The Heritage Network

Board Meeting

March 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Barreca at the Stevens County Museum.

Present: Susan Dechant, Bill Sebright, Sue Richart, President Joe Barreca., Joyce Kohler, and

Secretary Janet Thomas.

Next Meeting: Deer Park in April.

Minutes of the last meeting: Sue moved and Susan seconded for approval of the November

minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Sue gave a report on the problems with Pay Pal and other problems with

financial hacking in other institutions.

Sue reported that $1,555.96 has been received so far to the Bicentennial fund.

Obituaries: Joe led a discussion about the three women who recently passed away and had been

involved with history for many years. Copies of their obituaries are attached to these minutes.

Inchelium CRC: Report attached.

Indian Agency: The sign is in its final phases.

Curating the inside of the cabin is coming along well. A desk is being built by a master

carpenter. The inside of the build is in three areas/phases. One for museum type things like

artifacts and hotographs and the other two will reflect living quarters and office space. It will bee

a tight fit, but there aren't many artifacts yet. It is hoped that it can be finished by the Memorial

Day weekend so an open house could be held in conjunction with other activities going on in

Chewelah near the Agency. Inside lighting is the next big job. Everything is ready to install the

lights and outlets.

There are several other items to be done, but none will interfere with use of the cabin and

grounds.

Research: Sue reported on Myra Ells book that referenced a magazine of the day. Sue is going

through it to get information.

NeWGS: NeWGS is going to hold our annual seminar on Saturday, September 20th

. This will be in

partnership with the LDS church again. We held our first joint meeting last Wednesday to begin planning.

Once again it will be free to all and include lunch. We are looking at offering three hands-on classes

highlighting the three major genealogy websites: Ancestry, MyHeritage and FamilySearch, as well as

having a few general classes for people to choose from.

Clayton/Deer Park: A member from Walla Walla donated 1928 and 1934 Spokane phone

books. They include Deer Park sections. Members enjoyed finding relatives in the listings and

who had phones in those days.

The Deer Park Settlers Association gave the Society a $2,000 check to help pay for the cover

that was built over the Eagle. ..

A member put together a video of Lawrence and Mary Zimmerer describing the historical

pictures from the 3 albums that they put together. It's available on YouTube. This **collection is**

the most important set of pictures and descriptions that we have. Their narration added

much to the written descriptions that they had put with the

pictures.

HBC Bicentennial: Joe's report is attached/

SCHS: Sue reported on the flood on the inside of the museum. Luckily, it was caught and repairs

are nearly finished.

Mileage: Joe is concerned about the amount of miles and the cost of his various contacts .. Sue

assured him there was plenty of money for whatever he

needed to do.

Meeting adjourned



Fort Colvile Update April 2025

There's a lot going on as we are getting close to the first event of the three planned to commemorate the establishment of Hudson's Bay Fort Colvile 200 years ago in 1825.

- May 17th and 18th – Grand Reopening of the Kettle Falls Historical Center along with an educational encampment of the Northwest Fur Trade Historians 10AM – 4 PM
- June 20th – Salmon Ceremony car-pooling at the Kettle Falls Historical Center – 9AM
- June 21st – 22nd – **Native Culture Weekend** at the Kettle Falls Historical Center.
- October 18th – **Fort Colvile Summit** at Mistequa Hotel – 10 AM

There is breaking news about each of these events and related projects. For each of them the **Colville Confederated Tribes** have committed to sending representatives with displays to fill out the stories. We can expect those to include information about the Salish language and history with travelling trunks of artifacts to demonstrate their culture.



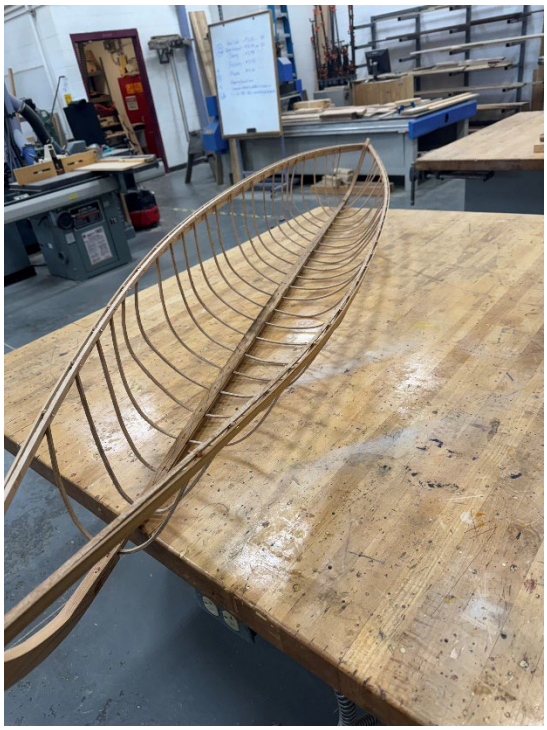
The **Inlander Magazine** is working on a cover story for their May issue on the bicentennial. They are interviewing a list of those of you who are contributing to the effort.

A **poster** is attached to this document which you can copy, print and post freely to help spread the word. Other advertising is planned for the May event as well as those in June and October.

Shaun Deller has completed his painting of a **Columbia Boat**, over a hundred of which were built at Fort Colvile. A limited number are being printed to be distributed to the Kettle Falls Historical Center and other outlets to raise funds for these events.

A team of honor students at the **Colville High School** are making good progress on building an 8 ft model of a Columbia Boat. The model will be displayed at the Kettle Falls Historical Center.

Jack Nisbet has agreed to be the keynote speaker at the **Fort Colvile Summit** in October. He will give a brief overview of the impact of HBC Fort Colvile as it continues to affect all of Northeast Washington today. A dozen other authors and historians have been invited to share their thoughts on the same topic in a roundtable discussion that will be available as a teleconference. A meal is planned for further discussion after the presentations.



Stories related to Fort Colvile and the fur trade continue to be run in the **Silverado Express**, a local newspaper. A compilation of these stories is available through Joe.Barreca@gmail.com. As the content is continually being updated, that is the best source for up-to-date copies.

Articles published in the Silverado are also available on our website. TheHeritageNetwork.org. The latest stories include these:

Priests in the Valley: This article documents the Catholic Priests who came to HBC Fort Colvile and surrounding areas

Perspective: While Fort Colvile was in HBC hands the United States and the fort went through a lot of changes from the end of the fur trade to westward expansion and the civil war.

Fire, the Fort and Bigfoot: These things are all related through the Tshimakain Mission, Elkana Walker, Mary Walker and Cushing Eells. It is a long story this is the first part.

Fire, The Fort and Bigfoot II: This is the second part of the story with more about the success of the mission and the relevance of Sasquatches.

Ransom and Revenge: The story of the Pacific Fur Company ship the Tonquin which exploded near Vancouver Island.