

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!"



March 2017 NEWSLETTER

April 3, 2017

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1. **March docents, helpers, and visitors** - In March we had these people helping as docents or as volunteers, some more than just one time: **Norma Anderson, Rosie Miller, Sharron Harper, Fred Cruger, Tom Thorleifson, Marcia Day, Dee Saunders, Tom Bergan, Ron Chew, Scott Bower, Bob Ingraham, Robin Ingraham, Elsie and Eldon Kirstein, John Scherrer, Tim Quillen, Ted and Lonnie Peddycord, and Ed and Thora Boede**

Why I like helping as a docent: "I like the interesting people who come in, and sometimes I see someone I haven't seen in years. Everytime I volunteer I learn something interesting." (**Rosie Miller**)

"This little museum is a real asset to the community. You meet the neatest people. It's always fun to talk to people and to hear their reason for stopping by." (**Ron Chew**)

In February we had 72 visitors from these places: **Arlington, Coupeville, Granite Falls, Lake Stevens, Marysville, Montesano, Seattle, Sequim, Snohomish, and Bismarck, ND; Copperas Cove, TX; and Paia, HI.**

2. **Museum bequeath update, again** - One of the three parcels donated to the **Granite Falls Historical Society** ([item #3, January 2017](#), and [item #2, February 2017](#)) still has an issue with easement and encroachment by a neighbor. We have not yet heard back from the property owner next to the downtown "One-Spot" lot. **Fred Cruger** contacted an Arlington attorney who deals with such matters. The recommendation is to wait one month, then the neighbor will receive a letter from the attorney.

3. **ArcGIS User Seminar** - "ArcGIS" is the software that is used to develop our multi-layered historical mapping system for Snohomish County. It is the accepted, industry-wide software developed by **ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute)** used with "geographic

information systems" (GIS). This type of mapping lets people visualize, question, analyze, and interpret data to understand relationships, patterns, and trends, and in our case, history. On March 2, **Tom** and **Fred** attended an **ArcGIS User Seminar in Bellevue**, intended to bring mapping system folks together for an update on what is available in tools and technology. The presentations spurred some thinking regarding what could be done to present much of our mapping information in an easier-to-use online form for convenient public consumption.



4. **Noted local historian David Dilgard retires** - Also on March 2, we learned that [David Dilgard](#), for decades the stalwart of **Everett Public Library's Northwest Room** and a renowned Snohomish County historian, will retire at the end of March. A special recognition of the **Northwest Room** was held on March 23rd at the **Everett Marina**, where it was announced that an anonymous donor was giving \$3M to the **Everett Historical Museum** to help purchase and restore the old [Longfellow School](#) as their permanent museum home.

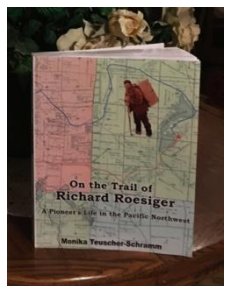
5. **Water quality (not quantity) on the Pilchuck** - The March [rainfall record](#) was broken this year, but water quality is always a concern. On March 6, we provided pictures to the **Washington State Department of Ecology** for possible use in a report they are doing on water quality of the **Pilchuck River**.

6. **2017 Scholarships** - Also on March 6, we officially notified the **Granite Falls School District** that we would again be offering two \$2000 scholarships in 2017. The **Mary Bayh Scholarship** is open to all Granite Falls High School and Crossroads High School graduating seniors who plan to pursue a post-secondary degree. Special consideration will be given to applicants pursuing a career in education. The **Granite Falls Historical Society Scholarship** is open to all GF High School and Crossroads High School graduating seniors who plan to pursue a post-secondary degree or post-secondary college-level training for advanced technical certifications. Presentation is May 30, 7:00 PM, at Granite Falls High School.

7. **Bob Beevers** - On March 7, we learned that **Bob Beevers** passed away after his long battle with Alzheimers. Bob was instrumental in the construction of our building in 2007. You can read about his interesting life in the obituary published in the [Everett Herald](#).



8. **On the Trail of Richard Roesiger** - On March 8, we received a proof copy of an upcoming book, **On the Trail of Richard Roesiger**. The author, **Monika Teuscher-Schramm**, is the great niece of **Richard Roesiger** and is living in **Switzerland**. Richard was the first homesteader in the **Lake Roesiger** area. She will be here for two weeks in July, and is hoping that we will hold a well-publicized book-signing. At the March board meeting, we set dates and times for this event - - Saturday, July 15, from 2:00 to 6:00 PM, and Sunday, July 16, from noon to 5:00 PM. This unique book details the life of **Richard** after his arrival from **Germany** as he “tramps” thousands of miles around the United States before homesteading land at **Lake**



**Roesiger** in 1888. He wrote extensive diaries for many years, surprisingly in English (with the exception of a few phrases in German, needed for better descriptive purposes). The original diaries were translated back into German for the first book. Author **Teuscher-Schramm** included more information that was recently discovered, then translated the book back into English.

9. **Tech help arrived in a great surprise!** - On March 12, **Fred** and **Tom** met with **Jo-Anne Antoun**, a GIS analyst working for Snohomish County. Having seen our mapping system in February, she would like to focus her **University of Southern California**

Master's thesis effort on presenting our data online in an easy-to-use form that can be used to encourage heritage tourism. Her proposal to help us with this is exactly what we needed to bridge the gap from where we are and



where we want to go. This will be a tremendous boon to the effort proposed in our 2017 grant request to the SnoCo **Heritage Preservation Commission**. Welcome **Jo-Anne!** Fred has already started processing our data for online use, and moved some of it into a prototype “Beta” version. A few “peeks” were shared with some people. If you are interested, you can view it at <http://arcg.is/2n4JnWY>.

10. **LOSCHO Malstrom Award** - On March 18, **Tom** and **Fred** attended the **LOSCHO** annual **Malstrom Award** event, named after county volunteer and local history writer **Helmer Malstrom** ([February newsletter, item 12](#)). Winning this year was the book **Sawdust Empire**, written by **J.D. Howard**. This is a great event at which to meet other folks from across the county who are interested in local history. Despite the terrible rainy weather, we had a nice crowd for the potluck, the special program, and hearing about the great nominations from around the county. This tradition continues with the many and



varied publications and projects that preserve **Snohomish County** history. Congratulations to **J.D. Howard!**

11. **HPC Grant through the 1st of 2 hoops** - On March 21, **Tom** and **Fred** attended the March meeting of the **Snohomish County Historical Preservation Commission** (HPC), during which our 2017 grant request was recommended for full funding. Actual funding still awaits Executive and County Council approval, hopefully during their April 11 session. The grant was to upgrade our computers in order to tackle the massive processing requirements of the on-line mapping project, to attend the **ESRI User Conference** in July to gain more information on how to do this, and finally to get the maps online.

12. **Parker Bell** - On March 24, we provided detailed maps and pictures to a gentleman researching **Parker-Bell Mill**, which was located in Pilchuck, WA (about 5.5 mi north of Arlington). You can read more about Pilchuck at our “Back in the Day” section on our website by [clicking here](#).

13. **“Look What’s Local”** - The **Granite Falls Chamber of Commerce** is again organizing this year’s week-long event, which starts on Monday, April 17th and ends on Saturday, April 22nd with the **Business Fair** held at the **Granite Falls Boys and Girls Club**. The **GF Museum** will be open during the week to “stamp” passports, and will also have a table/booth at the **Saturday Business Fair**. Everyone is encouraged to participate, and we would love to share some docent time during the week with some of our members.

14. **Museum potluck and spring cleaning** - On Saturday, April 22, we will have our annual spring cleaning at the museum. You can help us prepare by sending your observations of our interior/exterior and groundskeeping needs by emailing or calling the museum (see header for contact info). We will start at 9:00 AM, and begin the potluck at noon.



15. **Mark your calendar** -  
 Sunday docents - 4/2 the Bergans, 4/9 Haverfields, 4/16 Peddycords, 4/23 Scott and Ron, 4/30 Norma and Rosie  
 4/16, Sunday - Easter  
 4/17-22 - “Look What’s Local” with Museum open  
 4/22, Saturday - Spring Cleaning & potluck, 9AM-noon  
 4/24 GFHS Board and General Meetings  
 7/15-16 - Book signing On the Trail of Richard Roesiger  
 8/5, Saturday - “Show ‘n’ Shine”  
 10/7, Saturday - “Railroad and Reunion Days”

16. **Odds & Ends** -

- GFHS meetings at **“The Village” (GenCare)** on N. Alder, Board @ 6:00 PM and General meeting @ 7:00 PM, last Monday of each month. The meetings are open for all members and also the public.

*Granite Falls Record*, April 1st, 1927 - **Watson--Bayh**: Miss Mary Watson and William Bayh were married in Bellingham, Friday March 18th...The bride is one of Granite Falls most esteemable young ladies. Graduating from the local high school here in 1923, she entered the State Normal at Bellingham...she returned home and taught two very successful terms of school, the first one in the Lake Roesiger district and the second in the city schools of Granite Falls, where she has many devoted admirers among her former pupils as well as among their parents.