

Free — Take One

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society is a group of individuals dedicated to the preservation of the history of the area just north of Spokane, Washington. The Society collects oral, literary, and pictorial history to publish and otherwise make accessible to the public.

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society meets on the second Saturday of each month at 9 AM. We gather at the Clayton Drive-In, located just off Highway 395 on Railroad Ave.

THE
**CLAYTON/DEER PARK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Mortarboard

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Lillie Gibson's Quilt By Bill Sebright

Bob and Lillie Gibson were at the Spokane Interstate Fair in the early 1960s when Lily saw a "blanket" on Denise Simpson's cow. It turned out to be a quilt that Lily's Mom's Home Ec. Club put together years before. Lily told Denise that she would buy her a blanket if she could have the quilt.

Bob Gibson brought the beautiful handmade quilt to share. (**Photo on next page**) It is dated August of 1935 and was put together by the Spring Creek Home Economic Club. The club covered the area north of Deer Park. Club members with embroidered signatures on the quilt are: **Mrs. Margaret Baker, Mrs. L. D. Boyd, Mrs. Alfred Chess, Mrs. Elsie Jens, A. Janson, Wilma Jorgenson, Mrs. Alma Kaniut, Mrs. A. A. Lowry, Grace Lowry, Ella Moll, Bertha Olson, Lois Olson, Mabel Olson, Clarrissa Owens, Mrs. Omma Pierce, Mrs. Peterson, Christina Reiter, Edith Reiter, Esther Reiter, and Tillie Seecking.**

The Kaniuts owned the 40 acres at the northeast corner of Mason and Grove Roads. Bob Herendeen lived with the Kaniuts for years. Al and Irene Nilsson (Anni Sebright's parents) bought it from the Kaniuts in 1946 and owned it until 1979. The Nilssons had the top Spokane County dairy in 1972.

Christina Reiter was Louie, Mabel, and Herb's mother. Esther was Don and Pete's mom. Edith



This is the only picture we can find of the Spring Creek Home Ec Club and was taken after 1945. Members are from left to right: Esther Reiter, Opal Church, Enid Evenson, Neva Simpson, Maxine Aucutt, and Pearl Cline. Neva Simpson is Denise Simpson's Grandmother. Esther Reiter is the only one whose signature is on the quilt. Courtesy: Don, Mary Jo and Mike Reiter



Bob Gibson with the 1935 quilt *Photo by Bill Sebright*

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was Louie's wife and they were Mike Reiter's grandparents. Mabel and Albert Olson were Robert Olson's folks.

Grace Lowry is Lillie Gibson's mother. Mrs. A. A. Lowry is her grandmother.

Ella Moll is grandmother to Verla Moll Meyer and Rita Moll Casberg.

Lois Olson and Ed Olson are Aaron Olson's parents and lived south of Montgomery Road on Dalton Road.

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Mrs. L. D. (Loren Devol) Boyd (Aldora or Dora) wrote a column in the Tri-County Tribune. She is Dwight Boyd's mother and Sharon Boyd Clark's grandmother. She is also May Boyd's mother. May married Ray Ball who was a barber in Deer Park. Don Ball is their son.

You may know other descendants of these quilt makers. Editor.

Left: Christina Reiter —Photo courtesy of Don, Mary Jo and Mike Reiter

Deer Park High School Memories By Mont Chadbourne Edited and Annotated by Florene Eickmeyer Moore

[Born Dec. 20, 1895 — firstborn son of Grove Chadbourne & Emma Eickmeyer Chadbourne] [Mont & his brother Lee were schooled at home by their Aunt Cora Chadbourne.] Lee & I started to go to Public School on Wild Rose in the eighth grade.

It was a big class for a two-room country school. Some of the students were: Ward Gemmill, Martin Eickmeyer, Ed & Phil Power, Eunice Ringsley, Lenora Gemmill, Kate Fallon, Pearl Losh, Maxine Schelburg, and Claud Outzer. [This was about 1907.]

It was a little bit of a trying year. Not scholastically, as my Aunt Cora had done her job well. But socially, I did not know how to fit in, especially with a bunch of older kids that had grown up in public school. I did not have my younger brother Lee's easy mixing ability nor his athletic prowess and agility. He was quick as a cat, both mentally and physically. I was inclined to be anything but flashy witted and a bit awkward and clumsy, especially when compared with older kids, or so it seems to me.

To begin with, I was just another farmer boy born and raised on Wild Rose Prairie, 18 miles north of Spokane near Deer Park. I was also born, I believe, with a yen for things mechanical and sci-

tific. I can still remember how intrigued I was with my first contacts with the binder and threshing machines and later the automobile. I think I was about nine or ten years old when I had my first ride in one.

My first two years of High School [*in Deer Park, living with my grandparents*] were spent on the upper floor of what was, because of its peculiar shape, called the "settin hen." Originally it was a two room school upstairs and downstairs with a belfry tower above the entrance. Later, as the population increased, a north & south wing was added which served as the tail of the chicken. There were about 15 or 16 ninth-graders starting school that year. These along with the 7th and 8th graders filled the upstairs room in the body of the chicken about to capacity.

The new High School was built the summer between my Sophomore and Junior years.

During my Freshman year [1909] the superintendent's name was Hoskins. This included the whole school but he taught the High School history class which was Ancient History. He seemed to be a rather retiring easy-going sort, inclined to let kids and nature take their course. So the first day, the



Lee and Mont Chadbourne graduated in the First graduating class of Deer Park High School in 1913.

Shown L to R, Back to Front; Leonora (Gemmill) House, Lee Chadbourne, Mont Chadbourne, Gladys (Kelly) Turner, Zora (Kelly) Hunziker, and Agnus Crawford. *Photo and caption Courtesy of Lawrence Zimmerer – Digitized by DP School Dist. Photo previously published as part of an article on the history of the DP School district by J. L. Brian.*

boys most all filed in and took their seats in a bunch.

I was 13 and Lee was 11. We were the youngest in the class, especially Lee. The girls' ages ranged from 14 to 18 or 19. Several of the

girls were in the 17 to 19 age group and considered themselves quite sophisticated young ladies.

Thru some stroke of fate, Lee and one boy, Ray Wimer who was about 18, got seated right in
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the middle of the group of older girls. They proceeded to try and get his nanny goat right off the bat, a little 11 year old country boy. But it didn't work out that way as he was equal to the occasion and quick on the comeback. The result was that they sort of adopted him into the group, to the extent that he was in on nearly everything that was going on, as a sort of confidant and go between. In fact, he had such a big time that he flunked his first year Latin.

My schooling along the mechanical and scientific line began at Deer Park High School with the usual math, algebra and geometry. Also mechanical drawing and physics, all that was available until after I graduated [in 1913.] The following year they put in a chemistry lab. So, after the farm work was done in the fall, I went back and took chemistry, trigonometry, and agriculture, receiving two post graduate credits in three subjects.

I always considered myself very fortunate in the teachers I had in physics and chemistry. They were a graduate electrical engineer and a mining and metallurgical engineer respectively. They taught me the fundamentals in their chosen fields. This gave me an understanding of things scientific and technical which I have been able to continually expand by reading and study, including correspondence courses.

After high school, I went into partnership with my father and two brothers [*Lee and Forest*] in the farming and livestock business. But this was my father's ambition, rather than my own. I became convinced while still in high school that I had a gift for mechanics and invention. This was more or less squelched by the rest of the family. But I was able to carry on my studies and work on sort of a hobby basis, mostly in the winter months when I had a lot spare time.

While I was in high school, I built a spark transmitter and crystal receiving set. This was before radio broadcasting and I couldn't get anyone to work the send so had to lay that on the shelf until after the first World War [1918] when radio broadcasting started.

Soon after I was through high school, I invented a garden seeder that would check row, hill, or drill garden seeds. I was still a teenager when I invented this seeder, got my first patent, and began to get my education about them. I found that getting

DEER PARK HIGH SCHOOL ALL CLASS REUNION CELEBRATES 100 YEARS FIRST SENIORS GRADUATED IN 1913

In the year 1913 Houdini was the master of great escapes, Einstein was working toward the eventual publication of the theory of relativity, Nikola Tesla was astounding the world with electronic gadgetry beyond nearly everyone's imagination and the first six students graduated from Deer Park High School.

Those first Deer Park High School graduates are long gone but the school district that educated them is still going strong. This year marks 100 years since the first graduation ceremony took place. To celebrate the milestone, past Deer Park High School alumni are organizing a 100 year, all class reunion. The reunion is scheduled to take place during this year's Settler's Day celebration on July 27.

patents for a fellow "with wheels in his head" was not very difficult, if he could or would spend the money. But getting them to pay off was another matter.

ROY GROVE

EDITORS NOTE: This is the first of a series of articles about people of the Deer Park district.

This week we review the life of a pioneer dry goods merchant, who holds the distinction of having been in business on the Main Street of Deer Park for a longer period of time than any other person now doing business in town.

Roy R. Grove was born in Slipper Rock, Pennsylvania, December 30, 1876. His family are American as far back as it can be traced, at least to the great-great-grandparents. He attended school in Pennsylvania, and with his family moved directly to this district in 1893. They settled on the present Ernest King farm on Wild Rose Prairie, living there for about four years, then Roy's father homesteaded near Fan Lake. Roy worked with his father on the farm until 1908. It was during this time that he met and married Anna V. Neaville, a Spokane girl.

When he left the farm he came directly to Deer Park and went to work for the Olson Mercantile located on the corner of Main and Crawford in the building now occupied by the Olson Building Supply Co. A couple of years later the present later hotel building was built and the store occupied the entire lower floor of that building. In about 1916 Grove and this brother-in-law J. R. Neaville purchased the business and in 1918 when Neaville died during the flu epidemic, Grove bought the entire store.

In the depression of 1920, Roy states, "I was lucky for once in my life. I sold the store in the spring to a couple of Jews, and they put on a series of sales. When the crash came, they, not I, were holding the bag; I reopened the store in the same location in the fall." At this time Grove discontinued all lines except dry goods.

About 10 years ago he moved into his present location, and this rounds out an even twenty-three years of service to this community.

Roy Grove has always been active in civic life of the community. He is an active member of the Deer Park Commercial Club, and for many years served as its secretary and treasurer. He has gone through the chairs of the local Masonic lodge, and has been a prominent member of the Open Door Congregational Church.

When questioned about his hobbies and pastimes, he tried to tell us that he works all the time; but his son let us in on the fact that after store hours, Roy spends his time gardening, cutting wood and playing Chinese checkers. (**This article was published on the front page of the April 27, 1939, Deer Park Union under the column name "Who's Who In Our District". The writer of this column is not named.**)

Clayton/ Deer Park Historical Society Minutes — March 9, 2013

In attendance: Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Mark Wagner, Bill Sebright, Sharon Clark, Penny Hutton, Marie Morrill, Marilyn Reilly, Warren Nord, Roxanne Camp, Bob Gibson, Lynn Fackenthal Wells, Karen Meyer, Cliff Meyer, Allan Fackenthal, Sue Rehms, Ella Jenkins, Lonnie Jenkins, Donald Ball, Lorraine Ball, Loretta Hall, Marie Morrill, Craig Olson, and Grace Hubal.

Loretta Hall from North Spokane Farm Museum invited us to an ice cream social at the mu-

seum on St. Patrick's Day, Sunday, March 17th, between 2-4pm.

Warren Nord shared a thank you letter to his Dad, Clarence Nord, and Harry Russell from Harald Westby regarding the placement of a flagpole at the Zion Hill Cemetery in 1971.

Society President, Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM. He reported: 1) We received Society dues and family history discs from *(Continued on page 739)*

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Eddie Kingrey. Parts of Eddie's history will be in future Mortarboards. 2) Bill and Grace wrote and Grace sent a letter to Bob Lawrence at KSPS thanking them for the Arcadia Orchard piece on Northwest Profiles. The letter also stated that KSPS could send us a waiver form crediting the Reiter family and the CDPHS and giving them permission to use the Reiter family film. The form sent was not the correct one. We are waiting for the appropriate form. Bob Lawrence stated that there are no other scenes of 1910 Spokane like in this film. 3) We received a thank you note from the Inland NW Camaro Club. Pete Coffin made a generous donation to them in the name of the CDPHS. Bill read it and passed it around. 4) Florene Eickmeyer loaned pictures of the Deer Park Eastern Star group in 1949. Betty Burdette's Mom, Jovetta Wright, OG Follevaag, and RR Grove were in the picture. Bill passed it around. 5) Dan Birdsell, long time DPHS teacher, donated 11 DPHS annuals from 1972 to 1999 to the CDPHS. He may have more to donate.

Treasurer, Mark Wagner reported that there is \$3,977.31 in the main checking account. Deposits: \$87.00. Checks written were \$250.00 for Liberty Insurance, \$15 Winterfest booth rental (refunded last month) \$184.00 Sharon Clark supplies a \$3.00 check imaging fee. Maintenance Web hosting account had \$133.14 in funds with a \$10.95 in activity monthly hosting fee. (Since the main checking account is above \$3,000 there is no service charge from the bank).

Grace Hubal, Secretary report: She wrote and sent a letter to KSPS thanking them and telling them they could sent a waiver form for the Reiter movie.

Vice President, Pete Coffin reported by email: 1) He gave an Arcadia Orchard talk to the Westerners and, 2) Gave a talk on the Eastern Washington Indian War and the evolution of Spokane County to a relatively large group at the Broadway Estates retirement center. Pete was unable to attend the meeting Saturday due to some family commitments.

Print Editor, Sharon Clark: 1) The February 2013 Mortarboard #59 was distributed. Articles include: Northwest Black Pioneer Peter Barnabas Barrow, By Patricia Bayonne-Johnson; The Deer Lake Irrigated Orchards Company/The Pioneer Part by an Old Timer; The Location; and the Officers; and The Loon Lake Loon Association by Karen Meyer.

Craig Olson shared a folding blade pocket knife, which was built from scratch by Otto Dahl. "Dahl" is inscribed on the handle. It is similar to the table knife donated by the John Erickson family. Otto Dahl's sister Anna was married to Louis Olson Sr. who built many of the brick buildings Main Street in Deer Park.

Website Director, Penny Hutton announced that the speaker to the Westerners on March 21th will be Jim Stinson. He will be talking about the history of B basketball in Spokane.

Karen Meyer, President of Loon Lake Historical Society talked about the all school reunion for Loon Lake that is planned the day after Settlers Day. The Old School will be open on Saturdays in April. In June they will be open on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Mike Reiter shared a DP Union article about the Deer Park City Attorney, O. G. Follevaag, regarding the reading of the water meter back in 1940 located inside his house. Mike loaned a thumb drive containing scans from a Earl Mix scrapbook that was dropped off at the City Hall to Bill Sebright. Bill will put the scans in the Society's archives.

Marilyn Reilly reported that Travis and Kylene Grubb bought the Williams Valley School and plan to move it the 3 1/2 miles to their farm on Owens Road east of Swenson Road. Grubb's house is built with bricks from Clayton and is over 100 years old.

Bob Gibson said his Grandfather Jacob got a set of bells about 3 inches in diameter, 5 or 6 bells on a strap made by Otto Dahl. His Grandpa put them on a team of horses in the wintertime and

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went to church, which was about 5 miles away and you could hear them for miles.

Cliff Meyer brought up about how active the Jaycees were in the 1950s. Cliff, Bob Gibson, and Fay Reilly were all Jaycee members. The Jaycees raised the money to install the first lights on Perrins Field. The Washington Water Power crew including Mark's Dad Dick Wagner climbed the poles to

hang and maintain the lights. Karen Meyer will work on writing up an article for the Mortarboard about the Jaycees with the help of Cliff, Bob, and Fay and Marilyn Reilly.

Next meeting: Saturday, April 13, 9 AM at the Clayton Drive-In.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 AM.

The meeting minutes submitted by Grace Hubal, Secretary

Editorial Policy Regarding Correcting Errors and/or Omissions

Information published here is compiled from many sources, including personal memories. It is often difficult or impossible to verify such recollections through outside documentation. Our editorial policy toward the veracity of personal recollections tends toward the casual – since little harm is normally done by such errors. But our editorial process also invites public review and input regarding the accuracy of the information we publish, and when such review either suggests or reveals errors or items open to dispute our “Letters” department will act as a forum allowing the airing of such disagreements in an effort to ascertain the truth and correct any probable or demonstrated errors. We also believe it’s important that such disagreements be recorded, even if they can’t be settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

We encourage everyone to submit any arguments as to fact to the editor in writing — since the written form reduces the chance of further misunderstandings. As is standard policy, all letters will be edited for spelling, word usage, clarity, and — if necessary — contents. If advisable, the editor will confer directly with the letter writers to insure that everyone’s comments and corrections are submitted in a literate, polite, and compelling manner — as best suits the editorial image of this Society’s publications.

Society Want Ads

WANTED: Information and photos regarding the history of the Brick-yard/Ramble In Tavern

WANTED: Any stories and photos of your family's history in connection with their occupations and settlement in the Clayton/Deer Park Area

WANTED: Any stories and photos from Williams Valley #452 and Gardenspot Grange78 Contact: Ann Fackenthal, WVG

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