



CENTRAL WASHINGTON
AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

4508 Main St.

Union Gap, WA 98903-2138

MEMBERSHIPS July 29-November 27

BENEFACTOR \$500

Wheatland Bank

FAMILY \$35

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Central Washington Ag Museum

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Richard & Rebecca Drew, Nick & Kathy Schultz, Rob Gallion

Central Washington Agricultural Museum • Phone: 509-457-8735

Email: info@centralwaagmuseum.org • www.centralwaagmuseum.org

Send us an email at info@centralwaagmuseum.org to receive your newsletter via email.

Please consider making an additional tax deductible donation to the museum before December 31.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Nick Schultz

2017 seemed to pass by like a jet breaking the sound barrier. However, our dedicated and talented volunteers and auxiliary still accomplished a multitude of projects. These men and women continue to amaze me by showing up every Tuesday to take on the challenges of the day. Many of them volunteer several days other than Tuesday. Thank you volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering just give the museum a call and we will be happy to talk with you.

This year has seen many events happen on the museum grounds. With lots of snow the Horse~n~Harness Group did their first winter sleigh ride in January. Much to everyone's surprise and happiness over 350 people showed up for this event. There were some mighty tired horses by the end of the day. Providing we have snow, they again are planning another sleigh day. The date depends on snow so follow us on Facebook, that way you won't miss this event. The next event was a plowing demonstration in March at Terrace Heights. The Horse~n~Harness Group continues to offer training throughout the year. During the Pioneer Power Show in August they also did a number of demonstrations.

In April we put on the annual "Old Steel Car Show". There were over 185 participants and there were cars from 1910 up through a modern 2017 Mustang Sport. Hot rods, restored originals, trucks, rat rods and even a tractor showed up for the day.

In June we organized and put on "Old Town Days," one of the oldest city events in the state. This is when we sponsor the Civil War re-enactment. Along with the re-enactment there was music, food, kids games, arts and crafts and President Lincoln giving his famous

Gettysburg Address. It was two days of fun, history and tram tours of the museum.

In August it's the "Pioneer Power Show" where all the vintage equipment is up and running. There is music, food, two parades, demonstrations and a feeling of years past. Along with the

above events there are also birthday parties, family reunions, corporate picnics, club meetings and weddings. The museum is a very busy place.

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We estimate 350+ people enjoyed 'Sleigh Days' in 2017. We will alert you when the 2018 dates are set.



We had over 185 vehicles at the Old Steel Car Show, including our featured car, the 1910 EMF.



Old Town Days & the Civil War Reenactment continues to be our largest event of the year. All the reenactors and volunteers are greatly appreciated!

This year we were very fortunate to receive a grant from Roy Farms and Rob Gallion which was used to build the Horse and Buggy Building. The building will be used to display our restored buggies and horse related artifacts. Thank you Roy Farms and Rob Gallion.

We now have “ Olde Yakima Letterpress Museum” on the Ag museum grounds. We are very fortunate to have this museum become part of our museum. They have moved into the Craig Eschbach Education Center. Some of their artifacts date back to the 17th century. They proposed a large expansion at no cost to the museum so the Board of Directors voted to move forward with this project. Now the domino effect started. In order to make the expansion we needed to move the railcar 100 feet east. Lucky for us it was easily moved. Next the Amos Cabin needed to be moved 100 feet east as well. The Letterpress Museum paid to have the Amos Cabin professionally moved. After all of that they now have all the space they need to move forward with the expansion. We hope to have this complete sometime in 2018.

Back to the domino effect. Once the railcar was moved we had to build a new ADA approved ramp and then we needed to dig a trench to run electricity from the Eschbach building to the railcar. This project is under way and should be complete in the next month or so. We will be mentoring an Eagle Scout project in the spring and they will be working on the railing and painting. The Amos Cabin also had stairs and an ADA ramp installed. I think we have everything under control and scheduled so come spring we will be ready for opening day.

The Ag Museum continues to do school tours throughout the year. Each year we get more and more schools involved. Public schools, private schools and home schools all come to get a taste of Yakima Valley history.

I want to again thank all our volunteers, and you the membership, because without you none of this could happen. The Board of Directors and I want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Accessions since the last newsletter are:

- 1963 Ford water truck and Hyster forklift Model YT40 – from Dean Oswalt
- 1950 McCormick Farmall “H” – from Gary McInnis
- 1907 Ruth Parton’s Saddle – Made by E.H. Ferguson at Ferguson Saddlery in Toppenish, WA – from Elaine Phillips



Mrs. Emma Roy and Rob Gallion cut the ribbon for the official opening of the Horse and Buggy building.



We held the official opening of the Horse & Buggy building in early October which received a lot of press attention, including two local television stations.



Both the railcar and Amos Cabin had newly built ADA approved ramps installed during the move of the Olde Yakima Letterpress Museum.

Memorials

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:

- Who to send the acknowledgment to along with the address.
- If available, we appreciate a copy of the obituary or a brief bio of the person.
- 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.

Memorials received since last newsletter: Ramona Murray

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

by Paul Strater

During 2017 the Ag Museum has experienced new programs, new features, updated facilities, several new events, and many more visitors. These developments are very rewarding to the volunteers for all their hard work.

We have been fortunate that the new activities have attracted new volunteers with outstanding technical skills. The fact is, however, that the growth of events has put a lot of time demands on our Tuesday Crew of volunteers. We have started a new method of recruiting volunteers for the new and expanded activities.



When we have school field trips, group visits, and major events such as Old Town Days and the Pioneer Power Show, we need volunteers to greet visitors at the different activity locations.

Volunteers spend 2 to 4 hours greeting visitors at the Amos Cabin or the Keys Homestead; helping kids churn butter;

grind coffee; or any of several other options. Volunteers for these events can work at one of the events, or several, during a year. Most of the locations have opportunities to sit much of the time.



We ask each of you to consider volunteering to help for these short events. Also, we hope you will tell your family and friends about these opportunities. Anyone interested can call and leave a message at 457-8735 or come to the Ag Museum on any Tuesday to see the locations in person.

Congratulations to our restored Texaco Gas Pump winner, Josh Rockwell of Selah!

Heather McCurdy, the popular travel and food writer of ‘Real: The Kitchen & Beyond’ visits the Ag Museum.

This past August, Heather McCurdy, her husband and three kids toured the museum as part of their cross country road trip. They explored the cabins, went on a tram tour, and had a great experience, and more importantly, she expressed the overall importance of agriculture and ag history to her children. McCurdy also wrote an interesting article about the museum which you can read at www.realthekitchenandbeyond.com.



CWAM EVENTS 2018

January date TBD
 April 7-8
 April 22
 June 16-17
 August 18-19
 Sept 21 - Sept 30

Sleigh Day
 Plowing Bee & Horse Spectacular
 Old Steel Car Show
 Old Town Days & Civil War Reenactment
 Pioneer Power Show & Swap Meet
 Central Washington State Fair

Just a few of the highlights for the coming year!