We build good citizens, strong communities, and satisfying lives.

Board members Nancy Ruth and Denise greeted attendees at the June 23rd Suds with a Scholar.

State Historical Society Trustee and LCHS board member Earl presents a proclamation from Gov. Little naming July 8th, 2021 as Mary Reed Day.

LCHS member Jenny can’t contain her excitement for the August 11th Suds with a Scholar!

We are very pleased to share that our annual sustaining donors can now enjoy two more benefits of membership with Latah County Historical Society!

**IDAHO HISTORY RECIPROCAL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**

The reciprocal membership program is a collaboration between the Idaho State Historical Society and participating museums and historic sites across Idaho. Purchasing a membership at any participating site gives you additional membership benefits at no additional cost, including free admission to participating museums.

We are always looking to improve our ability to connect members and visitors with their own history. To further assist researchers, we have purchased a subscription to Ancestry.com’s Library Edition. We welcome our members to make an appointment to use this wonderful tool in our office.

Thank you to our 2021 BUSINESS SPONSORS
For those that have not heard, my name is Hayley Noble and I am the new curator for the Latah County Historical Society. My first day was July 12, and I’ve enjoyed my first few weeks immensely. I can already tell that LCHS has their act together with members, volunteers, and community participation. Everyone has been incredibly welcoming and I cannot wait to get to know you all through our history work. In my first month I have gotten my feet wet processing a few donations, diving in to digitizing some oral history cassette tapes, and working on public research requests. My first event was Suds with a Scholar with Keith Petersen and I was pleasantly impressed with both the volume and friendliness of attendees. Lastly, I had a blast researching and writing my first article for the Home & Harvest September/October edition, so look for that soon. I’m also planning a small companion exhibit to be housed at the County Courthouse and a tiny element displayed in the Mansion. I’ll keep the topic a surprise.

I called Boise home the previous ten years, but originally hail from Northern Nevada. I obtained my Master’s Degree in Public History from Boise State with an emphasis in military history. I completed my thesis and project on Soviet women in combat during World War II. I then worked at the Old Idaho Penitentiary creating exhibits, social media content, completing research requests, and writing for numerous projects. I also worked closely with the Boise City Department of Arts & History, JUMP Foundation, and the Basque Museum and Cultural Center on various contracts.

I moved here with my golden retriever, Indy, and cat, Artemis. If you see me out and about with Indy, please introduce yourself and say hi. I am excited to explore and see what Latah County has to offer.

- Hayley

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**Volunteer**

The McConnell Mansion is a popular destination for visitors and locals alike, and that means we provide numerous tours each week.

We are looking to grow our volunteer corps of museum docents - won’t you join us?

You are invited to our Museum Guide Training

**Sep. 29th - 10am - McConnell Mansion**

All are welcome to attend. Learn more about this fun and rewarding volunteer opportunity.

RSVPs appreciated - lchslibrary@latah.id.us or 208.882.1004.

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**Recent Donations**

April 9, 2021 through August 24, 2021

**Contributors to Idaho Gives**

Katherine Aiken
Earl & Carol Bennett
Eric D Bennett
Mark Boehne
John Bolles
Don & Karen Burnett
Art Bums
Lee Sappleton & Caroline Carley
Michal Casberg
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**General Donations**

Devin, Kristin & Agnes Becker
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**Memorial Donations**

In memory of Anna Conditt:
Dennis & Lynn Baird
George Clough
Mary Ann & Raymond Judd
Elizabeth Paulsen

In memory of Jeanette Talbott:
Jeffrey Compton
Zoe Cooley
Ron & Grace Hess
LeNelle McInturf
Mary Reed & Keith Petersen

Thank you for your support!

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**Curator’s Comments**

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Mary Reed & Keith Petersen

Thank you for your support!
It has been such a treat to be able to see people in person recently, to see their smiles and to hear their voices clearly. Our two summer Suds with a Scholar programs at the Latah County Fairgrounds were a lot of fun in a great outdoor setting.

We have more plans to gather for fun and enlightenment. A four-part speaker series will be held at the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre here in Moscow beginning in September and finishing next March. Each speaker in the series will discuss a specific current issue of interest and offer background as to how we got to where we are now with that issue. Of course, if we have learned anything in the last year and a half, it is how to be flexible and adapt to changing circumstances. The safety and well-being of our speakers, patrons and volunteers are of prime concern, so Plan Bs are also being developed, just in case. Please watch for updates and details.

In lieu of staffing a booth at the Latah County Fair this year, LCHS is sponsoring a baking contest of sorts, the “Historic Recipe Challenge.” Contest participants will enter a “Surprise Cake” they make using the recipe from a cookbook compiled and published by a Bovill women’s group in 1924. See below, or page 7 of the Latah County Fair booklet, for details and plan your entry now. It will be interesting to see the variety of results that can be created from this one basic recipe. I hope you will participate. There will be prizes!

The directors of LCHS do want to continue our traditional Harvest Dinner event this year — in some form, whether in-person or to-go, or a combination of the two, depending on the ongoing coronavirus situation. A committee has been formed to figure out just how to accomplish this goal. The 1912 Center has been rented for the second Sunday of November with cautious hope that we can gather with our friends. We greatly appreciate your strong support of last year’s revised event and will keep you informed of this year’s developments.

I wish you health in these trying times. Vaccines work. Masks and social distancing help. Stay well.

- LeNelle McInturff

Adventurous bakers are invited to test their skills with this historic recipe, first published by the Women’s Civic Improvement Club of Bovill in their cookbook, “Recipes of 1924.”

**SURPRISE CAKE**

1 egg
1 C. sugar
1 C. butter
1 C. milk
2 t. cream tartar
1 t. soda
flour
flavoring

- Submitted by Mrs. James Hall of Bovill, ID

1st and 2nd place winners will receive gift baskets including books, home goods, and gift cards.

It will probably come as no surprise that I am a person who enjoys traditions. I look forward to the comforting rhythms that come with each passing year. I am a historian after all, and I spend my days at the historical society thinking about how things “used to be” and why those traditions were so important to the people who practiced them.

At the Centennial Annex, quiet winter months give way to early spring cleaning, and then summer arrives with tourists and an Ice Cream Social block party on the final Sunday of July. Autumn’s cooler days are a welcome relief and prepare us for holiday celebrations like our Harvest Dinner and a final push to the end of the year. After eight years with LCHS, the annual cycle is both familiar and affirming to me.

The last 18 months, of course, have been anything but traditional. Our ebbs and flows of work feel more like fits and starts. We cautiously opened back up more than a year ago, after several months of complete closure to the public. While we felt comfortable relaxing some of our policies this summer, we have maintained our by-appointment structure as a way to manage the number of folks in our facilities at any one time. As I write this letter, I know we are headed towards more uncertainty in the fall and will need to return to wearing masks. The back and forth of it all is fatiguing, but that feels like a trivial complaint when compared to the suffering that this virus has inflicted on so many in Latah County and beyond.

For me (and many others, I know), the fatigue of this pandemic is being compounded by what feels like a near-constant stream of bad news. The UN’s recent report on climate change, the harrowing scenes coming out of Afghanistan during the US military withdrawal, human suffering in Haiti following yet another earthquake – it is all weighing heavily on my heart. The world feels out of balance, spinning too quickly, teetering on some metaphorical precipice.

To find solid footing again, I turn to history. I search for examples of how we as Idahoans, Americans, human beings have persevered through crises in the past. And importantly, I consider how new information and new ways of thinking could improve upon the examples set by our predecessors. Our fall speaker series, “How It’s Going, How It Started,” will be all about this very practice. I hope you will join us, in person or via Zoom, for some timely and important conversations.

I began by noting my affection for traditions. They allow us to communicate our values within our families, our communities, and our countries. They connect us to our ancestors and to one another. Traditions to the necessities of today, let us not just mourn what we miss but celebrate our courage to protect others and do our part to make life better for everyone. If thousands of years of human history can teach us anything, it is that adaptation is essential.

I look forward to seeing you — in person — at some upcoming events this fall. Please be well.

- Dulce

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Please be well.

- Dulce
Welcome to our newest board members!
This summer we added three new faces to our Board of Directors. We are very glad to have Lee Sappington, Kelly Zakariasen, and Murf Raquet on our team!

The board still has a few open seats. If you have an interest in learning more about serving LCHS in this capacity, please contact Dulce at dkersting@latah.id.us or 208.882.1004.

Not yet a member of the historical society? Join us!
If you believe in the power of local history to create strong, vibrant, welcoming communities, then we invite you to become a sustaining member of our organization. The generosity of members supports all aspects of our operations, from free public programs and maintaining the McConnell Mansion to keeping the lights on in our research archive.

Join at whatever level you are able; every member enjoys the same benefits - reduced entry fees at events, routine newsletters, a copy of our annual magazine Latah Legacy, and the satisfaction of knowing that you are preserving Latah County heritage.

Visit latahcountyhistoricalsociety.org/join to learn more!