



FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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It Took a Village



From 1959 to 1985 the small town of Fall City put on a big production. During those years during lent, members of the Fall City United Methodist Church produced a passion play, *Those Who Met the Master*. The play, written by locals Henry and Dorothy Eaton, portrayed 29 scenes from the life of Jesus. The first year it was performed in the park, but the uncertainty of the weather at that time of year caused it to move inside the church. It's reputation grew to the point a larger space was needed, so the gym at Fall City Elementary housed the event until 1965. At that time Art and Bernice Howe offered to sell part of their property at the end of David Powell Road to the Christian Players. The group built an amphitheater in time for the 1966 production to be at the new theater. They applied for grants to keep solvent, but King County would not give grants to religious organizations. This precipitated changing the name to the Snoqualmie Falls Forest Theater.

The Christian Players numbered 74 adults and 31 children, plus live animals. Rehearsals were held several nights a week the month before opening night. The cast came from all works of life—lumber grader, postmaster, logger, truck driver, teacher, farmer—coming together in the spirit of community. As a child cast member, Kris Anderson remembers the fun of playing in the “spooky” woods when not on stage. Many adults were in the cast for years taking on different roles as their age advanced. The men in town became scruffier, growing their hair and beards in the months leading up to lent. Wendy Querro led Harvey, the donkey, in the Palm Sunday scene every year till she went to college. Those who weren't on stage worked on lights, sound, costumes, make-up, sets, and props.

Word spread throughout the area. Bus loads of patrons came to lay down their \$1.50 for tickets. It is estimated 60,000 people saw the play. They even traveled to exotic places like Prosser. It provided a wonderful experience for audiences, but also for themselves.



Pop-in to the Pop-up!



Our Pop-up Museum at the library meeting room runs through April 11th everyday the library is open from noon to closing. Come and learn about the grocery business, Methodist Church, Fall City Days, and the ever-popular “What is it?” table.

Support for our work from King County Heritage 4Culture is gratefully acknowledged.