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**The Fred Oldfield
Western Heritage Center**

2522 North Proctor # 14
Tacoma, Washington 98406



Howdy Friends,

It's almost springtime again at the Western Heritage Spread so it's time for me to scratch out a few lines about what's been goin' on. Now, we've been just sittin' back and restin' this winter - waitin' for our new building, so I've been painting a lot. Now we're back with what we're callin' Phase II. Now, I know that fella Donald Trump would call it something fancy and talk about all the great new things that are goin' on at the Center, but we're just callin' it Phase II. Every time I look around somethin' new is happening. We have a new building and new displays. We've got this whole gang workin' down here, painting, hammering and getting things all set up. Good thing you can still find us at the same ol' Red Gate, and I hope you'll start planning now to hurry on out here and see what we're doin'.



The Fred Oldfield Western Heritage Center

Review

Spring Edition 2005

New Displays

Now, let me tell you what you'll see when you come to visit. What you'll see is the Old West. Sort of, you might say, through my eyes. We're going to show you the West the way I saw it when I was comin' up in the old days, ridin' and paintin' - and fishin' of course.

There's going to be a timeline showing my whole life. That'll be a long one, won't it?" And you'll get to see pictures of my family.

I haven't been able to find out

everything that's going on but I did some lookin' around and I know they've brought in a buckboard and some farm equipment and what they're gonna do - they're gonna show my life on the farm - there'll even be a real farmhouse and a mural to go with it. Now just a little further along, you'll get to see a cowboy scene, complete with a chuck wagon - I may think about doing a little cookin' - like I been doing since I was eight. Now here, the mural will show a cowboy's life on the range - well, not everything, but enough to give you the idea.

You'd think that'd be plenty of displays and all the folks would like to sit down and rest

on their laurels for a while. Anybody know what a laurel looks like? Well, anyway, they say it isn't enough for them. They're puttin' in a Native American display showin' my memories of growing up on the Yakima Indian Reservation. Then, now listen to this, they're fittin' in an old line shack for me to use as my studio and I'll be painting there every day. Well, not every day, but I'll be there when I can if I'm not fishin'.

Now even that isn't enough. They're gonna fancy things up with a gift shop - don't know what they'll find to put in it, but bet me you'll like it. Then I guess they're gonna put up a bunch of those old awards I've been paperin' the wall with at my place, and there's going to be what they call a "trivia wall". I'm not too sure what this is. You gotta come see for yourself.



The Fred Oldfield Western Heritage Center Review

Art With Fred

Now here comes the best part – this is my favorite. You might have heard we’ve been doing “Art with Fred” at the Center, but now we’ve got a real fine classroom and more than a 100 youngsters coming for our regular classes. Oh, I want to tell you, it just does my heart good to see the little tykes comin in. All ready to paint. Sometimes they even show me a thing or two. Now every child that comes in for classes gets to spend some time doing art with me. I love that. There are three levels of classes, beginning, intermediate and advanced and we even have classes for grown ups, cause it’s never too late to get paintin. We are so lucky, ‘cause we have some of the best art teachers around, teachin’ these kids!

Tours

Now that we’ve got this great new building the Center will be available for school field trips, tours for seniors, churches and special interest groups. Tell you what I’ll do. I’ll even let you rent the whole Western Heritage Center for your own party, if you want, or if you’re planning to get hitched, well this is the place; in fact, it’s available for any special event you might be planning.

Come On Down...

Now, like always, I want to close by thankin’ our great volunteers, because we couldn’t do any of this without them. This bunch could move mountains easy. We’d like to see you at the Western Heritage Center. Come down any Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. And, if you should want to grab a paintbrush or a hammer, we won’t stop you.

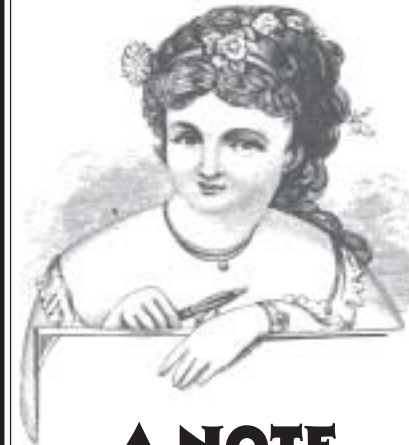
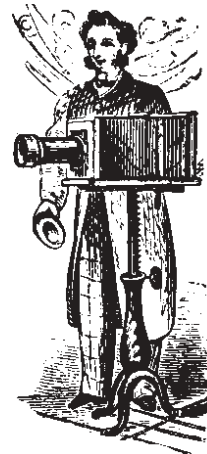
They’re telling me we’re going to have a big Grand Openin’ – so you better start breaking in your store bought shoes, cause we’re gonna raise a ruckus! I sure want you to come to

the party, but I’m hopin you’ll come down in the meantime just to see what’s going on.

OK. You stop reading right now and go mark your calendar for May 7th when we’ll all get together for “Once Upon a Time in the West!!”

Til then, I hope I’ll be ridin’ along your trail, real soon. That’s sorta TV talk isn’t it and that’s my way of remindin you I’ve got a new TV series coming. Let’s get together real soon.

Your friend,



A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Artifacts

If you find something like an old butter churn hiding in your attic, basement or garage, please give us a call. If we think we can find a proper home for it in the future, we’d be happy to add it to our collection. Did you know museums across the country only use 2% of their artifacts at any given time? So you can tell we need a lot of artifacts so our displays can be ever changing.

Volunteers

“It’s not what you gather, but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you have lived.” Our Community Advisory Board is loaded with the “Best of the Best” volunteers. However, like every non-profit group we could use more volunteers of every age and talent. Do you have a special talent that you can share at the Center? Do you like to do research, computer work, gardening, electronic work, or are you a friendly face to meet and greet the Center visitors? If so, we have a job waiting for you! Please join us.

Party!

Mark your calendars for another exciting Party. May 7th you can be a part of our “Once Upon a Time in the West” - Food, music, melodramas, gun fights, old time jail, old time photos, and characters from the Old West. You won’t want to miss a minute of this good time!

- Joella Oldfield
Executive Director