Annual Meeting, Saturday, June 29
"Racing Reminiscences"

It's not "the run for the roses" or "the Triple Crown", but come to the annual meeting of the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington to hear of about local race track history from the first track at The Meadows through the Longacres Era to racing as it is now, at Emerald Downs.

Our speaker, Ralph Vacca, is the general manager of the Washington Thoroughbred Breeders Association. Vacca has lived near, or been involved with, "the horses" since he was a child, when the Vacca family farm abutted the land which housed The Meadows racetrack (until state law restrictions shut it down). He has been involved with many aspects of horse racing, as: hot walker, groom and even as a pony boy at Longacres during his high school years in the early 1950's. After graduation from WSU with a degree in Animal Studies, he moved to Kentucky, where he worked at the Stone Creek Stud and Claiborne Farms. After a short stint back in Washington, he returned to Kentucky to write articles and advertising copy for many major horse farms.

Ralph returned to Washington state in 1964, and has worked for the Washington State Breeders Association ever since: working as editor of Washington Thoroughbred magazine, and serving as the association's general manager since 1973.

Ralph will share history and remembrances from a lifetime of horse racing. He will talk about other horse-racing tracks across the state, as well as discuss the closing of historic Seattle-area track Longacres and opening of current venue Emerald Downs.

Family history to be part of festivities

Roger Newman of Shelton will present a history of his pioneer family at this year's annual meeting of the Pioneer Association. Six different ancestors qualify him for membership in the organization. One of these ancestors, Lewis Delaunais, settled in Lewis County in the 1840's. Another, John McPhail, settled in Clark County in the 1830's. Both worked for the Hudson's Bay Company in the Pacific Northwest.

Roger's other ancestors settled in Pierce, Snohomish and San Juan counties during the 1850's and 1860's.
President's comments

Two years ago when we made our Strategic Plan with our partners from the Daughters and the Fiske, two action items were assigned to the Pioneers: the enhancement of our interpretive programs (that is, the telling of the pioneer stories) and the overall improvement of the facility itself.

Catherine Spedden is the chairperson for improving the interpretive programs. She has been very busy adding new and interesting materials and displays to the Hall. She has also been busy creating shadow boxes and displays on the main floor that helps tell the stories of our pioneer ancestors. The results of her effort are truly remarkable, and I encourage all of you to come to the annual meeting to see for yourself. She has also been extremely active in encouraging others to tell the stories of their ancestors. As a result, numerous artifacts have been either loaned or donated to the Pioneers and have greatly enhanced our collection.

The Steering Committee has continued working on a fund-raising strategy, necessary to make the planned building improvements, and continues to make great headway.

Recently, Gary Zimmerman was contacted by the State Association of the Daughters of the Pioneers concerning the relocation of their state library to the Pioneer Hall. The collection resides now in our Hall basement but, over time, parts of the collection will be moved to all three floors to best serve the needs of our customers. Our Membership Committee has also been very busy, making great strides in streamlining the process of becoming a member of the Association, and reaching out to prospective members.

All in all it has been a very good year. We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting on June 29, and anticipate sunny weather for our salmon bake.

Elections set for Annual Meeting

Candidates to be presented at 2002 annual meeting

President, Bob Teague, Marysville; 1st vice-president, Margaret Parietti, Mercer Island; 2nd vice-president, Claire Raaum, Mercer Island; 3rd vice-president, Junius Rochester, Seattle; secretary, Marian Spath, Seattle; treasurer, Gary A. Zimmerman, Bellevue. Trustees for three-year terms 2002-2005: Mark Chamberlain, Shoreline; John C. Gayton III, Seattle; Shirley Wright, Lynnwood; Marilyn McLauchlan, Bainbridge Island. All other boards member continue in their present positions for at least one more year.

Update on displays at Pioneer Hall museum

Pioneer Trustee Catherine Spedden continues her work spearheading the Association's efforts to tell the Pioneer story via new displays in the organization's museum. At the last board meeting, Spedden gave a "work in progress" report on the displays.

A key element of the project are the individual cases which will be set up at the front of Pioneer Hall, which will portray history from prehistoric times to the era of the Mountain Men and the Oregon Trail. Shadow boxes will be displayed on the wall between the two cases, which will bring the stories of pioneers alive for the visiting public and those on tours from local schools.

Those who believe they may yet have items useful to Catherine's work - including family histories and physical items such as photos, tools and clothing - should contact Catherine Spedden at 425-488-3164).
Pioneer spring meeting re-cap

*Submitted by Carol Hawkins*

The Pioneer Association spring meeting began with the flag salute and a short business meeting led by our president, Bob Teague. Among the reports was a treasurer’s summary by Gary Zimmerman.

Norman Blye, the featured speaker at the event, gave a presentation on the history of ferries on Lake Washington. Blye's recollections reflected those of many in the audience, who themselves remembered taking boats across Lake Washington for picnics and summer vacations on the "Eastside", as well as later using such boats to commute to school or work.

Blye's presentation also provided an "insider" look at how boats were acquired, modified or replaced when lost to fire or aging. His parents worked aboard these ferries, as did Blye himself while selling newspapers to commuters from Bellevue who used the boats while attending school in Seattle.

Along with those of happy times - picnics and parties - memories were shared of more serious moments. Blye recalled the loss of several classmates when a family car rolled off the end of a moving ferry. Another incident involved a couple returning from a fancy party. At one point the husband left the car, only to return to find the car - with his wife inside - had gone off the end of the ferry. Fortunately, these were extremely rare occurrences.

Appropriately, door prizes awarded included items like key chains and magnets from the Washington State Ferry system. Among the winners of these items were Andrew Price and Chandler Jones.

Aside from refreshments and usual social interaction at the meeting, the Pioneers welcomed several new members in attendance. We're pleased to see the new faces, and hope to see them again at the Annual Meeting and Salmon Bake, which will be held on Saturday, June 29 at Pioneer Hall (1642 43rd Avenue East, Seattle) at 10:00 a.m.

Make your reservations now for this event, which this year features a presentation on the history of horse racing in the greater Seattle area by Washington Thoroughbred Association General Manager Ralph Vacca, as well as a family history by Kent resident Roger Newman.

*(photos by Peggy Parietti)*
A brief history of two pioneer families: James and Henrietta Elliott, and William Marcellus and Emma Culver Breazeale

by Barbara Breazeale Nilson

The James Elliott clan moved to the Tacoma area around 1885, before Washington was a state. James was a descendant of James Elliott who was born in Scotland and Mary Stewart of Ireland; they immigrated to Ontario, Canada, where James Stewart Elliott was born in 1838. He died in 1931 in Seattle.

As the story goes, he saw this young 16-year-old lass, Henrietta McIntosh, walking along the railroad tracks in Canada, exposing her ankles, and decided she was the one for him. Henrietta was born in 1841 in Edinburgh, Scotland and died in 1925 in Seattle. It took the family three months to cross the Atlantic and arrive in Quebec. They soon moved to Ontario where her father's folks were in Huron County. His brother Hugh McIntosh had a large wheat farm in Saskatoon.

Henrietta and James Elliott were married around 1868 and started a family that would include seven children, who all grew up in the Seattle area. The second eldest, William Elliott, was my grandfather, born in 1869 in Ontario. The Elliott family moved to North Dakota to farm, but Grandmother hated the wind so much they packed up and moved to Tacoma, where Grandfather became a general contractor around 1885.

The six other children were: Jack (John) Elliott who worked at Arden Farms Ice Cream company for a number of years and was known as "Pop", his son Leslie (Bud) also worked there, (they had four other children); James Elliott lived in Sunnydale and had one daughter; Mary had no children; Margaret married Charles Blethen, three daughters, whose descendents live in the area; Henry married Nettie Skelley, no children; and Isabella married twice, no children.

Before 1900, James and Henrietta Elliott moved the family to Seattle onto eight lots they purchased between 41st and 42nd on Interlake. The north end of Seattle was all woods at that time. My great-grandfather built two houses and a store which they operated for a number of years. The building is still located on the spot but the roof over the entrances has been removed. A Mr. Inman later purchased the store.

Robert Maltby, a real estate developer and landowner, asked James Elliott to move to the town he was developing to aid in construction. Elliott built a farm home which is still on top of the Maltby hill, and a Presbyterian church where he served as superintendent of the Sunday School. He also served as postmaster.

In 1923 this article with their photos appeared in the local newspaper:

PIioneer Seattle Couple Celebrates Sixtieth Anniversary of Wedding

"More than half a century of married life, thirty-three years of it spent in and near Seattle - such is the record of Mr. and Mrs. James S. Elliott, 921 W. 63rd St., who observed their sixtieth wedding anniversary with a celebration in their honor at the home of their eldest son, John Elliott, 1819 Harvard Ave., Saturday evening, January 20.

Surrounded by their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a group of friends, more than forty guests altogether, the aged couple relived in reminiscences for one evening the interesting events of threescore years of married life, during which time they have reared a family of seven children, four boys and three girls, five of them still living. Both Mr. Elliott, who is nearly 85 years and his wife, 82, are active and busy every day, and are enthusiastic boosters for the climate and scenery of the Puget Sound country, where they have lived since 1890.

A big wedding cake, befitting in size and decoration on the occasion of a sixtieth wedding anniversary - which is close to a diamond or seventy-fifth anniversary - was cut by the white-haired sixty-year bride as part of the wedding celebration, which included also an informal program of violin and piano music and dancing by the guests.

Mr. Elliott, who worked for many years in Seattle as a carpenter and cabinetmaker, was born in Ontario, Canada, and came to the United States shortly after he was married. Mrs. Elliott was born in the Scottish Highlands and moved to America with her family when she was 9 years old. The couple lived in the Dakotas for ten years before coming West."

When their second son, my grandfather William, was 16 years old, he began wiping oil from the train locomotives. This developed into his love for trains, and he eventually became an engineer for Northern Pacific railroad. According to his daughter, my mother Ethel Eva Elliott (Breazeale/Stantorf), he took the first train out of Union Station in Seattle and was asked by James J. Hill to be the engineer on the Owl, Shasta Limited, etc.

He was engineer on a train that ran from Seattle to Portland and stopped in Pe Ell where he met his first wife, Amanda Von Dimitz (Dymitz or Damitz). Amanda was the granddaughter of Ernst Damitz, 1805-1883, an artist who left Prussia to come to America in the 1840's with 14 children born in Germany and one born in the
United States. They settled in Warren County, Illinois. Amanda was one of 10 children born to Francis and Almarine Damitz in Pe Ell. She married William in 1893 and produced two children, Ethel Eva, February 14, 1894, and Francis Elliott, April 28, 1895. She died when the children were just toddlers.

My mother and her brother were raised by their paternal grandparents in Maltby, West Seattle, Parker Estate at Green Lake station, then moved to 53 Burke Ave., - no roads, just paths. Grampa was building houses for C.D. Hillman about this time. Mother and her brother started school at B.F. Day.

After the death of his first wife, William married Edna Skelley, whose family ran the hotel in South Prairie where the trainmen often stayed. They raised six children.

On May 3, 1918 headlines announced:

ENGINEER GIVES LIFE TO SAVE PASSENGERS

"Engineer William Elliott killed in the Oregon-Washington passenger train Saturday at Thomas station, one mile south of Kent, was surely a hero. Engineer Elliott had his hand still on the throttle at his death. He and his fireman, Roy Crane, could have jumped and saved themselves leaving the passengers to their fate, but they chose to stand by their duty to the last...

The wreck is thought to have been purely accidental. A tie pin dragging under one of the trucks finally derailing it is thought to have been the cause of the accident. (There were concerns that it was sabotage, since this was during WW I).

William Elliott lived at 6312 38th Ave, S.W. His wife died three years ago, and a son 21 (my mother's brother), who worked in Skinner & Eddy's shipyard, died two months ago..."

My mother at this time was married to William Culver Breazeale; they were wed June 11, 1914. William's father, William Marcellus Breazeale, grew up in Joplin, Missouri and came West in the 1880's. He worked in a grocery store in Joplin when he was 9 years old; he probably worked in the wheat fields when he first arrived in Bayview, WA with family. His brother John Henry purchased land which today is the Breazeale Wildlife Sanctuary and Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

William Marcellus later logged with a team of oxen on Whidbey Island; then logged with horses. When his lead horse died, he went to Mexico as a foreman on a concentrator, then went to Canada to run the concentrator (designed by an uncle) in Silverton, BC. (My mother and Dad went to Silverton on their honeymoon and lived there for a short time while my Dad worked at the smelter, but had to return to the States when war broke out).

On his return to Seattle, William Marcellus bought a grocery store in Ballard from a Mr. Wolfe; he later purchased a grocery on Aurora Avenue in Seattle. He married Emma Culver, they had two sons (one my father) and four daughters. One of the twins, Mayme, married Fred Huey, from Ireland, and they established Bonny Brook Nursery outside of Kirkland and were the first to grow tuberous begonias in the area.

Later William Marcellus moved to the country north of the Seattle City Limits and purchased an acre of land to be next to his son, William, my Dad. This was where I grew up, at 3010 E. 103rd Street with my two brothers, Russell and William Breazeale, and attended Maple Leaf Grade School.

My father, William, was killed Easter Sunday, April 21, 1930. Three newspaper articles gave a report on his death. The Times article stated:

WORKER STEPS INTO ELECTRIC ARC AT PLANT

"Investigation today of the electrocution yesterday morning of W.C. Breazeale, chief operator of the Puget Sound Power & Light Company's substation at Eighth Avenue Northwest and West 45th Street, disclosed today that he had accidentally stepped into a "live" section frameworked over the big transformers, although he had previously shut off power in other sections in which he had been working, company officials said..."
Pioneer Association welcomes new members

The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington is delighted to welcome some new members. Joining the Association since Fall of 2001:

Broussais Coman BECK, Jr., of Seattle, WA. He is descended from Broussais C. Beck, who was born in Walla Walla, 29 August 1886.

Jeffrey David CHRISTENSEN, the production manager for Pioneer Presences, is descended from John Patrick Doyle and Mary Ellen (Sweeney) Doyle who came from New Brunswick to Elma in April of 1884.

Jacqueline Miller DAY of Beaverton, Oregon, is descended from Judge James T. RONALD [1943] and Rhoda (Coe) Arnold, who were in Seattle by July of 1882.

MacKenzie Denali DAY, of North Bend, WA also descends from Judge James T. RONALD and Rhoda (Coe) Arnold. The two Day women are granddaughters of Jill RUNSTAD, a recent new member of the Association in her own right.

Candace Jean ESPETH of Olympia, WA is a member of a family descending from Jeremiah Stilley, who arrived on the West Coast circa 1855, and came to Steilacoom about 1860. Jeremiah's wife, Mariah Burr, was stepsister of Ezra MEEKER [1884].

Carol Louise GRIGGS of Cloverdale, Oregon, claims descent from Schuyler S. Saunders, who arrived at the present site of Chehalis in 1849-50, and from her grandmother, Madeline Saunders JENSEN [1975].

Jill (Runstad) HALLY of Seattle, also is in the line from Judge James T. RONALD [1943] and Rhoda Coe Arnold, who came to Seattle in July of 1882.

Donna M. HARVEY, Snohomish, WA, has done significant research on her ancestors: John Harvey, who arrived at Alki on March 17, 1852 and Christina Noble, who came to Seattle in 1870.

Sally Ann (Ward) IRVINE, a resident of Burien, is descended from Desire "David" Alexander and Amelia Chevaliers Alexander, who arrived in Seattle in 1887 and 1888 respectively. She also is a descendant of Bigger John BOWER who joined the Association in 1948.

Richard E. JOHNSON, Jr., of Lacey, is descended from Marcus McMillan and Elmina L.C. (Moyer) McMillan, who settled on a Donation Land Claim in Tumwater in November 1853. He also descends from Johan Peder Jonasen, Discovery Bay in 1878 and Daniel Graham, Seattle 1875.

Lynn E. Bragg MARICH of Mercer Island, claims a family line from James Lee, pioneer Seattle pharmacist, who came from Ontario in 1887.

G. Eldon MARSHALL of Olympia is the great-grandson of Daniel Wright Boone, who came to Pullman in November of 1887, and brought his bride, Amelia Williams Boone from Clay County, Illinois, in March of 1889.

James Harvey McALLISTER of Snohomish claims as his ancestor James Benton McAllister, who arrived at the mouth of the Washougal River on December 2, 1844.

Marilyn Anne McLAUCHLAN is a resident of Bainbridge Island, and is descended from William Nathaniel Bell and Sarah Ann Peter Bell, who arrived at Alki on the schooner Exact on November 13, 1851.

Robert William McLAUCHLAN of Kingston, WA is the brother of Marilyn McLAUCHLAN also descends from William Nathaniel Bell and Sarah Ann (Peter) Bell of the Alki landing.

Kathy Kaukl MENDELSON of Kirkland has multiple territorial forebears: James A. Davis of Dayton, WT (by 1865), and James M. Warmoth who came to Colfax by 1877.

Mari MORROW of Boulder, Colorado is descended from Bennett Lewis Johns, who came to King County November 4, 1853.

Meriam Alene (Osborne) NELSON of Olympia is proud of her family history, which goes back to Michael T. Simmons (Tumwater, 1845) and Christopher Columbus Simmons, who was born in Washougal on April 14, 1845. Her mother is also a member of the Pioneer Association.

Roger Herbert NEWMAN of Shelton, WA qualifies for membership from six different lines who were all in Washington Territory by the 1860's. Ancestors include John McPhail, who was at Fort Vancouver (1832-1850) and then at Fort Nisqually.

Mary Collette NEWSUM of Kirkland descends from Joseph Miller Newsum and Emily Ellingsworth Newsum, who came to Yelm in 1873.

Juanita Hale NORDIN of Seattle is descended from A. Delbert Hale - who came to McMillan, Pierce County, in 1880 - and Ada Ranck, who was born in Tacoma on January 12, 1882.

Edward Alex PALMER of San Clemente, CA claims lineage from Alfred Lee Palmer, who arrived in Seattle in 1882.
Genevieve Arianne PANUSH of Tumwater descends from Susie Belle (Cales) MARVIN [1868] who was born May 30, 1889, in Bucoda.

Myrna K. PHILBRICK of Mercer Island is descended from George Kinnear, who arrived in Seattle in 1878, and Samuel Goodlove Cosgrove, who arrived in Pomeroy by 1883. Cosgrove went on to become the seventh governor of the State of Washington.

Lawrence M. PUFFERT of Seattle, WA has a direct connection to John H. Janssen, who came to Waterville (Douglas County) in March of 1887.

Betty (Benson) RUNSTAD of Seattle, descended from her mother, Eva Amanda (Ronald) BENSON [1965] and her grandfather, Judge James T. RONALD [1943]. J.T. Ronald came to Seattle in 1882.

Vernon Horton SMITH of Seattle is the son of 34-year Association member Horton SMITH, and descended from the family that brought banker Dexter HORTON (who joined the Association in 1887) to pioneer Seattle.

Joseph T. WEBER of Lake Forest Park is a descendant of Harriet Fehse Lange and Jeanette Fehse HANOVER [1949] who came from Iowa to Tacoma in September of 1889. He is the son of Jeanne (Hanover) WEBER [1979].

Patricia Ann WILKOWSKI of Seattle is descended from William Monroe Hull, who came to Klickitat County near Goldendale in 1879.

Ronald Bruce WILKOWSKI of Seattle traces his family to Demory B. Blanchard who came to Seattle in 1887, and whose son followed in 1888. The family name back in Canada was "Blanchet".

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS JOIN RANKS WHILE OTHER MEMBERS "RE-UP"

Karen GOLDEY of Encinitas, CA is the widow of member Robert S. GOLDEY III, who died last August.

Alice E. KOCH is the widow of Joseph KOCH [1964] who died in September. She has relocated to Seattle.

Seattle resident Jon B. OLSON is the first Associate Member under the new bylaw which grants access to the Association to anyone who has an interest in the history of Washington Territory.

The Association would also like to recognize five members who have re-instated their membership after extended absences from our organization. Welcome back:

Barbara Jean GRINDROD, Juliane Potter MARX, Laura A. RUTLEDGE, James J. STONE and Gail N. TREZISE.

Your help is needed in finding 'lost' members

The Pioneer Association needs your helping finding some "lost" members find their way back to our mailing lists. If you know the whereabouts of the following members, please contact the Association at 206-325-0888.

Justin Charles BEDFORD, descended from John W. Taggart and Elcena Taggart, has been placed on our "lost" list. We are no longer able to send mail to him at his Seattle address.

Mail for Betty Moran BURNS on Orcas Island is being returned. She is a descendant of Robert Moran, pioneer shipbuilder and local politician. She has been a members since 1960.

Mail is being returned for Jessica Marie DURGAN at a Maple Valley address. If anyone knows of her current whereabouts, please call the Association office.

Gregg Jo HERKENRATH has advanced beyond the years of his Junior membership, but he seems to have moved to parts unknown. Can anyone track him down?

Winfield McLEAN used to have a rural route address near Davenport, Washington, but the postal service wants an actual street address. We have no phone number on record for this member, can anyone help?
In memoriam

A partial list of deceased members reported to the Association since the Fall 2001 issue of Pioneer Presences, includes:

Robert Corey LEITHEAD died in Seattle on October 29, 2001, just three weeks short of his 93rd birthday. A resident at the time of Horizon House, and a member of the Association since 1965, he was a descendant of Theron B. Corey and Ida (Gardner) Corey.

Alma Maylor MARS died in Kitsap County on November 19, 2001 at the age of 91. A 26-year member of the Association, she was a native of Oak Harbor. She was descended from Samuel Maylor, who settled in Oak Harbor in 1851.

Charles D. SCRIVNER was a life-member of the Association, and joined the Association in 1965. A descendant of Mary R. (Fleming) KERNS, he was 81 years old when he died in Seattle on January 13, 2001.

Doris Hagler Huston SWANSON [1989] died on August 4, 2001. She was descended from John and Anna (Wherli) Hagler, who came to North Bellingham in 1880 and 1883, respectively.


Marguerite H. (Taylor) BOYD [1968] was descended from Charles Levi and Annie Taylor. One of her children, Diane WHITE [1975] is also a member of the Association.

Robert S. GOLDEY III died on August 12, 2001, at age 53. He joined the Association in 1976, and was descended from Laura Morrison Hayes and William Person Morrison.
The Pioneer Association of the State of Washington invites you to the

131st ANNUAL MEETING & SALMON BAKE

Saturday, June 29, 2002
Pioneer Hall, 1642 43rd Avenue E, Seattle

9:45 am WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER
10:05 am BUSINESS MEETING
10:30 am ELECTION: Election of 2002 Officers
11:30 am SPEAKER: "Racing Reminiscences" with Ralph Vacca, a look at horseracing in Washington State
FAMILY HISTORY: Roger Newman
12:00 pm SALMON BAKE: in Madison Park
MUSIC: Dave and Candace Brown (banjo and bass)

Baked salmon w/mango or tarter sauce, fresh fruit, roasted red potatoes w/rosemary, green beans almondine, rolls and butter, fresh blackberry cobbler, lemonade, decaf coffee and tea

131st Annual Meeting
Pioneer Association of Washington

Please reserve ________ place(s) at $20.00 each = Total $ ___________

Mail this form to:
Pioneer Association Picnic, 1642 43rd Avenue East, Seattle WA, 98122

Reservations must be received by Saturday, June 22, 2002