

## WCHS Monthly Reports February 2023

### Presidents Report

The past month I have been reviewing our volunteer manual, board function sheets, fund development and working plan as well as policy and procedure forms, all things Val created after our workshop. We will be meeting at the Depot on Wednesday. We will meet with the Depot Committee at 6pm and holding our regular meeting at 7pm. See everyone on Wednesday. Think Spring.

### Depot Report for February 2023

- Losing another tenant at end of Feb., so advertising two available spaces.
- Mailed 385 Annual Reports to donors and potential donors.
- Sent emails to our three legislators and over 50 members of the Senate and House Transportation Committee asking for support for a budget measure to fund the railbanking of train lines throughout Pullman.
- Submitted all forms and materials for a first submission to the Heritage Capital Projects grant.
- Attempting to gather enough facts and cost estimates to apply for a Chamber Grant – plan is to reconfigure the end of the passenger car to resemble that of an historic Cougar Special.
- Met with members of the Phoenix Conservancy to explore a cooperative venture to plant “pockets” of native Palouse Prairie on our hillside and along tracks – thus crowding out the noxious and invasive weeds.
- Book Talk scheduled for February 23 – 7 pm - featuring Trevor Bond, author of a new book *Coming Home to Nez Perce Country*.
- Finalized plans for a new entry sign and prepared to present to WCHS for approval.
- Have been invited to contribute to a re-newed Nearby History column in the Daily News – need to explore who might write stories on our behalf.

### Newsletter Report – Kathy Meyer

The first newsletter of 2023 has been emailed to those members whose emails we have, and it has also been posted on the WCHS website. It can be downloaded if desired.

Debbie and I have started work on volume 2 of 2023. Future newsletters will not be as long as the last one – we thought our members would like a strong overview of what projects are currently in progress in the first issue of each year—but we’re not going to do it again until next year.

So, from here on out, we are going to rely on board members—and others— to send us updates of their projects. Please call or email one of us with your latest news—upcoming events or past ones. Send us your information by the last Monday of March to get it into the April newsletter. My phone number is 509-432-1336 and my email is [klemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:klemeyer@gmail.com). Debbie’s phone is 509-334-7389 and her email is [jdjsherman@gmail.com](mailto:jdjsherman@gmail.com).

We're also hoping each of you will send us the names of volunteers who are helping you – we're planning a "Volunteer Spotlight" in each issue. That person will be selected randomly. We're literally putting all of our volunteers' names into a bowl and we're going to draw one out every two months.

### **Trinity Chapel – Palouse**

Palouse Federated Chapel will again use the chapel during Lent for quiet, prayerful time. Hopefully, I can get the leaves from last fall raked up this spring!

### **Perkins House**

The House has been closed to the public for the month of January. Volunteers met to take down the Christmas decorations and made good progress in organizing the bins in the basement space, rather than the shed (as to leave room for other items in the shed). A meeting was held at the house for the Greenway project. There are a few issues arising with the renter: rent was several months (discovered while switching accounts from Nancy to Ronda). Additionally, it seems the renter may be using the space for more than the agreed upon days and at different times of the day (seen late at night).

The police also were in contact with the historical society about recent break-ins in the area. They are patrolling the area and keeping a lookout; they asked if we had an outside camera. We don't, but it may be a good idea to look into getting one added with our security system.

### **Director**

Prepared and sent out renewal letters to all the lapsed members. We send out 524 bunchgrass magazines. But 289 of these people aren't active members. Donna got the membership list for us from Sally and got it to me. Krista and I went through the list. We found several people who were deceased. We are working closely with Sally to get the list updated in pastperfect. We mailed out renewals to see if we can get some members back. In just a weeks time we have already received 25 responses. We feel that only active members should receive the bunchgrass magazine.

Once renewals come in then I will update the email list serve for the next newsletter.

I sent in a grant for \$15,000 to Innovia for operations and organization restructuring. Jon, Mark and Jeff helped me gather information needed to get this completed.