

## GOALS

As shepherds of The Grant School, the Pickering Community Club has goals:

- To preserve the 1914 Grant School historic flavor for the Pickering neighborhood's use and enjoyment.



- To invite neighbors and friends to share in the experience of the Grant School and to be a part of our potlucks and events.
- To create a living classroom museum available to children for educational school field trips.
- To provide financial support of an educational/scholastic nature to the local community.



## PICKERING COMMUNITY CLUB

Pickering Community Club  
is the  
DBA of Pickering Homemakers Club, Inc.,  
a 501(c)(3) organization.  
The club is eligible for grants.  
Donations to this organization  
may be tax deductible.

Federal tax I.D. 91-1275293

Located:  
1914 Grant School  
151 East Community Club Road  
Shelton, Washington 98584

Mail:  
151 East Community Club Road  
Shelton, Washington 98584

Information:  
360-427-5302

Meetings:  
Monthly  
except for January and February  
on the 3rd Thursday at 5:30pm

In January and February  
Is social event and dinner  
No general meeting

New members are always welcome!

Grant School  
may be rented  
for special occasions  
upon approval of the Board.

## PICKERING COMMUNITY CLUB



In the fir trees of the  
Pickering neighborhood  
of Shelton, Washington  
is the 1914 historic Grant School.

This one-room  
school house has been  
the center of social activity  
in the Pioneer District  
for a century.  
Originally established  
to serve local elementary children,  
the Grant School  
was closed in 1942  
and is now the home of the  
Pickering Community Club  
which is dedicated  
to the preservation  
of the historic  
Mason County landmark.

## LEGACY OF COMMUNITY EFFORTS

The Grant School opened in the fall of 1914 for grades 1 through 8, with 13 students, 10 from Spencer Lake, which had closed earlier that same year.

Miss Kennedy was the first teacher for the one-room school house. A wood-burning potbelly stove heated the classroom. The "necessary house" was out back, a cold trip on winter days and not a place to linger.



In 1939, a play shed that had been built on the property earlier, was moved on skid logs pulled by horses and a stump puller. It was then attached to the original building. All work was done by neighborhood volunteers. This provided an area for children to play without going outside. The last class, with only three students enrolled, was in 1942.

In the mid-30's, the Pickering Homemakers Club was organized by women from the Pickering Road neighborhood. Meetings were held in private homes. Recipes comparison, needlework and quilting were major activities. Afternoon coffees provided the perfect platform to discuss problems and concerns of the neighborhood.

## SCHOOL'S OUT FOR GOOD

In 1946, the Pickering Homemakers Club, alumni and residents of the neighborhood were concerned about the future of this old school. No one seemed to want the responsibility of the upkeep.

By this time, the Pickering Homemakers had incorporated, thereby giving it a solid community presence. They agreed to take over the stewardship of the old school, taking responsibility for its upkeep and continued preservation. Subsequently, the property was deeded to the Pickering Homemakers Club and their meetings and activities were shifted to the school. Sometime later, the masculine gender joined the membership as the "homemakers" responsibilities began to include building repairs, roof replacement and social events. The school was also used as a precinct polling site.

## CHANGING TIMES

No longer are the quilting frames or the treadle sewing machines in evidence. The potbelly stove which heated the school until a few years ago, is still an important part of the unique historic school-room. Other original items include the single and double desks, blackboards, an old piano, circa 1900 maps and many schoolbooks.



## ENTER PICKERING COMMUNITY CLUB

In 2006, the Pickering Homemakers Club, Inc. received approval to use "Doing Business As" (DBA) the Pickering Community Club, which reflects the community involvement, broader goals and uses for the school.

## SUPPORT AND FUND RAISING

Through the interest, participation and monetary support of friends and neighbors, the school's history and structure are being preserved.

Fund-raising for the repair or improvement of The Grant School is an ongoing project. Past improvements include the kitchen remodel, a new bathroom, return of the original school bell to the roof-top, repair of 1916-era maps and map case, meeting room ceiling replacement and a new flagpole.

