Points N.E. Historical Society
Browns Point.. Dash Point.. N.E. Tacoma
Located in Browns Point Lighthouse Park

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#1-135                                      Website: www.pointsnortheast.org
Browns Point, WA 98422                  Facebook: facebook.com/PointsNortheast

Winter 2019

PNEHS Annual Meeting and Special Speaker
Tuesday, February 19, 2019
7-9 pm
St. Matthew Episcopal Church—Browns Point

Nick K. Adams is a local author, story teller, and historian who will present a re-enactment of our first Territorial Governor Issac Stevens for our Annual Meeting.

A graduate of West Point, Stevens pursued a military career and saw battle in the Mexican War. He was appointed Territorial Governor by President Franklin Pierce in 1853. Besides serving as Governor, he was also the Superintendent of Indian Affairs. On his journey to Washington Territory, he surveyed a railroad route across the northern United States. A bit of a multi-tasker, I would say. His time in office was marked by treaties with the Indian Tribes including the Yakima War. He was also elected to be the Territorial Delegate to Congress. He served in the Union Army as a Brigadier General and was killed at the Battle of Chantilly in Virginia in 1862, during the Civil War.

As a historian, Nick K. Adams specializes in the Civil War. He has published three books all related to the Civil War. The most recent is “Away at War: A Civil War Story of the Family Left Behind”. It is based on 100 letters that Adams’ great-great grandfather wrote his family while he served with the Union forces in the Civil War.

Adams’ portrayal of this controversial and accomplished figure should be eye-opening.

Admission is free.
Families and Students are welcome.
Refreshments will be served.

There will be a brief update on PNEHS activities before the speaker begins.
Remembering Fay Ainsworth  
1947—2018

Long time PNEHS Board Member Fay Ainsworth died suddenly in December at her Browns Point home. Born in Lakota Beach, she spent a lot of time on Browns Point visiting relatives and after a full lifetime of travels, she found her way back here.

She was a successful real estate broker. Besides being in the heartbeat of Browns Point and the local area commercially, she was active so to say in its heart, too.

She served on many community boards besides PNEHS including the Browns Point Improvement Club and Seabury School. She attended the Browns Point Methodist church.

Fay had a number of rental properties in the area and helped many of her renters find a home of their own.

She and her partner Jerry Churchill were together for over 20 years living in Jerry’s childhood home at Browns Point. As a realtor, she could not make every PNEHS Board meeting, but the ones she attended, she always had terrific ideas especially about marketing the cottage. Just this past year, she worked on a committee to revise rates and update rental forms for the cottage visitors.

She was certainly a tour de force in our community. A memorial was held in January in a packed Browns Point Clubhouse. And the stories flowed and flowed.

Our condolences to Jerry Churchill and his son Alex (Jessica), cousin Jerry Muridge, cousin Marlene Hansen and her family.

“Fay understood the importance of living life on her terms and living out her dreams. We regret that, though we suspected, we did not know the true seriousness of her illness or how little time she had left. We will miss her.”

Norm and Margot Andersen  
PNEHS Board Members

Update

Thank you to our Pierce Cty Councilwoman Pam Roach and Pierce County Council for giving us a $4,000 Strengthening Communities Grant for the restoration of the historic Generator Building at the Browns Point Park! What a great New Year’s Surprise!

Congratulations to Mavis Stears on her retirement from her position as Curator for PNEHS! And welcome and congratulations to Pam Halsan for assuming Mavis’s role as Madame Curator. Mavis will not be gone. She has special projects she will still be working on. See our next newsletter for the big story!

Welcome to Alison Hart who has signed a contract with PNEHS to be the “Cottage Manager”. Nancy Pawlicki, Cottage Hostess, has assumed a new position as Cottage Housekeeper! Our next issue will have an interview with both women.

There have been car break-ins in the Park parking lot during the day. Please don’t leave valuables in your car!
And a big tip of the Light Keeper’s Cap
to those who have helped make 2018 a great year:

- Donn and his staff at Mail, Copy and More
- Tacoma Police for allowing us to meet at the NE Tacoma Substation and their volunteers
- Kim Wenner at Postal and More
- Our amazing docents and wonderful volunteers
- Our Board of Directors
- Our Supportive Members
- Our generous Business Members
- Metro Parks and Park Project Lead Tom Dargan
- Puget Paving and Construction
- Father Kendall Haynes and St. Matthew Episcopal Church
- Browns Point Improvement Club and the Dash Point Social and Improvement Club
- Tanja and Shane Leek and their staff at the Browns Point Diner
- Life at the Points magazine
- New Zealand Student Exchange Program
- Heritage League of Pierce County
- Gene Grulich—pro bono consultant for architectural drawings
- Tacoma Landmarks Preservation Commission—grant
- Tacoma Public Schools
- Pam Roach and the Pierce County Council
- Washington State Lighthouse Environmental Program grant
- Grant writers/research: Mary Lloyd, Diane Malone, Tom Reeder
- Legacy Renovation—Generator Building
- Bill’s Roofing
- Greg Hoffman and Greg Hoffman Construction
- Jim Stice and Specialty Metals
- Elite Development
- FS&GS Services Port of Tacoma grant for signage
- Washington State Preservation Trust grant for oil house
- Pierce County Preservation grant
- Pierce County Lodging Tax Fund—grant for signage
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Bill Baarsma
- Chad Kaiser for donation of a lock similar to what the Lighthouse Service used
- Pat Patterson, American Legion Service Officer
- Browns Point—Dash Point Fire Department
- Our Cottage Gardeners—love those flowers!
- Horticultural Students at Decatur High School
- Meeker Middle School Students

Winter Reading?

Remember our great little lending library.....It’s open on Mondays from 10:30 to 12:30, and books may be checked out if your PNEHS membership is current. Topics on the shelves include local history, lighthouses, the Light Service/Coast Guard, native American stories, maritime subjects, children’s books and periodicals. All materials have been donated. Checkout period is for one month, and a convenient book return station is right outside the door to the History Center; the building was formerly a bunk house for Coast Guard crewmen. Stop by soon!
PNEHS ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2018

Completed restoration of the 1906 Oilhouse.

Hosted former Tacoma mayor Bill Baarsma as the speaker at our Annual Meeting.

Appreciated Metro Parks’ installation of a black wrought iron fence around lighthouse.

Began planning phase of restoration of the 1933 Lighthouse with a $6500 grant.

Sponsored three fieldtrips for over 200 fourth graders from local schools.

Endured the park closure for construction of ADA accessible parking lot and paths during the summer season.

Due to park closure, Cottage Tours were available only 11 days (closed 10). Despite this, we had nearly 500 visitors (besides the Salmon Bake).

Welcomed over 1200 visitors to the Cottage Museums and displays during the 2018 Browns Point Salmon Bake.

Completed numerous maintenance projects: flower boxes, Bell House & Oil House painting.

Hosted the Washington State Lighthouse Environmental Program Spring Conference.

Signed a new lease agreement with Metro Parks.

Gathered Browns Point School Memorabilia as the 1958 (former Meeker Jr Hi) building closed.

Received a $20,000 grant for new interpretive signage in the Park; Grant Total since 2002 is $300,000.

Participated in Meeker Bazaar to raise funds for the student trip to New Zealand.

Donated five Cottage Stays to local auctions.

Gained new Life Memberships for a total of 57, and Regular Memberships of 338.

Hosted the Annual Christmas Tea for over 100 guests.

Trained 56 Docents to lead tours of the Museums in Lighthouse Park.

Sponsored the 2nd Annual Veterans Breakfast, partnering with the Browns Point Diner to serve 51 Veterans.

Funded restoration of the window transom over the lower entrance to Historic Dash Point School.

Received the donation of 70 Tom Swift and Tom Swift Jr. science fiction books to our collection.

Achieved Placement on the Pierce County Register of Historic Places by the Pierce County Landmarks & Historic Preservation Commission.

Curated multiple historical exhibits in the Museums and around the community.

Improved communications with members through several newsletters, and email blasts.

Received a Preservation award from the Tacoma Landmarks commission.

Welcomed Native American paddlers to Browns Point during the Paddle to Puyallup.

… and with heavy hearts and gratitude accepted the retirement of MAVIS STEARS, PNEHS original curator.
2018 in Photos

A Salmon Bake Weekend Stroll in the Park

Rest Stop for Paddle to Puyallup Paddlers

New fence around Lighthouse!

Vet Gals at the Veterans Breakfast

Class Pix from the Browns Point Grade School. Now in PNEHS Archives

PNEHS gets an award from Landmarks Commission! Lots of smiles!

Kathleen gets cozy with Oscar at the Meeker Holiday Bazaar
The Browns Point Diner
in the Browns Point Shopping Center
Shane and Tanja Leek
Open 7 days a week
Get Stranded in the Sandbar!
253 952-3743
Dine-in or Take Out
View our historic PNEHS photos display
PNEHS Board of Directors 2018–2019

President Linda Van Nest  253 927 4250
V-President Diane Malone  253 265 2080
Past Pres. Jill Barkley  253 927 3329
Co-Secretaries Neil Hanson  253 952 3271
Diane Jahnke  253 517 3289
Treas/Mbrsp Chair Norm Andersen  253 370 4683
Curator Pam Halsan  253 219 3439
Garden Club Liaison Kathy Juracek  253 952 8874
Sales Pat Harnish  253 927 6019
Cottage Greeter Nancy Pawlicki  253 222 7121
Maintenance Chair Bob Robinson  253 722 6764
Volunteer Coordinator Nancy Bess 360 876 5110
Newsltr/Publicity Kathleen Monahan 253 927 2425
Volunteer Coordinator Nancy Bess 360 876 5110

Board Members
Margot Andersen Cottage  253 588 8559
Neil Hanson Collections  253 952 3271
Jim Harnish  253 9276019

Other Contacts
Dash Point School Jill Barkley  253 927 3329
Cottage Scheduler Julie Perkins  253 927 2536
PNEHS Message Phone  253 927 2536

Curator Emeritus Mavis Stears

This newsletter is published by the Points Northeast Historical Society.
Editor: Kathleen Monahan

Points NE Historical Society
Memberships (Check one)

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Donation to Society $___________

Total $ ____________________

Volunteer Opportunities

Docent (Guide) _______ Maintenance _______
Grant Writing _______ Publicity _______
Education _______ Fund Raising _______
Spec. Events _______ Cottage Gardens _______

Please return this form along with your check to:

Points Northeast Historical Society
6716 Eastside Drive #1-135
Browns Point WA 98422

You can also enroll and pay online with PayPal. Go to www.pointsnortheast.org. Click on Membership.

Please print clearly

Name(s) ____________________

Address ____________________

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E-mail ______________________

Like us on Facebook: Points NE Historical Society.

“Points Northeast Historical Society is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit. Contributions are tax-deductible to the limit allowed by law”

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PNEHS Annual Meeting
and Special Speaker
Tues Feb. 19—7 pm
St Matthew
Episcopal Church
Browns Point

PNEHS 2019 Annual Meeting Election Ballot

PNEHS has three positions up for election this year:

Nancy Bess and Linda Van Nest have been nominated for three years as Co-Presidents.
I vote for Nancy Bess and Linda Van Nest as Co-Presidents.
Yes ___ No ___ Other ____________

Neil Hanson and Kathleen Monahan have been nominated for two years as Co-Secretaries.
I vote for Neil Hanson and Kathleen Monahan as Co-Secretaries.
Yes ___ No ___ Other ____________

Norm Andersen has been nominated for three years as Treasurer.
I vote for Norm Andersen for Treasurer.
Yes ____ No _____ Other ______________

Please return your ballot to
PNEHS
6716 Eastside Drive NE #1-135
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or Bring to the Annual Meeting or Turn it into Kim at Postal & More

Your prompt action is greatly appreciated