



**Buckner
Homestead**
HERITAGE FOUNDATION

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

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013

ANOTHER GOOD YEAR

PROJECTS



Beautiful log picnic table built by
Mark Courtney



Foundation funded and supported projects in 2013 targeted specific needs at the Homestead and Orchard.

Hazardous tree removal funded and carried forward from 2012 was completed, and \$2,500 of additional funding for this purpose in 2013 was also carried forward to 2014. These project are for removal of trees outside the Orchard that present a danger to the trees, fence or structures

Yard cart - \$200.00 (paid for by a donation for this specific purpose)

Log picnic table - \$865.60 (placed next to the packing shed)

Kubota tractor starter replacement - \$100.00 (private party donation)

Collaborative interpretation work at the Homestead and Orchard began on several fronts in 2013.

Foundation and NPS personnel toured the ranch with Buckner daughter, Bucky Gans, learning more details of past years. As a result, work has begun on restoring the flag pole, dinner bell, flower beds, and more.

Interpretation Group - In November, five NPS, Foundation, and community leaders gathered to begin work reviewing and making recommendations as to future interpretative needs, projects, and direction at the Orchard. Their work will continue in the early spring of 2014.

EVENTS, MEETINGS, AND ACTIVITIES

Harvest Fest 2013



Now a weekend-long event, **Harvest Fest 2013, October 4-6**, was "the best ever" in spite of the government shutdown. The Stehekin Community was at its best in making this event happen as the Orchard and Golden West Lodge were closed and unavailable for use.

The Friday night music program at the school was a huge success, with over 140 people attending, and it was standing room only! *Valley Music across the Generations* featuring talented Valley residents and the *End of the Road Band* was a big hit!



Cider making and the community potluck were also held at the Stehekin School on Saturday, thanks to the 12 volunteers who picked, hauled, and stored apples on Thursday prior to the shutdown.

160+ participants enjoyed the sun, food, cider making, socializing and the music of *Imus and the Mud Flows*, a reincarnation of Stehekin's own *End of the Road Band*.



Sincere thanks to the Stehekin School Board and staff for making all of this happen on such short notice!

The Stehekin Valley Poetry Night has now become incorporated into the Harvest Fest weekend. Many thanks to Terry Lavender for sharing her home for this very nice Sunday evening. A dozen people enjoyed sharing their favorite poetry, including original writings of their own.



Mark it on your calendar now. Harvest Fest 2014 will be Friday - Sunday, October 3-5

Work Parties



Four work parties were held at the Orchard this past year.

April - A Stehekin Community work day was held to rake, stack, and collect pruning brush.

June - 14 individuals practiced old skills or learned new ones thinning apples at the Orchard!

July - An informal work party of six prepared plots for planting new trees, cleared ditches, restored and uncovered flower beds, and more.

October 3-4 - a dozen volunteers picked and hauled apples for Harvest Fest, as well as gathering and hauling materials to the school for Friday night and Saturday's events.



In addition, mowing, weed eating, and watering of both the Orchard and around the Buckner Home were completed by Foundation volunteers, as was winter preparation work in November.



Numerous individuals also contributed time and energy to keeping the Orchard alive and healthy, as well as maintaining the grounds around the buildings. Many thanks to all! YOU can be a part of these activities in 2014.



Board Meetings

Formal board activities were conducted at two board meetings; the Annual Meeting in Manson on May 13, and at the Stehekin Bakery on July 15.

Board Elections

At the May Annual Meeting, the following were re-elected to three-year terms on the Foundation Board:

Herb Sargo (Sedro-Woolley) Buckner Family Representative

Cinda Gilbert (Manson) Buckner Family Representative

Newly-elected to the Board were:

Bob Nielsen (Stehekin) Stehekin Community Representative

Jim Trappe (Corvallis, Oregon) A-large representative

Crystal Austin (Chelan) At-large representative

Continuing Board members are:

JoAnne Reiter (Walla Walla) Community At-large representative

Doug England (Manson) Apple Industry representative

Brun Garfoot (Chelan) Community At-large representative

Dick Bingham (Stehekin) Stehekin Representative

Vicki Gempko (Stehekin) NPS Liaison

Laurie Thompson (Stehekin) NPS Liaison

Foundation officers, President **Herb Sargo** (Sedro-Woolley), Secretary **JoAnne Reiter** (Walla Walla), and Secretary **Cinda Gilbert** (Manson); were re-elected to one-year terms.

The Foundation Board is now at full-strength, will all nine positions filled.

National Park Service Activities



Laurie Thompson has cared for the Buckner Orchard for nearly 20 years as a NPS employee. Her dedication and love of the orchard and homestead are incredible! Laurie is always willing to share the orchard with you, and would appreciate your help, even if for a short time.

National Park Service 2013 projects, in addition to the care of the orchard by Laurie and others, are as follows:



- Continued upgrade of existing elk and bear fence
- Continued structural assessment of the Buckner home
- Initial work to replace outdoor water line
- Grading and graveling of driveway
- Grafting of 40+ elk-chewed trees ((contracted)
- Placement of mesh wire on 75 trees for elk protection

Elk and bear fence, without elk panels in place above the gates. Low gates allow deer to enter, which is desired for brush removal. Elk panels above, prevent elk from entering during the winter.



*The winter elk herd poses a serious threat to the unfenced portion of the Orchard because they eat the bark from lower limbs. **40+ trees needed bridge grafts this spring as a result of this damage.** Without the grafts, the trees would not survive.*

SUPPORT

Adopt-A-Tree



A total of 42 trees were formally adopted in 2013 for 2014, raising \$1,050.00 for the care of the orchard. (Contributions must be reported for the year in which they are received. Hence the adoptions received in November and December of 2013 for 2014 are reported to the IRS as received in 2013.)

(Chief orchardist Laurie Thompson and Lili Reiter work to remove grass from around Lili's adopted tree.)

Memberships

17 memberships of various levels, totaling, \$3,450.00, helped fund projects in 2013 and into the future.

Donations

Donations totaling \$950.00 were contributed to the Foundation in 2013, including two for specific activities at the homestead and orchard.

In-kind Contributions

Services and equipment totaling approximately \$1,500.00, from individuals and businesses made the work of the Foundation more effective and easier. In-kind contributions included:

Barge transportation, *Tom Courtney Tug and Barge*

Maintenance and continued development of our website, *Crystalview Graphics*

Equipment for Harvest Fest, *Stehekin Valley Ranch, Stehekin School, Stehekin Community, Mike Torkelson, and John Wilsey*

Board meeting facilities, *Stehekin Bakery and Lake Chelan Reclamation District*

Clerical Materials, *Various individuals*

Transport, *Manson Growers, John Wilsey, Bucky Gans, and Laurie Thompson*

Publicity and Reporting - *Golakechelan.com. Lake Chelan Mirror KOZI, and Wilfred Woods*

Tractor starter motor - *private individual*

Chamber of Commerce Membership, *Private Individual*

Facilities use - *Stehekin School District, Terry Lavender, and John Wilsey*

And, the many individuals who made all our events and efforts successful!

Thank you, all!

Grants

A grant for \$200.00 was received from Wilfred and Kathleen Woods and the *Community Foundation for NCW*, and will be used to support Harvest Fest in the years ahead. Thank you!



OUTREACH

The Foundation continues to develop relationships with other organizations and to communicate our purpose and goals to the community. To that end, the following were continued during the 2013 program year.

Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce – A membership in the Chamber was donated to the Foundation by a member, helping to increase our visibility and effectiveness in the greater Lake Chelan Community and beyond.

The primary means of communication for the Foundation is e-mail, saving both time and money.

Three member updates were sent during 2013, along with announcements of coming events, and news releases to local media. Local Lake Chelan media has been very responsive in publishing our information, which is much appreciated.

ODDS AND ENDS

Buckner House Assessment - As reported earlier, the Buckner House remains empty. The National Park Service has continued working through the year to complete the assessment of the infrastructure work needed to bring the home up to current standards to house a Park Service family.

Although, the initial assessment was somewhat daunting, subsequent investigation is encouraging. No determination or timeline has been set for the work, which would include such things as foundation, wiring, plumbing, and windows.

Outdoor water line - scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2013, this work is now set for 2014 because of the three weeks lost to the shutdown.

The Foundation president met with various NPS staff during the year to ensure good communication, a strong working relationship, and meaningful support for the Homestead and Orchard.



Financial Report on following page

FINANCIAL - 2013 Final Report

CATEGORY	SUB-CATEGORY	2013 BUDGETED	2013 FINAL	100.00%
I. Balance Forward		\$16,887.30	\$16,887.30	100.00%
II. Revenues	A. Adopt A Tree	\$750.00	\$1,050.00	140.00%
	B. Donations - General Fund	\$500.00	\$950.00	190.00%
	C. Packing Shed			
	D. Memberships	\$2,750.00	\$3,450.00	125.50%
	E. Interest (Cashmere Valley Bank)	\$50.00	\$70.54	141.00%
	TOTAL INCOME	\$4,050.00	\$5,520.54	136.30%
TOTAL REVENUES		\$20,937.30	\$22,407.84	107.00%
III. Expenses	A. Equipment repair/maintenance	-\$200.00		0.00%
	B. Harvest Fest	-\$70.00	-\$64.22	91.20%
	C. Priority Projects	-\$3,300.00	-\$3,365.60	102.00%
	D. Incorporation and Affiliation	-\$80.00	-\$10.00	13.00%
	E. Administrative Costs	-\$175.00	-\$129.10	73.80%
	F. CFNCW Affiliation			
	G. Incidentals	-\$100.00		0.00%
	H. Equipment Purchases	-\$200.00	-\$200.00	100.00%
	TOTAL EXPENSES	-\$4,125.00	-\$3,768.92	91.40%
IV. ENDING BALANCE FWD		\$16,812.30	\$18,638.92	110.80%

The Buckner Homestead Heritage Foundation is a not-for-profit organization created specifically to support and preserve the Buckner Homestead and Orchard in Stehekin, Washington, and is registered as such with the State of Washington and the IRS (Tax ID #452913458)

bucknerhomestead.org