In part one, we looked at the group of businesses which lined 4th Avenue heading north into Appleway and continuing west just past Government Way. This was the Sunset Heights Business District created in 1949. I have gathered more information about the Skyline Motel and have added to the information given in the last newsletter. Let us continue with what many of us knew as the Skyline Motel.

13. Cottage Drive In/Skyline Café/Skyline Motel – 202/102 Appleway (south side, just east of Appleway Food Store 104 W. Appleway)

In July of 1946, Ed Anderson asked the City Council for a permit to build a Drive-In lunch. It was granted and in September, they opened the Cottage Drive In, a cute little house right on Appleway. They advertised on September 25, 1946: “Enjoy fine foods served in the

---

**Coeur d’Alene’s “City Within a City”**

Part two by Tom Flanagan
delightful atmosphere of our knotty pine dining room or in the privacy of your own car...tasty sandwiches and delicious fountain dishes as well as many other food specialties.”

Big changes a little over a year later, in 1947, when they sold it in October to Carl and Bee Stark who were also building the Skyline Motel just south (behind) the restaurant. The new specialties were “Savory Steak dinners,” homemade chili and a new Heinz soup bar. On July 1, 1948, the Skyline Motel opened (8 units) and the Cottage became the Skyline Café. They had a new specialty, proudly advertised on their sign outside – Royal Fish and Chips. In the July 15 edition of the Press in 1948, “AMERICA’S NEW SENSATION IN FOOD TASTE! You Never Know When You’ve Had Enough!” The café was now also open for breakfast, presumably for the guests of the new motel.

By 1950, the motel was going strong and the café was offering even more types of food, such as roast turkey, chicken, shrimp and even Idaho mountain trout! “Enjoy life, eat out more often with Marty and Kay,” they advertised in 1950. Who were Marty and Kay? Not sure.

On October 1, 1951, after much remodeling, the café was opened by Marie McLeod (who would later own Marie’s Coffee Stop) and Fran Sheppard as the Coffee Stop Café. During the open house that day, free Boyd’s coffee, Mrs. Rice’s donuts, Boge’s maple bars and Golden Glow ice cream cones for kids were free. A year earlier, Marie and Fran had been open in a different location but, at this point, we do not know where that was located.

The business was very successful, open 24 hours a day, every day and adding “Marie’s Country Style Chickenbord (all you can eat)” and sumptuous Mother’s Day Dinners. The success led them to move to a new location in 1958, the southeast corner of Appleway and Government Way, from Part 1 of this article. The space was demolished in 1959 and Sunset Tire moved into a new building at this spot in 1960. Milton Neider owned that business and the building is still there, operating as a tire service.

As for the Skyline Motel, Ed Young owned it in the 1960s but, by 1975, it was called the Baker and Lovlyn apartments. According to tax records, it was sold in 1971, so perhaps it became apartments a bit earlier. My wife’s aunt lived in one of the units in the mid-1970s. By 1979 the buildings were gone and now a Carls Jr. is at the location.


So much could be written about the Coeur d’Alene Mall which takes up nearly half of the area between Government Way and Appleway on its north side. It opened in May of 1966 with Montgomery Ward and Buttrey’s. Many stores came later - Sprouse Reitz, Kinney’s, Lord’s Jewelry, Klotz Drug, Maurice’s, Radio Shack, First Security Bank - just to name a few. Whether it is the memory of buying a new pair of shoes, a new refrigerator or cinnamon buns or even getting a job at its many stores, the Mall is a large part of our history.

Before the mall, though, was Wiloacres. Located at 123 West Appleway (just a bit west of where Baskin Robbins is located), it had gardens, a flower shop, wedding chapel and reception room and boasted floral arrangements for every occasion. From aerial photos of the time, it took up a fair amount of space with buildings in the front and nursery gardens in the back. The earliest reference I can find is an advertisement from 1945 in the Coeur d’Alene Press with the owner being a Mr. Cole.

In 1950, Wiloacres opened a downtown branch at 408 Lakeside so it must have been a successful business. They even made their own candies and had a wedding cake shop. Through 1957, in both ads and in the business directory, it appeared. In the 1952 directory, Mrs. A.P. Bailey is listed as the owner and, in 1957, a Mrs. Della Bailey is listed as well. Before 1961, Wiloacres must have gone out of business because in the 1961 Fun in the Panhandle, Brickert Realty was listed at the same address and there was no mention of Wiloacres. A mystery until more research is done!

15. Sunset Bar – 122 East Appleway, just west of Wendy’s

This is the oldest continuously operating business on Appleway between 4th and Government Way. It is also the business that has, perhaps, had the most names of any place. It is truly amazing since all have gone into the history books, except for Sunset Tire.
which moved their business in 1960 to a new building. According to tax records, the tavern was built in 1925. There were some additions in 1975 and some rather interesting paint changes to the exterior over the years but it is still a tavern.

The earliest owner I could track down was Mrs. Rosa Toth, back in 1938 when it was the Drop Inn Beer Parlor. The Toths owned a gas station and house a bit east of the tavern. (Their residence would later become the Doghouse tavern). Because of a theft of some money in 1938, we know the tavern was operated, probably leased, by Harry Root. In 1940 it was operated by Emile Suckow. Tax records show the building was built in 1940 so, perhaps, it was remodeled at that time or the records could be incorrect.

In late 1946 or early 1947, the tavern was bought by Ray and Phyl Dakin and completely remodeled. The east side of the building remained the Drop Inn Tavern. The west side of the building, however, was turned into Dakin’s Drive-In, complete with an all-electric kitchen, counter stools, and booths. The grand opening was March 7, 1947, and featured free donuts and coffee, as well as “Mrs. Koeps famous Coney’s, Hamburgers, and Coffee.” With music every Friday night, it was quite the place. Interestingly, not even a year later, in October of 1947, Everett and Bobby Hite announced in the Press that they had leased Dakin’s and assumed management of the business.

About a year later, George (nickname Toad) and Phyllis LeGore announced their new management and renaming of Dakin’s to The Bolero Drive In, offering, as many beer parlors did, famous steak dinners. They also offered curb service, draft and bottled beer and even lunches on lawn tables in the summer. Not long after, in September 1949, it once again changed hands to a new manager (A. Donald McCrea) and to a new name – The Appleway Tavern. At some point, it closed briefly, because in March of 1950, it yet again reopened as The Appleway Drive In Café, under, surprise – Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dakin, the original owners/managers from 1947. “Come in, ‘old friend’,” they advertised, and “welcome stranger!” In June of 1950, the Dakins changed the name back to Dakin’s Drive In.

Right around 1952, under the ownership now of Joe Moss, the name of the tavern changed yet again to the Polka Dot Tavern, complete with a polka dot exterior! Finally, in 1956, the name changed for the final time to the Sunset Bar Tavern under the ownership of Al Clibon. Through the later years, there have been many varied owners -- Rex Brueher and Ben Singer, to name a couple.

As folks share memories through the years, what repeatedly comes up are good pours, salty dogs, popcorn and the occasional fight witnessed by car wash workers at the Chevron next door!

Once again, it is best to pause at this point in the article, given that more research needs to be done on the other properties that continued east along Appleway. Many readers will no doubt have memories or even corrections to this history, and they are more than welcome to share. I would love to have those so we can preserve this part of our history. In a later article, I will look at those places that continued along Appleway to the north 4th curve – Elsie’s Dakota café, Abbey/Mathews Chevron, the Elkhorn, and John’s Bargain House to name a few. Stay tuned!
Through the generous support of our members, volunteers and community the Museum of North Idaho continues to offer a place to collect, preserve and interpret the history of the Coeur d’Alene Region.

Founded in 1968, the Museum is governed by a membership-elected nine-member Board of Directors. From April 2016 to April 2017, board members were: President Dave Walker, Vice President Heidi Higgins, Treasurer Heidi Higgins, Secretary Connie McGee, Dave Eubanks, John Swallow, Patti Strub (resigned and John McTear was appointed in July), Jay Broderick and Frank Darlington.

Director Dorothy Dahlgren has served on staff since May 1982. She received the Esto Perpetua award from the Idaho State Historical Society in honor and recognition of her contribution to the preservation of Idaho history. CPA Lisa Hunt was hired October 2014 as bookkeeper and Robert Singletary joined us as Public Relations and Marketing Director in May 2012.

Sharing History

Even with the construction of the floodwall blocking the entrance to the Museum last spring, the road construction on Mullan Road until early August and the resurfacing of the area in front of the Museum, 4,850 visitors managed to find their way into the Museum. A total of 862 students visited the Museum with the Field Trip Fund providing buses and student admission for 734 students. This was an increase of 200 students over 2015. We participated in the Smithsonian Museum Free Day and we are a Blue Star Museum providing free admission to active duty military families. Visitors enjoyed our feature exhibit “Ties to the Past: Railroads in the Coeur d’Alene Region”.

Program and Marketing Director Robert Singletary worked with businesses, organizations, historical societies and nonprofits in our community presenting programs and promoting the Museum and building alliances. He attended over 50 community meetings, functions and public relation activities in 2016. He presented 45 historical lectures and organized a Museum booth at the Kootenai County Fair. Robert and Dave Eubanks reached 1,000 Coeur d’Alene middle and high school students with 25 presentations on North Idaho’s History. Robert presented 45 Historical lectures and conducted 40 tours including offering daily walking tours in the summer. Over 30 of his historical articles were published in magazines. Several articles were written about Robert and the Museum. We continued the weekly photos in the Nickel’s Worth.

We again we were partners with the Coeur d’Alene Public Library to provide historical programs. In January, the Library and the Museum cohosted the musical, “Living Through the Fire” featuring players from the Coeur d’Alene Summer Theatre. Robert Singletary lecture about the 1910 Fire preceded the musical. His monthly programs on “Historical Characters of the Inland Northwest” at the Library were very popular.

The Museum’s archive and photo collection was used to research projects, create reports and to decorate homes and businesses. Historic photos appear on the Museum’s Facebook page as well as other Facebook pages.

The 2016 annual banquet at the Hayden Lake County Club was attended by 91 people. John Wood presented “30 Years Later: Railroads Through the Coeur d’Alenes”. He received our annual Friend of History award and Larry O’Leary was our volunteer of the year.

Publications and Collections

More than 200 artifacts, photos and archival materials were donated to the Museum by 29 people.

EWU intern Katie Higgins, her father Bill, and fellow volunteer Robert Cline, photographed and inventoried large artifacts in the storage building.


Buildings

Since 1979, the City has provided our Museum facility next to the City Park rent-free. With the City’s plan calling for the removal of the Museum building at 115 NW Blvd., we explored downtown and park locations.

The land our storage building sits on at 705 Lincoln Way will be turned over, along with our building, to the City of Coeur d’Alene by the Bureau of Land Management. We replaced the needed storage with a 4,000 sq. ft. building at 1031 N. 1st Street for $150,000 from our building fund. We upgraded the 1st Street building and in mid-November began moving books we sell and very large artifacts. Over 300 volunteer hours, about $4,000 cash and $3,500 in materials were donated to the storage building project.

Eric Steiner S.Q.R. installed a new cedar roof on the Fort Sherman Chapel for $31,900. Donations from the Idaho Heritage Trust, Kootenai Electric Operation Roundup Trust, the Coeur d’Alene Athletic Charitable Trust and individuals provided $13,700 towards the roof and the remaining $18,200 came from the Ace
Walden Chapel fund. With the help of volunteers, donations from the Coeur d’Alene Athletic Charitable Trust, AA, and earnings from events and weddings we maintain this wonderful community building.

Volunteers
In November 50 volunteers attended an appreciation party at the Old Northern Pacific Depot, courtesy of John Swallow. Board members provided refreshments. In 2016, 64 volunteers donated over 2,275 hours to keep the Museum open and help preserve our region’s history. Community service workers contributed an additional 230 hours. We thank Robert Singletary for donating hundreds of hours above his salary, Jane Robertson for managing the Museum Store, Simone Kincaid for ordering books for resale and Heather Callahan for managing our Facebook page. Group Argia SA hosts our website.

* volunteering over 100 hour

Kathy Arneson
Randy Bates
Dennis Branden
Helen Branson
*Jay Broderick
Heather Callahan
*Robert Cline
Kim Cooper
Scott Cranston
DAR
Savina Darzes
Karen DeSeve
Louisa Durkin
Ivan Eagan
Lynda Erickson
Rocky Gibbs
Mary Grace
Ronda Greer
*Lois Grutta
Kathy Hennigan
Katie Higgins
Geoff Howard
Bev Hyde
Simone Kincaid
Terry Kincaid
Carol LaBrie
Ellie Larsen
Amy Lyons
Bob MacDonald
Connie McGee
Butch McGee
Tara McNabb

Finance
We appreciate Kootenai County’s annual support of $15,000. Our Idaho Community Foundation endowment provides operating income. The board approved an investment policy.

Operating Income 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>County</td>
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<td>Donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gift Shop</td>
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<td>Investment income ICF</td>
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<td>Membership</td>
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<td>Photo Sales</td>
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<td>Programs/Banquet</td>
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Total Operating Inc 92,477.23

Operating Income 2016

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Inc/exp</td>
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Income from all funds 152,095.95

All Expense (292,067.80)

Net (139,971.86)

Net Assets 12/2016

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>ICF Endowment</td>
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Total 644,996.90

Operating Expense 2016

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<td>Bank Fees</td>
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<td>Gift Shop</td>
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<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>(5,246.77)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D &amp; O Insurance</td>
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<td>Insurance Mus. Bldg</td>
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<td>Payroll taxes</td>
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<td>Photo Sales Exp</td>
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<td>Supplies (office)</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
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<td>Utilities</td>
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Total Operating Exp (90,567.41)

Special Funds

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Building Fund

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<td>Donations</td>
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1st St. building purchase (150,277.50)

Endowment Donations

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Field Trips

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Book Fund

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Fund Bal 12/31/16 199,052.10

Storage Building Fund

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Fund Balance 12/31/16 31,214.80

Chapel Fund

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Fund Balance 12/31/16 28,114.24

Collections Fund

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<tr>
<td>Gun sale</td>
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Fund Balance 12/31/16 24,526.08
From the Board President

Happy spring! The Museum of North Idaho opened its doors for the season on April 1 and we are excited to welcome visitors eager to learn about the history of North Idaho. Our featured exhibit this year is titled “The Military and Community”. The Museum staff and volunteers worked through the winter to design an exhibit of artifacts and photos telling the fascinating story of the history of the military in our region. Please come see us!

The Museum’s annual meeting and dinner was on April 19 at the Hayden Lake Country Club. Over 100 members enjoyed a social hour, dinner and Don Pischner’s compelling narrative about the adventures of two Coeur d’Alene soldiers who served in World War I. Congratulations to new Board members elected at the annual meeting: Mike Dixon, Mike Dolan, Carl Gidlund, Kristen Rebmann and Tom Richards. They will join continuing Board members Jay Broderick, Frank Darlington, Connie McGee, and Julie Gibbs. I also want extend a sincere thank you acknowledging the dedicated service of outgoing Board members Heidi Higgins, John McTear, Dave Walker, Dave Eubanks and John Swallow.

The Board and staff are committed to the Museum’s mission to collect, preserve and interpret the history of the Coeur d’Alene region to foster appreciation of the area’s heritage. To better fulfill our mission, the Board set a goal to move to a new facility within the next five years. Our current building is too small to offer the range of programs and services needed to meet the growing needs of the community. Two months ago, the Museum was offered a unique opportunity to purchase a property in downtown Coeur d’Alene. The Board felt the property could be a good fit for a new facility and voted to proceed with a thorough evaluation. We contracted local experts to perform a structural inspection, to evaluate the property’s suitability for future Museum needs and to update our capital campaign feasibility study. The results of the evaluation show it is unlikely the Museum can raise sufficient funds to meet the tight time frame outlined in the proposed purchase agreement.

Given these findings, the Museum will probably not pursue the purchase of the property unless we have some major donors step forward soon. In the meantime, we will use the results of the study to help us prioritize efforts needed to successfully reach our goal. Areas of emphasis will be to raise the level of support in the community and increasing awareness of how we contribute to a growing and dynamic region. As we expand our development efforts, we will reach out to our members and the community so we can better understand the needs and interests of our patrons.

The Board looks forward to working with our top-notch Museum staff and volunteers to continue our vision of being a quality museum facility and a source of community pride. We also invite our museum friends to contact us and explore new and exciting ways we can work together to build the future of the Museum of North Idaho.

Julie Gibbs, MNI President

Auction Donors

Thanks to these silent auction donors, the Museum made over $2,000 at the annual meeting.

All Things Irish * Cheryl Burchell
Goldsmiths * Grille from Ipanema * Mix-it-up * LaPeeps * Pilgrims Market * Ponderosa Springs Golf Course * Van Hoff’s Garden * Heidi Higgins * Lois Gruita * Jane Robertson * Analee Cole Compton * Harry Perry

Cash Donations

Dick Levering
Glen Brandvold
John McTear
Cort & Brenda Sims
Rober & Mary Kay Yuditsky
Dolly Marshall Mend
Stewart & Molly Butler
Jay & Mary Beth Broderick
Glenn & JoAnn Borden
Frank & Margaret Fickeisen
Denny & Kathy Arneson (Chapel)
Donna Quane (Chapel)

Building Fund Donations

Anne Miles
Art & Nancy Flagan
Mary Jane Fortin
Jo Gussenhoven
Judy Stebbins
Denny & Kathy Arneson

Development Officer

The Museum is seeking a part-time paid development officer. For details go to www.indeed.com or contact the Museum.
Artifact Donations Since February

Connie Anderson: Binder with the History of the Mica Flats Happy Family.

Historical Museum at Fort Missoula: 4 books with Fort Sherman Library stickers in them. “Official Records of the Union and Confederacy Navies Series 1”

Butch Stoddard: Ray Stoddard’s oral history.

Cd’A High School: Yearbooks

School Field Trip Donations

Doug & Deidre Chadderdon
Coeur d’Alene High School Class of 1961

Denny & Kathy Arneson

Museum Store Manager Needed

Do you have experience in retail? Would you enjoy selecting and arranging merchandise to appeal to museum visitors? This volunteer position is seasonal and ranges from a few hours a week or more if you want it to. Tasks include receiving and pricing merchandise and maintaining the inventory.

We thank Jane Robertson for managing the store the last few years.

Memorials

- For Betty Schemhl from Helen Brandon, Denny & Kathy Arneson and Jane Robertson
- For Fritz Kindler from Paul Huetter
- For Lois & Karly Dittes from Denny & Kathy Arneson

Remember your loved ones and friends with a memorial donation. These donations help build our endowment. Please include the address of the family member you would like us to notify.

Museum Calendar of Events

All events at the Coeur d’Alene Public Library at 7 pm

May 18 - Thursday, John Wood Railroads Through the Coeur d’Alenes, Revised. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase.

May 19 - Friday, John Wood Steamboating the Shadowy St. Joe & St. Maries. John’s Railroad book will be available for sale.

Inland Northwest Milestones
Presented by Robert Singletary on the 4th Thursday at 7 pm
Sponsored by Coeur d’Alene Service Station Equipment

- May 25 - The Military in North Idaho
- June 22 - Farragut College and Technical Institute
- July 27 - Coeur d’Alene Regattas
- Aug. 24 - Farming in North Idaho
- Sept. 28 - Inland Empire Electric Line
- Oct. 26 - Kirtland Cutter: Spokane Master Architect
- Nov. 30 - History of Skiing in North Idaho

Museum hours extended to 8 pm on the 2nd Friday of the month as part of Art Walk

Tuesday through Saturday 11 to 5, 115 NW Blvd. 208-664-3448

Visit the Museum

The Museum is open for the season thanks to volunteers Karen DeSeve, Rockys Gibbs, Pam Stotts, Sue Hawkins, Vi Conrad and Margaret and Brian Hildahl. Thank you to The Frame of Mind and Commercial Printing for providing photo mounting and copy services for the feature exhibit The Military and Community.

Visit the Museum Store Tuesday through Saturday 11 to 5 for a great selection of regional books including Tornado Creek Publications’ long-awaited The Coeur d’Alenes Gold Rush and Its Lasting Legacy by Tony and Suzanne Bamonte.

The book details the search for gold in the North Side region of the Coeur d’Alene District: the hastily built mining towns, including Eagle City and Murray; stories about the people and the challenges they faced; and the subsequent hard-rock mining of gold and other newly discovered minerals. The book also covers noteworthy roles the region played in the early days of the U.S. Forest Service, the Civilian Conservation Corps and the logging industry.

This 500 page book contains 522 photos and illustrations. It is available at the Museum Store for $44.99 or by mail with $5 shipping.
Museum of North Idaho

Our mission is to collect, preserve and interpret the history of the Coeur d’Alene Region to foster appreciation of the area’s heritage.

Board of Directors

President Julie Gibbs
Vice President Tom Richards
Secretary Connie McGee
Treasurer Jay Broderick
Carl Gidlund, Mike Dixon, Frank Darlington, Mike Dolan and Kristen Rebmann

Staff

Dorothy Dahlgren, Director
Robert Singletery, Program & Marketing Director
Lisa Hunt, Bookkeeper

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

Editor Dorothy Dahlgren dd@museumni.org
PO Box 812, Coeur d’Alene, ID 83816-0812
208-664-3448 www.museumni.org

The Museum is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and qualifies for the Idaho income tax credit for contributions to educational institutions and museums (the Idaho State Educational Tax Credit), in addition to the usual charitable deduction. Consult your accountant.

Get on Board!

Send in Your Membership

☐ Friend of History $500
☐ Georgie Oakes $100+
☐ Idaho $100
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