

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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THE KELLY HOUSE: A HOUSE IN THE CENTER OF DEER PARK'S HISTORY MOVES

By Peter Coffin

Free — Take One

In approximately 1898 Peter J. Kelly built a large house on the northeast corner of Main Avenue and Crawford Street in Deer Park, Washington. His family consisting of wife Eva and children Oscar Frederick, Zora and Eva lived in the house until he died in 1908. Kelly was a business owner and also built the first brick business building west across Main Avenue to house his general merchandise store The People's Supply.

Peter Kelly died in



Photograph 1: The Peter J. Kelly house on the right surrounded by the white picket fence prior to 1908. West across Main Avenue is the Kelly People's Supply building. (Lawrence Zimmerer Photograph Collection)

1908 (his wife Eva died in 1907) the year Deer Park was incorporated and the house passed into the possession of his son Oscar Frederick. Fred, as he was known, was the president of the First State Bank of Deer Park as well as owner of the People's Supply store. In 1915 he remodeled the house for his family, wife Helen and daughter Eleanor Jane. The remodeling reported in a 1968 Deer Park Tribune article changed

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Photograph 2: The Peter J. Kelly house looking northeastward from the intersection of Main Avenue (to left) and Crawford (to right) possibly somewhat later than in Photograph 1. (*Wind-Cowan Collection Photograph Collection*)

little on the exterior of the house with several windows being replaced, a bathroom installation on the main floor, some new hardwood floors, a fireplace with bookcases in the main floor living room and a new cord wood burning furnace.

In 1919 Fred Kelly and his family moved to Spokane and sometime after this date the house was remodeled into several apartments. In addition the Deer Park Post Office moved into a space remodeled out of the main floor living room from across Main Avenue and a building just north of the People's Supply building. In addition the main floor dining room was remodeled into the town library.



Photograph 3: Front of the Kelly house just prior to the summer 1968 move. The lot was covered with trees and bushes planted by both the Kellys and the Follevaags. (*Stephen Parkin Photograph*)

Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Follevaag bought the house in October of 1942 and completely remodeled it for their residence. They removed the post office and library construction, completely refinished the hardwood floors and installed a coal furnace. Shortly before O. G. Follevaags' death in 1968 the property upon which the house stood was sold to make way for a new Yoke's Food Market (the NAPA Auto Parts store in 2009). At that time Don Keyes purchased the house and had it moved to 416 East B Street just behind his East C street house.

The following series of photographs were taken by Stephen Parkin during the move of the house from Main Avenue to the East B Street location.

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Photograph 4: The north side of the Kelly house on the moving truck as it begins its journey to the new location. (Stephen Parkin Photograph)



Photograph 7: The Kelly house being eased onto its new home. (Stephen Parkin Photograph)



Photograph 5: East on First Street as the Kelly house is moved through the Vernon Avenue intersection. (Stephen Parkin Photograph)



Photograph 8: The Kelly house in 2009 at 416 East B Street. (Peter Coffin Photograph)



Photograph 6: The Kelly house moving slowly south on Vernon Avenue west of the swimming pool. (Stephen Parkin Photograph)

Photograph 8 shows the Kelly house in November of 2009. The house has been painted, the porches restored and the roof replaced. It certainly looks as though it could live another 100 years as an impressive remnant of Deer Park's history.

EAGLE RESCUED BY LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society needs your help to fund relocation

By J.L. Brian



This eagle once graced the skyline of Spokane as it rested majestically atop the Armory building downtown.

The email triumphantly announced, “The eagle is ours”. I couldn’t imagine what eagle, Bob Clouse, webmaster of the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society (CDPHS), was referring to. As I read the words and viewed the photos he sent, I became increasingly excited. The eagle was born of the clay beneath the Washington Brick and Lime Company, which, if you weren’t aware, was located in Clayton and manufactured the bricks used to construct many buildings throughout the Pacific Northwest. Part of the Washington Brick and Lime Company’s operation included a terra cotta works. Terra cotta is an ancient discovery.

The orange clay pottery still available today is made of it. You may also see it displayed as decorative features, such as gargoyles, that adorn the exterior and interior of many buildings throughout the world. Durable, moldable, and easily sculpted; elaborately detailed pieces created from terra cotta have been dated as far back as 1400 BC.

In an article by Larry Young, who was a staff writer for the Spokesman Review in 1976, the eagle’s sculptor is identified as Victor G. Schneider. Mr. Schneider’s work is on display all over the Spokane area and includes the rams’ heads that decorate the Davenport Hotel. The article, posted on the CDPHS website, provides detailed information about the crea-

tion of this eagle. The incredible piece of art sat atop the State Armory building in downtown Spokane from the time it was created until 1976, when it seemed demolition of the armory building was almost certain. At that time, a rescue effort was mounted by our National

Guard troops to save this magnificent symbol of our nation from being destroyed. A suitable location was identified, and the eagle was moved to a site off Electric Avenue near the Spokane International Airport. Irony, in all its pitiless wonder is such that today, the armory building



The artisans who crafted this beautiful piece took great pride in their work. The meticulous detail with which they imbued the eagle stuns the viewer!

still stands, while the site the eagle was relocated to is being demolished to allow the installation of utilities in preparation for further airport expansion. My alarm at the news was heightened when I read that we had only until December 31st to accomplish the move. I checked the calendar, it was already December, 4th! I needn’t have worried. The Society’s webmaster was up to the task and began fielding calls and emails from all interested parties. Soon word spread that a local company; **Knight Construction**, was offering their equipment at no cost to aid in the relocation of the eagle. The biggest concern now, besides maintaining the integrity of the piece, was the

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cost to cut the eagle loose of its resting place; a block of solid concrete six feet square and six feet high.

A concrete cutting company, **Pro Cut**, was hired. It took two of their employees the better part of two days to cut all the concrete necessary to free the eagle. With the final cuts complete, **Knight Construction**, arrived with a 65-ton crane, built a frame around the big bird, packed it with foam, loaded it onto a trailer, and transported it to their facility in Deer Park where it will remain until this spring.

The CDPHS is working on plans to place the eagle on the southeast corner of the parcel of land that is home to the Clayton Drive In. It is still early in the process and there is a small possibility that the eagle will wind up somewhere else but one thing is certain, the eagle will soon be on display somewhere near the

location of the old Washington Brick and Lime Company and the terra cotta plant in Clayton



Pro Cut employee Scott Brenner moves one of the giant blades used to cut the eagle free.



Employees of Pro Cut Concrete Cutting, Scott Brenner and T. J. Scott, work in frigid temperatures to cut the mighty eagle loose of its anchor. Temperatures around 11 degrees F caused frozen hoses and impeded progress, since the giant steel blades used to cut the concrete need water for cooling and lubrication.

where it originated nearly one hundred years ago.

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society wishes to thank **Rowena Valencia-Gica**, Natural and Cultural Resources Specialist in the Environmental Programs section of the Washington Army National Guard for being wise enough to understand the eagle's his-

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torical significance and having the perseverance to work through the complexities that allowed her to locate and notify the CDPHS of its impending destruction. The society would also like to thank the **Washington National Guard** for donating the eagle to us, **Knight Construction** for their generosity, **Pro Cut Concrete Cutting**, and everyone else involved in this effort. Without all of you, this magnificent eagle would surely have been lost.

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society is a registered non-profit organization dedicated to the discovery and preservation of our proud past. They need your help to cover expenses related to the reloca-

tion and restoration of this eagle as well as other worthy endeavors in line with their mission.

Donations are tax deductible and sorely needed. You may send contributions to:

**CDPHS
P. O. Box 293
Clayton, WA 99110**

To view photos and read more about this eagle you may visit the CDPHS web site: www.claytondeerparkhistoricalsociety.com Click on the link titled: An Eagle Has Landed

A Letter to the C/DPHS Editor Regarding The Olsen Hotel Theater

— by Wally Lee Parker —

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The fundamentals of the attached sketch of the Olsen Hotel's main floor were extracted from a 1915 fire insurance map of Deer Park. The map was revised in 1932, so it could be that the area designated "Moving Pictures" had a different function when the hotel was constructed in 1908 — possibly a stage theater, dance hall, or conference hall — and that the "Moving Pictures" noted below is from the 1932 revision. From the map it appears that the area in front (Crawford street side to the north) of the theater was designated "Confectionary". This draws up a number of questions regarding the very late 1040s and very early 1950s layout of the businesses within the building—that's when I first recall going to the movies in the old theater.

I believe the theater was still in operation in the summer of 1953. I seem to recall seeing the trailer for the original Paramount Pictures production of "*War of the Worlds*". That movie was released on August 26, 1953.

Though I'm sure movies circulated through theaters quite a bit longer than they do now, that at least extends the probable life of Deer Park's Mix Theater through most of 1953.

I'm not sure if the theater was called the Mix Theater. As I remember, you entered the theater through Earl Mix's soda fountain. We always referred to it as Mix's Drug Store — though there seems to be some hesitancy on my part as to whether any drugs were actually sold there. Would anyone know whether Earl Mix was a pharmacist, and whether the soda fountain was also a drug store?

From the map below, it appears that the confectionary only occupied the space directly street side from the movie theater. The map suggests that the store on the very southeast corner of Crawford and Main was not connected into the confectionary (as of 1932). My memory places Mix's throughout the north side of the hotel building — but that memory is

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from a long, long time ago and from very occasional visits to Deer Park. I'm assuming there was probably something in the corner store when Mix had his theater. Could anyone enlighten me as to what that was?

I seem to remember that you entered the drug store and moved to the left (east) to enter the theater. Everyone seemed to bundle into little knots of people and visit on the way out of the theater after the show. A good number of the kids, asleep or nearly so, were being either packed or (more or less) dragged. I recall Ike Reynolds being carried out by his mother at least once (Our farm was north of the Reynolds's place on the same section in Williams Valley.).

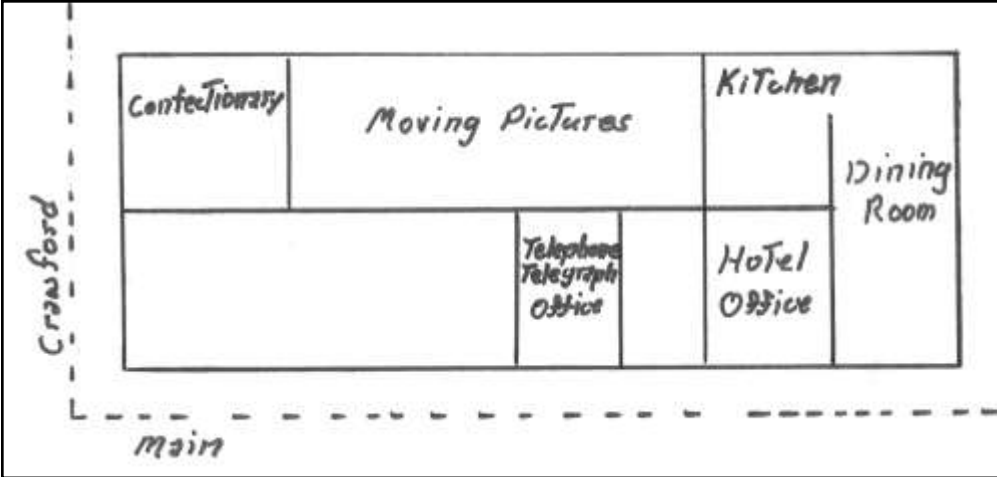
Lastly, I believe I saw my first television in a storefront along that portion of Crawford. That would have been soon after television broadcasting from Spokane began on De-

belief that somewhere along the north side of that block was a storefront displaying televisions and programs from KHQ. Seeing images drawn from the air was Christmas magic, and something people who weren't around for the transition from radio to television can't fully appreciate.

What follows are a few preliminary bits from my interview with Williams Valley's Don Ball. This material deals with Don's part time job as a projectionist at the theater in question — around 1950.

"The theater in the old hotel had two projectionists. One was named Ross and the other was dating the girl who worked at the soda fountain in Mix's. Both these guys worked at the aluminum plant. The one dating the soda fountain girl wanted some extra time off, so they broke me in to running the projectors.

"There were two projectors. I



ember 20th, 1952. Was there a more recent construction (after the 1932 edition of this map) to the east of the Olsen Hotel, and was that an appliance store? Or was there an appliance store owned by Earl Mix in the northeast corner of the Olsen Hotel at that time? It's my

learned to watch for a code that appeared on the right hand side of the screen — a series of dots — that told me when the running reel was about over and when to start the other projector.

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“The projectors were both the old tube types — they didn’t have the newer carbon-ark projectors.

“Hanging above the projectors was a glass tube of liquid. The tube had a metal plug on the bottom that would melt when heated. If one of the projectors caught on fire — that old film stock was nitrocellulose based and would really burn — the plug on the glass tube was suppose to melt and allow the contents of the glass to spray out over the fire.

“Anyway, that stuff was poisonous. If it let loose you had to get out of the projection booth right away. When that liquid hit the flame it would turn into a gas and the gas would kill you.

“The projection booth was above the soda fountain, and the theater screen was on the south wall of the theater. I can’t remember if the floor of the theater sloped down — I hardly ever went to shows myself, so I didn’t spend that much time in the theater part.

“When I worked there Earl Mix had a few appliances and his office in where Strong started the auto parts store.”

Regarding the gentleman that Don recalls as being the other projectionist, *“This other fellow — he married Jane Gardner. She was the girl working the soda fountain.”*

I’m just curious if anyone might be able to fill out these recollections of the early theater a little better.

Winter Fest —2010

C/DPHS participates in the Winter Fest for the first time. Pete Coffin’s Acadia project is prominently displayed on one of our story boards along with an Arcadia smudge pot. Photos of the Eagle Project were displayed. The “Old Schools” census records were on hand and so were our Society History Notebooks. We handed out free Mortarboards for

December and January, and free Stevens County Maps. On sale were our five Collected Mortarboards and the four Reports to the Society.



Betty Burdette hosted the society booth scattered with memorabilia.



Left side displays Peter Coffin’s Acadia Project. The right has homesteading and property maps.

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Members on hand were President, Bill Sebright; Secretary, Grace Hubal; Pete Coffin, Marilyn Reilly, Betty Burdette, Kay Parkin, Sharon Clark and Eleanor Ball. Florene Moore was there in her capacity of Winter Fest official. I saw Don and Lorraine Ball come by. There were probably others I have forgotten or missed. We had a lot of traffic and much interest from the community.



Map from Pete Coffin's Arcadia project



Art Ohler presents a Bronze Plaque to our President, Bill Sebright at our January meeting. This plaque was attached to the base of National Guard Eagle at Geiger Field. The plan is to display it with the eagle in its new resting place in Clayton.
(see our minutes below for more details)

Clayton/ Deer Park Historical Society Minutes, January 9, 2010

In attendance: Bill Sebright, Mark Wagner, Sharon Clark, Grace Hubal, Rob Higgins, Warren Nord, Lorraine Nord, Bob Clouse, Mary Clouse, Sue Rehms, Ella Jenkins, Lonnie Jenkins, Kay Parkin, Marilyn Reilly, Roxanne Camp, Jeff Lilly, Michelle Reid, Karen Meyer, Cliff Meyer, Art Ohler, Marvin Jacks, Jackie Franks, Betty Burdette

Society president Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 09:07 AM.

Mark Wagner reported that there is \$1,798.00 in checking. Account activity- none. Mark is filling out our Society's incorporation papers. The yearly fee is \$10. Mark is still collecting \$

20 membership dues for 2010. An incomplete donor list for the Eagle Fund: DP Power Tipps - \$200; Grace Hubal- \$100; Bill Sebright- \$300; Karen Meyer- \$210; Marilyn Reilly- \$100; Jeff Lilly- \$300; Sharon Clark- \$250; Betty Burdette- \$10; Kay Parkin- \$30; Mark Wagner- \$100; Warren & Lorraine Nord & Violet Zimmerer- \$100; Roxanne Camp- \$100; 161st Infantry Retirees- \$200; Rob Higgins- \$100; Bob & Mary Clouse- \$100

Grace reported for a possible museum that Bob & Kay Summerlin are selling a double wide trailer. They are asking \$35,000 for a 2bd, 2ba

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---- 28'x42.' Mr. B Hauling will move it 100 miles for \$5,000. The sewer and electric is already dug out. A house at Railroad and Grant lists at \$125,000.

Sharon Clark handed out Mortarboard #21. The newsletter has an article by Wally Parker about the Springdale Lime Kilns. She has talked to Wally about writing a series of articles on the Clayton clay for the Mortarboard. There is an article on the Leno Prestini "Z" Canyon painting by Chuck Stewart and an ad about the Prestini display next summer. Sharon has the Roadside Geology of Washington book that is available to anyone who wants to read it.

Rob Higgins is going to resign as Vice President of the Society because he is unable to come to the monthly meetings due to work restrictions. Anyone interested in filling this position, please contact a board member.

EWU- Michelle Reid- Rural School Project. She is a grad student working in the alumni office at EWU. Larry Cebula, Public History Program Coordinator at EWU has done research about the rural schools in Montana. A 1927 map shows 185 rural schools in that area at that time. National Endowment for Planning is doing a similar project in this area. They are asking for support from local historical societies to host a traveling exhibit or meeting with a group to gather stories and information on rural schools. The displays are planned for the spring of 2011.

Jackie Franks, President of the Valley Historical Society, has history on her grandfather and great uncles who were bricklayers in the area. Her grandfather and great uncles built the lime kilns. The three brothers, Lucas, Joseph, and Frank Strojan all worked in the WB&L factory.

Betty Burdette has pictures of the Williams Valley School that she will share with Michelle Reid at EWU.

Winter Fest- Bob and Bill will work on an Eagle display: pictures may tell it all. Pete, Kay, Marilyn, Betty, and Bill have offered to man the booth. Bill will set up the display Friday afternoon and take down the booth Saturday afternoon. The booth will be at the entry of the Civic Center in Deer Park. Bill will talk to Pete about an Arcadia display from Pete's article. We also have the Arcadia smudge pot donated by the John Erickson family. Sharon says we should have something there for people to give donations.

Bob Clouse, webmaster update: There were over 2000 Website visitors in December, but wasn't a record number. Eagle project update: Bill is trying to organize a field trip to the Knight Construction campus to see the eagle. It's at Knight Construction, resting comfortably for the winter. If you have any questions, just holler at Bob. For the complete story of the moving of the Eagle, go to our Website or call Bob at 535-0967. \$2100 has been pledged, of which, \$1,690 has already been collected. The full amount is \$2500 plus tax. The Society has pledged \$500, which isn't included in the total amount. Bob introduced Art Ohler, who in 1976 was part of the crew who lowered the eagle from the Armory to the sidewalk and was moved to Geiger Field. According to Bob, "Art knows everything there is to know about the construction of the eagle." Art has been very helpful. Art brought us a plaque that says: "Dedicated to the officers and men of the First Battalion one hundred sixty first Infantry past and present. Dedicated this 8th day of Sept 1984." We plan to put the plaque on the base of the historical eagle. The plaque weighs about 40 pounds. The armory was sold to the City of Spokane for \$1. On behalf of the 161st Infantry retirees, Marvin Jack presented a check for \$200 for the cause. Taffy and Randy Long have given the Society permission to erect the eagle on their property.

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Discussion will follow as to where and how the eagle will be mounted.

The ground breaking ceremony for the new Catholic Church on 6th Street in Deer Park is scheduled for 1 PM today.

Bill asked for a motion to get general liability insurance through Standen Insurance for about \$650 annually for liability, damage and theft. Betty Burdette moved and Grace Hubal sec-

onded to do so. After discussion the motion was approved.

Bob ordered some silver eagle dollars to thank Knight Construction. Bob got one for Jim and for his sons. Betty Burdette suggested we get a thank you card.

The dedication ceremony for the Eagle will be on the agenda for next month.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17a.m.

Next meeting is February 13, 2010.

Respectfully submitted by Grace Hubal, Secretary.

Special Thanks to this month's volunteer proofreaders — Peter Coffin, Bill Sebright, and Florene Moore

Editorial Policy Regarding Correcting Errors and/or Omissions

Information published here is compiled from many sources, including personal memories. It is often difficult or impossible to verify such recollections through outside documentation. Our editorial policy toward the veracity of personal recollections tends toward the casual — since little harm is normally done by such errors. But our editorial process also invites public review and input regarding the accuracy of the information we publish, and when such review either suggests or reveals errors or items open to dispute our “Letters” department will act as a forum allowing the airing of such disagreements in an effort to ascertain the truth and correct any probable or demonstrated errors. We also believe it’s important that such disagreements be recorded, even if they can’t be settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

We encourage everyone to submit any arguments as to fact to the editor in writing — since the written form reduces the chance of further misunderstandings. As is standard policy, all letters will be edited for spelling, word usage, clarity, and — if necessary — contents. If advisable, the editor will confer directly with the letter writers to insure that everyone’s comments and corrections are submitted in a literate, polite, and compelling manner — as best suits the editorial image of this society’s publications.

Society Want Ads

WANTED: Leno Prestini artwork. If you have or have access to any paintings, sketches, or sculptures created by Clayton artist Leno Prestini please contact the Society. We would like to feature either the original artwork or photos of the

same at next year’s Prestini Project showing. For security reasons, the current owners of the materials may remain anonymous if that is their wish.

WANTED: Photos of local summer events such as the Old Settlers Pic-

nic and Clayton Days. The photos can be old or new as long as the submitter includes a caption for the photos and has the authority to permit reproduction of the image in the Society’s publications or on the Society’s website

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