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Illustration from The Topeka State Journal, Topeka, Kansas, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1909.

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#168

April

2022

*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.*

THE  
**CLAYTON ♦ DEER PARK  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

## Mortarboard

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### *A Backstory for the Clayton Drive-In*

#### *Don & Lorraine Ball's Gift to the Community.*

by

*Wally Lee Parker*

*... sad news to start a new year ...*

On December 29<sup>th</sup>, the final Wednesday of 2021, the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society's president, Bill Sebright, sent the following email to a broad swath of the region's residents and former residents, many of

whom have expressed interest in the society's continuing mission of recording the region's history. Bill's missive read, "*Friday is the Clayton Drive-In's last day. If you want to go there one more time, time is running short.*"

This little and now empty restaurant is located at the eastern entrance to the town of



*This image, snapped by Bill Sebright in early January, 2022, shows a concrete barrier blocking the parking lot of the now closed restaurant. Bill's caption for the photo, "When a 'Keep Out' sign just isn't enough!"*

Clayton — Clayton being another of those small communities bypassed during Highway 395's continuing evolution. News of the restaurant's closing drew comments from both locals and travelers, some of said travelers from as far north as Canada and far south as anyone's guess. The tenor of those comments hinted that what should be a simple story of time and change sat atop a much deeper history, with the dark waters below clearly in need of investigation.

... how the Ball's settled in Deer Park ...

The original Clayton Drive-In opened in 1968. According to Don Ball, he and his wife, Lorraine, noted a for-sale sign on a small structure then housing the Snow-Cap Root Beer Drive-In at 6515 North Division — the current site of Jimmy John's Sandwich Shop. The sign stipulated that the building was "*to be moved.*" And that's what the Balls did. The result of said move has been a bit more than 53 years worth of memories for both locals and those travelers wise enough and hungry enough to turn off Highway 395 and visit the home of the "*Famous Clayton Burger.*"

Both Don and his father, Ray V. Ball, were born in Montana — Don in the small town of St. Ignatius on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 1929. We're a little curious about this since Don's mom, May, was clearly a Deer Park girl, having graduated from Deer Park High School in 1923.

May (Boyd) Ball was born in Warren, Minnesota, on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 1906. Her family moved to Washington State around 1913, first to Dalkena — a community that grew up around the then thriving Dalkena Lumber Company, that enterprise perched on the west bank of the northward flowing Pend Oreille River some 10 miles west by northwest of the town of Newport. Other than a few concrete foundations and whatever memories linger, little is left of Dalkena. Don states his mother's family moved upstream — south — to Newport in 1919, and then, in 1920, they relocated to a farm near Deer Park. After

graduating from Deer Park High School in 1923, May attended Cheney Normal School. The June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1925 edition of the *State Normal School Journal* reports that, "*The following students were granted Elementary Certificates at the end of spring quarter.*" Among those listed as being from Deer Park, Rachel Ash, Mildred Diener, Doris Lane, Evelyn Wolfley, and May Boyd.

What makes this particularly significant is a line from May's 2004 obituary. To quote, she was "*an elementary school teacher, having taught at Odessa, Washington, and the Windy Hill Grade School near Mondovi, Washington.*"

Don's father, Ray Vern Ball, was born somewhere in Montana on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1894 — none of the records so far found state a specific county or town. We know he was a veteran of World War One. As verification, there's a small clip in the April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1919 edition of the *Great Falls Daily Tribune*. Under the lead "*Montana Casualties: Wounded Slightly,*" the clip reads, "*Private Ray V. Ball, Helena, Mont.*" Don states the wound was to the calf of one of his dad's legs. Don can't remember which. He also recalls his dad saying he'd been exposed to mustard gas and also had his appendix removed while in the European theater. Don said the last — the appendix surgery — was what gave him the most problems after coming home.

Below are a few lines from the description of Ray Ball and May Boyd's wedding as found in the August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1928 edition of the *Deer Park Union*. The newspaper noted that the ceremony was held at the home of the bride's parents — Loren Devol Boyd and Aldora "*Dora*" (Kilpatrick) Boyd — said home some two and a half miles north of Deer Park. The paper states the groom was a business man from St. Ignatius, Montana, and that the wedding "*is the culmination of a romance which began while Miss Boyd was teaching near Reardan*" — the small town of Reardan being six miles east of the even smaller community of Mondovi and its nearby Windy Hill Grade School.

Don states that back in St. Ignatius his father was the town's barber. At that time St. Ignatius had neither electricity nor running water, so the haircuts were done with scissors and hand clippers, and any water needed was hand pumped from a well.

After the wedding, the couple left for Ray's St. Ignatius home. And a year later Don entered the world.

Don's recollection of the story his parents told of their first meeting was that in 1928 his father went to Spokane for an operation — that apparently needed due to recurring infections related to his wartime appendix surgery. After he left the hospital, he traveled some twenty miles west of Spokane to visit his brother, Sterling, who was then working on a farm just north of Davenport, said farm belonging to Andrew and Ida Nielson — Andrew and Ida being the parents of Sterling's wife, Marie.

It just so happened that the Nielson family was boarding a young lady employed as a teacher at the nearby Windy Hill Grade School — said young lady being the above-mentioned May Boyd — Don's mother.

Anyway, the story is that Ray and family remained in Montana until 1942 when they relocated to a home in the Moran Prairie area of southern Spokane. One of Ray's jobs back in Montana had been a bus driver for the schools. Once here, he began driving a bus for a passenger and parcel service between Spokane and Colville. Next he obtained work at the newly created Spokane Army Air Depot (later Fairchild Air Force Base) — his job, repairing the hydraulic units of battle-damaged aircraft. That job lasted until the end of World War Two. The military offered him continuing employment, but moving to Salt Lake didn't appeal, so he decided to go back to barbering.

He was thinking about going to work at the Air Depot's barbershop but discovered his Montana barber license wouldn't be accepted in Washington State. Research has uncovered an application to Washington's Department of Licenses dated January 14<sup>th</sup>,



**May Lucetta Boyd**  
**Deer Park High School**  
**Class of 1923.**

*According to Deer Park High School's 1923 annual, The Evergreen, May's nickname was "Shy," her favorite expression was "Oh, heck," and her ambition, to become "An actress."*

*May gave the Evergreen her favorite quote, "Let me do my work from day to day" — this the first line from a poem titled "The Three Best Things." It was penned by Henry Van Dyke, a short-story writer, poet, and Professor of English at Princeton University.*

*To that the Evergreen added, "May is a good all 'round student and believes in studying."*



1946 in which Ray is hoping to take the state's barber examination scheduled to occur in Spokane later in the month. On said application Ray listed his home address as Route 3, Spokane — that being in the Moran Prairie area south of the city.

It appears Ray did obtain a barber's license, since the following was found in the June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1946 issue of the *Spokane Chronicle*. Under the dateline "Deer Park, Wash., June 14," the paper reported, "Ray Ball, who recently purchased the Deer Park barber shop from Lorraine Lambert, bought the home known as the William Edington property this week, and will occupy it soon. He recently sold his home and acreage on Moran Prairie, south of Spokane."

When Don was asked if Deer Park was picked because his mother's family still lived in the area, he said he didn't think so. It was more a matter of the barbershop in Deer Park being the first to become available.

The above noted barbershop has a history of its own. Under a dateline reading "Deer Park, Wash., March 30," we found this blip in the like dated 1935 issue of the *Spokane Chronicle*. "Lorraine Lambert, an employee in the Neswick barber shop, purchased the shop yesterday from John Neswick. Mr. Neswick expects to locate in a climate more suited to his health." Regarding Mr. Neswick, there's an article in the April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1962 edition of the *Inland Empire Magazine* indicating that the gentleman had relocated his barber's pole to Deer Park in late 1919 or early 1920.

Anyway, Ray Ball's family had begun settling into Deer Park life as of the summer of 1946, though for Ray's wife, May, it was more of a return home.

As best Don recalls, his first meeting with the young girl who would become his lifelong partner was at 1946's Old Settlers Picnic. He was there with his family when his mother spotted one of her fellow 1923 Deer Park High School graduates — Grace Kratzer, now Mrs. Grace Milner. Mrs. Milner was accompanied by her two daughters, the younger, Luella, and the older, Lorraine.



**Grace Esther Kratzer  
Deer Park High School  
Class of 1923.**

*According to Deer Park High School's 1923 annual, The Evergreen, Grace's nickname was "Shorty," her favorite expression was "Oh, fiddlesticks," and her ambition, "To be a vamp."*

*The Evergreen gives Grace's favorite quote as, "It was a sure enough case of only one boy." The source of this quote is yet to be found.*

*The Evergreen continues, "Grace has often remarked, 'I may be little, but oh, my' — which is more truth than poetry."*

*Concluding, "Although she is short, she is liked by all."*

**... Lorraine Milner's family history ...**

The story of Lorraine's family in the then Washington Territory begins in 1886, that according to Lucy (Boorman) Kratzer's October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1952 obituary as it appeared in the *Spokesman-Review*. Lucy's parents were William and Esther Boorman, that fact taken from Lucy's March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1895 marriage certificate. Esther Boorman's obituary, that in the May 28<sup>th</sup>, 1915 edition of the *Deer Park Union*, states that she and her husband settled on Wild Rose Prairie in 1887. It appears that William passed away the following year. In 1890, Lucy, then around 27 years old and listing Hazard as her place of residence, passed the examination for her teaching certificate. Her 1952 obituary states she'd taught at Latah, Rearden, Wild Rose, Williams Valley, Clayton and "other nearby communities." Said obituary goes on to state that "She was married to Edward Kratzer of Deer Park in 1895." She would have been 32 at that time, and Edward 31. "They have lived for 57 years on the homestead in Williams Valley."

Lucy was Edward Kratzer's second marriage — his first wife, Annie, having passed away in the summer of 1891. Annie and Edward had one daughter, Marion, who later married into the Trowbridge family. Edward also had one child with Lucy, a daughter, that being Grace Esther Kratzer.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June, 1928, the above Grace Kratzer married Dale Milner of Deer Park. Their marriage certificate gave Dale's age as 24, while listing his occupation as millworker. Grace, also 24 at the time, described her occupation as "domestic."

Regarding Dale's parents, Arthur Milner and Clara (St. Clair), they, along with their two sons, Dale and his younger brother Lyle, arrived in Washington and settled in the Williams Valley area in 1924. Clara passed away in 1962, with Arthur following in 1964. Both are interred at Williams Valley's Hillside Cemetery.

Dale and Grace had two daughters,

the elder, Lorraine Amaryllis, the younger, Luella Joy.

And that brings us back around to Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 1946, and the silver anniversary of the North Spokane and South Stevens County Settlers Association's annual picnic at Deer Park's city park, where two of the alumni of Deer Park High School's class of 1923 — Grace (Kratzer) Milner and Mae (Boyd) Ball — became reacquainted. Since both had their families in tow, that was also the day Lorraine Milner and Donald Ball first met.

Were there sparks when these two high school aged kids first saw each other? When asked, Don seemed a bit noncommittal. This apparent uncertainty is understandable when the 75 years and a few scattered months that have passed since that first meeting are taken into consideration.

**... surviving high school ...**

I asked Don if he started at the Deer Park school as a junior. He looked a little puzzled, and said, "They started me as a junior, but only because they couldn't figure out what else to do with me." As Don explained, there was some kind of incompatibility between the grade system used in Spokane at the time and the more standard approach used at Deer Park.

Despite that, Donald seems to have settled into life at the high school fairly well. In the school's 1948 annual, the *Antler*, it's noted that he played football in 1947, and was sports manager in both '47 and '48. He was also the stage manager for 1947's all-school play.

Following the last item up, the *Deer Park Union* stated that the play was to be presented on November 14<sup>th</sup>. It appears the *Union* didn't print a review of the play. That said, I did find that the play's title was "Sulphur and Molasses: A Domestic Comedy in Three Acts." The Library of Congress records the date of copyright as September 29<sup>th</sup>, 1939, with the author listed as Ned Albert — that being a pseudonym for Wilbur Braun,



**Donald Ball**

*Deer Park High School  
Class of 1948.*

who seems a rather prolific scribe of such theatrical materials.

As for the play's plot, no reviews from any sources have so far come to light. That said, a page outlining the cast of characters was located that gave a hint as to the rationale for the play's title when it described the lead character as "*Dr. Lance Fairweather, who is known as 'Old Sulphur and Molasses.'*"

Lorraine Milner also has a number of noteworthy endeavors mentioned in 1948's *Antler*, those suggesting she was very involved throughout her high school career. Lorraine was in the high school's chorus as a sophomore, junior, and senior. She was in glee club as a senior, and in the orchestra for all four years. In her junior year she took part in a Christmas play titled "*A Sign Upon You.*" In her junior and senior years, she was a member of the Future Homemakers of America. Those



**Lorraine Milner**

*Deer Park High School  
Class of 1948.*

same years she was also in the dramatics club. All four years she was a member of the Girls League. In her senior year she was part of the *Deer Park Antler's* staff. And the last thing mentioned — also in her senior year — was participation in a theatrical production titled "*Brother Goose.*"

First announcement of this play was found in the March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1948 edition of the *Deer Park Union*. To quote, "*Brother Goose, a three-act comedy by William Davidson, has been selected as the senior class play.*" The part to be played by Lorraine Milner was described on the play's list of characters — that obtained from an outside source — as Peggy Winkel, one "*who comes to the rescue.*"

The last line of the *Union* article noted "*The play will be presented early in April.*" This bit of vagueness may have been due to the understanding that when it came to plan-

ning future events around the expected spring thaw, delays were a matter of course. The reason quite simply was that the bottoms tended to fall out of a good portion of the unpaved rural roads along the bus routes. As a result, when the first week of April passed without a play, the following appeared in the April 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Union*.

*"The high school senior play, 'Brother Goose,' has had to be postponed until Friday, April 23, because of continued closure of district schools by muddy roads, and the inability of students in the play to get to rehearsals."*

As luck would have it, the last issue of April's *Deer Park Union* is missing from the archives. What we do have is this, datelined "*Deer Park, Wash., April 26,*" from the *Spokane Chronicle*.

*"The senior class of the high school presented 'Brother Goose,' a hilarious three-act comedy, before an audience that packed the gymnasium Friday evening. The production was under direction of Jessie McNary, instructor in speech."*

*"In the cast were Bob Onstad, Lee Janes, Bob Gibson, Joann McCourt, Delores Wessling, Lorraine Milner, Bonnie Troutman, Carol Welton, Betty Barnes, Marilyn Falk, and Harry Walth. The action centered around the efforts of 'Brother Goose' to make ends meet in a typical midwestern home."*

*"During the evening musical numbers were furnished by Gertrude Bishop, pianist; a clarinet quartet, Mary Lou Klawunder, Ernest*

*Feser, Luella Milner, and Glen Lutzenhiser, and a vocal quintet, the Misses Juanita Luse, Nellie Jo Wall, Frieda Heffley, Phyllis Sloan, and Mary Ann Gollan."*

As one might expect of the young lady, the local newspaper announced that Lorraine finished the last quarter of her high school life with "*straight A's.*"

### **... getting married ...**

Records state that Donald Ball was on active duty with the United State Air Force from February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1951, until October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1952. With permission of his commanding officer — as required by military regulations — on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1951, Donald, then stationed at the recently renamed Fairchild Air Force Base, and his intended, Lorraine Milner, obtained a marriage license. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, the two were wed. And soon after parted by governmental dictate, only to be reunited for one of the most fantastic extended honeymoons imaginable. All this was sketched out in the following article, as drawn from the *Deer Park Union's* September 18<sup>th</sup>, 1952 edition.

*"Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ball arrived in Deer Park from England Tuesday. Donald has been overseas since August 16, 1951 with the Air Force, and Mrs. Ball left in February to be with her husband. While there they visited Scotland, Switzerland, Belgium, and France."*

*"They landed in New York on the 'General Alexander Patel,' after an interest-*



### **Your Recollections Wanted!**

***For 53 and a half years the Clayton Drive-In has been a part of this community. If you have any thoughts, anecdotes, and the like regarding such, we'd like to hear from you. Each issue of the Mortarboard has a list of contacts, or there is a place on the homepage of the society's website that allows visitors to respond by keyboard. Your participation in archiving the history of this long-time landmark would be greatly appreciated.***





**First Ad for the Clayton Drive-In.**

*From the June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1969 issue of the Tri-County Tribune.*

ing crossing. They journeyed by car to Detroit with friends, purchased a car there, and after visiting with Cecil Boyd and family, proceeded toward home. Enroute, they stopped over with relatives in Duluth and Warren, Minnesota, and St. Ignatius, Montana.”

Don and Lorraine’s marriage lasted 62 years and eight months, with Lorraine passing away on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, 2014.

**... Don and Lorraine’s restaurant ...**

The restaurant’s history began in 1968 when the Balls purchased a small structure then sited just beyond Spokane’s northern

city limits and contracted with a moving company to have it trucked to Clayton. As a drive-in — essentially just a kitchen with window service — in those early days its opening hours were adjusted to fit the seasons. Eventually the small drive-in was replaced with a permanent structure with inside seating and regular year-around hours — that built just across the road from the original. In 2005 the Balls sold their interest in the restaurant to Clayton area resident Taffy Long. And with that, their part of the Clayton Drive-In’s story ended.

As a couple, over the years Don and Lorraine became well known dairy farmers in the Williams Valley area, as well as active members of the Williams Valley Grange and like civic minded endeavors. That spirit of community involvement drew them into the end of the millennium effort to prevent Clayton’s historic brick schoolhouse from a potentially unsavory fate after the local school district announced the long-time surplus property was to be put up for bids. The resulting save-the-old-school project was instrumental in the decision to refurbish the 1915 structure in an historically acceptable manner and return it to use as a functioning school within the Deer Park School District’s Home Link program. But that effort also led to the creation of the Clayton Historical Society (now the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society), of which the Balls were founding members.

The history of this restaurant as a part of the community would be best told by the people who ate there and the people who worked there. Surely there are anecdotes galore to be drawn about an enterprise that had lasted something better than half a century. But the only way those stories will find their way into print is for them to be submitted for publication. And in that regard the society finds itself, as often, left begging.

As for Donald, we know he has a lot more stories to tell, and we suspect a desire to tell them.

— end —

# ***The 1891 Donnybrook at the Kelly Brother’s Store — and other assorted bits of Kelly history — (Part Two)***

by

**Wally Lee Parker**

***Continued from the March 2022 Mortarboard (#167).***

***... wanted — a voting place at Deer Park ...***

The following article was found in the June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1892 edition of the *Spokane Review*.

“Mr. T. J. Kelly, a businessman from Deer Park in the northern part of this county, was in the city Monday. He reports a decided hardship upon the voters there in the requirement that compels them to go long distances to cast their votes. Some of the people in that section have to go 15 miles to a voting place, and this disfranchises a large number. About a year ago they sent a petition of 124 names, asking the county commissioners to establish a voting place at Deer Park, but for some reason it was disregarded. Some of the voters up there, unable to understand their refusal, attributed it to political motives upon the part of Commissioner Mayer, who is charged with a

desire to continue these conditions in order to keep a considerable number of votes from being cast against him.” We’re not sure how heartfelt the *Review* was in the following defense of Commissioner Mayer, et cetera. “The real cause is probably the pressure of other business which has prevented the commissioners from looking into the matter and giving it their thoughtful consideration.”

***... Thomas Kelly leaves Deer Park ...***

The Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1892 edition of the *Spokane Review* carried a formal announcement that Peter and Thomas Kelly were dissolving their partnership in the Deer Park store, with P. J. continuing the business, assuming all obligations and collecting all accounts.

The following Sunday the *Review*

***All 167 prior issues of the  
Mortarboard  
are available  
as free PDFs on the Society’s website.  
<http://www.cdphs.org/mortarboard-newsletters.html>  
For print editions of archival issues, contact the society.***



reported, “Miss Mary Beard, one of the most popular young ladies of Cheney, the daughter of T. J. Beard, a well-known citizen, will become Mrs. T. J. Kelly tomorrow evening. ... Mr. Kelly was a member of the firm of Kelly Brothers, merchants of Deer Park.”

While the above newspaper article was somewhat imprecise on Thomas’s future plans, 1903 ended with him as the first mayor of the newly incorporated town of Newport — and it appears he remained a part of that community for the rest of his life.

### ... the case of the reckless robbers ...

Jumping ahead a few years and we find the *Spokane Chronicle*’s Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 1896 edition carrying the following report under the datelined “Deer Park, Wash., July 10.”

“About 2 o’clock this morning the people of Deer Park were awakened from peaceful slumber by a heavy explosion. One old farmer, with an anxious mind on his crop these hot days, thought it thundered and turned over hoping in the morning to find the ground wet with a shower; but he was disappointed, as was also Postmaster Kelly.

“Two men had smashed in the glass door of P. J. Kelly’s store, entered, and after helping themselves to two leather purses, four jackknives, a gold watch and six chains, and two revolvers, unscrewed the lock on the back door, rolled the small safe out into the street and down the road seventy-five yards, drilled a three-sixteenth hole in the top, and turning in a quantity of gunpowder, blew it open.

“R. Seymour, a millhand sleeping in a house a hundred feet away, looked out after the explosion and saw two men walking up the railroad track. They stopped a moment in whispered consultation. A horse snorted over the town. They broke and ran as far as could be seen toward Spokane. One man was tall, the other short. The tall man wore pointed shoes, as seen from tracks, and the short one had square toed shoes. Every move about the job indicates bold, blundering hands.

“One, in breaking the window glass, cut his hand and the blood was spattered on the glass and floor and showcase where he had fumbled around. In rolling the safe down the road the wheels must have rattled and creaked like a lumber wagon. Enough powder was put in the safe to blow up three like it.

“This morning burnt postage stamps were lying around on the ground and sticking to the fence in the vicinity of the explosion. Everything taken out of the safe will smell of powder smoke and especially the stamps can be easily detected.

“They left behind a blood-stained carpenter’s chisel. The general belief is they have (fled) to Spokane. Jeff Moore, constable at Deer Park, started out in search of the robbers this morning.”

### ... William Kelly of Camden ...

Under the heading “Death of Camden Merchant,” the February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1898 issue of the *Spokane Review* reported, “News reached the city last night of the death at Camden, this county, yesterday at 12:30 p. m., of William H. Kelly, a successful young merchant of that place. He was a brother of P. J. Kelly, a merchant of Deer Park. The deceased leaves a widow and three children. He was 32 years old. The funeral will take place tomorrow at Camden.”

Just shy of ten years later, this appeared in the November 30<sup>th</sup>, 1907 edition of the *Colville Examiner*.

“Last week Sheriff Graham and Prosecuting Attorney Rochford made the trip to the home of Mrs. William Kelly, nine miles northeast of Deer Park, and effected the necessary arrangements for the adoption of three children by relatives. William Kelly being deceased and the mother not being able to properly rear and educate the children, they were placed with three uncles living in the county — they desiring to adopt the children and the mother consenting. Earl, aged 13, now has a home with Peter Kelly at Deer Park; George, aged 12, is with T. J. Kelly at

Newport, and Hazel, aged 9, comes to live with M. C. Kelly at Colville. The mother designated to which homes the children might go, and the superior court confirmed the action. The three brothers are able and glad to give the children of their deceased brother a home and school advantages.”

This drew up some curiosity regarding the identity of Mrs. Kelly. And with that, the search was on. Said search eventually uncovered this obituary from the January 27<sup>th</sup>, 1921 edition of the *Deer Park Union*. To quote, “Thomas Hutchins, aged 78, for many years a farmer residing near Horseshoe Lake, died in Spokane on Monday. For the past 16 years he has resided in Spokane ... Three daughters, Mrs. Minnie Borders, Mrs. J. F. Borders and Mrs. Kingen, survive him, together with four sons, David of Blakes Lake, Edward and William, who live in Idaho, and Lloyd of British, Columbia.”

Anna was the eldest of the three daughters — the Mrs. J. F. Borders mentioned above. She married John F. Borders, a farmer at Peone, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September, 1896. The youngest, Louisa, married William Kingen of Deer Park on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 1894. And the middle daughter, the above-mentioned Mrs. Minnie Borders, was first married to William Kelly, said marriage occurring on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January, 1893.

Minnie had three children with William Kelly, those being the ones mentioned in the 1907 *Colville Examiner* article. The first, Earl Joseph, was reportedly born at Clayton on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, 1894. He passed away at Republic on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 1968. According to his death certificate, he never married. Next was George Kelly. Born December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1896, he drowned while swimming in the Kettle River on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July, 1914. The last was Hazel Marie. Her birthplace and date listed as Camden, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1899. She passed away at Colville’s Mount Carmel Hospital on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July, 1964.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of December, 1922, the above Hazel Kelly married Frederick C. Reynolds, previously of Milan. Frederick passed

away in November, 1940. Next Hazel married Sam Loew, that in January of 1942. Sam outlived Hazel by a decade. At the present, we have no knowledge of Hazel having any children, our expectation being that William Kelly’s line ended with the above noted passing of Earl Joseph Kelly.

### ... the life of Minnie (Hutchins) Kelly ...

We’ve no idea why the former Minnie Kelly surrendered her and William’s children — whether that was truly voluntary, or in some way compelled. We do know that a year and some months after William Kelly’s death, Minnie married Deer Park’s George Frederick, and on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1900, delivered twins, Roy August Frederick and Ray Frederick. Ray, reportedly never married, passing away at Colville in December of 1976. His brother was killed in a tractor accident near Curlew, that in October of 1959. We currently haven’t any records of children by either of these gentlemen. And we’ve no record of the reason their father appears to have disappeared from their lives — be it divorce or death.

While we don’t know when Minnie’s third marriage may have occurred, the records indicate that on February 24, 1906, a girl, Ethel Maude Borders, was born to Samuel Borders and Minnie (Hutchins) Borders.

Regarding Sam’s background, on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1904, a notice appeared in the *Spokesman-Review* indicating that one Samuel Borders had filed against his, wife, Sarah, the complaint being “willful desertion.” It appears Sarah had of recent returned to Ohio — the site of the couple’s 1890 marriage — and taken their three children, “Celestia May, age 13, Orlando, age 11, and Kalettia, age 7,” with her. On August 13<sup>th</sup>, the *Review* reported a divorce was granted.

Sam and Minnie had four children. The first, the above noted Ethel, passed away at Okanogan County’s still lingering settlement of Wauconda on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 1977. According to her marriage certificate, that dated November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1928, Ethel was born in

Deer Park. Her husband's name was Odd Monroe Brown. He gives his place of birth as Curlew — that, as well as his unusual first name, was confirmed in 1910's census for Ferry County's Curlew precinct. On said form he's listed as the sixth child of Reason and Anna Brown. One child was born to Odd and Ethel in 1934, that being Dale M. Brown. It appears Ethel and Odd were later divorced. Other than Ethel's death certificate, there's little we know about her.

Though not confirmed, it's believed that Sam and Minnie's second child was Fred Marion Borders. According to this gentleman's death certificate, he was born on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1908, and passed away in Colville on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1990. The form indicates he was born in Washington State, and that his parents were Samuel Borders and Minnie Hutchons — this spelling likely a typo.

Sam and Minnie's third child, Eddie, was 13 months old at the time of his death from pneumonia, that listed as occurring in Spokane County on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1911. He's interred at the Peone Cemetery.

Their last child, Lewis Calvin Borders, was born February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1913. He passed away in 1989 and is interred at the Eagle Cliff Cemetery, Ferry County. Little else is known.

The children's father, Samuel, passed away at the small Ferry County town of Toroda — now among Washington's ghost towns — on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1914.

Records suggest this was Minnie's last marriage. She passed away at Wauconda, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 1950, and is buried at Ferry County's Eagle Cliff Cemetery, that being a mile and a half west of the Kettle River and four miles south of the Canadian border.

### ... drunken girls in the streets ...

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, 1899, a *Spokane Chronicle* article appeared under the title "Don't Want Any Saloons: Deer Park People are Fighting Them in Earnest." The report in part read, "They (the citizens) have filed several long petitions with the board of county com-

missioners, protesting not only against any new licenses for their town, but also against renewing the present licenses when they expire next spring." To the last of this article was added the following quote from the petitioners. "Isolated as we are from the protection of police and peace officers to protect ourselves and families from the insults and abuse of drunken men, we ask the county commissioners to grant no licenses for saloons in Deer Park or that vicinity."

This line from an extended headline topping a frontpage piece in the January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1900 edition of the *Chronicle* was doubtless designed to grab attention — which it most certainly did. To quote, "*Drunken Girls in the Streets of the Quiet Little Town.*" As the article explained, "It seems that two young girls of Deer Park, one of them only 16 years of age, became badly intoxicated yesterday and disgraced themselves and the town." The allegation was that one of Deer Park's three saloons was the source of the liquor.

The article stated, "Sara R. Short tells the most curious story as to the boisterous conduct of the drunken men around the saloons. She says that on or about January 3 last, she saw several men come out of the saloon of N. M. Williams and untie a horse standing in front of the saloon. They then forced the horse into the saloon, one man leading and the others pushing and abusing it until they succeeded in getting it inside. ..."

Next came a list of nine underage individuals —two of them girls — who stated they'd been served at the saloons. There was also a list of "ladies and gentlemen" swearing to "the boisterous and disorderly manner in which the three saloons have been run." Among said so swearing, Peter J. Kelly.

Beneath an all-cap headline "SEIZED THE SALOON MEN," the next day's edition of the *Chronicle* stated, "Reports received over the telephone this afternoon state that the first thing Sheriff Cole did was to arrest the three saloonkeepers of the town and that they will be brought down on this evening's Spokane Fall & Northern train. ... The 300 good

citizens of Deer Park have experienced what was almost a reign of terror for the last few days. Last Saturday afternoon 15 or 20 men, some of them local characters and others from outside points, started in on what is termed 'a glorious drunk.' They were in an intoxicated condition for the next 48 hours. There were two or three women in the crowd."

On January 25<sup>th</sup> the *Chronicle* reported, "The three saloonkeepers from Deer Park were arraigned this morning before Judge Richardson on the charge of selling liquor to minors. Their bail bonds were fixed at \$500 in each case."

All that said, it was well into February before the county commissioners issued the saloonkeepers "orders revoking their licenses and forbidding them from selling liquor in Deer Park." Which brought forth an assumedly unintended consequence when, under the headline "Saloon Men Go Free, No Punishment for the Deer Park Liquor Dealers," the *Chronicle*'s March 6<sup>th</sup> issue announced, "The county commissioners having revoked the licenses of the saloonkeepers, the prosecuting attorney deemed it unnecessary to push the cases for additional punishment."

Having settled the issue once and for all, the good citizens settled into a more mellow life — at least for the next two months.

On May 19<sup>th</sup> the *Chronicle* informed its subscribers that "J. M. Moore, one of the ex-saloonkeepers at Deer Park, has deposited \$300 with the county commissioners pending their decision on his application to again grant him a license to run a saloon in that town."

Mr. Moore is quoted as having written, "You are aware, no doubt, that the other fellows, Williams and Critzer, have left the place. The people want me to stay here and sell drinks. I ask you, therefore, to grant me a license for the coming year."

Bolstering his plea was a petition signed by 50 "residents and taxpayers of Deer Park precinct" who had apparently added their names in the belief that "less drunkenness will result from the proper conducting of saloons

in Deer Park than from the sale of poisonous bitters and drugs sold in the form of patent medicines by some of the retail merchants."

Since the primary active ingredient in most patent medicines was alcohol, in some cases up to 50% by volume, common retail outlets, Peter Kelly's store possibly among them, acted as the primary distributor of consumable alcohol in what were otherwise dry communities.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1900, the *Chronicle* reported that Mr. Moore's License to reopen his Deer Park Saloon was granted, in part because there was no public outcry regarding his application.

By the middle of the month a second Saloon license for Deer Park had been granted by the commissioners, this to William Critzer — the same William Critzer previously stripped of his license. And once again, part of the rationale the commissioners gave was that there was little if any public outcry in opposition.

What one might conclude is that the prohibition wars, eventually leading to that grand experiment at the nationwide level, provided a good amount of local drama to an otherwise sleepy town, while at the same time selling lots of newspapers.

### ... P. J. Kelly store burns ...

Under the dateline "Deer Park, Wash., January 25," the following appeared in the January 26<sup>th</sup>, 1902 *Spokesman-Review*. "P. J. Kelly's store was destroyed by fire at 12 o'clock last night. Loss on general merchandise is estimated at \$10,000 and building \$2,000. The fire started from a furnace in the cellar. Mr. Kelly will repair his old storeroom and will continue in business."

That news did travel a bit. The February 1<sup>st</sup> edition of *The Ellensburg Dawn* reported that, "P. J. Kelly's store at Deer Park was destroyed by fire Saturday. Loss, \$12,000."

At the end of March, the *Spokesman-Review* reported Mr. Kelly had started build-

ing a new store.

... 1903, a difficult year ...

The April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1903 edition of the *Spokane Chronicle* reported that “P. J. Kelly of Deer Park was arrested today on the charge of keeping his store open on Sunday, April 5. He was arraigned before Justice Stocker this afternoon and his case was set for May 6. Kelly runs a general store and is postmaster at Deer Park and he claims that the store was open only while the mail was being distributed. He is strongly inclined to fight the case.

On May 6<sup>th</sup> the *Chronicle* stated, “The trial of P. J. Kelly of Deer Park on the charge of keeping his store open Sunday is in progress in Justice Stocker’s court, and the room was well filled with people from Deer Park. It is claimed that every merchant in that village had agreed to close Sunday, except Kelly, and that since his arrest he has also signed the agreement. Kelly is the postmaster at Deer Park, and efforts are being made to have him removed from that office. He alleges that his store was open only during the time for distributing the mail, as required by the postal authorities.”

The next day’s *Chronicle* carried this. “J. P. Kelly ... was acquitted by a jury Wednesday evening.”

But that was not the end of it, as explained in this article from the *Chronicle*’s June 18<sup>th</sup> edition.

Dateline “Washington, D. C., June 17. — Irene Curtiss has been appointed postmistress at Deer Park, Spokane County, Washington ... Peter J. Kelly, removed.”

The article continues, though the following, word choices considered, doesn’t appear to be part of the Washington, D. C. memo.

“This action is the result of an invitation by the post office department of numerous complaints made by Deer Park citizens. ... Patrons of the post office complained that post office business was made secondary to store;

that Kelly would allow people looking for mail to cool their heels while he waited on his other customers. It was also alleged mail was carelessly and slovenly distributed and that letters intended for certain patrons would be given to others. One case is on record of a man making a trip to Portland to find his wife, from whom he had not received an important letter because the letter had been misplaced at Deer Park by Kelly or one of his clerks. Postal Inspector John Fullenwider went to Deer Park and investigated. Fifteen or twenty affidavits were filed, and his opinion was sent on to Washington. The decision was to remove Kelly.

“Then followed a race to have another postmaster appointed. Kelly and his friends thought J. Neville, a veteran soldier, should have the place. The anti-Kelly citizens favored John A. Long, another soldier with a good war record. It was impossible to please everybody, so a compromise candidate was suggested and Miss Curtiss, who is a school-teacher, is the appointee.”

... 1906 had its problems too ...

The January 24<sup>th</sup>, 1906 edition of the *Spokane Chronicle* carried this notice in its legal section. “John Woosley et ux. vs. P. J. Kelly; set for trial March 19.” The “et ux.” seen here is an abbreviated form of the phrase “et uxor,” that drawn from the Latin, its meaning, “and wife.”

The March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1906 edition of the *Spokane Press* carried this. “Judge Poindexter signed an order yesterday for a medical examination of the condition of Mrs. John Woosley in the suit instituted by John Woosley et al. against P. J. Kelly for damages, and appointed Dr. A. Albridge Matthews and Dr. E. R. Northup to make the examination Friday evening, March 16, at 7 o’clock, in the latter’s office at the Fernwell building.”

Once again from the *Chronicle*’s legal announcements, this dated March 31<sup>st</sup>. “John Woosley et ux. vs. P. J. Kelly; set for trial April 16.”

After a few more delays, on April 26<sup>th</sup> the *Chronicle* reported, “The jury in the case of Cordelia Woosley against P. J. Kelly, which has been on trial for the past three days in Judge Poindexter’s court, after being out all the afternoon and until 9 o’clock last night, found for the plaintiff and fixed her damages at \$750.

“Mrs. Woosley sued the defendant for \$5,000 damages, for injuries which she alleged she had sustained by falling into an opening made by the removal of a sidewalk in front of the defendant’s store at Deer Park on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March of last year.”

The same day’s issue of the *Spokane Press* added a few more details with, “A jury in Judge Poindexter’s court this morning awarded Mrs. Cordelia Woosley \$750 for breaking her ankle on a walk in front of the store of P. J. Kelly, at Deer Park. The case occupied three days to try and brought all of Deer Park to the courthouse.”

Both Cordelia and John are listed in 1910’s census as living in the Deer Park precinct. At that time John stated his age as 73, and Cordelia’s as 61. As to when they first arrived in Deer Park, John’s obituary, that appearing in the February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1921 edition of the *Deer Park Union*, states, “Mr. Woosley had been a conspicuous figure about the town for the past 15 years.” That suggesting the couple had arrived in town at about the time Cordelia broke her ankle — March of 1905.

As for Cordelia, John’s obituary indicates she was still living at the time of his passing. We’ve no data on her beyond that.

... Peter J. Kelly’s wife dies ...

Eva Rosalia (Pulford) Kelly was Peter J. Kelly’s wife. Born in 1864, she passed away on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August, 1907. She’s mentioned in the following from the August 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Spokane Chronicle*.

“Mrs. P. J. Kelly, wife of the prominent merchant and banker of Deer Park, Washington, who has been confined to the Sacred Heart Hospital in this city for some

time, recovered sufficiently to return to her home this morning.”

And then, under the dateline “Deer Park, August 17,” the *Chronicle* posted this.

“Mrs. Kelly, wife of P. J. Kelly, a prominent banker and merchant of this place, died yesterday about noon. She leaves two sons and a daughter and will be missed by a host of friends. She was very kindhearted and always ready to lend a helping hand. The funeral will be held Sunday. Internment at Deer Park.”

Once again, the missing first half decade of Deer Park’s vintage *Union* newspaper leaves us wondering what more could, or at least should, have been written about this lady’s life and passing.

... and Peter J. Kelly soon follows ...

This appeared in the April 11<sup>th</sup>, 1908 edition of the *Colville Examiner*. “M. C. Kelly made a trip to Deer Lake Monday, returning the same evening, to visit the bedside of his brother, P. J. Kelly, who has been dangerously ill, but is now recovering.”

Two things about the above, we’re unsure if the “Deer Lake” mentioned was just a typo, or if Peter Kelly’s bedside really was in a house on Deer Lake rather than at his Deer Park home, and if the prediction “is now recovering” was more a bit of wishful thinking than an accurate assessment of his condition.

Regarding the latter, the first sentence of Mr. Kelly’s obituary as it appeared in the April 25<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Colville Examiner* stated, “P. J. Kelly, general merchant, and a resident of Deer Park for 20 years, died at his home Monday morning of Bright’s disease, after an illness of several months.”

My well-worn copy of the classic “*Encyclopedia and Dictionary of Medicine and Nursing*” defines Bright’s Disease as “any one of a group of kidney diseases ... commonly referred to collectively as Nephritis.” Mr. Kelly’s death certificate — dated April 20 — list his “cause of death” as “Interstitial Nephritis,” suggesting the small tubular passages



inside the kidneys had become inflamed, resulting in sufficient swelling to reduce or block their ability to pass fluids, thereby effectively shutting the kidneys down. One of the side effects of that would be severe systemic fluid retention. Among the cascading effects of such would be impaired lung and heart function.

The April 28<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Spokesman-Review* also contained an obituary, this datelined, “*Deer Park, Wash., April 25. — P. J. Kelly, president of the First State Bank and a citizen of Deer Park since 1888, died April 20. The funeral was held two days later, Rev. P. F. Schrock officiating. A large concourse of friends and relatives attended. A mixed quartet from the Congregational and Methodist Church choirs sang at the home. The active pallbearers were E. Enoch, G. Tuttle, A. M. Wood, J. B. Grove, Roy Grove, and A. M. Stevens. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Kelly (Michael Charles and Rosana) of Colville, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Kelly (Thomas and Mary) of Newport, Mr. and Mrs. George Gallagher of Humboldt, S. D., Miss C. Kelly, daughter of M. C. Kelly, Spokane, Ed Kelly (another of Peter’s brothers) of Utah; James Monaghan and daughter of Spokane; Mrs. Finnegan of Spokane; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Graham of Colville and J. F. Congelton of Spokane.*”

“*Mr. Kelly is survived by two sons and a daughter, Fred (Oscar Fred Kelly), Lee (Harold Lee Kelly) and Zora (Zora Electa Kelly), all of Deer Park.*”

Peter J. Kelly was laid to rest beside his wife, Eva, in Deer Park’s Kelly cemetery.

#### ... Peter and Eva Kelly’s children ...

Regarding Oscar Fred Kelly, there is this from the January 10<sup>th</sup>, 1953 edition of the *Spokane Chronicle*. “*O. F. Kelly, owner of the Home Owners Realty Company, died last night at a hospital here. Mr. Kelly had been in the real estate and insurance business in Spokane since 1933. ...*

“*Born in Humboldt, S. D., Mr. Kelly*

*came west to Deer Park with his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Kelly, in 1890. His father operated a mercantile business in Deer Park until his death in 1908, when the younger Mr. Kelly took over.*

“*He was in the mercantile business until 1915, when he entered the banking business in Deer Park, operating the bank there until he came to Spokane in 1933. ...*

“*His wife, the former Helen Long of Deer Park, whom he married there in 1908, survives at the home, W. 707 Fifth. Also surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Kenneth (Jane) McCoy, and a granddaughter, Joan McCoy, both of Yakima.*”

Datelined, “*Deer Park, Wash., Dec. 11,*” this was Harold Lee Kelly’s obituary as found in the December 12<sup>th</sup>, 1952 *Spokesman-Review*. “*Funeral services were held today from the Open Door Congregational Church for Harold Lee Kelly, about 60, who died Tuesday at a Portland, Oregon hospital. He had been in poor health for some time.*” ... *He is survived by ... a son, Peter, in the Marine Corps in Korea; two daughters, Mrs. Kathleen A. Viles and Gale M. Kelly, both of Portland.*

“*He had lived in Deer Park nearly all his life, moving away a few years ago.*”

At the time of his death, Harold was married to his second wife. His first wife’s obituary, as printed in the *Spokane Chronicle*’s June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1936 edition, reads, “*Funeral for Mrs. Gladys T. Kelly of Deer Park will be held Wednesday at 2 p. m. in the Congregational Church in that city.*” ... “*She had lived in Deer Park 25 years. Surviving are her husband, H. L. Kelly at the home; two daughters, Misses Gail and Kathleen Kelly; a son, Pete Kelly; parents Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Turner; four brothers, Wayne, Guy B., and Myron Turner, all of Deer Park, and Claude Turner of Seattle; a sister, Mrs. Catherine Bonser of Deer Park.*”

Born on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November, 1894, Zora Electa Kelly was the youngest surviving of Peter and Eva’s children — that couple having lost two children shortly after birth,

one in 1892, the other in 1896.

Under the lead “*Former Resident Dies in Spokane,*” the February 5<sup>th</sup>, 1942 edition of the *Deer Park Union* notes that Zora was a “*former employee of the First State Bank of Deer Park,*” and that “*in addition to her two brothers, she is survived by three nieces and one nephew.*”

We know that Zora was married at one time, that verified in the June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1914 *Spokane Chronicle* beneath the dateline, “*Deer Park, Wash., June 18.*” The newspaper reports, “*The marriage of Miss Zora Kelly, only daughter of the late P. J. Kelly, pioneer mer-*

*chant of Deer Park, and Walter Hunziker, of the Hunziker Hardware Company, was solemnized at the home of the bride’s brother, O. F. Kelly, Wednesday morning. The young couple have gone to Loon Lake to spend the summer.*”

The marriage didn’t last long, with Zora filing for divorce in the spring of 1921. As part of her petition, she asked to have “*her former name, Zora Kelly, restored.*” Her death certificate reflects that said restoration was in fact granted.

———— end ————

## Letters, Email, Bouquets & Brickbats

— or —

### Bits of Chatter, Trivia, & Notices All Strung Together.

#### ... a note for the next editor ...

Next month’s issue of the *Mortarboard* (#169) will be the last of these newsletters with me as editor. The society and I have high hopes that a new editor will be at the helm before I abandon the wheelhouse, a post I’ve held since January of 2014 — that being the point at which I took over for then editor Sharon Clark, who had previously taken over for me after I’d finalized *Mortarboard* #17 in September of 2009.

Regarding this new editor, I sent the following note to one such candidate at a ridiculously early hour — get used to such.

“*If you’re still thinking about taking on the task of Mortarboard editor, it might be a good idea for us to have an ongoing conversation regarding the reasoning behind certain of my editorial decisions — things like the ‘Society Contacts,’ ‘Comments Policy,’ and ‘Editorial, Copyright, and Reprint Concerns’ boxes normally found on the last page, and the*

*‘Mission Statement’ usually found on the first. Though as editor you’ll be able to change any of these, and even drop the up-to-now standard conventions such as using consecutive page numbers from issue to issue or using Times New Roman as the magazine’s standard font, there are reasons for all these things, and some of those reasons may not be readily apparent. This is just to suggest that I’m here if you’re wondering about the rationale behind any or all of these past editorial decisions, or anything else that either perplexes or otherwise comes to mind.*

“*My hope is to be able to continue submitting materials for publication. In fact, I have literally hundreds of clippings and notes containing ideas that could be worked into articles both small and large — those snippets scattered all around my computer’s hard-drive. Said fragments are items I simply didn’t have time to follow up on when under the pressure of a monthly deadline. With that changing, I’ll likely be revisiting at least some*

of those possibilities.

“Anyway, as noted, I’m just an email away — and can likely find time for in-person meetings if that seems worthwhile. Don’t expect genius on my part. If any trace of that were in my DNA, later today I’d doubtless be taking a breakfast meeting with my good friend and technical collaborator Elon Musk.”

That last comment reminds me to add one more element to “Parker’s More or Less Rules of Writing.” Namely, never pass up any ‘reasonable’ opportunity for hyperbole — that of course assuming the nature of the material allows such.

Having scribbled quite a bit of wordage over the years, it just seems to me that moving from expository writing — using such wordage merely as a means of explaining —

to truly creative writing requires developing the acute eye and indispensable ear needed to sense the opportunities condensing on the page, and an attitude permitting one to risk experimenting with any such opportunities.

When I initiated the society’s first foray into desktop publishing some years back, I viewed it as an art project — a chance to experiment with expressions. And I still view it as such. What I didn’t envision back then was that some 18 years later the society’s desktop efforts would have grown into such a unique body of work. My impulse with next month’s issue — the final under my editorship — is to remind everyone that we have in fact conjured up something we can be proud of.

———— Wally Lee Parker ————

## Minutes of the Clayton ♦ Deer Park Historical Society ———— March 12, 2022 ————

In attendance at the society’s Deer Park meeting hall, 300 Block ‘A’ Street: Damon Smathers, Bill Sebright, Wally Parker, Dick Purdy, Larry Bowen, Pete Coffin, Scott Moore, Tracy Strong, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Roxanne Camp, Bill Phipps, Lynn MacDonald, Charlie MacDonald, Don Ball, Elenor Ball, Elaine Ball, Mike Wolfe, and Winnie Moore.

Society President Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He reported that he: 1) Has been in communication with Lorna Breshears. She has items from her brother, Howard Froman’s estate; a 1946, a 1948 and one other Antler Yearbook, a 1942 Fawn Annual, a “Memoirs of our Grade School Days 1943,” and group photos of Deer Park Faculty from 1936-37, 1938-39, and 1940-41. He offered for the Society to pay the postage, but she said she would cover the postage. 2) Received a phone call from Rick

Goodman. Rick bought a 1929 Ford pickup that had “Deer Park Machinery” on the door. He wanted information about Deer Park Machinery. Pete Coffin gave Bill information on the Newton Grove Implement Co. and he will get information to Rick Goodman. 3) Finished digitizing Kathleen Schmidt Knight’s photos. He gave out DVDs. 4) Melinda Reynolds sent a “humorous” story about the sandpit off Crawford Street behind Don and Delbert Weise’s family house. It was written by Susan Stout Mitchell. It was forwarded to Wally.

Society Treasurer Mark Wagner reported by text: 1) The main checking account ended the month at \$16,698.88. There were deposits of \$255 and a \$45 check written for Incorporation filing. The web hosting account ended the month at \$590.31 with a \$12.95 withdrawal for web hosting. The Brickyard Day account is at \$1,130.10. The Eagle fund account, \$7,450. 2) Our Incorporation filing

was accepted by the Secretary of State.

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

Print editor Wally Parker reported: 1) One hundred copies of the March *Mortarboard* (#167) have been printed for distribution. PDFs of this issue have been sent to the Loon Lake Library and The Heritage Network for distribution via their own means. The online version has been forwarded to the society’s webmaster for uploading. 2) The March *Mortarboard* begins with a sampling of the unique items found in Florene Eickmeyer Moore’s “Leather Postcard Collection, Circa 1907.” Next comes an outline titled “In Search of George Emmerson Crawford” — this believed to be the gentleman that contributed his surname to Deer Park’s main east/west arterial. And then, “The Editor Picks a Bone!” Described as “Essays on Writing and Editing for the *Mortarboard*,” these are the current editor’s thoughts on certain aspects of exactly that. The last article within this issue is titled “The 1891 Donnybrook at the Kelly Brothers’ Store — and other assorted bits of Kelly history (part one).” This bit of history is drawn from a collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century newspaper clippings revealing early Deer Park as a credible participant in the wilder side of the wild west. 3) Still very much under construction, the first article for April’s *Mortarboard* (#168) currently carries the title “A Backstory for the Clayton Drive-In: Don and Lorraine Ball’s Gift to the Community.” That’s followed by the rest of the aforementioned “Donnybrook at the Kelly Brothers’ Store” article, with special emphasis on the “other assorted bits of Kelly history.”

Webmaster Damon Smathers reported: 1) Some website visitors reported recently that our January, February, and March issues are not downloading from the website. After a few different sessions with tech support, we determined the PHP version of the website had automatically updated. Our website design/platform is not compatible with newer PHP versions, therefore we had to revert to version

5.6. The website was temporarily down on March 11<sup>th</sup> for roughly an hour as it was being updated. This seemed to have solved our issues. 2) The March issue of the *Mortarboard* was successfully uploaded to the website, and we verified users can download it. 3) Mike Reiter had a good idea and asked if we could link each *Mortarboard* within our index so users could easily access them. This project might take a little time as we have over 150 issues currently, however our index will soon have direct links to each newsletter.

Historian Pete Coffin reported that he: 1) Spent another five hours digitizing the Owens Museum’s material on February 22nd at Sue Mauro’s house on Pleasant Prairie. The total number of photographs digitized during this visit was 126. In addition, I was allowed to take home 9 pamphlets and another 126 photographs and digitize them. I spent some additional time extracting historical photographs from a Doris Schaub album. I will give President Sebright a DVD containing this latest collection of Owens material. 2) Reviewed the School’s photographic collection that President Sebright gave me. Out of four full photo albums and a number of loose photographs only 4 photographs were of possible historic interest. The majority of the collection was of unmarked family photographs. 3) Gave two Milan-Chattaroy manuscripts to Sue Mauro for possible inclusion in the Pend Oreille Historical Society’s *Big Smoke* publication. They are: “A Project as Big as the Panama Canal” and “A Milan Pioneer Interview.” 4) Gave President Sebright the manuscript “Newton Grove and the Grove Motor and Implement Company”.

We didn’t have a Print Editor discussion since Rachele wasn’t here.

The Brickyard Day planning committee met. “Remembering the Clayton Drive-In” will be the theme. Karen Richards, Treasurer of the Clayton Grange will be Honored Citizen. Clayton Brickyard Day will be August 6, 2 weeks after Settlers Day.

Mike Reiter reported that the Settlers benefit dinner and silent auction went well. 2)

The Settlers Association is planning a time capsule and would like input from the Society. Lynn McDonald said that the capsule itself is really expensive (about \$1500). They are thinking about putting it on the new fire station property.

Winnie Moore brought an antique “Indian” doll that was her husband George’s. It was old when they were married in 1950. Winnie Moore’s dad was half “Indian.” His mom made sure that he got a good education. This led to his downfall. He became head bookkeeper for the mine he worked for. There were workers who didn’t like an “Indian” having a better job than them. They beat him badly and left him out in the snow. He wasn’t found until a day later. He died of his injuries and exposure. A discussion followed regard-

ing whether different ethnic groups encountered discrimination during different periods. Don Ball told 2 stories about anti-German experiences. Mike Wolfe shared a story as well regarding an anti-black and anti-Indian sign he saw in 1962 in Colville.

Winnie also showed us a small pair of moccasins that were hers as a girl. She remembers her grandmother humming or quietly crooning her to sleep sitting on her lap.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 9, 2022, at 10:00 AM at our building.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05.

Minutes submitted by Tracy Strong, Society Secretary.

———— end ————

### Society Contacts

C/DPHS, Box 293, Clayton, WA 99110

Bill Sebright, President — [sebrightba@gmail.com](mailto:sebrightba@gmail.com) — (509) 276-2693

Wally Lee Parker, Editor of Print Publications — [bogwen100@msn.com](mailto:bogwen100@msn.com)

Damon Smathers, Webmaster — [damonsmathers@gmail.com](mailto:damonsmathers@gmail.com)

Website — <http://www.cdphs.org>

### 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, Florene Eickmeyer Moore, Bill Sebright, Lina Swain, Verna Wagner, 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.