

2010 YEAR IN REVIEW

—BY SANDI GRAY

Activities and Events

We Vote! 100 Years for Washington Women - Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Suffrage through Quilts, Textiles and Traditional Women's Crafts. This event, held May 8 at the Schmidt House in Tumwater was sponsored by the THA Homestead Quilters, the South Sound Quilt Study Group and the Olympia Tumwater Foundation. Participants included the Olympia Women's Club, Bigelow House Museum, the YWCA "Other Bank," the Tumwater Middle School Homesteaders and 22 volunteers, mostly in period costume. Highlights included Tumwater Mayor Pete Kmet, noon speakers Senator Karen Fraser and County Auditor Kim Wyman. Quilt and fabric expert Bev Dunivent provided workshops on quilts and patterns of the 1910 era and on quilt care and repair. A special pictorial quilt featuring local suffragettes designed and made by the two quilting groups was on display. The event was videotaped by Terry Huntley and has been featured on Tumwater TV.

Pioneer Fair - June 3, 4 and 5 at the American Heritage Campground. TMS Homesteaders provided this hands-on children's fair to Tumwater's 4th grade students and, on Saturday, to the public. Activities included rope making, blacksmithing, candle making and many other opportunities for the children. The THA general store was on hand and the Cispus parents provided refreshments. Many THA board members sported their period costumes.

Thurston County Through the Decades - October 3, 2010 at Tumwater Falls Park. This event was the first of a series highlighting each quarter century of Thurston County history beginning with 1825-1850. Featured activities included the New Market Homestead Cider Sunday with cider pressing by the TMS Homesteaders. Other activities included rope making for children, 1825 style letter writing, fur trapping and other demonstration, music by John Salico, riverwalk tours, Stream Team salmon activities, the THA Country Café operated by Cispus parents, the THA General Store, *Somewhere in Time Unlimited* period clothing fashion shows, a Dutch Oven cooking demonstration, and other activities.

- **Homesteader Dance and Dessert Fest** held February 27 at Tumwater Middle School
- **Living History Day** at Fort Nisqually with Dave Shade and his rope making equipment
- **Welcome Homesteaders** September 18 at Delphi School
- **Homestead Quilters** demonstration in August at the Thurston County Fair
- **Quilter's Getaway** on October 30 at Olympics West
- **Homestead Quilters** participation at **A Day of Jubilation** celebrating Women's Suffrage November 8 at the state capital building.
- **Homestead Quilters** taught the three week Homesteader girls quilting class in April—the girls each made one or two squares of a log cabin quilt.

Outreach/Marketing/Membership Activities:

- Created and distributed the Tumwater Historical Association brochure which provides information, activity schedules and membership information.
- Created the THA website, tumwaterhistoricalassociation.org with the help of New Market students. The website features several pages and a video done by the students at the Pioneer Fair.
- Placed month long displays in the Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater Timberland Libraries promoting our activities and the Tumwater Middle School Homesteader Program.
- Created and distributed an educational brochure promoting *We Vote! 100 Years for Washington Women* and providing a detailed history of women's suffrage in Washington.
- Created and distributed three newsletters featuring THA activities and reminiscences from the past.

Grants and Scholarships:

- Awarded \$2750 grant from the City of Tumwater for tourism events
- Awarded \$4000 grant from Thurston County for authentic period costumes
- Gave \$300 Edna Holden Scholarship Awards to two Tumwater students

Fundraising:

- **Medallion** Quilt with Log Cabin Appliqué was completed by the Homestead Quilters, who sold raffle tickets at all THA activities and other locations and raised over \$700.
- The THA **General Store** operated at each THA activity.
- **History of Tumwater** books by Don Trosper offered for sale at THA events and community locations.