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THE
**CLAYTON ♦ DEER PARK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Mortarboard

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*A History of
The Deer Park Fair
— 1931 through 1946 —
(Part Five)
(conclusion)
by
Wally Lee Parker*

... of a single mind ...

By 1943, the tenor of the *Deer Park Union's* war related articles had clearly changed. Though anxiety for the community's young men and women in harm's way continued, worry about Japanese airstrikes, chemical attacks, and the possibility of invasion had faded, being replaced by a deep commitment to the all-consuming war effort.

The *Union's* January 7th issue announced that, at the request of the Office of Defense Transportation, the school bus routes were being shortened to save fuel — with Clayton and Deer Park's students to walk the

difference.

In the same issue it was reported that "The local Red Cross unit will honor the men and women in the service from this area by hanging a service flag and by putting their names on an honor roll which will be hung in the post office." It's unclear exactly what form Deer Park's service flag would have taken, but it's generally understood that these were large banners — a white field surrounded by a red border. Across the white field blue stars can be affixed, each one representing a service member. For those killed in action, the blue would be replaced with a gold star. To complete this project, Mrs. Sara Green-

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berg, chair of the honor roll committee, requested that, “Families and friends of men and women in the service are urged to turn in their names so that none will be omitted.”

The next week’s issue carried an article of questions and answers regarding the Office of Price Administration’s rationing system. Since it was hoped home canning would lessen the expected shortages of rationed foodstuffs, another article, while noting the limited availability of pressure cookers, stated “It is hoped that — in view of the totally inadequate production — only persons will order the canners who expect to make them available for use of several families, for neighborhood groups, canning centers, or for circulation from a central office.”

The newspaper’s final issue for January of 1943 noted that “a total of 85” photographs of “boys who have gone from here at the call of their country” were on display in the “window of R. R. Grove’s store.” The article added that, “The exhibit is the work of a group of local young ladies headed by Josephine Boggs.” And that more names and photographs would be added as they became available.

Another article stated that the local Red Cross would be raffling a quilt to help pay for Deer Park’s previously announced service flag. It added, “The flag, with 100 stars, is already here, and the honor roll is nearly complete.”

In another column “Wm. J. Green, county agent,” stated, “There was a shortage of bale wire in 1942 and a real possibility of a greater shortage in 1943, so baling wire should be reused by taking it from the bale and straightening it.”

Among the things the newspaper explained was, “When the new point rationing system on processed fruits and vegetables goes into effect, each member of the family is entitled to have five cans on hand” — thusly assuring everyone that “five cans is not hoarding.”

Another article, this very detailed, announced that “Anyone who uses kerosene,

stove oil or diesel oil for any purpose ... must register.” The “any purpose” was emphasized by explaining that, “Oil for the farmer’s smudge pots, fuel oil for circulating heaters and furnaces, kerosene for lighting and cooking in war workers’ trailers, kerosene for a brakeman’s lantern, they’re all part of fuel oil rationing.”

In its first issue for March, the *Union*, under the headline “Many Serve from This Area,” published “a list of men — and women — now serving in the armed forces.” One hundred and eighty-one names were on the list, plus one additional — Gladys Bell Stout of the United States Coast Guard Women’s Reserve. The word “area” was clarified; “To be eligible for the list, a man — or woman — must have received his mail through the Deer Park post office, or his family must now be receiving their mail that way.”

The *Union* added, “We shall be glad to have our readers advise us of any additions or corrections.” And, “If other communities served by the *Union* wish to compile a list on the same basis, we will be glad to publish it.”

The very next week a list “compiled by Clayton citizens” and totaling forty-seven names appeared in the *Union*.

During March the newspaper also recorded that “Two thousand, six hundred eighty-five-point ration books were issued by the Clayton and Deer Park schools and volunteers last week.”

Under the heading “War News for Farmers” it was stated that “three and a half million farm laborers must be recruited to produce 1943 crops.” Among the recruitment plans put forward, “the possible use of Axis prisoners of war on a volunteer basis. Prisoners doing farm work would receive regular wages in addition to their military stipends. Prospects for putting this scheme into early operation are dim, however.”

The *Union* finished out March with the following rant from, presumably, its new editor, G. A. Miles — Mr. Miles having taken over the paper’s helm in December of the prior year. The author of the front page, bold-type

piece had been found in violation of a test blackout by “being on the street on route to work, and by having a light burning when it presumably should have been out.” The author’s “beef” arose from the fact that notice of this impending test had been given to the Spokane newspapers and radio stations, but not the *Union*.

Among other things, the editor said, “Whether the Spokane County Defense Council believes it or not, there are people in the county who read the *Union* and other weekly papers in preference to some Spokane papers. And some of our farmers are too busy producing food for victory to listen to the radio all day, even though they may be fortunate enough to own one.”

As for the Red Cross’s already purchased service flag, “The present banner had room for only about 100 stars, but it appears now that space for nearly 200 stars will be needed.” So, another fundraising effort was begun to buy a larger banner.

What appears to have been missing from any of the newspaper’s March issues was the promised first meeting of the 4-H Club and Community Fair Association. Said promise appeared in the July 9th, 1942 edition of the *Union* — the same issue that proclaimed, “no fair in 1942.” To quote, “The (association) will also meet annually in March (for the war’s duration) to decide on holding or not holding a fair until a definite action is taken to resume fairs or to discontinue them entirely.”

... spring, 1943 ...

The April 8th, 1943 edition of the *Union* stated, “Nearly a thousand dollars’ worth of war stamps have been sold at the grade school since January 1, it was announced this week. The exact figure is \$842.47, and the contest is still on.

“Last week the first grade won the flag with sales totaling \$20. The total for the school last week was \$52.35.”

War savings stamps, produced in step valuations from ten cents to five dollars, were



War Savings Stamp.
Issued by the Treasury Department.
Sold at the Post Office and through
various other organization.

issued by the Treasury Department. During the war, when working wages hovered around a dollar an hour, the chance of having enough extra money to buy a twenty-five-dollar wartime savings bond — issued at \$18.75 — was small. But over time working people could purchase enough of these low-cost non-interest-bearing stamps to fill special stamp books, and when the books were filled, exchange them for war bonds.

As noted in the newspaper’s April 22nd issue, “A new high of more than 7 billion dollars was reached in war expenditures during March, when the average amount spent each day was \$263,400,000. To meet these mounting costs of war, Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau recently disclosed that the 13 billion-dollar 2nd war loan is part of the 70 billion dollars that must be raised during 1943.

“This is a people’s war, so all the people ought to have a part in financing it,” said the Secretary as he warned that “ten percent is not enough.”

The “ten percent” quote is in reference to the recommended ten percent automatic payroll deduction to buy war bonds.

The *Union* closed April’s last issue with this comment on the local community’s response. *“Patrons of the Deer Park post office have purchased \$1,237.50 in war bonds so far in the 2nd war loan drive, Postmaster Mark Durrell announced Thursday. Nearly twice as many bonds were purchased between April 16 and 29 as during the first half of the month.*

“Local patriotic citizens have purchased \$21,806.25 in bonds since January 1st.”

As the year wore on, items regarding young people in uniform became ever more present in the local newspaper — sometimes on the front page, sometimes in the gossip columns submitted by the various community correspondents. For example, the following were scattered in the June 10th issue.

Mrs. P. S. Christianson, correspondent for the Big Foot Valley, reported that both *“Private Burton Stewart”* and *“Corporal Ira Davis”* were *“home on a furlough.”*

Loon Lake’s Mrs. H. C. Follett wrote that *“James Qualls, a former resident of Loon Lake, has joined the marines.”*

The Edgewood correspondent, Mrs. McKenzie, indicated that *“Corporal Walter Tarbert, who is stationed at San Diego, California, surprised his parents Monday morning by arriving for a visit. This is his first furlough in a year and a half in the army.”*

Mrs. Fred M. Jens of the Twin Mountain district stated, *“Miss Dorothy Russell is spending a week’s vacation with Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Russell before going into the service.”*

The front page reported, *“Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Erickson of Deer Park have word from their son, John E. Erickson, that he has been transferred from the University of Montana at Missoula to Santa Ana California.*

John has been an aviation student at the university for the past two months. Now, after a series of tests to determine the branch of aviation for which he is best suited, he will undergo nine weeks of intensive training.”

The paper also noted that *“James W. Pember, son of Mrs. Ora J. Pember,”* was *“home on a 10-day furlough.”* *“Lee Coe has been home on a few days furlough from Baker, Oregon.”* That *“Aaron Olson, son of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Olson of Deer Park, and a graduate of Deer Park high school, class of ‘43, has enlisted in the navy as an aviation cadet.”*

The front page also recorded that, *“Beginning his recruit training at Farragut, the second largest U. S. Naval Training Station, this week is Herbert Franklin Turrell ... route 2, Deer Park.”*

... a settlers’ picnic, but no fair ...

On June 24th 1943, the *Union* announced that *“The North Spokane and South Stevens Counties Settlers Association picnic will be held Thursday, July 29, according to plans made at a meeting of the association Tuesday night.*

“Preliminary plans call for a picnic similar to previous ones, but war restrictions may bring about the elimination of some of the features, Mrs. Al Bishop, secretary.”

To quote the *Deer Park Union’s* August 5th report on the annual event — traditionally held at Deer Park’s tourist park — *“Over 500 attended the picnic ... last Thursday.”*

But any mention of the annual fair was absent from the *Union* until the August 26th, issue, when, under the heading *“Meeting to Discuss Community Fair,”* the following was said.

“A community meeting to arrive at a decision on the holding of a 4-H and Community Fair this fall will be held at the city hall Monday, August 30, at 8 PM, Karl Herrmann, president of the fair association, announced this week. Fair directors, 4-H leaders and everyone interested is urged to attend this

meeting.”

The results of that meeting — if reported — has yet to be uncovered. What can be said is that no mention of a fair actually being held has yet been found in the remainder of 1943’s *Deer Park Unions*.

... 1944, “sponsoring a rodeo” ...

There was only quiet from the Fair Association until July of 1944, when this appeared in the *Union*.

“The Deer Park Fair Association is sponsoring a rodeo to be held in Deer Park Sunday, July 30, starting at 2 PM. The affair will also include a pre-rodeo dance Saturday evening, July 29.

“Howard Peelgren, arena director, who will stage the show, is himself an outstanding rodeo performer. He is arranging a program which will include bronc riding, calf roping, bareback riding, wild cow riding, trick roping, and clown acts featuring Orville Holcomb and his ‘Mae West’ mule. Orville is a brother of Elmer Holcomb of Deer Park and he and his trained mule have appeared at rodeos all over the country. There will be a carnival here for the affair.”

As to whether the event would prove as popular as its prewar predecessors, the August 10th, *Union* reported the following. *“The Deer Park Fair Association rodeo, held here July 30, was attended by 1,723 persons, the official tabulation of receipts shows. Cash receipts totaled \$1,881.65, of which \$304.08 was for federal tax and \$79.73 for city tax.*

“The Fair Association’s share of the proceeds amounted to \$139.27.

“The cowboys put on a good show, keeping the crowd entertained every minute. Two accidents marred the affair. One rider suffered a badly broken arm, and another suffered a dislocated shoulder.”

Though it appears the Fair Association was holding on to its corporate identity, we’ve no indication any serious planning was undertaken for a community fair in Deer Park in 1944.

That’s not to say there wasn’t a fair anywhere within northern Spokane County. The September 7th edition of the *Union* reported, *“Spectators and judges alike agree that the exhibits at the Wild Rose 4-H club fair, held Friday evening, September 1st, were outstanding. Exhibits included livestock, fruits and vegetables, sewing and canned goods.”*

The fairly detailed article indicated *“The Wild Rose Home Economics Club”* sponsored this event. What was not specified was the specific location at which it was held — though by all appearance it wasn’t Deer Park.

... 1945 ...

As winter showed signs of giving way to spring, this item from the March 1st, 1945 issue of the *Deer Park Union* reminded the local community that we were still very much at war.

“Major George R. Greene, son of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Greene of Loon Lake, was killed in action on Mindanis [sic?] Island (likely Mindanao Island) in the South Pacific, February 17, the War Department has reported.

“Major Greene was a 1939 graduate of Deer Park High School where he was an outstanding athlete. He became interested in aviation while a student at Washington State College and joined the army air corps in 1941. Upon completion of his training he was sent to the South Pacific where he has served since. Only three weeks ago his parents were notified of his promotion to major.

“Besides his parents, Major Greene is survived by two brothers, one of which is in military service, and three sisters.

“Major Greene’s death adds the sixth gold star to Deer Park High School’s service flag.”

On May 8th the war in Europe officially ended with the German government’s surrender. On May 10th the following appeared in the *Union*.

“An audience estimated at 300 attended the V-E Day (Victory in Europe)

thanksgiving service at the high school gym Tuesday evening.”

One week later the newspaper outlined plans from the “local 7th war bond committee” to put on a “gala all day show” on June 2nd, as part of the community’s war savings bond drive.

“While all the details have not yet been arranged, tentative plans call for colorful street decorations, music, talks by returned veterans from all theaters of the war, and free motion pictures at the Family Theater.”

This article also mentioned, “With the bond rally Saturday, the Clyde and Slim dance Saturday evening, and the rodeo Sunday, it appears that Deer Park is in for quite a weekend, June 2 and 3.

“The dance and rodeo, sponsored by the Fair Association, will be managed by Eddie Rig and Howard Peelgren. Mr. Peelgren managed a similar show here last year. The rodeo will feature Ring Brothers’ famous rodeo stock including a recently acquired Brahma bull.”

On June 7th, under the lead-in, “Rodeo in the Rain,” the *Union* reported, “The Deer Park Fair Association rodeo Sunday, June 3, drew over a thousand spectators in spite of a drizzling rain which continued all afternoon. A busload of soldiers from Baxter enjoyed the show under cover of hastily secured blankets and raincoats.

“Two contestants were injured, one suffering a fractured leg and the other a broken wrist. Both were given first aid by a medical officer from Baxter and sent to Spokane in ambulances.”

The above noted “Baxter” was a 1,500-bed military hospital located in north-west Spokane. After the war the wooden complex was torn down and replaced with Spokane’s Veterans Hospital.

On June 28th, in a rare front-page banner headline, the *Union* announced, “Deer Park Tops District War Bond Quota; Series ‘E’ Bond Sales Total Over \$47,000.” The following article detailed that “Deer Park and vicinity purchased over \$55,000 in war bonds

since the start of the 7th war loan drive. This total includes only bonds purchased through the local post office.”

The first front page for July continued the type of items seen throughout the war. It noted “Private First Class Alvin Tuffy Luhr writes from someplace in Europe asking us to discontinue sending him the *Union* until he can give us his new address. He writes ‘Well, our job is over over here. Tojo is next, and very soon.’” The *Union* announced that “A graduate of advanced pilot training, Gilbert W. Shraugher of Deer Park, received his wings and appointment as flight officer in the army air force at Douglas Army Air Field, Arizona, June 27.” Another notice stated that, “Captain Robert Hanson of Clayton, who is at home from overseas service on furlough, received notice last week that he had been promoted to the rank of major. He enlisted before Pearl Harbor and has been in constant service since that time.” An article on rationing headlined “Points Reduced on Cheese; Fish Increased.” Under the headline “Director Explains Sugar for Canning,” the following. “In order to receive the five pounds of home canning sugar they are entitled to, housewives must endorse their coupons, and they must have their No. 4 rationing book with them at the time of purchase.”

And then, on Monday, August 6th, everyone was stunned by the news flooding the airways and consuming the front page of that evening’s *Spokane Daily Chronicle*. Quite simply the news was that a device — something called an atomic bomb — had been dropped on a Japanese city. And as a result, there was speculation that the war was coming to an end.

On August 9th the *Spokesman-Review* announced that a second atomic bomb had been dropped on Japan to devastating effect.

The Shavings from the Mill segment of 1945’s August 16th issue noted, “Tuesday was a day of suspense here at the (sawmill) as everyone waited to hear that the Japs had surrendered. The mill shut down as soon as the news was received, and everybody took

Wednesday and Thursday off.”

Another article from that edition stated, “News of the Japanese acceptance of the Allied surrender terms arrived in Deer Park shortly after four o’clock Tuesday and was announced by the blowing of the fire siren and the mill whistle. The stores and business houses closed immediately, and the mill shut down.

“The beer parlors did a rushing business for a few minutes before the news became official.

“Traffic on the highway was heavier than it has been in several years.” And since wartime tire rationing had made it necessary to wear every last molecule of use from whatever was on the rims, “Tire troubles were frequent and undoubtedly marred the holidays for some.”

In late August this appeared. “Deer Park High School stands ready to admit any returning veterans of this war to its courses, Superintendent R. H. Meyer said today. Young men and women who were called into the armed services before completing high school graduation requirements may finish and receive their diplomas after they return.”

In the months following the local newspaper was filled with notices of discharged soldiers coming home. But soldiers weren’t the only thing returning, as noted in this from the December 13th edition of the *Union*. “Two items that have been almost impossible to get since the war started are being offered at special prices (in) Burgan’s (grocery store) ad. Flat tins of pink salmon are advertised at 17¢, while Par soap in the giant size packages is offered at 52¢.”

Likely to lift spirits even more was this from the December 27th *Deer Park Union*. “The Office of Price Administration announced that all tire rationing controls will be lifted at midnight, December 31, and thereafter no rationing certificates will be required to purchase tires.”

... the 14th annual community fair ...

With 1946’s first edition, the *Deer Park Union* continued reporting a slow trickle of young people returning home from the war — a typical example being this January 3rd contribution from Meadowbrook community correspondent’s Mrs. Lester Roberts and Mrs. Gladys Babb. “Brian Painter arrived home this week from the Marines. He was in the 1st Division and, judging by the ribbons, has seen plenty of action. Welcome home Brian.”

Regarding the Fair Association, on March 14th this appeared in the local newspaper. “L. D. Boyd, secretary of the 4-H Club fair (as printed), reports that not enough interested persons attended the last meeting to do any business. He announced that another meeting will be held Friday evening, March 22, at the Legion Hall and emphasized that if the 4-H fair is to be held this year, all those interested must come out and help.”

On April 25th the *Union* reported, “The first 4-H and Community Fair to be held in Deer Park since the beginning of the war will be held Friday and Saturday, September 13 and 14, it was announced this week following a reorganization of the Fair Association. At the meeting J. E. Olson was elected president of the association; L. D. Boyd, treasurer, and Mr. Middleton of Chattaroy, secretary.”

The election of someone from Chattaroy to an administrative position seems to suggest the fair group intended to continue its prewar practice of being inclusive of northern Spokane County, southeastern Stevens County, and southern Pend Oreille County.

As for Spokane and its Interstate Fair — although a fair was held on the grounds of Spokane’s Playfair Racetrack in 1944 — it would be late August of 1952 before the Interstate Fair, as an incorporated event, would end its 21 year absence.

In mid-June, 1946, it was announced that “The third annual Deer Park Fair Association Rodeo will be held at the local fairgrounds Sunday, June 23.” The *Union* didn’t carry its traditional after-event report on what happened at that year’s rodeo. In the June 27th edition, the *Union*’s editor gave a reason,

4-H Club and Community FAIR Deer Park Fri. and Sat. Sept. 13 and 14

OVER \$500.00 IN PRÉMIUMS TO BE AWARDED

The Danish System of judging will be used, giving a wider spread of the cash prize money. *Select exhibits now!* Every livestock grower, farmer and gardner in North Spokane and South Stevens counties is urged to prepare and bring in his or her exhibits. Selections should be made immediately as crops mature. Exhibits will be accepted in all departments of agriculture—livestock, grains, grasses, vegetables, fruits, etc.

ENTERTAINMENT and PARADE

A program will be held at the high school gymnasium Friday evening, Sept. 13, at 8 o'clock under the direction of Mrs. Al Bishop. A big parade through the streets of Deer Park Saturday afternoon, Sept. 14.

WESTERN DANCE—SATURDAY., Sept. 14—FAIR BLDG.

This will be the first fair since 1941. All are invited to

4-H and Community Fair Assn.

"MAKE THIS FAIR YOUR AFFAIR"

1946 Fair Association Ad.

The above ad was copied from the September 5th, 1946 edition of the Deer Park Union. The same ad also appeared in the September 12th issue.

stating, "(The) editor wishes to apologize for having to leave out so much of the correspondence and news this week. The worst of it is that if we don't get some competent help things are going to be just as bad next week."

This lack of help seems to have been an on and off problem for much of the year.

The newspaper's reporting seemed to improve as summer progressed. On August 29th the *Union* printed a detailed description of the coming fair, among other things stating that, "*Final plans for the 4-H and Community Fair to be held in Deer Park Friday and Saturday, September 13 and 14, were made at the meeting of the fair association Tuesday night. This, the 14th annual fair, will be the first held since Pearl Harbor and promises to be one of the biggest and best ever held.*"

"*The festivities will begin Friday evening, September 12, with a program at the high school gymnasium at 8 o'clock. Mrs. Al Bishop will be in charge.*"

The article included "*the rules governing the entry, showing and handling of exhibits.*"

Despite June's Rodeo at the fairgrounds, the September 12th *Union* — published just the day before the fair began — added this attraction. "*Local pony races and bull and steer riding will be features of the 4-H and Community Fair being held in Deer Park this weekend. The events are scheduled to start at 2 PM Saturday, September 14, and Sunday, September 15.*"

"*Features of the affair will include 25 to 30 steer and bull rides; a three-way race; men's novelty race; boys' pony race; free for all; men's keg race; and half and three-quarter mile races.*"

"*Admission for adults will be 75 cents, and children 30 cents, tax included. Children under six will be admitted free.*"

In the next week's *Union*, this appeared. "*The 4-H and Community Fair held in Deer Park Friday and Saturday of last week was the largest and best ever held here, according to the old-timers who have seen them all. By next week we expect to have a com-*

plete report, including a list of the prize winners."

If ever submitted for publication, the above promised report has yet to be found.

... *the tip of the iceberg* ...

There are at least two stories here. One is about a community that decided to put on a show — a fair. It made that decision in 1931 just as the 20th century's worst economic depression began to squeeze in earnest. And from that point, until the beginning of World War II, the event did nothing but grow. In part that growth was due to a lack of competition — Spokane's Interstate Fair having succumbed to depression era economics early on. In part it had to do with the community's determination to make its own way through a very black period in American history.

As a matter of priorities, with the coming of war the energy previously poured into the fair rapidly turned toward an all-consuming war effort. The traditional Settlers picnic continued throughout the war, doubtless because it was a far less complex organizational challenge than the fair. Sponsored by the Fair Association, the rodeo came into existence during the war. It seemed more of a commercial venture, the production of which required less of the community's otherwise distracted energy.

Once the war had passed, the fair came back.

We've only looked at a small piece of the Deer Park Fair's history — though arguably it could be the most important of that incredibly durable community event.

Shortly after the beginning of the new millennium, the fair's location and name changed. Despite that, we've yet to learn how the story that began in 1931 will end.

We've also touched on another story — that of a community at war. That's also a tale worth telling, but once again it will have to wait until another day.

— end —

A Brief History of the Reynolds' Farm — Williams Valley —

by
Damon Smathers

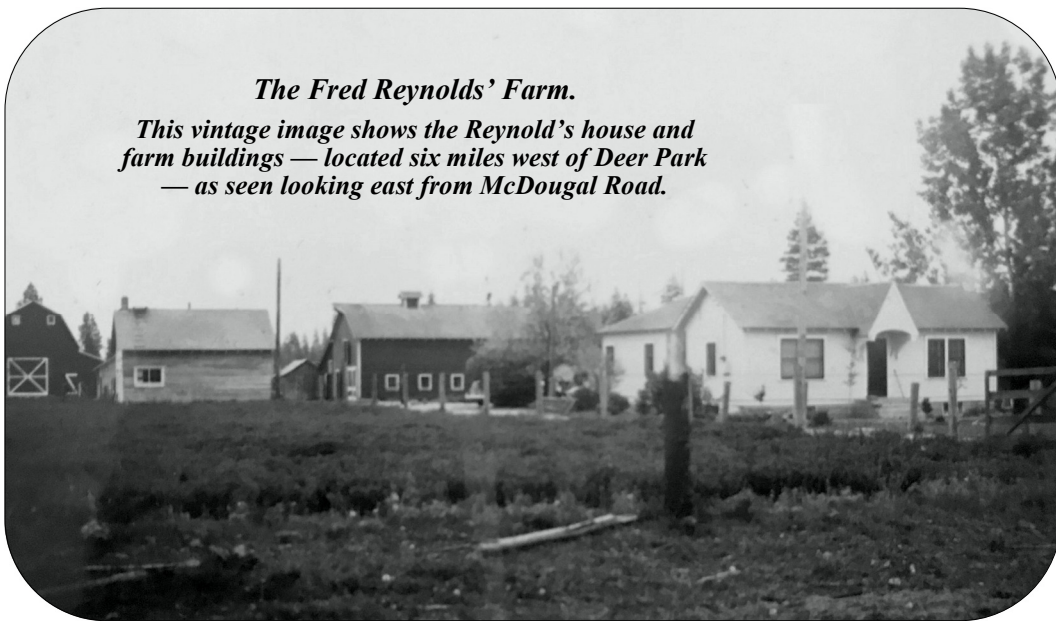
Fascinated by local history, I often found myself wondering who originally built the farm I currently live on. According to family recollections, my great-grandfather, Fred O. Reynolds, purchased the farm in 1930. However, it was never known who he bought the property from. This led me to do some more digging into the history of the Reynolds farm.

An online search didn't turn up anything prior to the 1970s, so I decided to try the Stevens County Recording Office. As it turns

out, the Reynolds farm was originally owned by a family enriched deeper in Deer Park history than our own.

In the late 1800s, Northern Pacific Railroad owned numerous plots in the Williams Valley area. There were only a handful of parcels owned by settlers at that time, one such settler being Mr. Thomas McDougal, which is almost certainly why the Reynolds Farm is on a road named "McDougal."

As I stated above, it is sometimes hard to find information on property history



The Fred Reynolds' Farm.

This vintage image shows the Reynold's house and farm buildings — located six miles west of Deer Park — as seen looking east from McDougal Road.

Photo courtesy of Damon Smathers.

Reynolds Family Farm Timeline.
Northern Pacific Railroad: 1890-1916.
Eva Kelly: 1916.
O. F. Kelly: 1917.
Harold Kelly: 1917-1930.
Fred O. Reynolds: 1930-1969.
Gary and Lexie (Reynolds) Prewitt: 1969 to present.

prior to about 1970 in Stevens County. I decided to try the Stevens County Recording Office and after about two weeks they sent me a packet in the mail. Inside I discovered the first owner of the 120-acre parcel was Eva Kelly, the wife of P. J. Kelly, a prominent figure in the establishment of Deer Park. In 1917 the property shows to have been transferred to O. F. Kelly and shortly thereafter O. F. Kelly transferred the property to Harold Kelly. It is assumed but not verified that Harold Kelly built the farm somewhere between 1920 and 1930. Perhaps someone more knowledgeable of the history of the Kelly family would know the relationship of these three people.

For anyone curious or interested in learning more about the history of their property, I encourage them to contact your local Recording Office.

Fred O. Reynolds moved to the Deer Park area in 1930 with his first wife, Daisy (Warehime) Reynolds and daughter Lorraine. They found and purchased the farm in 1930 and would quickly start establishing themselves in the community. Daisy was heavily involved in the Williams Valley Grange and Fred would soon open a freight hauling business specializing in milk hauling. In 1938 Daisy passed away from pneumonia and Fred would later marry his second wife, Laura

After a severe struggle for life in a Spokane hospital, Mrs. Daisy Reynolds, of Williams Valley, succumbed to a attack of pneumonia on Tuesday. She had been receiving oxygen treatment for several days, but without successful results. She was one of the well known matrons of the Williams Valley district and had been active in all of the affairs of the community for a long period of years. Surviving her are her husband, Fred H. Reynolds, and a daughter, Lorraine, who is at present student in the Kluman Business University in Spokane.

Funeral services will be held on Friday at the Williams Valley Grange hall tomorrow (Friday) at 1:30 p. m., of which organization she was a member. Rev. Leo Totten, Presbyterian pastor, of Spokane, will officiate, and interment will be made in the cemetery at Wilbur.

Daisy Reynolds Obituary.
From the June 9th, 1938 issue of the Deer Park Union.

Note:

Damon Smathers hopes to gather more information about his great-grandfather, Fred Reynolds, and the history of the Reynolds family farm. He would be most interested in any stories or photos the community would care to share. Damon can be reached at damonsmathers@gmail.com.

(Erickson) Reynolds. They would have three children, Lexie, Pete, and Ike. Over the next 40 years Fred would venture into owning several different Deer Park businesses, including Deer Park Auto Freight, Fred O. Reynolds Tractor Company — specializing in Allis-Chalmers equipment, as well as full time farming.

Fred retired around the late 1960s and sold the farm to his son-in-law Gary Prewitt and daughter Lexie (Reynolds) Prewitt in 1969. Lexie passed away in 2000 and Gary is still living on the farm today.

— end —

The Gargoyles! Are the “Grotesque” on Spokane’s Lewis & Clark High School from Clayton’s Terracotta Works?

by

Wally Lee Parker

While doing some online research, I stumbled across three photos and a short segment of text possibly related to Clayton’s terracotta factory — that in the January 1912 issue of *“The Pacific Coast Architect: A Monthly Journal for the Architectural Interest of the Pacific Coast.”* In the magazine’s “Trade Notes” segment was the following. *“The Washington Brick, Lime and Sewer Pipe Company of Spokane, Washington, furnished the terra cotta on the new Wilcox Building, terra cotta and brick on the Knickerbocker Apartments, and the gargoyles on the new Spokane High School shown in this issue.”* The three photos related to this ‘trade note’ are reproduced on page 2038 of this issue of the *Mortarboard*.

The *Pacific Coast Architect’s* captions for these images simply states *“Terra Cotta Gargoyles, New High School, Spokane, Washington”* — most likely because the new

school’s official name hadn’t yet been announced.

Lewis & Clark High School was raised on the site of a previous school — South Central High School — that had been gutted by fire in 1910. The new school was opened to students in the spring of 1912.

The gargoyles are situated on the north side of the building, above the main entrance, within a building-high field of ornately modeled terracotta. While *Pacific Coast Architect* specifically states that the gargoyles are a product of Washington Brick and Lime, currently we’ve no indication whether any of the other terracotta embellishments on the building were supplied by that company.

As to the specific source of the gargoyles within the company’s several factories, since the vast majority of the company’s architectural terracotta is believed to have been produced at Clayton after the company’s dedi-

***Photo Right: Upper Tiers of Lewis & Clark High School’s Terracotta Façade.
The three gargoyles are in a horizontal line, positioned above the top windows
and below the clock tower.***



Photo by Bowen Lee Parker.



Images from "The Pacific Coast Architect," January, 1912.

The Gods of Science, Literature, and the Mechanical Arts.

A notation found in 2001's application nominating Spokane's Lewis & Clark High School to the National Register of Historic Places mentions that in the Autumn of 1911, as the school's "exterior trim and decorative details were being put into place," an article in an unnamed "local newspaper" had this to say about the three gargoyles gracing the main entrance's towering terracotta façade. "The peculiar ornaments are in the style of the ancient gargoyles and project two feet from the walls. They were placed on a level with the roof of the building and will form a portion of the base of the tower. The God of Science holds a globe, Literature a scroll two feet in length, and the God of Mechanical Arts a cog-wheel."

cated terracotta factory began operation there in 1907, that seems a reasonable guess.

Although fixing sculpted images of creatures to the exterior of buildings as embellishments is an ancient practice, Gargoyles — both the term and the artform it describes — are linked to Europe's Middle Ages and the towering cathedrals then being constructed. Originally downspouts, their hollow mouths directing rainwater out and away from the

exposed and erodible grout-lines of the churches' stonework, they later developed into decorative embellishments, commonly called grotesques, found on all kinds of structures.

My *Random House Dictionary* states the word gargoyle comes from Middle English's "gargoile," and that from Old French's "gargouille" — meaning "throat."

— end —

Letters, Email, Bouquets & Brickbats

— or —

Bits of Chatter, Trivia, & Notices — all strung together.

... *Prestini video on YouTube* ...

Society member Mike Reiter wrote to say, "Kudos to KSPS Television for cutting us a copy of a 2002 Northwest Profiles story on Leno Prestini. We will have it at our 'museum' if anyone wants to watch it there, or you can stream it on YouTube." A link to the YouTube clip is provided below.

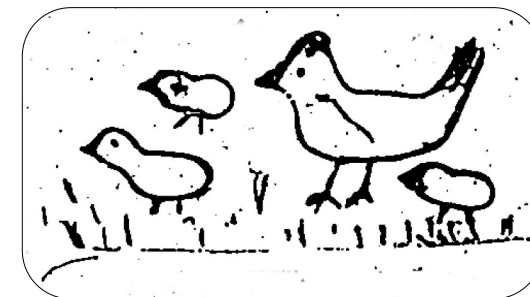
... *somewhat older now* ...

The *Clayton Moose Bulletin's* April 2nd 1929 issue includes this short story from Ray Carr, then nine years old.

"I have a pony. His name is Dick. He will be four years old next fall.

"A man gave him to my mother when he was two weeks old, and we raised him on pans of milk. He is so gentle I can catch him anywhere and ride him without any bridle or halter.

"My twin sister and I ride to school."



Birds.

The above drawing, by five year old Joy Edwards of Deer Park, is from the April 2nd, 1929 issue of the *Clayton Moose Bulletin*.

Another item in that issue was the artwork shown above, included in a weekly syndication titled "Children's Corner."

Regarding the *Clayton Moose Bulletin*, Pete Coffin scanned a DVD copy from a

A Link to KSPS Television's "Northwest Profiles: Leno Prestini."

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Pn85ijVH_Os

Washington State University microfilm containing the majority of issues printed between January 8, 1929 and May 17, 1932. He did such when creating a test digitization of the film on behalf of WSU's branch library in Spokane. A copy of Pete's DVD is in our historical society's archive and available for research. Some issues between the above dates are fragmentary or missing altogether. That aside, it's a remarkable historical record.

Digital copies of a second Clayton newspaper — those printed between July of 1912 and late August of 1913 — are also available on DVD. Only a few weeks are missing from this run of the *Clayton News-Letter*. Society member Ken Westby managed to capture the collection from a microfilm in the Washington State Library's collection. To read an account of Ken's digital capture, refer to the link provided below.

... historical society T-shirts ...

Society member Mike Reiter has put together a small batch of shirts — as seen to the right — for anyone who might want such. Mike says, "Some are spoken for. But there's a limited number left at \$20 each." Contact the society for further information.

... a collection to kill for ...

As reported in the "Minutes" segment of this issue, one of the items on the agenda for the society's February 8th meeting came in the form of an email from the office of the *Deer Park Tribune*. Sent to society member Jeff Lilly on the 29th of January, the message stated the newspaper is moving to a smaller office, and due to space limitations needs to downsize the clutter on hand. As a result, our group was being allowed first chance at boxes



First Ever C/DPHS T-Shirt.

of old photos, negatives, film reels, and newspapers. Needless to say, we were stunned.

The office of most any small town newspaper — assuming said paper is of any vintage at all — is likely to have in its backroom a dusty and potentially forgotten collection of boxes, file cabinets, and assorted piles of newsprint constituting the most complete though unsorted chronology of that community's history available. Such a backroom

Digitizing the Clayton News-Letter:

"The Clayton News-Letter," by Wally Lee Parker.

Mortarboard #113, September, 2017 — page 1529 — *Collected Newsletters, Volume 32.*

http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_113_web_1_.pdf

is something most any self-respecting but otherwise morally ambivalent historian would be justified in killing to rummage through.

The immediate problem foreseen with the *Tribune's* offer is that the cubic feet they are trying to cut loose would be cubic feet the society would then have to find space for. Which is to say, objects entrusted to the society are expected to be preserved. That means they need to be stored properly. With perishable artifacts, an environment that stays within a specific temperature range and away from excessive humidity is needed — that being the reason most of the society's current archive of at-risk artifacts is divided between a number of our members' homes.

The need for storage space is compounded when it comes to vintage broadsheets. While the *Tribune's* offer appears to only include those older morgue copies not previously bound into large-format books, the loose stacks of newsprint remaining comprise a number of years dating back as far as 1911.

While it's true scanning books, newspapers, photographs and negatives into digital files can compress entire libraries into something less than the size of a pocketbook, digital media has its own problems — not the least being that electronic files are even more prone to loss than paper files.

While printed pages are susceptible to fire, mildew, bookworms and the like, digital files can fall victim to stray electrical and magnetic pulses, to computer viruses and other forms of data corruption, to mechanical or chemical deterioration of the storage media, and to the obsolescence of the programs intended to read the types of codes used to store the data.

Add to that the fact that the sophistication of the devices and programs used to digitize images from newsprint, photos and negatives is constantly improving — meaning every year better and more useable copies can be drawn from the originals. But transferring the original documents to better quality electronic files is only possible as long as those originals continue to exist.

What this all boils down to is the simple fact that the primary benefits of electronic files is that they allow researchers access to historic materials without risking damage to the artifacts themselves, and that electronic files, properly set up, can quickly be searched for specific names or phrases.

Drawn from microfilms bearing numerous scratches, the society already has images of the *Union* and *Tribune's* earlier newspapers transferred to optical disc (DVDs). Doubtless we'll continue to use these for everyday research. But I do believe the society still needs to take any and all original newsprint offered regardless of the cubic footage involved. Besides the safety in hardcopy redundancy, having the physical newsprint would do much to certify our group as a legitimate historical society — such an impression likely to be of continuing importance when it comes to things like grant applications.

While rummaging through the Pend Oreille County Historical Society's website, I found the following item among their list of research materials. "Copies of the *Newport Pilot* and *Newport Miner* — 1897-2008. Subsequent years are kept on disc." While putting that group's collection of vintage newspapers on optical disc would doubtless be a boon to researchers, I doubt they or any other historical group would then drop the print editions in the recycle bin just to save space. As any reader of historian Deborah Harkness's *All Souls* novels doubtless understands, that would be akin to Oxford's Bodleian Library disposing of its vintage books once Google had digitized them. (Google did digitize a goodly number of those volumes, but the Bodleian disposed of none so treated.)

Regarding the *Tribune's* broadsheets, these artifacts represent a time when publishing was an arduous and time-consuming task. And each and every one is a physical representation of a past this community cannot afford to lose.

For historians, vintage editions of printed materials have a spiritual patina, a living echo that can't be transferred to digital

images any more than a photograph of a painting can replace the original artwork. And yes, this is a romantic sentiment. But the blending of science and poetry needed to visualize days

long past makes such feelings nearly inevitable within anyone true to the task.

——— Wally Lee Parker ———

Minutes of the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society ——— February 8, 2020 ———

In attendance at the society's meeting hall, 300 Block 'A' Street, Deer Park: Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Wally Parker, Pat Parker, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Rick Brodrick, Mark Bryant, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Roxanne Camp, Nancy Fisher, Damon Smathers, Jessie Tennant, Rachelle Fletcher, Mary Jo Reiter, Nancy Sanders, Lorraine Nord, Ella Jenkins, Sue Rehms, Dick Purdy, Florene Moore, Lynn Wells, Bill Phipps, Eleanor Ball, Don Ball, Elaine Ball, Gordon Grove, Wey Simpson, Larry Bowen, and Michael Wolfe.

Society President Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He reported that: 1) Jeff Lilly let Bill know that Nichole Veenhuizen from the *Tribune* contacted him. The *Tribune* plans to move to a smaller space and wants the Society to take their newspaper and photo archive. More below. 2) Damon Smathers has stepped forward to be our Webmaster. Marie and Bill met to fill Damon in on the ins and outs of the Website. Our thanks to Damon!

Society Treasurer Mark Wagner reported by email that the main checking account ended the month at \$7,656.21. There were deposits of \$445. Checks were written for \$30 and \$162.12 to Mike Reiter for shelves, and for \$250.00 to Liberty Mutual for insurance. The web hosting account ended the month at \$1019.11 with a withdrawal of \$11.84 for web hosting. The Brickyard Day account is at \$1,945.33.

Society Vice President: No one has stepped forward to become Vice President.

Print editor Wally Parker reported: 1)

One hundred and twenty copies of the February *Mortarboard* (#142) have been printed for distribution and the online edition has been submitted for uploading. A printable PDF of #142 has been forwarded to the Loon Lake Library. As for editorial content, the February edition includes part four of the editor's "*A History of the Deer Park Fair*," Pete Coffin's "*Is This the Oldest Building in Deer Park*," and the editor's "*Clinker Boats on Loon Lake*." The Letters/Brickbats segment includes a piece about Robert Wiese's mysterious Arcadia Orchards tag, problems buying a new Ford in Deer Park in 1916 and '17, a report on a 1909 drowning in the millpond, the GSI Glass Company's donation of glazing to the society, the story of Jannis Snook's Prestini painting, and a bit about the *Mortarboard's* advancing page-count. 2) *Collected Newsletters* Volume 41 is now in print. This issue combines *Mortarboards* number 140, 141 and 142. 3) Additional printings of depleted booklets within our stock-on-hand include 10 copies of the aforementioned *Collected Newsletters* Volume 41, 5 copies of *Collected Newsletters* Volume 40, and 3 copies of the *Reports to the C/DPHS* Volume 1. 4) To anyone as confused as the editor when said editor discovered that the page-numbers in January's print edition were incorrect, a notice is hereby given that whatever remedial actions possible have been taken — among such being a reduction in the editor's sauce intake. 5) A new Society printer was purchased last month — twice. Since the first printer purchased proved defective, it was returned for a replacement. The

replacement is working just fine. An extended warranty was purchased with the original unit, just in case. That appears to have been successfully transferred to the replacement. 6) Just a reminder to anyone with useful skills related to written English — reading being one — the *Mortarboard's* Editorial Group serves a vital function in the production of these newsletters and would welcome your participation. Just drop the editor an email for particulars. 7) This would be a good time for anyone interested in learning the ins and outs of the editor's job to contact the editor. Though very time consuming, it's not a terribly complicated endeavor. That said, there are some aspects of working with Microsoft Publisher that are a bit tricky. And while I would prefer to continue as editor, we need to recognize that circumstance can abruptly limit the choices open to each of us — especially when advancing age is added to the equation. Considering such, a backup plan seems a wise precaution.

Webmaster Damon Smathers reported: 1) He has uploaded the February *Mortarboard* onto our Web site. 2) Damon and Marie met at the library. Marie showed him what she could about working on the Website. He updated the home page and added a tab at the beginning making it easier to get to the *Mortarboards*.

Pete Coffin reported: 1) I have been diagnosed with first stage pancreatic cancer and have been undergoing chemotherapy treatment. With my chemotherapy I don't know what that means for my time and energy. 2) I delivered digital files of historic pictures to Deer Park Insurance. Nancy Berger sold Standen Insurance and it has moved to the old WWP/Citizen's Utilities building. They wanted pictures for their walls.

Jeff Lilly reported by email that the *Tribune* is getting ready to move from their current office to a smaller one (The old City Hall). They won't have room for old photos, negatives, film reels, and newspapers. They only ask that if we take the photos and negatives that we take all of them.

Mike Reiter reported: 1) That he

stopped at the *Tribune* office to survey the situation. There is probably more stuff there than we have room for. There is a rack full of old newspapers going back to 1911, but since Pete has digitized them I'm not sure we would want to store the actual papers, unless maybe there was one that could be read better than a digitized version. The film they offered is not movie film but boxes of microfilmed papers, I'm guessing what Pete used to digitize. They don't take up that much room and wonder if we might want to keep them as a backup? Tom Costigan told me if we didn't want the negatives that he would take them. There could be some gold nuggets among them but a lot of panning to get them. I can call Tom and ask what he is going to do with them. There are boxes of photos that would have to be sorted. We might be able to condense the stuff down to fit on our new shelves. They probably won't move until March, so it isn't an emergency as far as time goes. After much discussion, it was definitely decided that we don't want any historic papers or pictures to be destroyed. We will do what is necessary to save them. Mike and Rick will work on getting storage space in the old fire station. Mark Bryant may have some storage space in the old creamery. Marilyn offered space at Deer Park Auto Freight. 2) There are Society T-shirts left. One more was sold. If anyone wants one contact Mike. They are \$20 each.

Nancy Fisher brought pictures of the Leuthold house. Ken, family and she moved there in August of 1962. Rob was born that year. Brook was born in 1967.

Florene Eickmeyer Moore brought a poster (about 16 by 18 inches) promoting the Tri-County Hospital, from 1947. It was probably printed by the DP *Tribune*. These are Florene's words: "*This is part of a full-page poster promoting a May 31, 1947, event at DP Fairgrounds to get more members for the hospital. The hospital was built & open by 1957.*" Top words read: "*Tri-County Hospital Association, Inc. will serve the rural area in Spokane, Stevens & Pend Oreille Counties within a 40-mile radius of Deer Park.*" At bottom of photo

caption, just past the copy edge reads: “*Began clearing the site brush & trees Saturday, May 10, 1947.*” Henry C. Eickmeyer is my grandfather, H. M. Eickmeyer is my father and J. L. Rock is my maternal grandfather.

Mike Wolfe brought two ice cream cans from the old creamery. Sandy bought them at Osterbacks’ garage sale. They will be on display at Bryants’ old creamery.

Lynn Wells brought a box of Half Moon Grange records. Many of the members had Deer Park addresses.

Marilyn Reilly brought several Arcadia Deer Park High School newspapers from 1979 and 1980.

Gordon Grove mentioned that with the street widening on Colville Street, the old trees in his yard will be cut down. They are over 100 years old. He has a baby picture with

his Dad by one of the trees when it was small.

Larry Bowen brought 2 Louie Olson carpenter aprons. One is so old that it has a 3-digit telephone number. John and Virginia Odynski donated them to the Society.

So far this year 35 households have paid dues

Does anyone have ideas for the field trip to Chuck Lyons Challenge Hill after the May Society meeting?

Wednesday will be the first Brickyard Day planning meeting.

Next meeting Saturday, March 14, 2020, at 10:00 AM at our new building.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.

The Society meeting minutes submitted by Bill Sebright, acting as Secretary.

— end —

Society Contacts

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Comments Policy

We encourage anyone with observations, concerns, corrections, divergent opinions or additional materials relating to the contents of these newsletters to write the society or contact one or more of the individuals listed in the “Society Contacts” box found in each issue. Resultant conversations can remain confidential if so desired.

Editorial, Copyright, and Reprint Concerns

Those contributing “original” materials to the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society normally retain copyright to said materials while granting the Mortarboard and the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society durable permission to use said materials in our electronic and print media — including permission to reprint said materials in future Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society publications. Under certain conditions proof of ownership of submitted materials and/or a signed release may be requested. No compensation for materials submitted is offered or implied. All materials submitted are subject to editorial revision. Any material published as an exception to these general understandings will be clearly marked. When requests to reprint materials are received, such will be granted in almost all instances in which the society has the right to extend such permission. In instances where we don’t have that right, we will attempt to place the requester in contact with the owner of the work in question. But in all instances where a request to reprint is made, it should be made to both the society and the author of the piece, and it should be made in writing (letter or email). The society considers the application of common business conventions when dealing with intellectual properties a simple means of avoiding misunderstandings.

Volunteer proofreaders for this issue: Rick Hodges, Bill Sebright, Damon Smathers, Chuck Stewart, Lina Swain, and Ken Westby.

From “The Coast” magazine,
April, 1907



See Yourself in Print.

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society’s department of Print Publications is always looking for original writings, classic photos, properly aged documents and the like that may be of interest to our readers. These materials should be rooted within, though not limited to, northern Spokane County, southeastern Stevens County, and southern Pend Oreille County. As for types of materials, family or personal remembrances are always considered. Articles of general historical interest — including pieces on natural history, archeology, geology and such — are likely to prove useful. In other words, we are always searching for things that will increase our readers’ understanding and appreciation of this region’s past. As for historical perspective; to us history begins whenever the past is dusty enough to have become noteworthy — which is always open to interpretation. From there it extends back as deep as we can see, can research, or even speculate upon.

Copyright considerations for any materials submitted are stated in the “Editorial, Copyright, and Reprint Concerns” dialog box found in this issue. For any clarifications regarding said policy, or any discussions of possible story ideas or the appropriateness of certain types of material and so on, please contact the editor via the email address supplied on the same page.

— the editor —

About our Group:

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society was incorporated as a nonprofit association in the winter of 2002 under the title Clayton Historical Society. Our mission statement is found on the first page (upper left corner) of each issue of our newsletter, the Mortarboard.

Our yearly dues are \$20 dollars per family/household.

We are open to any and all that share an interest in the history of our region — said region, in both a geographic and historic sense, not limited to the communities in our group’s name.