

2016 BMHS Officers

President:
Paula Moio

Vice-President:
John Hutchens

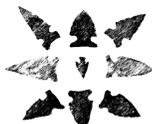
Secretary:
Dallas Dickinson

Treasurer:
Mary Harri

Directors:
Rose Engelbrite
Barbara Carlton

Newsletter - 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

April – November

Or Year Round By Appointment Email:
bluemountainheritage@gmail.com

Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse



113 North Front Street
Dayton, Washington

Blue Mountain Heritage Society

— Board Meets Monthly —

• 2nd Thursday – 9:00 am

• Palus Museum Annex
Dayton, Washington

*Everyone is
Welcome!*

Exciting Things Happening to Preserve Our Past!

Preserving local history is our mission. Current BMHS projects include digitalizing 37 reels of film footage, compiling area historical information into book form, and scanning and making searchable thousands of pages of local genealogical research. The goal of all these projects is to make our area's history more accessible. We are well on the way!

The film footage from the 1920s to the 1940s shows people, celebrations, agriculture, wildlife, and so much more. These moving pictures capture an era from our past of hard work, family unity, and strong community spirit—traits that hold our community together today and will carry us into the future. To date, we have had two preview showings of the films: one at our Annual Soup Dinner in December, the other took place during the Ground Hog Sausage Fest in February.

Norm Dull and Jean Nelson have done a remarkable job and we are very proud to be a part of this project. The digitization process is nearly complete, and we look forward to having the footage available in an electronic format for everyone to see. Stay tuned for more news on the release of these remarkable films featuring Dayton and the local area!

The Blue Mountain Heritage Society is also actively involved in producing a multi-volume set of books on Columbia County History. The process has been in the works for a couple of years. We hope to go to print with the first volume sometime in 2016 or early 2017. Contributing authors for the first volume include former area locals

and Bill Lyman. Additionally, there will be information about the early settlements and area towns. Volume II of the series is scheduled to feature special places, agriculture, historical homes, and other items of historic interest. Volume III will focus on spotlighting family histories of the area.

Another exciting project is the scanning and digitalization of a large collection of genealogical research and historical reference material. For many years, Liz Carson dedicated untold hours to compiling information on hundreds of area families. The result is an absolute treasure trove of history.

In order to make the information more accessible to the public, we are in the process of scanning the documents and will be eventually posting them on the Blue Mountain Heritage Society website for quick and easy reference. In the meantime, the notebooks are available to view in Dayton at the Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse from April through November on Fridays and Saturdays from 1 pm to 4 pm, or by appointment by emailing bluemountainheritage@gmail.com.



Vintage film footage being digitized by Norm Dull and Jean Nelson includes this scene with Kevin Carson, Lee Lyman, two unidentified young ladies holding turkeys in front of the city clerk's office in Waitsburg.

BMHS - President's Message

The Blue Mountain Heritage Society operates 100% on volunteers—with the steadfast support of our members and our community. Our recent activities include the Ground Hog Sausage Fest, Spring Bingo, Spring Clean Up Projects, and the Dayton

High School Class Challenge.

With each endeavor, I am continually amazed at how people step up to make sure everything that needs to get done does get done!

Members, event supporters, donors, museum docents, directors, officers, maintenance committee members, the

“behind-the-scenes” supporters as well as the “front-and-center” volunteers are all an integral part of what makes our organization strong.

As a result, everyone involved owns a piece of our success. And I sincerely thank each and every one of you!

Paula Moisis, President BMHS

News Briefs

Spring Clean Up 2016 – Earlier this spring, BMHS volunteers came together for an old-fashioned work party! Within hours, the Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse exterior had been washed, repairs made, window wells installed, gravel placed, blackboards cleaned, desks



polished, windows washed, and so much more! Additionally, the same work was being done at the Palus Museum.

Thanks goes out to all of the volunteers who came together for Spring Clean Up—what a great showing of community spirit!

A Prairie Look – For many months, volunteers have been diligently at work on the Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse grounds. This spring we see the fruits of their labors! Gone are the barren areas and patches of puncture vine. In their place is a cacophony of prairie grasses and colorful wild flowers. If you travel by the school and think the grounds look a little unkempt and prairie like, we have succeeded in our goal of providing a country-like setting for our country schoolhouse. We can certainly appreciate the dedication of our landscape volunteers!



At the Palus Museum – With its fresh layout and updated displays, the Palus offers something very special to enjoy. Located



across from Dayton's flag memorial on Main Street, the museum features an extensive array of arrowheads, Indian artifacts, bronzes, and pictures. So, treat yourself to a “local getaway” —go out for lunch, stop by the Palus Museum, the Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse, the Dayton Depot, and the Boldman House. Take advantage of the same opportunity that out-of-town visitors travel many miles to come and enjoy!

Newspaper Story – Columbia County has had an active newspaper since 1874, when the



Dayton News was established. It later changed names to become the *Columbia Chronicle*, then the *Columbia Dispatch*. In 1957, the paper took up its current name, *Dayton Chronicle*. Recently, the *Dayton Chronicle* moved operations to a new location on Dayton's Main Street, which meant cleaning out years and years of printing

paraphernalia! The Blue Mountain Heritage Society was lucky to receive many items that document the printing history in Columbia County. Come view them on display in the exhibit area of the Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse.

Family History Abounds! – Recently, BMHS acquired a remarkable donation from a local family. Howard and Marian Whipple were residents of Dayton since 1960, when Howard came to work at the train depot in Dayton. Now,



their daughters have graciously allowed BMHS the opportunity to preserve items that help tell the Whipple family's story. Also provided were “the-rest-of-the-story” information, which enables us to make each item more personal when putting together a display. Donated items include the P-Jacket Howard Whipple was issued in 1944 upon entering the Navy, his Seabees handbook, steam trunks, office machines, typewriters, vinyl records, a record player, tools, and vintage toys. The items are featured in the Palus Annex and are available for special showings. Special thanks to Jean Whipple and Ann Sehmel for their generosity.

— NOTICE —

For the remainder of 2016, the monthly (2nd Thursday, 9:00 am) BMHS Board of Directors meetings will take place at the Palus Museum Annex, 426 E Main, Dayton.