

## Points N.E. Historical Society

**Browns Point .. Dash Point .. N.E. Tacoma**

*Located in Browns Point Lighthouse Park*

**Mailing Address:**

**6716 Eastside Drive NE**

**#1-135**

**Browns Point, WA 98422**

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**Email: [pointsnortheast@comcast.net](mailto:pointsnortheast@comcast.net)**

**Website: [www.pointsnortheast.org](http://www.pointsnortheast.org)**

**Facebook: [facebook.com/PointsNortheast](https://facebook.com/PointsNortheast)**

**Summer 2016**

### The Original Browns Point Salmon Bake August 6 & 7

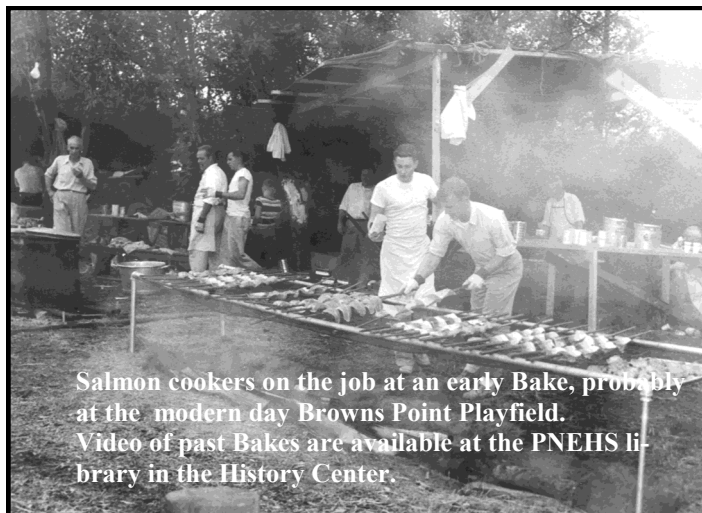
Yes, the year ends in an even number and that means “it’s a Salmon Bake Summer.” Started by the Browns Point Improvement Club in 1946 to raise money for a new clubhouse, it’s been going strong ever since and delighting patrons with the delicious taste of salmon cooked over alder fires!

Puyallup Tribe Native Jerry Meeker who is often called “The Father of Browns Point” got it all started with clam bakes he used to put on for family, friends and the residents of Browns Point. For the fund raiser, he switched over to salmon and lent his expertise to the BPIC volunteers.

This year, the event is down at the BPIC grounds and the Browns Point Lighthouse Park.

You can find out more information by searching [www.brownspoint.org](http://www.brownspoint.org) or checking Browns Point Salmon Bake on Facebook.

Besides enjoying a delicious salmon dinner (other food selections are available too), you can tour the Browns Point Lighthousekeeper’s Cottage and our other Museums for extended hours both days, noon to 6 pm.



Salmon cookers on the job at an early Bake, probably at the modern day Browns Point Playfield. Video of past Bakes are available at the PNEHS library in the History Center.

### School Field Trips



Neil Hanson gives the students lessons in our vintage schoolroom.

May 31, June 2 and 3 saw an invasion of Belugas, Huskies and Explorers down at the Cottage and its adjacent museums and grounds. The occasion was the annual fourth grade field trips for our local schools. Over a decade in the running, it has become one of the (if not the) most popular field trips of the year. Older siblings tell their fourth grade brothers and sisters, “Just wait till you go to the lighthouse! It’s the best one yet.”

Fourth grade is the traditional level for students to study Washington State History.

This year, over 250 students from three schools, Browns Point (Belugas), Crescent Heights (Huskies) and Northeast Tacoma (Explorers) Elementary Schools plus teachers and parents completed the course of seven learning stations: The local Fire Dept. brought its truck down and taught water safety. Knots were taught at one station along with a chance to ring the historic fog bell. Another station taught about Lighthouses, while another spoke about native peoples, explorers and the geography of the local Sound. The Boathouse Museum had Bob Robinson dressed as Oscar Brown showing off our Coast Guard Surfboat replica and also a demonstration of vintage tools. The kids just love to drill into a wooden box with an old-fashioned non power drill. The kids explored the replica of an old-fashioned school and the vintage kitchen in the cottage history museum. Volunteer Neil Hansen showed the historical evolution of a carrot peeler, among other items! Upstairs in the Music Room, Annie Brown re-enactor, Victoria Pann talked about Oscar and Annie’s life as the first Lightkeepers. One boy, hearing about Oscar and Annie, protested, “I thought this was about Lighthouses not that love stuff!” (see page 3)

## Save These Dates for Community Events

*Browns Point Lightkeeper's Cottage and Museums  
Now Open Every Sat 1– 4 pm through Oct 3. Free.  
Open Noon to 6 pm during the  
Browns Point Salmon Bake*

*Our Local Schools Exhibit now open in the History Museum*

*Free Boat Tours of the Port of Tacoma  
July 17 during Maritime Fest  
Boat tours depart from 535 Dock St in  
Downtown Tacoma at:  
10 am, 11:30am, 1 pm, 2:30pm, 4 pm*

*Special Meeting on Kobetich Library Closing  
July 21, 7pm  
Norpoint Center Cascade Room*

*BPIC Cliffhouse Willie's Fishing Derby July 31*

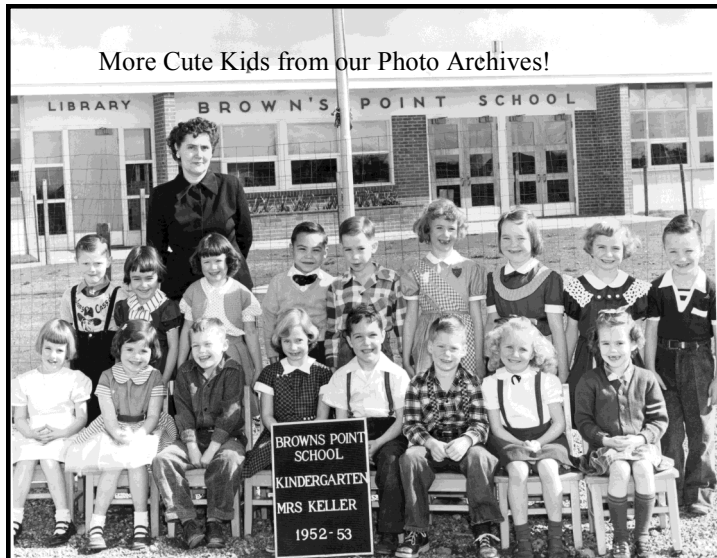
*The Original Browns Point Salmon Bake: August 6&7  
BPIC Clubhouse Grounds  
Browns Point Lighthouse Cottage and Museums open Noon  
to 6 pm*

*Life At The Points Car Show  
Saturday August 20, 10 am to 4 pm  
Browns Point Car Center  
Free—Bring your car!*

*BPIC Kids Fishing Derby August 28*

*The Annual Dash Point Ladies Luncheon ,  
Saturday, September 3, at On the Green,  
Northshore GC CLUB 11 am  
Reservations: Marilyn Beale, 927-4267*

*PNEHS Old Fashioned Christmas Tea  
Sunday December 11, 1-4 pm  
Lightkeeper's Cottage*



More Cute Kids from our Photo Archives!

## Solar Power Option for the Lighthouse

In May, President Linda Van Nest, Jill Barkley and Jim Harnish met with US Coast Guard people and the Metro Parks Tacoma Manager Tom Dargan to review plans for the Park upgrade and installation of solar panels for the lighthouse. It appeared from the talks that the Coast Guard will approve the Metro Parks plans.

The solar option includes a 40" frame holding three solar panels (72" high with stand) to be installed inside the fence up against the south side of the tower, on the concrete lighthouse pad. It wouldn't be too invasive and might blend into the tower, not quite reaching the boarded up lower window. They agreed to allow Metro Parks to replace the chain link/barbed wire fence with something more aesthetically pleasing but still providing security. One worry is vandalism— the fence might provide enough protection but it can't block the sunlight to the solar panels.

The Coast Guard prefers the Solar Panel Option because the present power line through the Park is disintegrating and this would cost tens of thousands of dollars for underground installation. Also, in informal discussion, it sounded like the USCG wouldn't have a problem approving our possible future plans to fund the painting of the tower and replacing the missing windows and replicating the missing lantern room.



*Above: Coast Guardsman with solar panel.*

*Right: Ladder inside Lighthouse. That's all there is, folks!*





## Snaps from the 4th Grade Field Trips: May 31, June 1, 2

**Re-enactor Victoria Pann as Annie and Bob Robinson as Oscar Brown, our first lightkeepers.**



**District 13 Fire Dept. Crew teaches water safety.**



**Volunteer Mary Chavez leads a group to their next site.**



**Nancy Bess and Jim Harnish teach knots!**

**Pam Halsan explains the need for lighthouses and specifically about the need for Browns Point Lighthouse.**



**Field Trip Volunteers ready for arrival of excited 4th graders.**



**"Hey, is that a Surf Boat?"**



## School Days, School Days! Samples from Our New Exhibit "Local Schools"

We're looking for your help in identifying your old classmates. Please stop by the basement museum display and look through the photo albums. We have class photos as far back as the 1920s. Copies can be ordered for a small cost.

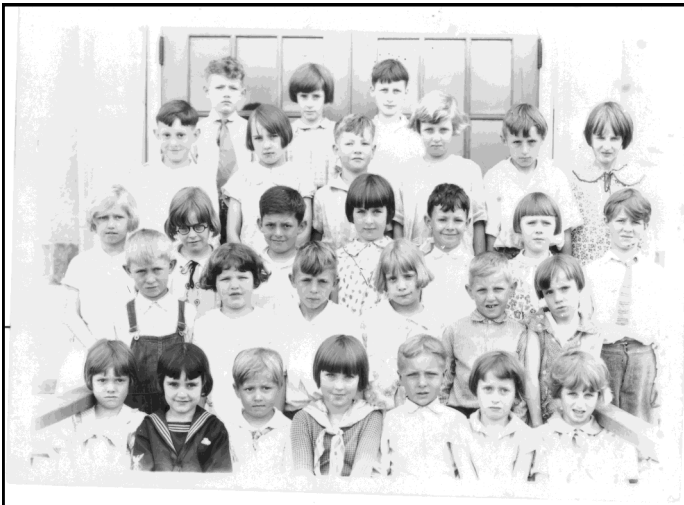


*Above: NE Tacoma 6th Grade, 1958-1959, Mr. Hazen*



*Those wild and crazy kids at  
Meeker Junior High, Go Warriors?*

*Below: Dash Point School 1927*



*Browns Point, 1970-71 Sixth Grade, Mrs. Eckert*



### Some of our volunteers

*Jerry Pischel  
(Left) Steve  
Huff( Right )  
discuss the art  
of pressure  
washing.*

*Janice Burgess  
(center) and  
the New  
Docent  
trainees at the  
April training  
session.*



## *A Tip of the Lightkeeper's Hat To ...*

- Our new PNEHS President, Linda Van Nest, our departing Interim President Jill Barkley and our new vice-President, Diane Malone.
- Our new Docent/Volunteer coordinator Nancy Bess.
- Our fourth grade field trips volunteers: Neil Hanson, Stephanie Herman, Victoria Pann, Sandy Huggins, Pam Halsan, Diane Malone, Mavis Stears, Pam Thomas, Bob Robinson, Jerry Pischel, Sally Slater, Nancy Bess, Pam Ladley, Kathleen Monahan. Mary Chavez, Linda Van Nest, Pat and Jim Harnish, Art Ladley and the Fire Dept 13 crew.
- The Dash Point Social and Improvement Club (started 1907 ) for another successful Dash Point Day held June 4. Dash Point residents participated in a 5K run/Walk and a 3K Kids/Family Dash plus a barbeque down by the Park in the evening!
- Larry Stears for installing our new computer setup (part of a 2016 Pierce County grant) .
- Mark Wenner for helping us so much at his Browns Point Ace Hardware Store for 24 years, we are going to miss you!!!!
- Kim Wenner for starting Going Postal at Browns Point—Stop by to see the ‘Top 100’ retail items.
- Karen and Jerry Pischel for painting the cottage bathroom and the cottage backstairs.
- Our wonderful fourth graders and their support staff from Browns Point, Crescent Heights and NE Tacoma Elementary schools for making the Field Trips some special and worthwhile!
- Stephanie Herman and Properties Soundview Real Estate Office who celebrated their one year anniversary in the community with a wonderful open house. Laurie Littlefield-Wells sold prints of her stunning photographs of the Points and area and donated the proceeds to PNEHS! Stephanie also volunteered for three day sof field trips for us!
- Norm and Margot Andersen. Norm, our treasurer, has undergone successful heart surgery. Wishes for a speedy recovery. You can't keep Norm down for long!
- Our Board Members and Head of Docents Janice Burgess. Janice has purchased a home up North and is leaving us. Janice has refined our Docent Program so much. And she did all that in between her world travels and many other volunteer duties.
- The US Lighthouse Society who is planning a tour of our Cottage and Museums in August. We are looking forward to your visit!
- Tom Dargan of Metro Parks for his update on the plans and schedule for the Browns Point Lighthouse Park at the June BPIC meeting.
- Our new Docents who attended training in April: Kelly and Mary Jo Creso, Tom Smith, Susan Tojas, Pam Thomas, Jerry and Karen Pischel, Doug Lane, Tom Reeder.
- Our maintenance volunteers Bob Robinson, Steve Huff, Jerry Pischel and Jim Harnish for tackling powerwashing, and checking on the supports under the History Center to see if it will support a new 500 pound fire-proof cabinet on order, and cleaning out under the building and hauling the trash off. Under the HC discoveries included several empty gallon wine jugs and a dozen golf balls. History?
- Our wonderful Cottage Gardeners. Editors Note: I wish our newsletter was printed in color so you all could see the beautiful gardens.
- Fire Chief Cliff McCollum. Best Wishes on a speedy recovery!
- Matt Jenkins, professional window washer(253-380-9494), for washing all the windows in the Cottage,
- Everyone who renewed your 2016 membership. We couldn't “Preserve, Promote or Celebrate “Browns Point, Dash Point or Northeast Tacoma history without your support. If you haven't done it yet, find a Membership form on page 7 or come visit our museums on Saturdays 1-4 p.m. and do it then.

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*View our historic NE Tacoma photos display*

## Saint Matthew Episcopal Church

6800 Eastside Drive NE

Browns Point, WA 98422

PH: 253 927 9808

www.neighborhoodparish.org

Office email:

office@stmatthew.comcastbiz.net

Fr. Kendall Haynes

fatherkendall@gmail.com

Sunday services:

8 am and 10 am

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| Museum Coordinator Linda Van Nest   | 253 927 4250 |
| Garden Club Liaison Kathy Juracek   | 253 952 8874 |
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| Maintenance Chair Bob Robinson      | 253 927 9528 |
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| Cottage/ Education Jim Harnish      | 253 927 6019 |
| Newsltr/ Publicity Kathleen Monahan | 253 927 2425 |
| Volunteer Coordinator Nancy Bess    | 360 976 5110 |
| Margot Andersen                     | 253 588 8559 |
| Mary Chavez                         | 253 927 8826 |
| Neil Hanson                         | 253 952 3271 |
| Pam Ladley                          | 253 952 2895 |

*Other Contacts*

|                                 |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Dash Point School Jill Barkley  | 253 927 3329 |
| Cottage Scheduler Julie Perkins | 253 927 2536 |
| PNEHS Message Phone             | 253 927 2536 |

*This newsletter is published by  
the Points Northeast Historical Society.  
Editor: Kathleen Monahan*

**New Mailing Address**

With the closure of Ace Hardware, Kim Wenner has opened Postal & More at the Point. Our new mailing address is

Points Northeast Historical Society  
6716 Eastside Dr NE #1-135  
Browns Point, WA 98422

This is important to note as it is a private mailbox and the USPS will not forward mail from a private mailbox as we had in the Ace Hardware Store.



**Points Northeast Historical Society  
Browns Point, Dash Point and NE Tacoma  
Membership and Volunteer Opportunities**

**Memberships**

|                     |        |       |
|---------------------|--------|-------|
| Individual          | 15.00  | _____ |
| Family              | 25.00  | _____ |
| Senior (Per Member) | 10.00  | _____ |
| Sponsor             | 50.00  | _____ |
| Business            | 100.00 | _____ |

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Opportunities**

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Docent (Guide) _____                   | Maintenance _____   |
| Filing _____                           | Publicity _____     |
| Grant Writing _____                    | Merchandising _____ |
| Education _____                        | Fund Raising _____  |
| Spec. Events _____                     | Research _____      |
| Cottage _____                          | Photography _____   |
| Computer inputting (much needed) _____ |                     |

Points Northeast Historical Society appreciates your support in helping to preserve, promote and celebrate the history of Browns Point, Dash Point and Northeast Tacoma.

Please return this form to:

**Points Northeast Historical Society  
6716 Eastside Drive #1-135  
Browns Point WA 98422  
253-927-2536 [www.pointsnortheast.org](http://www.pointsnortheast.org)  
Email: [pointsnortheast@comcast.net](mailto:pointsnortheast@comcast.net)**

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Points Northeast Historical Society**  
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*Cottage and Museums*  
*Open every Saturday through*  
*October 3*  
*1-4 pm*  
*Salmon Bake Extended Hours*  
*Noon to 6 pm*  
*Visit our new Exhibit*  
*“Our Local Schools”*



### **Farewell to Our Friend, Mark!**

After 24 years at Browns Point Mark Wenner and Ace Hardware closed the doors. Pictured above, PNEHS President Linda Van Nest kicks off the event honoring Mark and his staff for all their years supporting community activities. Those attending were invited to sign the huge ‘guest book’ mounted on the side of the fire truck. Several businesses in the shopping center served cake and coffee following the ceremony. Over 100 locals attended the event. A special Thank You, Mark, from those of us at PNEHS—Your support over the years was appreciated!

### **Another Rave Review**

Volunteer Lightkeepers (otherwise known as renters) at the Cottage just can’t say enough good things about our unique, historic property. Here are some recent reviews from a family who made rental arrangements through our presence on VRBO, the vacation rental website:

“Looking for a fun getaway? You get to stay in a museum, and touch the stuff! My kids enjoyed raising and lowering the flag every day, and ringing the fog bell from the 1903 lighthouse. We swam in the cold salt water, and saw sea lions swim nearby. We all enjoyed playing the antique pump organ. I did a little bit of homeschooling in the museum’s 1920’s classroom. The beds were truly comfy, and the volunteers very friendly and helpful; you can tell how much they love the place. I can’t even tell you how much we enjoyed this place. I almost cried when we left. Do I really want to post this review? The place might get so popular that we might have trouble reserving in the future”!

*Visit [VRBO.com/500782](https://www.vrbo.com/500782) for more information or 253 927 2536.*

*Photo by Chad Kaiser*

