



Buckner
Homestead
HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Promoting the care and preservation of the Buckner homestead, orchard, and community atmosphere in perpetuity

Annual Report – 2009

2009 was a successful year of revitalization and reorganization.

After several years of dormancy, the Foundation is now alive and well, poised to strengthen and expand our support of the Buckner Homestead and Orchard.

BOARD MEETINGS

Two meetings were held in 2009, one in Manson (Annual Meeting) and one in Stehekin. Other Foundation Board business was conducted via e-mail and telephone; items necessitating on-line votes are recorded and entered into the minutes of the next meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

The following officers were elected at the Annual Meeting:

- President - Herb Sargo, Sedro-Woolley
- Treasurer – Cinda Gilbert, Manson
- Secretary – Jo Anne Reiter, Walla Walla

Elected to the Board were:

- Jo Anne Reiter, Walla Walla (replacing Wendy Garfoot)
- Monica Courtney, Stehekin, (filling a vacant Stehekin position)
- David Kurth, Stehekin, (filling vacant Stehekin position)

CHANGE OF AFFILIATION

In December, the Foundation moved from affiliation with the [Washington National Park Fund](#) to the [Community Foundation of North Central Washington](#). Affiliation provides the Buckner Foundation with its nonprofit status while we move forward to becoming our own 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. This affiliation provides our non-taxable status, as well as allowing the deduction of appropriate donations and contributions to the Foundation. A part of the mission of the CFNCW is to support and assist nonprofits in North Central Washington, a role the WNPF is not intended to undertake. As our fiscal sponsors, the CFNCW charges us a fee of 2% on gross contributions or \$300.00, whichever is greater, as opposed to the WNPF charge of a flat 10%. We sincerely thank both organizations for their support!

COMMUNICATIONS

Website – Thanks to the creativity and hard work of Crystal Austin at [Crystalview Graphics](#), the Foundation established a web site that is both informative and educational. A major accomplishment! The Foundation web site also features a [News and Notes](#) section with up-to-date information on happenings at the orchard and the Foundation. We have linked various appropriate websites to ours regarding travel and services in and to Stehekin, and have been reciprocated with links to [bucknerhomestead.org](#) on several of those.

Newsletters – Two electronic newsletters were sent to our 150+ mailing list during 2009.

Annual Report – This is our initial annual report, which is intended to summarize for donors, members, and other interested individuals the activities of the past year.

NPS Communications - The Foundation president and NPS Superintendent have begun meeting on a regular bases on items relative to the management and support for the Buckner Homestead and Orchard. The president has also met with other NPS staff on items such as orchard management, interpretation at the homestead, and other items. In addition, two NPS employees, Vicki Gempko and Laurie Thompson sit on our board of directors as liaisons to the National Park Service.

Press Releases – two press releases were issued during the year to promote the inaugural Harvest Fest.

Other Communications – The Foundation has established good working relationships with [Stehekin Choice](#) and [Golakechelan.com](#), resulting in postings of articles, including both the Harvest Fest and membership drive. Thanks to **Lake Chelan Building Supply**, the Foundation has had more than a month of exposure on Golakechelan's top-of-the-page revolving ad promoting our membership drive, all at no expense to the Foundation and much appreciated! Posters in Stehekin, Manson, and on *Facebook* were also used to promote Harvest Fest. No twittering, as yet! The Foundation e-mail list also includes the various media outlets in North Central Washington.

HARVEST FEST

Our inaugural Harvest Fest, October 10, 2009, was an overwhelming success! Nearly 150 Valley residents and visitors picked apples, made cider, shared chili and other potluck offerings, and shared conversation with new and old friends alike. **The 2010 Harvest Fest will be October 9. Plan to be there!**

EQUIPMENT AND OTHER DONATIONS

During the 2009, the Foundation donated or facilitated the donation of the following for use at the Buckner Orchard:

- ✓ 1 refurbished orchard Tractor (Manson Growers)
- ✓ 9 fruit picking poles (Ursula Thompson, and BHHF)
- ✓ 1 refurbished cider press (Bill Stegeman)

- ✓ 2 8 foot aluminum ladders (Hobbie Morehead)
- ✓ 4 fruit picking bags (Hobbie Morehead)
- ✓ Refurbishing of 2 cider presses (Keith Carpenter)
- ✓ Shipping of the above items provided by Tom Courtney Tug and Barge, Bucky Gans, Adrienne and Keith Carpenter, Jim and Cinda Gilbert

In addition, an unknown number of volunteer hours were used at the Orchard. This is something we will be tracking more closely in 2010, with a goal of expanding this aspect of our work.

FINANCIAL

Adopt-A-Tree – a long-time part of the Foundation’s fund-raising, this program is currently in the process of review and revitalization. Advertised to our e-mail list prior to Christmas, few people took this opportunity to support the work in the orchard. Additionally, pamphlets were edited as to whom contributions were to be written to, and will need further revision now that our affiliation has changed. [Adopt-A-Tree pamphlets](#) are available at the Buckner Orchard, at NPS offices in Stehekin and Sedro-Woolley, and at the web site.

Membership – The Foundation authorized and instigated a membership drive in January of 2010. Various categories of membership are available depending on the level of contribution that one chooses to make to the work of the Foundation.

DONATIONS

Unsolicited donations from 2 individuals totaling \$600.00 were received in late 2009.