



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!"



OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

November 3, 2017

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1. **Windsor Square** - On October 5, Michelle from Windsor Square in Marysville brought a group of people to visit.



They were here last year and wanted to make another trip to Granite Falls to see the museum again. They had some interesting stories from this area to share. We seem to learn more from them!

2. **Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission** - On October 17, the Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) had its monthly meeting. The topics covered will affect GFHS and other historical organizations, including the Historical Asset Inventory and the Community Historical Grants. Grant application dates and matching funds requirements are under review for possible change in 2018.

3. **League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations** - On October 9, the League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations met for its 4<sup>th</sup> quarter meeting at the Lake Stevens Museum. The program included the recent history



of the Lake Stevens downtown redevelopment plan, which includes demolition of the current museum building, but has no definite new museum location.

4. **City Halloween planning** - On October 4 Tom attended a Halloween planning meetings organized by the City.

Plans are in place to include a "haunted lot" between the Police Department and the Food Bank, with the north part for scaring the older kids and the south part for the younger kids to include face painting, a photo booth, and other activities. On the map, a natural flow would be to stop by the museum after getting through the "haunted lot".



5. **Snohomish County request** - On October 4, GFHS fulfilled a request from Snohomish County Public Works department for photos and other information about the current bridge on the Mountain Loop Highway at the falls. The County is in the middle of preparing to replace that bridge.



**6. ADA compliance?** - On October 13 GFHS had two visitors to the museum. They needed confirmation beforehand of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) wheelchair accessibility. The museum of course is compliant with all handicap accessibility requirements. They both enjoyed the visit and stayed for about an hour.

**7. GFHS/USFS/Waldheim** - On Friday, October 13, Tom met with Erica Keene, U.S. Forest Service Verlot Corridor Manager, about the potential of reopening of Silverton-Waldheim as a U.S Forest Service campground. After Tom had a chance to talk with Erica, Fred joined in with a conference call afterwards. There is groundwork to assist the USFS by supplying historical information as Waldheim develops. Then, on Tuesday, October 17, Fred and Tom met again with Erica to do a walkthrough of the old "Camp Silverton" site. A follow-up conference call is scheduled for November 3 with Erica and Peter Forbes, the USFS District Ranger from Darrington.

**8. Railroad and Reunion Days** - On Saturday, October 7, GFHS participated in the Railroad and Reunion Days parade and had activities available all day at the museum.



Ron Chew drove a tractor that was almost as old as he. It pulled a flatbed trailer with the ice cream maker and the 102-year-old hit 'n' miss engine cranking out a batch of vanilla right

in front of the parade viewers. Candy was passed out along the route (thanks to Scott and his buddy), and Tom, John and Barbara Scherrer with their granddaughter rode with the ice cream to make sure it worked smoothly. Weather was not the best, but the rain held off long enough to dish up all the ice cream after the parade. Thankfully we had the canopy set up, and the hot cider was also well received. We had over 150 visitors from as far away as Kansas, California, and Alaska. There were others helping at the museum, with all volunteers greatly appreciated. At the end of the day, the Treasure Chest raffle winner was drawn and announced.

**9. Treasure Chest winner!** - Congratulations go to Linda Hall, Granite Falls School District Superintendant, who always has been very supportive of the Granite Falls Museum. The "unveiling" of all the items in the Treasure



Chest happened the next day, Sunday, right after the museum opened at noon. Everyone was amazed at how so many amazing and unique items were able to fit in that beautiful piece of wood craftsmanship. Linda and her husband Leon had to make special arrangements to come back at another time

with a vehicle that could carry it all. They knew the chest could not be repacked in the same way again, but somehow managed to move all of their special treasures into the trunk and back seat of their car.

**10. More LOSCHO banners** - During the middle of October, Fred was busy helping other organizations by reordering LOSCHO banners for interested members, and by creating one for Historic Everett and for the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society. There are now a total of 18 different banners for the County heritage organizations. The banner for Lake Stevens arrived in the first batch and was delivered in time for their homecoming game and events at the high school on Friday, October 20. The County Parks and Recreation purchased the complete map set, and several of the organizations decided to get at least one version of the banner for themselves.



**11. Archive in a Box** - GFHS has been in communication with Small Town Papers in preparation for a pre-beta testing of their new "Archive in a Box" software that is being developed for "Small Town Museums". As the initial stages are being revealed, the software and its usefulness for small heritage organizations look extremely promising. Small Town Papers is located in Western Washington and is the company that helped GFHS scan and run Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software on our Granite Falls newspapers. On October 25 Fred and Tom had a very informative conference call with Paul and Cody from Small Town Papers and were able to preview GFHS involvement in pre-beta testing.

**12. A '57 Granite Falls** - On October 17 we received a great aerial photo of Granite Falls from 1957 that was in the Marysville Historical Society photo collection that Kevin Andringa is helping to digitize. It's an amazing black and white photo showing very good detail, looking east across town, probably 1000' above Gardner Lake.



**13. CSFC statement** - The 2017 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter statements from the Community Foundation of Snohomish County (CFSC) arrived on October 19. The fund is solid, and GFHS scholarship money has been dispersed for 2017 to Jordon Heppner (\$2,000 Mary Bayh Scholarship, Skagit County Community College) and to Jacob Kerst (\$2,000 Granite Falls Historical Society Scholarship, Western Washington University).

**14. Hot chocolate in the street** - We received a request by the Class of 2018 Parent Group to have a booth with refreshments at the tree lighting ceremony in December, similar to what the 2017 Parent Group did. We look forward to them joining us for this event.

**15. Appreciation time from some visitors** - On October 20, GFHS received two cards in the mail. One came from the Windsor Square group thanking Tom, Fred, and Duffy for a great visit, and promising to come again. The other came from Jim Moore and Christopher Dinh of Seattle, apologizing for not having any cash for a donation when they visited, and enclosing a generous check "to support one of the best museums they've visited in a very long time." Sending the cards was very thoughtful, and the kind words are always appreciated. We also are thankful for the nice donation to our award-winning, all-volunteer museum. GFHS has helped several other individuals with specific research requests in October, including a question about a "Saunders" that was prompted from reading Monika Teuscher-Schramm's book [On the Trail of Richard Roesiger](#). GFHS also provided some research assistance to two other local historical societies, to Snohomish County, and to some wonderful visitors who remain in touch by email from Quebec, Canada.

**16. Grant reimbursement** - Last week Fred submitted the Community Heritage Grant reimbursement request to receive the grant money for the new hardware (two new computers) and software, and the ESRI training in San Diego in July.

**17. Storage** - On Thursday, October 26, Tom and Ron brought the Halloween decorations that were stored upstairs in City Hall to the museum. When the log cabin out back was removed, all of the items (mostly seasonal decorations) had to find a new home. City Hall had some spare nooks and crannies that they are letting us use on a temporary basis. Everything went well, except Ron and Tom couldn't find Igor. After searching, they found Igor and his girlfriend, who were together in the back of the Sharp House.

**18. Halloween!** - Halloween was a great success again, thanks to the beautiful weather and great advertising by the [Chamber of Commerce](#) with their paper map and new electronic map. Our first visitor was a mom who came 45 minutes early in order to make sure she got some candy "before the kids get it all". Once the visitors started coming in, it was very busy until closing at 7:00 PM. We had over 350 visitors who came into the museum, and the town estimated 1,000 people overall. Many families came with some great costumes. We had games, hot cider, "dunking" for doughnuts, cookies, and plenty of

candy. Thanks to all the museum helpers: **John and Barbara Scherrer, Becky Baker, Carter Baker, Bob and Robin Ingraham, Scott Bower, Jude and Catherine Anderson, Ted and Lonnie Peddycord, Ron Chew, Tom Thorleifson, Marilyn McEvers, Fred Cruger, Linda Hall, Rosie Miller, and Tom Bergan.**

**19. Board and General Meetings** - The monthly board and general meetings were held on Monday, October 30, at **GenCare "The Village"**. Final details about Halloween were discussed, and plans are in the making for the Christmas Tree lighting on Saturday, December 2, from 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM. We approved the purchase of new lights for the big tree, and are looking for a boom truck to help us restring all the lights. We are also looking for a place for our Christmas party, scheduled for Saturday, December 9, at 2:00 pm. In addition, we have a need for two more nominations for Board Members to start in 2018.

**20. Docents and helpers** - For the month of October, we had over 600 people visit the museum. This is counting Railroad Days (150+ people) to start the month, then Halloween (350+ people) to end the month, and mid-week openings along with regular Sunday afternoons. More thanks are in order for these helpers or docents, some who are also mentioned above:

**Norma Anderson, Rosie Miller, Marilyn McEvers, Ron Chew, Tom Bergan, Ed and Thora Boede, Dee Saunders, Tom Thorleifson, Fred Cruger, Bob and Robin Ingraham, Jude and Catherine Anderson, John and Barbara Scherrer, Scott Bower, Donna Perrigue, Jim and Jackie Haverfield, Eldon and Elsie Kirstein, Tim Quillen, and Marcia Day.**

Our visitors came from these places:

**Granite Falls, Lake Stevens, Snohomish, Duvall, Everett, Lynnwood, Edmonds, Tumwater, Marysville, Woodway, Seattle, Mountlake Terrace, Redmond, Arlington, Bellingham, Bothell, Olympia, Blaine, Issaquah, Stanwood; Cordova, AK; Oakland, CA; Lawrence, KS; Eureka, NV; Chilliwack, BC; and Stockerau, Austria.**

**21. Mark your calendar:**

Board and General Meetings, Monday, November 27, 6:00 and 7:00 PM respectively, held at **GenCare "The Village"**.  
**Christmas Tree Lighting**, Saturday, December 2, 5:00 PM, with the museum open from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.  
**Thanksgiving**, Thursday, November 23, 2017  
**Docent scheduling** for Sundays, noon to 5:00 PM, is now ready for January-March signups. Call the museum or email **Marcia** ([marciad@irgpt.com](mailto: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 around Granite Falls, the county, state, nation, and the world in one afternoon?

Great stories at "[Back in the Day](#)"

Check out our website: [gfhistory.org](http://gfhistory.org)

Like us on Facebook at: [Granite Falls Historical Museum](#)

Check out these two links for the initial online mapping:

[Explore Snohomish County ca. 1910](#)

[Homesteads and maps from the first 100 years](#)

Invite your neighbors and friends to stop by the museum!

