

FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 293, Fall City, WA 98024

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www.fallcityhistorical.org

Trees of note in Fall City *by Ruth Pickering*

If you enjoy walking in Fall City, you have surely seen some of the marvelous old trees that are part of our history, such as the one across from the Post Office (shown at right). Some of them are aging, and others may well be damaged by storms or the unusually hot weather we had last summer. For some time I've wanted to find someone who would help us document some of the most interesting trees.



I was delighted to find recently that our local skilled arborist, John Lewis, is interested in this task. I hope to work with him over the coming months.

***Do you have favorite trees to nominate? History or stories about trees you know? We'd love to hear from you...address and email are at the top of the page. Thank you.

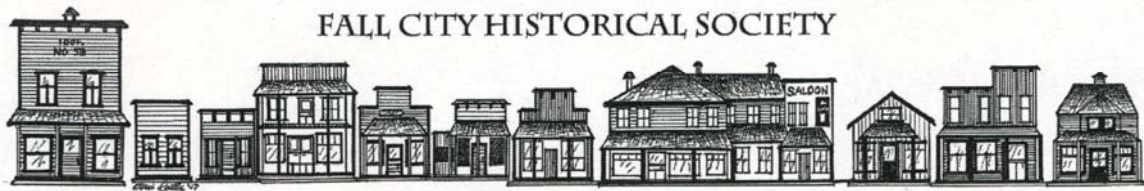


VOLUNTEERS...BLESS 'EM!

One of the things we do each year as part of reporting on grant work is total up the number of volunteer hours for the year... over 1700 last year from more than 25 individuals! Our Board is definitely a *working board*, 'though many of the members also have fulltime jobs.

Thanks for help in 2015 to Lindy MacManiman and Ben Peterson, Anne and Carl Neilson, Cindy and Charlie Parks, Leanne and Kevin Adcox, Ruth Pickering, Paula Spence, Jon Kummen and Donna Driver-Kummen, Denise and Nicole Duvall, Alicia Grady, Laurie Needham, Becky Gordon, Linda Lasure, Hilde Gettinger, Janet Ewing, Emma Kellogg, Emilee Cline, BJ and Ken Kelly, Dave Stow, Susan Garbe, Ann Trout, Jim Lawrence, and Al Renner. Special thanks for ongoing work from Bev Bethards who does our Membership tracking, Teresa Applesest, our skilled treasurer, and to Dave Gershman who kindly donates his graphic skills each year for the calendar design. Forgive us if we've missed you!





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Classic Fall City bridge photos... now in our collection

We recently were given permission by Lee Young to scan several postcards with classic early Fall City scenes from his collection and are delighted to have them. Neither of these bridge photos is dated, but one might guess that the wood bridge photo at left was after it collapsed in 1900 and was rebuilt. The sign at the entry to the bridge says: \$10 FINE for riding or driving faster than a walk or driving more than 10 head of stock on the bridge at one time." (There is also part of a "Baseball Park" sign visible at the far end of the bridge.) The bridge was built in 1889, the same year as the railroad trestle which crossed the Raging River and Preston-Fall City Road. The trestle also collapsed in 1900 and was rebuilt. Some strengthening of the Fall City bridge was done in 1908, as noted in the 6/12/1908 issue of the Issaquah Independent: *Contractor Neff will nearly complete the work on the Fall City Bridge this week. The retimbering is complete and the new iron girders are being placed in position.*



Construction on the elegant Luton Arch concrete bridge shown at left was begun in 1915, and it opened to great fanfare in 1917. It became one of the prime connecting links between Western and Eastern Washington and was guarded by armed Civilian Defense personnel during World War I. The structure remained sound, but traffic increased in size and numbers over the years, making it necessary to increase the width and capacity of the crossing. The current concrete bridge was built in 1980.

Thanks again to Lee for sharing these photos...and others...from his collection. The "eras" of Fall City are closely connected to how one got across the Snoqualmie River! First came dugout canoes, then the river-powered ferry, and our series of three distinctive bridges. The "crossroads" personality of Fall City came from being located at this vital river crossing.

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