



The Herman Molkenthin daughters with their husbands at Molkenthin Landing near Carlin Bay, 1904. Charles and Hattie Stark, Gust and Agnes Johnson, Frank and Metha Lowery and 10 year-old sister Florence. The girls' mother, Rosalie Molkenthin, is also along.

New Land, New Lives

By Dorothy Dahlgren

Many immigrants settling in the Coeur d'Alene region during the late 1800s and early 1900s either came directly from the "old country" or settled for a short time in the midwest or other states before coming here. The railroad provided good transportation to the Coeur d'Alene region.

Many of the immigrants took advantage of the Homestead Act of 1862. The act declared that any citizen or intended citizen could claim a quarter section (160 acres) of surveyed public domain land. The claimant "proved up" on the homestead by making improvements on the land including building a dwelling,

clearing the land and planting crops. After five years the original filer could obtain a patent for the land free and clear. Congress intended to encourage, assist and reward ordinary Americans for opening the frontier lands and settling the West.

Immigrants shared a hope of making a better life for themselves and their families, living in a free society, being accepted in their new communities and making contributions to their new home. Many of their descendants are still here today.

The Museum's feature exhibit *New Land New Lives: Immigrants In Our Region* provides short stories

representing some of the nationalities of immigrants settling in the Coeur d'Alene region. Here are two additional stories.

Ernst Hermann Eduard Molkenthin and Rosalie Ann Werner

Herman Molkenthin, born August 23, 1859 in Dummerfitz, Kreis Neustettin, Germany, was the first of five children. He was a miller and a landscaper by trade. He arrived in New York on May 10, 1883 and settled in Alpena, Michigan where several cousins lived and worked for the Huron Lumber Company.

A few months later, on November 5, 1883, Herman married Rosalie Ann Werner in Alpena, Michigan. Rosalie was born December 25, 1857 in Germany and arrived in New York in April 1882. She lived in Chicago, Illinois until she was married.

Five of their six children were born in Alpena. In 1892, Ernst came to Coeur d'Alene and established a homestead on Coeur d'Alene Lake near Carlin Bay. Rosalie and three daughters joined him the following year. He became a citizen of the United States on September 26, 1894. The 6th daughter was born on the homestead in 1895. The children attended the small one room schoolhouse at Carlin.

In 1906, Ernst received a patent on a combination tool he had invented: a ball peen hammer with a claw and nail setting head. One of his hammers is in the Hammer Museum in Haines, Alaska.

Herman and Rosalie moved from Carlin Bay to the city of Coeur d'Alene where he had a large garden and ran Eagle Gardens. He had 12 lots where he used his gardening and landscaping experience to

grow quality vegetables to supply area markets. In 1910, ads began to appear in the Coeur d'Alene Press titled, "Eagle Garden at Northern Pacific Y, 12 lots cheap." He also worked for the Coeur d'Alene School District as a janitor. He eventually sold the business and moved to Marshfield, Oregon, where they ran a boarding house and had a beautiful tulip garden.

Several of the Molkenthin's girls married and stayed in the area. Agnes Emily Molkenthin born Sept. 4, 1885 in Alpena, Michigan, the second of six daughters, married Gust Johnson after a scandal involving Gust. On July 4, 1900, Gust, a neighbor of the Molkenthins, took Agnes, age 14, and Metha, age 11, by boat to Medimont where they boarded the Northern Pacific train to North Dakota. Sheriff Bradbury, from Rathdrum, went to North Dakota and brought them back. In October, Gust and Herman Molkenthin traveled to Rathdrum for a marriage license to settle the trouble between the two men. Gust and Agnes were married in Harrison on October 10, 1900.

Gust was born Erik Gustaf on April 26, 1871 in Berga, Osteraker parish, Sweden, the 3rd of four sons born to Lars Fredrick Nilsson and Karolina Elizabeth Lidstrom. On November 11, 1890 Gust immigrated to America and went to Chadron, Nebraska where his mother and three brothers were living. He filed for citizenship and legally changed his name to Gust Johnson.

In 1897, Gust came to Coeur d'Alene where he applied for his own homestead near Turner Bay. Gust's father Fred and uncle Pete already had homesteads at Valhalla and Kidd Island on Lake Coeur d'Alene. Around 1900 Gust's mother Karolina and his brothers Lars and August came to the area. The brothers took out homesteads at Driftwood Point and Turner Bay.



Herman and Rosalie Molkenthin's homestead near Carlin Bay, circa 1920.

Gust worked hard on his homestead to make it worthy of a final certificate. Being only in his early twenties he cleared many acres of land, planted 150 fruit trees, put in crops, and built a house, barn, and outbuildings.

Gust and Agnes lived on Gust's homestead near her parents. Their first child Anna was born in 1903 with 10 more to follow. Eight of their 11 children were born on the homestead. Agnes had two babies die young. A girl became ill and was taken to Coeur d'Alene by boat but she died on the way. They took her back home and buried her on the homestead.

Another, a boy, died in 1907 at age three weeks and was buried in the Dahlgren Family Cemetery on Gotham Bay Road, near his grandmother Karolina Nilsson.

Gust worked his farm and built boats. In 1906, he leased his farm out to Herman Neubaur so he could devote more time to boatbuilding. As a result, he was



Gust and Agnes Johnson's homestead at Turner Bay, circa 1915. Notice the orchards.

instrumental in getting the first gas-powered boat on the lake. That summer they lived on a houseboat with two small children. The children were tethered with rope so they would not fall overboard.

Both Gust and Agnes were musicians, playing the violin, guitar and accordion, and the talent was passed on to many of their children and grandchildren.

Greek Immigrants

Christos Nikolaos Dochios (Chris) immigrated from Greece in 1908 and worked the railroads across the northern US until coming to the Spokane area. From there he heard of a Greek community near Clarkston, Washington where he bought property and ran a 2000 acre wheat farm. At age 30, he sent for a "picture bride" from Greece. Her name was Eleni (Helen) Deligianni.

Chris lost the farm in the Depression of 1919. After paying off his debts, he moved to the Cougar Gulch area south of Coeur d'Alene in the mid 1920s. He ran a dairy with another Greek friend Bill Spanos. He delivered milk to Coeur d'Alene by wagon.

On one of his trips he heard of property available in Rathdrum and bought about 200 acres there. He moved to Rathdrum with his family of four girls in 1930. They cleared and developed the land and improved the home with other Greek bachelors helping him. In Rathdrum, he sold dairy products and lumber, as well as meat products. He did odd jobs during the Depression working on the railroad as well as at Ohio Match to help his daughters attend university. All of his four daughters had professional careers. The Rathdrum property is still owned by his descendants.

1920 Census

	County Totals	Benewah	Kootenai	Shoshone
Total Population	39,125	6,997	17,878	14,250
Total Foreign Born	7,362	1,016	2,679	3,667
Austria	252	26	45	181
French Canadian	184	15	86	83
Other Canadian	1211	201	570	440
Czechoslovakia	50	5	22	23
Denmark	142	31	61	50
England	487	47	149	291
Finland	521	31	91	399
France	48	6	24	18
Germany	590	78	308	204
Greece	116	23	15	78
Ireland	361	36	82	243
Italy	441	27	98	316
Yugoslavia	183	18	9	156
Mexico	18	1	1	16
Netherlands	63	11	16	36
Norway	618	117	305	196
Russia	119	34	45	40
Scotland	151	22	65	64
Spain	27	0	0	27
Sweden	1,245	219	535	491
Switzerland	136	31	46	59
Wales	70	3	9	58
All other	329	34	97	198

Museum of North Idaho Annual Report 2018

Through the generous support of our members, volunteers and community, the Museum of North Idaho continues 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. We thank these people for serving on the board from April 2018 to April 2019: Pres. Julie Gibbs, V. P. John McTear, Treas. Tom Richards, Sec. Connie McGee, Kristen Rebmann, Mike Dixon, Chip Sitton, Bob Lovitt and Frank Darlington.

Director Dorothy Dahlgren has been on staff since May 1982. Robert Singletary joined us as Public Relations and Marketing Director in May 2012, and CPA Lisa Hunt was hired October 2014 as bookkeeper.

Sharing History

Our top priority in 2018 was to build community awareness about the value of local history and the Museum's role in preserving that history. Our 50th anniversary was an opportunity to fulfill our mission and at the same time build support for expanded programs and a new facility. We showcased the Museum's accomplishments and increased public awareness with our feature exhibit "Keeping History Alive." We told the history of the Museum and showcased our programs and collections helping visitors understand the need for a new facility. In June a free evening open house celebrated our anniversary. We offered several free admission days throughout the season including the 2nd Friday of the month from 5pm to 8pm for Art Walk, Smithsonian Museum Free Day and provided free admission to active duty military families. We also had several exhibits in the Coeur d'Alene Public Library lobby. People enjoyed our historic

photo table-tents in restaurants and the historic photo bookmarks with membership info on the back.

1,189 students visited the Museum; that's over 400 more than in 2017. The 4th graders' admission and bus transportation was funded with donations from Doug and Deidre Chadderdon and Ken and Vickie Roberge. Robert and Dave Eubanks presented North Idaho's history to 1,200 Coeur d'Alene middle and high school students.

Attendance continues to grow with 6,000 visitors in 2018 which is up about 750 from 2017. Where people are from remains about the same with 40% from Kootenai County, Washington 11%, North Idaho 6%, California 7%, Spokane 3%, Mid-West 5% and remainder other areas.

Seventy-five people attended the 2018 annual dinner at the Hayden Lake County Club. The Friend of History award was presented to Don Pischner. Don presented "Keeping History Alive, Museum of North Idaho at 50." In addition Don made two presentations at the Library: "Keeping History Alive" and "The Lost Battalion of WWI." An estimated 70 people attended each program.

Doug Miller and Steve Shepperd organized two hydroplane events. Mike Lehosit at the Hayden Discount Cinema hosted the showing of the films "Madison" and a documentary film "The Roaring Giants." The showings raised \$2,600 for the building fund. Later in the summer the 1958 Miss Bardahl unlimited hydroplane visited the Museum to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Coeur d'Alene's first Diamond Cup, the building of the Miss Bardahl hull, and the Museum's 50th.

Robert Singletary presented historical programs at the Coeur d'Alene library to over 500 people. As part of his public relation activities he attends many meetings. He pre-

sented historical programs to an additional 1,500 people. He offered daily historic walking tours. He organized our North Idaho State Fair booth providing an opportunity for the public to learn more about the Museum. Board members manned the booth promoting the museum and selling our books. Robert wrote numerous historical articles in magazines and newspapers. Several articles were written about Robert, Dorothy and the Museum's 50th anniversary. The Nickel's Worth featured a weekly photo.

People use the Museum's archive and photo collection to research projects, create reports, decorate homes and businesses, and use on several online sites.

We are proud to have received the Idaho State Historical Society's *Esto Perpetua* award. The award honors our work to preserve regional history. This is the highest award given in the state for those working to safeguard Idaho's history.

Publications

Since 1990, the Museum of North Idaho Press has published regional history books providing revenue. Robert Singletary continued work on his book *Coeur d'Alene Beautiful and Progressive*.

Collections

Thirty-one people donated more than 450 artifacts, photos and archival materials to the Museum. University students Katherine Hill and Adelle Kincel, along with Angie Conrow, volunteered during the summer to photograph and inventory historic hats, shoes and dolls. Angie also worked with the archives. Joy Porter worked two days a week inputting information into the collection's database, Pastperfect.

Buildings

Since 1979, the City has provided

our Museum facility next to the City Park rent-free. With the City's long term plan calling for the removal of the building at the park and our need for more room we continue to look for a new site. In May we moved the last artifacts from the NW Blvd. storage building to our storage building on 1st St. The City tore down the structure, relieving us of any cost to remove the building. We continue to maintain the Fort Sherman Chapel.

Volunteers

In 2018, 54 volunteers donated over 2,100 hours to keep the Museum open and help preserve our region's history. Community service workers contributed an additional 200 hours. Several Innercept (they help teens and young adults with mental health issues) clients volunteered at the Museum to gain experience and confidence in the work place. Art Spirit Gallery hosted our volunteer appreciation event in November. We thank Randy Bates and Terri Hunter for tax preparation and Group Argia SA for hosting our website.

*Volunteering over 100 hours

Katharine Baird	Jack McPike
Helen Branson	Bob MacDonald
Carol Brown	Doug Miller
Heather Callahan	*Debbie Mitchell
Scott Cranston	Marshall Mitchell
Angie Conrow	Harrison Mitsanas
Mike Cooney	*Larry O'Leary
Karen DeSeve	Robyn Palmer
Jaqi Dulebohn	Steve Palmer
*Tori Dunning	Don Pischner
Dave Eubanks	*Joy Porter
Buck Fitzpatrick	Claire Reinwald
Joy Fitzpatrick	Jane Robertson
Frame of Mind	Barb Rodstad
*Larry Frei	Joann Schaller
Rocky Gibbs	Mark Schaller
*Lois Grutta	Lynn Schwindel
Margit Halford	Steve Shepperd
Katherine Hill	Linda Shinn
Cathie Hochuli	*Robert Singletary
Geoff Howard	Gene Soper
Hannah Hymovitch	Cheryl Sorenson
Simone Kincaid	Pam Stotts
Terry Kincaid	*David Taylor
Adelle Kincel	John Wood
Blake Langué	*Ian Wright
Tyler Lowe	Ken Wright

Finances

To increase operational funding and the building fund we sent about 600 year-end-giving letters. We printed the materials in house so our cost was very low. We followed up with emails to thank members and ask for additional year-end donations. We had 46 respond with donations and 50 people renewed their membership. In 2018 we had 63 new members join the Museum, about the same as last year. We thank Kootenai County for their annual support.

Operating Income 2018

Admission	16,137.00
County	15,000.00
Donations	10,116.56
Gift Shop	14,811.40
Transfer ICF/interest	9,018.32
Membership	26,191.00
Photo Sales	4,561.40
Programs/Banquet	7,725.00
Total Operating Inc	103,560.68

Operating Expenses 2018

Bank Fees/Amazon	(901.49)
Gift Shop	(8,378.25)
Health Insurance	(4,748.42)
D & O Insurance	(739.00)
Insurance Bldgs	(1,755.00)
Marketing	(2,570.76)
Payroll Director	(46,000.00)
Payroll Bookkeeper	(2,587.50)
Contract Program/PR	(8,400.00)
Payroll taxes	(3,980.59)
Photo Sales Exp	(1,972.42)
Postage	(1,529.74)
Printing	(2,333.78)
Prof Dev-Travel	(648.00)
Repairs & Maint	(1,510.00)
Programs/Banquet	(2,739.30)
Property tax storage	(5.74)
Security	(432.00)
Supplies (artifact care)	(200.78)
Supplies (office)	(1,654.96)
Telephone	(842.39)
Utilities	(4,022.42)
Total Operating Exp	(97,952.54)
Operating Inc/exp	5,608.14

Special Funds

Building Fund

2018 Beginning Bal	203,968.58
2018 Donations	34,088.00
Fund Bal 12/31/18	238,056.58

Endowment Donations 1,320.00

Field Trips

2018 Beginning Bal	1,152.49
Fund Bal 12/31/18	604.98
2018 Donations	600.00
Field Trip bus/adm expenses	(1,147.51)

Book Fund

2018 Beginning Bal	213,551.13
Net book Inc/Exp	28,481.01
Fund Bal 12/31/18	242,032.14
Book Income Sales	29,658.41
Postage income	1,030.22
Total year income	30,688.63
Marketing	-
<i>Cd'A Beautiful & Prog</i>	(144.00)
<i>Ordeal by Fire</i>	
Postage/shipping	(1,104.47)
Pay Pal/Amazon fees	(959.15)
Total year expenses	(2,207.62)

Chapel Fund

2018 Beginning Bal	34,205.98
Net inc/exp	4,858.80
Fund Bal 12/31/18	39,064.78

Chapel Income

Rent	5,082.00
Wedding/Events	4,150.00
Ornaments	273.72
Donations	311.00
Total year income	9,816.72

Chapel expenses

Utilities	(3,323.22)
Repairs/maint	(364.96)
Chapel Insurance	(1,264.00)
Property tax	(5.74)
Total year expenses	(4,957.92)

Collections Fund

2018 Beginning Bal	24,526.08
Income	537.75
Fund Bal 12/31/18	25,063.83

Net Assets

Morgan Stanley 12/2018	564,653.
WT Bank Checking 12/2018	68,094.
ICF Endowment 12/2018	225,656.
Total Net Assets	858,403.



2018 exhibit "Keeping History Alive"

Museum News

From the Board President

Our late winter snow is finally history and the museum's exhibit hall opened April 2!

Not to be missed is our feature exhibit "New Land, New Lives: Immigrants Shaped our Region." Rarely seen photographs, artifacts and first hand stories from local families paint a fascinating picture of the role immigrants played in our region's history.

Our Annual Members' Celebration on April 16 was a tremendous success with 116 people in attendance, one of our largest crowds ever. We gathered at the Best Western Plus Coeur d'Alene Inn, enjoyed dinner and an update on museum activities.

Well-known local author Jack Nisbet entertained the audience with the adventures of pioneers John and Carrie Leiberg, subjects of his book *The Dreamer and the Doctor* (available in the Museum Store). His presentation was supported by a grant from the Idaho Humanities Council, a State-based partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

This is the first time we offered sponsorship tables. Thank you:

Pinkerton Retirement Specialist
Mike Dixon
W.T. Richards

At the Celebration, I spoke about the museum's theme for 2019: "Growing Toward the Future." Our Long Range Plan embraces this theme and outlines steps along a path to achieve our vision of a premier regional museum.

Our path begins with ongoing efforts to raise awareness of what a great museum offers to the community. In addition to public programs, the museum's mission is to preserve and interpret the history

of our region and to foster appreciation of the area's heritage.

The mission becomes increasingly urgent as our community experiences rapid population growth, new development, and cultural change. The museum serves as a link between past and present and preserves history that might otherwise be lost in a fast-changing environment.

The next step on the path is to secure a suitable site for a new building. Visitors to our exhibit hall recognize our building is outdated and too small to accommodate a premier regional museum. The museum board and staff have evaluated several sites for a new facility. However, increasing land and construction costs present a sizable hurdle.

We are currently exploring a site for a new museum located south of Coeur d'Alene City Hall and adjacent to the northeast side of Tubbs Hill. Working in partnership with the City of Coeur d'Alene and the Tubbs Hill Foundation, we plan to complete our feasibility evaluation this summer. The museum will keep our members informed on progress via our quarterly newsletter and other forms of communication.

Finding a site and planning a new museum facility is a daunting task for a small museum staff and all-volunteer board. We want to thank our members, donors and community partners for your loyal support as we follow the path to our vision.

You are vital to our success!

Julie Gibbs, Pres. MNI Board

Awards Received

April 16, at the Museum's annual meeting and dinner, Robert Singletary (on the right) presented



Jon Mueller with the Museum's "Friend of History" award for his research and publication of "Private Park Public Park: A Story of Coeur d'Alene and Its First Park."

A few days later we learned Robert was selected for the *Esto Perpetua* award from the Idaho State Historical Society. This is the highest award given in the state for those working to safeguard Idaho's history. The award honors Robert's work in preserving regional history and his devotion to preserving and recording more than 100 years of local historical names, places and events. Thanks to Don Pischner and Dave Eubanks for putting this nomination forward.

Building Fund Donations

Jerry Boyd
William & Julie Gibbs

Cash Donations

Bill & Judy Drake (Chapel)
Stewart & Molly Butler (Chapel)
Rod Schobert (Field Trips)
Deidre & Doug Chadderdon (FT)
Kathy & Denny Arneson (Endowment)
Jack Russell (Endowment)
Patrick & Renee Miller
Doug & Eileen Cresswell

Sheena Christman
Geoff Howard & Dorothy Dahlgren
Janet & Greg Torline
DA Davidson and Brad Dugdale
Magnuson, McHugh and Co.

In memory of **Ralph Capaul**, from the Capaul family, we received a new 65" TV for the theatre room.

Artifact Donations Since February

John Mitchell: Framed drawing of Milwaukee locomotive E70 by H.L. Scott.

Phillip Acosta, via the Crane Historical Society: 134 glass negatives taken by Paul Elder.

Sandra Larson Swick: Papers and information on the Kidd Island Bay School.

On Exhibit This Season

Donated by Mr. & Mrs. David Sutton in memory of Howard Clifford.

Thomas Clifford, a Spokane restaurant owner, had a place in the Nine Mile area and often offered food assistance to the Spokane' Tribal members traveling to Spokane from the reservation throughout the 1930s. He was made

Memorials

Remember friends and loved ones with a memorial donation to the Museum's Endowment Fund.

- For Bonnie Fossum from Judy Stebbins and Evelyn Spurgeon
- For Red Barry from Marc & Tamara Richert
- For Ralph Capaul from Jay Gridley and Sue Stiner.

You can send the donation to us or deposit it directly to the Idaho Community Foundation at www.idcomfdn.org then type in Museum of North Idaho.

This is a nice way to honor and remember your friends and loved ones. Please include the address of the family member you would like us to notify.

Visit the Museum

New feature exhibits

New Land, New Life: Immigrants Shaped Our Region



Keeping History Alive showcases some of the Museum's recent artifact donations such as this Spokane' headdress and vest.

A new permanent exhibit *Explorers and Fur Trade*, created by the Friends of Spokane House, looks at trade and explorers prior to white settlement.

**Tuesday - Saturday, 11 to 5
thru October, 115 NW Blvd.**

Free Admission 5 to 8 pm as part of Art Walk. 2nd Friday of the month except June will be the 7th because of Car d'Lane on the 14th.

Shop the Museum Store

- *Over 450 regional history titles including children's books, cookbooks, and hiking and nature guides
- *Idaho Silver and garnet jewelry
- *Rosemaling (a folk art of Norway, by local artist Ginney Brown)
- *Pine needle baskets by local artist Colleen Bircher
- *Huckleberry jam and goodies, and other gift items

Members receive 10% off. If you are just shopping pull up to the door or request a parking pass for the lot. Your purchases support the Museum. No admission charge to shop.

Free Lecture May 23 Coeur d'Alene Library 7 pm

The Turbulent, but Progressive 1970s and 1980s by Robert Singletary

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers needed to greet visitors and work in the Museum Store. Knowledge of the region's history is not necessary. You can work from one day a week or on call as you are available. Volunteers on Saturdays are especially needed. Please call Dorothy Tues. through Sat. 9-5 at 208-664-3448 or email: dd@museumni.org.

an honorary member of the tribe and given this dance ensemble to signify their gratefulness.

The dance ensemble includes:

- Feather headdress with horsehair roach covering the top of the head with pieced wool trailer.

- Beaded vest of white beaded background with eagles, two horseman, and other horse symbols.

- Pair of red wool leggings embroidered with seed beads.

- Beaded breastplate, accented with a horsehair tassel.



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Get on Board!

Send in Your Membership

- Friend of History* \$500
- Georgie Oakes* \$100+
- Idaho* \$100
- Flyer* \$50
- Amelia Wheaton* \$25

Make An Additional Donation To A Special Fund

- Memorial/Endowment \$ _____
- Building Fund \$ _____
- Chapel \$ _____
- Total enclosed \$ _____**

Membership Benefits Include: **Free admission to the Museum**
***10% off in the Museum Store * Quarterly Newsletter**

Please check your mailing label for your membership renewal date.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Secondary Addr. _____

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To pay with credit card call 208-664-3448 or go to www.museumni.org
Please add dd@museumni.org to your email contact list.

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

Julie Gibbs, John McTear
Mike Dixon, Tom Richards
Kandi Johnson, Courtney Beebe
Gail Hanninen, Dick Sheldon, Steve Towles

Staff

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

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