

December 2020



CENTRAL WASHINGTON AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

MUSEUM NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Nick Schultz

This has certainly been a trying year here at the museum. January and February were fairly normal and then March came and things came to a screeching halt. The museum fell into the category of non-profit so we were required to close to volunteers and the public. We abided by the rules and closed the museum. In late June/early July Yakima County was moved to Phase 1.5. That allowed us to bring back some volunteers on a limited basis. Before we could return, we had to present our plan to the Yakima County Health District.

The Board of Directors approved the following system that was implemented September 15. We divided the museum into eight separate PODS. Each POD had a leader and was only allowed to have three volunteers total. Because the museum sits on seventeen acres, it was fairly easy to keep the PODS separated which was one of the requirements. Each POD was provided with masks, hand sanitizer and spray disinfectant. Each day when a volunteer entered the museum they had to stop at the Visitors' Center for a temperature check and to fill out a symptom check list. The Health District approved our plan and we started having volunteers return on a very limited basis. The PODS were: Office, Building #1, Klingele Building, Danner Building, Farmstead, Grounds, Letterpress Museum, and the Horse~n~Harness Group.

The system worked very well and after Yakima entered Phase 2, we were able to increase the number of volunteers from three to five per POD. Things were working fairly well and then in the second week of November when new restrictions were announced, we again had to close everything until December 14. The state then extended the closure date until January 4. I'm not holding my breath and I wouldn't be surprised if that date gets extended. We will just have to wait and see. The primary consideration is the safety of our volunteers.

The biggest hit to the museum is the budget. We are financially stable and can pay our bills. The problem is we had to cancel all our fund raisers for the entire year. The Old Steel Car Show, Sun Sips & Suds, Old Town Days, the Pioneer Power Show, Agri-Copia and the winter Sleigh Ride events were all canceled. Not to mention all the school tours, the Letterpress Museum tours and the constant flow of visitors that made generous donations. We also had to cancel all building and grounds rentals. We were able to do a virtual Car Show with over one hundred entries that was very successful. To say the least it has been a long year. We have now canceled the Old Steel Car Show for 2021; Sun Sips & Suds as well as Old Town Days are in jeopardy.

On a positive note, all the damage caused by the big windstorm on May 30 has been repaired. While we were open, progress on the horse-drawn funeral coach continued and it's looking pretty good. The Klingele POD was able to get some restoration work done on a couple tractors along with some other ag equipment. They have been working on a crawler display as well. The Danner Building POD continued work on the 1927 Model "T" Ford and on the 1946 Cab-Over



First coat of paint on the funeral coach



Funeral coach wheel being repaired



1946 Cab-Over Ford truck frame in the Danner bldg



1939 Case R0 tractor was worked on in Klingele bldg



We had 6 entries at the Holiday Light Fest



New construction on the Farmstead Project



The 1927 Model "T" Ford in the Danner building



Veteran silhouettes were pulled by CWAM on Veteran's Day since the actual parade was cancelled

Ford truck. They also helped install rubber tires on the wooden wheels for the funeral coach. Then they got all the snow removal equipment ready for that white stuff (snow). The Farmstead POD was able to move forward on the new construction project. The grounds POD was busy cleaning the area around the Klingele and Danner Buildings. They also gathered up a surplus of scrap metal and got it recycled. Due to restrictions the Horse~n~Harness Group and the Letterpress Museum weren't able to do much. The Office POD comes in once per week to pay bills and any other things that needed attention.

The committee working on the video/audio tour has made a lot of progress. This is a new and exciting addition to the museum. There is a brief report elsewhere in this newsletter on the project. A more detailed account will be described in future newsletters.

With us being unable to gather this year, you might not have heard about the passing of several of our current and former volunteers. Rose Warner, 83, on July 12; Doug Clark, 73, on July 24; Tom Richardson, 80, on September 28; Jeanette Kempf, 93, on November 21; Russ Bohannon, 81, on December 14. We extend our deepest sympathies to their families.

Our mascot "Mr. Pibb," the host's dog, was attacked by a coyote and had some extremely serious injuries. He had multiple surgeries and we were very concerned that we might lose him. Thankfully, now all is well. Please see photographs and a description of his journey to recovery in this newsletter. Because the pandemic did not allow for Yakima to host their annual Veteran's Day parade, on November 11, Bill McLaughlin and I took an Oliver tractor and a Farmall tractor pulling the trailers with the Veteran silhouettes from the museum all the way to the very end of North First Street. We then looped through some of the West Valley neighborhoods before returning to Union Gap along Washington Ave. Our efforts were rewarded by many honking horns, salutes, and waves from delighted onlookers. It was a fun and satisfying day. We had six entries in the First Annual Holiday Light Fest held at the State Fair Park. The event was seen by over 11,000 visitors in its original 9-day run. It was so successful that it was extended for an additional four days adding



another 4,000 people to that total. We will be given a donation for our time and participation. In a survey of the event attendees, our patriotic entries, the tractors, silhouettes, and tram were voted the most popular.

I hope this finds you healthy and safe. Wear your masks, wash your hands, keep a safe distance, and only meet in small groups. I am looking forward to a much better year in 2021.

CWAM AUDIO TOUR IS COMING!

The Electronic Tour Committee is excited to be working on production of an Audio/Video Guide Tour that will be launched once the museum is able to reopen. After much research on the types of electronic museum tour programs available, we were able to agree on one that does not require users to download an app, or rely on using shared museum equipment to access it. Especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, this will add an extra measure of safety and hygiene while allowing for social distancing.

The Tour we have chosen runs on visitors' smartphones, will be offered in both English and Spanish, and uses a unique card to start the Tour. These cards will be available in the Visitor Center during open hours. The cards can then be used to access the Tour during closed hours as well.

At this point in time, we have 33 exhibits planned in the Tour. Each exhibit will have a professionally made audio recording explaining its history and interesting information while offering photos and/or videos. A huge benefit of this is visitors being able to 'peek' into the exhibits even if they're closed.



An additional benefit of this program will be the ability to track from where our visitors come, when they are most likely to visit and what language they speak. The program is designed to accept feedback from the visitor, and offer them an easy way to make donations online during or after their visit.

This Audio/Video Guide Tour will make a visit to the Central WA Ag Museum more interactive, informative, and educational. It will improve the visitor experience when they are finally able to return. We will keep you informed of the progress as completion gets closer.



MEMORIALS SINCE LAST NL: Rose Warner, Roy Brandt, Tom Richardson, Jeanette Kempf

Remember a friend or loved one with a memorial gift to the Central Washington Agricultural Museum. Money from a memorial is used for additions and improvements unless otherwise designated. When you send a memorial gift it is helpful if you include the following information:

- o Who to send the acknowledgment to along with the address.
- o If available, we appreciate a copy of the obituary or a brief bio of the person.
- o With a gift of \$25 or more the honored one's name will be placed on a memorial board. It is a tax deductible gift.

ACCESSIONS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

1984 Case International Harvester 685, Bush Hog QT Loader, quick attach bucket & forks from Carl Hurlburt. Miller plasma cutter from L&L Specialty Repair. Champion girl's bicycle, hanging kerosene lamp, garden implement and brass wash tub from John Bliss

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

by Paul Strater

Museum Responses to Being “Closed”

Being forced to close their buildings to any visitors has caused many museums to search for alternative ways to be productive. Several museums in Washington have used this time to work on their facilities—like painting walls, cleaning and rearranging furniture, and updating exhibits

To maintain contact with the public, many museums have switched to electronic methods. Videos are filmed of the museum exhibits and then posted on their websites. Live sessions discussing museum activities are broadcast using Zoom and similar online “meeting” software.

When a “partial opening” was allowed for a limited number of visitors, the museums set up Plexiglas screens, marked social distances on the floors, and enforced one-way walking. Those worked for museums with large buildings but are not appropriate for CWAM.

Therefore, we are working on an “electronically complemented” drive through process for people to drive through CWAM and get video descriptions of the displays on their cell phones and other electronic gadgets. You can read a little more about it in another article in this newsletter.

While CWAM has not been allowed to be open to visitors for most of this year, some of our volunteers were able to do a little work during the few short weeks that safety protocols allowed us to be onsite. With the rise in COVID-19 cases, the museum is again closed. We are waiting and hoping for things to get better in 2021.



SOMETIMES BEING FAT IS GOOD

In the evening on October 15, Jerry, our host, let his dog Mr. Pibb out to do his business. Less than a minute after closing the door, he heard Mr. Pibb crying and screaming. Jerry ran outside, yelling as he went around to the back of the house. Mr. Pibb came walking up and they both went inside. It was only then that Jerry saw the wounds on the back and sides of the small black dog. Jerry said he often hears coyotes and sometimes sees them, but on this night he didn't, even though it was obvious one had just attacked Mr. Pibb.

The next day Jerry took his dog to the veterinarian where he underwent surgery. Mr. Pibb had seven drains, stitches, bandaging, and wore a cone when he came home. Five days later the drains were removed. By the following Sunday the wound was oozing and it was obvious it wasn't healing correctly, so Mr. Pibb had another visit to the vet on October 26. The vet with whom Jerry spoke that day was not encouraging about the prospects of a positive recovery for the ten-year-old dog. Given the depth and severity of the wounds, they would have to remove a lot of dead skin and tissue. While she didn't specifically say it, Jerry felt she was telling him it would be better to put him down; that even if he lived, his quality of life would suffer. This vet gave Jerry contact information for the WSU veterinary clinic in Pullman that might be able to do more. However, a call to them soon made it clear that the \$10,000 to \$15,000 cost—plus logistics of travel, etc., was out of the question. It was a sad, depressing night.

On Tuesday, October 27, Jerry took Mr. Pibb back to the vet and spoke to a different veterinarian in the same office. This second vet was more optimistic and recommended they do additional surgery. When Jerry picked his dog up that evening, several people in the office commented about how Mr. Pibb was such a happy dog; how even with everything he'd been through, he was still wagging his tail, begging for treats. This vet told Jerry that “his ‘positive attitude’ bodes well for Mr. Pibb's recovery”. She also said that the extra layer of fat and much higher than normal weight for a dog his size worked in his favor. The coyote couldn't pick him up to simply carry him off. The fat layer didn't allow the bites to penetrate as deeply as would be expected and very likely saved Mr. Pibb's life.

The post-surgery check-up on November 3 was encouraging. Then, on Friday Wally noticed that the wound was open again and didn't look right. Another trip to the vet revealed that Mr. Pibb's incessant activity had pulled out his stitches, so he had to get sewn up yet again. Things progressed well from that point, and all stitches, bandages, and the cone were removed on December 4. As this is written, Mr. Pibb is back to his old self.

In an attempt to keep Mr. Pibb safer, during early November, Jerry, Ray Cook, and Wally Moen built a 16-foot by 12-foot by 6-foot high horse-wire fenced enclosure behind Jerry's house. While it won't keep out a determined coyote, it does provide some protection for Mr. Pibb's nocturnal needs.

On October 30, Nick put out word that he was starting a fund to help with the costs of Mr. Pibb's vet bills. Several people donated and it was successfully kept a secret from Jerry. On December 14, a check which covered a large portion of the expense was presented. Jerry said, “The help is very much appreciated, and was totally unexpected.” Mr. Pibb said, “I miss you all, but I especially miss the treats you give me.”





CENTRAL WASHINGTON
AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

4508 Main St.

Union Gap, WA 98903-2138

CWAM ANNUAL FUNDRAISER 2020

UP to \$50: Opal Duffield, Timm Heberlein, Vivian Russell, Pat Ubelaker, Ada Ruth Whitmore (Whoop-N-Hollar Ranch), Ralph L Woodall Jr., Ray & Maralyn Killorn, James A. & Victoria Yockey

\$50 & UP: John A. Baule, Clarence S. Brown, Dave Calhoun, Jim & Ada Colbert, Freda Dupuis, Ken Tolonen (Fruitvale Grange #348), Norma Haney, Bill Horst, Diana Kempf & Robert Landles, Tony & Melody Pottratz, Tom Richardson, Diane Grignon & Ben Snowden, Kay Tandberg, Bob & Eleanor Hester

\$100 & UP: Jim & Cheryl Gamache (Carrell Crane & Heavy Hauling Inc.), Gary Feser, Kathleen & Larry Hatcher, Jim Kabrich, Nancy A. Kenmotsu, Mark & Lisa Lindholm, Paul & Patty Schafer, Gerald Severance, David & Cheryl Stave, Margaret Morris & Ken Tolonen, Misti Uptain & Todd Schultz, Sandi Vogel

\$200 & UP: Bob Gimlin, Harris Farms, Jean's Cottage Inn, Judy Markham, Al Showalter

\$500 and UP: Richard & Rebecca Drew, Rob Gallion, Mike & Brian Schrantz, Nick & Kathy Schultz, Yakima Co-operative Association

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Central Washington Ag Museum

CWAM MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP February 19, 2020 –December 18, 2020

INDIVIDUAL \$25: Paul R. Burlingame, Doug Clark, Frank Freshwater, Marlene Hall, Norma Haney, Dale Hoech, Karen Klingele, Alice May, Jeffrey A. Penuel, Pat Pope, Pat Stump, Kay Tandberg, Rodney H. Travis, Floyd A. Wilson

FAMILY \$35: Kim & Michael Orr & Royce Baker, Pat Hyatt & Bill Borland, Barney E. Brown, Charles Cripps, Larry Fitzgerald, Dale Hendricks, Robert Hennessy, Sam & Gina Martin, Ambrose & Donna Nalley Jr, Rod Patterson, Ray & Peggy Poisel, Ella Schreiner, Randy & Linda Sundstrom, Jim Warner

SPONSOR \$50-\$99: Marvin & Karen Beard, Bob & Cindy Reed (Bob Reed Trucking), Carl Gangl (Broadway Grange #647), Clarence S. Brown, Kathy Fletcher, Ken Tolonen (Fruitvale Grange #348), Andy & Peg Granitto, Jim & Jan Hyslop, Peggy & Ellexis & Mark Rice, Michael & Donna Schons, Kevin & Terri Towner, David & Diane Trampush, Washington Tractor

PATRON \$100-\$499: Joanne Chapa (Chestnut Place Properties, LLC), Gary Feser, Ross & Patricia Herber, Ruth Bishop & Fred Hutchinson, Jean's Cottage Inn, Jim Kabrich, David & Cheryl Stave, WA Mint Growers Association, Yakima Valley Horseless Carriage Club

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