

PROUD SUPPORTERS OF PSMHS



## SEPTEMBER MEETING

### FOSS WATERWAY SEAPORT

CLIP AND MAIL FOR SEPT 14TH MEETING  
RESERVATION DEADLINE: WEDS, SEPT 10TH

Name(s):

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Telephone:

Email:

Total # Attendees @ \$30 per person:

Total Amount of Check Enclosed: \$

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PSMHS  
MAIL TO: PSMHS DINNER MEETING,  
P.O. BOX 81142, SEATTLE, WA, 98108

Questions? Email: [program@pugetmaritime.org](mailto:program@pugetmaritime.org) or  
phone Pat Hartle at 206-938-2397. Thank you.



#### Reservation and Cancellation Policy:

Refunds will not be given unless the  
cancellation is made 48 hours prior to the  
program to cover our catering costs.

#### Reserve Early:

Walk-ins cannot be guaranteed a meal.

## Classified

### Pacific NW Life Stories

Bring Life to Your Family  
Tree through the Power of  
Stories

What are the stories you tell  
about yourself and your  
family?

Be the living leaf on your  
family tree and record your  
life stories.

Contact Joan Gordon  
Pacific NW Life Stories  
[www.pacificnwlife.com](http://www.pacificnwlife.com)

### Newsletter Deadline

The October newsletter deadline is  
Wednesday, September 3. The newsletter  
deadline will be the first Wednesday of each  
month prior to publication. Please send  
content via US Mail, or email to  
[newsletter@pugetmaritime.org](mailto:newsletter@pugetmaritime.org).

## WORLD WAR II PT BOATS ON PUGET SOUND – WHO KNEW?

Join PSMHS on Sept 14 | Foss Waterway Seaport in Tacoma, WA

The virtually secret story of Navy PT boats on Puget Sound will be revealed at the Sunday, September 14 monthly meeting of the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society at the Foss Waterway Seaport (FWS) in Tacoma.

Chuck Fowler, past Society president and co-author of the pictorial history book “Patrol and Rescue Boats on Puget Sound,” will present an illustrated program chronicling three waves of PT boat operations in the Sound during WWII.

Beginning with four early Elco-built PT boats shipped here en-route to Alaska and the Aleutians immediately after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and ending with 36 Higgins PTs boats sent to Russia in 1945 under the Lend Lease program, rare photos, government records and veterans’ personal stories will reveal this heretofore hidden history. A preview of this fascinating story was presented in the special military maritime issue of The Sea Chest in June.



*An authentically computer colorized photo of the 78-foot Higgins PT 646 as she passed at full speed in front of the iconic Puget Sound ferryboat Kalakala during World War II. Image courtesy of Frederick Gilmartin, a Navy crewman aboard the PT boat when the photo was taken near Bremerton in July, 1945. Colorization by Al Doggett, Al Doggett Studio, Seattle.*

The September meeting will begin at 1 pm with welcomes by Society president John Hough and Wes Wenhardt, the FWS executive director. Wenhardt will give a current update and brief history of the major, total \$24 million FWS renovation project, which began originally in 1996.

Following the welcomes, a buffet-style lunch will be served in the spectacular glassed-in north entry area of the newly-reopened, 45,000 square foot Seaport building. It was constructed in the early 1900s as the Balfour-Guthrie warehouse.

Society members and guests will marvel at the original wooden trusses overhead, which feature massive, more than 100 foot long Douglas fir beams.

At 2 pm, following lunch, Chuck will present his PowerPoint program about the Puget Sound operations of the speedy, tough PT boats, made famous by the wartime actions of the late President John F. Kennedy, the skipper of the legendary PT 109 in the Pacific.

This is a great opportunity for our south Sound members to enjoy

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

# PSMHS 2014

## Board of Governors

**John Hough**  
President

**Frank Immel**  
1st Vice-President

**Pat Hartle**  
2nd Vice-President

**Lisle Rose**  
Secretary

**Janice Ridgway**  
Treasurer

### Board Members:

Chuck Fowler

Leon Gessula

Jim Hannuksela

Nathaniel Howe

Tom Kane

John Lockwood

Jim Meckley

Clint Miller

Roger Ottenbach

John Veentjer

John Waterhouse

Leonard Garfield, Ex-officio

**Alicia Barnes**  
Curatorial & Administrative  
Manager

## WWII PT BOATS, continued from cover

one of our dinner meetings closer to home! Members of the Foss Waterway Seaport and other Tacoma area maritime and heritage organizations are also being invited to join our membership at the meeting, so it is also an opportunity to mingle with others in the south Sound maritime community.

The first of several planned outreach meetings for the Society's membership, this Tacoma meeting signals the board's intent to carry our maritime history programs and resources to all of Puget Sound - not just Seattle, according to Hough. In cooperation with partner maritime organizations, the Society will be exploring additional periodic meetings at sites throughout the Sound.

The Foss Waterway Seaport is located a 705 Dock Street, just below Tacoma's old City Hall on the waterfront. From either southbound or northbound on I-5, take the I-705 exit into downtown Tacoma, continue on and take the off ramp signed

Schuster Parkway down toward Commencement Bay and past the 11th Street Bridge on your right. Turn right at the first traffic light, proceed over the railroad tracks onto Dock Street and you will see the glass front of the Foss Waterway Seaport on your left. Lunch will be \$30 per person and the Foss Waterway Seaport facility will be open to attendees for tours after the program.

There is limited parking in front of the Seaport, and additional parking in the lot immediately north (paid) as well as on Dock Street itself (free).



*Author Chuck Fowler*

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR JULY 2014

We welcome new members listed in bold and thank all of our current members who have renewed their membership in July 2014.

### Commodore Level

Robert Hanson  
John Lockwood

### Captain Level

Thomas Allen  
C.L. Bass, Jr.  
Donald Gossett  
George Osborn

### Navigator Level

Bruce Andrews  
**Otis Bellerud**  
Forest Brooks

Peter Bryan  
Michael Burwell  
Jim Congdon  
Gilbert & Jean Findlay  
Geoffrey Genter  
Donna Gordon  
Larry Henderson  
Noel Holley  
Louis Hough  
Walter Jaccard  
Gifford & Mary Jones  
Morris & Norine Jones  
Roger Kjonno

Steven Lang  
Peter Lewis  
**John Motherwell**  
Kae Paterson  
Jason Rogers &  
Eugenia Anichtchenko  
Gary White

### Boatswain Level

Thaddeus Blanchard  
Clayton Naset  
**Wesley Neumann**  
Emilie Owens

## It's Time For Our Annual Appeal!

As fall approaches we are preparing our Annual Appeal. This year we hope you'll help us keep the lighthouse lit and the wind in our sails! Your contributions will truly help to sustain our society

– from education outreach to care of collections and document preservation. Please keep your eyes open for the letter in your mailbox!

## Changes to Research Operations

As you may know, the research operations of PSMHS are run by a handful of volunteers who work in the office only three Thursdays of the month – that's 12-18 hours per month per volunteer! And did you know that, as of 2013, the value of volunteer work is \$26.72/hour?

Due to the very limited time and resources available to us, we have decided to support volunteer and staff efforts by instituting a fee policy for research services. Please note that this applies to library inquiries and ship plan inquiries. The fees will be enforced as follows, beginning Monday, September 1.

### PSMHS Members

PSMHS members at the Navigator (\$60) or above levels may make use of 2 free hours of staff/volunteer research services per year. Any additional research time will be

charged at \$30 per hour or any part thereof.

Boatswain level members will be charged \$20 per hour for the first two hours of staff/volunteer research services per year and \$30 per hour or any part thereof beyond that.

### Non-Members

Research requests from non-members will be charged \$50 per hour or any part thereof. Payment for the first hour is due before research begins. If the request will require more than an hour of staff/volunteer time to complete, the researcher will estimate the additional time and payment will be due before any further research.

*\*Please note that if the research can be completed or the request can be answered within 15 minutes or we cannot help you, your \$50 fee will be refunded. Special arrangements can be made for students upon request.*

## Contact PSMHS

### BY MAIL

Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society  
P.O. Box 81142  
Seattle, WA 98108

### ONLINE

[www.pugetmaritime.org](http://www.pugetmaritime.org)  
Membership: [membership@pugetmaritime.org](mailto:membership@pugetmaritime.org)  
Research: [research@pugetmaritime.org](mailto:research@pugetmaritime.org)  
Newsletter: [newsletter@pugetmaritime.org](mailto:newsletter@pugetmaritime.org)  
Program: [program@pugetmaritime.org](mailto:program@pugetmaritime.org)  
All other inquiries: [admin@pugetmaritime.org](mailto:admin@pugetmaritime.org)

### BY PHONE

TEL: 206.812.5464

### SOCIAL MEDIA



Find PSMHS on Facebook.  
We are on Twitter!  
Follow us @psmaritimehs

## AFTERNOON TACOMA MEETING! SEPT 14, 2014

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### WHERE

Foss Waterway Seaport  
705 Dock Street  
Tacoma, WA 98402

### WHEN

Sunday, September 14  
1:00 pm Welcome  
1:30 pm Buffet Lunch  
2:30 pm Program

### RESERVE EARLY

Make a reservation by  
Wednesday, September 10

>>by Credit Card or PayPal on  
our website:

[www.pugetmaritime.org/Payments.htm](http://www.pugetmaritime.org/Payments.htm)

>>by Check with the Newsletter  
reservation form on page 4 to  
PO Box 81142 Seattle, WA 98103



Foss Waterway Seaport