

IHC awards \$138,437 in grants in 2015

The Idaho Humanities Council (IHC), awarded \$138,437 in grants to organizations and individuals in 2015. Fifty-seven awards include 38 grants for public humanities programs, 4 research fellowships, 14 Teacher Incentive Grants, and 1 planning grant. The grants were supported in part by funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and IHC’s Endowment for Humanities Education. The following projects were funded:

Public Programs:

The Lewis-Clark Center for Arts and History, Lewiston, received \$2,000 to support an eight-session lecture series exploring issues related to the importance of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act and the creation of the NEA and NEH 50 years ago. The public series is being held through May 2016. Debra Fitzgerald is the project director.

Prairie River Library District, Lapwai, was awarded \$3,500 to support the 15th annual “Everybody Reads” program in northern Idaho, featuring Idaho writer Anthony Doerr’s book All the Light We Cannot See. Doerr participated in book discussions and lectures in several communities. The project director was Jennifer Ashby.

The Snake River Heritage Center, Weiser, received \$3,000 to improve interpretive exhibit signage to improve public understanding of Native American history in the Weiser area, focusing on the Nez Perce and Shoshone (especially the Weiser Shoshone). Denise Arkush was the project director.

The Nez Perce County Historical Society, Lewiston, received \$4,950 to create a video documentary about the significance of early Chinese miners, pioneers, and Chinese-American citizens in Lewiston and surrounding areas. Grade-appropriate teaching materials will accompany the film, slated to be released in 2016. Leah Boots is the project director.

The University of Idaho Women’s and Gender Studies Program, Moscow, was awarded \$1,500 to bring scholar Yolanda Astarita Patterson to Moscow for a public lecture about French writer and philosopher Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986), one of the most read and studied 20th century female philosophers. The project director was Sandra Reineke.



The Foundation for Idaho History, Boise, received \$3,500 to improve interpretive signage at the site of the canyon home of writer/artist Mary Hallock Foote, near Lucky Peak Dam, across from Discovery Park in Boise. The interpretive structure and panels will be completed in 2017. Janet Worthington is the project director.

The Human Rights Education Institute, Coeur d’Alene, received \$4,000, to support a program offering three traveling exhibits, a film and book series, workshops and presentations designed to educate the public about human rights and diversity issues of the 20th century. The project director is Lisa Manning.

Trailing of the Sheep Cultural Heritage Center, Hailey, was awarded \$2,500 to help support a public story-telling program as part of the 2015 The Trailing of the Sheep Festival. Four ranchers shared memories of western sheep ranching, moderated by rancher and story-teller Hank Vogler. The project director was Mary Crofts.

Native American Collaborations Committee, Lewiston, received \$4,050 to help host a two-day workshop for K-12 teachers, exploring Native American history, culture, and contemporary affairs. Kathy Lewis, North Idaho College, was the project director.

Long Valley Preservation Society, Donnelly, was awarded \$1,950 to help scan and digitally preserve its historic photo collection to help make it more accessible to the local patrons and to researchers. The project director was Lucy Chronic.

The City of Boise Arts & History Committee, was awarded \$2,000 to help support the Fettuccine Forum, a series of monthly lecture opportunities for the public to engage in civic dialogue on a variety of topics. Terri Schorzman was the project director.

Wallace District Mining Museum, Wallace, received \$3,000 to help support its ongoing program of digitizing records related to the mining history of the Silver Valley. Jim McReynolds was the project director.

Malad Valley Welsh Foundation, Malad City, was awarded \$1,950 to support three scholar presenters at its annual Welsh Festival, featuring sessions on the Welsh language and culture. The project director was Gloria Jean Thomas.

Death Rattle Writers Festival, Nampa, received \$800 to help support its second Writers Festival in October, bringing local and area writers together in a celebration of the written word. Zachary Reeder was the project director.



The University of Idaho, Moscow, was awarded \$1,551 to host a panel of scholars and former professional baseball players reflecting on race, religion, and adversity in sports, particularly Major League Baseball. Michael Park was the project director.

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IDAHO Humanities

The Newsletter of the Idaho Humanities Council Winter 2016

The Bear

By Judith Freeman

Editor’s Note: Later this spring, the Idaho Humanities Council will publish a collection of essays reflecting on the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Wilderness Act, and the recent legislation creating the Boulder-White Clouds Wilderness in August of 2015. Idaho Wilderness Considered will feature essays by some noted conservationists, journalists, scholars, professional writers, recreationists, and lovers of the back country. Several essays detail the history of wilderness law and the legacy of people like Frank Church and Cecil Andrus, and some explore the personal experience of wildness and how living near wild places has inspired a wilderness ethic. A couple of essays explore how wilderness is revered in literature. Several simply reflect upon the experience of being near the wild. Not meant as a comprehensive text on the subject, the anthology will offer an eclectic mix of essays through which readers may pick and choose.

In the following sample essay, novelist Judith Freeman recalls an experience with wildness, while living on the edge of wilderness near Challis in the 1990s.

Animals are good to think with.
--Claude Levi-Strauss

I don’t know exactly when it was that bears became so deeply interesting to me but I know the fascination began early, when I was still a child growing up in northern Utah, in a family of eight kids. My parents used to take us on camping trips to Yellowstone Park—the sort of vacation a big family like ours could afford. We’d load up the car with a cooler of picnic food and our camping gear and drive up through Idaho, entering the park through the West Gate. This was in the 1950s, when the park was quite different than it is now.

For one thing people still fed the bears in the park, oblivious to the obvious dangers and stupidity of doing so, and the park rangers weren’t so strict about such things in those days. We’d feed the bears from our car. When we’d see one on the roadside, we’d roll down the windows and the kids would dangle whatever picnic food we had on hand until the bear came over to the car and took what we were offering. This sounds kind of crazy to me now, but I guess the car made us feel protected, even though I now realize those bears could just have easily made a meal out of our little kiddie fingers.

Sometimes it got even more up close and personal. I recently found a picture of my mother taken in one of the tent camps where we used to stay. She’s wearing jodphurs and standing in front of a brown bear, smiling and dangling a piece of bacon in front of it, and the bear has risen up on his hind legs to take it from her hand. There they are, just the two of them, standing face to face. It’s a scene almost unimaginable now, but in the photograph it all looks so friendly and harmless, as if the bear and my mother are engaged in a little pas de deux and will soon embrace and begin waltzing away between the tents.

In truth, bears and women have always had a special relationship, in both literature and throughout the history of art, like the bear in Edvard Munch’s “Alpha and Omega,” who is embraced by the first woman to emerge on land. “One day she met a bear,” Munch wrote beneath his illustration of Omega kissing the beast. “Omega trembled when she felt the bear’s soft fur against her body. When she placed her arm about its neck—it sunk deep in the fur.”

Such an erotically loaded image, of course,



would never have entered my mind as a child. Bears were simply the wonderful beasts we encountered on our family vacations, the big beautiful animals we saw not in a cage in a zoo but in the wilderness where they lived. To have an encounter with one, even from the safety of a car, was to experience a very special sort of thrill—part fear, and part wondrous, enchanting excitement.

As I got older, I began to take an interest in how powerfully bears have figured into our fantasies and childhood stories, our fairy tales and history, and my interest in bears deepened. I felt they represented not only the beasts of the forest, incarnating, like the wolf, the dark other, but they tapped into some deep part of our psyche. Bears were not only formidable adversaries, they were magical. Bears had a special connection to us, or rather we to them. The bear was the beast that walks like a man, thought to resemble humans (and thus their perfect mythological counterpart), not only because they can walk upright on two legs but because, like us, they are omnivorous, loving honey as well as meat.

In the 1970s I moved to Sun Valley and spent a lot of time hiking in the Pioneer and White Cloud and Boulder Mountains, in designated wilderness areas that, like much of Central Idaho, afford such a sublime experience of natural beauty because that pristine beauty has been preserved by law, not only for us but future generations. Not once, however, did I ever see a bear on any of my forays into the mountains, though sometimes I did encounter a paw print in the mud near a stream and once stumbled on a pile of steaming scat and heard the bear crashing through the trees in front of me.

Later I moved to a big city, because I felt in order to become a writer I needed to be around people who were doing what I wanted to do, but always, in the back of my mind, was the idea that perhaps one day I might be able to come back to Idaho and buy a little place in the country and live there for at least part of the year.

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The idea of wilderness

By Rick Ardinger

The year 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. An early accomplishment of President Lyndon Johnson's vision of The Great Society—the war on poverty, Medicare, civil rights, voting rights, and so much more—the Wilderness Act passed by an astounding bipartisan vote of 73 to 12 in the Senate and 371 to 1 in the House and was signed by Johnson into law on September 3, 1964. Since Idaho is home to the largest wilderness in the lower 48 states, and with talk of new protections in the news of late, the Idaho Humanities Council board thought it worthwhile to explore the meaning of wilderness in public forums, starting with a series of public reading/discussion programs throughout 2014 and 2015, called “Wilderness Considered.”

In addition to readings by Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Wallace Stegner, and others, the reading series also will touch on how wilderness has become a divisive political issue in recent years. Recent talk of President Obama possibly conferring National Monument status to the Boulder-White Clouds is an issue that undoubtedly will drink up a lot of ink between now and the next Presidential election. Idaho conservationist Ernie Day's iconic photo of Castle Peak (see page 3) may become even more familiar to Idahoans, as factions



line up in favor and opposed to the restrictions such designation would impose on the place if monument status appeared imminent. Only Congress can formally preserve Wilderness with a capital ‘W,’ but for many, preserving large tracts of land and restricting access and road-building amounts to the same thing.

In his now-famous “Wilderness Letter,” written in 1960, novelist Wallace Stegner spoke of the need for Wilderness preservation not merely for recreational opportunity—not necessarily for the hunting, fishing, hiking, and camping—“but the wilderness idea, which is a resource in itself.” He wrote about wilderness as a “spiritual resource.”

“I want to speak for the wilderness idea as something that has helped form our character and that has certainly shaped our history as a people,” he wrote. He saw Wilderness as necessary for American democracy, and made a case for Wilderness as a mysterious, expansive world, something bigger than ourselves, a necessary ingredient to our idea of the American Dream. Stegner questions whether great American literature could have been written without the idea of Wilderness as a palpable presence in the minds of writers like Mark Twain, Sherwood Anderson, and others.

Does the geographical presence of the largest designated Wilderness in the lower 48 states influence and help shape the character of Idahoans, of all Americans?

This year we'll explore that idea and the legislation approved by Congress with such overwhelming support 50 years ago. ♦

Lewiston's Margo Aragon begins 2016 as Idaho Humanities Council Chair

Margo Aragon, of Lewiston, is the new 2016-2017 chair of the Idaho Humanities Council, the state-based partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Having served as an IHC board member for the past five years, she was elected by the board to a two-year term as chair, succeeding Boise State University History Professor Lisa Brady.

Aragon is a writer and video documentary producer. She frequently writes about tribal culture and community, and over many years formed familial bonds with many members of the Nez Perce tribe. In 1997, she collaborated with the late Horace Axtell (1924-2015), a Nez Perce elder and spiritual leader, on his memoir *A Little Bit of Wisdom: Conversations with a Nez Perce Elder* (Confluence Press, 1997; University of Oklahoma Press, 2000). For years, she travelled widely with Axtell to discuss *A Little Bit of Wisdom* and Native American issues generally.

She holds a B.A. in English from Lewis-Clark State



College and an M.F.A in creative writing from Bennington College in Vermont. Her current writing interests explore aviation and space travel. Her recent projects include a screenplay about Wiley Post, the first aviator to circle the earth alone; and a biography of Gray Frederickson, an Academy-Award winning producer whose work includes *The Godfather* trilogy, *Apocalypse Now* and other iconic films.

Aragon and her husband, astronaut John B. Herrington, the first enrolled member of a Native American tribe to fly in space, developed a consulting company, Herrington Aerospace Limited, and travel frequently to promote Native American education.

The Idaho Humanities Council is the statewide, nonprofit organization devoted to promoting greater public awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the humanities in Idaho.

“The IHC is a great organization that offers vital support to teachers, museums, libraries, and many organizations throughout the state,” she says. “I look forward to serving as IHC's chair over the next couple of years.”

News and Opportunities

Congratulations to Idaho NEH Grant Recipients

The National Endowment for the Humanities has announced three grants recently awarded to Idaho institutions. NEH grants are highly competitive and involve a rigorous peer-review and selection process to ensure that the projects represent the highest level of humanities research and public engagement. Congratulations to the following recipients:

Bonneville County Historical Society (Idaho Falls) received a \$500,000 Challenge Grant for the expansion of the Museum of Idaho. Congratulations to Museum of Idaho Director David Pennock. University of Idaho (Moscow) received \$11,974 for a digitization project entitled “Preserving the Recent for the Future: Generating the Latah County Common Heritage Collectioun through Community Digitization.” Congratulations to project director Devin Becker.

Idaho State University (Pocatello) received \$6,000 to support a Special Collections and Archives Preservation Assessment at the Eli M. Obler Library. Congratulations to project director Ellen Ryan.

Apply now for NEH “Forever Wild” Summer Teacher Institute

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IDAHO Humanities COUNCIL

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The Idaho Humanities Council, a nonprofit organization, receives funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and from other foundations, private corporations, and individuals. IHC's mission is to increase the awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the humanities in Idaho. It accomplishes this through educational projects for the general public and various target audiences. The Council plans and conducts projects on its own and in concert with other organizations such as universities, colleges, libraries, civic clubs, professional associations, historical societies and museums, and other cultural, educational, and community entities. IHC also provides grant support for humanities projects throughout Idaho.

Opinions expressed in *Idaho Humanities* do not necessarily reflect views of the Idaho Humanities Council or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Idaho Humanites Council is to deepen understanding of human experience by connecting people with ideas.

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IHC summer institute to explore Lyndon Johnson's Great Society



Idaho teachers of all grades and disciplines are invited to apply to attend the Idaho Humanities Council's 2016 weeklong summer institute exploring *Lyndon Johnson and The Great Society*, July 17-22, on the campus of **Boise State University**. Successful applicants will receive lodging and meals, texts, and the opportunity for optional college credit. Community college teachers also are eligible to apply. **The deadline for online applications is April 1.**

The institute is made possible by the IHC's Endowment for Humanities Education and a grant from the Whittenberger Foundation.

Between November 1963 when Lyndon Johnson suddenly took the oath of office and November 1966 when his Democratic Party was routed in mid-term

elections, Johnson drove passage of the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, the War on Poverty program, Medicare and Medicaid, immigration reform, aggressive opportunities for public education and college education incentives, federal investments in public transportation, and a raft of consumer and environmental protection acts that collectively were referred to as "The Great Society."

In three years, Johnson and Congress enacted legislation for New Deal-type programs that benefitted the poor and advanced opportunity for middle class Americans. Although today many of Johnson's programs are often denigrated by some as examples of government over-reach, the Great Society was transformative politically and culturally for America.

Today, members of Congress still argue over the efficacy of Johnson's agenda and the legacy of big government programs.

This institute will explore many Great Society programs, their origins in political thought, and Johnson's persuasive negotiations. It also will explore how members of Congress, liberal and conservative, were receptive to making epic legislative changes in a remarkably short period of time. The election of 1964 and the Civil Rights Movement transformed conditions on Capitol Hill so that bipartisanship brought forth legislation for the 1964 Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the creation of the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, investments in public housing, massive public works projects, great leaps forward in space exploration, aid to children, the elderly, students, and immigrants, and much more.

With the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War upon us, this institute also will explore how Cold War strategies and fears of communism compelled leaders to commit to a war in Southeast Asia right at the moment of commitment to a massive agenda of new domestic programs.

Presenters so far include Sheyda Jahanbani, Assistant Professor of History, University of Kansas, and Mark Atwood Lawrence, Director of Graduate Studies and Associate Professor of History at the University of Texas at Austin. Jahanbani teaches 20th century U.S. history and U.S. foreign relations and is the author of *The Poverty of the World: Discovering the Poor at Home and Abroad, 1935-1973* (Oxford University Press, 2015). Lawrence is the author of several books including *The Vietnam War: A Concise International History* (Oxford University Press, 2008), and co-editor of *Beyond the Cold War: Lyndon Johnson and the New Global Challenges of the 1960s* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

In addition to attending daily lectures and panel discussions, teachers will attend special evening presentations, view documentary films, and share ways of teaching Lyndon Johnson and the Great Society in the classroom.

The online application deadline is April 1, 2016. For more information, visit idahohumanities.org, call the IHC office, 208-345-5346, or contact Cindy Wang at cindy@idahohumanities.org.

NEWS

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participants will receive their stipend at the end of the week's program, less \$355 for the week's all-inclusive room and board at Camp Huntington. For more information, contact Kerri Freese, project coordinator, by phone (607-753-2913), or email (kerri.freese@cortland.edu).

Volume Three of Hemingway Letters Published

The third volume of a projected 17 volumes of letters by Ernest Hemingway has appeared from Oxford University Press. *The Letters of Ernest Hemingway, 1926-1929*, was edited by Sandra Spanier, Robert W. Trogdon, and Boise State University Associate Professor Emerita Rena Sanderson. Sanderson's work assisting in the annotation of the 600-page volume of letters was supported in part by an Idaho Humanities Council Research Fellowship. The collection of letters in Volume three "follows the trajectory of Hemingway's reputation as a rising star on the literary Left Bank" of Paris. Between 1926 and 1929, Hemingway published three great literary works of the 20th century: the novel *The Sun Also Rises* (1926), the collection of stories *Men without Women* (1927), and the novel *A Farewell to Arms* (1929). In the letters we see track his relationships with such writers as Ezra Pound, John Dos Passos, James Joyce, F. Scott Fitzgerald, T.S. Eliot, his editor Maxwell Perkins, and many other artists, friends, and acquaintances. The letters from these years also track the major events in his personal life, such as his divorce from Hadley Richardson, his marriage to Pauline Pfeiffer, the birth of his second son, his residence in Key West and the development of his love of deep sea fishing. The volume retails for \$45.

New book on Priest Lake

Washington State University Press announces publication of *Wild Place: A History of Priest Lake, Idaho*, by Kris Runberg Smith, with Rom Reitz. The book is a large-format, comprehensive chronicle of Priest Lake, the beautiful northern Idaho vacation spot. Once a favored location of Native Americans, tough winters discouraged permanent settlement by homesteaders, prospectors, and speculators for many years until the creation of the Priest River Forest Reserve in 1897 by President Grover Cleveland, and industrial and recreational use increased. In the early part of the 20th century, logging camps began harvesting from the area, and soon timber and summer cottages began to proliferate. After WW II, population growth accelerated with the introduction of electricity to the area, and Priest Lake became more and more vacationland for many. *Wild Place* (240 pages) explores that history, the colorful characters who inhabited the area, and the many little-known stories. Kris Runberg Smith is a professor of history at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri, with family ties to the Priest Lake area. Tom Weitz is the president of the Priest Lake Museum Association. *Wild Place* is available for \$24.95 through bookstores or direct from WSU Press at 800-354-7360, or www.wsupress.wsu.edu

Do you know the way to Clover City?

Wallace resident Janet Lierman Feiler has published *Clover City: Planted in Faith*, a book about the little-known community of Clover City, which sprang up near Twin Falls, Idaho, at the turn of the 20th century, after the 1894 Carey Act allowed private companies to provide irrigation to southern Idaho desert land, enabling homesteaders to farm the region. Many from the Midwest took advantage of homesteading

opportunities, including many German immigrants from Nebraska, who journeyed to the Magic Valley to make a new life. Feiler, who grew up in the area known as Clover and attended Filer High School, retired from a career in newspapers and public relations prior to authoring this book, which is illustrated with many historical photos. The book sells for \$12, plus \$3 shipping. For more information, contact Janet Lierman Feiler at 211 Second Street, Wallace, Idaho 83873, or by calling (208) 699-7554.

BSU scholar edits anthology on Albert Camus

Boise State University French Professor Jason Herbeck announces publication of *A Writer's Topography: Space and Place in the Life and Works of Albert Camus* (Brill, 2015), a collection of essays edited by Herbeck and Vincent Grégoire. The book examines the works of French-Algerian Nobel Prize laureate Albert Camus (1913-1960), and his relationship with natural and human landscapes, from his earliest writing to his final unfinished novel. The collection of more than a dozen essays in English and French was inspired in part by papers delivered at an international colloquium on Camus, hosted by Boise State University in April of 2013, and funded in part by a grant from the Idaho Humanities Council. For more information about the book, contact www.brill.com

Pocatello poet publishes a decade's collected work

Blue Scarab Press announces publication of *The Same Moon Shines on Us All, Poems 2004-2015* by Harald Wyndham of Pocatello. Wyndham is the author of more than two dozen books of poetry, including

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Idaho was the place where my wild imagination lived, where I felt my heart was most deeply connected to the land. I had never lost my love of the wilderness. I needed those wild spaces, just as I needed the thought of all the creatures who inhabited them, in particular the bears who roamed the woods and the high mountain valleys and raised their cubs near the clear-running rivers.

In the early 1990s, having now published a couple of books, I drifted back to Idaho with my artist husband, Tony, in search of a place we could rent for a while, to see if he might like living in Idaho as much as I did. Through friends we met a man who lived on the Salmon River between Clayton and Challis and who was looking for someone to rent his place while he moved upriver to accept a caretaker job. His spread was called Tunnel Rock Ranch because it sat on a bend in the river behind a huge rocky outcrop with an old café situated on top. A tunnel had been bored through the rock, leading to a little private beach. In the old days fisherman used to pay a dollar to stand atop the rock and cast a line in the hope of snagging a salmon. The house came with forty acres, barns and corrals, a workshop and sweat lodge on the river, as well as a couple of older horses, and even a pet Canada goose named Toulouse, left behind as a gosling during migration, which the rancher had rescued and raised in his sun room and which was now deeply attached to the place. The idea was we would rent his ranch for the summer to see how we liked it and return to the city in the fall. We must have liked it a lot because we ended up staying at Tunnel Rock for five years.

It was during the third year of our stay that the bears began coming down out of the mountains in search of food. It had been the worst summer of fires in many years, and a long-standing drought had dried up the berries and streams. Hungry and facing the prospect of winter, the bears began moving down into the valleys.

They visited ranches up and down the Salmon, rooted in garbage behind the Clayton Store, and fed in orchards and gardens under the cover of night. They grew bolder and were spotted even in daylight. A sow with twin cubs was shot when she tried to enter a garage. Another bear was killed north of town. Suddenly bears were spotted all over the valley and people weren't happy about it. The old feeling of the beasts invading our world caused much fear. It seemed to happen almost overnight, the bears coming into our lives that way and creating what the locals took to calling *the bear problem*.

No question it was a problem. Bears and humans aren't meant to mingle the way dogs and people do. Still, when I think back on that time, I think of a certain brown sow and her cub, and that feeling I had as a child of bears imparting something quite magical to our lives returns, especially when I think of one particular moment.

It began with the brown sow bringing her cub to our deck one night. The sound of the barbecue overturning awakened us and when we investigated the noise and turned on the outside light, there she was, standing a few feet away, peering through the window, staring fixedly at us. Her cub was sitting on a railing behind her. Like the sow, the cub seemed unusually small. Later I realized both mother and cub were badly undernourished, having spent a hard, dry summer searching for food.

She seemed in no hurry to leave, and nor did our presence or the light appear to bother her. Her snout was a honey-brown color. Her coat appeared reddish in the light. For a while she went back to snuffling around the grill on which we'd cooked salmon earlier, and then slowly, she turned and descended the steps, moving off into the darkness with the small cub trailing behind.

I went out early in the morning to feed the horses and found plenty of evidence of the sow's visit. The compost heap had been dug up by powerful claws. There was a mound of scarlet scat left on the grass, which our two Labrador Retrievers circled warily. The horses seemed spooked, especially Gillian, the oldest one, who was nearing the end of his life. In the past months he had grown increasingly thin. It must have been a frightening night for the horses, with the bear roaming about nearby, and their fear lingered, I could see that. They huddled at the end of the corral, nostrils flared, heads lifted and glancing in the direction of the willows that lined the river. What they told me was the bear had not left the ranch. The bear was still down by the river.

The sow and cub came back the next night, and

the next one as well, even though we had stopped barbecuing and no longer put out compost. Once when we turned on the light we found the sow investigating a tennis ball left behind by one of the dogs. The fact that the bears were so hungry bothered me. Each night when the bears visited, something tugged at me and I thought, *feed them*.

But I could not feed them. I knew that. This wasn't Yellowstone in the 1950s. The *bear problem* was beyond my capacity to fix.

For a few nights we didn't see the sow and her cub and I figured they had moved on. And then one morning as I was standing at the window, looking out toward the yard, I saw something flash by with the two dogs in pursuit. It was the cub, and within moments the dogs had treed it. I quickly called the dogs inside and looked around for the sow. But the sow wasn't to be seen.

We called Mark, the Fish and Game guy in town, and told him we had a bear cub up a tree in our yard but we couldn't see the sow, and he informed me that, two nights earlier, the sow had been killed on the highway near Malm Gulch, hit around two in the morning and killed instantly when she ran in front of a truck. And yes, there had been a cub with her. The trucker had seen it in the headlights and he knew it was uninjured in the accident because he had watched it run away from its dead mother.

Mark asked if he could bring a trap over and leave it in our yard, parked under the tree and baited with food, and of course we said yes.

I hung up the phone and went outside and stood near the tree. The news of the sow's death had saddened me. She had come down out of the mountains because she was starving, come to our ranch in search of food, and it hadn't gone well for her.

I looked up at the cub. He had a pale brown snout and a white patch on his chest and he smacked his jaws together nervously as our eyes met. I wondered what Fish and Game would do with him if we did manage to trap him.

"It isn't easy to catch these cubs," Mark said to us an hour or so later as we unhitched the trailer with the cage and wheeled it into place on the lawn. "But if we can get him it'll be his best chance of survival. He'll never make it on his own."

When the trap was set and baited, he gazed up at the cub, sitting in the crook of the tree. "That's a pretty small cub," he said softly. "He's been on his own now for two days and probably hasn't eaten much. He ought to be hungry anyway. Call me if he comes down and takes the bait."

For a while nothing happened. We went about our business inside, watching the cub through the window, hoping it would finally come down. It took him about an hour to do so: he shimmied down the trunk and eyed the trap warily. Pork chops had been left on the floor near the gate, and more meat hung from a hook further inside, connected to a trigger that would shut the door if disturbed. The cub's hunger finally overpowered his fear, and warily he reached inside the cage and pulled out a chop and ate it. And then he went deeper into the cage to reach the hanging meat and in an instant the door clanged shut, and we called Mark.

For the rest of the day and into the evening the cub stayed caged in our yard as Mark tried to figure out what to do with him. As it turned out they had four orphaned cubs, including the twins whose mother was shot.

In many ways it was a sad day, in others rather magical. The tiny bear seemed so forlorn. Tony and I spent a lot of time sitting quietly by the cage, watching the cub, who no longer seemed interested in the meat. We pushed crab apples through the mesh, and in time he came and took them from us, his tongue curling around the fruit, eating one after another, as if he couldn't get enough.

As I sat there near the cage throughout much of that afternoon, I remembered a story I had come across while researching bears, in a book called *Wild Brother*, published by a photographer named William Lyman Underwood in 1921. He tells the true story of a founding bear cub, brought back to a logging camp by a huntsman who had killed its mother while she slept in her den. The tiny cub did not even have his eyes open yet, and the problem was, what to feed him. His wife, Mrs. Underwood, provided the answer. She took the cub and named him Bruno. She had recently given birth to a daughter named Ursula, and Mrs. Underwood nursed them both. A photograph of her sitting in a rocking chair shows a rather prim Victorian-looking

woman, with her dress discretely opened, and little Bruno at one breast and Ursula at the other. Below the photograph Mrs. Underwood had written: "Mr. Underwood took this picture of Ursula and Bruno and me with my consent, and I am happy for him to use it in this book." She signed it, "Bruno's Foster Mother."

Bruno, Mrs. Underwood added, survived to adulthood and, in her words, grew up to be a "most enchanting character." Eventually when he was a year old he was released into the wild.

It had begun to grow dark out in the yard. The little cub had become very quiet. As the light faded, I wondered if he would have to spend the night with us, but Mark suddenly arrived to take the cub away. He'd located a man outside Boise who had experience with bears and was willing to take the orphaned cubs and raise them in a barn, isolated from humans, in the hope that, like Bruno, they might later be released into the wild.

We helped him hitch up the trailer and said goodbye. Our last glimpse of the cub was of him headed up the driveway, looking back at us through the mesh as he passed beneath the ranch gate with its hanging sign aimed at departing visitors, *Hasta la Vista*.

In wildness lives our imagination, and sometimes that wildness comes very close and for a while holds us in its spell. It happened that late summer in the 1990s, when we lived for a while at Tunnel Rock Ranch.

Judith Freeman is a novelist, essayist, critic, and short story writer whose first work of non-fiction, The Long Embrace: Raymond Chandler and the Woman He Loved, appeared in 2007. She's also the author of a book of short stories and four novels, her essays, reviews, and stories have appeared in numerous magazines and journals, including The Chicago Tribune, The Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, and The New York Times. She divides her time between an apartment in Los Angeles and a small farm on the Camas Prairie near Fairfield, Idaho.

GRANTS

(Continued from Page 1)

The Community Library, Ketchum, received **\$4,500** to help upgrade its oral history program and improve its extensive collection of oral histories by educating and training the library's Regional History Librarian in the best practices of oral history collection, preservation, and archiving. **Eric Duncan** was the project director.

Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association, Stanley, received **\$1,980** for Phase 1 of an oral history preservation project, intended to help visitors more easily learn about early settlers of the community. The project director was **Terry Clark**

The College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, was awarded **\$3,500** to help support its annual Civil Liberties Symposium, focusing this year on "Civil Liberties and the Vietnam War." **Matt Reynolds** was the project director.

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Boise, was awarded **\$3,000** for the first phase of an oral history project to preserve and document the stories of four mining families from the historic Bayhorse mining town. **Evelyn Mason** was the project director

The Wassmuth Center for Human Rights, Boise, received **\$2,000** to bring novelist Chris Bohjain to Boise for a lecture/reading about his book *The Sandcastle Girls*, exploring the story of Armenian genocide by Turkish military in the early part of the 20th century. **Dan Prinz-ing** was the project director.



White Spring Ranch, Genesee, was awarded **\$1,400** for continuing to archive their collection, and for translating and preserving 37 letters written in German from the late-19th century by immigrants planning to come to America. **Diane Conroy** is the project director.

The University of Idaho Women's Center, Moscow, was awarded **\$1,806** to host a women's film series in the spring of 2016. Four limited-distribution films by four independent women filmmakers will be shown in the Kenworthy Theater in downtown Moscow and open to the public. **Lysa Salisbury** is the project director.

The Museum at St. Gertrude Monastery, Cottonwood, received **\$5,000** to recreate the museum's entry exhibit to more effectively share the story of the Idaho Benedictine Sisters and their impact on the cultural development of the local area. **Mary Schmidt** is the project director.

Syringa Cinema, Eagle, was awarded **\$3,950** to begin a documentary film on the spouses and families of combat veterans, exploring their stories about how the experience of war, good and bad, impacts more than the veterans themselves. **Elizabeth Rodgers** is the project director.

The Center for Civic Education, Boise, received **\$4,900** for a two-day workshop for K-12 teachers, focusing on the theme "The Fight for the Right to Vote in American History, Government, and Law." About 50 teachers statewide will receive teaching materials and be immersed in the study of the U.S. Constitution. **Troy Hamilton** is the project director.

The University of Idaho, Moscow, received **\$2,000** for a unique project to enhance interest and access to contemporary poetry on a daily basis. "Vandal Poem of the Day" would offer a new poem everyday via cell phones and social media to students, faculty, and the general public. The project director is **Alexandra Teague**.

The University of Idaho, Moscow, was awarded **\$2,000** for the creation of an open access online database of archaeological data associated with WWII internment camps in Idaho. The database will be open to the public and available for scholarly research. The project director is **Stacey Camp**.

The Magic Valley Arts Council, Twin Falls, was awarded **\$900** to help facilitate their Indie Lens Pop-Up film/discussion series. A film produced by Independent Lens, an Emmy award-winning PBS television series, will be shown each month, offering a view into human lives around the world. **Carolyn White** is the project director.

The Museum of Idaho, Idaho Falls, received **\$5,000** to create an original exhibition on the American Revolution titled "America's Revolution: Rebels with a Cause." The exhibit will explore the social climate and important figures surrounding the Revolution and will help illustrate the everyday life of colonial Americans. **David Pennock** is the project director.

The University of Idaho, Moscow, received **\$2,000** for a program illuminating the history of mapmaking through a display of copper engravings of the Coeur d'Alene area and public presentations by Will Stettner of the U.S. Geological Survey (emeritus), in Coeur d'Alene and Moscow. The project director is **Bruce Godfrey**.

The Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Boise, was awarded **\$4,500** to help support *Shakespeareance*, an educational outreach program bringing an abbreviated version of *Hamlet* along with educational workshops to secondary schools throughout Idaho. The project director is **Christine Zimowsky**.



The Cabin, Boise, received **\$3,000** to help support its annual "Readings & Conversations" series, bringing nationally prominent writers to read their work and respond to questions. Writers include Daniel James Brown, Roz Chast, George Saunders, and Jacqueline Woodson. **Catherine Kyle** is the project director.

The University of Idaho, Moscow, received **\$3,500** to help support the Civilian Conservation Corps in Idaho Digital Portal Project. The open-access sortable and searchable online portal will make extensive research about the CCC in Idaho available to the public. The project director is **Patricia Hart**.

The Idaho Falls Arts Council, Idaho Falls, received **\$2,500** to bring four "Living Voices" programs to their theater and area

schools. The series will examine Anne Frank and the Holocaust, Cesar Chavez and the farm worker's movement, immigration, and women's suffrage. **Brandi Newton** is the project director.

Idaho State University, Pocatello, received **\$1,600** for four public programs off campus called "Humanities Café." "Identity" is the theme for the 2015-2016 series which will address the ways in which conceptualizations of identity influence humanities scholarship and act as inspiration for human expression. The project director is **Isjun Carr**.

The City Club, Boise, was awarded **\$5,000** for their "Civility Project," a year-long series of forums and events exploring civil discourse principles and how they are applied, as well as what happens when they are not applied. **Julia Rundberg** is the project director.

Ada Community Library, Boise, received **\$4,500** for the 2016 "Read Me Treasure Valley" program, featuring *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline. Audiences will be encouraged to read the book, attend book discussions, lecture programs, films, and other complementary events, culminating in two public presentations by the author. **Mary DeWalt** is the project director.

The Lewis-Clark State College Native American Club, Lewiston, was awarded **\$2,000** to help support the keynote speaker for the March 2016 Native American Awareness Week. Storyteller and oral historian Johnny Moses will share both traditional and contemporary stories. **Bob Sobotta** is the project director.

Research Fellowships:

Matthew Levay, Department of English and Philosophy at Idaho State University, Pocatello, received **\$3,500** for a course release in spring 2016, so he can conduct further research into his study of Serial Modernism. He will examine primary and secondary materials to provide context into how the serialized novel became culturally significant in Britain during the 20th century.

Sean Cassidy, Humanities Professor at Lewis-Clark State College, Lewiston, was awarded \$3,500 for research that will culminate in an interactive photography exhibit about the history of photography in the Lewiston region, with an exhibit display in the fall of 2016.



Boise State University Assistant Professor of English Ralph Clare, Boise, received **\$3,500** to begin a book on "Metaffective Fiction." The book will examine contemporary formulations of sincerity, affect, and feeling in literature.

University of Idaho History Professor Sean Quinlan, Moscow, was awarded **\$3,500** to help fund a summer research trip to Italy to examine archives and manuscripts for a book on the relation between science and politics in the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily, ca. 1734-1861.



Teacher Incentive Grants:

The IHC awards grants of up to \$1,000 to K-12 teachers and educational organizations to enhance teaching of the humanities in the classroom. The following grants were supported by IHC's Endowment for Humanities Education.

Blair Williams, Sorensen Magnet School of the Arts & Humanities, Coeur d'Alene, was awarded **\$1,000** to help publish accumulated student writings into a bound book at the end of the school year.

Shirley Ewing, Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology, Boise, received **\$750** to help support its annual Rock Party, a hands-on opportunity for children and their parents to dig into geology and mining history.

Angela Grant, Syringa Mountain School, Hailey, received **\$1,000** to help support a culminating four-day field trip to conclude an Idaho History and Geography unit.

Fonda Mondoux-Stewart, John Brown Elementary, Rathdrum, was awarded **\$500** to support the culminating 4th-grade Rendezvous ending the school-year's study of Idaho history.

Judy Bloom, Idaho Falls School District, Idaho Falls, was awarded **\$1,000** to support a district-wide Rendezvous, where students explore the history of Idaho first hand with a variety of educational stations.

Jim Phillips, Coeur d'Alene High School, Coeur d'Alene, was awarded **\$650** to support study and performance of classic Jazz and Big Band-era music throughout the school year. A major focus of class instruction will include the history of the music intending for students to understand music in its relationship to history and culture.

Jan Green, Holy Spirit Catholic School, Pocatello, received **\$1,000** to support a children's literature class for teachers. Participants meet monthly to review children's books and discuss how to use them in their classroom.

Michelle Harmon, English and Journalism instructor at Borah High School, Boise, received **\$1,000** to continue to develop on-line searchable access to back issues of the school newspaper. This grant will help complete digitization of years 1998-2015.

Nina Hawkins, Cambridge Community Library, Cambridge, was awarded **\$1,000** to help purchase and promote classic and curriculum-related audio books for younger readers. The collection will be advertised to the public and special check-out times extended to students.

Josie Fretwell, Frank Church High School, Boise, was awarded **\$1,000** for a writer-in-residence for 24 weeks to participate in her

classroom, focusing on studying poetry through a humanities lens and on practicing specific writing skills with the students.

Garden City Public Library, Garden City, received **\$1,000** for continued support of their "Bells for Books" program. New books, including bilingual books, will be included in their mobile bus designed to bring library services to the community.

Robert McMichael, Cambridge High School, Cambridge, received **\$1,000** for the oral history section of his English Language Arts class. Students will study and record interviews interpreting their families' lives, and will produce a book documenting the people and culture of the area.



Patty Bolinger, William Thomas Middle School, American Falls, was awarded **\$1,000** for IHC funds to help support a field trip to Boise to enhance study of government. Students will visit the Idaho State Capitol Building, the Wassmuth Center for Human Rights, and Boise State University.

The Treasure Valley Family YMCA, Boise, was awarded **\$750** for their ongoing youth government program. The key goal of the program is to teach high school students how to be active citizens through a nine-month, hands-on experience, where students conduct a model legislature and judicial program.

Planning Grant:

The Friends of the Hailey Public Library, Hailey, received **\$1,000** to support the development of the community reading program "Wood River Reads," involving libraries in three communities. Hailey, Bellevue, and Ketchum will read *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, and attend lecture/discussions by biographer, Charles Shields.

THE NEXT DEADLINE FOR IHC GRANTS:

The next deadline for Idaho Humanities Council grant proposals is **January 15, 2016**. IHC strongly recommends that prospective applicants contact staff to discuss their project ideas before completing proposals. Grant guidelines and application instructions are available on IHC's website at www.idahohumanities.org, or by calling 208-345-5346.

NEWS

(Continued from Page 3)

three previous 10-year collections. The poems in this new collection range from reflections on global concerns to daily life in southeast Idaho. Poems range from elegies to friends, to occasional thoughts on family and mortality. The moon over Idaho landscapes looms large in many of the poems. Wyndham moved from Bowling Green State University in Ohio, where he earned his M.F.A. in writing, to Pocatello in the early 1970s to teach at Idaho State University, but he soon left ISU and made a career outside the university. "Browse through it as you would farmers' market," he writes of the book. Wyndham started Blue Scarab Press 30 years ago, publishing his own work and the work of many other writers. He's been a central figure involved in literary happenings in the area for more than four decades. Limited to 300 copies, the book is available for \$15 plus \$3 postage from Blue Scarab Press, P.O. Box 4966, Pocatello, Idaho 83205 (or haraldwyndham@gmail.com) "Hurrah for ink under the fingernails—and the First Amendment."

IHC elects new board member

Jan Johnson of Lewiston, clinical assistant professor of English at the University of Idaho, was elected as a new academic member to the board of the Idaho Humanities Council, representing northern Idaho. Johnson will attend her first board meeting in February. Johnson holds degrees in English from the University of Washington and Tulane University, with a special interest in American and Native American literature. Over the years while at the University of Idaho, Johnson has organized the Native American Film Festival in Moscow, featuring films about Native American history and culture. She is a well published scholar and has co-edited a book entitled *Indigenous Pop: Contemporary Native American Music of the Twentieth Century*, forthcoming from the University of Arizona Press in 2016.



Pulitzer Prize Centennial Lecture brings Vietnam War historian to Idaho Falls, March 17

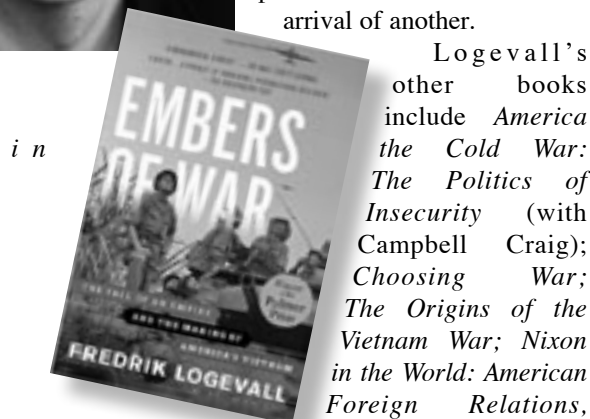
In the first of three lectures in Idaho in 2016 commemorating the Pulitzer Prize Centennial, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Fredrik Logevall, author of *Embers of War: The Fall of an Empire and the Making of America's Vietnam*, will deliver IHC's 8th Annual Eastern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture and Dinner on Thursday, March 17, 2016, 7 p.m., at the Shilo Inn in Idaho Falls.

The event is generously supported by a major grant from the **Pulitzer Prize Board** and additional generous support from **Bank of Idaho, Teton Toyota and Volkswagen, Idaho Public Television, Idaho National Laboratory, Barnes and Noble, KISU Radio, the Post-Register, the William J. and Shirley A. Maeck Family Foundation, and the City Club of Idaho Falls.**

Logevall is a renowned historian, accomplished educator, and prolific writer on the Vietnam War and its legacy. His groundbreaking book *Embers of War* won both the 2013 Pulitzer Prize in History and the prestigious Parkman Prize, which deemed it an "extraordinary work of modern history." The book draws on more than a decade of research, accessing sources and archives on three continents never before tapped. In *Embers of War*, Logevall takes us to witness how peace talks between France and Vietnam founder. He brings to life the bloodiest battles of France's final years in Indochina—and shows how, from an early point, a succession of American leaders made



disastrous policy choices that put America on its own collision course with history. An epic story of wasted opportunities and tragic miscalculations, featuring an extraordinary cast of larger-than-life characters, *Embers of War* delves deep into the historical record to provide hard answers to the many questions surrounding the demise of one Western power in Vietnam and the arrival of another.



Logevall's other books include *America the Cold War: The Politics of Insecurity* (with Campbell Craig); *Choosing War: The Origins of the Vietnam War; Nixon in the World: American Foreign Relations*, (with Andrew Preston); *Terrorism and 9/11: A Reader*; and *The First Vietnam War: Colonial Conflict and the Cold War Crisis* (with Mark Atwood Lawrence).

In addition to his prolific writing career, Logevall is the Laurence D. Belfer Professor of International

Affairs at Harvard Kennedy School and professor of history at Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences. In addition to his expertise in all aspects of the Vietnam War, his in-depth knowledge of international relations and foreign policy allows him to skillfully draw parallels between history and current events—inspiring audiences and encouraging dialogue about the lessons we can learn from the past.

Tickets are available NOW for purchase online at www.idahohumanities.org under "IHC Events," or by calling the IHC toll free at 888-345-5346. General tickets are \$45. Benefactor tickets are \$75, offering an invitation to a pre-dinner reception with Logevall in a private home and preferred seating at the dinner and lecture. IHC always recommends reserving tickets early as the event often sells out. The evening will begin with a no-host reception at 6 p.m. at the Shilo Inn. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. with Logevall's talk to follow. Logevall's books will be available from Barnes and Noble onsite and he'll be available for signing afterwards.

Since 2008, the IHC has brought top historians, journalists, and other prominent writers to Idaho Falls for the annual event. Previous speakers include presidential biographer Robert Dallek (2008), Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Laurel Thatcher Ulrich (2009), Western American historian Elliott West (2010), National Book Award winner Tim Egan (2011), Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Rick Bragg (2012), best-selling author Alexandra Fuller (2013), Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Isabel Wilkerson (2014), and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Diane McWhorter (2015).



Hundreds hear writer Diane McWhorter in Coeur d'Alene

Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Diane McWhorter gave the 12th Annual Northern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in late September. McWhorter spoke about her book *Carry Me Home: Birmingham, Alabama, the Climactic Battle of the Civil Rights Revolution* to an audience of over 300.

Earlier in the day, McWhorter spoke to several hundred Coeur d'Alene High School students about civil rights in America. Prior to speaking at the Resort that evening, McWhorter also greeted dozens of Benefactors at the beautiful home of **Denny Davis and Kathy Canfield-Davis**, sponsored in part by the **Hagadone Corporation**.

Enormous thanks goes to Marc Brinkmeyer and the **Idaho Forest Group** for generously supporting the event since its inception. Thanks also to the event co-sponsor, **University of Idaho Coeur d'Alene** for stepping forward this year. Thanks also to our loyal media sponsors, **Coeur d'Alene Press** and **Idaho Public Television** for helping publicize the event.

The IHC is grateful to Benefactors for their added generosity, including the following firms and individuals that purchased Benefactor Tables: **Idaho Forest Group, University of Idaho Coeur d'Alene, Hagadone Corporation, Intermax Networks, Jo Ann and K.V. Nelson, Lake City Law Group PLLC, Coeur d'Alene Press, Idaho Public Television and the Margaret Reed Foundation.**

Thank you to Laureen and Larry Belmont, Marc and Nancy Sue Wallace, Fran Bahr, and the Margaret Reed Foundation for contributing to the student scholarship program that allowed several area high school students attend.

We thank IHC's northern Idaho board members, Jo Ann Nelson, Mike Kennedy and the planning committee: Andrea Partington, Cindy Haagenon, Erin Davis, Fran Bahr, Melody Melton, Nancy Flagan, Virginia Johnson, and Kathleen Schmidt, whose dedication to the humanities in their community made the evening possible. Lastly, tremendous thanks to Karen Yother for her instrumental assistance in helping to arrange, plan and coordinate the event.



NEH Chairman Bro Adams visits Idaho Falls

Because IHC’s fall newsletter was delayed until this issue, we did not get a chance to share photos of National Endowment for the Humanities Chairman William “Bro” Adams’ visit to Idaho Falls on August 6-7. The Chairman attended a dinner meeting and a breakfast meeting with humanities stakeholders, visited the Museum of Idaho’s latest exhibition, and gave an address to about 100 attending a luncheon hosted by the City Club of Idaho Falls. The Chairman spoke about his “Common Good” initiative, the 50th anniversary of the legislation that brought the NEH into existence, and the important work of the state humanities councils. IHC board member and Idaho Falls City Councilman Ed Marohn introduced the Chairman to City Club members and chauffeured him around town, introducing him to many in the community.

Although Chairman Adams was to be introduced to the City Club and the Idaho Falls community by U.S. Congressman Mike Simpson, President Obama’s decision to sign Rep. Simpson’s Boulder-White Clouds Wilderness legislation on August 7 required the Congressman to fly back on short notice for the White House signing the day Chairman Adams arrived in Idaho Falls. Instead, Congressman Simpson’s wife Kathy and aides Nikki Wallace and Ethan Huffman attended meetings with the Chairman and arts and humanities stakeholders in the region.

Over all, Chairman Adams was well received by College of Southern Idaho President Jeff Fox, Idaho Public Television General Manager Ron Pisaneschi, Idaho Humanities Council Director Rick Ardinger, Idaho Falls Mayor Rebecca Noah Casper, faculty from Idaho State University, Museum of Idaho staff, the director of the Idaho Falls Arts Council, City Club members, teachers, and representatives from many other organizations.



Novelist Tim O’Brien delivers barn-burner in Boise

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, National Book Award-winning novelist Tim O’Brien gave the IHC’s 19th Annual Distinguished Humanities Lecture in late October to nearly 500 dinner guests at the Boise Centre. O’Brien spoke about the art of writing about war, the writing of his book *The Things They Carried*, and the need for frank and honest discussion about the human costs of past and present American wars. The Vietnam War veteran and author of *If I Die in a Combat Zone...*, *Going after Cacciato*, *July, July*, *Northern Lights*, and other novels received a standing ovation and later signed scores of books for those in attendance.

Earlier in the day, O’Brien recorded an interview with Idaho Public Television’s Marsha Franklin for later broadcast on IPTV’s *Dialogue* (link available on IHC’s website), and he attended a reception for about 100 IHC Benefactors in the posh 17th-story offices of **Holland & Hart** in downtown Boise.

The IHC thanks its underwriters for helping make a very successful evening. Thank you to Major Event Sponsor **Holland & Hart**, and Event Co-Sponsors **University of Idaho College of Law** and **Boise State University**. In addition, **The Idaho Statesman**, **Boise State Public Radio** and **Idaho Public Television** were tremendous media partners.

An additional thank you goes to **Rediscovered Books** for facilitating book sales at the Boise Centre, with part of the proceeds going to support IHC programming.

Thank you to the following very generous individuals and organizations who helped share the evening with students through their donations to the student scholarship fund: John Thomas, Pam Nagel, Steven Fields, Chuck Guilford, Judy Bloom, Dick and Susan Parrish, Sharon and Conrad Colby, Christopher Riggs, Rory and Sisti O’Connor, Michael and Susan Philley, Bob and Leslee Hoover, Jenny Emery Davidson and Mark Davidson, Bruce and Jan Ward, Margo Aragon, Peter and Marjorie Reedy, Mee-Ae Kim and Chris Grant, Futura Corporation and Idaho Power.

Lastly, thanks go to donors to our silent auction: George and Karen Baker, Mark and Cindy Wang, Edd and Wilma Bowler, Sue Norton, Dorothy Reynolds, Barbara Olic-Hamilton, Rick and Rosemary Ardinger, Jennifer Holley, Russ Tremayne, Doug Brown, Bogus Basin, Asiago’s, and Dave Krick at Bittercreek Alehouse/Red Feather.



IHC warmly thanks Idaho Humanities Council Donors!

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Bittercreek/Red Feather
Marsha and Steve Bjornn
Bob Blackadar
Mary Lee Blackford
Tom and Florence Blanchard
Bill and Elaine Blitman
Bogus Basin
Jan Boles
Bert Bowler and Susan Whaley
Bruce Bradberry and Susan Mecum
Kelly Brannock
Cloris Brown
Ann Carlson
Bob and Elaine Carpenter
Evelyn Cates
Annie Chalfant
Gail and Chad Chumbley
City of Cambridge
Leo and Lulu Mae Coates
Dennis and Louise Colson
Cort Conley
Lori Conlon Khan
Gail Corlett-Trueba
Lyn Loyd Creswell
Amie Croft
Anna and John Daley
Charles and Susan Davis
Ben and Diana Dicus
William Dryden
Mary Eldredge
Sandy and Jeanne Emerson
Terry Engebretsen
Maria Essig
Marjorie Ewing
Marilyn Farneman
Jacqueline Flowers
Henriette Folkner
Cheri Folkner
Lindy and Ron Freeman
Steve Garvan

Jim and Barbara Gentry
Bonita Gilbert
David Giles
Tim and Christine Gleason
Linda and Carl Goodwin
Mike Grabenstein
Sidney Grubb
Peter Grubb and Betsy Bowen
Ron and Ellie Hampton
Michelle Harmon
Arthur and Dee Hart
Nina Hawkins
Robert and Billie Hawley
Bob and Lois Hibbs
Laura Ann Hill
Butch Hjelm
Angela Hoopes
Chuck and Kathy Hosack
Kristin Hughes
Carrie Jackson
Ron James and Lili Zou
Terry Jones
John and Nancy Keiser
Marcia Lee Kent
Pat Kissell
Lawrence and Kaye Knight
Teresa Kolsen
Bonnie Krafchuk
Marge and Ed Kuchynka
Jonathan and Pamela Lawson
Andy and Halena Lerner
Amy Lientz
Melinda Lindsey
Joni Lueck
Deborah and Gene Lund
Grace and Clark Lusk
Kerry and John Martin
Michael and Arysa May
Laura and Kevin McCarthy
Ann McDougall
Memorial Community Center
Steve and Judy Meyer
Patty Miller
Dinu Mistry and James Wolf
Gayle Moore
Peter Morrill and Linda Olson
Rob Morris
Kelly Moylan
Pam Nagel
Kammi Nelson
Mary Ann Newcomer
Sue Norton
Barbara Olic-Hamilton
M. Christine Ott
Tom and Molly Page
Carl Papapietro
Del Parkinson
Jane Pavek-Link
Edwin and Dolores Perkins
Ed and Deborah Pfeifer
Lise Kutzman Pinkham
Dan Popkey
Doug and Kathleen Powell
Duane Ramseyer
Gwyn and Bill Reid
Bruce Robbins and Maggie Chase
Ken and Betty Rodgers
Joan Rogosch
Susan Rope
Maria Salazar
Debra and Shain Schlechte
Mary and Jim Schmidt
Rachel Schuldt
Alice Scott
Catherine A Shalz
Steven Shively
Jerry and Ann Shively
Betty and Steve Slifer
Wally Smith and Mary Clagett Smith
Steve and Marsha Smylie
Dorothy Snowball
Jeri St Clair and Robert Allen
Kay and Brent Stauff
Mark and Lisa Szentes
Michelle Tanberg
Kathe Tift
United Way of Treasure Valley
Robert Vestal and Jyl Hoyt
Dick Wandrocke
Bonnie Warne
Connie Weaver
Kaye Weller
Linda Werner

Milly Whitted
Patricia Young
Roger Grigg and Kathy Baker Grigg
Susan Mills
Daniel Wong
Kristina Lysne
Barbara Hardy
Robert Sobba
Hilary Biggers
Alice and Fred Elwood
Teresa Tamura
Marie Hoff
Dick and Ramona Hart
Dana and Valerie Miller
Carol Wakefield and Neil Williams
Tracie Cloward
Shawna Payne
Thomas Pirc
Kimberly Prestwich
Shelly Romine

Volunteer (Up to \$49)
Jon Albertson and Vicki Rentmeister
Anonymous
Bruce and Suzan Belzer
Harriet Berenter
Mary Bieter
Donna and Roger Boe
Richard and Aris Boyle
Anonymous
Cambridge Community Library
Robert and Eleanor Carriker
Jean Chantrill
Edward and Arita Cleary
Mary DeWalt
Gail and Tom Dial
Constance Farmer
Rodney Frey and Kris Roby
Yoshiko Fujita and George Redden
Dee Gore and Richard Peterson
Wendy and Joe Lowe
Mary Diane Gutierrez
Hagerman Valley Historical Society
Jean Hanson
Patricia Harberd
Terry and Lynette Haun
Nikki Hyer
Idaho Community Foundation
Kari Josten
Virginia Kelly
Earl and Gwen Kimball
Mary Lou and Dick Kinney
Shelley Kuther
Monique Lillard
Fritz and Lucie Maier
Gene McVey
Dr. and Mrs. James Milam
Linda Milam
Betty Moore
Pug Ostling and Carolyn Cannon
Park and Sharon Price
Earline Reid
Mike and Sharon Ripley
Bob and Nancy Russell
Margaret Schiff
Kevin Shea and Ilana Shumsky
Jeff Sherwood
Jane A Slickers
Bob and Angel Sobotta
Susan Stagliano
Courtney Morgan
Carl and Marilyn Tate
Alan Virta
Priscilla Wegars
Virginia Willard
Lois Bates
Marilyn Sartin
MarCellars
Charmianne LeaVell
Maura Brantley
Marjorie Adams
Karol Dineen
John and Jinx McAllister
SueLynn Williams

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of Amy Margaret Christie
Anne Lynette Christie
In memory of Peter T. Johnson
Anonymous
In memory of Bill Studebaker
Judy Studebaker
Louie & Barbara Attebery
Jim & Cyndie Woods
In memory of Harriet Badesheim
Gene Badesheim
In memory of Vickie J. Simmons
Dick & Mary Lou Kinney
Melinda Lindsey
In memory of Anna Marie Boles
Mike & Glenda Green
In memory of Glenn Stubbs
Jerry & Julie Glenn
In memory of Matthew Douglas Carlson
Laura McCarthy
In memory of Dr. Robert Sims
Ron & Linda Hatzenbuehler
Mark & Cindy Wang
Marie Hoff
Tim & Christine Gleason
Ramona & Dick Hart
David & Patti Lachiondo
Katherine Aiken
Peter & Vicki Helming
Chip Cole & Betsy Dunklin
Erika Kuhlman & Kevin Marsh
David Johnson
John Keiser

Doug Oppenheimer Family
Jinx & John McAllister
Jennifer Holley
John & Alex Bieter
Rick & Rosemary Ardinger
Darlyne Pape
Teresa Tamura
Jim & Cherie Clayton
Ron Pisaneschi & Virginia Johnson
Hope Benedict & Stewart Carrington
Carol Wakefield & Neil Williams
Mary Bieter
Connie Weaver
Paul & Susan Gibson
Marilyn Shuler
Mayor David Bieter
David Skinner
Betty Sims
Joanne Klein
In memory of Nancy Chavez
Jennifer Holley
In memory of Kitty Gurnsey
Idaho Community Foundation
Tom & Alice Hennessey
Margaret Schiff
In memory of Grandma Dooley
Tom & Pam Rybus
In memory of Merle Wells
Arthur & Dee Hart
In memory of Paula Silkwood
Lynette & Terry Haun
In memory of Governor John and Lola Evans
Marty & Barbara Peterson

In memory of Evelyn Cotton

Sheila Robertson
In memory of Randy Stimpson
Courtney Morgan
In memory of William A. Trueba
Gail Corlett-Trueba
In memory of William Murray Lodge
Karyl Hayden
In memory of Horace Axtell
Gene McVey
In memory of Michael Robert Rose
Jo Ann Rose
In memory of Maxine Zaladonis
Edward & Cheryl Zaladonis
In memory of Ted Chenowith
Robert & Mary Lee Morrell
In memory of Dave Jones
Lois Bates

IN HONOR

In honor of Judy Austin
Riverdale Country School Class of 1957
In honor of Jo Ann & K.V. Nelson
Chris & Georgianne Jessen
In honor of Katherine Aiken
Marty & Barbara Peterson
In honor of Dr. Donald & Karen Vance
Pam Bernard
In honor of Sandy Burnett
Virginia Tinsley Johnson



Over three decades as a program scholar, I've been perennially impressed by the enthusiasm Idaho citizens demonstrate for IHC programming. Their engagement in discussing ideas, books, material culture, etc. conveys deep intellectual curiosity—a contagious spirit that's at once incredibly fun to experience and deeply moving.

Susan Swetnam, Pocatello

Smithsonian exhibition on ‘water’ to tour six Idaho towns

The Idaho Humanities Council will bring a Smithsonian traveling exhibition titled *Water/Ways* to six Idaho communities beginning in May 2016 through March 2017.

The exhibit will visit the **Idaho Falls Public Library**, the **Sun Valley Museum of History** in partnership with **The Community Library (Ketchum)**, the **Idaho Museum of Natural History (Pocatello)**, **Nampa Public Library**, **Third Street Gallery** in partnership with the **Latah County Historical Society (Moscow)**, and the **Burley Public Library (Burley)**.

The *Water/Ways* exhibit will be on display for six weeks in each of the six Idaho communities. While on display, each community will develop around the exhibit its own local programming, ranging from local exhibits and school displays, to lectures, films, panel discussions, and other activities limited only by the imagination.

The exhibition explores water as a critical scientific and cultural resource. An essential component of life on our planet, water powers the environment’s engine, impacting climate and helping to shape and sculpt the landscape. Water’s impact on humans is not just biological and environmental; it serves as a source of peace and contemplation. We cherish our connections to nature, particularly the sights, the sounds, and the sense of place we feel at the water’s edge.

Many faiths revere water as a sacred symbol. Authors and artists are inspired by the duality of water – a substance that is seemingly soft and graceful, yet

also a powerful and often unstoppable force.

The availability of water affects settlement and migration patterns. Access to water and control of water resources have long been a central part of political and economic planning. Human creativity and resourcefulness provide new ways of protecting water resources and renewing respect for the natural environment. *Water/Ways* is part of the Smithsonian’s “Museum on Main Street” program, an exhibition program that was developed to bring exhibitions primarily to smaller communities in America that would not ordinarily have the opportunity to host such an exhibit. The IHC has brought to Idaho over the past fifteen years Smithsonian exhibitions on American roots music, food and culture, the history of American labor, yesterday’s visions of the future, sports history, barn architecture, the meaning of fences and borders, and more. For more information visit www.idahohumanities.org.

PHOTO
Corrupt

SCHEDULE

Idaho Falls Public Library
457 W. Broadway, Idaho Falls
Contact: Liza Evans
May 28 – July 10, 2016

The Sun Valley Museum of History
First and Washington, Ketchum
Contact: Taylor Paslay
July 16 – August 28, 2016

Idaho Museum of Natural History
698 E. Dillon St., Pocatello
Contact: Curt Schmitz
September 3 – October 16, 2016

Nampa Public Library
215 12th Ave. South, Nampa
Contact: Beth Neunaber
October 22 – December 4, 2016

Latah County Historical Society
On view at the Third Street Gallery
206 W. Third Street
Contact: Dulce Kersting
December 10, 2016 – January 22, 2017

Burley Public Library
1300 Miller Ave.
Contact: Linda Barney
January 28 – March 12, 2017

U.S. Bank supports intellectual antidote to cabin fever

Let’s Talk about It, the library reading/discussion program made possible through a partnership between the Idaho Humanities Council and the Idaho Commission for Libraries with generous funding from U.S. Bank, is currently taking place in 16 libraries throughout Idaho. While some libraries began their programs in the fall of 2015, most participating libraries are holding their programs throughout the winter and spring of 2016 as an intellectual antidote to cabin fever.

Each library hosts five sessions over the course of a season to discuss five books on various themes (for a total of 80 programs throughout Idaho), involving numerous Idaho scholars to summarize key points about books and the series themes and moderate discussion.

The Idaho Humanities Council thanks U.S. Bank Foundation for its generous support of the 2015-2016 season of LTAI. U.S. Bank Foundation has been a loyal supporter of community reading for many years.

The U.S. Bank Foundation grant has helped support the cost of new books, as well as travel for college and university scholars to visit 16 libraries to speak about the books and help lead the 80 discussions with library patrons. The ICfL has managed the program for nearly 30 years. Project Coordinator Dian Scott selects the participating libraries, contracts with scholars, and ships multiple copies of books to the participating libraries.

“U.S. Bank Foundation is happy to support such a great program that brings people together all over Idaho to discuss books and ideas,” said U.S. Bank Senior Vice President Rob Aravich, of Boise, who presented a check at the Idaho Humanities Council office.



“This is a program that educates and builds community relationships, and it touches so many towns throughout Idaho,” Aravich said.

Themes include “Growing Older, Growing Wiser,” “Living in the Modern West,” “Making Sense of the Civil War,” “Our Earth, Our Ethics,” “We Are What We Eat,” “American Characters,” and many other themes. Scholars from nearly all of Idaho’s institutions of higher education participate in the program as book discussion leaders.

Participating libraries in the 2015-2016 series include Ada Community Library (Boise), Bellevue Public Library, Blackfoot Public Library, Coeur d’Alene Public Library, DeMary Memorial Library (Rupert), Grangeville Centennial Library, Eastern Owyhee County Library (Grandview), Hailey Public Library, Idaho Falls Public Library, Jerome Public Library, American Falls District Library, Bear Lake

County Library (Montpelier), Blackfoot Public Library, Boundary County District Library (Bonners Ferry), Grangeville Centennial Library, Kimberly Public Library, Larsen-Sant Public Library (Preston),

McCall Public Library, Meridian Library District (Silverstone), Mountain Home Public Library, Salmon Public Library, and Twin Falls Public Library.

The LTAI program, which began in 1985, was developed by the Idaho Commission for Libraries (formerly the Idaho State Library) and the Idaho Humanities Council. Over the past 30 years, hundreds of book discussion programs have been held in nearly 100 Idaho communities.

Thanks to the U.S. Bank Foundation’s generous support, the program continues reaching Idahoans of all ages through valuable reading and discussion.

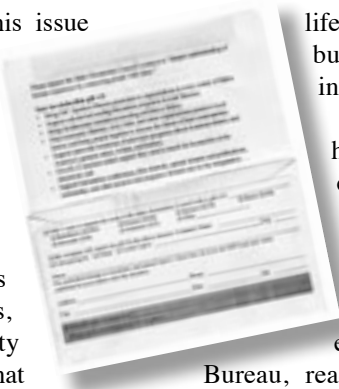
“This LTAI program is an intellectual lifeline for many in rural communities where people are eager for a little thoughtful discussion about great literature,” said Rick Ardinger, director of the Idaho Humanities Council. “U.S. Bank Foundation’s support is critical to making the program happen. Participants are truly grateful for the program.”

For more information about Let’s Talk About It, see the Idaho Commission for Libraries website at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/>, or contact Project Coordinator Dian Scott, Idaho Commission for Libraries at (208) 334-2150.



Remember to send back that envelope...

To read the feature story in this issue of *Idaho Humanities* you had to remove the donation envelope—please don’t throw it away. Show your support for the work of the Idaho Humanities Council today by sending it back with your tax-deductible gift enclosed. The IHC is dependent more than ever on donations from our readers, program participants, teachers, civic leaders, community activists, and others who believe that



lifelong learning in the humanities helps build a more literate, tolerant, and intellectually inquisitive Idaho citizenry.

If you agree that lifelong learning in the humanities improves civil discourse and enhances informed civic involvement, then please return your envelope today. The IHC will put it to good use funding summer institutes and workshops for teachers, traveling Smithsonian exhibits, our Humanities Speakers Bureau, reading/discussion programs, lectures by

some of the best writers, historians, and journalists writing in the world today, and many other timely programs.

Return your envelope with a check, or make your donation online at www.idahohumanities.org, and help the Idaho Humanities Council deepen public understanding of human experience and connect people to ideas. ♦

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NEWS (Continued from Page 9)

What Are You Reading?

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

Reader: Steven Hatcher
Occupation: Director, Folk and Traditional Arts, Idaho Commission on the Arts, Boise
Book: *Tales of Priest Lake* by James F. Estes and *North of the Narrows: Men and Women of the Upper Priest Lake Country, Idaho* by Claude & Catherine Simpson



In the mid-90s I fought forest fires based out of Priest Lake’s Cavanaugh Bay. It’s impossible to spend any amount of time up there and not fall in love with the landscape and people who inhabit its space. Since starting my work as the State folklorist I’ve been trying to figure a way to incorporate the lake into some sort of folklife programming. I was given *Tales of Priest Lake* recently and that inspired me to dig out my tattered copy of *North of the Narrows*. Both are nonacademic cultural studies that detail the history, people, places, occupational practices, and oral narratives that date back to the early 19th Century.

Though attributed to Reverend Estes of Spokane, *Tales of Priest Lake* is basically a transcribed series of interviews with the legendary Leonard Paul who in 1906 established a general store in Coolin at the southeast end of the lake. Still a mainstay after 109 years, the Leonard Paul Store provided goods and services for several generations of miners, loggers, trappers, artists, tourists, and general miscreants. If a story was born or circulated at the lake it eventually made its way to Leonard.

North of the Narrows concentrates specifically on the Upper Priest Lake, a smaller, even more isolated area connected to the larger lake by a thoroughfare or narrows. Teachers from Washington, Claude and Catherine Simpson spent a lifetime documenting, interviewing, and researching above the narrows. Often terse and disjointed, there is still no better document of pre-1980 lake life in the most remote corner of Idaho’s Panhandle. With all the changes since then I’d say it’s time for some new fieldwork.

Reader: Robin Piet
Occupation: Retired, Idaho Falls
Book: *The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert



I recently read and thoroughly enjoyed *The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert. It’s a fictional novel about a well-educated, independent, wealthy woman, born in 1800, who became a botanist, published books, traveled alone to Tahiti, and came up with the theory of evolution at virtually the same time as Darwin. She was born in 1800, so she was an unknowing feminist far, far ahead of her time.

I enjoyed this book because it has many of my favorite themes:

Very unusual, quirky personalities and the psychological difficulties they cause. There are several people who are quite different, which causes much of the intrigue in the story.

International travel and other cultures. I enjoyed hearing about the life, people and beauty of Tahiti in the 19th century.

Fighting for a cause and making changes in the world with a positive outlook. The main character’s sister fought for the Abolitionist cause in Philadelphia.

History. As far as I could tell, the historical facts were true, even the fact that Darwin wasn’t the only person who came up with the theory of evolution at the same time, although not by a woman.

In spite of the heavy subject matter, this book is light and very readable. I recommend it.

Reader: Jennifer Ladino
Occupation: Associate Professor of English, University of Idaho, Moscow
Book: *Fourth of July Creek* by Smith Henderson



Smith Henderson’s debut novel, *Fourth of July Creek* (2014), may seem a bit heavy for beach reading, but its plot twists and compelling characters keep you turning the 470 delightful pages. Set in 1980 in rural Montana, the novel follows social worker Pete Snow as he tries to repair his own family relationships and help a young boy who’s living off the land with his survivalist father, Jeremiah Pearl. Stylistically, Henderson has been compared to Cormac McCarthy and William Faulkner, and while I see those resemblances—Snow’s estranged daughter repeatedly uses “wyoming” as a verb, for instance—Henderson’s voice is one-of-a-kind. The novel’s main characters are classically Western, including a white male hero seeking redemption (Snow) and an outlaw preparing for a shootout (Pearl). But its familiar themes (fundamentalism, poverty, independence, religious fundamentalism, survival) are updated for the late-20th century West. While the novel contains some predictable plot lines, Henderson’s characters are flawed in unique ways, and their flaws make us think about our own. Like the best American literature (Toni Morrison’s *Beloved* comes to mind), *Fourth of July Creek* challenges us to reserve judgment and instead find empathy, even for those who are different from ourselves.