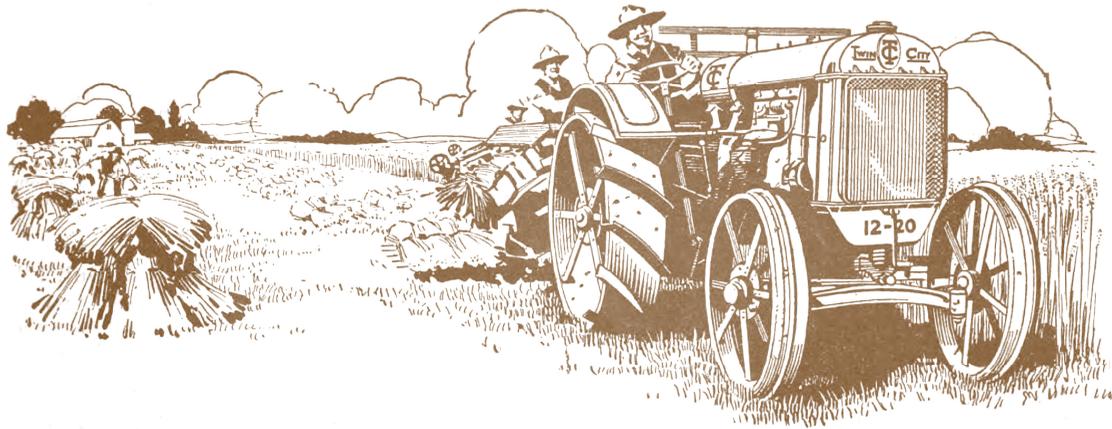


# Summer Days on the Farm. Do you remember?



*“The grain binder cuts the grain and ties it into bundles. Workmen gather these bundles into shocks in the field where they remain a short time to cure. When the grain is sufficiently dry, it (is) hauled directly from the shocks to the thresher.” — G. A. Collier, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.*

*“I can remember walking the (wheat) field and stacking (the shocks). When the stationery threshing machine came around to our farm, we threw the bundles onto a wagon with pitch forks and hauled them to the thresher.” — Ed Kingrey*

*“A wagonload of shocks gathered from the field would be pulled up next to the threshing machine and tossed into the hopper one by one.” — Chuck Stewart*

*“The wheat was funneled down a spout into gunny sacks that were then hand sewed closed and stacked for hauling away to market or to storage. There would be a huge pile of straw as a result of this operation. It was often used as bedding for livestock, and could be a secondary source of income for the farmer. It took a considerable crew to man this operation.” — Wey Simpson*

*The difference between a memory recalled  
and archived history  
is the degree of permanence.*

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Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society**

Box 293, Clayton, WA 99110  
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*(Yearly dues: Twenty dollars per household.)*

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The C/DPHS meets at 9 a.m. every second Saturday of the month. Join us at the Clayton Drive-In, Clayton, Washington.  
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*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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## *Peter Mungo Michie Master Machinist*

by  
*Peter Coffin*

My mother’s father, Peter Mungo Michie, was born on January 23, 1868, in the town of Brantford, Ontario, Canada, to Peter Michie and Elizabeth (Simpson) Michie — immigrants to Canada from Coupar Angus, Scotland. His middle name comes from a Scottish West African explorer, Mungo Park (1771-1806). He was the eldest son of this family, with siblings Jane G., George, David, Norman, and Frances. His father was a Grand Trunk Railroad employee who operated a store/bar where he sometimes got in trouble for serving railroad employees too much to drink. He told stories of how he, as a boy, fished on the Maitland River — which is about 90 miles northeast of Detroit, Michigan.

He grew up in the Scottish tradition of an engineer. Engineers in that definition were the master mechanics of the time, building



*A charcoal portrait of Peter Mungo Michie,  
drawn in the 1890s.  
(From the Peter Coffin collection.)*



Photo from the Peter Coffin collection.

A formal picture of Peter Michie & Dagmar "Lena" Michie, taken in the early 1930s.

Peter M. Michie passed away at his home Dec. 25. He was a retired machinist in general construction and had been a resident of the community for 10 years where he had lived with his daughter in the first house east of the Ag building on East Crawford since his health failed. He is survived by his wife, Lena, at the home; one daughter, Mrs. E. F. Coffin, Deer Park; one sister, Mrs. Simon Rae, Stratford, Ontario; one granddaughter and two grandsons.

Private funeral services were held Thursday, Dec. 29 in the Lauer chapel with Rev. George Snyder officiating. Interment was in Woodland cemetery.

*Tri-County Tribune,  
December 30, 1955.*

ocean liners and steam engines. By the 1890s he had become an accomplished journeyman machinist — his travels including a trip to Hawaii to repair the steam engines and turbines of naval vessels.

In 1890 a Tacoma city directory listed him as employed by the A.B. Todd Machinery Company. Later in the decade he had moved to southern Idaho — to the Oregon Short Line Railroad steam engine repair shops in Pocatello. At this time he was a "Master Machinist," and was supposed to be able to operate any machine tool in an engine repair shop; any machine from large lathes to milling machines. In addition he became a naturalized United States citizen.

While at the Pocatello engine repair shops he became friends with members of the Jacobsen family who were working there as blacksmiths. The Jacobsen family was a large one, having migrated to the United States from

**Mrs. Lena Michie**  
Private services were held at Lauer Chapel Wednesday for Mrs. Lena Michie who died Feb. 9 at Tri-County hospital.

Mrs. Michie was born April 17, 1878 in Denmark. She, her husband and family moved to Big Foot Valley in 1931 and in 1945 they moved to Deer Park.

She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. E. F. Coffin, Deer Park; three grandchildren, Mrs. W. V. Tanner of Montana and Peter and Mike Coffin of Deer Park, and three great grandchildren. Mr. Michie and their son preceded her in death.

Rev. Franklin G. Forrester officiated at the funeral services and burial was at Woodland.

*Tri-County Tribune,  
February 14, 1963.*

near Copenhagen, Denmark, as part of the European Mormon migration. My grandfather fell in love with one of the Jacobsen daughters, Dagmar "Lena" Elise Nicoline Jacobsen (born April 17, 1878 in a small farming town south of Copenhagen), and married her on April 17, 1900 in Pocatello, ID.

On January 18, 1902 a son, George Peter, was born to this marriage.

At this time in his machinist career, Peter was active in the union movement and was sent as a local representative to a union convention in Chicago. In 1903, he moved his family to Tacoma, and the union members presented him with a tea set in recognition of his service — a set which I have in my formal dining room. On May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1904, a daughter,



W. M. LEUTHOLD, Pres.      C. H. WILSON, Vice Pres.      R. L. WILSON, Secy.-Treas.

## DEER PARK LUMBER CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF  
PONDOSA PINE, IDAHO WHITE PINE, FIR AND LARCH LUMBER  
K. D. WINDOW AND DOOR FRAMES, CUT STOCK,  
MOULDINGS, BOX SHOOKS AND LATH  
MILLS ELECTRICALLY OPERATED  
DAILY CAPACITY 200,000 FEET

SALES OFFICES  
CONWAY BUILDING  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL  
NEW YORK CITY  
R. A. LONG BUILDING  
KANSAS CITY, MO.

GENERAL OFFICE  
DEER PARK, WASHINGTON  
June 4, 1930

Mr. P. Michie  
1716 E. Columbia St.  
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mr. Michie:

ALL PROPOSALS MADE BY US ARE SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE ACCEPTANCE AND PRIOR SALE OF STOCK. ALL SALES ARE BASED UPON WESTERN PINE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION STANDARD GRADES AND STANDARD MANUFACTURED SIZES. DELIVERIES ARE SUBJECT TO DELAYS OF CARRIERS, FIRES, STRIKES AND OTHER CAUSES BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

Since you called at our office on May 30th we have heard nothing from you about the locomotives. We believe the 42 ton Shay at our camp near Springdale is reasonably priced at \$1500.00; and we know that our price of \$1700.00 on the 45-ton oil burning Climax at Mineral, Washington, is a bargain. If you sell either of these locomotives for us we will give you a commission of \$100.00.

If you can interest someone in the purchase of our three-truck 70-ton Climax located at our camp near Springdale, and which we are now converting into an oil burner, we will give you a commission of \$250.00, providing your efforts result in a sale.

Awaiting your advice.

Yours very truly,  
DEER PARK LUMBER COMPANY  
By *W. M. Leuthold*  
President

WML:C

Letter from W. H. Leuthold to Peter Michie in 1930.

Scanned from the Peter Coffin collection.

Frances Ethel (my mother), was born.

The urge to own a farm apparently led Grandfather Michie to buy a farm near Leland, Idaho (northeast of Lewiston and Juliaetta), before the spring of 1910. While there he must have been recommended to the Washington Water Power Company as a local consulting master railroad machinist; someone who could prepare the steam locomotives that would be used by the Springdale & Long Lake Railroad between 1911 and 1914 to supply construction materials for the building of the Long Lake Dam on the Spokane River west of Spokane.

Sometime during his visits to the Springdale area to work on these locomotives, he bought an 80 acre tract in the Big Foot Valley (N/2 SE/4 Section 34 Township 29 North Range 41 East), and moved his family there in 1914. Apparently farming was not as profitable as he desired, because in 1918 he and his family were living in Everett, Washington —

though he kept ownership of this farm near Clayton when moving back to the Washington coast.

In 1918 his mother's health was failing, so he moved his family to Winnipeg, Canada, to help with her care. On February 25, 1919 she died, and with his family duty ended, he moved his family back to Seattle where he worked in the Bremerton Naval Shipyards repairing naval ship engines — which required riding the ferry daily from Seattle to Bremerton and back. At this time his daughter, Frances, entered the University of Washington, graduating in 1924 with a BA.

From approximately 1920 to the early 1930s he continued to work as a machinist in the Bremerton Ship Yards. In the early summer of 1930 William Leuthold, owner of Deer Park's sawmill, wrote him regarding finding someone interested in buying Deer Park Lumber's logging locomotives.

By 1935, as the depression continued

### Prior Railroad Articles.

**“In Search of the Locomotives of the Deer Park Railway Company.”**

by Wally Lee Parker

Volume 4, page 158, Reports to the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society (2007).

*(Not available online at this time. Hardcopy only.)*

**“4<sup>th</sup> Deer Park Steam Locomotive Identified — 5<sup>th</sup> Hinted At.”**

by Wally Lee Parker

Mortarboard #1, May, 2008 — page 7 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 1.

[http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter\\_01\\_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf](http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_01_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf)

**“Railroad Remembrances.”**

by Peter Coffin

Mortarboard #18, October, 2009 — page 229 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 5.

[http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter\\_18\\_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf](http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_18_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf)

**“The Deer Park Central Railroad.”**

by Michael Denuty

Mortarboard #30, October, 2010 — page 378 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 8.

[http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter\\_30\\_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf](http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_30_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf)

**“The Springdale & Long Lake Railroad & the Deer Park Railway Company.”**

by Michael Denuty

Mortarboard #33, January, 2011 — page 409 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 9.

[http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter\\_33\\_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf](http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_33_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf)

to slow economic development, he had retired to his Clayton, Washington, farm. His daughter returned from the east coast — where she'd been attending school and seeking work — to help with the farm. His health continued to deteriorate, the farm was sold to his son and daughter, and a house on east Crawford Street in Deer Park was purchased.

In the early 1950s he and his wife could no longer live alone, so they moved in with their daughter's family on South Main

Avenue in Deer Park. After spending his last several years blind, he passed away on December 25, 1955.

I never really knew my Grandfather. By the time I was old enough to appreciate the stories he might have shared, he was very old, aloof, and caught up in what would prove to be a terminal illness.

— end —

## Frank Frey's Breakfast — circa 1948 —

by

Edward Kingrey

(Aka 'Pudge,' 'Pudge,' 'Pud' Pulliam-Robertson.)

In the 1940s I was being raised by my Grandparents, Walter and Clara King, on the 300 acre King Dairy Farm, ½ mile south of the Clayton Grade School.

Clayton was a thriving town and the Washington Brick & Lime Company was in full production. The coal fired steam locomotive could be heard daily from the farm, maneuvering to pick up the cars full of brick and terracotta from the side rail in front of the plant.

Grandpa King was milking 30 to 35 Holstein, Guernsey and Jersey cows. Milk was picked up daily by a Darigold truck in ten gallon cans, kept cool in a concrete vat full of water in the milk house.

After the morning milking, Grandpa King also delivered milk to the town folks in one quart bottles, filled and capped by Grandma King during the milking. The wire racks full of bottles were loaded into the back seat of the '41 Plymouth, and we would set off for the milk route through town. I sat in the front passenger seat. As we stopped in front of a

customer's house, I jumped out, grabbed one or two bottles of milk, and raced to the house, setting the bottles on the front porch and retrieving the empty bottles from the day before.

When the milk route was completed, we ended up in downtown Clayton. Grandpa

*Frank Frey and his dog, Spot. This photo, date unknown, was taken in Clayton, with the Washington Brick & Lime Company's factory in the background.*



Photo courtesy of Edward Kingrey.



Photos from the Edward Kingrey collection.



*Above:  
Walt & Clara King,  
with Edward Kingrey and his dog Blue,  
at Granger, Washington.*

*Above Right, left to right:  
Edward's cousin, John "Dick" Bailey,  
Grandpa Walt King,  
and Edward Kingrey,  
at the King's Clayton farm.*

*Right:  
Edward Kingrey in front of the Clayton  
farm's milk barn.*



King dropped into the two local taverns for a beer, a bit of chit chat with Matt in Matt's Tavern or with Elmer or Homer Holcomb in the Ramble In Tavern.

Routinely, while we were in the Ramble In Tavern, Frank Frey would come in on his way to work, sit up to the bar, and order

a glass of beer. Once the beer was placed in front of him, Frank reached into his coat pocket and retrieved a large egg. I watched with great interest as he cracked the egg into the glass of beer and discarded the shell. He then raised the glass slowly to his lips and began drinking the beer. As the beer disappeared

into his mouth, and the level slowly lowered, the raw egg slipped from the bottom of the glass and also disappeared into Frank's mouth, as did the complete glass of beer.

Frank said, "The beer fried the egg." And this was his breakfast.

I recall sitting nearby in complete fascination while watching this ritual, and can remember it like it was yesterday.

— end —

## *In Search of Joseph H. Spear* — Co-Founder of Clayton —

by

*Wally Lee Parker*

Finding sufficient documentation to pull all the threads of a research project together can be frustrating. One good example is a longtime attempt to trace the history of Washington Brick & Lime's co-founder, Joseph Spear, back any further than his 1887 arrival in Spokane. Other than that he came here from Illinois, or sometimes more specifically from Chicago, nothing was found. And the worry was that it would remain that way.

Internet research is an ongoing process. New searchable documents are constantly being uploaded to the web's cyberspace archives. Because of this you never know exactly when — if ever — some document you've been in need of might appear.

In the "Letters/Brickbats" column of last month's *Mortarboard*, we addressed a question put forward by Wendy Budge, current owner of Spokane's historic Victor Piollet house. Wendy's question regarded the identity of the image seen on a terra cotta medallion produced by the Washington Brick, Lime & Manufacturing Company; probably between the mid 1890s and 1910. The search for an answer (which proved inconclusive) resulted in a spate of new web searches — some of which included the name Joseph Spear. During one of these searches it just popped to the

surface — a page from a 1881 book titled "History of Sangamon County, Illinois." On that page was this ...

*"Joseph H. Spear, of the firm of Spear & Loose, lumber merchants, Washington Street, between Ninth and Tenth Streets, is a native of Springfield, Illinois, born in April, 1853. His father, David Spear, was born in Ireland; emigrated to the United States, and after living some years in Kentucky, settled in Springfield prior to 1840, and was engaged in the dry goods business in the city about a quarter of a century. He died a number of years ago. Joseph operated in hard-wood lumber quite extensively in Springfield for about four years before forming the present partnership, which occurred in the early part of 1880, and their yard was opened in March of that year. Their stock comprises a large assortment of building and finishing lumber, soft and hard woods, and sashes, doors, blinds, nails, and builder's material generally, in which they already have a heavy trade, their sales for the fraction of the year 1880 reaching \$60,000, with a considerable increase in the corresponding months of 1881."*

The partner in the above noted firm of Spear & Loose was Joseph Iles Loose. It's interesting that Loose's write-up in the Sanga-

mon history included information about his wife and children, while those items were absent from Spear's write-up. And without such, we couldn't be sure the Joseph H. Spear mentioned in the city of Springfield's segment of the book was our Joseph Spear. We needed a firm link.

And that's where the aforementioned Wendy Budge — and her prior research into the history of Spokane's Victor Piollet house — came into play.

Victor Emile Piollet was born into a prominent Pennsylvanian family in 1886. He appears to have graduated from New York's Cornell University in 1908, and, according to Wendy's research, relocated to Spokane shortly thereafter to engage in the local real estate business. Once in town he became acquainted with Jean Spear, daughter and fifth child of prominent Spokane businessman Joseph H.

*The Spokane Chronicle,  
November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1909.*

### *EIGHT HUNDRED TO BE ON GUEST LIST*

*Among the important events of December will be the marriage of Miss Jean Spear, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Spear, and Victor Piolett. Miss Spear has chosen December 29 as the date for the wedding.*

*The nuptials will be celebrated at the Spear family residence on Ninth avenue, and at the ceremony will be only the relatives and intimate friends of the young couple. The attendants will be selected in the near future, and some time next week the invitations for the event will be issued.*

*Following the ceremony a reception will be held at the Spear home, and about 800 will be included on the invitation lists for this feature.*

Spear and his wife, Jennie. And on the last Wednesday of 1909, Victor and Jean were married.

Other sources have provided the names of all six of Joseph and Jennie Spear's children. In order of birth they were Joseph, Ray, Ida, Lawrence, Jennie (the above noted "Jean") and Donald. If any of those children could be documented as having been born in Springfield, Illinois, at about the time the Spear & Loose lumberyard was known to have been in operation, that would be considered strong evidence that the Joseph Spear mentioned in the *History of Sangamon County* and Washington Brick & Lime's Joseph Spear were one and the same.

In that regard, Wendy Budge forwarded a page from the 1880 U. S. Census. This page, listing the "Inhabitants in Springfield, in the County of Sangamon, State of Illinois," records the household of "Spear, Joseph," a 27 year old "Lumber Dealer," and his wife, "Jennie." Joseph's place of birth is listed as "Illinois," and his wife's as "Wisconsin." Two children are listed; "Joseph," age 4, and "Ray," age 1. All the above appears consistent with what we know of Spokane's Spear family.

It's also interesting to take note of two others residing in the Spear household at Springfield; "Maggie Nelson," a 17 year old employed as a "Servant," and "Lizzie Nelson," a 13 year old employed as a "Nurse." While the oldest is listed as having been born in Scotland, and the youngest in Illinois, it's tempting to assume they were in fact related, and that they came from a family of recent immigrants. Adding to that temptation, the birthplace of both parents of both girls is stated as "Scotland." Temptation aside, there's little doubt that both were resident domestics in the Spear home.

A final confirmation comes from an article in the June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1942, edition of the *Spokane Chronicle*. Under the headline "Solon Praises Admiral Spear," the Associate Press article notes that "Rear Admiral Ray Spear," "paymaster general of the navy and chief of

the bureau of supplies and accounts,” was, due to “the age limit law” going into retirement. As background, the article noted that “Admiral Spear ... was born in Springfield, Ill., in 1878 and entered the navy from the State of Washington in 1900 ...” Ray Spear’s rise from Spokane resident to Rear Admiral is well documented in vintage Spokane newspapers. And, with the above statement, there’s little doubt that he’s the same person mentioned in the 1880 census.

Regarding the Admiral’s first name, — Ray — the normal assumption would be that it’s a contraction of Raymond. In this case we’ve found no evidence proposing such. To the contrary, his mother’s maiden name was Jennie Ray — which would imply that his

given name is in fact a homage to her surname.

What we’ve so far learned about Joseph and Jennie Spear’s history in Spokane hints at privileged lives drawn out of shrewd calculation and unrelenting industry. To what extent that success was predicted by money they may have brought into the community with them, at this point we’ve no idea. But once they arrived, they immediately set to leveraging a portion of the Inland Empire’s mineral riches for themselves and their children

We wish to thank Wendy Budge for her collaboration in our continuing search.

— end —

## Letters, Email, Bouquets & Brickbats

— or —

### Bits of Chatter, Trivia, & Notices — all strung together.

#### ... Marilyn McLean’s donation ...

On Monday, the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society came into possession of a vintage artifact — a 10 inch wide by 4¾ inch deep stoneware bowl. The bowl was manufactured in Clayton over a hundred years ago by the short lived, but apparently very productive, Spokane Pottery Company. And now it’s coming home.

We first became aware of the bowl’s existence on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February when our society’s president, Bill Sebright, received the following email from one Annette Buehler. “I was helping an elderly family friend (Marilynn McLean) clear out her house when we ran

*The bottom of the bowl, clearly showing the Spokane Pottery Company stamp.*



Photo by Bowen Lee Parker.



Photos by Bowen Lee Parker.

*Donated to the society by Spokane’s Marilyn McLean, the bowl has accumulated a fair degree of wear over the last hundred plus years. Among that damage, one significant chip to the rim and a number of scratches to the glazing inside the bowl — scratches that Marilyn attributes to the electric mixer she used to fold in the ingredients of her much loved chocolate chip cookies. Otherwise the Clayton produced stoneware has survived its three generations within Marilyn’s family remarkable well.*



across a large clay bowl marked Spokane Pottery Company on the bottom. Could this be from the Clayton kilns? Any information would be appreciated.”

Bill forwarded the email to me, saying, “Wally, I think you know more about the Spokane Pottery Company than I do, would you like to answer this?”

I sent Annette the following note. “I’ve attached a PDF containing everything

we’ve published so far on the Spokane Pottery Company (see ‘Further Reading’ box, next page). It isn’t that much, two articles covering six pages. It does however have some photos, and it does give you a basic idea of what the factory was all about.”

Everything was quiet for the next several months, and then, on April 20<sup>th</sup>, I received this email from Marilyn McLean, the artifact’s owner. “I’m sorry that I have not

responded to your information about the Spokane Pottery Company. I still have the bowl. Give me a call.”

When making the call, my assumption was that Marilyn was primarily interested in selling the bowl. Once we began talking, it became apparent she had something else in mind. She wanted to know what would happen to the bowl if it were in our society's hands; if it would be taken care of; if it would be put on display somewhere.

I told her that as an important part of Clayton's history, we'd protect the artifact as best we could. And if at some point the society was unable to care for it — if for example the society dissolved — the bowl, along with most of the other objects we'd collected over the years, would be passed to another regional non-profit such as the Loon Lake Historical Society, or the museum at Colville or Newport.

After it was clear that she intended to donate the bowl to the society, I suggested it would be helpful if she could recount the bowl's history within her family.

Marilynn stated that as far as she knew, the first person to have owned the bowl was her grandmother on her father's side — Ella M. (Sparks) McCarter (1878-1958). According to an often told family story, Ella was one of the first telephone operators in Coeur d'Alene — which suggests she was likely a resident of the region when newly fired stoneware from the Clayton factory would have been available for purchase in area retail shops.

The last above is speculation of course. But it does seem reasonable in that it's not outside the realm of possibility.

From the point of possession, the bowl was eventually passed to the household of Ella's son, Charles (1910-1973), and his wife, Lillian (Budig) McCarter (1913-1983). And then from Lillian — known as Lillie — to her daughter, Marilyn.

Marilynn, now in her 75<sup>th</sup> year, is moving from her split-entry Spokane home into a retirement home — the inevitable stairs having become an increasingly difficult challenge. The bowl, due to the move's prerequisite downsizing, was among the things she needed to leave behind. Donating the bowl to a recipient that would be respectful of its long history within the family — its provenance — and committed to the object's survival, would be ideal.

We want to thank Marilyn for this excellent addition to Clayton's history.

#### ... making stoneware at Clayton ...

The most detailed description we have of the Spokane Pottery Company's operation at Clayton was written by Solon Shedd (1860 — 1941), professor of geology for the State College of Washington — now Washington State University — and published in the professor's 1910 book, *“The Clays of the State of Washington.”*

Regarding the Spokane Pottery Company, the book states, *“The plant of this company is located at Clayton, but the clay bank is*

*about six miles north of the town ... They are worked by means of an open cut or surface pit and the clay loaded onto wagons and hauled by means of teams to the plant at Clayton.”*

As for the plant itself, the book says, *“This company has the largest and most complete equipment of any stoneware plant in Washington. ... The building is 80 by 100 feet. ... The ware is all burned in circular down draft kilns. There are three of these ...”*

The factory description concludes by noting, *“The capacity of the plant is about 1,000,000 gallons a year”* — which we assume is an approximation of the volume of all the vessels produced. It also notes *“The ware is all shipped to various points in the northwest and finds a ready market at good prices.”*

We do know that Spokane Pottery wasn't the first company to produce stoneware at Clayton. An advertisement for the Washington Brick, Lime & Manufacturing Company appearing in at least a few issues of 1895's *Spokane Daily Chronicle* described WaCo as a *“manufacturer of dry pressed brick, fire brick, fire proofing, common brick, Valley Brook white lime, pottery, stoneware, etc.”* We believe that above mentioned pottery was likely being produced at Clayton — with Washington Brick & Lime's kilns having begun commercial production of clay products by the end of 1893 or beginning of 1894. (The town was officially platted in the summer of 1894.) Whether the pottery would have included stoneware — a denser, more thoroughly fired and much less porous form of glazed pottery most often used as kitchen and dinnerware — isn't clear.

That said, we found evidence that the production of stoneware at Clayton occurred prior to the turn of the century in an article appearing in the March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1901, edition of the *Spokesman-Review*. As the article explains, *“A deal has just come off by which Dan Raymond, formerly of Spokane, takes full possession of the pottery works at Clayton ... . The Clayton plant was operated until a year ago by J. H. Spear of this city (Spokane), who sold it to Mr. Raymond and J. L. Hankim.”*

To lay this out a little straighter, what's being suggested is that prior to the spring of 1900, a stoneware factory at Clayton was being overseen by Joseph H. Spear, secretary/treasurer of Washington Brick & Lime. Whether the stoneware company was part of Washington Brick & Lime isn't stated.

In the spring of 1900 that factory was sold to Dan Raymond and J. L. Hankim. A year later Raymond bought out Hankim's interest. The corporate name for Raymond's and Hankim's factory is the Standard Stoneware Company. Whether that was the same name used by the company when it was being *“operated”* earlier by *“J. H. Spear”* likewise isn't made clear.

As far as we know, from this point, and for the next few years, Standard Stoneware continued production at Clayton. As to when it may have stopped production, that is muddled by the following; which appeared in the May 16<sup>th</sup>, 1905, *Spokesman-Review*. *“John O. Hankins, (not to be confused with the above J. L. Hankim) formerly manager and a heavy stockholder in the Palouse Pottery Company, has sold his interest and leaves today to assume the management of the Spokane Pottery Company, which has just been incorporated by Mr. Hankins and others. He will be at Clayton, where the plant is located.”*

So, either there are now two potteries (other than Washington Brick & Lime) in operation at Clayton, or the Spokane Pottery Company has taken over Standard Stoneware.

That's not made any clearer in this from the October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1905 edition of *The Engineering and Mining Journal*. *“The Spokane Pottery works have recently completed the largest plant in the Northwest at Clayton, a few miles north of Spokane. It has a capacity of a million gallons of coarse pottery a year, and the flower-pot section can make 10,000 pots in 10 hours. E. K. Erwin, F. C. Loring, F. H. Oliver, Andrew Laidlaw and J. O. Hankins are interested.”*

More details regarding this apparently new factory are given in a *Spokesman-Review* article, dated January 14, 1906. *“T. H.*

### Spokane Pottery Company — Further Reading Plus Photos

#### “In Search of Clayton's Spokane Pottery Company.”

by Wally Lee Parker

Mortarboard #4, August, 2008 — page 39 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 1.

([http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter\\_04\\_downsinglesinglepageweb.pdf](http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_04_downsinglesinglepageweb.pdf))

#### “Letters, Email, & Chatter.”

by Wally Lee Parker

Mortarboard #13, May, 2009 — page 172 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 4.

([http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter\\_13\\_downsinglesinglepageweb.pdf](http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_13_downsinglesinglepageweb.pdf))

*Oliver of the Spokane Pottery Company said: 'The amount of standard pottery we produce is about 50,000 gallons per month. We have 14 men manufacturing it. Our works are located at Clayton, Wash. ... Our territory extends to Vancouver and British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and northern California. Besides standard work, we are prepared to make all kinds of specialties, such as jardinières, vases, large yard vases, etc. .... We make jugs of imperial measure for the Canada trade.'*

If there was a period of overlap when two pottery manufactures (excepting WaCo) were in operation, that possibility was ended with this announcement from the February, 1906 issue of *The Clay-Worker*. "*The Spokane Pottery Co., of Spokane, Wash., has bought the plant of the Standard Stoneware Company, at Clayton.*"

In turn, the demise of Spokane Pottery was affirmed in a December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1909, *Spokane Chronicle* headline. "*Pottery Company To Be Sold.*" The article indicated that "*Judge Hinkle issued an order yesterday setting January 15 as the date of sale of all the property of the Spokane Pottery Company, which lately went into a receiver's hands.*"

The result of that order was announced in the March, 1910, issue of *The Clay-Worker*. "*The Clay Products Company, at Spokane Wash., has been granted articles of incorporation and will take over the property*

*of the Spokane Pottery Company, at Clayton, Washington. The company will make extensive improvements at the plant.*"

In his memoirs, Battista Prestini — older brother of Leno Prestini — noted that after their arrival in Clayton, he and Leno spent at least a few idle hours breaking numerous pieces of earthenware in an abandoned factory near their home. We suspect 1912 or '13 as the date of the boys' arrival, which would mesh very nicely with the following article from the January 14<sup>th</sup>, 1912, issue of the *Spokesman-Review*.

*"Spokane will have another big factory within a few months, as the Clay Products Company will begin the construction of a new plant in this city tomorrow. The company has carried on the manufacture of stoneware at Clayton for several years, and some time ago decided to remove to Spokane, because the growth of the factory at that point was handicapped by lack of labor and an excessive cost for fuel. ... The company owns very valuable clay deposits in Stevens County, which it acquired from the old Spokane Pottery Company."*

And so — like the shards of a once shattered stoneware vessel — we're slowly fitting together the ever more complex story of Clayton's historic pottery industry.

———— *Wally Lee Parker* ————

## *Minutes of the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society ———— May 14, 2016 ————*

In attendance: Mike Reiter, Betty Burdette, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Marilyn Reilly, Mark Wagner, Dianne Allert, Bob Gibson, Pete Coffin, Lorraine Nord, Judy Coffin, Chuck Lyons, Marie Morrill, Don Ball, and Tom Gardner.

Society President Bill Sebright called

the meeting to order at 9:03 AM. He reported that: 1) He received an email from Suzanne Lindsay. She is George Hand's daughter. George is DPHS Class of 1948. They live in Pontotoc and Kosciusko, Mississippi, respectively. Suzanne wanted information from that time and a map of area around the Hand farm.

It was at the corner of Spotted and Enoch Roads. Pete provided her with an ownership map of the area. 2) Jason Hubal passed away May 8. He was a faithful Society member who helped proofread newsletters and sent many people to our website or to someone who might know the answer to a question. His celebration of life will be May 21, 11 AM, at the First Baptist Church on East Crawford in Deer Park. 3) Kris Barnes emailed Bill that a picture album, a survey map book, and a bible had been dropped off at the Deer Park Library. The picture album had the names Leonard and Maxine Walden written inside. No one has been identified yet. 4) Bob Banger called Bill to ask about Leno Prestini's paintings and the Prestini Museum. He also wanted to find some Clayton clay. He makes figurines similar to Leno's diver statues. Bill gave him Chris Brock's phone number. Chris said he would show Bob where to get Clayton clay. Bob got Bill's phone number from the website.

Society Treasurer Mark Wagner reported: The main checking account ended the month (Apr 31<sup>st</sup>) at \$7,335.60. Check written to Wally Parker for supplies, \$116.30. There were deposits of \$170.00. The web hosting account had a withdrawal of \$10.95 for web hosting and a service charge of \$5.00 and a withdrawal of \$394.20 for our domain renewal and ended the month at \$425.13. I will be submitting our federal tax return later this month.

Society Vice President Pete Coffin reported by email: 1) Just after the last meeting I made contact with the people who had a large amount of past Deer Park business ledgers and associated records. Marilyn Reilly and I, along with Kim Hicketier (Erick's Realty) loaded them into my pickup truck. There must be about 500 to 1000 pounds of material. 2) The June 2016 Hot Rod magazine has an article about the introduction of nitrous Oxide drag race fuel titled "*The First Squeeze.*" From the article Spokane's Thrifty Auto drag racer was one of the first to experiment with the fuel and there are historical pictures in the

article taken at the Deer Park Drag strip. 3) Provided Ancestry.com information about Virginia (Leach) Moor who lived in Loon Lake to the Stevens County Historical Society. 4) Sent Editor Parker a *Mortarboard* manuscript describing a hole dug into the bottom of Deer Lake in the 1940s. 5) In response to my letter to Alice Owen about getting some Arcadia Orchard building photographs, I received a very nice letter from Sue (Owen) Mauro with some copies of photos enclosed. She said she is Alice Owen's daughter and wrote quite a letter. I am attempting to correspond with her about the Owens Museum and the photographs therein. 6) Have asked John Odynski if he might be interested in reviewing some of the First State Bank records I obtained from Kim Hicketier (*see item 1 above*).

Print editor Wally Parker reported: 1) One hundred and ten copies of the May *Mortarboard* (#97) have been printed for distribution, and the online version has been submitted for posting. This issue contains an essay by Ken Westby regarding the early electrification of Deer Park, Pete Coffin's biography of Wild Rose pioneer Katherine Madden, and a letters column with notes on the terracotta medallions produced by the Washington Brick, Lime & Manufacturing Company. 2) A stoneware bowl marked as having been fired by the Spokane Pottery Company of Clayton has been donated to the society by Marilyn McLean of Spokane. The company was in operation from 1905 into 1909. The lineage of ownership within Marilyn's family, as well as details regarding the factory that produced the bowl, will appear in the June issue of the *Mortarboard*. 3) We received notice from John Henry that the creation of a computer archiving program for the society has been delayed by an unexpected increase in the amount of time consumed by his real job. He wanted to assure the society that we haven't been forgotten, and begged understanding by noting, "*I'm too old to work like I used to.*" The society replied, "*Tell us about it.*" 4) Translations of the Luigi and Caterina Prestini letters of 1919 have been obtained. The letters, along with the story of

how they were rendered from cursive Italian, will be published in the July *Mortarboard*.

Webmaster Marie Morrill reported that *Mortarboard 97* is on the Website.

Tom Gardner brought a large map of Clayton that was printed before the brick school house was built in 1915. He also brought several newspaper articles. The most interesting is about the 1957 fire that destroyed the Clayton Mercantile and fire station. Thanks, Tom!

Wednesday, May 11 was the 4<sup>th</sup> Brickyard Day Committee planning meeting. The next Brickyard Day planning meeting will be June 8, 6 PM, at the Real Estate Marketplace. The flyer is taking shape. The T-shirt design will have a picture of the Brickyard in its early days. We will have live music by "Spare Parts" at the School from 10:30 to 2:30. Bob Gibson's picture and bio are in the flyer. Wally Parker wrote a short history of the Brickyard that will be the main article in the flyer. Don't forget Brickyard Day is July 30 this year.

Mike Reiter reported that the City Council meeting minutes go back in history and are available to look at for history re-

search.

Betty Burdette said: 1) This year is her DPHS Class of 1946's 70<sup>th</sup> reunion. Robert Olson and Edith Welch are also in her class. Call Betty at 276-6709 if you have questions. 2) The Settlers Day meeting is this Monday at the Ambulance Building at 4:30.

The Heritage network meeting is Monday at the new Kettle Falls Library.

Dianne Allert brought in several prints of Leno's paintings given to her by Tom Bristol of Chewelah. He also has audio tapes of Leno Prestini which he hopes the society can get digitalized. Tom was instrumental in getting most of Leno's painting back up to Washington from California. They are at the Stevens County Historical Society in Colville. Wally will be getting together with Tom this fall after Tom's busy summer season.

Next meeting: Saturday, June 11, 2016, at 9 AM at the Clayton Drive-In.

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 AM.

The Society meeting minutes submitted by Mark Wagner, acting Secretary.

— end —

### Society Contacts

We encourage anyone with observations, concerns, corrections, or divergent opinions regarding the contents of these newsletters to write the society or contact one or more of the individuals listed below. Resultant conversations can remain confidential if so desired.

C/DPHS, Box 293, Clayton, WA 99110

Bill Sebright, President — sebrightba@gmail.com — (509) 276-2693

Peter Coffin, Vice-President — pcffn@q.com

Wally Lee Parker, Editor of Print Publications — bogwen100@msn.com — (509) 467-9433

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— C/DPHS —

From "The Coast" magazine,  
April, 1907



### See Yourself in Print.

*The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society's department of Print Publications is always looking for original writings, classic photos, properly aged documents and the like that may be of interest to our readers. These materials should be rooted within, though not limited to, northern Spokane County, southeastern Stevens County, and southern Pend Oreille County. As for types of materials, family or personal remembrances are always considered. Articles of general historical interest — including pieces on natural history, archeology, geology and such — are likely to prove useful. In other words, we are always searching for things that will increase our readers' understanding and appreciation of this region's past. As for historical perspective; to us history begins whenever the past is dusty enough to have become noteworthy — which is always open to interpretation. From there it extends back as deep as we can see, can research, or even speculate upon.*

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— the editor —

*A print copy of this issue of the Mortarboard  
is or soon will be  
available in booklet format.*

*Ask about  
"Collected Newsletters: Volume Twenty-Seven."*

Volunteer proofreader for this issue: Lima Swain.