

# WAGON WHEEL

March 2013

Duvall Historical Society · PO Box 385, Duvall, WA 98019 · [www.duvallhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.duvallhistoricalsociety.org)

## Upcoming Events

**March 4<sup>th</sup>**

### **General Member Meeting**

A discussion of Historical Society business. Tove Burhen will also give a presentation on *Vignettes from Duvall's History*- a talk that's sure to be delightful. 7:30pm at the Duvall Visitor and Centennial Center.

**April 8<sup>th</sup>**

### **Guest Speaker: Greg Giuliani**

Come listen to Greg speak about early Snoqualmie Valley livestock raising and meat processing. He'll speak from his work experience in the local meat industry. 7:30pm at the Duvall Visitor and Centennial Center.

**May 6<sup>th</sup>**

### **General Member Meeting**

Join us for a discussion of Historical Society business. 7:30pm at the Duvall Visitor and Centennial Center.

### **May to September, Every Sunday Dougherty House Open House**

The Dougherty house will be open every Sunday from 1-4pm for drop-in visitors.

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

### **Dougherty House Open House**

A special Dougherty House open house event. Stay tuned for details.



**CULTURE**

*We are grateful to 4 culture, the King County Cultural Services Agency, for their support in the preservation of our heritage.*

## A Recap of February's Historical Society Meeting: Cherry Valley and Early Duvall Guest Speaker, Allen Miller



On Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, the Duvall Visitor and Centennial Center was packed for a talk by local author Allen Miller, who narrated the history of Cherry Valley village and the early town of Duvall.

The crowd learned about the first local schoolhouse built from a single cedar tree around 1875, as well as about the Dougherty sons' task of running down to open the swing bridge when the riverboats blew their whistles in the distance.

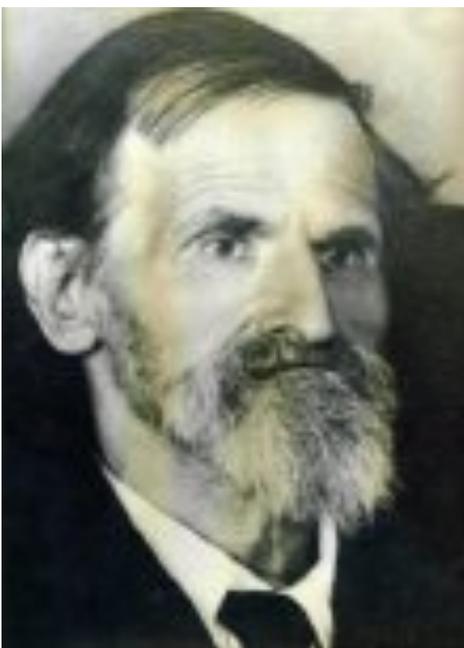
We learned of loggers riding logs down the river between logging camps, and saw a photo of the infamous Valley House where loggers entertained themselves on Saturday nights. We watched a train plow through the 1916 snowstorm (a storm that dropped 3 feet of snow on Duvall!), and saw the shingle mill that employed 40 people and ran night and day to produce power (it couldn't power everything though, so they had to ration the energy and different days were designated for different tasks). We learned that river log jams sometimes extended for 2 miles, and that it took roughly 6 weeks for the businesses to move from Cherry Valley Village to the new townsite of Duvall. And we also saw the Forest Inn- Duvall's fancy hotel that once sat near the bridge that today joins Main Street. Allen also told us about the Great Northern Railroad (the first railroad in the valley), showed us a picture of James Duvall himself (who the town was *(continued...)*)

*(February Meeting- Allen Miller, continued)*

named after), and told us about the Milwaukee line, which came 6 months after the Great Northern, squeezing its tracks between the Great Northern and the river, in order to get the business from the mills. And we discovered that the badge of working in a sawmill was lost fingers, and that the exact spot we were sitting in was the location of the first Duvall fire. A fire that occurred when the Duvill (not Duvall) café burnt down almost one hundred years earlier on June 1st, 1913.

We learned all of this and more.

What a wealth of knowledge he had to share. Thanks, Allen, for spending the evening with us!



### Who Is Duvall's Namesake?

As we celebrate Duvall's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, many wonder who the town is named after. For those who don't know, here's a glimpse of Duvall's namesake, James Duvall.

The town of Duvall was named after a man who, in reality, didn't spend much time here. The land that became Duvall was homesteaded by James Duvall's brother Francis in 1871 (Francis received the title in 1875), and after a number of different owners, the land was purchased by James Duvall in 1887.

According to various sources, James Duvall had logged in the Everett area before moving his oxen and equipment out to the newly acquired land. He lived in a split cedar house and with a group of hired hands built a shed for his oxen, and a blacksmith shop, as well as skid roads from the top of the hill in Duvall to the river. His logging camp was situated where Third Avenue is today, and was home to

his black Durham bulls. Rumor has it that his skid roads were the best in the valley, and remnants existed decades after the logging had stopped.

With his wife Annie Dyer (a member of the Tulalip tribe), James had 4 children- George, James, Lena, and Olive. In 1890 Annie died and was buried in the Cherry Valley cemetery, where she is thought to remain interred today. Around the turn of the century, in the midst of the Goldrush, James ventured with his sons to the Alaskan Yukon in an attempt to find enough gold to pay off the mortgages against his land. Eventually they returned to Cherry Valley only to find that his mortgage had been foreclosed. He was able to regain control of the land, later selling it in 1909 and leaving shortly after. Just 4 years later, the new town of Duvall became incorporated.

Sources: *Wagon Wheel, vol 1*, and *A Livable Community: The Story of Duvall*, by Allen Miller and Don Williams



“Try to envision ten yoke of oxen coming down the hill, straining against a long string of cedar logs, many of them higher than the backs of the animals. The ‘greaser’ walked ahead, swabbing the cross skids with skidgrease- heavy, black stuff brought by boat up the river. There was a skidroad intersection where the Landers home now stands, near the bridge, and there the logs were branded and rolled into the river.”

Taken from p. 7, *Jist Cogitatin’ (Stories of Duvall's Past)*, by Don Funk

*Painting by Ralph Taylor.  
The logging camp of  
James or Francis Duvall,  
near the creek that comes  
down from current day  
Taylor Park.*



Have you seen the local Duvall history book display at the Duvall Library? You can check out books published by Ralph Taylor, Allen Miller, Don Williams, and the Duvall Historical Society. Stop by to read about Duvall's history and to read interviews with Duvall's early citizens.

*Join the conversation! get updates on all centennial displays and events at [www.facebook.com/TheDuvallCentennialCelebration](http://www.facebook.com/TheDuvallCentennialCelebration)*

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

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SPEAKERS BUREAU PRESENTS

***Bones Beneath Our Feet:**  
 The Puget Sound Indian Wars of 1855-56*



A conversation about the causes of the war, cultural misunderstandings and the consequences of fearing the stereotyped "other."

**Michael Schein**

Poet, legal scholar and author of the historical novel *Bones Beneath Our Feet*

**JOIN US:**

April 27, 2013 @ 2 p.m.  
 Duvall Library Meeting Room  
 15508 Main Street NE  
 Duvall, WA 98019



**HOSTED BY:**  
 DUVALL LIBRARY



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

Editor: Beth Lepkowski

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