What’s in a Fence?

Lisa M. Brady
Associate Professor of History
Boise State University

Fences are the most obvious symbol of ownership, “a clear distinction between ‘ours’ and ‘yours,’”2

M y husband and I bought our first house this year. It was terribly exciting: a new beginning, bursting with possibility. We painted every wall in the house and even laid a new bamboo floor. We ripped up carpet, hung pictures, and planted flowers. But the most important and visible thing we did to show to all the world that the house was ours was to build a fence. There was a fence of sorts in place already. There were very practical reasons for us to build our fence is a good fence.

The University of Idaho School of Journalism and Mass Media (Moscow) received $1,894 to support a public talk by Washington Post reporter Juliet Eilperin titled “Environmental Policies of the New President: What to Expect in the Next Four Years.” Eilperin’s talk will focus on the media coverage of U.S. environmental policies as expressed by the newly elected President. She will illustrate how environmental reporting helps shape public understanding of these issues. Eilperin also will meet with reporters of local news organizations and speak to University of Idaho journalism classes. The talk is scheduled for April 30, 2009.

The project director is Kenton Bird.

(See GRANTS, Page 3)

Editor’s Note: From now through the summer of 2009, the Smithsonian traveling exhibit “Between Fences” will visit six Idaho communities. Having been displayed in Mullan for six weeks already, it currently is at the Coeur d’Alene Public Library (through December 20), then travels to Twin Falls Public Library (December 26 - February 7), South Bannock County Historical Center in Lava Hot Springs (February 13 - March 28), Salmon Arts Council (April 3 – May 16), and the Community Library in Ketchum (May 22 – July 4). Dr. Lisa Brady is serving as IHC’s consultant scholar for the project, and we asked her to contribute the following essay for this issue of Idaho Humanities.

What’s in a Fence?

I am also fully aware that history contains myriad examples that fences are not as conducive to social harmony as Frost’s neighbor would have us believe. William Cronon’s pathbreaking work Changes in the Land clearly shows that fences – along with livestock were the most effective means by which European colonists asserted control over the New England landscape, socially and ecologically.2 Fences were a means of disposing of the original inhabitants of the land, which led directly to dramatic changes to the region’s natural systems.

This same pattern continued for centuries in American history as Europeans and their descendants pushed insistently west. Where the cultural imperatives remained the same, the material manifestations of that ideology evolved with the changing landscape. New England’s picturesque stone walls and the worm, or Virginia, fences of the southeast were visible thing we did to show to all the world that the

What’s in a Fence?

Fences are the most obvious symbol of ownership, “a clear distinction between ‘ours’ and ‘yours,’”2

M y husband and I bought our first house this year. It was terribly exciting: a new beginning, bursting with possibility. We painted every wall in the house and even laid a new bamboo floor. We ripped up carpet, hung pictures, and planted flowers. But the most important and visible thing we did to show to all the world that the house was ours was to build a fence. There was a fence of sorts in place already. Running half the length of one edge of our property is a decorative wooden fence, with dips and curves and quaintly peeling paint (everything is quaint when you first buy a house). A chainlink fence takes its ninety-degree turn back toward the front. This fence – yet another style of wooden fence, which gives way to chainlink again as the property changes corresponding to nothing in particular. The fence is our fence. It is OUR place (now keep out).” In this regard we count myself among such a group. In my professional life I am an environmental historian, highly conscious of the ecological issues associated with parceling out land and assigning it specific and limited purposes. I also fully aware that history contains myriad examples that fences are not as conducive to social harmony as Frost’s neighbor would have us believe. William Cronon’s pathbreaking work Changes in the Land clearly shows that fences – along with livestock were the most effective means by which European colonists asserted control over the New England landscape, socially and ecologically. Fences were a means of disposing of the original inhabitants of the land, which led directly to dramatic changes to the region’s natural systems.

This same pattern continued for centuries in American history as Europeans and their descendants pushed insistently west. Where the cultural imperatives remained the same, the material manifestations of that ideology evolved with the changing landscape. New England’s picturesque stone walls and the worm, or Virginia, fences of the southeast were invisible thing we did to show to all the world that the
**New history of Hells Canyon published**

Confluence Press announces publication of *Hells Canyon & the Middle Snake: A Story of the Land and Its People* by Carolle Simon-Smolinski. The 448-page, large-format, hardcover volume is a collector's item for anyone interested in Idaho history. It was published in a limited edition of only 750 signed and numbered copies and sells for $65 plus shipping. A long time coming, Simon-Smolinski's research for the book was supported in part by the Idaho Humanities Council Research Fellowship awarded in 1995. Illustrated with 19 maps, 86 historical images, *Hells Canyon & the Middle Snake River* begins with the geologic history and continues through Native American, ranch, river boat, and dam-construction histories. It's accessible to the general public. Get a copy while they last from Confluence Press at [www.confluencepress.com](http://www.confluencepress.com), or contact Julie Hartwig at (509) 229-3414 or hartwig@clear- wire.net.

**Song-catcher Gary Eller issues new CD and booklet of early Idaho songs**

Nampa musician Gary Eller has issued a new CD and 76-page booklet entitled *Earl's Songs of Southern Idaho and the Emigration Trails*. The CD features 17 historically based songs related to southern Idaho, such as "Owen Spendthrift’s 19th century song ‘Are They Going to Hang My Papa,’” written during the trial of William “Big Bill” Haywood for conspiracy in the 1905 assassination of Idaho Governor Frank Steunenberg. Most of the songs are quite new, some dating back to the 1860s, while a couple are new songs about historical incidents. The CD features Idaho musicians on guitar, banjo, accordion, and fiddle, and the booklet offers historical commentary, lyrics, and photographs related to the songs. This song-catcher research project—one of many in the works by Gary Eller—was made possible in part by a grant from the Idaho Humanities Council. Produced by Gary Eller and John Larson, the package is available for $20 by writing Pickles’ Butter Music, 7490 Sky Ranch Road, Nampa, Idaho 83686, or online at [www.bisidaho.com](http://www.bisidaho.com).

**New book on artist James Castle**


---

**From the Director**

By Rick Ardinger

As this issue of *Idaho Humanities* went to press, the Idaho Humanities Council, the Idaho Heritage Trust, and the Idaho State Historical Society made a first-ever collaborative award of $15,000 to a deserving museum to recognize a museum's unique contribution to excellence in historical preservation and interpretive work on the local level. In December, our three agencies presented in a public ceremony three $5,000 checks to the Bonner County Historical Museum in Sandpoint for outstanding work in the field of local history. IHC board member Mindy Cameron, Sagle, said a few words on behalf of the IHC and presented IHC’s check in support of the museum’s plan to expand its web-based archive of photographs and documents, make historical research more accessible to the public.

We hope to make a similar award to a deserving museum every year. In these tough economic times, a little collaboration goes a long way. While the BCHS could have applied for a separate grant from each agency to continue its work, this year we identified a museum that is doing exemplary work and pooled our resources. A $15,000 award is a real shot in the arm for a small museum, and it’s our hope the endorsement from our three agencies will bring recognition to the BCHS and perhaps garner even more support from other entities.

The BCHS and museum director Ann Ferguson have great plans for the funds in keeping with the mission of the IHC to enhance public awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the humanities. For 35 years the IHC has been supporting the projects and programs of museums. Small museums often serve as cultural centers of a town, county, or region, and, like libraries, are natural partners for the IHC to bring humanities programming to the public. Often run by volunteers on shoestring budgets, they preserve county records, display artifacts and photographs that have us into a palpable sense of the past, and reveal the character of people who made the place home. For history junkies like me, museums often are the first place to go to in a town if you want to know who is involved in cultural efforts. Museum volunteers often are involved in the local arts council, the school board, the library board, local civic organizations, and other volunteer organizations. Yet financial support for their cultural efforts is elusive and too often they are taken for granted. At each grant round, the IHC board grants requests from museums seeking support for one thing or another. We strongly encourage such requests, and the board does its best to honor most, while stretching dollars as far as we must.

On a recent visit to the Bonner County Historical Museum I saw firsthand how the museum strives for professional interpretation, how precious storage space holds the archives of some long-defunct regional newspapers for local researchers, and how the museum is in need of expansion to hold it all currently has to offer. The IHC board congratulates the BCHS as the first recipient of this collaborative award, and for its commitment to programs that serve as models for other museums in Idaho.

**News and Opportunities**

**New history of Hells Canyon published**

Confluence Press announces publication of *Hells Canyon & the Middle Snake: A Story of the Land and Its People* by Carolle Simon-Smolinski. The 448-page, large-format, hardcover volume is a collector’s item for anyone interested in Idaho history. It was published in a limited edition of only 750 signed and numbered copies and sells for $65 plus shipping. A long time coming, Simon-Smolinski’s research for the book was supported in part by the Idaho Humanities Council Research Fellowship awarded in 1995. Illustrated with 19 maps, 86 historical images, *Hells Canyon & the Middle Snake River* begins with the geologic history and continues through Native American, ranch, river boat, and dam-construction histories. It’s accessible to the general public. Get a copy while they last from Confluence Press at [www.confluencepress.com](http://www.confluencepress.com), or contact Julie Hartwig at (509) 229-3414 or hartwig@clearwire.net.

**Song-catcher Gary Eller issues new CD and booklet of early Idaho songs**

Nampa musician Gary Eller has issued a new CD and 76-page booklet entitled *Earl’s Songs of Southern Idaho and the Emigration Trails*. The CD features 17 historically based songs related to southern Idaho, such as “Owen Spendthrift’s 19th century song “Are They Going to Hang My Papa,”” written during the trial of William “Big Bill” Haywood for conspiracy in the 1905 assassination of Idaho Governor Frank Steunenberg. Most of the songs are quite new, some dating back to the 1860s, while a couple are new songs about historical incidents. The CD features Idaho musicians on guitar, banjo, accordion, and fiddle, and the booklet offers historical commentary, lyrics, and photographs related to the songs. This song-catcher research project—one of many in the works by Gary Eller—was made possible in part by a grant from the Idaho Humanities Council. Produced by Gary Eller and John Larson, the package is available for $20 by writing Pickles’ Butter Music, 7490 Sky Ranch Road, Nampa, Idaho 83686, or online at [www.bisidaho.com](http://www.bisidaho.com).

**New book on artist James Castle**

The Janet C. Anderson Gender Resource Center at Idaho State University (Pocatello) was awarded $1,939 to help support a speaker at the interdisciplinary conference titled The Art of Gender in Everyday Life in April 2009. Scholar Emily Toth, Professor of English and Women's Studies at Louisiana State University, will present a talk about "Ne Pecce Texts," first published by the University of Cologne Press in 1934. The reprint publication, in the form of a pamphlet, will be provided to scholars, tribal members, school districts, and also will be put on a website. The text is a retranscription transcribed by Phinney from his mother, a fluent Nez Perce speaker. The project director is Harold Crook.

Idaho Public Television (Statewide) received $12,100 for statewide broadcast of the 21st season of America Experience. This season of the award-winning history series will feature documentaries on Robert Oppenheimer, The Assassination of Lincoln, A Class Apart (about the Civil Rights Case Hernandez v. Texas), The Pelico Crusade, and We Shall Remain (a five-part series establishing the Native American history as an essential part of American history). The project director is Penny Traylor.

The Community Library (Ketchum) was awarded $1,100 to begin developing three photography exhibitsthe Community Library (Ketchum) was awarded $1,100 to begin developing three photography exhibits to complement the Smithsonian "Museum on Main Street" exhibit between fences, about the meaning of borders between nations and the library. The library will host this exhibit from May 22 – July 4, 2009, and will develop local exhibits that will focus on the recent and past history of fences in the Wood River Valley and what they mean to the local culture. The project director is Sandra Hofferber.

Idaho State University (Pocatello) received $3,500 to bring Pulitzer-Prize winning historian and Harvard Professor Laurel Thatcher Ulrich to Pocatello for a public lecture during Women’s History Month in March 2009. Ulrich won the Pulitzer Prize and a Bancroft Prize for her 1990 book A Midvale's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard, Ballard based on Her Diary, 1785-1812. Her latest book (and the topic of her March lecture) is Well-behaved Women Seldom Make History (2007). This book illustrates the ways in which history helps women make sense of their own lives. The project director is Erika Kuhlman.

The Idaho State Historical Society (Boise) received $5,121 to purchase new thematic packages and storyline for a 9,000-square-foot exhibit, Idaho: Spirit of the Land and Its People as part of a major expansion of the Idaho State Historical Museum. The exhibit will focus on people, places, and events observed from multiple perspectives and experiences. Consultants in educational strategic planning, research, evaluation, and Audience Center will target will work together with Idaho scholars to determine the interactive dimensions of the new exhibit. The project director is Fred Fritchman.

The Idaho Commission on the Arts (Boise) was awarded $3,500 to bring folklorist Laura Marcus to Idaho to conduct new fieldwork, research archived fieldwork, select artists, and create interpretation for a new exhibition titled Between Fences. This season of the award-winning Idaho: Spirit of the Land and Its People, about the meaning of fences in the west. The Wilkins are now nearly unknown. The project director is Jim McReynolds.

University of Idaho (Moscow) was awarded $3,500 to support the seventh annual American Indian Film Festival, Saptap’qu’n Cinemas, in Moscow. The festival takes place in Moscow’s historic Kenworthy Theater and features films over the course of four evenings from March 25-28, 2009. The films will be a mixture of documentary and feature films, one by Idaho filmmaker Sonya Rosario and winners from the Sundance Film Festival. The project director is Janis Johnson.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The IHC board awarded five Research Fellowships to Idaho scholars. The board awards a limited number of Research Fellowships once a year to assist scholars in beginning or completing research for articles, books, and other scholarly efforts.

Phoebe Henske, Associate Professor, Idaho State University Library (Pocatello) received $3,500 to research and write a biography of Kilty Wilkins (1857-1936), "The Horse Queen of Idaho." The Wilkins family owned and operated the Wilkins Horse Company, a vast area that crossed the state lines of Idaho and Nevada, and Wilkins eventually became the largest broker of horses in the west. Homan notes that she was the only woman at the turn of the century whose sole occupation was horse dealing, that she was featured in newspapers throughout America, but is now nearly unknown. The project director is Kittie Wilkins, "the Horse Queen of Idaho," in the subject of a biography by ISU librarian Philip Homan.

Jessica Winston, Idaho State University Associate Professor of English (Pocatello), received $3,500 to complete her book Lawyers at Play: a study of the literary, political, and cultural culture of England’s Inns of Court in the 1560s. She proposes that the Inns of Court were literary, professional, and public communities, and that the literary activity helped members to understand and comment on their political world.

Rena Sanderson, BSU Associate Professor of English (Boise), was awarded $3,500 to support her serving as an editor on the forthcoming 12-vol. Cambridge Edition of the Letters of Ernest Hemingway. Having assisted on one volume, Sanderson was invited to work on a collection of more than 500 letters for Volume Three, 1930-1953. In addition to transcribing the letters archived at Princeton University Library, Sanderson will prepare annotations for each letter as well.

The project director is Kittie Wilkins, "the Horse Queen of Idaho," in the subject of a biography by ISU librarian Philip Homan.

The Wallace District Mining Museum (Wallace) received $3,000 for digital cataloging of much of the museum’s collection. The museum has thousands of physical objects, photographs, maps, and historical documents collected over its history. Planners hope the automation of the collection will not only help manage the collection, but also assist in creating interactive exhibits and enhance research. The project director is Jim McReynolds.

The project director is Kittie Wilkins, "the Horse Queen of Idaho," in the subject of a biography by ISU librarian Philip Homan.

Mary Glowacka, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Idaho State University (Pocatello), received $3,500 to examine historical photographs of the Shoshoni life and culture from 1880-1940. Working with a Shoshone-Bannock Tribe member and fluent speaker of Shoshoni, she will ethnographically describe each photograph, detailing the cultural meanings of the records depicting traditional Shoshoni practices such as hunting, making cradlesboards, smoking hides, beadwork, etc. The project will help preserve this Shoshoni knowledge, provide data for developing educational materials, enhance research programs at ISU, and establish research collaboration between Idaho’s archival repositories.

David Adler, Idaho State University Political Science Professor (Pocatello), was awarded $1,821 to complete a book for the general public calling for the restoration of the rule of law in America. Adler contends that the Presidency has become subject to few limitations in its concentration of power, and that such power is contrary to the Constitution which grants these powers to Congress. His aim is to better educate the general citizenry, provide real knowledge, and heighten public awareness of our role as vigilant citizens in preventing presidential usurpation of power and protecting the Constitution.

TEACHER INCENTIVE GRANTS

The IHC awards grants of up to $1,000 twice a year to K-12 teachers and educational organizations to enhance teaching of the humanities in the classroom.

Susan Stagliano, The Valley View Early Childhood Center (Bombers Ferry), was awarded $1,000 for a weekly music appreciation class for the kindergarten and first grade students. Stagliano notes that young students more readily advance in math and reading if the subjects are presented through music.

Douglas Stan Wiens, Timberline High School (Boise), received $997 for the Boise Architecture Project, an award-winning interdisciplinary program of the school’s History Club, and students of AP History, photography, and geography. Students learn about local history, take photos of local buildings, write a research paper with oral interviews, and make presentations. The data is posted online, and currently includes studies of 120 buildings.

Debra Smith, Sandpoint High School Social Studies Teacher (Sandpoint), was awarded $1,000 to help support a new course to be offered during the 2008-2009 academic year. The course, titled International Relations/Model United Nations, is interdisciplinary, open to 10th through 12th grade students, and has 28 students enrolled on a waiting list. One goal of the program is for students to see the application of the humanities in the world. The school’s History Club, a major component in the United Nations, research foreign policy issues, prepare position papers on assigned countries, and participate in a March 2009 Model United Nations Conference in New York City.

Vera Noyce, The Garden City Library Foundation (Garden City), received $1,000 to purchase bilingual books for its “Bells for Books” program, a book mobile serving the neighborhoods around four Boise elementary schools and targeting many at-risk students. The book mobile stops at 30 sites, and checks

(See GRANTS, Page 5)
simply not feasible in the wide, treeless prairies of Kansas and Colorado. Undaunted, these Americans turned to a new invention to facilitate carving up and bringing order to the vast expanses of rangeland: barbed wire. With over a hundred different types to choose from, it was barbed wire fences, not Wyatt Earp that tamed the “wild” West.

Americans did not invent fences, of course. Societies across the globe have used fences to signify more than their territorial boundaries; in addition, they use such structures to control people both within and outside their borders. The Romans erected Hadrian’s Wall in AD 122 primarily to defend against the Picts (Scots), but also to indicate the empire’s northernmost border. By implication it marked the line beyond which civilization, by Roman standards at least, was absent. Hadrian’s Great Wall provided protection for the Central Kingdom from the raiding Manchurian and Mongolian tribes to its north. While the structure we know today was built in the fifteenth century, earlier versions of it predate it by two thousand years. Here, too, the wall had defensive purposes as well as serving to delineate the line between civilization and barbarity.

Both Hadrian’s and the Great Walls illustrate the desire to keep unwanted people out. But fences are built to keep people in, too. The Berlin Wall is an iconic example of such a fence, despite East German propaganda to the contrary. No one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which icon of such a fence, despite East German propaganda to the contrary. No one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which icon of such a fence, despite East German propaganda to the contrary. No one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which icon of such a fence, despite East German propaganda to the contrary. No one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which icon of such a fence, despite East German propaganda to the contrary. No one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which icon of such a fence, despite East German propaganda to the contrary. No one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which icon of such a fence, despite East German propaganda to the contrary. No one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which icon of such a fence, despite East German propaganda to the contrary. No one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology. The North Korean president Kim Jong-Il’s claims that no one who saw which direction the guard towers faced was fooled by such ideological spin. The Berlin Wall has fallen, but its Asian counterpart still remains. More than 150 miles of barbed wire stretches between North and South Korea along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), separating people whose main difference is not language, ethnicity, or culture, but political ideology.

This view of the DMZ makes one ponder Frost’s other message in his poem, “Something there is that doesn’t love a wall.” That “something” was, in part, the forces of nature. Gravity and frost heaves even pull down even the stoutest of walls, Frost pointed out. No doubt the thin wooden boards protecting my small piece of Earth would stand little chance against the dual assault of time and weather without my constant attention. But for nature in the DMZ, the fence is just what it needed and may be the only chance some of the region’s species have for survival. But, like Frost’s stone wall and my wooden fence, the DMZ will still need looking after if the benefits it presents are to be maintained.

In the end, the answer to the question, “what’s in a fence,” lies within the particularities of each one. The answer might address the physical materials used to make the fence, or it might attempt to explain the cultural, political, or philosophical meaning behind it, but either way, it must approach the question from a variety of perspectives. This is precisely what the thought-provoking, challenging, and informative exhibit, “Between Fences,” tries to do. Now touring Idaho, the Smithsonian exhibit asks us each to ask “what’s in a fence” and encourages us to rethink the received wisdom and our personal biases. I urge you to visit the exhibit when it arrives in your area – you will never look at a fence the same way again, and it may even inspire you to mend some fences of your own.

Dr. Lisa Brady teaches environmental history at Boise State University. She is IHC’s scholar for the Smithsonian traveling exhibit tour of “Between Fences” in Idaho. She currently is at work on a book exploring the environmental history of the Civil War.

Smithsonian exhibit on “fences” tours Idaho through July 4, 2009

B etween Fences, a new Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition, is traveling the state now through July 2009. Through a selection of artifacts, photographs, and illustrations, Between Fences surprises audiences with its exploration of the multiple meanings behind this everyday icon. The exhibit began the tour at the Mullan Public Library (Mullan), is currently at the Coeur d’Alene Public Library (Coeur d’Alene), will then travel to the Twin Falls Public Library (Twin Falls), South Bannock County Historical Center (Lava Hot Springs), Salmon Arts Council (Salmon) and The Community Library (Ketchum).

Between Fences is a visual cultural history of fences and land use that examines how neighbors and nations divide and protect, offend and defend through the boundaries they build. Focusing on every region of the United States, the exhibit’s subjects include the defining of home, farm, and factory; the settling of the United States; the closing of the range in the South and the West; and the role of fencing in managing nature. In addition to showcasing the origins and uses of fences, including a look at why Abe Lincoln became known as a rail splitter.

Between Fences examines human relationships on an expanding scale: neighbor versus neighbor, gated communities, and Mexican and Canadian borders of the United States. The exhibition tells American stories through diverse fence types. The exhibition will be on display for six weeks in each of the six Idaho communities.

While on display, each community will develop public humanities programming to coincide with the theme of Between Fences, such as lectures, displays, exhibits and contests. Sites will also develop events and activities to encourage public participation during the exhibit.

Part of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service Museum on Main Street program, Between Fences is designed for rural audiences and small museums that do not have access to traveling exhibitions because of space and cost limitations. Support for the Museum on Main Street program has been provided by the United States Congress.

The IHC has brought four other MoMS tours to Idaho. In 2007 New Harmonies: Celebrating America by Food toured the state. Yesterdays Tomorrows: Building New England Communities is currently at work in the southern part of the state. The Communities that Changed the World tour of Highways and American dreams will arrive in Idaho in 2008.

Idaho Humanities 4
NPR Correspondent Juan Williams spoke to hundreds in Coeur d’ Alene

Juan Williams, National Public Radio senior correspondent and author of many books including Eyes on the Prize: America’s Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965, spoke about his experience as a journalist and the presidential election at IHC’s 5th Annual Northern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture in early October at the Coeur d’Alene Resort. Earlier in the day, he spoke to 350 students at Lake City High School and was interviewed by Tony Stewart and Virginia Johnson for Idaho Public Television. Prior to speaking at the Resort, Williams appeared at Bill and Joan Boyd’s beautiful lakefront home for the Benefactor Reception sponsored by the Hagadone Corporation.

Enormous thanks goes to Bennett and Brinkmeyer – Idaho Forest Group and Sterling Savings Bank for generously sponsoring the evening. IHC thanks media sponsors Idaho Public Television and the Coeur d’Alene Press for promoting the event, and Borders Books for facilitating book sales (with a portion of the sales going to support IHC programming).

The IHC is grateful to Benefactors for their added generosity, including the following firms and individuals that purchased Benefactors Tables: Gallatin Public Affairs, Witherspoon, Davenport and Toole, North Idaho Title, Hagadone Corporation, Intermax Networks, North Idaho College, Scott and Mary Lou Reed, The Pita Pit, and Coeur d’Alene Mines. Thank you to Bill and Joan Boyd, Paul and Helen Pavoff and Bradford and Sandi Hill for the student scholarship donations.

Finally we thank IHC’s northern Idaho board members, Kathy Canfield-Davis, Mindy Cameron, and Fran Bahr, and the planning committee: Virginia Johnson, Sandy Patano, Cindy Haagenson, Nancy Flagan, Fay Sweney, Judy Meyer, Katie Sayler and JoAnn Nelson, whose dedication to the humanities in their community made this evening possible. Lastly, tremendous thanks to Karen Yother for her instrumental assistance in arranging, planning and coordinating this event.
A BC News Chief White House Correspondent Martha Raddatz gave the 12th Annual Distinguished Humanities Lecture in late-October at Boise’s Centre on the Grove to more than 600 people. Earlier in the day Ms. Raddatz was interviewed for Idaho Public Television’s Dialogue program and attended a Benefactors Reception at the beautiful foothills home of Brent and Carol Lloyd. Raddatz spoke about her experiences reporting about the Iraq War, visiting with American troops, and observing communities and people in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The IHC thanks its underwriters for helping make a very successful evening. Thank you to the OfficeMax Boise Community Fund for generously sponsoring the evening. In addition, IHC’s media sponsors The Idaho Statesman, Boise State Radio and Idaho Public Television were invaluable partners.

Hotel 43 also generously donated a gorgeous suite for Ms. Raddatz. Thanks also to Brent and Carol Lloyd for opening their lovely home and to Bank of the Cascades for sponsoring the Benefactor Reception. The reception was generously supported by the Boise Co-op and Jim Winner. An additional thank you goes to Laura Jonio and Barnes & Noble for facilitating book sales, with part of the proceeds going to support IHC programming.

The IHC also is grateful to the following firms and individuals that purchased Benefactor Tables: Saint Alphonsus, Holland and Hart, US Bank, Steel Rives, Promontory Road group, the College of Idaho, Gallatin Public Affairs, Futura Corporation, Jim and Louise McClure, and Northwest Nazarene University.

Thank you to some very generous individuals and organizations who helped share the evening with area students through their donations to the student scholarship fund: William and Judy Collins, Judy Bloom, Melissa Lloyd Dodsworth, Mike and Penny Barrowcliff, Sarah Churchill, Michael Faison and Gisela Zechmeister, Stephen Romano, Chuck Guilford, Jake and Alice Forythe, Kevin Marsh, Mary Nelson, Dick and Gerry Wisdom, Tom and Alice Hennessey, and Richard and Roxanne Cummings.

Finally, tremendous thanks to the event volunteers including students from the Boise High History Club, Pam Fonshill, Kate Riley, Karen Riley, Phyllis Ward and Linda Perkins.

1. Martha Raddatz speaks to more than 600 dinner guests at the Boise Centre on the Grove.
2. L to R: Marilyn Shuler, Jerry Brady, and Skip Oppenheimer enjoy a conversation prior to dinner.
3. IHC Chairman Ron Pisaneschi welcomes Idaho-born Martha Raddatz and presents her a copy of Idaho: The Heroic Journey at the Benefactor Reception.
4. Dottie and Ed Stimpson have a book signed by Martha Raddatz after her talk.
5. Martha Raddatz takes a moment with former Governor Cecil Andrus prior to dinner.
IHC’s 2009 weeklong summer institute, Storm Center: The History of the Supreme Court, will thoroughly explore the U.S. Supreme Court, including an historical overview of the development of the Court, its inner-workings, its relations with Congress and the Presidency, and the landmark decisions that have defined its role in American history. Scheduled for July 12-17 on the campus of the College of Idaho in Caldwell, Idaho teachers of all grades and disciplines are invited to apply by March 1 to attend the all-expense-paid week.

Participants will emerge with a clear understanding of the origins and development of judicial review, the legal procedures and political maneuverings that have marked the appointment of Supreme Court Justices, as well as the personalities and rivalries that have shaped the nature and character of the Court. In addition, the institute will focus on the Court’s rulings on major provisions of the Bill of Rights, its opinions on presidential power, the white-hot debate on the issue of constitutional inter pretation, and Idaho’s place in the annals of Supreme Court jurisprudence. The texts to be studied include Storm Center: The Supreme Court in American Politics by David M. O’Brien, The Great Chief Justice: John Marshall and the Rule of Law by Charles F. Hobson, and The Supreme Court: The Personalities and Rivalries that Defined America by Jeffrey Rosen. Daily topics will focus on the Creation and Early Days of the Supreme Court; Origins and Development of Judicial Review; Appointments to the Court; Historical Overview of the Personalities and Rivalries that have Shaped the Court; the Court and the Bill of Rights; Liberty and Equality; The Court and the Presidency; Idaho and the Supreme Court; and the Future of the Supreme Court.

The lead scholars for the week are David Adler, Professor of Political Science at Idaho State University, and Steve Shaw, Professor of Political Science at Northwest Nazarene University. The keynote address will be delivered by Dr. David O’Brien, author of Storm Center: The Supreme Court in American Politics. The week will also include other guest speakers, including Nancy Kassop, State University of New York, on “The Supreme Court Since 9/11”; Kerry Hunter, College of Idaho, on “Judicial Review in New Zealand: A Comparison”; Don Crowley, University of Idaho, on “The Roberts Court in the Obama Era”; Marc Johnson, President of Boise-based Gallatin Public Affairs, on “Packing the Supreme Court: FDR’s Biggest Political Blunder and the Gravest Constitutional Crisis Since the Civil War”; as well as films and other activities related to the topic.

Successful applicants will receive lodging and meals, texts, and the opportunity to apply for an optional college credit. Those traveling more than 200 miles one way may be eligible for a modest travel stipend. In addition to receiving the primary texts, teachers also will receive a photocopies compilation of related essays and articles recommended by the presenting scholars. Teachers will be selected before April 2009 and sent texts to read in advance of the institute.

Teachers interested in more information about the institute should visit www.idahohumanities.org or contact the Idaho Humanities Council at (208) 345-5346. The application deadline is March 1, 2009. For other questions, teachers may contact IHC Fiscal Officer Cindy Wang at (208) 345-5346, or cindy@idahohumanities.org.

**NEWS**

**Continued from Page2**

Kim Barnes publishes new novel

Moscow writer Kim Barnes has published a new novel, A Country Called Home (Knopf, 2008), set in the Idaho wilderness of the 1960’s. It’s the story of a newly married couple who abandon the comforts of upper-class Connecticut to work the land of an isolated farm in Fife, Idaho. Despite the harsh, unforgiving conditions, Thomas, a young, poor doctor decides he would rather farm for their daily sustenance than open a medical practice. His wife, Helen Deracotte, is from a rich family and soon becomes overwhelmed and suffocated by their living conditions. After the birth of a daughter, Helen becomes involved with a vagabond teenager hired by Thomas as a caretaker for the farm. The relationship has dire consequences for all involved. Publishers Weekly praises Barnes for her exquisite and vivid descriptions of the rugged landscapes and the dark, wrenching detail of the characters’ desires and sadnesses.

Barnes teaches in the University of Idaho’s MFA program in creative writing. Author of several books, A Country Called Home is Barnes’ second novel. Her first book, In the Wilderness, a memoir, was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 1997.

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum offers teacher fellowship opportunities

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Teacher Fellowship Program is developing a national corps of skilled secondary school educators and community college faculty who serve as leaders in Holocaust education in their schools, their colleges, their communities, and their professional organizations. Beginning in 2009, up to 15 educators in grades 7 through 12 and community college faculty will be designated as Museum Teacher Fellows. These educators must show evidence of extensive knowledge of Holocaust history, successful teaching experience, and participation in community and professional organizations. They will participate in a five-day, all-expense paid summer institute at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., designed to immerse participants in advanced historical and pedagogical issues. Following the summer institute, Fellows are expected to create and implement an outreach project in their schools, colleges, communities, or professional organizations. In July of the following year, Fellows will attend a follow-up program at the Museum to assess their various efforts and to continue their study of the Holocaust with Museum staff and noted speakers. Community college faculty, and middle and high school history, social studies, foreign language, English and journalism teachers, as well as librarians and instructional media specialists, are encouraged to apply for Museum Teacher Fellowships. Other content areas will also be considered. It is expected that applicants will have taught the Holocaust for a minimum of five years. Applicants must teach in

apply now: IHC summer institute for teachers to focus on the History of the Supreme Court, July 12-17
The Idaho Humanities Council offers bureau of Abraham Lincoln scholars for Bicentennial Commemoration

The Idaho Humanities Council has assembled a group of eleven Abraham Lincoln scholars, all of whom are available through IHC’s Speakers Bureau in anticipation of the 2009 Bicentennial of Lincoln’s birth. Libraries, historical societies, civic clubs and other interested organizations throughout Idaho are encouraged to inquire about the program and contact the IHC about inviting a scholar to their community.

The speakers lecture on such subjects as “Lincoln and Civic Religion,” “Lincoln as War Leader,” “Lincoln as Orator,” “Lincoln’s Environmental Legacy,” “Lincoln and the Constitution,” and many other topics exploring Lincoln’s life, his presidency, the Civil War, and his establishment of the Idaho Territory.

IHC scholars offer a variety of talks of about 45 minutes in length, with time for question and answer. Speakers include Idaho State University Professors David Adler and Ron Hatzenbuehler, Boise State University Professors Lisa Brady and Scott Yenor, Northwest Nazarene University Professors Richard Enulain and Steven K. Shaw, University of Idaho Professor Emeritus Barbara Field, Idaho Court of Appeals Judge Steven Trott, and independent historians Marc C. Johnson, Arthur Hart, and David Leroy, of Boise. The IHC’s Speakers Bureau is easy to use. Upon contacting a speaker to see if he/she is available on a specific date, host organizations then contact the Idaho Humanities Council to formally book the speaker by submitting a one-page application and a $50 application fee (fee can be forgiven if host site contributes the equivalent in lodging or defrays some other expense). IHC covers the speaker’s full honorarium, travel, meals, and lodging (if necessary).

For a complete listing of speakers and their topics and the application procedures, please visit IHC’s website at www.idahohumanities.org and select “Resources” and then “Lincoln Speakers.” To request a printed list with application form, contact Speakers Bureau Coordinator, Wilma Bowler, by calling (208) 345-5346, or emailing wilma@idahohumanities.org.

Is there a book that influenced you more than any other? What was it, how did it move you, and why? In future issues of Idaho Humanities, we invite readers to try to sum up in 250 words or less why a certain literary work remains so present and memorable. In this first example, BSU Radio’s Kathie Alters tells how she was “slapped awake” by a play.

I was a copy of the play The Dutchman by LeRoi Jones, later Amiri Baraka, that arrived one summer in the late ’60s aboard the Bookmobile that parked every week outside the old Foodland on Overland Road. Dutchman is a symbolic version of the Adam and Eve story. A naive, bourgeois black man meets a manipulative, white woman on a subway. She seduces, then murders him. The play was slapped awake.

Ten years later I was a copy editor in New York and a writer friend took me to a reading by Baraka. Afterwards, I nervously approached him and explained how important his play had been to me. The black writer sized me up—a 20-something white female—and winced, probably thinking I missed the point.

Baraka didn’t know the power of his words on me, yet they had changed everything.

Kathe Alters
Boise, Idaho

Show your support for the humanities in Idaho—return that envelope today!

To read the feature article in this newsletter, you must remove the donor envelope affixed to the front page. If you haven’t done so already, please do your part for the humanities in Idaho by filling that envelope with your donation and returning it at your earliest convenience. Your tax-deductible contribution will help IHC support quality humanities projects and programs throughout Idaho, such as lectures by nationally recognized authors, traveling Smithsonian exhibits, IHC Speakers Bureau talks, museum displays, institutes and workshops for teachers, the “Let’s Talk about It” book discussion program, humanities conferences, and much more.

Order today: An Idaho cookbook for the Northwest stand!


Dishrag Soup & Poverty Cake: An Idaho Potluck of Essays on Food is a collection of essays and recipes by 43 contributors from Court of Alkene to Pocatello about something we all have in common—great stories about food.

Idaho politicians Bethine Church remembers trading recipes on the campaign trail; Idaho Statesman columnist Dan Popkey writes about essential cookies for river rafting; Constitution scholar David Adler writes of presidential war powers and blueberry pancakes; Driggs bookstore owner Jeanne Anderson remembers winning a chili cook-off; Lewiston writer Margo Aragon recalls Nez Perce root-gathering traditions; U.S. Forest Service lookout John Thomas writes of the joy of cooking at 7,500 feet—and much more. Dishrag Soup & Poverty Cake: An Idaho Potluck of Essays on Food (170 pages; ISBN 0-9788816-5-5) is available for $15 (plus 6% sales tax and $3 shipping and handling) by calling the IHC at 208-345-5346, or ordering online through IHC’s secure website at www.idahohumanities.org.
IHC Warmly Thanks Idaho Humanities Council Donors!

Contributions made between November 1, 2007 and December 31, 2008

Champion ($500+)
Futura Corporation, Boise
Carol & Len McInerny, PhD
Philanthropic Fund in the Idaho Community Foundation, Boise
James F. & Marie Watson, Mill Valley, CA
Benefactor ($1,000 to $2,499)
Rick & Rosemary Andinger, Boise
Jeremy & Jennifer Armstrong, Meridian
All & Sue Brown, Boise
Anonymous, Boise
George & Marla Bradford
Margaret H. Knight, Winter Springs, FL
Idaho Power, Boise
Peter & Marilyn Merkley, Boise
Sylvia K. Dang, Boise
Marc & Pat Johnson, Boise
Don & Barbara Mantel, Mandan, Caldwell
Erol Jones & Susan Rains, Boise
John & Diane Pruey, Caribou
Gregory & Teresa Ramsay, Boise
Vic & Nancy Kobe, Boise
Bonnie Kucharick, Tetonia
Levaitin & Minett & Consulting, Boise
David & Judith Lamberti, Mandan, Caldwell
John Mathew & Judy McKay, Boise
McCain Family Fund, Boise
Kathleen & Michael McRae, Boise
Doug & Sharon McElvan, Boise
Jim & T.W. Montgomery, Caldwell
Ken & Amy March, Caribou
Dennis & Donna Meier, Boise
Steve & Kim Meier, McCall, Lake
Michael Moore, Boise
Charles & Ingrid Moier, Orofino
Jo & Ann Kay Nelson, Coeur d’Alene
Paul O’Grady & Ruth Pratt, Coeur d’Alene
South Bannock County Historical Center, Lava Hot Springs
Skip & Erin Splenker, Boise
Owen & Janet Grendoff, Boise
Russell Waid & Panels Park, Pocatello
Dw. & Mrs. Pfeiffer, Boise
F. Ross & Mary Kay Peterson, Logan, UT
Steve & Nancy Pingel, Idaho Falls
Paul & Penny Persson, Idaho Falls
Mary Ellen & Dick Pugh, Cambridge
Tim & Patricia Madsen, Caldwell
Charles & Mary Reed, Caldwell
Bruce Richen, Elk City
Joseph & Rina Rodriguez, Boise
Charlese & Nancy Routman, Meridian
Robert & Marion Santos, Sandpoint
Maria Salazar, Emmett
Sandi Schack, Boise
Donnell Schmidt, Coeur d’Alene
Delbert & Alice Scott, Boise
Laura & Jim Kantor, Boise
Laurie & Lindsay Siddoway, Spokane, WA
Mary Jo Stoflet, Moscow
Richard & June Smith, Boise
Susan Spafford, Coeur d’Alene
Susan Steele, Boise
John & Martha Tanner, Idaho Falls
Fred & Joan Thompson, Boise
Steve & Carol Tulle, Boise
Ernie Johnson & Katherine Troumier, Boise
Mark & Cindy Wang, Eagle
Comrie Weaver, Boise
Jim & Cindy Woods, Twin Falls
Shelton Wicks, Boise
David & Susan Work, Victor
Stephanie Youngerman, Boise
Advocate ($100 to $499)
Jason F. Northrup, D.C.
Tony Antoniucci, Boise
Scott K. P. Anderson, L. Goddard, Idaho Falls
David Barfer, Moscow
Jan & Anne Marie Bates, Caldwell
Mary Bough, Boise
Diane Bootle, Eagle
Shelley Moore, Moscow
Judy Chandler, Burley
Jean Chant, Portland, OR
Conrad & Mary Faby, Boise
Dillon & Audrey Cole, Pocatello
James & Patricia Countryman, Coeur d’Alene
Joan Cox, Boise
Len & Mary Crosby, Post Falls
Paint Daniels, Blackfoot
Lyn Darrington, Boise
Bob & Linda Horner, Coeur d’Alene
Mary Edmonds, Newman Lake, WA
Margie Evoy, Boise
Mary & Robert Faw, Boise
Wayne & Susie Friers, Eagle
Dr. Allan & Joyce Frank, Twin Falls
Stephen Garvan, Sandpoint
Forest & Lyneen Geerken, Boise
Lonna Gessinger, Boise
Mike & Daryce Grider, Coeur d’Alene
Linda Guyer, Boise
Hageman Valley Historical Society, Hagerman
Will & Julie Hart, Boise
Clay Harten, Moscow
Barbara Hartley, Boise
June Heinrich, Pocatello
Bryan Hixson, Payette
Mark & Lynn Hillbrandt, Boise
Robert Hooten, Boise
Chuck & Kathy Huczek, Coeur d’Alene
Seryl Howe, Boise
Eugene & Carol Hume, Boise
Jerry & Julie Glenn, Rexburg
Bill & Grata Griffith, Hayden
Charles & Dorothy Hansen, Boise
Orval & June Hansen, Afton, WA
James & Kathryn Hancock, Moscow
Arthur & Dee Hart, Boise
Ron & Linda Hatzenbuecher, Pocatello
Jay & & Mary Rasmussen, Hailey
Dan & Gail Huet, Pocatello
Bill & Cheryl Johnson, Lewiston
Ryansh & Brett Johnson, Boise
Marc & Pat Johnson, Boise
Don & Barbara Mantel, Mandan, Caldwell
Erol Jones & Susan Rains, Boise
John & Diane Pruey, Caribou
Gregory & Teresa Ramsay, Boise
Vic & Nancy Kobe, Boise
Bonnie Kucharick, Tetonia
Levaitin & Minett & Consulting, Boise
David & Judith Lamberti, Mandan, Caldwell
John Mathew & Judy McKay, Boise
McCain Family Fund, Boise
Kathleen & Michael McRae, Boise
Doug & Sharon McElvan, Boise
Jim & J.T. Montgomery, Caldwell
Ken & Amy March, Caribou
Dennis & Donna Meier, Boise
Steve & Kim Meier, McCall, Lake
Michael Moore, Boise
Charles & Ingrid Moier, Orofino
Jo & Ann Kay Nelson, Coeur d’Alene
Paul O’Grady & Ruth Pratt, Coeur d’Alene
South Bannock County Historical Center, Lava Hot Springs
Skip & Erin Splenker, Boise
Owen & Janet Grendoff, Boise
Russell Waid & Panels Park, Pocatello
Dw. & Mrs. Pfeiffer, Boise
F. Ross & Mary Kay Peterson, Logan, UT
Steve & Nancy Pingel, Idaho Falls
Paul & Penny Persson, Idaho Falls
Mary Ellen & Dick Pugh, Cambridge
Tim & Patricia Madsen, Caldwell
Charles & Mary Reed, Caldwell
Bruce Richen, Elk City
Joseph & Rina Rodriguez, Boise
Charlese & Nancy Routman, Meridian
Robert & Marion Santos, Sandpoint
Maria Salazar, Emmett
Sandi Schack, Boise
Donnell Schmidt, Coeur d’Alene
Delbert & Alice Scott, Boise
Laura & Jim Kantor, Boise
Laurie & Lindsay Siddoway, Spokane, WA
Mary Jo Stoflet, Moscow
Richard & June Smith, Boise
Susan Spafford, Coeur d’Alene
Susan Steele, Boise
John & Martha Tanner, Idaho Falls
Fred & Joan Thompson, Boise
Steve & Carol Tulle, Boise
Ernie Johnson & Katherine Troumier, Boise
Mark & Cindy Wang, Eagle
Comrie Weaver, Boise
Jim & Cindy Woods, Twin Falls
Shelton Wicks, Boise
David & Susan Work, Victor
Stephanie Youngerman, Boise
Advocate ($100 to $499)
Jason F. Northrup, D.C.
Tony Antoniucci, Boise
Scott K. P. Anderson, L. Goddard, Idaho Falls
David Barfer, Moscow
Jan & Anne Marie Bates, Caldwell
Mary Bough, Boise
Diane Bootle, Eagle
Shelley Moore, Moscow
Judy Chandler, Burley
Jean Chant, Portland, OR
Conrad & Mary Faby, Boise
Dillon & Audrey Cole, Pocatello
James & Patricia Countryman, Coeur d’Alene
Joan Cox, Boise
Len & Mary Crosby, Post Falls
Paint Daniels, Blackfoot
Lyn Darrington, Boise
Bob & Linda Horner, Coeur d’Alene
Mary Edmonds, Newman Lake, WA
Margie Evoy, Boise
Mary & Robert Faw, Boise
Wayne & Susie Friers, Eagle
Dr. Allan & Joyce Frank, Twin Falls
Stephen Garvan, Sandpoint
Forest & Lyneen Geerken, Boise
Lonna Gessinger, Boise
Mike & Daryce Grider, Coeur d’Alene
Linda Guyer, Boise
Hageman Valley Historical Society, Hagerman
Will & Julie Hart, Boise
Clay Harten, Moscow
Barbara Hartley, Boise
June Heinrich, Pocatello
Bryan Hixson, Payette
Mark & Lynn Hillbrandt, Boise
Robert Hooten, Boise
Chuck & Kathy Huczek, Coeur d’Alene
Seryl Howe, Boise
Eugene & Carol Hume, Boise
Eugene & Carol Hume, Boise
Marilyn Kringno, Boise
Vernie Kushlan, Homedale
Renee Lanti, Twin Falls
Duane & Phyllis Leibourn, Moscow
Paul & Kate Lick, Pocatello
Ivy & Trudy Littman, Boise
Madeline Love, Idaho Falls
Jodie & Lee Male, Boise
Eugene & Carol Hume, Boise
Kimberly Marvin, Idaho Falls
Gina Markey, Boise & Kay Hardy, Boise
Carol Martin, Boise
Dorothy Mattardale, Boise
Ashley Mayes, Rigby
Alberta Mayo, Sierra Madre, CA
Bett Amy McCarthy, Boise
Ted McElvan, Moscow
David & Martha Webb, Twin Falls
Mike & Arlene Mitchell, Lewiston
Jackie Montgomery, Horsehead Bend
Chael & Barbara Morgan, Idaho Falls
Rex Hill Montessori School, Boise
Cathy Nussle, Boise
Jann & Benita Oderlick, Idaho Falls
Loran & Ruth Olson, Port Angeles, WA
Leonard & Ruth Purdy, Pocatello
Dorothy L. Reynolds, Caldwell
Ed & Sheila Robertson, Boise
Joan Roach, Boise
John Rowell, Twin Falls
Bob & Nancy Russell, Idaho Falls
Rhonda & Howard Schaff, Boise
Sam & Margaret Schaff, Boise
Mary Schwarz, Boise
Gary Erickson & Harriet Shakler, Boise
David & Nancy Smith, Idaho Falls
Jerry & Ann Shively, Idaho Falls
Vickie Simmons, Boise
Bob & Betty Sims, Boise
Gary & Julie Sloe, Boise
Steve & Marda Stormey, Boise
Heather Solvick, Coeur d’Alene
Lee Star, Coeur d’Alene
Tony Stewart, Coeur d’Alene
Al Stowe, Boise
Michelle Taberang, Nampa
Carl & Marilyn Taze, Boise
Tom & Sue Thilo, Coeur d’Alene
Curt & Nancy Troumier, Boise
Kathryn Burchell, Coeur d’Alene
Sylvia Campbell, Boise
Ann Carbon, Boise
Dr. & Mrs. Ted Century, Twin Falls
College of Southern Idaho Foundation, Twin Falls
John & Jacqueline Cooney, Boise
Alice & Alan Crockett, Idaho Falls
Virginia De Long, Coeur d’Alene
Mary DeWalt, Boise
Earl Drucker, Idaho Falls
Melanie Edwards, Idaho Falls
Phil & Helen Faust, Boise
Barbara & Norm Finnstrom, Orofino
Bernetta Forster, Meridian
Myrna Fuller, Pocatello
Dick & Susan Gardner, Boise
Jim & Sammy Gentry, Emmett
Randy Stimpson, Boise
Jean Eberle
in memory of Jack R. Ward
in memory of Marcy E. Johnson
in memory of Warren & Jo Benfield
in memory of Jeanne Ernst, Boise
in memory of Mirror Haney, Twin Falls
in memory of Sandra Lenig, Boise
in memory of Kay Hardy
in memory of Arlene MacGregor
in memory of Edward R. & Helen Hansen, Boise
in memory of Margaret Schaff
in memory of Art & Sue Hickman, Boise
in memory of Martha Stabler, Boise
in memory of William Steadler, Boise
in memory of William Stabler, Boise
in memory of Winifred & Max Miller
in memory of William Steadler, Boise
in memory of William Stabler, Boise
in memory of William Stabler, Boise
in memory of William Stabler, Boise
NEWS
(Continued from Page 7)


For more information, contact: Museum Teacher Fellowship Program, Peter J. Fredlake, Coordinator, Museum Teacher Fellowship Program, Education Division, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126, E-mail: pfredlake@ushmm.org, (202) 314-0352; Fax: (202) 314-7888.

Ellis Island Institute offers NEH summer teacher institute

Ellis Island Institute in New York City invites applications from K-12 educators from around the county to attend a summer institute on the topic of “Ellis Island: Public Health and the American Workforce 1891-1924,” July 19-24 and 26-31, 2009. The institute will be conducted by immigration scholars and public health historians. Teachers will visit related historic sites in New York City that vividly tell the story of immigration in the early part of the 20th century, and investigate Ellis Island’s un-restored hospital buildings with an architectural historian to uncover their significance.

This workshop will specifically address the impact of the 1891 immigration legislation mandating health as a criterion for admission to the U.S., precipitating construction of the U.S. Public Health Service hospital on Ellis Island to screen and treat arriving immigrants. Between 1891 and 1954, 12 million immigrants took their first steps on American soil, and 1.2 million were sent to the hospital for evaluation from pregnancy to contagious diseases.

Teachers selected to participate will receive a stipend of $750 at the end of the residential workshop session. Stipends are intended to help cover ordinary living expenses, books, and travel expenses to and from the Workshop location. Travel supplements will be available, but will be allocated on a case-by-case basis after the workshop session is over.

For information, see www.workshopfiles.com

 applications may be filed on line at this address: www.neh.gov/online/education/contingencies/. When you are finished, be sure to click on the “submit” button. Print out the cover sheet and add it to your application package. At that point you will be asked if you want to apply to another workshop. If you do, follow the prompts and select another workshop and then print out the cover sheet for that workshop. Completed applications should be submitted to the project director, not the NEH, and should be postmarked no later than March 16, 2009.

Successful applicants will be notified of their selection by April 15, 2009, and they will have until April 22, 2009 to accept or decline the offer. Applicants who will not be home during the notification period should provide an address and phone number where they can be reached.

THE NEXT DEADLINE FOR GRANTS

The next deadline for Idaho Humanities Council grant proposals are January 15, and September 15, 2009. IHC strongly recommends that prospective applicants contact staff to discuss their project ideas before writing their proposals. Applicants are also encouraged to submit a rough draft of their proposal for staff critique several weeks before each deadline. Grant guidelines and application forms, as well as information about IHC grants and activities, are available on IHC’s website at www.idahohumanities.org, or by calling 208-345-5346, (Outside Boise calling area, call toll free at 888-345-5346).

In each issue of Idaho Humanities, several readers tell us what they’ve been reading and what they recommend.

Reader: Jo Ann Nelson
Occupation: Retired North Idaho College Business and Office Tech Instructor
Coeur d’Alene
Book: Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin

In 1993, after a failed attempt to climb K2, Greg Mortenson found his way to a Pakistani village where the people showed him great kindness. As a result, he felt his mission had changed from climber to humanitarians and vowed to this village he would return and build a school for them. In the next 10 years, he built a total of 55 schools—especially for girls—in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The title—Three Cups of Tea—comes from a tradition in Pakistan and Afghanistan. People doing business always drink three cups of tea. During the first cup they are strangers, with the second cup they become friends, and by the third cup they are family. While Americans do business, they do not spend time to become well acquainted. Becoming well acquainted builds trust, mutual respect, and a sincere regard for each other’s future. The book recounts how his understanding changed him and how he changed many lives.

Reader: Curtis Whitaker
Occupation: Associate Professor of English, Idaho State University, Pocatello
Book: The Blank Slate: The Modern Denial of Human Nature by Steven Pinker

A friend has been after me to become more aware of cognitive scientists such as Steven Pinker and how they have changed our understanding of the brain. Many insights from this field of study have not found their way into humanities departments, which tend to emphasize what is sometimes called “the socially constructed nature of reality,” i.e., that our attitudes about fundamental areas of life experience such as sexuality, families, politics, and religion result chiefly from the various milieus in which we find ourselves. In this book and in How the Mind Works, Pinker takes issue with these assumptions, arguing that thinking is genetically predetermined to a significant degree and that we would be much better off if we came to terms with this fact. In one provocative chapter he maintains that the reason many humanities programs are struggling is that they often deny basic human needs for coherent storytelling and aesthetically pleasing art. Deeply versed in art and literature, Pinker draws on a wealth of examples of how artists speak to people working in the humanities, albeit with a tone and message different from what we are used to hearing.

Reader: Carrie Westergard
Occupation: Marketing Director, Sun Valley/ Ketchum Convention and Visitors Bureau
Book: Then We Came to the End by Joshua Ferris

At the Ernest Hemingway Festival in September, I pursued two books by two very talented young writers that I happened to hear read their work at the Community Library in Ketchum. The one I’m currently reading is Then We Came to the End by Joshua Ferris. He was the recent recipient of the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award, a prestigious honor awarded to an American author who has not previously published a novel. In addition to the subject matter, which is near to me, what is extremely appealing about this book is the writer’s quick wit and sense of humor. This novel is about an advertising agency, its dysfunctional characters, the pressures of an economic downturn, and the general office environment. Although I’ve never worked for an advertising agency, I have a five-day-a-week office job, and the novel brings a lot of laughs through the twists and turns of Ferris’ story.

Successful applicants will be notified of their selection by April 15, 2009, and they will have until April 22, 2009 to accept or decline the offer. Applicants who will not be home during the notification period should provide an address and phone number where they can be reached.