



# THE WESTERNERS

## POTOMAC CORRAL

Upcoming Meetings::

- Wednesday, September 26, 2007, 7:30 p.m.  
*(Please note the later starting time, established in the hope of easing your commute)*

PLACE: Silverado - A Southwestern Theme Restaurant in Annandale, VA  
 DIRECTIONS: Silverado is located in the heart of Annandale at the intersection of Columbia Pike and Gallows Road in the Annandale Shopping Center.

### Silverado

7052 Columbia Pike  
 Annandale, VA 22003  
 (703)354-4560

PARKING: Ample

SPEAKER: Michael Brodhead, Historian  
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and  
 President of the Council of American Military Past



**OFFICERS**  
**2006-2007**  
 SHERIFF  
 Mike Lawson  
 DEPUTY SHERIFFS  
 Francis Flavin  
 Herman Viola  
 Lowell Baier  
 TALLYMAN  
 Gene Anderson  
 Gene\_Anderson@potomac-corrall.org  
 ROUNDUP FOREMAN  
 and  
 BOOKEROO FOREMAN  
 Dale Anderson  
 silesiaco@comcast.net  
 CHUCK WRANGLER  
 and  
 FARO DEALER  
 Chet Hanson  
 oldbookco@verizon.net

tbd

PROGRAM: "ELLIOTT COUES: Naturalist and Frontier Historian"

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2007-2008 - Nominated:  
 Sheriff - Francis Flavin, Deputy Sheriff - Joe Herring

MENU: Black Angus Prime Rib, 12 oz.  
 Wood Grilled Filet Mignon 7 oz.  
 Hickory Glazed Chipotle Pork chops  
 BBQ Baby Back Ribs fries and cole slaw  
 Short Smoked Salmon Filet

PRICE: \$32.00 per person

**FOR RESERVATIONS and menu choices:**  
**Call Chet Hanson**  
**(Or leave message)**  
**(703)734-0858**  
**by Sept. 23, 6:00 pm**



**In October we return to the Cosmos Club for our annual Jeff Dykes Award Ceremony. October 24 - Luncheon - Recipient Dr. R. David Edmunds, Watson Professor of History at the University of Texas at Dallas. Dr. Edmunds currently serves as President of the Western History Association**  
**SAVE THE DATE!!**

*BOOK REVIEW - Mike Lawson*

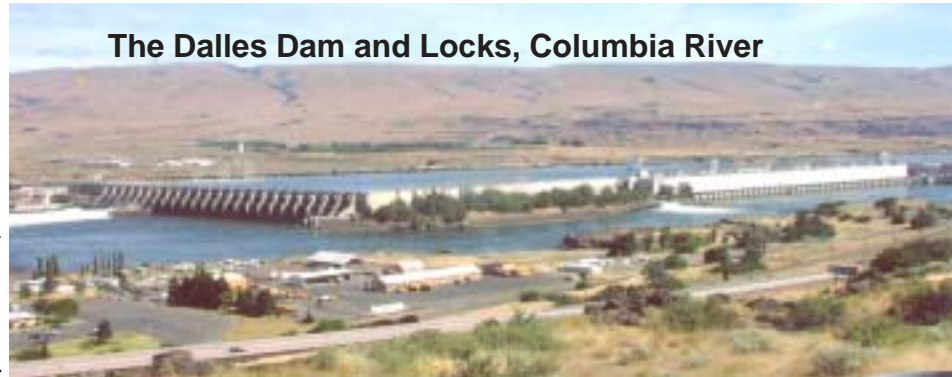
*Death of Celilo Falls*, by Katrine Barber. Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest, in association with the University of Washington Press, Seattle, 2005.

Photographs, maps, notes, bibliography, index. 270 pages. \$22.50 paper.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed construction of the Dalles Dam on the mid-course of the Columbia River in 1957. The dam inundated many traditional Native American salmon fishing sites, including the spectacular waterfalls and ancient fishery of Celilo. This volume presents an engaging historical obituary of the Falls by describing and interpreting the often complex, conflicted, and nuanced events, relationships, and values that led to and followed the death of not only the Falls, but also the old raging Columbia, its abundant salmon resource, and a way of life for native people. It is not author Katrine Barber's purpose to provide another sweeping view of the transformation of

America's western rivers in general or the Columbia in particular. Neither is it her pursuit to provide a detailed history of the construction of the dam and events that led to its realization, nor to focus on its impact on the once-bountiful salmon fishery. Rather, it is Barber's intent to bring the largely untold story of Native American sacrifice and small community involvement to the forefront in a more personal way by focusing on the microcosm of impacts on two specific neighboring Oregon communities, Celilo Village and The Dalles. Celilo Village is an isolated, off-reservation Native American settlement that had supported the traditional native fishery along a nine-mile stretch of the Columbia's banks known as the Long Narrows. In aboriginal times, Native American bands from throughout the Northwest gathered at the Narrows during the spring and fall salmon runs to fish, trade, and socialize. In the 1950s, the Celilo village consisted of about thirty households. Its residents opposed the Dalles Dam because it threatened their homes, values, treaty fishing rights, and livelihood. In the early 1950s, The Dalles, located twelve miles west of the village, was a mid-sized and segregated white town with a population of 7,500. It had also developed as an important trading market in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, catering to immigrants and miners. Its townspeople overwhelmingly supported the Dalles project because they felt that its technology represented progress. They also thought it would bring rapid expansion and growth to their community. Many also endorsed the project because they hoped that the partial flooding of Celilo

Village, which they considered to be a blighted, sociological embarrassment, would provide a chance to remake both its infrastructure and image. Barber skillfully and sensitively chronicles how these two communities and their historic relationships were changed by the dam. She does so by weaving together an impressive array of first-hand accounts and descriptions by both key players in the episode and ordinary residents. Barber, a history professor at Portland State University, gleaned her narrative information from a variety of sources, most notably from the collections of the Oregon Historical Society.



**The Dalles Dam and Locks, Columbia River**

Her scholarship is sound. Moreover, it is well-crafted. In her exploration of local concerns and developments, Barber necessarily addresses the larger issues of federal power and control, treaty fishing rights, transformation of riverine environment, grassroots opposition, and the meaning of "progress" in the Cold War era. Consequently, this volume is an excellent case study relevant to several fields of American history and highly suited for classroom use.

Barber concludes that hers is ultimately a story of progress and loss. Hydroelectric power and a tamed river helped grow the economy. However, salmon are no longer abundant and the commercial fishery has drastically declined. The aesthetic value of a scenic waterway and its environment has been forever altered by the unnatural phenomenon of regulated, stored water. The Dalles experienced a brief expansion as a result of the project, but never reached the economic heights envisioned by dam boosters. Celilo Village lost part of its space and all of its economic base. Yet, it continues to survive as the oldest continuously populated settlement in Oregon.

The story of the Dalles Dam also represents another significant marker in the long history of the transfer of native resources to non-native control. Native American salmon resources and fishing sites were sacrificed to develop primarily non-Indian energy and transportation resources and the infrastructure of the dam and reservoir. In this regard, Barber's work reaffirms the findings of previous studies of the impact

of federal dam and reclamation projects on Native American communities and resources. Federal agencies, and particularly the Corps of Engineers, never gave serious or adequate consideration to native voices or values during any phase of these projects, including planning, public hearings, damage appraisals, compensation, relocation, and rehabilitation.

Katrine Barber is a gifted writer who manages to convey with literary flair her keen sense of the uniqueness and complexity of the Pacific Northwest; its space, people, and history. Because of her talents and the appealing way in which she has brought all the threads together in this monograph, *Death of Celilo Falls* is highly recommended to all readers



Celilo Falls, the Indians main fishing ground before the dam

## The Barrel Man

(A chapter in a book of boyhood remembrances by Dale L. Anderson titled *The Mill Creek Bear*, 2007)

One summer during the depression a “Barrel Man” came to The Dalles. In those days certain daring types made headlines by going over falls in a barrel. Niagara Falls, New York was of course the big event, but some were willing to exploit any situation, even our little falls at Celilo.

There was a big build up and the papers carried his picture and pictures of his barrel in which he was going to perform this great feat of daring do. There wasn’t a lot of excitement around The Dalles that summer and he got a lot of press.

On the day a large crowd of people from Wasco County, The Dalles and further, I presume, gathered on the banks above the main Indian fishing spot at the south bank of the Columbia. There was a fairly decent spillway of river flow and some smaller side flows. This was where my folks came every spring and fall to purchase salmon from the Indians. Usually we saw them caught

and bought them on the spot, still wiggling. Some weighed over 60 pounds. Momma canned them and salmon was a staple of our diet.

Hawkers were out trying to sell refreshments, but mostly I remember we sat around in the hot summer sun waiting. Every once in a while someone would pass a rumor that something was about to happen. We would go down and look at the departure place but all we saw was some people standing around arguing.

Finally the great event happened. Most of us missed it because the barrel went over a little side shoot of the falls and was quickly fished out by some Indian fishermen. The barrel man stood up and waved to the crowd and we all went home somewhat disappointed.

In those days the medical profession was greatly concerned about adenoids. It seems that if you had not had yours out it would cause all sorts of problems. Since I had my share of colds and nasal drip (I think we all did now that I think about it) my parents decided with their doctor to have my adenoids out. This was a big operation and involved several days in the Mid Columbia Hospital. So I went in, had the operation and was moved into a shared recover room. Guess who was my roommate? The Barrel Man!

He proceeded to regale me with tales of his feats, mostly tall, but to a seven year old boy he was the most impressive man I had met other than six finger Jack. He constantly was kidding the nurses and had a whole host of clever sayings. One I remember was when asked how he wanted his eggs for breakfast. His answer “Freed, Fried froed or Frozeled, makes no never mind.” Great stuff to a seven-year-old.

I found out he had tried a number of exploits to make his fortune, except manual labor which he abhorred. His view was if a man was to make his fortune he had to have publicity (or notoriety) to propel him to something better. He had tried a number of feats to generate publicity, but had not had too much success. It seemed he chickened out on motorcycle jumping at the last minute, but he had made a parachute jump. This was impressive to me as two people had died at The Dalles Airport during a barnstorming event when their chutes did not open. Anyway his feats, real or imagined, were worth the three day hospital stay, and I never doubted him (until a number of years later in retrospect.)

Anyway when I got out of the hospital I repeated these stories to my friends until, I am sure, they were sick of them.

I never heard from or about my friend again. I assume he finally had to find a job. But who knows, maybe he did find a short cut to success!

**SILVERADO**

Lunch Menu  
Dinner Menu  
Info + Hours  
Directions  
Phone Ahead

"BEST NEW RESTAURANTS"  
Washingtonian

The feel of the American Southwest comes together in a spirited environment. Silverado was selected one of the "Best Neighborhood Restaurants" by the Restaurant Association of Washington, D.C. Sit back, relax, and loosen your belt.

7052 Columbia Pike  
Annandale, VA 22003  
(703)354-4560



## *About CAMP*



**The Council of American Military Past, D. Michael Brodhead, President,**

**P.O. Box 111, Fort Meyer, VA 22211**

**The Council on America's Military Past, USA, Inc. was founded in 1966 in Phoenix, Arizona as the Council on Abandoned Military Posts and chartered as a nonprofit educational association exempt from Federal taxes by Section 501(3)(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.**

**Initially organized to identify, locate, preserve and memorialize the military installations and units that no longer serve the role for which they were created, mounting member interest soon included other subjects including soldier's life and customs of service. The association was renamed the Council on America's Military Past, USA, Inc. in 1981 to reflect those expanding membership interest.**

**Despite its initial location in the west, CAMP activities are nationwide and we have members in all states and territories and ten foreign countries. Some members are federal and state agencies and their employees, including the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the National Archives and Record Service. Others are employees of preservation offices and historical societies. Not surprisingly, many members are or have been military officers and military historians.**