WAGON WHEEL
August 2014

Duvall Historical Society · PO Box 385, Duvall, WA 98019 · www.duvallhistoricalsociety.org

Events

May through September
Dougherty House Sunday Open Houses The Dougherty house and grounds are open for drop-in visitors every Sunday from 1pm to 4pm, now through September 21st.

August 2nd
Historical Society Summer Picnic
The Tolt Historical Society has invited us to a summer picnic at the Carnation Tree Farm picnic area. Bring your family, chairs, and a dish to share. Beverages and utensils will be provided. The summertime picnic begins at 12 o’clock.

September 27th
Duvall Heritage Festival
Our biggest event of the year! Join us from 11am to 5pm at the Dougherty Farmstead for live entertainment and hands-on pioneer activities. Organized in collaboration with the Duvall Cultural Commission, this annual event is full of family fun.

October 6th
Guest Presentation
Architecture in the Valley
Beginning at 7:30pm, this special presentation will take us on a tour of local Valley architecture. See you at the Duvall Visitor and Centennial Center.

A Summer Picnic with the Tolt and Duvall Historical Societies

On Saturday, August 2nd, the Duvall Historical Society joined the Tolt Historical Society for a festive summer picnic. With food in hand, members gathered together at the tree farm in Carnation, coming from as far as Mukilteo to take part in the day. A brief rain squall attempted to interrupt the event, but the picnickers endured.

Duvall School Reunion – Class of 1936

By Ruth Bellamy

The 44th reunion picnic of the class of 1936 and friends of Duvall High School and Cherry Valley Schools was held July 12th at Taylor Landing in Duvall. Renewing school days friendship was the theme of the day. Six friends attending were over 90 years of age. Everyone enjoyed the many dishes of delicious food. Three small wild blackberry desserts completed the menu.

We are grateful to 4 culture, the King County Cultural Services Agency, for their support in the preservation of our heritage.
If I knocked on your front door at 3am and woke you from a dream, would you open without hesitation? Most people that I know would grab a baseball bat and peer through a side window until the person was identified. If police car lights were flashing onto surrounding trees and into your window you might be more inclined to open the door. Even still, the voice of a familiar relative calling your name would convince you to open it; in this case you might not hesitate at all. For me, making art and music is like answering an early morning knock on my front door.

First: the dream world.
Songs can be wild birds fallen down the stovepipe in an abandoned trailer home. Words are found in a pile of firewood stacked next to a rusted '49 Ford. The rhythm shows itself through an axe floating in mid air with an invisible person chopping to an occupational beat. A chorus sounds. A woman stands upright in a rowboat with fish and bacon frying on a bent car door on a hidden sandy cove between fir trees. What year is this?

Next: I wake up to a loud knock.

In my hands I’m holding a cane. The cane belongs to the oldest person I know. As I hold this object I can remember things from another lifetime. I can hear a clarinet and accordion playing tin-pan alley music from 1917. I start to sing the words, "Way up in the mountains, many miles from here..."

I walk to the front door and open it.

Suddenly the words from a hundred diaries speak to me all at once. I can't see anyone standing there but I can hear a whole crowd whispering high and low. I make out a short sentence, "And when he finally came down, Phil Hogan came up to the butt of the tree and fired him!" he said. "There were loggers sitting over there at that table and their language was terrible!" chuckled a woman's voice. "I remember my dad took me to the river once a year to watch the salmon go upstream," said a young girl.

Since 1989 I've been collecting music, stories and poetry of the Pacific Northwest and Snoqualmie Valley. Some of these cultural expressions find their way into my paintings. Both of my grandfathers and several uncles were wood carvers. I love to take the stories I've learned orally and carve them into wood. This is my family tradition on both sides. My mother’s family came to Seattle in the 1870's from Ireland. Layers of voices and histories find place in my visual art making. When I find an object with history, I incorporate its form into a larger composition. Music and words flow from this visual art. I write new music from the rusty parts of a chainsaw. My lyrics meld with the voice of an old woman but this time I add my own life stories. Old becomes new becomes new again and again.

You don’t have to be a longtime local to contribute to the preservation of history and heritage. To revitalize indigenous culture you don’t need Native American ancestry. Some of the most old-timey old timers I know are “hippies” that moved to Duvall in the 1970's. They live more like an 1880's farmer than true blue locals do. I’ve also met people with a great spiritual understanding of Salish culture. Some of them are German or French or Italian with no Native American relatives whatsoever. I’ve also met people who have only lived here for two years yet volunteer hundreds of hours of their time to the preservation of local history. Like my grandfather used to say, "Money is like a manure pile...if you don't spread it around it ain't worth a shit!"

I’ve also found that if we wait until just before the sun rises, our life and calling may come suddenly like a strange visitor in the dark, knocking on the door.
A Call for Ideas: What Would You Like to Know?

What aspects of local history would you like to learn about?

The Duvall Historical Society has received great feedback on community presentations held throughout the year. Recent topics have included a history of Cherry Valley Village (the village that became Duvall), a walk back in time as we revisited the Silver Spoon Café (a former Duvall favorite meeting spot and café), and the history of the Snoqualmie Valley meat industry.

We recently made the decision to increase the number of guest presentations held throughout the year, and we’d like to present topics that are of interest to you.

So – what would you like to know more about? Email us your ideas at webmaster@duvallhistoricalsociety.org.

Be Part of Historic Preservation, Volunteer!

We are sending out a call for volunteers to participate in the 2014 Duvall Heritage Festival. Held on Saturday, September 27th, the Duvall Historical Society and the Duvall Cultural Commission collaborate to put on this music-filled day of hands-on activities for kids and adults alike. Volunteers are welcomed for leading activities such as butter churning, apple peeling, arts and crafts, and clothes washing the old fashioned way. We also welcome those who’d like to help with setup and take-down of the event (music stage, tents, etc), and other parts of the day. We’d love to hear from you – simply email webmaster@duvallhistoricalsociety.org.

The Duvall Historical Society is also continuously looking for volunteers to help in its mission of recording and preserving culture. If you’d like to help with one of the opportunities below, or have an idea of your own, please contact us at webmaster@duvallhistoricalsociety.org.

- Dougherty House docent
- Website design
- Education and outreach
- Book publication
- Maintenance of buildings and gardens
- Cataloging of artifacts, books, and ephemera
- Promotion of Historical Society membership
- Planning of speakers and programs
- Research

Current Officers
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The Duvall Historical Society is located at the Dougherty House at 26526 NE Cherry Valley Road, Duvall, WA 98019

The Wagon Wheel is a monthly publication of the Duvall Historical Society

Editor: Beth Lepkowski

If you would like to receive a copy, be interviewed for a future edition, have something to share, or would like to be added to or removed from our emailing list, please email wagonwheeldhs@gmail.com
Become a Member!

Name(s): ______________________________________________________________________

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Amount Enclosed/Yearly Membership Dues (check one):

☐ $15 Individual Memberships  ☐ $5 Students 18 & Under  ☐ $250 Friends of DHS

Would you like to receive information about volunteer opportunities?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Thank you for your support! Please detach and mail this form to PO Box 385, Duvall, WA 98019