

GRANITE FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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 (360) 691-2603 <http://www.gfhistory.org>

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



June 2018 NEWSLETTER

June 30, 2018

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**1. Important, but not very exciting** - On June 1 the Granite Falls Historical Society (GFHS) re-registered as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization with the [Washington Secretary of State](#). Good, but not very exciting. Except, as a "non-profit" organization, your donations can be tax deductible. We always provide paperwork for donated artifacts (photos, documents, hands-on items, etc). The



most recent is the "What's Hot in the Pot?" cookbook from the Robe Firebelles from 1972. We will gladly give receipts for your known cash donations. The membership dues and monetary donations help the Granite Falls Museum pay its bills, and the many volunteers keep the Museum open on Sundays and other times. We pay no salaries. We are an all-volunteer organization.

Yes, all donations are very much appreciated and needed, and we love our helpers, docents, and volunteers as well.

**2. Visitors and requests** - The first week was very busy. During our regular Sunday hours on June 3, our museum visitors included descendants of the Menzel family. We



were happy to show them around the museum and answered their questions. Then on June 5th, 6th, and 7th, our willing helpers of Tom, Regina, Ted, Barb, and John hosted seven classes of third graders at the museum. Last minute schedule changes notwithstanding, the students, teachers, and parents enjoyed great visits! They were eager learners with great questions, and very observant. On June 5th, GFHS provided a number of logging photos to John Taubeneck (son of Walt Taubeneck), who is in the process of writing another historical text. He will donate a copy to our museum when he's finished. On June 6th, GFHS provided information on Nannie Belle Smith and the Smith Hotel. Nannie is an ancestor of Mr McChesney of Freedom, PA. He is tracing his great-aunt's marriages and her businesses in the Everett/Arlington area.

**3. Granite Falls Civic Center** - On June 6th, GFHS granted permission for the city to allow the Civic Center contractor to occupy the alley space adjacent to the museum for their work trailer. Exciting times! Later in the month on June 22, the City held their official ground-breaking ceremony. Speakers included Granite Falls Mayor Matt Hartman, City Administrator Brent Kirk, City



Planning Commissioner Fred Cruger, and Snohomish County Councilman Nate Nehring.

**4. Railroad Maps now online** - On June 10th, GFHS added early railroad maps to the online mapping app called "[Snohomish County First 100 Years](#)". You can now see old maps from 1910, 1927, 1934, 1940, 1952, 1975, and modern satellite imagery along with the old railroad maps with incredible detail. You can see this from



any electronic device that is connected to the internet, such as computers, smart phones, and tablets.

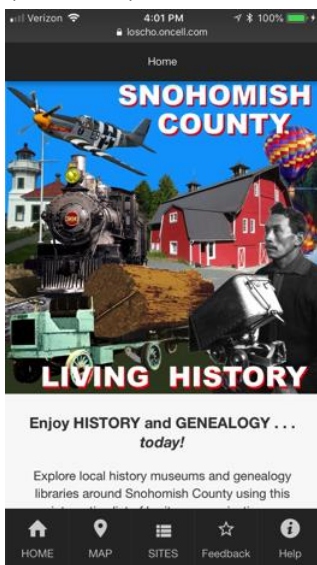
**5. CFSC Grant info** - The Community Foundation of Snohomish County (CFSC) publicized the availability of several interesting videos explaining the finer points of grant application submittals. Fred watched the first few and felt they were very effective. CFSC is the investor for our foundation (scholarship) funds and they often have workshops that can help with a variety of topics.

**6. Answers for the author** - On June 15th, GFHS started responding to what turned out to be a series of questions from J.D. Howard, author of **Sawdust Empire**, the winner of the previous year's **Malstrom Award** from the League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations. **Sawdust Empire** is a historical novel featuring the mystery and the various perspectives on the 1916 Everett Massacre and shingle weavers union strike and also tells the story of the timber industry at that time. His new historical novel that he is working on, **The Pride of Monte Cristo**, involves the actual citizens of Monte Cristo (and a few fictional ones) and their adventures in the fall and winter of 1896 when the railroad lifeline washed out.

**7. Beta release of STP AIB** - Following the extensive data entry GFHS made in conjunction with SmallTownPapers "[Archive in a Box](#)", their official "beta release" occurred on June 15. We are now recruiting people who would like to help fill our database with pictures, documents, etc., that will be readily accessible worldwide. This will take a team of people, but things are set up so that anyone wanting to help can do so from home! Email or leave a voicemail: [info@gfhistory.org](mailto:info@gfhistory.org) or 360.691.2603

**8. The check's in the mail (maybe)** - On June 18th, GFHS received word from the probate attorney handling Lois Jorgensen's will that all seems fine and we should expect the proceeds before the end of June. As of close of business on June 29th, we still have nothing in hand.

**9. New! Online app for LOSCHO** - On June 18th, the League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations (LOSCHO) released a new OnCell application that is a guide to all of the historical museums and genealogy libraries in Snohomish County. This [Heritage Guide](#) will provide phone, website, hours, email and Facebook links, etc., plus general information, pictures, and driving directions for each. A hardcopy brochure has also been released for advertisement through the County Tourism Bureau. The project was made possible by the 2018 grant to LOSCHO from the Historical Preservation Commission. The website is easy to remember: [www.loscho.ocell.com](http://www.loscho.ocell.com)



**10. June HPC** - On June 19th, Tom and Fred attended the June meeting of the Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). Three key things to know:

- 1) The Granite Falls Museum will again be hosts at the Centennial Trail Machias trailhead during the "History Walk" celebration on July 21<sup>st</sup> from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Our displays/demos are essentially up to us to choose. In previous years we used several 8'- and 10'-long maps on the picnic tables showing the different old railroads in the County, then displayed a set of poster-sized images, and also had some hands-on artifacts, all relating to old railroads. Other heritage groups are highly encouraged to participate because the trail in summer has high visibility;
- 2) The County announced the hiring of an archaeologist who will start work in August, upon whom the next Historic Asset Inventory (HAI) depends;
- 3) contracts for the 2018 grants have been delayed due to administrative pitfalls, but should be issued soon. The deadlines for submittal of the 2019 grants is now March.

**11. Mr. Model T visited** - On June 24th, Denny Somerville visited the museum with pictures of the Model T pickup he has been reassembling for GFHS. At the same time, he presented GFHS with a beautiful artifact: Frank Ashe's retirement letter, a gracious note to the County District for which he had been Commissioner for 10 years! It will soon be framed and hanging on the wall in the museum.



## 12. Calendar and Events

July 1, noon - 5:00 PM, Museum open  
**July 3, 6:00 PM "Outside In" movie at the Museum**  
July 8, Independence Day  
July 15, noon - 5:00 PM, Museum open  
July 21, 11 AM - 3 PM "History Walk" Machias Trailhead  
July 22, noon - 5:00 PM, Museum open  
July 29, noon - 5:00 PM, Museum open  
July 30, Board/General Meetings, 6&7PM, GenCare "The Village" on North Alder across from Crossroads HS  
August 4, Chamber of Commerce "Show 'n' Shine"  
August 18, 3:00 PM, GFHS Summer Picnic, Scherrers

**13. Museum helpers and guests during June** - We really like showing the museum to visitors as often as we can. It's possible because of this great bunch of docents, helpers, and other volunteers at the museum who made our museum able to function for the month of June: **Norma Anderson, Tom Bergan, Ed and Thora Boede, Scott Bower, Ron Chew, Fred Cruger, Marcia Day, Bob Ingraham, Regina Jones, Rosie Miller, Ted Peddycord, Tim Quillen, Dee Saunders, John and Barbara Scherrer, and Tom Thorleifson.** With the school groups and other visitors added to our regular Sunday crowds, we had over 155 people at our museum in June. During the month of June we had visitors from these places: **Arlington, Edmonds, Everett, Granite Falls, Lake Stevens, Marysville, Seattle, Silverton, Snohomish; West Des Moines, Iowa; and Jackson, Michigan.**