

Berthoud History News

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Jensen Brings Book to Berthoud

Join us for two exciting events when Berthoud Historical Society member Eric Jensen brings his book, *Forever and a Day – The World War II Odyssey of an American Family* to Berthoud in early March. Recently published and now available to readers, Mr. Jensen's book is based on a vast collection of letters that were exchanged between members of the Jensen family during World War II.

The legacy of the Jensen family in Berthoud and the Little Thompson Valley dates back to 1895. The book, recently described as, "the wartime experiences of seven members of his Colorado farm family... is a heart-felt, insightful look into the enormous sacrifices made by individuals from one American family who went off

to fight in the largest and deadliest war in history."

On Saturday, March 7, Mr. Jensen will sign books at the Little Thompson Valley Pioneer Museum from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. This will be an informal opportunity to meet the author and purchase a signed book at a cost of \$20.00. The public is invited to attend.

Mr. Jensen returns to Berthoud on Wednesday, March 11, at 7:00 p.m. to speak about the book and its Berthoud connections. This event will be held at the Berthoud Area Community Center at 228 Welch Avenue. Signed books will be available for a cost of \$20.00 and there will be a suggested donation of \$3 (BHS members) and \$5 (non-members) for those who attend.

Don't miss this special opportunity to meet Eric Jensen and purchase a signed copy of *Forever and a Day – The World War II Odyssey of an American Family*. Mr. Jensen has specified that a portion of book sale profits from these events will benefit the Berthoud Historical Society.



The sons of James & Katherine Jensen c.1920

Forever and a Day—The World War II Odyssey of an American Family

Saturday, March 7, 2009, 1-3 p.m.

Author Open House and Book Signing
Little Thompson Valley Pioneer Museum
224 Mountain Ave., Berthoud

Books available for purchase and signing

Wednesday, March 11, 2009, 7 p.m.

Book Talk by author Eric Jensen
Berthoud Area Community Center
248 Welch Ave., Berthoud

Books available for purchase and signing



Eric Jensen is a retired high school teacher with 26-years experience in the classroom. Teaching was one of the greatest challenges in his life and one of the most rewarding. After ending one career in 1994, he began another as a writer. He now shares his latest effort in story telling—the Jensen family's journey and that of this nation through World War II.

For more information on Eric Jensen's book visit www.ForeverandaDayBook.com

President's Perspective

By Mark French

What a privilege it is for the Berthoud Historical Society to help Eric Jensen bring his new book, *Forever and a Day – The World War II Odyssey of an American Family*, to readers in Berthoud. Many of you will recognize Eric from his role as a volunteer docent on the annual historic home tour but only some of you may know that Eric's father, George Jensen, was among the founders of the Berthoud Historical Society in 1977. The Jensen family continues its strong support of the organization with Eric and his cousins Lew Ann and Gene all being members.

The heritage of the Jensen family in Berthoud goes back to the early days. Their local legacy began in 1895 when James Jensen, a Danish immigrant and the grandfather of Eric, Lew Ann and Gene, arrived in the area and began farming. At their Sunny Slope Farm northeast of Berthoud the Jensens and their ten children became involved in many facets of community life. James Jensen, for instance, held positions on boards of the Berthoud School, Berthoud Brick & Tile Company

and Sunny Slope Reservoir Company. Most notably he served two terms in the Colorado State Legislature.

While *Forever and a Day* focuses on a world far larger than the little burg of Berthoud, the book's characters—seven members of the Jensen family—were inextricably rooted in the Little Thompson community. Nearly 1,200 letters exchanged between them during World War II are at the heart of this book that Eric says weighs the price of war on the members of the Jensen family who were sent away to fight on distant shores and those who remained behind on the home front.

Here's hoping that you take advantage of this special opportunity to meet Eric who will sell and sign books at the events the Berthoud Historical Society is hosting on March 7 and 11.

For more information about Eric's book visit www.ForeverandaDayBook.com.



Robert Jensen, 39th B-29 Squadron, Tinian Island

Thank You

The Berthoud Historical Society would like to thank the friends and family of Dale Kiehn for a generous monetary gift given in memory of Dale. A member of the Berthoud Historical Society, Dale farmed in the Little Thompson Valley area for many years before his passing in October 2008.

Society Wins Local Grant

The Society would like to express its appreciation to the Berthoud Community Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado for awarding a \$3,500 grant to BHS for use in a "backyard" renovation project at the Little Thompson Valley Pioneer Museum.

Berthoud Historical Society

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