

WCHS Monthly Reports March 2025

Depot Report for March 2025

Restoration

All the pieces are falling into place with our electrical upgrades. Work should begin in a few weeks. We will coordinate the trenching for gutter drainage with the trenching for electrical lines. Power will be off temporarily, so our tenants' needs must be considered. With approval from WCHS, we plan to re-engage Design West Architects to help in the planning and design for interior restoration of the main part of the building.

Grants

We have four grant applications in various stages. The USDA Rural Communities Business grant has been completed along with one to National Railway Historical Society. We are working on applications to T-Mobile and Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association.

Events

Volunteers have begun work in preparation for the annual Vintage Quilt Show – April 26, May 3 and May 10. A call has gone out to individuals willing to loan quilts or handwork for the show. Pullman mayor Frances Benjamin will kick off the event on April 26th at 10 AM with a program about his mother's quilts.

Directors Report

- Frank is still out, so some of the volunteers are coming in when they can to open the house. Frank should be back by the end of March. He is doing better, just slow recovery.
- Sam's registration – I finally got the correct registration and information (I think!)
- Sent out monthly giving reports.
- Helping Janet and Mary with the Palouse fundraising event. All tickets will be sold online. Built a private website for them. This event is an invite only. They have limited seating.
- Did separate interviews with WSU, EWU and U of I students about the Historical Society and the role we play in Whitman County.
- Lost apple project is selling lots of trees again this year. I process all the sales online.

Roy Chatters Newspaper & Printing Museum

It's been a great past couple of months, we've got lots done with the help of three new volunteers whose personal interests coincided with things that needed done. Steve Harder is our handyman, with a list with plenty of things needing done to choose from. Jerimy Strauchon is sorting through boxes of newspapers that have been donated thru the years and merging them into the collection if needed. We have been able to deliver several piles to their hometowns (outside Whitman County), and Jerimy is inventorying more boxes of non-Whitman County newspapers so we can contact their hometowns and offer them. Jaymes is sorting through many trays of various handset letters (used in the past but not put away). Some she has had to research to determine their font name. Things are getting tidier as a result of all their work, and Don, Alex and I enjoy their company as well.

We're working on a May 3 fundraiser for the museum, for which you will have received an invitation to by now. A group of young women in town have adopted the museum and I so appreciate their help on this. I've learned a lot from them.

I agreed to let the museum be used by Haunted Palouse this year, after a wonderful hiatus, so that will be very helpful in the roof campaign.

Paula Echanove and I have taken on the community calendar for a small fundraiser. We did it together many years ago and enjoyed doing it.

The weekly Coffee Club is being very generous with their support.

The Palouse Chamber has also made a very nice donation to support their monthly meeting in museum.

Palouse Cabin Fever Brew Fest is also making a big donation, amount to be determined.

I'm feeling good about the financial support as word gets out about the roof. However, it's possible some of the funds (like Haunted Palouse) won't come in until after the roof is done. I am confident enough about it that I will personally cover the roof repair if WCHS is not comfortable doing so. It needs to be fixed this year, not next.