Kirkman House Museum invites inquisitive minds of all ages and interests to experience our new exhibit: Catharine Paine Blaine: Seneca Falls and the Women’s Rights Movement in the State of Washington. Take a guided tour of the museum for a glimpse into the daily life of a nineteenth century woman and the struggles she faced as she not only fought for equality but also handled the grueling day-to-day tasks of the Wild West. The exhibit presents an historical context to the struggle for suffrage alongside seldom seen pieces in the Kirkman House permanent collection, including an entire room devoted to hands-on experiences for kids.

This special show, created by the Washington State Historical Society, is on view at the museum until April 18. Classes and homeschool groups are encouraged to contact us at 509-529-4373 to arrange educational tours.

Sweet Home Walla Walla
Kirkman House Museum is excited to announce the date of this year’s Sweet Home Walla Walla tour: Sunday, April 25!

Reserve your tickets now – they are a hot and limited commodity. Museum members enjoy a $15 ticket price while general public admission is $20 a ticket. If you wait until the day of the event you will pay $25 a ticket, space permitting.

This year the homes on the tour will excite and inspire you on your household projects – DIY or otherwise! Come see what others have done to restore, remodel and rebuild their historic homes.

Suffrage March
In celebration of the centennial of woman’s suffrage in Washington State and National Women’s History Month, Kirkman House is organizing an historic reenactment of the famous March 3, 1913 suffrage march on Washington, DC.

Join the pro-suffrage rally or the anti-suffrage hecklers (good natured, of course) for this fun-spirited event! Gather at the museum at 2:00 P.M. on Saturday, March 6 and march through downtown just as suffragists did one hundred years ago.

This demonstration, in conjunction with the Catharine Paine Blaine exhibit currently on view at the museum, highlights the struggles faced by women as they strove for equal protection under the law. The museum hopes to remind us all that equal rights should not be taken for granted, that we continue to fight to this day for equality among all of our nation’s citizens.

Catharine Paine Blaine
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Event Rentals
As you plan your 2010 events, remember that Kirkman House Museum is a wonderful venue for celebrations with your family, friends, co-workers and employees. Grand architecture, historic collections and flexible space make the museum a perfect site to host your party. Rental rates are affordable and include tables, chairs, exhibit space and private museum tours. Contact the museum for more information.

Recent Grants to the Kirkman House
Tourism Walla Walla - $1000.00 for the 2010 Sweet Home Walla Walla Tour.
Blue Mountain Community Foundation - $1500 for the current programs schedule.
George T. Welch Testamentary Trust - $2,000 for exterior restoration.
Clara & Art Bald Trust - $4,500 to help fund restoration of the front porch.

Thank You:
Rachel Pellicer - for enthusiastically joining our team of volunteers.
Susan Monahan - for being a dedicated volunteer and researcher.
Carl Killelea - for your steady service.
Walla Walla Valley Bands, Oregon Trail Bands and Gwen Jones - for creating beautiful music for our Victorian Christmas Jubilee.
Anne Bullock - you know what you did!
June & David McKenzie, Tam Lennox, Rachel Pellicer, Susan Monahan, Judy Jurgensen, Kendi Thomas, Lea Negrin and museum board members - for volunteering your time to make the Victorian Christmas Jubilee possible, beautiful and entertaining.

A message from Sally Kearsley, Board President:

If you have not been to the Kirkman House Museum recently, we invite you to come by and get re-acquainted with us!

Right now, you can learn about the women’s suffrage movement in Washington by walking through the Catharine Paine Blaine exhibit. This joint project of the Washington State Historical Society and the Women’s Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, New York, is part of our celebration of the 100th anniversary of the women of Washington gaining the right to vote.

And watch for the Women’s Suffrage March on the March 6. We invite you to participate in this reenactment of a march in support of the women’s right to vote. All are welcome (even the hecklers!).

These activities are just the beginning of a very busy spring at the museum. Please plan to attend the second annual Sweet Home Walla Walla Tour of historic homes on Sunday, April 25. Tickets will go on sale soon! This is a unique opportunity for you to support the museum while getting a peek into some of the very special period homes in our community. The tour is one of the museum’s primary fund-raising activities, providing resources for our community programming throughout the year.

Later in the year, our Hands on History summer program for children and youth will be offered, featuring day camps and week-long explorations into exciting historic and cultural activities. There are also plans afoot to continue our Summer Bandstand Concert Series, in collaboration with City Parks and Recreation and the Walla Walla Valley Bands.

We appreciate your continuing support of Kirkman House Museum and its activities. Plan to join us at our upcoming events!
Kirkman House Museum hosted our annual Victorian Christmas Jubilee in December for over 240 visitors, the highest attendance we have seen at this event. We had an enthusiastic Saint Nicholas and performances by the Walla Walla Valley Bands, local pianist Gwen Jones and the Oregon Trail Band. The house was full of music, cheer and treats! The board members got busy in the kitchen making the goods for which Kirkman House is famous. No one left hungry!

The basket drawing raised money to support the museum's continued commitment to community programming.

Guests were encouraged to participate in the local Marine Corps Toys for Tots program for which Kirkman House was a drop-off site. We were honored to be included in this wonderful event coordinated by Downtown Walla Walla Foundation's Beth Swanson. Over 700 local children were on the receiving end of this toy drive, that’s almost 275 families - each child received two toys and a stocking stuffer! Everyone had a blast; we cannot wait for the Victorian Christmas Jubilee on December 4, 2010.

2010 Calendar of Events

Catharine Paine Blaine: Seneca Falls & the Women’s Rights Movement in the State of Washington
January 13 - April 8

Suffrage March
March 6, 2:00 P.M.
Honor National Women’s History month and the centennial of women’s suffrage in Washington State with a reenactment of a traditional suffrage march through the streets of downtown. Participants can choose sides - rallying for or against women’s suffrage!

Introduction to Weaving Workshop
April 10, 17, 24, 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
Taught by local weaver Mary Jane Fehrenbacher. Registration is $135, includes use of a spinning wheel and all materials. Members receive a discount. Call to reserve a space.

Second Sunday Spin-In
April 10, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10
1:00 - 4:00 P.M.
Hosted by Susan Swayne. Bring your project to the museum and join other textile artists for an afternoon of fun.

Sweet Home Walla Walla
April 25, 11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Second annual showcase of historic Walla Walla homes. Advance tickets are $20, $15 for members.

Walla Walla Chamber Music Festival Open Rehearsal
June 9, 10:00 A.M.

Hands on History
Summer, dates TDB
Day camps and weeklong workshops for children age 6 - 13.

Pioneer Park Bandstand Concert Series
Summer, dates TDB
Free performances by the Walla Walla Valley Bands hosted by the Kirkman House Museum

Sheep to Shawl
September 26
A family friendly fall festival.

Whispered Memories Psychic Tea
October 30
Communicate with the other side. Tickets are $25, space is limited.

Halloween Party
October 31

Victorian Christmas Jubilee
December 4

Journey Stories
January - April, 2011
A traveling exhibit designed by the Smithsonian Institution examining stories of American spirit.
2010 Projects & Goals:

If you have ever lived in an old house, you know that the gift of embedded history goes hand in hand with a lot of hard work. As a registered historic structure and a dedicated space for community education, the Kirkman House Museum must take special care in restoring and nurturing this 130 year old home. This year, we have an ambitious list of projects.

What’s Cookin’ at Kirkman?
Ten short years after building his family home, William Kirkman added a dining room and kitchen to the back of the house to accommodate his family’s changing needs. The kitchen is one of two rooms in the main home that have not been restored since the house became a museum, but that is about to change. An original linoleum rug is still on the floor, providing clues to the colors of the Kirkman kitchen. Work begins this month on stripping decades of paint off the original wood molding and chair rails. Restoration of the peeling plaster walls will follow. When finished, the kitchen will look much as it did when used by the family cook 100 years ago.

Isabella’s Room
In January the museum closed the upstairs bedrooms so that we could finally pull carpet from Isabella Kirkman’s room. We are almost done sanding and repainting the floor to bring back the look of the room Isabella inhabited.

The Exterior
Following the unusually heavy snows during 2008-2009, the front porch of the house slipped from the home slightly. We will stabilize the porch this spring and hope to restore original features including railings and seating. We are also continuing restoration of the original woodwork around the windows and soffits on the outside of the house and adding era appropriate plantings to the museum grounds. In addition to elbow grease, these projects require lots of funding. We’ve secured a grant from the Washington State Heritage Resource Center to fund half of the work, as well as supporting grants from the local George T. Welch Testamentary Trust and Clara and Art Bald Trust. But we still need additional financial support from our community to accomplish all of our project goals. Please contact us if you can help!

Transitions:

Linda Kastning and Jen Rickard completed their tenure as Kirkman House Museum board members at the close of 2009. Each served the maximum term of three two-year commitments; during that time each served as board president and provided endless support for museum events and community promotion. Both Kastning and Rickard continue to contribute their invaluable support of the museum as members and volunteers. Rickard will continue to be the official museum editor and Kastning is excited to begin “What’s Cookin’ at Kirkman?,’” the kitchen restoration capital campaign she developed.

December was the last month Kirkman House Museum was privileged with the exceptional work of Beverly Filla. Bev has been an AARP volunteer with the museum since July 2008. During her time with the museum Bev made significant contributions. She was an incredible docent with the ability to connect with each and every visitor, tailoring the experience to individual interests. Bev helped coordinate two years of the Hands on History summer camp for kids program and she definitely earned her nickname, Mrs. Clean! We will miss you Bev.
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Walla Walla Harvest Foods

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**Regional Events**

**Through May 28**

**Equal Rights for Washington Women**
Franklin County Historical Museum  
Pasco, WA

**Through August**

**Children’s Clothing and Toys from 1880 to 1955,**
Dayton Historic Depot  
Dayton, WA

**April 1**

**Fort Walla Walla Museum Grand Opening**
Walla Walla, WA

**April 3 & 4**

**Spring Farming Days**
Eastern Washington Agricultural Museum  
Pomeroy, WA

**Through April 18**

**A Litany of Salmon**
Tamástslikt Cultural Institute  
Mission, OR

**May 8**

**Fiber with a Twist**
7th Annual Spin-In  
Richland Public Library  
Richland, WA

**May 15**

**Pendleton Underground Tours “Comes to Life”**
Pendleton, OR

**Through June 2011**

**MOBIUSLAB at CREHST**
Museum  
Richland, WA
Get on the Kirkman House e-news list!

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

Go to 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)
- 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 #: _____________________________________________________
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Please return this form with your check payable to: Kirkman House Museum
Mail to: Kirkman House Museum 214 N. Colville Walla Walla, WA 99362