# MUSEUM of NORTH IDAHO

Newsletter 2014 Volume 34 Number 2



Kootenai Electric fair booth about 1950. UT-2-3

### Power to the Farm

By Savina F. Darzes

Marcella Lavigne Gunter told the Harrison Search-light in July 2004 that: The life of the housewife was not easy. She had a load on her shoulders. Her day began very early and ended after dark. She had three meals to cook-not just a bowl of cereal. Remember, she had no running water and no electricity. My mother mastered her wood range. She knew just how many sticks of wood to bake her bread, a pie or roast. They were preparing for winter from the time the first seed was planted. The canning! Imagine the heat of summer, keeping the fire going to heat and keep the water boiling to process the jars for three hours. This was an end-

less job for her. Back then the winters were severe and one had to "stock up" to have enough to last the year.

#### **Kerosene Lights the Way**

Rural folks in the early 1930s used kerosene lamps to light their homes and barns. Children did their homework and women sewed by these lamps. Farmers hung them in the barn at milking time so they could see from one cow to the other and wouldn't "get kicked too bad."

Romanticized in TV and movies, it is hard for us to appreciate just how much farm dwellers passionately disliked kerosene lamps. They gave out a dim light and, depending on the size of the lamp, the circle of light cast was small. Outside these small circles of light, the rooms of a farmhouse or barn were dark making chores difficult. They also required constant maintenance and were at times cumbersome to handle and a fire danger.

Vera Weniger of Mica Flats recalls "The kerosene lanterns were always in use in the home. You could tell that they were burning kerosene, but it wasn't a bad smell. One lamp would be in the kitchen and another in the living room. We had little ones for each bedroom. They were cleaned and the wicks were trimmed once a week so that the flame didn't get too high or out of alignment."

#### **Bridging the Gap**

Before electrification, rural families were caught between two worlds. Fortunately, there were some alternative ways to ease the burden of some chores while waiting for electricity to come to their area. It became common to use gas motors to power different items like the family radio, water pump, or washing machine. Yet these sources gave off terrible fumes. Batteries were also used, such as from a car or truck, but were heavy, bulky and very expensive.

#### Darleen Sheldon of Worley, Idaho remembers:

We were luckier than some people in the area because we had a well that was in the yard and it had a gas motor on it. There was no such thing as a pressure tank back then. So to get water for the cattle or house it had to be carried so you had to go to start the pump. It was in a separate building. And it put off carbon monoxide. I'm surprised a lot of us didn't perish from that; of course, the old building didn't have any insulation so it probably went through the cracks.

My mother had an old square tub Maytag washing machine that had been my grandmother's with a gas motor on it and in the wintertime the house would get pretty stinky. The machine was very cantankerous. My mother used to get so mad. It had a pedal on it that you stepped on when you would want to start it. Well, she could stop it but she couldn't get it started. My dad would stomp on it and it would go. Of course, water had to be heated on the stove and carried back outside.

#### Vera Weniger recollects one hair-raising experience:

I remember in those days our radios were hooked up to a car battery which was always kept outside of the house. There was a wire running through the wall someway to hook the radio to it and on this particular evening I was outside and I remember there was a lot of lightning. All of a sudden the dog, that had been sitting under the car battery, jumped and its hair was on fire. I ran inside the house and remember

my mother was standing there looking petrified and said this ball of lightning had come from somewhere outside of the house. She had been washing and drying a milk bucket when this ball of lightning rolled around inside the milk bucket, rolled across the floor, hit the radio and exited out the radio and the poor dog got singed.

#### **Rural Electrification Act**

Cooperation was an integral part of farmers' lives. By working together at barn raisings, threshing bees, and quilting bees, or organizing co-op creameries and grain elevators, rural Americans have always joined forces to achieve results they could not accomplish alone. Although electricity wasn't tangible like barns, wheat or quilts, a handful of local rural residents believed in the benefits of electricity and wanted to improve the quality of their lives. With the passage of the Rural Electrification Act (REA) in 1936 farmers had another opportunity to work together.

The Government provided loans and technical assistance to rural citizens wishing to form locally owned electric co-operatives to bring power to their communities. In 1937 Jesse Vetter took on the leadership role and on January 5, 1938, 250 farmers met, named their co-op Kootenai Rural Electrification Association (Kootenai REA) and elected the first Board of Directors. In less than a year Kootenai REA signed up the required number of households, acquired all the easement releases and secured a \$214,000 loan from the REA. It cost a household a \$5 membership fee to join the co-op, which would be about \$82 today. The fee remained \$5 until 1993 when it was eliminated.

September 16, 1938, Kootenai REA hired its first office employee. Esther Johnson was hired as a secretarybookkeeper. Esther remembers walking near Fernan Lake, when Allan G. Sickler, who later became the first engineer for Kootenai REA, and Jesse Vetter pulled up in a Lincoln automobile and offered her a ride. Vetter was a longtime friend of the Johnson family and explained that Kootenai REA was being organized and had an opening for a secretary. Esther immediately put in an application and was hired by the Board of Directors at their next meeting. "They said they liked my penmanship," recalls Esther, whose starting salary was \$60 per month. Her job included separating the stack of membership applications and easements. Esther put in over 35 years at Kootenai REA, retiring on May 19, 1974.

After five months of physical hard work of clearing land, setting the poles, pulling miles of line, and wiring hundreds of rural homes, the magical moment finally occurred. On May 19, 1939 the switch was thrown at the Washington Water Power substation on 15th Street in Coeur d'Alene and Kootenai REA's first line was energized. The line went from the substation



The fair and home shows were great places to promote the sale of appliances to Kootenai Electric customers. Notice the clear tub on the washing machine, 1951. Dom-4-3

to a division point where it broke north and south to Bayview and Conkling Park, totaling 185 miles of line, serving 385 members. A public party to celebrate Kootenai REA turning on the first lights in May 1939 was held at the Coeur d'Alene Civic Auditorium.

#### **Getting On Line**

Darlene Sheldon was eight years old when Kootenai REA finally reached her part of the county. She recalls:

In 1947 they began setting poles in the Worley area and it was hard work. These electric poles outside here are like they've always been-what 70-80 feet tall? I don't know how deep they had to make the hole to put enough of the pole in the ground to keep the pole stable. But they made the holes by hand and they used dynamite-where there was hardpan and rocks. I remember they had an old army or navy surplus 4x4, some kind of military vehicle that had a winch on the front of it that cable was wrapped around and it had an A frame made out of steel and I suppose that the winch ran off the motor of the truck or the transmission. To run the cable out they'd put something in gear. It would run the cable out to lift the A frame. To let it back down they would change gears and the cable would wrap the other direction around this drum and it would let the A frame down. That's how they put poles in the ground.

(To determine just how much of the pole goes underground, this general rule has always been followed: 10% of the pole height plus two feet. So if the pole is 35 feet, five and half feet of it would be underground. The minimum height of exposed pole is 5 feet.)

Once they set the pole, they had to shovel all that dirt back

in around it and they didn't have compactors like today. They had to stomp it down or whatever. Then if it was possible they let it sit for a couple of seasons for the dirt to settle. That was a labor-intensive process. They did that in the summers and falls when they didn't have a lot of maintenance work on the lines. To put up the cross bars that the lines were on, they had to drill the holes by hand. They were up there on the pole with a safety harness around them. I suppose maybe on a good day, if the holes were already done, they could set 3-4 poles. So it took a long time.

#### Vera Weniger shares:

My folk's electrical bill ran about \$6 per month. It was a lot of money in those days. I remember Fred Fitzsimmons, who was on the Kootenai Electric Co-operative (KEC) Board. Those Board members got paid per meeting and he made the comment one time that he got just about enough from KEC each month to give back to them! Money well earned is money well spent! I remember everyone being grateful to have electricity. People still talk

about growing up without electricity.

When we got electricity life became much easier. We had more time to do other things than just chores-the things you just HAD to do. Can't say that there is anything I missed from those days. People were closer in those days. You can't put a price on that. They didn't have TV or very few had radios. Electricity has done so much for our lives.

#### Rodney Shriner shares:

Electricity brought "big change" - there was decent light in the house and barn. I milked by hand for several years, then got my first electric milker, "surge bucket", bought one, then two, then went to a pipeline to a tank. After electricity we installed a hot water tank out in the barn to help with clean up.

The life of the rural women got easier; we got water to the house and a little more time to enjoy life. Nothing changed the life of the housewife more than rural electrification."

Our first electrical appliance was a refrigerator, Montgomery Ward had them and we made payments on it at \$18.00 a month, a year after we were married (1948). We also purchased a water pump. My wife hated the old flat irons. We got an electric iron!

Visit the Museum Tuesday through Saturday 11-5

Feature exhibit: **Power to the Farm Rural Electrification in North Idaho** 

Sponsored by Idaho Humanities Council

Members get in free. Museum open until October 31

## **Museum of North Idaho Annual Report 2013**

The mission of the Museum of North Idaho is to collect, preserve and interpret the history of the Coeur d'Alene region, and to foster appreciation of the area's heritage. It is through the support of Museum members and the community that the Museum of North Idaho continues to fulfill this mission.

Founded in 1968 it is governed by a membership-elected nine-member Board of Trustees. From April 2013 to April 2014 board members were: President Mike Dolan, Vice President Wayne Sweney, Treasurer Larry Strobel, Secretary Kathy Arneson, Jane Feerer (Jane resigned fall 2013 and was replaced by Kim Brown), Randy Teal (Randy resigned fall 2013 and was replaced by Dave Eubanks), Don Pischner, Fred Ostermeyer and Frank Darlington.

Director Dorothy Dahlgren has served on staff since May 1982 and Kathy Arneson has been our book-keeper since October 2008. Robert Singletary joined us as Public Relations and Marketing Director in May 2012.

## Sharing History Building Alliances

A total of 4,591 visitors came to the Museum at 115 NW Blvd. from April 1 to Oct. 31, 2013. This was up about 400 visitors from 2012. We participated in the Smithsonian Museum Free Day as well as two Museum free days. We are a Blue Star Museum providing free admission to active duty military families.

The feature exhibit was *Shaping the Handle: Idaho Territory 1863-1890* commemorating the 150th anniversary of the creation of Idaho Territory. We provided artifacts for the Idaho State Historical Society's exhibit on 150 years of statehood.

Ninety-four people attended the annual banquet at the Hayden

Lake County Club in 2013. David Eubanks and Lakes Magnet Middle School received the Friend of History award and Jane Robertson was recognized for recruiting the most new members. Don Pischner presented Northern Idaho Panhandle No Blunder: How Idaho came to its present-day shape.

Program and Marketing Director Robert Singletary's lectures and tours reached about 1,000 people. Robert's walking tours of Old Fort Sherman portraying General William Carlin, the Commander at Fort Sherman, and downtown Coeur d'Alene tours portraying Captain Peter Sorensen, boat builder, were very popular.

Robert wrote historical articles for newspapers and magazines. He is also our liaison with the Chamber and other organizations.

Our "Get On Board" membership drive kicked off in March with a Lake Coeur d'Alene cruise. We gained many new members.

The Museum's research library, photos and archive are well used by researchers. People decorate their businesses and homes from our collection of over 30,000 historic photos. We provided resources to C-Span for a program on local history in December.

North Idaho College reopened the Fort Sherman Powder magazine as a study area with informative panels on the walls. Kathy Arneson, Robert Singletary and Dorothy Dahlgren worked with NIC's Mike Halpren and Rhonda Smalley to create story lines and provide photos for the interpretive panels.

The museum's quarterly newsletter featuring historical articles and Museum news reaches about 1,000 people. Since April 2011 the Nickel's Worth has published a weekly Museum photo.



City workers removed a tree and dirt to expose the 1940s dike. In the foreground is where the railroad track came through. Workers filled it with concrete, Sept. 2013.

#### **Publications**

Hydromania: A History of the Diamond Cup by Stephen Shepperd was released in November.

#### **Buildings and Collections**

The City of Coeur d'Alene provides our main facility next to the City Park rent-free.

Moving forward with plans for a new facility we gave a presentation at the City of Coeur d'Alene's Parks Commission outlining how the Museum is a good choice for the 4-Corners (NW Blvd and Mullan Road). We participated in Vision 2030 meetings.

We preserve the Fort Sherman Chapel with the help of volunteers, donations from the Coeur d'Alene Athletic Charitable Trust, community donations and AA, event and wedding rentals.

The Museum owns the building at 705 Lincoln Way but does not own the land. In 2012 the railroad abandoned the property and we no longer pay the land lease. The City of Coeur d'Alene has control of the land and we will have to find a new storage space and remove the building at some point. Until 2013 North Idaho College rented the front half of the 8,000 square foot building and we used the back for storage.

Thirty-five people donated more than 332 artifacts, photos and archival materials to the Museum. In addition the Connie Tremblay family donated over 1,000 negatives.

#### **Volunteers**

In 2013 sixty volunteers donated over 2,000 hours keeping the Museum open and helping preserve our region's history. The Museum's Friends of History helped man the Museum booth at the Fair and increase Museum memberships.

Shem Hanks interned from EWU with a research project on local baseball. High School Senior Renae Huffman job-shadowed at the Museum.

Special thanks to dedicated volunteers: Joy Porter for donating 300 hours, Carol LaBrie 100 hours, Jane Robertson 235 hours, Vikki Nelson 133, Louisa Durkin 150 hours, Robert Singletary 697 hours and Kathy Arneson 130 hours. Kathy Arneson manages the Museum Store, Simone Kincaid orders the books and Jane Robertson assists with inventory and general help with the store. Group Argia SA hosts our website and Randy Bates, CPA, prepares our tax returns.

\*Volunteers donating over 100 hours

*Kathy Arneson	Mike Halpren
Randy Bates	*Larry O'Leary
Helen Branson	Sharon Panabaker
Jay Broderick	Alanna Penrosa
Kim Brown	Bill Pichette
Peggy Cameron	Don Pischner
Denise Clark	Hiedi Pooley
Ken Cooper	Leah Popp
Savina Darzes,	*Jane Robertson
Karen DeSeve	*Paul Rossi
Mike Dolan	Betty Schmehl
Dana Dube	Rod Schobert
*Louisa Durkin	Lynn Schwindel
Ivan Eagan	Darlene Sheldon
Don Fabian	Steve Shepperd
Lois Grutta	*Linda Shinn
Shem Hanks	John Shovic
Bob Henderson	Robert Singletary
*Kathy Hennigan	Gene Soper
Geoff Howard	Bill Stoller
Bev Hyde	Shirley Stoller
*Terry Isaacs	Samara Strasser
Tom Jacobson	Larry Strobel

Steve Klundt	Sharon Strobel
*Carol LaBrie	Wayne Sweney
Sandy McCoy	Spencer Thompson
Bob McLoed	Mark Weadick
Logan Miley	Nancy Wilson
*Vikki Nelson	Craig Wise

#### **Finance**

We appreciate Kootenai County's support of \$10,332 in 2013.

Ope	rating	Income	201	3
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Admission	9,618.00
County	12,500.00
Donations	10,721.79
Gift Shop	12,530.24
Interest earned	5,483.58
Membership	22,534.00
Photo Sales	6,020.80
Programs/Banquet	8,248.04
Total Operating Inc	87,656.45
Total Operating Exp	(87,255.52)
Operating Inc/exp	400.93

Operating Expenses 2013		
Bank Fees	(763.19)	
Gift Shop	(6,711.92)	
Health Insurance	(5,971.85)	
Insurance Mus. Bldg	(812.56)	
Marketing	(3,297.38)	
Membership Dev	(976.66)	
Payroll Director	(40,000.00)	
Contract Bookkeeper	(2,040.00)	
Contract Program/PR	(7,200.00)	
Payroll taxes	(3,217.50)	
Photo Sales Exp	(1,492.91)	
Postage	(1,633.07)	
Printing	(2,864.62)	
Prof Dev-Travel	(380.00)	
Repairs & Maint	(100.86)	
Programs/Banquet	(3,856.19)	
Security MNI	(216.00)	
Supplies (Coll care)	(19.88)	
Supplies (office)	(1,608.92)	
Telephone	(1,261.37)	
Utilities	(2,830.64)	
Total Operating Exp	(87,255.52)	

#### **Special Funds**

#### **Building Fund**

2013 Beginning Bal	233,628.97	
Donations	1,180.00	
Building Fund Bal 12/31/13 234,808.97		
<b>Collections Fund</b>		
Fund Bal 12/31/13	18,113.33	
<b>Endowment Fund</b>		
2013 Beginning Bal	88,250.95	
Total year donations	4,669.12	

Endow Fund Bal 12/31/13 92,920.07

#### **Storage Building Fund**

2013 Beginning Bal

Net inc/exp

Total income (rent)	15,000.00
Property Taxes	(6.00)
Security	(216.00)
Insurance	(623.00)
Utilities	(85.82)
Total year expenses	(930.82)

Storage Fund Bal 12/31/13 39,111.51

25,042.33 14,069.18

170,765.66

#### **Field Trip Fund**

2013 Beginning Bal	500.00
Donations	1,000.00
Field trip expenses	(810.26)

#### F. Trip Fund Balance 12/31/13 689.76

#### **Book Fund** 2013 Beginning Bal

Net book Inc/Exp	9,507.87
Book Fund Bal 12/31/13	180,273.53
Book sales income	28,550.92
Postage	1,541.55
Total year income	30,092.47

#### **Book Expenses** Book royalties

Book royalties	(1,500.00)
Hydro printing	(16,555.15)
Ordeal by Fire	(125.00)
Postage/shipping	(2,080.60)
Pay Pal/Amazon fees	(287.99)
Book marketing	(35.86)
Total year expenses	(20,584.60)

#### Chanel Fund

Chaperi ana	
2013 Beginning Bal	120,458.91
Net inc/exp	4,210.97
Chapel Fund Bal 12/31	/13 124,669.88

Rent	4,340.00
Wedding/Events	4,730.00
Donations	105.00
Total year income	9,175.00
Utilities	(2,828.94)
Repairs/maint	(1,166.09)
Chapel Insurance	(969.00)
Total year expenses	(4,964.03)

Total Income	234,344.81
Total Expenses	(114,545.21)

#### Walden Estate 2011 87,113.32

#### Funds on Hand 12/31/2013

Morgan Stanley	761,388.67
WT Bank Checking	66,576.24
Funds on Hand Total	827,964.91
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	778,101.30
Reserve	49,863.61
Hydro expenses write off	(25,999.04)
Reserve Balance 12/31/13	23.864.57

## **Museum News**

#### From the Board President

Dear Friends and Fellow Members,

I am sorry that a business trip has called me away from our annual banquet. My wife Kate and I always enjoy the dinner and fellowship when we attend the dinner and annual meeting at the Hayden Lake Country Club. It is such a peaceful, beautiful setting, and worthy of our annual gathering.

As you may be aware, I will be stepping down from the Board this month. But, I do not want you to feel that I am relinquishing my support for the Museum of North Idaho. As I recently explained to Dorothy, I find the thought of being free from the Board responsibilities a bit liberating, as I am looking forward to being able to more forcefully voice my support and opinions favoring the Museum without the fear that I might put the Museum in a controversial light or uncomfortable position. Those of you who know me a little closer realize how passionate I am about the mission of the Museum, and how proud I am of the dedication, devotion and outright love for the local history that is demonstrated on a daily basis by all of our staff, volunteers and members.

As we celebrate another year for the Museum of North Idaho, we should look back with pride that we have fulfilled our mission for another year; especially the fact that we have preserved and protected our vast artifact collection as well as funded new, local history books while providing exhibits relevant to our local history. But I also want to remind everyone to continue looking forward. Keep your eyes toward the horizon. There is still the ongoing vision to build a new facility to house and exhibit our artifacts and heritage. With your support, we have striven to build relationships and to work within the city and community to share our vision and develop joint goals. I believe the staff and Board have taken prudent steps towards our vision of funding and constructing a new facility, but there is still much to do. I am sure that with your continued support, and the ongoing work of the board, staff and volunteers, that we will see our vision come to light and secure our local heritage for our future generations.

I want to publicly thank my friends and fellow members for your support. Thanks to all of the volunteers, and to my fellow re-enactor and local historian, Robert Singletary. Also, the whole Board, but especially Wayne Sweney, Kathy Arneson and Larry Strobel. Of course, I couldn't have done anything without the love and support of my wife, Kate. And lastly, I want to thank Dorothy Dahlgren for her support and encouragement. It has been my pleasure to work with her these past four years. She is a true, Idaho gem.

Michael Dolan, Outgoing President

#### **Annual Banquet**

The Museum's annual meeting and banquet was held April 16 with 60 people attending. Melissa Newcomer presented *Empowering Our Community* outlining the history of Kootenai Electric and bringing power to rural North Idaho.

Robert Singletary presented John Swallow with the Friend of History award.

#### From John Swallow:

I thank the Museum Board for recognizing our efforts toward renovation of the Northern Pacific Depot. The building deserves the attention and the community will hopefully see that saving our history can actually be accomplished in a productive manner.

Our goal was to prepare the depot



Left: John Swallow accepting the Friend of History award from Robert Singletary.

"for the next 100 years" while maintaining as much of the original character as possible. I feel very fortunate to be part of the depot's future - and hopefully cemented its place in the history of our downtown - and in the place where I grew up and have raised our kids.

My family appreciates everything you do for our history/future.

#### The Museum Board

We thank outgoing Board Member Mike Dolan for his four years on the Board and three years as president.

We welcome new board member, Connie McGee and returning members, Kim Brown and Dave Eubanks. We thank Kim Cooper for his willingness to apply to serve on the Board.

The Board elected Larry Strobel, president, Connie McGee, vice president, Fred Ostermeyer, treasurer and Kim Brown, secretary. We thank Larry Strobel for serving as treasurer for eight years, Kathy Arneson for serving as secretary for a year and Wayne Sweney for serving as vice president for seven years. Frank Darlington and Don Pischner were elected in 2013 and also continue to serve.

#### **Museum Invests for the Future**

Bob Hoover and Jill Daugherty presented information about the Idaho

#### Coeur d'Alene in the 20th Century - The 1940s May 29 Thursday at 7 pm Coeur d'Alene Library

Robert Singletary's lecture series "Coeur d'Alene in the 20th Century" is in the Coeur d'Alene Pubic Library's community room. The programs are held on the fourth Thursday of each month except May.

To aid in Robert's research and to preserve Coeur d'Alene's history the Museum is asking for photographs and artifacts from the 1950s, 60s and 70s. Call the Museum at 664-3448, Robert 755-1308 or email dd@museumni.org if you have items or information that you would like to donate.

Community Foundation, a tax-exempt public charity that invests for the long term, allowing its member fund creators a perpetual stream of income to the Board in January. In March the Board passed an investment policy and voted to place our endowment and additional funds as specified by the Investment Policy Committee with the Idaho Community Foundation. At this meeting the Board also adopted the Conflict of Interest Policy.

#### **Cash Donations**

Hydromaniacs Disabled American Veterans, Post Falls Wayne & Faye Sweney

#### **Building Fund Donations**

Elise Donohue, Woody McEvers, Doug & Eileen Cresswell, Shirley Smalley, Yvonne Wilbur and Elise Donohue for the Chapel

#### Open for the Season

The Museum's feature exhibit *Power* to the Farm explores how Kootenai Electric Co-op (KEC) brought electricity to North Idaho's rural areas beginning in 1939 and the impact it had on residents' everyday lives.

The Saturday, April 5th free day drew 186 visitors. Kootenai Electric parked a 60-foot KEC Altec bucket truck outside the Museum.

Support for the exhibit provided by:

**Idaho Humanities Council** 

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 11-5 thru Oct. 31. Request a free one-hour parking pass at the Museum desk. Kootenai Electric Co-op - Melissa Newcomer, Keith Brooks, Sam Howard, Greg Hansen & Don Bush

## Frame of Mind North Crest Electric

Museum Volunteers: Karen De-Seve, Savina Darzes, Carol Labrie, Jim Stravens and Don Fabian. Jared Phay, NIC basketball coach, provided strong player's backs to move artifacts from storage.

#### 4th Graders Visit Museum

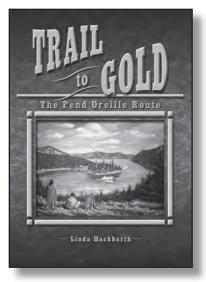
Thanks to these sponsors, more 4th graders are visiting the Museum.

Doug and Deidre Chadderdon, Empire Airlines, Wendell and Teresa Olson, Specialty Tree Services and John Swallow

Please consider a donation for field trips. Donations, if not all used, carry over to next year.

#### **Century Farm**

The Carl and Mabel Richel Ranch received the Century Farm and Ranch designation through the Idaho State Historical Society. We congratulate Museum volunteer Darleen Sheldon and her family for receiving the designation. It was Darleen's grandparents, Carl and Mabel Richel, who moved to North Idaho from North Dakota in 1914 and purchased 160 acres between Worley and Plummer. Darleen and her three siblings: Carl, Don and Marla operated the farm then Darleen's daughter and son-in-law, Jeff and Sharon Bloomsburg, took over. Today the Bloomsburg's children operate the farm.



#### Trail to Gold to Arrive Late May

The Museum is pleased to announce the release of Linda Hackbarth's book *Trail to Gold: The Pend Oreille Route.* This is the 22nd book the Museum has published since 1990.

It is the story of the Oregon & Montana Transportation Company's attempts to capitalize on the commerce of the gold mining camps in western Montana Territory and southern British Columbia during the mid to late 1860s. It is a blend of historic facts and first-hand knowledge from the journals of Seth Luen Pope and others who tell about the trails they followed, the people they met, and the company organized to operate steamers on Lake Pend Oreille and the Clark Fork River.

The 192 page book has 59 photos, illustrations and maps that paint a vivid canvas of Lake Pend Oreille and the surrounding area providing an understanding of the lake, the Clark Fork River, and the Pend Oreille River crossing at Seneacquoteen. Biographies shed light on the major personalities in the journals. All combine into a fascinating glimpse of territorial times. The paperback book is \$21.95 and available at the Museum, Hastings and other local bookstores. Mail order: add \$4 shipping.

Historical Spirit Lake & Vicinity
by F. Keith and Jan Spencer
COMING SUMMER 2014



PO Box 812 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-0812 Non Profit US Postage Paid Permit #10 Coeur d'Alene ID 83814

# **Get on Board!**

☐ Idaho	\$1,000 \$500 \$100+ \$100	Make An Additional Donation To A Special Fund Memorial/Endowment \$ Building Fund \$ Chapel \$
☐ Flyer ☐ Amelia Wheaton	\$50 \$25	Total enclosed \$
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## Museum of North Idaho Mission Statement

The Museum collects, preserves and interprets the history of the Coeur d'Alene Region to foster appreciation of the area's heritage.

#### **Board of Trustees**

President Larry Strobel
Vice President Connie McGee
Secretary Kim Brown
Treasurer Fred Ostermeyer
Kathy Arneson, Frank Darlington, Dave Eubanks,

Don Pischner, Wayne Sweney

#### **Staff**

Dorothy Dahlgren, Director Robert Singletary, Program & Marketing Director Kathy Arneson, Bookkeeper

The Museum of North Idaho Quarterly Newsletter is published in February (Winter), May (Spring), August (Summer), and November (Fall)

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Newsletter sponsored by the

