Happy Celebration of Sky’s First 100 Years

Just about anywhere anyone looked in Skykomish early afternoon Saturday June 6th, people were smiling. It is hard to beat a home-made parade for finding something to smile about; both the paraders and the audience seemed to sincerely be having a great time. There were reports of rain at Stevens Pass and as close as Gold Bar to the west, but in Sky the rain stayed away.

The entire three-day celebration was considered a grand success, beginning with a dignified opening ceremony in the school gym featuring dignitaries and well-wishers on Friday, the actual 100th Anniversary of the incorporation of Skykomish.

This was followed by cake and coffee reception at the Community Center and wine and cheese at the Museum where the highlight attraction was Postmistress Sharon hand cancelling the one day only Skykomish Centennial Pictorial Postmark.

Saturday began with breakfast at the Masonic Lodge. The Museum and Open-Air Market began at 10 as well as vendors both on Railroad Ave. and in Maloney’s Store.

Thanks to Andrea Dinsmore’s staging skills, the parade came off smoothly and smiles dominated the middle of the day. The happiness continued with kid’s games at the school yard, a dunk tank by the tennis courts, live music by Blue-ize on the jetty, and information booths and vendors all around town.

With his rickshaw and coolie hat, Donnie Dinsmore seemed to be everywhere at once.

The SHS Museum offered book signings for both our new titles Upriver Voices and Upper Skykomish Valley and had dozens of visitors Friday and Saturday, enjoying our best retail weekend ever, with roughly $1800 in sales.

The Saturday Night Social at the Masonic Lodge brought a full house where a catered dinner was presented by the Cascadia Inn and music provided by The Golden Wannabes, The Far Shore Four, and folk song legends Viviana and Phil Williams.

The old-fashioned Sunday at the ball park brought a modest but enthusiastic crowd to hear gospel by Blue-ize, Cajun classics by Sacalait, and gypsy jazz by Seattle favorites Pearl Django. The PTSA food offerings and the SHS booth were both well supported, and later in the day a tug-of-war and pick-up softball game that ended a 10-8 thriller were enjoyed by all participants.
Centennial Events

Great Northern Day

The annual “GN Day in Sky” will be Sep 19th. at the museum 10 to 4. The informal event will include presentations on the West-Side GN Stations from Stevens Pass to Monroe and a review of the GN’s Empire Builder radio program. People attending are encouraged to bring a favorite item from their collection for a Show-and-Tell. A few tables will be set up for displays by people attending for an informal swap and trade. We anticipate several past GN employees attending, so time will be set aside for a few good stories, too. Lunch will be available.

The oil-spill clean-up in Sky, continues, so look for detour and directional signs as you enter town. For information contact Bob Kelly at mvmmvm@comcast.net or 425-432-3884.

Upper Skykomish Valley Book

Published in April our book *Upper Skykomish Valley* chronicles life between Index and Stevens Pass beginning when John F. Stevens first chose Skykomish Valley as the route for the Great Northern Railroad up through the present oil-spill clean-up. People who have an interest in the valley will find a lot to enjoy in this book. Available to SHS members for $21.95. Non-members add $2 postage. Send orders to SHS c/o Dorothy Beck, Box 66, Baring, WA 98224.

Oil-Spill Clean-up Update

After a slightly slow start this spring to accommodate the Centennial, clean-up activities in Sky are moving quickly again. By the time this newsletter is in print the Sky River Inn and office, and the Post Office building will have been demolished (both will be built anew in 2012). A temporary P.O. will open across the tracks near the old Forest Service compound, and the Bishop house will have been moved across the tracks to a different, permanent location. Maloney’s Store will have been lifted and moved to the vacated Sky River Inn area, after which the earth beneath where it has been for 105 years will be cleaned and/or replaced. Archeologists will be allowed under the store location to learn what they can before the dirt is excavated.
Important Acquisitions Continue

A GN Baggage Cart has been donated by Chuck Strawn. He owned it for about 40 years and used it as an advertising sign at his business. The cart was used at the depot in Wenatchee and dates circa 1910.

Donna Gibson donated a large brass locomotive bell on a stand and it is now on display in the museum. Members are welcome to ring the bell when visiting. The bell is from the Bloedel Donovan Climax locomotive. Thanks to Ted Cleveland for assisting with the donation.

Ted has donated his “engineers grip”. A “grip” is a small suitcase carried by each train crew and in addition to fresh socks it contained such things as timetables, railroad operating rules, certifications, and keys to unlock the many kinds of switch locks. We have produced a photo book showing the grip and its contents.

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Open-Air Markets in Sky:

July 25
August 22
September 19
Special Holiday Market: Dec 5

Historical Society Membership

Susan Aker
Cory Anderson
David Anderson
Mary Ann Anderson
Pat & Robert Anderson
Donna Armstrong
Bill Atkinson
Tom & Linda Averill
Rick Aydelotte
Robert Ballet
Christie Barber
Hank Barber
Mike Bartenstein
Ron Beal
Richard & Dorothy Beck
Tony Beedle
Fred Black
Boeing Emp. Model RR Club
Robert & Joanne Boggs
Don Burdick
David Busse
Pat & Warren Carlson
Matt Cawby
Bill & Alicia Chandler
Ted & Nancy Cleveland
Dorothy Cornell
Earl & Kathleen Currie
Chip & Joan Davidson
Tom & Nora Davis
Richard Dickinson
Jerry Dinsmore
Georgie (Idabelle) Dubuque
Rita Dupris
John Ebert
Don & Deborah Engblom
Byron Evans
Joseph Evans
Henry Everitt
Leonard Farlow &

Janet Bohmer
Ronald Ferrel
George Fischer
Marilyn Fry
Don & Louise Gallagher
Donna Gibson
Lorna Goebel
Pete Goodwin
Bill & Deseree Gould
Charles Hall Sr.
David Hall
Orville Hankins
Dick & Iva Henry
Gary and Goven Henry
Jim & Ann Henry
Robert Hollister
Margo Hornback
Elise Horner
Norma Hornli
Paul Ingram
Clarke & Alice Isakson
Hiroko Ishida
Ruth Ittner
Margaret Lask-Jeffery
Betty Johnson
Larry Johnson
Darryl Jones
Wayne Jones
Darrel Joseyn
Lucinda Marie Joseph
David & Frances Jouppe
Glen Kattenberger
Bob & Pam Kelly
Don & Bertha Koplitz
Linday Korst
Russell Kyam
Janice Lakin
Susan Lee
Doris Leu

Lois Leu
Louise Lindgren
Joyce Littlejohn
John & Sharon Lochman
Louise Locke
Jeff & Missy Long
Ann Lynch
Bob & Charlotte Mackner
Robert Marquez
Brian Martin
Don Matheny
Dorothy McDaniel
Patrick McEvoy
Charles McFarland
Julie Mettler
Dennis & Diane Michalenko
Dick & Roberta Mitchell
Maureen McMahen Moore
Michael Moore
Stan & Marie Nelson
Cordell Newby
Gordon & Karen Omeg
Donald & Neva Pavia
Norman Pearson
Eddie Peter
Bob & Nena Pierce
Michael Pierce
Rosalind Philbrick
Ken Phillips
Mike Pownall
Jack Porzig
Babs Pratt
Colleen Rettig
Jeff Richardson
Patrick & Carol Richardson
John Robinson
Helen Bishop-Rothenberg
Doretta Runo
Steve Ryder

Ed San Juan
Ted San Juan
Edward Schein
Mike & Liz Sharpe
Mark & Kristin Shipman
Kristine Sjoberg
Henry Suadek
Frank Smith
George & Pat Smith
Kent Smith
Margaret Smith
Jackie Solomon
Pamela Staton
Yuriko Suzuki
Arlan Swartwood
Scott Tanner
Mary Thompson
Terry & Barbara Townsend
Gene Tubbs
Chuck Tuft
Roy Valentine
Manricia Vandegyf
Jackie Vander Yacht
Darlene Waite
Bob Walters
Marian Weiss
Kevin Weidrstrom
Gary & Donna West
Donald & Mary Weckowicz
Rose Marie Williams
Christina Yates

This membership listing shows only those whose dues are up-to-date. If you do not see your name and intend to remain an SHS member, please contact Missy Long c/o SHS, P.O. Box 247, Skykomish, WA 98288 skykomishhistoricalsociety@yahoo.com