

# PAST TIMES

Volume 11, Issue 3

Autumn 2000

## Salmon Days Approach!

Salmon Days 2000 (October 7 & 8) is fast approaching. Both the Gilman Town Hall Museum and the Depot will be open to visitors Saturday and Sunday from 11 to 3. The Historical Society will also be selling popcorn and soda and operating its vintage pump car for donations. If you are interested in volunteering for a shift as docent, pump car operator, or popcorn vendor, please call the Museum office at 425/392-3500. We hope to see you there!



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## Issaquah Has a History of Community Celebration

Issaquah has always been a festive town. Three major community celebrations have been held here during the last century: rodeos, the Labor Day Festival, and today's Salmon Days Festival.

Issaquah's community celebrations trace their roots back to early July 4th and Labor Day festivities. Festivities focused on the rodeo. In addition to events like calf roping and bucking broncos, rodeo celebrations featured chariot races, relays, dances, and other diversions. Holiday horse races were also held in the middle of Front Street, between the Grange Mercantile building and Mill Street (now Sunset Way). The saloons were busy — and so was the jail. The town's second jail (located behind the Gilman Town Hall) was frequently packed with boisterous celebrators. The volunteer fire company was often obliged to cool the crowd down with water because their noise was disturbing the neighbors.

Although rodeos were held on both Labor Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> during the 1920's, by 1936 the Labor Day Festival was recognized as the community shin-dig. Aside from the World War II years, when the Festival was not held, the Labor Day Festival ran yearly until its demise in 1969.

The first Salmon Days Festival was held in 1970 as a replacement for the Labor Day Festival. The Salmon Days Festival was created in order to promote Issaquah, raise funds for the Chamber of Commerce and to celebrate community spirit. Salmon returning to Issaquah Creek to spawn already drew visitors to town, so festival founders timed their event with the annual spawning. The first festival featured 75

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## ISSAQUAH

Sixth Annual

# RODEO

### Big Indian Pow Wow

Ceremonial, Ghost and War Dances

under auspices

Snoqualmie and Skagit Tribes

Funny Clowns - Trick Mules - Rubes - Fancy Roping - Trick Riding

Daily Program July 4th, 6th, 7th

Broncho Busting	Wild Horse Races
Steer Wrestling	Chariot Races
Calf Roping	Relay Races
Steer Riding	Roman Races
Bareback Broncho Riding	Cowboy & Cowgirl Races

Best Wildwest Show Ever Staged in the Northwest

**Strawberry Red Wall Rodeo Association**

*Advertisement from a July 4, 1929 Issaquah Press.*

## Yakima Trolley Coming Soon — To a Depot Near You!

**T**hough our trolley won't be running by Salmon Days – we have an excellent chance of getting one here by then. The IHS is completing a lease agreement with the city of Yakima to bring Oporto Car #1976 to Issaquah. We will use the car for weekend and special event rides; when not in use, the trolley will be on display at the depot. Our 18-month use of the trolley is free, in exchange for the services of storing it, insuring it, and doing some restoration. We will return the car to Yakima in better condition than we received it.

The City of Issaquah is offering vital support by acting as lease partner. The City will also allow us to build a display gazebo (with protective plexiglass) near the depot. Several other Oporto trolleys around the country may be available for future purchase or lease. We are crafting a business plan that includes daily trolley service on an extended system of replica trolley cars.

Car #1976 was constructed by Philadelphia's J.G. Brill Co. in 1927 and exported to Portugal, where it ran on Oporto's cobblestone streets. When the folks in Yakima decided to revive streetcar service in 1974, they ordered two surplus cars from Oporto. Due to unusual circumstances (such as a revolution), city officials were actually shocked when the cars arrived in time for the bicentennial celebration. The identical cars were redubbed #1776 and #1976. The cars seat 32 passengers, and feature beautiful mahogany woodwork. For a recent article (September 5th, Eastside Extra), the Seattle Times interviewed Kenneth Johnsen, former Yakima trolley driver and author of *Apple Country Interurban*. "The ride is slow and pleasant," said Johnsen, who drove trolleys in Yakima. "They're so easy to run." According to Johnsen, the engines softly grumble and sometimes the air compressor produces a "tunk-tunk-tunk-tunk-tunk" sound. We're looking forward to hearing that sound in Issaquah very soon!



## IHS Celebrates Archaeology Month With Artifact ID Day

**A**rchaeology is the study of the material remains of a past culture. These material remains, or artifacts, might be 1,000 years old, or 100 years old, or only 25 years old. They might also have belonged to any cultural group. People often come across artifacts when they are working on their homes or digging in their yard. Two examples of commonly found artifacts are glass bottles and Native American hand tools.

If you have any archaeological objects that you're curious about, we have an event for you! On Saturday October 21, from 11 AM until 3 PM, we will hold an Archaeology ID Day at the Depot. Archaeologists Paula Johnson and Amy Dugas will be on hand to unlock the mysteries of your archaeological artifacts. If you can tell Paula and Amy as much as you know about where and when your artifact was found, it will help them identify and interpret it.

Paula and Amy recently completed an Archaeology Resource Guide for historical museums and organizations. The guide and this event have been funded by the King County Landmarks and Heritage Commission.

*Questions about the ID day? Call 425/392-3500.*

## Next Membership Meeting

**T**he next membership meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 10 at 7 PM at the Depot. This month's program will feature a presentation on trolleys in operation around the country. We'll also let you know what some of the upcoming plans are for Issaquah's Trolley.

We will also be voting on new board members. If you are interested in serving on the Issaquah Historical Society Board or one of its committees, please leave a message for nominating committee chair Todd Sargeant at 425/392-3500.

# Celebrations

*(continued from page 1)*

booths and 2,500 visitors. In contrast, the 1999 Salmon Days Festival hosted 420 booths and an estimated 250,000 visitors. This community festival has become a regional attraction, with visitors from all over the Puget Sound area attending.

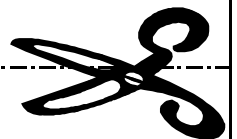
Salmon Days Festival 2000 will be held October 7 & 8. The theme is "Kids, Chaos and Coho" — and there's an old friend associated. Take a good look at the Festival's logo next time you have a chance. If you're a long-time member of the Issaquah Historical Society, you might recognize the Festival's poster-boy – or you might not. After all, more than 65 years have passed since the photo of Dave Horrocks, grinning broadly and displaying a fish, was taken. He was three or four years old at the time the photo was taken. His wife Nancy has revealed that Dave was actually holding a trout and not a salmon. Dave passed away a year ago; he was a community historian and long-time member of the IHS.

# Autumn Open House

All IHS members are invited to an open house at the Gilman Town Hall Museum on Saturday, September 30, from 2 PM to 5 PM. Drop in for refreshments, to visit with friends, and to celebrate the opening of our new exhibits!

Our latest exhibit, *Cherishing Our Heritage*, examines the importance of family heirlooms. It features the stories and artifacts of Issaquah families. The exhibit currently profiles the family of Lyman B. Andrews, father of Issaquah's coal industry. Several of Lyman Andrews' tie pins are on display, as well as Jennie Andrews' beautiful taffeta wedding blouse and a hand-made quilt, both circa 1860. Every four to six months this exhibit will change, focusing on a different family in Issaquah.

In addition to *Cherishing Our Heritage*, other new exhibits include *Issaquah Milestones* and *Tools of the Trades*, which opened earlier this summer. The museum staff and volunteers look forward to seeing you on September 30!



## Membership Renewal & Application Form

- Individual (\$20)     Senior/Student (\$10)     Family (\$25)     Senior Family (\$15)     Corporate (\$50)

Other Membership levels:

- Contributing Member (\$50)     Supporting Member (\$100)     Benefactor (\$500)  
 Contributing Corporate (\$75)     Supporting Corporate (\$150)     Corporate Benefactor (\$750)  
 I am donating \$\_\_\_\_\_ in support of your work.

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

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

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

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

- My employer will match my gift! Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please attach matching gift form or provide contact name and phone number for the matching gift officer at your company).  
 Please charge my membership fee to my Visa/MasterCard.

Visa/MasterCard #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the Issaquah Historical Society (IHS). The Issaquah Historical Society is a non profit 501(c)(3) organization, tax ID #23-7425589. All gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

# Archaeology Facts

Did you know that...

- October is Archaeology Month? Events will be held state-wide to raise public awareness about protecting Washington's archaeological heritage.
- The Issaquah Historical Society has an archaeological collection from the old lumber town of Monohon? Look for a Monohon exhibit coming soon!
- That artifacts lose meaning when taken from their original resting place, and away from other objects they were near? This is why we rely on archaeologists to remove and interpret objects, collecting data as they excavate so that no information can be lost.
- No one may knowingly disturb an archaeological site, or excavate without a permit from the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation? If there is a large concentration of artifacts in one area (even on private land), it may be considered an archaeological site and should not be disturbed.

*Past Times* is a production of the Issaquah Historical Society. More than 250 members strong, the IHS works to preserve and interpret the history of Issaquah and the surrounding area.

Historic Train Depot  
50 Rainier Blvd. N  
Open Saturdays, 11-3

Gilman Town Hall  
165 SE Andrews Street  
Open Thursdays & Saturdays, 11-3  
and by appointment.

Outdoor Logging Display  
In the 100 block of Rainier Boulevard S

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You can donate to the Issaquah Historical Society through the united way campaign. Your gifts are greatly appreciated!

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P.O. Box 695  
Issaquah, WA 98027

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**NEXT MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM:  
OCTOBER 10, 7 PM**