From the Executive Director

Introducing our newly elected Board of Directors

The Society would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who joined our Annual General Meeting on April 27th. Following the meeting, our members enjoyed an exclusive tour of two new exhibitions, *The Label Unwrapped* and *The Cannery Cat’s Collection*; it was great to see everyone enjoying our new offerings. It was a pleasure to present the highlights, successes and wonderful collective effort of our team in 2018.

With our Annual General Meeting also came the election of our 2019/2020 Board of Directors. I am excited to announce that Elizabeth Batista, Eileen Carefoot, Kit Grauer, Everett Pierce, Dave Semple and Susan Stiene all stood for and were successfully re-elected to serve another two-year term.

We are also happy to welcome newly elected Director Joan Bennett to the Board. Joan is a member of the Musqueam Indian Band who has lived all her life in Ladner, as did both her parents. Her father was a life-long commercial fisherman, fishing and owning both gillnetters and seiners over the years. Her grandfather and his brothers all fished as well. Her mother worked for a short time in a Steveston cannery, belonged to the UFAWU, and was a founding member of the Ladner Fishermen’s Hall. Joan also recently served on the Board of Directors (2010-2016) for the Delta Museum and Archives Society.

Our new and returning Executive Officers are as follows: Chair Kit Grauer, 1st Vice Chair Ken Flores, 2nd Vice Chair Peter Liu, Past President Dave Semple, Treasurer Elizabeth Batista, and Secretary Ryan Garnett. We thank Ralph Turner, outgoing Past President, and Jim Kojima, outgoing Treasurer who have remained on as Directors General. Their work as Executive Officers of the Society helped us achieve new levels of operational excellence and their care and dedication is without compare. We are very privileged to continue to count on them as Directors, volunteers and community leaders.

**STEPHANIE HALAPIJA**

**MEMBERS’ POTLUCK**

Join us on **Saturday September 7th at 5pm** for our annual Society Members’ Potluck. Enjoy a social evening with fellow Cannery supporters and staff. Please bring a dish to share - Last name starts with:

A - G: Hot or cold entree  H - M: Dessert  N - Z: Appetizer  *Bring your own beverages. Hope to see you there!*
What’s New in the Archives

Three T4 slips with mailing envelopes as well as a set of five ration booklets all belonging to a Mr. Wong Say/ Sae/ See (the name is spelled differently in multiple places on the documents) was recently donated to our archives.

These documents are of particular interest for our collection, as two of the T4 slips (one from 1945, one from 1946) and the associated envelopes list the employer as “The Canadian Fishing Co. Ltd, Gulf of Georgia Cannery, Steveston, BC”, while the third T4 (also from 1946) shows the employer as the Tai On Company of Victoria BC, Inverness Cannery (on the Skeena River). Four of the five ration books also list Inverness Cannery as the location of residence for Wong Say/ Sae/ See.

This collection came to the donor, Karen Won, from her grandfather via her aunt. Her grandfather was born in China in 1890 and came to Canada 1906 with his father to work and get an education, which included learning English.

He eventually established a merchant business in Victoria on the block between Fisgard Street and Cormorant Street (now Pandora Ave.). Because of his knowledge of English, he was able to act as a go-between or broker for supplying labourers for the railway, logging, and canning industries. Mr. Wong Say/ Sae/ See was likely one of these labourers hired through Karen’s grandfather, which is probably why his T4 slips were sent to his business address.

HEIDI RAMPFL

Heidi Rampfl

T4 slip for Mr. Wong Say, who was employed by the Canadian Fishing Co. at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery for 9 weeks in 1945.

An envelope containing Mr. Wong Sae’s T4 slips for 1946, sent from the Gulf of Georgia Cannery.

One of the ration books belonging to Wong See, issued at Inverness, BC (Inverness Cannery on the Skeena River).

Inside Ration Book 2 – showing some coupons for butter.
The Cannery Cat’s Collection and our Youth Leaders

Many of our members have already been to view The Cannery Cat’s Collection, our newest temporary exhibit celebrating the Cannery’s 125th Anniversary. The exhibit showcases the work of three of our Youth Leadership Volunteers who participated in every step of the process to create the exhibit.

This is the second year of the Society’s Youth Leadership program, which received a 2-year jump start grant from the Richmond Community Foundation. The program provides skills training and leadership to local high school students over an 8-month period. During the second half of the program, the students complete projects to gain hands-on experience in the heritage sector.

This past spring, Collections Manager Heidi Rampf and I worked with Andy, Hayley, and Nadya, to build The Cannery Cat’s Collection exhibit. The student volunteers attended 8 sessions during which they participated in writing the exhibit plan, selecting the artifacts and photographs to display, writing the exhibit text, planning the case layout and label design, and installing the exhibit.

As the weeks progressed, Andy, Hayley, and Nadya gained skills related to the care and handling of historic collections and exhibit design. The students also gained an appreciation for cultural significance of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery’s rich history.

Heidi and I are immensely grateful for the students’ contributions to this exhibit process. Andy, Hayley and Nadya each brought great ideas and enthusiasm to the entire exhibit process. The Cannery Cat’s Collection will be on display until the end of 2019.

SHANNON KING
Thank you for your support all new & renewing members

(AS OF MAY 15, 2019)
Please note your name appears here only when you renew or join.
It does not appear in every issue.

Honorary & Lifetime Members
Jim Barlow  Bud Sakamoto  Robbie Johnson

Individual & Family Members
J. Albas & family
Elizabeth Batista
Joe Bauer
Jean Bennett & family
Del Boyko
Koon Kan Chan
Lorenz Victor Chan
Greg Eby
Ryan Garnett
Sue Girling
Colleen Glyna
Barb Goodwin & family
Kit Grauer
Lynn Green
Phillip Howard
Joan Kellinghusen
James B. Kempster
Jim Kojima & family
Igor Levit
Peter Liu & family
Geoff Matheson
Nancy Matheson & family
Lorna McCreath
Donald McLeod
Bill McNulty
Suzi Moon & John Kwok
Andrea Park & family
Robert Parker
Nancy & Dale Peterson
Helena Petkau
Greg Phelps
Everett Pierce
Joyce Pomeroy
Jane Schmidt
Eric Scott & family
Christine Sidworth & family
Aaron & Shannon Turner
Ralph & Edith Turner
Andy Wilson & family
Sonja Wotter
Nan Wei Yu
Ed & Dorothy Zyblut

BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW TODAY!

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Cheques payable to: Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society
12138 Fourth Avenue, Richmond, B.C. V7E 3J1 | Telephone: 604-664-9009

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 1 & 2: Doors Open Richmond
10:30am & 1:30pm guided tours. Free to join.
Call in advance to book: 604.664.9009

June 22: Welcoming the Sun - A Celebration of Indigenous Arts & Culture
1-4pm Performances, workshops, story telling and activities in celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day. Free admission

July 1: Canada Day/Steveston Salmon Festival

July 12 to August 30 (Friday evenings):
Music at the Cannery 6:30pm Doors open at 6pm. Join us for our summertime concert series (indoors if rain). $7 at the door.

July 27 & 28: Maritime Festival
Annual salmon BBQ Society fundraiser

September 7: Members’ Potluck
5pm All members are invited to join our annual get-together (held indoors if rain).

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□ Corporate $60  □ Family $35  □ Individual $20  □ Senior (55+) $18
□ Renewal  □ Change of Address  □ DONATION (amount) $ ___________

□ Please check here if you do NOT wish to have your name published as a new or renewing member.

As a member of the Society, we will be sending you updates on events and information about the Cannery. Please check below if you do NOT wish to receive these emails.

□ I do NOT wish to receive email updates from the Society

CANNERY CURRENTS IS PRODUCED BY MIMI HORITA, MARKETING & VISITOR SERVICES MANAGER | EDITORS: HEIDI RAMPFL | ROB HART