

# THE VILLAGE CHRONICLE

GEM COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPRING 2011

Museum Director/Curator—Meg Davis

Editor—Mary Gabiola



"She Did What She Had To Do" characters from the Ladies Tea. How ladies survived in the West.



## LADIES SOCIAL GREAT SUCCESS

The second annual Ladies Social was held on Feb. 21 and 22. Kathleen Derig and Barbara Carter, said that we had a sell out crowd this year with 24 Ladies in attendance each of the 2 days this year. Each table was set with a tea setting from the members of the Gem County Historical Society.

The ladies were served sandwiches, fresh fruit, and homemade cookies, with several kinds of tea. The Ladies of the Museum were dressed in costume of the period and served the ladies.

The ladies who attended were treated to a program of "She Did What She Had To Do". There were several women who featured in the program. The four `career options` portrayed were a pioneer teacher, doctor, Madame, and Joe Monaghan, who lived three decades as a man.

# Library Shelving Becoming a Reality

The McNealy Historical Library continues to be a work in progress. The 18ft by 24ft addition was constructed in 2009. It consists of the “research room” on the main floor and archival storage in the basement. It is the result of a donation by Delbert D. McNealy (EHS class of 1943) in honor of his parents, Frank and Mary McNealy. His donation also included some funding to provide shelving and archival preservation materials for the photos, maps, oral histories, books and other documents in the museum collection.

To date, the research room is equipped with a table, shelves and audio/visual equipment. Composite wood bookshelves hold a small part of the society’s books plus Mr. McNealy’s historical reference materials and personal memoirs. These shelves do not meet library archival standards which specify powder-coated metal shelves. The specified metal shelving does not attract or hold moisture and does not cause acid reactions with the books which might result in discoloration or brittleness of the paper.

The quest for suitable shelves resulted in quotes from two sources, Idaho Correctional Industries and Nationwide Shelving. The quote from Nationwide Shelving was the clear frontrunner. We have accepted their bid of \$2,465.00 and expect to have the shelving in place by the first part of June. It will be installed on 15 feet of the southern wall in the research room. The unit is 84 inches high, consisting of 5, three foot sections which will provide 5 independently adjustable shelves per section. Each shelf will be supplied with 2 adjustable dividers.

When installed, Gem County Historical Society will be another step closer to accessible storage for the museum’s collection and fulfillment of the library’s mission as a reference resource.

By Nick Petersen, President



## GOOD OF THE ORDER

### New Stage Line Starts March 1

A brand new 8-passenger International bus will give better connection to the north and north-west. The depot is at the Rainbow Fountain (Wells Fargo parking lot present day.) Gem Stages, Inc. owned by H. E. Nichols, former state traffic officer in Gem County, Geo. B. McIntyre of Gem Motor Sales, offer round trips from Payette to Horseshoe Bend daily. The stage will connect with the Portland Rose in Payette. It will connect with the Scenic Stage at Horseshoe Bend to McCall for a day trip to Payette Lakes. The Stage leaves Payette at 7 AM and returns at 2:35PM with a one hour lay-over at the Rainbow for breakfast or lunch.



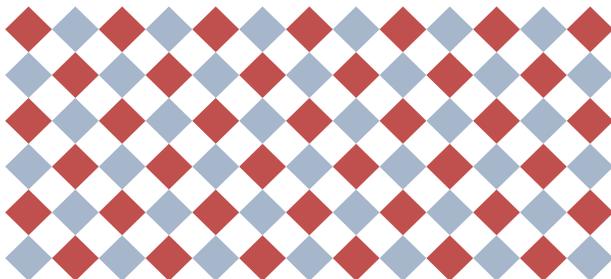
## Let's Meet the Current Board Members

Nick Petersen—President— He is (for pay)

An Environmental Planner with the ITD, years prior to that title, he was an Archaeologist with the ITD. Nick's interest and knowledge of things archeological brings new energy to things historic. He has served on the GCHS as a general member for one term, and brings both professional and "handy-man" He comments, "I appreciate our museum and would like to try to repay the efforts of the board members and volunteers through my participation."

Living 1/2 block away makes it difficult to say, "I couldn't make it to the meetings'." Plus my wife Mona, most likely enjoys the evening to herself.

Kathleen Derig—Vice President—She works at Simplot, Boise headquarters as the receptionist. She has faithfully served on the Board as both President and Vice President. She has been involved with the River Through Time, and the Cemetery Tour and with her sister conducting the "Ladies' Social" event.



Mary Gabiola—Secretary— Mary works at Walter Knox Memorial Hospital in payroll and payables. She has been there for the last 29 years. She and her husband have contributed to the River through Time by having a gold panning demonstration. She has created a gorgeous (ask anyone except Mary) dress to portray a minor's 'lady'. It has attracted much attention at other events in this elegant attire. This is a prime example, also, of how quickly one can become involved as GCHS volunteer.

Barbara Carter - (Treasurer) After more than 30 years working for a bank in Northern California and her husband's retirement as a firefighter, our Treasurer Barbara Carter moved to Emmett in early 2005. She currently works for a local Verizon Wireless dealer, mybullfrog.com.

Her previous experience as a treasurer for other non-profit organizations and knowledge of Excel spreadsheets have been a phenomenal help for the GCHS. She helped facilitate the 501(c)3 application, keeps track of memberships and keeps a record of the income and expenses of the Museum. She joins her sister Kathleen at the Emigrant Train during the River Through Time event, has helped at the Cemetery Tour, and is co-organizer of the Annual Ladies' Social.



## **Board Members cont.**

Steven Harshfield— “I am finishing my first term on the board. I am self employed currently a geologic and mineralogical researcher. I have varied background, ranging from computation to semiconductor engineer to chemist/ metallurgist. My interest in history began with my Great Grandfather’s stories. I grew up in central Idaho and relics of Idaho’s mining history were all around, fascinated by the mechanics of mining, by the secrets of the earth, and by the stories of amazingly hardy people. To this day, I am fascinated by the lives of Idaho’s people past and present.

Martin Fry - (co-member with Steve)  
Martin is our “man of mystery”... He is from (that other state!), currently active in Kiwanis here in Emmett, and has agreed to help on the Board when Steve is not so available - but NO long term plan as he likes to “take off when the mood strikes him”!

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### **“Good of the Order”**

Taken from the Museum’s “Emmett Index” files:

Dec.2, 1893:

A young lady rid herself of an objectionable suit-or by throwing him into an irrigation ditch.

John Moulton was in tears because his wife and two children had been lost or stolen during a dance.

## **In Memoriam:**

November

Robert Elvin 1936-Nov. 2010

Robert and his long-time bride, Mary Jo, were members of the Gem County Historical Society for many years. When they were not traveling, Bob was a very willing volunteer in the museum. We can thank him for taking us by the hand into the computer generation.

December

Elizabeth Carol "Betty" McCulloch 1940- Dec. 2010

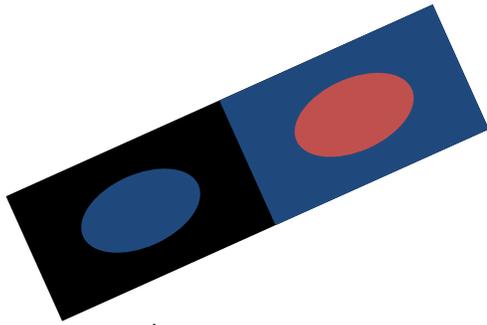
Betty and her husband, Jerry, have been members of the Gem County Historical Society since they moved to Emmett. She was a willing volunteer and promoter of the Society and the museum. Everyone was so happy to see her when it was the McCullochs turn to host the monthly meetings. Betty made wonderful desserts. Mostly, her bright smile will be greatly missed.

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The Vahlburg brothers have just finished a barn 60x100 ft. (4th St. Gardens) and a sumptuous dinner was served to a large number of guests invited to celebrate the event. The sideboard was decorated with a choice variety of liquid refreshments, which the guests did not fail to enjoy.

Dec. 16, 1893

A team driven by an inebriated gentleman became unmanageable and ran off the Freezeout Grade one day this week. No damage was done, but the scare came near sobering up the driver.



# PLANNING CALENDAR

2011

## June

June 11 - Field Trip into Brownlee area - Check with the Museum for more information / limited number of attendees.

June 18 - Cherry Festival ROOT BEER FLOAT STAND/WITH CHERRY BROWNIES at the Hunt House ---- Fund Raiser

Yard Sale/Fund Raiser at the home of Nick & Mona Petersen

8:00– 3:00 p.m. Bring your items priced to sell to benefit the Museum. Then Shop for NEW-TO-YOU stuff!!!!

## August

Gem County Fair

## September

Sept 3 - Cemetery Tour (fund raiser - reservations necessary)

## October

Oct 1,2 - "River Through Time" Living History Re-enactment

Watch the Messenger Index, for further details of each of the Activities.



**BECOME A MEMBER**

NEW MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL \$10.00    \_\_\_ FAMILY \$15.00    \_\_\_ BENEFACTOR \$25.00

\_\_\_ OPAL \$50.00    \_\_\_ GARNET \$100.00

\_\_\_ COPPER \$250.00    \_\_\_ SILVER \$500.00

\_\_\_ GOLD \$1000.00

**The Gem County Historical Museum Society is a 501(c)3 organization,  
Therefore all donations and/or membership dues are tax deductible.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_