

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society is a group of individuals dedicated to the preservation of the history of the area just north of Spokane, Washington. The Society collects oral, literary, and pictorial history to publish and otherwise make accessible to the public.

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society meets on the second Saturday of each month at 9 AM. We gather at the Clayton Drive-In, located just off Highway 395 on Railroad Ave.

THE

CLAYTON/DEER PARK

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mortarboard

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THE EVOLUTION OF SPOKANE COUNTY

PETER COFFIN

Free — Take One

INTRODUCTION

Out of all the Washington Counties, Spokane County has one of the most interesting histories. Out of all the present day forty counties Spokane County is the only one to have been a county twice and have been erased once. The history of Washington as a state and the history of Spokane County are unique and not often covered in a high school freshman class on Washington State History.

EARLY EUROPEAN CLAIMS IN THE NORTHWEST UNITED STATES

The first territorial claims in the northwestern United States were most certainly Spanish. The early explorers settled in the Los Angeles area and began ranching using the native Indians as slave labor. Then in this area the Catholic Church began to try to convert the Indians to Christianity and save them from the slave labor conditions of the ranchers. Spanish claims on the west coast of the North American Continent practically went as far north as the land extended.

With the wealth of gold, silver and other materials the Spanish were shipping back to Spain came the

English freebooters such as Sir Walter Raleigh who may have claimed part of northern California for England in the 16th century when Elizabeth the First was England's queen. Later voyages of Gray began to outline the coast north of present San Francisco Bay. He did not discover the Columbia River in his explorations but they formed the basis for claiming most of western North America north of Spanish California. After French control of eastern Canada passed to the English their claims extended north of the French and Spanish area later known as the Louisiana Purchase all the way to the coast and north to the Arctic Ocean.

Another colonial country, Russia had developed settlements along the coast in what is now Alaska to take advantage of the oriental fur trade. Their explorations began with the Bering expeditions and several settlements on the coast of North America provided their claim to it as their territory.

Over time these conflicting claims were settled by treaties negotiated in Europe. By 1803, the Louisiana Purchase gave most of the area north of Texas and east of the continental divide to the United States. The Spanish were rapidly losing control of their California territory by migration of United

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States citizens in the early part of the 1800s and by treaty in 1818 quit claimed all territory north of the 42nd parallel which today is the northern boundary of California and Nevada. This same treaty provided for British and United States claims. By 1824, Russia agreed to make 54 degrees, 40 minutes north the northern boundary of the developing Oregon Territory.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804 to 1806 to explore the potential of the Louisiana Purchase and the lands to the west solidified the United States claim to the area. The Joint Occupancy Treaty of 1818 did not solve the question of ownership and the negotiations between Great Britain and the United States dragged on until 1846 when England granted the United States all the territory south of the 49th parallel excepting a portion of Vancouver Island.

THE OREGON TERRITORY

After Britain granted the United States the area that was to become the Oregon Territory Congress was concerned with the question of slavery that led to the Civil War and did not create the Oregon Territory formally until August 14, 1848. At this time the area that was to become Spokane County formally became part of the United States.

The Oregon Territory encompassed the area from 42 degrees North (The present California Oregon Border) to 49 Degrees North (the present Washington-Canada border) in the south to north direction and from the Pacific Ocean on the west to the borders of the Louisiana Purchase (the present Continental Divide). This area included all of present day Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana west of the Continental Divide and a small portion of Wyoming also west of the Continental Divide. This is a huge area and is outlined on Figure 1.



Figure 1: The Oregon Territory area in gray was composed of all of present day Oregon, Washington, Idaho and portions of Montana and Wyoming.

THE WASHINGTON TERRITORY

The problems of north and south arose between the Willamette Valley and the Seattle area much as the more recent problems of west coast and interior Washington. Washington area residents of the Oregon Territory wanted to name their area the "Columbia Territory" but the United States Congress chose the name "Washington" to honor the nation's first president on April 9, 1853. Washington Territory was to be that area located south of the 49th parallel, north of the Columbia River and north the portion of the 46th parallel east of the Columbia to the Continental Divide. Figure 2 shows this area. The outline of the Washington Territory was
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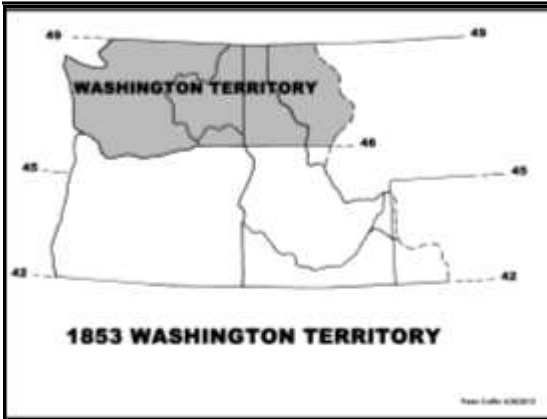


Figure 2: Washington Territory of 1853 is shaded in gray and was composed of the Idaho panhandle and Montana west of the continental divide.

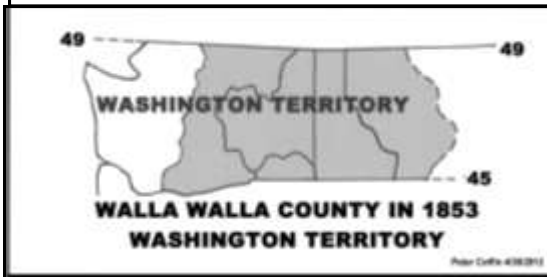


Figure 3: Walla Walla County in 1853 Washington Territory colored gray. It once took in an area almost as large as the present Washington State.



Figure 4: The first Spokane County was formed in 1858 and is shaded in gray on this map. It contained the area east of the Columbia River, the Idaho panhandle and the portion of Montana north of the 46th parallel west of the continental divide.

finalized in 1863 by the formation of the Idaho Territory.

THE FIRST SPOKANE COUNTY

In 1853, there were eight counties in Washington with Walla Walla County being organized in 1854 as all the area east of the Cascades (Figure 3). Four years later, in 1858, the first Spokane County was divided out of Walla Walla County. This Spokane County contained all territory east of the Columbia River, north of the Snake River and west of the Rocky Mountain Continental Divide. Figure 4 shows the outline of the first Spokane County. Spokane County remained this way until the formation of Idaho Territory in 1863 (Figure 5). No government or county seat was ever given this Spokane County

SPOKANE COUNTY DISAPPEARS

In January 1864, it was decided to annex Spokane County to Stevens County which had been named for the first territorial governor. Stevens County had originally been all lands north of the Wenatchee River and west of the Columbia River all the way to the Cascade Mountains divide. This new Stevens County included all of eastern Washington lying north of the Wenatchee and Snake Rivers. Figure 6 shows the outline of the revised Stevens County.

SPOKANE COUNTY RE-APPEARS

In 1879 Stevens County was divided and Spokane County took its present shape. In 1889 Washington became a state 10 years after the present Spokane County had been formed.

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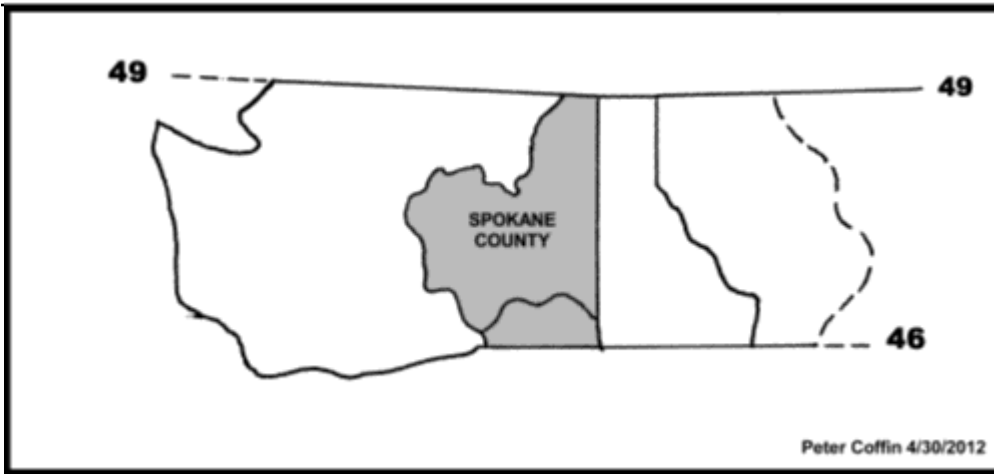


Figure 5: The Spokane County of 1863 is shaded in gray on this map after formation of the Idaho Territory.



Figure 6: Stevens County area of January 1864 is shaded in gray on this map. This county contained all or part of 12 present Washington State counties.

REFERENCES

- Dryden, Cecil, 1968, *Dryden's History of Washington*: Portland, OR, Binford's & Mort, 412 p.
- Snowden, C. A., 1909, *History of Washington, The rise and progress of an American State*: New York, the Century History Company, 4 volume:, v. 1, 497 p.; v. 2, p. 509 p.; v. 3, 519 p., v. 4, 467 p.-



Figure 7: shows the present counties in Washington State.

GRAND MARSHALL BOB CLOUSE HIT BY CAR BUT STILL RIDES IN STYLE.

By J. L. Brian



Bob Clouse (R), the 2012, Clayton Brickyard Day Grand Marshall, poses next to Rowena Valencia-Gica (L) and Lt. Colonel McMahan (middle) during the dedication ceremony for the terra-cotta eagle in 2010. Bob was instrumental in rescuing the eagle from certain destruction so that it could be relocated to a site near its creation here in Clayton.

Bob Clouse, 2012 Grand Marshall for the Clayton Brickyard Day celebration is one tough customer. Those who know Bob personally understand the meaning of the word perseverance! Bob's tenacity was particularly apparent in 2010, when the giant terra-cotta eagle that used to sit atop the Spokane Armory building needed to be relocated or face destruction.

Recently Bob has been living at Lilac Plaza. Due to circumstances beyond his control Bob has been using an electric cart to get around the neighborhood. When I say neighborhood, it apparently means anything within a mile or two of his residence. In mid-July, Bob decided to head to Arby's on North Division for a roast beef sandwich, a trip of nearly half a mile along treacherous Division Street. When he arrived at his destination, a young woman in a car was waiting to exit the parking lot onto Division. Bob waited a while and then decided that the driver must be waiting for him to go in front of her. As Bob moved across the front of the car, the young woman, who hadn't noticed Bob, accelerated in an attempt to enter the stream of traffic on Division. Her car hit Bob's electric cart and Bob crashed to the sidewalk. His injuries included a broken leg and other lacerations. Of course,

the driver was distraught but characteristic of Bob, our Grand Marshall did what he could to comfort her while waiting for emergency crews to transport him to the nearest hospital.

Just a little more than two weeks later in spite of his injuries, Bob rode in the Clayton Brickyard Day parade as Grand Marshall.

Bob was a star on the Deer Park High School Boxing team in his youth. He may be a little older but he still harbors the indomitable heart of a champion. Grand Marshall, Grandfather, and just plain grand, Bob Clouse can take a punch and still come out on top.



Grand Marshall, Bob Clouse rides shotgun during the 2012 Brickyard Day Parade with Pete Coffin as chauffeur in this photo taken by one of Bob's many good friends, Eddie Kingrey.

Clayton/ Deer Park Historical Society Minutes, August 11, 2012

In attendance: Mary Jo Reiter, Don Reiter, Mark Wagner, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Bill Sebright, Bob Clouse, Carol Walter, Sharon Clark, Grace Hubal, Penny Hutten, Betty Burdette, Marilyn Reilly, Donald Ball, Lorraine Ball, Warren Nord, Lorraine Nord, Duane Costa, and Tammy Pawley.

Society President, Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. 1) Bill has made arrangements to have a booth at the Clayton Fair. 2) He talked to David Benscoter about the types of apples in the Arcadia Orchards. David plans to be at the
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September meeting. David was very happy to see the article Pete found in the *Deer Park Union* about the types of apples. 3) Chris Atela made 5 Standing Watch 2 CD sets. We plan to sell the book and the 2 CD set as a pair.

Treasurer, Mark Wagner reported that there is \$3,051.12 in the main checking account. Activity included \$56.25 and \$22.00 in deposits. And a 14.00 service charge (treasurer will cover out of pocket). Web hosting account had \$217.36 in funds with a \$10.95 in activity monthly hosting fee.

Grace Hubal, Secretary reported: 1) She sent out 2 thinking of you cards. 2) Grace brought up the topic regarding community orchestras: Grace's Pastor David Stapp from the First Baptist Church of Deer Park wondered if Deer Park ever had any organized orchestras in the past? The Society couldn't recall such community orchestras. 3) Desiree Sinclair, member of the church submitted a photo of the recent community orchestra to the *Deer Park Tribune*. 4) She also deposited \$90 from Clayton Day and book sales. 5) Grace shared a John Deere Museum book from the state of Ohio. 6) She also passed around the Twentieth Anniversary History of the First Baptist Church of Deer Park binder.

Vice President, Pete Coffin reported that he: 1) is finishing a manuscript titled "Arcadia Orchards Company and Irrigation Water" that outlines the history of the levels of Loon Lake and the real reasons for the failure of the Orchards Company. It is interesting that the popular myth is that the Company lost the irrigation water to a lake shore owner law suit and thus failed. Research into both Stevens County and Spokane County Superior Court records revealed no such event. 2) has typed into Word a 1956 *Deer Park Tribune* column titled "A Milan Pioneer Interview". This article describes a man's travels to the Milan area in 1886 from Nebraska in a covered wagon and the area around

Milan prior to 1900. It was circulated during the meeting. 3) has scanned a large file of material covering the Blue Grouse Tungsten mining district from a Mr. Al Kemp from southern Idaho. His father and grandfather were intimately involved in this mining effort and the Loon Lake Copper Mine. This material, with some published information, should provide another mining manuscript for the Mortarboard.

Print Editor, Sharon Clark reported: 1) The August 2012 Mortarboard, #52, was distributed. She had them ready for Clayton Day, August 4. 2) She also handed out updated guides to Clayton/Deer Park Reports & Mortarboards. She suggested we sell them for \$5. Grace will take one to Odynski's Accounting so they can show it to people who are interested in buying our collected Mortarboards.

Webmaster Penny Hutten reported: This month the only changes to the website were the Fighting Men of WWII (Walt Tarbert's information was in Jim Nolan's picture) and the posting the three new newsletters. Thanks to Sharon Clark for the information.

A 100 year DPHS reunion was discussed for July 2013. The 100th class will graduate from Deer Park High School next June. We are looking for representatives from all classes to spread the word and get ideas. Example: Sharon Clark would be the representative for the class of 1959; Betty Burdette, the class of 1946; Pete Coffin the class of 1960; and Duane Costa, class of 1953.

Clayton Fair is on August 24-26. The sign-up sheet for working in the booth was passed around.

Settlers and Clayton Days were discussed. There were more people at our display at the Clayton Grange this year than at the Clayton School in past years. We can have the same space at Clayton Day

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2013. We should have the same place at Settlers Days next year also.

Next meeting is Saturday, September 8 at 9 AM, Clayton Drive-In.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 AM.

The meeting minutes submitted by Grace Hubal, Secretary.

Editorial Policy Regarding Correcting Errors and/or Omissions

Information published here is compiled from many sources, including personal memories. It is often difficult or impossible to verify such recollections through outside documentation. Our editorial policy toward the veracity of personal recollections tends toward the casual – since little harm is normally done by such errors. But our editorial process also invites public review and input regarding the accuracy of the information we publish, and when such review either suggests or reveals errors or items open to dispute our “Letters” department will act as a forum allowing the airing of such disagreements in an effort to ascertain the truth and correct any probable or demonstrated errors. We also believe it’s important that such disagreements be recorded, even if they can’t be settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

We encourage everyone to submit any arguments as to fact to the editor in writing — since the written form reduces the chance of further misunderstandings. As is standard policy, all letters will be edited for spelling, word usage, clarity, and — if necessary — contents. If advisable, the editor will confer directly with the letter writers to insure that everyone’s comments and corrections are submitted in a literate, polite, and compelling manner — as best suits the editorial image of this Society’s publications.

Society Want Ads

WANTED: Information and photos regarding the history of the Brickyard/Ramble In Tavern

tion with their occupations and settlement in the Clayton/Deer Park Area

Gardenspot #278 Granges

WANTED: Any stories and photos of your family’s history in connec-

WANTED: Any stories and photos from Williams Valley #452 and

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

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Visit our New Web Site: www.cdphs.org

Special Thanks to this month's volunteer proofreaders — Peter Coffin, Grace Hubal, Bill Sebright