

West Klickitat County Historical Society

Newsletter

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Gorge Heritage Museum 202 East Humboldt, Bingen, WA.
ghm@gorge.net

The Open Season for the Museum is from May 7th to September 24th. The Museum hours are from noon to 5:00 PM, Fri-Sun. Tours may be scheduled during the off-season by calling 509-493-3228 and requesting a visit.

Newsletter Staff

Webmaster/Publisher – Jim Farrell

Plant Sale To Benefit Gorge Heritage Museum

It's time for the annual *Mothers Day* plant sale on Saturday, May 7th (the day before Mothers Day) from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM or when ever we run out.



Some of the items already potted for sale are white bleeding hearts; pink bleeding hearts; purple

The sale will be perennials from home gardens of members and friends of the museum, houseplants, garden art and birdhouse made from gourds. Please pot up your extra plants for this sale. This annual sale has netted the museum building fund more than \$5,100 over the past few years.

foxglove; day lilies of several colors including pink, yellow, red, salmon, and some white ones; columbines (several different colors); purple cone flower, white daisies, a few irises, several ground covers, native violets, native ferns, Penstemon, peony, lamb's ear, fall mums, hens 'n chicks, white lilacs, purple lilacs, Sweet William (several different colors variations), Jacobs ladder, red current, Perennial Geraniums (light Purple), raspberry canes, small cedar trees, small maple trees and much, much more.



Perennial plants start at \$2.50 for 4-inch pot size, \$5.00 for 1 gallon size, and \$9.00 for the 2 gallon size and other sizes as marked. All the money raised will be used for the building fund to help us purchase a permanent home for our museum.



In addition, we will have some special planters of annuals in unusual containers as well as deck planters and hanging baskets of geraniums.

Current museum members will have the opportunity to view and to shop at 8:30 AM the day of the sale. The general public will not be able to shop until 9:00.

If you have any questions call Etta Hepner, chair of the plant sale, (509) 493-3228 and leave a message. If you have plants to donate and no pots to put them in, one of us will pick them up and get them ready for the sale.

Support this great event to benefit your museum. Our goal is to raise \$2,500.

Save this day, June 11th for a yard sale at the museum

Heir Apparent

Continued from last Newsletter

Your family doesn't have to be rich or famous for your artifacts to be interesting, but you can take steps to make them more attractive to a potential recipient. Consider a variety of organizations, and review their missions and collections policies. Aim to make your contributions a good fit. Look beyond your local town museum to consider county, state, regional or national historical societies or museums; military, organizational and occupational museums; churches; clubs; and schools. The library where your dad enjoyed reading to preschoolers, for example, might want his piano for the community room, or it might be happy to sell the instrument and use the funds to purchase books in his memory.

When proposing a donation to an organization, follow these suggestions:

- Write a brief description of the item, including dimensions. Be honest about its condition; note where it's been stored and if it's been well-cared for or become slightly damaged. If parts have been replaced or restored, make note of it.
- Explain anything you know about where it came from and how it came into your family. This statement of provenance is essential in establishing historical value.
- Include a photograph. Place the item in good natural light and snap several photos. Include the best image with your description.
- Be prepared to wait. Many museums are staffed by volunteers who evaluate donations proposals only periodically.

As a donor, you may be asked to have items appraised for tax purposes, and sign release forms transferring ownership and rights to the museum. Most institutions also welcome a donation of funds to offset the cost of caring for your gift.

You might have been gifted with one box of family treasures or an entire houseful of stuff, but your family inheritance can be thoughtfully winnowed to a manageable size - and the heirs left confident that they respectfully cared for

the estate. By thinking like an archivist and following these guidelines, you'll preserve the treasures, extract important family history information, and thoughtfully dispose of the chaff.

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Trivia Questions

1. When did Columbia State Bank come to White Salmon?
2. Who was Whitson Elementary School named for?
3. Who owned the White Salmon Warf Company?
4. Who was the only soldier from White Salmon killed in WWI?
5. Who was Henkle Middle School named for?
6. Where was the first county seat of Klickitat County located temporarily?
7. Who started the White Salmon Valley State Bank in 1904?

Quilt Class

Sat. April 16, 9 AM – 4PM

@ the museum.

Cost \$25 - Call 493.3228 for details

The Board of Trustees meets the 4th Wednesday of each month except Nov. and Dec. when it meets on the 3rd Wed.

Compiled by Mary A. Kapp

One Hundred years Ago from 1911 issues of the White Salmon Enterprise Newspaper

March 3

John Smithson and Harvey Humphreys went to Husum Monday to string wires on poles leading to White Salmon.

(Advertisement) For first class horse-shoeing go to O.C. Groshong, White Salmon, Wash.

March 10

The pupils of the school at Bristol waited several hours in vain for their teacher, Miss Elsie McCullough, 18 years old, to come and call school one day recently. It seems that the young lady had taken the wrong trail and wandered off towards Lyle. The snow was deep, and she became bewildered. Some of the men from the sawmill started in search and finally found her in an almost exhausted condition.

(From Burdoin Heights) Canyon hill is in a dangerous condition on account of ice. Mr. Gladder had quite a serious time of it one day last week. A score of teams slipped on the icy road and one or two of them went over the bluff.

(Advertisement) One dollar Fare to Portland- lowest rates, fastest time- via The Dalles City.

March 24

On the 17th day of March John C. Murphy, who runs the feed store in the Byrnett Building on Jewett Ave., said to Mr. Byrnett, "Let's do something in remembrance of the day; let's put a watering trough in front of the building so the horses that pull up the hill can get a drink and rest." "I second that," said R.A., and go you one better. Let's make a place in the back yard and under the feed store where the ranchers can unhitch and feed their teams." No sooner said than a carpenter was put to work to carry out both ideas, which partly

meets a need of long standing, as well as being a humane act.

Trivia Answers

1. Nov 14, 1916 until Aug 8, 1939 when it became Security State Bank
2. Hulan Whitson, principal
3. Rudolph Lauterbach and his son Bill
4. Evan Childs
5. Dr. Wayne Henkle
6. In a farm house at what is now Dallesport for 20 years.
7. J. Carleton Lewis located in Wolford's store



WKCHS Treasurer Etta Hepner at the silent auction table

Valentine Family Ball

A dance was held on February 12 at the Mt. Adams Grange Hall. A profit of \$623 was earned for the museum building fund. Proceeds from silent auction items contributed \$378 of that amount. Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser.

How to help the West Klickitat County Historical Society

As you may already know, the President signed into law The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010. This bill restores the IRA Charitable Rollover for 2010 and permits its use in all of 2011.

The act is retroactive to January 1, 2010, so donors who previously made 2010 IRA rollovers will qualify.

The principal rules for direct transfers from an IRA to the West Klickitat County Historical Society are:

- the IRA owner must be 70 or older, and
- the IRA transfer can be no more than \$100,000 each year.

It must be to a public charity either outright or for a specific purpose, but may not be to a donor advised fund or supporting organization. The transfer is made directly from a trustee to the West Klickitat County Historical Society.

Rollovers for the 2011 tax year must be made by 12/31/2011.

An easy way to start an IRA Charitable Rollover is to send an e-mail or letter to your IRA Custodian. This is usually a financial services company that manages your IRA. Please check their website for the correct address. If you use this sample, please enter your account number and the amount of rollover in the blanks.

Dear IRA Custodian,

The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010, effective from Jan. 1, 2010 to Dec. 31, 2011, permits a rollover directly from an IRA to a qualified public charity. As the owner of IRA account # _____ that is in the custody of your organization, I request that you transfer from that account the sum of \$ _____ to West Klickitat County Historical Society, PO Box 394, Bingen, WA 98605. The Treasury Tax ID Number for the West Klickitat County Historical Society is 91-1288395.

It is my intention to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to the West Klickitat County Historical Society from my IRA, which may fulfill part or all of my IRA required minimum distribution for this year.

This letter is sufficient authorization for you to make this QCD gift. However, if you require any further documents, please promptly send those to me.

Cordially yours,

IRA Owner

Thank you for your ongoing interest in West Klickitat County Historical Society/Gorge Heritage Museum and its programs.

[Please consult your tax advisor on how this new law affects your own individual situation.]

Frederic Homer Balch
Author of "The Bridge of the Gods" By
Gertrude Balch Ingalls.

As printed in Pacific Monthly December 1900

One of the most vivid of my early recollections is of an older brother whose almost inseparable companion was a book, usually some volume of ancient history. Every moment that was his own and the winter evenings far into the night found him with his beloved book. At that time literature was a luxury in the majority of Oregon homes. Yet the scanty libraries of the frontier held volumes that afforded many hours of unmixed delight in the 12-year-old boy. This from his own hand writing: "One book – Macaulay's Essays – I read again and again; how those rapid, picturesque, richly colored narrative and criticisms fascinate me. Milton enlivened me, and my tears fell fast on the last pages of "David Copperfield.

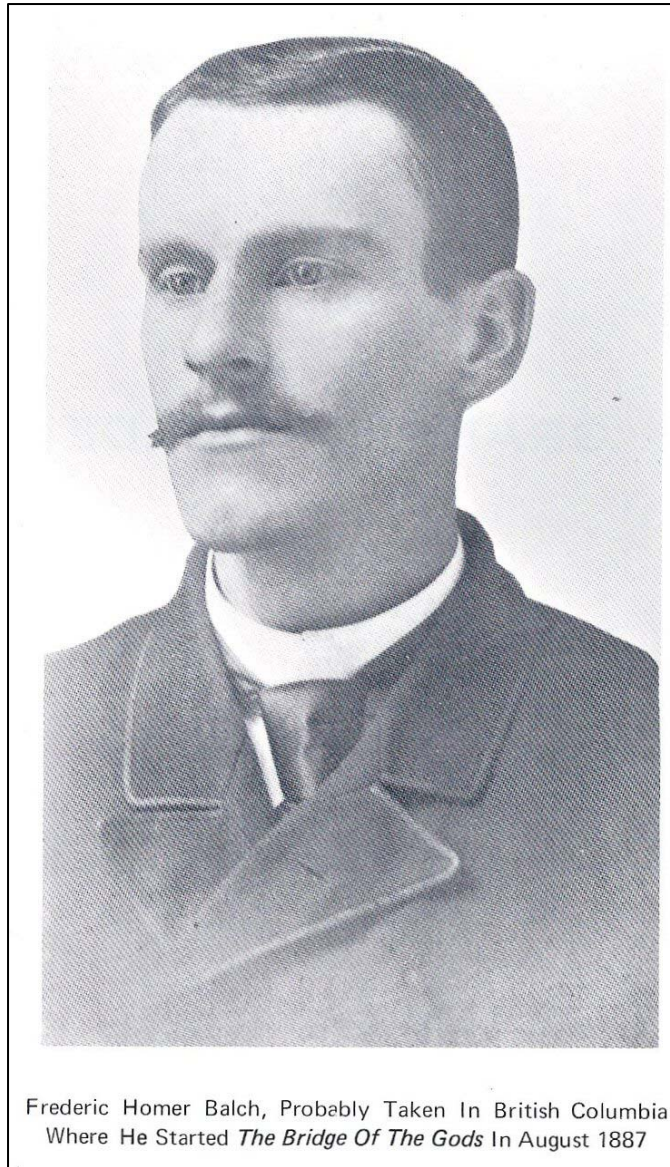
When all available books had been read he would carefully and lovingly go through them again and again. Lovingly, I say, for few love their friends as he did his books. All his life he would deny himself luxuries- almost necessities in fact-that some longed-for volume might become his own cherished possession, and his gifts to friends almost invariably were in the form of some choice book.

At the very early age he resolved to become an author, and as the years went by they only added to the strength of this resolution. From that time on he wrote almost constantly-essays, pomes and historical compositions, but, the work so seldom coming up to the mark

set by himself, he would destroy almost as rapidly as he composed.

Born in Oregon, he loved his native state with all the fervor of his intense nature. I quote again: "To make Oregon as famous as Scott made Scotland: to make the Cascades as widely known as the Highlands; the Santiam like the Ayer of Tweed; to make the splendid scenery of the Willamette the background for romance full of passion and grandeur, grew more and more into the one central ambition of my life"

His first historical romance was completed in his eighteenth year. Three more years were spent studying and writing, when he became convinced of the truths of Christianity. With this new element came the conviction that he must enter the ministerial field. But his book that had cost many months of study and research and that had meant so much to the young author, was interwoven with skeptical beliefs and theories that had no place in the life he had now chosen. So with the resolution that was on of his strongest characteristics and that many who knew him best, thing he was unconsciously reproduced in Cecil Grays, the hero of "The Bridge of the Gods," he put behind him the work of years and burned his beloved manuscripts.



It was a veritable sacrifice and something of that spirit must have been imparted to those around him for I, a mere child at the time, sobbed and cried as the flames curled around the leaves and reduced them to ashes. He now

threw himself into the double work with all the intensity of his nature, and gave none of it up until the call came to him to lay all earthly cares aside.

Still writing of and for Oregon, his duties as a Home Missionary now took him into so many different homes, among all classes of people. That his search for new material to use in his writings was being constantly rewarded. Now meeting the half-breed Indians, thence to the loggings camps of the sound, where gathered some of the wildest and most reckless of our coast, then back to the refined homes of those of his own dearly loved church, and with it all the unchanging grandeur of our western scenery, keeping ever before him his ambition to make the name of the state he loved known among all men

No opportunity was ever lost of gathering information from the Indians, more especially those who were very aged, of the customs and traditions handed down for many years in each tribe.

His search for information was very thorough, and he had no doubt wherever of the natural bridge that at one time spanned the Wauna, of Columbia, the Indian tradition on which "The Bridge of the Gods" is founded.

At last beginning to feel the need of rest and change, he went to Oakland, California to take a theological course. The change might have prove a benefit could he have laid aside his pen for a time, but it seemed as if he could not, as if he must write. Still revising what had been written, and noting, studying, jotting down thoughts, plots, ideas that were constantly coming to him he allowed himself little time for recreation.

He loved all things beautiful, and would listen for hours at a time to the music of Beethoven and Chopin. Many of his best thoughts came to him while under the inspiring influence of music, and while it inspired it was soothing and restful. The second year in college the overtaxed frame gave way and the weary student came back to Oregon to see if he could not regain his health by laying all tasks aside and taking the rest so long needed. His desire to live was very strong, for his whole soul was in his work, and every energy was bent toward securing the health necessary to again take up

the task he had set for himself. But it was not to be, The master had said "come" and he quietly and uncomplainingly laid down the hopes and plans of a lifetime, the realization of which seemed just opening up before him, and said to his mother who had been called on for her last earthly sacrifice: "All is right: God has work for me elsewhere that I could not do here."

The plans and outlines for at least six books for which material had been gathered with infinite care and study, the earnest desire to preserve history and traditions for those yet to come, who shall love our Oregon and her past, a not less strong desire to uplift the fallen and comfort the afflicted-all and comfort the afflicted-all laid down incomplete at the age of 29: and yet is it a life incomplete? In our shortsightedness we cannot tell. WE can only say as he of whom we write always said when any one dear to him passed into the beyond: "He knows now the great secret of the hereafter."

Where was Wilkensheim? – Bill Manly

If you climbed in your car tomorrow and announced you were going to WILKENSHEIM, practically no one would know where you were going. But if you mounted your horse back in 1880 and made the same announcement, your neighbors would have no problem determining where you were headed.

Wilkensheim was the original name of Husum, named, no doubt, after Matthaues Wilken, the first Postmaster. But Wilkensheim didn't last very long. The post office was established Mar. 8, 1810 and discontinued Aug. 3, 1880. A short but happy life but maybe the name was too long.

The post office was re-established Nov. 30, 1880, but as Husum. The Husum post office has had almost as many lives as a cat. It was discontinued Feb. 10, 1882, re-established Sept. 19, 1898; discontinued Oct. 21, 1943 and re-established Jan. 16, 1947.

With the U.S. Postal Service (it still is a service, not a money-grubbing enterprise) fighting a rear-guard action against FAX, E-mail and a bewildering number of other

electronic means of instant communications, the Husum post office may be on the chopping block again.

Hopefully –if this comes up- action locally and nationally will prevent the Husum postoffice from going down the drain once more. But who knows? It might be resurrected again as Wilkensheim.

Note: This information is from official Post Office Department records, via the booklet, "Postmarked Washington", Klickitat, Benton and Franklin Counties edition, by Guy Reed Ramsay.

Current Membership March 2011

Rick & Sharon Allen
Jerry & Lois Baker
Henry Balsiger & Linnie Talman
Roy & Betty Barnes
Ken & Cindy Barstow
Shari & Eric Bosler
Berneice Biesanz
Wayne Carlock
Karalee Chabotte
Stuart Chapin
Doug & Brenda Charters
Bud & Jean Cuffell
Norman Dallas
Robert & Elsie Dickey
Linda Doherty
Jeffrey Elmer
Bernard & Beverly Elsner
Jim Farrell
Judy Farrell
Dorothy Franklin
Mary Ann & James Fritchey
Robert Glovka
Dan & Wanita Gordan
Kabe & Roberta Grant
James Grigg & Kimberly Berry
OJ Hecomovich
Charles & Della Henderson
Dorothy Henkle
Etta Hepner
Janet & Roger Holen
Frances Johnson
Jan Jones
Mary & Jack Kapp
Howard & Nancy Kinzey
Christian Kirch

Miriam & Randy Knowles
Peter & Lorrie Knowles
Steve Koenig
Gayle Krenz
Marjorie & Raymond Lafond
Edith Lange
Shaul & Catherine Levi
Gail Logan
William & Joyce Luebke
Mildred Lykens
William Manly Jr.
Anne Markgraf Ward
James & Melinda McCormick
Bonnie McDade
Mike & Priscella Mc Millen
Geneva Meyers
Jan Nelson
Karen Newell
Gini & Andy Nichols
Donald & Mary Ohnemus
James Patrick
Monte & Laura Pearson
Jim Randall
Kozen Sampson
Don Schaak
Elizabeth (Betty) Schmid
Robert & Lesli Schmid
Barbara Sexton
Russ & Lois Smith
John Shuman
Elaine Spencer
Rees & Eloise Stevenson
Wally & Priscilla Stevenson
Michael & Sally Stillman
Mary Stolt
Judith Tebbs
Krista Thie
Cam Thomas
Kathryn Thomas
Darlene Thompson
Jim & Pam Tindall
Zachery Tindall
John & Shirley Tyler
Bob & Sherry Van Alstine
Darold & Janet Ward
Jana & Rocky Webb
Ken & Kathy (Portner) Wilkes
Helen (Dallas) Woodings
Cheryl Mack
Sean & Kathryn Tackley

Gorge Heritage Museum

Print and mail this form with a check to:

West Klickitat County Historical Society
Gorge Heritage Museum
PO Box 394
Bingen, WA 98605

Web Site:

<http://community.gorge.net/ghmuseum/>

Museum Admission

Sixteen & older	\$5.00
Fifteen & under w/Adult	Free
WKCHS members	Free

Museum memberships are available as follows:

Individual	\$20
Family	\$35
Supporting	\$100
Business	\$100
Life Member	\$1000

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Membership \$ _____ Phone _____

Gift/Donation \$ _____

Total \$ _____

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