



Issue 4 2010

# Kirkman

HOUSE MUSEUM



## Victorian Christmas Jubilee and Holiday Bazaar

The museum's annual holiday open house this year falls on Saturday, December 4 from 1:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. It's a great way to warm up with music, traditional holiday décor and lots of goodies before heading over to see the annual Macy's Parade of Lights at 6:00 P.M.

The Walla Walla Valley Band will stop by for a performance at 1:30, and members of the Living History Company will drop in at 2:30 to share their memories of holidays past. Other musicians, including the Oregon Trails Band will be in and out throughout the afternoon.



Don't forget that you can bring a new unwrapped toy with you to add to the Toys for Tots box at the museum. Toys will be collected on December 11 and distributed to local children.



find the perfect impeccably crafted gift for family & friends!

This year, we are restoring a special museum event, our holiday bazaar from noon to 8:00 P.M. on Friday, December 3. Featuring talented regional artisans, including Midnight Oil Soap, Wheatland Alpacas & Rootielicious jewelry, the museum will be the place to

## Journey Stories

### The Smithsonian is Coming!

A Most Mobile Nation!  
A mobile people in a vast land:  
Some of us were here already,  
Some of us came hoping for a better life,  
Some of us came in chains, ...



Smithsonian Institution

And all of us are still in motion.



We all have *Journey Stories* ... Each of us has a powerful journey story deep in our personal heritage. It may be a story of a family uprooting itself in order to stay together, or of sons and daughters moving to another land, or of a distant ancestor, perhaps unknown ...

Americans have always been intensely mobile, and we still are. Farmers, mechanics, entrepreneurs, immigrants, and slaves have built American society over four centuries. Travel over roads, rails, rivers, and trails – even the skies – has shaped the American cultural and economic landscape.

The Kirkman House has been selected by the Smithsonian Institution and Humanities Washington to host *Journey Stories*, the Smithsonian's latest Museums on Main Street exhibit. Exploring the roles of migration and transportation in the development of the United States, The exhibit will be at the Kirkman House from January 29 through April 24. Private tours for school groups and children's programs can be reserved by contacting the museum.

## 2010 Board of Directors

Sally Kearsley, Board President  
 Donna Gardner, Vice-President  
 Susan Roberts, Treasurer  
 Pam Myers, Secretary  
 Wendy Cheng  
 Cheryl Cockerline  
 Sue Gillespie  
 Carolyn Priest  
 Andrea Stout  
 Rick Tuttle  
 Josh Van Donge

## Executive Director

Kirsten R. Schober

## Special thanks to -

the many volunteers who helped make this year's Sheep to Shawl such a success;

Wenzel Nursery for donating gravel for our Victorian Rose Garden Walkway;

Gary's Paint & Decorating Center for providing paint for the bathroom restoration;

...and to everyone who supported our events & exhibits this year!

## Restoration Report

By Rick Tuttle, Board Member

This year has been especially busy with maintenance, restoration and improvement projects at the museum.



Isabella's new painted floor closer to the original look of the room, and in uncovering new information on how the Kirkman's altered their domestic environment to suit changing needs.

At the beginning of the year, we closed the upstairs of the home, so that we could restore Isabella Kirkman's floor. The project was exciting both in allowing us to get

## Museum Rentals

The Kirkman House is opening its doors to weddings, receptions and other special events in 2011. We have packages for small intimate gatherings in the museum, and for larger events on the grounds. Landscaping will be completed in time for outdoor events by June. The unique character of our 19th century Italianate home coupled with its location adjacent to our historic downtown & lodging makes the Kirkman House an ideal venue for those special moments shared with family and friends. Call early to reserve your special date.

## Kirkman House Cookbook

Board secretary Pam Myers has taken the lead on producing a cookbook for the museum. The cookbook will include recipes from Kirkman House board members, museum patrons and Kirkman family descendants. Contact us at the museum if you would like to help us with this fundraiser by contributing one or more of your favorite recipes. The finished cookbook will be unveiled to the public at our 2011 Sweet Home Walla Walla historic home tour on April 17.

## Recent Grant Awards

Tourism Walla Walla awarded the Kirkman House \$2,000. The matching funds will be used to promote the museum's April 17 Sweet Home Walla Walla historic home tour and an October tour of historic barns.

Blue Mountain Community Foundation awarded the museum \$1,000 in support its 2011 Program Schedule.

Wildhorse Foundation approved a grant request for \$1,000 to help fund the Journey Stories education programs and curriculum materials.

The Kirkman House programs are made possible through the generous support provided by grantors, membership dues and individual contributions. Please contact the museum at [khm@kirkmanhousemuseum.org](mailto:khm@kirkmanhousemuseum.org) if you would like to become a member or make an additional tax-deductible contribution to our annual fund drive. You may also make online donations by clicking the JustGive button on our homepage at [www.kirkmanhousemuseum.org](http://www.kirkmanhousemuseum.org).

We spent the spring and summer months preparing the kitchen for a major restoration project. Layers of paint were removed from the woodwork, and loose plaster was

removed. The kitchen should be completed and open to the public in early 2011. We are tremendously grateful to Ace Hardware for donating the plaster for the walls, and to Roy and Lianne Schellenberg for volunteering their time and talent.



Kitchen ready for plaster

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Our biggest challenge this year was rehabilitating the front porch. The portico began showing signs of movement recently, and a structural assessment confirmed that it needed immediate attention. The structural portion of this project was recently completed and the columns seem to be much happier and straight. Cosmetic restoration still needs to be completed, but should we wish to do so, we could now hold a dance on the roof.



Front Porch - During repair

The wall between the side porch and rear of the house got two coats of paint and now matches the side porch, restored in 2009, nicely. Next year, with help from a Heritage Resource Center grant,

we'll continue around the back of the house, and begin restoring the windows.

The carriage house also received a lot of attention this year. We pulled back one corner of the carriage house back wall that had been pushed out a couple inches at some point and secured it to the foundation. The ground at the back of the carriage house was re-graded to correct years of earth contact to the structure and siding. We also installed foam insulation in the walls, and began the process of painting the exterior. Our long term goal is to use this building as additional event and programming space, and we intend to install lighting and drywall in 2011.



Outside the carriage house we have started to re-lay bricks to form a patio which will lead to a path the length of the new Victorian Heirloom Rose

Garden. The rose garden will screen the chain link fence and the apartment house behind, creating a beautiful space for outdoor events. Look for completion of that project early next spring. Thanks to the College Place Garden Club for providing needed funds, and to Wenzel Nursery for providing materials.

A big thanks to all the kids from Whitman College and Walla Walla University who came out to help with several of these projects. Without them most of this work would not have gotten done this year.



We have a lot of projects like these on our list and can always use volunteer help along with materials. There will be a list of things we need posted on our web site in the Restoration and Maintenance article on the Support Page. So, if you have something on our list just laying around your garage or shop that you could part with let us know. We will be happy to come by and take it off your hands!

## 2011 Events

### Journey Stories

January 29 - April 24

an exhibit that explores the mobile nature of Americans ~ why we move, how we move and what that says about us.

### Second Sunday Spin-Ins

March - November

### Sweet Home Walla Walla

April 17

A tour of 6 Historic homes

### The Vicarious Traveler

May 7 - July 31

### First Friday ArtWalk

May - December

### Hands on History

June - August

Day and weeklong camps for kids ages 6 - 12

### Pioneer Park Bandstand Concert Series

June - August

### Strawberry Regale & Fashion Show

June 19

An afternoon of delectable desserts and vintage fashions

### Sheep to Shawl Fall Festival

September 10

11 A.M. to 4 P.M.

The museum's fall festival with sheep shearing, spinning and weaving & lamb BBQ

### Whispered Memories Psychic Tea

October 29

### Halloween Party

October 30

Our family-friendly Halloween event

## Heritage Events in the Valley

### Frenchtown Dedication

Saturday, December 11 at 1 pm

Opening & Dedication of the twenty-seven acre Frenchtown Historic Site will take place at the historic site two miles west of the Whitman Mission on Old Highway 12, and will be followed by a reception at Frenchtown Hall in Lowden.

### Fort Walla Walla Museum

*An Olde-Fashioned Christmas & The Landscapes of Leslie Williams Cain*

The museum will be open 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. daily through December 23 with two not-to-miss exhibits.

Historic Architecture Development, Inc.  
DBA Kirkman House Museum  
214 N. Colville  
Walla Walla, WA 99362

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### Get on the Kirkman House e-news list!

Subscribe to our monthly newsletter, and keep updated with museum activities.

Go to [www.kirkmanhousemuseum.org](http://www.kirkmanhousemuseum.org) and enter your email in the "Join our E-mailing List" box in the upper right-hand corner.

The Kirkman House Museum is committed to preserving our past and providing a setting for understanding our local history. There are many ways you can help; your support is what makes great things happen at the Kirkman House!

#### Become a Museum Member

Members' benefits include a subscription to the museum's newsletter, discounts on program on class fees, and invitations to "Members Only" events. Your membership dues help pay for special exhibits and programs at the museum that enhance the cultural spirit of our community.

#### Join the Bricks and Mortar Society

These generous members commit to donating \$200 a year for three years to ensure the preservation work at the museum continues.

#### Include the Kirkman House Museum in your planned giving

From its origin as a museum 1978, the Kirkman House has preserved an important piece of Walla Walla's architectural and cultural heritage. Today, the museum continues to provide education about daily family life in Victorian-era Walla Walla. A gift to the Kirkman House Museum's endowment fund is an investment in the cultural heritage of our valley for future generations.

#### Support the annual fund

Contributions to the museum's annual fund provide important support for the care and maintenance of the museum, the conservation of our collections and our ability to continue providing dynamic programming.

#### Donate in-kind items or services

Contributions of material goods or professional services help reduce the operating costs of the museum.

#### Volunteer

Whether leading tours, assisting with collection management and exhibits, or helping at our special events our volunteers are invaluable to the museum's successful operations.

### Kirkman House Mission

The Kirkman House Museum enriches the Walla Walla community with exhibits, events and programs that bring our valley's history to life.

### Membership Benefits

- Kirkman House Museum Newsletter
- Advance notice for Kirkman House programs
- Invitation to "Members Only" events
- Recognition in the Kirkman House News
- Tax deduction on dues
- Knowledge that you are helping to save the Kirkman House for future generations

### 2010 KIRKMAN HOUSE MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.

I would prefer not to have my name listed in museum publications.

#### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Students/ Seniors (\$15)     Individual (\$25)     Family (\$50)

Supporter (\$100)     Friend (\$250)     Donor (\$500)     Patron (\$1,000+)

Bricks & Mortar Society (\$200 commitment per year for three years)

In addition to my membership, I am enclosing a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help:

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa,  MC, Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with your check payable to: **Kirkman House Museum**

Mail to: Kirkman House Museum 214 N. Colville Walla Walla, WA 99362