



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!"



October 2016 NEWSLETTER

November 3, 2016

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**1. Railroad Days** - On Saturday, October 1, the Railroad Days celebration turned out quite well, despite the sudden downpour that followed the parade and essentially shut off all foot traffic for the day. There were a large number of visitors and we received nice donations for apple juice, ice cream, and other general donations. We would have done



even better if the weather had held, but it was a good day nonetheless. Thanks to **Tim Quillen** and **Fred Cruger** for setting up the shelter, **Scott Bower** for manning the apple press, and the multitude of members who helped guide the visitors in the museum - - **John** and **Barbara Scherrer**, **Eldon** and **Elsie**

**Kirstein, Bob** and **Robin Ingraham**, and others. Special thanks go to **Danyel, Joey, Rachel, and Tanner** for their help in the parade. We had over 110 visitors including some from out of state (see item #13).

**2. Railroad Days prep** - The first Eco-Car built by the Granite Falls High School "**Shop Girls**" was hung in time for Railroad Days (see [September 2016 newsletter, item #13](#)). Also, in case you have not noticed, the rain is falling and the grass is growing - particularly the hydro-seeded patches that followed the street and sidewalk work. It was mowed back into civilized status and is ready for winter.



**3. Rural Tourism roundtable** - On October 4, GFHS was represented by **Tom Thorleifson** as he attended Snohomish County's Stillaguamish-Sauk River Valleys Rural Tourism roundtable and Action Team Check-in

Meeting in Arlington. This meeting updated the progress that people in various communities have made since the initial set of meetings were held this last year. A final report was presented, with the understanding that there is still much work to do to encourage tourism for this part of Snohomish County.

**4. WEBELOS** - Seven WEBELOS Scouts from Cub Packs 183, 184, and 185 visited the museum with their leaders on Wednesday, October 5.

They were an inquisitive bunch and enjoyed themselves, especially when they were allowed to "play" the player piano. At the end of their museum wanderings, they were each asked to remember any two items for a "test" when they left, and it was interesting to see the items they had chosen to remember from their visit.



**5. Girl Scouts** - On the following Wednesday, October 12, some Girl Scouts and their leaders from Troop 43751 arrived at the museum and enjoyed an extended stay. They were a great group - - exceptionally attentive, well-behaved, and interested in all sorts of subjects. They may well have been the most attentive and observant group of visitors we've ever had!



**6. Chamber of Commerce breakfast** - **Tom** attended the [Chamber of Commerce](#) breakfast at the [Buzz Inn](#) on Thursday, October 13, and managed to win two door prizes for the museum! We now have a set of remote-controlled candles (great for decorating) and a \$50 VISA card, and that made the morning worth the effort! The museum donated one of our "Gateway to the Mountain Loop" T-shirts, which was won by **Melissa Hemrich** of [Coastal Community Bank](#) in Snohomish.



**7. Snohomish Count Strategic Tourism Plan** - On Thursday, October 20, **Fred** participated in a structured interview with the consultants completing the update of the County Strategic Tourism Plan (updated every five years). The group being interviewed represented the "arts and heritage" aspects of the plan, which should be released at the end of 2016.

**8. Paca Pride Portlanders** - On Saturday, October 22, a couple folks from Portland who were camping at [Paca Pride](#) made arrangements to visit the museum. They

spent time looking at everything and left a nice donation. Even though the “regular” museum hours are noon to 5:00 PM Sundays, we open for various groups or research requests several times each month. We are happy to accommodate as many as possible.

**9. Fall Back!** - It’s time to turn your clocks back and gain an extra hour of sleep! “Normal” time takes over from “Daylight Savings” at 2:00 AM on Sunday, November 6. Don’t forget to change your smoke and CO detector batteries, and replace the detectors if they are old. Check with the Granite Falls Fire Department for the most up-to-date guidelines at 360.691.5554. The museum is checking all these things in the Sharp House and the Museum, and has taken care of our annual fire inspection and extinguisher “refresh”. We are “good to go” for another year!

**10. Museum expansion plans** - Plans for the museum expansion can be viewed at the museum. Check the bathroom hallway. When viewing the plans, notice that the rear wing of the Sharp House will be removed, returning the house to its original size. People can then enter/exit the main building through the back door and the small foyer that allows us to lock off access to the “workroom”. One advantage of the proposed extension is that it can be completed at any time without opening the existing building to the elements because of the roof truss design.

**11. Online research requests** - Our website continues to draw “requests” from online visitors. October requests included an investigation of old School 303 (near Getchell) and the Menzel family. Other news included an [October 17 Everett Herald](#) article about land donated by the Curtis family for the Whitehorse Trail, which prompted more research.



**12. Halloween** - Halloween was a great success, thanks to the great advertising by the [Chamber of Commerce](#) and the cooperative weather. Once the visitors started coming after our 4 PM opening, it was non-stop action until closing at 7:00 PM. People were like ants as they canvassed the entire town, and there were many families with some great costumes. We had games, “dunking” for doughnuts, hot chocolate, cookies, apple cider, and plenty of candy.



Thanks to all the museum helpers: **Fred Cruger, Scott Bower, Ron Chew, Ted and Lonnie Peddycord, Ed and Thora Boede, Bob Ingraham, Linda Hall, Rosie Miller** and her daughter **Marilyn, Tom Thorleifson, Eldon and Elsie Kirstein, John and Barbara Scherrer**, and of course **The Great Pumpkin**.

**13. October docents, helpers, and visitors** - Counting Railroad Days (110+ people), Halloween (230+ people), and mid-week openings along with regular Sunday afternoons, our attendance for October was about 430 total. More thanks are in order for these helpers or docents not mentioned above: **Nicole Fulmer, Norma Anderson, Robin Ingraham and Tina, and Tom Bergen**. Our visitors came from these places:

- |               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Arlington     | Anaheim, CA        |
| Everett       | Copperas Cove, TX  |
| Granite Falls | El Segundo, CA     |
| Lake Stevens  | Henderson, NV      |
| Lynnwood      | Mesa, AZ           |
| Marysville    | Nekoosa, WI        |
| Seattle       | Portland, OR       |
| Sedro Woolley | Montrose, Scotland |
| Silverton     | Daegu, South Korea |
| Snohomish     | Pusan, South Korea |
| Stanwood      | Seoul, South Korea |
| Sultan        |                    |

**14. Coming events, Odds & Ends (Hey, Babe) -**

**Babe Scherrer turns 99!** You are invited to his birthday party on Saturday, November 5, 2:00-4:00 PM, Granville Grange (9401 - 163rd Ave NE, Granite Falls). Babe’s dad (John’s grandpa) is an original homesteader in the area. Come out to wish him a Happy 99th!

**Board and General Meetings**, Monday, November 28, 6:00 and 7:00 PM respectively, held at **The Village** dining room (Board meets in the Vitality Room). We will be preparing to vote for three Board positions for 2017. Board positions are for a 3-year term, and can be renewed once.

**Granite Falls Historical Society Board Member status 2016**

Marcia Day	2013-2016	nominated for a 2nd term
John Kuntz	2013-2016	nominated for a 2nd term
Tom Thorleifson	2013-2016	nominated for a 2nd term
Scott Bower	2015-2017	second term current treasurer
Robin Ingraham	2015-2017	second term current secretary
Bob Ingraham	2015-2017	second term current president
Tim Quillen	2016-2018	second term
Ron Chew	2016-2018	first term
John Scherrer	2016-2018	first term current vice president

**Christmas Tree Lighting**, Saturday, December 3, 5:00 PM, with the museum open from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

**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)  
Check out our Facebook page at: [Granite Falls Historical Museum](#)  
Invite your neighbors and friends to stop by the museum!