ISSUE 3 FALL 2015

KIRKMAN HOUSE MUSEUM



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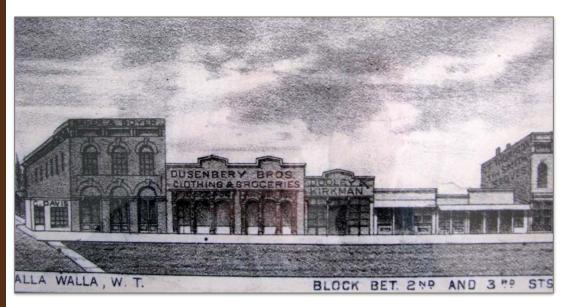
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Special Thanks
Walla Walla Food Tours
Fort Walla Walla Museum
Ace Hardware
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Carol White Kirkman

Please remember us when making your end of year donations.

Make a donation or renew your membership today at: http://tinyurl.com/ ooy2qpb



Pioneer Meat Market on Main

Although the Kirkman name was associated with a number of Walla Walla businesses over time, the Pioneer Meat market was William Kirkman's first local retail establishment. This is fitting as Mr. Kirkman's dealing with "dressed meat" was a significant part of his history and figured into the very beginnings of the fortune he would accumulate over time.

Arriving in San Francisco in the mid 1850s, he needed money to finance his gold exploration and acquired a skill that would serve him well later. He and another man bought a "butchery machine" for one hundred dollars. They made "pudins" and sausage and their business was very successful. Eager to get to the gold fields, William sold out and was off to find his fortune.



By the 1860s William began to accept that a quick fortune from gold was not likely and in a letter written to his parents from a mining camp in British Columbia said that he was going to try his hand at "something milder than gold hunting." What he was intending to do was cattle driving. He and a friend bought a small herd of cattle and opened a butcher shop. They operated the shop for twelve months and its business was brisk, but William

felt he could "do better" and now aspired to a larger role in the cattle industry.

In 1864 William and a partner drove three hundred and seventy-five cattle from California to Idaho. The base of his operations was a rough but busy town called Pioneerville where William and his partner opened still another butcher shop in connection with their herd. It is not known why William left Idaho and returned to San Francisco but we do know that in 1867 he married the 23-year-old Irish girl Isabella Potts there. Placerville, Idaho and Idaho City were the last mining towns in which William resided and there he sold his cattle to local meat markets. His young bride, Isabella, must have thought these communities rather dull after San Francisco, but she seems to have made the best of it. In a letter to his parents William says: "I wish you could see me and my wife with our little son start off from the house as we frequently do.We [go on horseback] five or six miles in the hills to see some of the flock. She gets tired staying at home all the time, so I have to take her along. She is a very good horseback rider."

WINTER EVENTS

WHISPERED MEMORIES PSYCHIC FAIR

Saturday, November 7 10am to 4:00pm

Group session 2pm to 4pm. Tickets available on our web site.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Thursday & Friday December 3 & 4 12pm to 8pm



KIRKMAN HOUSE LIVE CHAMBER MUSIC

The Night Before Christmas

Saturday December 5, 7:30pm and Sunday December 6, 2pm

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS Open House

Saturday December 5 11am to 5:30pm In 1871 William and Isabella decided to make their home in Walla Walla. William partnered here with John Dooley, also known as "King Cattle," and with him established the Pioneer Meat Market on Main Street. An ad for the market described the Pioneer as run by "practical stock men, largely engaged in the business" and featuring "BEEF, MUTTON, VEAL, HAMS, BACON, SAUSAGES, LARD." The Pioneer was a lively business that employed numerous workers. No need to go into the shop to make purchases. The Pioneer Market's delivery wagons operated 7 a.m. until noon.

Walla Wallans looked up to William Kirkman as a wealthy stockman and successful entrepreneur, but few realized just how extensive was his hands-on knowledge of cattle driving or how many meat shops were in his past. In the 1880 City Directory William Kirkman could have described himself as "Rancher," "Farmer," or "Businessman." It is perhaps significant that he chose to list his occupation simply as "Butcher."

World War II Goes to the Fair

Kirkman House Museum was given a special opportunity during the County Fair this year. Items from our terrific World War Il were set up in the Fairgrounds Pavilion and were viewed by hundreds of fair goers. Airbase, WAC, and V-12 posters were read with interest. People were fascinated with the airbase map and the artifacts displayed. It



was gratifying to Kirkman House to see our exhibit "go on the road," and enjoyed by so many. Many of our information panels have been added to Fort Walla Walla Museum World Wars exhibit.



Recent Donations

You never know what a phone call, email, or doorbell will bring. Recently Carol White Kirkman walked in the back door with a serving tray and various doilies to go with it. All were used by the Kirkmans in the house.

A few days later another donor gave us a large and comprehensive set of Flow-Blue pattern dishes by La Belle that dates from the 1880s to 1890s.

Event Information kirkmanhouse.org





Consider the museum for your company or family Christmas party. Contact Rick: rt@kirkmanhousemuseum.org

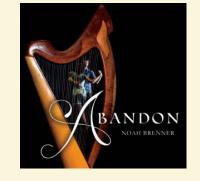
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Kirkman House Live - Concert

<u>T'was the Night Before Christmas</u> Saturday December 5, 7:30pm, \$45 Sunday December 6, 2pm, \$20

Kirkman House Live invites you to a unique seasonal performance this December. Experience the 'front row' connection in "T'was the Night Before Christmas", a musical adaption of Clement Clarke Moore's 1832



poem, interpreted for Soprano, Celtic Harp and Cello. Classic carols and a range of short vignettes of Celtic to Tango breadth will complete the program.

Cellist Sally Singer Tuttle has internationally acclaimed recordings with the Volta Piano Trio, is on the faculty at Whitman College and will be the soloist with the Walla Walla Symphony on November 17th this season. She will be joined by Soprano, Monica Griffin Hunter, a highly sought-after opera lead, finalist in the Berlin International Opera Auditions in Germany, recent soloist with the Walla Walla Symphony and Lecturer of Music at Whitman College. Celtic Harper Noah Brenner from Oregon will complete the picture, a wonderfully versatile artist, storyteller and creator of the tango CD "Abandon" and "The Harp of Brandiswhiere". The Musicians look forward to greeting you in the intimate setting of the charming Kirkman House Parlor, a step back in time, a place to hear the new and the old, and a time to share the season's blessings.

Doors open at 6:45pm on Saturday for socializing, locally sourced hors d'oeuvres, Blue Mountain Cider, and wine from Tranche Winery.