

DHS Class Challenge and Grant Update

The **Class Challenge** Report Card mailed out in March reveals 2011 was the best year ever for this fun way to help finance the Smith Hollow School Restoration. Seventy-nine individuals from 48 classes are represented so far.

To those who have already contributed in 2012, *thank you very sincerely.*

If your class has a reunion this year, how about challenging your classmates to match your donation and become the 2012 class winner?!

Here's a great idea from Vern and Peggy Coverdale, Class of 1956: Each month they send a nice contribution. Every dollar counts and it all adds up.

We have reached a stage where volunteers can help with a lot of the restoration. However, we continue to need dollars for materials such as primer, paint, floor finishing, fixtures, and miscellaneous supplies. We also need to replenish our coffers.

Grant News: We are happy to announce that BMHS has been awarded \$1,000 from the *Valerie Sivinski Fund* administered by the Washington Department of Historic Preservation to refurbish the schoolroom windows and doors. This is a reimbursement grant so the money will only be received after the work has been completed and paid for by BMHS. To date, all grants and

individual donations received have been used for the restoration. Many grants also require proof of public support to qualify for matching funds and look at the dollars currently available in the bank to determine eligibility.

Let's get it done! We are very close. Please help us keep the school's restoration momentum going by sending in your special donation today. Honor and Memorial Gifts are a meaningful way to remember and recognize a friend or family member. For your convenience, a membership, class challenge and gift form is enclosed along with a return envelope. *We appreciate your support!*

Vintage Quilt Drawing Prize is a Family Affair

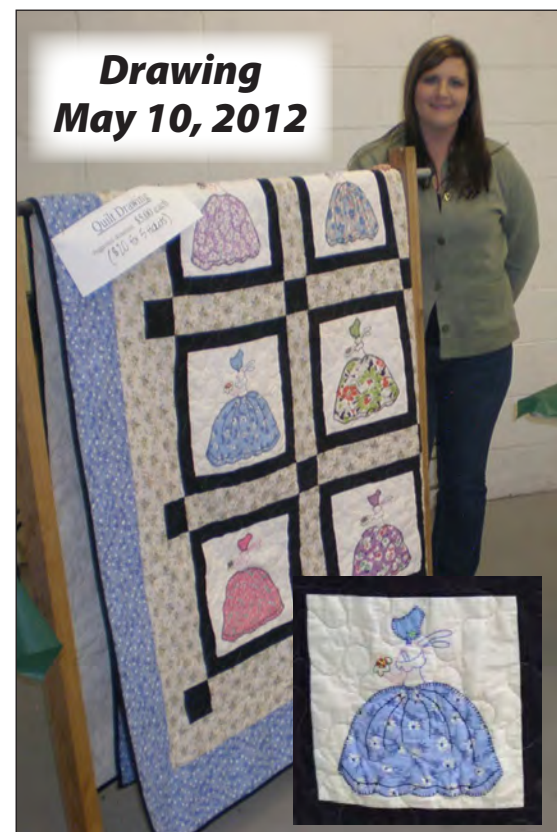
Mandy Butler loves to quilt. So, when her grandmother gave her 20 hand-appliquéd, embroidered squares for a "Colonial Lady" patterned quilt top, Mandy and her mom

Paula Moisio hatched the idea to offer a finished quilt as a fundraiser. Contemporary fabric to turn the 1930s era pieces into a comforter was donated by Paula. Mandy then generously donated her time and talent to stabilize the blocks, frame the squares, pad and back the top, and machine quilt the entire piece. This beautiful quilt will fit a full or queen size bed.

Each "Colonial Lady" is a charmer and together they are gorgeous! You can view the quilt now at the Dayton Chamber of Commerce then at the Wenaha Galley and the Village Shoppes. Tickets are \$5.00 each or five for \$20.00. Return by mail or you may purchase tickets at the quilt location, Palus Museum or from any BMHS board member. Act now to win this truly one-of-a-kind heirloom bed cover!

Volunteer!

BMHS can use your help. Become a Palus Museum Docent, do school restoration work, or help with mailings, etc. Call Elizabeth at 509-382-4820.



Mandy Butler shows off the one-of-a-kind heirloom you can win!

(School - continued from page 1)

pot bellied stove donated by Tom and LaVerne Bruce in the original location.

Speaking of furnishings, donations include old style lights, student desks in a variety of sizes, a teacher's desk and an assortment of books. Still needed are slate wall blackboards, pull down map case, portraits of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln and a school clock.

Back outside, Carl Rowe will be shaping up the earth berms and grounds. Then an able-bodied crew will pick rocks (want to help?) and sow a native low growing grass and wildflower mix.

Our biggest single expense will be the heating and cooling system estimated at around \$10,000. At least \$22,000 is needed to keep on track for a fall 2012 opening.

But, just think! A year ago a pathetic little box sat on BMHS property by the river. Now it's a thrill to see how much the Smith Hollow School restoration will enhance Columbia County's historic legacy. Thanks again for all your help! *Keep it coming!!*

2012 BMHS Officers

President:
Karen Thronson

Vice President:
Karla Boggs

Secretary:
Jacque Sonderman

Treasurer:
Paula Moisio

Directors:
Brian Black
Rose Engelbrite
Juanita Hoffman
Elizabeth Thorn
Owen Agenbroad

Newsletter Production Crew:

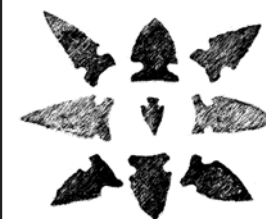
Jacque Sonderman, Elizabeth Thorn,
Diane Longanecker

The Palus Artifact Museum

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



426 East Main Street
Dayton, Washington

Blue Mountain Heritage Society

• Meets Monthly
(except August)
• 2nd Thursday – 9:00 am
• Delany Building, Dayton
*Everyone is
Welcome!*



Local contractor Jim McCary has:

- rebuilt the addition • roofed and shingled the entire structure
- returned the front door and window to their original position
- repaired the siding where the front door and chimney had been.

Smith Hollow School Progress

A huge **thank you** to all those who rose to the BMHS challenge in December for matching funds. Thanks to your generosity, we met our year-end goal and are happy to report that the Washington Department of Historic Preservation grant money arrived in early March to reimburse contract expenses.

Meanwhile, local contractor Jim McCary has done a tremendous amount of work to the entire structure, including the installation of a handicap access ramp.

Volunteer Michael Haight beautifully refurbished the original addition windows.

The cupola, which once served as a ventilation shaft (never a bell tower), is now sitting on a solid roof. The original louvered vents and new eave vents will fully ventilate the attic. (Insulation will rest on the interior ceiling for efficient heating and cooling.)

McCary will finish trim work on the exterior, then volunteers will scrape, prime and paint the school. It's going to look **sharp!** The asphalt shingles closely resemble the original cedar look, yet they are far more economical—more cost effective to install,

maintain, and reduce the fire insurance rating/premium.

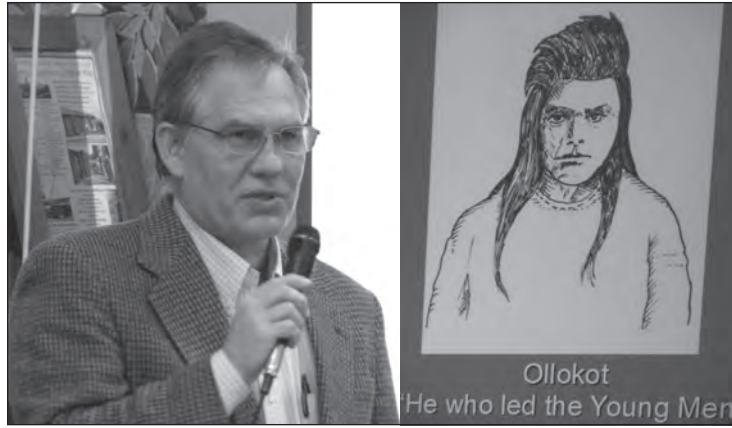
Utilities are installed to the building: Columbia REA generously donated a chunk of the electrical service installation cost and Dayton city water and sewer lines are in.

Next up is interior work. Interior wiring and plumbing remain. The old utilitarian sink from Harmony Home Ec Club days will be reused in the handicap restroom and the funky old exterior lights will be placed at the front and back doors.

For now, classroom walls will be patched and painted rather than papered. Good news is that the original fir flooring is in excellent shape so it will be refinished.

McCary will sheetrock the walls and ceiling of the addition plus the classroom ceiling at its original height. There were three different ceilings installed during the lifetime of the school. Evidence at the earliest and highest ceiling level shows a wood stove pipe exited from the center of the classroom. We are excited about installing the gorgeous restored

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Kevin Carson next to his drawing of Ollokot, Chief Joseph's younger brother.

BMHS Annual Meeting a Hit

This year the BMHS annual meeting began with a soup supper social. It was a huge success! Forty plus members and guests enjoyed the festive atmosphere at the Dayton Legion Hall on December 5, 2011. Seven savory soups along with rolls and home baked cookies disappeared quickly as people visited prior to a brief business meeting and thought provoking program.

President Karen Thronson distributed the written 2011 annual report and conducted the election of officers: President Karen Thronson, Vice-President Karla Boggs, Treasurer Paula Moisio, Secretary Jacque Sonderman, Directors Owen Agenbroad, Brian Black, Rose Engelbrite, Juanita Hoffman, and Elizabeth Thorn.

Featured program speaker, Kevin Carson (DHS 1976), shared anecdotes gleaned while writing his recently released book *The Long Journey of the Nez Perce*. Slides of old photographs and Kevin's own drawings illustrated some of the principle people and places of the Nez Perce War of 1877 as well as local involvement.

Several Palus Indian bands supported Chief Joseph's refusal to move onto a reservation while many area settlers volunteered to serve in a military unit charged with seeing they did. The volunteer group later evolved into the first National Guard unit in the northwest. Meanwhile, Dayton served as both an essential communication link and supply station for the US troops. Yes, politics, intrigue and petty personal disputes occurred 135-150 years ago. But, compassion, dedication and courage were also abundantly shown during the times of unrest.

— Palus Museum News —

A new exhibit entitled "Two Cultures Meet During a Dramatic Century of Change" is now open at the Palus. It summarizes Palus Indian life during the skirmish and treaty cycles of the 1800s. Featured are period weaponry, Carson drawings, and a model of Fort Taylor, which was built at the mouth of the Tucannon River.

Groundhog Fest

It was dark and chilly on January 28th when we opened the doors of the Youth Building at the Columbia County Fairgrounds. But, hearts were warmed and spirits rose as the crowd was greeted by the tantalizing aroma of the outstanding sausage dinner and desserts awaiting them. Yes, our 5th Annual Groundhog Day celebration was underway.

During dinner, we were treated to folk songs such as "Jimmy Cracked Corn" and "Old Susanna" by Waitsburg youth who call themselves the "Barnstormers"—Emma Philbrook, Sam Philbrook, and Katie Warren.

Drawing winners for four themed gift baskets (created by Paula Moisio) were Jim McCary, Mandy Butler, Rose Engelbrite and Tara Brenner.

Tickets were also sold for a lovely "Colonial Lady" vintage quilt. Drawing tickets have been included with this newsletter. Return yours soon as the drawing is coming up on May 10th—which will be just in time for Mother's Day!

Guest speaker for the evening was award-winning historical re-enactor Gary Lentz. A retired Lewis & Clark Trail State Park Ranger, Lentz wore period clothing while portraying David Douglas, the English horticulturist for whom the Douglas Fir tree is named. Douglas wandered around the Northwest from 1825-1827.

Lentz, using 19th century specimen preservation techniques, has sought, found, and preserved many of the same local plants, flowers and trees. By sharing these, he provided an entertaining and insightful account of early botanical research inspiring us to get out into the wilderness and appreciate these beautiful treasures ourselves.

On February 2nd, Dayton's groundhog "Rock Hill Rocky" saw his shadow. But those additional six weeks of winter are now behind us. We are grateful to those who attended our January fund-raiser and to the volunteers who baked, cooked, set up, served, and cleaned up... Colorful tickets and flyers Diane Longanecker... Dinner ticket sales BMHS board members and Candy Jones of Village Shoppes... Table



Gary Lentz, took on the role of *David Douglas*, an English horticulturist who wandered the Northwest from 1825-1827. Jacque Sonderman (insert) holds a sketch of Douglas for whom the Douglas Fir was named.

decorations Elizabeth Thorn... Super Kitchen Crew Brian Black, Wes Leid, Doug Hines, Zella Powers... Famous Rolls, Roland Schirman... Delicious Pies Jacque Sonderman, Elizabeth Thorn,



Laura Peterson, Paula Moisio, Genie Crowe... Drawing Ticket sales Diana Black, Jan Agenbroad... Prep & Set up, Brian Black, Owen Agenbroad, Jacque Sonderman... Serving and clean up Nathan Riley, Paul Franzman,

Eric Thorn, and Rose Engelbrite.

2012 Spring Bingo Sponsors

Ag Link (formally Columbia County Farm Bureau) • AmericanWest Bank • Charles Amerein • Applebee's • Banner Bank • Betty's Diner • Blue Mountain Chiropractic - Terry Steinhoff • Blue Mountain Heritage Society/Palus Museum • Laura Boylan, Massage • Broughton Land Company • Cedar's Restaurant • City Lumber & Coal Yard • Columbia REA • Convenient Care - Kitsy Casseday • Coppei Café • Creative Designs • Croft's • Dayton Liquor Store/ Karen Hoyle • Dayton Tractor • Dayton Veterinary Clinic • Zonia Dedloff • Dingles • East Benton County Historical Society Museum • Elk Drug • Fiesta En Jalisco • Fraternal Order of Eagles • Hammerdown Fitness • Inland Cellular • Jacci's Yarn Basket • Jimgerman Bar • Kyle's Truck & Towing • Liberty Theater • Lion's Club • Mace Mead Works • Main Street Salon • Manila Bay Restaurant • McGregor Company • Tammy Milligan • Nealey & Marinella • Norm Passmore • Nothing New Lodging • Pape Machinery • Patit Creek Restaurant • Patton & Associates • Ramos Roofing • Ray's Barber Shop • Ray's Drive Inn • Rock Hill Concrete • Rockin Z - Zonia Dedloff • Rooster's Brew • Royal Neighbors • Samuel Southard American Legion Post 35, Waitsburg • Seneca Seed • Ski Bluewood • Skyline Parts • Jacque Sonderman • State Farm Insurance - Bette Lou Crothers • Steve's Grocery • Michael Strang • Suffield's Furniture • Take Heart • TEMA • *The Times of Waitsburg* • Eric & Elizabeth Thorn • Trade Center • Thresher's (formally Woody's) • Tucannon Meats - Connie & Jim Westergreen (formerly Dayton Cut & Wrap) • Village Shoppes • Warren Orchards • Weinhard Café • Weinhard Hotel • Whoop 'em Up Café • Wenaha Gallery • Windemere Blue Mountain Realty • Acupuncture by Denise Lane • Tyhra Owen, Massage

Spring Bingo

On St. Patrick's Day folks of all ages arrived at the Dayton Elementary School for our 4th Annual Spring BINGO. Some toted canned goods for donation to the Dayton Food Bank in exchange for a BINGO floppy. All purchased BINGO boards. Thirty children were delivered to a playroom supervised by Samura Miller and



Boy Scouts: Zech Bryan, Tyler Abramson, Tom House, Matthew Warren, and Skylar Wood.

Kroft Sunderland. The kitchen did a brisk sale of refreshments throughout the event.

At exactly 4 o'clock Boy Scout Troop 332 presented the colors. All present stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Master of Ceremonies Chuck Amerein kept the games moving, while Andi Holmberg and Spring Bartlett drew and called out numbers.

Veterans wearing hats to depict the branch of the military in which they had served verified happy winners and scouts helped deliver prizes.

Thank you Bingo players for turning out to support our town! Besides providing an afternoon of fun and an opportunity to win a ham or prize package, SPRING BINGO supports many community organizations. For instance, event sponsors VFW #5540

and American Legion #41 maintain and update the Veterans Flag Memorial and the Blue Mountain Heritage Society operates the Palus Museum, maintains the Sacajawea bronze and is restoring the Smith Hollow School. In addition, the

Dayton Food Bank received four large boxes of food, and the Boy Scouts, 4-H and high-schoolers earned money for their projects. All the students experienced the value of teamwork to build community.

Thanks go out to the 76 cash and prize donors and to all 43 volunteers



Waitresses Josilyn Fullerton and Jennifer Warren.

who helped plan and oversee the event. Special thanks to Brian Black and his committee including: cashier Paula Moisio; kitchen crew Lori Dobbs,

Terry Hessler, and Zella Powers; table and floor crew John Hutchens, Jim Gallaher, Eric Thorn, and Bill Warren. It was a wonderful event!



Brian Black distributes BINGO cards.