

LATAH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Quarterly Bulletin*

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IN MEMORIAM: G. ORIEN BAKER

The Latah County Historical Society mourns the loss of G. Orient Baker, civic leader and professor of agronomy at the University of Idaho for more than 30 years, who died in Moscow on May 11. Grace Wicks, who worked closely with him in the early days of the Society, writes the following tribute:

Our dear friend has gone. He was the first president of the Latah County Pioneer Historical Museum Society. As such he performed a monumental task: he started the work of taking the dwelling of a careful bachelor historian and converting it into a working museum. With the help of Harry Sampson, who followed him in the leadership position, they waded into the accumulation of many years and sorted what should be sent to the university for their safekeeping, what should be retained within the walls of the McConnell Mansion, and what should go to the garbage can. Maybe they made mistakes, but who knows? They had an utterly impossible chore, and they did it as best they could. And maybe they were inspired in their choices of what to save, which is why we presently have the basic ingredients of the fine facility of which we are justly proud.

Hats off to Orient! He gave a contribution to local history few have such a chance to fashion. We shall miss him.



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BULLETIN STAFF

Editor Lillian Otness  
Typing Kathleen Probasco  
Assembly and distribution Ruth and Francis Nonini

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DEBUT OF THE NEW LOGO

The design that is part of the masthead at the top of this page is the Society's new logo, which was planned by a committee composed of Marion Featherstone, Tom Berg, and Sam Schrage. The lamp was selected as symbolic of early times, knowledge, and the home. Photography by Phil Schofield. You will be seeing the logo on Society stationery, brochures, and other publications.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FORMED

The Palouse Genealogical Society has recently been organized in Moscow. For more information call Dorothy Schell in Moscow, 882-5943, or Sheryl Hanson in Troy, 835-3182.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL COMING UP

The second annual old-fashioned ice cream social is planned for Sunday, July 30, at the McConnell Mansion from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The mansion will be open for touring, with the refreshments to be served on the lawn, weather permitting. Donations will go to the general fund of the Society. Plan to get your Gay '90s clothing out of mothballs and attend.

## INDEPENDENCE WAS WON BY STRUGGLE\*

Many feet have trod the hallowed ground  
Where signs and scenes of history abound.  
The battlefields where crosses stand,  
And gardens of Mount Vernon's land.  
High monuments to gallant men  
Who planned our goals with acumen.  
Fantastic buildings of solid stone,  
Are worthy memorials alone.  
Every visitor on pilgrimage  
To the Capitol in any age,  
Can find the sense of pride in our past.  
We know through travail our land will last,  
We still hold our Independence Day--  
Remembering the price we had to pay.  
The bitter battles finally won  
By men of General Washington.

--Lucille Magnuson

## THE OLD-FASHIONED FOURTH

by Lillian Otness

Noise, parades, music, oratory, picnic lunches, races, contests, baseball, dancing, fireworks--all these plus heat, fatigue, and patriotic fervor were the ingredients of the old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration, which was one of the biggest events of the year in earlier days. Probably only Christmas rivaled the Fourth in the enthusiasm it elicited, and Christmas, as a religious observance coming in midwinter, was a time for church-going and family gatherings. The mood was heartfelt, but quiet. But the Fourth of July, ah, that was different. That was a time for really cutting loose, a time for going places and mingling with crowds, a time for being reminded of our country's history, and for letting off steam.

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\*From *The Ways of Days*, copyright 1974 by Lucille Magnuson; poems quoted by permission.

Carol Ryrrie Brink, who was a child in the early 1900s, remembers the Fourth of July as being "sunshine and noise and company. It was bliss and danger and sentiments that lifted and tossed the heart."<sup>1</sup> It was also a day for attracting visitors to town. For rural families, whose women and children sometimes got to a sizeable town only once or twice a year, the Fourth was a great occasion.

In 1885, with a population of about 600, Moscow put on a celebration which the *Moscow Mirror* claimed later was attended by 5,000 people. The program, as detailed in the newspaper's issue of July 3, 1885, was to start at sunrise with a salute of 101 guns. At 10 o'clock the parade was to form in the following order: "Moscow Silver Cornet Band; Liberty Car; President, Orator, and Reader in carriage; Citizens in carriages; Citizens on horseback; Citizens on foot; Callithumpians." [Anyone know who they were? A fraternal order, perhaps?]

The following week the *Mirror* reported at length on the success of the occasion. The headlines proclaimed:

#### HOW WE CELEBRATE!

Over 5,000 People in Moscow on the Fourth!

Judge Buck and Senator McConnell  
Speak Amid Uproarious Applause!

The Grand Pavilion, The Liberty Car, The Instrumental and Vocal Music, The Decorations and Refreshments Spread, are Unparalleled in the History of North Idaho.

Enterprise, Industry, Perseverance and Courage  
on the Part of the Moscow People is What Did It!

The article reports that as daylight dawned "the roads approaching Moscow were black with the multitudes, in wagons, on horseback or on foot moving towards the principal city . . . of this upper country." The parade ended at the "mammoth [sic] wheat pavilion" owned

by W. J. McConnell, the use of which was donated to the city for the exercises. "This building, capable of seating 5,000 people, was crowded." Judge Norman Buck of Lewiston, the principal speaker of the day, began by saying, "Mr. President, from whence comes this vast assembly of people in this sparsely settled country!" He answered his own question and "gave a glowing picture of our forefathers wending their way from the different firesides from among the different nations of Europe." He exhorted the audience to work out the principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence and "encouraged the people on the near completion of the railroad to Moscow to carry away the immense yields that are now ripening over this vast area." He also advocated the building of institutions of learning and pointed with pride to the schools and churches and to "improvements on the farms in fencing and building."

State Senator W. J. McConnell of Oregon, who at that time had extensive business interests in Moscow, though he was not yet a resident, responded with a speech "after repeated calls" and "told the people how he had left his home in Oregon to come to Moscow on the Fourth. . . . He referred to Judge Buck's remarks as to where all these thousands of people came from and replied that Judge Buck's lack of information about us came from the fact that he had been living too long in Lewiston, at the foot of the hill, in the suburbs of Moscow." The remainder of the program for the day featured races and contests in the afternoon and "Dancing Day and night at Griffin's hall."

Evidently the Liberty Car was a standard feature of Fourth of July parades. The "Local Brevities" column of the same issue of the *Moscow Mirror* (July 10, 1885) noted that "the Liberty Car at Lewiston broke down and disorganized the procession." No such mishap occurred at Moscow, as the paper went on to say, "The Liberty Car, so tastefully gotten up under the management of Mrs. W. W. Langdon and Mrs. R. H. Barton, was one of the grand features of the day, with its fifty richly attired girls surrounding the Goddess of Liberty, drawn by six spanking blooded horses and headed by the Moscow Silver Cornet Band, accompanied the games and sports and was the great feature of beauty all the Fourth."

In 1886 the *Moscow Mirror* reported that a similar celebration was attended by 8,000 people.

Apparently in 1893 some dissatisfaction with the conduct of the Fourth of July celebration was expressed. The *North Idaho Star* of July 14 of that year carried the following article, which gives some interesting clues as to what was involved in putting on such celebrations.

#### HOW IT WAS EXPENDED

##### A Full Report of the Expenditure of the Money Collected for the Fourth

As there has been some kick made by kickers as to how the money collected for the Fourth of July celebration had been expended we give below a full report of all monies collected and how it was used. The material used in the construction of the different floats has all been saved and the committee will hold a meeting shortly and consider what will be the best thing to do with the balance on hand and the material.

Subscriptions collected	\$596 50
Licenses	52 50
Total cash received	<u>\$649 00</u>
DISBURSEMENTS	
W. G. Barge calling meeting	\$ 2 00
Chas. L. Dearborn, distributing posters	50
S. L. Langdon, hall rent and adv. Genesee, Colton, etc.	8 00
B. R. Elzey, work on bowery, etc.	52 25
Dillon Bros., hauling boughs	16 00
M. L. Wilson, " "	6 00
Gust Anderson " "	20 00
J. B. Foster, stringing banners	1 00
Ben Zeit[1]er, work on boat	2 40
Wm. Frye, hauling cannon	2 50
Stewart Bros., cab and saddle horses	12 50
Holt & Robertson, greased pig	5 00
M. J. Shields Co. Mdse (car, boat, etc)	107 41

NORTH IDAHO STAR, printing	\$ 4 25
Motter, Wheeler & Co., prizes	9 70
Hall Bros., ball bats	7 50
W. P. Cattron, Kendrick band expns.	53 75
J. B. Johnston, saddle horse	1 50
Chas. Bowers, teams on boat	8 00
Lindol Smith, firing cannon and pwdr	9 75
Dernham & K., Mdse (car, boat, etc)	63 48
W. P. Cattron, postage and stationery	7 60
Hose Co. No. 2, Jr., prize	2 50
Ed Allen, prize boys' race	5 00
C. H. Dolson, Mdse	9 25
Arthur Curtis, zigzag race	2 50
H. Price, drayage	1 00
Luce & Walker, brding Kendrick band	15 00
Moscow Mirror, printing	11 75
S. L. Langdon, piano rent	2 00
A. McKenzie, team and driver	3 00
Moscow band and instrumental music	85 00
W. P. Cattron, posting bills, Pullman	1 00
B. R. Elzey, taking down bowery	17 84
J. W. Lieuallen, pies and potatoes	1 55
W. P. Cattron, Sec'y	10 00
Jno. Schafer	7 50
Stenographer work	20 00
	<hr/>
Total Disbursements	\$596 01
Balance on Hand	52 99

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\$649 00

W. P. CATTRON,  
Official Sec'y 4th July Com.

WM. KAUFMANN,  
Chairman Finances

The importance attached to Fourth of July celebrations is attested to by the fact that even in 1893, a year of nationwide financial troubles, Moscow was able to raise what would then have been a considerable sum of money for the purpose. This, of course, was before the late rains ruined the harvest, forcing a number of farmers and businessmen into bankruptcy.

Not all Fourth of July celebrations were as elaborate as the ones described, nor were all the Latah County ones held in Moscow. Rosie Hecks Clark, in an interview taped for our Society's oral history project, describes celebrations at Deep Creek: "They'd celebrate two or three days up there at the crick. They'd have a big swing; they'd put a big swing up, you know, and they'd have races, and, oh, they just had everything like that up there right at the schoolhouse. They'd clear out the places. People would bring their lunches and put big lunches out, have big lunches and have a big time. Celebrate two and three days." Her uncle and aunt once came with their children to celebrate the Fourth, staying overnight, with the children sleeping on straw ticks on the floor. Mrs. Clark also refers to the custom of making a Fourth of July dress. Once she made a trip to Palouse to buy some white goods for a dress, but that seems to have been unusual. She says, "There used to be an old peddler come up to Deep Creek, and he peddled all kinds of goods. Every summer he would come up there, and we'd buy goods to make us a Fourth of July dress."

Dora Otter Fleener in *Palouse Country Yesteryears* (for more about the book see page 14) describes celebrations in the smaller towns near Moscow. "Sometimes we went to some small town nearby which was putting on a celebration. They would have all kinds of races, foot races as well as horse and mule races. One was a slow mule race where the one coming in last was the winner. They had concessions and booths where snacks and such could be bought. . . . Also at such a celebration they had often built a large dance pavilion and had a dance band too, the latter very fascinating to me. The dance was well attended, for the most part with undesirables it seemed to us. There was considerable drinking of hard liquor among the participants."

In 1908 three of the Otter children accompanied the Charles J. Munson family to Juliaetta for a celebration of the Fourth. Mrs. Fleener quotes from the diary of her older sister, Ruth Otter (Vogel), who was a teenager at the time:



Munsons folks and Dora, Charlie and I went to Juliaetta to spend the 4th. We took the 8:30 train Friday evening and got there about 10:30. It was too dark and cloudy to pitch our tent so we went to a hotel, and it was so full we had to take just what we could get. Dora and Goldie slept in a single bed and we made Vivian a bed on the floor. . . . The morning of the 4th we went down to the picnic grounds quite early and had a lunch and picked a lovely place and pitched our tent. . . . Then we had a late breakfast or an early dinner, I don't know which, before we went to the speaking. Mr. Stillinger made the speech. It was fine. At 12:50 we took the train for Lapwai to see the Indian celebrations but we couldn't make connections so we didn't get there; so stopped at Spaulding. . . . We ate our lunch there and started back about 3:30 without seeing the Indians. . . . They had only one stand on the grounds at Juliaetta and when we got back there wasn't any ice cream left--a Fourth of July without ice cream! They didn't have any fire crackers left either, but we went down town after supper and got about a doz. bunches and some sky-rockets and other things and had a regular 'send off' after dark. . . . Never went to bed until about 10 o'clock. . . . We slept on pine boughs. . . . We got up with the birds for we took the 8 o'clock train. We got home on the 10 o'clock.

Probably no teenager today would find such a trip very adventurous, but Mrs. Fleener remembers it as "the most exciting and unusual 4th" of her youth.<sup>2</sup>

Noisemaking was always an important part of celebrating the Fourth. The firing of cannon was traditional, but, in the absence of cannon, pioneer ingenuity could be trusted to find a substitute. *Memories of Clarence Elzy Talbott* mentions the "firing of anvils," which Mr. Talbott explains as follows: "A blacksmith's anvil has a hollow in the bottom, so by turning one upside down and filling it with black powder and fuse attached, and putting another anvil on the top of it, the blast sounds like a cannon and can be heard for several miles."<sup>3</sup>

In spite of the crowds reported, not everyone made it to a celebration every year. After all, someone had to stay home and milk the cows when rural families went to a three-day Independence Day bash. Ansel Fleener's diary of 1909, when he was 21 and living on a farm in Whitman County, records that he spent a pretty unexciting Fourth: since it was Sunday, he attended Sunday school (the attendance was "nothing extra"). In the afternoon he was visited by a neighbor who wanted help with his summer fallowing.<sup>4</sup>

Throughout the early 1900s Moscow continued to hold organized celebrations, perhaps not every year, but often. During 1917 and 1918 preoccupation with the World War brought such activities to a halt, but in 1919 the time seemed ripe to resume the pre-war custom of celebrating the Fourth in a big way. According to the *Idaho Post* of June 27, 1919, a dancing pavilion costing more than \$1000 was being built on Main Street between Fourth and Fifth. The "new bowery pavilion" boasted a floor 50 x 90 feet and was sheltered by a huge tent. During the Third, Fourth, and Fifth dancing was scheduled for every afternoon and evening under the management of the Cowboy's Band from Grangeville. The pavilion was to be left in place during the remainder of the summer, to be used for weekly dances. But the biggest novelty of the celebration was to be the visit to Moscow of an "aeroplane" to be flown by Lt. Jay M. Fetters, formerly of Spokane, who would make several flights daily during the three days and would drop flowers on the University of Idaho campus on the Fourth as a memorial to U. of I. students killed in the war.

The *Kendrick Gazette* of June 27 carried a large ad proclaiming that "All Roads Lead to Moscow" for the "three-day 'Welcome Home' in honor of all soldiers who served in the late war." A feature of the program was to be a baseball tournament with "a big purse . . . offered the winning team."

On July 5th the *Gazette* reported that "a large crowd went to Moscow from here Thursday and Friday to attend the Moscow celebration. All trains were packed and many cars from Kendrick and surrounding country were

driven to Moscow these two days." However, Kendrick people were understandably indignant, because for what had been billed as an amateur baseball tournament Moscow fielded a team "consisting of five Spokane professional players, headed by 'Sad' Smith, a Spokane league pitcher with a northwest reputation. Three Moscow players and the best ball player on the Troy team finished off the personnel of this sporting bunch." Kendrick's defeat by this team was felt to be "anything but a square deal," and even Moscow people were said to be "very much disgusted with the idea that they had to hire a ball team from Spokane to win an amateur ball game against their neighboring town of Kendrick. One prominent Moscow citizen expressed himself thus: 'There isn't enough sporting blood in the Moscow ball team to fill a pocket handkerchief.'"

But it was another matter that really sent county residents home feeling that they had been defrauded. According to Harry Sampson, some young men, several of them college students, had a concession to sell lemonade at a booth at Third and Main, alongside Davids' store. The day being hot and drinking fountains scarce, business was so good that the operators ran out of lemons. The mix soon became so diluted that what they were selling was little different from water alone. The customers were so outraged that it is small wonder that 1919 has gone down in county history as The Year Moscow Sold Water to the Visitors.

With the scandals of the lemonade and the baseball game fresh in the minds of county citizens, it is probably no wonder that Moscow did not schedule a celebration the following year. The *Idaho Post* of July 9, 1920, reported that "Goldsmith's 'Deserted Village' had little on Moscow Monday in the way of quietness. There have been few Sundays when the city wore as much of a deserted appearance as it wore on the day set apart to celebrate the birth of the nation." The editor gamely wrote, "We believe the people of Moscow really enjoyed the quiet and rest and freedom from noise and a big crowd." Perhaps so, but could there be a whiff of sour grapes in the statement, and could it be that the occasion was perceived as a good time to keep a low profile?

Be that as it may, by 1922 Moscow was ready for another real celebration. The *Idaho Post* of June 30 was careful to point out that "there will be plenty of running water available in the city, fountains having been placed on Main street especially for the convenience of the city's visitors," also that there would be no charges for automobile parking.

The American Legion was in charge of the two-day program, which included a "monster" parade, a baseball game, an address by the state commander of the American Legion, two afternoons of a roundup and wild west show attended by 10,000 people, a "street dance and confetti battle," midway concessions, a pavilion dance, and "the most elaborate display of fireworks ever seen in a Palouse country city."

Leora Stillinger recalls that the newly formed American Legion Auxiliary took over the ground floor of the McConnell-Maguire building (now occupied by Brown's Furniture store), installed tables and benches and cooking equipment, and served regular meals to hundreds of people during the two days of the celebration. The amount of equipment in the building was so great that Mrs. E. T. McConnell slept there overnight to make sure nothing was disturbed. The auxiliary's \$500 profit became the seed money for the building fund which eventually was used to finance the construction of the American Legion Cabin still in use on Howard Street.

The *Idaho Post* of July 7, 1922, headlined its account "Moscow's Celebration Draws Big Crowd and Unqualified Approval." The article went on to say that the "celebration has gone down into history as a great success, with nothing but expressions of praise from the immense throng of people who were entertained. . . . Every accommodation was supplied for the comfort and convenience of the crowd. Not only the visitors, but the business interests of the city as well, feel that the American Legion, and those cooperating, staged a celebration which reflects the greatest credit upon its sponsors and upon the community." It is to be hoped that Moscow's sins of 1919 had been forgiven, if not forgotten.

This was probably the last of the big Fourth of July celebrations in the county. With increased mobility afforded by the burgeoning number of automobiles, families began to seek their Fourth of July fun farther from home, and interest in local celebrations seems to have diminished. After World War II many communities developed their own festivals unrelated to the Fourth of July. These included the Kendrick Locust Blossom Festival, Deary Strawberry Festival, Potlatch Logger Days, Troy Days, and Genesee Community Days.

Carol Brink writes, "The Fourth of July has shrunk in size since I was a child. . . . Today our holidays seem to lack both patriotism and religion. They have become extra bits of leisure in the oceans of leisure which have been provided for us by electricity and a paternal government, a government that no longer seems to belong to us personally as it did in the early 1900s."<sup>5</sup> Today the Fourth of July has become for many just another day off, another chance to spend some time at "the lake." Children still enjoy the noise and the visual beauty of fireworks but often remain unaware of the reason for celebrating the Fourth. Old-timers will recall the old-fashioned Fourth with pleasure, but will recognize it as typical of a way of life that will never return.

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<sup>1</sup>"Proudly We Hailed," unpublished manuscript;  
<sup>2</sup>quoted by permission.

<sup>2</sup>*Palouse Country Yesteryears*, copyright 1978 by  
<sup>3</sup>Dora Otter Fleener; quoted by permission.

<sup>3</sup>Unpublished typescript; quoted by permission.

<sup>4</sup>Unpublished diary.

<sup>5</sup>Work cited.

#### REMEMBER?

Remember the parades on the Fourth of July?  
The thrill as Old Glory went fluttering by?  
The joyous shouting and childrens' gay laughter?  
With bright noisy bands and clowns tumbling after?  
The balloons floating high above the raucous noise,  
The excitement and fears of dangerous toys?  
Old memories remind us we've changed our way,  
But let's not forget our Independence Day!

--Lucille Magnuson

## BOOK REVIEW

Dora Otter Fleener's book *Palouse Country Yesteryears* is a great deal more than personal memories of growing up. The story covers her life from Clark, South Dakota, where she was born in 1894, to the day of her marriage to Ansel Fleener in Moscow in 1916. The dedication tells us that she was one of seven Otter children and had seven children of her own. The communities of Latah and Whitman Counties have been fortunate in having the brothers, sisters, children, and grandchildren of this brave lady as residents--brave because she has written this delightful book in spite of the pain of crippling arthritis.

Mrs. Fleener's book is more than memories and reminiscences of her family and the Palouse country. It is a distillation of her personality: a great sense of humor and a keen wit. Her story of Papa and the chicken and the cow, her admission that she had her picture taken when a freshman in college because of her pride in the lace on her dress, her explanation of why ladies in the early 1900s had no need for pockets or purses are wonderful examples of this. The author's style of writing is lucid and easily read. It is hard to believe what she says of her first college English class: "English was never an easy subject for me, and it turned out no better in college. I would write a theme and the red-headed teacher would say in a rather sarcastic tone of voice, 'This is too crude.' So I tried again. Then he said, 'You copied this.'" Somewhere she developed her own style, but not from the red-headed teacher.

The physical makeup of the book is fine. It was published by the *Idahonian*, Moscow, Idaho. The print is medium size, well spaced and easy to read. Much care and love have gone into the proofreading and editing. The cover, which is a wraparound photograph of the Fleener homestead taken by Jeanette Fleener Talbott, is beautiful and most appropriate for the subject of the book. The family photographs and maps are interesting and clearly reproduced.

Any reader who is searching for a happy book and a

satisfactory visit with a knowledgeable, unpretentious, witty friend will find the opportunity in Dora Otter Fleener's *Palouse Country Yesteryears*.

--Marguerite Laughlin

### FROM THE DESK OF THE CURATOR

While plans for the second annual historic homes tour are not yet underway, the success of this year's tour makes the possibility of an annual event seem probable. After months of planning by the homes tour committee, the April 22 tour proved to be most successful. Even late afternoon rain did not dampen the spirits of the 375 people who participated. Total revenue from ticket sales amounted to \$788.75. After expenses, the tour allowed the Society to forward \$680.89 towards the new slide equipment purchased in March. I would like to thank the homes tour committee, the Moscow Historical Club, homeowners and Society members who volunteered refreshments or served as guides, for making the tour a success. Now that the "bugs" have been worked out, we can look forward to a successful annual spring fundraiser. We are hopeful of being able to take the tour to other Latah County towns in the future.

The Society sponsored another tour in the spring, a tour of Moscow's old post office on May 13. The purpose of that tour was entirely different from the homes tour. Due to increasing discussion about the future of the building, the Society felt that only by allowing people the chance to view the structure would they reach an educated decision as to its role in Moscow's future. Therefore the Society sponsored guided tours through the building as a public service, with no admission charged. We are grateful to the City of Moscow for allowing this use of the building and trust the over 100 visitors now have a better understanding of the history of that building and its present state.

The historical lecture series has continued to draw interest. On April 27 Clifford Ott showed part of his slide collection of historic Moscow, and on May 25 Sam

Schrager presented a program on migration into Latah County entitled "Why They Came," using selections from the Society's oral history collection. The only scheduled program in the series for the summer comes on July 6 when Dr. David H. Stratton of the WSU history department and Joseph Broyles of Moscow will give a joint presentation on the importance of railroads in the Pacific Northwest generally and in Latah County particularly. The series will resume on a regular basis in the fall.

In recognition of the Society's outstanding oral history program, Sam Schrager was asked to give the major presentation at the All-Idaho Oral History Workshop sponsored by the Idaho State Historical Society in Boise on May 20. Laura Schrager and Lillian Otness also attended the workshop. Donna Bray and Keith Petersen attended a two-day workshop on various responsibilities of non-profit organizations held at the University of Idaho in April.

Word is beginning to circulate about the Society's improving research facilities. In May a new monthly record was set as 30 reference questions were answered. Reference questions come almost evenly distributed by mail, phone, and personal contact, and originate from organizations, businesses, other museums, historical researchers, and genealogists. As our library, archive, and photograph collections continue to increase, we will be able to answer a larger number of questions in less time with more accuracy.

Karen Gaunt began working at the museum on June 12. She is an intern from the University of Idaho museology program. During the summer she will be assisting the Society in a wide variety of activities.

Two new exhibits were set up during the last quarter. One encompasses the entire upstairs southwest room and was developed with much assistance from last semester's interns. Floor panels were constructed which will allow us to change a portion of the exhibit without changing the entire display. Entitled "A Tribute to Some Interesting Characters from Latah County's Past,"



the exhibit presently focuses on Dr. W. W. Watkins and Carol Ryrrie Brink, Almon Asbury Lieuallen, William Deary, Hap Moody, Joe and Lou Wells, Pat Malone, and Mabel Paulson. An exhibit on cattle ranching in the county was set up with the assistance of Kenneth Hedgelin.

Many outstanding gifts to the Society were made during the quarter. Gwendolyn Bovill Lawrence of Mercer Island, Washington, made a cash donation of \$750.00. Dr. C. A. Robertson, Moscow dentist, donated equipment for a complete dentist's office, circa 1920, including chair, dental unit, drill, cabinet, and tools. Moscow attorney Robert Peterson donated a legal-size filing cabinet to be used for the storage of photographs when cataloging of that collection begins this summer. Edna Rambo Sturman made a large donation of various household materials.

Kathleen Probasco completed one major labor of love in April and began another in May. Finished after six months of work was her manuscript entitled *Births, Deaths, Marriage Licenses, Marriages, Anniversaries, Divorces, and Birthday Parties in the Moscow, Idaho, Area, 1889-1912*, a 141-page manuscript which she donated to the Society on April 23. Completely indexed, the work is a compilation of accounts from Moscow newspapers. Local historians and genealogists will thank Kathy for years to come. We are hopeful of continuing this project and branching out into other county towns. Anyone who might be interested in doing such research is asked to contact the museum. Without much time for rest, Kathy began compiling indices to the memory books Mrs. Henrik Juve has spent so many years completing. So far, indices have been made for the first five volumes. When this project is completed, the scrapbooks will become valuable research tools, as well as entertaining items to browse.

With the arrival of spring many school groups made field trips to the museum. Visitation for April was 180 and for May 240. Groups visiting the museum included:  
April 6: Mortar Board  
April 11: Alpha Chi Omega Alums  
April 13: Moscow High School Local History Class

- April 13: Moscow High School Library Training Class  
April 21: University of Idaho Historic Furnishing Class  
April 24: Troy Camp Fire Groups  
April 26: Xenocian Club of Palouse  
May 10: Whelan Welfare Workers of Pullman, Moscow  
and Genesee  
May 11: St. Mary's School Third Graders  
May 11: Moscow High School Composition Class  
May 12: Moscow High School Composition Class  
May 19: Juliaetta Fourth Graders  
May 19: Troy Middle School Enrichment Class  
May 24: Lena Whitmore Third Graders  
May 24: Deary Middle School Enrichment Class  
--Keith Petersen, Curator

### NEW BOVILL BOOK PLACED IN LOCAL LIBRARIES

*Knight or Knave?*, by Gwendolyn Bovill, was announced last October as a new book in our museum library. Since then the Society has received enough more copies to supply one each to all school and community libraries in Latah County, plus copies for the University of Idaho, Lewis & Clark State College, and state historical libraries. An additional 25 copies were available for private purchase.

In connection with the distribution of these books, donations to the Society's publications fund were solicited. Three categories of support were designated: Regular Donors (private purchases), \$20.00 and up; Public Donors (for school and community libraries), \$50.00 and up; Special Donors (for historical and institutional libraries), \$200.00 and up. The response to this solicitation has been excellent.

Individual letters of appreciation have been sent all sponsors as their donations were received. All as a body were thanked in a report given the three local newspapers on June 12. Following is a full list of library sponsorships, by categories.

Public Donors: Deary High School, Deary Businessmen's Association; Genesee High School, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Johnson and Mrs. Fred Shirrod; Genesee Community Li-

brary, Mr. and Mrs. Don Springer; Good Samaritan Village, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Mickey; Juliaetta Community Library, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Nicholson, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Schupfer, and Mr. and Mrs. William Turner; Kendrick High School, Kendrick Grange; Moscow-Latah County Library, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Bohman; Moscow High School, Mrs. R. K. Bonnett; Moscow Junior High School, Miss Ella Olesen and J. R. Simplot Co.; Potlatch Community Library and Potlatch High School, each, Potlatch Branch of Potlatch Corporation; Troy High School, Brocke & Guilfooy Insurance; University of Idaho, Potlatch Corporation.

Special Donors: Latah County Museum library, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth B. Platt; Lewis & Clark State College, Lewiston Morning Tribune Publishing Company.

(Note: Sponsors for the Troy Community Library and the State Historical Library are still sought.)

In addition to the above donors for libraries, twelve Regular Donors have taken copies of *Knight or Knave?* for their own use, as follows: Phyllis Borrowman, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Clyde, Mr. and Mrs. Howard David, Mrs. Charles Kiblen, Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Laughlin, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Ott, Miss Agnes Peterson, Mrs. Harold Snow, and Mrs. Grace Wicks, all of Moscow; Mr. and Mrs. Don Jain, Bovill; Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Magnuson, Kendrick; Mrs. Naomi Parker, Lewiston; and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wahl, Pullman.

As of June 21 twelve copies of *Knight or Knave?* were available for distribution to further Regular Donors. Interested persons should call Keith Petersen, curator of the museum at 882-1004.

The total of \$1,400 already realized from donors for the Bovill book has enabled the Society to proceed this summer with republishing Anna Smith Mitchell's *Homesteaders and Early Settlers of Cedar Creek Ridge*, long out of print since first issued in 1961. The new edition, doubled in size by updating to include descendants and by adding many photos, will be ready for the Cedar Ridge Old-timer's annual picnic at Kendrick in August.

--Kenneth B. Platt, Publications Committee

LATAH COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
110 South Adams St.  
Moscow, Idaho 83843

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### COMING EVENTS

- July 6: Historical Series #5, McConnell Mansion,  
8:00 p.m. Dr. David H. Stratton, WSU History  
Department, and Joseph E. Broyles, Moscow.  
The importance of railroads in the develop-  
ment of the Pacific Northwest, with special  
interest paid to railroads in Latah County.
- July 15 and 22: Inland Empire Genealogical Conference,  
University of Idaho Student Union Building.  
Contact Office of Continuing Education for  
more information.
- July 30: Second Annual Ice Cream Social, McConnell  
Mansion, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.