



Neighborhood Newsletter

MAY / JUNE 2008

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Meet the Grand Mound Rochester Citizens' Group & Swede Hall
- Swede Day 2008
- Swede Day Midsommar Coronation
- Thurston County Sheriff's Report
- Community Events
- & More



Volunteers Needed!

Support English as a Second Language classes with childcare or classroom support. Monday's & Tuesdays 6-8 PM, ROOF Community Services. Please call Renee for more information: 273-6375

Meet the Grand Mound Rochester Citizens' Group

This group consists of very dedicated individuals who keep Swede Hall running so the public can enjoy this local historical landmark. Without these individuals we would not have such a wonderful meeting place. The group is always seeking new volunteers to help maintain the community's vision for Swede Hall.

Come meet some of the board members and members of the group!



Grand Mound Rochester Citizens' Group President Pat Schoelkopf

How long have you been a member of the GMRCG?
"28 years"

What is your fondest memory?
"The friendships I have made through the group."

Tell us something that local Citizens' may not know about

Swede Hall?

"There are 2 dances every month. They are the first and third Sunday at 1:30pm. There is a \$5 donation at the door and beverages and snacks to purchase."

What is one thing you would like to see the group accomplish?

"I would like for the GMRCG to be able maintain Swede Hall and keep it open for public use."

Grand Mound Rochester Citizens' Group Vice President & Treasurer

Henry Edinger

How long have you been a member of the GMRCG?
"30 Years"

What is your fondest memory?
"The gratification I have volunteering for the community. Rochester is more than just where my house is, it is my community."

How much does it cost on average to keep up Swede Hall?
"It cost about \$2,500 a month"

What is one thing you would like to see the group to accomplish?

"It is important we fight to preserve the endangered Oak Trees on 5 acres behind Swede Hall so we can turn it into a community sanctuary later. We are currently fighting to stop a developer so they will not be able to cut these trees down and put houses there."

Continued on page 3

Swede Hall

This year the Grand Mound Rochester Citizens' Group is celebrating their 30th Birthday! Thirty years ago the Citizens' Group purchased the Historical Order of Runeberg Hall which is now Swede Hall. On Swede Day there will be tours available and you can learn more about the Swede Hall and get more information on how to rent out the Hall for local events. The group is always looking for more volunteers to help with the upkeep of the Hall. Please talk to one of the Grand Mound Rochester Citizens' Group members to find out more information how you or your family can help.

Swede Hall - 273-7231 Email swedehall@aol.com or aimee_weedandseed@comcast.org or rochesterweedandseed.org

Swede Hall on Albany St.





More signs are going up. If you would like a FREE neighborhood watch sign for your street please contact me ASAP. Supplies are limited!

2007 Swede Day Queen & Court during the Swede Day Parade.



Thurston County Sherriff's Activity Report April 2008 Rochester Area

Tips Investigated	07
Cases	02
Unfounded	05
Other Felony arrest	01
Other Misdemeanor Arrest	01
DV Investigation & Arrests	01
 Property Seized	 \$2,500

Community Activities

Maintaining the auto theft file/Instructed a class in gangs and maintained the gang file and attended a meeting with other law enforcement regarding local gangs/Involved in the Evergreen State College incident/Investigated wire thefts throughout the county/Attended a Meth Awareness meeting and made a presentation to a local group about meth.

"Hot Spots" Assist TNT (Thurston County Narcotics Task Force) (12 hours)

*30 warrants attempted (several suspects had numerous warrants)
Total # of Hours in Rochester "Weed & Seed" 50

Swede Day Midsommar Queen Pageant & Coronation

Saturday 7 June 2008

**Swede Hall ~
Rochester**

**Co-Coordinator
Danielle Bricker & Aimee Danielson**

Please join us for the Swede Day Midsommar Queen Pageant & Coronation in Swede Hall at 6:30pm.

This special and honored event is open to the public and our community members are encouraged to attend. At this event GMRCG will serve traditional Strawberry

Shortcake and we will have entertainment for all our honored guests. The GMRCG will also introduce Swede Day parades Grand Marshal along with announcing Rochester's 2008 Scandinavian saying and theme for Swede Day. The Swede Day Midsommar Coordinators will introduce the 2008-2009 Queen and her Court who will represent Rochester through out the year at various public events. Help us welcome them into their new role and honor them!

If you have any questions please contact Aimee Danielson at 360-481-0296 or at aimee_weedandseed@comcast.net

Meet the Grand Mound Rochester Citizens' Group Cont.

Continued from Page 1

Grand Mound Rochester Citizens' Group Secretary Gail Nelson

How long have you been a member of the GMRCG?

"I have been a member for 30 years. I have been secretary for 3 years."

What is your fondest memory?

"I met my husband at a dance at the Swede Hall"

Tell us something that local citizen's may not know about Swede Hall?

"I have heard that some of the public does not know that Swede Hall is open to the public and anybody can rent it out."

What is one thing you would like to see the group to accomplish?

"I would like to make sure that Swede Hall keeps going. It is important to have new members join the group so we can continue to maintain Swede Hall."

Grand Mound Rochester Citizens' Group Member Maureen Smith

How long have you been a member of the GMRCG?

"30 years, I was a member of the Order of Runeberg before that."

What is your fondest memory?

"When I was the Grand Marshal in 1998."

Tell us something that local citizens' may not know about Swede Hall?

"I do not think everybody realizes that it is a public Hall that the whole community has access to."

What is one thing you would like to see the group accomplish?

"I would like for the GMRCG to be able maintain Swede Hall but with the cost of everything raising it is getting difficult to do."

THANK YOU TO The
GRAND MOUND ROCHESTER
CITIZENS' GROUP
FOR ALL YOU DO!!!!

If you would like to contact
Swede Hall Directly please
call 273-7231

Or Pat Schoelkopf at 858-1455

Sheriff Block Watch

The Thurston County Sheriffs Office can provide information and training on how to start a Block Watch Program in your neighborhood.

If you are interested in a Block Watch meeting please feel free to contact John at 786-5855

rochesterweedandseed.org

Community calendar, community photo's, Weed & Seed, Swede Day, Swede Hall info and more! Email me with all local events for the calendar!

Swede Day June 21, 2008

Kom Till Swede Hall, dansa ät och var glad ~Come to Swede Hall, Dance, eat and be glad

Just park once and check out all the events that are happening in Rochester. There is a shuttle from the LSD Church (where the staging for the parade starts) to Swede Hall!

- 1 mile and 5k Fun Run (Sponsored by TC Parks) 8:00am
- Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast 8:00am
- Lion's Club Parade (Grand Marshal Stanley & Clara Johnson) 11:00am
- Majstang Dance 12:00 Noon
- Seattle Scandinavian Dancers
- Nordic Exposure
- GMRCG Swedish Meat Ball Lunch 12:00 Noon
- Entertainment 12:30 - 3:00pm
- Scandinavian Folk Dancers
- Independence Valley Players featuring Yvonne Ruege
- Kim's Taekwon Do Demonstration
- Vendors at Swede Hall and the Rochester Community Center

12pm – 3pm

Rochester Children's Events including : **80 ft. obstacle course**, a regular bounce house, face painting and carnival games. **Teen Event** including **live bands**, basketball tournaments, raffles and more at Rochester Middle School

Go to www.rochesterweedandseed.org for updated information on Swede Day

On Swede Day there will be brochures available to the public with detailed information and Maps.



Guest Speaker At Rochester Jr High

Written by Donna Weaver-Smith



On May 2, 2008, the student body of Rochester Middle School along with students from Heart High School will have the privilege of attending an assembly with Bob Mortimer, originally from Hoquiam. Bob Mortimer's freewheeling life changed forever when he

lost three of his limbs as the result of an accident on the Gate Mima Road, NW of Rochester. His story — one of turning tragedy into triumph — is a message of hope for individuals and families being ravaged by the affects of alcohol and drug use.

In the weeks following his speaking engagement in our school, Bob will begin a 3900 mile cycling tour of

Hope and Courage travelling from Gig Harbor to New York City riding his hand cycle across the U.S. His journey can be followed at

www.hcjourney.org

For more information contact Donna Weaver-Smith at 360-273-0707

Please Visit our Weed & Seed website for community information
www.rochesterweedandseed.org
 Thank You Thurston County for donating this website to the Community of Rochester Community!

Rochester Weed & Seed
Coordinator Aimee Danielson

New Office Hours

**Monday, Wednesday 9:30—12:30
 & Fridays 1:00—3:00 pm**

All other office hours are by appointment only

Phone: 360-273-9175 X 113

Phone: 360-481-0296

E-mail: aimee_weedandseed@comcast.net

10140 Highway 12

P.O. Box 1213

Rochester, WA 98579

Weed & Seed Provides Additional Funding !

Big Brothers Big Sisters is able to extend their program by providing 6 additional matches and provide more staff time to their efforts with Boys & Girls club and ROOF.

ROOF will be able to enhance the Kids' Place program by adding one additional staff member (Hispanic Outreach Worker) to conduct English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for our Spanish-speaking students. ESL classes will be offered 2 days a week during the school year and 2 days a week during the month of July.

Thurston County Parks to expand their scholarships and

field trips for their Summer day programs.

Boys and Girls Clubs is able to provide additional scholarships for their summer camp.

Youth Awareness Rally is a public event for youth which is going to include live bands, prizes, and other youth activities focusing on Jr. and Senior High students.

Guest Speaker Bob Mortimer will speak at the Jr. High about underage drinking and the consequences it has.