



## MARCH 2012 MONTHLY MEETING

### Thursday March 8th Meeting

Our friends Paula and Alan write a great introduction for the March meeting: "Space Needle, science, skyrides, showgirls. Many nations, monorail stations, Elvis gyrations. Belgian waffles, beauty queens, fashion, fine art, and spectacular performance. The 1962 Seattle World's Fair -- Century 21 Exposition -- had it all, optimistically looking ahead to theorize and imagine what the future might hold."

It was an internationally sanctioned fair which "captured America at the peak of Cold War tensions, on the cusp of a cultural revolution. Behind the fair's glitter ...civic leaders, elected officials, and public citizens who built the fair's success vowed that when the lights went out...Seattle would be left with a much-needed civic center." The Seattle Center is "the brilliant and remarkable legacy of a fondly remembered six months in 1962." The Guild has enjoyed past meetings with this engaging duo.

Paula Becker is a staff historian for HistoryLink.org, with essays on the dance marathon craze of the 1920s, war-effort knitting during World Wars I and II, and the career of *The Egg and I* author Betty MacDonald, among numerous other subjects. She co-wrote with Alan *Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition: Washington's First World's Fair*, and *The Future Remembered: The 1962 Seattle World's Fair and Its Legacy*.

Alan J. Stein is also a staff historian and award-winning author. His HistoryLink books include, *Safe Passage: The Birth of Washington State Ferries*; *Bellevue Timeline: The Story of Washington's Leading Edge City*; *The Olympic: The Story of Seattle's Landmark Hotel*; and, with Paula Becker, their AYPE book. He is past president of the Association of King County Historical Organizations.

As usual the time and place are 6:30pm at Seattle's Northeast Branch Library.

## Coming Events

We are looking forward in May to a reprise of the our conference about the AYPE of 2009 when attendance exceeded the capacity of the space at MOHAI. This May's conference recalls another fair -Century 21 World's Fair of 1962. The dates are Friday evening the 11th with a reception and a full day of programs, speakers and panels on Saturday the 12th. And because the conference will take place at the site of the fair, there will also be historical tours on the program of the art, fountains and grounds. More information is forthcoming.

For current members there will be a discount. As in most newsletters we urge friends to send in a check and become new or renewing members. Like KUOW, KPLU, KCTS and similar organizations, our programs are free, but we can't offer the latest and brightest discussions of Northwest history without your contributions. Please send a check for \$25 (\$10 for students) to the Pacific Northwest Historians Guild at P.O. Box 85457, Seattle WA 98145-1457. So that we know more about your interests enclose the membership application you will find at <http://www.pnwhistorians.org/pdf/membership.pdf> PayPal is also possible through our website.

Prof. Moon-Ho Jung and the Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest are sponsoring a talk by Prof. Andrea Geiger of Simon Fraser University. Her talk "Triangulating Difference" will examine "Japanese Immigrant Negotiations of Race, Caste, and Borders in the North American West" It will be held Tuesday, Feb. 28th at 4pm in room 226 Communications Bldg. on the UW campus. Please go to the Center's website for a fuller account of this event.

## The Guild Board

Since last year at this time the Guild board of trustees has grown with the addition of several young members. The present board includes

- Jodee Fenton, president
- Robert Foxcurran, membership
- Robert Ketcherside, website and secretary
- Brian Gann, programs
- Judy Bentley, treasurer
- Diana James, at large
- Julia Swan, at large
- Paul Spitzer, newsletter

For further information on trustees, visit the Guild's website at

<http://pnwhistorians.org/index.php/about/> and their email addresses are listed under the heading "membership." And if you have not visited our website recently, you will find a lot of other new information has been added. The website's "membership" heading is also a way to send in a membership application--no postage stamp or bank check necessary.