

TUBER TIMES

Volume I

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An Introduction

There is always a beginning and it is best to share how this project began and the overall ideas that will be brought to reality as time goes on for the Spectacular Spud Museum.

One day while setting up an e-bay account to sell a few items, I starting using the search method to see what was available for sell through this online service. While searching I came across a Mr. Potato Head. It was not just any Mr. Potato Head; it was the Romper Room version from 1970 in the original box. The one I did not receive for Christmas and had on that special list. I placed my first bid and did not win this one, as I was not familiar with the bid process at that time. Several months later I did find another and won it.

Children and education has been very important to me and everything started to come together. I enjoy the funny face potatoes, I live in Idaho, and I want children to have access to more learning options that sprout with fun. If you put it all together, there needed to be a children's museum with toys and education located in North Idaho. This became my dream and my challenge.

Putting it Together

I knew it would take time to organize, arrange and finance a bold endeavor on my wages, but I had confidence in myself to get it done one building block at a time. Here is the first newsletter and the website is slowly being built one step at a time. With great strides things are coming together and I now have a staff to help with decisions and gathering new ideas for the museum.

As part of the process there are field trips hosted by our Spokes Spud, Professor Beatrice Beehive. These trips are adventures that we will be sharing online as part of our website. With technology advances, slideshows

are being built using windows media viewer and being placed online. It does take time to build the slideshow and make sure that the “files” are small enough for any computer to access and not have long waiting times for the photos to be viewed.

Focus for the Museum

This quarter the museums focus is on the vintage potato heads and how they have evolved. The 2010 “slideshows” will have more of the vintage Potato Heads revealed along with similar toys. Funny Faces and Block Heads are part of this fun category of toys. These will also be introduced for the first time on the website.

Organizing the photos of the last two years of field trips is an ongoing process. As part of the website changes, the photos will be available right at the website instead of using a third party host.

Next Quarter

For the next quarter, the museum staff and I are discussing future field trips and fundraising options. Currently the only fundraising is from the children’s book I published. However, according to my publisher, not one copy has sold. This does not surprise me with the economy as it is currently so museum growth will still be slow. Please be assured that it will eventually expand from just a website to an actual museum to visit in North Idaho.

Also, some science projects will be included on the website. Some kits were bought and will be rated fun, educational and parent approved once they are tested.

Next edition will introduce the museum staff as well.

Please share this information as you wish and thank you for your support.

Newsletter of the Spectacular Spud Museum

Contact information ... admin@spectacularspudmuseum.com

Phone..... (208) 699-3408