

## WCHS Monthly Reports April 2023

### Presidents Report:

Time is flying this spring. I am still reviewing documents. I will have them for you to review Wednesday night. I would like to thank our many volunteers for their dedicated efforts to promote the success of the Society. See you at the Print Museum.

### Directors Report:

We are still getting member renewals in from our mailing. I finished the website, it is up and running. Electronically sent out the newsletter and posted on facebook. Kathy and Debbie are doing a great job on the newsletter. They are mailing copies to people who have requested it. Researched scanners with Alex so that we can partner with the Whitman County Library to get our photos on their Washington Rural Heritage Site. Kathy from Library is going to ask the State if they can have a tab just for the Whitman County Historical Society. It is more cost effective for us at this time to use their services instead of purchasing our own online digital archive software. Worked with Gary Libey, Kathy Meyer and Greg Partch to create ads for the Memorial Day celebration at the cemetery. I will get the ads in the Gazette and the Daily news closer to the event. Gary interviewed with the Gazette to start getting the word out about the event. Gary is sending us \$500 to cover the ad costs. I will be on vacation from May 6<sup>th</sup> thru 13<sup>th</sup>.



**DEDICATION  
CEREMONY**

**SHERIFF LEVI M.  
"PETE" PARNELL**

was killed in the line of duty during the  
Easter Massacre in Pullman on  
April 17, 1949

**Monday, May 29, 2023**  
**The Colfax Cemetery**  
Between 11am-11:30am

Immediately following the Memorial  
Day Services



### Report from the Archive, April 2023:

Open to Public, regular posted hours Wednesdays, 9:00 AM through 12:00 PM.

Staff have been present throughout working the following:

Although weather has limited volunteer attendance this past month,

Collating and cataloging donated collections and entering data into PastPerfect.

Dealing with selections of collection that has nothing to do with Whitman County or its people, to be deaccessioned and moved from collection.

Accomplishing online requests, research, and responses, consistently have several requests made by us each month.

Communications opened with Whitman County Library regarding the sharing / postings of our Archive photos online. Thinking of the first candidates being photos that are not scanned, and photos that do not appear to have been posted by the Rural Heritage yet.

### **Saint Ignatius Report:**

Structural engineers are looking at the old nursing academy behind the hospital. They are looking at the overall safety of the building, siding (is it asbestos?) and if the building can be saved and repurposed. The WSU and U of I design students are also using the building for projects. Tours are selling out and we have sold tickets into October already this year. The Travel Channel and Discovery + will air the show "Ghost Hunters" on May 11<sup>th</sup>. They featured St. Ignatius in their episode. These TV shows and Youtubers are great PR and help us sell tickets each year.

### **Perkins House Report:**

We had a spring clean-up day on April 16<sup>th</sup>. We had a 4H group come and help. The yard and grounds look great. We are planning a smaller version of the Ice Cream Social on Father's day. This event may change in the future. But we already have the Perkin family members coming, so we needed to keep the date. The committee is looking into other events that will help us raise funds for the house.

**HTC monthly info:** During Lent, the Federated church had requested to use the chapel for contemplative quiet time. When Tim Severs went to turn on the heat, it did not work. I contacted Hemphill heating (they have been the ones to work on the furnace in the past) to check out what was happening. Gordy Hemphill checked it out and found a crack in the interior of the furnace and it was emitting noxious fumes. I had him turn off the pilot light and turn the gas off. I do not feel that the furnace should be replaced as the chapel gets used so little and the expense would be too much. It is my opinion that the chapel can be used during warm weather as the furnace would not be needed. I am still trying to find a person to rebuild the chimney as it is in dangerous condition. Any thoughts on this information would be appreciated.

### **Depot Report for April 2023**

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**20 April 7:00 - 8:00pm, Main Waiting Room**

**Palouse People | Kathy Meyer**

“A Brief History of Quilting, from Ancient Egypt to World War II.”

**Vintage Quilt Show**

Enjoy a display of more than 40 vintage quilts

Admission \$5 / Whitman County Historical Society members \$3

**21 April 6:00 - 8:00pm**

**Open House Celebration/Quilt Show Kick off.** Admission fee.

**22 April 10:00am to 4:00pm**

**Vintage Quilt Show in Freight Room and Passenger Car** Admission fee.

Demonstrations - Appaloosa Bobbin Lace Making Guild

**29 April 10:00am to 4:00pm**

**Vintage Quilt Show in Freight Room and Passenger Car** Admission fee.

**6 May 10 AM to 4 PM**

**Vintage Quilt Show continues** Admission fee.

Demonstrations - Appaloosa Bobbin Lace Making Guild

**11 May 7:00 - 8:00pm, Freight Room**

**Palouse People | Ken Carper**

“Photographing the Palouse”

- Ludowici tiles arrived - roofing has begun – crews from main contractor CMR Roofing and sub-contractor Shane Cole are at work.



- The “**pocket prairie**” of native Palouse plants planned for the hillside with the Phoenix Conservancy has been approved by the Whitman County Historical Society. Our goal is to eliminate invasive weeds while preserving the poppies.
- New outdoor sign Lexan panels to be installed soon – followed by LED light revision.

### **Past president Report:**

#### **Pete Parnell memorial monument:**

At our Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> 2022 board meeting you approved a request by Superior Court Judge Gary Libey to sponsor a memorial monument at the Colfax Cemetery recognizing WC Sheriff “Pete” Parnell who was killed in the line of action on Easter Sunday 1949 (74 years ago). Judge Libey appeared before the board requesting the WCHS sponsor a “fitting” memorial monument to this past brave official from Colfax and the others who died that day. Gary said he would pay for all expenses involved. The board approved the request. The monument is now installed and will be dedicated after the upcoming Memorial Day recognition on May 29<sup>th</sup> following their annual observance (approx.

11:00). Judge Libey, Sheriff Brett Myers and the others involved would like to invite you to join them on this solemn occasion that the WCHS has help make possible.

If you want to see the memorial at some other time, here's a way to easily find it: After entering the cemetery take the first left access road, follow to the end then go right. You'll see it immediately on your right. We'll try and include a picture to make it easily recognizable.

### **“Cashup Davis” traveling display**

Last Saturday afternoon, Jeff Burnside who wrote the book on “Cashup” Davis and his hotel on top of Steptoe, gave a presentation at The MAC” in Spokane. The was the first engagement for our “traveling” display of the telescope and top hat. The display is housed at the Whitman County Library “Center” in Colfax. After some final last preparations, it will start its traveling throughout the county to the libraries, schools, and the small towns museums. Contact Greg for further information.