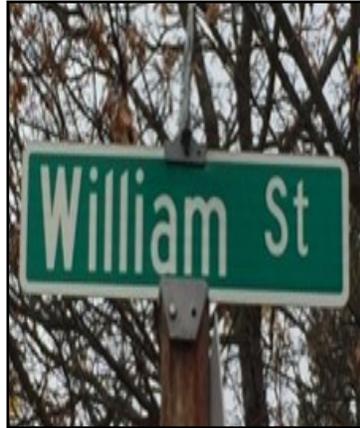
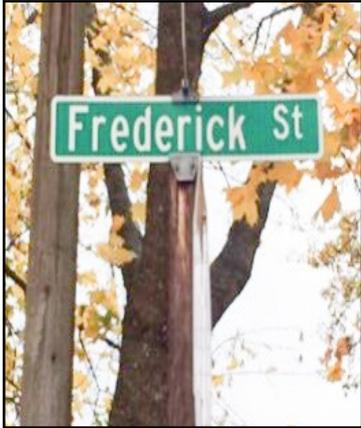


POST FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2021

Our community's past still connects with our present



Frederick Street, Post Street, William Street and Henry Street all have connections to city founder Frederick Post and his family. (Photos by Kim Brown)

New residents, students, and visitors to our area may have seen the name Frederick Post around but may not know much of the history of the city's founder, including street names and other family references that are still in use.

A German immigrant, Frederick Post first spent time in Illinois, and later came west as a pioneer businessman in Spokane, Rathdrum, and finally Post Falls.

In our town, he left his name directly on Post Street and Frederick Street. The names of his brothers on William and Henry streets have been verified by family members.

The Post family immigrated to the United States in the late 1840s and early 1850s, settling in Kendall and DeKalb counties of Illinois.

Frederick Post's great-great-great grand-niece Alice Post Amspoker from Santa Barbara, Calif., visited Post Falls this summer.

In a letter dated Oct. 3, 2021, she shared: *"My family had a wonderful visit to the Post Falls Historical Museum when we were on vacation in the area at the end of August. This was my first trip to Post Falls...we were so impressed with the part on the Falls side of the river with all of its beautiful views and signs describing the history of the area. I'm sure Frederick would be utterly surprised and delighted by what the town has done to preserve his legacy. Enclosed is a check for \$100. I would like to become a member of the Post Falls Historical Society."*

Her great-great-grandfather, Johannes Heinrich Post (Henry), was born c. 1815 in Schoenback, Herborn, Hesse-Nassau, Ger-

many. He died in 1899 in Moulton, Appanoose, Iowa. He was a successful farmer and Clydesdale horse breeder. He named one of his sons Frederick.

William Street is named for William Post. (1816-1889). William was the father of Frederick Post's nephew, Adolph W. Post, who resided in Rathdrum and was a Justice of the Peace and U.S. Land Commissioner. Adolf named one of his sons Frederick.

William Post and his wife are buried in Kendall County, Ill., where they farmed.

— Kimberly Rice Brown, Charter Member

Look inside for:

- *More Post family influences*
- *Why we love our volunteers*
- *Info about our annual meeting*
- *Wrap-up of our Spaghetti Feed*

Happy holidays! Learn more about our activities at postfallsmuseum.weebly.com/ or on our Facebook page!

All contents ©2021-2022 Post Falls Historical Society

Spokane River photo returns home

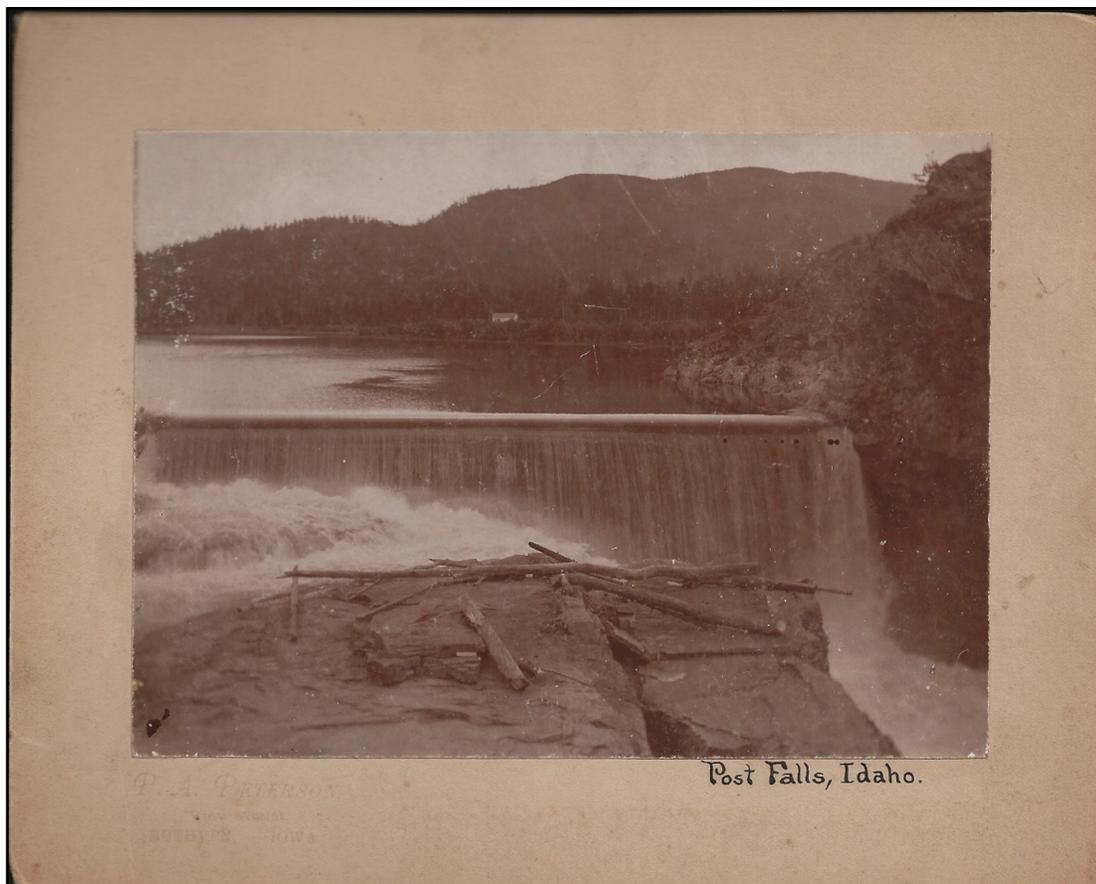


Photo sent by Mark A. Johnson of Kendall County Historical Society, Yorksville, Ill.

Frederick Post left the Fox River area of Illinois in 1871.

Above is a photo of his original damming of the upper falls of the Spokane River. This photo pre-dates the construction of the Washington Water Power dam, now the Avista Dam.

The white home in the background was located on present Q'emiln Riverside Park.

Longtime resident Mary Hughes told me that nails and lumber from Frederick Post's old home were used at her father's rose-growing facility, later located also on the south side of the Spokane River.

(Kim Brown's conversation with Mary McCormick Hughes, a former board member of the Post Falls Historical Society.)

Annual meeting set for Jan. 26

Although the board meets monthly, all members are invited to the annual meeting each January.

The annual meeting is an enjoyable opportunity to catch up on what's new with the society, greet fellow members, meet others, and vote on board members and officers for the upcoming year.

Or, if you're interested you can join in the fun and be part of the board yourself.

For 2022, the meeting is at **6 p.m. Jan. 26 in the meeting room of the Post Falls Library.**

Everyone is invited to attend – it's a good way for new members to get to know the officers and the organization.

It also could be a great time to renew your membership for another year if you haven't done so!

See you there!

Post Falls Historical Society Board of Directors

Officers

President: Joe Butler

Vice President: Judith Cowan

Secretary: Kim Brown

Treasurer: Joe Doellefeld

Board Members:

Ed Adamchak

Crystal DeCell

Cindy Mead

Ted Fredekind (Emeritus)

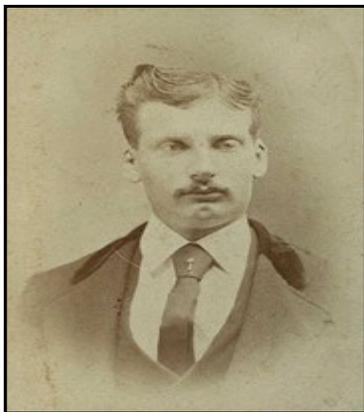
Angie Conrow

Catherine McClintick

The Post Falls Historical Society is a 501(c)3 volunteer non-profit organization sharing and preserving local history since 1988.

The board meets at 6 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month. Everyone is welcome!

Frederick Bish's accidental death



Frederick L. Bish, aged 26, was born Sept. 20, 1856, in Illinois to Nicholas and Catherine Post. Bish, one of 10 children, was the nephew of Frederick Post, and died in a sawmill-river accident in December 1882.

Fred was "rolling and maneuvering logs down the Spokane River near Post Falls to his uncle's sawmill when he was knocked into the river and drowned." (*Jim Bish, Post Family relative*)

He is buried in the family plot at Evergreen Cemetery. Because of Fred Bish's death, Frederick Post's sister, Catherine's name may also be part of our street names.

Other Post family references abound

Monte Martin and his wife, Marisol recently visited the Museum and the Jacklin Arts and Cultural Center.

Frederick Post, Monte's great-great-grandfather, had his funeral service at this building when it was located on 2nd Street in 1908.

This building combined the Presbyterian Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1921.

The building celebrated its 100-year birthday this year at the 405 William Street location. These buildings are Post Falls' oldest buildings and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Post Family and many members of the Martin Family are buried at the family plot at the Evergreen Cemetery.

Notable Post family mem-



Marisol and Monte Martin visit the Jacklin Arts and Cultural Center (Kim Brown photo)

bers include:

- Margaret Post, German immigrant living in Illinois, Spokane, and Post Falls
- Henrietta Post Linke waw married to Herman Linke, an early Spokane Valley farmer near Saltese Lake.
- Mary Post Wood was married to Charles Wesley Wood, Rathdrum pioneer.

- Carrie Post Havermale was married to Will Havermale (Spokane pioneer family involved in Havermale Island, now part of Riverfront Park.
- Sarah K. Post, unmarried
- Alice Lillian Post Martin, who was married to early Post Falls businessman, Alexand Marion (A.M.) Martin
- Julia Austin Post Dart was married to Post Falls and Spokane area businessman Lafayette S. Dart.

Members of Monte Martin's family are also buried in the family plot, including Alice Martin Williams, a Charter member of the Post Falls Historical Society.

(Information based on member research, Society files, and information from Post family members.)

If you would like to contribute to the Post Falls Place Name Project, please contact Kim Brown in care of pphis-

Our Society Mission

WE **collect** photographs, stories, memories, oral video histories, veterans' information, and artifacts.

WE **preserve** our information in files, in our Past Perfect museum software (a work in progress), in historic signage,

and in our newsletter publications.

WE **share** our history at the Post Falls Museum with students, visitors, and newcomers.

We share history with online

researchers, in historic presentations, and in writing.

Our VOLUNTEERS work to achieve all of the above.

You are cordially invited to join us in this important work.

Thanks for recent membership renewals!

A HUGE thank you to our 2021 renewing members:

Ed & Julie Adamchak
Alice Post Amspoker
Bonnie Babcock
Bob & Dorene Berard
Lew & Kim Brown
Angie Conrow
Steve & Monica Copp
Judy Cowan
Joe & Cindy Doellefeld
Odette Engan & Ethel Sertich
Margret Evenson
Ed & Nancy Frazey
Ted Fredekind
Beverly Hyde
Roxanne Johnson
Ken Koentopp
Annie Mader
Monte & Marisol Martin
Catherine McClintick
Kevin & Linda McGrath
Cindy Mead
Warren & Dana Merritt
Gary & Jo Miller
Bill Millsap
Charley & Phillis Mixon
John & Nancy Nation
Charlotte Newman
Fred & Mary Ostermeyer, Managed Resources
Charley & Phillis Mixon
Chris Pappas & Leland Johnson
Marvin Patzer

Christina Petit
Rathdrum/Westwood Historical Society
Debra Raymer
Georgia Reinert
John & Teresa Reynolds
Jane Robertson
Pam Rodkey & John Robertson
David & April Rudy
Shelley Ruff
Kathryn Russell
Suzanne Schmidt
Louise Shepherd
Gene Soper
Kaiti Tesar
Todd & DeDe Tondee
Sonja Uihlein
David & Linda Gibson, Ultra-Lawn
Elton Weeks
Rhonda Wilks
Susie Williams
Carol Yost

Thank you also to those who have renewed their memberships for 2022:

Lew & Kim Brown
Joe & Cindy Doellefeld
Margret Evenson
Ed & Nancy Frazey
Ted Fredekind
Monte & Marisol Martin
Kevin & Linda McGrath
Charley & Phillis Mixon
Christina Petit
David & April Rudy
Suzanne Schmidt
Carol Yost

Would you like to join? It's fun and it's easy!

Support from our members allows us to keep the Post Falls Museum open and educate the community. Renew today!

Spaghetti feed successfully returns

After nearly two years since our last fall fund-raiser, we didn't let a little weather stop us from putting together an enjoyable gathering at Tilly's on Seventh.

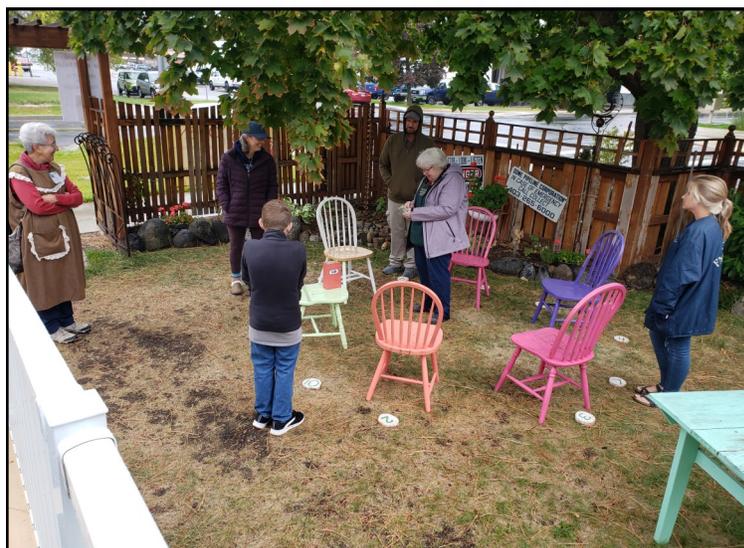
Restaurant owners Joe and Cindy Doellefeld hosted the spaghetti feed which raised money for ongoing society programs.

Although the original plan was to seat guests outside, the heavy wind and rain required everyone to come inside, which worked well. The traditional cakewalk and raffle items were still held outside though.

More than 60 people attended, including longtime society members as well as community supporters who weren't

members. But we made joining easy by offering a free meal if they purchased an annual membership.

Special thanks to the Doellefelds as well as volunteer dinner helpers Todd and De De Tondee, Chris Pappas and Rainbow Hakanson. Pam Rodkey, John Robertson, and Carol Yost helped out as well as many board members.



The 2021 Fall Spaghetti Feed took place at Tilly's on Seventh and included food prepared by owners Joe and Cindy Doellefeld. The always-popular cakewalk also came back as part of the entertainment. (Joe Butler photos).

Big kudos to all of our active volunteers this fall

One of the historical society's goals is to get out into the community more, letting newcomers to the city know what we're all about, and also remind past supporters that we're still around.

We also want to create opportunities for people to give back, whether it's residents who have grown up here and want to share their experiences or newcomers who want to learn about their new community.

One of the best ways to get involved is helping at the museum or helping at city-sponsored events, like Halloween, Winterfest or Post Falls Festival in the summer.

Halloween

Volunteers Jane Robertson and Judy Cowan handed out candy at the Drive-Through Trick of Treat event organized by Parks and Recreation. This event took place on the Friday before Halloween, in the afternoon so kids would be out of school and able to take part.

Rather than having children walk around trick or treating, whole families were invited to load up their cars and drive through the City Hall parking lot. There, they were given candy from different stations staffed by various departments and such as the Post Falls Police Department.



Above, the Post Falls Historical Society publicly thanked 2021 museum volunteers at Winterfest for their efforts and commitment. These included, from left, John Robertson, Pam Rodkey, Ted Fredekind, Carol Yost, Cindy Mead, Judy Cowan, and Louise Paulson. Not pictured, Jane Robertson, Catherine McClintick and Bonnie Babcock. (Liz Jones photo)

Right, volunteers Jane Robertson, left, and Judy Cowan helped at the Drive-Thru Halloween event. (Joe Butler photo)



The event was well-organized and 289 cars took part. Jane and Judy handed out several bags of candy.

Any leftover treats were brought back to the museum, which offered candy to guests who came by on Saturday, our final day of the season.

Winterfest

There's plenty to love about Winterfest! Every year, there's caroling, cider, treats, and it's also one of the few special times each year that the public can hear our an-

tique organ.

This year, we took the opportunity to officially thank many of our 2021 museum volunteers for all of their efforts. We truly appreciate everyone's involvement in keeping the museum open, greeting guests, accepting donations, helping at society events and more.

Some recently began volunteering for us, and we thank them. Others have been volunteering in different capacities over the years, and we thank them too!

PF museum attendance exceeds 1,000 in 2021

The totals are in and we broke the 1,000 mark for museum visitors in 2021!

Based on guestbook sign-ins and scheduled tours, we had at least 1,068 visitors from the beginning of May to the end of October, the typical date range of when our doors are open to the public.

This figure is also an improvement from 2020, when attendance was down due to the start of the COVID pandemic.

Based on being open Wednesday-Saturday each week, we saw:

613 adults
297 children
158 seniors

Community events also drew visitors to the museum, such as the Ice Cream social during Post Falls Festival, Winterfest, and the Wednesday Music event over the summer.

Some tours came from Post Falls High School's Life Skills group as well as Camp Kameelin, the summer day

camp program offered by the Post Falls Park and Recreation Department, plus members of the Post Falls Chamber of Commerce's River City Leadership Academy.

The museum will be closed to the public until next spring but if you would like arrange a visit for yourself or your organization in 2022 or inquire about private access for a research project in the off-season please email pfhistorical@roadrunner.com.

Do you love social media and web design? Do you feel good when things are put in their right places? Do you get excited seeing all the cool old stuff at second-hand stores?

If so, we would welcome your skills and interest as a museum volunteer! We always need help throughout the year but we do have extra needs in 2022 and beyond to assist with various projects, including:

- Improving our social media and digital outreach
- Helping organize donations and physical collections

- Improving our website
- Improving our digital archiving

Any of these tasks and projects could be fun for the right person, especially a high school or college student seeking non-profit/archiving experience.

Grant/internship opportunities for funding are possible.

Contact us at pfhistorical@roadrunner.com to learn more.

Join the Post Falls Historical Society Today!

Membership in our society allows us to keep our museum open and available to the community.

Invite your family, friends and neighbors to join as well!

Together we can preserve our past for the future.

Make membership/renewal checks payable to

Post Falls Historical Society

Mail to:

Post Falls Historical Society

PO Box 57

Post Falls ID 83877

Name:

Address:

Phone

Email:

Membership Level: (Check one)

Individual \$20

Family \$30

Business \$75

Contributor \$100

Contact Information: Museum: (208) 262-9642

pfhistorical@roadrunner.com or postfallsmuseum.weebly.com/