INTRODUCTION

Spring frosts and a short growing season had been a concern for the Arcadia Orchards from the very beginning of the operation. The Spokane and Eastern Trust Company had refused to loan start up financing to the original developers of the venture (Daggett and McIntyre) on the basis of weather concerns and the likelihood of economic failure. They had obtained a report that said apples “…will not be a success…on account of frosts which are a feature of the county covered by Arcadia in every month of the year…” (Fahey, 1993). The bank felt that there was a very high chance that any apple crop would be killed in the blossom stage by the late spring freezing temperatures as well as freezing temperatures throughout the growing season known to occur in the Deer Park area.

A POSSIBLE SOLUTION

After many years of frosts killing portions of the Arcadia Orchard apple crop the Company looked for a solution to the problem. In January of 1920 Arcadia Orchard Company’s President E. N. Robinson went to southern California to, “…make a thorough examination of smudging in the vicinity of Los Angeles with the idea of using the very best in smudging operations in Arcadia in the spring.”¹

A smudge pot is defined as a container for burning oil or other fuels to produce “smudge” for protecting fruit trees from frost. Smudge is the smoldering smoke produced from such a device. A Wikipedia entry for smudge pots indicates that the device was developed in southern California after a January 1913 freeze killed the entire citrus fruit crop. The theory behind the smudge pot was given as, “Condensation of water vapor on particulate soot prevents condensation on plants and raises air temperature very slightly.”²

In February 1920 orchard owner Irving G. Page planned to conduct a smudging demonstration in his apple orchard, “…this year and those interested can thus see the actual work done in his orchard.”²

The March 18, 1920, Deer Park Union has a front page article on the 1920 Arcadia Orchard plans for the coming growing year indicating that 10,000 smudge pots were available and another railroad freight car load of 15,000 smudge pots along with
The oil for the smudging operation was to be purchased from the Standard Oil Company and be delivered by truck and horse team to several concrete storage tanks throughout the orchards. The pots themselves were to be distributed to both contract holders and the tracts cared for by the Arcadia Orchard Company.

In late May of 1920 temperatures dropped to as low as 24 degrees in portions of the orchard and almost every smudge pot set out was lit. In the areas with the smudge pots lit and operating the overnight fell only to 30 degrees.

Outside the smudged regions the temperature ranged from 22 to 28 degrees. During this freezing night practically every businessman in town was called into action and they were easy to recognize by the soot on their clothes and faces.

**SMUDGE POT OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS**

As noted above the smudge pots produced clouds of smoke and soot that covered man and vegetation. The cost of the oil for the operation must have

several hundred gasoline torches to light them was expected in a week or so.\(^3\)

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been a burden on the profitability of the orchard as well as the labor required to light and maintain the smudge pots. In addition sometimes the weather conditions would cause the heat to “chimney” and rise over the pot, not fill the orchard and be lost. Shifting winds would also affect the efficiency of the operation.

**RECENT USES OF THE SMUDGE POT**

Today in orchard areas near Yakima one can see many smudge pots collected in uncultivated fields. They apparently are unused, perhaps on account of the smoke and soot they produce. At present the orchards are filled with large fans on posts that keep the air moving and the frost from forming on the fruit. During the Viet Nam war smudge pots were used to produce oily black clouds to obscure valuable targets and limit the ability of laser guided bombs to accurately hit their targets by diffusing the laser’s beam.

**REFERENCES**

Fahey, J., 1993, Selling the watered west, Arcadia Orchards: The Pacific Historical Review, v. 62, no. 4, p. 455-474. (Also in the Northwest Room, Spokane Public Library as an undated manuscript, 57 p., plus 12 p. notes, this manuscript contains material that the published version does not)

**NOTES**

1. Deer Park Union, January 22, 1920, page 1
3. Deer Park Union March 18, 1920, page 1

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**Editor’s Comments, Etc.**

Bob Clouse’s Aunt Ila sent the sweetest card. I have reproduced it here for all of you, who haven’t had the opportunity of seeing it in Bill Sebright’s e-mail.

We will miss Bob. He was so dedicated to the society and so instrumental in bringing the terracotta eagle back to Clayton and in starting our website.
For several years I have looked for an explanation of how Dragoon Creek received its name. In the search for the origin of the “Dragoon” name I found that it had been named Beaulieu’s Brook on a map drawn by David Thompson very early in the nineteenth century (Nesbit, 2006). Dragoon is an unusual name for a creek in this area as other area creeks are named for their source (Spring Creek), their condition (Mud Creek), their inhabitants (Beaver Creek), or an early settler’s name (Wethey Creek, Houston Creek). Apparently Dragoon Creek was named for the military term describing a heavily armed, mounted infantryman.

In reviewing the old Deer Park Union newspaper front pages I found the following article on the front page of the March 5, 1925, issue.

The article indicates that the Washington State Historical Society had written the Deer Park Union newspaper asking that the local Boy Scout Troop find the location that a company of United States Army Dragoons camped on their way from Fort Walla Walla to Fort Colville so a monument could be erected commemorating the event. The article goes on to infer that the Army troops involved were part of General William T. Sherman’s “famed trip” into the Okanogan Country in 1883. In addition the article asks local “pioneers” to help the Boy Scout search.

Unfortunately the article misled me by indicating “dragoons” were part of the General Sherman party and I mistakenly thought that the Indian treaties had been signed by 1860 but they had not been confirmed by the United States Congress until much later. A reading of Washington State history books and General William T. Sherman’s memoirs reveal that he visited the northeast Washington area in 1883 after he retired as the General of the Army. It was subsequent to his 1883 trip that the Sherman Creek and Sherman Pass were named after him.

These historic documents indicate that General Sherman did not visit the Dragoon Creek area in 1883 and that there were no formally named United States Army units named dragoons at that time. A search of Deer Park Union newspapers after March 5, 1925, did not reveal any camp site being found. I had emailed and written the Washington State Historical Society last summer asking if they had received any information as a result of their inquiry. Within the last week they finally wrote me a letter indicating they had lost my letter and that they had no record of their 1925 newspaper request. They

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suggested that I contact the Northeast Washington Historical Society as they might have some information about this request. Correspondence with Ms. Rose Krause of the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture received on November 5, 2012, resulted in information confirming General Sherman’s visit to Spokane Falls in 1883.

The documents Ms. Krause provided me indicate that General Sherman did not visit the Dragoon Creek area in 1883 but that he traveled west from Spokane Falls on August 3, 1883, to Fort Spokane at the confluence of the Spokane and Columbia Rivers and later to join a portion of his party on the main road to Colville (Sherman, 1884, p. 182). On this date a portion of his party proceeded on the main road to Colville from Spokane. This is about the only reference to where the portion of his party went and can be interpreted in two ways. Firstly, the portion of the expedition proceeding directly to Colville could have taken the Cottonwood Road north from Spokane Falls to Colville and thus could have camped on the banks of a creek (south of what became Deer Park) later to be named “Dragoon” for this encampment. Secondly, the separate portion of the expedition could have taken the Walla Walla-Colville Military Road to Colville. The latter possibility is unlikely as General Sherman’s group would have crossed the Walla Walla-Colville Military Road and at that time no mention was made of a portion of his troops leaving for Colville.

The logical conclusion is that part of General Sherman’s party traveled to Colville on the Cottonwood Road and most likely camped on a creek south of Deer Park that became known as Dragoon Creek. The exact story of how and when Dragoon Creek was named may never be exactly known but sometime in 1883 a military troop probably camped on its banks and gave it the name Dragoon even though they were formally cavalry.

REFERENCES

Nisbet, Jack, 2006, The Survival of Joseph Beaulieu, Boundaries: The North Columbia Monthly, August, Colville, WA. (Beaulieu was a Canadian trapper who suffered from a stomach protrusion. The protrusion was caused by porcupine quills which were in dog meat Beaulieu had eaten. David Thompson cut Beaulieu open and removed the quills in northern British Columbia. Beaulieu survived!)


Snowden, C. A. 1909, History of Washington; The Rise and Progress of an American State: New York, The Century History Company, Four Volumes. (A very complete early history of Washington State. Volumes III and IV contain much material covering the Yakima Indian War and especially the portions of the war that took place near Spokane in 1858 and subsequent military activities in the area up to the Civil War.
Introduction:
On October 20 Marie Morrill, Florene Moore, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Bob Bushnell, and Bill Sebright met David Benscoter by the Arcadia Orchards sign at Arcadia Elementary School.

David is an historical horticulturalist and is interested in historical fruit orchards. David’s report is at the end. He tells the types of apples found one hundred years in the Arcadia Orchards. He also describes what he found at the present time.

It was a bright sun shiny, cold, and windy day. We were able to stay warm with all the walking and picking we did.

David tasted more apples than the rest of us. I wished we would have gotten a picture of his face.

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when he ate a “spitter.” (See David’s definition later in the article.) He gave us examples of Wageners and Romes that he had picked at Green Bluff.

Besides the Arcadia School orchard, we also visited Harlan and Amy Helm’s 20 acres southeast of Deer Park High School on Burroughs Road between Weber Lane and Cedar Road, the Lewis brothers’ acreage near the corner of Crawford and Cedar, Dick Purdy’s on Dalton Road south of Highway 395, and the old Roy and June Hale property on Staley Road. There were more trees and in better condition at Arcadia School than the other locations. The trees on the old Hale farm south of Staley Road were in the worst shape.

The following is the report that David Benscoter made on our field trip looking at old apple trees of the Arcadia Orchards.

I had high hopes that our tour of old Arcadia Orchard sites would allow us to identify many old apple varieties from the Arcadia orchards. Unfortunately, I found only two trees at the Arcadia Elementary site that I considered to have good flavor and could make an attempt at identifying. I found one other tree at the elementary school that by the shape and color of its fruit I believe to be a Wagener apple. In addition, three apple trees at the intersection of Crawford and Cedar that had excellent flavor last year had horrible flavor this year.

Perhaps my biggest surprise was the number of yellow apple trees. According to Arcadia’s records, not one of the top nine apples produce for commercial purposes was yellow in color. The top nine varieties (Wagener, Jonathon, Rome Beauty, Gano, King of Tompkins County, McIntosh, King David, and Ben Davis are predominantly red while Rhode Island Greening is, of course, green. After some research and application of my previous knowledge I make the following conclusions.

1) Approximately 80% of the trees we saw had apples that were not red in color. I suspect a few of these were yellow apples planted by the orchardists for their personal use. Grimes Gold and Yellow Belleflower were two common and popular old varieties planted during the early 1900’s. Many of the yellow apples we did see looked exactly alike, yellow with a blush of red. I suspect this was the rootstock the orchardists were using. Sometime during the past 100 years the trees may have died back to their original rootstock (which would have been hardy but not capable of producing tasty apples) and the original rootstock then grew and replaced the commercial tree. That would explain why there were far too many yellow apples. I should note that I did find two excellent tasting yellow apples at the Arcadia Elementary site. The shape and color of these apples lead me to believe one was a Grimes Gold and the other a Yellow Belleflower.

2) More than 90% of the apples I tasted were “spitters” (apples so bitter you didn’t want them in your mouth.) If the apple was yellow and had reverted to its original rootstock this would make sense. However numerous red apples as well as yellow apples were spitters. I believe the reason for this is a combination of several factors: lack of pruning, lack of water, and lack of thinning.

Most of the trees we observed were obviously stressed. They had way too many apples (not enough thinning) and an obvious appearance of stress (too many branches and too few leaves.) We also know that most of the trees receive no water other than rainfall. The leaves convert sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide into sugar (glucose). Trees use the glucose to make the tree itself and, of course,
apples. If a tree does not have enough leaves for the number of apples the apples will be tart or even bitter due to lack of sugar.

My conclusion is as follows:

1) I believe that most of the old trees we observed now producing yellow apples can never be identified as most have reverted to their original rootstock.

2) Any apple that is red or has a sweet taste (despite adverse conditions) probably could be identified, but not without pruning and thinning over several years.

Despite not having a lot of success identifying old Arcadia Orchard trees, it was a worthwhile experience. We learned more about how these amazing trees have responded as they have endured 100 years with little or no care. Thank you for this opportunity to visit these trees and make new friends!

Then there is the story about the stranger driving into a filling station and saying to the attendant: “Is there a criminal lawyer in town?” “Well,” replied the operator, “We think so but we haven’t been able to prove anything on him yet”.

So it goes. They haven’t been able to prove a thing on Attorney O. G. Follevaag except that he has for the past quarter century been an upright citizen and a consistent worker for the advancement of Deer Park and this community.

Olaf Gustav or O. G. Follevaag, as he is known to his friends, was born in Norway, in the town of Evindvik, Sogn, December 15, 1884, the son of an army officer and banker. He received the equivalent of a grammar and high school education in the neighboring town of Bergen. In Norway the grade schools are supported by the state, but the high schools and colleges are private. At the Hambro School where young Olaf attended he became acquainted with Carl J. Hambro, son of the school director, a chap only four years older than himself. This same Carl Hambro is now president of the Norwegian Storting, a position equivalent to that of the Prime Minister in England. When this official made his visit to the U. S. last year, O. G. met his train at Newport and spent a pleasant hour and a half discussing old times. They also, of course, discussed the European situation and the League of Nations in whose council Hambro represents six small nations besides Norway.

As a student of history, Follevaag felt the lure of the new world, and at the age of 19 years, he left his home and came to the United States. He traveled about for a year, finally settling in St. James, Minnesota.

In January, 1905, he entered high school there to study the English language, in June of the same year he was graduated having completed the four year English course in six months. From there he entered St. Olaf College at North Field, taking a general course but specializing in English. At St. Olaf’s he became acquainted with Dr. Paul Glascoe, one of his teachers, and when Dr. Glascoe came west to found the Spokane College, Follevaag and about a dozen students came with him. He received (Continued on page 681)
his Bachelor of Arts from Spokane. On completion of college he went to work as stenographer and later as law clerk in the law firm of Danson and Williams and attended law school nights at his old Alma Mater.

He was admitted to the Bar in May, 1911, but continued his connection with Danson and Williams until two years later.

In 1913, W. H. Short, manager of the Standard Lumber Company in Deer Park, persuaded O. G. to open a law office here. So he hung out his shingle in front of the Olson Building, moving about two years later to his present location where he has spent nearly every day for 23 years over the same desk; and as he puts it, a lot of dust can gather under a desk in 23 years. The people of the community well know that a lot of work has passed over it in that same period of time.

For fifteen years he served as city attorney. In 1914 he put the town on a budget basis; this system was later adopted by the state for the operations of all cities and towns. During this time he was active in helping the town retire a bonded indebtedness of about $21,000 and a warrant indebtedness of about $25,000, truly a goodly sum to liquidate.

For five years he served as a member of the school board. During his term, the new grade school building was built, and the Athletic Association built the new gym. He handled all of the legal work in this connection and took an active part in the raising of the necessary $7,500.

In 1920 he served as president of the organization which conducted the campaign to elect Olaf Olson, a representative from the fifth district, as a sticker candidate. Olson is the only man in the state ever to run on a sticker and defeat the regular nominees.

In addition to his public duties and the operation of a law office he has been an active member of the Commercial Club, served on the Board of Directors of the Open Door Congregational Church, been vice president of a bank, part owner of a motor company, Master of the local Masonic lodge, and a multitude of other things.

What little leisure time he has, he spends in social activity, fishing, golf and bridge. Very little of the last two. In his own words, “I do indulge in the finer things in life, but not any more than is absolutely necessary.”

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More about O.G. Follevaag

Sharon Clark

O.G. Follevaag was my grandmother’s attorney. He prepared her will. I remember she had appointments with him. I now have a copy of that will. It provided the proof that I needed of my mother’s birth. She had no birth certificate.

Mr. Follevaag left many documents to explain his life. O.G. married Genora Eliz Knudson in Spokane, Washington, November 9, 1912. Livier B. Follevaag witnessed the wedding. The marriage certificate shows OG’s father was L.O. Follevaag and his mother’s name was Bertha E. Jacobson.

Above photo from Passport Application, 1920
Genora was born in Wisconsin. Her father was C.E. Knudson, her mother was Serah Erikson. The Follyevaag’s had two children: C.E. Maurice and Leslie Robert.

In June of 1920, O.G. applied for a passport to travel to England and Norway on business. He was to sail from the port of New York on board the “Stefanfjord” on June 20, 1920. He had the passport directed to the him in care of the steamship line as there was no time to get it back to Deer Park before he left for New York. He had a short trip as he was back in New York on August 16, 1920.

Robert, the Follyevaag’s younger son, was born in 1918 and he died at 12 years old, on February 10, 1930. It was another case of ruptured appendix and peritonitis. Very sad for all.

Cornelius Maurice Follevaag and Florence Alice Roberts were married June 6, 1942 in Thurston County, Washington. She was from San Francisco, California, and he of Spokane County.

O.G. Follevaag died, July 9, 1965; Genora E. died February 26, 1984., C. Maurice died May 7, 2005, Alice, his wife preceded him on December 29, 1996. All were buried in Woodland Cemetery, Deer Park, Washington.

Mark Wagner, Bill Sebright, Sharon Clark, Betty Burdette, Marilyn Reilly, Duane Costa, Roxanne Camp, Florene Moore, Penny Hutten, Kay Parkin, Warren Nord, Lorraine Nord and granddaughter Catherine, Lynn Fackenthall Wells, Bob Gibson, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Allan Fackenthal, Lonnie Jenkins, and Sue Rehms.

Society President, Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. 1) Eddie Kingrey’s name was omitted from the August Minutes. He joined the Society at our Clayton Day Booth. He has been supporting us for many years. 2) Producer/ Director Bob Lawrence and Cameraman Ryan Alexander from KSPS came to Pete Coffin’s house to interview him on the Arcadia Orchards project. Pete did a wonderful job in the interview. He represented himself and the CDPHS very well. We went to several areas around Deer Park to film remaining concrete signs of the project. 3) Jeff Richins emailed from St. Johns, Arizona, asking permission to use a Lawrence Zimmerer picture of men working in Short’s saw mill. 4) Ila Granlund, Bob Clouse’s Aunt, gave the CDPHS Bob’s DPHS boxing robe (It was on display at the Drive-In today) and 4 DPHS Antlers from the years 1946- 49.

5) The CDPHS was well represented at Bob Clouse’s Memorial Service. Over a third of the 50+ people were from the CDPHS. 6) The Society received a check for $834.33 from the Preserve America Project. This was for documents that were digitized. 6) We received $100 in memorials for Bob Clouse.

Treasurer, Mark Wagner reported that there is $3,652.48 in the main checking account. Deposits: $834.33 Preserve America Project, $8.00 book sales. Checks written were $137.97 Sharon Clark supplies and $50.00 DP Chamber of Commerce. Fees for this month $14.00 monthly maintenance fee and $3.00 check imaging fee. (Treasurer will cover out of pocket). Maintenance Web hosting account had $195.46 in funds with a $10.95 in activity monthly hosting fee.

Grace Hubal, Secretary reported by email: 1) She sent out 3 thank you cards. 2) She sold Collected Newsletters #3 and #4, and collected $8. 3) She saw Bob Clouse at Manor Care the Tuesday before he died and took a card and flowers on be-

(Continued on page 683)
half of the historical society. (Grace had to miss the meeting because of nursing problems.)

Vice President, Pete Coffin reported by email that he: 1) Has spent time with an attorney at the offices of Wells St. John, the Spokane Patent/Copyright practice. The attorney encouraged him to apply for a copyright on the Arcadia Orchard Company film digitization. From what he was told the Society has a “Common Law” copyright on our publications. 2) Contacted one of the heirs of the Libby photographic collection and was encouraged by his attitude that he would allow use of his grandfather’s pictures published in historic materials. 3) Checked the online copyright location and found that the last two “Reports to the Society” had been registered as copyrighted in Wally Parker’s name. 4) Provided a filmed interview Thursday October 4, 2012, for KSPS to use as a subject for a “Northwest Profiles” six minute segment on the Arcadia Orchard using the digitized film and pictures taken by their photographer of the Arcadia Orchard’s artifacts. In addition, he has given Mr. Bob Lawrence (Producer/Director) a copy of John Fahey’s manuscript “Selling the Watered West, Arcadia Orchards” with hopes of getting an hour long documentary generated. 5) Has been contacted by Ms. Susanne DeCeasere, a film producer for KSPS, about material needed for a documentary on the Arcadia Orchards. 6) Has received Stevens County Superior Court records documenting two law suits brought against the Arcadia Orchards Company by Loon Lake property owners. Neither seems to have denied Arcadia Loon Lake irrigation water in either 1908 or 1911 law suits. 7) Did not attend the meeting as he was traveling to Portland, OR, to visit his son’s family during a school in-service week end.

Print Editor, Sharon Clark reported: 1) The October 2012 Mortarboard, #54 was distributed. “William Short,” written by Pete Coffin, the founding father of Deer Park is featured. The second story is on Alva Eickmeyer, written by Florene Eickmeyer Moore, her Uncle Alva was a pilot in WW II. Other stories on family members are welcome as well. Contact Sharon Clark if you have an article idea or want to write a family history. Collected Newsletters #14 is available for purchase.

Webmaster Penny Hutten reported: This past month the only additions to the website were on the http://www.cdphs.org/deer-park-class-3.html page. 1) One was the 1951-55 Deer Park grade class of girls playing basketball from Sharon Clark.2) Peter Coffin’s write-up of for the Cub Scouts on this page. Anyone who has additions or corrections to website materials contact Penny.

Florene Moore reports that a planning meeting for the 50 year class reunion for the class of ’63 is next Saturday. The 100 year All Class Reunion will be after the picnic at Settlers Day next year. We will be doing a story about the life of Bob Clouse. Anyone with stories about Bob is asked to share them, so they can be included. Please give stories to Bill (276-2693, sebrightba@wildblue.net). Bill passed around materials from Bob’s funeral. The Class of 1949 had a 60th reunion because of Bob Clouse. Lil Gibson gave her list of addresses to Bob Clouse. Bob’s friendliness winning smile and warm hand shake were all mentioned.

Mike Reiter suggested that we do something nice for Taffy and Randy Long for allowing us to meet at their restaurant all these years. If you have any ideas please let Bill Sebright know.

We will meet David Benscoter by the Arcadia Orchards sign at Arcadia School, Saturday, October 20, 11 AM. We will visit several remaining “Arcadia Orchards” to see what types of apples are still around.

Bob Gibson told the group about a quilt made by the Home Ec. Club in the 1930s. Bob and Lily were at the Spokane Interstate Fair in the 1960s when Lily saw a “blanket” on Denise Simpson’s cow. It turned out to be a quilt that Bob’s Mom’s Home Ec. Club put together years before. Lily told
Denise that she would buy her a blanket. The quilt is made of up of squares with the different women’s names. The Gibsons hope to bring the quilt to the next meeting.

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: Information and photos regarding the history of the Brickyard/Ramble In Tavern with their occupations and settlement in the Clayton/Deer Park Area

Gardenspot #278 Granges

WANTED: Any information on the Williams Valley Grange Orchestra Contact: Ann Fackenthall, WVG

WANTED: Any stories and photos of your family’s history in connection with Williams Valley #452 and

Visit our New Web Site: cdphs.org