

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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THE BRAYTON HOPKINS FAMILY PETER COFFIN

The Brayton Hopkins family was an integral part of the founding history of Deer Park, Washington. Brayton Alexander Hopkins was born in Rice County, Minnesota, on September 4, 1869. Rice County is approximately thirty miles south of Minneapolis-Saint Paul. He was the son of Brayton and LaVonne E. (Alexander) Hopkins who had lived in Gouverneur, St. Lawrence County, New York. This northern New York town was also the home of the William Short family. The Shorts and the Hopkins had been connected since the 1860s.

Brayton Alexander Hopkins' father, also named Brayton, was the fourth child in the Joseph and Permilia (Pickett) Hopkins family. The other children, in order of birth, were Joseph Bower, Sara Ruth, Emily, Brayton, Jane Permilia, Jessie Gilbert, Edward Dwight, and Mary Ann Hopkins. Brayton senior had moved from Gouverneur, New York, to Rice County, Minnesota, with his brother Joseph Bower and were making a living as "lumbermen" in the 1870 United States Census.

Figure 1: Brayton Alexander Hopkins in 1899. Picture includes his sisters Lillian Noyes at left and Sara Grace on the right (*Photograph modified from the Alexander Pope Collection*)



Free — Take One

(Continued from page 753)

Their sister Sarah Ruth also moved to Minnesota at this time to be near them.

By the age of fourteen Brayton Alexander Hopkins had completed his education in the common schools of Minnesota and started out in life on his own. When he was fifteen he had entered the saw mill and carpenter trade which he continued the rest of his life. He moved to Washington in 1887 and filed a homestead claim on a tract in Lincoln County approximately six miles south of Wilbur and Creston. On July 19, 1897, he received a serial patent on 169.12 acres of land in the west half of the west half of Section 1-Township 25 North-Range 33 East Willamette Meridian.



Figure 2: Formal portrait of Mable Edith Hopkins. (Photograph from the Alexander Pope Collection)

The book, “From Whence We Came” indicates on page 3 that Brayton A. Hopkins, “...had settled on a Peone Prairie farm a few miles north of Spokane Falls.” The book goes on to state that he was responsible for encouraging the William Hopkins Short family to move to Spokane Falls and that he had helped William Short obtain employment with the Washington Mill Company in Spokane Falls. Beyond the contradiction of obtaining a homestead in Lincoln County and living on Peone Prairie at the same time Brayton A. Hopkins was settled in the Spokane-Deer Park area in the 1890s. He married Mabel Edith White on March 21, 1900, at Webster City, Iowa, (it should be noted that there are two different towns listed for this ceremony in various Ancestry.com genealogies). Six children were born to Brayton A. and Mabel Hopkins in Deer Park. In order they were: Lucy Lavonne (1901-1935), Robert Bruce (1902-1967), Florence Mabel (1905-1985), Elias Brayton (1907-1997), an infant daughter (1910-1910) and Evan White (1914-1987).

Brayton A. was a fine mechanic and became actively connected with the Standard Lumber Company that his first cousin William Hopkins Short had formed. He began working as a Sawyer and saw filer, later becoming a stockholder. Deer Park activities included being a stockholder in the First State Bank, serving as a city councilman, and having the Hopkins Addition to Deer Park laid out, platted and subdivided. In addition to the house still standing at 616 North Main Avenue that he built in 1909, he owned the northwest quarter of Section 27-Township 29 North Range 42 East Willamette Meridian northwest of Deer Park that became part of the Reiter family farms in the 1920s.

Socially he was a staunch prohibitionist, a member of the Congregational Church, a member of the Masonic, Eastern Star and Modern Woodman Lodges. He died on December 30, 1916, of

(Continued on page 755)



Figure 3: The house at 616 North Main Avenue in Deer Park, Washington, that Brayton Hopkins built in 1909. It is uncertain if Mr. Hopkins lived in the house as he sold the lot in 1908 and built the house later according to the “Historic Resources of Deer Park” book. (P. Coffin 2009 Photograph)



Figure 4: William Hopkins Short. (P. Coffin photograph from the Congregational Church study wall)

pneumonia at age 47 and is buried in the Woodland Cemetery west of Deer Park.

His family connections with the founders of Deer Park were many. His Aunt, Sarah Ruth Hopkins had married William Allison Short in New York. That marriage produced four children, William Hopkins (1863-1930), Emma (1866-????), Gertrude Pickett (1868-1892), and George Allison (1874-1880). All of these Short children were first cousins to Brayton Alexander Hopkins. Emma Short married Frank A. Reed who became a prominent Deer Park banker who donated the land for Camp Reed on Fan Lake. Gertrude Short married George Crawford, a partner of her brother William, and the namesake of Crawford Street.

In addition to the Short connection Alice Hopkins, Brayton A.’s Aunt married Evan Enoch

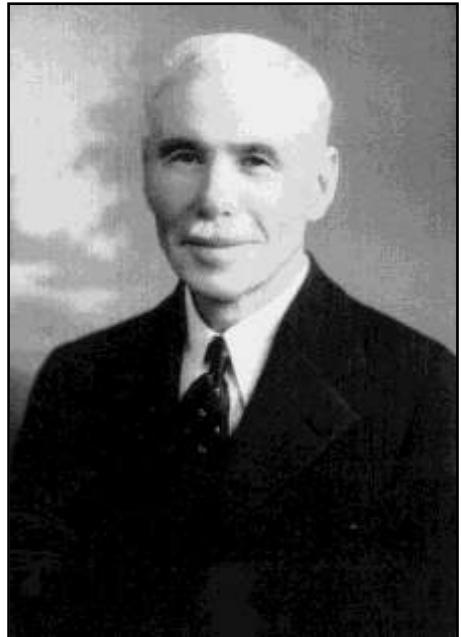


Figure 5: Evan Enoch (photograph from the Congregational Church Collection)

(Continued on page 756)



Figure 6: Alice (Hopkins) Enoch, aunt of Brayton Alexander Hopkins. (Photograph from the Congregational Church Collection)

who became a banker in Deer Park and the namesake of Enoch Road north of Deer Park.

REFERENCES

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OTHO ANDREW PETERS

No review of outstanding citizens of Deer Park could progress far without giving recognition to one of our past mayors, first treasurer, and son of our first mayor. To a man who not only has an enviable record in public life, but also a successful record of a quarter century of business operations in this community.

Otho Andrew Peters made his first appearance on the stage of life April 8, 1878, in the little town of Monroe, Pennsylvania. When Otho was about four years old, his father moved to western Kansas and bought a farm. Two seasons of drought drew the curtain on that enterprise and the family moved to Rich Hill, Missouri, and entered the grocery business.

Here he entered school, and for his last four years in the grades his teacher was James Burke, present superintendent of schools of Spokane

County. He helped his father in the store afternoons and Saturdays.

In 1896 when he was only 18 years old, he and there other young fellows left home and started for the Klondike gold fields. He says that they got as far as Seattle where they saw the boats come in with loads of gold, and heard stories about the rich strikes, and all of the huge fortunes made. They also looked over the supplies and equipment needed for such a trip, and finally young Otho decided that he would stay in Seattle and get some of gold after it got down to this United States.

He got a job in the Bon Marche, even at that time one of Seattle's leading clothing stores measuring calico in the basement at \$3 per week. Three months later he was selling fancy dress goods and drawing \$25 per week. His father then arrived in Seattle and purchased a grocery across the street from the Bon Marche, and he quit his job to help

(Continued from page 756)

his father. They stayed there a little less than two years, going to Bellingham for about two years, and then returning to Missouri where the father still owned the grocery.

However, because of ill health the father had to come west, arriving in Deer Park in the spring of 1900. After selling the store Otho arrived in the fall of the same year. The Peters family choose this section because at the beginning of the century, the town had an abundant supply of pine timber and fourteen sawmills. It had one of the finest business outlooks in the country.

They opened a general mercantile store in the location now occupied by the Deer Park Drug Co., however, the present building was not constructed until years later.

Many things happened in the wild little town in those days. There was practically no law enforcement because the sheriff's office was too far away, so the town incorporated and A. J. Peters, the father, became its first mayor. Practically the only revenue at that time was the \$300 license fee charged each of the three saloons, but it was sufficient to provide a marshal. In 1909, Odie, as his friends now called him, left his father's business to open an automobile agency. He started selling Fords in a building on Crawford near the high school, and he continued selling Fords until poor health forced his retirement in 1925. William Critzer, who later took the Dodge Agency here, purchased the first car, and L. E. Chapman the second. Dr. H. H. Slater was also an early customer of the firm.

From this location he moved to the place now occupied by Swenson's Tavern until he and O. M. Kimmel built the Deer Park Motor company building.

In 1916 Peters was offered a large territory south of Spokane with headquarters at Fairfield so he closed the garage here and moved. Fourteen months later he was called in the second war draft and he sold the business. However, before he could take his examination for service, the armistice had been signed. So, he traveled for a year in Idaho and Montana selling automobile accessories, and then he returned to Deer Park, and bought the present Hulbert Motor building where he operated until his retirement.

During these years he had contributed his share to the community life by serving as the town's first treasurer, one term as mayor, and was elected for councilman but resigned without serving. He is also a member of the Masonic lodge, having been its third Worshipful Master.

Fishing and hunting are his favorite pastimes, and he recalls the time when he used to trap bear within six miles of the city center. But now since his health does not permit too much strain, he spends his time puttering around making his home a more pleasant place to live, and helping out here and there to make Deer Park a better place to live.

This article was published on the front page of the June 15, 1939, Deer Park Union under the column name "Who's Who In Our District". The writer of this column is not named.)

More Clayton Terra Cotta Comes Home

Bill Sebright

Another example of Clayton terra cotta has come home. It's not as big as our Terra Cotta Eagle that still looks toward the old terra cotta factory, but it is older. The Eagle was made in the 1920s. This

much smaller example has Washington Brick Lime & Sewer Pipe Co. is printed on it, not WBL & Manufacturing Co. Washington Brick Lime & *(Continued on page 758)*

(Continued from page 757)

Sewer Pipe Co. was the earlier version of the company. It was probably made before the Terra Cotta Factory opened in 1907.

This terra cotta piece was donated to the CDPHS by Leonard Farlow from the Skykomish, WA, Historical Society. He feels that it belongs back in Clayton where it was manufactured. Leonard contacted Karen Meyer, who gave him our



number. Our thanks to Karen.

Leonard got the artifact from a friend who chose to remain nameless. His friend bought it in a second hand store in Hillyard. Leonard's parents live in Spokane, so he was able to bring it over when he came to visit them. Leonard and his father, Ken,

met Bill Sebright at the Clayton Drive-In, where Leonard presented it to the Society.

The historical object is 3 inches high and 7 inches in diameter. Pete Coffin pointed out that the



shape represents the base of a column. Sharon Clark added that the 3 holes are for projections from the next section of the column to fit in and make a strong connection. It may have been used as a model to demonstrate what a larger column would be like. We first thought was that it was a paper clip holder for a desk. Let us know if you have any other ideas as to why it might have been manufactured.

DEER PARK HIGH SCHOOL ALL CLASS REUNION CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

From Flo Moore PRESS RELEASE:

To celebrate 100 years of graduations at Deer Park High School, let's have an All-Class Reunion this summer. The first graduates of Deer Park High School, a class of six students, graduated in 1913. In June of 2013 there will be over 100 students at the 100th Graduation Ceremony.

All DPHS Alumni: on Saturday, July 27, 2013, after the Settlers Parade & Picnic, meet in Mix Park near the Burdette Gazebo. Sign-in with your contact info, if you wish to be contacted by other schoolmates. Also sign-in at Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society Booth in the Park. Another Option: meet at Deer Park City Hall, 316 E Crawford, from 2 to 4 p.m. Enjoy the display of DPHS Graduate photos (1913 thru 1958) and sign-in. Still another option: guided tours of the current Deer Park High School, 800 S Weber Rd. from 2 to 4 p.m.

For further information, phone Flo, aka Florene Eickmeyer Moore at 276-7070.

Each DPHS graduating class has a person or two who has names & addresses of classmates. Use those to help **SPREAD THE WORD**: Tell your siblings. Tell your kids. Tell your correspondents.

Clayton/ Deer Park Historical Society Minutes — May11, 2013

In attendance: Mike Reiter, Mark Wagner, Bill Sebright, Sharon Clark, Penny Hutten, Marilyn Reilly, Warren Nord, Bob Gibson, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Kay Parkin, Don Reiter, Mary Jo Reiter, Grace Hubal, Marie Morrill.

Society President, Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. He reported: 1) We received a phone call from Stan Buxman in Hannibal, Missouri. He found 2 folders while going through his Mother's papers. One folder had pictures of the Arcadia Orchards. The other held a stockholder's report for 1911. We received the material in the mail, printed them out and the booklet was passed around. Pete mentioned again that many of these pictures can be found nowhere else. 2) Susan Wind Simpson sent school pictures of her Mom and Dad, Mae Huffman and Walt King were included. The pictures were passed around in hopes someone could identify unknown people in the pictures. 3) He has been communicating with Wey Simpson by email. "Lillie's Quilt" was given to his mother when she was ill in 1935. Wey has pictures that he will be getting to the CDPHS.

Treasurer, Mark Wagner reported that there is \$3,974.31 in the main checking account. Maintenance Web hosting account had \$119.85 in funds with a \$10.95 in activity monthly hosting fee. There was a deposit of \$24.00 in the web hosting account this month. (Since the main checking account is above \$3,000 there is no service charge from the bank).

Grace Hubal, Secretary reported: 1) She wrote a thank you letter to Stan Buxman for sending the Arcadia Orchards material.

Vice President, Pete Coffin reported: 1) He made a field trip to the site of the Mount Spokane Power's hydroelectric power generating site on the Little Spokane River to take pictures of the remains of the plant to be used in a Mortarboard article describing electricity coming to Deer Park. He went with Rick Luiten, who is an employee of Inland

Power and Light. He has composed a fairly large paper including this material but still need some details, which are seemingly hard to find, to finish it. 2) He has composed a biographic Mortarboard article describing Brayton Hopkins utilizing pictures from Mr. Alexander Pope and the Congregational Church photographic collection. Mr. Hopkins was an early business man in Deer Park and part of the Short family. It was given to Editor Clark today. 3) President Sebright referred Fritz Wolff of the Washington Department of Natural Resources to Pete for information on some mines in the area (specifically the Germania Mine about which he had no material). Pete sent him a list of the Mortarboard issues containing the mine materials and asked Al Kemp if Pete could send the State his material on the Blue Grouse Tungsten Mine. Al graciously agreed to let the material be sent. 4) Pete sent some Drag Race material he had composed to a man wanting information for a report his son was writing. 4) Pete picked up DPHS Antlers for the years, 1951, 1952, 1955, 1956, and 1957 from Carl Justice.

Print Editor, Sharon Clark: 1) The May 2013 Mortarboard #61 was distributed. Articles include: Loonsday history by Karen Meyer, family histories by Florence Krick and Carolyn (Krick) Scheer, and a letter to the editor from Wey Simpson about "Lillie's Quilt."

Grace picked up "Tri-County Memories" at the Tribune. Sharon Clark was in one of the Old Settlers Parade pictures when she was five years old.

Website Director, Penny Hutten reported: 1) This month she contacted Dan Huffman from Deer Park High School, looking for a student to take over the website as a Senior Project. He is looking for a student who is very responsible. It will probably be in the fall when school starts again. 2) The Website is updated with all the current Mortarboards.

(Continued on page 760)

(Continued from page 759)

We still are looking for class representatives to get the word out about the 100-year DPHS reunion this summer. There are several parts to the 100-year reunion: 1) A get together at the reunion section of Mix Park. 2) DPHS Antlers available at the CDPHS booth at Mix Park July 27th. 3) A get together at City Council Room at City Hall where

many class pictures are. 4) Group tours of the "new" DPHS.

Next meeting: Saturday, June 8, 9 AM at the Clayton Drive-In.

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 AM. The meeting minutes submitted by Mark Wagner, acting 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 Brickyard/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 Fackenthall, WVG

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Visit our New Web Site: cdphs.org