



GRANITE FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 109 E. Union Street, Granite Falls, WA 98252
 (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!"



November 2016 NEWSLETTER

December 9, 2016

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1. **Come one, come all!** - Our Christmas potluck and gift exchange is scheduled for Wednesday, December 21, starting at 6:00 PM. This annual Holiday party will be at



the **Granville Grange**, 9401 163rd Ave NE, Granite Falls. Meat will be provided, but bring a side dish, fruit/veges, BYOBeverage, but most of all desserts! There will be an optional gift exchange of a Christmas tree ornament. Please RSVP to **John Scherrer** 425.508.8132, or **Thora Boede** 425.286.6744 before Monday, 12/19. No cost. Bring family, friends, and your neighbors for a wonderful time.

2. **Strange success** - When November started, we were still finding amusing bits of Halloween evidence days and weeks later (scary pictures, etc.) that went unnoticed during cleanup. Halloween was a great success, as usual.

3. **Night at the Museum** - The **Pilchuck Foundation** held its second annual "Night at the Museum" on November 12. Although physical attendance was down slightly, it was an extremely successful fundraiser, with funds designated for our local fire and police departments. Thanks go to the many generous people who donated items and money to make this event such a success. The Museum is a great venue for this.



4. **Fire inspection/recertification** - The **City of Granite Falls** completed its annual fire inspection, and in the process re-certified all of our fire extinguishers which are now all back in place. This might not sound exciting, but if

an extinguisher is needed, there is one available in each room at the museum, and we know it will work!

5. **Gold Bar Museum is no more** - We received the sad news on November 19 that the **Gold Bar Historical Society** is disbanding. **Ralph Wood** plans to visit our museum to see if any of their artifacts would fit well in our logging displays.

6. **Fall Back!** - Clocks were turned back for Daylight Savings time at 2:00 AM on Sunday, November 6, gaining an extra hour of sleep! Extra sleep for all except one person who showed up early for the regular museum opening and didn't understand why nobody was there yet. All of your smoke and CO detector batteries should have been replaced, and the detectors might need replacing if they are old. Check with the **GF Fire Department** to make sure.

7. **Sky to Sound Water Trails Towns** - **Tom Thorleifson** attended the **Heritage Action Team** meeting on Monday, November 14 to help identify the heritage locations for the **Sky to Sound Water Trails Towns**. This group is actively striving to identify various heritage sites along the Sky Valley to aid in historical tourism – their effort is a perfect complement to other **LOSCHO** efforts to complete an **Historical Asset Inventory**.



8. **Museum website requests** - Our website continues to draw "requests" from online visitors. November requests included an investigation of demographics around Lake Roesiger (for an upcoming historical book on the life of **Richard Roesiger**), appropriate pictures for Christmas cards from our city and police departments, contact information for ancestral research, and pictures and old newspaper articles for interpretive signs at **Big 4**. We also received a large collection of letters/pictures pertaining to **Monte Cristo** that **Ron VanNorman** contributed. **Ted Cleveland**, a visitor from Skykomish, presented us with a ribbon issued by the labor union formed in **Monte Cristo**. That ribbon was handed down to **Ted** by his granddad. It's a beautiful artifact, framed in a two-sided, glass-covered wooden frame so you can see both sides of the ribbon. We also received some pictures of Pilchuck from Renee Lund. See the "Back in the Day" article titled "[Pilchuck, WA lost in time](#)".



9. LOSCHO (What is that?) - Tom and Fred attended the November 19 **League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations (LOSCHO)** quarterly membership and board meeting held at the “**Floyd**” in Stanwood. Much of the discussion centered around the creation of a recruitment letter, membership letter, contact list, and possible online fundraising capability. There was also discussion regarding **LOSCHO** commitment to pursuing the **Historical Asset Inventory** that has already been started, and the need to recruit some help from across the organization.

10. New County liaison - The Snohomish County liaison to the **Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** was changed in November, and it was announced recently to be **Hal Gausman**, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation for Snohomish County, and Manager of the Evergreen Fairgrounds. There will be a meeting on December 14 for **Hal** to become familiar with folks from **HPC, LOSCHO,** and several heritage organizations, including **GFHS**.

11. DAHP (and what is that?) - Fred and Tom attended a training session in Shoreline on November 22, presented by the **Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP)** on their new online system called **WISAARD (Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data)**. This is now the official repository of historical assets across the State. **GFHS** submitted a number of corrections found as we



were completing our own inventory and mapping efforts. The information in **WISAARD** is only as good as what people provide and only as accurate as how people enter it into the system. The **DAHP** folks are

great folks with whom to work, and the noted corrections were gladly made. On the way back home, **Fred and Tom** stopped at the **Alderwood Manor Heritage Center** to look up some information in their newspaper collection. With knowledgeable help from the **Sno-Isle Genealogical Society** folks, the information was quickly found. In talking with them during this search, it was discovered that the mapping information on their copy of the disc needed fixing and updating. **Fred** is taking care of that, and it was an enjoyable “win-win” visit.

12. Assistance for LOSCHO - Fred helped create a new recruitment letter for **LOSCHO**, and **Tom** stepped forward to organize and edit the contact/membership list for them. **Tom's** expertise and commitment are reflected in our **GFHS** newsletters, and now **LOSCHO** has taken a giant step forward. For their efforts, **Tom and Fred** might get “recruited” to do more things for **LOSCHO** in the very near future, but a stronger **LOSCHO** will help all local heritage organizations like our own **GFHS**.

13. The Fiske Library - The **Fiske Library** in Seattle asked for a January 11 presentation on our mapping system, since they were impressed with some great displays at our **Centennial Trail** event in **Machias** back in September.

Fred and Tom will be heading into Seattle after the New Year to show the people at **Fiske** how useful the mapping tool can be.

14. November docents, helpers, and visitors - Docents are always in demand. Take a moment to sign up for Sunday duty (noon to 5:00 PM) – it's fun, and you get to meet some interesting folks! We want to be booked 2 to 3 months in advance, and we do have some docent openings starting in March.

Please call the museum at (360) 691-2603, or you can contact **Marcia Day** at her email marciad@irgpt.com with the dates you can help. You don't need to be an “expert” on things in the museum, and where else can you get a chance to meet wonderful people from the **Granite Falls** area, the county, state, nation, and the world in one afternoon?



Docents in training

Our November docents and helpers (not counting Halloween or tree lighting): **Norma Anderson, Scott Bower, Ron Chew, Fred Cruger, Marcia Day, Bob Ingraham, Robin Ingraham, Rosie Miller, and Tom Thorleifson.**

Our 64 November visitors came from these places: **Arlington, Bellingham, Ferndale, Granite Falls, Lake Stevens, Marysville, Seattle, Skykomish, Stanwood; and Mission Viejo, CA**

15. Odds & Ends -

Babe Scherrer's birthday- Babe's dad (GFHS Board Vice President John Scherrer's grandpa) is an original homesteader in the area. Babe turned 99, and a birthday party was held for him on Saturday, November 5 at the Granville Grange. There was a nice crowd who came out to wish Babe a Happy 99th!

End-of-year letter- If you did not receive an end-of-year newsletter in the mail last week, you can view it on our website by [clicking here](#), or stop by the museum for a printed copy. The end of December and the New Year are times to consider becoming a **GFHS** member, renewing your dues, and making a donation to keep our highly visible, nationally recognized, and 100% volunteer not-for-profit museum operational for another year. Donations and dues can be mailed to the museum at PO Box 1414, Granite Falls, WA 98252-1414 (use the return envelope in the mailout for your convenience), or click the [blue PayPal](#) button for online payment using [PayPal](#) or [credit card](#). To join, the museum is only \$15 for an individual, \$20 for a family, and free for students in high school and above.

Board and General Meetings- We will not have our December Board and General meetings. Enjoy your Holiday time, and Merry Christmas to everyone!

Check out our [website](#) and our [“Back in the Day”](#) articles.