The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society wishes you and yours a Merry Christmas and a bright New Year!

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society 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.

Notice: Everyone’s Welcome at the Historical Society’s Meetings.
Second Saturday of each month, beginning at 9:00 a.m., basement of the Clayton Grange Hall, 4478 Railroad Avenue, Clayton, Washington.

All Past Issues of the Mortarboard Can Be Viewed on Our Website: http://www.cdphs.org/mortarboard-newsletters.html

In the spring of 2013, after the Clayton-Deer Park Historical Society published several Mortarboard articles describing mines that had been developed in southern Stevens and northern Spokane Counties, Cliff Meyer mentioned to me that there had been a small mine on the north side of Loon Lake Mountain. He had been told of the mine years earlier by a source who said he had packed supplies to it in the early 1900s. And then, when the north face of the mountain was being logged in the 1990s, one of the loggers had seen the mine and described its approximate location to Cliff.

Cliff suggested to me that a field trip to find and document the mine’s location would be interesting. On June 3, 2013 Cliff and I took his four-wheeler up the old logging roads east and north from Cliff’s house to look for the mine. On our way up to the top of the mountain we passed many piles of Cliff’s split firewood and passed through several brushy areas along the old road.

On top of the mountain, the logged off area provided views of Loon Lake to the southwest, Blue Grouse Mountain to the east and much of the mountainous area surrounding Loon Lake. The exact location of the mine

— text continued on page 1772 ——

“I suspect this old mine now makes a fine winter den for a black bear.” — Peter Coffin

Illustration in the public domain.

Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society Newsletter
Issue #128 — December — 2018

Illustration in the public domain.
Further Reading


The north face of Loon Lake Mountain, near the mine location. Photo taken from Garden Spot Road on May 25, 2018. The mine location is well hidden by the vegetation.

Cliff holding on and ploughing through the overgrown brush.
Cliff in the center of the picture working his way through the underbrush.

— text continued from page 1769 —

was uncertain as no tailings pile had accumulated to mark the tunnel. Most contemporary early mines were located on the basis of clear quartz fragments weathered out from the hill with iron staining indicating the possible presence of a valuable mineral deposit.

The logger described the mine opening as being centrally located in the logged over area. With only this scrap of information, Cliff and I began a methodical search across the area that was covered with waist high and higher brush growth and fallen tree trunks and limbs.

About 100 yards down from the top of the mountain, near the west edge of the logged clearing, a rock outcrop was found. From that rock outcrop, we searched eastward until we found the entrance of the mine in about the middle of the cleared area.

The mine must not have produced any promising ore because all that is left is a roughly timbered and partially collapsed opening. Neither Cliff nor I thought it would be a good idea to try to crawl into the opening, so we took some photographs and left.

There didn’t seem to be a enough rocky material on the ground in front of the tunnel to give a hint as to what had attracted the miners. In this area, one can generally guess at what was being mined from the heaps of tailings left behind. In any case, this mine must not have shown much promising mineralization.

Unfortunately, neither Cliff nor I had a cell phone with us to record the exact geographic coordinates of the mine. I did report the approximate mine location to the Washington Division of Geology and Earth Resources so that they could possibly fill in the old abandoned mine works for public safety. They had no record of this mine and a map search did not reveal any claim outline. I suspect this old mine now makes a fine winter den for a black bear.

——— end ———

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.
Letters, Email, Bouquets & Brickbats

or

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

... Joseph H. Spear’s steam powered car ...

An article on “Spokane’s automobile world” appeared in the August 18th, 1905 edition of The Spokane Press. Reporting that there were “about 75 machines in the city” at that time, the article went on to quote the following from W. S. Dulmage, either a pharmacist or assistant pharmacist with Spokane’s Emporium Drug Company, and a co-organizer of Spokane’s first car club.

Mr. Dulmage stated, “Most people who do not understand running a machine think a driver is careless of the welfare of the public because he tears along at a rate which would not seem to enable the machine to be brought to a stop in time to prevent (an) accident. That is not so. ... I have tested my machine against a horse going at the same speed and have stopped in from 10 to 15 feet less space than the horse and carriage. But we are careful in going through city streets for the law only allows a rate of eight miles in the city and 12 miles in the suburbs. In passing street crossings, we are compelled to slow down to four miles an hour.

“Our machines all are registered with the secretary of state and we pay $2 for a license. In this manner the name of the owner of a machine may be learned by sending the number to the state secretary.

“I like Spokane and its surrounding country for automobiling because of its fine, level pavements and the watering places in the country. On the suburban roads one can make 25 to 30 miles an hour. To make that speed will not jar and shake a machine to pieces.

“Which is the fastest machine in the city? That I do not know. None of the machines now in use are geared very high. My own, which is a Hayne’s Apperson, is geared to 50 miles an hour, but I never run it over 48. Most of the machines are geared about the same as mine. J. H. Spear and F. H. Mason, who operate White Steamers, made good time. Al Hutton has a Winton, Dr. C. S. Kalb a Franklin, Dr. Cee an Oldsmobile, Mr. Bellinger a Columbia and Mr. Herrick and Mr. Edmonds, Fords.”

The above-mentioned J. H. Spear was co-founder of Washington Brick, Lime & Manufacturing Company, and — along with Henry Brook — co-founder of the town of Clayton.

And yes, the very bottom line of the White Steam Car advertisement on the facing page does say “The White Sewing Machine Company” — a company that traces its roots back to 1866. In 1901 a subsidiary called the White Motor Company was spun away from the parent company for the specific purpose of building steam powered automobiles. That spinoff separated into a free-standing corporation in 1906. After producing just over 1,900 steam powered cars, the company switched from steam to gasoline engines exclusively in 1911. Then, in 1918, it dropped automobiles altogether, concentrating primarily on trucks, a change that eventually gave rise to the White Motor Company’s legendary line of heavy-duty diesel trucks. The last real corporate vestige of the original 1901 steam car spinoff dissolved in the mid-1980s.

We don’t know if it was the 1905...
model pictured here, or some earlier version of this car that Mr. Spear owned. While the following facts apply primarily to the 1905 model, to some degree they represent all of White’s early production.

The car was fired by liquid petroleum — more than likely kerosene. It didn’t have a boiler, rather the water was heated into steam inside a coil. If a significant rupture occurred, approximately a quart of water would instantly vaporize as superheated steam. In other words, a flash of hot vapor, but no explosion.

I’ve yet to find any reliable data as to how long it took to fire the machine from cold to sufficient steam pressure to operate — instant power being one of the advantages of internal combustion engines.

In freezing weather, the water reservoir needed to be drained when the machine wasn’t in use. The reservoir held 12 gallons. The aluminum condenser (radiator) on the front of the car recycled the steam back into water — such recycling allowing approximately 150 miles on each refill of the water reservoir.

The 1905 machine weighed just over 2,000 pounds. Its wheelbase was seven feet, nine inches and width just under five feet. Visually gauging from the vehicle’s 34 inches diameter tires, it’s probable the highest part of the car — the lip above the back seat — stood just under six feet off the ground. It appears there may have been several types of fabric tops available for the car — assumedly those were options. Considering the height at which the passengers sat, the view, especially from the back seat, would have been exceptional.

Regrettably the machine’s lack of side doors to access the back seat, there was a vertical door and projecting step-plate at the rear of the vehicle. The interior of the door appears to have been pattered (probably with attached flip-down seat), allowing three passengers across in the back of the five-passenger car.

Though complicated in construction and operation, automobiles had a number of advantages over horse and carriage. That said, one of the major disadvantages of those early cars was the cost — the machine we believe Joseph Spear owned was likely priced at around two thousand 1905 dollars. … over the falls …

For anyone who’s ever watched the Spokane River’s late winter meltwater as it rumbles amid the rocks just to the east of the Monroe Street Bridge, it’s surely a disquieting reminder of just how powerful that river is. It must have been an even more awesome sight before the river’s original run of falling water largely disappeared beneath the backup from Spokane’s downtown dams. Sensing the percussion as the well-worn rocks stir the water into an icy froth, the thought of what it would be like to find oneself battered and smothered in that brilliant white turbulence chills the imagination. The following article, copied from the March 10, 1881 issue of The Spokan (spelled without the ‘e’) Times (said issue predating the town’s first bridge) does nothing but make those chills that much more real.

"On last Saturday afternoon, while W. T. Nichols and I. T. Benham were engaged in fishing in the upper end of town, they saw an Indian and his woman with a..."
passed the woman who was swimming nobly and caught the man by the hair as he ceased to swim. With the red man clinging to the edge of the skiff, Mr. Nicholls hurriedly pulled for the woman, and all were being swept rapidly toward the falls. The woman gladly grasped hold of the boat, and the brave young man pulled them to shore, landing just above the rapids. The natives were so exhausted they had to be hauled out of the water.

“... and now the saddest part of the incident we relate: When the skiff capsized, the infant, strapped to its back, with its head to the deck, became separated from its mother. It descended the river in company with the boat and was seen tossed by the waves as it dashed about the rapids to the falls. There the faint murmurings of the struggling child were hushed by the thundering of the mighty cataracts.”

... chasing the firetruck ...
In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.

In attendance (Grange Hall): Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Roxanne Campbell, Sue Reynolds, Ella Jenkins, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Don Ball, Jessie Leiser, Mary Eickmeyer Moore.
From the 1970s. Mark Wagner picked them up and brought them to the meeting. 6) Brett Tawney emailed Bill about 4646 Fuzee. He wanted to know the history of his new home. Brett hoped we would have a picture from about 1908. Pete gave him what information he could obtain from Stevens County. 7) Marie Morrill and Bill put Dannon Smathers’s pictures on the Fred O. Reynolds page of the Williams Valley section of Local Areas. Also, some of Minnie Westby Hayworth’s pictures are on the Clayton Veterans and DP Settlers pages. More will be going on the DPHS pages.

Society Treasurer Mark Wagner reported the main checking account ended the month at $6,384.53. There were deposits of $320.00. A check was written for $228.00 for school rental for Brickyard Day, one for $20.00 for Grange rental and one to the Tribune for $81.00. The web hosting account ended the month at $685.79 with a withdrawal of $11.84 for web hosting. The Brickyard Day account is at $1414.05.

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 November Mortarboard (#127) have been printed for distribution, and the PDF version has been submitted for uploading to the Society’s website. This 16-page issue leads with Pete Coffin’s “Herbert Mason: Williams Valley Settler.” The Mortarboard’s Letters/Brickbats segment includes an editorial copied from a May 1879 edition of The Spokan Times; a copy of President Grover Cleveland’s 1885 designation of America’s first national Thanksgiving Day; a copy of the Deer Park Union’s first television advertisement—dated September 18th, 1952; and several images of probable Springdale lime kilns investigated and photographed by Bill Sebright.

2) Ten copies of Collected Newsletters Volume 36 have been printed. This volume combines Mortarboards #125, 126, and 127. To replenish stock, five reprints each of Collected Newsletters 33 and 34 have been made. The normal donation for each copy is five dollars.

3) Regarding the CDPHS’s LaserJet printer problems, several workarounds are proving at least temporarily successful. I intend to continue in workaround mode as long as the images produced are acceptable. 4) Discussions have been ongoing regarding the possibility of a Facebook presence for the Society. Since such a page would need to be administered/editing on a continuous basis, the foremost problem appears to be finding one or more associates willing to commit the time necessary to monitor and otherwise keep the page in order. The more successful the resultant page, the larger the administrative workload—suggesting success carries its own curse. 5) There are some truly unique areas of research and article-development underway at Print Publications right now. And as always, anyone wishing to get in on the behind-the-scenes scuttlebutt—as well as have input into these projects—only needs to get on the Editorial Group’s email list. Membership in the Society is not a requirement. So, if you wish to just send the editor a note at the following email address—bogwen100@msn.com.

Webmaster Marie Morrill reported that:
1) All the Mortarboards are now online.
2) She started a new page under Williams Valley, Fred O. Reynolds Family.

Pete Coffin reported that:
1) I have finished digitizing the Deer Park High School Antler Annuals for 1942 to 1992 (less 1982 and 1991) for Darren Keitel and the DPHS Classmates Facebook Page. At this time the size of this file is 31.2 GB. 2) Provided land homestead locations for Thomas Stensgar (Stranger) in Stevens County. 3) I’m presently examining a Mason family package that was given to me by President Sebright. It would seem that it belonged to Carolyn Virginia (Mason) Warner, Robert Warner’s wife. She died in Kennewick which may account for the where the package came from. The package contains a pencil written diary dated April 6, 1891 to January 11, 1893. It has C. (Charles) O. (Oscar) Mason’s name written on it. I am uncertain if he or his wife Irene wrote it as it is not clear in the text. It describes living condi-
tions in southeast Montana near Broadus. There are many pages of paper relating to Os-carc Mason’s Alaska prospecting and timber/ lumber selling as well as some historic pic-tures. 4) In addition to the Mason material there is a July 1976 supplement to the Deer Park Tribune which describes a research pro-ject that St. George’s School undertook to document the history of Wild Rose Prairie as the beginning of settlement in our area. It could be the basis for a Mortarboard paper. 5) President Sebright asked me to try to find some history of the Brett Tawney house at 4646 Furzee Road in Clayton. A search of the Stevens County Auditors records indicate that the house was built in 1984, even though the owner was told it was built in 1908. I have no other information about the house. Ownership map shows the land tract was owned by a Walter M. Bade in 1930 and 1940 and by Richard Benton in 1973. Section 17-29N-R42EWM was deeded to Northern Pacif-ic Railroad on May 17, 1894. 6) Minnie (Westby) Hayworth asked if the Drag Race Book could be sent to an ill Ace Jewell in Mo-ses Lake. The book was sent, and Ace re-ceived it. Penny Hutten lost her sister and brother since the last meeting. Remember her in your prayers. Lorraine Nord is visiting her 96-year-old Aunt Lillie in Reno, Nevada. Mike Reiter reported that he checked about the C/DPHS having meetings in the building next to the old fire station near Deer Park’s City Hall. According to Mayor Tim Verzal, it might be possible for the C/DPHS to have sole use of the building. Mike and Bill will look at the building before the next meet-ing. There is a meeting room, office and bath-room. Next Meeting: Saturday, December 8, 2018, at 9:00 AM at the Clayton Grange Hall. Meeting adjourned at 10:06 AM. The Society meeting minutes submit-ted by Mark Wagner, acting Secretary.