

Area July Archives Chair Quarterly Report

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Position: Archives Chair

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Accomplishments from the past quarter.

The Area 72 Archives had our May Archives Quarterly this past May in Tacoma, WA. We did a presentation on “Taming Your Archives” presented by Maryland N. and Al S. It was great and very informative. We are looking forward to the next Archives Quarterly, being hosted by District 46 in Oak Harbor the first Saturday in August. I would like to give a big “Thank You” to the FIR Group for donating some well needed totes to the Area Archives! The totes have already been put to good use as Al, Dean, and Stan reorganized the Area 72 Archives Traveling Display. This new storage plan was put to use when the Traveling Display went to the Capital Jamboree in Olympia. We also received an anonymous donation of two new 4TB extended storage drives! These will come in so handy as our computer’s storage capacity is getting maxed out. The Archives Steering Committee (ASC) has been downloading copies of Area 72 born digital business records and storing them on the Repository drive. We were able to assist Area 92 in digitizing some of their early tape recordings. Your Area Archives was also utilized by the Area Ad-Hoc committee that was established to determine the “actual” business name of Western Washington Area 72. Area 58 (Oregon) Archives will be coming up to visit our repository this month and discuss the organization/structure of our Area’s Our Stories Disclose Committee to possibly assist them in establishing a committee of their own to update the Oregon Area history book.

Problems or issues you are facing or have already dealt with.

We are still facing an issue with technology. The days of only being concerned with physical storage of archival materials is gone and we are faced, more and more, with the need to update our ability to digitize and store past and current Area 72 reports, Newsletters, and other “born” digital data. We must also establish a process for copying and digitizing past archives items that were not “born” digital. Many people aren’t as up to date with the current technology required for these processes. Therefore, it appears the Area Archives Steering Committee (ASC) needs to reorganize itself and, perhaps, add some new members who have the ability to research these issues and put forth some possible solutions. We are updating the current Archives Management Plan. The need to physically accession,

organize and store current archives is still a very real one and we are always in need of volunteers to assist.

Please share some goals you hope to achieve or begin work on in the next quarter.

We are looking forward to working with the Our Stories Disclose (OSD) committee at a workshop hosted by District 24 in Mountlake Terrace on the 20th of July. We will also be having our Archives Quarterly on August 3rd in Oak Harbor, where we plan on doing a little OSD workshop for the folks from District 46.

Looking forward to working with several of the more technically proficient individuals in the Area to establish a plan for how our Area Archives can become a more accessible and efficient resource for Area 72 members to access Archives data and streamline and upgrade our current archival processes.

Here comes the appeal –

Remember, all Notes, Minutes, Reports, etc., sent out by Area Elected's, Area Appointed's, and Area Committees (even Ad-Hoc Committees) must include the Area Repository in their distribution (repository@area72aa.org) so we can ensure they are properly maintained in the Area Archives.

Our Steering Committee, Archivist and current volunteers do what they can, but we need more hands to help us bring the vision of a modern, accessible archives to fruition. You don't need to have any special skill, just a desire to help. The Archives Steering Committee, Archivist, and Archives Chair can train you in the tasks that are required within the Area Archives.

The Archives Repository has a Work Party every third Sunday of the month, at 11:30, at the repository (3905 Steilacoom Blvd, Lakewood, WA) following our Archives Steering Committee (ASC) meeting. It may take a little time to train each person in a specific task, but we ask for your patience. If you are unable to attend the Work Party, but are still interested in volunteering, we can often make special arrangements to meet at the Repository and work with you. There you go, that's my appeal (you may hear it again).

Thank you for all that you do for the still suffering alcoholic, and your wonderful service to Area 72.