



San Juan Historical Society & Museum

winter 2012

San Juan Historical Society & Museum

PO Box 441
323 & 405 Price Street
Friday Harbor, WA 98250
360-378-3949
www.sjmuseum.org
www.historicsanjuans.org

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### Administrative Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### Museum Tours

#### November—March

Tours may be arranged at any time by appointment

Please call 378 - 3949

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Board of Trustees

Mary Jean Cahail, *President*
Mike Vouri, *Vice President*
Kathie Reitan, *Treasurer*
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Mary Jane Anderson
Barbara Fry
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### Museum Staff

Kevin Loftus, Director

## Annual Membership Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Tuesday March 13, at 5:30 pm  
in the Etta Egeland Resource Center

Please join us for our annual membership meeting and election of Board of Trustee officers for the coming year. All members of the Society are invited and encouraged to attend. We will also be honoring our volunteers who provide so much needed support to the museum throughout the year. Light dinner fare and refreshments will be served.

Board of Trustee Mike Vouri will present and interpret one of the more valued items of our collection, a Harper's Ferry pattern rifle musket, used by George Pickett's Company during the Pig War crisis.

## A successful partnership

We have been enjoying a growing partnership with Skagit Valley College San Juan Center and their Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) tour program. The Road Scholar educational travel program offers numerous activities to suit every taste. Whether participants interests are whales, food & wine, hiking, kayaking, birding, art or **history** they have something to offer those wanting to visit the San Juan Islands.



Road Scholar Tour participants, November 2011.

We conducted 34 tours in 2011, which brought nearly 875 visitors to the museum. They came from near and far to get a sense of the fascinating history of the island. The visitors often comment in amazement at the volume of our collection and are appreciative of the restoration efforts we have taken to preserve, interpret and showcase our history.

Thanks to Randy Martin and Angela Atwell at Skagit Valley College for the program they offer and for fostering this partnership with the museum. Thanks also to group leaders Emily Reed, John Puschutta, Holly Harbers & Adel Grorier for all their work with the participants.

## Remembering Jim

Last December we lost a dear member of our museum family, Jim Cahail. Jim was a third generation islander and a life-long resident of San Juan Island. The great-grandson of island pioneers Jim's knowledge of island history was extensive. He knew the stories behind the stories and had a wonderful way of telling those stories. Jim also served the Town of Friday Harbor as Council Member and Mayor.

As husband of board president Mary Jean Cahail, Jim spent countless hours working around the museum. He mowed the lawn, fixed just about anything and did whatever needed to be done. He was always there to lend a hand.

Jim was credited as being the third author of our Friday Harbor book and helped extensively in the research for the San Juan Island book. Jim also undertook research requests here at the museum and always made himself available for questions. On many occasions he took researchers on field trips around the island to the places where history happened.

His warm demeanor, quick wit and great sense of humor were some of his many endearing qualities. Jim was a true gentleman and will be sorely missed in many ways. It was a true privilege to have known him.

- Kevin Loftus, Director

## A fruitful discovery



When the King family farmed the current museum grounds long ago they had an impressive orchard of some 300 pear and apple trees. After all these years one of the trees still stands and continues to bear fruit each fall.

Last spring, we were fortunate to be visited by Susan Dolan, Historical Landscape Architect with the National Park Service. While touring the grounds we asked Susan if she could identify the variety of the tree. To make a positive identification, we had to wait until the fruit became ready in the fall. Last fall we sent photos

of the fruit to Susan to help in the identification process and here is what was found.

The tree was identified as Beurre Clairgeau or "Clairgeau" a variety originated in France in the early 1800's. It became a popular variety in the Puget Sound region in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. While the flavor was considered very good, the variety lost favor as it lacked commercial appeal due to the fruit's granular texture, large core and low fruit yield.

In the end, the tree is considered a fine example of a variety that was considered excellent when flavor was paramount, but soon fell out of favor when commercial production and appearance considerations became overriding factors.

**facebook**

We are now on Facebook. Find us at San Juan Historical Society and Museum. Check it out, "like" us, become a fan and learn more about our history. If you really like local history, you may also want to check out the Facebook pages for San Juan Island National Historical Park, Orcas Island Historical Museum and Lopez Island Historical Society & Museum.



*The Woodmen of the World Hall, once stood near Madden's Corner. When the fraternal organization disbanded museum member Al Sundstrom purchased the building and property in 1944 for \$321. The building was disassembled and the lumber, quality island grown Douglas Fir, was sold and used for other purposes during WWII.*

## Memorial donations

### For Jim Cahail

Margaret Jenison  
 Patty Kinsella  
 Greg & Patty Black  
 Patrick & Marti Hughes  
 Patty Wickham  
 Michelle & Kevin Loftus  
 Noel & Lois Gallanger  
 Romona Jones  
 Kevin Roth  
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 Marge & Trim Scribner\*  
 David & Joan King Peterson\*  
 Joyce Skottowe Nielsen\*  
 Judy & Trevor Beeston\*  
 Don & Jonna Dixon Sundeleaf\*

Mary Alice & Jack McKenzie\*  
 (\*Friday Harbor High School Class of 1952)

### For Margaret Mc Rae

Bob Guard

### For Kristy Wade Carlson

Joyce & Paul Chiles  
 Cherie Roberts-Jackson  
 John Wade  
 Greg & Patty Black  
 Kevin Roth

### For Etta Egeland, Juanita Rouleau, Hallie Stephens & Jerome "Duffer" Hammond

Edward & Barbara Rouleau

### For Nancy Nash Hansen

Noel & Lois Gallanger

### For Bill Mason

Betty Nash

### For Ed Johnson

Greg & Patty Black

### For Roger Sandwith

Greg & Patty Black  
 Betty Nash

### For Jerome Hammond

Noel & Lois Gallanger

### For Fred Sundstrom

Al & Deanna Spooner Sundstrom

### For Henry Gallanger

Noel & Lois Gallanger

## New & Renewing Members

*(since last newsletter publication)*

### Business Members

Store More Storage  
 Jeanie & Jim Garrett  
 Allen County Public Library  
 Fort Wayne, Indiana  
 Barnyard Farm Supply

### Individuals & Families

Glenn & Diane Kaufman  
 Patrick & Jo Ann Ballenger  
 Bill Harrah  
 Ann Irish  
 Rick Galer  
 Janis & Don Crosby  
 Jim & Patsy Scribner  
 Sharron L. Crinean  
 Joann Roe

Michael Nash  
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 Diane Timm  
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 Kevin Roth  
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 Sondra de Beauclair  
 Pamela & John Rogers  
 Al & Deanna Spooner Sundstrom  
 Eugene & Donna Alexander  
 Kimberley Kennedy

To all our contributors, your support makes a difference! **Thank You!!!!**

San Juan Historical Museum  
Post Office Box 441  
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Friday Harbor, WA 98250

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**This is a (check one)**  Renewing Membership  New Membership

Annual membership contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (amount of your choosing)

I wish to donate an additional amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make payable to San Juan Historical Museum, PO Box 441, Friday Harbor, WA 98250**

*The San Juan Historical Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, tax i.d.# 23-7022221.*