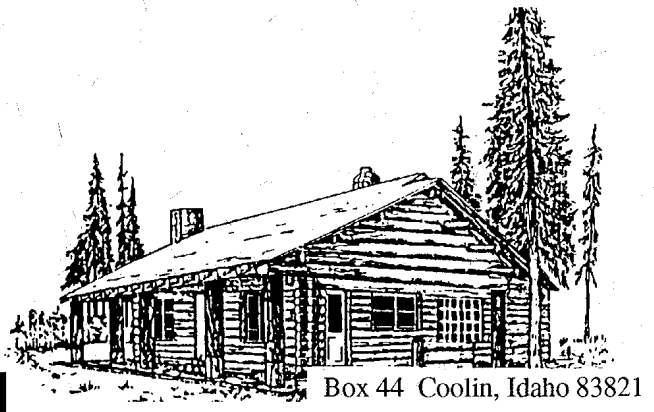


Priest Lake Museum REPORTER



NEWSLETTER VOL. 5 1996

ONCE AGAIN our team of Volunteer Hosts gives us impressive numbers. Host Coordinator, Regina Manser, reports that Hosts contributed 606 hours in 101 days greeting 4,493 visitors during the 1996 season. That totals 4,200 hours greeting nearly 30,000 guests from near and far since our doors opened in 1990. This year visitors came from New York, Hawaii, Alaska, Florida, Bangkok, New Zealand, Germany, Switzerland, France, England, Japan and Yugoslavia. Comments ranged, from "nostalgic," "refreshing," "inspiring" to "wonderful set up and great sound effects" and "My Grandfather, Jack Quinn helped build this cabin."

ON AUGUST 30, The Museum Board of Directors hosted a dinner at the Priest Lake Community Church to show appreciation for the volunteers. Want to become a Host Volunteer? Contact Regina or any other board member.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS are Gary Rogers, President; Tom McDonough, Secretary, and Pam Hay, Board Member in charge of Housekeeping. Pinky Gindraux, Betty Ward and Catherine Simpson bow out after many years of great service. Re-elected were Regina Manser, Vice-President/ Host Coordinator and Board Members, Elenor Smith, Brochures and Kathryn Pratt who relinquished her position as Registrar to be in charge of Children's Activities. Ann Ferguson, Curator of the Bonner County Museum in Sandpoint has been appointed Registrar

BOARD OFFICERS and members are elected each August for a two-

year term by the general membership. A staggered term length provides continuity on the Board. Therefore positions open annually.

The Forest Service has approved BEAUTIFICATION of the undedeveloped area in the center of the Museum's parking lot. The Museum's Board has retained Dan Eskelson, Landscaper, to introduce indigenous plantings, boulders and pathways. The intent of this project is to extend the environs of the Museum Cabin itself by providing an outside naturewalk for children and adults and, simultaneously enhance the parking area.

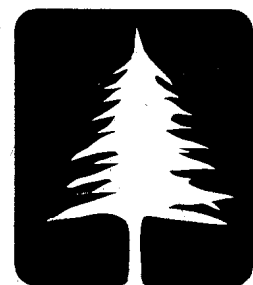
NEW THIS YEAR are the museum's children's programs. Kathryn Pratt developed the series which was held in Luby Bay Camp Ground. Scott French, M.D. presented "Survival in the Woods" and the kids got hands on experience. "Nature," by Harry and Kate Batey drew attention to our Selkirk woodland caribou when participants who were brave enough got to bite into the caribou's favorite lichen; Jules Gindraux made youngsters vividly aware of how vital uncontaminated water is for the health of our lake, streams and ourselves. Colorful handouts made a clean, clear statement. "Priest Lake Stories" had Tom Lacy reading from his book "Kaniksu" and early-day settlers were brought to life by Catherine and Claude Simpson as they characterized Fern Geissenger and Earl Fiedler. Jim and Marcella Cooper brought a little told, but true tale to life... about the time when the Gold Peak Lookout tower walked away and right down the mountain from the Forest Service team who were trying to demolish it.

In full fire-fighting gear, Bill Case made it very clear that fire safety is especially important in the woods and that fire-fighting is not for the timid. At the last program in August, Alice O'Conner, the Kalispel Indian Tribe's oldest member recounted being born in a tipi on top of Mt. Baldy and of coming to summer camp in Luby Bay. Catherine Simpson joined Alice to tell a few more early times lake stories. Catherine characterized herself and Alice as "two old women telling tales." Susan French and Rebecca Armfield assisted throughout the summer program season.

SOLD OUT- the Priest Lake Story chains charmingly hung with Tipi, bear, huckleberry pie, canoe and other Priest Lake images cast in clay will be available again next spring.

AGAIN we thank the Chamber of Commerce for giving us a choice spot under tent for the Memorial weekend celebration in Coolin where our story chains were sold.

TO DEBBIE BUTLER and her Forest Service colleagues, who act on behalf of the Museum, we extend our gratitude for their assistance in all manner of things concerning this facility.



MEMBERSHIP chair, Mary Rudi, expresses thanks for your support. You, the members, are the foundation for the Museum's activities and we truly appreciate each and every one of you. Donations to the Priest Lake Museum help preserve the Priest Lake history for future generations to appreciate.

ACQUISITION chair, Lois Hill, reports we now have a 48 star flag and a first aid kit both from Binarch ranger station.

HOUSEKEEPING chair, Catherine Simpson, moved beyond having the place thoroughly cleaned at season's beginning and once a month thereafter. She made appealing cottage curtains for the kitchen, had the door between the kitchen and living room removed for

better access, and she had the guest book take a prominent position at the entrance.

BROCHURE chair, Elenor Smith, distributed brochures in all appropriate sites in North Idaho. Klint Peters, who is also a faithful host, assisted by distributing in the Spokane area.

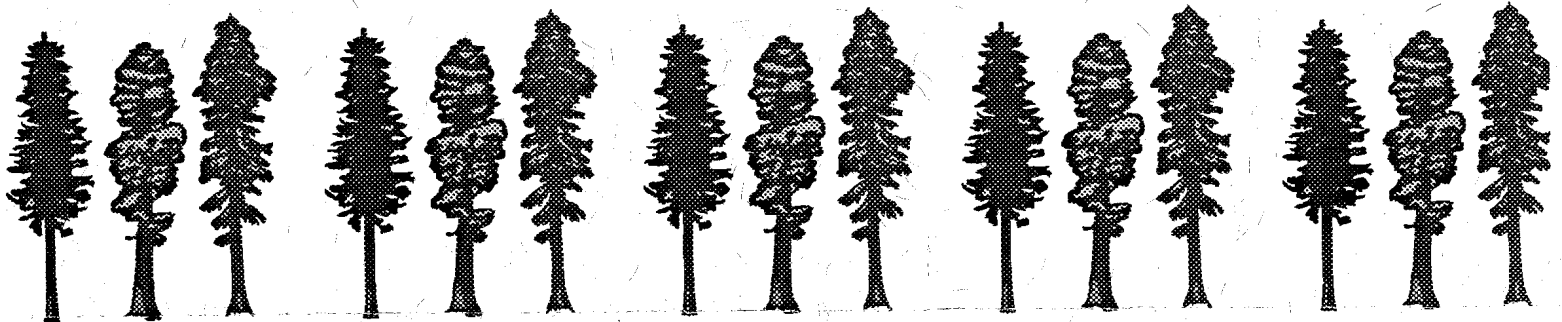
MANY THANKS to Jim McDowell for monitoring the Forest Service rack of materials, and to Don Pratt for his assistance with the Children's Programs.

MONEY BUSINESS - Treasurer Sherry Townsend reports operating expenses, including telephone, postage,

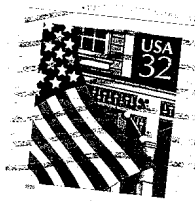
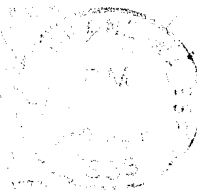
book purchases, propane, story chains. etc. came to \$2747.85. The donation box earned \$563.00, book sales \$284.85; fifteen story chains cleared \$700.00.

FEEL FREE to attend our Board meetings upstairs at the Museum first Friday of each month at 10 a.m. April through September. Remember that in 1997 the Museum will not be open on Mondays.

LET US KNOW your suggestions for changes or improvements. We welcome your additions: Gary Rogers, Tom McDonough, Pam Hay, Regina Manser, Sherry Townsend, Kathryn Pratt, Lois Hill, Mary Rudie, Elenor Smith, Kate Batey



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