Wishing you a very happy and prosperous New Year!

From your 2020 Board Members:

Tom Bergan, Scott Bower, 
Ron Chew, Fred Cruger, 
Robin Ingraham, Regina 
Jones, Ted Peddycord, Tim 
Quillen, and John Scherrera

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1. Past, Present, and Future - Past: In 2019 your museum volunteers were very busy, Tim. They kept the museum doors open every Sunday and with special openings in each month. Maintenance, custodial, administrative, and museum duties (docents, historical, archival) were ongoing throughout the year. The Granite Falls Museum is an all-volunteer organization. We have no paid staff. The museum is only financed by the donations from members, the community, and our visitors. The museum has finished "in the black" for the last 12 years since year-to-year financial records have been compared. Present: December proved to also be another busy month, starting with the Community Christmas Tree Lighting (in the rain!) and ending with our last 2019 General/Board Meeting on December 30 with plans developing for our building expansion project. Future: Stick around! We love history, and are here to make it available for your enjoyment and research, both in house and online. We are looking forward to 2020 and all that the new year will bring to the museum and the community.

2. Linking the past with the present - If you have not seen all of our monthly newsletters for 2019 (or maybe you want to read something again), you can see what we've been doing by going to our "News and Events" page and select the "[Click here for newsletters]". You can then choose the newsletter month. The 2019 Year-end letter is also available if you did not get one mailed to you right after Thanksgiving (or maybe misplaced it). An interesting read are the previous Year-end letters. If you are reading this as a paper copy received in the mail or from the museum, consider requesting an email version - it's faster and with internet links to more information! Start at our homepage: http://www.GFHistory.org

3. Our guests - We really enjoyed meeting and answering questions for so many people from so many places. There were about 250 people who came to our museum just in December (about 150 stopped in for Santa photos at the tree lighting). The December folks came from these places: Arlington, Duvall, Everett, Granite Falls, Lake Forest Park, Lake Stevens, Mill Creek, Monroe, Shoreline, Snohomish, and Bozeman, MT; Grand Fork, ND; and St.Louis, MO.

Throughout the year we had over 2550 total people who were from these additional locations:
- Local - Darrington, Edmonds, Index, Lake Bosworth, Lynnwood, Maltby, Marysville, Mukilteo, Oso, Silvertown, Stanwood, Sultan, and Verlot.
- Around the country - Altha, FL; Bend, OR; Boise, ID; Bristol, VT; Burlington, WI; Casa Grande, AZ; Cedar Park, TX; Charlotte, NC; Copperas Cove, TX; Cumming, GA; Hobe Sound, FL; Lakeside, CA; Los Angeles, CA; Lubbock, TX; McMinnville, OR; Miami, FL; Murrieta, CA; New York, NY; Oregon City, OR; Parker, CO; San Diego, CA; Santa Cruz, CA; Syracuse, UT; West Monroe, LA; and Whitehall, NY.
- International: Beunes Aries, Argentina; Abbotsford, BC Canada; Hunan, Israel; and Japan.

4. Our helpers - As mentioned, our volunteers assist with a variety of duties around the museum. Our docents play a vital part, as do our Board Members and the others who take care of the many needs of the Museum. A hearty "Thank
You!” goes to **Marcia Day** who has recruited our docents during 2019 and has kept track of docent scheduling. For the month of December, our docents and other volunteers were: **Norma Anderson, Tom Bergan, Ed and Thora Boede, Scott and Sarah Bower, Ron Chew, Fred and Penny Cruger, Marcia Day, Bob and Robin Ingraham, Rachel Jackson, Regina and Steve Jones, Rosie Miller, Kim Potter, Tim Quillen, John and Barb Scherrer, Kathy Scherrer, Ted Peddycord, and Tom Thorleifson.**

5. Community Foundation of Snohomish County - On December 2, we received an invitation from the **Community Foundation of Snohomish County** (the folks who care for our Scholarship and Endowment Funds) to make use of their window on Rockefeller Avenue in Everett by creating a window display. They offer this opportunity to non-profits throughout the county. Tom and Fred visited the office after hours and took some necessary measurements. They will create a proposal for what to display in the window for our turn in March.

6. UW student - On December 3, we received a request from Hannah Roberson, a UW student searching for a long-term museum, to act as a trial interview in evaluating her skills and background as they might apply to a museum job. She was particularly pleased to see how museums are moving into the world of technology.

7. LOSCHO annual meeting at the Waltz Building - Also on December 3, Tom verified that the **Waltz Building in Snohomish** will be the venue for the **League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations (LOSCHO)** Annual meeting. The meeting starts at 2:00 PM on Sunday, January 12 (a correction from the November newsletter). There is time to get home to watch the Seahawks play (if they were not scheduled for the Saturday, January 11 game). Everyone is welcome, and it’s free.

8. Maybe next year - On December 4, we provided a design for City Christmas cards, showing an old steam engine and the new Civic Center. Due to some scheduling conflicts, it appears the design went unused.

9. Archive-In-a-Box - On December 5, GFHS finally successfully loaded our entire digital collection into the **Archive-In-a-Box (AIB)** database. It now has our pictures, documents, yearbooks, history texts, newspapers, articles, etc. All are word-searchable, and in one spot! Our museum web page has been changed to indicate that change. Check it out by clicking on the Museum’s "Research" website image. Some of our regular newsletter readers might remember the many "almost there" posts about AIB in several of our 2018-2019 newsletters. Well, we are now there!

10. History Fair at the Everett Library - Also on December 5, a set of slides were created highlighting our museum efforts, to be used at the History Fair held at the Everett Library in December. The December 12th Fair was a success, with lots of foot traffic and people enjoying our brochures and displays. Tablecloth envy was paramount. Thanks to **Ron Chew, Fred Cruger**, and **Tom Thorleifson** for representing Granite Falls Historical Society at this event. It was great to rub elbows with people from other groups: **Everett Museum of History** (organizers of the event), **Everett Public Library Northwest Room** (host), **Everett Historical Commission**, **Historic Everett**, **Hibulb Cultural Center**, **Mukilteo Historical Society**, **Lake Stevens Historical Society**, **Port of Everett**, and the **Snohomish County Archaeologist**. About 60 people
crowded in to observe the interesting displays by each group. Some visitors wandered in, wondering about all the commotion (our lively chatter could be heard in the upstairs rooms!). Thanks go to Chase Dermott and Heather Schaub from the Everett Museum of History, and Lisa Labovitch from the Everett Public Library.

11. Christmas Tree Lighting - On December 7, GFHS played a major role in the annual Granite Falls Tree-Lighting event, along with the increased efforts and funding by the Chamber of Commerce. New this year was a vendor’s fair at the Civic Center, with a full house of local vendors inside and two food booths outside. While waiting for Santa to show up, people braved the rain while Scott and Adam entertained as the Masters of Ceremony for the event. The Crazy Hat Contest, trivia contest, live music by the high school band (they were awesome!), live caroling by the Sonus Boreal singers (they were absolutely beautiful!), Santa, tree-lights, vendor fair at the new Civic Center - - all conspired to furnish a fine time despite the weather’s attempt to discourage. Thanks to the many GFHS members, Chamber members, and other community members who helped to pull it off!

12. Everett & Monte Cristo Railway book - On December 8, we received eight copies of the E&MC Railway book, signed by author Daryl Jacobson, because of the interest that was expressed on Facebook for more information about the railroad and its impact on the local area. We sold every copy within a week, so at the end of the month we ordered another five copies. The book was written by Daryl along with Bill Petersen and Philip Woodhouse, but Daryl is the only one still living. They collaborated to tell about the most troublesome rail line ever built in the United States. Millions of tons of gold and silver ore were initially hauled out, then billions of board feet of timber soon followed when the mining went bust. The severe winter weather (melting snows and heavy rains - - those of us in Western Washington can relate to that!) would cause continuous problems on an epic scale. The book has a tremendous amount of accurate details. If you didn’t get one as a recent gift, there is still one left at the museum.

13. Dick Sperry (Sperry-Iverson Mine) - On December 10, we provided a picture of Dick Sperry to Bob Nale, whose property is adjacent to the old Sperry-Iverson Mine near the town of Silverton. Bob was also very interested in the bridge discovered at the Silverton-Waldheim campground last Summer, about which we wrote an article, since the site of that bridge was also right next to his property. When driving the Mountain Loop, Camp Silverton is at Mile 20, the Sperry-Iverson Mine is about Mile 21, and the town of Silverton is about Mile 22. The discovered bridge is thought to be from Marten Creek, very near the Sperry-Iverson Mine. See April newsletter, item #5 and 2019 “Back in the Day” article titled “Buried Treasure in the Stillaguamish” for more information.

14. The first weekday visitors for 2020 - On December 11, GFHS received a request from the Windsor Square Retirement Center to host a group of about 15 visitors at 11:00 AM on Thursday, January 9. We’re committed!

15. 1912 Caboose Stove restored for the Civic Center - On December 12, we installed the 1912 Estate Model 429 Caboose Stove donated by Jakob Erickson in the lobby of the new Civic Center. It has been cleaned up, painted, with all air controls and doors working, to act as a period “end table” in the lobby of our “railroad depot”. A week later the restored old phone booth was also brought into the lobby, adding some wonderful railroad memorabilia to the new Civic Center.
16. Lake Stevens Art Commission - Also on December 12, GFHS received a request from the Lake Stevens Arts Commission to provide information such as maps and pictures to enhance the effort surrounding the development of the lakeside building being erected near the Lake Stevens Museum and Library. Folks from the commission later visited GFHS to see what types of material might be found.

17. 1934 Cascade Hotel fire in the Everett Herald - On December 16, we provided an image to the Everett Herald that appeared the following Sunday on December 21 in an article describing the 1934 fire at the Cascade Hotel here in Granite Falls. Editor Phil O’Connor said he’d be interested to get future articles or picture ideas for historic glimpses to share with the Herald readers. You can find some of our archived stories in our “Back in the Day” section. Just go to GFHistory.org and select the “Research” button, and then choose “Back in the Day” to get a list of stories from which to choose. Click here for the Herald article.

18. HPC Grant recipient presentations - On December 17, Tom, Fred, and Ron attended a meeting of the Snohomish County Historical Preservation Commission held at the Evergreen Fairgrounds. The meeting was dedicated to review of the many projects completed in 2019 using the grant funds provided by the HPC. The projects were varied and creative, all helping the preservation effort across the county. Pictured is J.D. Howard, author of The Pride of Monte Cristo, with Gretchen Kaehler, Snohomish County Archaeologist and Historic Preservation Commission Liaison. The presenters were:

- Rita Ireland - League of Women Voters, explaining the suffrage movement;
- Sue Walde - Stillaguamish Valley Pioneer Association - Barn Quilt Trail - Showed the various designs of the barn quilts, Digitizing Arlington Times - digitizing the final group of newspapers, and 100 Years of Arlington WA Vol. 4 - This final book includes 12 stories told through 12 quilt squares;
- Jim Cuthill - “Pride of Monte Cristo” book - the book covers the events of 1896-7 surrounding Monte Cristo and the destruction of the Everett & Monte Cristo Railway;
- Debbie Copple - Chief Sultan’s statue renovation - Repairing the aging effects of a 14 foot sawdust/resin statue;
- Connie Goss - Monroe Arts Council - preservation of the Wagner Performing Arts Center - originally a junior high auditorium, Connie provided a brief history;
- Heather Schaub - Everett Museum of History - the new building is on 2939 Colby Avenue, expected to be open in 2021 as a community center with engaging exhibitions and world-class artifact preservation ability;
- Wendy Poischbeg - City of Snohomish - Snohomish Heritage Trail - connect people with the heritage of the City, using historic stories and graphics on nine historic signs in premium downtown locations;
- Kirk Galatas - Mukilteo Fire Department - restoring a “1941” Ford, obtained from the Army in used condition;
- Meredith Cook - City of Mill Creek - Historical Panels for downtown Mill Creek - Five historical panels placed in the heart of Mill Creek;
- Jennifer Ott - HistoryLink - Fifteen articles posted in 2019 - Broad variety of topics from guitars made in Monte Cristo to King Tut collection lectures by Kent Weeks;
- John Smistad - Stanwood Area Historical Society - Refinishing of the Nygaard historical building.

19. Grange Christmas Open House - On December 18, the Grange hosted a holiday celebration for Grange and Museum members, with a nice group of 15 in attendance. John Scherrer noted that there was “plenty of good food”. Unfortunately Grange President Gordon Day was at the hospital and was not available to receive the Granite Falls High School and Crossroads High School historic alumni rosters which were created several months ago to help with the 2019 Alumni Dinner held at the new Civic Center. Another time in the near future will be scheduled to deliver the two binders. They will make great reference material!

20. Pride of Monte Cristo - On December 20, GFHS submitted a reimbursement request to the Historic Preservation Commission for the expenses incurred by Jim Cuthill in creating the book Pride of Monte Cristo. Payment should be received in the first week of January for any expenses the county is willing to cover.
21. GIS specialist to volunteer - On December 28, Tony MacDonald, a GIS specialist working for Snohomish County PUD, visited the museum to see if he could volunteer his expertise to help some of our GIS (i.e. mapping) efforts. It looks like he will take on the task of creating a new map that shows the results of the ongoing County historic asset inventory. We received the first results from the consultant in December, which shows 111 residences they consider worthwhile for listing on the County Historic Register (and in some cases the State and National registers).

22. Calendar for January 2020
1/5 Sunday, noon - 5 PM, regular Museum hours
1/9 Thursday, 11 AM - Windsor Square visits
1/12 Sunday, noon - 5 PM, regular Museum hours
1/12 Sunday, 2 PM, LOSCHO annual meeting (see #7)
1/13 Monday, 5 PM - 2020 HPC Grants due
1/19 Sunday, noon - 5 PM, regular Museum hours
1/21 Tuesday, 7 PM - Historic Preservation meeting
1/26 Sunday, noon - 5 PM, regular Museum hours
1/27 Monday, 7:00 PM (Special Board Meeting at 6:45), January monthly meeting, at GenCare "The Village" on North Alder Avenue
2/21 Malstrom Award applications due

23. Odds & Ends -
--- "Virtual" visitors. With our recently added "webcounter" GFHS had 535 "virtual" visitors in December from 33 places in Washington, 14 states, and 8 countries; 74 total places.
--- Bush House - The Bush House in Index is the third item to be included on the Snohomish County Historic Register, after the Shanahan Cabin in Monroe and the Riverside School on Jordan Road in Granite Falls.
--- HPC Grants available - the 2020 Historic Preservation Grants are now available, with the applications due on January 13 by 5:00 PM. Click here for more information.
--- GrantsMagic - Fred, Regina, and Tom have been working on an extended course covering grant writing.
--- Malstrom - The Malstrom Awards Luncheon, sponsored by the League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations (LOSCHO), is scheduled to be held in Granite Falls this March. The new Civic Center has been reserved, and the luncheon begins at 11:30 AM. Everyone is invited (free).
--- Museum meeting - at the January meeting, the Board will vote on Board Officers. There will be discussions on the budget for 2020 and the expansion project. This would be another informative meeting to attend.
--- End of Year letter - If you did not get an end-of-year letter, we still have some left at the museum, or you can download it online here.
--- Thank you, supporters and donors! - Many thanks to those of you who responded to the end-of-year letter! We appreciate your generous financial gifts. Our "Little Museum That Could" can only get to where we are when a person donates any amount, large or small. We are a non-profit, award-winning, all-volunteer organizations. Your gifts of time, effort, ideas, and money make all the difference!
--- Docents - If you are interested in helping as a docent, call Marcia Day at 360.691.2378. Training is available. Duty is enjoyable. Your help makes a big difference - just one Sunday afternoon every couple of months is all that is needed. Why not give it a try?

24. My dog Jeff -

This story takes place in the early 1930s when Bob Miller (Granite Falls Class of 1944) was 7 to 10 years old, and is one of his favorites, as told by Bob to Ted Peddycord (Class of 1949)

To Jeff
by Bob Miller

Jeff was my dog, and he was 1/2 Setter and 1/2 Spaniel. He had the tail of a Setter, the ears of a Spaniel and was all black except for a white vest. Once a day Jeff would make a pilgrimage up the street. He would walk from our house diagonally across the street to the bank and go up that side until he came to Jo Mueller’s butcher shop -- Jo would be good for a wiener. Then he would wander up the street a little further by the Corner Tavern and cross the street to Jim Furlong’s Drug Store -- Jim was usually good for a piece of candy. Then he would walk diagonally across the intersection to Fielding's Grocery. His reputation was not too good there, as he had been caught stealing things.

After leaving Fielding’s he would wander down that side of the street and then stop in front of Chris Rasmussen's bakery -- Jeff had figured out that if he sat by the door long enough he would get something -- sometimes it was not the way it should have been. He discovered that if a little kid went in to get a rubberneck or doughnut -- well, Jeff had been known to snatch goodies right out of a little kid’s hand as he left! At any event he seemed to get away with that stuff without too much difficulty. After Bergan hardware moved into their new quarters down the street, Jeff would stop there on his final leg home. Martin Bergan had taken a liking to him and would give him a dog biscuit or something.

Anyway, this was the kind of routine the dog would have on a general basis. The thing about this is the population of Granite Falls was about 350, traffic was light and of course the dog could probably sleep in the middle of the street with perfect safety.

Note: The Miller’s lived on the southwest corner of Galena Street and South Granite Avenue. The house is still there. The bank “diagonally across” is now KeyBank. Jo Mueller’s butcher shop was where the vacant storefront is located (the former Mexican restaurant) next to Cobalt Cycles, which was the Corner Tavern back then. Fielding’s Grocery Store was where Omega Pizza is located. You can find out more “then and now” locations by checking out the “explore Snohomish County ca.1910” link at gfhistory.org.