



Lacey Historical Society

Lacey Community Museum - Dedicated 1980

Summer 2011

Gene Johnson's 1954 8th Grade Class

This picture of teacher Gene Johnson's eighth grade class in 1954 is one of the many school class photos he saved during his years as both teacher and principal. His daughter, Kathy Montgomery, has generously given the Society his collection. This addition greatly increases the "Keepsake Pages". The pages will be on display at the



Lacey School Reunion to be held August 23, 2011 at the Lacey Community Center from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. We wish to thank her, Mr James Stuart, Mr. Ted McArthur's family and former faculty who have donated pictures for this project. The "Keepsake Pages" now cover the decades from 1920 to the last class in 1961 with a few years missing. Mark August 23, 2011 on

your calendar and return the attendance form so we will know to expect you and have enough supplies. **EVERYONE** is welcome to share in this summertime visiting and friendship renewal event.

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~ President's Comments ~

We want to congratulate three (3) Lacey gentlemen for the tremendous impact their lives have had in our community from 1953 - 2011:

- 1953 -

Dr. William Ehlers answered an ad calling for a doctor to reside in and serve the community of Lacey. "Doc" Ehlers answered that call and has played a integral role in the city's growth and development. On August 31, 2011 he will celebrate his 90th birthday. A party will be held in Panorama's Chamber House Restaurant from 3:00 - 6:00 PM. (Please see insert for more information.)



- 1987 -



Greg Cuoio's service as Lacey City Manager for 24 years has excelled in meeting the needs of Lacey's citizens at every level. The Society has appreciated his many genuine acts of spontaneous help at our events.. It must be told that Greg Cuoio deserves the credit for "saving" the 2,000 plus 1928 bricks from the demolition of the Lacey School in 1994. "Very well done, good and faithful servant"

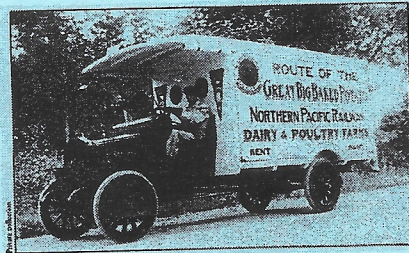
- 2011 -

Matthew Conner is Lacey's "Historian of the year" as honored by Lacey's Historical Commission. Matthew was just reappointed to serve a second term, this term as a full rather than a Youth Commissioner. The Commission makes recommendations on all things historical to the Lacey City Council. During this last year, Matthew made 50 Power Point presentations at North Thurston Public Schools and local service clubs as well as contributing numerous volunteer hours at the Lacey Museum. He will be a Senior next year at Timberline High School



*There are some special people who
make us smile a little bigger
who care a little deeper
and believe a little more in
the goodness of life.*

Northern Pacific's Dining Car will be the setting for the Annual meeting of the Lacey Historical Society. The meeting, to be held at the Lacey Community Center September 27, 2011 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Come and help us honor Northern Pacific's promotional introduction on February 8, 1909 of "Route of the Great Big Baked Potato" on the dining car menu. They



Denby delivery truck, 1920

had a large advertising this popular menu item whose "butter" glistened in the sun! Apple pie was also on the menu and served in 1909. Our "dining car" seating will take place at the Lacey Community Center. Remember to make your calendar for September 27, 2011 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm so you can hear some of the rest of the story.



Eating aboard the NPRR was always elegant.

Annual Meeting at Lacey Community Center

Meet the "Lacey Depot Conductors"
Ken and Diane Dean have been assigned this position by the Lacey Historical Commission. Their job is to publicize and promote funding for the "LACEY MUSEUM at the DEPOT". This new museum will be built on the actual site of the 1891 Lacey Depot! Its construction will follow the Northern Pacific's original floor plan. Ken Dean is the vice chair of the Lacey Historical Commission. Diane Dean is chair of the Lacey Depot Committee and former chair of the Commission. They will be hosting our "Dining Car Tables" at the Society's Annual meeting called for September 27, 2011.



September 27, 5-8pm

A Lacey Graduate Gets National Recognition

Professor John Firkins has spent 38 years teaching at Gonzaga University as an outstanding mathematics teacher. Graduating from Lacey School in 1949, he went on to graduate Olympia High as Salutatorian in 1953. In 1986 he was voted *Washington State Professor of the Year* and was given the silver medal by the Carnegie Foundation in competition for *National Professor of the Year*. In 1991 he earned national recognition for his work to improve K-12 math learning

