



LACEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2020 Summer Newsletter

PO Box 3324 Lacey, Wash. 98509-3324 Lacey.hist@gmail.com

'To be a voice for the early citizens of Lacey, and to be their stewards protecting the historical heritage they have given us'

Lacey Historical Society Postponement of the 2020 Annual Meeting

The Board of the Lacey Historical Society has decided to postpone our annual membership meeting originally scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020. We based our decision on the concern that the coronavirus would still be a threat to the health and safety of our members.

The theme of our next meeting will be Lacey Historical Society's 40th Anniversary.

We do understand that it is important as well as enjoyable to meet each year at our annual meeting to share stories about Lacey's past, and that the major purpose of this meeting is to vote on issues before the board such as changes to the by-laws and the need to vote for members of the board. So to meet that requirement, we will be including a ballot and return envelope for society members in our fall newsletter asking you to vote for board members. At that time, we also hope to be able to include the date of our next annual meeting.

Thank you for your understanding. We wish all of you a safe and healthy year.



2020 Officers & Trustees

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Robert Krier,
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Sue Goff,
Treasurer

Susan Hartman,
Secretary

Secretary Emeritus:
Bill Bush

President Emeritus:
Shirley Dziedzic

Trustees

Shirley Dziedzic

Amber Raney

Diane Porter

The History of the LHS Annual Meeting

Over the years, the Lacey Historical Society has met annually to hold its yearly membership meeting. The only mention of the annual meeting in the society's by-laws can be found under the election of its trustees. The date for the meeting fluctuated, sometimes during the summer months, sometimes in the fall. In 1993, the board decided that "due to the inability of getting people to the meeting," that year's meeting was just not held.

There are few sets of minutes surviving from the early annual meetings but fortunately the event was mentioned in some of the old trustee minutes. Aside from the election, the meeting provided an opportunity to present a variety of reports, such as financial or updates on the Gallagher House, or to vote on a change to the bylaws. A few times speakers were invited to make presentations to the group, such as the Thurston County Assessor Kevin O'Sullivan who talked about tax breaks for the Gallagher House. Often the annual meetings were held at the Lacey Museum or at the fairgrounds. In 1998, it took place at the Jacob Smith House on a Sunday afternoon and society members were treated to a tour of this historical site.

The big change came in 2004 when the meeting was held at the Jacob Smith House and included Gene Dziedzic's special stew and vegetables. A truly special treat was the fry bread prepared by Nisqually tribal members. Over the years, the entertainment also changed. Shirley Dziedzic with the help of Zelma Bernd devised a program based on the early pioneer. Descendants of the early residents were asked to give a paper detailing the lives of their ancestors. Ever since then, the annual meetings have highlighted some facet of Lacey history. The Jacob Smith House, although a nice historical location did not offer the room the Society really needed. So in 2010, the Lacey Community Center became the home of the annual meeting.

Since that day, the themes have covered the railroad and its importance to Lacey, the Woodland Driving Park (race track), Lacey resorts, Lacey school memories, Lacey's agricultural past, Lacey's 50th anniversary, more information on the Lacey pioneers, Shirley Dziedzic recognition for all her work, and the history of the Lacey School. On several occasions, Eveline and Irene Kenney gave a power point presentation complete with photographs and a history of the theme topic. The most attended meeting featured the resorts. Over 100 members showed up that year.

Memory: Margaret Anna (Buswell) Fuhrwerk Part 1 of 2 Parts

Not all Lacey Historical Society members currently live in the Lacey area or even the Pacific Northwest. This is the story of Margaret Anna (Buswell) Fuhrwerk, who was born in Portland, Oregon and died in Cridersville, Ohio on Oct. 1, 2019. She had been a member of our society for many years. Her link to Lacey was through her grandfather, George Himes.

George was nine years old when his family crossed the Oregon Trail in 1853. They were the first to cross the Cascades at Naches Pass. His parents were Tyrus and Emeline Himes who took out a Donation Land Claim on the property that is now the Lacey Community Center. They are mentioned on the interpretive panel by the lake behind the community center.

Later in life, George would go on to document that crossing and the community where they settled. Without his writings, the early history of Lacey would be unknown.

Margaret shared many traits with her grandfather, the details of which will be in part 2 of her remarkable story in the next newsletter.

What is it?!



Members of the Lacey Historical Commission are receiving questions from many people about this structure on Pacific Avenue. Lacey Historical Society members will likely recognize it as a replica of the original Northern Pacific Railway Depot, which was located nearby. It will serve as public space to be rented out and provide restrooms for the walking trail. It is the first of several changes to the site, which will ultimately include the new Lacey Museum.

The March editorial in *The Olympian* commented that "Lacey's historic district is becoming a more prominent civic feature, anchored by a replica of an old train station."

Lacey Historical Society Trustees
1980-2020

Please take a look at this list of former trustees and let us know if we have left anyone off.

Ayers, Margaret
Bailey, Tom (same as I.J. Bailey)
Balsley, Ken
Bernd, Zelma
Brown, Nora
Burdick, Evelyn
Bush, Bill
Contris, Mike
Cunningham, Jean Collins
Cunningham, Larry
Daly, Fred
Ehlers, Dr. William
Ensign, Louise
Finnegan, Helen
Finnegan, Pete
Fuchs, Denise
Hayes, Creighton
Henderson, Paul
Hicks, Gwin
Hildebrand, Judy
Holmes, Jay
Huntamer, Tom
Husk, Dick
Johnson, Richard
Keegan, Denise
Kenmir, Agnes

Kilber, Emeline
Lathrop, Phyllis
Marmion, Ken
Mason, Charles
Mason, Genevieve
Mayes, Larry
Naismith, Bill
O'Keefe, Michael
Porteous, Bessie
Puckett, John
Ring, Susie
Schiendlman, Lillian
Scott, Father John
Seekatz, Nancy
Smith, Darrell
Stevenson, Shanna
Tallianis, Jan
Thomas, Liz
Travis, Harrison
Tuggle, Dorothy
Turner, Amy
Weatherbie, Earl
Webb, Dick
Welter, Frank

Wooden, Lisa
Wylie, Margie
Yates, Harold
Yates, Richard
Zindt, Mary

Current Board of Trustees:

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Weaver, Lanny