

BONNEVILLE COUNTY *Heritage* ASSOCIATION

Newsletter, Volume 1

April 15, 2014

Welcome to the Premier Issue of the Bonneville County Heritage Association Newsletter. We hope this Newsletter will serve in keeping BCHA members and those interested in our Bonneville County heritage informed of the activities and programs that are offered by the BCHA. In this issue you will find interesting stories regarding some of the many historical “treasures” that Bonneville County has to offer, and also includes articles about our organization. We welcome feedback concerning what you would like to see in future issues. Please e-mail comments to www.bonnevilleheritage.org

TOUCH THE PAST AND ENGAGE THE FUTURE

By Ann Rydalch, Chair
Bonneville County Heritage Association

An ongoing goal of the Bonneville County Heritage Association (BCHA) is to not only touch the past about our county heritage and people, but to educate and engage the public about this heritage, and also to encourage individuals to write and preserve their own family history and heritage. We invite you to join BCHA and join with us in this continuing celebration of our heritage. We want to hear from you. For example, do you prefer receiving newsletters via email or printed copy through the mail? Let us know. Our contact information is available on the website www.bonnevilleheritage.org.

Our Centennial Treasures Tour for this year will be **Saturday, Sept. 13, 2014 from 10 a.m., to 1 p.m.** This year’s tour will include **Tautphaus Park, Highland Park, Freeman Park, Kate Curley Park and Sportsman’s Park.** Presenters will be at each of the Treasures Tour stops to educate people about that specific treasure. People will be able to begin at any stop they choose. And in October we will be presenting “History in Print”. This program will detail the history of our newspaper and magazines in our county.

From our 2011 Centennial celebration, over 100 treasures were identified and voted on by the people of Bonneville County. Our first treasures tour was a Treasures Walking Tour of downtown Idaho Falls with seven different stops being identified and presented.

This past year we have participated in and presented a variety of activities. We participated in the Southeast Idaho Kick-off banquet, March 2013, for the “Let’s Get

Territorial/Idaho’s 150” held in the Shoshone-Bannock Hotel & Events Center in Fort Hall.

In April of 2013 BCHA sponsored a luncheon and silent auction honoring Abraham Lincoln for all that he has been connected with in Idaho. Our speaker was Lincoln historian, David, Leroy, former Idaho Lt. Governor and Attorney General.

In August of 2013, BCHA presented a plaque to Frank and Belinda VanderSloot and the VanderSloot Foundation in honor of their continued efforts to maintain the historic significance of the New Sweden School.

In October of 2013 we held a public presentation of “Water to Dry Ground: Irrigation in Bonneville County” at University Place Auditorium. Speakers included, board members Dave Nipper, Joe Stewart, and Ron Carlson – Snake River Water Master (retired), Louis Thiel – Dist. Director of the Idaho Water Users Association, and Stephanie Mickelsen, President of the Bonneville County Farm Bureau. The filming of this event was provided by Paul Jenkins of Intermountain Film & Video which he provided DVDs for us to put in our presentation booklets. Information in these presentation booklets are compiled by BCHA Historian, Susan Mardis. The booklets are presented to School Districts #91 & 93 as supplemental history material for teachers, as well as the I. F. Public Library and the Museum of Idaho (MOI). BCHA has donated to the MOI, a collection of twenty presentations in binders, from our County Centennial celebration on the history and heritage of Bonneville County. Our board meetings are the 4th Monday of each month at 11:30 a.m., at Rusios Restaurant, 1610 E. 17th St., Idaho Falls. Join with us. Visit our website, celebrate with us, as we learn about this great Bonneville County heritage.

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW BONNEVILLE COUNTY?
Here's a Quick Quiz

By David Nipper, BCHA Webmaster

(Hint: Most of the answers can be researched on the Bonneville Heritage Website - <http://bonnevilleheritage.org>- or on Google Maps)

1. When did Idaho Falls stop being in Bingham County?
2. You all know where Bone, ID is located - Where are (or were):
 - a. Dehlin, ID
 - b. Coltman, ID
 - c. Wayan, ID
 - d. Leorin, ID (this is for bonus points!)
3. Which hotel in Idaho Falls was built by the "Idaho Falls Community Hotel Corporation", and funded by a public subscription?
4. Which canal (designed in 1914) goes 35 feet uphill from the Snake River?
5. Name three lakes (now gone!) that existed in Idaho Falls in 1909:
 - a. Lake #1, north of Broadway at Utah Ave.
 - b. Lake #2, near the sunken ball diamond in a local park.
 - c. Lake #3, a little south of where Bush Elementary School is now located.
6. Ever heard of "Willow Creek"? Answer a few questions about it:
 - a. Where does it start?
 - b. Where does it end?
 - c. Where does the water go?
 - d. Where does the water come from?
7. What was the first 3-story building on the site where the Marriott Residence Inn of Idaho Falls is presently located?
8. In what Census year was the County first reported to have over 10,000 residents?
9. In 1864, the Second Territorial Legislature of Idaho chartered a structure to be built at "Black Rock Canyon" in Eastern Idaho. What became of it?
10. Identify 3 different buildings in Idaho Falls that have housed the Odd Fellows lodge.

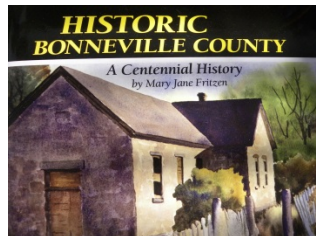
(Answers are found on page 6)

BCHA is going to create a Youth Program. This will probably be initiated when the next school year starts. We would like the youth to become members of BCHA. Their enthusiasm, interests, and ideas would be a great asset to BCHA. We would like to have several contests; e.g., poster contest, history hunt with written article contest, a special Youth Evening Program and other events directed specifically to the youth.

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HISTORIC BONNEVILLE COUNTY

New book available from BCHA--\$29.95.



Great for your own library, display or valued gift. Help us raise funds! Your purchase donates \$15.00 to BCHA. Contact Mary Jane Fritzen, 522-3185; mfritzen@ida.net or any BCHA board member.

THE MUSEUM OF IDAHO

General Description of organization, goals and purposes:
The Museum of Idaho (MOI) has been a groundbreaking and successful channel for bringing world-class cultural and educational experiences to the largely rural region of southern Idaho, western Wyoming, and southwest Montana.

The MOI serves its patrons in four main ways: First, through the maintenance of a collection of over 20,000 items important to the history of eastern Idaho; second, providing a variety of dynamic educational programs; third, exhibitions on the history of Idaho; and fourth, temporary exhibitions on various topics in the humanities and sciences.

The MOI has become an important educational and cultural asset to a large, often underserved, rural region demonstrating a remarkable ability to serve a large portion of the region's population and a wide diversity of its citizens. Although located in a small city of 53,000 residents, Idaho Falls, the MOI serves around 109,000 patrons every year (on average). Since the opening of the expanded facilities in 2003, over 1,100,000 patrons have been either impacted by an exhibit, enlightened by an educational program, or discovered their heritage through the collections. This also

includes visits from over 180,000 school children from 27 Idaho counties and 4 surrounding states.

Providing these opportunities is incomparable to any other local opportunity and citizens from this largely rural area depend on the MOI for these experiences otherwise entirely unavailable in the region. The need for these programs is demonstrated in the numbers of those utilizing them. The MOI provides patrons rare opportunities to learn about their own history as well as world history, their own culture as well as various other cultures, science, natural history and much more. Ideas and possibilities never considered spark new interests and initiate a lifetime of learning. The unbiased museum setting provides the ability to appeal to people of all ages, educational backgrounds, economic status, political affiliations, capabilities, races and religions. Collectively the MOI creates a truly inclusive community environment where all people can learn about themselves, about others, and about the world around them.



BCHA BOARD MEMBERS

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WHY LEARN ABOUT OUR HERITAGE IN 4TH GRADE

By Todd Brown

“George looked to the west where the roar of the Snake River kept cadence with his stride. Taking a deep breath of spring air, he imagined the crops and farms and families coming to drink the lifeblood of the river, and envisioned the whole valley on the brink of a glorious expansion. Perhaps he’d have a hand in some new adventures and opportunities that were sure to come through Eagle Rock. He’d never really believed he’d see this day. But here he was, heading to the bank with money to deposit, and a deal to strike with Jack Anderson. The sun shone warmly on his back, promising another gentle Idaho morning. And stretching out before him lay endless possibilities, so young George Brunt walked straight on toward them”.

Fourth grade students across Bonneville County have not only been given the gift of history, they have also been given a great story that teaches of the past and gives hope for the future.

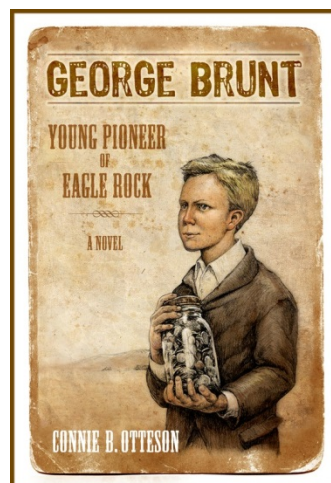
The preceding text from the book, *George Brunt: Young Pioneer of Eagle Rock* by local author Connie Otteson, and commissioned by the Bonneville County Heritage Association, was written to celebrate Bonneville County’s 2011 centennial. The book was given to the fourth grade students of the county so that they would have, as Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Walter McDougall stated, “History...the grandest vehicle for vicarious experience...” As he further stated, “...history truly educates...young minds and obliges them to reason, wonder, and brood about the vastness, richness, and tragedy of the human condition.” Additionally, as R.G. Collingwood wrote, “history...is the only clue to what man can do because it shows what man has done.”

When children learn about their heritage, it provides them with a sense of identity. Children often ask the question, “Where did I come from?” which contains the meaning of history—it’s the story of people and events past. So, while the teaching of history often takes a backseat to readin’, writin’, and ‘rithmetic, it is important to remember the critical role the teaching of history has in helping children form a sense of belonging.

Though many people point to benefits such as improved decision-making and judgment, seeing models of good citizenship, learning from the mistakes of others, understanding change and societal development, and acquiring a context from which to understand ourselves and others as reasons to teach history, it’s really about the stories that history tells.

Children love a good story, and history is replete with good stories such as the story of George Brunt’s family as they settled the Eagle Rock area. The children of our county will learn about the struggles of the past and how pioneers such as the Brunt family persevered and eventually flourished.

Todd Brown is Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, School District #91, Idaho Falls, ID



BCHA – WHY BECOME A MEMBER

Website: www.bonnevilleheritage.org

The Bonneville County Heritage Association (BCHA) began in 2004 when Mary Jane Fritzen gathered a few volunteers, including County Commissioner Dave Radford, and organized the BCHA to begin making plans to commemorate the County Centennial of February 7, 1911. The year-long Centennial celebration ended in November of 2011.

Now, it is our plan to have BCHA continue its voluntary efforts to promote county history and its people. We need your help to do this.

- Your commitment to join BCHA will ensure promotion of the county history and its people for generations to come.
- Members will receive special invitations to BCHA events.
- Members will receive the BCHA newsletter.
- Members will receive special invitations to tours of the County Treasures developed during the Centennial celebration.
- Members will have the opportunity to suggest promotion of specific county heritage projects, its people and its published books.
- Members will help ensure youth involvement.
- Members may serve on committees or as officers.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check one: Renewal New

Check one: Individual (\$10.) Joint (\$20.)

Date Submitted: _____ Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr. _____
first name middle initial last name

Joint member name: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Yearly dues are \$10.00 (January to December calendar basis)

Make your check payable to BCHA and send along with your membership form to:

RoseMarie Peterson
1670 Sviskon Way
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

I am willing to serve on the following committee(s):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historian Clubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Topical Meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Honors and Awards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Treasures | |

Website: www.bonnevilleheritage.org

Calendar of upcoming events

Saturday Sep. 13: BCHA Centennial Treasures Tour: Idaho Falls' Parks
 Tautphaus Park
 Davidjohn Stosich "through the eyes of Jim Bennett"
 Highland Park
 Linden Bateman
 Freeman Park
 Joe Stewart and Ann Rydalch
 Kate Curley Park
 Paul Menser
 Sportsman's Park
 Steve Taggart

Museum of Idaho

Open Mon and Tues (9 a.m. to 8 p.m.), Wed. to Saturday (9 to 5).

Now showing till Sep. 1: "Race to the End of the Earth"

Who would first reach the South Pole --the Norwegians led by Rodd Amundsen or the British, led by Robert Scot? How could their teams survive?

Sep. 26 to Nov. 29, 2014: Glow: Living Lights

Sat., Oct. 11, IGS and UGA

Idaho Genealogical Society's Fall 2014 conference co-sponsored by Utah Genealogical Association at ISU Student Union Bldg., Pocatello

Keynote speakers and 16 classes

Mid October BCHA program with silent auction: "History in Print"

Roger Plathow of Post Register and Jason Harris of Harris Publishing Co.

Watch for more details.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON PAGE 2 :

1. In 1911 Bonneville County was created by the State Legislature, from an area previously in Bingham County.
2. See the Quiz Answers Page under Resources on the BCHA Website.
3. The Bonneville Hotel.
4. The Osgood Canal (the water is pumped up 35 feet from the Snake River)
5. a. Lake Odell b. Tautphaus Lake c. City Lake, on the City Canal of Idaho Falls
6. a. in the Gray's Lake area
 b. it ends at two points on the Snake River - in Freeman Park and near the LDS Temple
 c. all over the valley during the irrigation season, as many canals are drawn from it
 d. some from the original flow of the creek, moderated by a stop at Ririe Lake, but greatly supplemented by Snake River water from the Eagle Rock and Anderson Canals
7. a flour mill
8. 1910, with 10,842 residents counted
9. the Taylor Bridge was first built in 1865 where the town of Eagle Rock would arise, eventually to become Idaho Falls. The bridge washed out in 1866, but was rebuilt. In 1889 it was declared unfit for use and replaced by a succession of bridges ending with our current Broadway Bridge.
10. 1. next door to Tautphaus' meat market on Eastern Ave. [also called Railroad Ave.]
 2. the building now housing the "Celt Pub & Grill"
 3. the "Odd Fellows Building" on Park Ave. at A St.

THE MUSEUM OF IDAHO PRESENTS

JOHN TIPPETS

AUTHOR OF

HEARTS OF COURAGE

MONDAY, APRIL 28
FROM 6:30 - 7:30 P.M.

Join John as he brings to life the amazing true account of the 1943 Gillam plane crash in the wilderness of southeast Alaska. John is the son of Idaho native and crash survivor, Joseph Tippetts, whose ordeal and ultimate survival against seemingly insurmountable odds resulted in an inspirational story of courage, determination, and strength of the human spirit.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased in advance or at the door.

Cost: \$5.00 per adult

\$3.00 for volunteers, members & students

Location: Museum of Idaho in Idaho Falls

MUSEUM
of
IDAHO

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION



WWW.MUSEUMOFIDAHO.ORG

IDAHO DAY

The commemoration of great historical events gives nourishment to the human spirit. We gain from the greatness of the past courage and confidence for the future. All Idaho now has the opportunity for a grand celebration with the first official observance of IDAHO DAY on March 4, 2015. The 2014 Idaho legislature officially designated March 4th each year to commemorate the founding of Idaho by President Abraham Lincoln on that day in 1863. It will not be a formal holiday where state offices and schools are closed, but a day to be set aside where we celebrate, nevertheless, and where state and local agencies, historical societies, schools, Indian tribes, civic groups, chambers of commerce, clubs, service organizations, the media, and citizens in general can educate about Idaho, her culture, her beauty, her diversity, her resources, her history, her romance and her greatness.

It is sometimes true that our public schools and universities place great emphasis upon the study of our national history and heroes while the history of the state and the communities where we live and breathe each day receives secondary attention. IDAHO DAY will give us the opportunity to learn more about Idaho and her heroes. Our state has a wonderfully rich and inspirational history, much of which remains undiscovered by our citizens. The more we learn about Idaho, the more we will love her and the more we love her, the more we will want to serve her. The celebration of IDAHO DAY will give our citizens something grand to anticipate each year. Let us all work together to develop creative ways to celebrate the event so as to establish a strong precedence for the celebration of the observance every year.

We all love Idaho. From the sequin serenity of Lake Coeur d' Alene to the thousand shades of green along the Lochse, Salmon, and Clearwater, to the mighty roar of Shoshone Falls, the pristine tranquility of Big Springs, and the turquoise blue of Bear Lake, there is no place like Idaho. Without her small towns and wide open spaces, the world would be a cage. "Esto Perpetua," may she endure forever.

Rep. Linden B. Bateman



Representative Bateman observes as Governor Butch Otter signs the official observance designating Idaho Day

