



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.

May 9	Cinco de Mayo Potluck Dinner (6pm Horton Center)
May 20	Grapeview Port Commission Meeting 7:00PM
May 21	Central Mason Fire Commission Meeting 5:00PM; 122 Franklin St, Shelton
May 23	Men's Breakfast 8:30AM; Burger Claim
May 28	Grapeview School Board Meeting 5:00PM
June 5	GCA Study Session 10:00AM Horton Center



FROM OUR PRESIDENT'S DESK...

April Showers Bring May Flowers... but where were the showers in April?? I can only hope the beautiful weather we had will still bring an abundance of flowers this month. I don't know about you, but Jerry & I have sure enjoyed this bout of warm weather we've been enjoying!

Lots going on at GCA and it's all fun stuff! We had a fabulous night at the Fair Harbor Marina in April... it rained a bit, and was cold outside, but inside the Pavilion with the sidewalls down, the fire lit, and warmers burning – we were cozy. It was beautiful and there was joy everywhere as we all pretended it was spring! And now, we've got our May Cinco de Mayo event this coming week and it promises to be such fun.

Michele Hecht has launched a program to support the North Mason Food Bank, if you haven't seen bright green bags floating around, give her a call and get in on the giving! Such an easy thing that everyone can participate in. **If you picked up a bag at the April event, please remember to bring it next Friday on May 9th to the Cinco de Mayo event and grab another bag...** keep them coming and get in on the joy of giving year-round! Our thanks to Michele – we're proud of you for leading this!

I can't believe I'm already talking about the upcoming Water and Art Festival – just around the corner! If you want to help, we always need more volunteers and it's a great way to get to know your neighbors and be a part of our 30th Annual Festival!!

Happy Spring Everyone!

Bonnie Townsley (360-801-5040)





**SPRING WAS REALLY HERE (kindof!)... AT THE
BEAUTIFUL FAIR HARBOR MARINA ON APRIL 11TH**

A chilly “spring” night made the 4th annual cocktail party even cozier... bundled up with good company, a warm glow from the fireplace, and a little pink Prickly Pear Moscow mule to toast the evening. The Fair Harbor Pavilion was the perfect spot to welcome spring, no matter what the thermometer says. With about 90 members in attendance, this event has become a treasured tradition. The blend of stunning spring florals, soft pastel accents, and thoughtful details made everyone feel like they stepped into a real-life garden party fairytale. **A big thank you to Kelly and Cindy Granger, who were the heartbeat of the evening. Their warmth and generosity turned a beautiful setting into a space that felt magical.** And let's not forget the culinary magic—those creative appetizers are the cherry on top of an already fantastic night! It's gatherings like these that really showcase the heart of the GCA—

**AND THE HITS KEEP ON COMIN' ~~~ NEXT UP IN MAY –
CINCO DE MAYO POTLUCK DINNER!**



It's Fiesta time in May! Join us on **May 9th at 6:00PM** at the Horton Center for an evening filled with festivities and vibrant decorations! A special thank you to Carla Rieker for graciously chairing this event. Don't miss out on the fun- bring your friends and celebrate with us!

Margaritas, beer, water & coffee along with place settings will be provided. And, of course, we'll hold our 50/50 Raffle for one lucky winner, so remember your \$\$!

This will be a potluck event with food assigned by your last name (see below).

*** A-E Rice or bean dish**

*** F-S Main Dish**

*** T-Z Salads**

Tres Leche Cake, Churros, caramel & chocolate sauce will be provided

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

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU FROM LOUISE!

Our dear **Louise Okonek** turned 94 on April 20th. To celebrate this great occasion, we had a special birthday cake for her at the April event and she was touched. She's asked me to express her sincere THANK YOU to all her friends that helped make her birthday special. Enjoy the pictures of the beautiful pavilion and the look of joy you see on Louise's face as she blows out her candles!!



COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE – FROM MICHELE HECHT

Helping the Community with donations for the North Mason Food Bank: Great job so far! We have collected 110+ lbs from our members as donations to the Food Bank! Let's keep it going! Please remember to bring back the bags you have at our next meeting on May 9! You can then pick up a new bag with a new list if you would like to continue supporting the Food Bank.

Remember! This is totally voluntary, and the list represents suggestions. Shauna Bierman will help collect the bags in May. **Checks are of course always welcome too!**

Our neighbors need us! Thank you!

Michele & Shauna



MEMBERSHIP NEWS - IMPORTANT!!!!

Welcome to our new members!!! We're happy to have you as part of our family and hope you will join us in the fun this year!

Cathy Enger

Janette Roberts & Larry Miller

Karel Chessum Family

Herb & Renee Roraback



The dues have been coming in . If you are not sure if you've paid your dues you can contact our Membership Co-Chairs: Dan Peel or Debbie Olig . If you haven't and want 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

From Bob Doremus -- A look at Grapeview in the Early Years....**A Rebel Amongst Us**

The settlement of Grapeview began with an unlikely individual, Lambert Bartlett Evans. A southerner, he was born in Florida's panhandle on May 2, 1836. With the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in the Confederate army, joining Florida's 4th infantry regiment in 1861. During the winter of 1862 his unit was encamped in Tennessee. While there he took on extra duty as a nurse, for which he was paid 25 cents a day. On June 17, 1864, he was captured by Union forces in Georgia and transferred

to a prison at Rock Island, Illinois. After serving about four months in prison he signed an oath of allegiance to the United States on October 14, 1864, and was released.

Seeking a new life, Lambert headed west. Little is known of his journey. When asked, he would say, "I just started walkin' and walked till I saw the ocean". The Grapeview school report of 1923 has him first going to Colorado and then on to California. He was farming 40 acres of land in an area that would later become downtown Los Angeles. The Grapeview school report relates this amusing story:

"When by frugal industry, Mr. Evans had nearly acquired right of title to his land and his water right, he was literally driven out of his home by the dogs. That is, the dogs in such numbers chased through his gardens after rabbits as to destroy his growing crops, so in desperation he finally abandoned the place to the rabbits and dogs and came north to Puget Sound".

By most accounts Lambert Evans arrived in our region in 1872. He obtained a 16 ft. flat bottomed skiff and began searching for a place to call home. Stretch Island seemed to be an ideal location. Because he had fought for the Confederacy, he was not allowed to take advantage of the Homestead Act of 1862. Instead, he had to purchase 40 acres to begin his new life on Stretch Island.

Next month we'll look further at the life of Grapeview's first citizen.

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.