

GCPS Progress Report
April/May 2024
By Diane Sterne

- I have some exciting news from our newest Director, Roy Roberts. He volunteered to design a GCPS logo. Roy has experience with this and together with his artistic talents and help from his brother who is also experienced, they are working on an amazing design. It will incorporate the emblem from the plate for the Granite Creek Hotel. Once it is done, we are hoping to have t-shirts available with the design on it. Stay tuned for updates on this great project. Thank you Roy and your brother for the hard work you are doing!!! We are very grateful to you. GCPS members have wanted this for many years but have never had anyone to design it for us.
- Bob Sterne and I wandered around the Granite Creek town site and cemetery to check the Walking Tour signs. Four of them are in quite bad shape. Exposure to the sun has caused cracking. A couple of others are showing wear, but not enough to warrant replacement yet. Bob contacted Jackie at Auto Tac to receive a quote. He also contacted the company that printed the original signs to get a quote. There were to have kept the masters for future reprints, however, they can't seem to find them. We are still waiting to hear back before deciding which company to go with.
- While poking around Ancestry one day, I discovered Jack Thynne's amazing autobiography. He wrote it while he was in hospital back in the 1930's and it recounts events of his life and people he knew. In the 39-page story, he talks about Robert Stevenson asking the blacksmith to repair his false teeth, Thomas Murphy putting valuable potatoes (that he had obtained during a potato famine) in his safe, and Peter Gunderson's burial that almost happened without his severed leg being put in the coffin. There are even brief mentions of Calamity Jane and Bill Miner. The stories are very interesting and contain information about the area's history. I corrected some of the spelling errors and added notes about events or corrected names where I could, before saving the document. I have asked our amazing Webmaster, Ray Boyd, to include it on our website. You can read it here: <https://www.granitecreekbc.ca/archive/John-Granville-Thynnes-Story.pdf> Thank you Ray for keeping our website up-to-date.
- Bob and I have updated the cemetery records on the board at the cemetery, in my GCPS binder, and on the GCPS cemetery website. I wanted to make sure Frenchy (Wah Sing) was added to them, plus there were a couple of other minor corrections. Thank you again, Ray Boyd for posting the new records on the website.
- Work needs to be done at the cemetery. Many headstones that we had previously cleaned, once again, need cleaning. Anyone interested, is welcome to head up there and choose a headstone to work on. To clean them, you will need warm, soapy water (I use dish soap. Don't use anything that could damage the stone), warm clean water, a scrub brush or old toothbrush, a cloth or towel to dry them, and something to dig into the crevices to remove lichen, etc. I use either a

wooden chopstick or a plastic orange peeler. You want to avoid anything metal that could scratch the headstone. Please take before and after photos of your work (you will be amazed at how much better the headstone will be after it is cleaned) and send them to me to include in future Progress Reports. Remember to take a cushion or kneeler to save your knees. I am hoping Bob and I can finish cleaning up the scattering area at the cemetery. We worked on it last year but weren't able to complete it. The cemetery needs a general tidying up. Headstones swept and garbage removed. Volunteers are needed and gratefully appreciated!!!! "Many hands make light work".

- We still have enough tourist maps for the town site to get us through a bit longer. I have redone the back of them and our amazing Ray Boyd has once again come through by creating QR codes. One code goes to the GCPS website and the other goes to the Cemetery website. Thank you Ray!!! Bob ordered the maps at a cost of \$593.27 (including shipping) for 5,000 maps. The back page was approved by the Executive and at the AGM we were given approval to spend up to \$600 for the maps. I am attaching a copy of the back page to this email for you to see. The front was not changed.
- Bob made it up to the Delprato cabin with his daughter and grandson. He found 3 mice in the bucket trap and said you could smell pack rats in the cellar. I will try to deal with them at a future date. Last year, the porch railing had fallen down and will need replacing. If anyone would like to volunteer for that job, it would be appreciated. The old railing was just made of tree branches, so it doesn't need to be anything fancy. Let me know if you would like to volunteer for that job.
- Financial Report: Quite a bit of money will be going out in the next while to pay for replacement signs. It will be a costly year for the GCPS. Thanks to generous donations, we have the money needed for these expenses! This is where we stand, to date: 27 paid members; current bank balance \$3,382.44; PayPal \$23.97; cash on hand \$0; \$617.90 was repaid to me for the tour maps and an order for blank membership cards which we were running low on; \$660.00 was paid for insurance; accounts payable to Ernie Rice when he builds and installs the Delprato Cabin picnic table \$800. Balance is \$2,606.41.