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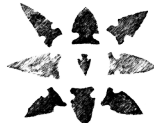
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Newsletter - Diane Longanecker
and Paula Moisio

The Palus
Museum



426 East Main Street
Dayton, Washington

Visit Both BMHS Museums!

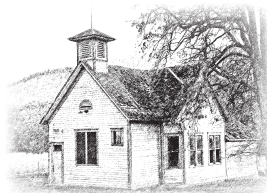
Fridays 1 pm to 4 pm

Saturdays 1 pm to 4 pm

April – November

Or Year Round By Appointment Email:
bluemountainheritage@gmail.com

Smith Hollow
Country Schoolhouse



113 North Front Street
Dayton, Washington

Blue Mountain
Heritage Society

— Board Meets Monthly —
2nd Thursday – 9:00 am

Delany Building
111 South Third Street
Dayton, Washington

Everyone is
Welcome!

Old Books Are Like Old Friends

by Paula Moisio, BMHS President

Garrison Keillor once said, “A book is a gift you can open again and again.” That is certainly true when it comes to the collection of books that we have on display at the Palus Museum Annex. Over the years, many donors have given generously to help start a collection of books that is very eclectic in nature.

Those who love to read the classics will value *Grimms Fairy Tales* or *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, but many will also appreciate the unique mix of timeless novels and periodicals available.

A special addition to the collection is a small handful of *Little Blue Books*. These 3.5 x 5 inch pocket-size readers span a vast variety of topics and were published from 1919 to 1978

by the Haldeman-Julius Publishing Company in Girard, Kansas. Publisher Emanuel Haldeman-Julius wanted to bring the classics, common sense knowledge, differing viewpoints, and a range of ideas to the masses. Originally priced at 5-cents per copy and with an eventual 2,300 individual titles on a huge range of subjects, the little books became household favorites. Over the 59 years they were published, an estimate of more than 300 million were sold.

One book in our collection, *A Book of Useful Phrases* (Little Blue Book #734) entertains the reader with “significant phrases” used in the

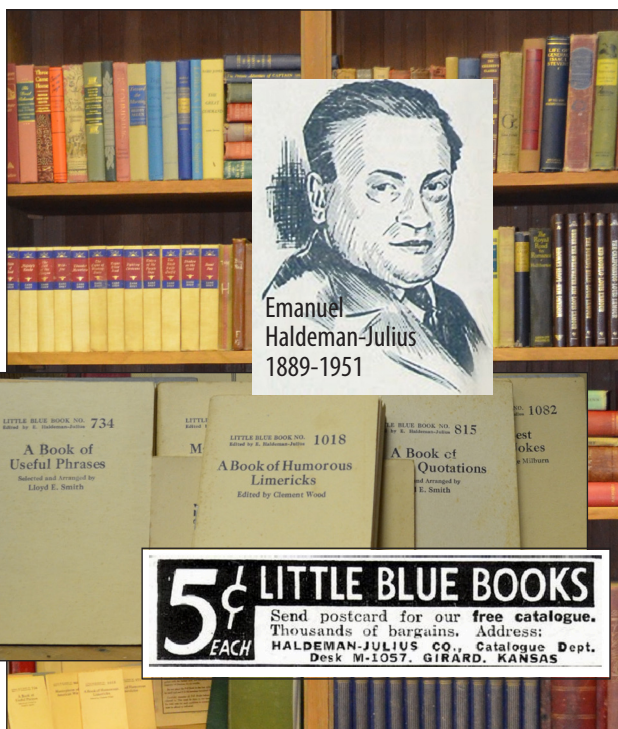
English Language. It notes that the phrase book is “a guide and an incentive” and includes lists of connecting words commonly used together. These include phrases often heard in today’s world, such as “ebb and flow,” and “patience and perseverance,” and “growth and development.” In the conversational and conventional section, readers were shown phrases to help

them be more eloquent: “It pleases me immensely” or “It is glorious to contemplate.” Also shown are ways to be less positive, but still in an affable manner, such as “An unfortunate comparison, don’t you think?” or “Allow me to disagree.” While dated, the sentiments of these phrases are still useful to us today!

A Book of Children’s Games (Little Blue Book #1006) has a simple numerical game called “Forward or Backward,” in which the answer will always read the same forward or backward—no matter what three figures you start out with:

Take any number of three figures 864
Write the number backward 468
Subtract the smaller from the larger 396
Divide by 9 44

These and many more books, some dating back to the late 1800s, are available for viewing at the Palus Annex. Stop by and take a look. Like old friends, old books never go out of style. And we are often surprised by the many new things we can learn from them.



Although no longer blue, a few of the once widely popular Little Blue Books are currently on display in the Palus Museum Annex. Published from 1919 to 1978 by the Emanuel Haldeman-Julius family, these small books are interesting and entertaining—as well as insightful—to read.

News Briefs

Grants Received – From the Columbia County Fund, BMHS has received *two* grants. One grant is for a sidewalk at Smith Hollow County Schoolhouse, which will replace the gravel walkway and make wheelchair access to the building easier. The other grant helps fund our on-going project to digitize the remainder of the *Columbia County Family History Notebooks*, a rich genealogical resource! We are thankful for the support that comes from grants—as well as the support we receive from all our donors.

New Signage at Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse – Special thanks to the Columbia County Commissioners who honored our request for funding from the local historic fund to add signage to the Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse. In accordance with the recent efforts to standardize signage in Dayton, we have a new sign that will be placed on location to attract more visitors to our schoolhouse museum.

Veteran's Display – Since its debut in April, the Veteran's Display (located in the back of the Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse) has been a popular attraction. It features local soldiers and includes uniforms, artifacts, pictures, and stories from all wars dating back to the Indian Wars and the Civil War. The display is open through November. We encourage local residents and



Tools of the Trades – One of the displays in the Palus Annex this year is an eclectic collection of tools. They are a great reminder of the hard work and long hours that went into every part of establishing our community. The tools will be featured in BMHS's booth at the upcoming Columbia County Fair in September.

their out-of-town guests to come view the display that honors local veterans.

Log Cabins - We are working on a plan to assess the condition of the logs of the dismantled two-story Manning cabin and relocate them to our property (behind the Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse). We can then determine the next course of action. More recently, we were offered a log cabin that is still intact on Richmond Street in Dayton. The cabin was built as a "quarantine location" to house a soldier returning home from the Spanish American War.

See You at the Fair! – Blue Mountain Heritage Society will once again feature a booth at the

Columbia County Fair in Dayton. This year's fair theme is "Barn in the USA". Our display will feature old hand tools likely to be found in a barn of yesteryear. Fair dates are September 8, 9, & 10. We hope to see you there!

Mystery Lady? Mystery Solved!

In our fall 2016 Newsletter, a request went out for information regarding a picture that had recently been donated to Blue Mountain Heritage Society.



And the picture resonated with one BMHS member: Eric Thorn. Eric identified the woman as Mrs. Neava Porter.



Why the "Natural" Look?

To let folks know what was taking place this spring with the shaggy-looking landscaping at the Smith Hollow Country Schoolhouse, a sign explaining the situation was placed on one of the lamp posts in front of the building. The schoolyard has now been mowed.

GOING TO SEED!

In its original location 8 miles north of Dayton, this country schoolhouse was situated in a field surrounded by native grasses and wild flowers.

The current "school yard" has been seeded with that same type of ground cover. Since it takes a few years to become established, this "field" is being allowed to grow and "go to seed" before it will be mowed this year.

In the mean time, watch for the wild flowers to bloom and enjoy the early-day "country look."



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