

NEZ PERCE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S HERITAGE HOUSE

2024



1970'S



1987



TODAY

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Daniel Miller, MD

The Nez perce County Historical Society has had a good year of growth in 2023, with increased number of visitors from all around the nation and the beautification of our historical campus, now sporting five buildings.

Our volunteers have planted many syringa shrubs, the state flower, and two maples in our east lot.

We are now in the process of restoring the "aviary room" of the Heritage House to its original beauty. We will install period correct doors and windows, which have lots of glass panes, to allow in sunlight as it was originally meant to be. Last December we were awarded a grant in the amount of \$7500 from the Idaho Heritage Trust to help restore the aviary room in our Heritage House. Thank you IHT.

Our beautification plans depend on your donations, so please be generous so we can continue.

Please join us on Monday, May 20th at 4:30pm for our annual membership meeting at the City of Lewiston Library, second floor large room. This meeting will be followed by a presentation by Garry Bush, titled, *If you took a Valley road trip 100 years ago*. A historic and nostalgic photo excursion of travel in the 1920-1930's.



Museum Support - 2023 Recap

Kalisa Boyd

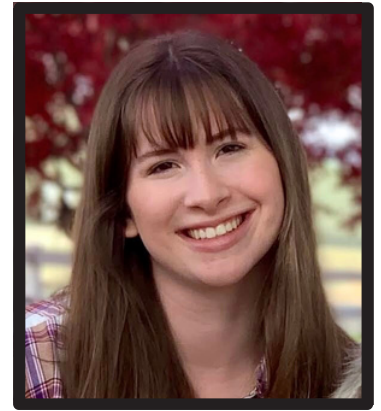
In the past year, we have had the highest number of visitors on record – over 4,200! A large part of that is due to more tourists from the American Empress and American Cruise Line river cruises.

We're excited to announce that NPCHS has joined the Idaho History Reciprocal Membership Program! This means visitors who are members of our museum can receive free admission at other participating Idaho museums. Visit the "Idaho History Reciprocal Membership Program" section at <https://history.idaho.gov/membership/> to learn more.

Twenty-three new members joined our museum this year; consisting of 16 Individual, 5 Family/Dual, 1 Student and 1 Friend of the Museum membership.

This year we added QR codes all over our museum campus! Every exhibit has one, so if you don't have enough time to read everything you'd like to while you're here, you can take the information home with you.

2023 was my first full year at NPCHS and I'm looking forward to what 2024 brings!



Museum Assistant's Exposition

Melody Parks Keith

Another year has flown by, and it has been a vibrant period at the museum.

This year, we welcomed four new volunteers: Cheri Bush, Cheryl Fleming, Jessie Martin, and CeCe Yeats. Their contributions, along with our existing volunteers, board members, and staff, have been invaluable. Together, we have accumulated a total of 3485 volunteer hours.

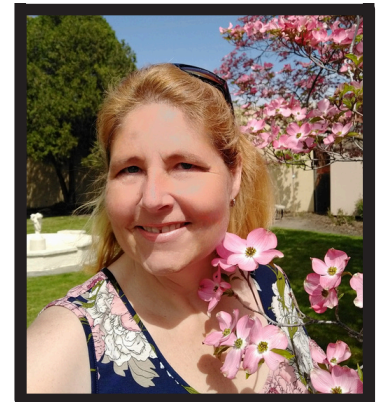
During the past few months, I organized a successful book drive, gathering over 75 gently used books for our research library and resale at discounted prices, with the proceeds benefiting the museum.

Additionally, I dedicated six Mondays to conducting private tours for Road Scholar, an American non-profit specializing in educational travel for older adults. They had already booked seven dates for the 2024 season until they had to cancel due to the company closure of American Queen Voyages.

On a more positive note, I've broadened the range of products available in the museum store and refreshed our local history collection with new titles.

As always, I have been tending to the garden, planting flowers and maintaining our campus's aesthetic appeal.

It has been a joy serving our members, and I am excited to bring more to everyone in the upcoming year.



Curator's Highlights of 2023

Mary E. White Romero

In the beginning of the year, I created an exhibit in our hallway exhibit case titled, *Vine to Wine in Nez Perce County*. The exhibit centers on the history from 1864 to the present day vineyards, wineries and the owners who worked hard making wine from the vines they nurtured.

Another new exhibit titled, *Lewiston Erie History*, was created by our Museum Support, Kalisa Boyd. This exhibit includes a small 1880s casket with a window. If you are interested in seeing these new exhibits, they are still available to view.

Our booth at the Nez Perce County Fair was a big success. We enjoyed meeting the many people who stopped by and our booth won first place! In keeping with the theme *It's a Big Wheel Affair at the Nez Perce County Fair*, I created our booth with wagon wheels, a barn background and a monitor showing many local historical images of wagons to cars with large wheels. That is me to the right holding our ribbon and certificate awarding our two complimentary booths for the 2024 fair. We greatly appreciate everyone who helped at our booth and those who supported our society during the fair.



We had a great year with our North Central Idaho Speakers Bureau, aided by a \$14,825.49 grant from the Idaho Governor's Lewis & Clark Trail Committee. 49 presentations were done for area schools, organizations, as well as Island Park, Idaho. 3055 students, 1759 adults and 103 via Zoom attended the presentations.

I want to thank Fred Rauch, Cheri Bush and Cheryl Fleming for assisting me with digitizing, cataloging, archiving and grants. They have been a great help to me and to the museum. Most of these projects are still ongoing by the three wonderful volunteers.

Below you will find a list of donors who donated photographs, documents and objects to the museum collection. Thank you to all our donors. One highlighted item of the year is the Steamboat Imnaha anchor, donated by Thomas Weza. It is now permanently on display next to our Heritage House. If you would like to learn more about the anchor, please stop by the museum to read its history and how it was found.

If you have anything you would like to donate to our museum relating to Nez Perce County, please stop by, email me npccurator@gmail.com or call at 208-743-2535.

2023 DONORS TO MUSEUM COLLECTION

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If you wish to donate to the beautification of our campus, please fill out the form below and send to: NPCHS 0306 3rd Street Lewiston, Idaho 83501.

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Thank you!