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**Special points of interest:**

- Check out the Calendar of Events on Page 3 and log them onto your calendar!
- Want to order a box lunch for the May 8th *We Vote! Celebration*? Check out the \$10 Box Lunch Special on Page 4 — Last date to order is Friday, April 30.
- Don't forget the New Market Pioneer Fair on Saturday, June 5th at the American Heritage Campground in Tumwater.
- Please share the New Market Pioneer Fair flyer so everyone can enjoy the festivities.
- Next newsletter goes to print the last week of July. Be sure to submit your articles to the Editor by July 8.

## WE VOTE! CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

### WE VOTE!!!!!! - Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Suffrage through Quilts, Textiles and Traditional Women's Crafts

"We Vote!" is a celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women winning the right to vote in Washington State, one of the first five states to do so in our country. This event will take place Saturday, May 8, 2010, 10 am to 4 pm, at the historic Schmidt House and grounds in Tumwater.

Who, I'm sure you are wondering, are some of the women who made this possible? Shanna Stevenson, Coordinator of the Women's History Consortium Project, spoke to our South Sound Quilt Study Group about local women who helped make women's suffrage happen. The group decided to find out more about these women, their lives and their activities. The natural result of our study was to plan a special celebration of "Women's Suffrage" one hundred years ago! So, we got busy, put our heads



Historian Shanna Stevenson & "We Vote" Quilt Designed and Made by the THA Homestead Quilters and South Sound Quilt Study Group

together and planned a day of celebration and gathered partners to help make it happen. Above is a photograph of a quilt we designed and made commemorating this anniversary the beautiful quilt features many of those energetic and hard working local women.

The history making "We Vote"

Celebration will feature guest speakers and an energetic day filled with lots of activity and sharing of information and goods! Tumwater Mayor Pete Kmet will kick off the event on Saturday, May 8th at 10 am. Bev Dunivent, local quilt historian and lecturer, will speak on 1910 era quilts, patterns and colors at 10:15

*(Continued on page 4)*

## THURSTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

—From *The Pioneer and Democrat*, May 4, 1860

The undersigned, Democratic Central Committee for Thurston County, would respectfully recommend that a Democratic County Convention to nominate candidates to represent Thurston County in the next Legislature, and persons to fill the different

county offices elective this season, be held at the school house at Tum Water on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> day of June next.

The committee would recommend that each precinct send one delegate to said convention for every ten voters, and

that the primary meetings to choose delegates to the convention, be held in the different precincts, at the places hereinafter designated, at 7 o'clock, P.M., on Saturday, June 2d, 1860.

—Presented by Karen Johnson

## HISTORICAL GREETING TO YOU!

—BY DON TROSPER, PRESIDENT

Springtime 2010; another year in the history of Tumwater and in the history of our lives. It's always a busy time of year as we look ahead as a historical association to not only our regular events, such as the Pioneer Fair on Saturday, June 5th, at the American Heritage Campground off 93rd and Kimmie Street, but also the big Women's Suffrage event on Saturday, May 8th, at the Schmidt Mansion. THA will be hard at work at both events and are well worth your attendance. We can also use your help at either or both events. (details within this newsletter).

As we look further ahead as an organization focusing on the rich heritage of Tumwater and the surrounding area, we haven't given up on looking for a permanent site for our living history Pioneer Homestead Museum idea that we've pursued for so long. With the economy being the way it is right now, this may be a good year for negotiations with property owners for such a venture. We'll give you updates as we have news. In the meantime, if you have ideas about this, be sure to let us know. You can contact me via email if you'd like at: dontrosp@q.com.

I hope you like our enhanced THA newsletter this year. Thanks to board member Corinne Tobeck we're adding more articles of historic interest and news of the Association (such the latest from the Quilters, Homesteaders updates, and upcoming events).

Again, thanks to everyone who helped my wife and me with our rebuilding after our house fire nearly two years ago. As of the end of last October we have been moved in to our brand new house (with the brand new mortgage of course) and we

*(Continued on page 5)*

*"Thanks to everyone who helped my wife and me with our rebuilding after our house fire nearly two years ago"*

—Don Trosp

## HISTORY IS NOT FOR WIMPS!!!

—BY DAVE SHADE

I have been involved with the Tumwater Middle School Homesteaders for 20 years. Anne Kelleher and Brian Buntain talked me into helping out at Pioneer Fair and Cider Sunday, portraying Michael T. Simmons. In my search for the perfect period clothing over the years, I really wanted to have a beaver top hat.

Mike Simmons was Postmaster of New Market and known to carry letters in his top hat. I needed (okay! I WANTED) a beaver top hat.

I went to antique shops and shows looking for the perfect beaver top hat, but could never find one that was in good shape and that would fit

me. In November, 2007, I found the perfect hat . . . It fit and was in pretty good shape. The sweat band was embossed with the name of the original owner, Governor Clarence Martin. I had no idea who he was, but I wanted the hat and bought it on the spot.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## HOMESTEADER HAPPENINGS . . . "2010 PIONEER FAIR"

The TMS Homesteaders will present their annual Pioneer Fair to Tumwater's 4th grade students on **Thursday June 3 and Friday June 4** and to the public from 10 to 4 on **Saturday, June 5**. The American Heritage Campground at the end of Kimmie Street (off 93rd) will host the fair on their beautiful grounds.

The Homesteader boys and girls will demonstrate the pioneer skills they've learned

over the 2009-10 school year. These include butter churning, laundry, candle dipping, spinning, quilt making, shake splitting, as well as wood working, tinsmithing, rope making and blacksmithing. There will be wagon rides, a pioneer school, storytelling, pioneer toy demonstrations and more.

The homesteaders will be dressed in pioneer garb and each will take on the persona

of one of the original New Market pioneers. There will be a country store with handmade quilt items, old fashioned toys and much more. There is a small admission charge.

The award-winning Homesteader Program is completing it's 22nd year at Tumwater Middle School and is being taught by Bob Cooksey and Tyler Haywood.

# THA QUILTERS QUARTERS



—BY KATHLEEN KOONTZ

## THA HOMESTEAD QUILTERS LAUNCH 2010 ACTIVITIES

THA quilters have gotten off to a busy start designing and making the 2010 fund raiser quilts as well as planning activities for the year. We will again be assisting the Tumwater Middle School Homestead girls working on their quilting project starting in late March. Some of our members will be helping them learn this new skill. If you would enjoy doing that we can always use extra hands. We also participate in the annual Tumwater Middle School Pioneer Fair in May.

The 2010 fund raiser quilt will be a large log cabin quilt with a scenic appliquéd center medallion. It is quite striking and hopefully will attract a lot of interest. Second prize will be a smaller log cabin quilt. There is a lot of quilting to be done so come join us, we welcome all.

Another huge project that we are involved in is the WE VOTE celebration celebrating 100 years of women in Washington winning the right to vote. It will take place May 8 at the Schmidt House here in Tumwater. Part of the focus will be on quilts, textiles and crafts of the era. Our local

nationally known Quilt Historian, Bev Dunivent, will be the featured speaker on that subject and there will be some great quilts to enjoy. There will be other well known speakers joining us as well as displays, a lunch rally and tea room. It is going to be a wonderful day!!!

### **WE NEED A LOT OF HELP TO MAKE THESE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS POSSIBLE.**

If this sounds interesting call 943-1383 or 943-7527 for details. These are opportunities to meet wonderful people, perhaps learn something new and be a part of our community.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2nd & 4th Mondays	Homestead Quilters
2nd Thursday	THA Board Meetings
2nd Saturday in May	Heritage/Living History Program
1st Sat after Memorial Day	Pioneer Fair
3rd Saturday in September	Welcome Homesteaders
1st Sunday in October	Cider Sunday
4th Saturday in October	Quilters Getaway
1st Sunday in December	Annual Meeting

### **We Vote! Celebrating 100 Years for Washington Women**

Saturday, May 8, 2010  
10 am—4 pm  
The Schmidt House

### **Pioneer Fair**

Saturday, June 5, 2010  
10 am—4 pm  
American Heritage Campgrounds

### *THA Kicks Off Annual Membership Drive*

*Invite your family and friends to join the Tumwater Historical Association today!*

*"Your Community is Your Heritage!"*

## THA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Tumwater Historical Association (THA) will kick off its Annual Membership Drive in April.

You, like our ancestors before us, are currently living the history of our grandchildren and their descendents. Your membership provides you the opportunity to help write that history and to document the past and present for generations to come. Your membership will also help us further

the appreciation, understanding and teaching of the rich and unique history of the Tumwater area through research, writing and publication of related historical material.

Members can expect to receive their renewal letter in April. Our goal is to increase THA membership by 25 percent in 2010.

We look forward to your continued membership and ask

that you invite your family and friends to join the Tumwater Historical Association in 2010.

### **THA Annual Dues**

Individual . . . . .	\$20
Family (Household) . . . . .	\$25
Senior Citizen/Student . . . . .	\$10
Business . . . . .	\$50
Contributing Friend . . . . .	\$50+
Estate Planning, (Information available upon request)	

***"Your Community Is Your Heritage!" Join THA today!***

## “We Vote! Celebration”

### \$10 Box Lunch Special

*Pellegrino's Italian Kitchen &  
Custom Catering Service is  
offering the following:*

#### Menu

*Deli Sandwich  
Sun Chips  
Fresh Fruit  
Bottled Pepsi Product*

#### Choices

##### Sandwich

*Turkey & Provolone  
Roast Beef & Cheddar  
Ham & Swiss  
Veggie & Cream Cheese*

##### Beverages

*Pepsi  
Sierra Mist  
Diet Pepsi  
Diet Dr. Pepper*

*Fax or mail your order  
and payment to:  
Jennifer at (360) 709-9284*

#### **Pellegrino's**

*Attn: Jennifer, Catering  
205 Cleveland Avenue SE  
Tumwater, WA 98501*

## TUMWATER MAN IS SERIOUSLY HURT—W. ISAACSON INJURED

### Injured Man Picked Up in One Part of Town and Horse in Another

William Isaacson of Tumwater was thrown from a light cart when his horse ran away last evening on Union street near the Northern Pacific trestle, and was severely injured, lying in the road for some time before he was found and taken to the hospital in an unconscious condition. At a late hour last evening he was reported to be resting easily, although badly shaken up, and with a bad wound on his head.

Just what caused the accident is not known. Ed McCarty

while going home heard some one groaning in the middle of the street and on investigating found Isaacson there in a semi-conscious condition. Shortly afterwards a telephone message called the police to upper Main street to stop a runaway horse, as it was feared some one had been hurt. McCarty carried Isaacson to the residence of Mr. Johnson and notified the police and called an ambulance. Chief Wright went at once to the Johnson home and accompanied Isaacson to the hospital.

In the meantime Night Officer Ignash had caught an auto-

mobile and hurried to upper Main street where he found the horse and what remained of a light cart tangled up with a telephone pole. One of the Schmidt boys had stopped the outfit. The horse was brought back to the city and left at a livery barn.

Isaacson was unable last evening to give a statement as to the cause of the runaway and it is not known. He is a married man and lives at Tumwater.

*—From the Morning Olympian,  
June 1, 1910*

*—Presented by Karen Johnson*

## NEW STORE AND NEW FIRM AT TUM WATER!

*—From The Pioneer and Democrat, April 6, 1860*

John Scott & Co. take this method of informing their friends that they have opened the store formerly occupied by E.H. Wilson at Tum Water.

We are now opening one of the largest and best assorted stocks of Goods that ever came to this country, and we are determined to sell them

at a profit small enough to defy competition.

We intend to change our style of doing business from the credit system to small profits and quick returns. Therefore we must have the cash in hand.

Remember that Dry Goods, Clothing, Groceries, Farming

Implements, Fancy Goods and Hardware are perfectly in our line.

Give us a call.

*—Presented by Karen Johnson*

## WE VOTE! CELEBRATION, CONTINUED

*(Continued from page 1)*  
am. Her afternoon talk will focus on quilt care and repair. This is an opportunity for you to seek advice on quilt or period clothing concerns (great opportunity to bring an item to share). Shanna Stevenson will moderate a lunch-time “rally” featuring Karen Fraser, Washington State Senator, District 22, who will share “Strategies—How Women Got to Vote.” Kim

Wyman, Thurston County Auditor will talk about “Outcomes—The Changing Election Process.”

Join us and enjoy the period costumes, exhibits focused on life in the 1910 era, quilt and clothing preservation storage information, and demonstrations galore. A tea room with complimentary refreshments and the THA “Country Store” will be open all day. Textile preservation supplies will be

available. Box lunches can be “pre-ordered” from Pellegrino's.

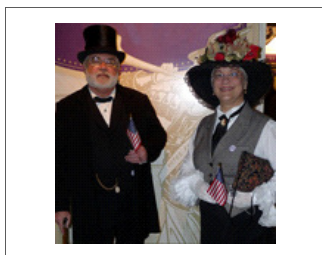
Tumwater Historical Association and their Homestead Quilters, South Sound Quilt Study Group, Olympia/Tumwater Foundation and the Tumwater Middle School Homesteaders have all worked together to make this special day. Please join us. For more information call 360-943-6951. Brochures are available throughout the community.

*—Kathleen Koontz*

## HISTORY IS NOT FOR WIMPS!!!, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 2)

I thought it would be fairly easy to research a Washington State Governor on the Internet, but much of the information on him was "ancient history" and not available on line. I found a minimum of information and was not satisfied. Governor Martin was Governor of Washington State from 1933 to 1942. He was the first person across the Tacoma's Narrows Bridge when it opened, poured the first bucket of concrete in the Grand Coulee Dam, was instrumental in developing the highways across the mountains, signed the laws that started the Liquor Control Board, Sales Tax and Business Occupation Tax and was inducted into the Lummi Indian Tribe. I found several pictures of him wearing a fedora hat, but I couldn't find a picture of him in his top hat. I then found information that his personal records were stored at Washington State University and that the football stadium was named after him. I determined that I would one day make a special trip to WSU and go through his files and see if I could find a photo of him in the hat. Last fall, I went to WSU and



Dave Shade sporting the famous top hat & beautiful wife Suzanne

spent an entire day going through his records. I found the check he wrote to the store where he bought his top hat, photos of him in a top hat and quite a few articles about him from newspapers and magazines. I never did find a receipt for a beaver top hat. One photo of Governor Martin in a top hat had a description written by the photographer calling his hat a silk top hat. I believe (but cannot prove) that this was an assumption on the part of the photographer.

The upshot of all this is that I have a beaver top hat with the name embossed on it says this is the governor's hat. I have copies of pictures, articles and historical information which shows him wearing a top hat. I have a booklet of

over 50 pages of "evidence" I have compiled trying to prove that this beaver hat is the actual hat in those photos. However, after all of this work, I still do not have absolute independent proof that this is his hat. But, I sure had a lot of fun researching all of this.

I think this proves just how difficult the search for truth in studying history really is. Any simple "historical fact" can be twisted or changed by one observer's incorrect statement or interpretation. Years later, a casual comment can radically alter how an event is viewed by researchers seeking to understand the attitudes and behaviors of our forebears. If searching out the truth regarding a 'silk' or "beaver" top hat is so difficult, how much more so is it to discover the actual attitudes or beliefs of people from an earlier time? The historian's responsibility is to record and report what actually occurred, not what we might like our history to reflect. The face of history covered with pimples, bumps and warts. Human history is not necessarily noble.

**The reality is . . .  
History is NOT for wimps!!!**

*"The upshot of all this is that I have a beaver top hat with the name embossed on it says this is the governor's hat."*

—Dave Shade

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 2)

are blessed. Thank you, too, for the many folks in the quilters group that presented us with a magnificent quilt as a housewarming gift. It is truly a work of art and a work of love.

THA now has a storage shed to add to the rental unit we have been using. This will give us room to store cider presses, and other items that we've not had room for in the

past. In other news, we are working on a new THA brochure to promote our group and its activities. You should see that in the very near future. We still plan to meet with other local area historic organizations to plan potential joint ventures of a historical nature that any one group would have trouble organizing on their own. We're also continuing to work with Bob Cooksey and the middle

school Homesteader's program.

Thanks again for your support of the Tumwater Historical Association!

—Don Trosper, President

## THA Motto

*"Your Community is  
Your Heritage"*



*Tumwater Historical Association*

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*Corinne M. Tobeck, Editor*

**Coming Soon . . .  
THA Website!**

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## Save the Date!

May 8, 2010—We Vote! Celebration

June 5, 2010 — TMS Homesteader's Pioneer Fair

# Tumwater Historical Association

## Mission

*"The Tumwater Historical Association is organized for educational and cultural purposes relating to the history of the Tumwater area, its life and people."*

The Tumwater Historical Association (THA) is an active organization that was incorporated on October 2, 1981 with 200 charter members. THA is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization governed by the board of directors. The board generally meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Schmidt House in Tumwater, starting at 5:00 PM.

THA offers a variety of activities funded through membership dues, grants, donation, and entry fees. THA offers its members and the community the opportunity to partake in a variety of historical and education activities, such as:

Pioneer Fair

Oral History Program

Cider Sunday

THA Homestead Quilters

THA Country Store

Heritage/Living History Programs

Historical Field Trips

New Market Homestead Living History Museum

Call (360) 943-6951 or send an e-mail to [ctobeck@comcast.net](mailto:ctobeck@comcast.net) to request information about any of the above activities or to learn how you, too, can become a member of the Tumwater Historical Association.