

Blue Mountain Heritage Society

Dedicated to preserving the diverse history of south eastern Washington

Newsletter

2014 BMHS Officers

Co-Presidents:

Tara Brenner and Elizabeth Thorn

Secretary:

Samantha Edwards

Treasurer:

Randy Barton
Justin Jording, asst.

Directors:

Brian Black
Justin Jording
Shellie McLeod
Karen Thronson

Newsletter Production Crew:

Elizabeth Thorn
Diane Longanecker

The Palus Museum



426 East Main Street
Dayton, Washington

Visit Both BMHS Museums!

Fridays 1 pm to 4 pm

Saturdays 1 pm to 4 pm

March – December

Or Year Round By Appointment Call:

Elizabeth Thorn

(509)382-4820

Smith Hollow School



113 North Front Street
Dayton, Washington

Blue Mountain Heritage Society

ANNUAL MEETING

Soup Supper & Program:
"Art of Flint Knapping"

- Friday, Dec 12 – 5:30 pm
- Delany Building, Dayton

Smith Hollow School Celebrates First Year!

Christmas Kickoff 2014 marked one full year of the school's operation as a museum. Guest response has been, "WOW! Incredible!"

People love the restoration which brings back fond memories, especially if they attended a one room school. Kids love the classroom atmosphere and gravitate to write and draw on the slate wall blackboards then do fun activities at the old desks. The gallery in the rebuilt addition currently features photographs of the school's move to town and restoration progress. The before and after contrast is stunning.

Success has also brought new exhibit donations. Check out the display of "8th Grade and High School Graduations Gifts" of bygone years, the stereoscope, antique pencil sharpener and other accessories.

Thank you! We really appreciate our volunteers! It's been a diversified team effort. We especially thank our gracious docents who greet visitors: Dallas Dickinson, Katie Leid, Roz Edwards, Judy Munden, Glenn Hagfeldt, John Hutchens, Mike McQuary, Karen Thronson, Samantha Edwards, plus Kathryn Tapio, Valerie Kerr, Tara Lorang and other home school parents. Then there are the dirt movers and Duane Dunlap who keeps an eagle eye on



The Wheatley family enjoys "recitation" time at the Smith Hollow School.

the building and fills in as a docent, Larry Fairchild who built recitation and boot benches and Claudia Nysoe who painted the antique washstand and medicine cabinet.

Thank you, donors! Your generosity allows the school to be open and thrive.

The DHS Class Challenge was a roaring success in 2013 and continues as a way to support the Smith Hollow School. General donations and the 2014 and 2015 class challenge funds will be directed toward meeting the Sherwood Trust matching grant to establish a building maintenance reserve fund. Details are provided on the report card and the donation form enclosed.

News at the Palus Museum

The Palus annex is devoted to a new expanded homestead exhibit. It includes original drawings by Wes Hoskins for his book *An Organic Childhood* and a variety of items settlers used and created to ease and beautify their lives.

The Palus main exhibit building features "Life on the Palus Plateau." In November, the exhibit was divided into four learning stations and 70 second and third graders toured the

Palus. Thank you museum guides Lori Tapio (hunting and fishing), Valerie Kerr (food gathering and preparation), Lani Deck (archaeology dig and necklace making) and Elizabeth Thorn (homes and clothing). We also thank the Palus Museum's regular docents Brian Black, Tara Brenner, Randy

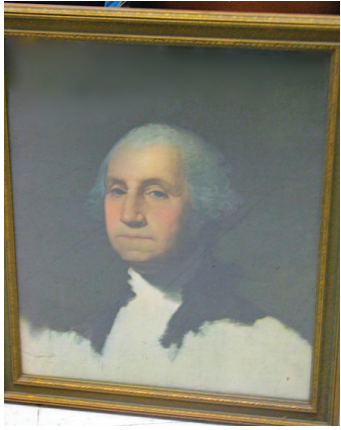
Barton Elizabeth Thorn, Rose Engelbrite, Dave Stark, Karen Thronson, Susan Little, Glenn Hagfeldt, and Alex Eaton.

The Smith Hollow School and Palus Museums will be closed from December 20th until March 2015. For visits by appointment: call Elizabeth at 509-382-4820



Where's Abe?

There must be a schoolhouse portrait of Abraham Lincoln left in the county somewhere. Help us find it!



George Washington portrait from Huntsville school donated by Claudia Hopwood.



A slate chalkboard wall completes the Smith Hollow School classroom restoration.



Larry Fairchild pointing out square nail holes in benches he built of recycled local barn wood.

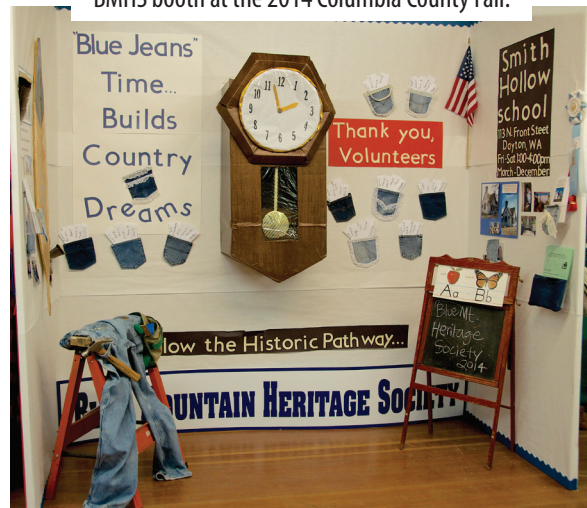


Take a worldwide tour by Stereoscope! Donated by Maria Dingle in memory of Bert Dingle.



The original Smith Hollow School bell donated by Connie Ramsey now graces the school yard thanks to Columbia REA, City Lumber, Jim McCary, Dayton Tractor & Machine, and Duane Dunlap.

BMHS booth at the 2014 Columbia County Fair.



2013-14 BMHS Intern Diane Patton putting Liz Carson's donated research into protective sleeves for the Smith Hollow School archives.



A layer of top soil was added to the rocky school grounds thanks to Dayton Tractor & Machine, Hutchens Farms, Bill Blessinger, and Double D Farms.

Noxious weeds are being eradicated to prepare for planting natural grasses and flowers.



Part of the "Homestead" exhibit at the Palus Museum annex.