



Newsletter September 2009

Calendar of Coming Events

September 8th: George Blomberg

October 17th: Coll Thrush

November 10th: Paul Dorpat

The monthly Guild meetings have been scheduled through the end of the calendar year. Although the exact number is uncertain, September is approximately our three hundredth evening lecture since we began thirty years ago.

September: Our new season begins as a joint meeting with the Southwest Historical Society. We welcome George Blomberg who will speak on the history and scope of landscape change in south Elliott Bay and the Duwamish River estuary, 1854 to the present. He'll illustrate his talk with pictures of the tidelands, the estuary, the river straightening projects, pollution of the river over time, superfund sites, and contemporary restoration efforts in the Duwamish industrial area.

His presentation is part of the Seaport Environmental Programs by the Port of Seattle. George has been working on industrial development and environmental matters at the port since 1985.

NOTE: The event is NOT at our usual time and place. Actually it's near the spot on Alki Point where pollution began when the Denny party landed. We'll meet at the Log Cabin Museum at 7pm. To get directions, please go to the Museum's website at <http://www.theseattletraveler.com/birthplace-of-seattle-the-log-house-museum/>.

October: Our speaker will be Coll Thrush. Note on your calendar this does not occur on the usual date. The meeting is on Saturday, October 17th at 2 pm to accommodate Coll. The place is the usual one; it's in the meeting room in the University Branch Library.

November: Our speaker will be long time member Paul Dorpat and we get back to our usual schedule of meeting the second Tuesday of the month. The meeting is at the University Branch Library, Nov. 10th at 5:30pm.

Guild Self-Review

Every few years on an irregular basis the Guild goes through a re-evaluation of what the members are most interested in doing. Are monthly meetings still interesting? Do we want to have a banquet? An annual conference? And the perennial question: "What's wrong with our website?" Should we continue as we are or should we add some new activity? There is another perennial, "How do we attract--not necessarily more members-- but younger members?"

The meeting will be at Judy Bentley's house in West Seattle on Wednesday, Sept. 16th at 6pm. The address is 4240 Chilberg Ave. S.W.

The New Season:

Every season starts in September, but membership is for the calendar year. Please hold your dues, \$20 as always, until the end of the year.

Guild Officers:

My term as Guild president is over and several new trustees are needed as well. The people who have officiated over the years now have an average age in their seventies. They have held office many times and we are now looking for others to become Board members. The duties are not onerous and meetings of the Board infrequent. Those duties are what one expects: For example, select speakers, make arrangements for a place, write a newsletter, keep a membership list, choose a president, etc. Those interested in becoming Board members, please contact me, Paul Spitzer, at bornbutonce@gmail.com.

One position we don't need help with is selecting the recipient of our annual award. This will once again be handled by Chuck LeWarne.

March Conference, 2010

We are pleased to announce that Jon Olivera will be the Conference Chairman for the coming 2010 Conference in March. He is presently engaged in working out details for the event's theme and will be sending out a call for papers. Our annual event this spring will cast a wider than usual net, looking at broader influences and emphasizing a NW history that extends beyond national boundaries. The conference will highlight the region's transnational past and its connections to the Pacific, Canada, Alaska, Russia and beyond. Jon may be reached at jono2@u.washington.edu. More in future newsletters.

The Center for Pacific Northwest Studies has offered to assist us with conference registration.

Members

Columbia, the journal of the Washington State Historical Society, published a lengthy article in the summer issue by Guild member Cathy Lykes on the extensive medical care and facilities found at the 1909 AYP Exposition.

HistoryLink's beautiful book on the great fair of 1909 has been out for several months and can be purchased at bookstores and seemingly almost everywhere. The authors are Alan Stein and Paul Becker.

Chumei Ho has alerted us to a significant Asian conference on those 1909 events occurring September 12 & 13. For more information go to http://www.cinarc.org/aype.html#anchor_392
