



Hello, everyone! The Concrete Heritage Museum is proud to be involved in the Centennial Celebration of Concrete on May 9th. Our newsletters will be stamped with the Centennial cancellation, so be sure to save the envelope - it will be a collector's item!

We can be proud of our continuing devotion to saving our town and area's important history. Not many small towns are able to accomplish what we are doing. And, because we have always worked "on a shoestring", with volunteers providing all the labor, we have not been affected as much by the downturn in the economy. Still, it's important to have your continuing support in memberships and donations—we encourage you to contribute what you are able, and to volunteer in our fund-raising activities through the year.

Successful fundraisers include:

- Easter Bake Sale at the Red Apple
- Bow Hill I-5 coffee stop in June
- Ghost Walk weekends in October
- Collecting Red Apple grocery receipts

The Centennial reprint of "So They Called the Town Concrete" is now available, for \$25.00. Dan Royal is printing for us, and the new edition features enhanced photographs and a more readable type font. New cover graphics

were done by Philip Johnson. Copies will be available at Alberts Red Apple, the Museum, or by mail.

Interior renovation work accomplished by our dedicated members this year includes bright lights, flooring, and new walls in "Scotty's Room", where we store the Concrete Herald archives, a growing collection of history books, and a computer donated by Douglas Dunn. The collection of Concrete Yearbooks has its own special place, and we are adding items from the Concrete Schools as well. We thank all the individuals who have donated Upper Skagit memorabilia through the year to our growing collection. New items are added every month!

Douglas Dunn is our British Columbia connection, and his interest in preserving small-town history spurred him to give a \$500 grant to the museum to help fund a photo scanning project. Mike Criner at the high school is our technical support person, and Kathy Huntley has been contacting people about scanning their old photos. Call Kathy at 853-8787 if you would like to contribute to this digital historic record. We know there are treasures out there waiting to be discovered, in old albums or shoeboxes.

Another grant from Skagit County Lodging Tax was awarded to us this year to update the town's historic signage, and create a Historic Byway Route brochure that will guide visitors through our Main Street route. New signs will appear this summer at seven locations that describe historic (and former) structures. Many thanks to hours of work by the Sign Committee, whose excitement about the project may lead to a new expanded walking tour brochure, (or even a book...!)

Museum members still love a good party, as evidenced by our growing attendance at the annual August potluck picnic (to be held at the Concrete Senior Center on Thursday, August 13th at 6:00 pm.) Please come and enjoy the good company and a terrific meal.

We also were honored to be invited to the Hoover residence last December for the annual Museum Christmas Party. Barbara and Jack, and their family members made us feel very welcome, and of course, there was more good food! Sadly, we were all together again in February, when Jack passed away, and was honored at Forest Park Cemetery. A staunch Museum supporter, Jack had an exceptional memory for a lifetime of events and locations in Concrete, and we valued his input on all things historical.

Imagination reigned supreme in October, as we participated in the ever-expanding and highly popular Ghost Walks, organized by the Concrete Chamber of Commerce. Henry and Margaret Thompson walked the Thompson Bridge by lantern light, and many other historic characters from Concrete's past showed up on the streets and alleyways. This event was scheduled for nights on three October weekends, and was very well attended! Thanks to all who provided end-of-the evening hospitality at the Museum, and chatted with the visitors, who were very interested in our displays and information. We hope to have even more volunteers next year, either to bring historic characters to life, or host at the Museum.



NEWS FROM THE CONCRETE HERITAGE MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

Spring/Summer 2009



Thompson Bridge and Washington Portland Cement Plant in background. Circa 1920's.

**7380 Thompson Avenue
P O Box 445 Concrete, WA 98237**

WEB SITE : [www.stumpranchonline.com/
concreteheritagemuseum/](http://www.stumpranchonline.com/concreteheritagemuseum/)
(With thanks to Dan Royal, webmaster)

**Monthly Meeting: 2nd Thursday
EVERYONE IS WELCOME
7:00 pm at the Museum**

Contact a board member for information:

OFFICERS

President: Robin Wood 826-3075
Vice-President - Lyle McClure 826-3547
Secretary - Gail Boggs 853-8347
Treasurer - Cheri Cook-Blodgett 853-8533

Hello, friends....

If you are a current or former member, your membership expiration date is on the address label. Thanks for your support!

To become a member, please return the attached form with your check, and Welcome! Call any of our board members for more information on how to participate. You'll have fun, make new friends, and be doing good things for your community, too!

CONCRETE CELEBRATES 100 YEARS.

Town Centennial activities on May 9th, 2009

Historic photo scanning project, call Kathy Huntley (853-8787) for details. Open up your old photo albums and bring in pictures of Concrete from past years. They can be scanned and returned to you immediately.

Old-Timers Get Together - changed date to Saturday, May 9, together with Concrete's Town Centennial Celebration activities.

New! Centennial reprint of "So They Called the Town Concrete", printed by Dan Royal. Limited edition, on sale for \$25.00. Makes a great gift!

Bow Hill (I-5) Coffee fundraiser, June 26 through 29th. Hand out free coffee, talk to travelers, and collect donations. Volunteers are needed!

Museum opens for the season: Sat. May 30
Open every Saturday thru Labor Day
Volunteer hosts needed - call Robin.
Sockeye Express runs from 12 noon to 4 pm.

Annual Museum picnic on Thursday, August 13.

Ghost Walk - our combined project with the Chamber of Commerce. The 2009 open house evenings in October will bring enthusiastic crowds to the Museum - join in the fun!

2009 - 2010 SEASON --- OUR 14TH YEAR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

RETURN THIS PAGE TO:
Concrete Heritage Museum
P O Box 445
Concrete, WA 98237

Name(s): _____
or
Business
name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Make checks out to "Concrete Heritage Museum".

_____ \$25 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP (annual)

_____ \$50 FAMILY or BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP (annual)

\$_____ Additional amount enclosed for Building Fund. Thanks to you, we keep the work going!

_____ I can volunteer to help with Museum projects.

Phone: _____

Best time to call: _____ Day, or _____ Evening

We rely on the caring people in our local community to support the Museum. Your membership pays for insurance, electricity, heating, advertising, and other annual expenses. We are NOT supported by tax dollars, but we ARE a 501(c)(3) organization and your contributions are tax deductible.