



FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 293, Fall City, WA 98024 historylives@fallcityhistorical.org www.fallcityhistorical.org

Hotel Corner sign in place

Perhaps the most historic corner in Fall City (337th SE and SE Redmond-Fall City Road) now has its sign! Since David ‘Doc’ Taylor first built on this site in Washington Territory days, it has continually been in use as restaurant/hotel/saloon. Many of the earlier buildings burned, typical of that era, and the current building, now housing El Caporal restaurant, is the longest-lived of them all. The previous building, Hotel Fall City, burned in 1925. Owner Lars Johanson rebuilt, a more modern, flat-roofed building, Fall City Hotel. Shortly after that, the widening of Redmond-Fall City Road necessitated the moving of the building to the south on the lot. It was one of very few buildings that survived the road widening.



It is shown at right in the early 1940s. When Gordon and Ruth Townsend bought the building in 1968, they made some major changes in its appearance and started Kaschulmist, a short-order restaurant and ice-cream parlor. (The name is a combination of the names of their daughters, Karrie, Suzie, and Misty.) See article below for Rick Divers’ memories of working on the remodel and later in the restaurant.



KASCHULMIST by Rick Divers

In 1971 the Townsends started the transition from the old Fall City Hotel to their dream business; an ice cream parlor. Tommie Brice, Jim Morris (who passed away in June at the age of 90), and other locals were hired by Doc Townsend to do the renovation work. Through my family connections, I got a job to assist these guys. As a high schooler, with no real construction skills, they patiently taught me a lot about the industry, while secretly enjoying giving me the nastiest of jobs. The plumbing in the building was in terrible shape, and a lot of changes and repairs were needed to accommodate new restrooms and a kitchen. Needless to say, I spent a good part of my summer in the crawl space of that building!



Kaschulmist 1973, the new “Bavarian” look

Unlike a lot of soda fountains, there was no long bar to sit and watch as your order was made. Instead, the plan was to have long counters run the length of the front of the building so

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(KASCHULMIST, continued)

patrons could look out at the river as they ate. In order to make that happen, all of the windows along that wall had to be raised to allow for the counter.

After the remodel was complete, I got a job at the restaurant. The original staff consisted mostly of high schoolers from Fall City, Issaquah, and Carnation. It was a good job (at \$1.35/hr!) with flexible hours to accommodate school schedules, but it didn't provide for daytime staff to work the weekday lunch crowd. Because she was out of school, Sue Workman was hired as a manager and one of the daytime workers.

Ruth Townsend's vision came with high standards. She brought in an efficiency expert to train us on all aspects of working a restaurant. Everyone had the same job; you did it all, and you were expected to know how to do it all. In any given day, you would cook, make sundaes, wait on tables and do dishes. The same standards applied to the food we served. The ice cream (32 flavors) was of the best quality and the French fries were hand cut each day. And the special relish was her own personal (secret) recipe.

Our uniforms were very specific and made by a local Fall City seamstress. The men wore black knee high socks, green corduroy lederhosen with red, white and black suspenders, a white dress shirt and an alpine hat. The women's uniform was the same except the pants were replaced by a green corduroy skirt.

A lot of memories were made while indulging in an ice cream treat, by both young and old.

****Your help needed** WWI and the Snoqualmie Valley**

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the end of **The Great War**, the Washington State Historical Museum pulled together materials on our state's involvement. WSHM was kind enough to make those basic exhibit materials available to other historical groups. We'd like to share them with you on Fall City Day 2019, and "bring it home" by including all that we can on the involvement of folks from the Snoqualmie Valley.

Would you help by sharing information and memories about folks in your families or those of friends who served in this war? Do you have photos, letters, diaries, sheet music, or other memorabilia related to the war that we could borrow from your family archives? We are interested in presenting a slice of life on the front and at home during that period. The Snoqualmie Valley Veterans' Memorial lists a dozen Valley men who died in WWI. That is important, but those who enlisted and endured and survived also deserve to be honored. We have not as yet been able to find a list of all who served from the Valley.

So far, we know that Bert Smith and Arthur Lyford from Fall City died. Thanks to Jack and Judy Kelley, we have quite a bit of material from the service of Perry Burns and Jesse Kelley. In *Jack's History of Fall City*, Jack Kelley lists about 20 from Fall City who he thought were involved. The hunt is on! Hope you can help.



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