Museum Board Report August 10, 2022 Megan Nelson

Intro

The summers are always short in Stanley and this season's gone by particularly fast. The museum is a slow-paced environment compared to the Visitor Center, but there are numerous projects that keep us busy. Cameron and I worked on creating exhibits while I oversaw a few new donations to our collection. The museum has missed **Gary** and **Laurii Gadwa** and we've been grateful for the people who have stepped up in the Gadwa's absence to cover museum shifts and help with events.

<u>Numbers</u>

So far, this season is on par with last year. The visitor number is a little lower and the profits are lower, but not dramatically low. I wonder the gas prices are affecting the public's generosity. I've heard from other local businesses that people are spending less money on rentals and other non-necessary purchases. Interestingly, the high gas prices have not affected our out-of-state travelers. So far, we've had visitors from 39 states and 8 countries!

Year	2022	2021	2020
Visitors (May 28-Aug. 10)	2,629	2,767	1,561
Sales (May 28-Aug. 10)	\$7,312.43	\$7,783.63	\$3,684.24
Donations (May 28-Aug.	\$1,911	2,336	\$1,001
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History Day

The third annual History Day was a complete success! It was held on July 9th from 12-4. Lin and I thought it would be a good idea to move it to a Saturday to attract more visitors and I think it was the right choice! We had about 150 visitors show up which makes it the most well attended History Day so far! And I noticed that nearly every attendee spent over a half hour at the event. It's good to know that people enjoyed the event for more than just the refreshment booth. Speaking of refreshments, we had ice cream, lemonade, and soda. Thank you to Jeff Clegg and Redfish Lodge for donating the ice cream! The Sawtooth Society crew showed up to do crosscut demonstrations while Caitlin Frawley, the Wilderness and Trails supervisor with the Forest Service, brought a horse and mule to explain historic packing. Aspen Arnold, the former Historic Specialist, came all the way from Salmon to do a gold panning demonstration. Richard Blair, local musician, graciously performed for the entire event! We had a quilt corner on display and a candle making activity. Michael made the candle benches last year and I'm so grateful to have them because the candles are the most popular part of history day. Special shout-out to Lin who manned the candle making station all day. Bob Beckwith lent us his large wall tent that served as our "outdoor museum" with artifacts and signs inside. Some of the artifacts came from our collection and some of them were borrowed from the SNRA headquarters in Ketchum. The wall tent is an absolute pain to set up so I would like to extend special thanks to Erica, Becky, and **Doug** who set it all up. We were also fortunate to have some community members volunteer for the event. Thank you to Jazminn Carter, Julie Rember, and Lisa Muscavage for volunteering their time. I'm overwhelmed by gratitude to the supporters of History Day. It's truly wonderful to see the event grow over the past three years.

Projects

This season has seen a lot of random artifact donations! Perhaps the most exciting artifact of the season was an ice scale. The museum got a phone call from a stranger from Nampa who had never been to the Stanley Museum but was interested in donating an old ice scale. She purchased the scale from a garage sale in Stanley back in the 1970s. According to her records, the ice scale was used in a general store in Stanley to weigh blocks of ice. The ice scale is very heavy and comprised of several parts. I think it will be an amazing addition to the Ice House once we assemble the parts.

Cameron just finished an exhibit on the 50th anniversary of the clinic. The new exhibit highlights Marie Osborne and the early history of the clinic. The exhibit features pictures from the Osborne family collection and other artifacts from the medical cabinet. We're so happy to have an exhibit that properly highlights the significance of the clinic and it's 50th anniversary!

Once I got through History Day, I turned my focus to creating an SNRA exhibit. With the 50th anniversary, Lin and I wanted the museum to have an exhibit that clearly explains the SNRA and its function. It's hard to believe the amount of people who show up to the museum and ask if this is a National Park. I just finalized the first draft of the exhibit and I plan to install it on the 14th just before all the 50th anniversary events.