



Once Upon a Green Meadow

By **Ernestine McMillan Hilton** '41, iUniverse, Inc.

In this poignant memoir, the author recalls the wonders of being a child during the Great Depression, her family's struggles as they scratch a living from a scabland farm in eastern Washington and the history of America between the two world wars.

Through a series of vignettes, Hilton recalls the joys of small-town holiday celebrations, close-knit neighbors and the events that shaped the lives of her family. With vivid detail, Hilton remembers how the sweet taste of strawberry Jell-O mingled with the wonders of Election Day in 1924 when her mother had the opportunity to vote for the first time, and she revisits how the end of the horse-and-buggy era gave rise to the Model T. She also relates the arrival of her baby brothers, the joys of going to school and the hardships of the Great Depression.

Once Upon a Green Meadow re-creates the charm and hardship of a rural American life that has vanished forever. But more importantly, Hilton's memoir reveals how one family's love sustained them throughout hard times.

www.iuniverse.com

The Welch Resort: A Hidden Treasure of Boulder County

By **Denise V. Berg** '81, Kumpfenberg Ventures LLC

This is a tale, long overdue, about William A. and Sarah Welch. William, the son of wealthy Pennsylvania racehorse breeder Aristides Welch, made the journey west with his wife in the early 1890s. The couple eventually settled in Colorado along the banks of the North St. Vrain River in 1893. Here they built the famous Welch Resort, host over the years to dignitaries such as Teddy Roosevelt and Marian Anderson, and a few scoundrels like Al Capone. It's a delightful slice of history and a hidden treasure that Berg uncovers for your enjoyment.

www.knbmanor.com



Experienced Hands

Produced, recorded, engineered and mastered by EWU Professor
Jim Braukmann '82

The CD features 17 steel guitar standards, gospel favorites and songs you've never heard played on a steel guitar, artfully performed by Spokane's most experienced hands: Darrell Klein and Dean Simmons. *Experienced Hands* was produced as a community project supported by Eastern Washington University. Braukmann plays base and keyboards on the recording. All titles were recorded at River Run Studio in Spokane 2006-2008.

The collection documents Klein and Simmons, two of the Pacific Northwest's most experienced steel guitar players. Mastering the steel guitar requires complex coordination of hands, feet and knees. The number of true masters is dwindling.

Simmons played with several local bands over the years and played steel for Rocky Rauch & the Freedom Cowboys who were inducted into the Seattle Western Swing Society Hall of Fame in 1991. He now plays with the Pend Oreille Band which appears occasionally as the Kustom Kowboys. He was inducted into the Pioneers of Western Swing Hall of Fame in 2006.

Klein was born into a musical family, touring Iowa and Minnesota as a member of the Klein Brothers. He traveled to Hawaii to hone lap steel skills. In 1968, he recorded songs for Starday Records in Nashville. He later purchased the Ace of Clubs in Coeur d'Alene where he performed with his sons. He also performed gospel showcase appearances at the Northwest Steel Guitar Association's shows. Klein died in August 2007. All of Klein's tracks were reconstructed from earlier practice recordings made by Braukmann.



If you are an Eastern or Cheney Normal School alum or faculty member and have written a general interest book or have a music CD on the market (self-published works will be included if space allows) and would like to have it considered for inclusion in *Eastern* magazine's Sights and Sounds section, please send it (along with your contact information) to: **Eastern Magazine, 300 Showalter Hall, Cheney, WA 99004-2445.**