



Snake River Heritage Center **NEWSLETTER**

Edited by Jeri Kleppin

BOARD MEMBERS

Lynn Isaacson, president	549-0174
Dick Bergquist, treasurer	549-2116
Wendy Stokes, co-secretary	549-3664
Jeri Kleppin, co-secretary	549-1353
Wes Higgins	549-2537
Pat Womack	549-3230
Blake Coats	414-1994
Sharon Widner	355-2314

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**THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
SNAKE RIVER HERITAGE CENTER
WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 11, AT 6 P.M. AT THE MUSEUM
LOCATED AT 2295 PADDOCK AVENUE,
WEISER, IDAHO.**

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT – 2011-2012

By Lynn Isaacson

We have been struggling at the museum this year trying to move the work forward. The NW 2nd floor room is ready for sheet rocking but we haven't been able to proceed because we haven't been able to find anyone to clear the room out so the work can proceed. We were able to get the tool room finished and it is nice to have a place to keep our tools.

We are currently redoing the ceiling on the stage. The plaster was coming down. We were concerned that some might come loose during a performance.

Patching the ceiling would have cost us an amount that approached the cost of a permanent repair. Consequently, we opted to sheet rock the ceiling.

We have held meetings with the fiddle contest people to see if we could do more cooperative

things to better serve the community. Hopefully this will bear fruit.

There have been events held in the ball room such as dances, wedding receptions and birthday parties. Turner's Youth Drama groups have been using the auditorium for a youth performance practice and as a performance venue. They seem to be doing well.

Work continues on cataloging and cleaning of the photos and other paper records.

Some of the things which need our attention after we get the stage taken care of include getting the bell tower repaired to keep the birds out and to again make it weather tight. It is a concern as there are wooden parts exposed to the weather which are deteriorating. Getting heating and air conditioning in the ballroom is on our list as is the air conditioning of the auditorium so that we can expand the useful time for these facilities. The NE room on the second floor needs to have exhibits set up to utilize the room.

As you can see there are lots of needs at the museum. This means lots of need for community involvement both financially and labor wise. The board can only do so much. As the museum is a community resource we need you all to become more involved to make the museum what it has the potential to become, the cultural and historical center of the area.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

By Dick Bergquist, Treasurer

The museum remains in good financial condition thanks to the efforts of the board of directors. We are going to miss Tim Manser who has been the Treasurer for the last few years and did an excellent job keeping us organized and financially informed.

As of September 30, 2011, the end of fiscal year 2011, our donation income was down again from the 2010 fiscal year, which was also down from the 2009 fiscal year. We received

no grants in fiscal year 2011 and non-paid membership donations remained almost the same as they were for the 2010 fiscal year, which was down considerably from the 2009 fiscal year. Also, Fiddle Week donations were down for fiscal year 2011. The reduced donations from these three areas explain the majority of the reduced donation income for fiscal year 2011.

The fiscal year ending September 30, 2011 showed current or liquid assets up \$6,318 over the previous year. However, donation income from all sources was down \$2,204 for fiscal year 2011 compared to fiscal year 2010, which was down \$7,936 from fiscal year 2009. Our expenses were down \$4,566 for fiscal year 2011, mainly due to spending less on improvement projects. However, from the beginning of fiscal year 2012 to the end of February 2012 we are \$1,351 ahead in improvement spending, but the spending is for urgently needed improvements. The board of directors continues to keep operating expenses as low as possible and ensure all funds are being spent wisely.

We hope all that read this newsletter will have a desire to keep their membership active or renew their membership if it has lapsed. We also encourage all that have a desire to see this grand old institute preserved for future generations, get involved in the work that goes on here throughout the year. There are so many ways to help and any help that can be done is greatly appreciated. If you don't have the time or ability to help in a physical way, your financial support still makes it possible to keep these efforts going. We count on your financial support so very much.

TURNER YOUTH DRAMA

The local youth theatre under the direction of Mike Turner, music teacher in Weiser, has been using the auditorium at SRHC for weekly practices. After much hard work and persistence, students offered another production March 8. "Stone Soup" was presented in our auditorium twice in one evening: by 2nd and 3rd graders and again by 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. Special thank yous to the students and Mike Turner for making these performances happen at SRHC.

OPENING OF THE HOLOCAUST ROOM

Weiser High School students will be completing the displays and arrangement of the Holocaust items in their special room. They will host an Open House for students, as well as one for all the rest of us on Saturday, May 5. Come join us for this special celebration.

IRISH DANCE AT HOOKER HALL

By Blake Coats

The board and members of the Snake River Heritage Center were pleased to again host the Irish Dance Idaho troupe in the auditorium at Hooker Hall in Weiser. The IDI team performed on Saturday, March 10 as part of their celebration of Irish heritage during this month.

Irish Dance Idaho, one of the finest Irish Dance troupes in the Northwestern United States, is based out of Boise. The IDI Dance team is a unique, dynamic community of Irish Step dancers who specialize in performing arts. The IDI team dancers travel and perform throughout the year and throughout the northwestern area.

Particularly suited to the stage at Hooker Hall, the dancing features Irish Step, traditional Celtic dancing, as well as exclusive choreography, tailor-made for the IDI dancers. Those who have attended performances at SRHC will remember the fine skill, the high energy and the bright smiles from dancers and audience alike. The proceeds benefit the SRHC and the IDI dance team scholarship fund.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS

It is with great appreciation that we acknowledge our lifetime members here.

Mr. and Mrs. Gish Amano

Sally Baker

Glendora Brown

Tom and Donna Butterfield

Allen and Tonya Capurro

Norma Dickerson

Lorene Kittams

James and Judy Grunke

Pat Harberd

Wes Higgins
Joseph and Margaret Hinson
Hope Jackson
Janet Koskella
Lois Lee
Ella Maisch
Mike and Lisa McKnight
Rick and Sandy Michael
Charles and Kathryn Mitchell
Terry and Lori Mooney
Ruth Reeves
Robert Self
Harry and Angie Soulen
Phil Soulen
Don and Yvonne Stephens
Stuart and Shawna Syme
Richard Taylor
David and Allison Taylor
Mike and Dianna Thomas
William Tidall
Donald Tribble
Beverly Williams

MOTHERS' DAY LUNCH AND STYLE SHOW

We are anticipating a beautiful spring day Saturday, May 12, to honor and celebrate our mothers. This fundraiser is a joint venture of SRHC and the Weiser Architectural Preservation Committee. The affair will be held at the Weiser Little Theatre on East Second with the newly arrived vintage clothing shop, arranging the style show. We are grateful for this opportunity to serve our community.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE

Search "Weiser museum" in the near future for a view of what's new!

PROGRESS AT HOOKER HALL

By Wes Higgins

Progress is continually being made in upgrading Hooker Hall. As you read this, there are new windows on the west and north sides of the third floor ballroom, as well as new transom windows in a couple of the smaller rooms on the second floor. Also, on the third floor, the Holocaust room is about ready to open.

It is about time! The ceiling of the stage area has been replaced, ceiling and walls repainted. The electrical panel in the stage area has been

redone and a new exit door installed in the basement dressing rooms.

Speaking of the basement, the local car club has been busy. New hand rails in the stair way and a new roll up entry door have been installed. The walls are patched and painted with some displays in place. Looking good!

One of the first rooms that was finished after the fire was the first floor library reference room. Finally, after all this time, it is being used for that purpose.

It is good to see the auditorium being used more, with the youth drama group practicing and performing there through out the year.

The ballroom is being used for dances and parties. It's good to have the building being used.

As you enter in the first floor central hall you may notice a new donation box. The old one was stolen. If anyone knows its whereabouts, you can keep the box but we would like the donations back. The new box has been attached to a small table so it will be more difficult to sneak out the door.

There are still a couple of bottlenecks on the second floor. The camera room exhibit is yet to be finished, and the North East room and hallway still have a lot of work to be done.

It has been a good year with much progress. Rehab is going forward. The building is being used as a museum, as a historical reference library, and as cultural center. That's what it's all about.

HOLIDAY TOUR OF HOMES

By Pat Harberd

Guests attending the Holiday Tour of Homes sponsored by the Snake River Heritage Center enjoyed not only outstanding homes, but good weather as well. The Tour, held December 3, 2011, included three homes built in the period of 1899 to 1910 and four homes of new construction. All of the homes on the tour were decorated for Christmas, displaying the owners' pride, talent and creativity.

Steve and Sue Iwasa's home at 253 West Main was built in 1899 with a typical traditional Victorian floor plan; the two-story home included maid's quarters in the attic.

Ted and Esta Pettet's 1910 Victorian home at 240 West Court features the beautiful original stairway and fireplace.

Irene Tallent's two-story home at 60 Lundberg Place was built in 2007 in a newer subdivision off West Indianhead Road.

Our 2011 tour went country for three homes of newer construction. Mary Sue and Bob Patrick's home at 339 Airport Road overlooks the Snake River in the Sunnyside area. Steve and Janet Childs' home, 380 Hill Road, offers a great view of the valley. At 1776 Weiser River Road, Doug and Kyle Dickerson's hilltop home overlooks the Weiser River Valley.

The Tour concluded at the Galloway Inn Bed and Breakfast. The Queen Anne home was built in 1900 for Thomas C. Galloway, one of Weiser's early settlers. Owers Bob and Dixie Lee Tripp graciously welcomed guests with cookies and cider.

A drawing for the gift basket was held with Don Hardenbrook, Weiser, as the lucky winner.

The museum board appreciates the homeowners' hospitality in opening their homes, as well as the community for their support of the event. The home tour is one of our fundraisers and 2011 was one of the most successful. Again, our sincere thanks to all involved.

LIBRARY

By Jeri Kleppin

It is a joy to gather on Wednesday mornings in our renewed library at the museum. Together, several ladies work at the cleaning, sorting, recording and filing of photos and various articles for deposit in the museum's archives.

Many large, dirty boxes of papers, books, and memorabilia have been brought down from the third floor. Sandra Hansen, our mentor from Cambridge, and Dottie Emert have sorted these and filed accordingly. Sandra has also resumed the accessioning process of many donated items. Gerrie Sturtevant is our faithful copier so that old, dusty papers may be discarded. Copies are then archived into our expanding vertical files.

Of course, many old photos are uncovered and discovered along the way. Ruth Reeves,

Edna Gillespie and Irene Tallent continue to handle these photos for filing and creating a retrieval subject file. It seems there is a hidden reservoir from which photos keep appearing!

An extension of the library is the kitchen where Sharon Widner, Judy Widner and Pat Harberd are reorganizing the card file, a mind-boggling task. From this we hope to conduct a complete inventory of the museum's contents in the not-too-distant future.

THANK YOU MUCH!

It is only possible to publish this newsletter with the assistance of many hands and people. We greatly appreciate the use of the copy machines by the Weiser School District. The many efficient hands of the Weiser Middle School's Junior Honor Society are invaluable when assembling and preparing many! newsletters for mailing. Thank you much!

VOLUNTEERS and MEMBERSHIP

National Volunteer Week, April 15-21, reflects the power that volunteers have to "inspire by example." Volunteers both encourage those they help and motivate others to serve! National Volunteer Week was created in 1974 when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order to establish the week as an annual celebration of volunteering.

The Snake River Heritage Center is made up of volunteers: kids at the Weiser High School and individuals from our community working on clean-up days, or working on special projects, to groups like the Irish Dancers who performed for a benefit concert and the many who work so hard during Fiddle Week.

Each year Intermountain Community Bank honors one individual from Weiser, Ontario, and Payette with the Community Star Award for "dedication to excellence in the community." One of the SRHC board members, Pat Harberd, was the 2007 Weiser recipient. She was honored at a banquet in Ontario and was presented the award along with \$1,000 to be donated to charity or a non-profit organization. Pat donated the \$1,000 to the Snake River Heritage Center. A few years ago, Jeri Kleppin, another board member,

received that same award and she also donated the award money to SRHC.

It takes our community to keep the Heritage Center operating. The board would like to thank all the members and volunteers for their support. And, if you would like to get involved or know someone that would, please contact one of the board members.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Your SRHC Board devoted extra time and energy this past fall discussing and reworking our mission and vision statements. This was done in conjunction with the National Old Time Fiddlers Association. Jointly, we hired a development leader who led and assisted us over two Saturdays. Since then the Board has continued to develop goals and objectives to realize the following mission and visions. This is an ongoing process which promises to broaden the museum's base and assist in our future progress.

MISSION STATEMENT OF SRHC (October 2011)

The mission of the Snake River Heritage Center is to bring together and preserve the heritage of the region, to promote the enjoyment of cultural, educational, and historical events.

OUR VISION

We envision a financially stable organization...

- With a fully-engaged and informed board
- Guided by clarity of vision and mission
- With ample volunteer support
- That has adequate and dedicated paid staff

We envision a facility.....

- Completely renovated and accessible to all
- Recognized by the public as a destination for tourist and community members alike

- Used as an activity center for arts and history activities, entertainment, community events, private functions, tours and education by people of all ages

We envision a community

- Filled with opportunities for entertainment, arts and history education, enjoyment, and gatherings
- Has a vibrant economy
- Where youth are well education
- That entrusts its history to the Snake River Heritage Center

REMEMBER!

ANNUAL MEETING will be at 6 P.M. at Hooker Hall on Wednesday, April 11. Join us for more information and answers to your questions. We love to hear from you; so, bring your comments and suggestions.