

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Lockert, Herbert J., (1916-1990)

Herbert J. “Red” Lockert Photograph Collection, 1964 – 1978

PCA 452

3 boxes (41 linear inches)
575+ images

Processed by: Kay Shelton, Nov. 2004
Updated by: Alea Oien, March 2009

ACQUISITION: Gift of Mrs. H. J. Lockert (Accession No. 92-23). Papers are located in MS 207.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted. An inventory is available.

COPYRIGHT: Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

PROCESSING: Note that many photographs of the Herbert J. Lockert collection are pasted into the scrapbooks in MS 207. A few images in the photograph collection duplicate those in the manuscript scrapbooks, but many do not. Both collections should be consulted for images. The photographs were grouped in a loose order when received. The order was maintained where possible. Additional loose oversize images and a binder of images have also been added to this collection in an additional box.

Captain H. J. "Red" Lockert

Captain H. J. "Red" Lockert was born in Chicago on March 23, 1916 and raised in Puget Sound (Bellingham). Captain Lockert died in Port Ludlow, WA on June 19, 1990.

The following two paragraphs are quoted from a legislative memorial to Captain Lockert:

He began his maritime career with service in the U. S. Navy from 1934 to 1938 where he was assigned to the U.S.S. *West Virginia*. After his military service he worked briefly for Puget Sound Tug and Barge Company as a ship fitter, and then spent 25 years as a tugboat captain on oceangoing tugs on the Aleutian Chain and throughout Southeast Alaska for the Army Transportation Service, Portland Tug and Barge, and Alaska Freight Lines. In 1962 Red took a job as a marine surveyor for U.S. Salvage Company of Seattle. In 1964 Captain Lockert was hired for the first time by the Alaska Marine Highway System as their Port Captain. In 1965 he was promoted to Marine Superintendent, and in 1966 Governor Bill Egan appointed him Director of the Alaska Marine Highway System.

Captain Lockert served Alaska as the Director of the Alaska Marine Highway System from 1966 to 1976, some of its formative years. During Red's tenure at the helm, Alaska's Ferry System increased its fleet from the original three ships to nine, and expanded its routes to include Seattle and other Alaskan ports in addition to the three served in Territorial days: Juneau, Haines and Skagway. The *Wickersham* was purchased and sold, three of the system vessels, the *Malaspina*, *Matanuska*, and *Tustumena* were lengthened and the *Columbia* came on line during Red's stint as director. Red stepped down as Director of the Marine Highway system in 1976, but continued to serve the State of Alaska as a consultant to the system. He was the State inspector on the construction of the newest addition to the Alaska Marine Highways, the *Aurora*, which came on line in the fall of 1977.

[Sources: Alaska State Legislature "In Memoriam, Captain H. J. Red Lockert," June 29, 1990, Social Security Index, information in MS 207, Scrapbook 6, p. 65]

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Captain Lockert collected photographs and papers during the years he served the Alaska Marine Highway System, continuing his interest in Alaska maritime affairs until his death in 1990. Images reflect the beginning of the Marine Highway System and the fleet either built, lengthened, or purchased during his tenure: motor vessels *Wickersham*, *Taku*, *Malaspina*, *Matanuska*, *Tustumena*, *LeConte*, *Bartlett*, *Aurora* and *Columbia*. Approximately 200 images are of shipyard construction. Political figures include Governors Egan, Hickel, Miller, and Hammond. The photographs show Captain Lockert's involvement in tourism and publicity, celebrations such as christenings, and the selection of Pier 48 in Seattle, not Bellingham, as the southern terminus for the system. Additional images of above listed ferries and a series of images showing the repairs of the M/V *Taku* have been added to the collection.

Marine Highway History Highlights

- 1948 *Chilkoot* (a privately owned ferry) plies between Tee Harbor and Skagway
- 1957 *Chilkat*, built by J.M. Martinas Shipbuilding Company of Tacoma, Washington, begins run between Tee Harbor and Haines
- 1958 Statehood; *Chilkoot* sold shortly thereafter
- 1963 Ferries designed by Philip Spaulding, naval architect, begin service from Prince Rupert to Skagway (Built by Puget Sound Bridge and Dry Dock Company, later Lockheed Shipbuilding and Construction)
- a. *Malaspina*
 - b. *Taku*
 - c. *Matanuska*
- 1963 *Chilkat* and *Nenana* Ferry also operating in Southwest
- 1964 *Tustumena*, built by Christy Corporation of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, entered service between Kodiak – Homer – Seward
- 1968 *Wickersham* entered service to operate on a limited waiver, being built in Norway. Service between Vancouver, BC and Skagway, in June
- 1969 Reservation system instituted
- 1970 *Bartlett*, built by Jeffboat Inc. of Jeffersonville, Indiana, begins service between Cordova – Valdez—Whittier; *Chilkat* moved to operate between Auke Bay--Hoonah
- Taku* runs aground on July 29 on West Kinihan Island, eight miles west of Prince Rupert. British Columbia ferry, *Queen of Prince Rupert*, assists in removing vehicles
- 1971 *Tustumena* runs aground. *Columbia* plans laid
- 1972 *Malaspina* stretched completed; on line June 6
- 1974 *LeConte*, built by Peterson Builders in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, enters service in May.
- M/V Columbia*, built by Lockheed Shipbuilding and Construction (formerly Pacific Bridge and Drydock) of Seattle enters main line service between Seattle – Skagway, July 5. *M/V Wickersham* sold to Finnish Company, June 1974, to sail as *Viking 6*
- 1976 *Malaspina* converted to fast food service
- 1977 Computer reservation system planned.
- 1989 *Columbia* makes last sailing from Pier 48 in Seattle on September 29 and the first scheduled sailing out of new terminal at Bellingham on October 6, 1989.

[Sources: *Highway on the Sea* by Stan Cohen (1994) and *History of the Marine Highway System* by W. R. (William R.) Hudson (1977).]

INVENTORY

Photo #	Description
Box 1	
1.	[H.J. Lockert, Miss Maritime 1971, Governor William Egan, Maritime Princess 1971, unidentified man.] 11x14" Photo by Stearns, Seattle
2.	[Loading camper-trailer onto ferry] 10x12" mounted on board
3.	Drills. [color photo crew maneuvering life boat "Juneau" in water] 8x10" mounted in folder
4.	[color photo of harbor at Seward, pre 1964 earthquake]
5.	[man and woman walk behind Ford sedan on snowy road on snow-covered landscape] 10 3/4 x 13 1/2" mounted on board
6.	[man on ladder holds mop to clean windows outside of bridge on ferry] 10 3/4 x 13 1/2" mounted on board
7.	<i>Chilkat</i> [at dock with ramp open] 11 x 13 3/4"
8.	Note with photo: "Early Days" Alaska Marine Hwy, Capt. Ed. Johnson in kaki's supervising [unnamed ferry control center; view of bridge with three men, one holds wheel, another smokes cigarette] 10 3/4 x 13 3/4" mounted on board
9	<i>Tustumena</i> [tied to dock] 10 3/4 x 13 1/2" mounted on board
10-60.	1968 photo album; address label for Eva M. Bartlett on verso of cover. Features M/V <i>Malaspina</i> and other ferries. Scenes from inside passage: lighthouses—Sentinel Island, Eldred Rock, pleasure craft, fishing vessels, log raft towed by tug boat, many images of ferry, including some in color
Box 2	
Folder 1	
61.	[Ferry in boatyard "Mendenhall"]
62-64.	Unidentified ferries
65-69.	[Ferries at Pier 48 in Seattle]
70-72.	[Auke Bay terminal] color snapshots
Folder 2	
73-80.	Unidentified groups
81-82.	[Female model in interior settings on ferry]

	83-85.	[Miss Maritime 1971 and Maritime Princess 1971 pose with Red Lockert at exhibit for Alaska Marine Highway]
	86-87.	[Memorial for Peter DeBoer on ferry]
	88.	Governor Keith H. Miller
	89.	Governor Wally Hickel
	90.	Herbert J. "Red" Lockert. Portrait
Folder 3	91-101.	M/V Bartlett
Folder 4	102-107.	M/V Chilkat
Folder 5	108-113.	M/V Columbia [some color images]
Folder 6	114-119.	M/V LeConte
Folder 7	120-146.	M/V Malaspina, including rechristening with Governor and Neva Egan, Easley, Lockert, Harold Strandberg, etc.
Folder 8	147-153.	M/V Matanuska
Folder 9	154-157.	M/V Taku, including grounding
Folder 10	158-168.	M/V Tustumena
Folder 11	169-170.	M/V Wickersham
Folder 12	171-174.	Unidentified vessel --damaged hull (color)
Folder 13	175-214.	M/V Bartlett, progress in building photos [1968]
Folder 14	215-330.	M/V Aurora, progress in building photos [1975-1977]
Folder 15	330-337.	M/V LeConte, progress in building photos, launch [1973]
Folder 16	338-349.	M/V Columbia, progress in building photos [1973]
Folder 17	350-374.	M/V Taku repair, Lockheed Shipbuilding [1970]
Folder 18	unnumbered	Envelope of color photos of unidentified vessel in shipyard

Box 3 (Located in PCA Oversize-PCA 452)

Oversize images of several of the Alaska Marine Highway System ferries.
Binder with a series of images showing the repairs of the M/V Taku at drydock.