

BONNEVILLE  
COUNTY *Heritage*  
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter, Volume 3

March 3, 2015

Welcome to our Third Issue of the Bonneville County Heritage Association Newsletter. We have had several comments on our past two issues, and people are telling us how much they are enjoying our articles and how they appreciate being “in the know” about what is going on in our community to celebrate and appreciate our heritage. We are now on Facebook, so please check us out and “like” us. Just a few highlights of this issue include, by popular demand, our Bonneville County History Quiz by David Nipper, also an invitation to attend “Idaho Day” on Wednesday, March 4, at 7:00 pm at the Colonial Theater. At the end of the newsletter, the pictures tell the story as we see how the intersection of Broadway and Park Avenue in Downtown Idaho Falls has changed over the years. As always, we welcome feedback concerning what you would like to see in future issues. Please e-mail comments to [www.bonnevilleheritage.org](http://www.bonnevilleheritage.org)

Linda Beckstead, Editor

**TOUCH THE PAST AND ENGAGE THE FUTURE**

Let me encourage all of you to join with us in our monthly BCHA board meetings. These meetings are held the fourth Monday of each month at Rusios on 17<sup>th</sup> St., where we discuss and plan for our activities.

Right now we are making final plans for “Idaho Day” with a free program, “The Making of Idaho and Bonneville County”, scheduled for Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 7 p.m., at the Colonial Theater in Idaho Falls. This annual celebration will happen because of legislation passed by Representative Linden Bateman establishing March 4 as Idaho Day with celebrations throughout Idaho. “We all love Idaho, stated Representative Bateman. From the sequin serenity of Lake Coeur d’Alene to the thousand shades of green along the Lochsa, Salmon, and Clearwater, to the mighty roar of Shoshone Falls, the pristine tranquility of Big Springs, and the turquoise blue of Bear Lake, there is no place like Idaho.”

This program on March 4 at 7 p.m., at the Colonial Theater, will include narrators Stephen Yates and Kelly Beckstead, telling the story of how Idaho was formed and then into a little of the history of how Bonneville County has contributed to the making of Idaho. We plan an educational and entertaining hour and a half utilizing the talents of students and adults from our community. Bring your families and enjoy this free

event. Entertainment, during the narration, will include a special choir of elementary students from School District #91 singing “Here We Have Idaho” and is being coordinated by District #91 Music Specialist, Jennifer Korenke-Sargent. We will also have Rob Farnam singing “How Great Thou Art”, and Miss Pre-Teen Idaho, Ashlyn Allen, singing “God Bless the USA”. The presentation of the colors will be by the Idaho Falls Fire Department Pipes and Drums with the Bonneville County Sheriff’s Department providing the Color Guard. The Idaho Old Time Fiddlers will provide the prelude and postlude entertainment.

Also during the Idaho Day program, Todd Brown, District #91 Curriculum Coordinator and BCHA board member will be announcing the winners of the student contests and BCHA board member RoseMarie Peterson will be providing a huge display of silent auction items that people can sign up for as they enter the program. There will also be artifacts from the Museum of Idaho that people can see on display in the lobby.

Visit our website at [www.bonnevilleheritage.org](http://www.bonnevilleheritage.org), and join with us as we learn about this rich history of our county. We would love to have you as part of this journey.

By Ann Rydalch, Chair  
Bonneville County Heritage Association

**IDAHO DAY: A "DON'T MISS" EVENT**

By Terry Miller, BCHA Board Member

Get ready to celebrate. We've got another state HOLIDAY! Yes that's right, March 4 is the official "IDAHO DAY" as proclaimed by the Idaho State Legislator.

Idaho Day is set aside each year on the anniversary of the establishment of the Idaho Territory by President Abraham Lincoln March 4 1863.

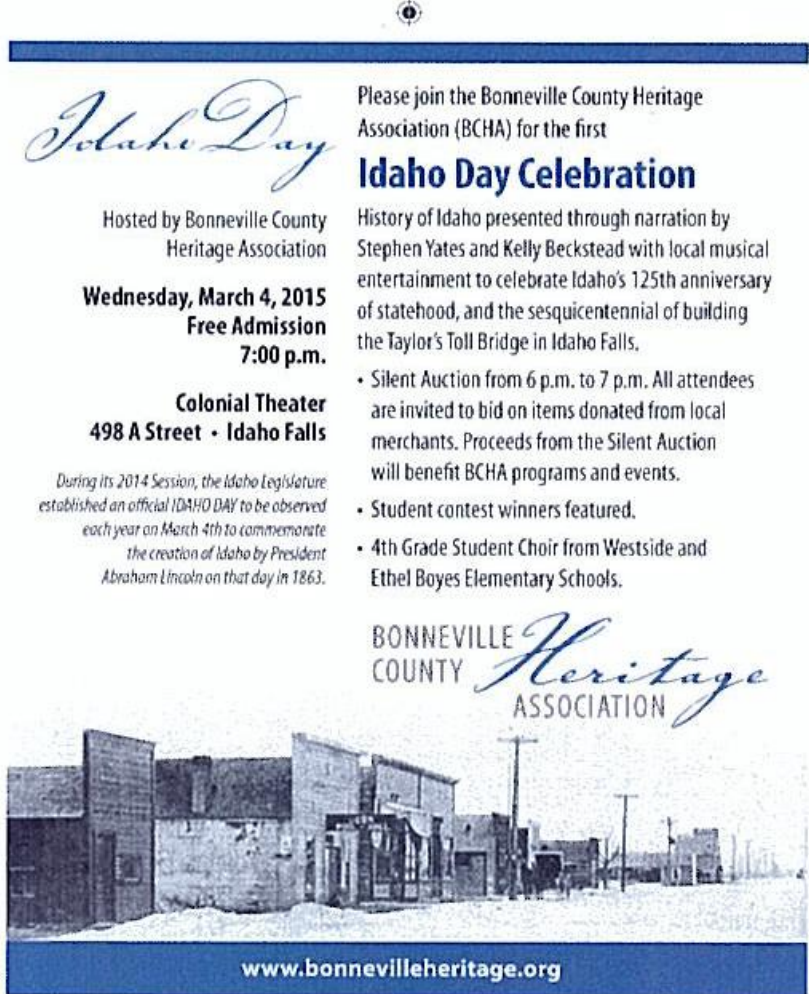
Last year the legislature passed a bill, authored by Rep. Linden Bateman of Idaho Falls, setting aside the day as one to recognize the greatness of Idaho and the people and places that made it great. It's not an official holiday where you get to stay home and relax, but it's a day to remember what's really great about Idaho and Bonneville County's contribution to that greatness.

The Bonneville County Heritage Association will be among the first in the state to recognize the day with a jam packed program that night at the Colonial Theater. In addition to speeches by civic leaders and music from local residents, the free-for-all show will also feature the student winners of this year's historical contest. 15 students from schools throughout the area were judged as "best of show" and will take home between \$100 and \$200 in cash! The student projects will be on display in the Carr Gallery at the Willard Arts Center before and after the show.

Also on the agenda that night is a silent auction with "gotta-have" items up for grabs. The auction and student projects are available in the Gallery between 6 and 7pm and after the 90 minute main event which begins promptly at 7pm.

Among the featured attractions will be a mapping project which shows the original Idaho Territory (did you know it also included what is now Montana and parts of Colorado?) and artifacts from the area provided by the Museum of Idaho.

We're hoping you and your family will take advantage of this event which will become an annual observation and we look forward to seeing you there.



*Idaho Day*

Hosted by Bonneville County Heritage Association

**Wednesday, March 4, 2015**  
**Free Admission**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Colonial Theater**  
**498 A Street • Idaho Falls**


*During its 2014 Session, the Idaho Legislature established an official IDAHO DAY to be observed each year on March 4th to commemorate the creation of Idaho by President Abraham Lincoln on that day in 1863.*

Please join the Bonneville County Heritage Association (BCHA) for the first  
**Idaho Day Celebration**

History of Idaho presented through narration by Stephen Yates and Kelly Beckstead with local musical entertainment to celebrate Idaho's 125th anniversary of statehood, and the sesquicentennial of building the Taylor's Toll Bridge in Idaho Falls.

- Silent Auction from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. All attendees are invited to bid on items donated from local merchants. Proceeds from the Silent Auction will benefit BCHA programs and events.
- Student contest winners featured.
- 4th Grade Student Choir from Westside and Ethel Boyes Elementary Schools.

BONNEVILLE COUNTY *Heritage* ASSOCIATION



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

**HUNT FOR TREASURED BUILDING IS ON**

BCHA is gearing up for the annual Treasure Tour in September and this year we need your help in finding the oldest buildings in the county.

We've divided our efforts into two categories: Pre 1900 and 1901-1915. And when we say oldest buildings we mean anything that's still standing or has visible remains-- be it a home; a public building such as a library, church, or business; a barn or even an outhouse!

The Tour committee (Nancy Moir, Davidjohn Stosich, and Mary Jane Fritzen) is asking for nominations between now and July 1 with the winners being announced prior to our September 12 tour. We'll be doing a drive by and potential tour of each winning entry during the September visit. First, Second, and Third prizes will be awarded in each category and recognition for all who submit.

In addition to a picture of the structure, we're also requesting a short history of the structure and documentation as to its age. The pictures can be standard photos or submitted via computer generated e-mail. If you want the pictures returned you must enclose a self addressed stamped envelope with enough postage to cover the weight.

To help you out and get started, the committee has research aids available for your use. If your entry isn't the oldest in the category, it will serve as a resource for researchers in the future.

It should be an exciting and interesting way to learn more about our county. We urge everyone to put on their thinking caps, get out their cameras, go through their scrapbooks and make it a great success.

You'll be seeing more information on this year's project in the coming months and for more information contact Nancy Moir [nmoir@cablone.net](mailto:nmoir@cablone.net), or 403-1680

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**SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW BONNEVILLE COUNTY?**  
**Here's a Quick Quiz**

**By David Nipper, BCHA Webmaster**

(Hint: Most of the answers can be researched on the Bonneville Heritage Website - <http://bonnevilleheritage.org>- or on Google Maps)

- > 1. When was the first proposal made for a University of Idaho campus in Bonneville county?  
>
- > 2. How many days might a letter take to get from Idaho Falls to Irwin in 1910?  
>
- > 3. In 1883, in what county was the town of Eagle Rock (now Idaho Falls) located?  
>
- > 4. What caused the residents of Swan Valley to ask the governor for troops to be sent there in August of 1895?  
>
- > 5. In 1905, if you wanted to reserve a rig at Hansen's Livery Stable in Idaho Falls, and you had access to a telephone, what number would you ask for?  
>
- > 6. In the early 1900's, The community of Horse Buttes was settled. It was later (after a Post Office was authorized) named for a prominent resident. Who was he?  
>
- > 7. There is a John Day River in Oregon. How is this related to Gray's Lake?  
>
- > 8. The community of Taylor, Idaho, was named for what person?  
>
- > 9. In 1891, the community of South Iona was renamed. What is it called now?  
>
- > 10. Eagle Rock Lodge #19, Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of Idaho, is now located on the Southeast corner of Capitol Avenue and Cliff Street. In 1884, What business moved to that location to begin operations in Eagle Rock?

(Answers are found on page 6)





Bonneville County Heritage Association has a lot of fun projects planned for 2015. Get involved in our history. The Membership Invitation below lists our plans. It's going to be an exciting year!

Members only will be the first to participate in the Oldest home and Building Project. It's going to be fun searching records and getting stories from people on their old homes and buildings. We will start working on this by January 15th. Email me if you are interested - Nancy, [nmoir@cablone.net](mailto:nmoir@cablone.net)

Also learn more at [www.bonnevilleheritage.org](http://www.bonnevilleheritage.org)

#### Membership Invitation for 2015

The Bonneville County Heritage Association (BCHA) is pleased to announce the expanded levels for membership. The following levels are offered:

1. **Corporate and Business Sponsors**
  - A. **GOLD** - This level will include your logo on the BCHA web site, recognition in our bi-annual newsletters, recognition at all our events, and a framed certificate. This level is offered for \$1,000.00 for the calendar year.
  - B. **SILVER** - This level will include your logo on the BCHA web site, recognition in our bi-annual newsletters, and a framed certificate. This level is offered for \$500.00 for the calendar year.
  - C. **BRONZE** - This level will include your logo on the BCHA web site and a framed certificate. This level is offered for \$250.00 for the calendar year.
2. **Family membership** will be offered for \$25.00 for the calendar year. You will receive e-mails announcing events, information and the bi-annual newsletters.
3. **Individual membership** will be offered for \$10.00 for the calendar year. You will receive e-mails announcing events, information and the bi-annual newsletters.

BCHA has been designated as a not-for profit 501 C3 tax-exempt organization by the IRS. We are planning great things for 2015: A student program for Districts 91 and 93 for grades 4 through 12 will be initiated and BCHA will host the first "Idaho Day" celebration on March 4, 2015, at the Colonial Theatre in Idaho Falls. There will be celebrations throughout Idaho because of the legislation passed by Representative Linden Bateman creating the Idaho Day. In addition, we are engaged in locating the oldest home and building in Bonneville County. The oldest home and building will be featured in our Centennial Treasures Tour on September 12, 2015. We are also making plans to have a great event that will give the history of the stagecoach era in our county and it will be entitled, "Dusty Roads."

We would really appreciate your support by becoming a member. You can assist the BCHA to enlarge the student program and provide events so everyone can learn and enjoy the history of this great Bonneville County where we have the privilege of living and the lasting legacy we want to share.

Please make your check payable to BCHA and mail to: RoseMarie Peterson, 1670 Sviskon Way, Idaho Falls, ID 83402. You may also call RoseMarie (529-0536) if you have any questions. Be sure to visit our web page at [www.bonnevilleheritage.org](http://www.bonnevilleheritage.org).

Help us learn about our past as we prepare for our future. Thank you so much!



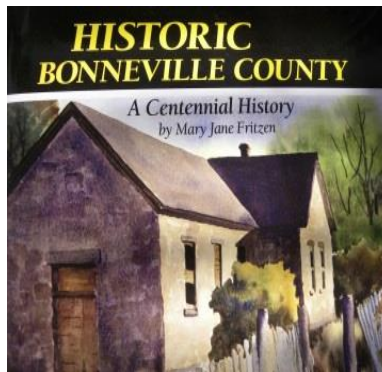
**BCHA BOARD MEMBERS**

Ann Rydalch, Chair  
Joe Stewart, Vice Chair  
Nancy Moir, Secretary -  
Janet Jensen-Fullmer, Treasurer  
Susan Mardis, Historian  
Steve Taggart, Publicity  
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Linda Beckstead, Editor, Newsletter  
RoseMarie Peterson, Memberships  
Linden Bateman  
Kevin Neibaur  
Todd Brown  
Terry Miller

**HISTORIC BONNEVILLE COUNTY**

New book available from BCHA--\$29.95.



Great for your own library, display or valued gift. Help us raise funds! Your purchase donates \$15.00 to BCHA. Contact Mary Jane Fritzen, 522-3185; [mfritzen@ida.net](mailto:mfritzen@ida.net) or any BCHA board member.

> Answers to Quiz on Page 4:

- >
- > 1. Prior to 1889. In 1889, the University of Idaho was awarded to the northern town of Moscow instead of its original planned location at Eagle Rock (now Idaho Falls). This served to alleviate some of the hard feelings felt by North Idaho residents over losing the capital.
- > 2. About 5 days - with the Poplar post office closing, mail would have to go to Heise, then up river and across by boat to Poplar, then by land to Irwin.
- > 3. Oneida County, which then stretched from the Utah border to the Montana border.
- > 4. The power of false rumors! Reports of hundreds of Indians wiping out Jackson's Hole > were completely false, but resulted in a panic. It was a long story, but basically > the victims were local tribe members, not the "50 white families" supposedly killed.
- > 5. #15. At the time phone numbers ran to over 100, but most were 2 digits.
- > 6. Jack Dehlin.
- > 7. John Day came West with the Astor Party. He spent the last years of his life trapping in what is now Butte and Bonneville counties. He died in the Little Lost River area in 1820. Gray's Lake was for a time called "John Day Lake", but it was found that John Gray was there first, and the lake bears his name now.
- > 8. Not Matt Taylor, bridge builder, but John W. Taylor, an Apostle of the LDS Church.
- > 9. Ammon, Idaho.
- > 10. The Eagle Rock Register newspaper, now a part of the Post Register company. Eagle Rock Lodge #19 did not form until 1886, when it met on the second floor of the Tautphaus Meat Market a block to the North.

**THE CHANGING CORNERS OF BROADWAY AND PARK AVENUE**  
**IDAHO FALLS**  
**(Scroll Down)**



Broadway, left and Park, right, Idaho Falls





447. PARK AVENUE, IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO.







Go downtown and see what it looks like now.