

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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**Deer Park Jaycees**  
**By Bob Gibson and Cliff Meyer**

**Free — Take One**

An article in the July 30, 1954 edition of the *Deer Park Tribune* stated that “An organizational meeting for the Junior Chamber of Commerce was held Tuesday night in the Ag shop of the high school. After talks on the various phases of Jaycee work and what they stand for, the first order of business was the election of officers. Jack Fea was elected president, Bob Warner, vice president; Howard Wohrle, secretary and Howard Reiter, treasurer. Other men attending from Deer Park were Don Howell, Joel Magisos, Dean Snook, Bill Cox, John Erickson and Bob Olson”.

One of the first things the club did was to hold a carnival at the Fair Building to raise funds for their treasury. Their first work project was purchasing old flood lights from an Albini Falls Dam contractor. The reason for purchasing them was to put up lights on Perrins Field for night sports. The lights needed a lot of work done so they could be put up on poles. Members spent a lot of late nights working to repair them. Some members got a couple of Citizen Utilities workers to put them up. The Jaycees sponsored a softball league at Perrins Field for playing at night. They purchased an old delivery truck and painted it purple; they used it to sell pop

and candy and hot dogs at the softball games. Some of the other projects were putting up a fence at the Elementary School to keep children from falling in a fast flowing drainage ditch on the south side of the school and putting up playground equipment at Mix Park.

As social activities, Deer Park, Chewelah and Colville had yearly 2 man raft races on the Colville River, starting at Blue Creek and ended in Colville, on the first weekend in May. Each club had to build their own raft and had to exchange paddlers every couple miles. After the race, the clubs would have a joint picnic in the city park at Colville.

In the 1959 edition of the *Deer Park Tribune* there was an article on election of Jaycee Officers that year. Bob Gibson, president – Cliff Meyer, vice president – Steve Parkin, secretary – Pete Reiter, treasurer and Don Berger, State Director. Club directors elected were Fay Reilly and Tub Schrock. The Lady Jaycees elected LaVonnie Reiter as President - Kay Parkin, Vice President, Lorraine Olson, Secretary - Betty Strong, Treasurer and LaVerna Berger, State Director.

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**There were not enough JC's to man the crew changes on the raft race. It was somewhat of a recruitment event and many non-members were invited to participate. Pictured L to R: Lyle Wiltse, Larry Lewis, Bill Cox, Don Steele, Don Meyer, Dave Hartill, Howard Dunham, Cliff Meyer and Dick Casberg. Standing in back, Lyle Holcomb**

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Also that year the Jaycees voted to host a Raft Race on Long Lake on Labor Day. Bub Roberts was chairman for the event.

From an article in the *Deer Park Tribune*:

*"The crew of Miss Loon Lake, winner of the Reilly Cup at the Long Lake regatta were Dwain Babb, Kendall Brown, Bill Christenson, Cliff Meyer, Don Meyer and Don Metcalf. Cliff Meyer was the crew chief on the raft and it was sponsored by Paul's Tavern of Loon Lake. Winning*

*time for this raft was about 35 minutes to complete four laps around the rectangular course and change crews three times.*

*Second place went to the Deer Park Jaycees raft Ol' Ironsides, crew-chiefed by Don Berger. Third place went to the L and L raft, crew-chiefed jointly by Pete Reiter and Bob Gibson. Fourth place went to the Hut Tavern sponsored raft crew, chiefed by Steve Parkin.*

*Shortly before 3 p.m. Labor Day the starters gun sounded to send the raft racers on their way around the rectangular course. At the start all*  
*(Continued on page 787)*



*All in all a lot of the participants got wet mostly on purpose but now and then accidentally.*

*The race was sponsored jointly by the Deer Park Jaycees and the Tum Tum picnic committee. From all reports the raft race was a success*



**Can you identify these men? Photos of the raft race by Faye and Marilyn Reilly**

*(Continued from page 786)*

*rafts were off with a nice clean break. After the start some of them acted more like wild horses than rafts heading first one direction and then another. The crew changes were made out of a rowboat and most of the crews accomplished this by jumping directly into the water and then boarding whichever craft they were supposed to ride next.*



*(Continued from page 787)  
and plans are being made to have another one  
next year”.*

Work projects included bringing up bleachers for night High School football games, patching cracks in the runway at the Deer Park Airport, manning a food booth at the Airport for the car races, helping take census of the town of Deer Park in 1960. Also putting up a new chain link fence at the Deer Park Fairgrounds.

From an article in a 1969 *Deer Park Tribune*:  
*“Order Now! The Deer Park Jaycee Wives will  
again be selling birthday calendars this year. The  
calendars start with the month of September 1969,  
and will list school activities, local club meetings,  
special events and family members’ birthdays and  
anniversaries. Profits realized from last year’s  
sales helped to pay the remainder of the new chain*

*link fencing at the Deer Park Fairgrounds which  
the Deer Park Jaycees will be installing this sum-  
mer”.*

One year Deer Park challenged Chewelah to a bicycle race from Chewelah to Deer Park on Settlers Day. It was a crazy idea and only happened once. There is a lot of uphill from Chewelah to Deer Park on a hot day for out of shape contestants.

The Jaycees was a worthy organization and were a definite asset to the community. The demise came about for two reasons: to be a member you must be 21 but not over 35. As the original group got older they were not replaced by younger people. Also, the local chapter paid dues to the State and National organization and their dues were so high the local spent too much time and effort raising money to pay those dues there was not time for local projects.

## A PROJECT AS BIG AS THE PANAMA CANAL

Peter Coffin

### INTRODUCTION

In the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century many irrigation projects were constructed or planned in the western United States. In Washington the dry land in the Yakima Valley had been successfully irrigated and converted to productive farmland. In the Deer Park area the Arcadia Orchard was planned by engineer John McIntyre who had planned a project near Sunnyside in the Yakima Valley.

About 1907 an association known as the Quincy Valley Water Users Association was formed to secure finances to study reclamation of the Quincy Valley. An engineer’s report indicated that perhaps Lake Wenatchee could be tapped as a source of water and the Quincy Valley Irrigation District was organized. By 1914 a proposition to bond the

state for several million dollars to irrigate Quincy flats was circulated (Matthews, p. 2). However, much bigger projects were envisioned for the central Washington area east of the Columbia River and south of Moses Lake and Ritzville. At least four of these projects were proposed to utilize water from a variety of sources.

In 1917 a group of men speculated that the WWI effort could be aided by producing food stuffs in an irrigated Columbia Basin. At this time a second irrigation plan envisioned construction of a dam at Rock Island on the Columbia River that would impound a reservoir from which irrigation water could be pumped to the Basin by the electricity generated by the dam.

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Several members of the Rock Island discussion group had heard of a glacial-age ice dam across the Columbia River below the site of the present day Grand Coulee Dam which had diverted glacial outwash flow across the Columbia Basin. This outwash flow had resulted in the erosion of the Grand Coulee. Publisher Rufus Wood publicized this idea of damming the Columbia River at Grand Coulee in his *Wenatchee Daily World* on July 18, 1918.

Just after this article was published a Washington Water Power engineer named Ralston outlined a Columbia Basin project that would bring irrigation water from the Pend Oreille River and several Idaho lakes. Apparently Washington State Railroad Commission Chairman Elbert Blaine had heard of the Ralston plan and began to promote it. Blaine earned the support of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce, Washington Governor Lister and Seattle Mayor Hanson (Simonds, p.6). This became known as the Pend Oreille or “Gravity Plan” after a 1918 speech by Governor Ernest Lister outlined a similar plan. From this time forward the Ephrata group backed the Grand Coulee Dam as the irrigation water source and the “Irrigation League” backed the Idaho river and lakes as the irrigation water source.

## **THE GRAVITY FLOW COLUMBIA BASIN IRRIGATION PROJECT**

In 1910 the Columbia Basin Survey Commission had been formed by the Washington State Legislature to study the alternative Columbia Basin irrigation plans. Finally in 1919 the Legislature appropriated \$100,000 to study the “Lake Wenatchee”, “Rock Island”, “Grand Coulee”, and the “Gravity” plans. The Lake Wenatchee plan was based on building canals from the lake to an aqueduct across the Columbia River to the Othello Basin. The Rock Island plan would build a dam at Rock Island on the Columbia River and pump

water onto the Othello Basin with the generated electricity. The Grand Coulee plan was similar to the Rock Island plan but envisioned a very large dam generating electricity and pumping water into the Grand Coulee for distribution south onto the Columbia Basin. The Gravity Plan would transport Pend Oreille River water by gravity flow to the Columbia Basin. With nearly all the commission staff being present or past Washington Water Power employees or engineers the commission membership was heavily biased toward the “Gravity Plan”. It should be noted that Washington Water Power would directly benefit from the project by being able to utilize the water to generate power when the water was not needed for irrigation. Thus the final report favored the gravity plan and indicated that the Wenatchee Lake and Grand Coulee plans were “infeasible” and the “Rock Island” plan too costly.

By late November of 1920 a survey party was headquartered in Deer Park after having been surveying since early summer. They had run a survey line west from Albany Falls to Newport and from Newport southwestward to Elk. From Elk two alternate routes for the project were surveyed. One ran south from Elk to Mead and then across the Spokane River on an aqueduct. The other branched off at Elk and ran towards Dartford and a “pass” to Hangman Creek (Latah Creek)<sup>1</sup>. The final route chosen followed the Little Spokane River south from Newport, Washington, and at Elk, Washington, went nearly due south and east of the towns of Chattaroy, Colbert and Mead.

A series of tunnels were planned to carry the water under the higher elevations along the route and a large aqueduct was located east of the city of Spokane (Figure 2).

The annotation on Figure 1 is too small to be clearly read so the following is a description of the  
*(Continued on page 790)*

planned route of the “Gravity Project”. The project began with the construction of a dam across the Pend Oreille River at Albany Falls. From this dam the Newport tunnel would have carried water under the topographically high area southwest of Newport to the course of the Little Spokane River and Chain Lakes east of Scotia. Another dam was

to be built at Camden which would feed water to canals along the east side of the Little Spokane River to another lake impounded by a dam at Dry Creek just south of Elk. From the Dry Creek dam a series of canals and tunnels (Milan Tunnel, Deep Creek Tunnel) would carry the water to a Deep Creek Lake and Deep Creek Dam. From Deep

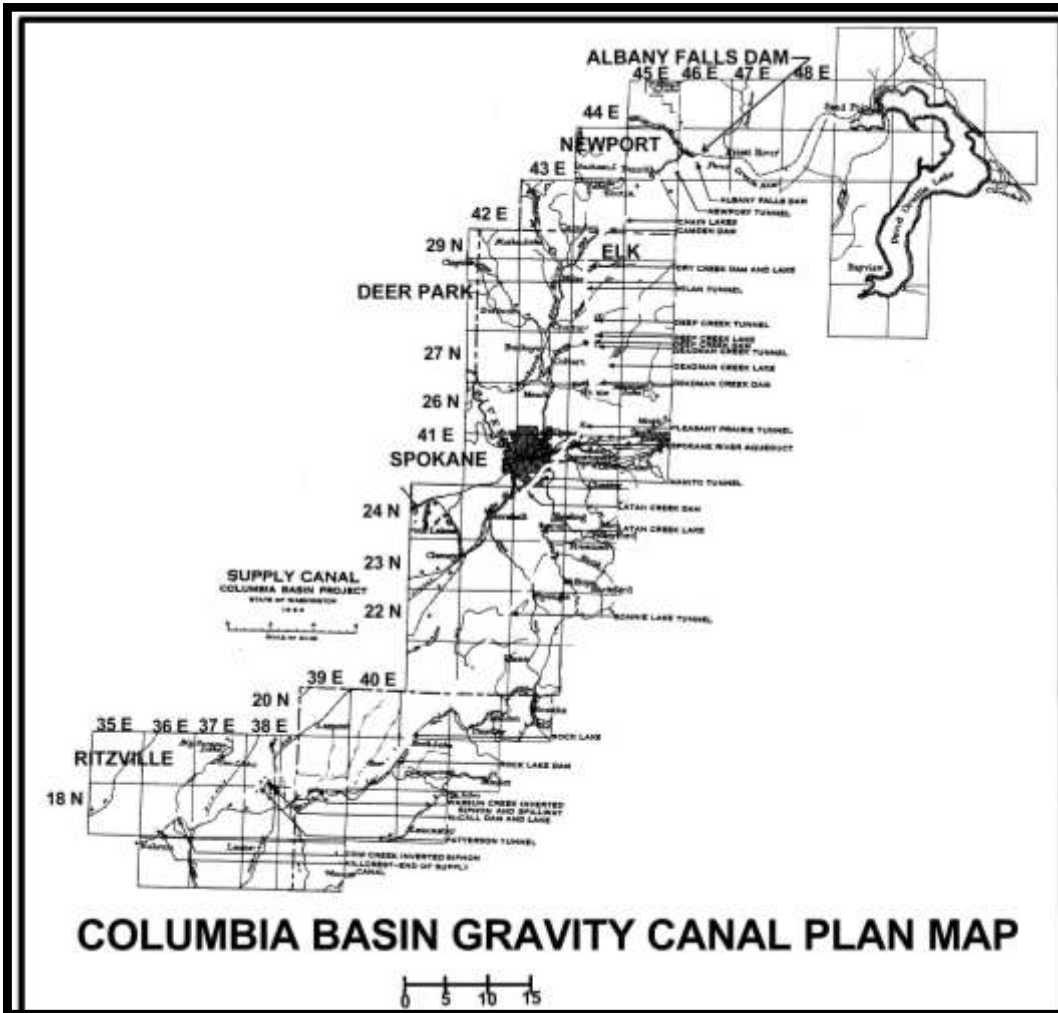


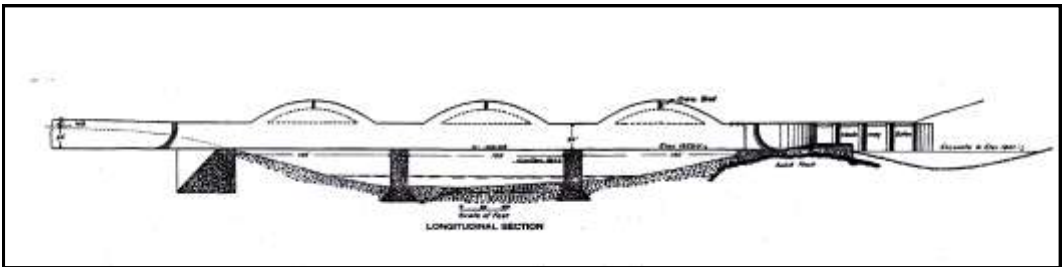
Figure 1: The “Gravity” supply canal for the Columbia Basin Project published in 1920. The canal, tunnels, aqueducts and siphons are in gray. (Modified from Map IV opposite page 37 of the report of the Columbia Basin Irrigation Commission)

Creek Dam the water would pass through Deadman Creek Tunnel to Deadman Lake impounded by Deadman Creek Dam. From the Deadman Creek Dam Pleasant Prairie Tunnel was planned to carry water under the higher topography east of Hillyard to the Spokane Aqueduct (Figure 2) crossing the Spokane River. A Manito Tunnel drilled under Spokane's south hill would carry the water from the Spokane Aqueduct to the Latah Creek Valley. Latah Creek Valley would be dammed to impound water south in the valley to a Bonnie Lake Tunnel. The Bonnie Lake Tunnel was planned to be about eighteen miles long and emerge approximately four miles west of Plaza, Washington. The irrigation water would then pass through the existing Bonnie

to various distribution canals to irrigate the Columbia Basin.

In summary the overall length of the project would be about 130 miles long. The plans utilized thirty one miles of tunnels, forty miles of lakes, and fifty four miles of concrete lined canals to deliver irrigation water to a site west of Ritzville. The tunnel design was impressive with twin 35 foot in diameter tunnels<sup>2</sup>.

In addition to the system of dams, tunnels and canals additional plans were developed to utilize both Flathead Lake and Pend Oreille Lake as reservoirs to help maintain Pend Oreille River flows during



**Figure 2: Drawing of the Spokane River Aqueduct from the 1920 Columbia Basin Commission report.**

and Rock Lakes to a dam on the south end of Rock Lake near Ewan, Washington. From that dam a canal would carry the irrigation water to an inverted siphon and spillway near Wasson Creek. Another series of canals would take the water to McCall Lake impounded by the construction of McCall Dam. At McCall Dam the water would enter Patterson Tunnel drilled under another topographically high area. From the end of the Patterson Tunnel an approximately fourteen mile canal section would carry the water to another inverted siphon at Cow Creek. From the siphon there was planned another three miles of canal to the end of the supply system at Hillcrest. At Hillcrest the water would be sent

summer months and years of reduced rainfall/snow pack melt.

Spokane real estate promoter and member of the Columbia Basin Survey Commission, Arthur D. Jones, presented details of the project to a meeting of the Spokane Realty Board in the spring of 1920. He stated that: "The project will be equal in its magnitude to that of the Panama Canal"<sup>3</sup>. Details of the plan indicated it was designed to carry 20,000 cubic feet of water per second and that 16 miles of the project's length would be through Bonnie and Rock lakes southwest of Spokane. The project would have two miles of steel siphons constructed of four twenty three foot diameter pipes.

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Waste water, in case of damage or accident, would be variously diverted into the Spokane River, Chain Lakes near Scotia, Rock Creek, Cow Creek and Washtucna Coulee all of which would be crossed by the project.

The final Survey Commission report released in late June 1920, estimated that the “Gravity” project would cost approximately \$171.40 per irrigated acre. It estimated that nearly 1,753,000 acres of land could be reclaimed at a lower cost than water from the Lake Wenatchee plan of earlier years<sup>4</sup>.

By 1922, George W. Goethals, who was hired by the “Gravity Plan” backers, had made a cursory review of the pumping plans. He said: “In our judgment the project is feasible, not alone from the stand point of construction but from that of economics as well.”<sup>5</sup>

In March of 1922 the project was estimated to cost \$200,000,000<sup>6</sup>. Estimates of average annual flows over the Albany Falls was 19,000,000 acre feet per year with the annual amounts ranging from 11,000,000 to 29,000,000 acre feet per year. The project might, in a drought season, exceed the natural flow of the river and to offset this problem 1,200,000 acre feet would be impounded in Pend Oreille Lake and 1,500,000 acre feet in Flathead Lake. This impoundment could be released in times of need.

### THE FINAL STUDY

In 1926 Washington Senators Wesley Jones and Clarence Dill tried to appropriate \$600,000 for a comprehensive study of the “Gravity” plan and the Grand Coulee Dam plan. Unable to get congressional support they inserted the appropriation amount into a rivers and harbors bill that was passed without the study plan being detected.

In 1928 the Army Engineers under Major John Butler began the comprehensive study. In 1931 his report indicated the best plan was building a large dam at Grand Coulee and pumping water from its reservoir onto the Columbia Basin. Dust bowl conditions in the northwest in the 1920’s and early 1930’s resulted in power shortages and dust storms but Congress would not pass an irrigation project the size of Grand Coulee. In early 1933 President Roosevelt balked at spending an estimated \$400,000,000 to build a large dam at Grand Coulee. The United States Bureau of Reclamation’s Chief Design Engineer, John Lucian “Jack” Savage (designer of the Hoover Dam) rescued the project by making an estimate that the Reclamation Department could build the high dam for \$60,000,000 and on July 16, 1933, ground was broken for the project.

### CONCLUSION

It is generally unknown that a gigantic gravity irrigation project had been planned for eastern Washington in the Newport to Spokane area. Politics involving three states (Washington, Idaho and Montana), ultimate costs, and alternative plans had defeated the Gravity Irrigation Plan and no traces of it were ever constructed.

### NOTES

1. *Deer Park Union*, November 20, 1919, front page.
2. *Deer Park Union*, January 20, 1920, front page.
3. *Deer Park Union*, April 22, 1920, front page.
4. *Deer Park Union*, July 8, 1920, front page.
5. *Deer Park Union*, April 20, 1922, page 5.
6. *Deer Park Union*, March 9, 1922, front page.

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- Ficken, R. E., 1995, Rufus Woods, The Columbia River & the building of modern Washington: Pullman, WA, *WSU Press*, 312 p.
- Matthews, W. G., 1952, Beginnings of the Columbia Basin Reclamation Project: A reminiscence by W. Gale Matthews: History Link Essay #7963, 6 p.
- Simonds, W. J., 1998, The Columbia Basin Project: United States Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, CO, ?? p.

## Deer Park High School's 100 Year Reunion



**The DPHS Class of 1963 photographed in the 2013 Settlers Day parade. This is the 50th class to graduate from Deer Park High School. *Photo submitted by Penney Hutton***

In honor of Deer Park High School's 100<sup>th</sup> graduating class, an All-Class Reunion was held in conjunction with Settlers Day on July 27, 2013. There was a lot of participation! About 137 DPHS Graduates, from many different classes, signed in and

looked at old Stag yearbooks at the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society booth at Mix Park, visited in the park, or took a guided tour of the current Deer Park High School (including historic videos in *(Continued on page 794)*)



**Above—Mary (Wolf) Zimmerer and Betty (Muhs) Barnes Class of 1936.**  
*Photo submitted by Florene Eickmeyer Moore*

the Kenneth M. Fisher Theater,) and/or looked at graduate photos in City Hall.

Two alumni from the DPHS Class of 1936 came to City Hall (which was the first Deer Park High School building.) Mary (Wolf) Zimmerer and Betty (Muhs) Barnes are the only living members of the Class of 1936. They were at City Hall together, accompanied by their daughters, Linda Clarkson & Brenda Frye.

Gladys Kumnick, of DPHS Class of 1926, is the eldest living DPHS alumnus, as far as we know. She was unable to come to Deer Park on July 27<sup>th</sup>, but has consented to our use of her photo, with her god-son, Bob Schroeder. She had worked for many



**Gladys Kumnick, of DPHS Class of 1926 and with her god-son, Bob Schroeder**

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years at the *Daily Chronicle*, a daily newspaper in Spokane. Gladys now lives in Spokane, at the Riverview Terrace Retirement Center. She is still sharp and looking great at 104.

The All-Class Reunion was planned by Florene (Eickmeyer) Moore (Class of 1963.) She's grateful for the assistance of Betty (Wright) Burdette (Class of 1946) and Kathy (Fish) McLaughlin (Class of 1966.) Thanks also for assistance from the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society.

### 2013 Summer Activities

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society had their usual booth at Mix Park for Settlers Day; at the Clayton Grange for Clayton Day; and at the Clayton Fair. Our volunteers set up and take down the displays and others manned the booths.

Each display was a little different. Settlers Day, we had all the yearbooks set out on their own table so guests had easy access to them. The yearbooks received a lot of attention and many people signed in for the 100 Year Reunion.

Clayton Day display at the grange hall was related more to Clayton themes. We were adjoining the dining room; convenient for lunch.

The Clayton Fair C/DPHS Exhibit has its own room at the fair. This gives us room to set up displays. We have more time to spend with each guest and they can move freely from one exhibit to the next.

We gave out free Mortarboard Newsletters and had Collected Newsletter available for a small donation.

Thank you for stopping by our booth. We hope you learned some local history, and if you missed us, we will see you next year.

Editor



**Sharon Clark and Bill Sebright at Clayton Day display**



**Right: Trees in background seem part of the Deer Park float during the Clayton Day Parade. Photo by Bill Sebright**

## GRAND MARSHAL OF CLAYTON DAY PARADE



Grand Marshal Bill Sebright rides in seat of honor as he is driven in the Clayton parade by Pete Coffin in Pete's convertible.

### A Short Biography of Bill Sebright

Bill's, mom, Iva Fay Crews was born in Madras, Oregon. She had 3 brothers and 5 sisters.

Bills dad, Chester Fackler Sebright (Red) was born in Pennsylvania. He had 5 brothers and 5 sisters. He was drafted into World War I and served 2 years along the US-Mexican border in the 7th and 17th Cavalry. After his discharge in 1919, he came to Idaho and worked in the kitchen of road construction camp. He worked his way up to teamster, to foreman, and to superintendent. He worked in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Washington and Oregon. He met Iva in Madras, Oregon. They were married in March of 1937.

They worked on road construction until they moved to their farm west of Loon Lake on the Colville Highway. Chester Jr. (Chet) was born in 1939, John in 1941, and Bill in 1945. Chet went to his first grade year at Loon Lake School in 1945. Mrs. Gardner was his teacher

They moved to a small farm at the corner of Whittier and Railroad Roads when Red needed a kidney operation in 1946. Chet started the second grade at Clayton School. Mrs. Gardner was his teacher, much to their surprise. We moved a short distance to our farm, where Bill and Anni live today, in the spring of 1948. Chet and John went to



**Red and Iva Sebright in August 1966 from the CDHS web page**

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Clayton School through the eighth grade. Bill went 6 years at Clayton School and 6 years in Deer Park. Clayton School District consolidated with Deer Park and classes started mixing 1956. Starting in 1957 all the members of each grade were at the same school.



**Chet, John, Bill Sebright with their parents, Iva and Red about 1963.**

All 3 boys graduated from Deer Park High School. Bill graduated from Washington State University in 1967. Anni and Bill were married in 1966. They moved to Redwood City, California, in June of 1967. Bill taught there for 5 years. Anni was the accounts payable bookkeeper for the district during those 5 years.

Red and Iva moved from the farm in 1970, the same year Anni and Bill bought it. They moved to the farm in 1972.

For the next 30 years Bill taught at Clayton



**Nathan, Gavin, Anni, Bill and Garret at Gavin and Amber's wedding, November 18, 2007.**

Elementary and Arcadia Elementary. He taught 5th, 6th and 7th grades. Three other 6th grade teachers and he started the Outdoor Education Program at Camp Reed. He "coached" the Roadrunners and "Math is Cool" team for many years.

Bill and Anni have 3 boys and 6 grand children.

It was once thought that Bill was the only person to be a student and a teacher at Clayton School. We found out that Mrs. Inga (Nordby) McDonald was both a student and a teacher there also.

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After retirement in 2002 Bill and Anni have been to Europe twice, visited the Caribbean, and have been through the Panama Canal.

He has been President of the CDPHS for ten years. He sees his biggest accomplishment with the CDPHS as writing the application to get the Clayton School on the State and National Registers of His-

toric Places. Shortly after being put on the Registers, the Deer Park School District spent about \$1.4 million to remodel the beautiful building.

He represented The Golden Grads (The Class of 1963 was the 50th class to graduate and had their 50th class reunion this year) and CDPHS as the commencement speaker for the 100th class graduation at Deer Park High School in June.

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<b>Clayton/ Deer Park Historical Society Minutes — August 10, 2013</b>
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In attendance: Betty Burdette, Bill Sebright, Sharon Clark, Lorraine Nord, Warren Nord, Don Reiter, Mary Jo Reiter, Penny Hutten, Florene E. Moore, Kay Parkin, Mary Nelson, Marilyn Reilly, Lynn Wells, Allan Fackenthal, Duane Costa, Roxanne Camp, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Norma Calmes, and Grace Hubal.

Society President, Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. He reported: 1) We got a call from Gus Kruger, custodian at Clayton School. There have been several windows broken lately at the School. We are asked to keep our eye open for kids messing around the school. 2) We received a letter asking if a cell phone tower north-east of Deer Park would interfere with anything historical. 3) Bill contacted Ed and Rosie Nordby. They and their cousin Darlene Dormaier said that Inga McDonald went to Clayton School. So Bill isn't the only person who was a student and teacher at Clayton School.

Treasurer, Mark Wagner reported by email that the regular checking account stands at \$3,591.24. Activity for the month includes a \$9.73 check written for Grand Marshall signs. Deposits include \$8.00. We took in \$136.00 for Settlers Day and \$35.00 for Clayton Brickyard Day (these two deposits will show up on next month's activity. Web hosting account had \$139.61 with a \$10.95 withdrawal for web hosting. Grace Hubal, Secretary, reported, 1) My daughter Holly had in her possession numerous publications of The Big Smoke from 1923 and 1969-2005 plus a booklet called Historical Sketches of Pend

Oreille County, As Related by Some of its Pioneers. Her previous employer found the publications and was going to throw them away. Holly right away decided to give them to me because she knew I was secretary for the CDPHS so she gave them to me. I called the Newport Museum and told them about the publications. They sell old and new Big Smoke publications. I plan to take them next week. 2) I sent a thank you letter to Daryl Click for his generous donation.

Vice President, Pete Coffin reported by email: 1) He gave Editor Sharon Clark a Mortar-board article draft titled "A Project as Big as the Panama Canal." It is an account of a proposed 1920s Columbia Basin Irrigation Project designed to utilize Pend Oreille River water using canals from the river at Albany Falls southwest to near the Ritzville area. 2) Pete provided *Deer Park Union* newspaper articles documenting Dr. L. A. Ling to Historian Mrs. Winnie Moore of Spokane. Dr. Ling was a physician in Deer Park in the late 1930s and very early 1940s. He was an Army Reservist called to active duty in the Spring of 1941. While at Fort George Wright, the 30 something Doctor fell, hit his head, and died. Mrs. Moore's mother worked as his receptionist. Mrs. Moore sent \$5.00 to him which he donated to the Society. She also wanted information about residents of a house on South Main Street which Pete found for her. In return he sent her a complete set of the digitized *Deer Park Union/Tri-County Tribune*. 3) He provided newspaper articles to a local beautician about  
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early funeral homes in Deer Park. She has a business in a building that once housed a funeral operation. 4) Mike Reiter referred the owner of Hahn Engineering to Pete over a question about information about the sawmill on Dragoon Creek. Pete referred the man to the Newsletter that he wrote about sawmills in the Deer Park area where there is a picture of the Gemmill sawmill. 5) Pete did not attend the August meeting because of a commitment to staff the Inland Northwest Camaro Club open Car Show at Mirabeau Park in Spokane Valley.

Print editor, Sharon Clark reported: 1) The August 2013 Mortarboard #64 was distributed. Articles include: The history of Deer Park's Mix Park, and an article of one time school superintendent E. M. Blevins. 2) Sharon received the following email from Nancy Tucker, Dr. H. H. Slater's granddaughter:

*My grandfather was Dr. H.H. Slater who was the only doctor in Deer Park for many years in the early 1900s and on. I have more info on him if you would like. However, my immediate concern is that I have a dress which belonged to his wife (my grandmother) Lavina Jane Thompson Slater which I would like to donate if you have a place for it. It is a very sweet old print with jacket, skirt, and petticoat. I also have my mother's Campfire Girl dress from when she was a Campfire girl in Deer Park. My mother Marjorie Slater was born in 1914. It is time for me to tie loose ends, and these items deserve a good home. Our town has an historical society museum, but my family was not from here. I hope that you can be that place.*

*Sincerely,*

*Nancy Tucker*

Webmaster Director, Penny Hutten reported: 1) This month on the CDPHS website the latest Mortarboard was added. 2) Penny looked into to why we were still being charged \$10.95 a month,

when we paid \$238.41 to have the hosting paid until 5/14/2016 (for three years). They informed me that we did pay for hosting until 5/14/2016 but the \$10.95 charge was for the Weebly Premium Drag and Drop Builder. Everything but the Weebly Drag and Drop has been paid for this year and that is why we are being billed \$10.95 a month. So here are our normal charges:

\$79.47 once a year for our hosting  
\$10.95 a month for our Weebly Drag and Drop Builder  
\$14.99 once a year for our URL registration.  
\$6.00 once a year for the back-up of the website.  
\$231.86 per year total

That's \$19.32 per month. We are actually saving a lot of money. We do have a very large website.

3) September 19, 2013, Sheila Kelly will be speaking about her book "*Treadwell Gold, An Alaska Saga of Riches and Ruin.*" Sheila grew up in Spokane, graduated from Gonzaga University, and later received a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Washington, Evans School of Public Affairs. Her father's family grew up in Alaska. Her book combines Alaska history, hard rock gold mining history and a frontier memoir. A hundred years ago, the world famous Treadwell Gold Mines on Douglas Island across Gastineau Channel from Juneau, Alaska, were the featured stop for steamship cruises up the Inside Passage. The book gives first person accounts from the sons and daughters of the hoist operator, mine superintendents, and the machinist who was the author's grandfather.

<http://www.treadwellgold.com>

Please join us at the Airport Holiday Inn, 1616 S. Windsor Drive Spokane, Washington 99224. Contact Pat Holien by September 15, for reservations. Pat's email

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is patholien@comcast.net and phone number is 509-466-2439.

The Settlers Day and Brickyard Day booths were discussed. Florene Moore said that about 140 DPHS graduates signed up at the 3 locations. Many people looked up friends and family in our DPHS year books. There was some discussion about who would take the Clayton Drive-In's place

for Brickyard Day? We will be talking to the Clayton Fair officers.

Next meeting: Saturday, September 14, 9 AM at the Clayton Drive-In.

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 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

**WANTED:** Any stories and photos of your family’s history in connection with their occupations and settlement in the Clayton/Deer Park Area

**WANTED:** Any stories and photos from Williams Valley #452 and Gardenspot Grange78 Contact: Ann Fackenthall, WVG

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**Visit our New Web Site: [cdphs.org](http://cdphs.org)**

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