Presidential power, government accountability and the challenges of an informed—or uninformed—electorate

David Gray Adler
Andrus Center for Public Policy
Boise State University

"Public discussion is political duty."
–Justice Louis Brandeis

President Lyndon Johnson used his power to push through a tremendous agenda of Great Society legislation between 1963 and 1968.

Lyndon Johnson had barely assumed the American Presidency when southern Senators, familiar with the Texan's vaulting ambition, counseled patience and warned him not to try to accomplish too much, too soon. Above all, they sought to warn him away from the temptation to exploit his presidential honeymoon–undoubtedly lengthened by the national sorrow that stemmed from the assassination of President John F. Kennedy–to push the big ideas, big policies and big programs that had animated his politics as Senate Majority Leader. Particularly concerned about his enthusiasm for what would become the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, sure to roil the political waters and, perhaps, convulse his aborning role as Chief Executive, they urged him to avoid the political risks associated with the measure. Undeterred, Johnson replied, "What's the Presidency for?"

Johnson's question–essentially the November final exam question for President Barack Obama and Mitt Romney–has been a subject of absorbing interest ever since the Framers of the Constitution invented the American Presidency. In light of the dramatic transformation of the office into the nation's dominant political institution, what scholars have variously characterized as the Imperial or Plebiscitary Presidency, to depict the rise of Presidential Government, it is a question that energizes discussions and debates about the future of the country and it takes center stage every four years as candidates for the White House campaign for the support of voters. Presidential aspirants excite hopes, inspire dreams and promise miracles. Above all, they paint a picture of what America would look like under their stewardship—their version of "Morning in America"–and all that they would accomplish, at home and abroad.

Candidates for the presidency talk about the exercise of executive power and its many uses—revival of the economy, creation of jobs, implementation of accessible and affordable health care, promotion of national security and foreign policy objectives, projection of American military strength, advancement of democratic ideals, and restoration of America's reputation. "The President," wrote the Cornell University political scientist Theodore Lowi, "is the Wizard of Oz."

Candidates boast of the potential of power, but rarely do they talk about its limits, even though the Constitution confines the scope of presidential power. Rarer, still, is discussion of meaningful ways of ensuring presidential accountability to the Constitution and to the American electorate. Those issues, critical bookends in a republic, which demands leadership and accountability, plumb the depths of our national experience and consciousness, and deserve attention from those who would govern in the Oval Office.

In truth, however, presidential candidates have little incentive to discuss the limits of power. The reason for their reluctance is not hard to identify: discussion of limitations betrays the poten-

(See ACCOUNTABILITY, Page 4)

IDAHO
Humanities

Volume XVI, No. 2

The Newsletter of the Idaho Humanities Council Summer 2012

Executive Order 9066: A Tragedy of Democracy

An Interview with Artist Roger Shimomura

Photo Credit: Historical photos for this article provided by the National Park Service

The Minidoka Relocation Center, near Jerome, Idaho, became Idaho's seventh largest city between 1942 and 1945, when nearly 10,000 Japanese Americans from the West Coast were interned during World War II.

By Russell M. Tremayne
College of Southern Idaho

Editor's Note: In June of 2012, College of Southern Idaho History Professor Russ Tremayne, along with the Friends of Minidoka and the National Park Service, planned the 7th annual Civil Liberties Symposium—this year at Boise State University—that commemorated the 70th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt's 1942 Executive Order to relocate Japanese Americans on the west coast of the United States to internment camps in the interior of the country. Idaho's Minidoka Camp in southern Idaho interned nearly 10,000 individuals between 1942 and 1945. More than 300 attended the June 2012 symposium, including many whose families were interned at Minidoka. This year's symposium theme was "Through the Eyes of Children: Prejudice, Education, and Community." At the conclusion of the conference in Boise, most participated in the annual pilgrimage to the site of the Minidoka camp near Twin Falls as part of a remembrance ceremony. Many who attended this year's pilgrimage spent part of their childhood in Minidoka, and many reflected on how the experience of internment impacted their families, and their own personal lives long after they left the camp in 1945. Dr. Tremayne is compiling an anthology of essays, interviews, and photographs about the Minidoka experience to be published in 2013 with support of an Idaho Humanities Council grant. In commemoration of the 70th anniversary, we asked Dr. Tremayne to share a little of what is in store in the forthcoming anthology. He proposed this brief summary of the history of internment, and an excerpt from an interview he conducted with retired University of Kansas visual artist Roger Shimomura, who lived in Minidoka as a child. The experience greatly influenced Shimomura's life as an artist and as an American.

Seventy years after President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, it is hard to imagine circumstances that allowed for the forced removal and imprisonment of almost 100,000 U.S. citizens. The distinguished historian Roger Daniels called the establishment of concentration camps in America "a gross miscarriage of government and a massive violation of human rights," and most historians agree. Internment is so recent and the issues are so relevant to our time that it is vital to revisit the events that led to what Dr. Tetsuden Kashima called "Judgment Without Trial."

Though many Americans are aware of the heated international rivalry between the Japanese Empire and the United States that preceded World War II, the logistics and constitutional issues related to internment

Artist Roger Shimomura as a child was interned with his parents at Minidoka.

are not so well known. Executive Order 9066, issued February 19, 1942, created a military zone along the west coast and required that Japanese Issei and Nisei evacuate. This unconstitutional act occurred against a backdrop of decades of intense anti-Asian sentiment along the west coast despite the enormous contribution of Asian Americans to the development of the American West. In 1882, Chinese were prohibited from immigrating to the U.S. and in the first decade of the 20th century, President Theodore Roosevelt crafted the "Gentleman's Agreement" with Japan, designed to limit further Japanese immigration. Hostile nativist wanted even more restrictive policies and many western states, including Idaho, passed laws that prevented Japanese-Americans from owning property.

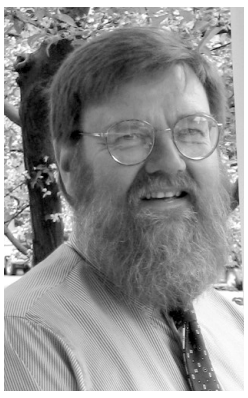
War hysteria in the wake of Pearl Harbor and this anti-Japanese sentiment led to the hasty removal and

(See TRAGEDY, Page 3)

From the Director

How do you spell sesquicentennial?

By Rick Ardinger



March 4, 2013, marks the 150th anniversary of Idaho becoming a Territory of the United States. In the middle of the Civil War—largely because of the discovery of gold throughout the area–President Abraham Lincoln officially declared the region a territory. As with all auspicious anniversaries, the occasion offers Idaho an opportunity to reflect on its history, where we've been, and where we are going, in ways that are more than simple celebrations.

In addition to the parades and dances and celebrations of the past, there are new opportunities for education, new scholarship and publications, and reimagining the future of the Gem State.

Some communities, such as Idaho City, already have gotten a head start on the Territorial Sesquicentennial recently by commemorating the discovery of gold in the Boise Basin on August 2, 1862. Because of the gold rush, the population of Idaho City and the surrounding area at one point became larger than Portland, Oregon, and the tools and machinery, photographs and newspapers, court house records and remaining buildings tell the story of the early days. New brochures, books, museum displays are in the works.

The Idaho Humanities Council is available to help communities commemorate the sesquicentennial meaningfully. Grant deadlines on September 15 and January 15 offer an opportunity for museums, libraries, teachers, scholars, and many community organizations to seek financial support for projects and programs to commemorate the sesquicentennial appropriately.

The IHC's Speakers Bureau offers a number of scholars to lecture on Idaho history, politics, music, and art. The application process is simple and quick, and the variety of speakers and topics are listed on IHC's website at www.idahohumanities.org.

The Idaho "Let's Talk About It" program, a partnership of the IHC, Idaho Commission for Libraries, and US Bank (see related story on page 8), in libraries around the state offers a new theme, "Idaho at 150," which explores the story of Idaho through fiction and nonfiction.

The IHC will partner with the Idaho State Historical Society in producing a modest traveling exhibit on Idaho's Territorial History, that will explore the 27 years between territorial designation and statehood in 1890. The ISHS will tour the exhibit to museums, libraries, and schools, and other community venues for the next several years.

In 2013, the IHC will sponsor a series of two-day, scholar-led workshops for K-12 teachers around the state on Territorial History (watch IHC's website for more details).

It's not too early to think about how your community will make the most of the commemoration. ❖

Idaho Humanities Council seeks academic and public board members from SE and SW Idaho

The Idaho Humanities Council seeks applications to fill SE Idaho academic and SW Idaho public positions on its volunteer board of directors. An academic member is defined as either a scholar in the humanities or an administrator of an educational or cultural institution. A public member is anyone who has a strong belief that the humanities enhance our quality of life, are essential for an informed citizenry, and contribute to lifelong learning. The deadline for applications is September 15, 2012.

SW Idaho is defined as the region south of Riggins to the western border of Twin Falls County. SE Idaho is defined as the region between the Wyoming border and the western border of Twin Falls County.

The Idaho Humanities Council is a non-profit organization that has served as the state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities for nearly 40 years. The Council maintains a balance on the board of public and academic members, strives for fair regional representation and gender balance, and encourages ethnic, racial, and cultural diversity.

IHC is dedicated to advancing greater public awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the humanities in Idaho and meets its mission by awarding grant funds to organizations throughout the state for public programs in history, literature, languages, archaeology, law, and other humanities disciplines.

The IHC also conducts special initiatives of its own, such as annual Distinguished Humanities Lectures in Boise, Coeur d'Alene, and Idaho Falls, weeklong summer institutes in the humanities for Idaho teachers, a Humanities Speakers Bureau, special lectures, the statewide touring of Smithsonian traveling exhibits, and other programs and activities. IHC receives funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and donations from foundations, corporations and individuals.

Board members serve three-year terms, with the possibility of renewal for a second three-year term. The board meets three times each year in February, June, and October to award grants and conduct other business. The board will review applications and elect new members at the Council's October meeting.

For more information, prospective applicants are invited to contact IHC Executive Director Rick Ardinger at (208) 345-5346, or rick@idahohumanities.org, or write to the Idaho Humanities Council, 217 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702.

Information about the Council and applications are on the IHC's website at www.idahohumanities.org under the link "About Us." ❖

Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Rick Bragg spoke to 200 in Idaho Falls

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Rick Bragg gave the 5th Annual Eastern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture in April in Idaho Falls. Bragg spoke about the art of telling stories to an audience of 200 at the University Center Bennion Student Union.

Bragg is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist most noted for three best-selling memoirs about his family and the working class people of the foothills of the Appalachians: *All Over but the Shoutin'*, *Ava's Man* and *The Prince of Frogtown*.

Bragg attended a Benefactor's Reception at the lovely home of Tim and Anne Hopkins prior to the dinner and lecture. About 40 people had the opportunity to personally visit with Bragg.

The IHC thanks event supporters **Teton Toyota, The Post Register, and Idaho Public Television**. Also, IHC thanks the ISU bookstore for selling Bragg's books onsite. ❖

Writer Rick Bragg delivered an informative and entertaining presentation. He posed with Benefactor Reception hosts Tim and Anne Hopkins.

IDAHO Humanities COUNCIL

Vol. XVI, No. 2, Summer 2012
Idaho Humanities is published three times a year by the Idaho Humanities Council

217 W. State Street
Boise, Idaho 83702
(208) 345-5346
Toll Free: (888) 345-5346
Fax: (208) 345-5347
www.idahohumanities.org

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.

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

incarceration of all people of Japanese descent without any real due process. Relocation centers, often at fairgrounds or race tracks, provided a temporary venue for internees during the summer of 1942 before they were shipped to more permanent camps in the interior of the country. The War Relocation Authority administered ten main prisons located in remote, desolate regions where most of the population despised everything Japanese. Some Japanese Americans, like Gordon Hirabayashi, resisted, citing their constitutional rights, but the Supreme Court ruled supporting the legality of Executive Order 9066 and internment.

Photo of painting courtesy Roger Shimomura

Many of artist Roger Shimomura's paintings explore the Minidoka experience. In this work entitled "Night Watch," note the close quarters of the barracks, and the man in U.S. Army uniform behind barbed wire.

The removal of Japanese Americans from the west coast during World War II does represent "A Tragedy of Democracy," but as Greg Robinson points out in his terrific book by that title, the United States was not the only country to violate the civil rights of their Japanese citizens before and after Pearl Harbor. Canada, Mexico, and Peru removed Japanese to pacify angry nativists and further certain economic interests. In each case, Pearl Harbor and security concerns provided a rationale for policy makers and historians, but researchers have demonstrated blatant racism that permeated the Americas in general and the U.S. in particular during the 19th and 20th centuries was at the heart of the matter. However, the internment story involves much more than racism and gets to the core of U.S. Constitutional history and the American paradox of celebrating civil liberties and diversity while violating basic civil rights of minorities.

Idahoans experienced Executive Order 9066 and internment first hand. Camp Minidoka, located six miles from Eden in Jerome County, turned into the seventh largest city in the state in less than a year. In August, hundreds of internees began arriving each day even though camp construction was far from complete. Developers had plowed the desert under in preparation for buildings which turned the area into a hot dust bowl. The misery of the dust was mitigated by fall rain that turned the camp into a mud bog. Winter brought frigid conditions that left internees struggling to stay warm in barracks insulated only with tar paper and heated with a single pot-bellied stove. The experience, no matter how brief in duration, was humiliating and left a deep, indelible scar on those involved.

After examining the history of Japanese confinement for a few years, I have decided that it is the human story behind Pearl Harbor, the Constitution, Supreme Court, and Executive Order 9066 that is most compelling. Families that had no understanding of war and imperial rivalries, Japanese Americans who held no animosity toward America (but wanted to share in the American Dream) had their homes uprooted and their lives redirected. Although the history of Japanese confinement was largely ignored for two decades after World War II, the Civil Rights movement inspired interest in the topic and motivated scholars and activists to focus on interment so as to make sure it never happens again.

An Interview with Roger Shimomura

In a forthcoming publication about Minidoka, we intend to collect a series of essays by and about some of those who had their lives shaped by the Minidoka experience. The publication will include essays by leading scholars as well as poetry, photographs, art work and interviews that explore the Minidoka camp experience and its legacy. Contributors include people who were detained and can help shed light on the human side of Executive Order 9066 and the reality of U.S. Constitutional history.

The following is an excerpt from an interview I conducted with Dr. Roger Shimomura, a retired University of Kansas professor of art who spent time in Minidoka as a child. Dr. Shimomura has had over 125 solo exhibitions of his painting, and is the recipient of numerous grants, including four National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships. In 2002, an exhibition of his work entitled "An American Diary" toured nationally to 12 major museums over four years. In this interview he reflects on how the internment experience impacted his family and himself to this day.

RT: What are your memories of Minidoka as a child? You were very young so most of your earliest memories must come from the years after the camp closed. Where did your family go and what did they do?

My first memory of life was my third birthday while incarcerated in Puyallup, Washington State Fair Grounds, the so called "assembly center" where we lived in temporary housing. I remember walking around inside and outside of our barrack telling everyone I saw that it was my third birthday. My mother somehow obtained a cake and put three candles on it. That memory was so vivid that 57 years later I did a series of lithographs called "Memories of Childhood" and events of that day officially became my first memory of life.

After our first year in Camp Minidoka, my father who was a registered pharmacist was released to look for employment outside of camp as long as it was outside of the so called "security zone" (West Coast). Prior to camp he worked at a prestigious downtown Seattle pharmacy for seven years. When the war broke out he said the boss wouldn't allow him to work the front counter and was asked instead to fill prescriptions in the back room so as to be unseen by the custumers. In addition he was suddenly given duties to mop the floors and wash the windows, chores not normally assigned to registered pharmacists.

After traveling around the country looking for employment he was fortunate enough to find a German American family in Chicago that owned a drugstore and had a modest room for my dad to live in while he searched for living facilities for the rest of us still in camp. While he was away, my sister Carolyn Hisako was born in Minidoka making three of us waiting to join him in Chicago. It took almost a year for him to find a place that would rent to a Japanese family. So after two years in camp my mother, sister and I left Minidoka to join my father in a tiny apartment in the Southside of Chicago. I enrolled in kindergarten for the one year we lived there. During that time my sister Carolyn became ill from Influenza Meningitis and passed away at the young age of two. After three years away from Seattle my grandmother and grandfather left camp and came to Chicago where we all boarded a train and returned to Seattle. Shortly after returning there, my sister Karen was born. I enrolled in the first grade at Coleman School and subsequently attended Washington Jr. High, then Garfield High School, graduating in 1957.

Many interned with their families as children were affected their entire lives by the experience.

A few years after our release from Camp Minidoka and shortly after returning to Seattle, our family decided to go on a vacation to Canon Beach, Oregon. My dad made our reservations well in advance, but upon arrival was told that the resort had a policy of not renting to Japanese people. I remember watching my Mom and Dad discussing what to do while standing in front of the hood of our 1946 Chevrolet. After my father went back inside, he returned fifteen minutes later saying that the owner had changed his mind as long as the family was willing to use the cabin furthest down the access road.

When we found the cabin, we were disheartened to find it a terrible mess, having not been used for years. We all drove to the nearest general store and purchased cleaning materials. After an entire day of scrubbing, the cabin was spotless. My father and I even weeded the outside of the cabin so we could see out the windows.

Following two days of vacationing, we all tidied up after ourselves and returned to Seattle.

RT: Tell me how your incarceration influenced your painting.

When I look back upon my life, there were several incidents that probably had an effect upon my relationship to the incarceration experience. The first happened when I was attending high school and was going to write an essay on "camp." It was my intention to interview my father to gain insight on this experience that we all shared. To my surprise he became very upset and said very emphatically, "we don't talk about that in this house so don't bring it up again." Over the years I learned that this attitude was common among most Issei and Nisei.

Another incident that had an effect on me was when I went to graduate school at Syracuse University, upstate New York. I was in a graduate seminar where we all discussed various topics including our personal backgrounds. When I mentioned that I spent three years away from home (Seattle) of which two were spent in a concentration camp in Idaho, most of the other students didn't believe me. Fortunately for me there was a married couple from Portland, Oregon, that came to my defense. Were it not for them I had no immediate proof that I was telling the truth. It left an indelible mark upon me.

In the early 1970's when the subject of reparations began to surface around the West Coast, writer Frank Chin called me and asked for help screen printing tee shirts for the first "Day of Remembrance" event that was to take place in Puyallup, Washington, February, 1975. I flew to Seattle to add my assistance to this project. During that same time I was eligible for my first sabbatical leave of absence and was looking for a research project for my application. Up to that point, despite the fact that my paintings were about being a person of Asian ancestry living in the Midwest, that work lacked any specific political and sociological focus. The topic of redress offered a clear challenge and opportunity for me to propose a series of six large paintings called the "Minidoka Series." This initial foray into narrative painting addressed the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans during WWII. There was a certain level of artistic risk involved as issues of racial identity hadn't been fully exploited as content in mainstream art. After receiving approval of my sabbatical application, I was forced to proceed anyway.

Around this time Frank Chin was asked to write a

(See TRAGEDY, Page 4)

TRAGEDY

(Continued from Page 3)

major article for the Seattle Weekly about the history of Japanese Americans in Seattle.

He chose our family to write about and asked if my father would agree to be interviewed. I presumed he wouldn't, but said I would ask him as now that reparations were being publically discussed and Issei and Nisei were testifying nationally. Shocking to me my father agreed to do this. When Frank came over he asked if he could tape record the interview and my father said "No," but he agreed to allow Frank to take notes. My father then proceeded to tell stories about camp I had never heard before and I listened with fascination. Frank feverishly took notes. Then my father told the story about when our family was to be inoculated for diseases prior to incarceration. The guard roughly removed me from my father's arms to bring me into a room to get my shots. My father tightened his grip on me and pulled me back. Two guards then restrained my father and separated him from the rest of the people in line. He said they made him remove his pants and stand in front of hundreds of people as they took me away to get inoculated. He said it was the most embarrassing moment of his life. As Frank was furiously writing all this down, my father pointed at Frank's notepad and said, "Don't write about that. It's too embarrassing."

RT: Were there other family influences that affected the paintings you would eventually do?

My paternal grandmother with whom I was very close while growing up, lead a very interesting life. At the time she was alive I had no inkling as to what an effect she would ultimately have upon my work. Grandma (Toku) was trained as a nurse and was on a Red Cross ship at the famous Battle of Port Arthur in the Japan-Russo War. Following that duty she became the head nurse in a large silk factory in Tokyo where she met the brother to my grandfather (Yoshitomi) who was already in the U.S. While my grandfather had intended to live in San Francisco, a day prior to his landing the great earthquake of 1906 forced his boat to land in Seattle, the next nearest port. My grandfather's brother proposed a photo-marriage with my grandmother and after contemplating this she accepted the offer to leave Japan and emigrate to Seattle. In 1912 just prior to boarding along with 60 other photo brides, she began a diary that she would maintain for the next 56 years of her life in America. For the last 14 years of her life I used to give her a new diary every Xmas never imagining what a treasure that I would inherit. Because of her medical training in Japan she became a midwife (sanba) in Seattle and would deliver over 1,000 babies during her career. In 1939 she came out of retirement to deliver me. After she passed away in 1968 I brought the diaries back to Kansas with me. As they were written in Japanese I had some difficulty in finding someone qualified to translate them for me. In somewhat of a rush I selected a

The honor roll at Minidoka listed those who joined the U.S. Armed Services during World War II.

graduate Art Education major from Japan who had lived the past 18 years in America.

I selected the wartime 1941, 1942 and 1943 diaries to be translated first. As the translations came in, I read them and found them to be sufficiently interesting enough to do a series of paintings about the incarceration as seen through the eyes and words of my grandmother. That group of works done from 1980-83 eventually totaled 25 paintings and travelled to nine venues across the country. In the exhibitions each painting was accompanied with the translated entry from the diary that inspired that work. In 1997 I revisited this theme and finished 30 paintings called "An American Diary," once again visiting many of the same diary entries covered before only this time the images were consistent to the styles and appearances of the 1940s. This exhibition won the College Art Association's "Most Distinguished Body of Work for 2001" award. This work led toward a recent series, "Minidoka on My Mind," a series of paintings and lithographs now numbering over 100 pieces all related to the incarceration of Japanese Americans. This show continues to travel around the country today.

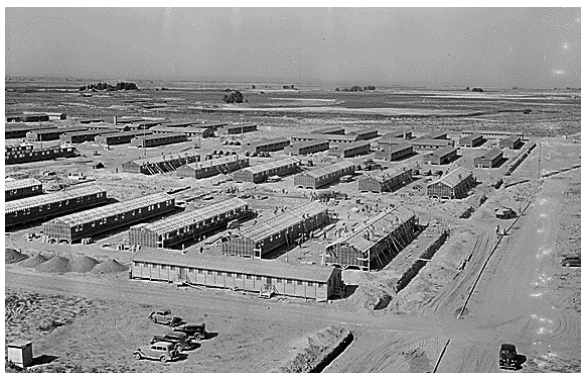
RT: What is the most important and/or successful painting you have produced?

That's a difficult question to answer because of all the variables associated with the words "important" and "successful." Having said that, the large (8' x 12') triptych painting entitled "Nikkei Story"(2006), permanently installed in the Japanese Community and Cultural Center of Washington (Seattle), takes on many of the larger issues of Japanese America. Frequently using events from my own family history the three panels (Issei, Nisei and Sansei), make visual references to historical events, stereotypes, the WWII incarceration, ethnic traditions, education and even offers a somewhat unflattering critique of the Sansei generation of which I am a part. It is my hope that the painting will bring richness to the history of the building, to the organization, its occupants, and visitors and will encourage dialogue and occasional controversy. Whether successful or not will be only proven over time.

RT: What are you working on today?

I have three ongoing series of work that I continue to work on. The first is called "Minidoka on my Mind" a collection of paintings and prints on the incarceration experience. Selections from this group continues to travel to museums and galleries across the country.

The second series is called "Yellow Terror" an exhibition that combines a selection of my personal collection of stereotypes, mainly from the WWII era, combined with the paintings that have been inspired by this collection. This 2,000 plus collection was donated to the Wing Luke Asian Museum in Seattle and was exhibited there along with the paintings that were inspired by the collection. This exhibition ran at the museum for nine months and is being considered for exhibition at other venues.



The tarpaper barracks that housed thousands of Japanese Americans were later hauled away for use by many farmers and ranchers in southern Idaho after the war.

The third series of work is called "An American Knockoff," a series of paintings that address issues of ethic identity related to Japanese Americans. In this series of self portraits, I am seen as the stereotypical martial artist physically interacting with WWII stereotypes, Japanese nationals, Disney stereotypes, and struggling with other people/cultural icons/causes that negatively interact with my identity as an American of Japanese ancestry. This series is currently touring the country. ❖

Russell M. Tremayne is an associate professor of history at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. He is a member of the Friends of Minidoka Board of Directors, and he has been involved in planning and conducting the annual Civil Liberties Symposium since its inception. He received CSI's "Outstanding Academic Faculty Award" in 2006. He holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history from Boise State University and the University of Washington respectively.

ACCOUNTABILITY

(Continued from Page 1)

tial and capacity of power. Indeed, for an electorate that increasingly demands from the White House solutions for all of the ills of the world, discussion of limitations suggests weakness, inability and even incompetence. What candidate for the presidency could hope to win who would deny the possession of authority necessary to meet the challenges confronting the nation? In an age in which Americans demand quick fixes and urge executive unilateralism, what candidate would engage in expressions of humility and self-abnegation?

It is with good reason, therefore, that scholars have observed that the combination of soaring public expectations, congressional abdication of its powers and responsibilities, a diminished appreciation for constitutional principles, and the apparent obligation of the president to meet those expectations as a prerequisite to electoral success, is a cocktail toxic to the values and principles of republicanism. At bottom, it creates a political climate which invites resorting to the assertion and exercise of sweeping unilateral executive powers. In this environment, presidential usurpation of power, particularly in the realm of foreign affairs and national security, becomes the norm. Politics, like nature, abhors a vacuum.

We would be naïve to assume that executive aggrandizement of power, which has become commonplace in the last half-century, is entirely attributable to the impatience of the public. There is more to it than that. For one thing, presidents are ambitious and few are hardwired to strictly adhere to the legal processes and procedures that define the practice of politics in a republic. For another, they are anxious to fulfill their agendas and, given only limited time to achieve their ends, they give little thought to the means that they would employ. There remains, moreover, the fact that the United States has been ensnared in crises and military conflicts for most of the past 75 years, a national condition which, to borrow from Francis Biddle, an astute and conscientious Attorney General under Franklin D. Roosevelt, reveals a presidential indifference toward the Constitution in times of war. In wartime, Machiavellianism—the ends justify the means—sits firmly in the saddle of the horse of power, while the principle of constitutionalism is in danger of being trampled underfoot.

Presidential vs. government accountability

Of course, executive usurpation is not justified by an untutored or indifferent public any more than it is justified by self-serving presidential politics. The president is obliged by the oath of office, and the duty imposed by the Take Care Clause of the Constitution to "take care that the laws are faithfully executed," not to mention the implications of the first premise of American Constitutionalism—that government has only that power granted to it by the Constitution–to practice some discipline. Where that virtue is found wanting, it must be encouraged and instilled. While presidents have resisted the means and methods of constitutional accountability, preferring unilateralism to collective decision making, they would be wise to reconsider, for executive accountability "is a resource," as Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., has explained, "to be developed, an indispensable means of gaining counsel as well as consent." With accountability comes trust in presidential leadership; and with trust comes a willingness on the part of the American people to accept sacrifices, whether in the context of war or economic distress. A lack of accountability, like lies and distortions, generates cynicism and saps public spirit. That's precisely why the founders conceived of accountability as central, and not peripheral, to the ultimate success of the republic.

While it is clear that modern presidents, unlike their early predecessors, are little disposed to concern themselves with formal—legal and constitutional–constraints on the exercise of power, it does not mean that the citizenry should shrug off concerns about limitations and accountability. In fact, one of the over-arching purposes of the Constitution is to fix governmental accountability, as Chief Justice John Marshall observed in the landmark case of *Marbury v. Madison*, two centuries ago. Intrinsic in the very concept of a written Constitution that enumerates powers and assigns duties and responsibilities is the understanding that the citizenry, for whom the Constitution is written, knows whom to hold accountable. The inimitable Theodore Roosevelt, who energized the office with his out-sized personality, knew that presidents are held accountable to the bar of public opinion. "I have a very definite philosophy about the Presidency," he declared. "I think it should be a very powerful office, and I think the

(See ACCOUNTABILITY, Page 5)

ACCOUNTABILITY

(Continued from Page 4)

President should be a very strong man who uses without hesitation every power that the position yields; but because of this fact I believe that he should be sharply watched by the people [and] held to a strict accountability by them."

Presidential accountability, like the more general proposition of governmental accountability, was critical to those who conceived and shaped the young republic. The founders' deep-seated concern to hold officials accountable for their judgment, programs, and policies was born of a passionate belief that the people have a right to govern themselves—the cornerstone of American political thought. Articulated at the dawn of the republic by Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence as government grounded in popular consent, reaffirmed in the first words of the Preamble of the Constitution—"We the People ordain and establish this Constitution"—and most memorably etched into the American consciousness by Abraham Lincoln's magisterial words at Gettysburg as a "government of the people, by the people and for the people," the concept of self-governance and accountability were inextricably linked. The health and vitality of the republic, moreover, hinged on their synergy.

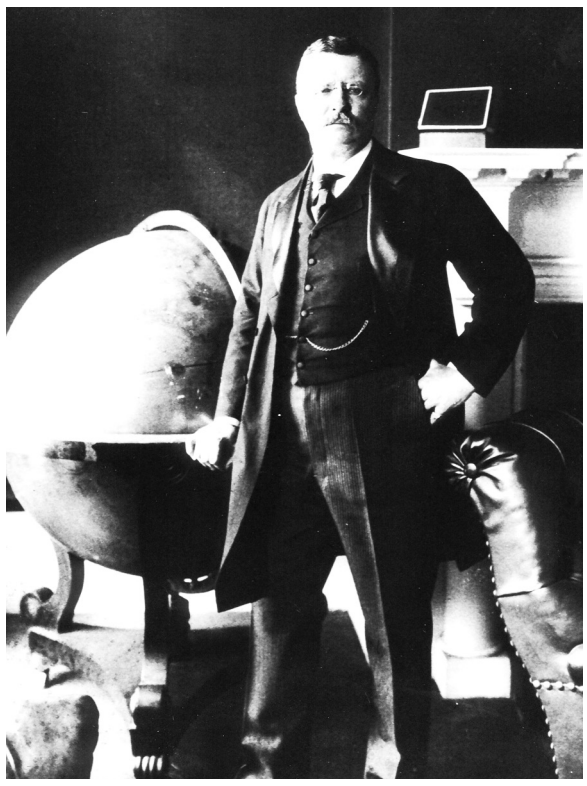
We would do well to recall that, for the founders, the creation of the republic represented an experiment, and that there was no guarantee that it would succeed. In fact, in the early years, there was considerable doubt that the American experiment in republicanism would succeed, where other republics had failed. The key, as expressed in the writings of Washington and Hamilton and Madison, lay in the accountability of the government to the governed. As Hamilton wrote in Federalist No. 1, in 1787, the great question inherent in the proposed Constitution was whether it is possible to create a system in which the people can govern themselves through reasoned deliberation, discussion and debate, or whether they must forever suffer the imposition of government upon them. For the founders, it was necessary to avoid the mistakes of the ancient Athenians and the Romans; indeed, the history of the ancients haunted Americans. The fear of failure was great, and it produced widespread anxiety in the early years and throughout the 19th Century, particularly because the American experiment carried the weight of the world; indeed, Lincoln characterized it as "the last, best hope for mankind." The failure of the American Dream, rhapsodized in the words of Jonathan Winthrop, as a "Shining City Upon the Hill," raised grim prospects for the success of republicanism throughout the world. The historical importance of Hamilton's question in the first Federalist essay was not lost on those engaged in discourse about the roles and responsibilities of the citizenry.

Madisonian monitors

The model for success, so the founders believed, lay in accountability of the governed to both the Constitution and to the electorate. We have seen in the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson's famous assertion that the right of the people to govern themselves required governmental accountability to the citizenry. It fell to Jefferson, as well, to provide the rationale for a binding Constitution: "It is jealousy and not confidence which prescribes limited constitutions to bind down those whom we are obliged to trust with power. Our constitution has accordingly fixed the limits to which, and no further, our confidence will go. In questions of power, then, let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution." The framers' enthusiasm for constitutional checks and balances, "chains" with which to fetter governmental power, remains unrivaled in world history. Very little could be done unilaterally; the most significant powers in foreign and domestic affairs required collective decision making–discussion, debate and consensus. Behind this system of thought stood a set of views grounded in realism, culled from reading and experience: beliefs about political actors that led to the rejection of the concept of human infallibility, suspicion of motives where power might be exercised, and acceptance of the premise that power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. These assumptions exalted the need for governmental accountability.

The crucial question for the founders, perhaps most famously articulated by James Madison in Federalist No. 51, was "how to oblige government to obey the law?" As Madison explained it, in terms that were echoed across the land, the answer lay in resort to the separation of powers and checks and balances, as well as a "principal reliance on the people themselves." The assignment to the people of a front-line responsibility to police governmental actions in their capacity as "Madisonian Monitors," reflected the founders' premise that the people would have the incentive to hold government accountable if, that is, they valued republicanism and self-governance. Those who fashioned the Constitution banked on that assumption.

There remains the question of how the electorate can promote governmental accountability. The citizenry has many tools, of course, and they have



Theodore Roosevelt sought to use every power the presidency yielded.

invaluable assistance in the First Amendment guarantees of freedom of speech, press and assembly. The importance of a free press to the maintenance and vitality of the republic can hardly be overestimated. Self-government, Jefferson explained, requires an informed electorate. That goal is scarcely achievable without the institution of a free and independent press, able to gather and report information necessary for the people to critique governmental actions, programs and policies. Once armed with actionable information, the citizenry, as Madison stated, has the opportunity and, emphatically, the duty, principally through informed dialogue, to exert its views, values and influence. The success of the American political system, the founders agreed, rests on a citizenry that is informed, alert and active. The fundamental premise of our system—government based on the consent of the governed—presupposes a citizenry that monitors government, analyzes information about programs, policies and laws, and engages in reasoned critiques of governmental actions. Informed public dialogue thus becomes integral to the goal of governmental accountability.

Improving public dialogue

Americans have understood, at least rhetorically, their responsibility to assert demands for effective leadership and governmental accountability, for the greatest weapon that citizens wield is the ability to contribute to, and shape, public opinion. It is, after all, an axiom of republicanism that a government may not long resist public opinion, precisely because public sentiment is the foundation upon which governmental authority rests. The demand for governmental accountability is, so to speak, in our DNA, a genetic memory from a distant time of tyrannical kings, corrupt ministers and conniving agents who brandished executive power with little regard for the colonists' civil liberties. There is, today, no lack of interest in holding government accountable. It seems fair to say that "governmental accountability" is the issue of the season. Groups on the right, as reflected in the Tea Party, and those on the left, as glimpsed in the Occupy Movement have, for quite different reasons, raised doubts about governmental responsiveness and have stated their intentions to "take back our government" and to "restore our Constitution." But while the intentions and motives have been laudable there has been a general lament about the quality of civic dialogue, in particular, an absence of civility, which undermines influence and deters growth in the numbers of those who would engage in protest. In recent years, frankly, the quality of public debate has been disappointing. As a nation, we have witnessed too much yelling, too much incivility, and too much demagoguery. The uneven and, at times, impoverished debate that has resonated across America raises the question of how our civil dialogue can be improved, and how we can more effectively hold government accountable. Let us consider five modest suggestions to improve the quality of our civil discourse.

1. Stop Political Labeling. The practice of endorsing or dismissing an idea merely because it is characterized as liberal or conservative is the lazy citizen's way of avoiding the hard work of citizenship, which requires analysis of the relative merits of an idea or proposal. In fact, the practice of labeling is simplistic and circular, and little more than a self-fulfilling prophecy. It ignores, for example, the fact of changing definitions and shifting criteria that mark the fluidity of democratic politics. Widespread labeling, moreover, gives a pass to elected officials who know that they can woo and win an audience that is vulnerable to descriptions and judgments grounded in ideological characterizations.

2. Listen. Nobody has a monopoly on political wisdom. A refusal to listen to competing arguments, an exercise in arrogance, rests on the assumption that we have nothing to learn from our fellow citizens. The tenets of our constitutional democracy reject the concept of human infallibility and reflect the understanding that public policy can be improved through the process of discussion. Listening to an opposing position or dissenting opinion may lead us to reconsider the merits of our own position and, perhaps, affirm the strength of our convictions. Alternatively, it may also persuade us to recognize the deficiencies in our position and improve upon it, or embrace a different view. Everyone gains when we participate in this educational process. In the end, there are compelling reasons to appreciate dissenting opinions as contributions to public dialogue. Dissent has played a major role in American history, and the founders carved out protection for freedom of speech in the First Amendment, precisely because they valued dissent as a means of improving government policies and programs.

3. Citizens Must Be Fair To One Another. Constructive dialogue requires fair and accurate representations of opposing arguments, particularly in a system that rests on the principle of government based on the consent of the governed. "In a republic of truth," wrote the learned scholar, Francis Wormuth, "persuasion is the ultimate authority." That requires respect for facts and evidence and rejection of distortion, demagoguery and snake oil. Nothing of substance is achieved through the creation of straw-man arguments. Fooling people into adopting one's political position is a hollow victory; indeed, such fraudulent tactics contradict the premise of winning "consent" from one's fellow citizens, since people who are deceived are hardly "consenting" to something.

4. Avoid the Politics of Destruction. Politics is not war, and words are not bullets. It is wise to remember, after all, that in a democracy, which is fluid and reflective of changing views and values, and grounded in compromise, that today's opponent may be tomorrow's ally. It has been justly observed that we can, and should be tough on issues, but tender toward people. Thus, it is important to avoid coercion, threats and intimidation. The effort to destroy opponents, moreover, is likely to curb participation in politics, which further exacerbates apathy and cynicism. In a democracy, it should be recalled, we seek social conditions that encourage participation and honest give-and-take in the discussion of policies, programs and laws.

5. Avoid Ideological Rigidity. Compromise is the engine of democracy, a proven means of achieving consensus, which is critical to the establishment of political legitimacy and stability. Compromise is particularly important in a nation like the United States, which boasts many different views and values, derived from various religious faiths, political orientations and cultural patterns. Efforts to achieve ideological purity are fruitless; it is far better to gain something than nothing. Driving off the cliff, partisan flags flying, reflects the politics of impotence, for it shrinks political participation and squanders appeal and potential. The wages of rigidity may be measured in President Woodrow Wilson's refusal to negotiate with members of the U.S. Senate on his proposal for America's entry into the League of Nations. As observers noted, he "strangled his own baby."

The founders' goal of achieving governmental accountability, which drafted American citizens in their own great cause, remains our nation's greatest experiment. Attainment of the goal requires diligence, commitment and considerable work. The founding generation understood the responsibility that they were placing on the shoulders of the citizenry, but they believed that Americans' desire for self-governance would lessen the weight of that burden. We are entitled to ask, in the early years of our third century of constitutional experimentation, if our fellow citizens remain committed to

(See ACCOUNTABILITY, Page 12)

Idaho Humanities Council awards $75,000 in grants

The IHC awarded $75,575 in grants to organizations and individuals at its February board meeting in Boise. Thirty-nine awards include 28 grants for public humanities programs, seven grants to K-12 teachers, and four planning grants. 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:

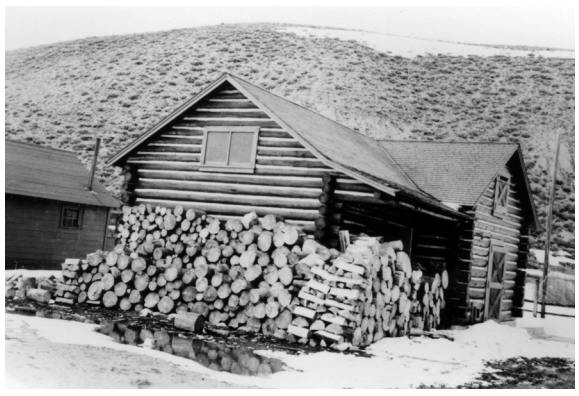
Public Program Grants:

James Lynch

The Lewiston City Library, Lewiston, received **$2,500** to support the annual community "Everybody Reads" one book program. Area community participants will read *Border Songs* by James Lynch. Lynch will visit the region for a five-day residency in both Washington and Idaho towns. He will make presentations to students and the general public in Lewiston, Moscow, and Nez Perce. **Jennifer Ashby** is the project director.

The Idaho Museum of Natural History, Pocatello, received **$3,500** to develop an interdisciplinary display at the museum on the significance of camas root in Native American culture. **Dawn Kimbrel** is the project director.

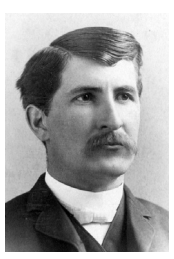
The Community Library, Ketchum, was awarded **$2,500** to help support its annual
Ernest Hemingway Symposium in October. Focusing on the theme of "Hemingway and Politics," the symposium will highlight how Ernest Hemingway's life and writing were influenced by world politics and how he may have used his writing to influence change. Several Hemingway scholars will make presentations. The project director is **Sandra Hofferber**.



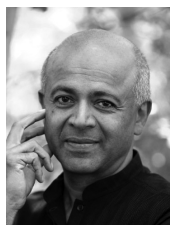
The Sawtooth Interpretive Center in Stanley received a grant to develop an exhibit about its ice house.

The Sawtooth Interpretive and Historical Association, Stanley, received **$2,500** to support the development of interpretive exhibits about the Ice House in Stanley that was used for almost five decades to store ice, carved from the area's alpine lakes during the winter, and distributed to local family ice boxes throughout the summer months. The exhibits, scheduled to open in August, at a public ice cream social, will illustrate the ice house as an important center of this rural community. **Terry Clark** is the project director.

The Idaho Association of Museums (Statewide), was awarded $3,000 for its annual conference in Wallace in April. Open to Idaho museum staff members, conference workshops focused on helping museums manage their collections and offered resources for creating educational programs. The project director was Mary Reed.



Lewis-Clark State College Center for Arts & History, Lewiston, received **$2,420** to develop two exhibits showcasing artifacts from the college's Henry Talkington collection. Talkington (born in 1860) taught history for LCSC and amassed a unique collection of artifacts resulting in one of Idaho's early historical museums. His collection was willed to the college and has been in storage for decades. The dedication of the exhibits, one in Talkington Hall and one in the Student Union Building, will be accompanied by a public lecture by local historian Steven Branting. **Jim Hepworth** is the project director.



Abraham Verghese

The Log Cabin Literary Center, Boise, was awarded $3,000 to help support its 2012-2013 "Readings & Conversations" series. Scheduled speakers include Abraham Verghese, physician and author of the current best-seller *Cutting for Stone*; Anthony Doerr, award-winning Boise writer and author of *Memory Wall*; Firoozeh Dumas, Iranian author of the memoir *Funny in Farsi*, about growing up Iranian in America; and Andrew Ross Sorkin, N. Y. Times reporter and author of the best-seller *Too Big to Fail*. The project director is **Larry Tierney**.

Arctic Circle Productions, Statewide, received **$3,500** to support the production of a 90-minute documentary film exploring the Country Life Movement, a Progressive Era movement beginning in 1905 with President Theodore Roosevelt and fading out in the 1920s. The documentary will explore the goal to help farmers, their wives, and their families become better educated and more productive with better access to modern equipment and education, in the process making country living as attractive and fulfilling as city life. The film ultimately will air statewide on public television. **Stephen Wursta** is the project director.

The Clayton Area Historical Association, Clayton, received **$1,100** to reprint a brochure about central Idaho mining history, available to visitors of the museum. The historic mining supply store built in 1880, the last remaining mining company store in Idaho, was converted into the local museum several years ago. The project director is **Jolene Ogden.**

The Mountain Home Historical Society, Mountain Home, was awarded **$1,000** to transcribe taped oral histories with Elmore County residents. The oral histories provide insight into the life and activity of historic Elmore County. The transcriptions will be reproduced into soft cover books to be available for the public. **Jamie McDaniel** is the project director.

The Global Lounge Group, Boise, was awarded **$3,500** to facilitate a "Global Village" three-day festival September 14-16, 2012 to showcase cultural diversity in the Treasure Valley. Booths will be made available for cultural groups to showcase their heritage, art, clothing, and music. It is hoped that the festival will enhance community understanding of the diverse cultures in the Boise community and lead to future cultural activities. The project director is **Dayo Ayodele**.

The Idaho Botanical Garden, Boise, received $2,165 to support the 2012 summer lecture series. The speakers and topics include: Priscilla Wegars, "Chinese in Idaho: Boise Basin," James Woods, "Prehistoric Tools and Weapons," Tom Bicak, Kathy Kershner and Brittany Jones, "Celebration Park History," and other topics. **Elizabeth Dickey** is the project director.

The Trailing of the Sheep Cultural Heritage Center, Inc., Hailey, was awarded **$3,000** to produce a video documentary to preserve stories gathered at the 2011 "Women Writing and Living the West" Symposium. Western women writers, including Teresa Jordan, Linda Hussa, Annick Smith, and Diane Josephy Peavey, joined western women ranchers and shared stories in a unique full-day of story-telling. The edited documentary will be available on the festival website, and distributed to libraries, universities, and communities. It will be shown at the introduction of future "Trailing of the Sheep" festivals. The project director is **Mary Crofts.**

The Community Library Network, Hayden, received **$1,882** for support of "North Idaho Reads" in 2012. The northern Idaho libraries in the library network – Coeur d'Alene, Athol, Post Falls, Spirit Lake, Hayden, Pinehurst, Rathdrum, Sandpoint, Priest River and Harrison – will join together in a program titled "The Future Is Yours – Join the *Fahrenheit 451* Conversation," scheduled to open October 6 during Banned Book Week. Participants will read *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury and join together for a series of book discussions and film programs encouraging dialogue about censorship and social conformity. The project director is **Twylla Rehder.**

The White Spring Ranch Museum/Archive Library, Genesee, was awarded **$1,275** for interpretive signage and archival supplies at the unique historical center. The signage will help direct the public to the museum and will explain the history and significance of the historic buildings. **Diane Conroy** is the project director.

The Boundary County Historical Museum, Bonners Ferry, was awarded **$2,000** for local interpretive exhibits to accompany the Smithsonian exhibit "The Way We Worked," on displayed from May 12-June 23, 2012. One exhibit will tell the story of the 100-year-old fire department, and the other will highlight the history of blacksmithing in the county. **Dottie Gray** is the project director.

The Rathdrum/Westwood Historical Society, Rathdrum, received **$1,000** to create two new exhibits for the museum, housed in the old Rathdrum jail. The exhibits will rotate during spring and summer. One exhibit will focus on the *Rathdrum Tribune*, the printing press, and the editor for 60 years, Joe Culp. The second exhibit will highlight the history of Rathdrum and surrounding towns. The Historical Society will host special public presentations with lectures about the history of the area. **Ellen Larsen** is the project director.

Planners will interpret the Minidoka experience in a 2013 publication.

The College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, received **$4,000** for a publication on the Minidoka Japanese Internment Camp, to be distributed in parks, historical societies, and college and university bookstores. Published in conjunction with the 70th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 to relocate Americans of Japanese descent from the Pacific Rim to inland states in the West, the book will focus on the camp story, but also will examine other aspects of the Japanese-American experience in Idaho. It will feature historic photographs, works of prestigious artists, and essays by highly-esteemed scholars. The project director is **Russ Tremayne.**

Idaho State University, Pocatello, was awarded **$3,000** to help support a three-day symposium on indigenous languages held in April of 2012. The symposium will included lectures and discussions illustrating the importance of language retention and revitalization, focusing on the language and culture of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe. **Beverly Klug** is the project director.

The City of Boise Dept. of Arts & History, received **$3,000** for the 2012-2013 season of the Fettuccine Forum, promoting civil, public dialogue on a variety of topics. The programs are held in the Rose Room in downtown Boise on First Thursdays in October through May. Upcoming topics include *The Left, the Right: Occupy Wall Street and the Tea Party,* Greg Hahn; *70th Anniversary of the Japanese-American Internment; Memory and History* Lynn Lubamersky; *And the Beat Goes On–Music: A Boise Legacy; Boise Then and Now,* Rich Binsacca; and *Boise Neighborhoods,* Tully Gerlach. **Mark Baltes** is the project director.

The Historical Museum at St. Gertrude, Cottonwood, was awarded **$2,000** to create a multimedia exhibition examining the lives of four women whose contributions influenced Idaho and the Pacific Northwest. Featured women include Sacajawea, Polly Bemis, Sister Alfreda Elsensohn, and Amy Trice. The multimedia exhibition will be accompanied by a series of public lectures. **Sue Tacke**

(See GRANTS, Page 7)

GRANTS

(Continued from Page 6)

is the project director.

The Idaho Mythweaver, Sandpoint, received **$1,900** to develop public presentations about the history of the Kalispel Indian Tribe in northern Idaho. Independent scholar Jane Fritz will utilize oral myths and legends, family histories, and published and unpublished writings about the Kalispel people, in particular the extensive ethnographic field notes of the late WSU anthropologist Allan H. Smith. Presentations will be made in Hope, Idaho, Spokane, Washington, and on the Kalispel Reservation. The project director is **Jane Fritz.**

The Malad Valley Welsh Foundation, Malad City, received **$1,000** to help support presentations at the annual Welsh festival, June 28-30, 2012. The festival celebrates Malad Valley's Welsh roots through educational presentations on the history, culture, and language of Wales. Workshops explore, Welsh language, Welsh history, ancient Welsh tribal history, and the history of the Welsh choirs, specifically in the Intermountain West. **Gloria Thomas** is the project director.

The Western Folklife Center (Statewide) was awarded **$3,500** to produce a public radio feature, a concert event in Boise, and an expansive website, all focused on the history of traditional fiddling music and the National Old Time Fiddlers' Contest in Weiser, Idaho. The program will examine the historical roots of fiddling, the music and social traditions, and will provide for a digitized archive to preserve this musical genre and make it more accessible to the public. The project director is **Taki Telondis.**

The University of Idaho, Moscow, was awarded **$1,999** for the annual public Philosophy Forum held as part of the Inland Northwest Philosophy Conference. Titled "Pragmatism, Law, and Language," and held in Moscow March 23, 2012, the forum examined the language of law from a pragmatic perspective. Designed to promote civic dialogue and civil discussion, participants discussed how language shapes the law, for example, in the meaning of the U.S. Constitution. **Graham Hubbs** was the project director.

The Bingham County Historical Society, Blackfoot, received **$2,000** for the preservation of photos in its collection. Preserving the photo collection will enable the society to make the photos more accessible to the public. **Janet Alvarez** is the project director.

The Portneuf District Library, Chubbuck, was awarded **$2,000** to help support a conference focused on mobile and cloud computing, eBooks in libraries, and literacy in school libraries. Held May 4, 2012, the conference included presentations and hands-on workshops for the southeastern Idaho region of libraries, including academic, public, school, and special libraries. The project director was **Jezmynne Dene.**

The Weippe Community Club, Weippe, received **$1,500** to help support presenters at the annual Camas Festival exploring Lewis and Clark history and Nez Perce Culture. This year the festival will focus on "Birds along the Trail," particularly birds first noted in Lewis and Clark Journals that are still in Idaho. Presentations on the history of bird migration, environmental impacts on bird habitats, Native American myths, and human interaction with birds combined with several complementary activities we part of the festival held May 25-26. **Marge Kuchynka** is the project director.

TEACHER INCENTIVE GRANTS:

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

Margaret Marti, Writers @ Harriman, Boise, received **$1,000** to explore storytelling during a week-long residency writing workshop for high school students. The camp brings students and teachers together in workshops and hands-on activities designed to engage student writers and promote increased learning.

Angela Housley, Washington Elementary School, Boise, was awarded **$1,000** to help purchase a classroom set of the new Idaho history textbook – *The Idaho Adventure*. Written by faculty in the Center for Idaho History and Politics at BSU, the new text encourages all levels of learners and promotes a desire to become better readers and learners.

Sandra Goffinet, Orofino High School, Orofino, received **$1,000** to work with several teachers in the school hosting guest speakers during Native American Heritage Month in November 2012. Teachers will develop curriculum on Nez Perce culture and engage their students to help plan for the speakers. Additional activities will complement the speakers during the week.

Edie Lustig, Grangeville Centennial Library, Grangeville, received **$1,000** for its summer reading program. Designed to encourage children to continue reading throughout summer vacation and to promote the enjoyment of reading, the program includes complementary activities to reward students.

Jan Green, Holy Spirit Catholic School, Pocatello, was awarded **$1,000** to purchase classroom sets of recommended humanities texts for teachers participating in an in-service project throughout the school year. The program brings teachers together for facilitated discussion about books they can use in their own classrooms. The class is offered with optional continuing education credit from ISU.

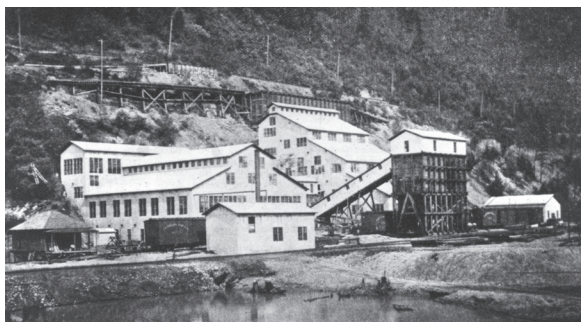
Shirley Ewing, Idaho Museum of Mining and Geology, Boise, was awarded **$450** to help support the Museum Rock Party in September. The event focuses on the mining, archeological and geologic history of Idaho. Several hands-on stations including fossil digs, mine mapping, gold panning, etc., are prepared and run by teachers and museum volunteers.

Susan Dransfield, Mary McPherson Elementary, Meridian, received **$1,000** to bring Writers in the Schools (WITS), a program offered by The Cabin in Boise, to the school's fifth-grade classrooms over a 12-week period. The program is designed to help teachers expand their methods for teaching writing. It provides professional growth for teachers and increases student writing skills in preparation for their advancement into secondary school. Students interact with professional writers during weekly visits.

PLANNING GRANTS:

Susan Miller, City of Caldwell, received **$1,000** to support a planning meeting with four experts in restoration and museum interpretation. The city is planning to restore and preserve the Van Slyke Museum, an outdoor agricultural museum housing log cabins, railroad cars, and historic agricultural equipment.

Harleen Baird, Mud Lake Historical Society, was awarded **$1,000** to support the opening of a museum in a restored building in downtown Mud Lake. They will begin preliminary gathering of photographs and will consult with a nearby museum director to begin the organization of materials and development of exhibits for the new site.



Interpretive signage will tell the story of the Hercules Mill in the Silver Valley.

Nina Eckberg, Panhandle Lakes Resource Conservation & Development, received $734 for an interpretive sign containing period photographs and text about the significance of the Hercules Mill to the region. The sign will be located within the right of way of the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes as a stopping place for tourists.

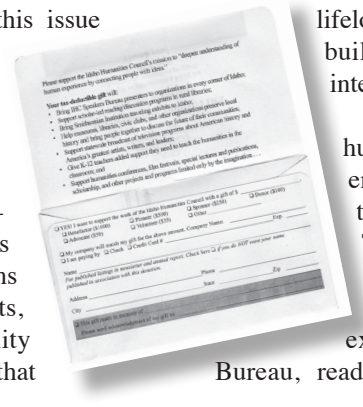
The City of Boise, Department of Arts & History, received $650 to support a planning meeting to begin development of an innovative, interactive tour of Boise's ethnic neighborhoods through photographs, music and oral history interviews.

The Next Deadline for Grants, Research:

The next deadline for grant proposals is **September 15, 2012.** IHC strongly recommends that prospective applicants contact staff to discuss their project ideas before writing their proposals. Applicants also are strongly encouraged to submit a rough draft of their proposal for staff critique several weeks prior to the deadline. Grant guidelines and online application instructions, as well as information about IHC grants and activities, are available on IHC's website at www.idahohumanities.org

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. ❖

Make your tax-deductible gift today!

IHC honors two for 'Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities'

The Idaho Humanities Council honored Boise educator and administrator Russ Heller and retired North Idaho College English Professor Virginia Tinsley Johnson this past spring for Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities. The two were honored in separate ceremonies in Boise on February 9 and in Coeur d'Alene on April 26 respectively.

Heller was honored not only for his exemplary career as a secondary history teacher and administrator for the Boise Independent School District for nearly four decades, but for his work mentoring history educators around the state, including sponsoring an outstanding annual history educators conference.

IHC Chair Katherine Aiken (center) stands between IHC Outstanding Achievement Award recipients (L to R): Ron Hatzenbuehler, Robert Sims, Russ Heller, and Patty Miller in Boise in February.

Heller began his teaching career at Boise High School in 1973, after a stint in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War, and following completion of his degree *magna cum laude* at Boise State University. Twenty-seven years later, he became supervisor of programs in history and social studies. At the same time, he co-founded and became executive director of the Idaho Council for History Education, for which he has planned memorable two-day annual history conferences every October, often involving nationally prominent, Pulitzer Prize-winning historians as lecturers each year. The conferences now attract teachers from all over Idaho and the Pacific Northwest.

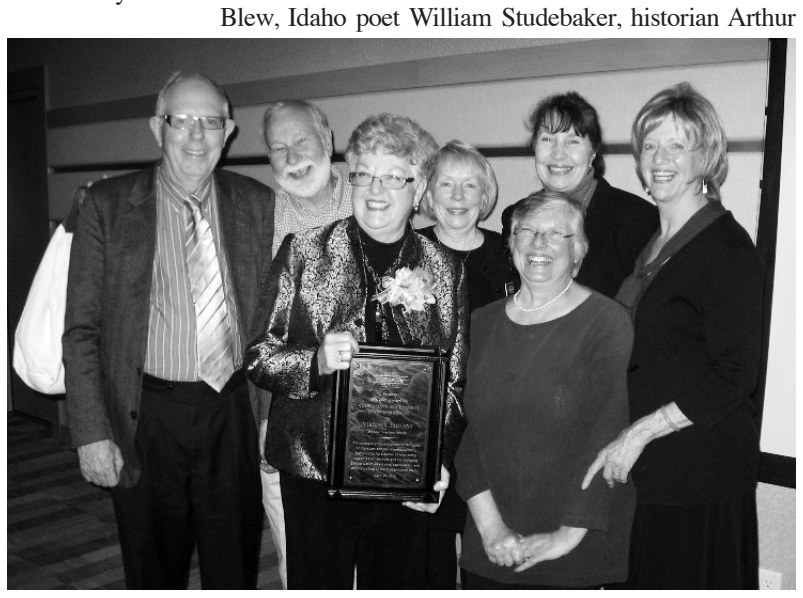
"Russ Heller's passion for history has been inspirational to students and teachers of all disciplines and grade levels," said Idaho Humanities Council Chair Katherine Aiken, Dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences at the University of Idaho. "He has devoted his life to helping other teachers become better equipped and prepared to teach history in a way that makes it come alive for students."

On the evening of the award ceremony, several colleagues and former students spoke about Heller's work in the humanities, and the appropriateness of the recognition, and helped "roast" him. Then Heller himself said a few words about his life's work in the humanities.

In Coeur d'Alene on April 26, about 150 attended the award ceremony for Virginia Johnson, who was honored for 40-plus years of service as a mentor English teacher to students and colleagues, her work as an NIC administrator, and her years of service in the public humanities to promote a love of art and literature off campus.

Over her career she taught thousands of students, and won several local and national awards for excellence in teaching, including the William H. Meardy Award for teaching from the Association of Community College Trustees.

Fascinated with the life of 18th century British writer and women's rights advocate Mary Wollstonecraft, Johnson took a sabbatical and went to Europe one year to trace Wollstonecraft's steps, returned to Coeur d'Alene, and developed a Chautauqua-style performance of Wollstonecraft for NIC's popular Popcorn Forum. She presented this performance many times.



Virginia Tinsley Johnson (with plaque) is surrounded by friends and colleagues who praised and roasted her at her award ceremony in Coeur d'Alene in April.

At her award ceremony a number of Johnson's colleagues properly roasted her before Johnson herself talked of her life in the humanities.

In nominating Virginia for the award, her NIC colleague Fran Bahr commented that Johnson "never ceases to serve, support, encourage, cajole, recommend, advertise, and assist those in the humanities."

The IHC has presented its award for "Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities" annually since 1986. Previous recipients of the award have included independent historian Keith Petersen, Twin Falls anthropologist James Woods, Boise State University History Professor Robert Sims, College of Idaho Professor Louie Attebery, State Historian Merle Wells, Idaho State University of Idaho Political Science Professor David Adler, Coeur d'Alene human rights activist Tony Stewart, Moscow writer Mary Clearman Blew, Idaho poet William Studebaker, historian Arthur Hart, Nez Perce elder Horace Axtell, former Lewis-Clark State College English Professor Keith Browning, Idaho State University History Professor Ron Hatzenbuehler, Basque Museum and Cultural Center Director Patty Miller, and others. ❖

US Bancorp supports 'Let's Talk About It' program for 2012-2013

Fifteen Idaho libraries will participate in the 2012-2013 "Let's Talk About It" program, thanks to a generous grant to the Idaho Humanities Council from the US Bancorp Foundation.

"Let's Talk About It" (LTAI) is the library reading and discussion program that brings people together with scholars in mostly rural community libraries for discussions of books exploring a variety of themes. It is a program that is greatly appreciated by library patrons, mostly in rural areas, who don't often have access to informative scholar-led discussion programs. The US.Bancorp grant will help support five reading-discussion programs over the course of a season in each of the 15 libraries, for a total of 75 library book discussions.

The US Bancorp Foundation grant will help support scholar honoraria and travel to libraries to moderate discussions, new books, and promotion. The program is a partnership of U.S. Bank, the IHC, and the Idaho Commission for Libraries. The ICL has managed the program for more than 25 years. Project Director Dian Scott selects participating libraries, contracts with scholars, and ships multiple copies of books to the libraries.

"U.S. Bank is happy to support this great program that brings people together all over Idaho to discuss books and ideas," said US Bank Senior Vice President Rob Aravich, while presenting a check at the Idaho Humanities Council offices recently. "This is a program that educates and builds community relationships, and it touches so many towns throughout Idaho."

US Bancorp once again presented a check this summer to IHC in support of the statewide Let's Talk About It program. L to R: LTAI Coordinator Dian Scott, US Bank Senior Vice President Rob Aravich, and IHC Director Rick Ardinger.

Each participating library will host five scholar-led discussions over the course of a season. Some of the themes include "Across Cultures and Continents," "Living in the Modern West," "Our Earth, Our Ethics," "We Are What We Eat," "American Characters," "Working: Making A Living, Making A Life," and other themes. Scholars from nearly all of Idaho's institutions of higher education participate in the program as book discussion leaders in 75 library meetings.

This year, the LTAI program introduces four new themes: "The Humanity of Science and Technology," "Connecting Generations," "Humor and Satire," and "Idaho at 150: Idaho's Territorial Sesquicentennial." New themes recently were developed by BSU English Professor Tara Penry and BSU Professor Emeritus Chuck Guilford.

The 15 participating libraries will be selected later in the summer of 2012.

The LTAI program has been a partnership of the Idaho Commission for Libraries (formerly the Idaho State Library), the Idaho Humanities Council, and US Bank for many years. Since the beginning of the program nearly three decades years ago, programs have been held in nearly 100 different Idaho communities.

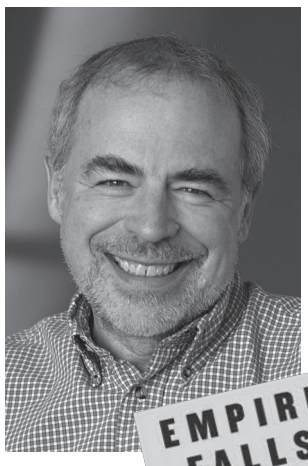
LTAI provides a rich cultural experience involving great literature, guest humanities scholars, and in-depth conversations on diverse topics. Program participants expand their reading interests, meet new people, and explore important cultural issues in the context of their own lives and the lives of others.

Thanks to US Bancorp's generous support (since 1998), the program continues reaching Idahoans of all ages through valuable reading and discussion.

"Let's Talk About It has been a flagship program of the Idaho Humanities Council and the Idaho Commission for Libraries for many years," said IHC Chairman Kathy Aiken, Dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences at the University of Idaho. "This is what lifelong learning in the humanities is all about, and we're happy US Bank has been such a loyal supporter of the program."

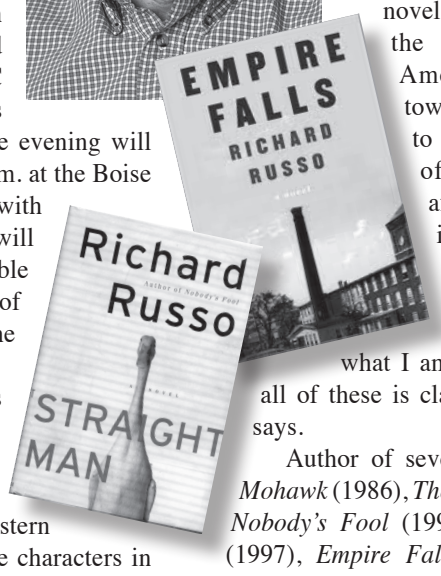
For more information about Let's Talk About It, see the Idaho Commission for Libraries website at libraries.idaho.gov/landing/lets-talk-about-it or contact Project Director Dian Scott, Idaho Commission for Libraries at (208) 334-2150. ❖

Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Richard Russo will speak in Boise, Saturday, September 29



Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Richard Russo will be the speaker at the IHC's 16th Annual Distinguished Humanities Lecture and Dinner on Saturday, September 29, 2012, 7 p.m., at the Boise Centre.

Tickets are available now for purchase online at www.idahohumanities.org under "IHC Events," or by calling the IHC at 345-5346. General tickets are $60. Benefactor tickets are $125, offering an invitation to a pre-dinner reception with Russo in a private home and preferred seating at the dinner and lecture. IHC always recommends reserving tickets early as the event usually sells out. The evening will begin with a no-host reception at 6:00 p.m. at the Boise Centre. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m., with Russo's talk to follow. Russo's books will be available onsite and he'll be available for signing afterwards. A silent auction of signed first edition books will be in the lobby of the Boise Centre.



Russo is regarded by many critics as the best writer about small-town America since Sherwood Anderson and Sinclair Lewis. His novels are set in fading industrial towns throughout the northeastern United States, towns that almost become characters in their own right. From the gossip and the resentments to the people and the cafes, Russo chronicles blue-collar America in ways constantly surprising and utterly revealing. During his evening in Boise, Russo will talk about his life, his work, the liberal dose of humor that fuels his fiction, and the art of intertwining tragedy and comedy throughout his work to create the natural tensions of everyday working life.

His novel *Empire Falls*, a tragicomic story that explores relationships in a once-thriving Maine textile mill town gone bust, won the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for literature, and was later made into an HBO miniseries. An earlier novel, *Nobody's Fool*, premiered as a Hollywood film in 1994, starring Paul Newman, and allowed Russo to retire from university teaching to devote himself to his work.

One of the recurring themes in several of his novels is the way that the decline of the American factory town, as it succumbs to the brutal realities of globalization, affects the lives of its citizens who would otherwise be resistant to change. "Really, what I am writing about in all of these is class and work," he says.

Author of seven novels so far– *Mohawk* (1986), *The Risk Pool* (1988), *Nobody's Fool* (1993), *Straight Man* (1997), *Empire Falls* (2001), *Bridge of Sighs* (2007), and *That Old Cape Magic* (2009), Russo also has published a collection of short stories, *The Whore's Child and Other Stories* (2002). A memoir entitled *Elsewhere* will appear in the fall of 2012.

Born in 1949 in Gloversville, New York, a town much like the ones he depicts in his books, Russo now lives in coastal Maine with his wife and their two daughters. ❖

BOISE STATE PUBLIC RADIO

IDAHO PUBLIC TELEVISION

OfficeMax® Boise Community Fund

Idaho Statesman
Idaho's news source >> Since 1864
IDAHOSTATESMAN.COM

IHC's Distinguished Humanities Lecture & Dinner with Richard Russo, 7:00 p.m., Saturday, September 29, Boise Centre

Name_____Telephone (____)_____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

_____ Benefactor Tickets @ $125/ person

_____ Benefactor Tables for 10 @ $1000

_____ General Tickets @ $60/person

_____ General Tables for @ $600

_____ Vegetarian Meals (include name of guest)

_____Donation for student scholarship tickets

Paying $ _____by check. Make checks payable to: Idaho Humanities Council

Charge $ _____ to my credit card:

❑ Visa
❑ Mastercard
❑ American Express

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Please print name as it appears on the card _____

Signature _____

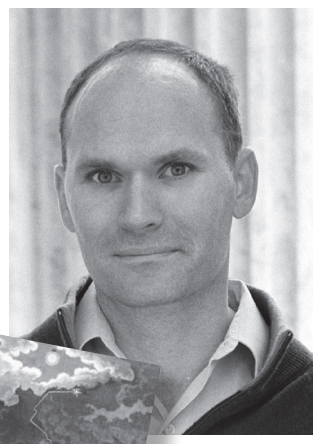
❑ I am unable to attend, but enclosed is my donation to the IHC $ _____

If purchasing a table, please attach a sheet with names of guests. Otherwise, their tickets will be held under your name at the door.

If paying by credit card, you may use this form and fax it to (208) 345-5347. Reservations will be made upon receipt of payment. All reservations will be confirmed by letter. Tickets will not be sent, and table designations will be available at the door. If you are supporting student scholarships to attend, you will receive a special acknowledgement letter and recognition from IHC at the dinner. Idaho civics teachers are working with the IHC to identify scholarship recipients. For more information, call (888) 345-5346.

Please clip and complete this form and return it to:
Idaho Humanities Council
217 W. State St., Boise, ID 83702

Awawrd-winning writer Anthony Doerr to speak in Coeur d'Alene, Friday, October 12



Prize-winning writer Anthony Doerr will be the speaker at the IHC's 9th Annual Northern Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture and Dinner on Friday, October 12, 2012, 7 p.m., at the Coeur d'Alene Resort. Tickets to the event are available now.

Doerr's books include the much-praised short story collection *The Shell Collector*, a novel *About Grace*, and a memoir *Four Seasons in Rome: On Twins, Insomnia, and the Biggest Funeral in the History of the World*.

His latest collection of stories (and two novellas) is *Memory Wall*, which features stories set on four different continents, each primarily about the fragility of collective and personal memory. The book won the 2010 Story Prize, and the title story of the collection currently is being adapted as a feature film.

Doerr's short fiction has won four O. Henry Prizes and has been anthologized in *The Best American Short Stories*, *The Anchor Book of New American Short Stories*, and *The Scribner Anthology of Contemporary Fiction*. He has won the Barnes & Noble Discover Prize, the Rome Prize, the New York Public Library's Young Lions Fiction Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, an NEA Fellowship, the National Magazine Award for Fiction, two Pushcart Prizes, the Pacific Northwest Book Award, three Ohioana Book Awards, the 2010 Story Prize, and the 2011 London *Sunday Times* EFG Short Story Award, which is considered the largest prize in the world for a single short story.

His books have twice been listed as *New York Times* "Notable Books" and made a number of other year-end "Best Of" lists. In 2007, the British literary magazine *Granta* placed Doerr on its list of 21 Best Young American novelists.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, and educated at Bowdoin College in Maine, Doerr lives in Boise with his wife and two sons. He teaches now and then in the low-residency MFA program at Warren Wilson College in North Carolina, and his book reviews and travel essays appear in the *New York Times*. He also writes a regular column on science books for the *Boston Globe*.

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 $100, offering an invitation to a pre-dinner reception with Doerr in a private home and preferred seating at the dinner and lecture. IHC always recommends reserving tickets early as the event often sells out.

Since 2004, the IHC has been bringing prominent historians, journalists, and fiction writers to Coeur d'Alene, including presidential biographer Robert Dallek (2004), western writer Ivan Doig (2005), journalist Susan Orlean (2006), *War Letters* collector Andrew Carroll (2007), former National Public Radio News Analyst Juan Williams (2008), National Book Award winner Timothy Egan (2009), detective novelist Sara Paretsky (2010), and Pulitzer Prize-winning Civil War historian James McPherson (2011). ❖

COEUR d'ALENE PRESS

IDAHO PUBLIC TELEVISION

IDAHO FOREST GROUP

NIT NORTH IDAHO TITLE
A MOTHER LODE COMPANY

IHC's North Idaho Distinguished Humanities Lecture & Dinner with Anthony Doerr, 7:00 p.m., Friday, October 12, 2012, Coeur d'Alene Resort

Name_____Telephone (____)_____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

_____ Benefactor Tickets @ $100/ person

_____ Benefactor Tables for 8 @ $800

_____ General Tickets @ $45/person

_____ General Tables for 8 @ $360

_____ Vegetarian Meals (include name of guest)

_____Donation for student scholarship tickets

Paying $ _____by check. Make checks payable to: Idaho Humanities Council

Charge $ _____ to my credit card:

❑ Visa
❑ Mastercard
❑ American Express

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Please print name as it appears on the card _____

Signature _____

❑ I am unable to attend, but enclosed is my donation to the IHC $ _____

If purchasing a table, please attach a sheet with names of guests. Otherwise, their tickets will be held under your name at the door.

If paying by credit card, you may use this form and fax it to (208) 345-5347. Reservations will be made upon receipt of payment. All reservations will be confirmed by letter. Tickets will not be sent, and table designations will be available at the door. If you are supporting student scholarships to attend, you will receive a special acknowledgement letter and recognition from IHC at the dinner. Idaho civics teachers are working with the IHC to identify scholarship recipients. For more information, call (888) 345-5346.

Please clip and complete this form and return it to:
Idaho Humanities Council
217 W. State St., Boise, ID 83702

IHC Warmly Thanks Idaho Humanities Council Donors!

Contributions made between November 1, 2011 and July 11, 2012

Champion ($2,500 +)
The J.R. Simplot Foundation

Benefactor ($1,000 - $2,499)Anonymous
AJ & Susie Balukoff
Tom & Alice Hennessey
Wilson, Harris & Company

Pioneer ($500 - $999)
Rick & Rosemary Ardinger
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Jenny Emery Davidson & Mark Davidson
Jennifer Holley
Tim & Anne Hopkins
Carol MacGregor PhD Philanthropic Gift Fund in the Idaho Community Foundation
Ed & Cathie Marohn
Dick & Susan Parrish
Helen John Foundation
Kathleen Ruyts
Laura & Andy Stento

Sponsor ($250 - $499)
Katherine Aiken
George & Karen Baker
Charles & Marjorie Bolles
Edd & Wilma Bowler
Dick & Vonnie Lue Broulim
Patrick Day
Art & Nancy Flagan
Jeff & Evin Fox
Cristina Gospodnetich
Charles Guilford
Sharon Hanson through the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation
Chris & Mark Hatch
Marc & Pat Johnson
Chris & Marie Kantarian
Joy & Thomas Kealey Foundation
Rosemary McGrath
Betsy & John McTear
Beret Norman & Seth Thomas
Rick & Lisa Ogle
Skip & Esther Oppenheimer
Ron Pisaneschi & Virginia Bennett
Nick & Sharon Purdy
Rep. John & Kay Rusche
Laura & Alan Shealy
Craig & Jane Spencer
Mark & Cindy Wang

Donor ($100 - $249)
Ingrid Koch-Adler
Erik & Janice Anderson
Gov. Cecil & Carol Andrus
Margo Aragon
Robert Barclay
Hope Benedict & Stewart Carrington
Pam Bernard
Jean Betebenner
John Bieter
Uyless Black
Roger Blew
Don Bott & Judy Austin
Bruce Bradberry
Barbara Brown
Keith Browning
Conrad & Sharon Colby
John & Diane Crim
Shirley Crowe
Glenn & Stephanie Crumrine
Charlene Curry
Barbara Dargatz
Jay & Judy Darrington
Fritz & Gene Dickey
Thomas & Linda Dixon
Ted & Darlene Dyer
Terry Engebretsen
Diane & Steven Fields
Friends of Jerome Public Library
Judith Gaarder
Forrest & Lynne Geerken
Jerry & Julie Glenn
Roger & Kathy Baker Grigg
Peter Grubb & Betsy Bowen
Stanley Hall & Elizabeth Olberding
Arthur & Dee Hart
Ron & Linda Hatzenbuehler
Bonita Hepworth
Mark & Lynn Hofflund
Dr. Bob & Patti Holman
Robert & Leslee Hoover
Marilyn Howard
Dan & Gail Hunt
James & Lorna Irwin
Margaret E. Johnson
Marjie Johnson
Anne Marie & Harold Jones
Michael Kennedy
Bonnie Krafchuk
Scott Kreiling
Arthur & Annaliese Kull
Brent & Carol Lloyd
Wallace Lonergan
Margaret Nell Longeteig
John & Patricia Lough
Grace & Clark Lusk
H.F. Magnuson Family Foundation
Alexandra Manning Paul March
John Matthew & Judy McKay
Ken & Amy Mecham
Jo Anne Minnick through the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation
S. Jackie Montgomery
Michael Moore
Ray & Jane Morgan
Charley & Janet Mosier
Duane & Ruthie Nellis
Arlene Oyer
Lew & Donna Pence
Audrey Peterson
Marty & Barb Peterson
Bob & Calista Pitts
Dan Popkey
Mary Ellen & Dick Pugh
Charles & Mary Reed
Bruce Reichert
Earl & Jodi Reynolds
Chris & Petra Riggs
Ed & Sheila Robertson
Sylvia & Jim Robison
John Rosholt
Rudy & Angela Rossmann
ROW Adventures & River Dance Lodge
Rena Sanderson
Donnel Schmidt
Thad & Judy Scholes
Marilyn Shuler
Max & Carole Smolinski
Walt & Kristin Sinclair
David & Patty Skinner
Todd & Gina Stevenson
Fay & Wayne Sweney
Brian Thom & Ardele Hanson
Fred & Joan Thompson
Michael & Sue Tomlin
Jeff & Karan Tucker
John & Jeanette Ullery
Jesse Walters
Priscilla Wegars
Betty Weston
Ralph & Carolyn Wolter
Robert & Sheila Wood
Jim & Cyndie Woods
Virginia Woolley
Gary & Janet Wyke

Advocate ($50 - $99)
Jan M. Alden
Anonymous
Kathryn Arneson
Barbara Arnold
Scott K. P. Arnold & Maura L. Goddard
Susan Ault
Fran Bahr
Chris & Sue Baughn
Frederick Belzer & Theresa Kaufmann
Julio & Julie Bilbao
Tom & Florence Blanchard
Glenn & Glida Bothwell
Roger & Bonnie Brazier
Ross Burkhart
Ann Carlson
Robert & Eleanor Carriker
Karen Christenson
James & Ellen Close
Leo & Lulu Mae Coates
Dillon & Audrey Cole
Gail Corlett-Trueba
Joan Cox
Big Mallard Books
Bill Dryden
Mrs. William Eberle Carolyn Eiriksson
Maria G. Essig
Shirley Ewing & Bill Ondrechen
Marcia Franklin
Dr. Allan & Fran Frost
Dick & Susan Gardner Jim & Barbara Gentry
Ronald Goble
Gratia Griffith
John & Kathy Grossenbacher
Hagerman Valley Historical Society
Ron & Ellie Hampton
Society of Mayflower Descendants in Idaho
Craig Harline
Larry & Barbara Harrison
Joan Hartnett
Tom & Roberta Heinrich Jr.
Dave & Lindy High
Butch Hjelm
Chuck & Kathy Hosack
Charles & Calista Hummel
Dave Humphrey
Cynthia Carr Jenkins
Bill & Cheryl Johnson
Daniel & Carmelyn Johnson
Rochelle Johnson & Don Mansfield
Ann Joslin
Ed & Martha Keener
Rae Ann Larson
Melinda Lindsey
Corinne Lyle
Louise & Terry Maley
Charles & Sonia Mastache
Ann Mattoon
Alberta Mayo C. Thomas & Sabra McCreedy
Memorial Community Center
Susanne Miller
James Wolf & Dinu Mistry Wolf
Gayle Moore
Delos & Mary Ann Newcomer
Susan Norton
Tim Norton
Owen & Janet Orndorff
Michael & Cathryn Pankau
Del Parkinson
Keith Petersen & Mary Reed
Bruce Robbins & Maggie Chase
Joseph & Rita Rodriguez
Hazel Rose
Steve & Dede Ryan
Jerry & Ann Shively
Bob & Bessie Skinner
Steve & Betty Slifer
Mary Sorenson
Susan Spafford
Lee Starr
Brent & Kay Stauff
Midge Thysell
Ed & Judy Torgerson
Cutler & Nancy Umbach
Gayle Valentine & Keith Kiler
Theodore Watanabe
Connie Weaver
Ralph & Ann Wheeler

Volunteer (Up to $49 Anonymous
James Armstrong
Joe & Harriet Berenter
Mary Lee & Ray Blackford
Roger & Donna Boe
Richard & Aris Boyle
Isabel Brassey
Lisa Cafferty
Lynda Campbell Clark
Sylvia Campbell
Jean Chantrill
Claire & Lennard Chin
John & Jacqueline Cooney
Alan & Alice Crockett
Carol Delaney
Mary DeWalt
Alexandra Kennedy Fast & Helga Fast
Friends For Learning
Mary Jane Fritzen
Jean Hanson
Georgia Haynes
Carol Hearne
Ms. John Horning
Rick Jung Jonathan & Pamela Lawson
Bethea Lenzi
Bob & Ann Loucks
Lee McGlinsky
Carol Mobley
Larry & Barbara Nelson
Steve & Vera Noyce
James & Benita Odenkirk
Bill & Kathie Phoenix
Phyllis Pierce
Mike & Sharon Ripley
Karen Rumpel
Maria Salazar
Neil & Deborah Schafer
Ken & Janet Sherman
Jeff Sherwood
Marjorie Slotten
Barbara Strickfaden
Teton Valley Museum Foundation
Walt & Mary Thode
Mary Trail
Dick Wandrocke
Suzanne Woodcock
Harald Wyndham
Edward & Cheryl Zaladonis

IN MEMORIAM

In memory of John Lytle
Ron James & Lili Zou
In memory of Harold Clark Miles & Marjorie Ellis Miles
David Clark Miles
In memory of Amy Margaret Christie
Alan & Anne Christie
In memory of Mary Inman
Phyllis Perrine
In memory of Bill Studebaker
Louie & Barbara Attebery
In memory of John P. Whitted
Milly Whitted
In memory of Katherine Troutner
Earnest Johnson
In memory of William A. Trueba
Gail Corlett-Trueba
In memory of Jack R. Ward
Keith J. & Rowena K. Ward
In memory of Stan E. Ward
Keith J. & Rowena K. Ward
In memory of David Eldon Robertson
Keith J. & Rowena K. Ward
In memory of Vickie J. Simmons
Melinda Lindsey
In memory of Dixie Anderson
Brent & Carol Lloyd
In memory of Roberta DeLuce Hartnack
Brent & Carol Lloyd
In memory of Lorraine A. Clements
Roger & Bonnie Brazier
In memory of John and Warren Porter
Jerry & Julie Glenn
In memory of Rob Roy Spafford
Susan Spafford
In memory of Bayless Manning
Alexandra Manning
In memory of Dinah Jackson
Bethea Lenzi
In memory of Harriet Badesheim
Alexandra Kennedy Fast & Helga Fast
In memory of Forrest Church
Ann Mattoon

IN HONOR

In honor of Ron Hatzenbuehler
Chapter AA PEO
In honor of Byron Johnson
Gayle Valentine & Keith Kiler
In honor of Jana Jones
Marilyn Howard
In honor of Lindy High
Marilyn Howard
In honor of Marybeth Flachbart
Marilyn Howard
In honor of Russ Heller
David & Patty Skinner
In honor of Katherine Aiken
John & Karen Rosholt

IHC thanks Idaho Heritage Trust for support

Thanks to financial support and advice from the Idaho Heritage Trust, the foundation of Centennial House, home of the Idaho Humanities Council offices at 217 W. State Street in Boise, is strengthened and stabilized. Centennial House is part of an historic district in Boise.

Built in 1899, Centennial House was home to a pair of sisters who were both public school teachers for many years. An addition was added to the back of the original Victorian clapboard structure shortly after it was completed. However, a second story screened porch was later added and closed in to increase living space, and the foundation beneath the addition was not adequate. Over decades the addition began to slump on withering timbers, and cracks began to appear in the interior walls.

Consultation and financial support from the Idaho Heritage Trust helped reinforce the foundation of Centennial House, home of IHC offices, built in 1899.

On the advice of IHT architectural preservationist Fred Walters in 2011, an engineering firm drew up plans and a contractor stabilized the structure to last at least another century.

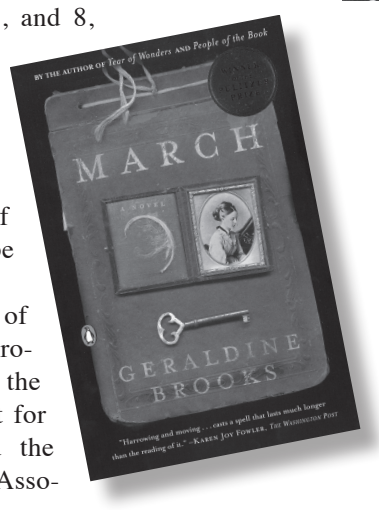
Several blocks east of the State Capitol, Centennial House was donated to the Idaho Humanities Council in 1986 by Guy and Linda Hurlbutt of Boise. It served as the office of the Idaho Centennial Commission from 1987 to 1991, after which it became the staff office and permanent headquarters of the IHC.

Many thanks to the Idaho Heritage Trust for its support of the Idaho Humanities Council, and for the IHT's ongoing work preserving many other historic structures throughout Idaho. ❖

Sign up now to participate in American Civil War reading program

In commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War (1861-1865), the Idaho Humanities Council, in partnership with the Andrus Center for Public Policy at Boise State University, is offering a five-meeting, scholar-led reading/discussion program in Boise exploring the theme "Making Sense of the American Civil War," in October of 2012. The program is free and anyone interested in participating may apply by submitting all their contact information and a brief paragraph stating why you wish to participate to Debra Schlechte at debra@idahohumanities.org. Seating is limited and participants must commit to attend all five meetings. IHC will make three books available on loan to participants for the series. **The deadline to apply is Setember 7**.

The five two-hour book discussions are scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., on the following dates: October 23, 25, 30, November 1, and 8, at Boise State University's Ron and Linda Yanke Family Research Park, 220 E. Parkcenter Boulevard, so plenty of easy parking will be available.



"Making Sense of the Civil War," is a program developed by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association to give a glimpse of the vast sweep and profound breadth of Americans' war among and against themselves. The series is organized as a series of "conversations" that are meant to be considered together. Each conversation is itself arranged as an unfolding story, moving forward in time. Some of the readings were written by eye-witnesses, some written for perhaps only one other person to read, while others were well researched after the passage of time and imagined for vast audiences. A hundred and fifty years after the defining war in our nation's history, Americans are still discovering its meanings.

The discussion series is based on the readings of three books. *March*, by Geraldine Brooks, is a Pulitzer Prize-winning historical novel which tells its story through the voices of characters from another novel, *Little Women*, by Louisa May Alcott. *America's War*, edited by historian Edward L. Ayers, is mostly a collection of writings by people who had to decide for themselves before and during the war where justice, honor, duty, and loyalty lay, including selections written by Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, Mark Twain, Henry David Thoreau, and many others. *Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam*, by historian James McPherson, explores the battle in the fall of 1862 that changed the course of the Civil War.

Scholars who will lecture and facilitate discussions so far include Andrus Center President Marc Johnson, constitution scholar and new Andrus Center Director David Adler, and BSU History Professor Lisa Brady.

Once participants are selected, IHC will make the books available early so readers are prepared well in advance of the meetings.

Andrus Center to convene October 25 public conference on 'Why the Civil War Still Matters'

Some of the nation's most respected Civil War historians will be at Boise State University on Thursday, October 25, 2012, for a one-day conference entitled *Why the Civil War Still Matters*.

The conference, which is open to the public, is sponsored by Andrus Center for Public Policy in partnership with the Idaho Humanities Council and the Idaho Council on History Education. Registration for the conference will be open later this summer at the Andrus Center website: www.andruscenter.org

The conference will feature presentations by:

Dr. David Adler, the newly named Director of the Andrus Center, and a national recognized scholar of the Constitution and the American presidency.

Dr. Gary Gallagher is the John L. Nau III Professor in the History of the American Civil War at the University of Virginia and author and editor of numerous works on the war. Dr. Gallagher has twice been recipient of the Laney Prize for the best book on the Civil War as well as the William Woods Hassler Award for contributions to Civil War studies. His most recent book is *The Union War.*

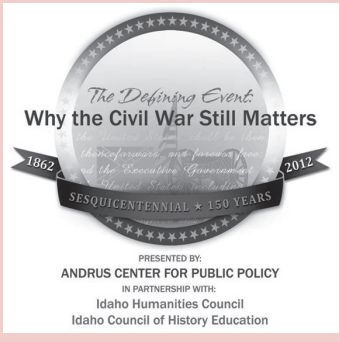
Dr. Joan Waugh is an Associate Professor of History at the University of California at Los Angeles. Dr. Waugh received the William Henry Seward Award for Excellence in Civil War Biography for her critically acclaimed book *U.S. Grant – American Hero, American Myth*.

Dr. Lisa M. Brady is an Associate Professor of History at Boise State University and the author of *War Upon the Land: Military Strategy and the Transformation of Southern Landscapes During the American Civil War*.

Jeffry Wert is a well-known military historian of the Civil War who has written both battle histories and biography. His book, *Gettysburg – Day Three* was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

"The 150th anniversary of what might be considered the defining event in our history seems an appropriate moment to reflect on why and how the war that once threatened to destroy the great American experiment continues to influence our politics and our culture," said Marc C. Johnson, president of the Andrus Center.

"So many of the on-going debates in the country, including federal-state relations, race, the Constitution and the powers of the presidency have roots in the Civil War. It is impossible to understand the modern United States without understanding the war that ended nearly 150 years ago, but in some respects has never ended."



CDA Public Library program begins Nov. 8

Coeur d'Alene Public Library (702 E. Front Street) will offer a five-meeting, scholar-led, reading discussion program on "Making Sense of the American Civil War" over five Thursdays, beginning in November. The series will take place in the library conference room on **November 8, 15, 29, December 13, and 20**, beginning at 7 p.m. each night. Members of the public interested in participating should contact Coeur d'Alene Public Library Communications Coordinator David Townsend at dtownsend@cdalibrary.org or call (208) 769-2315, ext. 426. Participants must commit for the whole series and sign up early, allowing time to read the books. The library will lend copies of the three texts to all participants in advance of the series.

For more information about the series, see IHC's website at www.idahohumanities.org, or contact the Idaho Humanities Council at (208) 345-5346. ❖

News & Opportunities

Boise 150 Publishing Opportunity

Boise's story is as diverse and complex as the people who have made Boise home for the past 150 years. As the city commemorates its sesquicentennial in 2013, the year-long event--Boise 150--is a unique opportunity to recognize the city's past and contemplate its future. Boise residents, businesses, and organizations are invited to host community events, collect and document their histories, and share in conversation about our city.

The Boise City Department of Arts & History seeks original written contributions from anyone, of any age, from anywhere, of any genre that explore one or more of the three Boise 150 themes: Enterprise, Environment, and Community. Accepted submissions will be included in a BOISE 150 book of compilations [title to be determined] that will be distributed in summer of 2013. The deadline is September 15.

For application information, visit www.boiseartsandhistory.org.

2012 National Preservation Conference in Spokane

The National Preservation Conference will be held October 31-November 1 in Spokane, WA. It's a unique

(See NEWS, Page 12)

IDAHO Humanities COUNCIL

217 West State Street • Boise, Idaho 83702

Change Service Requested

Time for a change? Please let us know by checking the appropriate box below and returning with your label:

❑ Name misspelled ❑ Contact person changed
❑ Wrong address ❑ Received more than one
❑ Remove from mailing list

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Boise, ID
Permit No. 679

NEWS *(Continued from Page 11)*

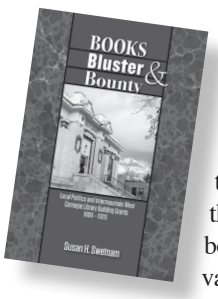
convening of approximately 2,000 professionals and enthusiasts, and provides Idaho residents with a unique opportunity to network, to learn and to receive high-level training in historic preservation, community revitalization and related fields. Preservation Idaho members, historic preservation commissioners and local historical society and museum directors will find exceptional opportunities for training and networking. For more information visit www.preservationidaho.org.

Rave reviews for Kim Barnes' latest novel

Moscow novelist Kim Barnes is receiving rave reviews of her third novel *In the Kingdom of Men*, a story set in Saudi Arabia in the 1960s. Barnes teaches writing in the University of Idaho's MFA program, and is the author of two memoirs and two other published novels. She's on tour now promoting this new book. Born and raised near Lewiston, Barnes was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 1997 for her memoir *In the Wilderness: Coming of Age in Unknown Country*.

ISU Professor publishes book on Carnegie Library history

ISU English Professor Susan Swetnam has published a new book on the history of the Carnegie Library system in the West. *Books, Bluster, and Bounty: Local Politics and Intermountain West Carnegie Library Building Grants, 1898-1920* examines a cross-section of Carnegie library applications to determine how local support was mustered for cultural institutions in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century West. This comparative study considers the entire region between the Rockies and the Cascades/Sierras, including all of Idaho, Utah, Nevada, and Arizona; western Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado; eastern Oregon and Washington; and small parts of California and New Mexico.



Swetnam addresses not only the how of the process but also the why. Although virtually all citizens and communities in the West who sought Carnegie libraries expected tangible benefits for themselves that were only tangentially related to books, what they specifically wanted varied in correlation with the diverse nature of western communities. By looking at the detailed records of the Carnegie library campaigns, the author is able to provide an alternative lens through which to perceive and map the social-cultural makeup and town building of western communities at the turn of the century.

The 264-page book is available for $32.95, or as an e-book for $26.00, from Utah State University Press at www.usupress.org.

ACCOUNTABILITY *(Continued from Page 5)*

the values and principles of republicanism.

In this presidential campaign, and the other races for political office we can, in the name of governmental accountability, require those who would wield power in our name, to fully articulate, explain and defend their positions on the various issues and challenges that confront our state and nation. That requirement marks the threshold of responsibility for those who would govern, and for those who would demand complete accountability of the government to the governed. In the annals of American political history, no statesman or jurist has more ably stated the role and responsibility of the citizenry than Justice Louis Brandeis who, in 1927, in Whitney v. California, justly observed: "Those who won our independence believed that the final end of the state was to make men free to develop their faculties, and that in its governance, deliberative forces should prevail over the arbitrary . . . .That the greatest menace to freedom is an inert people; that public discussion is a political duty." ❖

David Adler is the Cecil D. Andrus Professor of Public Affairs at Boise State University, and Director of the Andrus Center for Public Policy. He's written several books on the American presidency and is a member of IHC's Speakers Bureau.

What Are You Reading?

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

Reader: Jim Woods
Occupation: Professor of Anthropology, College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls
Book: *The Evolution of God*
by Robert Wright

Of all the themes covered in my introductory anthropology courses, religion elicits the most interest from students. Thus, I found this book to be ideal for offering me some fresh inspiration on this topic. Wright presents a very readable overview of the evolution of religious belief beginning with a concept of an essential life force among foragers, to the spirits of tribal peoples, to the complex pantheons of gods and goddesses of chiefdoms, to the more recent adoption of a monotheistic god by many western state-level societies. This book serves as a fascinating overview of the historical change in the concept of "God" among world religions including Christianity and Islam. The mid-section of the book explores historical nuances and parallels in the New Testament and Koran which I found to be very appropriate given the present relationship between Arabic cultures and the West. Wright proposes that most modern religions developed from a complex history of changes that were the result of geopolitical events and as such, they continue to be very dynamic in nature, not at all static as they are so often perceived. And, since cultures continue to evolve, he proposes there may even be a specific direction of this religious change, toward a mutual acceptance of differences based on very ancient and inherited altruistic behavior.

Reader: Marilyn Eagleton
Occupation: Library Assistant at Eagle Public Library, Eagle
Book: *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*
by Ken Kesey

Set in a mental institution in the 1960's, this story revolves around a power struggle that exists between patient Randle McMurphy, who is feigning insanity to escape a prison sentence, and Nurse Ratched, a controlling autocrat who insists on conformity to rules and social mores. In fact, most of the "patients" in this story are not so much insane as reluctant to squash their individuality to fit into the accepted behavior constraints of the outside world. When McMurphy arrives on the ward, the other patients are subdued, apathetical, and completely cowed by Nurse Ratched. He manages through humor, personality, individuality, and zest for life to reawaken the spirits of these men despite efforts to the contrary by the head nurse.

I somehow managed to get through high school English without reading this novel. I'm so glad I picked it up as an adult. It makes me ask what insanity really is, and do we as a society conveniently place labels on those whose uniqueness may not fit into our ordered world, and demand, no matter the price, conformity.

Reader: Brandon Schrand
Occupation: Assistant Professor of English, University of Idaho, Moscow
Book: *Blood, Bones, and Butter: The Inadvertent Education of a Reluctant Chef*
by Gabrielle Hamilton

It was after I finished reading Anthony Bourdain's *Kitchen Confidential* when a friend suggested that I read Gabrielle Hamilton's. If I found Bourdain's food memoir to be a kind of rock-star tour de force (and indeed, I did), I found Hamilton's *Blood, Bones, and Butter* memoir, to be honest, a cut above.

One need not be a foodie to enjoy Hamilton's lyrical prose and coming of age narrative. One just needs to enjoy spectacular writing and a compelling story, and I found both in these pages. The memoir opens up in rural Pennsylvania where Hamilton's bohemian parents hosted lavish parties that boasted whole lambs roasted on spits and funky, yet masterful, themed decorations. From the opening, we follow a young and rebellious Hamilton from kitchen to kitchen, on into college where she studied to be a writer, across Europe, and finally to an abandoned kitchen space riddled with rats and roaches that she transforms into her now famous East Village restaurant, Prune. *Blood, Bones, and Butter*, is as delicious as it is delightful, and will inspire even the most reluctant cook.