



Newsletter, Volume XI

March 3, 2019

Please e-mail comments to [www.bonnevilleheritage.org](http://www.bonnevilleheritage.org)

**TOUCH THE PAST AND ENGAGE THE FUTURE**

By Linda Beckstead, Secretary and Newsletter Editor

On Monday, March 4, we will again celebrate Idaho Day at the Colonial Theater. The presentation will start at 7:00 pm, with a silent auction at 6:00 pm. Our annual Idaho Day celebration happens because of legislation passed by Representative Linden Bateman in 2014, establishing March 4 as Idaho Day, with celebrations throughout Idaho. It is not a legal holiday, but each county is encouraged to honor Idaho Day, and the Bonneville County Heritage Association sponsors this program each year in celebration of Idaho Day. The Theme for the presentation this year is "Downtown Memories". You will view a short film produced by Linden Bateman and David Nipper showing memories of the past, including the founding of the village which would eventually become the city of Idaho Falls. For a donation, you can receive a copy of this film, available in the lobby. You will also learn about past heroes and heroes of today. The winners of our student contests will also be announced and presentations will be made.

You won't want to miss this entertaining and rewarding presentation!

\*\*\*\*\*

**BCHA BOARD MEMBERS**

Ann Rydalch, Chair  
Joe Stewart, Vice Chair  
Linda Beckstead, Secretary and Newsletter  
Janet Jensen-Fullmer, Treasurer  
David Nipper, Webmaster  
Ken Gilbert, Grants  
Nate Sunderland, Publicity

Kathy Nave, Fundraising  
Greg Stoddard, MOI  
RoseMarie Doxey, Fundraising  
Linden Bateman, History Advisor  
Todd Brown, School Districts liason  
Bob Skinner, Veteran's representative

**BCHA NEEDS YOU!**

To help support the Student programs, which includes all schools in Bonneville County, BCHA is selling the **2019 Royal Theaters Discount Card**. The discount cards, are a great way to save money through 70 local businesses. There are many restaurants, Dollar Cuts, Grease Monkey, three Golf Courses, Skyline Lanes, Wally’s Auto Care, and Royal Theaters to name just a few. The card costs \$20.00 and BCHA receives a percentage.

If you are interested in Bonneville County, learning more about its history, participating in the tours, special events, student programs, etc. then you need to **become a member** of the BONNEVILLE COUNTY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION (BCHA).

**Membership is a bargain--only \$10.00 per year.**

- . Your commitment to join BCHA will ensure promotion of the county history and its people for generations to come.
- . Members will receive special invitations to BCHA events.
- . Members will receive the BCHA newsletter
- . Members will receive special invitations to tours of the County Treasures developed during the Centennial celebration
- . Members will have the opportunity to suggest promotion of specific county heritage projects, its people, and its published books.
- . Members will help ensure youth involvement
- . Members may serve on committees or as officers.

Contact RoseMarie Doxey (rosemarie2hape@gmail.com, 208-529-0536) or go to our website for more information or to join. You will be glad that you did!

Website: [www.bonnevilleheritage.org](http://www.bonnevilleheritage.org)

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Check one: Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: Individual (\$10.) \_\_\_\_\_ Joint (\$20.) \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr. \_\_\_\_\_  
first name middle initial last name

Joint member name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Yearly dues are \$10.00 (January to December calendar basis)  
Make your check payable to BCHA and send along with your membership form to:  
RoseMarie Peterson  
1670 Sviskon Way  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

I am willing to serve on the following committee(s):

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership       | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity        | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historian Clubs  | <input type="checkbox"/> Topical Meetings   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Events    | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs         | <input type="checkbox"/> Honors and Awards  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising      | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Media   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Treasures |   |

Website: [www.bonnevilleheritage.org](http://www.bonnevilleheritage.org)

**SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW BONNEVILLE COUNTY?**

Here's a quick quiz

- 1) What are the names of the three elementary schools that were built before 1935 and have since been torn down?
- 2) Where were they located?
- 3) There are two remaining old elementary schools still in existence. What are their names and where are they located?
- 4) There was a café located on the South Yellowstone Highway and it had a beautiful mural covering one wall of the dining room. It was painted by the owner's nephew. What was the name of the café?
- 5) When this café was torn down, what became of the mural?
- 6) This same nephew painted another mural in his uncle's other café (Ted's Café) downtown. What became of this mural?
- 7) There was a dance hall the on the South Yellowstone Highway that was built in the 1930's. Many famous bands played here. What was its name?
- 8) The Sears store in the Grand Teton Mall recently closed. Where was the Sears store located in Idaho Falls in the 1940's and early 1950's?
- 9) What was the name of the drive-in hamburger place where teenagers of the 1950s liked to "hang out"? Clue: It was located where the Sandwich Tree is now.

Bonneville County Heritage Association was established in 2004, as a spin-off from the Bonneville County Bicentennial Commission, with Mary Jane Fritzen as one of the founders and President. We are saddened by the recent passing of Mary Jane and will miss her valuable contributions to BCHA. The following is an article she wrote previously for this newsletter:

An old Church, the LDS Third Ward on 187 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Idaho Falls, has been remodeled and beautified to become the new Healing Sanctuary, offices of Dr. Jeff Baker and associates. Dr. Baker, obstetrician and gynecologist, now offers functional medicine, a philosophy based on finding the root of health problems. Dr. Baker is assisted in business operations by CEO Stephen Loosli; they worked with local architect Graham Whipple to transform an old church into a beautiful functional medical clinic. They see its purpose as metaphorical, to reclaim and renew a sometimes dilapidated body into one functioning with a new brighter outlook.

The beautiful grounds were designed by Stuart Loosli, noted Salt Lake City landscape architect, to provide a contemplative meditative spirit.

Both time and cost expanded as the team worked for two years on the remodeling. For example, the required elevator cost half a million dollars, according to Stephen Loosli. He said that being accepted on a national historic register secured for them a historic tax credit. A successful open house this spring brought exclamations of awe from an admiring public.

Dr. Baker and Loosli had looked for a new medical office when they felt inspired by this sturdy brick building in May 2016. It had been constructed beginning in 1927, then was dedicated in 1937, and used for LDS services until 1981. It had various community and religious uses for several years, then stood vacant awaiting a permanent use. Now in a beautified 80-year old building, Healing Sanctuary provides hope and healing as a medical clinic.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

## **ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON PAGE 4**

- 1) Eagle Rock, Riverside and East Side.
- 2) Eagle Rock: The vicinity of Eagle Rock Street by downtown  
Riverside: Idaho Avenue  
East Side: 14<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 3) Hawthorn, located on South Boulevard, and Emerson (now an alternative high school) located on 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
- 4) LeBaron's Café.
- 5) No one knows.
- 6) It was moved to the lounge at the airport.
- 7) Wandemere.
- 8) On "A" Street next to the Paramount Theater.

The Museum of Idaho is collecting memories of the Paramount Theater in commemoration of its 100-year anniversary. The response has been great! It appears there are many of us out there who have fond memories of this theater. The following is my contribution:

## **THE PARAMOUNT THEATER AND I**

**By Linda Ellis Beckstead**

When I was a child, getting to go to the Paramount Theater was more than getting to see a movie, it was a total experience. It started at the ticket booth, where there was always someone inside selling tickets. Then entering into the lobby, the first thing I would notice is how my feet would sink into the carpet. To the left was the snack bar. This is where my friends introduced me to Juju Fruits, also where I got sick on licorice mix and can't even look at it to this day. The lobby ceiling had crystal chandeliers, and you went toward the theater area through a threshold that had gold and red velvet swagged curtains. Just beyond the curtains was a phone booth and the ramp up to the restrooms and the balcony on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. My friends and I would go up the ramp and then run down. This was great fun until Mr. Simpson, the manager, would yell at us to stop. At the entrance doors into the theater itself, an usher wearing a gold or maroon uniform with tassels on the sleeves and a stripe down the side of the pants would escort us to our seats. If the movie had already started and it was dark, she would use a very cool flashlight that had a long red tube at the end so it muted the light. If we were on time for the movie to start, the raising of the curtains was a production in itself. First, the big red velvet curtains would part. Then a gold satin curtain would raise up, forming a scallop shape at the bottom. They would then turn on the cartoon as some green sheer curtains parted. Sometime during the film, we would decide to go up to the ladies' room. This was my idea of high-class luxury. There was a "dressing" area where ladies could check their makeup and hair. There were large mirrors surrounding three sides, with a long vanity table underneath. The best part, though, was the red velvet, tasseled swivel chairs along the vanity. I always felt that I should be wearing an evening gown, even when I got old enough to wear one. We'd go back to the movie down the secret "back stairs". Being as how they are still there, I don't think they are secret anymore.

Around the summer of 1957 or 58, Idaho Falls held a "Kid's Day". All the kids wore costumes and met on the courthouse lawn. I was Little Red Ridinghood and I carried a basket full of candy kisses (salt water taffy). I was very popular until the candy ran out. Then we all walked to the Paramount Theater and got to see a free movie. There were so many kids that they even had to open the balcony. I had always wanted to sit in the balcony, but it filled up fast. I didn't get to sit in the balcony until I was seventeen and saw the "Sound of Music".

There would be many more memories made at the Paramount. As I got a little older, my friends and I would often walk downtown on Saturday and catch a matinee, or sometimes even go after school, being as how we went to Emerson School and it was close to downtown. The Paramount Theater was where I cried over Old Yeller and the death of Elvis Presley in "Love Me Tender" (I was six). Later, the Paramount was the go-to date place. I will always treasure those times. I wish my own kids could have seen the Paramount like it was.

## DO YOU REMEMBER?



**EASTSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 14<sup>TH</sup> STREET, IDAHO FALLS**