

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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I Remember

By

Harold Angus Slater

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Ninetieth Year History 1891-1981 Open Door Congregational Church

Deer Park, Washington

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Free — Take One

To us, "Open Door" meant three things: The Doc Slater home-and-office door was never locked but always "open"; its telephone phone, No. 123, was always callable and "open"; and the Open Door Congregational Church across the street was just that, always "open."

Elbert Hubbard said, "If you want a thing well done, select the busy man; the others have no time." (To this, I would add "or woman," "or church.") This applied to my busy parents and our busy church.

Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Slater spent a lifetime serving



Dr. H. H. Slater when he graduated from the University of Illinois Medical School in 1902. Photo courtesy of Richard Slater of Coupeville, Washington.

the medical and surgical needs of the area and the programs of the Congregational Church in Deer Park. The busy Open Door Church has served the spiritual needs of the countryside for ninety years, they were proud to be part of this.

My parents were of Congregational and United Presbyterian backgrounds. They were first teachers, and in 1902, upon my father's graduation from Chicago Medical School, they moved to Deer Park with their children Lucille, Herbert, Homer, and Helen. Howard was born in Deer Park in 1903 in a combination home-office

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The Dr. H.H. Slater family about 1905, from left to right in back row: Helen, Dr Slater, Homer, Lucy, Lavina, Herbert. Baby in front is Howard. Photo courtesy of Richard Slater of Coupeville, Washington.

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on the northwest corner of First Street and Main Avenue, which was moved later. The Slater Building followed on this location, housing the Masonic Temple upstairs, (hence the name given the pharmacy in the same building) Temple Pharmacy, as well as the telephone office; the Arcadia Theatre; and other businesses. This building still stands.

This Deer Park building was later reported as destroyed by fire December 27, 1983.

A thirteen-room home-and-office was built at

Second and Main where Mary, Harold, Charlotte, and Marjorie were born, as well as some of the grandchildren. Father delivered the last three children, starting with me, taking over from the attending physician at Mother's request. This was in order to keep my neck from being broken; as she asked for Father's assistance, "Bert, I know you will not kill." Our home at Second and Main still stands and is presently the Lauer Funeral Home.

An excellent physician and surgeon, revered and respected by Spokane doctors for his uncanny diagnosis and quickness of action in sur-

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gery. My father used hospitals only when necessary. The determination to spend the required time taking someone to a hospital in Spokane often would have meant death to the patient. An overnight trip over poor roads would have ended in a "tomorrow is too late" situation. He practiced in this area and Mother assisted, until 1933 when she died of a blood clot after unsuccessful cancer surgery. Sometime later, he married Emma A. Johnson, a family friend and widow of the former Deer Park publisher, Harry Johnson. She assisted him until he closed his Deer Park practice in December 1942; they then moved to Clarkston, Washington.



Doctor Slater's 1907 Gale Touring car parked in front of the Temple Pharmacy with three young ladies seated in it. These may be Dr. Slater's daughters. Helen Slater Philleo is presumed to be the driver. Photo from Zimmer Collection



This post-card was sent out dated January 1, 1909. This presumably was at the time the new house was completed and the office moves to it from the Temple Pharmacy. Photo from Zimmer Collection

Father used two saddle horses for his doctor calls, switching between calls and exchanging saddles and medical items carried in large saddlebags. He covered the area north of Spokane including Tum Tum, Valley, Springdale, Loon Lake, Deer Lake, Clayton, Fan Lake, Blake's Lake (now Eloika Lake), Camden, Scotia, Mt. Spokane, Elk, Milan, Chattaroy, Denison, etc. When he got a "Doctor's Buggy," he still had to keep a fast horse available for rush trips in medical emergencies. The horses and buggies were followed by a 1907 Gale Touring car, the first auto north of Spokane.

He then got several now-orphaned makes of autos, including a 1917 Woods Mobilette, narrow gage for following the sleigh tracks, a three passenger cycle car, which is now in the Ford Museum at Dearborn Michigan, my gift to them in 1935. (See next Page for photo.) His 1928 Ford Phaeton touring car cost \$555 and was Deer Park's first Model A; his 1932 Ford Sport Sedan was the first V-8 in Deer Park. Also, it was very unusual then, but, reportedly,

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Captain Slater cuts quite a figure in his uniform.
Photo courtesy of Richard Slater of Coupeville, Washington.



Photo courtesy of Richard Slater of Coupeville, Washington.



1917 Woods Mobilette Photo by: Douglas Wilkinson Location: The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan. Courtesy: RemarkableCars.Com

my late sister, Helen Philleo, was the first woman driver here. A good-roads enthusiast, Father was a Charter Member-Founder of the American Automobile Association.

The gravel roads and narrow underpasses often caused car wrecks on weekends, as many as three a week, night and day, requiring both Mother and Father, with one or more of us kids as helpers, giving emergency medical aid to drivers and passengers.

With no dentist in Deer Park upon his arrival here, Father pulled teeth. He treated everything
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Lavina Slater, 1st wife of Dr. Slater and mother of his nine children. Harold doesn't mention her by name, but she is a great part of this story. Photo courtesy of Richard Slater of Coupeville, Washington.

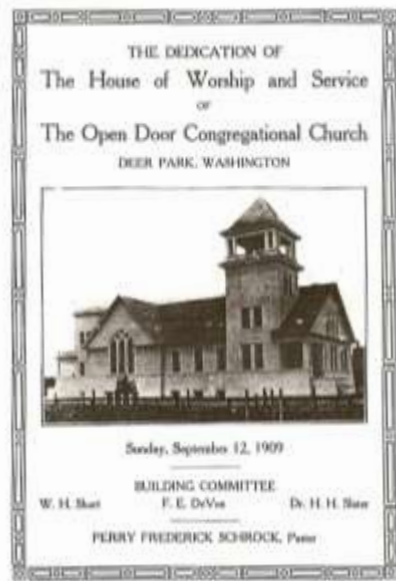
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expertly: general sickness, heart disease, high blood pressure, fractures, and infections. He delivered an estimated 5,000 babies in homes and some in Mrs. McCoy's Home in Deer Park. Never rushing things, on arrival, he sought a couch to rest on and to wait the time for birth. Afterward, Mother would arrive and bathe the newborn (giving many hundreds their first bath); and also offer some motherly help to the new parents. There being no early (civil) birth records, he supplied from his photographic

memory probably one hundred birth certificates for service personnel in World War II, all accepted as correct!

I can't remember his ever turning down people lacking money for treatment. He often sent no monthly statements, saying, "Most couldn't then; can't now!" He turned down Mill and Arcadia Orchards contracts, not wanting to be paid for care not provided. Instead of money, often we received vegetables, fruits, meat, poultry, eggs, butter, and wood as payment; even a milk goat, which Mother gave to a large family needing milk! These are a few of the memories of our heritage of which we are proud!

In World War I, Homer was a Marine in Guam and the Philippines. Father was a Captain in the Medical Corps and served in France and Italy. Mother and we four youngest visited Grandmother Nichols in Burlington, Iowa, for a time;



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then we returned where Mother was Deer Park's only "doctor" in the influenza epidemic in 1918. Make-shift hospitals were set; up in the Open Door Church, Olsen's Hall, the Deer Park High School, and the Arcadia Orchards Packing House. Gauze "flu masks" were made in schools, churches, and homes. "Cattail knitting spools" provided long wool "ropes," which were sewn together for warm caps; also, knitted wool squares were combined as mufflers for sore throats and swollen glands, and for many other uses.

Also, during World War I, churches and stores had 55-gallon wood barrels set up for the collection of peach, apricot, plum, prune, and cherry pits; these were shipped to centers where, I believe, they were converted to charcoal for soldiers' gas masks. On November 11, 1918, the first Armistice Day, Father cabled from Paris through Mr. H. B. Walton at the train depot: "The war is over!" Thus, we were the first here to know. We immediately went across the street to the Church to announce this good news by ringing the bell. I had mounted an apple box, pulled the bell rope and, being only seven, the rope jerked me up, my head hitting the ceiling, knocking me down, more frightened than hurt. The bell rang, the Mill whistle blew; trains shrieked; car and truck horns sounded. The band played. Large Mill trucks, etc., carried large circular and band saws, which were banged with pipes and hammers in a noise and joyful din while parading! I'll never forget that day, for now, our loved ones, represented by the two-star service flag in our window, would soon return to us! If not the bell, it was the Mill whistle, and later the town fire siren that announced such events.

My parents, in spite of their doctoring, had time for civic and church affairs, being active in choirs, on committees, boards, and in giving

financial support and advice. Father was on the 1908 Church Building Committee, helping Paul Breura and others in church designing, such as moving the front gable windows slightly to the right of center for proper balance with the bel-



Dr. Slater painting at his house (*see Collected Newsletters Volume 2, Page 88. Photo courtesy of Richard Slater of Coupeville, Washington*)

fry tower, which can be observed today. Provision for a pipe organ was made the in center pulpit stage but never realized. Finest beamed ceiling, relief columns, and interior trim were provided in knot-free excellence. Window case framing and facing mouldings were secured by small-cupped inserts with ornamental screws. The thick tongue-and-grooved, straight-grained, long-length, oak sanctuary floor is the finest anywhere; beautifully carpeted where needed. The green corduroy-cushioned pews of that time were beautiful to behold. There were dedicated reed organs and pianos throughout the church for its ministry of music.

The sanctuary served as church, meeting place, and auditorium for the community until the gym developed. Weddings, baptisms, and last rites for loved ones made our Church a hal-

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lowed haven for thousands of Christian lives. Mary Enoch Garred taught piano and gave recitals there. Charlotte and Marjorie, among others, played. I remember that Ralph Breum, Tom McCutchan, and I played a trio - on one piano. Mother, Father, and all nine children sang, and all but Father, played the piano in varying degrees, always contributing their talents when called upon. Our 1903 Walworth-Schulz vertical grand piano, which we all played, was our gift to the Church in 1953 and can be seen in the balcony today.

I can remember many Christmas, Easter, and other pageants; music and spoken words by Sunday School members, the choirs, and members of the Christian Endeavor Society; and



An older Doctor H.H. Slater in his garden
Photo courtesy of Richard Slater of Coupeville

such social programs as the annual progressive dinners with the theme "Trip Around the World," as we ate foods of many countries in homes appropriately decorated for each country represented. The Enoch daughters decorated

their parent's home in Japanese style, dressed in those lovely kimonos, and served Japanese meals. The Ben Lewis home was the Welsh home in more ways than one, of course, both Evan Enoch and Ben Lewis being from Wales, themselves.

The Open Door Church sponsored Boy Scouts and Campfire Girls; also ice cream socials, picnics on the Church lawn and at Tourist Park (now Mix Park); special trains to Morgan Park at Loon Lake. The Deer Park Band played at these places with Cap Baker, Fritz and Chester Groshong, Herbert and Homer Slater, Humphrey Williams, and others. Judge J. A. Neville spoke of Civil War action on patriotic holidays, and veterans rode in parades.

What about the tall, fresh Christmas trees supplied by Will Short, Ben Lewis, Evan Enoch, and others, reaching from floor vaulted ceiling? They were lighted with twisted, colored, candles, brilliant ornaments from top to bottom with one hundred percent safety precautions, a labor of love. Candy canes, Christmas gifts, and boxes of candies and nuts were distributed to all of the children in town.

As my older sisters and brothers married and left home, four of our home's upstairs rooms were used; first as a refuge for country high school students marooned by storm and snow, where they stayed overnight. Gradually, Mother extended this to students living outside town at little or no rental for the school year. They were "family" and included one or more from the Diener, Enman, Tarbert, Johnson, Edington, Miller, Kohler, Cuff, and other rural families. Many attended the Open Door Church.

All, of our family, participated in teaching in addition to playing and singing. Father sang in
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Above are the two Tarbert girls, Viola and Minnie, who lodged at the Slater's during their high school years. They had jobs as telephone operators. DPHS class photos

the church choir through 1942, and died in 1946. Our family took up an entire pew. Herbert led singing, taught classes, and headed up Christian Endeavor, preaching at the Denison School Church and other places, often driving the Woods Mobilette. He had remained active in his California church. Marjorie had taught piano and organ, accompanied and directed choirs for many years. Others had been active in music both in and out of churches, and in other work.

Mary, when twelve, used her small fist to open the Church's front door. Although unlocked, the latch would stick; nevertheless, and no matter how hard they tried, no one else could beat just the right pattern she used on the door, the lock, and the handle, but it would open many times.

A brief word in memory, probably best summarized by others: . Spokesman-Review editorial headed: "DEER PARK LOSES ITS NUMBER ONE CITIZEN . . . Dr. H. H. Slater . . ." Spokane Daily Chronicle, front-page editorial by David Kirk, Editor: "BELOVED WOMAN IS LAID TO REST . . . Hands that ministered to thousands,: that gave many babies their first bath . . . was Mother to a countryside . . . at Deer Park Open Door Church . . . amidst a mass of flowers . . . the Rev. Guy H. Rice and Dr. Joel Harper officiating . . . "The Song is Ended, but the Melody Lingers on!" "How Great Thou Art!"

Respectfully submitted by Harold Angus Slater,
For the Slater Families

The editorial mentioned by Harold Slater above: "DEER PARK LOSES ITS NUMBER ONE CITIZEN", can be found in the Spokane Daily Chronicle, Sat. Feb. 2, 1946, Page 4.

"Dr. H.H. Slater was Deer Park." He was official weather observer for the town. He defended the town's reputation of being "several degrees colder than surrounding areas in the winter."

He served as the town's doctor with the "best traditions of the country doctor" and the "skill of the specialist."

His memory will be longest and dearest "as a beloved citizen who folded a town unto his heart —and gave it all the best years of his life."

For complete details, see spokesman.com.



Calendar of Events

Event	Date & Time	Location
Clayton Brickyard Day	August 7, 2010	History Exhibit, Clayton School
<i>Eagle Dedication</i>	August 7, 2010 1pm	Clayton Drive-In
Leno Prestini Show <i>The Heritage Network is presenting three congruent shows of Leno's paintings, sketches, memorabilia and life as a Terra Cotta modeler.</i>	August 7-22, 2010	Main St., Colville, Stevens County Historical Society
	August 14, 15, 21,22	Loon Lake Old School Museum, LLHS
	August 14, 15, 21,22	Clayton Grange, C/DPHS
C/DPHS meeting	August 14	Clayton Grange
Clayton Fair	August 27, 28, 29, 2010	Clayton Fairgrounds
C/DPHS meeting	September 12, 2010	Clayton Drive-In
C/DPHS meeting	October 9, 2010	Clayton Drive-In

Partial Index of Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society Publications:

Name	Event	Source
Doctor Slater	One human doctor	Reports Vol. 1, page 14
Dr. H.H. Slater	Deer Park's First Car	Reports Vol. 3, pages 139-144
Doctor Slater	Cecil Boyd's haying accident, other Boyd doctor calls	Newsletter Issue 8, pages 87, 88, 89, 93
Dr. H.H. Slater	Short Biography	Newsletter Issue 8, page 88
Dr. H.H. Slater	Kelso ruptured appendix	Newsletter Issue 9, page 103
Dr. H.H. Slater	Skillful painter	Newsletter Issue 10, page 125
Doctor Slater	Blasting accident	Newsletter Issue 12, page 155
Slater	Census of foreign born citizens	Newsletter Issue 24, page 309
Dr. Slater	Here in Automobile, Mother better, 1907 Gale runabout, minutes	Newsletter Issue 25, pages 329, 333, 334

Terra Cotta Eagle Dedication

Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society Invites you
to the
dedication of
The Clayton Terra Cotta Eagle
Date: August 7, 2010
1:00 PM
Next to the Clayton Drive-In

The Eagle was Modeled and Cast at the Terra Cotta Factory in Clayton, Mounted on the Washington National Guard Armory in Spokane (1922), Moved to the Washington National Guard Center at Geiger Field (1976), Removed, restored and mounted on its new pedestal for its third life at the Clayton Drive in (2010).



Washington National Guard Terra Cotta Eagle
Clayton, Washington.

Clayton/ Deer Park Historical Society Minutes, July 10, 2010

In attendance: Pete Coffin, Bill Sebright, Mark Wagner, Jason Aebischer, Sharon Clark, Warren Nord, Bob Clouse, Mary Clouse, Marilyn Reilly, Art Stelting, Kay Parkin, Sue Rehms, Duane Costa, Florene Moore, Mary Ann Longeway, Roxanne Camp, Jeff Lilly, Don Ball, Lorraine Ball, Mark Chapman and Cire Gray.

Society president, Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. The month's events were listed: The joints of the Eagle were cleaned out. The cracks were widened and epoxied. Lyle Thompson and Tom Taylor filled the joints with a 'super' grout, primer was applied, and then final coat was put on. Knight Construction (Jason Jenkins and Gary Fochtman) moved and mounted the Eagle. The plaques were taken to Wilbert Vault. Randy Long is working on the landscaping. Pete was

in charge of refurbishing and restoring of the Eagle---total cost was \$617.48.

Boy Scout Jason Aebischer attended the meeting. He is working on a 'Citizenship in the Community Merit badge' with the CDPHS.

Next month's meeting will be held 9:00 AM at the Clayton Grange Hall, since that is the first day of the Prestini Display at the Clayton Grange starting at 10 00 AM. A sign will be put on the Clayton Drive In to direct people to the Grange.

Volunteers will be needed for the Benefit Breakfast at the Clayton Drive In on August 7:00 from 6:30 AM and 7:00 AM; to cover the Historical Exhibit during the Eagle Dedication; and to help out at the Prestini Display August 14 and 15 from 1000 AM to 4:00

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PM. We are also looking for people who knew Leno and can answer questions about him.

Treasurer, Mark Wagner reported that there is \$4593.61 in checking. There was \$707.21 in deposits. Checks written were 50.00- Chamber dues, Pete Coffin- 41.80 for supplies, I-90 express Finishing- 434.80 for powder coating.

Grace Hubal was unable to attend, but sent the following report: 1) Thank you/invitational letters have been sent to Major General Lowenberg, Jim Knight, Joe Feist, Tammy Rehms, and Doug Dawson for their donations to the eagle project. 2) Grace purchased a postcard kit to make 200 Eagle post cards. She suggested we wait for the benches, flag pole, plaques, and landscaping to be completed before taking pictures for the post cards. Grace has a brochure from Costco. We can log on to their website to see about having post cards printed. Bill suggested we see what Sharon can do for us first. 3) Jason Hubal suggested and Bill followed up on getting Amy Daniels to sing the *National Anthem* at the Eagle Dedication Ceremony on 'Clayton Brickyard Day' on August 7th, 2010, for the 'Eagle dedication ceremony.' 4) Grace is now starting to organize and type the recipe submissions for the Clayton Deer Park Historical Society Cookbook. She advertised in the July Baptist Church Herald Newsletter for stories and recipes. 5) Jason's nurse, Brandey says that there is a gal over in Elk who has put together a video of the History of Elk. She is affiliated with the Inland Grange in Elk. Do we consider Elk a part of our Society? 6) She is digitizing Art's Marine article.

Sharon Clark handed out Mortarboard #27. She is working on the next newsletter and hoping to get an article on Dr. H.H. Slater published.

Bob Clouse reported Website hits were slightly less than 2,000 as visitation de-

creased during the summer months. Bob had us meet at the Eagle after the meeting for group pictures. Go to our Website on the "At Home in Clayton" page to see the results.

Pete Coffin turned in invoices totaling \$617.48 for restoration of the Eagle. We thank Pete for all of his research, gas, and time to chase down the correct supplies. Bob Peetz referred Lyle Thompson and Tom Taylor, both have experience in restoring terra cotta, which was very helpful.

The cost to use the Clayton School building and playground for the 'Clayton Brickyard Day' will be \$100 this year. This is less than what it would cost to pay the custodian. Next year, it will be the cost of the custodian. Dr. Becky Cooke, DPSD Superintendent, is easy to deal with and very cooperative.

Alan Berg's wife Delores died, the funeral is Tuesday, July 13, 2010, 1:00 PM at the Whitworth Presbyterian Church, 312 W. Hawthorne Rd. Our thoughts and prayers are with Alan at this time.

The Eagle Dedication Ceremony schedule: Pastor Duane Anderson from the Zion Lutheran Church in Deer Park will be leading the Opening Prayer. Amy Scholz will contact Bill Sebright soon to let us know if she can sing the *National Anthem*. Warren Nord volunteered to let us use his trailer, which could function as a stage. Marilyn mentioned that the Baptist church has risers. Bill will contact Grace Hubal to see if the 'risers' would work for a stage.

Prestini Display: We need to work on displays, especially for the entrance area. The paintings that are available are the two from the CDPHS, two from Warren and Lorraine Nord "Hell at Dawn" and one from Lyle and Darlene Holcomb "Rodeo Clown." Pete reminded the group that Butch Faulkner has four or five paintings that he has offered to let us use. Gold pans are available from CDPHS, Strongs, and

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Jens. Marilyn Reilly will check with Father Al at the Deer Park Catholic Church to see if we can borrow their Leno painting.

Bob Clouse has copies of some Leno paintings available. Mark Chapman and Cire Gray came to the meeting and shared their two terra cotta artifacts. They have offered to let us display them. They are very colorful examples. They will be displayed on our Website on the Artifacts 2 page as well.

We will have a booth at the Settlers Day in Mix Park. Denny Lippert got back to Bill after the meeting.

Don Wilt from Manhattan Beach, California requested Volume 4 “Reports” on the workings of a Shay Locomotive.

Next meeting: August 14, 2010 at 9:00 AM at the Clayton Grange Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Mark Wagner.

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 this year’s Prestini Project showing. For security reasons, the current owners of the materials may

remain anonymous if that is their wish.

WANTED: Old family recipes for inclusion in a future Society recipe book. Recipes drawn from any given family’s heritage are particularly desired — especially if accompanied by related family stories. Please submit to Grace Hubal, Soci-

ety Secretary.
WANTED: Any stories, photos, or examples of traditional methods of quilt making.

WANTED. Information and photos regarding the history of Trysil/Zion Lutheran Church.

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Special Thanks to this month's volunteer proofreaders — Bill Sebright, Grace Hubal, J L Brian