

The Ryan House Museum Was at The Fair



For the second time this year, The Historical Society was invited to set up cabinet displays at the Washington State Fair Museum. Visitors viewed a display by Curator Vicki Conner that told the story in words and artifacts of the early settlement of Sumner and the role the Ryan House has played throughout the years. Board member Dale Loseth brought a display that detailed the history of the Washington Packers canneries, the berry and fruit industry and how our valley once had a major role in supplying our nation's tables with those commodities.

Rhubarb Days at the Ryan House Museum

Rhubarb Days, August 4th and 5th, was once again a big event for the Historical Society. Our visitor count was high, one of the largest ever for this event. Throughout the house, visitors enjoyed the seasonal exhibits, the conversations with our docents and the "*Aprons from the Archives*" and Rhubarb display in the kitchen.



On the front lawn, Mike Conner and VFW members manned the **VFW Booth**. Also on the front lawn the GFWC Valley Volunteers, the VFW and the Historical Society hosted two children's activities **Rhubarb Racers** and **Rhubarb Rockets**.



Making Rockets and Racers

Fresh rhubarb and veggies for the racers were from Scholz Farm. The Washington State Fair joined us this year with Mabel, the Milking Cow. This was fun for the kids and brought back many memories for adults. The McLendon Hardware Kids' Planting Booth and the YMCA youth activity booth were also by the Ryan House Museum.



Mabel the Milking Cow



Mike Connor and the VFW Tent



"Rocket Man" Leroy Goff



HALLOWEEN AT THE RYAN HOUSE MUSEUM



October 31st brings over 1200 people to our museum's front lawn from 5 pm to 7 pm. The Street of Treats event officially is two hours but in reality runs at least three hours. We will be ready with treats and a fun experience. A team of Board members and volunteers are busy turning this year's vision into actuality. Be prepared for a landscape of vintage trappings and friendly fiends.

The Holiday Season at the Ryan House Museum



The parlor will host the Roger and Carolyn Stroeve collection of Santa Clauses from every period.

Decorating with collections and artifacts

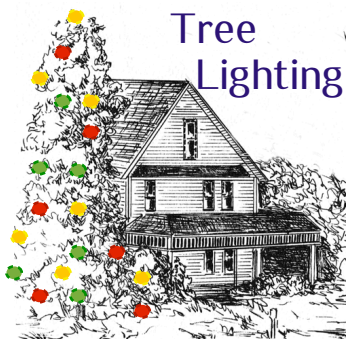
This year our decorating will feature unique seasonal collections that historical society and community members are sharing with us. The Stroeve's Santa collection, Marcha Lindberg's angel collection, an old Sumner Christmas parade with miniatures from the Loseths and Tom Young's wonderful teddy bears.

In addition, the kitchen will feature heritage cookbooks and artifacts and a tree surrounded by vintage toys, many with a historical connection to the valley.

See back page for open dates



92nd Annual Tree Lighting



The Tree of Light

At holiday time, early Sumner merchants and businesses decked out their establishments with merchandized windows and holiday lighting and trim.

In the early 20's, Lewis Ryan added street decorations to Main Street's light poles, hanging cedar festoons interweaved with colored electric lights to create a bright holiday canopy along Main street.

In 1926 Lewis decorated the holly tree on the museum's front lawn, naming it *Sumner's Tree of Light*. Please join us this year for the 92nd Anniversary of our town's tree lighting. **Saturday, November 24th**. The evening starts at 5:00 pm with tree lighting at 5:30 pm. There will be refreshments and caroling and the house will be open for tours. There may be a Santa Claus photo op this year so check our web site for updates.



A MERRY HALLOWEEN

In 1935 The Sumner News Index reported on the annual Hallowe'en frolic sponsored by the Lewis-Guill post in Sumner. It would be held at the grade school grounds. Homer Hartley headed up the program. It was billed as "rain or shine" entertainment. Note that in 1935 the grade school was on Main Street.

In the following weeks other articles told us that the event would be held Nov. 1 and there would be prizes for games and every child attending would receive a gift. Homer Hartley would take care of the "bally-hoo" as he is an artist at the mike. There would be a huge bonfire for warmth and cheer and floodlights furnished by the Power Company. A side article announced a big Hallowe'en dance, on Halloween night, put on by the Eastern Star order in the Dieringer gym.

Let's jump to 1947 where the October 9th Sumner Index tells us "The Hallowe'en Jollification which was a pre-war yearly event in Sumner, and originally sponsored by the American Legion, will be revived, and Emery Funk, former general chairman, will again be the factotum." Glen Larsen was named master of ceremonies. The article continues, "The celebration gives the young Americans a good time without some of the offensive features of unsponsored observance." A later article adds that ""The past few years have been quite an expense and problem to certain parts of the city" and the reviving of the party would "stop the wholesale tricking and treating".

An article after the event told us that mother nature had her own Hallowe'en trick. Heavy showers forced the organizers to dispense with the out door parade and the event moved to the "play corridor" in the grade school. Master of Ceremonies, Glen Larsen and the organizers still made the limited space work for awarding prizes for costumes, stunts and treats and a pie eating contest. The children then moved to the high school where W. J. Peterkin operated the moving picture machine showing a western thriller. In addition The Rhodes Post No. 2 Drum and Bugle Corp added to the program. By 10:30 pm the event was over and the children safely at home. Other organizers along with the American Legion were the P.T.A. and the Grade School Mother's Club.

LEGION TO AGAIN SPONSOR FROLIC FOR HALLOWE'EN

Event Will Be Held on Grade School Grounds

The annual Hallowe'en frolic for Sumner children, sponsored by Lewis-Guill post, will be given as usual at the grade school grounds. Homer Hartley has been appointed to head up the program and committees will be appointed at the post meeting on October 14. This is a big event for the school kids and is always attended by a large crowd, parents accompanying the younger children. It is a "rain or shine" entertainment.

Sumner News Index 8-11-35



A portion of the Hallowe'en party crowd



Sumner News Index, November 1947



Sumner News Review , Oct. - Nov, 1978

In 1978 the News Review reported on "Oktoberfest" an event held four days prior to Halloween in downtown Sumner in the "Main Street parking lot" Festivities included free cider and donuts and a pumpkin carving contest and costume contest. Both contests had divisions for age groups 5-8 years old and 9-12 years-old. There was also a costume party held on North Street.

Oktoberfest sponsors were the Sumner Promotions Group and the Sumner Junior Woman's Club.



Old Sumner Halloweens are Coming Back!

We took a walk through old Sumner Halloweens for a reason. History is about to repeat itself!

The Sumner-Bonney Lake VFW Post 3970 will be holding a Halloween Party with costume parade on Saturday, October 27th at the VFW Hall, 1705 Willow Street in Sumner (across from Maple Lawn Elementary).

They have partnered with the Sumner Friends of the Library, the Rainbow Girls, Calvary Church and the Sumner Historical Society to bring this time honored tradition back to Sumner.

The event is for all Sumner-Bonney Lake School District students and it is free. As kids come in they get a bag with treats plus tickets for the different activities. There will be popcorn, soda, and bottled water. A clown with balloons will be there!

The Costume Parade starts at 5:30, it is indoors. The activities and booths open at 6 pm and the event goes until 8 pm.



DUCKS in a Pond– (this booth will be geared to toddlers, prizes!

GO FISH – screen and fishing poles (stick with cord & clothespin)

MUSICAL PUMPKINS – start/stop music, participants stand on numbered pumpkins

HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN PRIZE WHEEL – spin wheel receive prize

INFLATABLE WITCHES HAT RING TOSS GAME

GHOST THROW VELCRO BALLS

PUMPKIN COIN DROP

HALLOWEEN BINGO GAME

TWO BEAN BAG TOSS GAMES

VFW Hall, 1705 Willow Street in Sumner
(across from Maple Lawn Elementary).



Sumner Historical Society

Caretakers of the Ryan House Museum

Mission Statement: To collect, preserve and display books, letters, diaries, photos, clothing, and other artifacts of the history of Sumner and surrounding areas

Officers

President: Kris Arnold
Vice President: Linda Sader
Treasurer: Pam Prasch
Secretary: Dale Loseth
Curator: Vicki Conner

Board Members

Vicki Conner
Roger & Carolyn Stroeve
Linda Sader
John Galle
Marcha Lindberg
Dale & Rita Loseth
Ed Hannus
Michelle Champlin
Leroy Goff
Kris Arnold
Patricia Tribby
Sara Lucas
Ken Woolery
Mary Beth Ryan
Pam Prasch
Mike Conner



The Ryan House Museum is affiliated with the NEA as a Blue Star Museum offering free admission to the nation's active duty military and their families.



Interested in joining the Sumner Historical Society?

You can find a membership form on our website.



Visit our web site!

www.sumnerhistoricalsociety.com

Don't want to type all that into the browser?

Just Google for **Sumner Historical** or **Ryan House Museum**
You will get there!



You can link your Fred Meyer Rewards card to benefit the Sumner Historical Society. Go to their website
www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

Follow the instructions to Find us by name or by our non-profit number: 88948

When you shop you still earn your points plus you help the historical society earn a donation!



What's in your scrapbook?

Do you have a piece of Sumner's history that you would be willing to donate or share with the Sumner Historical Society?

Examples are photographs of community events, homes, business buildings, schools, churches, street and farm scenes.

Newspapers, family histories, club and event memorabilia and other items of a printed nature.

1890's to 1990's We can scan or photograph most any item.

Help us preserve Sumner's history



Sumner Historical Society, Ryan House Museum
1228 Main, Sumner, Washington 98390
253-299-5780, sumnermuseum@comcast.net
www.sumnerhistoricalsociety.com

Share your email address with us!

The Historical Society will be offering a digital version of the newsletter for those who may want to receive and read it as a .PDF document.

We are asking you to send your email address to:

sumnermuseum@comcast.net

We will keep you informed on the progress of the digital newsletter.

Ryan House Museum Fall Calendar

October 31st ~ Halloween, museum is closed, outside is decorated and docents hand out treats for Street of Treats, 4-7 pm

November 24 /25 ~ Open for holiday season, 1 pm - 4 pm

November 24 ~ Tree Lighting & Open House - 5:00 pm

November 24 ~ Board Meeting, 10 am, open to the public

December 1, 2 ~ Open for holiday season, 1 pm - 4 pm

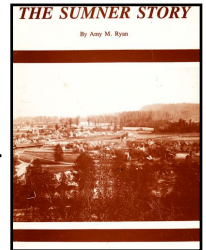
December 8, 9 ~ Open for holiday season, 1 pm - 4 pm

December 15, 16 ~ Open for holiday season, 1 pm - 4 pm

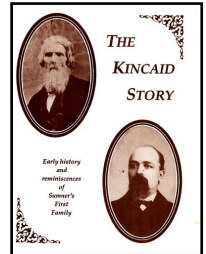
December 17 ~ Closed for the Winter

Available at the Museum

The Sumner Story
The History of Sumner
by Amy M. Ryan



The Kincaid Story
Early history and
reminiscences of
Sumner's First Family



Visit our gift area for books, cards and items of local interest

**Sumner Historical Society
Ryan House Museum**

1228 Main Street
Sumner Washington, 98390

