In This Issue:

The Cannon is back!

From the Vault: A Summer Exhibit

Cottage & Garden Tour: Tickets Available

History Corner

Coastal Reflections: Our Summer Textile Exhibit

Blue Star Museum Program

Upcoming Schedule

Issue One & Two 2016
The Cannon is Back!

It was September 10, 1846, when competing tides of the Columbia River and the Pacific Ocean began to pull the *U.S. Schooner Shark* apart. The *Shark*’s story began at a United States naval yard in 1821. Her design was considered state of the art. The *Shark* was smaller than most U.S. Naval ships at the time. She was also cheaper to construct, could be manned by fewer men than most other ships, and was able to navigate narrow channels and shallow depths.

The *Shark* was one of four ships of this design, the *Porpoise*, *Alligator*, and *Dolphin*. All of the ships led rather interesting naval lives, but none more so than the *Shark*. She was used to battle slave trade and return slaves to Africa. The *U.S.S. Shark* chased down pirates, and was even used for scientific endeavors by John James Audubon. Her final mission was to join the Pacific Squadron, hence, the *Shark*’s voyage up the Columbia and to Fort Vancouver. Lt. Howison (pictured below) was not the novice that some have claimed. He was an intelligent, experienced, and able-bodied captain, but the Columbia River mouth could swallow up the most experienced.

According to the Columbia River Bar Pilots, the program was in its infancy in 1846. The local tribes still predominantly managed the program, with several other supposedly “experienced” locals who could navigate in and out of the mouth. A few were charlatans looking to make a quick buck and unfortunately, that was whom Howison had to hire. The local tribal pilot had already been booked by another ship. On a deadline to meet the Pacific Squadron, Howison decided to attempt the departure. Using a copy of a copy, of an outdated map, Howison quickly discovered that the bar was far more treacherous than he anticipated. The ship was quickly tossed onto a bar and slowly, overnight, torn apart.

Despite the dire circumstances the entire crew of the *U.S.S. Shark* survived. Lt. Simes of the *U.S.S. Shark* discovered a portion of the ship’s decking had washed ashore south of Astoria, in what is now known as Arch Cape. According to his reports, the decking held three of the ship’s guns. He was able to extricate one, but because of the changing tides, was forced to leave the other two. He believed that the first carronade had been moved far enough away from the tide and went for help. Upon his return, all cannons were lost to the sea. The cannon became a thing of myth and legend. Peek-a-boo sightings of it occurred now and then, inspiring the name Cannon Beach.

One of the sightings occurred in 1863 when John Hobson, a mail carrier, reported seeing a cannon in Arch Cape Creek (also known as Shark Creek.)

On May 29, 1891, early coastal settler James P. Austin established the first post office at Arch Cape and named the area “Cannon Beach.” Austin was fairly obsessed with finding the cannon. He spent a great deal of time and money looking for it, but was unable to find it. He passed away in 1894.

Just a few years after Austin’s death, another mail carrier named George Luce spotted the cannon in the waters of Arch Cape Creek. He quickly notified Austin’s wife, and neighbors John and Mary Gerittse lent their team of horses to pull the heavy item out of the water. Just imagine! The thing weighed at least 2,000 pounds. It was 1898. Austin’s wife placed the cannon in from of the post office in honor of her husband where it sat for several decades.

In the 1940’s the carronade had another adventure. It was apparently moved in order to accommodate the construction of some home sites at Cannon View Park. George Van Vleet of Van Vleet Logging donated one acre of land to the state to make a new home for the cannon. In 1945, the cannon was property of Mr. Mel Goodin at the time. He later donated the artifacts to the public.

The cannon, capstan, and several other artifacts sat on the east side of highway 101 in Arch Cape for several decades before reports of vandalism began trickling in. According to another article dated April 12, 1989, the cannon and capstan had been repeated-
ly vandalized with several artifacts stolen (referring to several cannon balls and chain that were believed to be from the *U.S.S. Shark*.) An individual reportedly took a hacksaw to the cannon in an effort to “cut” it from its concrete base.

Because of this, several concerned Arch Cape citizens got in touch with the Clatsop County Historical Society. The hope was that the artifacts could be moved or somehow protected from further vandalism. It was decided that both artifacts should be moved to the safe and secure environment of the Heritage Museum in Astoria. On April 13, 1989, Director John Cooper and Steve Kann moved the original cannon and capstan from the Oregon State Highway site to the Heritage Museum.

An agreement was reached between the Clatsop County Historical Society and the Arch Cape Community Club Committee, that the Historical Society would house the original artifacts, and provide an exact replica of the cannon to place where it once stood.

It’s not hard to believe that the cannon and capstan had oxidized as badly as they had. At some point, the cannon and capstan were given to the Cannon Beach History Museum by the U.S.S. Shark. Records indicate 2005, but it could have been as early as 1997. In 2008, two more cannons were discovered on the beach at Arch Cape. Both are believed to be from the *U.S.S. Shark*. In 2011, Texas A&M University was working on restoring both of these cannons for the State of Oregon/US Navy. A Texas A&M University representative visited the museum. It became clear that both artifacts were in bad shape and in desperate need of restoration. The museum began to raise funds in 2012 and 2013. In less than a year both artifacts were on their way to hot and humid Texas where they would undergo nearly two years of an extensive conservation process.

The process started with both artifacts being removed from their enclosure, packed up and shipped to Texas. Once there, the conservation process began immediately. First, the carronade and capstan underwent an electrolytic reduction process to remove the chloride ions from the metal. These baths took several months during which time the chloride levels were closely monitored. Once the iron artifacts reached a low chloride level (20 - 30 ppm), they were removed from electrolysis and placed in a series of boiling rinses. Either Reverse Osmosis or De-Ionized Water, with a very low chloride level, was used for the rinses. The rinses removed any remaining hydroxide, and also lowered the overall chloride level.

Once the carronade and capstan reached a chloride level below 5 -10 ppm, they were removed from the 212 degree F rinse and immediately coated with a 10% solution of tannic acid. This chemical treatment formed a layer of ferrous tannate on the surface of the iron, providing a more corrosion resistant layer. The treatment also imparts a more appealing black fin-
ish to the surface of the cast iron. A second coating is applied an hour later, with a third coating the following day. This process is shown on the capstan (below.)

The third and final process that the artifacts went through before they came home was a surface sealant. The Lab at Texas A&M University dipped both artifacts in a bath of molten microcrystalline wax (Witco 180M). The molten wax, at a temperature of between 325 F- 350 F, penetrated the surface pores of the cast iron. During this part of the process any water present in the artifact boiled off, and air pockets expanded, which caused the air to bubble off as well. The artifacts were then allowed to cool overnight, and the process was repeated the next day. This heating and cooling cycle allowed the wax to penetrate into the iron. The microcrystalline wax formed a water resistant layer in the surface of the cast iron that further slows the onset of any future corrosion.

The final step of this project is to install the new exhibit panels, mount the cannon onto its carriage, install the humidity control and monitoring system, and finally, top the exhibit off with a state of the art Lexan cover.
From the Vault: A Summer Exhibit

Many who visit the museum seem surprised by the town’s unique and lengthy history. This tiny museum is home to thousands of artifacts, each with their own unique story. From the Vault showcases nearly twenty different objects and photographs from the depths of the Museum’s archives. These artifacts have been explicitly chosen for their uniqueness and pertinence to the history of Cannon Beach. Visitors will discover the stories behind these unseen treasures. One of the iconic artifacts featured is the saddle used by Mary Gerritse while riding her horse Prince to deliver the mail along the coastline. The saddle is accompanied by entries from her journal sharing her harrowing story of nearly falling from a cliff side, to coming face to face with both a mountain lion and a bear, at different times. Gerritse took over the mail route when her husband was unable. She acted as the area’s mail carrier from 1897 until 1902.

The exhibit will also feature an artifact with a slightly more macabre origin, the head of Cannon Beach’s own headless horseman. In 1964, the community of Cannon Beach was inundated with a tsunami. The tsunami was caused by a Megathrust quake with an epicenter at the head of glacier-ringed College Fiord, 75 miles from the town of Chenega. It also severely damaged Cannon Beach’s flow of summer tourists. The following year in 1965, locals Betty Dueber and Bill Steidel, along with other merchants, devised a plan to create some positive publicity for Cannon Beach. The Swigert family loaned a solid black horse each weekend. At noon the bells in the Presbyterian Church would ring, and the headless horseman would enter the downtown area and gallop down the main street. The horseman, whose identity was never publicly disclosed, would gallop down the street with the human head covered with a blanket. Local children would chase the horse in order to determine who the actual rider was.

From the Vault also features recently donated images taken by Frank Woodfield and the Warren Family of the Warren Hotel. These images have never-been-seen by the public and share not only the tale of the old hotel, but show the humor of the photographers and the Warren family.

Discover tidbits of Cannon Beach history that you won’t find anywhere else! On display now through December of 2016.
Attention members, friends and Cottage Tour enthusiasts. If you haven’t purchased your tickets for the Cottage & Garden Tour, now is the time. Tickets start at $30 and include a tour of homes and gardens in Tolovana, wine tasting, live music, beer from Fort George, and more! This is the perfect way to support Cannon Beach’s only history museum while having some fun. See historic cottages, grand beach dream homes, and beautifully manicured gardens.

It’s hard to believe that the museum has been organizing the Cottage & 13th Annual Cottage & Garden Tour for thirteen years! This is one of a few events of its magnitude that is volunteer driven. We couldn’t do it without you!

The tour will be a multi-day event that begins with an exclusive concert and reception on Friday, September 9, at the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum. Start the weekend out on the right foot with Kelsey Mousley and “The Next Right Thing.” Mousley has been performing in the Pacific Northwest for over a decade. Her sound and style has been compared to a young Diana Krall. Concert attendees will enjoy delectable delights created by Newman’s 988 and Sea Level Coffee & Bakery. Tickets to this event are extremely limited, so get them while you can! Tickets are just $12!

On Saturday, September 10, attendees are invited to a special luncheon and lecture at the Tolovana Inn. This year’s presentation will focus on vintage and traditional design and the reawakening of these styles in home design over the years. Believe it or not, it’s possible to do contemporary upgrades for today’s modern living while still maintaining the character and traditional design of the home. The speaker, Libby Holah, received her Master of Architecture from Washington University, St Louis, MO, and has had her residential vintage and historically-inspired designs featured in 1859 Magazine, Gray Magazine, Oregon Home Magazine, The Oregonian, and was even selected for a featured custom furniture show case in the bi-annual furniture show Show-PDX. She is the owner, with her husband of HOLAH Design + Architecture, in Portland, OR. They do a variety of project types with an emphasis on residential projects around the state of Oregon. The presentation will take place in the event rooms at the beautiful Tolovana Inn. Tickets will not be available the day of, so get your tickets in advance. Tickets are $25.

Following the luncheon and lecture tour-goers are invited to tour the homes and gardens of Tolovana from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tour historic cottages (the original “tiny house”), grand beach homes, lodges, and inviting gardens. One of the highlights of the 2016 tour will be the former summer cottage of Frank and Irta Woodfield. Frank Woodfield was a prolific and acclaimed photographer of the Oregon coast and Astoria during the early 1900’s. His wife, Irta, was a talented poet. Both had a love of Cannon Beach that was obvious from their works, which will be on display in the home. Your tour ticket is just $30 and includes the post-tour reception and concert.

The home and garden tour will take place from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 10. Tickets are just $30.
Wind down or up on Saturday with a concert and reception at the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum. Kick off those walking shoes and slip on your dancing shoes for the Saturday night concert featuring Maggie & the Cats. Local libations will be flowing thanks to the Nehalem Bay Winery and Fort George Brewery. This event is included in the cost of your home tour ticket.

The final event of the weekend is an English style garden tea at the Tolovana Inn on Sunday, September 11. Attendees will enjoy English style tea while enjoying a presentation by the event’s guest speaker, naturalist and author Sherian Wright.

Wright (pictured above) is a retired mechanical engineer with a passion for insects, specifically bees. She tours regularly giving workshops and conducting speaking events on the topic of bees. Her book *Mason Bees for the Backyard Gardener* is easily turned into a multimedia display on creating the ideal garden for bees. Enjoy a cup of freshly brewed coffee from local coffee roasters, Sleepy Monk, as well as a selection Oregon made teas. Enjoy morning goodies created by EVOO and volunteers. Tickets are $20.

The Cottage and Garden Tour is the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum’s annual fundraiser put on lovingly by volunteers for thirteen years now. The event provides twenty percent of the organization’s annual income and allows them to provide a free field trip program to area schools, seasonal exhibits, and even a free lecture series. You can purchase tickets on the website or by calling 503-436-9301. Weekend packages are $60. Tickets for each event may be purchased individually, or as a weekend package. Many of these events sell out, so make your plans as soon as you can.
This Spring, the Tourism and Arts Commission awarded the CBHCM a $21,350 grant for marketing the 2017 Cottage & Garden Tour. The grant will be used for an expanded advertising campaign and will cover costs associated with serving additional attendees. Over the years the tour has expanded its marketing to include 1859 Magazine, Travel Oregon's Guide, Oregon Home Magazine, Oregon Coast Visitor Guide, Sunset Magazine, among others. You might have noticed expanded advertising in periodical and online advertising as well. Per the ordinance the grant was based on, funds can only be spent to attract overnight visitors.

Additional costs associated with the expanded tour schedule is covered each year by our generous sponsors, members, and donors.

The Tour area will be designated in October of this year. If you are interested in featuring your home on the tour, becoming a sponsor, or volunteering to help out the weekend of the tour, please call 503-436-9301 or email liz@cbhistory.org.

Did you know?

The museum is open Wednesday through Monday, 11:00 to 5:00 p.m. until September 5, 2016.

Off-season hours are 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday through Monday.
In 1965, a year after the Good Friday Quake and subsequent tsunami that destroyed parts of Cannon Beach, the Round Table restaurant opened for business. The restaurant was owned and operated by Evie and Win Boothby, and was located in the “post office building.” It was given its named rightfully so because the café consisted mainly of a round table eight feet in diameter and surrounded by twelve stools.

The Round Table gained popularity for a number of reasons. The Boothbys were an affable couple and excellent cooks. Although the name leaves less to be desired, Win Boothby’s sauerkraut custard pie even challenged the reputation of Mrs. Osburn’s cream-drenched blackberry pie at Bill’s Hotel. The Round Table was also a suitable place to stop in for coffee, and also for a piece of the sauerkraut pie, either before or after the 9am mail was ready next door at the post office. There was no better origin of local news than the Round Table.

Although one grouch called the restaurant a “gossipy place,” this was denied by its customers. “People told things,” said one person, “but nobody ever tried to hurt anybody.”

In 1967, just three years after the tsunami, the town was hit by a destructive flood. West winds of great velocity and high tides combined to drown the town under three feet of water and drive the occupants of the post office to a table top, which was necessary to rescue them by rowboat. The image below shows the high water evacuation at the Round Table restaurant. Pictured: Joe Huffsmith (holding boat), Win Boothby’s mother, Robin Boothby, Evie Boothby (climbing into boat), Phylis Ricketts (clerk at post office), and Marie Marshall (Postmaster).

The Boothbys decided to retire in 1978, and in January of that year, the Cannon Beach Gazette wrote: “A landmark in Cannon Beach, the Round Table is where patrons sit and share the events of the day: on literature, arts and sports; maybe even write a letter; share a chuckle found in their morning mail or read a book…The atmosphere is casual and warm as a family gathering.”

With the retirement of the Boothbys in February of 1978, the Round Table closed and then reopened a few months later under new management. The decision was then made to build a new post office in 1981, and so the old building was razed and the Round Table closed for good and nothing in the town ever took its place. It is believed that the old table itself was saved and stored at the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce and serves as a reminder of the camaraderie of another time. As the town came into the late seventies and eighties, the old togetherness and familiarity began to pass, and the Round Table was missed by those who had once known it.
We are a Blue Star Museum

The Cannon Beach History Center & Museum is proud to announce its participation with the Blue Star Museums program. This will be our third summer participating in this wonderful program. Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 1,800 museums across America.

Coast Guard, as well as members of the National Guard and Reserve, U.S.

Blue Star Families is a national, non-profit network of military families from all ranks and services, including guard and reserve, dedicated to supporting, connecting and empowering military families. With our partners, Blue Star Families hosts a robust array of morale and empowerment programs, including Books on Bases, Blue Star Museums, Operation Honor Corp, Blue Star Careers and Operation Appreciation. Blue Star Families also works directly with the Department of Defense and senior members of local, State and Federal government to bring the most important military family issues to light.

Working in concert with fellow nonprofits, community advocates, and public officials, Blue Star Families raises awareness of the challenges and strengths of military family life and works to make military life more sustainable. Our worldwide membership includes military spouses, children, parents, and friends, as well as service members, veterans, and civilians.

About the National Endowment for the Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than $4 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector. To join the discussion on how art works, visit the NEA at arts.gov.

To learn more about Blue Star Families, visit http://www.bluestarfam.org. For more information about this program, contact bluestarmuseums@arts.gov

Time to Renew your Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program

For the past two years the Museum has participated with the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program.

Each year Fred Meyer donates approximately $2.5 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, based on where their customers tell them to give.

The Fred Meyer Community Rewards Customer Re-enrollment began on June 1, 2016. You should have received an email reminder to re-link your Fred Meyer Rewards card to benefit the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum.

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

Our local Fred Meyer is located at: 695 U.S. 101, Warrenton, OR 97146

You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number 80763. Here’s how the program works:

Sign up (or renew) for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum. Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping your local history museum earn a donation!

You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today. If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.
Coastal Reflections: A Textile Exhibit by Mary Arnold

At the beginning of May, the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum’s summer textile exhibit officially went on display. Coastal Reflections showcases the work of Pacific Northwest artist Mary Arnold. This is Arnold’s second time showing at the museum, but this is her first solo show.

The exhibit integrates Arnold’s quest for artistic balance and love of nature. Each piece is created with batiks, hand-dyed fabrics, and even hand painted fabric to create forest, beach, and river scenes. Arnold likes to interpret and twist what we see in everyday life into unique and colorful fabric creations. She enjoys being able to take fabric and use it as others would use paint or pastels to create images you will see in the exhibit.

Arnold is an accomplished textile artist who has shown her work internationally. She has won countless awards for her creativity, skill, and love of the craft.

Coastal Reflections doesn’t just showcase the textile creations of this intrepid artist. Arnold is also sharing several of her Cannon Beach inspired paintings. One of the paintings, entitled “From the Path” is included in the Museum’s annual fall raffle.

The exhibit will be on display through September 11. Don’t miss your opportunity to see the beautiful creations of this adept artist. This textile exhibit is being sponsored by Cannon Beach’s own fabric store, Center Diamond. Center Diamond has been selling fabric for over 20 years in Cannon Beach. Contemporary batiks, brights, Asian, landscape/beach, modern fabrics are their focus but they also have lots of sewing supplies and notions. Look for their custom made Haystack Rock batik and Tufted Puffin fabric and buttons -- all available only at Center Diamond.

Trees, a textile by Mary Arnold

Branches, a textile by Mary Arnold

From the Path, a painting by Mary Arnold. You can win this painting as part of the Fall Raffle.
Join us on Saturday, September 24, 2016 for Smithsonian Magazine’s Museum Day event. Smithsonian Magazine has partnered with museums across America to bring you this event. You can purchase a ticket online starting August 1 and visit any participating museum from Hawaii to New York. For some of us that might be too far away, so join us as we participate in this national event. The CB-HCM will be offering complimentary Sleepy Monk Coffee all day! Open 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for this event.

Oregon Visions: An exhibit by Stirling Gorsuch

We don’t just enjoy beautiful textile work, sometimes we are able to showcase the work of local artists in the museum’s exhibit space. This fall we are looking forward to hosting an exhibit by Stirling Gorsuch. On Saturday, October 8, Gorsuch’s latest exhibit “Oregon Visions” opens at the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum. Stirling Gorsuch is a Cannon Beach native and rising star in the art community with his printed creations.

The pieces for “Oregon Visions” span the last few years of his work, which was inspired by the beautiful and contrasting landscapes of Oregon. Gorsuch says, “My choice to focus on landscape in my work originated from my upbringing in Cannon Beach.” He memorializes time spent by a bonfire, stargazing, hiking soggy trails, and surfing frigid Pacific summer waters. Gorsuch also spent several years in Bend, an area that has become as much of an inspiration as Cannon Beach with its drastically different seasons, raging forest fires, and snowy blizzards. These “intense natural phenomena became central themes in my work.”

Over the years Gorsuch says that he has experienced “a shift in how I perceived landscape, not just as a place, but also as a subject for further investigation into how time shapes environments.”

In a word, “Oregon Visions” is Oregon. Oregon now and Oregon as it was. Inspired, breathtaking, and beautiful. His prints integrate landscapes that we know and love with angular and geometric shapes creating iconographic symbols such as a four-paned window.

Now living in Portland, Gorsuch balances his time between the coast and the desert and is inspired by both. Don’t miss your opportunity to meet this talented and humble artist at the “Oregon Visions” opening on Saturday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m. Enjoy tasty morsels and libations. The exhibit will be on display at the Cannon Beach History Center & Museum for a relatively short time, just through November.
Membership Meeting with a Presentation by Mac Burns

Join us on Saturday, November 12 for the museum’s annual membership meeting. Kick-off the holiday season with a presentation by the incomparable Mac Burns. There seems no better way to start the membership meeting than with a presentation on Astoria.

Burns is the director of the Clatsop County Historical Society, radio host, and engaging lecturer.

Come learn history that you thought you knew about John Jacob Astor and the founding of Astoria. Let’s hear his take on Fort Astoria, the British, and what really happened.

Following Burns presentation, attendees are invited to stay for a short presentation on where the museum stands and what to expect for the coming year. We’ll have the usual tasty morsels and libations. The membership meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 12. Bring your friends and family!