

## **2020 End of Year Presidents Report**

At the end of the 2019 I professed hope that we could keep up most of the velocity that we had built in the previous year, despite not having a dedicated director. But wow, did events of this year really take the wind out of our sails.

But, while we were prevented in many ways from keeping our event agenda rolling along at the same pace, some things have not changed at all. Amber and Pabblo, after a brief break, returned to work and kept up a solid pace with grant submissions, collections work, newsletter writing, bookkeeping, financial management and bat mitigation.

Similarly, our amazing volunteers jumped in with both feet and figured out how best they could assist in this new remote reality. Digital exhibits were curated, website updates were made, distanced live events were thrown, the grounds were landscaped, photo collection processing continued, a new bookkeeper was found, the new HVAC system project was completed and new photo book concepts were crafted.

Unfortunately, we were not able to deliver many of our signature events this year, but we should remain hopeful that 2021 will be more normal and we will be able to bring back the Tacoma Train, Animas Museum Live, the Heritage Dinner, Christmas Bazaar and other events. What has been reassuring, is that to a great extent, the community continues to stand behind us, even when we aren't able provide the face to face interactions of the past.

As the outgoing President, I would like to thank everyone for your incredible support over the past two years. The past year has been a challenging period for the whole community, but I think we have done a phenomenal job under the circumstances. While I'm remorseful about leaving the position of President at such a socially and financially tenuous time for our museum and community, I have the utmost faith that our staff, volunteers and board will forge on in the right direction. Sandy, Gay, Susan and Caroline are incredibly dedicated, knowledgeable, and capable people and will be fantastic as our board officers.

In their capable hands, I truly believe that 2021 has the possibility to be a great year for our both the museum and community. Also, I will not be going anywhere, I will still be an active board member and available for any reason for the foreseeable future.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to lead this organization, stay home and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Foote