



## ***Points N.E. Historical Society***

***Browns Point .. Dash Point .. N.E. Tacoma***

*Located in Browns Point Lighthouse Park*

**Mailing Address:**  
6716 Eastside Drive NE  
#1-135  
Browns Point, WA 98422

**Telephone:** (253) 927-2536  
**Email:** [pointsnortheast@comcast.net](mailto:pointsnortheast@comcast.net)  
**Website:** [www.pointsnortheast.org](http://www.pointsnortheast.org)  
**Facebook:** [facebook.com/PointsNortheast](https://www.facebook.com/PointsNortheast)

**Summer 2017**

### **Major Restoration Projects Planned Funded by \$63,000 in Grant/Matching Funds**



#### **Restoration of the 1906 Oil House**

It stored kerosene for the first wood lighthouse. The work will be funded by two grant sources totaling \$7500, the WA Preservation (Valerie Sivinski) Fund and the Lighthouse License Fund.



#### **Restoration of the Generator Building**

It was built in 1945 to house the backup generator and the duty crew. The grant was approved by the Pierce County Preservation Fund for \$11,700.

#### **Interpretative Signage in the Browns Point Lighthouse Park**

which will provide in-depth information on the history of the lighthouse property, influence of the Puyallup Indian Tribe, and welcoming signage for \$24,500 is being requested from the Pierce County Lodging Tax Fund.

We have been fortunate to have received over \$250,000 in funding over the past 25 years for restoration of six of the seven buildings. We are now forming plans for restoration of the Lighthouse itself with replication of the original windows, doors, replacement of the fence and adding a replica of the lantern room that originally sat atop the tower.

### **MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

You can help support these projects by renewing your membership and recruiting new members. We average about 300 members annually, but have seen a dip in renewals.

**We sincerely thank you for your support  
See membership application on page 7**

# The Good, Old U.S. of A.

**Have you visited the summer exhibit in the Light Keeper's Cottage?** For a review of how our government works, you must come to the cottage for a quick study of our national history, our three branches of government and a photo collage of all of our presidents. **We have had 45 presidents, but only 44 are pictured. Do you know why?**

**We have a United States flag with 46 stars.** How far back in time would it have flown above our National Capital buildings? It represented a new state in the union at the time. Do you know which one and how many years until another state and star were added? We have this flag and it is **B I G !!!** You will find children's work sheets to help them learn about our country and its history.



Last but certainly not least we have begun **our collection of local people who have served in our military...** some going back to WWII. Are you a veteran or was there a veteran in your family? We would like to include you and them in our military files. Below are some people you may know. Two of our past residents actually were in Prisoner of War camps. Do you know who there were? Below are some photos of people you may know but don't know their stories.

**You are invited to be a part of our collection.** Fill out our questionnaire on the facing page and send it with your military photo to our curator, Mavis, PNEHS, 6716 Eastside Drive NE, Browns Point, WA 98422. Your photo will be scanned and returned.



Find the

Guess Who



answers on

They Are



Page 4

# 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.)

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Places you were based \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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**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*

## Fourth Grade Field Trips Time Again

This year, Browns Point, Crescent Heights and Northeast Tacoma 4th graders participated in our presentation of life as a light keeper at Browns Point more than one hundred years ago. They visualized the landscape as it was back then....No houses up on Dash Point and Browns Point's hill....only forest land. Many small boats, cargo ships and big steam ships plied the waters back then; one of the reasons the light and fog bell were desperately needed back in 1903. Also those boats and ships were called the Mosquito Fleet. The children used their imagination to visualize Capt. George Vancouver landing on the beach and having lunch with the natives back in 1792. Oh my, and the natives thought that the venison pie George offered them was human meat. If they didn't know the word "cannibal" before they now do. Drilling holes with the old hand brace was a highlight. What a mess the docents have to clean up after the children have left. Wood shavings all over the boathouse floor. But our docents love every minute of their time with the children. Whether it is the lighthouse as it looks today or the picture of the lighthouse that first was built back in 1903, their imaginations can soar with detail. How could we forget the talk about Oscar Brown our first light keeper giving piano lessons in the music room to the children. Visiting the old kitchen and school room in the cottage basement museum is also a great experience where they can touch and investigate every kitchen tool, or water pump or how about a black board and chalk. One very thoughtful boy proclaimed at the end of his tour, "I wonder what things will look like in another 100 years." Certainly that's something to ponder.



There's the black board on the right



Tying knots is difficult but rewarding



A pump in the kitchen?



Learning about our lighthouse.



The fire people and fire truck...always a hit



Drilling takes a lot of work!

**NEVER TOO EARLY TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
PNEHS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA  
SUNDAY DECEMBER 10TH 1-4 P.M.**

Answers to the photos on page 2: Left to Right:  
Staff Sgt. Jerold Pischel, Capt. Robert Witter, Lt. Willard Carrol Johnson (Prisoner of War),  
Capt. Clair Cline (Prisoner of War), Airman 1st Class Robert Robinson

## **Tip of the Lightkeeper's Hat .....**

**To our Docents and Helpers** who made the School Field Trips: a great success: Neil Hanson, Karen Pischel, Nancy Pawlicki, Linda VanNest, Pam Halsan, Dennis Champayne, Pam Thomas, Jerry Pischel, Sam Boone, Sally Slater, Nancy Bess, Kathleen Monahan, Stephanie Herrmann and our Fire Department crew (Don't forget Dead Fred, the rescue dummy).

**To Our Cottage Docents:** Catherine Illingsworth, Chuck Barber, Susan Rojas, Pat and Jim Harnish, Jerry and Karene Pischel, Nancy and Jerry Blank, Nancy Pawlicki, Norm and Margo Anderson, Kylie and Holly Facienda, Kathleen Monahan, Kathleen Murray, Jill Barkley, Diane Malone, Diane Jahnke.

**To our Docent Coordinator** Nancy Bess who also wished to send a special Thank You to the following docents who have been especially generous with their time and talents: Pam Halsan, Basement Museum Docent extraordinaire, Mari Hagen, Tom Smith, Sam Boone, Marianne Matthews, Tom Ehlis, Bev Ott and Brenda McBrayer.

**To PNEHS President Linda Van Nest and her husband Jay** on celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

**To the United Coast Guard,** Happy Birthday! August 4, 1790

**To Liz Karumita-Thurlow and John Thurlow** for donating an oak school map case (with 9 maps) in excellent condition. It's hanging in the schoolroom already.

**To Bob Robinson, Tom Smith and Neil Hanson** for installing the school map case (see page 7 for photo).

**To Sarah Kallberg** (of the Dash Point Trier family) for contributing several artifacts that once belonged to Catherine Shannon of Dash Point. Items included an old-fashioned doll in perfect condition with several dresses and shoes, toys, antique lamp and candleholder.

**To Marian Goodwin's family** for donating a very old and beautiful wash bowl with matching pitcher that belonged to their Great Grandmother, Grace Holgate Steere.

**To Jill Barkley, Carol Fuller and Callaghan Caldwell** for docenting the old Dash Point School June 3rd. It was a special opening in conjunction with our Exhibit at the Tacoma Historical Society Museum.

**To Pam Halsan for planning our PNEHS evening sail** June 15th on the Sea Scout ship, the Odessey. A number of Board Members and Docents enjoyed the sail past Browns Point and Dash Point. It was during the "Festival of Sails" event. All were impressed by the wonderful Sea Scouts and the Leaders!

**To volunteer Tom Smith** who started out just painting the difficult parts of the cottage fence and ended up doing the whole fence!

**To Bob Robinson** for building a new arbor over one of the Cottage gates.

**To the Cottage Gardeners** for compiling a notebook of the Cottage garden plants for use in the Cottage. Next step is to digitize the book so we can place it on our website!

**To Metro Parks** for trimming our willow tree so we may raise the flag.

**To Mary Lloyd & Tom Reeder** for hours of work on 2 grants worth \$37,200 to restore the generator bldg. and update interpretive signage in the Lighthouse Park.

**To Pam and Art Ladley** who are our latest Life Members.

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## 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 NE Tacoma photos display*

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## Dan Barkley

Dan Barkley, a PNEHS Charter Member and husband of Founder Jill Barkley died suddenly in July. His career was in Education, retiring as Assistant Superintendent of the Tacoma Public Schools. But as ever busy in retirement, Dan helped found "Graduate Tacoma" in 2010. At that time, Tacoma's graduation rate was at 55%. Last year, the rate was up to 85%, beating the state average for the third year.

Dan and Jill raised their family in Dash Point where Jill belonged to the pioneer Austin family. Last year, Jill and Dan put on a 30th birthday party for Points Northeast Historical Society at the Old Dash Point School. They did it all. Dan even cooked up a batch of clam chowder for guests to enjoy.

Dan is survived by Jill, two children and 7 grandchildren.

*PNEHS Board of Directors 2017—2018*

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
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Curator Mavis Stears	253 927 5385
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BPIC Liaison Fay Ainsworth	253 927 4000
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	360 976 5110

*Board Members*

Margot Andersen Cottage	253 588 8559
Mary Chavez Website	253 927 8826
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
Assistant Curator Pam Halsan	253 219 3439
PNEHS Message Phone	253 927 2536

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



*Tom Smith and Bob Robinson installing our prized school map case in the schoolroom. The case was donated by the Thurlows. It's a real treasure.*

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

**Memberships (new and 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](http://www.pointsnortheast.org)  
Email: [pointsnortheast@comcast.net](mailto:pointsnortheast@comcast.net)**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

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### **BEVERLEE BURROWS STORKMAN**

Many readers of this newsletter will remember Bev Storkman as a long-time Browns Pointer, and a charter member of PNEHS. Sadly, she passed away in February.

Beverlee Burrows grew up at the corner of Hyada and Tulalip, near the light house. Along with George Brown, Don Gleason, Madelyn Paulson West, Glen More and Ramona Hawthorn (Jerry Meeker's granddaughter) she started first grade in the original Browns Point School on Tok-A-Lou in 1928.

Old-timers will recall the unusual house where she began married life with August (Stork) Storkman – The Quonset Hut, a WW11 surplus building, on the Fire Lane. They later built a “real” house on Wana-Wana. At her passing, Bev had lived in Gig Harbor for many years.

Bev was the consummate volunteer, generously sharing stories and photos of early Browns Point with PNEHS. She supported numerous historical organizations with her time and talents, as well as AAUW. Browns Point especially benefited from her time as a Girl Scout leader, and with PTA and the Improvement Club.

Bev is deeply missed by son Jaime, daughters Dee and Marty, their spouses, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Ever the Energizer Bunny, Bev was playing bridge until a couple of weeks before her death.

*Editor's Note: I was working at the History Center. A family came by looking for information about relatives who had lived in Browns Point. I took their names and contacts. I called Bev and asked her about the family. Bev told me just about everything except where their birthmarks were located. I put the family in touch with her and success!*

*That was our Bev, always the go-to-gal for answers about early Browns Point.*