A NEW MEMBER!

New member Charlene Litz is given the Oath of Membership by Chaplain Sandra Coultrap.

CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY FUN!

Following the December meeting, the membership celebrated the Christmas season. The Harmonizers entertained us with Christmas and Holiday songs. Members enjoyed opening their sock gift exchange, delighted in voting for Crazy Christmas sweaters, and reveled in answering Christmas questions. Christmas luncheon provided not only good food but the venue for lively conversations.

RECOGNITION AWARD

Catherine McClintick, Co-Chairman of the Historic Preservation committee present Richard G. LeFrancis the Historic Preservation Recognition Award.  Mr. LeFrancis received this award for his work as a docent for the Pappy Boyington Museum.

Earlene Rhodes (Dobbin) McFadden
July 12, 1922 -- January 3, 2015
His Unfailing Presence

Another year I enter
Its history unknown;
Oh, how my feet would tremble
To tread its paths alone!
But I have heard a whisper,
I know I shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

What will the New Year bring me?
I may not, must not know;
Will it be love and rapture,
Or loneliness and woe?
Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;
I surely shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

Blood is traditionally in short supply during the winter months due to the holidays, travel schedules, inclement weather and illness. January, in particular, is a difficult month for blood centers to collect blood donations. A reduction in turnout can put our nation’s blood inventory at a critical low.

Donated red blood cells must be used within 42 days of collection. Platelets within 5 days. Plasma can be frozen for up to 1 year. Individuals with serious injuries from a major automobile accident can require 50 units (pints) of blood or more. Seriously burned patients can require 20 units or more.

The components of one pint of donated blood can help the lives of three people.

You don't need a special reason to give blood.

You just need your own reason.

Some of us give blood because we were asked by a friend.
Some know that a family member or a friend might need blood some day.
Some believe it is the right thing to do.

Whatever your reason, the need is constant and your donation is important for maintaining a healthy and reliable blood supply. You'll feel good knowing you've helped change a life!

CONSTITUTION MINUTE
The main reason for the meeting in Philadelphia was to revise the Articles of Confederation. However, the delegates soon concluded that it would be necessary to write an entirely new Constitution. They agreed to conduct the meetings in secrecy by stationing guards at the door to the Pennsylvania state house. When one delegate dropped a convention document, Chairman George Washington replied, "I must entreat the gentlemen to be more careful, lest our transactions get into the newspapers and disturb the public repose."

Constitution Chairman Geri Borkoski

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS
1 Jeanne Venturino  4 Rebecca Newton
7 Gail Outhwaite  17 Cheri Casper
19 Sandra Doutre  24 Jeanice Clinton-Roman
27 Barbara Nelson  28 Robin Karsann
30 Jessica Norlander  31 Jo Gussenhoven
**Boulder White Cloud Protection.** In answer to your questions: Motorized vehicles will be allowed in the area, there are roads in the area, and there is a Ranger station there. A National Monument is not a National Park. Different rules. Once President Obama proclaims Boulder White-Clouds a National Monument, it is the law and the management of the area will commence. The mountain snows run pristine water into our lakes and rivers to provide water for Idahoans for generations to come. "Strip mining" was going to start on the mountain but due to the diligent efforts of conservation groups it was narrowly defeated. Read "Gray Mountain" by John Grisham for a detailed account of the devastation of what "strip mining " can do. I will be bringing brochures about this proposal to our January meeting, donated by Idaho Conservation League, which I am a member. I also will have the names and addresses of those to send letters to. Members are encouraged to submit their concerns on an individual basis. **BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!**

**WE CAN AND DID MAKE A DIFFERENCE!** Thanks to all members who contacted their Congressmen and Senators regarding the Clark-Fork Delta. Restoration has begun on the Clark-Fork Delta. The Army Corps of Engineers was conducting tests on Dworshak Dam which required fluctuating releases. Flows are back to normal this week.

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**CONSERVATION NEWS**

**BRAVERY IN BATTLE: THE MEDAL OF HONOR**

Gary Beikirch was born Aug. 29, 1947, in Rochester, N.Y. After finishing two years of college in upstate New York, Beikirch withdrew from college and enlisted in the U.S. Army in August 1967 with the goal of joining Special Forces and going to Vietnam. After basic and advanced Infantry training at Fort Dix, N.J., he attended Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga. After completing Airborne School, he was selected to attend Special Forces training at Fort Bragg, N.C. He completed the Special Forces Qualification Course as a medical sergeant.

The central highlands in Kon Tum Province, Vietnam, were a lush jungle area with wild animals and enemy soldiers who hid among the trees, waiting to attack American troops.

Sgt. Gary B. Beikirch was in Vietnam serving with Company B, 5th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces and his 12-member team was assigned to the area’s Camp Dak Seang. He joined the Army after leaving college early, became a Green Beret and decided to serve as a medic.

On April 1, 1970, a large group of North Vietnamese soldiers attacked Camp Dak Seang, and U. S. Special Forces were called in to keep the camp from being overtaken. During the early part of the battle, Beikirch took hold of a 4.2 inch mortar, and when that was destroyed by enemy fire, he grabbed a machine gun and covered his Montagnard (indigenous peoples who sided with the Americans) assistants while they treated the wounded. When he saw that a fellow American was injured, he ran to the serviceman while weaving through heavy fire. Mortar shrapnel struck him near his spine and partially paralyzed him.

Beikirch directed the Montagnards to carry him through enemy fire so he could treat wounded villagers. Shortly afterward, he was hit in the side while administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to a native fighter. Then he was shot in the stomach. Though bleeding profusely and losing consciousness, he kept firing at the enemy soldiers from his stretcher while the Montagnards kept dragging him from one position to the next. He continued until he passed out.

After Beikirch relearned how to walk and left the Army, he entered the seminary with the goal of become a missionary at a hospital in Kon Tum Province, but that ended when Vietnam fell.

He became a church pastor, served in numerous military and service organizations. He currently serves as the chaplain of the Medal of Honor Society. In addition to his involvement with the local Army Reserve, National Guard and college ROTC units, Beikirch has also been employed as a middle-school counselor at Greece Arcadia Middle School in Rochester, N.Y., for more than 20 years. **Received The Medal Of Honor: October 15, 1973**

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**Service for Veterans Co-Chairman Luella Stilley**
Thank you for all your hard work around your communities, and for inputting the hours into the DAR Celebrate America! Web-site. Daughters do amazing things around the State. The total goal hours for Idaho were 3186. Actual hours input totaled 18,149. There is no doubt in anyone’s mind that Daughters donated way more time than that this year. The trick is to get those hours added into the system.

Lt. George Farragut had a goal of 594 recorded hours. Our actual input was 8,138, again #1 in the state. 2nd place is Ee-dah-how chapter in Nampa with a goal of 306, and actual 3162. 3rd place is Alice Whitman in Lewiston, with 450 vs 2591. Our neighbor to the north, Wild Horse Trail chapter in Sandpoint, had a goal of 174 and actual of 2434 for 4th.

Although the year is over, these totals are subject to change until January 31, as National wants to make sure everyone has a chance to input their community hours. Please feel free to go on the web-site and add hours you forgot, or contact janerobertson02@hotmail.com for help.

The American Heritage Committee has announced the themes for next year’s (2015-2016) contests now rather than waiting until after Continental Congress. This gives members much more time to create their masterworks, and will hopefully encourage more entries. So start planning now!

The 2015-2016 theme for all categories except Historic Costume is "Celebrating the Arts from the Time of Our Founding Daughters to the Present."

The 2015-2016 Historic Costume Theme is "Clothing Fashions of the Four Founding Daughters."

American Heritage Chairman Lita Karlstrand

WE PUT PLACES AND NAMES INTO OUR WORDS!

Can you identify these common words and the names of the immortalized Americans from whom they derive? They’re easy. (Answers on the bottom of the next page)

1. Elbridge XXX (1744-1814), a vice president to James Madison, is the inspiration for a political term in our English language. In 1812, in an effort to sustain his party’s power, Gerry, who was then governor of Mass, divided that state into electoral districts with more regard to politics than to geographical reality. A verb created from his name is used today to describe the political shaping of electoral districts. The word is ______________________.

2. XXX Strauss (1829-1902) was a German-Jewish immigrant who founded the first company to manufacture blue jeans. During the California gold rush days, he invented work trousers with copper rivets at the corners of the pockets. The trousers are____________________

3. XXX, the name of a courageous Apache warrior chief(1829-1909) became a battle cry for WWII paratroopers. ______________________

4. Amelia Jenks XXX (1818-1894) was an American feminist who helped to publicize the soon-to-be-fashionable puffy ladies’ drawers. The article of clothing____________________

5. Handsome Union Army general Ambrose E. XXX (1824-1881) was adorned by luxuriant whiskers sweeping down from his ears to his clean-shaven chin.____________________

6. In the heyday of the American cowboy, John B. XXX (1830-1906) created a hat with a high crown to hold a cushion of warm air and a wide brim to deflect rain and snow. This hat is known as a _______________

7. A children’s nonalcoholic cocktail made from club soda, grenadine and a maraschino cherry takes the name of a family movie star. Her name (1928-2014)________________

PUNS FOR EDUCATED MINDS

1. If you jumped off the bridge in Paris, you’d be in Seine.

2. The short fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

3. Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: ‘You stay here; I’ll go on a head.’

4. I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.

5. A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said: ‘Keep off the Grass.’

6. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

7. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blown-a-part.

8. No matter how much you push the envelope, it’ll still be stationery.

9. A rubber band pistol was confiscated from Algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

10. I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
The State of Franklin was an unrecognized, autonomous "territory" located in what is now eastern Tennessee. Franklin (sometimes referred to as Frankland) was created in April, 1784 from 29,000,000 acres of North Carolina lying between the Allegheny Mountains and the Mississippi River. North Carolina offered this area to Congress as a way to help pay off its Revolutionary War debts, with the stipulation that Congress would have to accept responsibility for the area within 2 years, and with the intent of it becoming the 14th State of the new U.S. Franklin existed for about 4 1/2 years, and then N. C. re-assumed full control of the area.

Jonesborough was declared the first capital. A few months after the creation of Franklin, a newly-elected NC legislature rescinded the offer to Congress and restated its claim on the remote area. The frontiersman of the area didn’t want NC leadership, and called for a separate, independent state. On August 23, 1784, delegates convened in Jonesborough and declared land to be independent of the State of N.C., and leaders were elected. John Sevier (my ancestor) reluctantly became governor. The delegates were called to a constitutional convention held in Jonesborough in December, 1784. They drafted a constitution that was defeated in a referendum. On May 16, 1785, the delegates submitted a petition for statehood to Congress. Eventually, seven states voted to admit what would have been the 14th state under the proposed name of Frankland. This was not the two-thirds majority required. To gain support for their cause, delegation leaders changed the “official” name of the area to Franklin, in honor of one of the most beloved men of the time. Sevier tried to persuade Benjamin Franklin to support their cause, but he declined.

Seventeen Eighty-six was the beginning of the end, with several supporters withdrawing their support. Late that year, NC offered to waive all back taxes if Franklin would reunite with its government. When the offer was rejected, NC moved in with troops and took control. By 1789, government of the State of Franklin collapsed entirely and was back under control of NC. Soon after, NC again ceded the area to the federal government to form the Southwest Territory which became the state of Tennessee (the 16th state). Sevier was elected in 1790 to US Congress to represent the territory, and became Tennessee’s first governor in 1796. (Info collected from Wikipedia.)

Contributed by Jane Robertson

The Best Sermons are Lived not Preached—what is the message in these?

1. Today I was traveling in Kenya and met a refugee from Zimbabwe. He hadn’t had anything to eat in over 3 days and was extremely skinny. My friend offered him the rest of the sandwich he was eating. The first thing the man said was, “We can share it.”

2. Today, a boy in a wheelchair saw me desperately struggling on crutches with my broken leg and offered to carry my backpack and books for me. He helped me all the way across campus to my class and as he was leaving said, “I hope you feel better soon.”

3. Today, when I witnessed a 27-year-old breast cancer patient laughing hysterically at her 2-year-old daughter’s antics, I suddenly realized that I need to stop complaining about my life and start celebrating it again.

4. Today, I kissed my dad on the forehead as he passed away in a small hospital bed. About 5 seconds after he passed, I realized it was the first time I had given him a kiss since I was a little boy.

5. Today, when I interviewed my grandmother, I asked her to define success in her own words. She said, “Success is when you look back at your life and the memories make you smile.”

6. Today, I asked my mentor—a very successful business man—what his top 3 tips are for success. He smiled and said, “Read something no one else is reading, think something no one else is thinking, and do something no one else is doing.