

Dear Friends of Tacoma History

Tacoma Historical Society is dedicated to capturing the stories of Tacoma's past for the benefit of the city's future generations. Our mission is to "preserve, promote and present Tacoma's history." As a person interested in local history, we thought you would like to hear about our accomplishments in 2007 and plans for 2008.

2007 was an exciting year for the Tacoma Historical Society:

- We completed two important community projects that have received wide acclaim —
  - The **Top-of-the-Ocean** monument, installed along Ruston Way in October,.
  - The **World War Two Memorial**, installed in War Memorial Park on November 11.
- The Society's 13th **annual Historic Homes of Tacoma Tour** in May drew a large turnout.
- We collaborated with Historic Tacoma to conduct **Autowalk**, a **walking tour** in July along Tacoma's original auto row.
- In conjunction with **Autowalk**, the Society mounted a **Mueller-Harkins Buick Exhibit**.
- The Society's **First Auction**, held in October at the Landmark Convention Center, featuring a presentation by local architects Jim Merritt and Jeff Ryan about efforts to save the old Elks Lodge in Tacoma's Old City Hall Historic District, was a great success.

2008 is off to a great start. We are pleased to announce that we have hired **Mary Bowlby** as our first **Director of the Tacoma Historical Society**. Mary has a bachelor's degree in history and liberal studies as well as a certificate in non-profit management from UWT. She will expand the Society's efforts in many areas, including education, outreach and community relations.

Plans for this year include:

- **New exhibits** coming to the Society's Exhibit Center will feature **historic Tacoma memorabilia**, Tacoma's **Tall Ships** story, as well as two short-term presentations about **Tacoma's Historic Architecture**, and one on the **Northern Pacific Railroad**
- The 14<sup>th</sup> **annual Historic Homes of Tacoma Tour** will focus primarily on the Wright Park/North Slope neighborhood
- Once again this year, the Society is teaming up with **Historic Tacoma** in hosting a walking tour that will feature the **Historic Architecture of the Hilltop Neighborhood**
- Continued collaboration with local efforts to memorialize Tacoma history by sponsoring two major community projects:
  - The **Allen C. Mason Plaza** memorial will be located at the corner of North 26<sup>th</sup> and Adams St. It will feature a life-size bronze statue of Mason, one of the city's founders, and six columns from his mansion. Completion is scheduled for November 2008
  - The **Goddess of Commerce** statue, to be sited in downtown Tacoma, is an updated interpretation of the 1885 statue by the same name that will be created by local artist Marilyn Mahoney

You know our mission. We've shared our accomplishments and our plans. We achieve our mission when we share in the work together. Your support of the work of the Tacoma Historical Society – both by active involvement and financial donations – demonstrates to community leaders the importance of the work we do. Please join in by contributing to the Tacoma Historical Society's annual fund. Your tax-deductible donation contributes a great deal to keeping the history of Tacoma alive.

Thank you for your support of the Tacoma Historical Society.

Sincerely,

James E. Hoard  
THS President

Scott Larsen  
Annual Campaign Chair

Mary Bowlby  
THS Director

Tacoma Historical Society  
www.tacomahistory.org

**ANNUAL FUNDS DRIVE**

Thank you for your support!

Please choose your giving level:

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Method of Payment: Check (Make Check payable to: **Tacoma Historical Society**)  
Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

My/my spouse's employer will match my gift. I have enclosed my Matching Gift form. Name of company: \_\_\_\_\_  
(You can also give through United Way or Greater Tacoma Community Foundation)

Tacoma Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.