Oldest Building in Fall City . . . Can We Find It a Home?

Jack Kelley believed that the oldest building in Fall City is the one shown in the photo at right. This small building is shown on River Street in 1887 below, and later, circa 1907, at bottom right. After that, it was moved to several places around town, ending up in its present alley location on property owned by the Bronemann family. This property is now on the market, with the likelihood that a new owner may tear it down.

If it is to be saved, it needs a new home. And if it is to be moved, its height means that overhead wires will be impacted. In short, this would be quite a project. The Fall City Historical Society has a special interest in this building, and might be able to help get funding for project expenses, but does not have the staff to take on the work.

Anyone willing to provide a new location for this piece of history, or to be involved in its relocation, please contact the Historical Society: fallcityhistorical@juno.com or 206-999-2022.

Community Neighborhood Awareness Meeting
CHIEF KANIM MIDDLE SCHOOL
7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Troubled by rumors and/or observations of drug use and sales in the drug-free zones of downtown Fall City? Concerned about graffiti with a racist flavor? Have you experienced yourself or have friends who are victims of break-ins, theft, or vandalism? Concerned about the safety of children walking to and from school between Chief Kanim and the Fall City Library? Concerned about the homeless taking shelter under the local bridges? Then come to a meeting at Chief Kanim Middle School to share with and hear from friends and neighbors, King County Sheriff’s Department staff, school principals, representatives from King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert’s office, and others who may share your concerns and together explore options for addressing these issues. Together we can make a difference. (Meeting sponsored by the Fall City Community Association.)
FALL CITY HAS LOST A FRIEND AND AN ALLY . . .

Jack Kelley loved Fall City. He was instrumental in establishing the Fall City Water District in the early 1980s and was a Lifetime Member of the FCCA, working on many issues he felt were critical to maintaining our rural character. In addition to his civic activities, when Jack retired he discovered a love of writing and combined that with a deep interest in local history to produce many valuable contributions to our community. Jack, with able assistance from his wife Judy, put in hundreds and hundreds of hours of research in bringing together the data, photographs, and the stories and memories that culminated in the publication of Jack’s History of Fall City in 2006. Few small towns are blessed with such an extensive and organized gathering of local history.

Jack will live on in our memories, and in all the ways he helped Fall City thrive and appreciate its unique and rich history. He will be missed.

Jack Elnathan Kelley, longtime resident of Fall City, died in Bellevue on January 3, 2013. He was 83 years of age. Jack was born December 26, 1929, in Snoqualmie Falls, Washington, the son of Jesse and Artie Kelley. Jack was raised in Fall City and graduated from Fall City Grade School, Mt Si High School (Class of ‘48), and Washington State University.

Jack joined the service and was commissioned by the Army to build air bases in England. On July 13, 1953, he married Joanne Spjut in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Upon his discharge, the couple moved to Bellevue. They had three children: Mark, Karen, and Toni. Jack married Judy Rising on March 21, 1974, in Bellevue. He missed the friendly people and the small town character of Fall City, so that year, with Judy and her two children, Jack returned to Fall City, where he resided for all but 20 of his 83 years.

He spent 34 years as an engineer for Boeing. On retirement, he authored A Walking Tour of Fall City, Life and Times of a Small Town Kid, and Jack’s History of Fall City. Jack spent many years as a community volunteer and activist. His passion was to preserve Fall City’s rural charm and its history. Jack was a member of many local organizations, including historian of the Fall City Neighbors newsletter, and served as a Fall City Fire District Commissioner.

There will be no service, at Jack’s request. The family suggests remembrances to Fall City Historical Society, P.O. Box 293, Fall City, WA 98024. Friends are invited to share memories and sign the family’s online guest book at www.flintofts.com.