

JOHN BOYLE FIGHTS BACK

During and after the Astoria Fire of July 2, 1883, the 1903 Oregon Historical Quarterly Volume 4 reports that drunken looters and revelers ran amok, so a group of local citizens created “the committee” to help the police restore order — by whatever means necessary (<http://tinyurl.com/fire1883>).

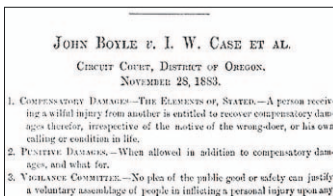
After successfully routing the owners of a saloon who wouldn't obey the mayor's curfew, the committee decided to drive out the “disreputable characters” in the seedy part of town, Swilltown, and gave them 24 hours to leave. Gambler John Boyle, a known “bad man,” refused to go, so the committee forcefully ensured that he did.

But Boyle recognized five of the vigilantes, and three months later sued them in Circuit Court for \$25,000 in damages (almost \$600,000 today), according to an 1885 court report (<http://tinyurl.com/boyle-astoria>).

“The plaintiff claims that the defendants in this action, in connection with others, unlawfully arrested him ... and confined him in jail; that they pretended to try him, and sentenced him to receive 25 lashes on his bare back ... (He was) blindfolded, gagged, and taken from the jail during the following night, onto the hill back of the town, where he was first tantalized or tortured by the information that he was to be hanged, and then to receive 200 lashes; and finally was whipped on the bare back with a cat-o'-nine-tails — five men giving him five lashes each ...”

As if that wasn't enough, he was put on his knees, sworn to silence, and brought back to jail. The next morning he was taken, in irons, and put on the steamboat to Portland. No, Boyle didn't get \$25,000, but the jury did award him \$1,000 (about \$23,000 now), which was “raised by general subscription, \$20 being the usual individual contribution,” according to the Quarterly.

Their job done, the committee disbanded and the incident was all but forgotten, except as a footnote in Astoria's history.



CHINOOK'S NEW LEASE ON LIFE



Peter Marsh was visiting Seattle recently, and happened to see the old Astoria pilot boat, the Chinook, at the Kvichak Marine Industries boatyard (www.kvichak.com), where it was being refitted for a new posting.

“Delivered in 2000, Chinook was the first pilot boat built by Kvichak Marine Industries for the Columbia River Bar Pilots,” Carol Reid, marketing manager at Kvichak told the Ear. “It is also the first self-righting vessel built by Kvichak.

“... In 2013, the CRBP felt that it was time to replace the Chinook with a new pilot boat. They traded the Chinook in and placed an order for the Astoria. When Astoria was delivered in the spring of 2014, Kvichak sold Chinook to the Pacific Pilotage Authority in Vancouver, B.C. Renamed the Pacific Chinook, the vessel was repowered, repainted, serviced and certified for Transport Canada.”

Pictured, courtesy of Kvichak, the reborn pilot boat being launched in Canada, and inset, the Chinook in Astoria.

“(The Chinook) will probably work another 10-15 years, at least,” Peter observed.

STAY AFLOAT



Gizmag.com reports there is a new water safety device coming on the market: the Kingii wrist-worn flotation device (<http://tinyurl.com/kingii1>). Its target market is swimmers, surfers and sailors, but on North Coast beaches, a wader can become a swimmer as fast as a sneaker wave can knock you off your feet. Kingii is pictured in photos courtesy of Gizmag.

Kingii uses a carbon dioxide cartridge to inflate the flotation bag, and the cartridges are easily replaceable. Want one? Go to <http://tinyurl.com/getkingii>

“After I lost a friend in a preventable drowning accident,” Tom Agapiades, founder of Kingii, said, “I developed Kingii as a way to promote the importance of water safety and, hopefully, end this type of tragedy once and for all.”

In One Ear



by Elleda Wilson

ewilson@dailyastorian.com (503) 325-3211, ext. 257

FRESH AND FANTASTIC



Proud grandmother Cathie Dietz of Warrenton wrote to the Ear about her rapping grandsons, Donavon and Riley Campbell, and their friend, Caleb Phillip. Donavon, who graduated from Warrenton High School, lives in Phoenix now and performs as Papa Don. Both Riley (aka E-White) and Caleb (aka Cap), who will be seniors at WHS, also spend all their spare time writing their own lyrics and performing. All three are pictured.

Cathie was especially excited to travel to Phoenix, Ariz., to watch the trio rap June 15 at Bar Smith as part of the seventh Get Money Stop Hatin' (GMSH) tour. Donavon, who had been invited by the promoter to perform, wanted his brother to rap with him, Cathie told the Ear. “I am very proud of the boys, and so impressed that Donavon wanted to share the spotlight with his brother and Caleb.”

“The three of us have a very strong passion for music!” Riley told the Ear. “We're making a name for ourselves and becoming known as FAF, or Fresh & Fantastic, when working as a group. We do everything independently, with only the support of our friends and family. We did our first show in Phoenix ... It was a lot of fun, as well as a great learning experience for all of us. We plan to keep progressing and get better and better over time until we eventually become known worldwide!”

“At least that's the plan,” he added. “The show was fabulous,” Cathie reported. “The boys sang and covered the stage with dance movements, the crowd cheered and gave them a standing ovation. As soon as they left the stage they were approached by three producers.”

Perhaps they'll become known sooner, rather than later.

AN AWFUL SIGHT



Tsumanis are on most North Coasters' minds these days, and Thursday was the 57th anniversary of what is considered the world's tallest tsunami — at 1,720 feet high — on remote Lituya Bay in Alaska, according to Geology.com (<http://tinyurl.com/lituyawave>).

Fortunately, the extreme wave height was only at the beginning of the event, which was set off by millions of cubic yards of dirt, loosened by an earthquake, plunging 3,000 feet into the inlet on the east end of the bay.

By the time the wave reached Howard Ulrich and his 7-year-old son, Sonny, who were anchored in their fishing boat, the Edrie, it was about 150 feet high. The pair are pictured now, and then (inset), in screenshots from a BBC interview. “It looked like just a big wall of water,” Howard said. “You're looking at death, and this was exactly my first thought.”

“He threw me a life preserver and said, ‘Son, start praying,’” Sonny said.

As Howard pushed the engine to climb the front of the wave to the top, they were swept up over the land above the trees (where Howard thought they would surely land). Miraculously, they crested the wave, made it to the other side, and were washed back into the bay unharmed.

“God what an awful sight,” Howard recalled, “... Something like the end of the world.”

WAIT FOR IT



Aviation history, and history mystery fans take note: The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery (TIGHAR) group's latest mission to Nikumaroro, a South Pacific atoll, has seemingly returned pretty much empty-handed in their ongoing investigation for definitive answers into the 1937 disappearance of Amelia Earhart (pictured), Discovery News reports (<http://tinyurl.com/aeniku8>).

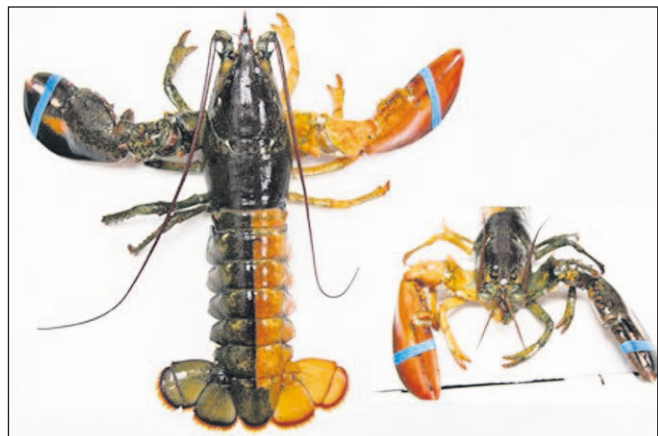
TIGHAR believes she and her pilot, Fred Noonan, were off course and landed on Nikumaroro. One reason is the “Bevington Object,” which was photographed protruding from the water on the island's western reef in 1937, thought to be part of a Lockheed landing gear (<http://tinyurl.com/bevobject>). Also, a piece of aluminum aircraft debris — believed with a fair degree of certainty to be a patch that replaced one of her navigational windows — was recovered from the island in 1991 (<http://tinyurl.com/aepart>).

One of the mission's goals was to do an underwater study to try to find the wreckage of Earhart's plane. It is assumed she landed on the reef where the Bevington object was spotted, but that the plane was gradually pushed off the reef by the wind and waves. A 2012 expedition spotted an anomaly in underwater sonar images taken at 600 feet, near the reef, that they hope is the Lockheed's fuselage.

Although the underwater Remote Operated Vehicle failed, a jerry-rigged camera managed to capture some images near the anomaly. On land, where temperatures exceeded 100 degrees, they were able to verify where Earhart and Noonan would not likely have camped as castaways, and fear most of the shoreline where they may have been has washed away.

Final results from this expedition are expected by the end of summer. No matter what they are, Ric Gillespie, executive director of TIGHAR, told Discovery, “we believe we are on the path to conclusively solving the mystery of the Earhart disappearance.”

A RARITY



According to the Portland (Maine) Press Herald, an extremely rare orange-brown split-colored lobster has been caught off the coast of Maine (<http://tinyurl.com/splitbrown>). The critter, which was brought to the Pine Point Fisherman's Co-Op last week by an unknown lobsterman, is pictured in photos by Yoon S. Byun/Portland Press Herald via AP.

According to the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine, the chances of finding a split-colored lobster is 1 in 50 million; only the albino lobster is rarer, at 1 in 100 million.

But, according to USA Today (<http://tinyurl.com/usalobs>): “The lobster in question is even more rare than the traditional split-colored lobster, which is split down the middle in color. The one found in a tank at the co-op last week has ... a body that is all brown ... Also, most split lobsters have male and female sex organs, but this one is all female.”

No, a pot of boiling water is not in her future — eventually, she'll go to the Maine Aquarium.

NEW ARRIVAL



Newcomers to Astoria,” Jeff Daly noted about his photo of a mama gull and her chick, an unusual sighting. “On top of one of the old pilings one egg has hatched, and still one to go, as the mother is always watching for a crow just waiting to swoop in for breakfast.”

According to the NatureMapping Program (<http://tinyurl.com/gullbaby>), the young begin to fly at 6 to 7 weeks old, and leave the nest when they are 10 weeks or older. Weird larus occidentalis factoid: Gulls will steal milk from lactating female seals while they're lying on their backs, sleeping on the beach.

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY

Lower Columbia R/C Society — 8:30 a.m., back room at Uptown Cafe, 1639 S.E. Ensign Lane, Warrenton. Local Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) chartered radio control model aircraft club meets for breakfast and business. All model aircraft enthusiasts are welcome. For information, call 503-458-5196 or 503-325-0608.

Angora Hiking Club — noon, 91935 Ridge Road, Warrenton. Potluck at the Sefrens' house. For information, call Johns and Marion Sefren at 503-861-3133.

Pug Socializing Club — 1 p.m., Carruthers Park, Warrenton. For pugs and their owners. For information, call Dave Kinney at 415-827-5190. Join online at <http://tinyurl.com/socialpugs>

Columbia Northwestern Model Railroad Club — 1 p.m., in Hammond. Group runs trains on HO-scale layout. For information,

call Don Carter at 503-325-0757.

SUNDAY

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Support Group — 2 to 3:30 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway. Family to Family Support Group, for anyone with friend or loved one suffering from a serious brain (mental) illness. For information, contact Myra Kero at 503-738-6165, or k7erowood@q.com, or go to www.nami.org

Line Dancing — 5:30 to 8 p.m., Seaside American Legion, 1315 Broadway. For information, call 503-738-5111. No cost; suggested \$5 tip to the instructor.

MONDAY

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

Columbia Senior Dinners — 11:30 a.m., Peace Lutheran Church (lower level), 565 12th St. Cost is \$5. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Warrenton Senior Lunch Program — noon, Warrenton Community Center, 170 S.W. Third St. Suggested donation of \$5 for seniors and \$7 for those younger than 60. For information, or to volunteer, call 503-861-3502 Monday or Thursday.

Astoria Rotary Club — noon, second floor of the Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Guests always welcome. For information, go to www.AstoriaRotary.org

Parkinson's Support Group — 1 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church library, 565 12th St. For information, call 503-338-8469 or 503-440-1970.

Peninsula Quilt Guild — 1 p.m., Peninsula Church Center, 5000 N Place, Seaview, Wash.

Newcomers welcome. Bring non-perishable food donation. For information, call Janet King at 360-665-3005.

Knochlers Pinochle Group — 1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Cost is \$1 per regular session per person. Players with highest and second highest scores split the prize. Game is designed for players 55 and older, but all ages are welcome.

Seaside Lions Club — 5 p.m., West Lake Restaurant & Lounge, 1480 S. Roosevelt Drive, Seaside. For information, call 503-738-7693.

Line Dancing for Seniors — 6 to 7:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

TUESDAY
Tobacco Free Coalition of Clatsop County — 9 to 10:30 a.m.,

Clatsop County Health and Human Services, 820 Exchange St. Anyone interested in tobacco use prevention and education welcome. For information, call Steven Blakesley at 503-325-8500 or Alissa Dorman at 503-325-4321, ext. 5758.

Do Nothing Club — 10 a.m. to noon, 24002 U St., Ocean Park, Wash. Men's group. For information, call Jack McBride at 360-665-2721.

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation of \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

Columbia Senior Dinners — 11:30 a.m., Peace Lutheran Church (lower level), 565 12th St. The cost is \$5. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Astoria Lions Club — noon, Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Prospective members welcome. For information, contact Charlene Larsen at 503-325-0590.

Warrenton Kiwanis Club — noon, Doggers Seafood and Grill, 103 U.S. Highway 101, Warrenton. For information, call Darlene Warren at 503-861-2672.

Line Dancing for Seniors — 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Warrenton Alzheimer's Support Group — 2 to 3:30 p.m., 2002 S.E. Choakeberry Ave., Warrenton. Support and information about Alzheimer's disease. For information, call Grace Bruseth 503-738-6412.

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