

# RHS RENTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY & GENEALOGY

APRIL 2026 | VOLUME 02

## COMING TO RENTON: WHEN DID YOUR FAMILY MAKE RENTON THEIR HOME?

Submitted by: Jacob Winter | Board Secretary



ca 1990 Courtesy of the Schumsky family

My grandparents, Donald Schumsky and Margaret Jones Schumsky, are known among Rentonians primarily thanks to their longstanding presence as restaurateurs in the Renton region between 1965 and 2006. They aimed to provide a curated dining experience to locals and visitors alike while reinvesting in the community to benefit Renton as a whole. **You may have eaten at one of their five restaurants:** Schumsky's (Renton Village & Seatac); The Brass Rail/All City Diner (Renton); Casey's Caboose (Sumner); or Schumsky's Four Corners (Maple Valley). They also owned and operated a vast

catering service for clients all throughout the South King County Region.

Don was born in 1935 just outside of Bismark, North Dakota. When his father, Vincent, became sick with pneumonia and later died, his mother, Grace, brought herself and her six children to Auburn, Washington. They had family in the Puget Sound region and Grace was able to find work in the shipyards.

Margaret was born in Truman, Minnesota in 1941. After going to college at Hamline University and

Continued on page 2

# CONTENTS

- 1 **Coming to Renton: When Did Your Family Make Renton Their Home?**
- 3 **“What’s Up” With the Renton Historical Society?**
- 4 **President’s Report and RHS&G Annual Member Meeting**
- 5 **Board of Directors Updates**
- 6 **Where in Renton Was That?**
- 8 **Celebration Grants & Time Capsule in Honor of America250 & Renton’s 125th Birthday**
- 9 **Recent Happenings With RHS&G and its Community**  
**RHS&G Membership Drive... Throwback!**
- 10 **Coming Soon: New Exhibits, History Chats, & Obituary Writing**
- 11 **Getting Involved in Your Community**  
**Local Folks Sharing the Renton Love**
- 12 **Genealogy Corner**
- 13 **Historical Book Review**
- 14 **Member Recognition**  
**End of an Era**  
**Artists & Authors**  
**Making History**
- 15 **In Memoriam**  
**Notes Received**  
**Annual Member Meeting**
- 16 **Recognizing RHS&G Supporters**

later working a summer at Glacier National Park, she was at Tacoma General studying to be an x-ray technician when she met Don on a blind date at The Cliff House.

Don and Margaret married in 1963, and soon after found their way to Renton.

Don found success in the restaurant business after training as a butcher, cooking aboard Merchant Marine ships, and cooking for the U.S. Army during the Korean War. In fact, he attributed his catering know-how to the methods and checklists he created while feeding crews of several hundred working to build infrastructure for the Army in Korea.

John Cline, the owner of the Moonlight Inn in Kent, gave my grandpa a job, but couldn’t afford to pay him at first. Don was happy to work for free just to start gaining experience in the restaurant industry; he had wanted to open his own eatery since he was first exposed to carving meat and cooking. A regular customer there, Herman Schoenbachler, urged him to start his own restaurant and gave him a loan to make it happen. After five years at the Moonlight Inn, marrying Margaret in 1963, and having their son, Steve, in 1964, Don and Margaret opened Schumsky’s Renton Village in 1965. Their daughter, Mary, was born in 1966.

Over the next 40 years, the Schumsky’s expanded, moved, opened restaurants, and closed others. Don served as President of the Renton Chamber of Commerce from 1981-1982 and he and Margaret were both very active in their roles at the Renton Lions Club.

Margaret still lives in their house of 49 years in the Kennydale neighborhood of Renton and owns the block of buildings in Downtown Renton that include Premier Meat Pies and Drum Roll Winery, among others. Don died in December 2021, though his legacy lives on through his friends, family, and the experience he created for countless diners and Renton community members over four decades.



ca 1976 Photo courtesy of the Schumsky family

# “WHAT’S UP” WITH THE RENTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY & GENEALOGY?

The Renton Historical Society believes community and our stories, past and present, are what makes us who we are. Since 1966, RHS&G has cared for the history of Renton, thanks to our volunteers, our Board, the City of Renton, donors, and our community. As we make our way through 2026, our vision for RHS&G’s future has grown stronger. Our team is energized to share what we’ve been up to, and we can’t wait to see you in person.

## ***RHS&G Buys Historic Building in Downtown Renton***

The first big news for 2026 is RHS&G realizing our dream to buy a forever home for the entirety of our artifacts. We have YOU to thank for this. RHS&G has purchased the 1025 building on S. 3rd Street, **across the street from the Renton History Museum**. We closed on April 13th, and we’re busy bees getting the building ready for our next steps.



## ***Moving: Here We Go Again***

As you would expect, a new building means we are once again tasked with moving our artifacts. Phase one (1) of our move is planned for May, 2026, when we move from our temporary location at the RTC Annex. Phase two (2) is down the road a bit, when we move our

RENTON  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
& GENEALOGY

APRIL  
2026

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carrie Bergquist, President  
Bill Gaw, Vice President  
Steve Bergquist, Treasurer  
Jacob Winter, Secretary  
Kai Dalton  
Alice Lockridge  
James Wilhoit  
Jerry Bruce

### STAFF

Jennifer Douwes, Office Manager

### DESIGN/PRINTING

Scott Douwes, Design & Layout  
The City of Renton Print Shop

### RENTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY & GENEALOGY

BEGINNING JUNE 1ST, 2026:  
1025 S. 3RD ST.  
RENTON, WA 98057

**Phone:** (425) 473-0411

**Email:** [info@rentonhistory.org](mailto:info@rentonhistory.org)

**Website:** [rentonhistory.org](http://rentonhistory.org)

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 65,  
Renton, WA 98057

### HOURS

Tuesday - Friday  
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

### RHS&G SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

**Instagram:** [@rentonhistoricalsociety](https://www.instagram.com/rentonhistoricalsociety)

**Facebook Group:** Renton Historical Society

**Threads:** [rentonhistoricalsociety](https://www.threads.net/rentonhistoricalsociety)

**LinkedIn:** [Renton Historical Society](https://www.linkedin.com/company/renton-historical-society)



Photo courtesy of Steve Bergquist

artifacts from our Park Avenue Annex storage building to the new facility. More on both phases as we move forward. Keep your eye on our socials for more information!

## ***Renton History Museum***

It's no secret that when our time with the Renton History Museum came to a close mid-2025, it allowed for renovations and the careful reconstruction of both the museum itself and our connection with the City of Renton. While the Renton Historical Society will remain, as it always has been, a separate entity from the Renton History Museum, we are excited for their re-opening, once their team completes the needed repairs and commitments.

## ***And You***

We are stronger now than we've ever been before, because of you, our community. **Thank you for your support and all you do for us!** If you're interested in helping us get the new location ready, email us at [info@rentonhistory.org](mailto:info@rentonhistory.org) to let us know your interest.

# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND RHS&G ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING**

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Submitted By: Carrie Bergquist, President

## ***President's Report: Renton Historical Society***

The past six months have been a milestone period for the Renton Historical Society. Our achievements—from acquiring new facilities to professionalizing our operations—are a direct result of a highly involved Board of Directors, our Office Manager **Jennifer Douwes**, and the incredible community involvement and strength of our local and regional partnerships.

## ***Acquiring Our New Facility***

We are thrilled to announce that the Society has successfully purchased a new building to serve as a dedicated storage facility for our artifacts—a valuable acquisition secured through the resourcefulness of Vice-President Bill Gaw. This expansion is a vital step in protecting Renton's historical legacy. My first thank you goes to **Bob Hunt**, a past president of RHS&G, who nudged us to locate a space that RHS&G could own! The next thank you goes to **Eric Tuazon**, he shared his

expertise in examining the property and prepared us with maps, drawings, and the history.

- **Community Support:** We also owe gratitude to **Diane Dobson** of the Renton Chamber of Commerce, who introduced us to our realtor, Mike Catt of Kidder Mathews. This was instrumental in helping us secure a space that perfectly fits our preservation needs. Plus, **Diane** introduced us to our newest board member, **Jerry Bruce**, recognizing a great candidate.
- **Financial Partnership:** We extend a sincere thank you to **Shane Klingenstein and his staff at Edward Jones**. Shane's guidance was essential in guiding the financial arrangements necessary for this purchase, ensuring the Society's resources were managed effectively to make this goal a reality.

## ***Funding & Strategic Support***

Our mission is fueled by the generosity of our community foundations and regional partners:

- **4Culture:** We thank 4Culture for their vital support via the [Heritage Sustained Support grant](#). This funding provides essential operating support, allowing us to maintain our daily service to the public.
- **Renton Regional Community Foundation:** We have worked closely with the [Renton Regional Community Foundation](#) through their [Circle of Giving](#) program and are proud to have received a grant to support our ongoing initiatives.
- **King County Council:** We thank Council member [Reagan Dunn](#), District Nine, in securing us a Councilmanic grant for RHS&G for operating support.

### ***Professional Excellence & Education***

To ensure we are practicing the highest standards of stewardship, our team has been working with the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH).

- **Security & Maintenance:** Board members, staff, and volunteers have taken specialized classes regarding security and maintenance. This training ensures our new storage facility and existing collections meet professional archival standards.

### ***Join Us in the Next Chapter***

As we transition our artifacts to the new building, we invite our members to get involved:

- **Volunteer:** We need many hands as we set up our new home at the historic 1898 Snoqualmie Falls substation.
- **Attend:** Please join us for our **Annual Membership Meeting on May 31, 2026** at 2pm at our new location.
- **We look forward to visiting with you and thank you for your continued support and commitment to preserving Renton’s wonderful and unique history.**

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATES

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We are excited to add long-time Renton supporter **Jerry Bruce** to our team. He’s been happily retired since 2001 after 40 years with Oberto Sausage. He was on the Maplewood Golf Course board for 30 years, serving as Vice President for 25 of those years. An avid golfer, he looks forward to contributing to the Renton Historical Society in any way he can. Jerry is currently the president of the “21” Club in Renton.

Vice President **Bill Gaw** is the expert in record retention and took on the task of reviewing materials retained by RHS&G over the past forty years. He has a knack for discovering used office equipment for a great price, sometimes even free. Thanks to his skills, he’s helping us get back in touch with our potluck style roots. We also owe a special debt of gratitude to him. During Bill’s tenure in the early 2000s as Vice President, he was instrumental in managing the **Custer bequest** and worked alongside Bob Hunt to negotiate the sale of the real estate formerly held by **First Savings Bank**. This successful negotiation allowed us to establish the **RHS&G Building Fund**, which provided the foundation for the purchase of

our new home. Bill’s leadership extends to our financial sustainability, as he helped establish our ongoing partnership with **Shane Klingenstein** and his team at Edward Jones to effectively manage our investments.

Board Trustee **Alice Lockridge** has been active in our community working on updating the written and visual information for the 2001 project known as History Lives Here that was advertised as a “Self-guided Walking Tour.” The soon-to-be on-line educational piece is titled Where in Renton Was That? and will give a more complete history on each of the 22 original historical locations. Plans are in the works to add to the project and expand it to 30 plaques. She’s helping us to imagine even more exhibits, which we can’t wait to put into action.

Board Trustee **James Wilhoit** has been scouring our city for tales of Renton’s history. He’s started a nice selection of oral histories and wants to hear yours! Please reach out to us at [info@rentonhistory.org](mailto:info@rentonhistory.org) if you want to contribute to our collection!

Board Trustee **Kai Dalton** offers us the voice of

tomorrow, offering feedback whenever possible on our ongoing discussions. He is busy finishing up his senior year at Washington State University, but in his spare time also serves on the Newcastle Historical Society board of directors. He's an avid fan of historical preservation and has community connections which allow us to expand our reach.

**Steve Bergquist**, RHS&G Treasurer, has been hitting the streets getting our Celebration Grant contests up and running, working with local schools to make sure the word gets out there about these opportunities.

Board Secretary **Jacob Winter** attended the Arts, Heritage, & Sciences Week in Olympia where he met

with state legislators to advocate for funding and policies that benefit the work we do as a non-profit that serves our community. One policy they fought for was a revision to last year's law implementing sales tax on live presentations and classes. Many organizations, including RHS&G, want to carve out exceptions to this sales tax collection to lower the financial barrier to people wishing to attend our events. We also advocated to maintain funding for grants provided by ArtsWA to many non-profit organizations like ours. He's been instrumental in running our organization, including assisting with grant applications, community outreach, the newsletter, professional meeting minutes and more.



From right to left. Carrie is joined in her volunteer role on the RHS&G Board of Directors by the following volunteers: Vice President, Bill Gaw; Treasurer, Steve Bergquist; Secretary, Jacob Winter; Director, Jerry Bruce, Director, Kai Dalton, Director, Alice Lockridge; and Director, James Wilhoit.

## WHERE IN RENTON WAS THAT?

Submitted by: Alice Lockridge, MS | Renton Historical Society Board Member | Nov, 2025

The Renton Historical Society held its first **Historical Tea Party** with Board Trustee **Alice Lockridge** on March 20th 2026.

A Tea Party hosted by an Alice is notoriously Whimsical and Chaotic but that's not how I tend to teach. This first class was a short, introductory version of a planned half-day workshop about the history captured in **Renton Historical Sidewalk Plaques** as a way to start celebrating their 25th Anniversary Year.

Our conversations began with a discovery of the diversity of the group. We covered a wide span of ages and places of origin but all of us are now Renton residents and interested in history and preserving the stories of Renton.

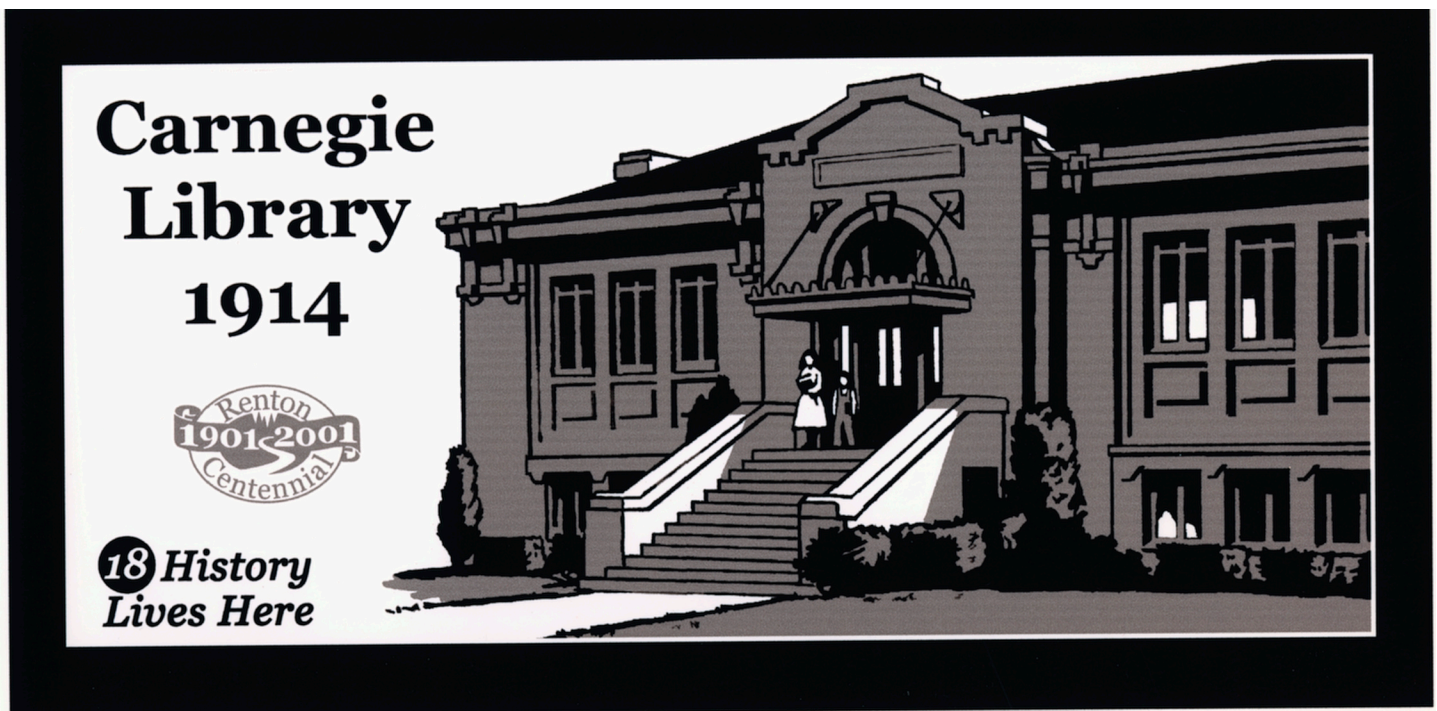
Using a Date Line Chart spanning nearly 200 years on one wall, and the newly created, poster-sized banners of the Sidewalk Plaques on the other, we focused on how the City of Renton got its start. The Duwamish are said to have been in the area for 1500 years before the arrival of the first White settlers. Women and men that were at least 18 years of age and White could claim land given by permission of the US's Donation Land Claim Act of 1850. This was the first US law that allowed women to personally own land. Half White men, at least 18 years old, were also allowed to claim 120 Acres of land, in this territory, as part of this Act.



Plaque 10, Alki Saloon 1881

Like many other cities in the late 1800's, Renton was a Wild West town full of miners, cattle-men, and railroad workers. Including the Alki Saloon from plaque 10 (1881), we had nine saloons before even one

church was built. The Carnegie Library from plaque 18 (1914) didn't get built for a few decades after that, when a young mother of three led the charge to get a Carnegie Foundation grant to build it.



Plaque 18, Carnegie Library 1914

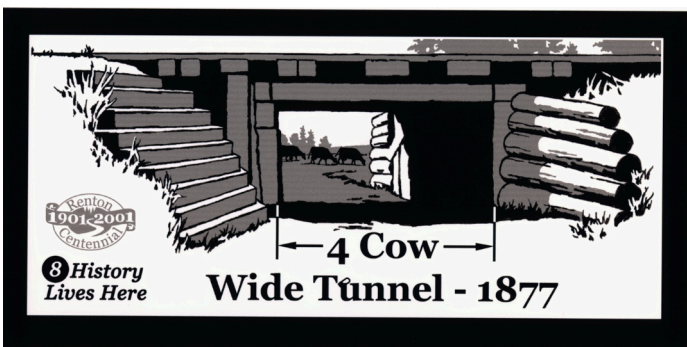
We learned about Marie and Frank Connelly, the couple that ran the Grand Theatre from plaque 19 (1916), the first movie theatre in Renton. From sidewalk plaque 12, featuring the Central School

(1892), we talked about George Conklin and Leona (Triviere), (shown here in their Wedding portrait, dated June 1, 1899.) George was the first principal of Central School.

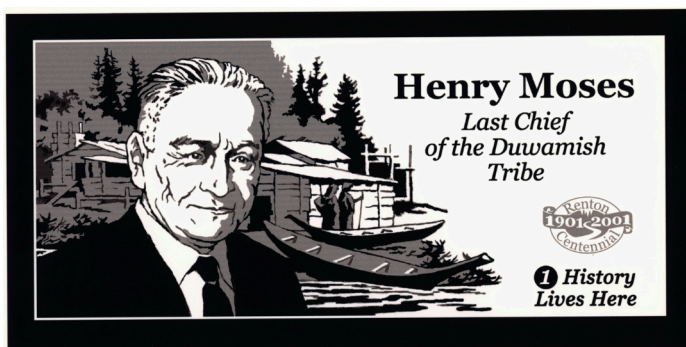
The stories and locations that these sidewalk plaques pinpoint were discussed as historic sites of importance and interest. These first 22 plaques cover our town from the northern point at Nishiwaki Lane crossing the Cedar River Trail, to the spot in southeast Renton marking the entrance of the Renton Coal Mine, represented on plaque 7, Renton Coal Company (1873). Discussion about six of the 22 plaques which have been removed and not yet replaced after sidewalks were updated were part of our agenda. Additional plaques to be created in the near future include ones for the early Black settlement in the Red-lined neighborhood known as Hilltop, including its retail center on Union Ave.

There is so much history that we want to cover, including the longest living Hilltop resident, Irene Grayson. Another significant land owner in that area is the Houston Family. Their farm was purchased by the Renton School district in 1968, signaling the start of gentrification and the end of the tight-knit Black community that had grown there.

More landmark spots for memorable native tribal events are also being sought to round the project to 30 historical plaques and events worth having another Tea Party about. Please reach out to share artifacts, family stories, and pictures to be part of this project.



Plaque 8 - 4 Cow Wide Tunnel, 1877



Plaque 1 - Henry Moses

# CELEBRATION GRANTS & TIME CAPSULE IN HONOR OF AMERICA250 & RENTON'S 125TH BIRTHDAY

Submitted by: Alice Lockridge, MS | Renton Historical Society Board Member | Nov, 2025

## *Celebration Grants*

America250 and the City of Renton's 125th birthday mark an important time in history. To commemorate these historic events, RHS&G has created the Celebration Grant Contest, with Steve Bergquist heading the team. This essay and video contest was launched through the Renton School District for youth of all ages. As this contest comes to a close, we look forward to seeing what living in Renton means to our youth. Elementary schools that participate will receive a \$500 donation to their PTSA. Top selected entries at each elementary school will receive a class pizza party and recognition at a Renton City Council meeting. Winning entries at Renton middle and high schools will receive a \$1,000 donation to the school's ASB, gift cards for individual students, and recognition at a Renton City Council meeting.

Stay tuned for the winners!

## *Time Capsule*

Another fun opportunity to celebrate Renton's 125th birthday is a photo and short essay contest. It will run this summer, beginning on July 4th, 2026, and is open to all Renton area residents. We're looking for a picture of an artifact (an interesting piece of Renton) with a brief, 250-word or fewer explanation of why this item is worthy of inclusion in RHS&G's collection. Contest entries must be received by August 1, 2026. Winners will be announced in mid-August. It is open to anyone who has ties to Renton. Winning entries will be placed in our Time Capsule with prizes for the top three entries in our youth and adult divisions. Details will be available soon. Keep your eye on our socials and website!

# RHS&G MEMBERSHIP DRIVE... THROWBACK!

To help celebrate the upcoming country-wide 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, RHS&G is launching a special membership drive, rolling back costs to what they were 25 years ago in honor of America250.

“We Want YOU” to join the Renton Historical Society!

## **America250 Rates**

Individual Annual Membership: \$10

Student or Senior Annual Membership: \$8

Family Annual Membership: \$15

Patron Annual Membership: \$150

Lifetime Membership: \$250



Join or Renew Your Membership [HERE](#)



## **Benefits of Membership** *(Dependent on membership level)*

- Donor recognition on our website
- Invitations to member-only events
- High-end scanner use
- Genealogy services
- Artifact and Historical Research Assistance
- Free classes, tours, and workshops

# RECENT HAPPENINGS WITH RHS&G AND ITS COMMUNITY

**January 15, 2026**

Filmmaker BJ Bullert came by to explore our archives for Duwamish tribe images to support her documentary, *Unrecognized*. We recently reached out to her for an update and learned that our images, which she scanned using our high resolution scanner, will have their time in the limelight in the near future. Stay tuned on our socials and future newsletters. We promise to share as soon as we know the date and location. Congratulations BJ!



Photo credit Jennifer Douwes

## January through March, 2026

As a historical society, we're firm believers in writing about history. To support future works of historical non-fiction and fiction, we launched a three-part **Writing History** class hosted by our office manager, Jennifer Douwes, that met once a month for an hour and a half. We had a nice turnout, and look forward to hosting more classes on writing about history when we get our ducks in a row at the new facility in downtown Renton.

Photo Credit Jennifer Douwes



## March 20, 2026



Sometimes, you just want to sit down and talk about history. An Historical Tea Party with Board Trustee Alice Lockridge was a huge success. They shared a few pots of tea and chatted in detail about a few of the sidewalk plaques highlighted in the 'Walking Tour' known as History Lives Here, created for the City of Renton's 100th birthday. For a detailed look of this class, see the article: [Where in Renton Was That](#). For more information on a future exhibit created with this research, see the article, [Exhibits](#), in the Coming Soon section.

Photo Credit Jacob Winter

# COMING SOON: NEW EXHIBITS, HISTORY CHATS, & OBITUARY WRITING

## *Exhibits*

Board Trustee, Alice Lockridge, has created a traveling exhibit utilizing the historical data from the 2001 History Lives Here "Self-guided Walking Tour" as a starting point. Showcasing the original plaques with large replicas, it will share the details of why these sites are historically significant. The soon-to-be on-line educational piece is titled, [Where in Renton Was That?](#) and will give a more complete history on each of the 22 original historical locations. Plans are in the works to add to the project and expand it to 30 plaques.

## *History Chats*

In an effort to continue historical conversations, we're preparing content for the following History Chats: 50 Historically Significant Renton Women, People in Renton's Historic Places, Part Two of [Where in Renton Was That?](#), and HillTop Heroes.

## *Obituary Writing*

We'll be hosting 30 minute individual appointments to assist members in writing an obituary, including optional genealogy assistance.

# LOCAL FOLKS SHARING THE RENTON LOVE

Check out these great Renton-centric social media accounts!



Eric Tuazon's: *"Renton Then and Now"* is on Facebook and Instagram.

You know you're from Renton if.....  
Facebook group.



Winter Cashman's Renton Signal  
on Facebook and Instagram.



Larry Lehnerz's: *"Renton Remembered:  
A Story Scrapbook"* a Facebook Group.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS SPRING & SUMMER 2026

- **Volunteer Hours:** Please email or call to make an appointment to volunteer.
- **May 26 - 29** - Moving into to new location (official dates for volunteer opportunities TBA).
- **May 31, Sunday @ 2 pm** - Annual Member Meeting and RHS&G's 60th Birthday Celebration - Location: @ 1025 S. 3rd St.
- **June 6** - Legacy Square Grand Opening - Location: @ the Renton History Museum.
- **July 25 & 26th** - Renton River Days - Location: @ the Renton History Museum.
- **SOOOO MUCH MORE**

## GETTING INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY

### *Volunteers*

And just when we thought we were done organizing from our previous move to the Renton Technical College (RTC) Annex, we are moving again! We can't thank our volunteers enough for helping us get ready for the move. From helping us with the technical side of purchasing a building, to packing, to accessioning our artifacts, we couldn't do this without any of you. The biggest of thank you's go out to: Eric Tuazon, Liz Hemenway, Larry Lehnerz, Beth Mitcham, Greg Bergquist, Todd Conley, Kris Ikeda, Bill Gaw, Kai Dalton, Jacob Winter, Steve Bergquist, Alice Lockridge, James Wilhoit, Jerry Bruce, Carrie Bergquist, Cathy Corman, Scott Douwes, and Jennifer Douwes.

Our new office across from the Renton History Museum is a work in progress, but oh my goodness is it beautiful! With our move from the RTC Annex still in its planning stages as this goes to press, we aren't sure what kind, or how much help we will need to complete this task. There is A LOT more to do, though, and if you'd like to lend a hand, we'd love to have you. One place to sign up to volunteer is on our website: <https://www.rentonhistory.org/volunteer>. Here you will find a list of many of the needs that would help us. Another option is to email us at [info@rentonhistory.org](mailto:info@rentonhistory.org), or call/text us at 425-473-0411. We can schedule a time to give you a tour and get you started!

## Highlight on an Artifact

If you have anything you feel deserves a place in our collection, please reach out to us! Your options are through our website (<https://www.rentonhistory.org/donate-an-artifact>) or simply email us at [info@rentonhistory.org](mailto:info@rentonhistory.org)

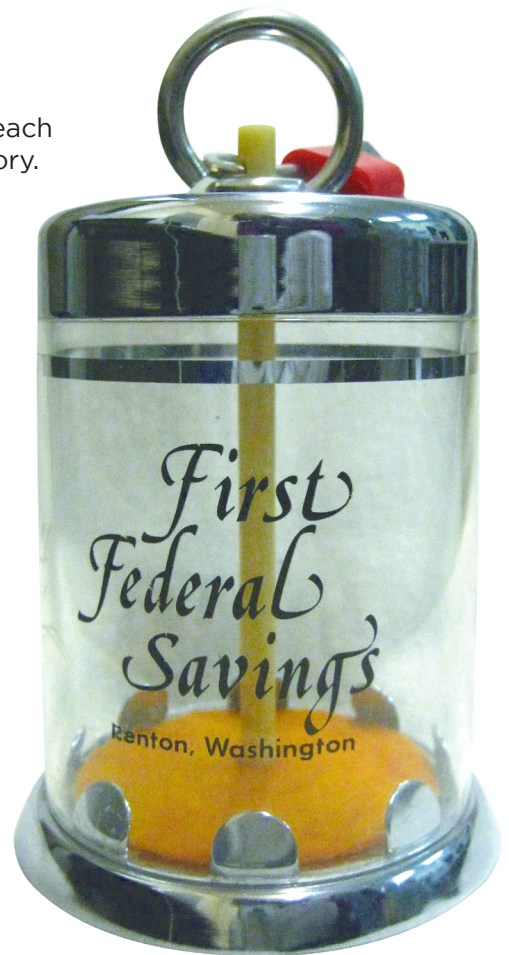


Our featured artifact in this issue is in honor of Harry Blencoe's passing. We lucked out finding this coin bank in our collection, ca 1975. This particular bank is made out of metal and plastic, but the originals were made out of glass.

A career employee at First Savings Bank, Harry was an active part of the Renton Community, volunteering for as many as six organizations. In 2004, the First Financial Northwest Foundation honored his service by dedicating an auditorium at Renton Technical College in his name.

His love for his community and sports kept him busy, right through to the end. Mr. Blencoe will be missed.

2003.034.001 First Federal Savings Coin Bank ca  
1975 from RHS&G's Banking Collection



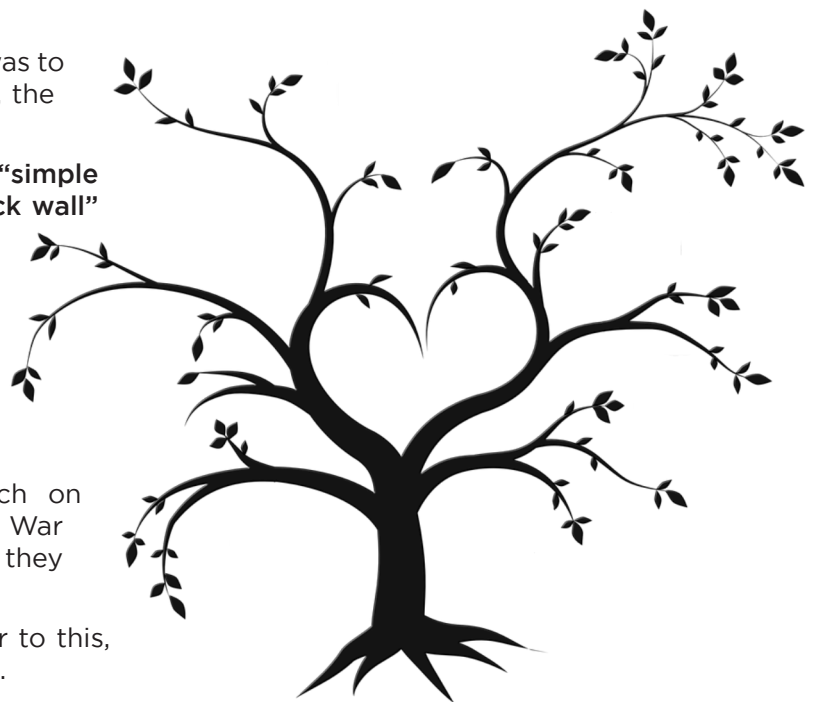
## GENEALOGY CORNER

### Quick Action Items for Researchers

Just when you thought you knew everything there was to know about online tools for researching genealogy, the websites got even better!

- **Visit FamilySearch.org/labs:** Try toggling on “simple search” for the full text AI search on your “brick wall” ancestors. It’s now voice activated!
- **Check Your Ancestry DNA:** Here’s a great example of how things continually improve. Take another look at your genetic test at AncestryDNA for your new Macro-Regions and see if your ethnicity results have stabilized.
- **Update Fold3 Searches:** For military research on Fold3, you can now look into Revolutionary War ancestors using **battle names** or **towns** to see if they appear in someone else’s pension file.

Some of these may have been around in beta prior to this, but these features have now been formally released.



# HISTORICAL BOOK REVIEW

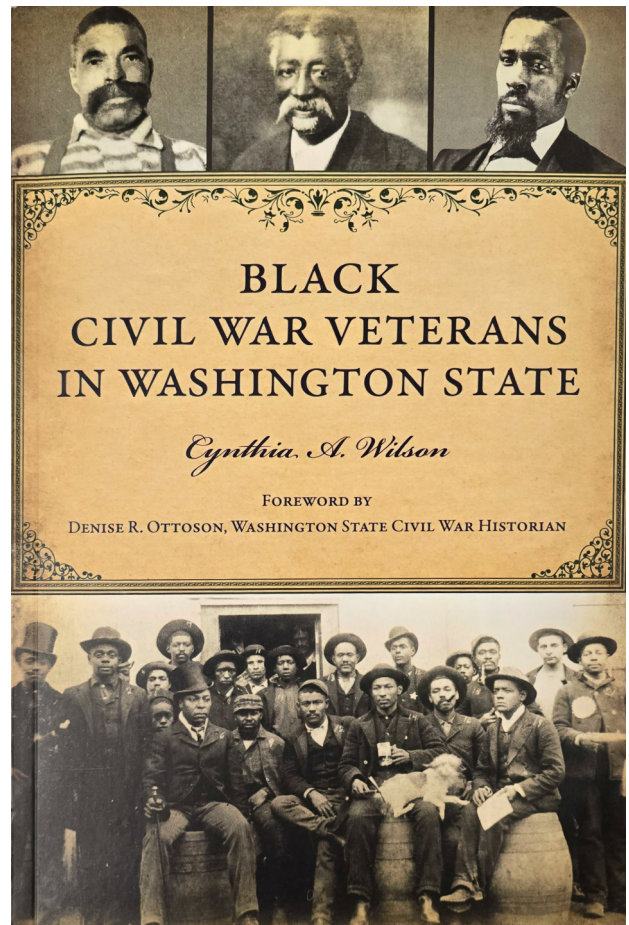
## *Black Civil War Veterans in Washington State* by Cynthia A. Wilson

Genre, Historical Research  
Review Submitted by Charles Thomas

Black Civil War Veterans in Washington State by Cynthia A. Wilson is a historical study of African American soldiers who settled in Washington after the Civil War. The book focuses on at least thirty-three veterans who migrated west seeking opportunity, stability, and freedom in the late nineteenth century.

Wilson organizes the book by region, presenting short biographical profiles of these men and tracing their journeys from military service, often in the United States Colored Troops, to their postwar lives. Some became community leaders, farmers, or public officials, while others faced hardship, illness, and poverty.

Wilson's deep research of pension records, military documents, and census data, shows a passion for the subject. Wilson reconstructs their stories and emphasizes their diversity of backgrounds and experiences. The book sheds light on an often-overlooked group and shows how the Black Civil War Veterans contributed to the social and economic development of Washington State.



Scan me with your phone or tablet to access the online form.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please Select a membership level

### Basic membership

- \$10 - Individual
- \$8 - Student/Senior
- \$15 - Family

### Sustaining membership

- \$75 - Benefactor
- \$150 - Patron
- \$175 - Business/Corporate
- \$250 - Lifetime membership

Please consider making a tax deductible donation! Your donations help us provide exhibits and exciting programs.

Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Information

Visa or MC #: \_\_\_\_\_

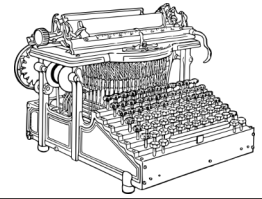
Exp date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Renton Historical Society.



# ARTISTS & AUTHORS MAKING HISTORY



Fans of art and books, keep your eyes on this corner in future publications. Artists and Authors, please send us your work, as detailed below, so we can grow this portion of our newsletter!

## ***Published Authors Making Local History***

If you are a local author who has published a book, we'd love for you to take part in our newsletter section celebrating local art and writing!

What we need:

- A 300 dpi image of your book cover.
- A web address where it can be purchased.
- Your Name and contact information.

Send this to [info@rentonhistory.org](mailto:info@rentonhistory.org)

We look forward to hearing from you!

## ***Artists Making Local History***

If you are a local artist who has created a local publicly displayed piece of art, we'd love for you to take part in our newsletter section celebrating local art and writing!

What we need:

- A 300 dpi picture of the original art.
- If on public display, an address where it can be viewed.
- Your name and contact information.

Send this to [info@rentonhistory.org](mailto:info@rentonhistory.org)

## END OF AN ERA

Stan and Rosemary Greene were the heart of RHS&G's volunteer efforts for years. Volunteering up to 40 hours a week, Stan and Rosemary pioneered our journey to record our accessions in a museum database software called PastPerfect. Stan passed away in December of 2025. We treasure their devotion to the community.



## MEMBER RECOGNITION

### **Lifetime Members**

- |                           |                           |                               |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Linda & Gene Aitken     | • William & Carol Collins | • Alice Lockridge             |
| • Mary Beretta            | • Sylvester Cugini        | • Jim & Cathy Matthew         |
| • Carole & Russ Berg      | • Barbara Dengel          | • Marsha Nissen               |
| • Carrie Bergquist        | • Bob Edwards             | • Bernie O'Donnell            |
| • Wesley Bergquist        | • Robert Evans            | • Michael & Valerie Ohalloran |
| • Kelly Beymer            | • Nancy Fairman           | • Frances & Marsh Remillard   |
| • Dave & Monica Brethauer | • Leonard Folino          | • Pam & Mike Teal             |
| • Clint Cannon            | • Joy Delaurenti Garner   | • Eric & Emily Tuazon         |
| • Winter Cashman          | • Janet Graham            | • Beth Mithcham               |
| • Delores Christianson    | • Jeannie Greene-Crook    | • Bill Gaw                    |
| • Marilyn & Duane Clise   | • Linda Holmes            |                               |



### Memorial Contributions

- Bruce Phillips
- Stanley Greene
- Harry Blencoe
- Elizabeth “Beth” Greggs
- Robert “Bob” Anderson
- Shirley Custer
- The aforementioned  
were memorialized by  
Greg & Carrie Bergquist
- Peter Newing
- Hazel Newing
- Deborah Newing
- Stephen Clymer
- Chuck Samson

### Contributions

- 4Culture
- Andrew Akers
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Becky & Jan Frandsen -  
Donation of Chairs
- Bernie O'Donnell
- Carolyn Boatsman
- Carolyn Vrablick
- Charmaine C Baker
- Circle of Giving -Renton  
Regional Community  
Foundation
- Cynthia Buster Burns
- Deborah Newing
- Diana Bartley
- Donovan J Lynch
- Hazel Newing
- Eddie & Robin Wilson
- Ila Hemm
- Janice Tanner
- Jenan McNeight
- Joanne Matsumura
- John Bergquist
- Joyce & John Peterson
- Karen Boswell
- Kirk Mathewson
- Susan Henderson
- Laura Bronson RHS Class of '59
- Larry French
- Lauren E Ross
- Linda Della Rossa
- Linda Texeira
- Mark & Barbara Santos-Johnson
- Mary Riley
- Mary Wittman
- McCorkle & Associates
- ML Simpson
- Richard Major
- Sandra Polley
- Susan Anderson

## IN MEMORIAM

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<i>Robert “Bob” Anderson</i>	1933 - 2026	<i>Stan Greene</i>	1930-2025
<i>Harry Blencoe</i>	1924 - 2026	<i>Elizabeth “Beth” Greggs</i>	1925 - 2026
<i>Josephine Cugini</i>	1927 - 2026		

## NOTES RECEIVED

Thank you to Renton resident Sarah for helping us find the location of the tiles shown in our Q4 2025 Newsletter. According to Sarah, they have been located at the Renton Community Center for many years.

# 60<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING



You are invited to join us at the annual membership meeting, hosted each Spring, for members of the Society and the public to socialize, celebrate RHS&G's year of successes, and talk about our hopes and goals for the year ahead.

Please join us for food, drink, and more on Sunday, May 31, 2026 at 2pm at RHS&G's new offices and headquarters, 1025 S. 3rd St. in downtown Renton. This

is the 3-story brick building across from the Renton History Museum, formerly occupied by Akin and Renton Area Youth Services (RAYS).

Come by starting at 1:30 to tour the new space, or, after the meeting, board members and volunteers will stick around to show the building to those wishing to see it.

RENTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
3407 NE 2ND ST.  
RENTON, WA 98056

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# RECOGNIZING RHS&G SUPPORTERS

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The important work of maintaining, promoting, and furthering the history of our great city would not be possible without the support of the many organizations, volunteers, and experts we get the pleasure of partnering with.

The Renton Historical Society would like to express our immense gratitude to the following:

