

past & present

AUTUMN/WINTER • 2010

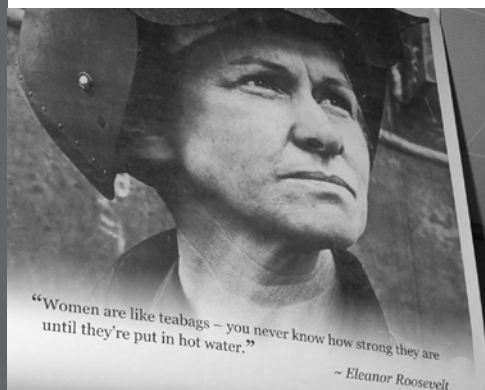
Road to Equality commemorates struggle for women's suffrage, Equal Rights Amendment

On the heels of our *Boomer!* exhibit comes a new exhibition that focuses on the centennial of Washington women getting the right to vote and the 90th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment. *Road to Equality: the Struggle for Women's Rights in the Northwest* directs our attention toward an important and much taken-for-granted victory: the right to vote. The exhibit also stresses the question, "How far have women really come?" Examples of progress towards equal rights, such as the WWII era increase of women working outside of the home, stand at contrast to what

some see as the subsequent regression of women back into the home. Not only labor roles but sexual ideals also changed. Interpretive panels present renderings of Betty Crocker beside the covers of circa 1964 men's magazines. The exhibit is organized chronologically and joins the story just before the creation of the Washington Territory with Esther Short and Mother Joseph as prominent figures in the early years of the state's history. It moves on through WWII, the sixties, and into the seventies fight for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. Representing the present day, near the end of the exhibit, is a voting booth where visitors can express their opinions on the E.R.A. and what shape equality between the sexes should take.

The museum has incorporated new technology into this exhibit. Throughout the gallery visitors will find small blue and white labels. Each label lists a number that can be dialed

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www.cchmuseum.org

Open: Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also First Thursday evenings (Feb.- Nov.) 5 to 9 p.m.



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on your cell phone through a service called Guide by Cell that results in an audio tour of additional information related to different portions of the exhibit. This technology also allows you to record your comments providing the museum with feedback. The only cost to the user is the cell phone minutes that are used.

Road to Equality is generously sponsored by Margaret Colf Hepola with additional media support from the *Vancouver Business Journal*



and *The Columbian*; the exhibit runs through December 2011. This timely and important exhibit is a must see for everyone in your household!



In conjunction with The Road to Equality exhibit, we will be presenting a series of public programs to engage the community in a conversation about women's issues. Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 5, 2011 at 10:30 A.M. when former *Columbian* Newspaper Business Editor, Julia Anderson presents her seminar, *You cannot bag groceries at 90: What retirement means for women.*

Statistics show that 20% of women aged 65 - 74 are living at or near the poverty line. It has been argued that because women often earn less and live longer, they actually need more money in retirement.

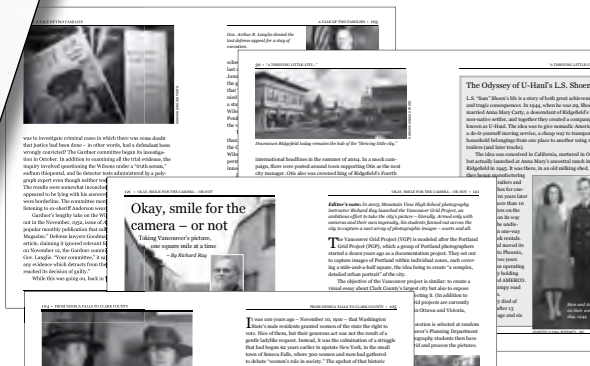
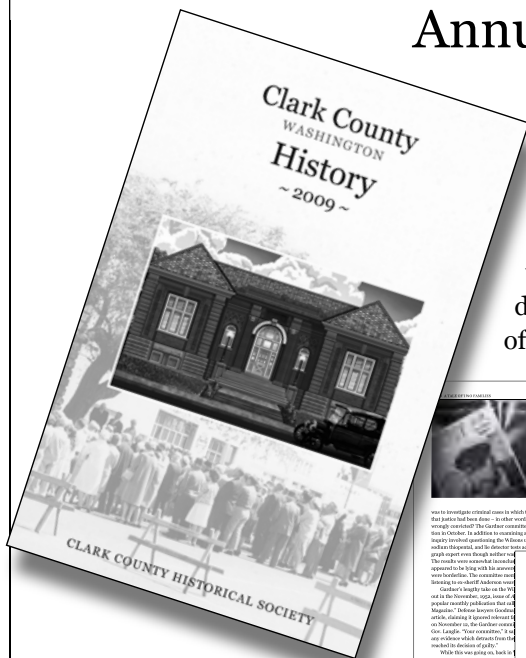
Ms. Anderson's 90-minute seminar is recommended for women of all ages. The seminar will lead women through a lively discussion of the gains women have made in the work place since Baby Boomers came of age in the 1960's. It will also provide facts about retirement and why women must take retirement planning seriously. Participants will walk away with a 5-step plan for getting to a successful retirement.

Due to the generous support of Ms. Anderson and Umpqua Bank, this program is free with paid museum admission. (Membership has its rewards: there is no cost to CCHS members.) Keep an eye out for more information on our blog, www.cchsmuseum.blogspot.com.



Annual publication is here!

The 2009 edition of the Clark County History Annual is hot off the press and now available at the museum. Featured in the book are thirteen different articles related to the history of Clark County.





From Carnegie to Brautigan

Vancouver's Carnegie Library (a.k.a. Clark County Historical Museum) welcomes The Brautigan Library collection, an endeavor 19th century steel magnate Andrew Carnegie and 20th century "zeitgeist" author, Richard Brautigan might approve of wholeheartedly. Both men flourished in the "spirit of their age." The Brautigan Library was created and formerly housed in Burlington, Vermont. After two years of negotiation, the collection of 321 manuscripts (penned by authors around the world and inspired by Brautigan) is now at home in Washington State where Brautigan began his journey in life.

Richard Brautigan (1935-1984) was a novelist, poet and short story writer. His life spanned the Beat Movement, the 1960s counter culture, and the early 1970s. His writings are a sardonic record of who we were as a people during turbulent times. Brautigan encouraged readers to set aside rules and let creativity breathe and flourish. In his 1971 novel, *The Abortion: An Historical Romance 1966*, Brautigan's setting was the Presidio Branch Library in San Francisco, a Carnegie library. The novel centers on a library whose holdings are both unique and eclectic: unpublished manuscripts. W.P. Kinsella, novelist for the adapted

movie, *Field of Dreams*, was deeply inspired by Brautigan's writing. In turn, the movie had a deep effect on devoted Brautigan fan, Todd Lockwood of Burlington, Vermont, inspiring him, in 1990, to build a library like the fictional one in Brautigan's novel.

As one of the Trustees of the Brautigan Library in Burlington commented, "Spontaneity begets inspiration. Together these have been a driving force in American history." Todd Lockwood and the Trustees of the original Library hoped that the very existence of a non-judgmental institution be a beacon for people with ideas, providing encouragement for them to try their hands at the great art of literary invention. For ten years The Brautigan had a very good run, supported by volunteer time

and donations. When it was unable to continue operating on its own, the bound manuscripts spent time on the shelves at the Fletcher Free Library; later being packed up and stored in Lockwood's basement.

Fortunately for our community Brautigan Scholar, Dr. John Barber, now resides as faculty in the Creative Media & Digital Culture program at WSU Vancouver. Dr. Barber had been following the collection and approached CCHS executive director Susan Tissot about a partnership idea he had for the museum. After talking at great length it was determined that the collection presented a unique opportunity for the museum and the CMDC department to work together on some very innovative public programs tied to critical thinking. As the author was a native son of the Evergreen State, it was determined the collection had important historical relevance for our region. After two years of negotiation, over 20 carefully packed boxes of manuscripts arrived on our doorstep in September to experience a rebirth. The manuscripts and accompanying archives are a true reflection of the times and evoke a gamut of emotions. Stay tuned for more information as this new program develops. Meanwhile, stop by the museum to peruse this wonderful collection that will be the catalyst for a number of new museum programs in the future. Visit www.brautiganlibrary.net for more information.

Volunteers are needed

Every year we rely on volunteers to assist the museum staff with providing museum services to the community. Our volunteers make a huge contribution to the museum. We can not provide our broad range of public services without a dedicated pool of museum volunteers. As time passes, people retire or move on. We are in need of expanding our volunteer pool. Volunteer opportunities range from assisting with collections management, data base management, special events coordination, special projects, manual labor, guest services, and helping with museum store inventory. If you are looking for a new way to connect and/or give back to the community contact Karen Washabaugh, visitor services coordinator at 993-5679 or cchmuseum@pacifier.com.

Renovation for SP&S exhibit gallery underway

The deep, dark cavern that lies straight ahead when you enter the museum is actually the beginning of a renovation of a gallery that will ultimately house a new permanent exhibit, *The Northwest's Own: the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway*. The new exhibit will replace the former railroad exhibit that was removed during our 2006 ADA construction project. When completed, the exhibit will be in two locations; inside the museum and also Vancouver's 1909 Depot which houses the very busy Vancouver Amtrak station (100,000 passengers go through the station annually). We hope to complete the gallery renovation portion of the project by spring.

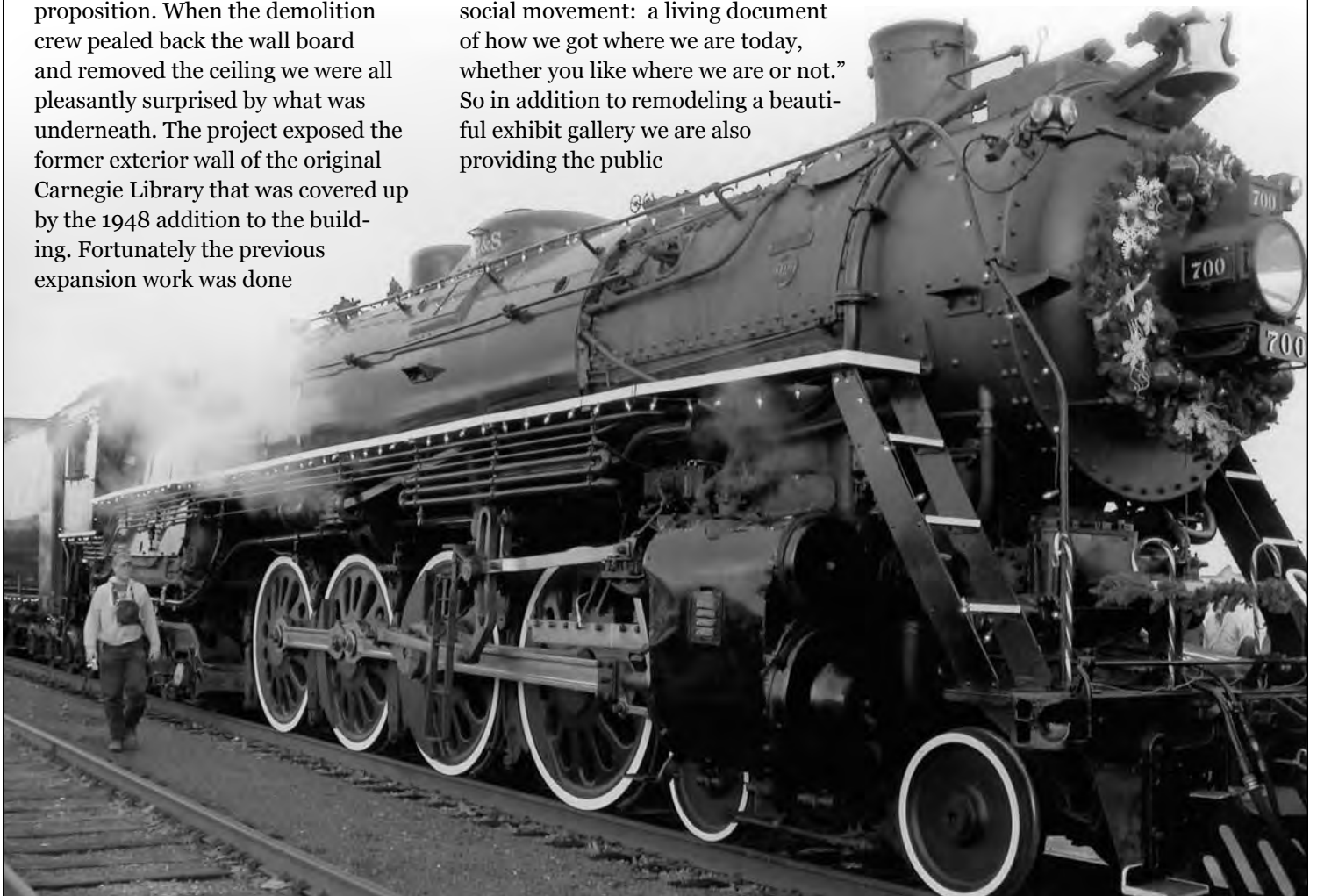
As everyone knows, remodeling projects can some times be a risky proposition. When the demolition crew peeled back the wall board and removed the ceiling we were all pleasantly surprised by what was underneath. The project exposed the former exterior wall of the original Carnegie Library that was covered up by the 1948 addition to the building. Fortunately the previous expansion work was done

with great care and the architectural features of the building remain in tact. What we also found was beautiful vertical glass blocks set in clay tiles in the south wall of the 1946 addition to the building. The underlying building exceeded our wildest dreams! We think of the museum building as our largest artifact. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is one of the 2,509 Carnegie Libraries that Industrialist and Philanthropist Andrew Carnegie funded worldwide. In a recent interview, Camas Architect Eric Lanciault told *The Columbian* that the Clark County Historical Museum's building is a "good example of provincial turn-of-the-century architecture...a vanishing breed...one of the last in town. It's tied to a broader social movement: a living document of how we got where we are today, whether you like where we are or not." So in addition to remodeling a beautiful exhibit gallery we are also providing the public

with an opportunity to actually see a great example of architectural history. When you have a moment, please stop by the museum to see the space.

The remodeling project was made possible due to the overwhelming support by a number of individuals and organizations who have stepped up to provide the necessary donations of time and resources. To begin with, Naughton Communications donated half their time to produce the preliminary exhibit plan for the new exhibits. Camas Architect Eric Lanciault donated his time to do the design work and assist with coordination of the project. On July 10, members of the Lewis & Clark Young Marines helped us move the contents of our research library downstairs into the library's new location. On August 21 local electrician Bob Carroll coordinated a team of five electricians from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

continued on next page



Local 48 who volunteered their time to strip out the old fluorescent light fixtures, reroute computer and phone lines, and disable electrical outlets in preparation of the demolition work that followed. Master carpenter Doug McCarver and his team are cleaning up the exposed ceiling trusses and helping to coordinate the overall project. Pomona Hardwood Floors (Vancouver) is generously donating the installation of the new hardwood floor. Former CCHS board member, Matt Houghton, principal at Paul Schurman

Machine (Ridgefield), is donating a custom fabricated metal truss for the project.

Before the remodeling project is completed, the museum will receive additional union support from: the Laborers' International Union of North America Local 335, the Painters' and Drywall Finishers' Local Union 10, the NW Carpenters' Union, the Roofers' Union Local 49, and the Willamette Carpenters' Training Center. We profusely thank all the individuals and organizations for their donation of time and

resources to the benefit of the museum and the community. When the project is completed, their generous show of support will be valued at approximately \$80,000.

Once funding is secured for the fabrication and installation of the new exhibits we will announce a ribbon cutting date. Beautiful renderings of what the finished exhibit may look like are on display at the museum. Special thanks go to Ed Austin, Interpretive Exhibits (Salem, OR) for his donation of the renderings. Stay tuned for updates about this exciting project!



7th Annual Harvest Fun Day event a huge success

On Saturday September 25, 2010 the museum hosted its 7th annual Harvest Fun Day event. This year we partnered with Clark County and WSU Extension to host the event which was moved from downtown Vancouver to Clark County's 78th Street Heritage Farm Site (former Poor Farm and WSU Agricultural Research Station). The change in venue allowed us to expand the event to include a draft horse and mule plowing demonstration, increase participation by 4-H animal husbandry clubs, and include the Clark County Food Bank program. The event provided an opportunity for the public to support 4-H by purchasing ready to eat Corn on the Cob from the 4-H food booth. Families were also able to help support local families in need by assisting the Clark County Food Bank with their on-site vegetable harvest. The event continues to grow each year; this year was attended by over



Clark County Commissioner Marc Boldt provided wagon tours of the site.

3,000 people! We look forward to next year's event which will be hosted at the Heritage Farm on September 24, 2011.

Special thanks go to our primary event sponsor, the Clark Cowlitz Farm Bureau. We would also like to thank Bi-Zi Farms, The Felida Red Barn, Spanky's Family Consignment, The Columbian, Dulin's Café, Waste Connections, Water & Air Works,

Kazoodles, Sunrise Bagels, Clark County and WSU Extension for their generous support. Great music was provided by two bands this year, Lincoln's Beard and the Washington Old Time Fiddler's Association. Additional thanks go to the many non-profit organizations and individuals that participated and/or volunteered at the event.

Staff changes at the museum

Collections manager



My name is Karly Schubothe and I'm happy to be joining the Clark County Historical Museum team as the new Collections Manager. Some of the tasks and projects I'll be taking on will be inventorying the collection, making sure we have current and accurate records for all of our artifacts, processing collections donations and making sure that our collection is being taken care of in the best possible way. I have previous work experience at the Portland Art Museum and Oregon Historical Society and I am very excited for the opportunity to learn more about Clark County and contribute to such a great institution.

I am a native North-Westerner, having grown up mostly in Forest Grove, west of Portland. I did my undergraduate studies at Willamette University, where I got a BA in Art History after which I did a year of graduate study in Art History at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. In my spare time I enjoy sewing, traveling, and spending time with my friends and family.

Research library assistant



Bob Pitman, new research library assistant, makes no secret of his love for history, geography and humanities. He is a collector of maps, books and stamps, and has completed his graduate degree in history with accompanying coursework in geography and library sciences.

A Peace Corps Volunteer in Senegal, West Africa, Bob also volunteered with Crossroads Africa in

Chad. Later he lived in Haiti, as an A.I.D. subcontractor, helping to survey and develop small businesses. After returning to the United States, Bob became a resource specialist in job development where he guided clients in resume preparations and interviewing skills. He also has been an activities director for senior independent living communities where he created his special "History Culture Clubs."

Currently, Bob has been researching the Clark County Poor Farm, helping to organize the Brautigan Library records and upgrade our Research Library. You will find him at the museum part-time Tuesday through Saturday. Funding for Bob's position at the museum is provided by the Senior Community Service Employment Program which is a community service and work based training program for older workers funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. The local non-profit Partners In Careers administers the Clark County program.

Terry Phillips joins the CCHS Board



Vancouver resident Terry Phillips has joined the CCHS board of directors. Terry Phillips is President and Broker of The Phillips Group, Inc. He is a Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) and Certified Property Manager (CPM).

Terry represents buyers and sellers, including 1031 exchanges as well as leases and manages retail, office and industrial facilities and apartments. He has negotiated over 1,000 leases and represented many business owners since 1981. In

2009 he concluded the second largest sale in the history of Clark County representing the buyer for the Vancouver HP Campus.

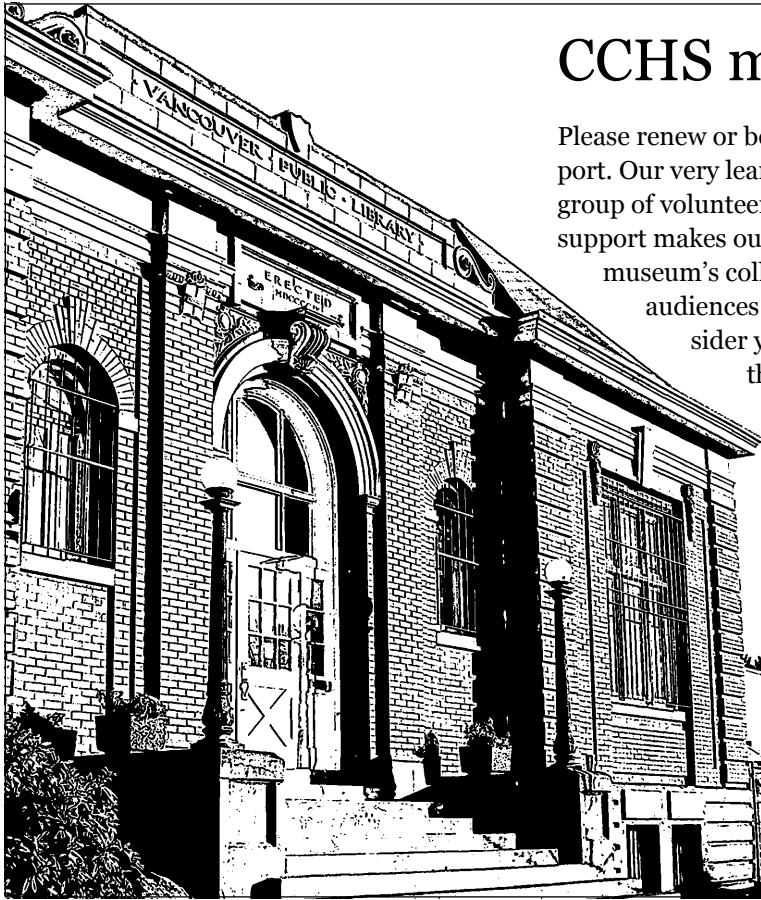
Terry teaches business and real estate management and investment classes at Clark College. Terry is active in his community and is a long time member of the downtown Rotary Club.

Visit our blog at
www.cchmuseum.blogspot.com

Follow us on 







CCHS membership has its rewards

Please renew or become a CCHS member today, we value and need your support. Our very lean and creative staff works diligently along side a dedicated group of volunteers to maximize every dollar you invest in the museum. Your support makes our work possible. Membership revenue helps us care for the museum's collection and provide the wide range of public programs to audiences of all ages. In addition to just the dollars and cents, we consider your annual membership support as a vote of confidence for the work that we do. Clark County's history is long and very exciting. Won't you join our enthusiasm? Besides, your membership comes with rewards. Members receive:

- Free admission to the museum and research library
- One complimentary copy of our Clark County History Annual (\$14 value)
- 10% off on most items purchased from the museum store
- Reciprocal membership benefits which at this time include free admission into the Architectural Heritage Center in Portland, OR
- Tax deduction for some or all of your membership fee



Yes, I support my museum!

- I am becoming a member I am renewing membership
- Please renew my membership for two years (double payment enclosed). *I decline monetary benefits associated with my renewal, making my gift fully tax deductible.*
- I am a current member but want to purchase another membership as a gift.

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Make sure you include your e-mail address to receive our e-blasts and special invitations.

Also enclosed is my donation of \$ _____. My donation is

- in memory of *OR* in honor of

Annual membership levels

- \$500 Curator \$250 Historian \$100 Associate
- \$60 Family \$40 Individual \$25 Student (non-voting)

Payment information

- Check (payable to CCHS) VISA / MasterCard

Card number _____

Expiration date _____

Signature _____

CW2# _____

Please send me information about:

- Volunteer opportunities
- Including CCHS in my will/trust
- Making a gift to CCHS through a bequest, annuity, securities or real estate

Mail completed form to:

CCHS, PO Box 61916, Vancouver, WA 98666

Monthly installment plans are available at the Associate level and above. Contact museum staff at (360) 993-5679 or e-mail info@cchmuseum.org for details.

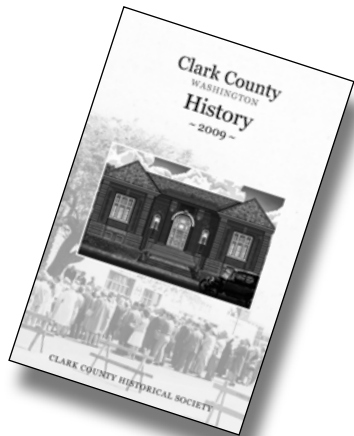
Calendar of events for 2010/2011

NOW!

Autumn Trout Gathering exhibit.
Runs through January 30, 2011.

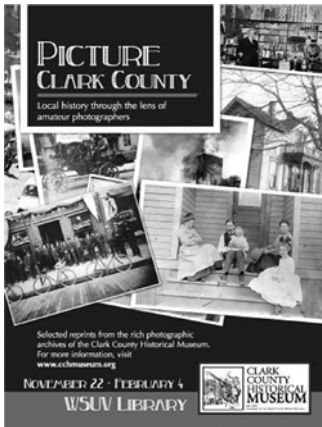
NOVEMBER

18 Release of the *2009 Clark County History Annual & Author's Party* at 5 P.M.
Annual Membership Meeting at 6 P.M.



NOVEMBER

22 *Picture Clark County: Local history through the lens of amateur photographers.* This off-site exhibit showcases the museum's photo archive. Curated by Jeannette Altman and Robert Schimelpfenig it is located at the WSU Vancouver Library. Runs through February 4, 2011.



DECEMBER

4 *Annual Holiday Open House and Artisan's Market.* 10 A.M. – 4 P.M.

JANUARY 2011

22 to 23 - *Mapping Clark County: Maps and aerial photos 1854-2000.* Come see the museum's map exhibit at the Palmer Wirfs Antique & Collectible Show at the Clark County Exposition Center.

FEBRUARY

3 First Thursday museum after hours lecture series kicks off 2011 season with opening of *Bridging the Gap* exhibit. Opening at 5 P.M. with speaker at 7 P.M.

Holiday closures at the museum:

- November 25 & 26
- December 24 & 25
- January 1



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NEWSLETTER

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