

# **GCPS Progress Report**

**January, 2019**

**By Diane Sterne**

- A submitter from Find-A-Grave gave me the name of the father of one of the people interred at the Granite Creek Cemetery. The person interred is Elizabeth Blellock. Her father and his photo have been linked to Elizabeth's on the Find-A-Grave site.
- Allan of Find A Grave sent me some suggestions for babies who are buried at the Granite Creek Cemetery. I have made the changes on the website as well as in our own records. Thank you Allan for your assistance. The suggestions were names of parents and dates of birth. They were for Corry Barnes, Baby Zaharoff, Baby Barnes, and Elizabeth Blellock/Blelloch.
- I emailed Ron Shearer (who had written an excellent article based on the Diary and other information of John Dean) to see if he had completed the revisions to his piece so that we could add it to our website. He completed the paper and Ole Juul has posted it on the website. The amount of research Ron did is amazing. You should really enjoy reading this. Thank you Ron for allowing us to make this article accessible online! Thank you Ole for posting this on the website!
- I emailed Skip Broderick to ask if she might be willing to share some of her family information about Granite Creek. Skip has the old Granite Creek Hotel piano and I asked if she could send us some photos of it along with any information she might have. There was no reply.
- I sent an email to Chris Coomes regarding the cabin. I explained that the GCPS wants to pursue putting a protective cover over the remains (pending approval from the RDOS and grant money). I asked if she had any photos of her time living there that she would share with us so we could have them printed and mounted to the roof supports and also for the website and possible grant applications. I also asked if there were any family members who might like to be involved in the project. There was no reply.
- I haven't had any success in finding a grant we might apply to for a roof over Coomes' cabin. If anyone has any suggestions please let us know. Before we talk to the RDOS about this idea we should probably have a grant to apply for. Suggestions?
- Bob Sterne received a reply from Keith Weir, Senior Land Officer, MFLNRO regarding our Cemetery Lease Application. He said he would look at it early in the New Year. After this email, Bob was notified by Ben Sampogna. He said he will be taking over the file from Keith. This is very good news for the GCPS!
- Will the GCPS have a Cemetery page on our website? It would probably be a good idea if we end up being managers of the Cemetery. Thoughts?
- Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture and Ministry Responsible for Sport and Multiculturalism, very kindly gifted the GCPS a book called "Celebration: Chinese Canadian Legacies in British Columbia". I have brought it with me. It is an absolutely beautiful book with lots of information regarding the Chinese in British Columbia. I sent her a thank you for the book. I am wondering if perhaps

we should give it to the Museum to display (if they don't already have a copy). The photographs in it are quite amazing.

- The GCPS Christmas card email was sent out to members and friends of the GCPS.
- We have had success in identifying a last name for "Wendy" at the Granite Creek Cemetery. Inquiries at a Coalmont meeting turned up nothing and Dawn Gardner posted it on Facebook without success. I sent an email to Barrie Cook to ask if he or any of his family members might know. Barrie suggested I contact Olive Scott to see if she might know who Wendy was. Olive was most helpful and gave us Wendy's full name and dates of birth and death. We will update the board at the Cemetery in the spring to reflect this information. I have also updated the Find-A-Grave site and the Canada GenWeb Cemetery Project online. Thank you so much, Olive, for helping us with this information! Her name is Wendy Lee Pare (nee Rhodes) and Cecil Stuart Rhodes (whose grave is beside hers and where some of her ashes were scattered) was her father.
- Princeton Town Council has established a "committee to advise on arts, culture and heritage". They wish to "develop and recommend policies, provide community perspective on related issues, and promote awareness and support of local artistic talent, heritage and archival preservation". According to the article in the Spotlight, the committee will consist of representatives from the GCPS, Museum, Arts Council and the Traditional Music Society. Our Chair, Dawn Gardner, has very kindly put in her name to be the GCPS representative for the new Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee. Thank you so very much, Dawn, for taking on this new duty. The GCPS is extremely grateful for your dedication!!!
- In an attempt to find out who replaced Candice Gartner at the RDOS, I sent an introductory email to the RDOS Coordinator for Community Services, Doug Reeve. He emailed me back and said that we are to send our Annual Report and Annual Operating Plan to Evelyn Riechert at RDOS.