



**Buckner  
Homestead**  
HERITAGE FOUNDATION

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

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

# ANOTHER GOOD YEAR !

## PROJECTS

*2015 was a year with a small number of projects, but with noteworthy success.*

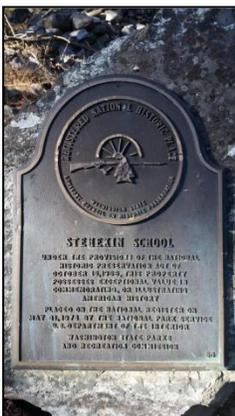
**Buckner Home Window Restoration** (\$3,000 budgeted) As the National Park Service (NPS) continued work on the Buckner Home, the Foundation contributed as well in 2015. Funded by BHHF, original-design windows have been constructed for the living room, five windows of eight panels each. These should be installed in 2016.



The windows are milled and are now having the glass, glazing, and stain added, which will bring the final cost to \$3,000, as budgeted.

*(Original windows, circa 1939)*

**Stehkin Guidebook Ad** ((\$143 budgeted) To encourage both visitations and awareness of the Buckner Orchard and our events, BHHF, for the first time, advertised in the *Stehkin Guidebook*, which is distributed free of charge in Stehkin, Chelan, and on the Lady II and the Lady Express. (cost \$143)



**Historic District Marker** (\$1,200) This project is nearing completion of the paper-work phase, and the hope is for installation this spring near the packing shed. Recognized as a National Historic District in 1989, after the Buzzard Cabin was listed in 1974, the marker describes the importance of the Buckner Homestead and Orchard as representative of agricultural and self-sufficiency in remote areas of the North Cascades. (No cost to-date)

*(Plaque will be of similar design to the one pictured here at the Old Stehkin School)*

## **Washington Conservation Corp Funding** (\$7,000 budgeted)

Supplemental funding was provided as a grant to NPS to assist in maintenance and upkeep of the Orchard and Homestead. Work included such things as brush cleanup, pruning, thinning, maintenance on the main ditch, fuel reduction around structures, and fence repair. (Cost \$7,000)

**Interpretation Work** at the Homestead and Orchard was continued in 2015 as a collaborative effort of the NPS and the Foundation. (no cost to-date)

- Possible use and placement of wayside exhibits
- Possible construction and location of a loop trail(s)
- Interpretation of all equipment, including forge and other objects in the shop
- Interpretation of the Buzzard Cabin
- Possible interpretative programs on-site and at the Golden West Lodge
- Guided tours and interpretative programs
- Historic district plaque

## **Additional Projects Updated**

Cuts in both Federal and State funding have continued to reduce the number of cultural and historic positions and funding over the past several years, resulting in a backlog of projects awaiting approval, including a number at the Buckner Orchard.

**Replacement of Doors and Screens at the Buzzard Cabin and Cellar** (unbudgeted) The BHHF research necessary for this project has been completed and awaits planning and funding.

**Re-roof and repair of Milk Separator House** (unbudgeted) A possible project for 2016 or later.

**Possible restoration of the Studebaker wagon and/or red truck** is still delayed with hope for resolution of ownership issues in 2016. (unbudgeted in 2015)

## **Buckner Home Restoration Continues**



In April of 2014, the *National Park Service* began renovation of the Buckner Home under the direction of NPS historic restoration specialist, Dana Barton. The home is now on solid footing, with leveling and a new foundation in place with proper drainage. NPS funding for continuation of restoration in 2016 is undecided at this time.

*(2014 photo of foundation work)*

## EVENTS, MEETINGS, AND ACTIVITIES

### Square Dancing at the Orchard!



150+ people of all ages enjoyed another beautiful night of dancing and music by the *Chelanigans*. The evening was a nice respite from the fire and smoke of the summer of 2015.

*(Harry Buckner calling his last square dance at the Orchard in 1975)*

## WRITE IT DOWN NOW, SQUARE DANCING AT THE ORCHARD

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2016**

### Harvest Fest 2015

In spite of rainy weather, Harvest Fest 2015 was again a big success thanks to the volunteers who made it all happen.

**The Friday night music program** at the Stehekin School was described by many as "the best ever", with 150 people attending. Standing room only! *Valley Music across the Generations* featured many talented Valley residents and the Valley's own, *Agnes on Fire* band! Many thanks to JoAnne Reiter, Jeannetta Kurth, and Steve Saunders for organizing a great evening and to all who participated



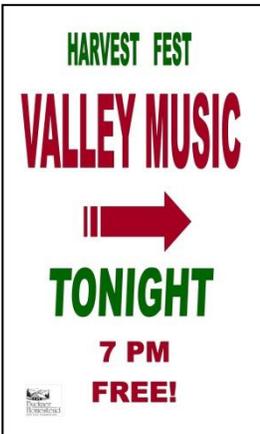


**Cider making and the community potluck** (Saturday) brought together more than 200 hardy souls to enjoy a very large apple crop, a lot of cider making, great food, and the time to visit and reminiscence.

Sadly, *Agnes on Fire*, was not able to play as rain, electricity, and instruments are not a good mix!



*(Agnes on Fire, minus Marissa and Amanda, wait for the rain to stop.)*



*(New roadside sandwich boards were unveiled with different wording for all Harvest Fest events, as well as for work parties and the August square dance.)*

**The Stehekin Valley Poetry Night**, (Sunday) now a part of Harvest Fest, was a relaxing conclusion to a great weekend. 18 of us enjoyed reading and listening to published, as well as original, selections.

**Mark it on your calendar now. Harvest Fest 2016 will be Friday - Sunday, October 7-9**

## Work Parties

A key part of the Foundation's work is supplementing work done at the Orchard by the National Park Service, both in the form of work parties and time contributed by individuals. Without these many volunteers, keeping the Orchard and Homestead alive and well would be far less successful.

**Foundation Work Parties (3) 102 hours**  
**Individual Hours 150 hours +**

Activities included, but not limited to:

Changing water	Cleaning ditches
Thinning apples	Mowing for fire protection
Preparing for replanting	Repairing water intake
Cleaning structures (Buzzard Cabin and Shop)	Winterizing
Cleaning up around packing shed slab	Mowing for fire protection
Watering lawns	Repairing garden gate
Apple removal for mice control	Fuel reduction
Mowing lawns	Tree pruning for structure protection
Mowing and weed eating ditches and fence lines	Electric fence set-ups and take-down
Cleaning around buildings for fire and moisture control	
Researching/documenting Buzzard Cabin-Cellar drainage and damage - on-site	
And, more!	

### Volunteers at the Orchard - June work party



## Board Meetings

Formal board activities were conducted at the Annual Meeting in Manson, May 12, and at the Summer Board meeting in Stehekin, August 18, as well as on-line.

## Board Elections

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

**Dick Bingham** (Stehekin) Stehekin Community Representative

**Bob Nielsen** (Stehekin) Stehekin Community Representative

**Doug England** (Manson) Apple Industry Representative

Continuing Board members are:

**Cinda Gilbert** (Manson) Buckner Family

**Crystal Austin** (Chelan) Member At-Large

**Jim Trappe** (Corvallis, Oregon) Member At-Large

**JoAnne Reiter** (Walla Walla) Member At-Large

**Brun Garfoot** (Chelan) Member At-Large

**Herb Sargo** (Sedro-Woolley) Buckner Family

**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.

## National Park Service Activities at the Orchard



*Laurie Thompson* is one those people fortunate enough to have a job they truly love. Having cared for the Orchard for nearly 20 years, Laurie brings experience, innovation, humor, and love for the Orchard to this all-important job as the orchardist for the Buckner Orchard. She can always use your help, even if for an hour or two, but, please let her know ahead of time, if possible.

Some of the *National Park Service* 2015 work at the Homestead, in addition to the care of the orchard by Laurie and others, included:

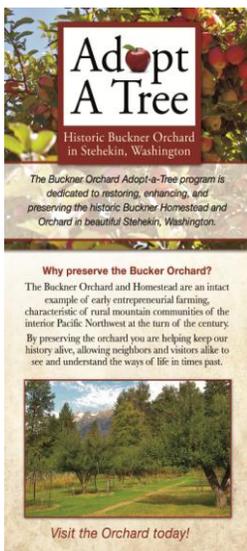


- Fuel reduction (a big job!)
- Work on the Buckner home, as previously detailed
- Working with the Foundation, NPS constructed new steps and handrails for the packing shed slab
- Working with the Foundation, new benches were build by NPS and WCC for use at the packing shed and along Buckner Lane
- Repair of Buzzard Cabin roof
- Grafting of Jonathon stock to increase total to two full rows of this traditional variety at the Orchard
- Replacement of recalled rims on two tractors
- Hazardous tree removal and clean up near Buckner Home and milk separator house
- Noxious weed removal
- Mowing of pasture for hay



*(Last replaced cc 1984, the Buzzard Cabin roof is not scheduled for replacement until 2018.)*

**SUPPORT**



**Adopt-A-Tree**

Adopt-A-Tree continues to provide funds for support of Foundation work at the Orchard, with 40 adoptions totaling \$1,000 in 2015. (Contributions must be reported for the year in which they are received. Hence the adoptions received in November and December of 2015 for 2016 are reported to the IRS as received in 2015.)

*(Adopt-A-Tree brochures were updated to rack cards in 2015 thanks to the work of Buckner great granddaughter, Crystal Austin, Crystalview Graphics)*

## **Memberships**

21 memberships of various levels, totaling, \$2,950, helped fund projects in 2015 and into the future. This was down from 34 in the previous year.

## **Donations**

\$1,575 in donations were made to the Foundation in 2015.

## **In-kind Contributions**

Services and equipment use of approximately \$1,500 from individuals and businesses made the work of the Foundation more effective and much easier. In-kind contributions included:

Barge transportation, *Tom Courtney Tug and Barge (Mountain Barge Services)*  
Maintenance and continued development of our website, *Crystalview Graphics*  
Equipment for Harvest Fest, *Stehekin Valley Ranch, Stehekin School, Stehekin Community,*  
Two new 10' orchard ladders, *Northwest Whole Sale*  
Board meeting facilities, *Lake Chelan Reclamation District and Stehekin Pastry Company*  
Clerical Materials, *Various individual*  
Publicity and Reporting - *Golakechelan.com. Lake Chelan Mirror KOZI radio, Wilfred Woods, and Greg Kennedy*  
Chamber of Commerce Membership, *Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce-BHFF exchange*  
Facilities use - *Stehekin School District*  
Photography - *Leo Christoffer, Nancy Barnhart, Crystalview Graphics, and Herb Sargo*

And, the many individuals who made all our events and efforts successful, with special thanks to those who helped make Harvest Fest a success in spite of the rain!

Thank you, all!

## **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 2015 program year.

**Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce** – Memberships were exchange between the Foundation and the Chamber, allowing each to be a member of the other, enhancing the presences of each in the community and beyond.

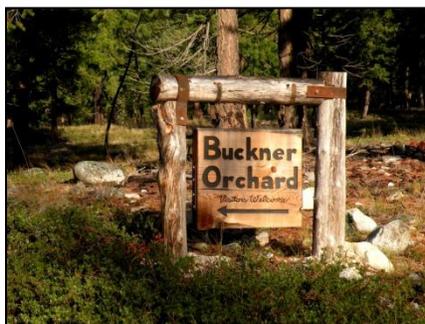
The primary means of communication for the Foundation is e-mail, saving both time and money.

Three member updates were sent during 2015, 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 so much appreciated.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The Foundation continues to meet with NPS staff regarding **structure preservation** and care of privately-owned equipment.

**The Foundation president met with various NPS staff** during the year to ensure strong communication, a good working relationship, and meaningful support for the Homestead and Orchard. Communication is ongoing with the *National Weather Service* regarding the weather station replacement, as well.



## 2015 FISCAL REPORT CONTINUES ON FOLLOWING PAGE

### Snowy Scenes at the Buckner Orchard, January 2016



Buckner Home Kitchen Porch



Annual pruning in the snow has begun



Buzzard Cabin

## FINANCIAL - 2015 Final Report

CATEGORY	SUB-CATEGORY	2015 BUDGETED	2015 FINAL	100.00%
<b>I. Balance Forward</b>		<b>\$23,784.83</b>	<b>\$23,784.83</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>II. Revenues</b>	A. Adopt A Tree	\$900	\$1000	111%
	B. Donations - General Fund	\$1000	\$1,575	157%
	C. Packing Shed			
	D. Memberships	\$2,225	\$2,950	132.58%
	E. Interest (Cashmere Valley Bank)	\$75	\$64.74	90.20%
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$4,200</b>	<b>\$5,599.64</b>	<b>133.16%</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>		<b>\$27,984.83</b>	<b>\$29,377.47</b>	<b>105%</b>
<b>III. Expenses</b>	A. Equipment repair/maintenance	-\$200		0.0%
	B. Harvest Fest	-\$100	-\$87.71	87.71%
	C. Priority Projects	-\$11,200	-\$9,200	82.14%
	D. Incorporation and Affiliation	-\$80.00		0.0%
	E. Administrative Costs	-\$300	-\$202.13	67.37%
	F. CFNCW Affiliation			
	G. Incidentals	-\$200		0.0%
	H. Equipment Purchases	-\$500	-\$184.83	92.41%
	I. Summer Event	-\$1,000	-\$1,288.26	128.82%
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$13,310</b>	<b>-\$11,105.93</b>	<b>83.44%</b>
<b>IV. ENDING BALANCE FWD</b>		<b>\$14,674.83</b>	<b>\$18,271.54</b>	<b>124.51%</b>

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)