



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.

- Dec 6 **SNACKS WITH SANTA! 10AM Horton Center**
- Dec 11 GCA Board Meeting 6PM (Horton Center)
- Dec 16 Grapeview [Port Commission](#) Meeting 7:00PM
- Dec 17 Central Mason [Fire Commission](#) Meeting 5:00PM; 122 Franklin St, Shelton
- Dec 17 [Grapeview School Board](#) Meeting 5:00PM
- Dec 31 **GCA New Year's Eve Party! (6:00PM Horton Center)**

FROM OUR PRESIDENT'S DESK...

As we wrap up 2025 my heart is full of gratitude for this community, the friends we have, and the beautiful place God has given us to live. After the emotional tribute we had to our wonderful Veterans at the Feast in November, how can we be anything BUT grateful? It was such an emotional night and reminded us how so many have given everything so we can meet and enjoy each other, share a meal, laugh, cry, and lift each other up. My thanks to all involved, especially Jeff Thompson, Bob & Joanne Hamilton and of course Annie Bell and Carla Rieker for making the night so magical. And now it's Christmas, Hanukkah, and all the other Holidays we share in December... the magic continues! Remember **Snacks with Santa is this coming Saturday, 12/6** and we need more cookies/treats! Read on from Michele for more information. Once again, we'll be bringing in the new year New York Style on December 31st... Always fun and promises to be so once again – hope you will join us! I'll have one more message for you in January before turning over the reigns to my good friend and your new President – Jim Hanson. Until then, let's enjoy the holidays together. I wish peace and love to all of you and thank you all for the support you've given Jerry and me this year!

In Love,

Bonnie Townsley





A MOVING NIGHT... ONE TO REMEMBER
Stars, Stripes & Thankful Hearts: A Celebration of Veterans and Gratitude

In November, we celebrated a little differently than in past years, and while the Chili Cookoff was missed, the "Stars, Stripes & Thankful Hearts," potluck blending the spirit of Veterans Day and Thanksgiving was wonderful. Annie Bell and Carla Rieker once again made the hall a beautiful tribute to the Veterans, and a celebration of Fall - it was gorgeous. We started off the evening with Charlotte, Maisey & Hudson Kilmer, and Kasey White from Scout Troop #4513 presenting the Colors and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. We followed that by a very moving presentation hosted by Jeff Thompson, Bob & Joanne Hamilton as they shared the POW-MIA Remembrance Ceremony with all of us. You could have heard a pin drop, and there were not many dry eyes after they were done. Then we moved on to celebrate K Hori's 99th birthday! He was surrounded by friends, family and birthday decorations to honor such a special man. Not sure he liked all the attention, but it's not everyday you turn 99 and are celebrated for your service as a Veteran at the same time! We gorged on a Thanksgiving Feast with all the trimmings and then Jeff, Bob & Joanne shared the traditional Veterans Cake Cutting ceremony using an authentic (and scary looking) knife that Bob used in the Marines. The tradition calls for the 1st piece to go to a guest of honor, which naturally was K Hori! While enjoying beautiful and yummy cakes, we elected next year's Board of Directors and then drank more wine! It was truly a night to remember and will be a new tradition. Our thanks to Mike & Vicki Wittenberger who loaned us their son's beautiful American Flag, which once flew over the White House, that he earned as an Eagle Scout. Our thanks also to the MANY who came early for set up and then stayed late to clean up - what a wonderful association we have!

You could almost hear the tears dropping as Jeff Thompson, Bob & Joanne Hamilton shared the POW-MIA Remembrance Ceremony with all of us. So powerful... Thank you for your service and for helping us honor those who gave everything and could not join our tables.





Community Outreach



It is coming up fast.. We would like to see many of you on **Saturday Dec 6 at 10am..** a little earlier if you are bringing cookies! Come and sing with the children and have a jolly old time!

Grapeview School:

We are adopting 3 families from the Grapeview School this year. The Giving Tree Tags are up on the GCA website and FaceBook. Wrapped and labeled gifts should be delivered to my front porch by Dec 13 so that parents can pick them up at school that week!

NMFB Thank You! Thank You!

Our community has been so generous in this great time of need! You have been most generous, contributing over 2000 lbs of food since the Foodline project (green bags) started and over \$10,000! You guys rock! Your generosity is very much appreciated by all!

Michele Hecht
Outreach Coordinator



A LITTLE BIT MORE ON THE HOLIDAY GIVING TREE:

The GCA will again be bringing joy during the holidays by continuing our tradition of a Holiday Giving Tree! Choose a child or parent to buy for. Each have listed ideas for gifts. Gifts need to be wrapped, and clearly labeled (gift tag#, family number and child /age) on the package or an attached tag. Money donations should be made in the form of cash or gift cards, no checks please.

We're using SignUp to organize our 2025 GCA Gift Giving Tree. Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Click this link to see our SignUp on SignUp: <https://signup.com/go/bHAqbsd>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.

Note: SignUp does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact Michele Hecht and she can sign you up manually.



RING IN THE NEW YEAR– NEW YORK STYLE!

Horton Community Center

Wednesday, December 31 6-10pm



Let's ring in 2026 together!! No need to stress about staying up until midnight because this party will take place from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. We'll toast the New Year at 9pm as the ball drops in New York and finish the evening with a bit more socializing before cleaning up and heading home. The party is free and open to all GCA members and their guests. Dress is casual. GCA provides ice, table service and champagne/ toasting glasses for our New Year toast.

This is a potluck event, and we ask attendees to **please bring a heavy appetizer or dessert to share**. Don't forget your beverage of choice. Please provide serving utensils and label your dish, especially for common allergens of wheat, nuts, soy, and dairy. Bring your favorite games (Quirkle, Mexican Train, puzzles, cards, etc.). **Do you like to dance? Email us at newsletter4gca@gmail.com with your favorite song to dance to and we'll be sure to add it to the playlist!!**

Set-up takes place at 10:00 AM at the Horton Community Center on the day of the event and cleanup immediately follows. If you are interested in helping or have any ideas to add to the enjoyment, please contact coordinators **Debbie Black and/or Jim Hanson**



MEMBERSHIP NEWS - IMPORTANT!!!!

It's time to pay your 2026 dues! Please check the current Directory and update your information if it has changed or is not correct. You can call Debbie Olig and she will update it for the 2026 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

Or you can [pay your renewal online with your credit card](#). **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!

Now let's celebrate our NEW MEMBER!! Please extend a warm welcome and reach out to Andrew Field to welcome him to our family.



Adopt-A-Road Project Update

The statistics are impressive. Over the course of the past year, the crew has walked 10 miles and filled 50 trash bags. We picked up assorted pieces of paper, plastic, boards, steel pipe, a kiddy kitchen, a real kitchen consol, auto tires, and numerous other car parts including whole side and front panels. And there is always more. Driving by a just completed section of the road this past week, I saw that someone had abandoned a stair stepper exercise machine (Free!!); I called the county for a special pick-up.

The active crew now consists of myself, Margaret Campbell, Jim Hanson, Annie Bell, Rob and Tracy Osborn, Dan McClung, and Pam and David Mueller. Dressed in yellow vests and hard hats, we attend to the Loop from the south entrance at Highway 3 to Treasure Island in early Spring and late Fall. Along the way, we are greeted by drivers who honk and shout their appreciation. This is good work, and people notice.

For further information about this project or to join the road crew, please contact me, Edward Johnson at edward.johnson@cjenterprise.net.



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.

From Bob Doremus – A Final Tribute to Grapeview's Past....

Editor's Note: It has been an enjoyable part of creating the newsletter this year with the help of Bob Doremus and his wonderful articles educating us Grapeview's History. I, for one, will miss them! I know I speak for all of us in saying THANK YOU BOB for the time and effort you've spent each month giving us these enjoyable articles.

From Bob:

It has been an enjoyable year delving into Grapeview's early years. I hope that you have found it as interesting as I have. The determination of those first homesteaders to make a better life for themselves and their families evolved into the wonderful community that we enjoy today. This will be the last of the regular monthly columns, although there will be others occasionally throughout the coming year. Just like in the early days of the Grapeview school, I thought that we would finish the lesson with a pop quiz! Let's see what you remember about our past.

1. The first settler of Grapeview was Lambert a)Eckert b)Evans c)Harstine d)Pickering
2. The second bonded winery in Washington was a)Island Belle b)Werberger c)St. Charles d)Davis
3. Island Belle marketed their grape juice as The Drink a)Supreme b)Divine c)Delight d)Delicious
4. The belle of the ball was named a)Lottie b)Mary c)Ellie d)Lucy
5. Our first settler came from a)Alabama b)Georgia c)Mississippi d)Florida
6. St. Charles winery closed in a)1959 b)1965 c) 1968 d)1972
7. Our first settler's wife was named a)Anna b)Helen c)Nancy d)Darcy
8. Werberger's specialty wine was a)apple b)strawberry c)loganberry d)cherry
9. The man who developed the Island Belle grape was a)Charles Somers b)Adam Eckert c)Rudy Werberger d)Peter Davis
10. Prohibition ended in a)1930 b)1933 c)1935 d)1936

FROM GCA BOARD:

Ok members, let's have some fun with this! Reply to the newsletter and give your answers. The first one who gets all correct will win a prize, presented at the New Year's Eve Party!!! Join in the fun.... Dust off the old newsletters and let's see who's learned the most!!!

