



STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

February 2026

(360) 435-7289

Linda Anderson, Newsletter Editor

Hours of operation: Saturday, Wednesday 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

For Pioneer Hall Rental – Call Caretakers Austin & Shannon Myrick at (360) 435-7289



calling all men, women boys and girls



The museum is scheduled to re-open after the winter break on March 7th. And, while much work has been accomplished, the dust has piled up.

Therefore, we have scheduled a work party on Saturday, February 28th from 9 AM to noon. This is not just for the Monday morning work-crew. If you're not able to volunteer regularly, this is your chance to give us a hand. So, shake out the dusters, bring the kids, friends and neighbors and we can make everything sparkle and shine. If a vacuum or mop appeals to you more, the floors would welcome you.

You do not have to be a member and...
many hands truly do make light work.

At the December 8, 2025 Board meeting, the Board of Directors voted to approve Michele Heiderer to finish the term for the late Ralph Knutson.

Annual Dues \$20.00; Lifetime Membership \$200.00

Passage

Tim Gray
Ralph Knutson
Jane Martin
Lynn Waggoner
Joanne Wetmore

MEMORIALS

In memory of:
RALPH KNUTSON

From:
Dale & Carol Duskin
Loren & Pat Kraetz
Michele Heiderer
Sally Shinstrom
Joann Gray
Myrtle Rausch
Elaine Lilgreen
Victoria & Craig Hereth
Ralph & Mary Monty
Shirley Thompson

In memory of:
TIM GRAY

From:
Loren & Pat Kraetz

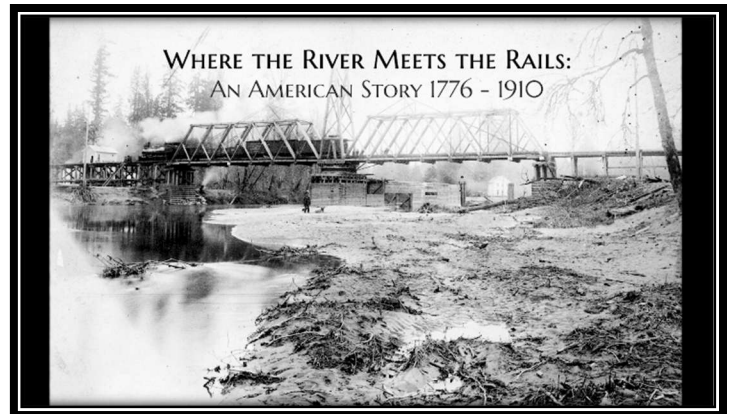
In memory of:
HARLEY & DELLA FRY
ALFRED & EVELYN ALDRIDGE ELIASON
ANN MOSBRUCK

From:
Larry Eliason

In memory of:
JOANNE WETMORE

From:
Joann Gray
Loren & Pat Kraetz

Members were recently treated to an advanced viewing of a documentary on the history of the Stillaguamish Valley. The professional video was made possible by a grant from Snohomish County and is the product of a massive amount of research by Sue Walde. The 30-minute documentary covers the years 1776 - 1910 and will be used in America's 250th Anniversary celebrations throughout the area. It includes a 40 second video trailer and over 50 story-pictures were digitized for the film. It will be available on our website soon. Future plans are for another documentary, which will cover the years 1911 to 2026.



Hey VETERANS....
we still need your
pictures and stories!
See Linda Anderson.



ACQUISITION AND FUTURE PLANNING FOR ADJACENT PROPERTY AT STILLAGUAMISH VALLEY MUSEUM

President Roy Harris

The Board of Directors of the Stillaguamish Valley Museum authorized its officers to inquire about the intentions of the property owner next door at 20802 67th Ave NE, which is the only open land adjacent to the current museum site. This property was identified as critical for potential future development and expansion of Pioneer Park.

After expressing interest in acquiring the property should it become available, the museum received a positive response from the property owner a few months later, indicating openness to discussing a potential sale. Both parties engaged in discussions and reached an agreement for the museum to purchase the property.

During the initial stages, the Finance Committee explored various loan options to facilitate the acquisition. However, one committee member, Pat and Lauren Kraetz, generously offered to donate the necessary funds. Their contribution ensured the successful acquisition of the property, with the sale concluding in November 2025. This donation significantly enhances and safeguards the museum's future options for expansion and development.

The board of directors and the governance committee are actively evaluating 31 different options for utilizing the newly acquired property and the future museum buildings. The governance committee meets every Monday morning from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM for the next few weeks to develop recommendations for the board. Discussions focus on practical uses for the park property, the existing house (which includes a main floor, a small second floor, a full basement), a two-car garage, and a small work shed.

All members are encouraged and welcome to attend these committee meetings to contribute ideas and help shape the museum's future.

The governance committee's recommendations will guide the Board of Directors in making strategic decisions that support the museum's growth and continued service to the community.



CRASH...

As most of you have seen or heard, there was a vehicle accident that damaged the new Fire Hall building. We are in the process of getting estimates to repair the damage, dealing with insurance and so on. There has been a delay in getting the electrical permit approvals, but we continue to move forward as best we can. The building has been secured and we have put the window back in which it was knocked out. The damage was boarded up so people cannot get inside.



One of the displays that has had a lot of attention recently features the evolution of music, television and radio.



And this was a new one for me...

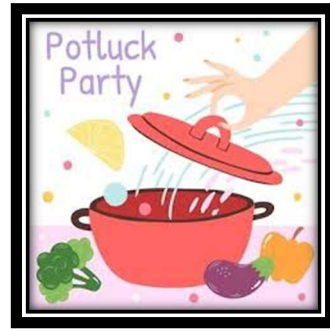
12 hours of radio for 25 cents
on this Jetco Radio!





NEW POLICE DISPLAY

Our newest display is courtesy of the Arlington Police Department. They have donated an Honor Guard uniform, plus additional badges and patches. This display is on the main floor next to the photography studio. Thank you to Terry Legare and Karen Dale for another great display!



SPRING POTLUCK
Sunday, April 12th at 1:00 PM
Pioneer Hall

Hope you can make it!



Be sure to mark your calendar
for the work party on
Saturday, February 28th from 9 AM to Noon.

Let's shake those dusters!



2025 Holiday Party – a joy as always!



Bill & Anna Pritchard



Dan & Lindsay Minten



Ken Trobridge & Dave Woodhouse



Richard Harris & Cindy Goetz



Wesley Ralph Knutson,
Grandson of Ralph & Sharron Knutson

RESEARCH LIBRARY

Michele Heider, our hard-working research librarian, is continuing to organize the research library and plans to catalog the contents as soon as possible. She has been organizing old records into storage boxes and putting them in the bookcases, which will help keep records and papers from a business or community group together and make those records easier to locate. The collections include, among others, Murphy Feed Store, Kiwanis and Stillaguamish Valley families.

Michele reports that she has had requests for property research; one is finished and one is ongoing and involves multiple properties near the Kangaroo Farm on Highway 530.

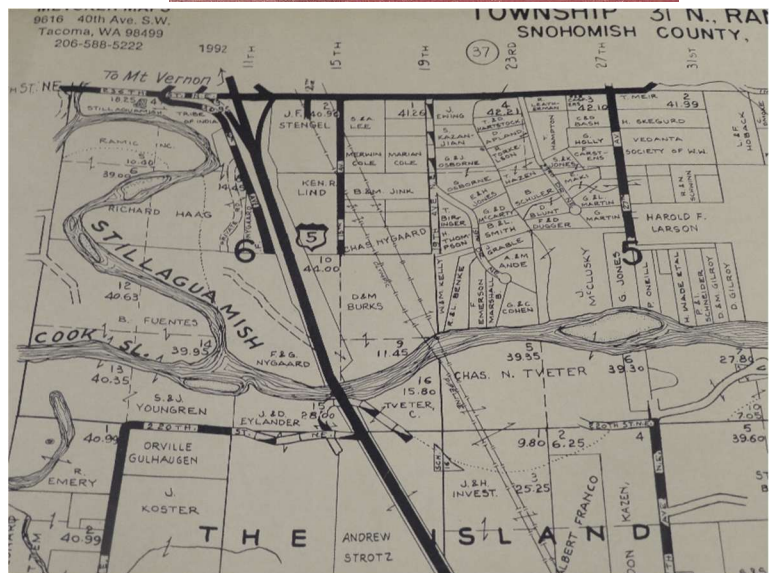
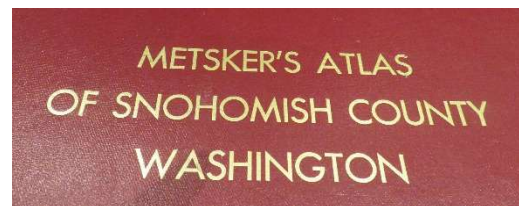
Thank-you to Sally Tritt-Collins from Windermere Real Estate office in Arlington. She donated four Snohomish County Plat Map books that will be invaluable for anyone interested in learning the names of previous owners of their Stilly Valley properties. The books are from 1975, 1980, 1985 and 1992. She also donated a Skagit County Plat Map book. They will be a permanent addition to the research library's collection.

Spring projects for February.

- 1. The locations have been identified for the 10 benches and the holes for the benches will be augured for the placement of the benches.*
- 2. A project to repair the wishing well roof which will require us to remove the old roof and install a new roof.*
- 3. A project to repair the mid-level entry deck fascia board.*
- 4. Cleaning out the home, garage, basement, storage shed on the new property.*
- 5. Tree maintenance on the new property.*

It has come to our attention that

There is quite a lengthy list of books and papers that were catalogued at some point but are missing from the museum. If you come across books and/or papers that have a catalogue number on them here in the museum on a shelf or box, or your home, please let us help you identify the items and where they should be properly located.



2025 – 2026 OFFICERS

President: Roy Harris
Vice President: Linda Anderson
Secretary: Sally Shinstrom
Pioneer Treasurer: Sharron Knutson
Museum Treasurer: Myrtle Rausch
Past President: Sue Walde

BOARD MEMBERS:

- 1: Loren Kraetz 2027
- 2: Sharron Nelson 2027
- 3: Rex Martin 2027
- 4: Cathy Clark Smith 2026
- 5: Terry Legare 2026
- 6: Michele Heiderer 2026

IMPORTANT DATES



BOARD MEETINGS
2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH
12:30 PM
Research Library

FEBRUARY 9TH

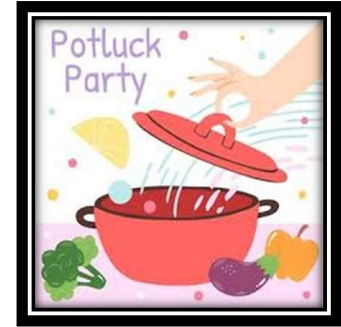
MARCH 9TH

APRIL 13TH

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SPRING POTLUCK

Sunday, APRIL 12, 2026
1:00 PM
Pioneer Hall



COMMITTEES:

- Advisory Program Committee
- Advisory Governance Committee
- Advisory Acquisition Committee
- Advisory Financial Committee

Stilly Stitchers

2nd & 4th Tuesday ~10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Pioneer Hall ~ Coffee & Tea provided.
Bring your project, your lunch and invite a friend.



Stillaguamish Valley Museum
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Arlington, WA 98223-4214
Email: stillypioneers@frontier.com