

LCCU and the 'L' Legacy

Lewis Clark Credit Union has served several generations of area families. When the teachers of the Lewis-Clark Valley agreed to create LCCU, they chose three men to lead the negotiations. One of those representatives was Emmet Spiker, whose career would leave an indelible mark on the Quad Cities.

Emmet's father, Robert Lincoln Spiker, moved his family to Lewiston in 1906 and immediately became an important figure in the Lewiston business community, founding the Western Hardware and Implement Company, which once stood at the current location of the Liberty Theater. As his son Emmet rose in the grades, Robert would be president of the Lewiston-Clarkston Fair, open the area's first Ford dealership and begin 14 years of service on the Lewiston School board.

During their senior year at Lewiston High School, Emmet and his good friend Titus Leclair, older brother of LCCU's first president, had a bright idea. They would create a giant "L" on the Lewiston Hill not far from the final turn at the top of the new Spiral Highway. Their legacy graces the hill to this day.

After graduating, Emmet went to work for the Spiker-Jeffreys Ford Garage as a mechanic. Demonstrating the leap-of-faith mentality that founding a credit union would require, he entered the University

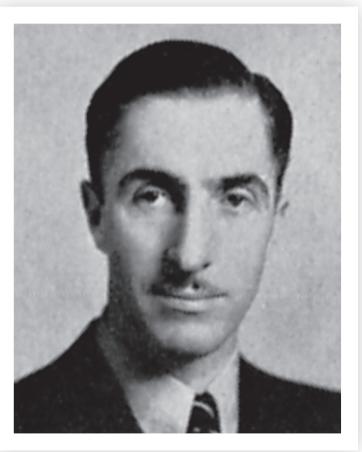
of Idaho in his 30s, earned a science degree in 1933 and began teaching in Winchester, Idaho, where he also served as district superintendent.

Returning to his high school alma mater in 1936 to teach physics, Spiker served as Dean of Boys, created the first guidance program and helped to produce the first annual high school talent show, "The Bengal Follies," in 1937. The next year his administrative experience would prove crucial to laying the groundwork for Lewis Clark Credit Union.

In 1946 Spiker joined the faculty at the University of Idaho, where he was the first to use an electron microscope and



Robert Spiker



Emmet Spiker

pioneered research into the structure of anodized aluminum and the treatment of potato viruses. In 1962 he was honored with the Outstanding Faculty Award from the Associated Students of the university. A quiet and unassuming man, he retired in 1966 and died in February 1988.

Of those whose names appeared on the charter for Lewis Clark Credit Union, few would have such a lasting impact on the educational community LCCU was founded to serve.

Our focus is your future.

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