

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

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*The C/DPHS is an association of individuals dedicated to the preservation of the history of our community. To the preservation of the region's oral history, literary history, social history, graphic and pictorial history, and our history as represented by the region's artifacts and structures. To the preservation of this history for future generations. To the art of making this common heritage accessible to the public. And to the act of collaborating with other individuals and organizations sharing similar goals.*

***“Special Edition!”***

100 Years of Pride  
**BRICK YARD DAY**  
1915-2015



Centennial Celebration  
of the  
**Clayton School**

Centennial logo by Ben Quick.

**Free — Take One**

*The C/DPHS meets at 9 a.m. every second Saturday of the month. Join us at the Clayton Drive-In, Clayton, Washington. Visit our website at <http://www.cdphs.org>*

*A print copy of this issue is or soon will be available in booklet format.*

*Ask about “Collected Newsletters: Volume Twenty-Three.”*

*Society contact information can be found on page 1116.*

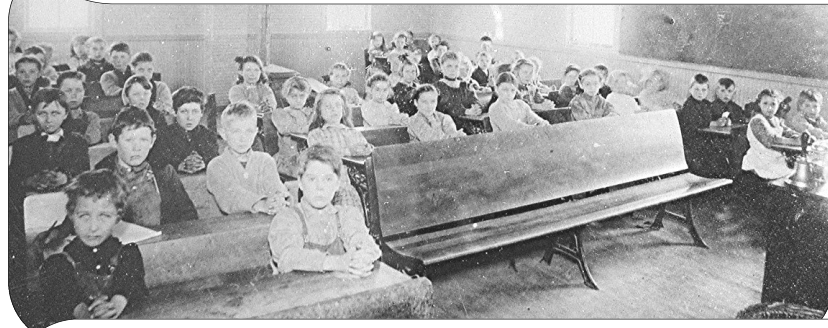
Before the classic schoolhouse was built.

**“An Interview with Harold Klawunder”  
Reports to the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society  
Volume 1, Page 8**

*“I started school at Clayton. Grade one was in the old school house — the wooden one. The next year we moved into the new brick school. The old wood school is still there. This guy — I can’t remember his name — he bought the building, moved it to a different lot, and made it into a restaurant. It seems like he called it Papa Joe’s or something. Later on it became the Ramble Inn. Nowadays it’s called the Brickyard Tavern.”*

*“Back then the Clayton school went from first grade all the way through high school. Of course I didn’t get that far. I quit out of the seventh grade. I made it into the eighth grade, but me and the teacher couldn’t get along, so she put me back into the seventh. And I got mad and quit. I never went to school again. About all I can remember about going to school was that we was always getting into some damn thing or the other — what we shouldn’t be.”*

**Harold Klawunder  
August 7, 1908 — December 8, 2007**



*Believed to be the interior of Clayton’s second and last wooden school — about 1908.*

**Application For Placement On The National Register Of Historic Places  
Reports to the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society  
Volume 1, Page 4**

*“The Clayton School District was created on November 4, 1890. First classes were held in a crowded, one-room wooden schoolhouse. Due to the arrival of the Washington Brick & Lime Company, and as workers flooded the area, the school quickly became over-crowded. Shortly thereafter a ‘spacious’ new ‘two-room school’ replaced the original building, and served the area for a few more years. But once again, when the Big Foot School District joined Clayton in 1909, the school became over-crowded.”*

**Bill Sebright  
Current President, Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society**

**“The Ed Kelso Family of the Big Foot Valley”  
Mortarboard #9 / Collected Newsletters #3  
Page 104**

*“Such a first year as we spent there was hard to believe. Shortly after the New Year my grandmother became ill with what I know now was a light stroke and this was the very first illness of her lifetime. And the ill and afflicted were cared for at home in those days. My mother was uncomfortably pregnant, the bachelor’s house literally crawling with bedbugs, we three [school-age] children had to start before daylight in a horse-drawn, canvas covered school van — (sled in winter, wagon in summer) — since the neighborhood school just across the road from our place had been closed the year before in one of the first school consolidations in northeastern Washington. We got home well after dark too. We had barely started going to our new school when mother found lice in our hair — so that had to be washed each night before bed, searched and combed with a fine tooth comb. A plug of chewing tobacco was sliced and steeped for this shampooing.”*

**Grace (Kelso) Garner  
April 13, 1907 — January 8, 1985**



*Above:  
The Brickyard Tavern — 2009. Believed to be the surviving shell of Clayton’s second and last wooden school.*

*All photos this page from the C/DPHS collection.*



*Above photo apparently dates prior to 1915. See “Clayton’s Second School,” Mortarboard #16 / Collected Newsletters #5 — page 205 in both — for details.*

On to other things.

CLAYTON  
Regular Correspondent

March 24, 1914

Owing to recent development of this section, and consequent increase of pupils, the old school house has been found inadequate to supply room for the increased membership. An effort is to be made to secure money by issuing bonds with which to erect a building worthy of the name and a credit, instead of a disgrace to the district.

CLAYTON  
Regular Correspondent

April 1, 1914

A numerously signed petition was presented to the board of trustees at their meeting Monday, asking them to call an election for the purpose of voting a bond issue. The money received for such bonds to be used in building a new school house. This is obligatory on the district for the reason that the present building is not only unsanitary, but unsuitable in all ways for the purpose.

CLAYTON  
Regular Correspondent

April 15, 1914

The main event of the week was the election called for the purpose of voting on a bond issue to provide money to build a school house, in lieu of the present unsanitary, disreputable shack, which is now called by that name. The election was the closest ever, carrying by 1 vote. The question of a reconsideration of the action of the directors in rejecting the application of the two young ladies last week, and who circulated a petition, asking the board to reconsider its rejection, still remains unsettled. Considerable ill-feeling has been engendered over the school contention, but with the success of the late election and the possible elimination of other disturbing factors, the district will settle again in harmony.

CLAYTON

Regular Correspondent

October 27, 1914

Work on the new school house has been commenced. When finished it will be a credit to the district.

The editor of the Union would like to call the country correspondents' attention to the fact that all news items must be sent in NOT LATER than Wednesday Noon to insure publication the same week.

CLAYTON.

November 11, 1914.

Work on the school building is being delayed owing to the difficulty in securing the shipment of lime ordered some time ago.

The well at the new school site has been sunk over 50 feet, but no water at the present writing. This is very unfortunate, as lack of water retards the work greatly. Water is being hauled in barrels at present.

CLAYTON  
Regular Correspondent

November 25, 1914.

The new school house is rapidly nearing completion, the brick work was finished Wednesday, and the plumber will install the heating and water system at once.

CLAYTON  
Regular Correspondent

December 2, 1914.

Shingling is progressing rapidly on the school building. The plumbers and electricians are installing the heating, water and lighting systems. The flagpole, which was donated by Benton Jones and John Goulett, has been erected and the "stars and stripes" now float over the building.

CLAYTON

Regular Correspondent

December 23, 1914.

The 85-foot well at the school building caved in last week and is a total loss. A. Bowen was working in the well at the time and narrowly escaped being caught by the cave-in. A new well will have to be dug.

CLAYTON  
Regular Correspondent

February 3, 1915.

The basket social and dance which was given Saturday evening was very successful, \$18.00 being raised. Nine baskets were sold and the money will go to help pay for the new school bell.

The school children are having a vacation this week. The seats and desks are being moved to the new school house. All the equipment is being treated to a coat of varnish.

CLAYTON  
Regular Correspondent

March 3, 1915.

About a hundred were in attendance at the second annual Patrons' Day held in the new public school building last Friday afternoon. A short impromptu program was given in the primary room, after which the crowd dispersed to visit the several rooms. The display was especially good in the embroidery and basket work of the intermediate and grammar grades.

Many patrons spoke of the decided improvement over last year's display and highly complimented the principal, Miss Alcott. All are cordially invited to visit the school and see for themselves what is being done.

Watch for the date of our big play, "Mr. Bob," to be given by the ninth grade pupils assisted by the primary and intermediate grades. An admission will be charged, the money to be used for paying for the stage curtain and foot lights.

CLAYTON  
Special Correspondent

March 23, 1915.

The entertainment given by the pupils of the Clayton public school last Friday night was pronounced a decided success. Several patrons said it was the best ever held in Clayton. The first part of the program was turned over to the primary department and the little ones did very nicely. The drill and dramatization showed the long and careful instruction given them by their teacher, Mrs. Harry Johnson. The several recitations were much enjoyed by all.

The musical features were arranged by Miss Cook, ably assisted by the Walton brothers and the orchestra, composed of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Melander and Hannibal Huffman. Everyone was pleased with "Three for Jack," a solo by F. B. Walton, also "In the Garden of My Heart," solo by Chas. Walton. Both responded to encores.

To speak in terms of vaudeville the "head-liner" was "Mr. Bob," a 2-act play produced by the ninth grade pupils. This was by far the best amateur play presented in this part of the county.

The cast was: Phillip Royson, Ernest Huffman; Mr. Brown, a clerk for Benson & Benson, Charles Stroup; Miss Rebecca Luke, a maiden lady, Hazel Johnson; Katherine Rogers, her niece, Laura Cummings; Marion, Katherine's friend, Edna Jarrett; Jenkins, Miss Rebecca's butler, Harry Cowan; Patty, Miss Rebecca's maid, Loolá Coy.

The recitations by Pauline Johnson and little Pauline Johnson and little Pauline Cummings were much enjoyed. Also the drill by the intermediate and grammar grades.

About 200 were in attendance over \$21.00 were realized to defray expenses. The success of this entertainment is largely due to the principal, Miss Alcott, for her faithful attention. Also to Mr. Benton Jones who so carefully made and arranged the stage.

CLAYTON  
Special Correspondent

April 14, 1915.

The Ladies' Guild gave a basket social last Saturday night for the purpose of establishing a hot lunch system in the schools. So far there had been nothing done towards establishing one. The proceeds amounted to over three dollars. We think the club will have to give several more socials in order to raise the sum required to inaugurate a hot lunch system.

CLAYTON  
Regular Correspondent

May 23, 1915.

The closing of the Clayton school term was quite an item of interest. The returns of the examinations have not yet been received. There will be another Eighth grade examination held the 17th and 18th of June. It is expected that a large majority of the pupils taking the examination will graduate, as the past term of school has been a most successful one. A large attendance gathered at the schoolhouse Monday to celebrate the closing day, and a big social dinner was served, furnishing an enjoyable time to all.

CLAYTON  
Special Correspondent

June 23, 1915.

Earl Haskins, of Deer Park, has rented the old school building and will furnish entertainment for the public with moving pictures, and a dance after the show each Thursday evening.

CLAYTON  
Special Correspondent

June 30, 1915.

The moving picture show, which was given by Earl Haskins in the old school house, was attended by a large crowd and all have spoken of it as a very enjoyable entertainment and are looking forward to many such evenings, on Thursday of each week.

CLAYTON  
Special Correspondent

September 8, 1915.

School opened Tuesday with an enrollment of 130 pupils and four teachers.

Clippings from  
The Deer Park Union

The Deer Park Union was published on Fridays during these early years. The dates on the clippings indicate the prior Wednesday — the deadline for submissions from the regular as well as the special correspondents.

*To make everyone aware of what's about to be lost.*

(excerpts from)  
***The Clayton School:  
The Application For Placement On  
The National Register Of Historic Places***

***Written by Bill Sebright and submitted by  
the Clayton Historical Society on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003.***

***Reports to the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society  
Volume 1, Page 4  
(first published in 2005)***

*Regarding the architect, Charles R. Wood — he was born in Wisconsin in 1885. Accompanying his parents, he came to Spokane in 1899 at age 14. While his formal education and training are unknown, Wood is listed as a carpenter in the Spokane City Directories for 1902 and '03. By 1905, at age 20, he was working as a draftsman at the office of Spokane architect Albert Held. By 1907 Wood had moved to the more prestigious firm of Cutter & Malmgren. Wood set out on his own the next year, opening an office in the Peyton Building, where he resided until 1919.*

*Completed in 1915, the Clayton School is located in the southeastern corner of Stevens County in the town of Clayton, Washington. The small community was developed around the formation of the Washington Brick & Lime Company, which ran one of the largest brick manufacturing facilities in the state of Washington. The Clayton School is a good example of the American Renaissance style as adapted to a country schoolhouse. The two-story brick masonry building follows a rectangular footprint with formal massing, and has a hip roof, a prominent corbelled entry arch, and multiple rows of tall windows.*

*The 1915 building measures 72 feet wide and 48 feet deep with over 6,900 square feet on the first and second floors. The building rises two stories and has a low-pitched hip roof with wide, overhanging boxed eaves... The load-bearing brick masonry walls of the schoolhouse are made of red colored brick in a common bond with a header course every 8<sup>th</sup> row. The building rests on a foundation of poured concrete.*

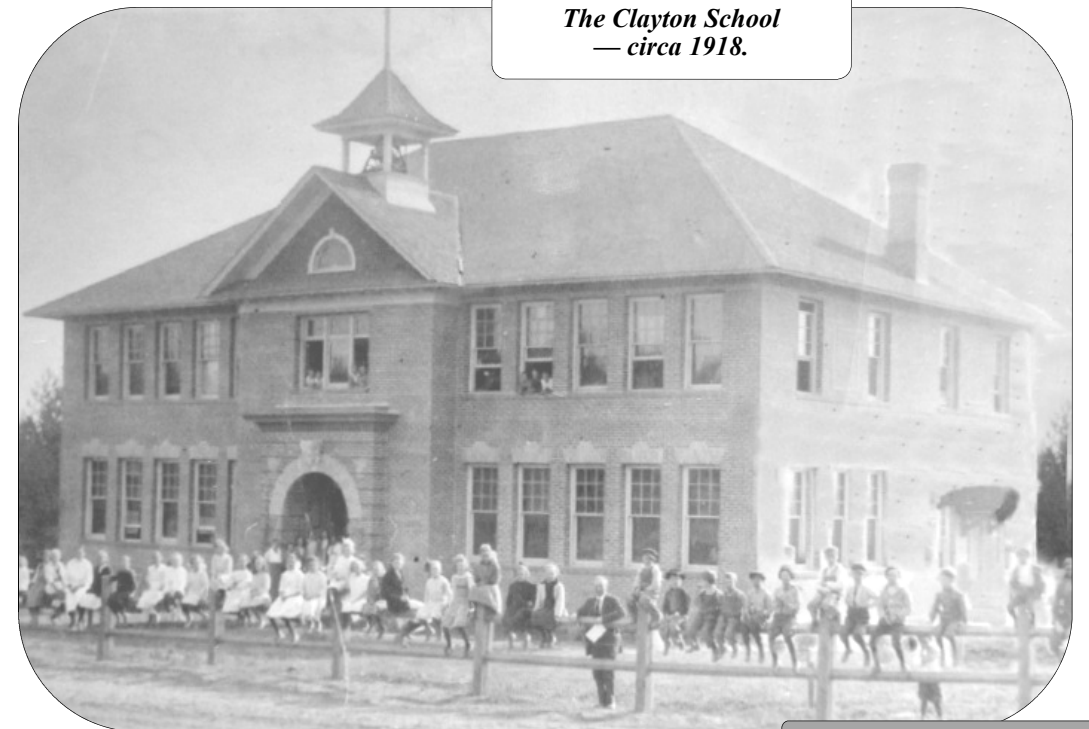
*The façade of the Clayton School is distinguished by a central projecting, full-height bay that measures 12 feet wide. The bay is capped with a pedimented gable roof, crowned with a bell-cast hip cupola which still houses its original school bell.*

*Further emphasizing the entire entrance is a projecting entry portal which is defined by a flat cornice with dentils and a large blonde brick Roman arch. The arch is embellished with a large keystone in the form of a ram's head — reportedly a leftover architectural detail from Spokane's Davenport Hotel.*

*The floor is made of fir planks, and the ceilings on the first floor are approximately 12 feet high. Cast-iron radiators are located in each classroom. Some of the original milk-glass schoolhouse-type lights still hang from the ceilings.*

*The 1915 Clayton School is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under the "Rural Public Schools in Washington from Early Settlement to 1945 MPD." The intact brick school meets the registration requirement for listing under both criterion A and criterion C. Construction of the school showed the community of Clayton's commitment to children and their education and today stands as one of the physical reminders of the town's rich past as home to one of the Pacific Northwest's largest brick and terracotta manufacturing plants. Additionally the school is an excellent example of a large county school in the Spokane area designed with multi-rooms, spacious well-lit classrooms and all of the latest conveniences of a modern facility.*

*The Clayton School  
— circa 1918.*





From Clutter to Classic.

## Rebuilding Clayton's School

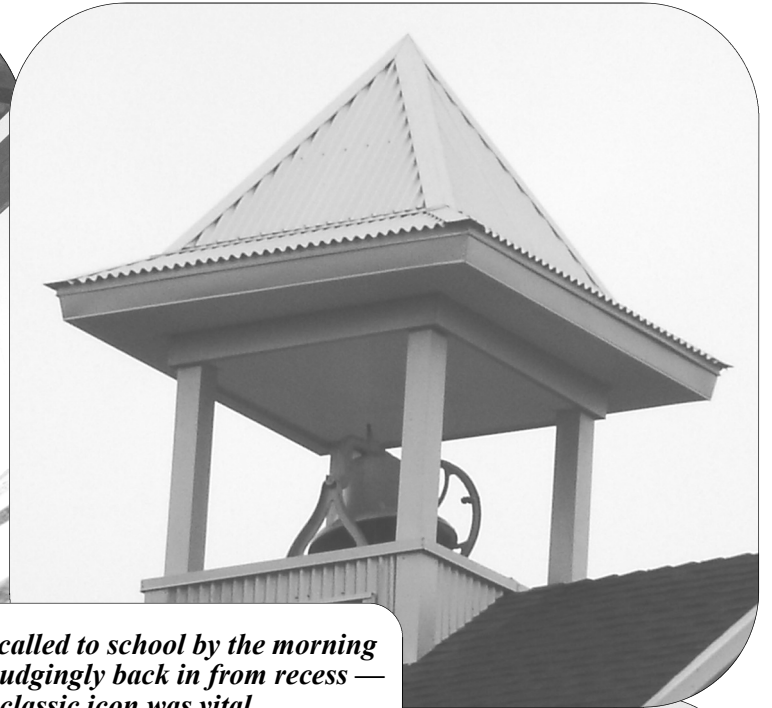
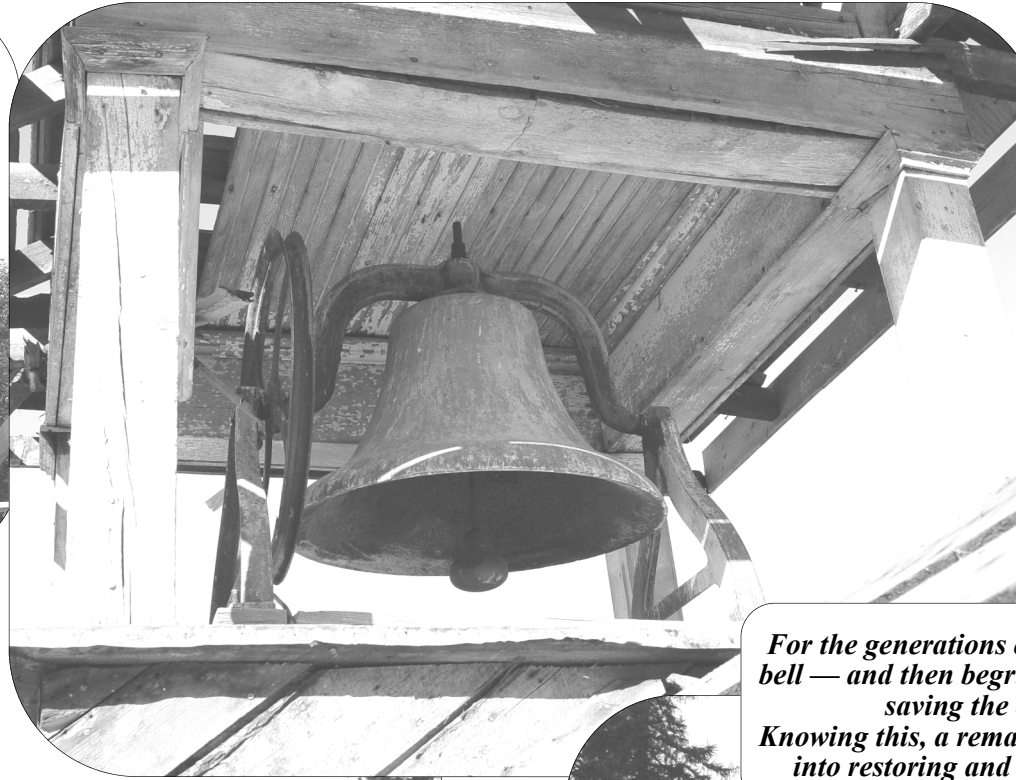


The photos on the facing page capture the rebuilding of the central stairway at the south end of the school. The very upper left photo shows the original mid-level landing. With just a few inches over six feet of headroom at that point, it needed a complete redesign. The visible piping was a retrofit to heat the cast iron registers — another of the many reasons the old school was not considered fit for students.

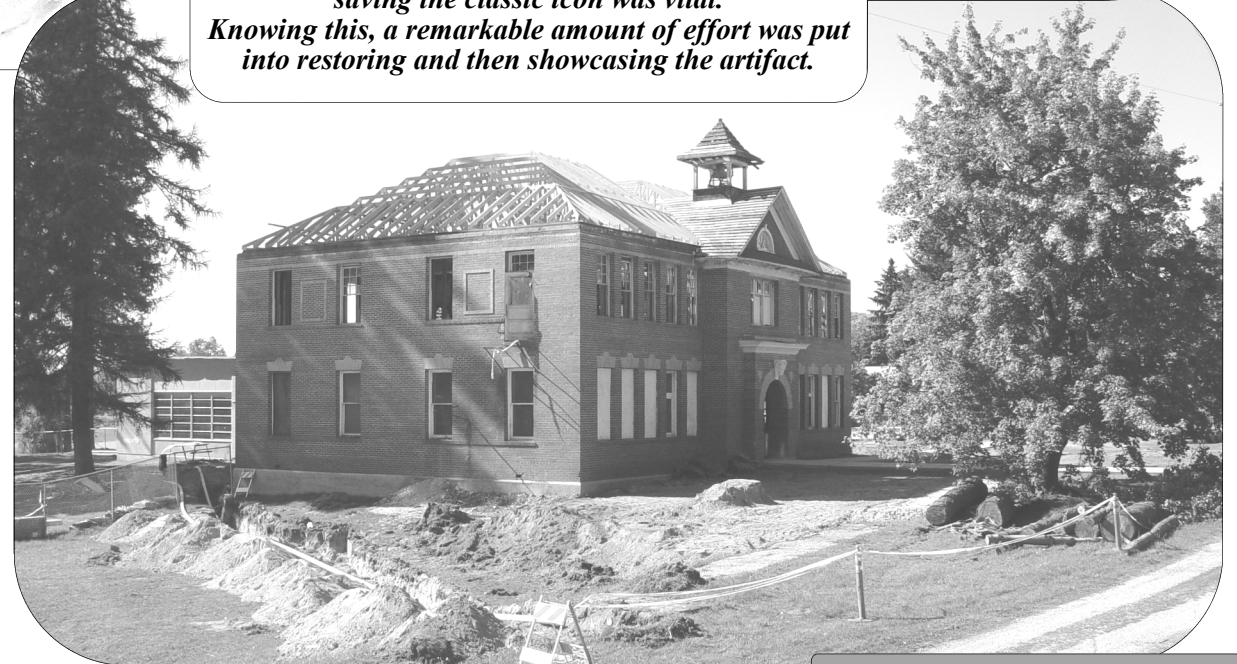
The photos on the right show the refurbished upper floor. This view from the second floor highlights the beautifully refurbished classic windows.

The below-right photo shows the upper floor office at the north end of the building. At one time this small space served as the school's library. The exit sign leads through the new library, which doubles as the hallway to the second story fire escape — an escape vastly improved from the original that, due to its trembling and rattling, seemed mostly a test of courage for all the upper level students braving it during drills.





*For the generations called to school by the morning bell — and then begrudgingly back in from recess — saving the classic icon was vital. Knowing this, a remarkable amount of effort was put into restoring and then showcasing the artifact.*



## Voices From Clayton's Schoolyard

Part One of  
"Tuffy's War: The Alvin 'Tuffy' Luhr Story"  
Mortarboard #9 / Collected Newsletters #3  
Page 97

"I weighed 110 pounds as a freshman — so naturally they put me on the football team as a tackle. I remember being hunched down on the line, with the other team in its huddle, and hearing one of those guys say, 'Watch out for that little guy. He crawls underneath and fouls up the play!'

"I got a letter for my sweater. It was a 'C' maybe twelve inches tall. It just about rested on my belt and then caught me under the chin. I guess it was made for the big boys."

Alvin "Tuffy" Luhr  
August 26, 1918 — December 26, 2013

"Rambling Around Clayton's Schoolyard"  
Reports to the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society  
Volume 1, Page 41

"Miss Chekal taught the combined 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades. Her classroom was upstairs, in the southwest corner of the old school. It was really hot this particular day, so, for ventilation, we had the bottoms of the windows pulled up.

"Larry Lewis and me had done something. I don't remember what it was. But the teacher was mad at us. And we were mad at the teacher. Well, we were standing at the back of the classroom, kind of looking out one of those west side windows, when the inspiration hit. Who it hit first, I don't recall.

"They'd just built a new coal shed about three or four feet out from the west side of the school. It was only maybe a six or seven foot drop to the roof of the shed, so Larry and I just bailed out the window. Then we jumped off the shed roof and were gone. The thing was, the teacher had forgotten about the new coal shed. The other kids said that when she saw us jump, she turned pale and just about passed out. She figured we'd jumped all the way to the ground.

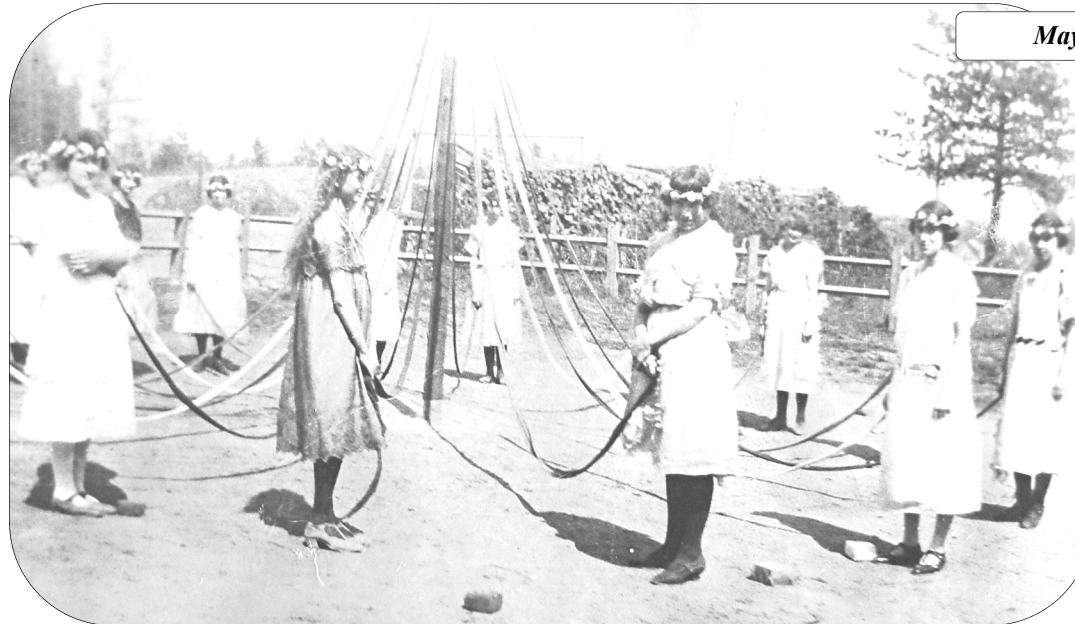
"When we finally quit hiding and went back to school, there was Lumberg and his paddle."

Gordon Neil Cumpton  
October 16, 1939 — November 24, 2004

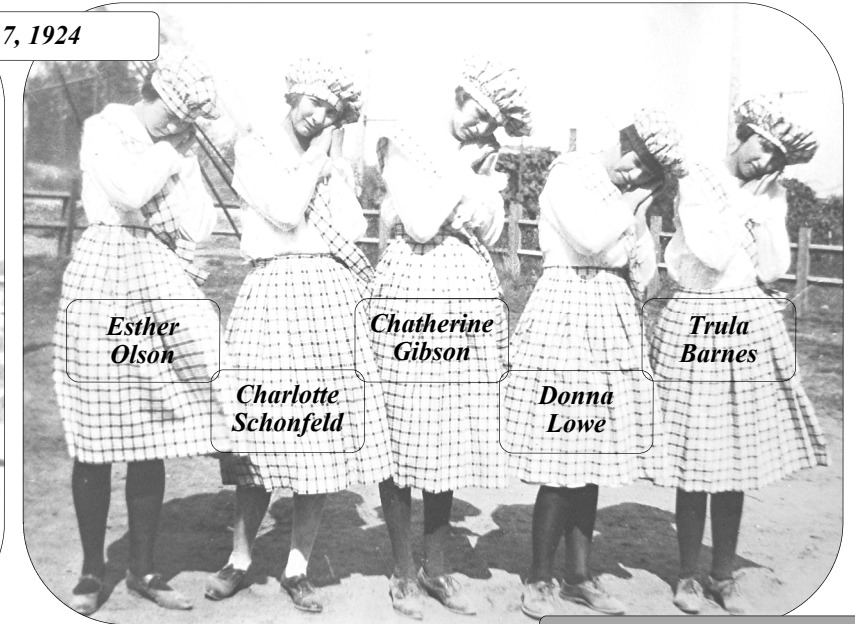
Photos to the right  
are from the article noted below.

"Charlotte M. Schonfeld's  
Clayton High School  
Memory Book of 1924"  
Reports to the  
Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society  
Volume 4, Page 179

Charlotte (Schonfeld) DeMerice  
1907 — 1992



May 7, 1924





## *“Clayton’s Sadie Mae Huffman-Fischbach”*

*Mortarboard #11 / Collected Newsletters #3*

*Page 137*

*“As for Clayton’s new brick school, I recall that the first and second grade shared a room on the ground floor. It was the northeast room at the front of the building. The third and fourth graders were in the room right behind — the southeast corner. The lavatories and boiler-room were the same place as always — the southwest corner. And the room in the northwest corner was the game room and study hall. We didn’t have a cafeteria back then.*

*“Upstairs — the high school was in the northeast corner. And the southeast room was taken by the fifth and sixth grades. The seventh and eighth grades were just across the hall from the high school room. Typing and bookkeeping occupied the southwest corner of the second floor. And the principal had his little office upstairs, underneath the bell tower.*

*“I remember we had double seats. It was usually a boy and girl together. And I can remember my first grade teacher — her name was Miss Sherwood.*

*“Being close enough to walk, I always went home for lunch.*

*“Most of the kids had to walk to school. They did have one bus that went up towards Loon Lake and picked up the kids at Granite Point — the Biddle kids and them. Then I think it went out in Williams Valley and Bigfoot Valley and picked up the Klawunder and Casberg kids and such. All those little schools were scattered around the countryside for the small kids.*

*“Some of the older kids would ride horses, or drive a sled or wagon in. There was a barn down back of the school, south about two or three hundred feet, where kids could put their horses to keep them out of the weather.*

*“We always had Maypole dances on or just after May Day. We’d walk around the Maypole holding these long streamers — ribbons, with every other person walking in the opposite direction. The streamers would weave down the pole somehow. It was nice, but I never saw that done anyplace else.*

*“We had taffy pulls — now that’s something you never hear of anymore.*

*“Our high school teacher lived in a little two room house in Clayton, and she would have the kids over for taffy pulls at her place. The candy probably got pretty dirty with germs before we got done pulling it, but back then that wasn’t a big deal. And it was fun.*

*“We always had a big Valentine’s Day box. I think most of the Valentines we gave each other were store-bought.*

*“I think we always had some kind of Christmas program at school. I know we did when we got into the upper grades. After the Moose Hall opened up we had them down there because they had a stage.*

*“And in spring the school had a picnic at Deer Lake.”*

*Sadie Mae (Huffman) Fischbach*

*November 22, 1912 — (oldest living graduate of Clayton High School)*

## *At Least Another Hundred*

*by*

*Wally Lee Parker*

From the summer of 1973, and on through the first several years of this new millennium, the old Clayton school sat empty. Its halls and classrooms were being used by the school district as a convenient place to store surplus bric-a-brac until said items could either be reused or be disposed of. And when it came to surplus items, the old school itself seemed to have become an unnecessary drain on the school district’s already hard pressed financial resources. Its roof was leaking. Plaster was shedding from interior walls. The heating system had been retrofitted with a network of exposed pipes. All its mechanical systems were in need of extensive repair. Then too, its derelict appearance seemed an open invitation for otherwise idle persons walking by to break a window, chip away a shard of brick, or target the entry alcove’s iconic terracotta ram’s head with a well-pitched rock. And since reversing all this accumulating damage would take money the district could better use elsewhere, a decision needed to be made as to the structure’s ultimate disposition.

Pragmatics suggested that, like most antiques, the old building had outlived its usefulness. The same could be said of the scattering of still lingering souls that recall having once scurried with books in hand though the school’s doors. Lingering souls that remember threading through its crowded halls; that remember wasting too many beautiful days cloistered in its classrooms — or at least it seemed a waste at the time. The problem is that pragmatics see little value in commiserating with the ghosts that litter the past — be those the ghosts of

our ancestors, or of departed acquaintances, or even the shades of our earlier selves. And in reality, that was what was melting away with the deterioration of the old school. It was generations of images and voices and incidents that otherwise only exist as a wisp of memory; or only exist as a purple inked keepsake fading away on a frayed scrap of “ditto” paper.

When the announcement came that the old school was being put up for sale, the news devastated many that had once been students in the now antiquated building. Watching helplessly as the classic façade was left to slowly dissolve beneath the onslaught of weather and neglect had been bad enough, but the thought of the schoolhouse being reopened as something indifferent to the vintage spirits that reside within — reopened as a private business perhaps, or even worse, a shambled antique mall full of dusty artifacts of questionable heritage — well, that just seemed disrespectful if not downright sacrilegious treatment for what had long ago been the very heart of a once bustling community.

Those who saw the school as an historic artifact deserving of a better fate responded. Flyers were printed and distributed. Fundraisers organized. A brand new historical society pasted together from a gathering of the willing. But beneath it all was a sense of futility. After all, the odds against success seemed overwhelming.

The problem wasn’t simply the issue of purchasing the old school at the posted price of \$118,000. From a logistical point of view, even if the community could raise the huge sum needed to gain the title,

that would only be the beginning. There would be the necessity of a very basic restoration of the property. That alone might equal if not exceed the purchase price. And after that would come the recurring expenses; things such as insurances, taxes, lighting, heating, and day to day maintenance. To those with a tendency to think things through, the climb to ownership of the old building — and the museum all hoped it would eventually contain — just kept getting steeper and steeper.

But then a group of educators added a new element to the mix. State funds were available to build a facility for an outreach program intended to open specific educational opportunities to otherwise home schooled children — opportunities that it would be difficult, if not impossible, for parents to provide in the home setting. Those educators apparently saw the old school as an existent structure well situated within the geographic region in need of this kind of outreach service; an old school that, if respectfully rejuvenated, could serve the intended need while also preserving the essence of something of unique historic significance.

It seemed a win/win for everyone concerned.

In 2004, before the renovation was to begin, members of the historical society were allowed one last look at the old school — one last look at it and its accumulated scars. I don't know if the past was speaking as strongly to the others in our group as it was to me during our tour. But every space seemed to hold ancient echoes — bits of conversations and laughter that, for the most part, glided just beyond the edge of recollection. And most every original object drew up fragments of images that likewise, wouldn't quite come into focus. And with the exception of a few disciplinary swats and similar well deserved embarrassments, most all of these shadows seemed more comfortable to me than not.

Which is to say, if there are ghosts here, the great majority are clearly benign.

The society's membership walked around the cluttered rooms with trepidation. The building was about to be essentially gutted. A good portion of the interior was to be stripped away — though select items such as the casework and the wood flooring would be saved whenever possible. The lavatories — its flush toilets being an item of wonder for several generations of rural kids that had seldom seen such things — would be demolished, and their replacements located elsewhere in the building. The boiler-room would no longer be needed — the heating plant and such being moved to the attic. The stairway and landing would be restructured into a new configuration — bringing it into compliance with modern codes. And the classrooms redesigned to meet the intended needs. In so many ways it was going to be a totally new school. Meaning that we were all worried there would be nothing recognizable left.

And then, in the spring of 2005, there was the after renovation walkthrough. The universal sentiment among the membership — in so far as being faithful to the old school's spirit, everything was perfect.

One thing everyone noticed, the ceilings had been lowered to hide all the piping for the forced air system. But as you approach the exterior walls, the ceiling rises to its former level. In that way the full height of the modern windows (designed to mimic the old) is exposed to the interior — so on chill days the winter sun can still stream deep within, just as we remember. And when it does, the extensive expanse of highly polished wood will glow like warm honey — once again, just as we remember.

So there it is. A century after its first day of classes, the old building is once again a living, breathing school; once again full of life. And with its recent renovation an unknowable number of extra years have been added to its future history. An unknowable number, though hopefully at least another hundred.

— end —

## *Minutes of the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society — June 13, 2015 —*

In attendance: Grace Hubal, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Sue Rehms, Don Reiter, Mary Jo Reiter, Roxanne Camp, Betty Burdette, Patricia Parker, Wally Parker, Marie Morrill, Bill Sebright, Lynn Wells, Bob Peetz, Donald Ray Ball, Marilyn Reilly, Lorraine Nord, and grand-daughter Maygen Nord.

Society President Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM. He reported: 1) He received a phone call from Tana V. Kendall asking about the school colors and mascot of Clayton School. All he knows is that when he was at Clayton School they had white t-shirts with a blue cougar and Clayton in blue lettering. Does anyone have other memories? A picture was passed around. 2) He received a phone call from Laura Koller in Arvada, Colorado (near Denver). About a year ago, we put her in contact with Lyle Holcomb. She wanted to use a picture of Lyle's Dad, Elmer, for a painting she was doing. The painting is done and she sent a digital file of it to us, and a print to Lyle. Her painting won "Best in Show" at an art show in Wickenburg, Arizona. The picture was passed around. The painting shows several different rodeo clowns using capes to "fight" bulls. In her research, Laura found that Elmer's brother Homer was the first rodeo clown to use a cape to distract the bulls from the fallen riders. In her email, Laura gave us permission to use her painting on our website, scrapbook, and newsletter. 3) Pete and Jackie Reynolds gave the Society a 1950's membership record book for the Deer Park Sons of Norway Lodge. It was passed around.

Society Treasurer Mark Wagner reported by email: The main checking account ended the month at \$6,946.34 with deposits totaling \$100.00 and a check written for \$626.22 to Discount Sign Warehouse for shirts for Brickyard Day. The web hosting account ended the month at \$956.82 with the usual monthly withdrawal of \$10.95 for web hosting services.

Society Secretary Grace Hubal reported: She has been working on post cards for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Clayton School. She has 2 pictures of the "old" school and 2 of the remodeled school. Deer Park Printing will printing 500 black and white post cards for \$25. That's \$.05 each. We plan to sell them for \$.50. Samples were passed around.

Society Vice President Pete Coffin reported: 1) The Society has been contacted by Richard Hastings of Spokane's Liberty Ciderworks in regard gathering enough Arcadia Orchard apples (900 pounds) to make a historical apple cider. I have offered him a field trip opportunity to survey where there might be enough remaining apple trees and fruit for such a cider. 2) A Cousin of mine has contacted me about getting information about her father's family (Oscar Berg, Allen Berg's uncle). In the course of our email exchanges, she offered the Society a quilt from my Grandmother Kate Coffin that had been quilted by a group of Big Foot Valley women who signed the quilt. The quilt had to have been made prior to the late 1940s. She is coming through Deer Park in mid-July with the quilt and I will perhaps have it for the next Society meeting.



Print editor Wally Parker reported:  
1) 125 copies of June's *Mortarboard* (# 86) have been printed for distribution, and the online version has been submitted for posting.  
2) The June issue includes part three of Wey Simpson's "A Time Out to Serve." Due to next month's special edition of the *Mortarboard*, the concluding segment of Wey's article will skip over the July edition and be printed in the August issue. Along with part three of Wey's article, this month's issue has an interesting piece on the history of the historic Silver Bell Mine – this by the society's vice president and resident geologist, Pete Coffin.  
3) As noted above, current plans are for the July issue to be a special retrospective on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Clayton's classic schoolhouse. This will present a departure from what has come to be the *Mortarboard's* standard look. However, the *Mortarboard* will re-assume said standard appearance with the August issue.

Webmaster Marie Morrill reported:  
1) The June *Mortarboard* is now on the web site.

Penny Hutten said the Westerners meeting for June 18, 2015, will have Robert Heacock speaking about his new book, "Wind Hard From The West: The Lewis and Clark Expedition on the Snake and Columbia Rivers." The meeting is at the Airport Holiday Inn, 1616 South Windsor Drive Spokane, Washington 99224. Contact Pat Holien by June 14, for reservations. Pat's email is patholien@comcast.net and phone number is (509)466-2439. Call Penny Hutten at 276-0135, if you have questions.

———— *Eagle Repair Discussion* ————

***Mortarboard Classifieds***

———— **Collectable Items** ————

**"THE OVERLAND JOURNAL,"** Quarterly Journal of the Oregon-California Trails Association.  
Starting with Vol. 20, No.3 (Fall 2002), through Vol. 32, No. 4 (Winter 2014-2015).  
A few issues are missing. If interested please contact Roxanne at 276-8777 or [rxcamp@juno.com](mailto:rxcamp@juno.com).

Pete Coffin started the discussion with this statement: "*The following is my discussion of the Eagle problem. As one of the people partially responsible for the Eagle, I would like to make a few remarks. Firstly, hindsight is perfect, foresight is not. When this project started the Eagle had been damaged and painted sitting on its concrete stand at the airport when I took pictures of it. The Eagle needed to be off the airport in the middle of winter within days as another project was underway. Mr. Knight from Knight Construction off of Cedar Road offered to box up the Eagle and store it until it could be repaired and the Society took advantage of his offer. During the spring prior to the restoration effort, I provided over \$3000 for plaques and other incidentals. I tried to get professional help to get an idea of what needed to be done and failed. Edison, the premier restoration company in Connecticut wanted to have a person spend a week in their school before they would sell any restoration products. Talisman, a Spokane terracotta restoration firm was not interested in helping us.*

*"During the restoration the advice of masons was acquired and the restoration proceeded with the advice of both the masons and the Rodda Paint Company. In hindsight neither the masons nor the paint company's advice was the right advice for a terracotta statue. The existing paint needed to be removed, the damaged terracotta repaired, and a special coating applied.*

*"Another temporary fix done by amateurs will perhaps extend the appearance of the Eagle a year or two before another fix would need to be done. Suggestions for preserving the Eagle have included putting a roof over it or putting it on some sort of wheeled*



***The Eagle while still at Geiger Field.  
This photo was taken shortly prior to the statue's adoption by the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society.  
Mary Clouse is in the foreground.***

*device and I assume storing it during the winter and/or bad weather. I have gotten a call from a local citizen complaining about the Eagle's condition and the Society's inaction about its repair. He had a friend from Portland look at the Eagle and make a repair recommendation to have a Pacific Waterproofing estimate the repair. This company has a Vancouver, WA office but not one in Spokane and did not respond to my inquiry. That individual became so irritated at me that he hung up on me during our phone conversation because I would not authorize an immediate course of action based on his recommendations. The Society has at least four choices of what to do with the eagle. 1) Let nature take its course*

*and let the statue fall apart. 2) Take the Eagle down and try to find a storage place out of the weather and hope it doesn't continue to fall apart. 3) Try to fix the damage with a volunteer group similar to the one that did the repair that is now in need of repair. 4) Accept the repair offer of Pioneer Waterproofing and hope that it provides a semi-permanent fix done by professional repair people. After the first repair, I promoted the idea that the Eagle should be the property of the Clayton Burger but that was unacceptable to several members of the Society. At present I will follow whatever recommendation the Society decides."*

Wally Parker has also done research on terracotta preservation. He reported that

terracotta should never be painted, and that only a “soft” grout should be used in its joints so the interior of the terracotta can “breathe.” Moisture acting on the relatively soft interior of the terracotta is the primary reason for deterioration. And another major problem with terracotta’s preservation is vandalism.

Bill pointed out that the Eagle is historically significant to Clayton. We rededicated in 2010 to the Veterans. So it is very important to maintain the Eagle.

Lynn Wells moved to have the Society proceed with the preservation of the Eagle and accept Pacific Waterproofing’s bid of \$11,820. Betty Burdette seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Unanimously passed.

We will talk to the people at Pacific Waterproofing to see if the dark brown pigment will accelerate damage to the Eagle. If so, we will have them go back to the original natural terracotta color that it was from 1922 to the early 1970s.

Lynn Wells moved that we establish a monetary preservation fund for the Eagle. Pete seconded the motion. The motion passed

unanimously. Lynn Wells will work together with Roxanne Camp to set up the fund. Mark will keep track of the money. By the time the meeting was over there was \$650 in the fund.

———— *other matters* ————

Wednesday, June 10 was the 5<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee meeting for this year’s Brickyard Day. The flyer is about ready to go to the printer. The t-shirts came, but “Clayton School” and “2015” were left off. They were returned to the printer to finish. Jodie Lentz brought them to the CDPHS meeting. All Brickyard Day plans seem to be on schedule. The next meeting will be on July 8 at 6 PM at the Real Estate Marketplace. Another meeting will be July 22 if necessary.

Next meeting: Saturday, July 11, 2015, at 9 AM at the Clayton Drive-In.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.

The Society meeting minutes submitted by Grace Hubal, Secretary.

———— *end* ————

*Volunteer proofreaders for this issue: Bill Sebright and Linda Swain.*

### Society Contacts

We encourage anyone with observations, concerns, corrections, or divergent opinions regarding the contents of these newsletters to write the society or contact one or more of the individuals listed below. Resultant conversations can remain confidential if so desired.

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———— C/DPHS ————