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

Mailing Address:                              Telephone:  (253) 927-2536
6716 Eastside Drive NE                        Email: pointsnortheast@comcast.net
#1-135                                      Website: www.pointsnortheast.org
Browns Point, WA 98422                      Facebook: facebook.com/PointsNortheast

Winter 2018

Don’t Miss the 2018 Annual Meeting and Special Speaker

Thursday February 15, 2018
7 to 9 pm
St. Matthew Episcopal Church
6800 Eastside Drive NE
Browns Point

Speaker:  Former Tacoma Mayor and Current
Tacoma Historical Society President
Bill Baarsma

Title: “A Tacoma Story:
From the Perspective of a Former Mayor and History Buff

Some topics that will be covered: How did the
Murray Morgan Bridge transform Tacoma
and create suburbia? What were the turning points in the
long-shot creations of MOG, TAM, and the Car Museum?
The odd couple who created Tacoma-The City of Destiny.
They said it couldn’t be done_- cleaning up the
most polluted waterway in the country.

Everyone is Welcome.

Free!
Refreshments will be served.

Door Prizes from our Gift Shop.
Annual Election: See Ballot—page 8.

Bill Baarsma
Our first light keeper was Oscar Brown.
Who was he? Where did he come from?
This is what we know.

So many people came from the East Coast to the Pacific Northwest (the Washington Territory) in the late 1800s. Oscar Brown arrived in 1887. It appears he came to the West Coast aboard a freight train, accompanying a famous yacht on a flat-bed car from the East Coast to Alaska. He was born in New York on October 19th, 1867, making him a young man of 20 years old when he came to Seattle. According to census records his father Collins Brown was a carpenter; perhaps a furniture or cabinet maker. This is only a guess because it would have required a wealthy parent to educate a son as Oscar was. He was an accomplished, highly trained musician playing several instruments to include the piano, cornet, trombone, cello and harp. And it has been reported that he was an avid reader having a library of many books and subscribed to many magazines. From 1887 to 1891 he sold yachts and gas engines all over the West Coast as far North as Alaska. When he wasn’t selling yachts he played trombone with the Wagner Band and playing cello in a string quartet in Seattle.

It is not known how or why Oscar chose lighthouse keeping as an occupation. In 1891 he took his first light keeping job with the United States Light House Service at Cape Flattery as an assistant light keeper. In four years he was transferred to New Dungeness (1894) also as an assistant. This is where he likely met Annie Wayson, his future wife. She was the daughter of James T. Wayson, a Captain in the U.S. Revenue Service stationed in Port Townsend. She also was highly educated having been trained in the Collegiate Institute in Olympia and was the book keeper for a fish company when she met Oscar. He served at New Dungeness for five years. By the time he was transferred to Smith Island in 1899 they were already married. See attached photos on Smith Island. Editor’s Note: That Oscar was a pretty dapper guy!
(The rest of the story will be in our Spring Issue) Contributed by Mavis Stears
Points Northeast Historical Society
Questionnaire for veterans living or who lived in
NE Tacoma, Browns Point and Dash Point

Name_________________________________ Rank___________________
Present Address_________________________ Phone___________________
Email _________________________

Branch of the Service ______________________________

Years of Active Duty (example: 1960-1969) ________________

Years in the Reserves (if applicable) __________________________

Training and Job Description including necessary equipment (ie. kind of airplanes flown etc.)
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Places you were based_________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Did your job in the service influence your occupation after service?  If yes, how?
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Please include here any unusual happenings during your service. (injuries, prisoner of war., commendations etc.)
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Please include a formal or casual photo of you in dress uniform or work uniform. (it will be scanned and returned to you)

We thank you sincerely for answering this questionnaire and for your service to our country.

If you are doing this for a deceased relative please answer as if you were him or her. Please hand deliver this form with photo to the History Center next to the lightkeeper’s cottage in Browns Point Park on Mondays, 1030a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or call for appointment: 253 927-5385 or mail form with photo to: PNEHS, 6716 Eastside Dr. NE, #1-135, Browns Point, WA 98422
Hi Members and Friends,

Welcome to a new year of local and maritime history with Points Northeast Historical Society!
We are looking forward to our Annual Meeting featuring former Tacoma Mayor, Bill Baarsma, who always shares great stories of our area. It will be a fun evening and we hope you can attend.
If you have been in the park lately, you will notice that the 1906 Oil House has been restored. Thanks to our Grants Committee and Jim Harnish for their ongoing work on this project.
During this winter weather, don’t forget that our History Center is open by appointment, and has research materials for you to check out, or work with our curators, Mavis Stears and Pam Halsan
Our gardens are put to rest for the season, but we look forward to working with the Dash Point Garden Club as soon as spring comes. If you are interested in being part of this group, please contact Kathy Juracek.
We invite you to join our fun and support our efforts at Browns Point, Dash Point, and NE Tacoma.
See you soon!

Linda Van Nest, President

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*Christmas Tea Fun and Frolics*
SAVE THE DATE—SATURDAY, APRIL 7TH!

PNEHS will be hosting the annual workshop of the Lighthouse Environmental Program (LEP). This organization is funded in part by the sale of specialty license plates—see p. 7

It’s an opportunity to learn from other lighthouse/museum groups from around the state.

The workshop is taking place at the beautiful Browns Point Clubhouse, 9:30 to 3:30, April 7th

The public is welcome, but reservations are required to dbmeehan26@gmail.com.

*Browns Point Lighthouse (c. 1903) with passing freighter*
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

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TACOMA
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Saint Matthew Episcopal Church
6800 Eastside Drive NE
Browns Point , WA 98422
PH: 253 927 9808
www.neighborhoodparish.org
Office email:
office@stmatthew.comcastbiz.net
Fr. Kendall Haynes
fatherkendall@gmail.com
Sunday services:
8 am and 10 am
A Church for all People

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Your Ad Could Be Here!
Join PNEHS as a Business Member
And Get Exposure!
Contact our Membership Chair
253 370 4683

Stephanie Herrmann
Owner/Broker
253.332.2101
Ofc 253.238.9511
Fax 253.238.9514
MyAgentStephanie@bpsw.onmicrosoft.com
www.BetterPropertiesSoundView.com
6716 East Side Dr NE, Suite 3
Tacoma/Browns Point, WA 98422
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Volunteer Coordinator Nancy Bess            360 876 5110

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Other Contacts
Dash Point School Jill Barkley              253 927 3329
Cottage Scheduler Julie Perkins             253 927 2536
Assistant Curator Pam Halsan                253 219 3439
PNEHS Message Phone                        253 927 2536

Points Northeast Historical Society
Browns Point, Dash Point and NE Tacoma
Membership and Volunteer Opportunities

Memberships

New ______ Renewal _______

Individual 15.00________
Family 25.00________
Senior (Per Member) 10.00________
Sponsor 50.00________
Business 100.00________

Total Enclosed

Volunteer Opportunities

Docent (Guide) ______ Maintenance ______
Filing ______ Publicity ______
Grant Writing ______ Merchandising ______
Education ______ Fund Raising ______
Spec. Events ______ Research ______
Cottage ______ Photography ______
Computer inputting (much needed) ___________

Points Northeast Historical Society appreciates
your support in helping to preserve, promote
and celebrate the history of Browns Point,
Dash Point and Northeast Tacoma.

Please return this form to:

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

253-927-2536 www.pointsnortheast.org
Email: pointsnortheast@comcast.net

Name(s) ___________________________
Address ___________________________
City _________State_______Zip ______
Phone ( ) _________________________
E-mail ___________________________
PNEHS 2018 Annual Meeting Election Ballot

PNEHS has one position for election this Annual Meeting.

Diane Malone has been nominated for a second term as Vice-President.

Please return your ballot to
PNEHS
6716 Eastside Drive NE #1-135
Browns Point, WA 98422

Or
Bring it to the Annual Meeting
(Thursday February 15, 2018)

Or
You may turn it in to Kim at Postal and More
in the Browns Point Shopping Center.
Your prompt action is greatly appreciated!

I vote for Diane Malone for Vice-President (two year term).

Yes ____ No ____ Write In ________________________