

GCPS Progress Report

July, 2020

By Diane Sterne

- A HUGE thank you to Jackie Hilton of Auto Tac Signs & Embroidery for her creation and donation of a beautiful sign for the Delprato Cabin. Earlier this summer Jackie offered to make an information sign for the cabin. Her Father, Dan Rice, was a claim holder of that location decades ago and now his son (Jackie's brother), Bert Rice holds the placer rights to the ground. It was Bert who asked if the GCPS would be interested in caring for the cabin. Jackie's family has a strong connection to this place and her offer of a sign was gratefully accepted. I laid out the design and submitted it to Jackie who went ahead and created it. I have attached a photo of the sign mounted on the cabin. I have sent Jackie a thank you card from the GCPS as well as submitted a Letter to the Editor in the Spotlight thanking her. I have asked Todd Lester if he could put it on the Granite Creek Facebook page and share it with other Facebook pages so that everyone will know of Jackie's amazing gift to our group. Thank you again, Jackie. Your generosity is truly appreciated!!
- Dawn Gardner visited the cabin overnight with her brother and sister-in-law (Rob and Coralaine Gardner) on July 15-17. They cleared a trail to the cabin/shed that Bob and I had found near the cabin. They strengthened the make-shift table near the fire pit and cleaned under the east bench. Dawn hung up the newly cleaned curtains she had previously taken home. There were no mice in the bucket.
- I ordered the Probate records for Joseph Delprato. It was money well spent as I have discovered the name of his brother who had also lived in British Columbia and was a silver miner. I learned Joseph had numerous siblings and, at the time of his death, had 13 nieces and nephews. The information gleaned from the Probate records also led me to find (in a very round-about way) the names of Joe's parents. Once I am satisfied that I have completed as much research as possible into who Joe was, I plan to put it together in an article for the GCPS website. I am still hopeful that we will be able to interview Gail and Eric Smart whose family was very familiar with Joe. Due to COVID-19, that will have to wait until next year. I will give you one piece of information now. Joe's birth name was Giuseppe Delprato. Joseph is the anglicised version of Giuseppe.
- I received a request to photograph some graves at the Tulameen Cemetery for Find A Grave. While I was there, I took a picture of Thomas Murphy's grave as well. You may recall that "Judge" Thomas Murphy was one of the early prospectors at Granite Creek, arriving in 1886. His memoirs are on the GCPS website so I have asked Ole Juul to add the grave photo to the memoirs.
- Bob and I went to the Granite Creek Cemetery to check on things. Everything is in order and I gave the headstones a sweep. Bob dropped off 300 tourist maps at the Granite Creek Town Site. That comes to 500 maps this year! The walking tour is still very popular.
- On July 20 Bob and I went up to the Cabin to do some work. Bob mounted the new sign on the side of the building and anchored the stove pipe with proper strapping. There was one mouse in the bucket. I think our 2020 count is 12 mice. There were no signs of mice or rats in the loft or cellar. I also spotted

another hole outside the cabin and filled it with rocks. On our way back home, we stopped at the Cemetery and Bob fixed the Cemetery sign near the Blakeburn Road. The screws were falling out of it so Bob removed them and placed them in a better spot. The sign is well anchored to the post now.

- If anyone wishes to remove garbage from the dump site at the cabin, there are signed Princeton Dump waiver forms inside the cabin. I can provide a key if you stop off here on your way in. The road is dry and the corral gates are left open. The waiver is only good until the end of July. The Princeton dump hours are: Tuesday to Saturday, 8 am - 4 pm.
- Treasurer's Report for June: One new member (Lori Thomas - welcome Lori!) bringing our membership to 21 (2 have not yet paid for their renewals). Bank balance as of June 30 was \$1,167.59. A small amount of money is owing for Delprato cabin items. General Funds are \$1,149.71. Volunteer hours for 2020: 111.50 which equates to \$2,230.00.