



# THE GCA GRAPEVINE

The Monthly Newsletter of the Grapeview Community Association

**MONTH AT A GLANCE**  
*The Port Commission is meeting in person with a remote option via Zoom – please visit their websites or contact them directly for the information. The Grapeview School Board Meeting is currently scheduled to be held at the School Library or with a Zoom option – please check their website.*

- Jan 10**     **Black & White Potluck Event (Horton Center 6pm)**
- Jan 15     Central Mason [Fire Commission](#) Meeting 5:00PM; 122 Franklin St, Shelton
- Jan 21     Grapeview [Port Commission](#) Meeting 7:00PM
- Jan 22     [Grapeview School Board](#) Meeting 5:00PM
- Jan 24     Men’s Breakfast 8:30AM; Burger Claim
- Feb 6      GCA Study Session 10:00AM Horton Center

**FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT’S DESK...     HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!**

I come to you as your “almost” new (and old) President, to wish you and yours a great beginning to a new year. Since this isn’t my first rodeo, I’ll spare you the details of me, and just say that I’m happy to be stepping into this role again this year, and hope to do HALF the job that Jim Hanson did in 2024! It’s a little intimidating taking on such big shoes, but I’ll try my best!!

We have a lot of fun things planned this year – some old, some new, and some still brewing! We’ll start off the year with the **Black & White Potluck Event (Inauguration you know) on January 10<sup>th</sup>**, and then end the year with another New Year’s Eve party on December 31, 2025... and a LOT of fun things in between!

We’re planning another **Dessert Cake Auction in February** – but the dinner part will be a little different – easier on you all!!! The **Crab Feed returns on February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>** this year. We will do online ticket sales again and I’ll send out a separate email when those are available (starting soon!). And last to note – our **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Water & Art Festival in July....** WOW – 30 years... that’s amazing! We will be celebrating big time on that one!

So put on your “fun” and join in each month for fellowship and good food (and drink!). Get involved in this wonderful organization – it’s the best way to make lasting friends and be a part of a great cause! Feel free to contact me anytime with ideas for improvement and/or if you’d like to help out in any way.... We need EVERYONE!

Most Sincerely,  
 Bonnie Townsley



Note from Bonnie: I know I speak for ALL GCA members when I say **THANK YOU JIM for a great 2024!**



**WELCOME 2025 .... DONE IN GCA STYLE!**



Just three days ago we celebrated bringing in the New Year at Horton Center with over 50 of our friends from GCA. The Horton Center was decorated like a ballroom and the champagne was flowing. The pictures haven't flowed in yet though, so we'll save that for next month. A HUGE Thank You to all involved in setting up, tearing down, and putting on this really fun event. While we missed our "usual organizer's" – the Blaisdell's, we still pulled off a fantastic event! Special thanks to **Debbie Black, Annie Bell, and Jim Hanson, and the "AV TEAM"** for all their efforts!



**START THE NEW YEAR OFF WITH YOUR GCA FRIENDS!**

Let's bring in the new year in style! For January we will once again hold the **"Black & White Theme Potluck Dinner"** **Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at the Horton Center, 6pm**. No need for tuxes and gowns, but we'll be "inaugurating" our new board members, so let's gussy it up a bit and wear something black & white if you have it! Sparkles and blingy things are great!!!

This will be a potluck event with food assigned by your last name (see below). We will have your table service, just bring your own drinks and drinkware. Coffee and water will be provided. Oh, and don't forget your money for the 1<sup>st</sup> 50/50 raffle of the year!

- **A-G Salads**
- **H-P Main Dish**
- **Q-Z Desserts**

*Help with setup and cleanup is always appreciated! Setup starts at 10AM on Friday morning, and cleanup immediately following the event.*

**YOU SPOKE, YOU VOTED, AND HERE ARE YOUR NEW LEADERS FOR 2025!**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>President, Bonnie Townsley</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Events, Debbie Black</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Vice Pres, Jim Hanson</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Comm Outreach, Michele Hecht</b> **</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Secretary, Pam Mueller</b> **</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Membership, Dan Peel &amp; Deb Olig</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Treasurer, Christine Bal</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>History, Mike Blaisdell</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Trustee, Steve Hecht</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Newsletter, Bonnie Townsley</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Trustee, Ed White</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Website/Facebook, Mike &amp; Leslie Blaisdell</b></li> </ul>

**\*\* Looking for Help!**


**WONDER WHAT'S HAPPENING AT GCA IN 2025 – HERE'S WHAT WE'RE PLANNING!**



Your Event Coordinator, **Debbie Black**, and her team have been hard at work planning fun events for 2025. Lot's of work to do yet, but here's what we're thinking... want to get involved in the planning? – contact Debbie Black!

Date	EVENT
Jan 10	Black and White Potluck Event
Feb 9	Super Bowl Party at Horton Center (3:30pm)
Feb 14	Valentine's Day Dinner and Dessert Auction
Feb 28, Mar 1	<b>Annual Crab Feed</b>
March	Crab Feed is March Event
April 11	Cocktail & Appetizer Party (Tentative)
May 9	Cinco de Mayo Theme Dinner
June 13	Hawaiian Theme Potluck / Bingo Night!
July 11	Hot Dog Roast/Smores @Rauschert Field
July 26	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Annual Water &amp; Art Festival</b>
August	NO EVENT
Sept 12	Fall Kick-Off/Game Night** @ Rauschert Field
Oct 10	Sock Hop Dance (Potluck or Theme Dinner TBD)
Nov 14	Harvest Festival/Veterans Day Celebration
Dec 6	Snacks w/ Santa @ Horton Center
Dec 31	New Year's Eve Party

**WHAT'S COMING UP IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS???**

- February – our now famous **Dessert Cake Auction**, with a twist! More on the “twist part in our February newsletter, but **if you want to bake a dessert for the sale – please contact Bonnie Townsley at 360-801-5040**. Last year we raised almost \$3,000 for our Community Outreach Programs!
-  **Super Bowl 2025** At the Horton Center on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 PM (More To Come) Mark Your Calendars- You will not want to miss this event!!!!
- February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> – **THE CRAB FEED!** Need we say more? Want to help”? Please contact Bonnie Townsley at 360-801-5040 or reply to this newsletter. **WE NEED YOU!** **You can purchase your tickets for \$45 each starting January 10<sup>th</sup>. All tickets will be purchased online using a credit card. A separate email will go out on Jan 10<sup>th</sup> with the link and instructions on how to purchase tickets.**

**MANY THANKS ARE DUE!!!** Do you know who makes the Horton Center Building shine at Christmas time? It's not Santa, but more GCA Elves!!! Many thanks to **Brad Pomroy, Steve Hecht, Chief Graeber, and Hal Harpold** for their efforts. Like all good Christmas Lights... these didn't work the first time, but they persevered until it was done! **THANK YOU!**



**SPECIAL THIS YEAR!!!! From Bob Doremus -- A look at Grapeview in the Early Years....**

*Starting this month, we are excited to begin a new feature of our newsletter. Titled "Grapeview - The Early Years", it will take a look at some of the early history of our community. The idea took shape last summer after a report was discovered in the collection of the Mason County Historical Society titled "History and Geography of Grapeview". It was a project of the Grapeview School, written in 1923. We'll be using information from it and other sources to give you a glimpse into Grapeview's past. We hope that you find it interesting!*

*Here is a piece from the introductory pages of that report, written by someone with the initials E.J. W.*

**With grapes, berries, poultry on a well fed soil.  
 With nature's best pictures to spur us to toil.  
 With roads, clubs and schools our constant aim.  
 If you settle at Grapeview, you'll be glad you came.**



McLanes Cove/Stadium School built in 1911 – closed in 1918

**GCA WEBSITE TAKES ON A NEW LOOK AND FEEL... WITH A LOT OF WORK!!!**

<http://www.grapeviewwa.com>

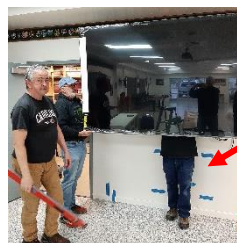
After hours and hours of work, research, collaboration and dedication – **Mike Blaisdell** has successfully converted our GCA Website to a new hosted page. You'll still have the same look/feel, with improvements coming as we go. **Many thanks to Cody Walbaum, who has been hosting our website on his network (decacon.Domains) for free for many years!** Cody generously worked with Mike (who had to learn new software and do a lot of research) these past two months to transition our website to a new hosted site and convert the page content using new webdesign software. We are so grateful to both Mike and Cody for their support... I must say, I panicked a bit when Mike shared Cody's news with Jim and I.... what would we do without Mike Blaisdell??? We're so blessed!

**SO MANY GOOD THINGS HAPPENING AT GCA! SO MANY GOOD PEOPLE MAKING THEM HAPPEN!**

If you were at the New Year's Eve Party, you saw the "Big (& I mean BIG) Reveal". **Your AV TEAM** (Ed White, Jim Hanson, Dan McClung, & Denis Dennehy) have worked TIRELESSLY for the past two months, purchasing and installing our brand new equipment:

- 98" TCL Smart TV
- Samsung Sound Bar with Subwoofer and Surround Speakers
- Sony Blu-Ray & CD Player

And to make it even more special, **Ed White CUSTOM BUILT a beautiful cabinet** to store the new equipment in. Again... how blessed are we to have members like this?!



Any guesses who this is????!!!!

**JANUARY 2025**

**Community Outreach**

by Michele Hecht

**Thank you!** To all who helped make our **Giving Tree** a success!

We supported 3 families with about 85 gifts, delivered prettily wrapped and on time! The school staff and the families were very thankful! Thank you especially to the Grapeview Christmas Elves who helped me purchase and deliver many of these and also contributed generously towards one of our families' propane bill! I cannot thank all involved enough for all your efforts! Such a wonderful spirit of giving and working together!



Snacks with Santa was again a success this year! We had at least 15 children caroling for us and many more excited to visit with Santa! Thank you to all the Cookie bakers and helpers! We had plenty to go around. The left overs were wrapped up and given away to several organizations.



**2025 CRAB FEED TICKETS ON SALE JAN  
10<sup>TH</sup> – SEE DETAILS NEXT PAGE!**



**2025 CRAB FEED TICKETS WILL GO ON SALE FRIDAY JAN 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 5:30PM – HORTON CENTER!!!!** We are planning the Crab Feed for February 28<sup>th</sup>, and March 1st this year. **Get your tickets early – CREDIT CARDS ONLY PLEASE! \$45/TICKET....** Get your tickets early to reserve your spot!

### **MEMBERSHIP NEWS - IMPORTANT!!!!**

**It's time to pay your 2025 membership dues!** If you've already done so – we thank you as we use these dues to plan for our next year. Please check the current Directory and update your information if it has changed or is not correct. You can call Debbie Olig (406-223-7309) and she will update it for the 2025 Directory. To pay by check, just click on the [2025 Membership Form](#). Complete the form, print it and mail it along with your payment to:

**Grapeview Community Association  
P. O. Box 355  
Grapeview, WA 98546**

You can do it by check or **you can [pay your renewal online with your credit card](#)**, and let us know of any changes to the directory information. **THERE IS NO FEE to pay online.** There IS an option to donate to Zeffy (the company who makes this function possible). **When the donation amount comes up, click on "OTHER" and put AN OPTIONAL DONATION AMOUNT in that space.** Simply [click here](#) right now to make that payment!

Thank you for your continued support and participation.

Dan Peel, Membership Co-Chair

### **Bookmark the GCA Website and GCA Facebook!!**

Keep up to date with the latest news and events from the GCA and the greater Grapeview Community by visiting and bookmarking the [GCA Website](#) and the [GCA Facebook](#) page. Both the website and Facebook page are updated throughout the month as news and information are made available regarding both the GCA and our community.