SoundCrossings

A Bimonthly Newsletter for Riders of Washington State Ferries

May/June 2008
Volume 5, Issue 3

Washington State Ferries
Washington State Department of Transportation

O'Dea High School Commuters » pg. 2 Clinton Terminal Renamed » pg. 3 Colman Clock Turns 100 » pg. 4

# Reservation System Coming to Port Townsend/ Keystone Route

Washington State Ferries (WSF) is launching a pilot reservation-system for vehicle travel on the Port Townsend/Keystone route just in time for the busiest summer sailings.

By the end of May, customers will be able to reserve space on the sailing of their choice up to 30 days in advance. WSF will also accept same-day reservations up to two hours before sailing time.

"We hope the pilot reservation-system for the Port Townsend/Keystone route will help ease congestion that is expected because of reduced ferry capacity on that route," observed WSF Director of Operations Steve Rodgers. "Our goal for taking advanced reservations is to make the best use of the vessel's limited capacity, while reducing the amount of time customers have to wait in line."

Prior to 2008, this route operated two Steel Electric-class vessels beginning in May through the summer sailing schedule. The decision to retire the Steel Electric-class ferries means the 50-car *Steilacoom II* – which WSF is leasing from the Pierce County Ferry System – is the only vehicle ferry available to serve there. With one-vessel service, departures are every 90 minutes opposed to every 45 minutes with two-vessel service.

WSF will take advanced reservations for half of the vessel's capacity. The other 25 spaces will be available for same-day reservations and standby customers without reservations.

Reservations will be accepted 24 hours-a-day online, and from 7 a.m.-9 p.m. by phone at 888-808-7977. There is no deposit or extra fee required to make a reservation. Customers may arrive up to 90 minutes before departure. Those arriving less than 30 minutes prior to departure will forfeit their reservation and be moved to the stand-by line.

WSF uses a similar reservation system for the Anacortes/Sidney, B.C. route and for trucks over 6,000 pounds on the Port Townsend/Keystone route. The state Legislature approved $200,000 during the 2008 state Legislative session to fund this program.

Visit the WSF Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries or call 888-808-7977 or 206-464-6400 to learn more about the Port Townsend/Keystone reservation system.

*By the end of May, WSF customers will be able to reserve space on the Steilacoom II, which operates on the Port Townsend/Keystone route.*

# WSDOT Ferries Division Deputy Director Departs After a Decade of Service

*Traci Brewer-Rogstad announced her resignation as Deputy Director and Chief of Staff of WSF on April 21.*

On Monday, April 21, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Ferries Division Assistant Secretary David Moseley announced the resignation of his second in command, Traci Brewer-Rogstad.

As Deputy Director and Chief of Staff, Ms. Brewer-Rogstad has had overall responsibility for maintaining and ensuring a safe and reliable level of service for the nation's largest ferry system.

"Traci has been a real superstar at the ferry system during her tenure," Moseley said. "She has helped me immensely during my first months on the job. Traci is the kind of leader who sets a standard to which we all hold ourselves and she will be missed."

Ms. Brewer-Rogstad was named acting Director of Operations in April, 2005 by then Washington State Ferries (WSF) Executive Director Mike Anderson. As the first female Director of Operations, her responsibilities continually increased throughout her management career at the ferry system. By 2006 her role expanded to include Deputy Director responsibilities. In 2007 she was officially named Deputy Director and Chief of Staff.

Other positions held by Ms. Brewer-Rogstad since beginning her career at the ferries in 1997 include Assistant Director of Operations, Regional Manager and Area Terminal Manager.

"It has been a great decade during intense and ongoing change. I am very proud of the fact that I served as second in command during some of the greatest challenges facing the ferry system. It is a good time for me to transfer my watch to others and I look forward to a new chapter in my life. I wish my colleagues all the best," Ms. Brewer-Rogstad said.

Prior to coming to WSF, Ms. Brewer-Rogstad spent five years in marine operations with Cruise West, a Seattle-based small-ship cruise company, and more than eight years in the food service, restaurant and retail industry. She holds a bachelor's of Arts from Western Washington University in Business Administration with an emphasis in International Business. She lives in Bremerton with her husband of 12 years, John, and their two children.

"This was a very difficult decision for me. We have all worked together to maintain our on-time performance and industry-leading safety record despite an ongoing funding crisis for eight of my 11 years at ferries," she said. "I leave here knowing the organization is staffed with very strong and dedicated employees throughout the fleet and in the office. My colleagues have made it very worthwhile and rewarding and I will miss them greatly."

# High School Students Make Daily Commute Across Puget Sound

From early-September through mid-June a group of young commuters dressed in maroon polo shirts and khaki pants makes the daily trek across Puget Sound.

Unlike most of those traveling on the 6:20 a.m. sailing from Bremerton to Seattle, these commuters are not headed to work.

They're on their way to school.

They crowd onto one of the busiest sailings of the day as they make their way to O'Dea High School in downtown Seattle.

They board the ferry, loaded down with backpacks, gym gear and food rations for the long day ahead. While on the ferry they sit together, work on homework and catch up on lost sleep during the 55 minute crossing.

For sophomores Ryan Kennedy and Perry Huff, their commute begins at 5:45 a.m. on Kitsap Transit's route No. 15 from Silverdale to the Bremerton Ferry Terminal for the second sailing of the day to Pier 52 in Seattle. From Pier 52, they walk up to First Avenue and take King County Metro's No. 12 route up First Hill to the O'Dea campus.

Their school day begins at 8:10 a.m. with first period class. Many of these students are also athletes whose days extend well beyond the final bell at 2:20 p.m. Depending on their class schedules and extracurricular activities they'll be retuning home to Kitsap County on sailings as late as 6:45 p.m., only to wake up before dawn and do it all over again the next day.

"When I get home I can usually find something to do to keep me up way too late, even if it's not homework, I usually find something to do," Kennedy said.

For these students the long days are worthwhile because of the unique learning environment offered at O'Dea.

Founded in 1923, O'Dea is the only private all-boys high school in the state. It offers a parochial-based education to a student body of about 480. The school has a diverse population of students representing 78 different zip codes. There are ten students who commute from Bremerton and three from Bainbridge Island. Approximately 99 percent of all O'Dea students go on to college after graduation. In order to attend O'Dea, one must pass an entrance exam, competing with more than 300 students for a limited number of spots.

The faculty at O'Dea has real-world expectations for their students regardless of where they happen to live. Students must adhere to a strict dress code. Though some commute from Kitsap County and

*A group of O'Dea students crowd around a table onboard the Kaleetan during the 6:20 a.m. sailing from Bremerton to Seattle.*

beyond, these students are expected to make it to school on time. If they are running late, they are expected to notify the school just as they would an employer.

"Our students make it to school on

*Continued on page 3*

# WSF Sets Sail for International Waters

Washington State Ferries (WSF) marked its annual return to international waters with a special event celebrating the first sailing of the year to Sidney, B.C. on Sunday, March 30.

The *Chelan* departed for the year's first sailing from Anacortes at 7:45 a.m. and arrived at the Sidney Ferry Terminal at 10:50 a.m. after a cruise through the scenic San Juan Islands. More than 100 attended the event despite windy and rainy conditions. The *Chelan* was greeted by a Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer, town criers from both Anacortes and Sidney and the Parkland High School jazz band.

"This was the strongest showing we've ever had for this event," said WSF Regional Manager Jayne Davis. "It shows how important this route is to the cities of Anacortes and Sidney."

The celebration was hosted by the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce, the Sidney Business Association and the Anacortes and Sidney Sister Cities Association. Also in attendance were ambassadors from the Town of Sidney and Sidney Mayor, Don Amos.

"This route is tremendously important to businesses in this area," said Mitch Everton of the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce. "Our hotels see a fairly dramatic drop in occupancy when this route is not in service."

Located just 17 miles from Victoria, B.C. – the provincial capital of British Columbia – Sidney, B.C. is an ideal port for those traveling to this quaint island city. WSF offers service to Sidney, B.C. during the spring, summer and fall sailing schedules. ⚓

*Participants of the international sailing kick-off event are joined at the Sidney, B.C. Terminal by the town criers from Anacortes and Sidney.*

### Things to Know Before You Cross the U.S./Canadian Border

When traveling between the U.S. and Canada, it will be necessary to pass through Customs at the border. Millions of people cross the border every year with ease, but some are refused due to a lack of sufficient documentation. If you want to have a successful border crossing, it is important to know everything you'll need before you get there. Remember, these steps are in place to protect you, so be sure to learn about crossing the border and avoid disappointment!

### Identification Is a Requirement

Identification is necessary for travel between the U.S. and Canada. Due to heightened security all travelers are encouraged to travel with a passport if available. As of January 31, 2008, U.S. and Canadian citizens age 19 and older who enter the U.S. at land and sea ports will need to present government issued photo ID, such as a driver's license as proof of identity, along with proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate or naturalization certificate, or a passport. Children age 18 and under will be able to enter with proof of citizenship, no photo ID required.

If you are not a U.S. or Canadian-born citizen you will be required to have a passport and possibly a Visa.

### What is an "Enhanced Driver License?"

Starting in January 2008, U.S. citizens who are Washington State residents will be eligible to purchase an Enhanced Driver License (EDL) for the cost of a regular driver license plus an additional $15. This EDL will meet the requirements for proof of citizenship to re-enter the U.S. from Canada. More information is available at the Department of Licensing Web site at www.dol.wa.gov/about/news/priorities/edl.html.

### Children and Infants Require More Proof

Parents traveling with children ages 18 and under and infants are required to provide identification and proof of citizenship for each child. If both birth parents are not traveling, you must have written authorization from a parent or proof of custody. Failure to provide such evidence may make you inadmissible to Canada.

### U.S. Customs and Border Protection Inspections

Since February 29, 2008, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Border Patrol has been conducting intermittent "spot checks" of all vehicles and passengers arriving domestically to the Anacortes Ferry Terminal from the San Juan Islands. This is a Border Patrol operation that is not related to WSF operations. Please contact the Border Patrol's Deputy Chief Patrol Agent Joseph Giuliano at 360-332-9202 or joseph.w.giuliano@cbp.dhs.gov if you have any questions concerning this operation.

### More Information

For more information on crossing the U.S./Canadian Border, please visit the U.S. Customs and Immigration Web site at www.travel.state.gov/visa/temp/temp_1305.html, where you'll find information on crossing the border and duties you may have to pay on goods brought back to the states. You can also visit the Canada Border Services Agency website at www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/faq/visit/index.asp, for more Canadian border-crossing information.

# Festival Season Sets Course for Summer With Maritime Festival

Thrill to the power of the biggest tugboat race in the world! Enjoy the waterfront chowder cook-off. Don't miss free harbor tours, a boat building competition, a sea-air rescue demonstration, kid's events, stories of the sea, survival-suit races and a container ship full of family fun at the 2008 Seattle Maritime Festival.

Washington State Ferries (WSF) is hosting a booth at the festival. Representatives from the ferry system will be available to answer questions and provide information in a fun and informal environment.

"The festival is designed to celebrate and showcase our maritime industry and the important role it plays in the Puget Sound region's economy," says Kimberly Lee, Seattle Propeller Club President and event sponsor.

Join the more than 25,000 annual attendees who enjoy festival activities, which are a unique blend of industry and public events. Most of the public activities take place on Family Fun Day, Saturday, May 10, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Pier 66/Bell Harbor Marina and Pier 62/63 on the downtown Seattle waterfront.

For more information visit the Port of Seattle Web site at www.portseattle.org/news/events/M_Festival.shtml. ⚓

## *Fairs and Festivals*

Washington State Ferries is participating in fairs and festivals throughout Puget Sound in 2008.

***Seattle Maritime Festival***
Thursday-Saturday, May 8-10; Family Fun Day, May 10

***Vashon-Maury Island Strawberry Festival***
Saturday-Sunday, July 12-13

***Bremerton Blackberry Festival***
Saturday-Monday, August 30-Sept.1

***San Juan Island County Fair***
Wednesday-Saturday, August 13-16

***Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival***
Friday-Sunday, Sept. 5-7

# Vendor Spotlight: *Cheesecake Café*

There's nothing quite like getting a "wedgie" from the Cheesecake Café. Located at the Anacortes Ferry Terminal, the Cheesecake Café has been offering this variation of their signature product since opening for business five years ago.

The "wedgie" – which is incredibly popular with the café's customers – is a chocolate-dipped slice of frozen cheesecake on a stick.

"Our customers love them (wedgies). They like to take pictures with them," says Cheesecake Café owner Margie Aipopo. "They can't believe that we charge $5 for a wedgie. I tell them 'this wedgie's not like the one your older brother used to give you growing up.'"

On their menu the café features three or four rotating flavors of cheesecake picked from a list of more than 30 flavors. The cheesecake, like many of the café's baked goods, is made fresh from scratch daily. They also feature a variety of sandwiches, salads, hotdogs, espresso drinks and an assortment of other items.

"We try to vary our menu and keep it on the healthy side by making a lot of our products from scratch," said Aipopo.

With about 500 square feet of space to work with at their location in the Anacortes Terminal, Aipopo and her staff have become efficient at moving customers through their line in a hurry.

*The Cheesecake Café is the place to be if you are in need of a "wedgie" at the Anacortes Ferry Terminal.*

"People only have limited time to make their ferry so we have to get them through the line as quickly as possible," she said.

The Cheesecake Café has two other locations: downtown Anacortes on Commercial Ave. and at the Burlington Mall. Don't forget to stop by this summer if you are in need a quick snack or a frozen wedgie. ⚓

# WSF to Rename Clinton Ferry Terminal in Honor of State Lawmaker

Washington State Ferries will celebrate the 42-year political career of state lawmaker Jack Metcalf by renaming the Clinton Terminal in his honor at a ceremony on Thursday, May 8, 2008.

Metcalf, a Whidbey Island Republican, earned a reputation as an advocate for the environment and veterans before retiring in 2001. He passed away on March 15, 2007 at age 79.

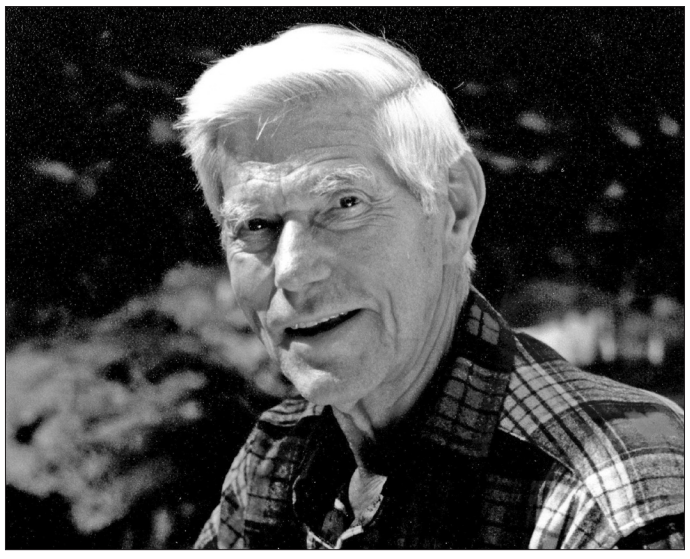
He served as a state representative from 1961 through 1964 and as a state senator from 1966 though 1974 and from 1980-1992. In 1994 Metcalf was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 2007 the Washington State Transportation Commission voted unanimously to name the terminal for Mr. Metcalf. At the ceremony the Clinton Terminal will officially be renamed the Jack Metcalf Terminal. This is the only Washington State Ferries terminal named for an individual, living or deceased.

During his political career Mr. Metcalf led environmental protection efforts and worked to improve natural resources and management of fisheries. An advocate for veterans, Metcalf supported funding for military family assistance and programs for homeless veterans.

Mr. Metcalf was born in 1927 in Marysville. He spent the majority of his life on Whidbey Island, graduating from Langley High School in 1945. After retiring, Mr. Metcalf and his wife Norma operated the Log Castle Bed and Breakfast on his family's homestead near the town of Langley.

Mr. Metcalf served in the Army from 1946-1947 and later joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He also worked for 30 years as a school teacher in the Everett School District. As a fisherman, hunter, teacher and U.S. Congressman, Mr. Metcalf spent many years commuting on Washington State Ferries. ⚓



*WSF will rename the Clinton Ferry Terminal in honor of long-time state lawmaker Jack Metcalf who passed away on March 15, 2007.*

*"O'Dea" continued from page 2*

time because it's their job. We hold them to the same standard as an employer. If the boat is running late we hold them accountable and expect a phone call," says O'Dea assistant principal James Walker. "We set very high expectations for our students. When you come to O'Dea, just like all of the professionals commuting on the Bremerton and Bainbridge Island routes; you're coming to work."

O'Dea prides itself in preparing its students for the challenges awaiting them after graduation.

"We do not provide our students with transportation to school whether they walk up the hill or take the No. 12 bus" Walker said. "Their education is very real world and they learn real-world boundaries during their commute."

It's not all work and no play at O'Dea, however.

O'Dea is known as one of the premier high schools for student athletes in the state. Their programs routinely turn out athletes who go on to compete at the collegiate level. For many of the students, athletics were a deciding factor when choosing to attend O'Dea.

Sophomore Rylan Hull first learned of O'Dea high school in 2003 while at the Washington State Football championships at the Tacoma Dome.

"I saw the state game in 2003 and I saw how professional O'Dea looked when they played the game even though they lost," he said. "There was something special about the school and their tradition; I think that's what really inspired me to go to O'Dea."

After commuting to school on state ferries and city busses for four years and attending a school that operates like a business, O'Dea students are prepared for the challenges that await them after graduation. Some of them are even looking forward to life after high school.

"This is a great college-prep school. There are a lot of opportunities coming out of this place. I like to think that college will almost be a little bit easier after doing this commute for four years," said Kennedy. "I plan on taking a lot of late classes in college, nothing early in the morning."

Come mid-June, this group of commuters will disappear from the ferries until fall when a new crop of students will take the places of those who graduated the year before. They'll learn the ropes, figure out the commute and go about their business as students, athletes and members of the community making the daily commute onboard Washington State Ferries. ⚓

# Discovering Forks: A Photographer's Paradise

This great small town is located in the heart of the Olympic National Forest on the Western edge of the Olympic Peninsula. Forks boast easy day trips to Olympic National Park, Rialto Beach, the Hoh Rain Forest, Kalalock Beach, Lake Crescent, Sol Duc Falls and more.

Originally founded as a logging town, Forks has maintained its affection for its logging history. Built by the local high school carpentry shop along with many volunteers, the Forks Timber Museum is a great starting point for anyone visiting the area. Downtown Forks provides easy walking access to a variety of gift shops, galleries, antique shops and restaurants. Forks provides a natural experience and hometown feeling for travelers looking for an affordable stay with close access to some of the most scenic trails and drives in the State of Washington.

Photographers around the world are coming to Forks to take advantage of the amazing year-round beauty of this area. Each season brings sights of fast moving rivers, more than 200 bird species, migrating whales on the coast and calming natural beauty of the rain forest.

This wild and rural region beckons those seeking solitude and beauty.

Forks Chamber of Commerce has a well made and easy to navigate Web site that includes "5-Day Trips" with details and maps to help plan your vacation or weekend getaway. Visit www.forkswa.com to learn more.

Be sure to join Forks residents this summer for their Old Fashioned Fourth of July featuring fireworks in a family setting. This three day event includes surfing and kayaking completions, a horseshoe tournament, window decorating competitions, parades, a salmon bake and much more.

In-depth travel information is also available at the Forks Visitor Center and the Olympic National Park/ Forest Information Center. For more information call 800-443-6757, or send email to info@forkswa.com.

## *Calendar of Events*

***Forks Old Fashioned Fourth of July***

***Relay for Life***, "There's No Place Like Hope," Friday, August 1-2, Forks High School Track, 360-374-5026

***Rainforest Run***, Saturday, August 16. First ever motorcycle event in Forks. All Motorcycles Welcome! Visit www.rainforestrun.com for more information.

Daily Scheduled Tours of BAINBRIDGE ISLAND from the Winslow Dock

BITS of Bainbridge
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND TOURS & SIGHTSEEING
CALL FOR DEPARTURE TIMES & RESERVATIONS: 877-981-2022 or check with the Chamber of Commerce Information Booth
Operated by Agate Pass Transportation, LLC

# Through the Years Special Feature

### The Clock at Colman Dock Turns 100 this Year

**BY ALAN STEIN, HISTORYLINK.ORG**
**For Sound***Crossings*

For forty years the clock that once stood high above Colman Dock as a lighted beacon for incoming vessels was locked away in a Seattle warehouse, lost among the chicken coops and dust until its discovery in 1976.

With its broken gears, rusted pendulums and cracked glass no one realized the significance of the clock at first. Experts from Seattle's Museum of History and Industry were called in. After much research it was determined that this was the long lost Colman Clock, hidden from sight for decades.

Today a refurbished Colman Clock greets passengers walking into the ferry terminal at Pier 52 in downtown Seattle. The clock, which was first installed in 1908, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

The clock, built by the E. Howard Clock Co. of Boston, was installed atop a 72-foot-high tower at the end of Colman Dock. The clock's four, 54-inch dials were lit from the inside to act as a beacon, aiding in the scheduled arrivals and departures of travelers on both land and water.

It served its duty well until the evening of April 25, 1912, when the steamship *Alameda* slammed into the dock and sent passengers in the waiting room running for their lives. The stately tower sheared off, fell onto the *Alameda* then into Puget Sound. The clock drifted off into the darkness and was recovered the next day, its hands stuck at 10:23, the exact time of the accident.

Repairs were made to the damaged timekeeper and it was reinstalled atop a new, taller tower where it overlooked Elliott Bay until 1936. With the launch of the modern looking *Kalakala* in 1935 and the planned renovation of the terminal, the clock looked dated and out of place. The clock was disassembled and removed. In its place rose a streamlined "art deco" building that was more in style with the times.

### Lost in Time

No one gave the timepiece much thought until 1976, when it was discovered in a Seattle warehouse on the corner of 12th Avenue and Jackson Street. Although in disrepair, the clock was salvageable and worthy of restoration. In 1984, the Port of Seattle purchased the clock and enlisted the help of the Puget Sound Chapter of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors to restore it.

Weekly meetings were held at the North Seattle Community College watch shop to rebuild this piece of Seattle history. Each piece of the clock was cleaned and repainted, and in some cases new parts were manufactured to match those beyond repair. Special care was given to the movement and mechanism to assure that the clock would once again keep precision time. Volunteers logged more than 800 hours to bring the clock back to mint condition.

On May 18, 1985, a ceremony was held during National Maritime Week at Pier 52 as the Port of Seattle formally returned the clock to the Washington State Department of Transportation. The clock was installed inside the Seattle Pier 52 Terminal. Special thanks were given to those who spent so many hours restoring the clock to its former glory, including Amby Ambjour, who looked after the clock until recently. The clock is now cared for by Washington State Ferries (WSF) Facility Engineer Karl Randolph, who is responsible for periodic maintenance and adjusts the time once every couple of weeks.

In 2004 the clock was once again displaced for renovations to the terminal. In its new location on the upper-deck of the terminal near the sky bridge to First Avenue, the clock stands guard over a time capsule commemorating the 50th anniversary of WSF. The time capsule was sealed in an air-tight container in the clock's case. Contents of the time capsule include books, magazines and newspapers featuring WSF, "Ferry Tale" contest-winning essays from customers and employees, photo collages, cash register parts and videotape footage from the WSF 50th anniversary celebration. The time capsule will be opened on June 1, 2051 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of WSF. ⚓

*On the evening of April 25, 1912, the steamship Alameda slammed into Colman Dock, shearing off the clock and knocking it into Puget Sound. Photo courtesy HistoryLink.org.*

PALACE HOTEL
A Step Back in Time
Restored 1889 Victorian Hotel
1004 Water Street
Port Townsend, WA
1-800-962-0741

**Sound***Crossings*

May/June 2008, Volume 5, Issue 3

Sound*Crossings* is published bimonthly by Washington State Ferries for ferry riders.

The WSF Administrative Offices are located at:

2901 Third Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98121-3014

*WSF Assistant Secretary*, David Moseley
*Editor*, Shawn Devine, 206-515-3771
*Advertising*, Jill Andrews, 206-870-2470
*Layout*, Publications, 360-705-7427

Washington State Department of Transportation

*Printed on Recycled Paper*