



WORKROOM AT WA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
CORNER OF EVERGREEN AND GRAND

FORT VANCOUVER TAPESTRY
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Enclosed in this newsletter is an envelope
for you to join
"FRIENDS OF THE TAPESTRY"

Your \$25.00 membership support is
essential as we move forward in bringing
the Tapestry to rest at the Reserve for all to
see and learn from, and in fact simply enjoy
for many generations to come. Please join
us now as we work to achieve this goal.

Your membership will include a continued
subscription to our newsletter, reduced
tuition in our Fall classes and an invitation
to our annual

AUGUST TEA PARTY

Sunday, August 8th, 2004
to be held at the
Washington School for the Deaf

Your participation means a great deal to us.
Please join the Tapestry family!

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Southwest Washington Independent Forward Thrust

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A STITCH IN TIME

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE FORT VANCOUVER TAPESTRY PROJECT

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

There is a renewed sense of excitement in the Tapestry workroom these days . Talk is flying about all the work to be done this next year for the final exhibit of the Tapestry. To this end, the Board of Directors has decided to retain Robert Bradley as our Operations Director....a fancy way of saying he is still going to be writing grants but will also take charge of the development of our exhibits. The two jobs are actually connected, as he will be writing grants for the exhibits.

You may be asking yourself..."Why the plural on exhibits?" Although we have been assured placement in the Vancouver National Historic Reserve, the building renovation is going much slower than we are. So, we've been kicking around the idea of taking the Tapestry on the road for a period of up to a year. We want as many people as possible to get a look at this work of art—what better way of whetting their appetite! Of course, funding will be needed for both exhibits. Many issues remain that require careful planning and consideration. Among these are costs for framing, both temporary and permanent, lighting and housing. Current estimates for the permanent exhibit are \$17,000.—\$20,000. for framing and an additional \$14,000.—\$18,000 for lighting. Of course there will also be building and maintenance costs for the actual housing at the Fort Vancouver Tapestry Center.

We are asking now for your help for the future. To that end, we are starting the "FRIENDS of the TAPESTRY" program. Membership in this fantastic organization will bear many rewards, both tangible and spiritual. You will find an envelope included in this newsletter and information about the program on the back page. We'll make a great family!

SPONSORSHIPS

Lots of new panel sponsorships this quarter!!!

- #8...**Locating the Willamette**in memory of Sean M. Wilson
- 14..**Bastion & Gardens**.....Pat & Norma McGraw
- 22/23...**Early Military Life**...First United Methodist Church
- 24...**Grant House**...Lee & Connie Kearney
- 30...**Fire Department**...Cornie Stevens
- 36...**Train Depot**...Jean B. Ferry
- 38...**Interstate Bridge**...Dave & Cecilia Smith
- 59...**Clark College/WSU**...Robert Gruwell
- 61...**Port of Vancouver**...Irwin & Dovey Landerholm

DONATIONS

- Pioneer.....Legacy Health Systems—honoring Kathy Pruitt’s volunteerism
- Builder.....Alice I. McKay
- Settler.....Lisbeth Brody, Ernest & Virginia Dunbar, John & Nancy Fite



THE WORD SPREADS

For those who have yet to see this wonderful publication, **The Spring Hill Review** banner reads, “A Journal of Northwest Culture.” Ms. Carolyn Schultz-Rathbun, Publisher of the Spring Hill Review came by the workroom the other day and interviewed

Sherry and Eleanor at length regarding the project and the artistic process itself.....the many moments from first inception to the present growing project. We will look forward to the April issue; keep an eye out for the latest copy in restaurants, coffee shops and small businesses throughout southwest Washington.



PRESENTATIONS

Our presentation of the Fort Vancouver Tapestry over the last few months has been very rewarding and just plain fun.

On February 20th, we were hosted for lunch by the First United Methodist Church in Vancouver, and what a wonderful event it was! Over 50 people attended, everyone seemed interested, many asked thoughtful questions and a few even asked for samplers.....**Jean Roberts** finished her sampler and has joined the ranks of stitchers already! Most extraordinary were the sponsorships gained.....**Pat & Norma McGraw** and **Irwin & Dovey Landerholm** sponsored panels on the spot, and then the whole congregation got together and sponsored another....WOW!

Our visit with the parishioners of the First Congregational UCC was equally rewarding. Again, we had a delicious lunch and met many wonderful people who are deeply interested in the Tapestry. Eleanor Van de Water was able to attend and spoke at length about the early days of planning and design, met with old friends and, I am sure, made some new ones. It is a constant source of inspiration to us to bring the Tapestry out to the community.

We had presentations of another sort on the 9th and 16th of March when we visited the art classes at Truman Elementary School. It was great fun to see those young faces light up at the sight of our colorful tapestry. As you can imagine, it was searching for Sasquatch that caused the most squeals and laughter. What was most rewarding was watching children realize that art and history are indeed intertwined.

Speaking of children.....

“Every fourth grader in Washington and Oregon will see the Fort Vancouver Tapestry.” Sound like a great quest or worthy challenge? We are on our way already. The Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, which is hosting two 6 ft. sections through the summer, is visited by virtually every school district in both states as part of their fourth grade curriculum every Spring. Each of these 20,000 students will have a chance to get up close and personal with the eight panels dealing with the early days of Fort Vancouver.....panels such as “Roasting Meat”, “Dedicating Fort Vancouver” and “Pioneers.” With our on-site volunteers stitching, chatting and answering the jillion crazy questions that only fourth graders can dream up, Spring and Summer should be pretty fun at the Visitors Center at the fort.

