



BOUNDARY COUNTY  
*Historical Society*

P. O. Box 808  
Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805

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### Upcoming Events at the Museum

April 28	Annual Membership Meeting, Elections, Annual Reports, & Dessert, 7:00pm
May 1	Volunteer Training Workshop 10:00am bring a sack lunch
May 28	Journey Stories opening program
June 4	"Songs of the Journey to a New Life in Idaho"
June 5	Car Club Show and Pancake Feed
June 10	"Idaho's Forgotten War"
June 18	"The Chinese in Bonners Ferry"
June 19	"Who's Been Workin' on the Railroad"
May 28- July 10	Smithsonian Exhibit Journey Stories

Pick up a complete schedule at the museum

Support the preservation of local heritage by becoming a member and/or donating cash, materials, equipment, or your time.

Spring museum hours are Fridays and Saturdays 10:00am to 4:00pm.

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

7229 Main Street P. O. Box 808 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805

#### Membership Levels

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

The benefits of membership include free admission to the museum, a 10% discount at the White Caribou Gift Shop and the quarterly newsletter.

#### 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Boundary County Historical Society and Boundary County Museum

# Time Capsule

Volume II Issue 2 Spring 2010

## The Smithsonian is Coming!

The Smithsonian is coming to Bonners Ferry. We have been hearing those words for nearly a year since the Boundary County Museum was selected by the Idaho Humanities Council as the first of six sites in Idaho to host Journey Stories, a traveling Smithsonian exhibit. Started in 1994, Museum on Main Street is a collaboration between the Smithsonian, State Humanities Councils and local communities to bring energizing educational exhibits to rural America.

Dr. John Bieter, professor of History at BSU is the Journey Stories project scholar and will be the main speaker at the May 28 opening ceremony for the exhibit. Let's hear what Bieter has to say about the exhibit that is coming our way...

"The Smithsonian's traveling exhibit Journey Stories captures the history of immigration and migration in America. From Native Americans to new American citizens — regardless of our ethnic, religious or racial background — migration is central to our story. This exhibit explores key themes that surround these movements: the mixed reception upon coming to America or moving to

different regions; the prominence of ports of entry to these stories; the way countries of origin were changed; the great stories of success as well as those of disillusion; the businesses that grew up around movement and the way these migration stories have played out in subsequent generations. From the Pilgrims to Route 66 and even the information superhighway, the movement of people and ideas has been foundational to understanding our country. Explore this exhibit and deepen your understanding of these migration stories."

#### Journey Photo Credits

Top left  
*Family and friends say goodbye to troops in Decatur, Illinois, June 1944. As an advertisement for the Association of American Railroads claimed, "Every month — two million members of our armed forces board American railroad trains under military orders to ride away on somber, terrible, necessary business — the business of America's salvation. Courtesy of the Herald & Review, Decatur, IL.*

Top center  
*Vernon Evans stands next to his family's car during a stop along their journey from South Dakota in July 1936. Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-130705*

*"Vernon Evans (with his family) of Lemmon, South Dakota, near Missoula, Montana. Leaving grasshopper-ridden and drought-stricken area for a new start in Oregon or Washington. Expects to arrive at Yakima in time for hop picking. Makes about 200 miles a day in Model T Ford." Arthur Rothstein, photographer's notes, July 1936*

Top right  
*The Rosen family vacations in the Valley of the Fires, New Mexico, 1969. Photo by Louis Rosen. Courtesy of the Rosen family.*

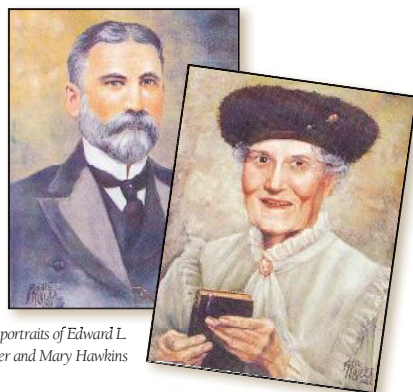


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## The Faces of History

In June of 1994 Stan and Georgia DeHart donated, to the Boundary County Historical Society, an incredible collection of forty oil portraits they had commissioned local artist Bette Myers to paint in the 1980s. At the time, the Historical Society did not have enough space to exhibit the paintings, so the DeHarts arranged to display the portraits in Safeway where Stan was the pharmacist until the museum could accommodate the collection. The shuffle of Safeway to the former BTC store prompted the long overdue move of the

portraits to the museum. All forty portraits will take a journey across town to be exhibited in the Community Event Center where they will share the journey stories of some of the men and women who shaped this community. Thank you Safeway for preserving and displaying this lasting community legacy for sixteen years.



Bette Myers portraits of Edward L. Bonner and Mary Hawkins

## Look What's Happening this Summer!

Beginning with the Journey Stories opening program May 28, the Boundary County Historical Society and Museum will host an inviting array of interesting programs and activities for all ages weekly to complement the traveling and local exhibits. In addition to special week-end programs and events, there will be regular weekly happenings. "Talk about it Tuesday" will be informal

afternoon discussions about specific community topics. Come and share. "Not for Kids Only" will be light hearted educational story times on Wednesday afternoons. Hear Ed Robbins bring the Pony Express to life, or Karen Standal portray an early twentieth century journey across country in a train. Paul Rawlings will facilitate a discussion on the book Stump Ranch Pioneer. Spend

Thursday evenings at "Free Family Film Night" watching movies and eating popcorn. The first film will be "Idaho's Forgotten War" featuring Kootenai Elder Amy Trice. Film maker Sonya Rosario and Amy Trice will answer questions.

## Kudos to Volunteers!

Thanks to the hard work of some great volunteers, the Event Center has taken shape. Jan Sloan showed off her height and scrubbing talent on the scissor lift, loaned by Boundary Tractor. Don Morice kicked in repairing the ceiling. Thanks to John Bard for donating two Saturdays to ceiling painting and Will and Steve from Boundary Electric donated some labor to install new lights. Polishing off the project was Rusty Ritz who stripped and waxed the floor with equipment and supplies graciously donated by the now historic Boundary Trading Company. Not to be forgotten, Mike Woodward figured out how to re-construct the portable walls donated by the Bonner County Museum. Retired, with lots of time on his hands, Woodward also hand dug the hole for the foundation for the old UP semaphore which will soon stand in the Railroad History Courtyard.

History may be the heart of the museum, but the volunteers are the heartbeat! Thank you one and all for making the museum a better place for our community.

## From the Curator

With The Smithsonian Exhibit: Journey Stories coming to the museum, we want to involve the youth of the community in helping to preserve the history of Boundary County.

Dotie Gray, Donna Kent, and I have been visiting students, taking the very important journey story of Edward L. Bonner. Imagine being a 22 year old New York man embarking on a journey through the Panama Canal, San Francisco, The Dalles, and Walla Walla. Then taking that a step further and venture north arriving in the Kootenai Valley to start a ferry service in a little spot which will eventually carry your name.

We visited the 4th grades at Naples, Mt. Hall, Evergreen, and Valley View. We spoke with the entire student body at the Mt. View Christian School. We will also share the story with the McCormick School and a group of home schooled students in the county.

We have been encouraging the students to research their families personal journeys to the beautiful place we call home. Field trips to the museum and the Journey Stories exhibit have already been scheduled by many classes.

Help us research Boundary County history and share in all the fun.

Sue Kemmis, *Museum Curator*

## Tidbits and Trivia

Howard Kent reports from the 1939 Bonners Ferry Herald that fifteen Kootenai Indians went to McCall as extras in the cast of the Northwest Passage with Spencer Tracy. They were paid \$5 per day.

## Current Board Members

*President*, Jill Nystrom  
*Vice President*, Mike Sloan  
*Secretary*, Gini Woodward  
*Treasurer*, Orrin Everhart  
LaMar Olsen  
John Standal  
Don Morice

## From the President

The Museum has been full of activity this past month. We had a great attendance for the Shadows of David Thompson, a film by George Sibley. Recently Kathy Hodges, Oral Historian with the Idaho State Historical society, successfully led the oral history workshop which was held on March 24. We are now preparing for the Smithsonian traveling exhibit, Journey Stories from May 28- July 10. Interesting programs and activities are scheduled for all ages. I encourage you to join in and share your personal story. I would like to personally thank our curator, volunteers, and members; your contributions are greatly appreciated by all.

Jill Nystrom, *President*

## Members Make Museum Magic

The Boundary County Historical Society, like most organizations relies on membership. Members not only provide funds from annual dues (a whopping \$10 per year) but their involvement helps to spread the word about the organization. Members have the opportunity and responsibility for the election of the Board members who will oversee the operation — your representatives. The magic is in your vote. The more "magic" the better. If you have already joined the membership — thank you. If you haven't yet made the commitment, please consider joining and being a part of the magic. Tell your friends. The annual membership meeting is April 28. Plan to join us — become a member and cast your magic. This is your community, your museum — your involvement will help to make this the best museum in the State. Join in the Magic. Become a member today.

Mike Sloan, *Membership Chairman*

## Volunteers

Planning a special event such as Journey Stories requires significant time and attention to detail. It appears simple at first glance, but behind the scenes an operating system and intricate network of volunteers will make this event successful. We strive to make everyone's experience a positive one. Journey Stories is an event for the entire community young and old. Interested in Volunteering? Maybe you would like to get on board and join the fun! If you are interested in volunteering for as little as two hours or more, weekly or monthly there are many areas your talents can be used. A volunteer training workshop for the Journey Stories will be held Saturday May 1 from 10:00am-1:00pm in the Boundary County Museum Event Center next to the museum, 7223 Main. Bring a sack lunch, we'll provide the beverages. Please contact Sue at the museum, 267-7720 or Lillie 267-2775.

## Grants and Awards

The Idaho Humanities Council awarded Boundary County Historical Society, Inc., Bonners Ferry, \$2,000 for an oral history project coinciding with the May/June visit of the Smithsonian traveling exhibition Journey Stories. The project includes digitizing earlier taped oral histories and conducting new interviews of residents, exploring reasons why people came to and stayed in northern Idaho.

The Boundary County Community Foundation awarded the Boundary County Historical Society \$500 for lighting and completion of a Timber Industry exhibit in the museum.

Better Boundary County Coalition gifted the Historical Society \$500.

Beta Sigma Phi has selected the Boundary County Historical Society as a recipient of part of its service project funds. The gift will be presented at the Beta Founder's Day Brunch on April 24.

The generosity of the community endorses and supports the diligent work of many volunteers to keep our community history alive.

Thank you!

## Wish List

The Boundary County Museum is a community adventure and an expanding journey that requires supplies, materials, and sometimes specific items. Here are a few of the museum operating needs you might be able to help with:

Toilet paper, paper towels, copy paper, stamps, sheet protectors, white three ring binders, coffee, tea, canister vacuum cleaner, waste baskets, bathroom mirror, exit signs, folding tables, chairs, and cookies, cookies, dozens of cookies for all the museum gatherings.

