

# Gienger Museum Proves Storehouse Of History

By DARLENE WOLFF  
Chiloquin Correspondent

Expressions of combined surprise and satisfaction are heard frequently from guests viewing the Gienger museum of Indian artifacts in Chiloquin on the Willamette River. Surprise that the Indians of a past era could fashion arrows of such delicate design and points of such delicate design from obsidian, surprise that the two families of archeology enthusiasts, the Wolffs and the Gengers, knew where to find the fascinating variety of items, and out of town visitors are not only surprised but amazed that such unique collections should be found in a small community off the main highway.

The collectors give logical answers to the queries: There is no finer place to find items than at the scene of former house pits, camping grounds, and hunting or fishing sites, no better way to have interest aroused in Indian crafts than to watch the older natives weave baskets from the tule which grows abundantly in this region, and few more satisfactory hobbies than trying to reconstruct a lost culture.

**20 Years Experience**  
For over 20 years the Flury sisters, Elvira and Josephine, their husbands, Roy Gienger and Henry Wolff, and the Wolff's son, Gerry, have saved evidence of the red man's method of living: arrowpoints, spearheads, awls, stone, military and domestic beads, and the more recent built dugout canoes, buckskin clothing and basketry. The collections have become well known among anthropology and archeology hobbyists of the nation, visited by professionals in the field, and a delight to friends and travelers.

The Wolff collection was on display for many years in their local bakery but has been in storage for several years. Roy and Elvira Gienger have housed their collection in a 16' by 20' museum constructed behind their Chiloquin hilltop home. There are on display crafts of both ancient and distant tribes from both ancient and modern times.

There are thousands of arrowpoints of all descriptions. The black obsidian, or flint, is the most common material from which they are made, but other rocks are seen; for example, jasper, quartz, basalt, and agate, and a few made in latter days from the white man's metal. White points from Colorado and a fiery red one from Maine are sure eye-catchers.

**Kaleidoscope Pattern**  
A kaleidoscope, which reflects patterns of geometric beauty to the eyes of youthful spectators in the museum, is the mounting of the points in the museum is seen. One of the most attractive designs was created by the older daughter of the Gengers when she was but five years of age. Many of the points in the Wolff collection are mounted as outlines of large pictures of Indian life. Scenes of the buffalo, an arrowmaker, and the bow and arrow are examples.

From the Pueblo Indian country of Colorado the two families in 1935 dug a variety of pottery which forms the nucleus of the display showing progression of pottery styling through the ages.  
Weaving of southern United States and Northern Mexico is represented by Navajo rugs and Mexican serapes. The tule weaving of the Northwest tribes is shown in the basketry collection. The intricate basket is difficult to encircle with the arms while the tiniest fits inside a thimble.

Speaking of thimbles, a long string of fire blackened ones hang in the museum, proof that early traders capitalized on the Indians' love of shiny objects. The lowly thimble was elevated to importance when used as decoration as on one of the Klamath Indian costumes of buckskin owned by Mrs. Henry Wolff.

Little girls the world over would be thrilled to see the collection of Indian dolls Mrs. Wolff owns. There

## Wealth Of Indian Relics Shown In Chiloquin Museum



Baskets of finest design join with a fascinating display of Indian arrowheads and other artifacts to make the Gienger museum at Chiloquin one of the most interesting points on the Klamath Indian reservation. Darlene Wolff, The Herald and News correspondent, has written a story describing the collection of Indian artifacts by hobbyists in that area.

are tiny hand carved figures made by Indians in Guatemala, ones of redwood fibers from California, and colorful dolls from such widely separated tribes as the Iroquois and the Sioux, and many made locally from the tule.

**Vivid Stories**  
Stories of death by the bow and arrow become vividly real when one makes a discovery as did the museum owners. Near Lovelock, Nevada, they came across the skeletal remains of a person whose skull had been pierced by an arrowpoint and the death dealing instrument was still there to prove it!

Other unusual skeletons found were of a Flathead child, an adult whose skull had been crushed, and one whose spinal column had solidified from disease.  
The long-bearded, pith-helmeted, slow-moving archeologist of the museum finds no counterpart in the Wolff and Gienger families but they do seem to have a sense of perception few possess. One day on Klamath marsh a companion of Gerry Wolff's stubbed his toe on an exposed bit of rock, muttered angrily and started on. Gerry was on his hands and knees in a flash carefully digging away the protecting dirt from a large over-turned rock bowl, one of the finest in his collection.

An exposed tip of obsidian on another trip led Wolff to the discovery of a cache of 14 large and finely made spearheads. Half the excitement of such a find is to be able to share it with companions. Roy says his most exciting moment in finding artifacts was somewhat dimmed by being alone. A rounded rock protruding from the ground caught his attention. He dug it out,



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learned that it was a perfectly round rock the size of an enormous grapefruit. Puzzled as to its use, he dug further and found another ball of stone, and another and yet another—until he had 16 circular stones graduated in size from a small orange to a medium sized bowling ball. Even professional anthropologists have been unable to throw any light on the exact use of the find. The accepted guess is that it was some type of rolling game.

In an article appearing in the NPPA quarterly for April, 1947, the cures for crash fires were listed by George H. Tryon of Boston, secretary of the NPPA committee on aviation and airport fire protection. These recommendations were: (1) High-flash gasoline in lieu of standard grades; (2) non-flammable hydraulic fluid; (3) non-flammable aircraft lubricants; (4) fire-retardant fabrics; (5) crash-proof fuel tanks; (6) fire-resistant aircraft fuel and oil line piping; (7) crash impact fire extinguishing systems; (8) improved design of air-flow configuration within fuselage and wings; (9) improved resistance in aircraft structures to crash damage; (10) segregation of fire hazards from ignition sources.

The fire deaths in the LaGuardia and Port Deposit, Md., crashes give poignant testimony to the NPPA recommendations.

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## Big Eater Primes For Contest

SEATTLE, June 20 (AP)—Feeling a bit hungry at 6 p. m. yesterday and unable to wait for the main event, Police Patrolman Bill Hill polished off a snack of two hamburger steaks, four platters of spaghetti, five cups of coffee and two dishes of ice cream.

A couple of hours later he entered—and won—a steak eating derby, wrapping himself around seven steaks and a strawberry sundae. "I could have eaten more," Hill said, "but everybody else quit and I didn't want to show off."

## Fire Biggest Death Cause

On the heels of two of the nation's worst air tragedies, the National Fire Protection association announces that 67 per cent of all aviation accidents reported to the NPPA shows that fire was either the cause or result.

Calling attention to their "standard operating procedure for aircraft accidents" which was passed by the NPPA membership at their 51st annual meeting in Chicago, May 26-29, the association emphasized that a rescue without fire control is most often a fatally delayed formality. In an article appearing in the NPPA quarterly for April, 1947, the cures for crash fires were listed by George H. Tryon of Boston, secretary of the NPPA committee on aviation and airport fire protection. These recommendations were: (1) High-flash gasoline in lieu of standard grades; (2) non-flammable hydraulic fluid; (3) non-flammable aircraft lubricants; (4) fire-retardant fabrics; (5) crash-proof fuel tanks; (6) fire-resistant aircraft fuel and oil line piping; (7) crash impact fire extinguishing systems; (8) improved design of air-flow configuration within fuselage and wings; (9) improved resistance in aircraft structures to crash damage; (10) segregation of fire hazards from ignition sources.

## Brookings VFW Selling Lily Bulbs

BROOKINGS, June 20—Curry County post of the V. F. W., in extreme Southwestern Oregon, has come up with a neat scheme for financing its new post and auxiliary home. As the area is uniquely adapted to the growing of lily bulbs, the kind most desirable for Easter forcing, and this year's crop is bringing on many large bulbs, the members are pooling part of their digging and selling them, mail order, through a National advertising plan. All the profits from the venture will be turned into a fund for reconstructing and furnishing a mess hall the organization bought at Camp White and has already trucked across 150 miles of Oregon mountain roads.

The post is set up to make shipments of one to thousands of oversize bulbs, each package containing simple instructions for further growing, indoors or out, anywhere in the country. The grower's name and address will also go into each package.

Previously, there have not been enough bulbs to supply the home gardener, the florist taking the whole crop, and this is the first time these widely advertised hybrid lily bulbs have been made available to the public. They were all propagated from a single sport developed by the late Sydney Croft, in 1935. The bulbs make ideal living gifts.

M. S. Brainard, of Brookings, quartermaster of the post, has charge of the project.

The USS Maine was the first United States battleship.

## 30-Bushel Yield Expected

PENDELTON, Ore., June 20 (AP)—Umatilla county farmers Thursday expected to begin harvesting a near-normal heat crop about July 1 if present weather continues. County Agent Victor J. Johnson said that rains and cool weather during the past two weeks largely had offset damage caused by drought during May. He said that reports from growers throughout the county indicated yields would approach the 10-year county average of about 30 bushels to the acre.

A 16th century English maker of hand weapons produced a combination weapon consisting of pistol, dagger, and brass knuckles.

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**QUEEN'S BALL ARMORY**  
**Saturday, June 21**  
**BALDY'S BAND**  
Dancing 9 Till 1 Adm.—90c Per Person  
Presentation of the Queen Candidates and the final selection and crowning of the Queen who will reign over the Klamath Rodeo July 4-5-6.  
Presentation of the Queen Candidates and the crowning of the Queen who will reign over the Junior Chamber of Commerce Regatta the following day, Sunday, June 22.