
KIRKMAN HOUSE MUSEUM



Cover Art by Julie Miller



SAGA OF AN INTERN
ARDEN TELLS ALL



**KIRKMAN
DESCENDANTS**
FAMILY VISITS



**PARTNER
WITH US**
**COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS**
NEW OPPORTUNITIES



**HISTORIC QUILT
EXHIBIT**
OPENING SEPT. 16

All about that Partnership

The Kirkman House has occasionally partnered with other organizations over the years but this year is bringing about new opportunities. The co-exhibit with Fort Walla Walla about the World Wars allowed us to gain larger marketing grants that in turn is allowing us to do the largest advertising push either organization has ever done. It's too early to gauge the effectiveness but it's certainly been a positive learning experience for both organizations and we look forward to more collaborations. We are also working with Shakespeare Walla Walla to develop a Mystery Dinner experience to be held at the museum in 2016. Net proceeds will be split between the organizations and if popular may be a regular offering.

We are not only looking for other non-profits to partner with but for profit businesses as well. One that has been working well for several months is Walla Walla Food Tours. The Kirkman House is the second stop on the tour and is the favorite of the people that attend. A museum docent gives a short talk about the Kirkmans and the house while participants eat a sandwich from Graze. We look forward to continuing this partnership and developing additional special events with Walla Walla Food Tours. Read more on page 4. Another partnership under development is with AJ Carriages and will utilize their new 20 person wagon. We have developed a one and a half hour historic home and art wagon tour that we hope to kick off by the end of September.

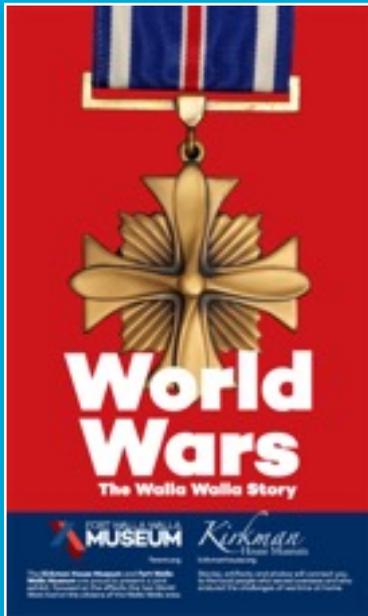
Education partnerships are also strengthening with our Hands on History program that you can read more about on page 7.

Saga of an Intern

By Arden Robinette

When I started my internship at the Kirkman House Museum here in Walla Walla, I wasn't really sure what to expect. I knew my main job would be giving tours, but based on what board member Rick had told me, the museum needed help everywhere. The museum is staffed entirely by volunteers—a handful of extremely dedicated Walla Wallans who love history like I do—so there is a whole lot to do. I knew I might be tasked with some challenging projects, but I didn't anticipate how much I would enjoy them!

Since I started working full-time at the end of May, I've been keeping a running list of all the tasks I've accomplished so far. To my pleasant surprise, I've enjoyed every single one—even the slightly mundane



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Kent Settle

Immediate Past President
Mona Geidl

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Susan Monahan
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Kent Settle
Rick Tuttle

Summer Intern
Arden Robinette

Volunteers
Laura Ames
Esther Hippauf

Special Thanks
Walla Walla Food Tours
Jim and Janet Steffens
Sara Portesan- wagon art
Fort Walla Walla Museum
Ace Hardware
AJ Carriages
Baskin Robbins
Four Feathered Sparrow LLC



Back of the 20 person wagon.

household chores. My tasks have included dusting, weeding, scraping paint off the carriage house, and checking the smoke detectors (which becomes especially exciting when they're mounted on thirteen-foot-high ceilings!). It's rewarding to know that my work is helping to restore the Kirkman House Museum to the home it once was. I like to think the Kirkmans would be impressed with the state of their front garden if they saw it today, and knowing that I helped with that is really gratifying.

I've also been challenged to try new things. I've worked on marketing the museum and its events creating and editing content for the museum's Facebook page, and promoting the museum through



partnerships with organizations like AAA. I haven't done any sort of marketing work before, but it's been a fun challenge to take on. For the Rosie the Riveter show, for example, I helped design promotional materials, submitted advertisements to all the local newspapers, created a Facebook event for it, and linked up the ticketing page with Google Analytics to help track how our attendees found the event.

All the above jobs have been in conjunction with other volunteers, but I've also taken on a few individual projects. I researched, planned, and wrote a guide for a new tour we're starting with the local carriage company. We'll be taking guests around historic Walla Walla neighborhoods in a horse-drawn covered wagon, along the way pointing out notable houses and telling the stories of their residents. I've also worked to create an interactive version of the story of William Kirkman, the original owner of the Kirkman House.

William Kirkman's story is truly a fascinating one, and even though I really enjoy all the other tasks I've taken on at the museum, giving tours is easily my favorite. I love meeting visitors and discovering what brought them to Walla Walla. Three sisters from Alabama came to Walla Walla because their father, who had recently passed, had spent some time here

FALL EVENTS



SHEEP TO SHAWL

Saturday, October 3
10am to 3pm



VICTORIAN BALL

Saturday, October 24
7:30pm

Milton-Freewater
Community Center

Advance tickets available
in late September at
kirkmanhouse.org or at
the Kirkman House
Museum.

\$20 per person
students \$15
\$25 at the door

WHISPERED MEMORIES PSYCHIC FAIR

Saturday, November 7
10am to 4:00pm

Tickets available in
October.

and they wanted to follow in his footsteps. A mother from Omaha, Nebraska came out west to watch her son's debut with the Sweets. A woman from Alaska and a man from northern Alberta were shocked to hear that William Kirkman spent time in Lillooet, British Columbia—the woman had gone to school there. Two married Whitman graduates came with the husband's mother, who had known the granddaughter of William Kirkman and was overjoyed to see the family's original piano she had heard so much about. I love hearing visitors' stories, and sharing the Kirkmans' story with them. I like to watch as they interact with the history all around them, admiring the museum's beautiful architecture and historic family heirlooms. I love watching history bring people together, and I'm really grateful that I've had this opportunity to see the power of history.



By Teresa Fausti

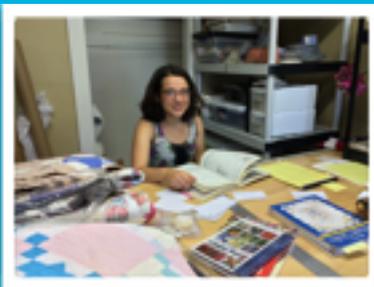
Walla Walla Food Tours is thrilled to include the Kirkman House as one of our strategic partners. Their role in the development of the food tour and participation as one of our six food, drink and historical stops has helped to make our excursion a popular activity for Walla Walla locals and visitors.



HISTORIC QUILT EXHIBIT

September 16 through
November 1

The exhibit will feature a collection of pieced and appliqué vintage quilts dating from 1859 to the 1930s. Many are in the Museum's collection but others are from private owners. A variety of patterns as well as fabrics will be displayed.



Volunteer Esther Hippauf assists Exhibits Chair Carolyn Priest with research on the quilts to be exhibited.

Make a donation or renew your membership today at:
<http://tinyurl.com/ooy2qpb>

Tour guests feel honored and special to have such access to and attention from the Kirkman House and its staff. The ability to serve our guests a tea sandwich in the original dining room is a unique element to any tour. We watch how guests look around in wonder, nibbling and imagining the Kirkmans eating where they now sit. (We are always sure to mention that the Kirkmans loved to entertain and would enjoy knowing their house continues to be used for that purpose.) Food tour guests are also treated to stories of the Kirkmans and often treated to Rick Tuttle dressing up as William Kirkman. No wonder this stop is often called out as a favorite on our downtown route. Some of our guests return for another visit and tour of the entire house.

The exquisite landmark and knowledgeable staff have been instrumental in ensuring the history represented throughout our entire walking tour of



Rick dressed Steampunk with Tour guests

Walla Walla is engaging, fun and accurate. Many of the stories we tell on the tour were shared or inspired by the research and knowledge presented by the volunteer historians. The Kirkman House helped us discover numerous city treasures we can now share with countless others who join the food tour.

From the very first day we walked through the Victorian front doors and heard that welcome bell ring, we were met with enthusiasm, ideas and entrepreneurial spirits willing to collaborate. Walla Walla Food Tours looks forward to developing many other ways to cross promote with the Kirkman House and share with others why the building, artifacts and people are to be reveled.

Thank you Kirkman House Museum

Walla Walla Food Tours Owners
Nancy Barcenas and Teresa Fausti

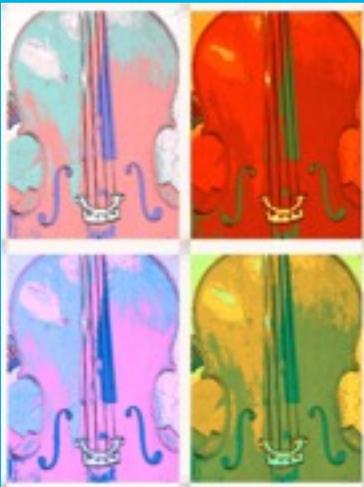
WINTER EVENTS

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Thursday & Friday
December 3 & 4
12pm to 8pm

VICTORIAN
CHRISTMAS

Saturday December 5
11am to 5:30pm

KIRKMAN HOUSE
LIVE
CHAMBER MUSIC
The Night Before
Christmas

Saturday December 5, 7:30pm
and
Sunday December 6, 2pm

Kirkman Family Visits

It's always great to have family come to Kirkman House and we have had the pleasure of visits from both Kirkman and Reynolds families during the past year. Last August Carol Kirkman came by with a granddaughter and grandson. It's not many children who have a museum built around their family and the kids enjoyed getting up close with artifacts that had actually been used by their "great greats." Ann Reynolds visited with her sister, Nancy, and was pleased to see the china and crystal she and Barb brought us last year displayed in places of honor. Next time the Reynolds' sisters visit they'll see the impressive rack of linens they donated. These elegant table coverings are a big hit with visitors. Dick Reynolds and his wife Joani were just here this month and got their first view of Fanny Kirkman's magnificent bedroom furniture-- which they donated-- in place in her bedroom. We are so appreciative and consider the bedroom suite one of the most special



Jan Steffens

aspects of Fanny's room. We are sad that we lost Betty Kirkman Jacobs in February and honored that she thought of us and bequeathed some very important objects: a what-not shelf that Isabella purchased in San Francisco, a ceramic figurine of William III astride a horse (which was Isabella's favorite piece) the "wart" vase that is seen in some of our old photos and Leslie's diploma from Whitman Academy. Betty's daughter, Jan Steffens, and Jan's husband Jim delivered the items and we all had a great visit. Our most recent Kirkman family visitors were Laura Mulcahy and her husband Steve, who make Kirkman House an annual stop. We are hoping to see more of our "relatives" in the future!

Hands on History Recap

Hands on History took on a different format for its eighth year. Rather than bringing local Camp Fire kids to the Kirkman House Museum, we brought history to them! On June 29 and July 2, Immediate Past President Mona Geidl, Treasurer Pam Myers, and summer intern Arden Robinette went out to Wildwood Park for Camp Fire's Super Summer in the Park. Their theme of the week was "Give Me Liberty," drawn from the famous Patrick Henry quote and centered on teaching the campers about the American Revolution.

The first day, the volunteers staged a reenactment of the Battle of Bunker Hill. The "Americans" were stationed in an advantageous position atop one of the park's many hills, while the more numerous "British" were stationed on lower ground. The British led three charges up the hill, spurred on by "King George" (Mona) and "Queen Charlotte" (Arden). The ammunition? Water balloons. Hundreds of balloons were provided to the campers, and while the British won the battle, all the campers had a lot of fun beating the heat and learning about history.

The second day was devoted to preparations for Independence Day. Campers learned about the history of the holiday and made patriotic necklaces and paintings to celebrate. They were slightly disappointed that there were no more water balloons, but still enjoyed their crafts. More events are planned with more partners and next year will be even bigger

Rosie the Riveter Style Show Recap

The style show ended up being a big success but was not without worries. The concern stemmed primarily from the looming hot weather forecast as the big day grew closer. As the forecast firmed up it became apparent we could not hold the event outside at the museum so a new location was sought. The Elks Lodge came through at the last minute and hosted the event at a very reasonable rate. Pre-sales were also an area of concern as only about 30 tickets had been sold but nearly 100 ended up attending which was a nice surprise. Big thanks needs to go to Four Feathered Sparrow LLC for doing the models hair, the models, and of course to Maejul Gannon and her entourage for putting it all together.





Dick and Joani Reynolds from Ohio, stopped in recently to see the Fanny's bedroom set they donated last September.

What's up at Fort Walla Walla

BLUE MOUNTAIN
ANTIQUe TRUCK CLUB
September 19

A collection of classic trucks shined
up and ready to show.

ARCHAEOLOGY DOWNTOWN
WALKING TOUR

Walla Walla's China Town
Saturday, October 17, 2015
\$10 Members, \$15 non-members

MANY WATERS TALK AND BOOK
SIGNING WITH AUTHOR
BOB CARSON
Thursday, September 24, 2015
5pm to 6pm

A Capital Issue

Kirkman House Museum was recently awarded a Heritage Capital Project grant from the State of Washington, in the amount of \$10,803. These funds will cover one third of the cost of the following restoration projects: replastering of the historic kitchen walls and ceiling (which has been completed), restoration of the two chimneys at the back of the house, replacement of a firebox in dining room fireplace, and the restoration of the original interior gutter and downspout system.

The chimneys are in desperate need of repair to restore their structural integrity. The firebox needs to be replaced before the fireplace can be used again, and the gutter and downspout system is absolutely necessary to minimize water infiltration and the deterioration of the house's fragile foundation.

Over the next year, we will be working diligently to raise the funds to meet the matching requirement for the HCP grant to complete these long overdue projects. Any, and all donations towards these brick and mortar projects would be greatly appreciated.