

Are You Embarking on an Historical Adventure This Summer?



Illustration from the December 21st, 1911 edition of Life Magazine.

*The Clayton / Deer Park
Historical Society
wishes you the best of times.*

Free — Take One

NOTICE: CHANGE OF LOCATION FOR THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S MEETINGS.

**Second Saturday of each month, beginning at 9:00 a.m.,
basement of the Clayton Grange Hall, 4478 Railroad Avenue, Clayton, Washington.**

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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An Interview With Harold Klawunder

conducted and transcribed by

Wally Lee Parker

— a C/DPHS reprint —

*This story first appeared in
the August 4th, 2004 issue of the Deer Park Tribune. It was then reprinted in the Reports to the
Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society, Volume I, 2005.*

Klawunder is a German name. My dad was in the military over there. He had to stay and finish his term even after the rest of his family had left for America. All the Klawunders came over in eighteen something — I don't know exactly when. But my mother came from Virginia, so German wasn't spoken in our house.

When the family came to Washington, they settled into the Reardan area. Then two of them — my dad and his brother — came up to Stevens County. In 1908, I was born in a house out on what they use to call Big Foot Valley Road — just off the Williams Valley Road. That house is still standing. Then my dad and uncle bought parcels of land about a mile and a half down the road from each other and built homes. The houses were built alike. Neither of them is standing now. The one my folks built burnt down. My un-

cle's house was torn down.

I started school at Clayton. Grade one was in the old school house — the wooden one. The next year we moved into the new brick school. The old wood school is still there. This guy — I can't remember his name — he bought the building, moved it to a different lot, and made it into a restaurant. It seems like he called it Papa Joe's or something. Later it became the Ramble Inn. Nowadays it's called the Brick Yard Tavern.

Back then the Clayton school went from first grade all the way through high school. Of course, I didn't get that far. I quit out of the seventh grade. I made it into the eighth grade, but me and the teacher couldn't get along, so she put me back into the seventh. And I got mad and quit. I never went to school again. About all I can remember about going to school was that we were always get-

ting into some damn thing or the other — what we shouldn't be.

When I was fifteen or sixteen I went to work at the brick yard — running a wheelbarrow. I helped load the clay on hoppers in the big pit just north of the brick factory — that's just a big pond now. Those hoppers run on tracks. We'd fill the cars and this cable would pull them up into the clay shed to dump. I must have got fired a dozen or a half times back then. The boss would fire me one day, and the next he'd tell my dad, "George, send the boy back to work". So, I'd go back to work.

My dad worked in the pit too. He was a powder monkey — using stick dynamite to blast the clay loose so it could be shoveled. I didn't fool with dynamite myself. About the only thing I can remember is that blasting was contract work. You know, so much a load. I know when I was still in school I'd help him out on weekends. Them days he'd just about double his wage.

In 1934 I joined the Civilian Conservation Corp. I was in for about eighteen months. Most of that time driving truck. I started out building roads over at Usk. Then that winter we were working on the Washington side of the Columbia River — just across from The Dalles — doing the same. The next summer we moved up to Valley. And then the next year we were working down at Elensburg. That's where we were when my mother wrote that I was needed at home. When I got home I went to work at the brick plant again — running a wheelbarrow. That was in 1936.

I wheelbarrowed until the plant got lift trucks. Then I got to be a driver. And that's what I was doing right up until the time the brick plant shut down.

Seems like it was the spring of 1958, and most everybody else was gone. Emil Tobeck, Ben Renner, and me was loading out the last of the brick — loading it into freight cars. Ben was working his usual supervisor wage, but me and Emil were contracting. There was a couple of days where we each made over a



Photo by Wally Lee Parker.

Harold Klawunder
1908 — 2007

hundred dollars. That's what made it so hard when my youngest brother, Clifford, asked his boss, Harvey Coe, about getting me a job at the Deer Park sawmill. Harvey called me. I told him we had about a month's worth of work yet. But Harvey said, "If you want this job you'd better come down here tomorrow". So, I gave up a month's worth of great wages to drive lift truck at the sawmill. And I worked at that until the mill shut down in '71.

I guess you could say I shut both those places down.

I was only sixty-three years old when the sawmill closed, and I had to do something,

so I started farming here and there. I did that for about twenty years. Then I sort of retired.

Clayton use to be a real town. At one time there was a hundred guys working at the brick plant, and another hundred down at the terra cotta. Most of the Italians work in the terra cotta.

I think the Italians all made their own wine. And they'd smoke these Italian cigars. They'd smoke them till they got down about an inch long, then they'd pop the butts in their mouths and chew them like chewing tobacco.

Where the Moose Hall is now, when the brickyard still had horses, that use to be the old livery barn. We'd sit there during breaks. Back then they used horses to pull the brick trolleys around the yard. This one old horse they called Mae — she'd been doing it

for so long — when the afternoon whistle blew, she'd just quit. It didn't matter where along the track she was, when that whistle blew she was done for the day. No more pulling. The only place she'd go from there was back to the barn.

About the only night life in Clayton was the taverns — that was until the Moose Hall got built. Then they had dances on Saturday nights. And they use to skate in there with them old steel rollers.

The Moose members built that hall. Leno Prestini and his uncle laid most of the brick. Sometimes, after quitting time, I'd go help with the construction.

Yeah. Clayton use to be a real town.

— end —

Deer Park's Open Door Congregational Church Building

by

Peter Coffin

The Open Door Congregational Church is the oldest wooden structure still standing in Deer Park, Washington. In the fall of 1890 the William H. Short family, along with other members of Deer Park's small community, organized a Congregational Church and held meetings in a building west of the Spokane Falls and Northern Railroad tracks. By 1895 the congregation was formulating plans for a church building. The Washington Mill Company's president, William Short, donated a two-acre tract of land for the building.

The finished church was dedicated on March 29, 1896, with approximately 200 people present. At that time the front of the building faced west towards present day Railroad

Avenue. The cost of the building, complete with "furnace, seats, lamps, etc.," was \$1432.73.

The church's foundation was built of rock quarried from the area southwest of Wild Rose Prairie where granitic rocks are exposed on the north side of the Spokane River. The cornerstone was quarried in Corkscrew Canyon (south of Ford, west of Tum Tum). The effort to quarry the rock, move it by horse drawn wagons to Deer Park, select each stone and cement them into a solid foundation must have required much hard labor.

It is thought that the cornerstone for the building is a large rock block on the north-

— text continued on page 1663 —

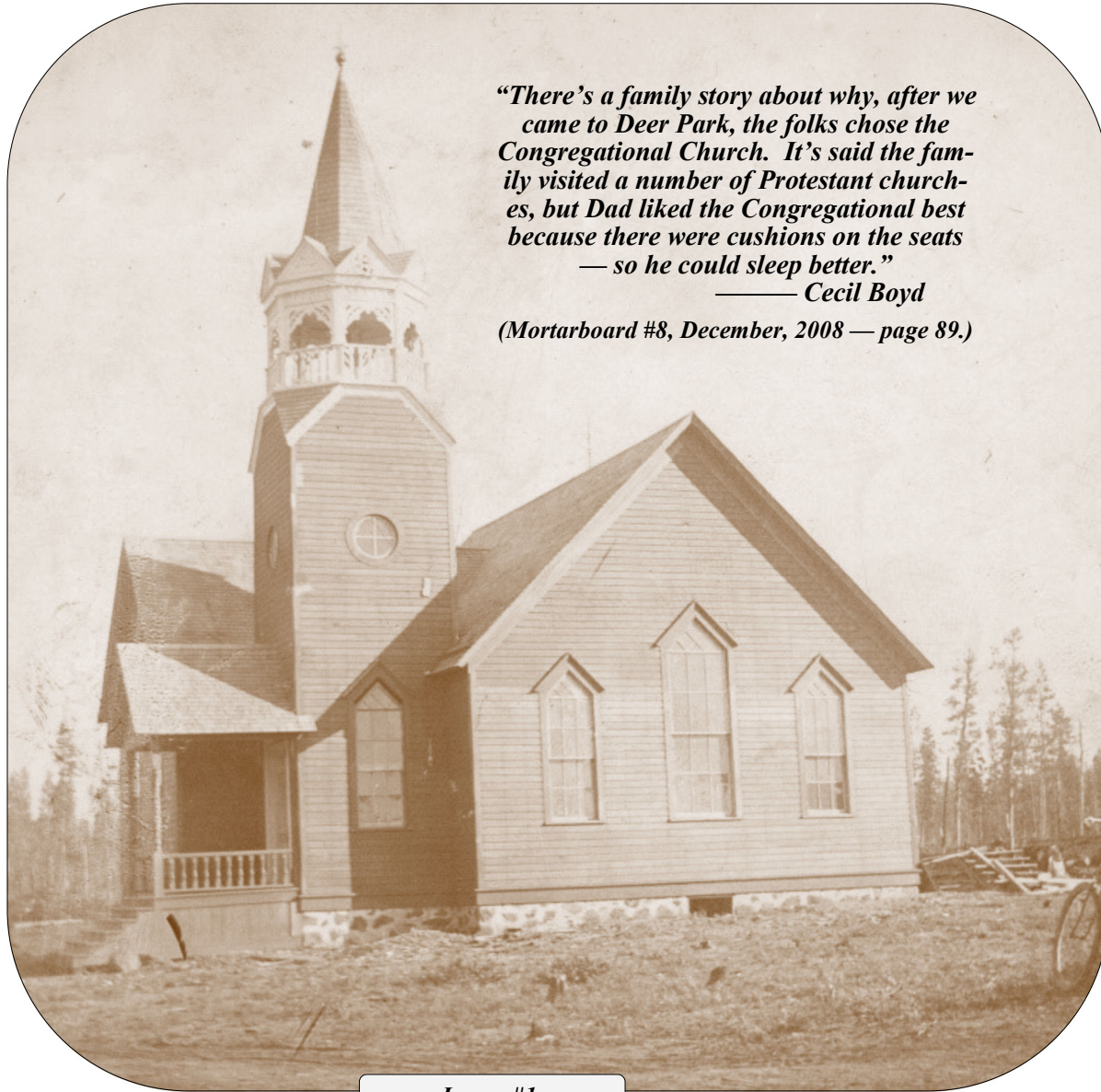


Image #1.

*A Picture of Deer Park's Congregational Church shortly after construction.
Note the pile of lumber on the east side of the foundation.
(Open Door Congregational Church Photograph Collection)*

"There's a family story about why, after we came to Deer Park, the folks chose the Congregational Church. It's said the family visited a number of Protestant churches, but Dad liked the Congregational best because there were cushions on the seats — so he could sleep better."

— Cecil Boyd

(Mortarboard #8, December, 2008 — page 89.)



Image #2.

*Above:
Stone foundation exposed on the north side of the church. (Peter Coffin photograph, November 2017)*

*Left:
The foundation at the northwest corner of the church. The possible cornerstone block may be below the ground level at this corner.*

(Photos by Peter Coffin, November 2017)



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#3.

Further Reading.

A selection of prior articles containing noteworthy mention of the Congregational Church's membership and history.

"William Hopkins Short: Founding Father of Deer Park," by Peter Coffin. Mortarboard #54, October, 2012 — page 657 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 14. http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_54_downsinglesinglepageweb1.pdf

"Benjamin H. Lewis: Man of Faith, Music, and Numbers," by Peter Coffin. Mortarboard #76, August, 2014 — page 921 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 20. http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/mortarboard_issue_76_web_doublepage.pdf

"Deer Park's Community Hall Is No More," by Wally Lee Parker. Mortarboard #104, December, 2016 — page 1385 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 29. http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/mortarboard_issue_104_doublepage_web_.pdf

Image #4.

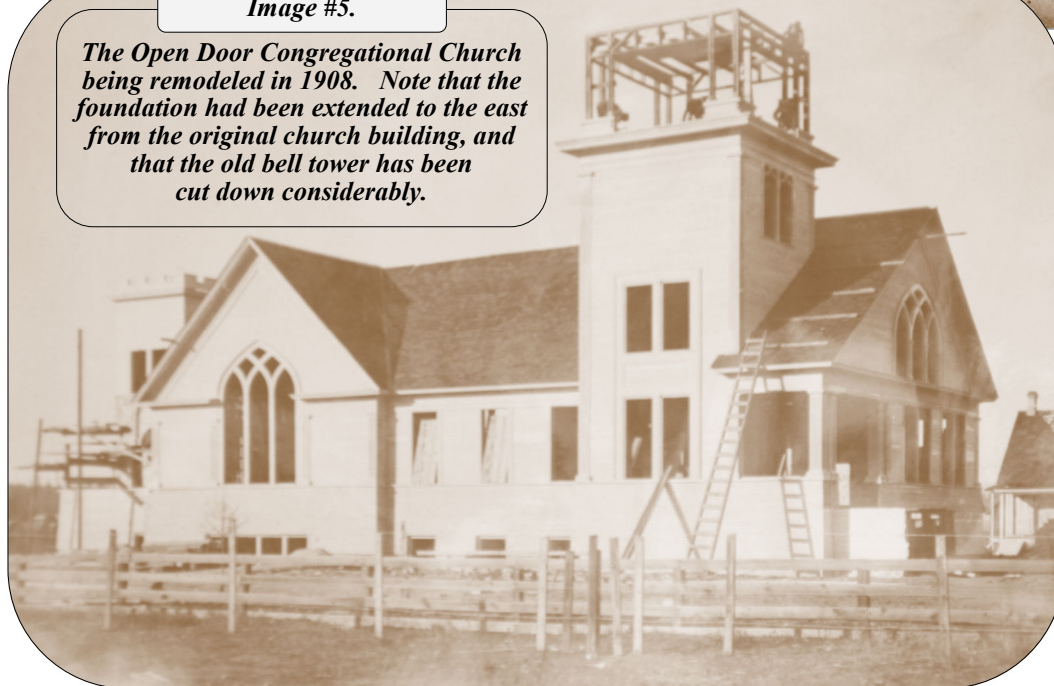
The Washington Mill Company saw mill in the late 1890s, which cut the lumber to construct the Open Door Congregational Church, which is seen in the background to the right of the mill building. To the left of the mill is the Short boarding house.

Photograph from the Lawrence Zimmerer Collection.



Image #5.

The Open Door Congregational Church being remodeled in 1908. Note that the foundation had been extended to the east from the original church building, and that the old bell tower has been cut down considerably.



Photograph from the Gordon Duggett Collection.



Image #6.



Image #7.

*Above Right:
 Interior columns of larch lumber with an original clear glass electric chandelier.*

*Above Left:
 A view of the choir loft from the sanctuary floor. Note the quality of the wood and millwork.
 (Peter Coffin photograph, November 2017)*

— text continued from page 1659 —

west corner of the building near the door to the Fellowship Hall, but no markings have been found to confirm this. The foundation rocks are relatively rough-cut and randomly fitted together.

Mr. Short carefully chose framing lumber for the construction from logs milled in the Washington Mill Company sawmill just west and across the Spokane Falls and Northern Railroad tracks from the church construction site.

By January 1907, eleven years after the original dedication, a committee composed of W. H. Short, F.E. DeVoe, and Dr. H. H. Slater was appointed to plan for a “*bigger and better*” building. The result of this planning was a remodel and significant expansion of the

old building. This expansion was finished and dedicated on September 12, 1909. The entry and bell tower of the “*new*” church now faced Main Street, which had become the primary street through town. The bell in the tower is engraved “*Buckeye Bell Foundry 1898*” on the east side, and “*The E. W. Duzen Co. Cincinnati*” on the west.

The newly remodeled church had a sanctuary that could seat 250 people, class rooms upstairs and downstairs with the western bell tower converted into a small classroom. The interior was re-decorated with the highest quality, straight-grained, knot free larch lumber from the Chattaroy area. W. H. Short had personally chosen the lumber for its color, matching grain, and freedom from knots. Three-fourths inch thick clear oak flooring, and the original clear glass chande-

liers, were installed.

On the eastern end of the sanctuary a choir loft had been built above a room with an imposing stone fireplace. For a time, the fireplace room was used as a community lending library.

Costs recorded for this remodel are incomplete, but an estimate of \$6200 can be made from the 90th year history book printed by the church.

The church has been a part of Deer Park history since the its original construction.

In the fall of 1918 it was used as a hospital to house victims of the fall Spanish flu epidemic, as were the Arcadia Orchard Company's apple packing house and Olson's Hall on Main Street. Pastors and parishioners have come and gone. Over time the building has been re-roofed and re-sided and had stained glass windows installed. But the church's building and its mission have not fundamentally changed since 1895.

— end —

Sources:

Grove, A.V. Grove, 1941, An Historical Review of the Open Door Congregational Church: Deer Park, WA, Congregational Church, 22 p. (Golden Jubilee Celebration)

Hamilton, I.S., 1981, Ninetieth Year History, 1891-1981, Open Door Congregational Church: Deer Park, WA, 135 p.

Short, W. H., 1971, From Whence We Came: Unpublished manuscript, 66 p.

In Search of Deer Park's Early Mayor *— Lyman F. Miller —*

by

Wally Lee Parker

Just west of Deer Park, within the shade dappled lawns of Woodland Cemetery, stands a battered white stone inscribed "Lyman F. Miller, Co. C, 106 Ill. Inf." Nearby is a smaller granite marker apparently intended for the same person. As with all the graves at Woodland, these stones have little to say. If we want to know something more of the person beneath, we'll have to do our research.

Regarding Mr. Miller, the following article — datelined "Deer Park, Wash., Jan. 7" — appeared in the January 9th, 1911 edition of the *Spokesman-Review*.

"L. F. Miller, the 65-year-old mayor of Deer Park, who was elected on the reform

ticket, has passed through a checkered career. He was born at Williston, Vt., and moved to Illinois with his parents. He later entered the army as a member of Company C. 106th Illinois volunteer infantry and served three years.

"After the war he moved to Wisconsin where he was married, and later moved to Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota. He was mayor for seven years at Kimbrae, Minn., and moved to Newport, Wash., four years ago, and to Deer Park a year ago, where he was elected mayor last month. He is a prominent Odd Fellow."

Although Deer Park's first known newspaper, the *Union*, was founded by Frank

Photo from the *Spokesman-Review*, January 9, 1911.

T. Sheppard in the summer of 1906, most — if not all — of the paper's first five years of print appear to have been lost. Meaning, though the above *Spokesman-Review* article, as it's date-line suggests, may have been a reprint from the *Deer Park Union*, we've no way of verifying that. Currently the society has electronic images of the last six months of the paper's 1911 print run, and then the first five months of 1912's, but nothing before. That would suggest the early days of Miller's time as Deer Park's mayor will have to be pieced together from other sources, should any such exist.

After a six-month gap, the *Union's* back issue archive picks up again in December, 1912, and continues forward with only an occasional missing issue.

As for Mr. Miller's history prior to the former mayor's arrival in the Inland Empire, such is somewhat illuminated by several passages from Nelson W. Durham's *History of the City of Spokane and Spokane County, Washington*.

That volume, published in 1912, states, "He (Lyman) was born September 1, 1844." The smaller granite stone at Woodland Cemetery records his birth as having occurred in "1845." At the most, that seems a minor discrepancy.

Regarding the mayor's military record, Durham's history elaborates, "He enlisted in Company C. 106th Illinois Infantry, and served in the Civil War under General Sherman, under General Grant at Vicksburg, and under General Steele in Arkansas."

Durham reiterates the various travels described in the January, 1911 *Spokesman-Review's* story, adding that Lyman's primary occupation during those earlier years was millwright, and then noting "He came to Washington and was for three years a resident of Newport, where he engaged as a millwright."

The move from Newport to Deer Park, and the reason for the move, is chronicled in the August 5th, 1909 *Newport Miner*.

"L. F. Miller and daughter have gone to Deer Park where they will make their home for a time while Mr. Miller is employed on the



Lyman F. Miller
1844 (or '45) — 1912.
Deer Park's mayor from
December of 1910 to April of 1912.

construction of the new saw mill of the Standard Lumber Company. The company expects to start soon on the erection of a mill to cut 100,000 (board feet) daily."

Apparently elected mayor of Deer Park in December of 1910, the local newspaper's chronicle of Lyman Miller's first seven months in office are among its lost issues. Beginning with *Union's* July 1911 issue, we find that other members of the city council are listed as acting in the mayor's place for much of that year's autumn months — with no explanation for the mayor's absence. The December 8th edition of the *Union* notes Mayor

Miller's return to the council chair.

The January 19th, 1912 edition of the *Union* reports, "Mayor L. F. Miller, who has been under the weather for a few days, is reported better." While the January 25th copy of the *Newport Miner* was more direct when it stated, "L. F. Miller, mayor of Deer Park, and a former resident of Newport, suffered a light paralytic stroke last week, but is now regaining his strength."

Occasional reports of his improving condition continued until the May 3rd edition of the *Deer Park Union*, which stated, "Last Saturday evening at the adjourned meeting of the town council, the resignation of the honorable L. F. Miller was read and accepted. The resignation was only handed in by Mr. Miller after a consultation with his physician and friends. In his present condition absolute rest and quiet is necessary if he is to recover, and as the city affairs are so pressing and numerous, it was impossible for him to devote the necessary time to them."

As part of his recovery, he appears to

have been staying at the home of his son, E. L. Miller, then residing in Boise, Idaho. That at least is the implication of the following obituary notice from the July 4th, 1912 edition of the *Newport Miner*.

"At Boise, Idaho, on Wednesday, June 26th, occurred the death of Lyman F. Miller, former resident of Newport, and later Mayor of the town of Deer Park. Mr. Miller had been in poor health for several months, after having been stricken with paralysis."

After a short outline of Mr. Miller's history, the article concludes, "Five children survive to mourn his loss: Edward Lyman Miller, Boise, Idaho; Mrs. Ida Drake, Chancellor, S. D.; Mrs. Nellie Moore, Seattle; and Mrs. H. A. Noyes and Miss Myrtle Miller of Deer Park."

Hopefully future data will allow us to expand our knowledge of Mr. Lyman F. Miller, and more accurately position him within Deer Park's procession of former mayors.

———— end ————

Minutes of the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society ———— April 14, 2018 ————

In attendance: Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Christina Burris, Mary Jo Reiter, Rick Brodrick, Lorraine Nord, Ella Jenkins, Sue Rehms, and Don Ball.

Society President Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. He reported that: 1) He received a phone call from David Zion who lives near the corner of Division and Insert Roads. It's close to Fan Lake. He has one of the old Deer Park Pine buildings on his property. He was looking for information on the old mill and his building. Bill sent him picture files and Pete and Wally's email ad-

resses. 2) Bill will be attending The Heritage Network meeting in Colville, Monday, April 16. 3) He passed around newspaper clippings of Mike Reiter and LaRae Wiley.

Society Treasurer Mark Wagner reported the main checking account ended the month at \$6,668.24. There were deposits of \$120.00. One check was written for \$8.00 for Wally for postage. The web hosting account ended the month at \$580.32, with a withdrawal of \$10.95 for web hosting. The Brickyard Day account is at \$1177.48.

Society Vice President — No one has stepped forward to become Vice President.

Print editor Wally Parker reported: 1)

One hundred and twenty copies of the April *Mortarboard* (#120) have been printed for distribution. The web version has been submitted for uploading. This 16-page issue contains an article titled "The Hodges Family: Early 20th Century Settlers," by Rick Hodges. A second feature article, "In Search of Mattie Canfield," by Wally Lee Parker, is presented as a reprint from the society's "Reports, Volume III," first published in 2007. The Letters/Brickbats segment includes some comments regarding the *Mortarboard's* 10th anniversary; an email exchange between Print Publications and the Loon Lake Historical Society's new president, Mary Jo Lovell; and an update on the society's LaserJet printer — purchased in April of 2014. 2) Tentative contents of the May *Mortarboard* (#121) include a reprint from the earlier "Reports" titled "An Interview with Harold Klawunder" — that conducted and transcribed by your current editor. The second feature article will be a piece by Pete Coffin titled "Deer Park's Open Door Congregational Church Building." 3) Currently slated for the June issue (#122) is a reprint from the "Reports, Volume III," now retitled "The History of Herman Johnson's Family in the Clayton Area," by Herman Johnson. This 5,000-word remembrance, with at least three pages of photos and several images of vintage newspaper articles, will consume the majority of that 16-page issue. 4) In collaboration with this year's Clayton Brickyard Day celebration, the *Mortarboard's* July issue will reprint an article from the "Reports, Volume IV" — first published in 2007 — titled "The Clayton Moose Hall: The Early Years." Our intent is to expand and update this 5,500-word article to include, among other things, materials extracted from since obtained back issues of the *Clayton Moose Bulletin*. The July issue will most likely be expanded to 20 pages.

Webmaster Marie Morrill reported by email that she has uploaded the April *Mortarboard*. She also removed Pete's name as vice president.

Pete Coffin reported: 1) He received the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of Deer Park

and Milan from Mr. Robert Ferrell, P.E. of the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau which provides information for insurance companies. The Deer Park map seems to be drafted in 1911 and is only part of the full set. The Milan one is composed of one page showing the town site and two Spokane Lumber mills that I cannot definitively locate. 2) Jim Qualls (of Loon Lake) let me see his copy of the 1928 Deer Park High School annual the "FAWN". I have scanned it and printed a copy of it for the Society's collection and will give President Sebright and Editor Parker a CD copy of it. 3) In reading a September 30th, 1937, *Deer Park Union's* Toby Trotter "Terse Tattling's" editorial, I found that it described some pictures I don't think have been published. A Mrs. Ricca was named as owner of one of the pictures. She owned a house that was located south of John Odynski's business and north of the Deer Park Motor Company (see The Deer Park Motors Company, *Mortarboard* #109, May 2017, *Collected Newsletters* #30, page 1453). 4) Member Gary Ross emailed a request for ancestry data I had generated in 2017. Unfortunately, that material had disappeared in my disk crash in December, but I was able to re-create it from Ancestry.com sources. 5) I have an up-to date *Mortarboard* index in the searchable Word format. I have a printed copy of it with me.

Penny Hutten reported by email that on April 19, 2018, The Westerners' speaker will be Don McConnell. Don is a retired Army officer and a graduate of the National War College in Washington, D.C. He worked as a senior intelligence analyst for the Department of the Defense in the Pentagon after his Army career, until retiring in 2012 and moving to Deer Park in 2013 with his wife, Debby. Don has been a Civil war re-enactor since 2002 and has portrayed Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant at living history events in Virginia and in Washington State. He has given many presentations and talks on Union soldiers during the Civil War at schools, Civil War roundtables, and living history events at Civil War battlefields. At our Westerners meeting,

Don will talk about the development of Washington Territory from 1853-1861, and about U.S. Grant and Philip Sheridan during their time in Washington Territory before the Civil War. He will come as a Private in the 4th U.S. Infantry, and will focus on the regiment while it was in Washington Territory; he will also follow one company's subsequent experience in the Civil War. Please join us at the Airport Holiday Inn, 1616 S Windsor Drive Spokane, Washington 99224. Contact Pat Holien by April 16th, for reservations. Pat's email is patholien@comcast.net and phone number is 509-951-2090.

Mike Reiter reported by email that he had talked to Brian Ramsden, with the city Deer Park. Brian had been into the new fire

station and said any critics of the destruction of the civic center will surely change their view when they see the new facility.

Betty announced that Settlers Days meetings are every third Monday at the City Hall, 7:00 PM.

April 11 was the 3rd planning meeting for the 35th Brickyard Day. The flyer is shaping up. Ads are going well.

Next meeting: Saturday, May 12, 2017, at 9 AM at the Clayton Grange Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.

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

_____ end _____

Volunteer proofreaders for this issue: Betty Deuber and Pat Parker.

Comments Policy

We encourage anyone with observations, concerns, corrections, divergent opinions or additional materials relating to the contents of these newsletters to write the society or contact one or more of the individuals listed in the "Society Contacts" box found in each issue. Resultant conversations can remain confidential if so desired.

Society Contacts

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Website — <http://www.cdphs.org>

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When requests to reprint C/DPHS materials are received, such will be granted in almost all instances — assuming of course that we have the right to extend such permission. In instances where we don't have that right, we will attempt to place the requester in contact with the owner of the intellectual property in question. But, as a matter of both prudence and common courtesy, in all instances a request to reprint must be made, and must be made in writing (letter or email), before any C/DPHS materials are reprinted.

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.

Copyright considerations for any materials submitted are stated in the "Editorial and Copyright Policy" dialog box found in this issue. For any clarifications regarding said policy, or any discussions of possible story ideas or the appropriateness of certain types of material and so on, please contact the editor via the email address supplied on the same page.

_____ the editor _____

New Venue for Society Meetings:

On the Second Saturday of each month, at 9 a.m., the Clayton / Deer Park Historical Society will be meeting in the basement of the Clayton Grange Hall, the south side of Railroad Avenue, Clayton, Washington. Our meetings are open to any who wish to attend.