

# Garibaldi Museum News

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## Museum Features New Exhibits for 2006

The museum, founded in 1986 by Charles M. Parkin, Jr., co-author of Captain Robert Gray in the Pacific Northwest, opened on July 1, 2004. Dedicated to preserving the maritime heritage of the Pacific Northwest the museum displays artifacts from 18th century sailing and the story of Captain Robert Gray.

Adding to the exhibits on 18th century sailing life, the curator acquired reproductions of half hulls of the historic vessels the



## The Garibaldi Museum

Maritime History

*Columbia* and *Lady Washington*, catheads from 18th century sailing ships, one pounder swivel cannons and children's clothing of the period.

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## Gallery Dedicated to Garibaldi, OR

A new gallery, over 1,700 square feet, is dedicated to the history, people and industry of Garibaldi, Oregon. The museum features a video by Oregon State University Extension Sea Grant, "Coming Home was Easy—The West Coast Salmon Troller" and a video by the Oregon Crab Commission on the crabbing industry. A model of a salmon troller, an exhibit of the Dungeness crab and historic pictures of Garibaldi are among the featured exhibits. Contemporary art and photographs of the city grace the walls. A photographic collection of the trollers and trawlers registered at the port during the years is on display along with a model of a troller.

The tongue and groove pine ceilings, sand colored floors, white walls with vertical grain trim create a serene space to reflect on the towns past.



## Win two Free Admissions to Museum

Admission granted to the first two people to identify the location of the figure below on museum premises.



## Museum Now Open on Mondays

The Museum Board agreed to open the museum on Mondays in order to give visitors on extended weekends the opportunity to visit the museum. The museum is now open five days a week.

**Hours of Operation:**  
**July 1 - Sept 30 \* Thurs. - Mon.**  
**12PM — 4 PM**

## Museum Founder and Chief Contributor Dies

Demolitions expert, author and retired Army Lt. Col. Charles McDonald Parkin Jr. died December 28, 2005. "Colonel Parkin," as everyone knew him, was one of the few remaining members of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Office of Strategic Services. The OSS, a precursor to the Central Intelligence Agency, was formed in 1942 to gather intelligence during World War II.

In 1967, Maritime Captain Francis Cross, a family friend, turned over a partially written story about Pacific Northwest sea otters to Col. Parkin. In those notes, Col. Parkin found a piece of American history, the story of Capt. Robert Gray, whose discoveries were instrumental in the formation of the United States. [Captain Robert Gray in the Pacific Northwest](#), co-authored by Capt. Cross and Col. Parkin, was first published in 1981.

Col. Parkin was determined to preserve the history of Gray and the maritime heritage of the Pacific Northwest. In 1986, he founded the Garibaldi Museum in Garibaldi, OR, which is near where Gray made his first landing in the Pacific Northwest. "That's what he did with his money," his daughter said. "He wore the same military issue black shoes for 25 years and spent everything he could to get the museum going."

## Baskets Donated to Museum

Mrs. Terry Wall of Oceanside, Oregon donated authentic Native American baskets from the Pacific Northwest to the museum. The baskets are on display in the Captain Robert Gray Gallery.



## Catheads Come to Museum

Decorative catheads have evolved in many sizes and shapes during maritime history. The original catheads were a practical solution to combating rot on the anchor support (also known as the cathead). To ward against the ever encroaching threat of rot, mariners like carpenters today, put an opposite grain block (decorative cathead) on the end of the anchor support to reduce the potential for moisture weeping into the wood.

The original catheads were lion heads and eventually became decorative designs. In the 19th century the decorative wood became an iron casting.

The two catheads featured at the museum were sculptured by renowned maritime sculptor, Gary Anderson. (Gary also sculptured the figurehead that stands in the second floor lobby.) The catheads were fashioned after two distinct styles from the 18th century. Each is finished with linseed oil to show the grain of the wood. The two catheads in the museum were carved from mahogany. Examples of catheads may be found in "Shipcarvers of North America" by M V. Brewington.



*Cathead on exhibit sculptured by Gary Anderson of CT*

## From the Director



Winter 2006 was a difficult period. Our founder and chief contributor, Charles Parkin, Jr. died December 28, 2005. Parkin was the director of the museum since its inception in

1982. He led the way through the charter process and the construction of the 8,000 square foot building. Along the way he amassed a slew of local talent to paint murals and sculpt exhibits. During the last years, Parkin was available for book signings and history lessons. Despite his declining health, he flew to Oregon each summer to watch over his dream. We will surely miss him.

As many know, Col. Parkin was my father. During the past five years, I worked with him as Assistant Director. I am honored that the Museum Board has placed their trust in me by appointing me Director. I hope to continue building the museum as Dad would have liked.

I'm excited to be back in Garibaldi and look forward to seeing each of you this summer.

*Cheryl Parkin Evans*

## Enhanced Gift Shop

The museum volunteers have worked like beavers enhancing the gift shop. Souvenirs, once behind glass cases, are hanging on the wall. Children's books, samples of 18th century writing implements and Christmas ornaments have been added to the shop inventory. Dungeness crab and sea otter stuffed animals and pirates loot is also for sale. This year there will be shopping for all ages.

Web

[www.GaribaldiMuseum.com](http://www.GaribaldiMuseum.com)

Take a peek and send your comments to our editor.

## From the Editor

We are pleased to present the fourth of the semi-annual Garibaldi Museum news letters. The purpose of the letter is to recap the past six months and give an overview of what's to come. Please mail your comments, questions, suggestions or articles to Cheryl Evans, General Delivery, Garibaldi, Oregon 97118 or email [cherylevans@comcast.net](mailto:cherylevans@comcast.net).

## Multi-Purpose Room

The meeting room with kitchen and restrooms is available to the public for a fee of \$100 per day. Local non-profit organizations may rent the room for \$50 per day. Interested parties may call Pete Churchley at (503) 842-8740. The application is available on the web, at [www.GaribaldiMuseum.com](http://www.GaribaldiMuseum.com).

## Museum Reaches Younger Audience

Committed to reaching younger audiences the museum curator introduced even more children friendly exhibits. One pounder swivel cannons, catheads, period clothing for children and a sail maker's bag are among the new exhibits to the museum in 2006. Last year, audiences of all ages faced a challenge in trying to put together the reproduction of a 18th century wood bucket. Now in 2006 children can don shipmates' hats or sailors shirt.



*Wood reproduction of a one pounder swivel cannon*



*Sea chest with children's period clothing*



*Sail maker's bag and tools on display in the lobby*

## Garibaldi Museum Mission

- To enhance the maritime heritage of the Pacific Northwest by collecting any and all information concerning Captain Robert Gray and Captain Robert Gray's vessels, the *Lady Washington* and *Columbia*;
- To encourage and recognize scientific studies and involvement in the construction, sailing, navigation and other related maritime and oceanic activities
- To encourage and recognize literature, art, music and dance related to the age of sailing
- To provide informational services to communities throughout the Pacific Northwest geographical region through broad based community educational programs for all ages, in order to develop knowledge, understanding and respect for the cultural and historical aspects of shipbuilding, sailing, navigation and other related activities.

## In Memory

We were saddened to hear of the passing of a friend of the museum, Jane Fidler. Jane was a long time resident of Garibaldi, OR. Jane's family, the Hoy's, were among the first fishing families in Garibaldi. Jane's husband Bill Fidler is a docent at the museum. Our thoughts go out to Bill and his family.

**Garibaldi Museum**  
**Maritime History**  
112 HWY 101  
Garibaldi, Oregon 97118

[GaribaldiMuseum.com](http://GaribaldiMuseum.com)



*Garibaldi Museum Mission Poster by Alexa Chipman. Images from the Oregon Historical Society and Gordon Miller.*