

MUSEUM NEWS

MEET THE MUSEUM

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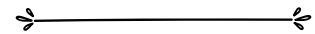
Ann Peavey



Batter up! Baseball season is in full swing, which seems an opportune time to share this photo of Leavenworth's first baseball team in 1907.

Reports from an April 1904 Leavenworth Echo mentions baseball enthusiast John B. Adam's desire to bring the game to town. Within a short time, a location was secured, funds were raised, and the town's first game took place shortly thereafter.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Matt Cade | President, Greater Leavenworth Museum

In July 2018, I began my first of six years as the board president of the Upper Valley Historical Society. Because our bylaws state that board members can serve no more than two three-year terms, my last day on the board is June 30th. As a tribute to my parents, Edmund Ross Cade (1930–2019) and Bernice Evelyn Meyer Cade (1931–2023), who said they always did their best, I also did my best.

While we are working on plans to nominate a successor, I am confident that our 'Museum on the Move' momentum will continue to attract the kind of community leaders and talent to make a quality community asset even better. If you or someone you know would like to be part of an organization whose unstated core mission is to build a sense of community and belonging, please contact a board member or volunteer for more information, or email us at info@leavenworthmuseum.org.

I want to thank the many individuals and organizations who gave us the encouragement and support we needed to be successful. To recognize the generosity of these parties, we will end our *Museum on the Move* capital drive soon and create a donor recognition plaque, which we will permanently display at the Greater Leavenworth Museum.

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New Programs Bring Big Crowds

Our Programs Committee, led by board member Georgia Bakke-Tull, has been busy! Hitting the ground running last fall, the committee has already brought four outstanding programs to the Upper Valley. 'Skiing: Then, Now & Beyond' featured Lowell Skoogs and Michael Shaffer - both legends in their respective snow fields; John Linden shared stories on Norwegian ski-jumping in Leavenworth and the Pacific Northwest; local historian Rolliie Schmitten regaled a sold-out crowd with stories and photos of the Lake Wenatchee area; and a Dessert Theater with a showing of the '06 centennial program 'Women of Substance' showcased the many local ladies who left indelible impressions in Leavenworth's first 100 years.

If you are interested in helping bring more historical programming to the Upper Valley, or have ideas for future programs, reach out to info@leavenworthmuseum.org to get connected with Georgia.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Continued from page 1

Our past accomplishments are many. As of December 31st, 2023, we met the board's top three goals from 2019: to relocate the Museum to its current location, to achieve an annual attendance of 12,500 in our third year of operations, and to be open daily year-round.

We completed the relocation in September 2020 but were not allowed to open until February 2021 because of the effects of COVID-19. The favorable weather in December 2023 created record crowds, resulting in a final attendance of 13,201. In 2023, the board boldly decided to be open every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas in 2024. We are only one of two museums in North Central Washington open daily throughout the year. We project attendance in 2024 to be 15,000.

With the help of award-winning museum designer Chris Erlich, project coordinator Mara Bohman, a dedicated group of p'squosa from the Colville Tribal Language, History, and Archeology Departments, and others who advised and directed planning process over two years, we opened our doors to a much-awaited expansion of our First Peoples' exhibit in June 2023. *šnp əšcʷáwšəxʷ: We Are Still Here* tells the story of the p'squosa (the people in-between), in their own words, from their deeply rooted history to the present day.

We continue to collaborate with other organizations to strengthen our outreach into the community. Mary Nelson, a board member and Chair of our Education Committee, is teaming up with Judy Derpack, Cascade School District board member and the Museum's Office Coordinator, who are working with the local elementary school this spring to repeat last year's successful field trips to the Museum.

Georgia-Bakke-Tull, one of our newest board members and Chair of our Programs Committee, has created a partnership with Wenatchee River Institute and its Red Barn Events. Thanks to her efforts, the speakers at our first two Red Barn Events resulted in standing-room-only crowds in their riverside venue.

In January, Christie Voos, board member and Secretary, facilitated our board retreat to review our strategic plan. We compared our accomplishments to the four initial strategic goals established in 2022, and we will meet again soon to refine our goals as we advance. The retreat reinvigorated everyone as we reviewed our accomplishments and set our sights on the bright future of the Upper Valley Historical Society.

Finally, as I sign off my final President's Corner, I must thank my lovely bride, Carol, for her unlimited and unconditional support, without which I could never have served as UVHS's board president. I often say, "It was a miracle the Museum got built," but I quickly add that "my angel had a huge hand in it."

Thank you, everyone, for your encouragement and support, and I wish the Upper Valley Historical Society and its board, members, and supporters continued success into the future.



Matt Cade | President
Greater Leavenworth Museum

National Media Highlights GLM

Ann Peavey | Volunteer | Greater Leavenworth Museum

The winter of 2024 has been memorable to many in a variety of different ways, but the Museum will undoubtedly reflect on it as the Winter of National Media Coverage for years to come.

The Museum's Advertising and Marketing Committee regularly reaches out to local and regional media to promote and highlight ongoing events, and newsworthy happenings. Less frequently, our committee receives requests from media who are seeking

information, photos, historic anecdotes, the best "shooting sites" which best depict the town's history through their publications and shows. Rarely, these requests come from huge, nationally-recognized networks such as CBS and PBS.

In early December, producers from both CBS and PBS-affiliate WETA made contact with our museum's marketing team inquiring about details of the town's history, asking for suggestions of interviewees for their upcoming productions. Ultimately, *CBS Sunday Morning* correspondent Luke Burbank met and interviewed numerous community members. Burbank shared the story of how our former boom-town-gone-bust remade itself into the nation's most popular old world Bavarian-themed village with anecdotes and stories from Kevin Rieke, Robert Johnson and Robin John, and GLM volunteer Ann Peavey. The episode aired on the morning of Christmas eve and is available to watch at CBS.com.



Ann Peavey, GLM volunteer, sharing local insight with CBS Sunday Morning correspondent Luke Burbank



WETA's Cori Kipps interviews John Sirois, Traditional Territories Advisory for the Colville Confederated Tribes

Less than a month later, video content producer Cori Kipps, with WETA - the primary PBS-affiliate in Washington, D.C. - came to visit. With an eye on producing a series of short, online videos focusing on 'Small Towns with Big Icons', Kipps' time spent in Leavenworth in early January included interviews with local historian (and GLM volunteer) Natalie Briody, and John Sirois - Traditional Territories Advisor for the Colville Confederation of Tribes. Interviewees shared local knowledge of Leavenworth's past and present specifically highlighting the indigenous history of the p'squosa and stories of the town's transformation to today's Bavarian town.

Welcome to Our New Board Members



Heather McDowell (L) and Georgia Bakke-Tull - newest members of the GLM Board of Directors

Heather McDowell has a diverse background both in the biopharmaceutical field and as a Certified Nursing Assistant for elderly with cognitive memory illnesses. New to the valley, Heather gravitated towards the Museum - having spent more than 30 years participating in living history reenactments in California. Heather and her husband, John, retired five years ago and moved to the Lake Wenatchee area after visiting Leavenworth for 40+ years to see holiday lights.

Georgia Bakke-Tull was an original member of the Upper Valley Museum's steering committee and Board of Directors, and was one of the museum's first employees as Program Manager. Her retirement after 52 years in the radiology field led to following her love of history. Georgia founded the Upper Valley Women's Coalition specifically to develop the area's first museum. As she returns to the Board, she heads the museum's Programs Committee and has already hit the ground running with multiple programs under her belt in 2023 and 2024.

We are delighted to have these two talented women join Team Museum and share their time helping the museum further their community and membership goals.

Collections Close-Up

Ann Peavey | Collections Co-Chair | Greater Leavenworth Museum

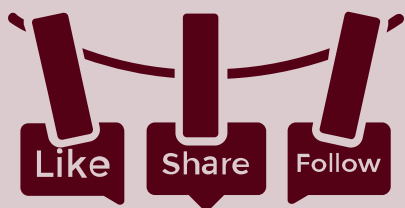




Imagine our excitement after being contacted by a local donor who was offering a 1883 copy of Laura Holloway's 'The Hearthstone' - with an inscription to Charles Leavenworth on his wedding day in 1885!

Then imagine our Collections Committee embarking on research that indicated that, indeed, the book was given to Charles Leavenworth by his mother - but it was a different Charles than our town's namesake.

Indeed, not everything is as it appears. While initially ecstatic in anticipating accessioning this unique piece of history into our collections, as with every donation the team set forth to ensure the proper local historic *provenance* (i.e. ensuring the history of the book was connected to our Upper Valley community). After thorough research, our team found the date of Charles' wedding did not jibe with what we knew from his local history. The inscription, "Charles Leavenworth on the occasion of his wedding reception, April 21, 1885" did not hold muster, as *this* Charles Leavenworth wed Mary Wardrip, whereas our town's namesake's first wife was Kate. Subsequently, he went on to marry Carrie Russell in 1902, whereas the book's owner passed in 1895.

While ultimately we weren't able to move forward adding this particular item to our collections, we're thankful for the opportunity. Our extensive collections are only possible with generous donors such as this one.



 @LeavenworthMuseum
 @LeavenworthMuseum

New Donation Box From Creative Local



Volunteers are the heart of the Greater Leavenworth Museum - offering their time, skills, and invaluable expertise in various areas of need. Elmer Larsen, long-time museum supporter and volunteer, recently transformed our rather ordinary looking acrylic-topped donation box in a most unique way.

Elmer's carving skills were put to work as he created a three-dimensional scene atop the box depicting a strolling accordionist with an audience of youngsters - with the museum's entryway as a backdrop. His clever creation includes a donation slot (which feeds into the existing box) through a carved replica of an accordion case open for busking.

We are tremendously thankful for volunteers like Elmer, and hope visitors and members of the community will enjoy this whimsical piece for many generations to come.



Heartfelt Thanks to Fabulous Volunteers



Thousands of volunteer hours are spent each year helping to keep visitors coming through the museum's doors each year. Our enthusiastic volunteers welcome guests, vacuum floors, dust exhibits, build storage, move heavy items, march in parades, organize our membership, create programs, participate in the Chamber of Commerce's Ambassador programs, and serve in various roles within the community representing the museum. **Thank you to the following volunteers for your continued commitment to furthering our mission to preserve and promote the history of the Upper Valley:**

Rosie Alaimo
 Paul Anderman
 Karen Arnold
 Mogens Bach
 Georgia Bakke-Tull & Dan Olsen
 Vicki Barber
 Mara & Brian Bohman
 Glade Brosi & Family
 Natalie Briody
 Paddy Breeze
 Roger Breeze
 Bill Brown
 Bob & Carolyn Bugert
 Matt & Carol Cade
 Howard Clarke
 Claudia Cockerham
 Sarah Collamore
 Tom Derpack
 Norm Dorpat & Betsy Fradd
 Bobbi Ferg
 Marianne Frank
 Karen Haire
 Adele & Pat Haley
 Freida Johnson
 Annette Jouard
 Jennifer Fromm Klansnic

Elmer Larsen
 Kay Lisch
 Heather McDowell
 Evan McCauley
 Heather & John McDowell
 Patti McGaughey
 Paul & Dodie Gray
 Neil & Nancy McReynolds
 Don & Mary Morse
 Wade & Kathi Nash
 Margaret Neighbors
 Mary & Dan Nelson
 Lisa Ott
 Ann & Mike Peavey
 Cat Perry
 Kurt & Celeste Peterson
 Bernadine Phillips
 Tom & Cheryl Phillips
 Brian Praye
 JoAnne Prusa
 Chris Rader
 Christie Voos
 Melanie Wachholder
 Sharon Waters
 Debbie Watkins
 Sabrina and Bill Westbrook
 Mike Wyant



'Rake the Spring Twigs' is this month!

Be ready to 'Rake the Spring Twigs' on Saturday, April 27th at the Old North Road Cemetery (across from the Icicle Station Amtrak stop). Lunch will be provided for participants, thus volunteers should plan to arrive by 10:00am to place their orders. Bring rakes, gloves, and gardening tools to help spiff-up the grounds. The Leavenworth Alphorns will be returning for an encore performance.

Funds for continued maintenance are always needed - particularly now that our one-time donor gift from Ward's Funeral Chapel (1970-2018) is running out. Donations will be put towards purchasing a mower, so that volunteers can regularly mow in the future (rather than hiring a local company) to reduce costs. Donations can be made online at www.leavenworthmuseum.org.

Project Glockenspiel: A Bavarian Renaissance



GLM volunteer Tom Phillips and Tannenbaum building owner Robert Schichi discuss the future of the glockenspiel and dancing figurines

In 1965, the Tannenbaum Building at 645 Front Street was one of the first six buildings remodeled to mark the start of Project Alpine. As part of the renovation, the owners of the building, Bob Rodgers and Ted Price, created a space in the attic for a glockenspiel and dancing figurines.

The dancing figures still exist but are dusty and covered with bird droppings in the building's dark attic space, hidden behind two curved wooden doors on the east side of the building. Kit Clark, whose family still lives in the area, carved the handsome wooden figures. Kit passed away in 2018 at age 73.

The English translation of the German word glockenspiel is 'chimes or bell play' and is Bavarian music played with Carillon Bells. When Bob and Ted installed the figures and music in the attic space in the mid to late 1960s, its mechanical dancers and music delighted crowds with its daily performances. While the Upper Valley Historical Society (UVHS) is unsure when or why the glockenspiel stopped functioning, the search for answers has already begun.

The Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce board president, Kevin Reike, recalls visitors gathering on Front Street and waiting for the music to start. The wooden doors opened, and the four three-foot-tall painted wooden Bavarian-dressed figures emerged, twirling and dancing for a few minutes before

retreating behind the wooden doors. "The performance always drew a crowd," Kevin said, "and when it was over, everyone seemed to smile and be happier from the experience."

Last fall, UVHS member and supporter Tom Phillips asked Matt Cade, UVHS board president, if UVHS knew anything about the glockenspiel and whether anyone had plans to make it work again. Tom told Matt, "If no one has a plan, I will make it happen".

Matt asked the Chamber board if they knew who owned the building. Some Chamber members thought the building owner lived in California. It turned out that Robert and Sherry Schichi from East Wenatchee purchased the building in 2021. They have owned and operated 'A Matter of Taste' in the Tannenbaum Building since 1999. Tom and Matt met with Robert in December, and Robert is very excited at the prospect of seeing the glockenspiel operate again. Said Robert, "If this project goes forward, I want to donate some funds."

Tom can begin the project when the legal paperwork is complete, cost estimates are obtained, and funds are raised. Barring any permitting or funding issues, Tom estimates that the project will most likely be completed by the end of August, before Labor Day and the start of the Autumn Leaf Festival.



Inabode Tiamiyu was celebrated as the GLM's 12,000th visitor in 2023. From left to right, Dr. Obinna Ekwunife (Seattle, WA), Dr. Moji Tiamiyu (Toledo, OH), and doctoral candidate Iyabode Tiamiyu (Seattle, WA)

Attendance Hits Two New Highs in 2023

By Matt Cade | GLM President

On December 22nd, Inabode Tiamiyu of Seattle entered the Museum to become our 12,000th visitor in 2023. She received free admission and an array of books from our museum store. Accompanying Inabode was her mother, Dr. Moji Tiamiyu of Toledo, Ohio, and a family friend, Dr. Obinna Ekwunife of Seattle.

And then, the Big Surprise!

Seven days after welcoming Inabode as the Museum's 12,000th visitor, we welcomed Natalie Nelson as the 13,000th guest! Natalie had visited the Museum in August with friends from college and wanted to return to the Museum with her mother, Nancy Nelson, during their annual Christmastown adventure. The Nelsons both reside in Bellevue, WA.

Our final visitor count for 2023 was 13,201, which is an increase of 24% from the prior year, and a 112% increase from our first year at our Front Street location.

Grange Building Update



The Upper Valley Historical Society (UVHS) recently received positive results from two critically important engineering assessments before it could move ahead with the final portion of the feasibility study to lease the Chumstick Grange Hall property at 621 Front Street.

The geotechnical report from Nelson Geotechnical Associates (NGAs) removed the specter of the building falling down the hillside. In its preliminary review of NGAs assessment, Syndicate Smith, LLC, the architectural firm engaged to complete the feasibility study, stated that "It doesn't appear that there are any considerations in this report that are detrimental to the continued use, and/or future use (of the building)."

BTL Engineering, P.S. performed a structural building assessment, concluding, "In our opinion, the existing building, which is currently being used for assembly, can be used as a museum or for related uses without modification or retrofit."

As reported in our previous newsletter, Project Save the Grange Hall is a collaborative effort by UVHS and the Chumstick Grange No. 819 that would result in UVHS leasing the property in perpetuity.

This annex to the Greater Leavenworth Museum is an addition to its current location and would allow UVHS to expand and further showcase aspects of the area's history and cultural traditions. The lease would include a community meeting room where Grange members would continue holding monthly meetings. The room would also be available to other nonprofit organizations and community residents.

The two assessments above were primarily funded by a \$6,500 Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority grant. UVHS is preparing the groundwork to raise an additional \$10,000 in donations and other grant opportunities estimated to complete the feasibility study. If you want to help fund the feasibility study, you can do it online at leavenworthmuseum.org. If you would like to learn more about Project Save the Grange Building, please get in touch with us at info@leavenworthmuseum.org.

GREATER LEAVENWORTH MUSEUM

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Thank You to Our Supporters:

Wenatchee River Institute, Chelan Douglas Port Authority, Visit Leavenworth, Icicle Fund, Community Foundation of NCW, City of Leavenworth, Chelan County



We are a Museum on the Move!™

