

GRANITE FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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To our friends and members
throughout the community, state, and across all borders:
"Thank you for your support!"



July 2017 NEWSLETTER

August 4, 2017

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1. Annual picnic Saturday, August 12 - Our annual **Granite Falls Historical Society (GFHS)** summer picnic/potluck is this Saturday, August 12, from 2:00 PM until the last person leaves. This year it will be held at **Andy Desrosier's** place, located at 17414 - 100th St NE (Burn Road) just west of the roundabout. You might be familiar with the two Holstein cows in his front yard, made from old metal tanks. The ice-cream maker will be on site, if a trailer can be secured to transport it, to show



off its ice cream making ability. Rumor has it from an "executive session" at the July board meeting that there are names to be added to the "Distinguished Service Award" plaque.

2. **The Treasure Chest** - The "treasure chest" raffle at the museum is off to a good start as a fund raiser for our all-volunteer, not-for-profit, award-winning, and nationally

acclaimed local museum. All items have been personally donated by individuals just for this raffle. This beautiful old piece of furniture contains some mysterious antique items and other valuables and will be on display at the



museum through August and September. Tickets are available now and the raffle ends on Railroad and Reunion Days. Tickets are only \$1.00 each (or 6 for \$5.00, or 25 for \$20).

3. **Book signing event wildly successful**

- a. **Front-page news** - On July 3 [The Everett Herald](#) featured **On the Trail of Richard Roesiger** as front-page news. **Kari Bray**, a journalist for **The Herald**,



visited on April 27 and again on June 27 in preparation for the article. She was also provided a proof copy of the book which she read to better understand what she was hearing from area historians and from author **Monika Tuescher-Schramm**. The article certainly garnered much attention for the July 15-16 book-signing. The response to **Kari's** article prompted us to order another 50 books for the book-signing, then another 53 books a few days later (we started with 125). See the [June newsletter, #11](#).

b. Facebook, phone calls, and emails. Oh, my! - Facebook responses, phone calls, voicemails, emails, etc., prompted us to order another two batches of books, 104 altogether (bringing the total to 332), hoping they'd arrive while the author was still in town to sign them. They did . . . and she did . . . all of them!

c. Monika at the Museum! - On July 15-16, the long-awaited book-signing was held at the museum. **Tom Thorleifson** helped **Monika** in signing/embossing books and greeting visitors, **Bob** and **Robin Ingraham** staffed the grill for visitors interested in lunch, **Fred Cruger** managed the reservation lists, and many museum

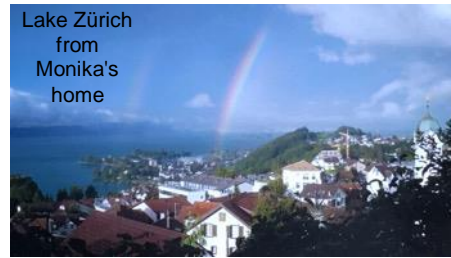


members served as visitor guides and cashbox attendants. Special thanks to **Penny Cruger** for putting together all the food and refreshments, and to **Fred, Ron Chew**, and Tom for setup and cleanup! Foot traffic was significant so we had the "treasure chest" on display, tickets selling well.

d. More requests, more signing - At the book signing, quite a few people stopped in and wanted to get a book without reserving a copy. We took the opportunity to create a "waiting list" to cover those cases where original reservations might be declined or go unclaimed. Those final batches added 208 books to the original 125. Monika ended up signing the last 104 books on Sunday before our regular hours of noon to 5:00 PM. She chose to stay around, meeting more people who came in to pick up their books that were delivered just a few days earlier.

e. Final tally still in progress - We have about 16 books left, all of which have been reserved, some of which have been paid. Should anyone cancel their reservation, we have a waiting list of interested folks. Overall, the event was a great success - - Books were

made available to the general public (especially to the **Lake Roesiger** folks), **Monika** was able to meet and chat with a large majority of the people (and was able to sign and, for some, even personalize each book), we had many visitors to the museum (many for the first



time), donations were up, T-shirt and other historical book sales increased, raffle ticket sales for the mystery chest were strong, and food

sales also brought in some money. Financially, all books were ordered, delivered, and paid with no outstanding costs. **Monika** was very appreciative of the help **GFHS** offered (specifically **Fred**) and left a very sizeable donation to the museum.

4. You get a banner, and you get a banner. Everyone gets a banner! -

a. The idea is verbalized - On June 30, **Hal Gausman** (**Snohomish County Heritage** grand poobah) suggested the idea of creating some vertical banners to advertise heritage organizations at the **Evergreen State Fair** in **Monroe** that starts in just two weeks (**Hal** runs the entire fairground operation, among other things for **Snohomish County**). He'd received an estimate from one of his suppliers, who priced an 8' x 2 1/2' banner at about \$545. **Tom** and **Fred** responded that the idea sounded great, but the cost was breathtaking - - so **GFHS** offered to investigate another route for getting color banners made more inexpensively but with heavy outdoor vinyl.

b. Banners created - After research was done, it was discovered that another supplier was much more affordable. Instead of doing just a few banners with the existing budget, then finishing off the others over the next year or so, the cost offered by the new supplier made it possible to order as many banners as needed right now. Arrangements were made, and **Fred** contacted as many heritage organizations as he could. With those that responded in time, he was able to design a template that was filled with local information and images specific to each organization.

c. Banners ordered and arrived early - Banners for 15 different organizations were then completed and ordered. They were scheduled to arrive August 1, but came early. Each organization will be represented by an eight-foot banner and also a six-foot banner that was adapted from the larger format. The two different sizes



will provide enough flexibility for fairground staff to find a variety of places for display throughout the **Monroe Fair** in August and September. The 30 banners cost less than the three banners from the original supplier.

Snohomish County Parks & Recreation will pick up the tab. This is a definite win-win situation: banners were provided for many organizations at a cost much less than originally anticipated by the County, and the banners are already designed, ordered, printed, and delivered. Be looking for them when you visit the **Evergreen State Fair** this year, and make sure you tell your friends to look for them, too. The other banner organizations include **LOSCHO, Arlington, Darrington, Everett, Index, Lake Stevens, Lynnwood-Alderwood, Marysville, Monroe, Monte Cristo, Snohomish, Sultan, Stilly Valley Genealogy,** and **Stanwood**. Right now the 6' banners are hanging from the second-floor balcony in the museum. Stop by and see them before they are delivered to the **Fairgrounds**.

5. Community Fund of Snohomish County visit - On July 20, **Maddy Metzger-Utt** of the [Community Fund of Snohomish County](#) visited the museum for an update and an offer/request to spread awareness of their organization to a broader audience. Once known as the Greater Everett Community Fund, they now service non-profits county-wide and are anxious to listen to citizens who would like to give feedback for the **Fund's** priorities. We have our scholarship monies with the **Community Fund**, and have had some free training sessions from them. They have been very helpful to **GFHS**.

6. Other visits and requests - A number of July requests have been made for maps and documentation, ranging from **Cedar Springs** to **Riverside** to **Lake Bosworth** to **Darrington** to **Silvana**, schools have been mapped for the **Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society**, and pictures were received from **Riverside** and **Monte Cristo**! There is always a need for research and answers to questions, and **GFHS** is happy to search for the information requested from individuals and organizations.

7. Professional development for ESRI mapping - The **Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission** grant for which **GFHS** applied included three parts, one of them is for the necessary training to



better understand how to provide more of the mapping system online. On July 6-13, **Tom** and **Fred** traveled to

San Diego for the Education portion of the **ESRI User Convention** (ESRI is the corporation that provides the mapping software most folks use). **Fred** presented one of six papers in a "lightning" session called "Mapping our Heritage/History". The response was excellent, and the overall conference was something of a religious epiphany, showcasing an incredible number of mapping applications and introducing us to a number of approaches in which we might use mapping tools to enlist more student docent participation in the museum and community. **ESRI** is offering the entire software toolset FREE to all schools!

8. Saga of the "One Spot" continues - Since we do not officially "own" the property on which the "one spot" sits, we have not yet asked the attorney to take any action regarding a formal letter to the owner of the adjacent lot. All parties involved are well aware of our concerns regarding the illegal fence and the necessary sewer access, and a significant cleanup has taken place on the neighboring parcel.

9. County support for museum continues - On July 18, the **Snohomish County Historical Preservation Commission (HPC)** held its monthly meeting. The areas of discussion were:

- Commission vacancies – two applicants from south county were at the meeting, both intend to join.
- County archeologist/Tribal relations position – funded, job description being refined
- HPC** strategic plan – 2008 budget was discussed, written long-term plan being edited
- Heritage organizational banners – prototype displayed and approved to purchase for the upcoming **Evergreen State Fair** in **Monroe**.
- Work plan update – grant program is top priority, need to have all rules established for a Fall request cycle. See [June newsletter #13](#).

10. Docents, helpers, and visitors for July - We had a very busy month of July. We appreciate all our volunteers and docents who help in various ways throughout the month. Without intending to leave anyone out, here are our July helpers: **Norma Anderson, Tom Bergan, Thora Boede, Scott and Sarah Bower, Ron Chew, Fred and Penny Cruger, Marcia Day, Bob and Robin Ingraham, Elsie and Eldon Kirstein, Don McGinnis, Rosie Miller, Ted and Lonnie Peddycord, Tim and Tamara Quillen, John and Barbara Scherrer**. Including the book signing events and activities, we had over 250 people at the museum this month. They came from these places: **Anacortes, Arlington, Bellingham, Bothell, Edmonds, Everett, Granite Falls, Granger, Lake Roesiger, Lake Stevens, Marysville, Mill Creek, Monroe, Mount Vernon, Redmond, Seattle, Shoreline, Snohomish, Stanwood, Sultan, Tacoma; Thora, Alaska; Helena, MT; Albany, OR; Sparks, NV; and St. Gabriel de Valcartier, Quebec.**

11. Mark your calendar - August 5, Saturday - ["Show 'n' Shine"](#) - museum open August 6, Sunday - Museum open noon - 5pm

August 12, Saturday - - picnic at **Andy Desrosier's**
 August 13, Sunday - - Museum open noon - 5pm
 August 20, Sunday - - Museum open noon - 5pm
 August 27, Sunday - - Museum open noon - 5pm
 August 28, Monday - - No GFHS meetings
 September 3, 10, 17, 24 - - Museum open noon - 5pm
 October 1, - - Museum open noon - 5pm
 October 7, Saturday - - "[Railroad Days](#)" - museum open

12. Information from our July meeting

a. Jordon Heppner from **Granite Falls High School**, one of our two scholarship recipients, visited us at our July 31 general meeting. **Jordon** received the **Mary Bayh Scholarship** in the amount of \$2,000. He spoke to the membership and answered questions. He plans to become a math teacher and will further his studies at **Skagit Valley College** while he pursues baseball, then transfer to **Western Washington University** in **Bellingham**.

b. Grounds/interior maintenance should be a regular thought every time we drive past the museum, stop by to visit, for docent duty, or for other volunteer help. One person can't notice everything, and sometimes several people will overlook an issue that needs to be addressed. As an all-volunteer organization, we do not hire a maintenance or custodial person. We all are volunteers to do maintenance/custodial work, but only when a task is noted. If you see something, tell someone or write a note. Better still, if you can fix it, go ahead! View the museum as your second home, and it will continue to shine for another 10 years!

c. The "Distinguished Service Award" plaque will be at the picnic. Two tags will be unveiled.

d. Board member nominations

are needed for 2018. Current board members for the **Granite Falls Historical Society** serve a 3-year term and can be re-elected once. After taking a 1-year break, a previous board member can once again be elected to the board. With a total of nine board members and staggered 3-year terms, **GFHS** will need to elect three board members every year. **Robin Ingraham**, our current secretary, and **Scott Bower**, our current treasurer, have to leave because of term limits. Another position became vacant and also needs to be filled. This is a perfect opportunity to step up and help out. The board meets monthly, right before the general membership meeting.



e. Rewards programs will bring money to GFHS. If you shop at **Fred Meyer** (#91551), **IGA**, or online with **Amazon**, please register **Granite Falls Historical Society** as your non-profit of choice. It's easy to do, and a little effort by many will add up to significant amounts. We already have received money by just a few people who have already signed up.

f. Railroad and Reunion Days is just around the corner. Plans are underway, and volunteers are needed for the parade, apple cider press, docents, hands on activities (railroad spike driving, misery whip sawing), ice cream servers and cashiers, and other helpers. We are looking for a low trailer for the parade so the ice cream

maker can be seen by everyone on the parade route. Ron is looking into getting an old tractor to pull the trailer. The new banner can also be put on display.

13. Picnic map and directions - Picnic directions from the map: The roundabout at the bottom right is for SR92/Quarry Road. The roundabout at the top right is for the Quarry Road/Burn Road (100th St NE) roundabout that goes east to the high school or west towards **Andy Desrosier's** place. The first entrance to the picnic area is a gravel driveway, about ¼ mile west of the roundabout. The next driveway is his house at 17414 100th St NE. You can use either driveway - the long gravel driveway just east of the house, or the asphalt driveway that goes by the house. If you are coming from the west on Burn Road (100th St NE), just be looking for those two Holstein cows in his yard.



14. "Alas, poor Yorick..." - Demolition of the house on the north side of the museum has been completed. **The City** crew moved the totes stored in our log cabin to the upstairs of **City Hall**, trying to keep them organized according to holiday (Christmas and Halloween, in particular). The giant track hoe made quick work of the cabin and its base, along with the old Fielding house. See [June newsletter #5](#)



From the July 29, 1927 Granite Falls Record:

Five counties in Colorado have no telegraphic facilities.

AUTOMOBILE NOTES - What the world needs now is an automobile that will carry its own parking place.