



BOUNDARY COUNTY
Historical Society

P. O. Box 808
Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805

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**FUND RAISING
DINNER**

*Buffet Dinner,
Entertainment,
Raffle,
Silent Auction*

**MAY 14, 2011, 5:30PM
MUSEUM EVENT CENTER**

A NIGHT FOR THE MUSEUM

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 14. An evening of food and fun is planned at the Museum Events Center beginning with a social at 5:30, dinner at 6:30 with entertainment to follow. Chef Jill Nystrom will be preparing a feast of prime rib, chicken, and all the "fixin's" for your culinary enjoyment. A number of silent auction items will be available for bidding during the course of the evening, as well as a raffle with some exciting prizes.

This event has been organized by the BCHS Board of Trustees as a fund raiser, with all proceeds dedicated to the instal-

lation of a fire alarm system to protect our museum. All activities related to the dinner, from cooking to serving to dishes afterwards, will be by museum volunteers.

See the enclosed sheet for additional information and to order tickets. Seating is limited, and no tickets will be sold at the door.

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

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



Boundary County Historical Society and Boundary County Museum

Time Capsule

Volume III Issue 2 Spring 2011

The Smithsonian Returns to Bonners Ferry

In February, the Boundary County Historical Society & Museum was notified that once again we had been chosen to participate in the next Smithsonian traveling exhibit, "The Way We Worked". This is not really surprising since Bonners Ferry, after their stellar performance with "Journey Stories", became the standard among Idaho Cities, not only through our broad range of participation but with 28 locally produced events related to the exhibit.

The return of the Smithsonian will be a great opportunity for Bonners Ferry and Boundary County. It will allow others to see just what we are capable of doing, brings outside people in which helps our local economy, provides a forum where youth can get involved, and allows us to showcase some of our own history. All of this is good stuff but it will take hard work, sacrifice of time, and the commitment of many to make it happen. Are we up to the task – yes, I think so.

I was asked to represent the Historical Society at a kick off and planning meeting for the exhibit in Boise last month. The

meeting was attended by representatives from the Smithsonian, the Idaho Historical Society, the Idaho Humanities Council, and representatives of the other six cities selected to participate in the exhibit – McCall, Burley, Twin Falls, Couer d'Alene, and Priest River. The exhibit will be in Bonners Ferry during May/June of 2012.

For two days, we were inundated with information about the show, how to put it together, and all of the requirements necessary to make the exhibit happen. This is a very big job but made easier by the fact that we have a road map to follow put forth

by Gini Woodward, the Museum folks, and many good citizens of Boundary County last year with "Journey Stories".

The plan this time is to diversify the workload through a variety of committees, each with specific responsibilities related to the exhibit. In addition to an overall project director, committees will include events coordination, advertising, school programs, partnerships, funding including sponsorships and grants, exhibit installation and take down, and coordination of volunteers. This is an impressive task list. Everyone of these tasks were accomplished last year by just a handful of people. We need to get more people involved this year for the project to work. If you have an area of expertise, interest, or just want to help, please contact Colet Allen at 267-8130 or e-mail Colet@meadowcrk.com.



Last year's Smithsonian Journey Stories traveling exhibit installed at our museum.

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Notice of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Boundary County Historical Society & Museum, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 beginning at 6:00pm. The meeting will be held at the Museum Events Center located at 7223 Main Street in Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

The meeting will include a review of the museum's annual financial report and

budget, reports on museum activities during the past year, and any other business that may come before the membership.

Election of five members of the Board of Trustees will also take place. Positions to be filled include expiring three year terms for positions currently held by Don Morice, Jill Nystrom, and LaMar

Olsen and to fill two positions created by resignations for the one year remaining on each term.

Only current dues paid members of the Boundary County Historical Society are entitled to vote on matters coming before the annual meeting. Dues may be paid prior to or at the annual meeting.

I Kind of Get Snippy in the Winter

When Jack Flinn called last fall inquiring if I would be interested in having his Dad's collection of old Bonners Ferry Heralds and Kootenai Valley Times, I immediately said "Yes". The Museum's archives are lacking some editions of the "Old Timer's Column", certain feature stories, photographs, and obituaries. However, I was not prepared for 32 boxes of musty newspapers that had to be extracted from Paul's basement. I also suspected that the Museum personnel, especially Sioux and Field Marshall Howe, would not be too keen on having my stinking treasures smelling up their quarters. So, I hauled them home and stunk up my basement. However, daily spraying with Fabreze did wonders. I sprayed the newspapers and Donna sprayed me.

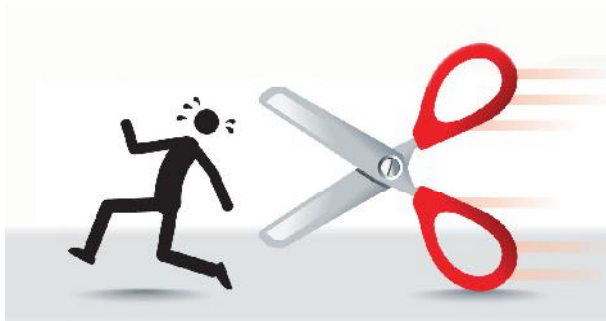
I have spent the winter perusing and clipping, and amassed a pile of good stuff. Or at least I think so. Now it is just a matter of getting it all plugged into the appropriate archival holes for

future reference. Beulah Patterson and Kathy Behrman, our obituarians (or obituarianettes), will not RIP after they see the box of obits I have collected for them. I've been giving some thought to making some sort of photo collage from my snippings. First, however, I must get the remaining "Old Timer Column"

articles copied and slipped into their appropriate binders.

I am hopeful that my snipping days are about to come to an end as I've been having nightmares about being chased by giant pairs of scissors.

Howard Kent, *Historian Emeritus*



Museum Notices

Due to the cost of printing and mailing, future editions of the quarterly museum newsletter will only be sent to members of the Historical Society. If you are not a current member, sign up at the Museum or through the dinner form enclosed with the newsletter.

Board of Trustee business meetings second and fourth Tuesday every month at 5:30pm at the Museum – 4/12, 4/26, 5/10, 5/24, 6/14, 6/28, 7/12

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

Earth Day Art Show

The Museum Events Center will host an art show in April in conjunction with Earth Day festivities scheduled for April 23 at the County Fairgrounds. The Events Center will be made available for local artists to display their creativity and visionary works related to the three "R's" – reduce, reuse, and recycle. The displays will be available for public viewing from 10a-4p on April 22/23 and 29/30.

Anyone interested in displaying their three "R's" artwork, or for further information, please contact Suzanne at 267-6575 or Colet at 267-8130 or colet@meadowcrk.com.

Museum Awarded Idaho Humanities Council Grant

The Idaho Humanities Council has notified us that a Boundary County Historical Society's application for a \$2,000 grant has been approved. The grant application, titled "An Introduction to Boundary County", provides for the research and construction of two permanent wall exhibits, display cabinets, and browsing books to be located in the new entry way facing the International Gateway Visitors Center.

The new exhibits will serve to introduce visitors to our county's history and development through narratives, photographs and maps. This new exhibit, which will explore developments in agriculture, logging, mining and transportation will serve as a lead in to the upcoming 2012 Smithsonian exhibit "The Way We Worked".

Volunteer hours devoted to research, writing and exhibit construction will be utilized as our local match for this grant. If you are interested in partici-

pating in this project, get in touch with Sue Kemmis. Work will begin shortly and is to be completed by September 30.

The Boundary County Historical Society has received prior grants from the Idaho Humanities Council for the Railroad History Park, The Smithsonian "Journey Stories" exhibit last year, and for the oral history project of some Boundary County residents.

From the Curator

History is defined as "a branch of knowledge that records and explains past events". When it comes to local history many of us get nostalgic, we enjoy telling and retelling the many stories of people and places dear to our hearts. One of those stories is the Edward L. Bonner story, the source of our wonderful city's name.

Dottie and Dave Gray, Donna and Howard Kent, and I will be visiting Boundary County elementary students during the next month bringing them the story of Edward L. Bonner.

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

Sue Kemmis, *Curator*



Current Board Members

Mike Sloan, *President*
Jill Nystrom, *Vice President*
Cal Russell, *Secretary*
Kathy Konek, *Treasurer*
Carolyn McNeill, LaMar Olsen
Don Morice, John Standal

Winter Hours

Summer hours for the Museum are fast approaching. The museum will be open to the public from 10-4 on Fridays and Saturdays through April 30. The extended summer schedule will begin on May 3. Through the summer months, the museum will be open from 10-4 Tuesdays through Saturdays. Stop by and see what's happening.

From the President

The Museum and You

The Boundary County Historical Society needs your support. Support comes in many different forms. When most people think of support, they think of money – donations if you will. But support may also be volunteer work greeting visitors, working to archive items, or just showing up for functions put on by the museum.

Last year we were fortunate to have a traveling Smithsonian exhibit in Bonners Ferry. It was the first one out of six held in Idaho. The community support was very good and was helpful in getting the word out to the community. Next year we will again have a traveling Smithsonian exhibit called "The Way We Worked". This will provide a great opportunity for everyone in the community to get involved.

Each of us has a story to tell about the work and industry within the county and how it has changed over the years. While this exhibit is a year away, now is the time for the community to get involved. Make this your show. Bring in your stories and volunteer to make this event something that we can all be proud of, and even draw people from outside our area to see firsthand what Boundary County is all about.

Your input and ideas are what is needed to make this a great event. Call the museum and find out what you might be able to contribute to make this the best ever.

Mike Sloan, *President*