



STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

October 2023



(360) 435-7289

Linda Anderson, Newsletter Editor

Hours of operation: Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

For Pioneer Hall Rental, call Caretakers Austin & Shannon Myrick at (360) 435-7289

Hello members!

It seems like the Annual Pioneer Picnic/Annual Meeting was yesterday, not two months ago! It was a lovely day and, as always, delicious food. Our day was extra special because we were able to help two lovely people, Charles & Nancy Matthiesen, celebrate their 73rd anniversary. Their niece, Sharron Nelson had a special cake with their original wedding-cake topper. Everyone enjoyed visiting with the Matthiesen's and several others who had joined us for the day. Lynn Waggoner graciously shared his photos of the day.

Members confirmed the re-election of Board Members and it was announced that the Officer's slate would remain the same. See page 8 for the 2023-2024 Officers and Board Members.

Membership renewal is from August to August. Many members have renewed their annual membership but if you have not, it's not too late. You can send a check for \$20.00 for your Annual Membership to the Museum. Thanks! *Linda Anderson*

IMPORTANT DATES AHEAD

Board Meeting: November 13 @ 1:30

Board Meeting: December 11 @ 1:30



MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:

November 20, 2023 – February 2, 2024



CHRISTMAS PARTY POTLUCK

Saturday, December 2 @ noon

White elephant exchange,

please bring a wrapped gift under \$5.00

Pioneer Hall



Annual Dues \$20.00; Lifetime Membership \$200.00

DIGITIZATION PROJECT

Sue Walde

Made possible, in part, by assistance from the Snohomish County 2023 Historic Preservation Program our vendor spent three days at the museum capturing digital images of the museum's 367-plus certificates, maps, pictures, and photos. This project included over 169 glass negatives.

Photos on right, top to bottom:

Set up for taking fabulous photographs.

John E Asplund (1864-1915) had a photography studio in Arlington. He created the glass negatives over 108 years ago.

Sharron Nelson spent two days sorting and organizing pictures once they were removed from their frames.

Michele and Steve Heiderer. Framed pictures with glass had to have the glass removed so they could be digitized without camera glare. Michele personally disassembled over 100 picture frames including the most fragile and oldest pictures. Steve repaired three very fragile antique picture frames.

Below: Roy Harris, Denny Somerville, Rex Martin



MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROY HARRIS

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and in good spirits. The museum has been a busy place this summer. Volunteers have been working to accomplish many activities and events. Pioneer Day was a success due to the extraordinary efforts of 35 of our members and other volunteers. Feedback from those attending the event was all incredibly positive. The 100-year anniversary celebration was just as successful and well attended by young and old alike. The demanding work of the volunteers who updated and redesigned each of the city pioneer displays, updated photos and verbiage for each display was well received. The video "Timber" that was developed and produced by our volunteers was also a tremendous success and enjoyed by those that viewed the video at the Pioneer Hall. The video has also been well received when viewed through our homepage on the Internet and through several other social media sites.

Volunteers also participated in the Stronger Together event in Arlington, though the weather restricted the attendance. The few who braved the weather enjoyed the display. When the rain turned to a downpour the event faded away early.

Museum volunteers have been busy reorganizing some of the displays, cleaning, and updating some of the artifacts in the displays. Cleaning and dusting of the artifacts and of the building is a continuous task and those volunteers who are involved deserve our appreciation for all they do.

We continue to have homeschool and private school tour events occurring throughout the year, with two large groups attending in October. These groups are normally scheduled on Mondays if possible so that the volunteers will be able to assist if needed for the tours or can continue the projects that they are working on. This schedule allows us to utilize our volunteer time without encroaching on their private time by scheduling two different events

on two different days. It is a bit of a change to our normal process. But after some adjustment (nobody likes to change) things seem to be working out.

Volunteers are also working on a grant project to remove the oversized photos from the walls, storage, and our file cabinets. The frames, images and glass are removed, marked, and stored so we can rematch them. The frames and glass are cleaned and rehabilitated, a company is assisting us to digitize all the images. When that is complete, the volunteers will reinstall the glass, images, replace the hardware, and rehang the items throughout the museum or put them into the storage area waiting to be framed. At the same time, we are verifying the museum's ID numbers, their location, and preparing to update our Past Perfect file for these artifacts. This project will help ensure that these images will be saved if we should ever have a catastrophic event such as a fire or earthquake and we could replace the original images with duplicates. Additionally, we can use the digitized images when responding to research requests. And in the future, develop a program to make them available through an electronic museum-view process.

The comments that we receive through social media, emails or comments in person about how much people enjoy and love the displays throughout the Museum, Pioneer Hall, outbuildings and Pioneer Park can all be attributed to the resolute, very skillful, and artistic volunteers. Our volunteers have made all the wonderful things that have been occurring at the Stillaguamish Valley Museum over the last year the success people want to see and participate in.

Thank you, job well done. *Roy*



From Roy Regarding Financials...

Today we would like to share information with you about two different accounts the museum uses when people make donations, their function, and their purpose.

The two accounts are unrestricted, meaning that the Board of Directors can decide how to spend and allocate these funds for the purpose of improving and maintaining the museum.

The function of one account is a growth account that is dedicated to long term growth in a managed account. This account is managed with all funds invested in the Stock Exchange.

The other managed account is a balanced account for long term growth. This account is balanced between stocks, bonds, and other investments.

The purpose and intention of both accounts is to provide long-term stability, supportability, maintaining buildings, property, displays, and for future growth.

All museum accounts are managed through the Stillaguamish Valley Museum financial plan approved by the Board of Directors. This policy restricts the use of these funds to long-term cost allocations for maintenance cost at the end of life of the object. For example, the metal roof on the Museum life is estimated to be 100 years. The cost to replace the roof at the end of life is estimated at \$120,000. This amount will be held for that purpose.

Copy of the Stillaguamish Valley Museum financial plan is available to current members at the Museum.



STRONGER TOGETHER

Michele Heiderer



At Arlington's annual "Stronger Together" event held Saturday, September 23, 2023, Steve and Michele Heiderer hosted the booth for the Stillaguamish Valley Museum. On display were 12 posters with dozens of pictures depicting Arlington's history from the early days through World War II.

Arlington emerged from the wilderness into civilization with the building of the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern Railway. Late in the fall of 1889, the railway company sent a crew of men to clear the right-of-way. The following year on June 13th, the construction train reached town. The first freight train arrived on July 23, 1890. As a result, heavy equipment was delivered into town and the lumber industry flourished by hauling the equipment into the woods and mills. Soon the railroad was transporting lumber and shingles out to markets.



Downtown looking northeast at downtown Arlington at Railroad Avenue (now Olympic Avenue) with the train tracks in the foreground. A corner of the train depot (today the location of Stilly Valley Chamber of Commerce) is on the far left. The two-story building in the center-left is Thomas Moran's Hardware Store. The wooden three-story building is the Arlington Hotel at the northeast corner of 2nd Street and Railroad Avenue. The wooden two-story building to its right is Earl McLeod's General Merchandise store on the southeast corner of 2nd Street and Railroad Avenue. Much of the hillside above downtown Arlington had been logged by the early 1890's.

MASONIC LODGE #129 ANNOUNCES...

PROUTY'S CITIZEN(S) OF THE YEAR

Michele Heiderer & Sue Walde

On September 20th, Shirley Prouty, and her late husband, Dick, were honored as Citizens of the Year by the Masonic Lodge in Arlington. Dick was a long-time member of the Masonic Lodge.

Shirley was an Arlington 4-H leader for 26 years and served as superintendent of the Photography and Agricultural departments at the Evergreen State Fair in Monroe for many years. Dick was a Registered Profession Engineer who taught and mentored students at the University of Washington (7 years), Shoreline Community College (14 years) and finally at Everett Community College (16 years). He was also a strong supporter of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) education for middle and high school students. Both organized and managed Washington state's Science Olympiad, sponsored by Everett Community College at the time, which

involved over 1,500 middle and high school students who participated in science-focused learning opportunities and tournaments.

Shirley and Dick joined the Museum in 1998 and spent many years participating in Museum activities. Dick was president of this museum from 2005 to 2007. Both were instrumental in the Welcome Center project where Dick provided the structural engineering so that it would meet City building codes and Shirley wrote many of the grants that funded the \$92,000 project.

Over the years, Shirley wrote 4 volumes of Arlington's history titled '100 Years of Arlington' which are available for purchase at the museum. They make wonderful Christmas gifts! Dick was editor of all four volumes. After 62 years of marriage, Dick passed away on January 9, 2020. Shirley now resides at Olympic Place and enjoys having friends visit her there.

Shirley and Dick Prouty



Shirley surrounded by family after receiving Citizen of the Year award.



Sharron Knutson & Sally Shinstrom

111th Annual Membership Meeting and Picnic



Celebrating 73 years!
Charles & Nancy Matthiesen



Ron Schei, Julia Bussert, Cheryl Lovgreen, Korene Thomas



Barbara Wood, Lynda Thomas,
Greg & Beth Husted



Betty Blacken & Loren Kraetz



Greg Husted, Austin Myrick,
Philip Thomas, Mike Thomas

Oldest Stillaguamish
Valley-born woman:

Joann Gray.

Oldest Stillaguamish
Valley-born man:

Charles Matthiesen.

Couple married the
longest with one person
born in the Stillaguamish
Valley:

Charles & Nancy
Matthiesen.

Traveled the longest
distance:

Ron & Velda Schei.



Velda Schei & Mike Thomas



Debbie & Toby Strotz



Joann Gray & Tim Gray



Ralph Knutson & Charles Matthiesen

WHEN DID YOU LAST TALK TO YOUR 5TH GRADE TEACHER?

Sue Walde

This October two special guests toured the Museum under the guidance of their fifth-grade teacher. Both were pupils in the fifth-grade class of 1974-75 at Oak Harbor Elementary School.

Berry Melchor traveled over 3,000 miles from Virginia Beach, Virginia on the Atlantic Ocean and Bill Kerr came from Oak Harbor, Washington. To this day, they respectfully address their teacher as "Mr. Kraetz."

L to R: Berry Melchor, Loren Kraetz, Bill Kerr & Pat Kraetz.



When asked how Mr. Kraetz made difference in his life, Berry said; *he made learning fun. We learned everything from farming, hatching eggs, making Root Beer, pressing apples and making cider. He always had fun activities as well as our required assignments and I never missed a day; I couldn't wait to see what he had planned next. Great time in my young life. I will never forget him.*



WHO IS IT?

Do you know who this is?
Picture has "Harry" written on the back but
there is no other identification or date.



MEMORIALS

In memory of:
DELORES SILL

Given by:
Loren & Pat Kraetz

In memory of:
HEATHER HARRIS DAVES

Given by:
Loren & Pat Kraetz
Linda Anderson

DONATIONS

August \$157.00
September 108.00

2023 – 2024 OFFICERS

President: Roy Harris
Vice President: Greg Husted
Secretary: Sally Shinstrom
Pioneer Treasurer: Sharron Knutson
Museum Treasurer: Myrtle Rausch
Past President: Sue Walde

BOARD MEMBERS:

1: Loren Kraetz 2025
2: Linda Anderson 2025
3: Rex Martin 2025
4: Michele Heiderer 2024
5: Terry Legare 2024
6: Ralph Knutson 2024

Around the museum...

In addition to the photo digitization project:

a second train display is being installed in the logging/lumberjack area downstairs;

the Wi-Fi, phone and internet update has been completed and is working well. Wi-Fi is now available at Pioneer Hall!

Welcome new and/or renewing members:

Chuck & Nancy
Matthiesen

Phillip Thomas (lifetime)

Toby & Debbie Strotz

Korene Thomas

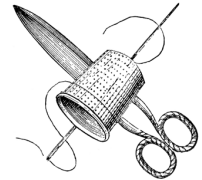
Betty Blacken

COMMITTEES:

Advisory Program Committee
Advisory Governance Committee
Advisory Acquisition Committee
Advisory Financial Committee

Stilly Stitchers

2nd & 4th Tuesday ~10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Pioneer Hall ~ Coffee & Tea provided
Bring your project, your lunch and invite a friend.



Stillaguamish Valley Museum
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Arlington, WA 98223-4214
Email: stillypioneers@frontier.com