS

JANUARY 31, 1957

CURATOR-DIRECTOR, IDA, N. BURFORD

Mr. President and Members:-

We are meeting a New Year of 1957, and meeting it with a feeling of warm appreciation for our progress behind us and with a deep hope that our accomplishments for plans ahead may be met with the same success and enthusiasm.

So many interesting events have crowded this Quarter that it is difficult to say which should be stressed as important to our Board Members. We have decided that Mr. Miller shall take up the outlines of the procedure in our landscaping and in the matter of furnace repair; our Statistician is to mention the Binford and Morts Foundation Gift, and incidental facts controlling our Local Fund, and Miss Summerbell is to present the chronicle of entries and to emphasize some of the exhibits which have drifted to us in the stream of the holidays.

PUBLIC RELATIONS (State Level)

FIRST FOR IMPORTANCE IN NOVEMBER.

Digest of the Northwest Conference, Tacoma, Washington, November 10, 1956.

We gathered with the idea of a JAM SESSION and no formal plans. However, after a few introductions and a few county historical museum reports and mention of a few normal problems, there came an introduction of a proposed protective plan for county historical museums which might possibly fall by the wayside for lack of funds to support operation correctly; for too broad, ambitious extension methods, etc.,... Out of this discussion and ways to meet it, Mr. Chapin Foster passed prepared outlines for amendments to "An Act relating to historical materials and amending Secs. 1, 2 and 3, Chapter 160, Laws of 1949 and ROW 27.48.010 through 27.48.030.

These were to be taken to our various museums for consideration, etc. These, as you recall, were introduced to our Executive Committee Meeting November 29th. In order to have the first-hand information, Mr. Miller had interviewed Mr. Foster regarding a few changes and suggestions which we thought might strengthen the trusteeship committee's operation for all areas. These were presented to the Executive Committee and passed November 29. (Copies of the Amendments are on file as presented at the Conference and members may call at the office at any time to refer to them.) Mr. Miller thereafter notified Mr. Foster regarding the suggestions of adding the name of "State Capitol Historical Association of Washington" and the name of "Washington State Pioneer and Historical Association" (headquarters in Seattle, Washington) to the organizations mentioned in the Amendment (already distributed.) Mr. Foster, it seems, welcomed this suggestion. Mr. Miller may have something further upon this matter in our meeting today. We thank Mr. Miller for his efforts in this matter. It is possible that we may wish to have a special committee named to act (legislatively for the passage of the Amendment during Legislature) until the bill is passed as amended. This plan may come under Old Business today.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS;

We welcomed the consummation of the long-range plan for our landscaping. It was carried out with the vigor of the West. The Staff, one and all, can attest that the Building and Grounds Staff and crew members, with our good friends, Mr. A. E. Hart, Sw ante Kyllonen, on hand both faithfully carried on, in all kinds of weather, the red-blooded tasks to accomplish a most magnificent job for the State

Capitol Historical Association. I am asking Mr. Miller to cover his observations upon this and also to tell you the rugged problems with our furnace to bring it into better performance.

EXTENSION OF SERVICE BY STATE RETIREMENT BOARD.

A copy of the extension of service for the Curator-Director, Ida N. Burford, to the date of April 1958 has been received and is on file.

FOUNDATION GIFT FROM BINFORD AND MORTS, Portland, Oregon.

This copy has been passed into the file of Vernon Briggs, for this gift. It is quite possible a Book Committee may be desired to choose the Northwest Historical items which this gift may provide. Further rules upon which a Foundation is administered may be necessary. Gratitude is manifold for this recognition of our interest in this field.

PUBLIC RELATIONS (National Level)

For a matter of record of the splendid action which is being planned for museums throughout the United States, the following is introduced:

RADIO.

Columbia Broadcasting Station Program Committee presents a new Series.

Two announcements have come, heralding a new series of programs in which all museums (either singly, or in an area effort) may participate. The new series in the United States is to be called "ODYSSEY". The programs are to be arranged to take the TV audience to the Museums of America. QUOTE: Over the signature of Irving Gillen, of CBS Announcements:

"Each museum is a treasure cache of some of the outstanding achievements of knowledge of the Ages."

Plan:

The plan, so far, encourages participation by all museums to present some particular story, either singly or in an area grouping of museums, for a broadcast release.

We are advised that Mr. Charles Romino (or an associate of CBS) is to carry out a cooperative plan, which promises to be "one of the most important projects of the kind ever attempted." We await further notice.

We are confident, therefore, that this plan opens another door for advancement for us in national public relations and is a bright beacon for 1957. We are advised that we are to be sent further details.

We are most pleased to have some added material to enter in this report relative to the International Museum Week Observance. Greetings arrived from Mr. Stephen Thomas, Chairman for the U. S. Commission Department for International Museum Week. Mr. Thomas sends us a Christmas Letter #4 (Family Style) which he states he is sending "to all our friends, far and wide, and you surely are one of those." It is significant to quote to you a paragraph which relates to the activity of "Steve" as he calls himself, as follows: "Since last spring Steve has been extra busy as chairman for the entire country, of the International Campaign for Museums

which culminated in Museum Week, October 7 to 13. In connection with this mission he travelled to Europe this summer and was one of the 37 national chairmen reporting at the International Council of Museums (ICOM;) meeting in Basel, Zurich and Geneva, Switzerland. He also visited museums in Hamburg, Munich and Paris, but was gone less than three weeks." You all recall that Mr. Stephen Thomas is the Curator-Director of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences, Rochester, New York. Upon an additional Christmas card, he writes, "You will be glad to know the State Department is printing my report in the MUSEUM WEEK and it should be published by mid-January." He concludes with the following message: "I can't thank you enough for your enthusiasm, good will and carry-through spirit that put Washington on the map in the Museum World." "Signed, Gratefully, W. S. Thomas."

Mr. Thomas' report will also be in "Museum News", the bulletin published by the American Association of Museums, Headquarters at Smithsonian Institute. If the issue reaches us in time, the Director will include a copy for permanent record attached to her report. Another copy will be placed in our International Museum Week file.

KGY RADIO SUMMARY OF 1956 (Local Station)

We wish to comment the broadcast of December 31, which summarized in splendid fashion the improvements and progress noted by the local radio in our Capital City. The local weekly "Olympia News" also published this account, which has been clipped and placed on file in our "Town File" of Olympia, Washington for reference by the Curator-Director.

PUBLIC RELATIONS (Local Level.

ASSEMBLY ROOM APPRECIATION EXPRESSED.

It is certain that the activity in the Assembly Room during the month of December emphasized, as never before, the appreciation all groups feel in having the museum as a center for group meetings.

Most groups held a Christmas party (husbands invited and attending). The Rose Society, Mineral and Agate Society (Olympia Unit), Gold Star Mothers (afternoon meeting), Art League, Inc., of Olympia and the Audubon Society carried their festivities into the dinner party and program sphere. It seemed that an all-pervading spirit of harmony and friendliness blessed each gathering.

The Writers, Inc., which meets with us regularly had the opportunity of being the guests for the group Christmas Meeting in the home of Colonel and Mrs. A. T. Wagner, member of the club. The Season's dinner motif, carried out at the various small dinner tables, symbolized the Christmas customs of many lands, in the type of food served, with the tableware, or with gay decorative articles at each place. The Program consisted of each member giving a two-minute account of their most "memorable Christmas." This truly "humanized and made perfect in unity" the gay circle of reminiscences which concluded this unusual gathering.

Your Curator attended as many of the above meetings as was possible, and further tried to meet with the following groups in which she represents the museum (as a member of the group) - Business and Professional Women's Meeting (taking gifts for the women of Western State Institution and children's gifts for the Washington Children's Home), the Zonta Club, American Association of University Women, and Daughters of the Pioneers (Olympia Chapter #4).

It was most heart-warming to receive Christmas greetings from so many members of the State Capitol Historical Association, from so many cities and from other officials of museums, whom I have so much enjoyed knowing.

EXHIBITS

Great pride has been taken in the new shows introduced in the Creative Art Room, to remain from December to mid-February. In this timing, the holiday visitors and the legislative guests in the Capital City may have an opportunity to view the unusual displays.

ART COLLECTION

Few Northwest and Western states can boast as unusual an art show such as is being exhibited by Clarence Garner, Burton, Washington. His rare display represents fifty-three years of continued painting. It is most apparent that the display has a scope of types and interpretations of distinctive variations of historic collections. The most amazing points of interest come from the fact that Mr. Garner has captured for an Art Connoisseur the Northwest Scenes and Mountains from seldom explored heights and pinnacles totally unknown or revealed by any contemporary artist of the West. Mr. Garner expects to be a guest and meet the visiting public on a February Sunday afternoon before his show closes. In this way, by hearing of his experiences in accomplishing such significant points of vantage for sketching, can one realize the significance and history in many of his canvasses. Don't miss it!

WEAVER'S SKILL SHOWN IN CURRENT DISPLAY

Weaving is "catching on" in the Allied Art Field. More recruits are joining the Southwest Weavers' Guild of Washington than ever before. The two excellent cases portraying the originality and practicality so sought after for proper decor, in new homes today, have won great acceptance. In these cases, winners are shown with us, under the supervision of Mrs. Lucy Hamilton, Chairman for Weavers' displays for the district. She presents, during this period, the Kitsap County Weaver's Guild. Congratulations to this group for their excellent, selective display.

ART CLASSES NOW HUMMING IN THE COACH HOUSE EACH MONDAY.

"Kenn Johnson, noted watercolor artist, will give a series of water-color lessons for Olympians and other interested persons from surrounding counties, at the request of the Olympia Art League. The classes here will be held in the Coach House of the State Capitol Historical Museum, from ten o'clock in the morning until four in the afternoon on Mondays." The foregoing is a portion of the publicity released in The Daily Olympian, Dec. 31, 1956 relative to Mr. Johnson's classes.

SPRING ART SHOW

A glance in the crystal ball, for the Spring Art Show, reveals the fact that the State Capitol Historical Museum is to have its first FATHER AND SON display! All we shall announce now, is that you have a treat in store when our walls do receive and welcome the meticulous and unmatched work of Arthur A. Selander and his son, Menalkas Selander.

SPICER CASES

Our Curator of Sea Shells promised to be with us today to tell you what he intends to install in the new cases of this new Quarter. We find a growing interest and many repeat "Shell Collectors" returning to the museum with their favorite friends in "tow". Often they have come specifically to see the shells.

The plaque, which was voted to be chosen and installed upon the photograph of our PHIL SPICER, Curator of Shells, has been taken care of by your Curator-Director and now graces the beloved photograph of the donor of our wonderful collection, which we feel is truly second to none in existence in a museum of the West. I feel that you all agree in this statement.

MEMBERSHIPS

Replies have been coming from some of our past-presidents in appreciation of the Life Memberships which were voted them.

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD (Elect)

By process of the election, and by choice of citizens of the State of Washington, the State Capitol Historical Association's Executive Board automatically, (by law establishing our museum) is now privileged to welcome as Ex-Officio Members, the following:

Governor Albert Rosellini,
Secretary of State Victor A. Meyers
Superintendent of Public Instruction Lloyd J. Andrews.

Let us hope that we may welcome and enjoy their presence with us frequently, or as often as they may be able to attend.. It is certain that we have much to share with them here, and we stand ready to assist in mutual services for the great State of Washington and our visiting public, from our state, our nation and from many foreign lands.

REGISTRATION

March 5, 1942 to November 29, 1956	189,092
November 29, 1956 to December 27, 1956	547
December 27, 1956 to January 24, 1957	997

Grand Total to January 24, 1957	190,656
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It is most gratifying to have your loyal presence and interest manifested by your attendance. We have made much greater progress than many of you, who are not close to the daily duties such as we upon the staff, may realize, as we begin 1957. It is only from your constant sacrifice of time to come to assist us, that our cooperative strides have been taken. Mr. Miller and I both deeply depend upon such support and value it most highly. IT'S BEEN A GREAT YEAR AND IT IS CERTAIN, WITH YOUR SUPPORT AND GOD'S GRACIOUS SPIRIT DWELLING AND WORKING WITH US, THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO SERVE GLADLY, AS GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS OF OUR GREAT STATE OF WASHINGTON.

Respectfully submitted,

Ida N. Burford
Ida. N. Burford, Curator-Director.

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100-100000-100000-100000

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF KING
I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the files and records of the said court.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the said court this 1st day of June 1900.

Attest:
Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of Washington
100-100000-100000-100000

RECEIVED

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF KING
I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the files and records of the said court.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the said court this 1st day of June 1900.

EX OFFICIO SECRETARY OF THE BOARD (1900)

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF KING
I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the files and records of the said court.

STATE CAPITOL HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
211 21ST AVENUE WEST
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF KING
I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the files and records of the said court.

Wm. Chick Rander
1212 N. 32nd St
Tacoma, Wash
100-100000-100000-100000

