



BOUNDARY COUNTY
Historical Society

P. O. Box 808
Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805

Inside this issue:

- New Entryway Display*
- Build a Gingerbread House!*
- Changes at the Museum*
- Christmas Special at the White Caribou Gift Shop*
- Board of Trustees Change*



The time is fast approaching to renew your membership in the Boundary County Historical Society for 2012. In addition to supporting Museum programs, your membership also entitles you to free admission to the Museum, 10% off on purchases at the White Caribou Gift Shop, as well as receiving the quarterly Museum newsletter. To keep your membership current, please fill out the form printed on this page and mail it to the Museum, or drop it off at the Museum.

2012 Annual Membership Levels (Based on calendar year)

- Individual** \$ 15.00
- Basic** 25.00
(1-2 adults and all children up to age 17 in one household)
- Senior Individual** (65 and +) 10.00
- Senior Couple** (65 and +) 15.00

Society Friend Levels

- Donor** \$ 100.00
- Sponsor** 500.00
- Patron** 1,000.00
- Additional gift** \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

Check enclosed payable to Boundary County Historical Society \$ _____

The Boundary County Historical Society, Inc. is a 501 (c)3 organization.



Boundary County Historical Society and Boundary County Museum

Time Capsule

Volume III Issue 4 Fall/Winter 2011

New Entryway Display Completed

Visitors to the Boundary County Museum are now welcomed by a new exhibit. The exhibit, titled "Introduction To Boundary County", is located in the east entry, and consists of wall mounted maps, photographs with brief narratives, browsing books and display cabinets with relevant artifacts. The vision behind the exhibit is that it will portray an overview of the history of our county.

Keith Petersen, State Historian, who reviewed the text for historical continuity, and also to Fleet Graphics for printing the maps and wall displays.

Included as part of the exhibit are photographic representations of the three bas relief sculptures found above the entry way to the Boundary County Courthouse. The sculptures by Fletcher

Martin, a 1938 WPA project, represent mining, agriculture, and logging. The photographs have been mounted on the front of the museum docent counter. Thanks to Andrea and Dave Kramer at Stampede Lake Photography for this display, which not only fits in with the new entryway exhibit, but also as a lead in to the upcoming Smithsonian Exhibit "The Way We Worked".

The exhibit was made possible by a \$2,000 grant from the Idaho Humanities Council and the efforts of numerous museum volunteers logging 450 hours researching, writing, and preparing the exhibit for display. Work started this past spring and culminated in the formal opening on October 8. Research was a combined effort by Howard Kent, Terry Howe, and Sue Kemmis. Howard spent most of the summer working through numerous drafts of the two browsing books. The graphics and wall displays were expertly prepared by Mary Ann Kruger. Eldora Gatchell sorted through the Museum's photographic archives and filled two photo frames with historic county photographs showing our history. Thanks also go out to



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Build a Gingerbread House!

The holiday season is fast approaching and plans are underway for a city-wide festival to be held during the weeks before Christmas. The Museum will support this endeavor by hosting an old fashioned Gingerbread Winter Village contest. Individuals and groups are encouraged to design and construct gingerbread buildings for this display.

Creations are to be left at the Museum on either December 9th or 10th, with public viewing on December 16th and 17th from 10am to 4pm. Prizes will be awarded for the best creations, with a first place prize of \$75 and second place earning \$50. In addition, the public can vote for a "People's Choice" award by dropping pennies into a box. The creation receiving the most "votes" will receive a cash prize of \$25. The prize money has been donated by the Tattered Hats Society and Dr. Marty & Teresa Becker. All proceeds will be donated to the BoCo Backpack program.

Contest rules and entry forms may be obtained at the Museum or Beck's Furniture. Further information is available by calling Karen Standal at 267-9677 or Eldora Gatchell at 267-6133.

Christmas Special at the White Caribou Gift Shop

Looking for that special Christmas gift? Stop by the White Caribou Gift Shop at the Museum and pick up a copy of the Boundary County History Book or the Boundary County Museum Cookbook at sales prices. The History Book will be available for \$50, a savings of \$15, and the Cookbook will be on sale for \$6, a 50% savings. These prices will be in effect only from November 25th through December 23rd.



Changes at the Museum

The fire alarm system for the museum has been installed and is now operational. This project was fully funded through receipts from the fund raising dinner held at the museum in May.

A major heating issue developed in the south building. The furnace gave out and it was determined that repairs would not be cost effective due to the age of the equipment. Several bids were received and Advanced Heating & Sheet Metal in Bonners Ferry was awarded the contract. A new furnace and heating system is now in place. Receipts from the May fund raising

dinner and also the Eveline Ruhberg estate auction provided over half of the cost of the new heating plant.

A new display is in the works. Bobby Bradley donated all of the components of his father's (Marion Bradley) blacksmith shop to the Museum. Included are the forge with all of the tools, blower, anvil, vise, and coal box. All of the equipment is now housed at the Museum, thanks to the efforts of Terry Howe and to Cal Russell and the crew from Boundary Tractor. The display will be developed during the winter and will be available for public viewing starting this spring.

Schedule of Events

November 15	Cub Scouts tour Museum
December 16/17	Gingerbread Village Display at the Museum
January 7	Spinning Day at the Museum
	Board of Trustees meet at the museum at 5:30pm on December 13, January 10 and January 24.

Museum Hours

The Museum is now open to the public from 10am-4pm, Fridays and Saturdays. The shortened winter hours will remain in place until May 1.

Curator's Corner

"Each time I come in here I see something different. There is so much stuff in here." This is the remark that we hear at the museum every day.

The Museum holds more than 16,000 artifacts and photos collected over the years by individuals whose goal it was and is to preserve the unique history of Boundary County, Idaho. Each of

these items has a story behind it. We enjoy hearing and retelling the stories about the items in the Museum. We can appreciate them more when we know who it belonged to, who made it, who played it, or how it was used.

We recently received a photo in the mail of Bonners Ferry. What an awesome thing to behold, a small "village" resting along the mighty Kootenai River; the only access to the north bank by way

of a ferry. What a time that must have been! When Howard Kent and I discussed the photo, we determined it was most likely the earliest photo either one of us had seen of the town on the south bank of the river. He said it was taken about 1895-96.

Learning the many different historical stories of Boundary County helps us to appreciate this beautiful place we call home. Help us research Boundary County history and share in all the fun.

Sue Kemmis, Curator



Taken about 1895-96, this is most likely the earliest photo of Bonners Ferry in the Museum photo collection.



History Walk and More

The Museum was the site of numerous activities on Saturday, October 8. Local historian, Howard Kent, led the fourth annual History Walk during the morning. During the two hour walking tour, Mr. Kent explained the history and businesses associated with the various historic structures located in downtown Bonners Ferry.

The History Walk was followed at noon with a chili feed served in the

Railroad Courtyard. The chili, homemade cornbread, and pie were enjoyed by the approximately 40 participants. Thanks go out to Jill Nystrom and Jill's Café for preparing the meal, and also to Safeway, Akins Harvest Food, and Elaine Atkins for donating all of the ingredients of the meal.

The formal dedication of the new entry-way exhibit, Introduction to Boundary County, followed the chili feed. This exhibit, funded by the Idaho Humanities Council and the Boundary County Historical Society, represents over 450 hours of local volunteer time and presents an overview of the history and de-

velopment of Boundary County. If you haven't been in the Museum recently, stop by and see the changes.

Board of Trustees Change

Carolyn McNeill recently announced her resignation as a member of the Museum Board of Trustees due to scheduling conflicts. LeAlan Pinkerton has been appointed by the Board to fill the remainder of her term. Carolyn plans to remain active as a Museum volunteer. Many thanks go out to Carolyn for her years of dedicated service.

Current Board Members

Mike Sloan, *President*
Jill Nystrom, *Vice President*
Cal Russell, *Secretary*
Kathy Konek, *Treasurer*

LeAlan Pinkerton LaMar Olsen
Don Morice John Standal
Dottie Gray

Sue Kemmis, Curator