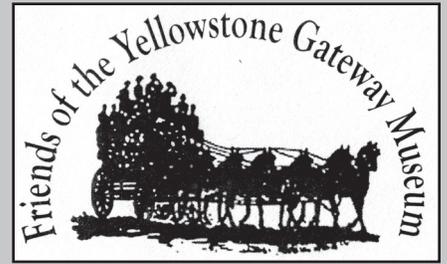




# News from the Red Caboose

WINTER 2013



## From Cottonwood to Canoe: Churchill Clark Loans Dugout to Museum

By Norm Miller

The museum is honored to have on loan a dugout canoe built by Churchill Clark, the fourth great-grandson of Captain William Clark of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Similar dugouts were built and used by the expedition in 1804-06. When William Clark rode through present-day Livingston, he and his crew were unable to find trees along the Yellowstone that were big enough to build canoes. The party continued by horse four more days until large enough trees were found.

Churchill had an easier time finding his tree in 2012 as it was donated by the South Suburban Parks and Recreation Department of Littleton, Colorado. Given the name "Knotty" by Churchill, the



Churchill and the future Knotty canoe 20-foot cottonwood was slowly transformed into a canoe. For ten weeks Churchill and his three-

person, full-time crew spent as many as 8-10 hours daily carving the canoe along the banks of the Platte River. Local Littleton media featured the carving process and its location became a popular spot for residents to frequent. About 100 people came to check its progress, have a cup of coffee, and take a "hack" at the log.



Knotty beginning to take shape

Once completed, Knotty was given a thick coat of linseed oil to help protect it from drying out and cracking. It weighed approximately 600 pounds when it was fresh and would weigh less as it cured. Churchill says Knotty is a "whole lot more than a tree." He says that during the carving process a "spiritual connection between you, the tree, and the river are formed." When they were finished, Churchill and friends paddled Knotty across

Nebraska on the Platte River. According to Churchill, paddling a dugout canoe is different than paddling a plastic canoe. "[Dugouts] are fine canoes, each has its own character, and getting to know them is half the fun."

Churchill is not a stranger to Livingston. In 2006 he spoke during the Sacajawea statue dedication and helped build two 28-foot dugouts in Sacajawea Park. The canoes were then paddled about 2,200 miles from Livingston to St. Louis, Missouri. In the summer of 2013, Churchill plans to paddle the entire Missouri River. In preparation, Knotty was transported to



Knotty being carried into the museum

Livingston where I realized it would make a wonderful addition to the museum throughout the winter.

(continued on p. 11)

# A New Year and New Opportunities By Paul Shea

We ended last year on quite a note. Laura McCarthy, our registrar, left to go back to school. She is acquiring a Masters Degree in Museum Studies at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. Laura grew up in the up-state New York area and has family there as well as in Connecticut. We wish her luck in her further endeavors.

We are happy to start the New Year welcoming Karen Reinhart, our new staff member. She recently worked for the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum as curator of education and outreach, where she did a variety of jobs: exhibit writer, researcher, project director, interpretive text writer, as well as oral history coordinator. Before Jackson Hole, Karen spent fifteen years as an interpretive ranger for the National Park Service at the Fishing Bridge Visitor Center and Museum.

Karen's background in museum interpretive writing and exhibit preparation give her the skills she needs to take on the job at the Yellowstone Gateway Museum. She has stepped right in and is already making a difference in our operations. We look forward to her work interpreting our exhibits and developing our education and outreach program and related materials.

When we reopened the museum early last year we promised that each summer there would be at least two new exhibits. There are so many stories to tell about our wonderful county that the list of ideas is endless. By having new exhibits each year we

can rotate our superb collection and make the museum a yearly must-see for visitors and locals.

This summer there will be three new exhibits to explore in the museum. We are developing exhibits on the military history of Park County, a new archaeology exhibit on prehistoric tools and their sources, and an exhibit on Mattie Culver, who is buried in Yellowstone National Park at the confluence of Nez Perce Creek and the Firehole River. Mattie's is a poignant story of life and death in Yellowstone.

As we look forward to the coming years there is still much to do here at the museum. Staff and volunteers continue to digitize and make available our extensive archival collections for researchers. We are also working on fully cataloging the museum's immense collections of objects, as well as processing incoming donations.

Funding these activities is an ongoing challenge. The county budget covers the two full-time staff members and our basic operating budget. Memberships and donations made through the Friends organization help cover additional costs. This year we are broadening our fundraising efforts. We will use a program that offers donors diverse giving options tailored to their interests at the museum. The next page gives information on how to sponsor upcoming exhibits. We are deeply grateful for your help with these goals.

In the three years that I have been Director of the museum it has been my pleasure to work

with our staff, volunteers, boards, members, the county, and others to give the museum a major makeover. We still have a way to go to get the job completed but the last three years have shown me that you, our members and folks of Park County, care about your history and the role that the Yellowstone Gateway Museum has played in providing an exciting way of telling our compelling stories.

## Boards and Staff

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Karen Reinhart – Registrar  
Paul Dyerly – Experience Works

118 W. Chinook Street  
Livingston, MT 59047  
406-222-4184  
museum@parkcounty.org  
yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org

# Exhibits and Programs for 2013: We Need Your Help

## On the Trail of Archaeology

This exhibit features stone tools: materials used, their origin, and the trade routes that native peoples used to move the material. We investigate the significance of Obsidian Cliff, located in Yellowstone, and the presence of that material in the Hopewell Mounds of Ohio. A special display created by local professional knapper Ray Alt features replicas of stone tools and the tool-making process.



## Park County Military History: The Stories of Men and Women in Uniform

Using the museum's collections of military memorabilia, photographs, and personal stories, this exhibit interprets the role of Park County citizens in America's military history. Also featured are oral history interviews conducted by Park High School students.



## Mattie: A Woman's Journey West with A Look at Early Yellowstone

The Mattie section, curated by author Nan Weber, features a unique collection of personal items from Mattie Culver. Mattie died in 1887 at Marshall's Hotel at the confluence of the Firehole River and Nez Perce Creek. Her story is poignant and heartwarming. The second portion of the exhibit uses collection items from Yellowstone National Park that highlight the experiences and memorabilia of early-day residents and visitors.



### *How will funds be used?*

Financial support will be used for exhibit and activities development and fabrication, and for bringing speakers to Park County.

#### Sponsorships:

- Full sponsor \$5,000
- Sponsor level 1 \$2,500
- Sponsor level 2 \$1,000
- Sponsor level 3 \$500

Sponsors' names will be listed on exhibit panels, and in programs, newsletters, advertisements, and promotions. If you or someone you know might be interested in helping us with our exhibit goals, please contact Paul Shea at 406-222-4184. Donations can be made to Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum; please see sponsorship form on page 11.

*We thank you for your support!*

**Children's Activities:** We want the youth of Park County to grow up in their museum and embrace their history. To that end, we need to add more children's components to each exhibit hall. Interactive and hands-on activities will enhance the museum's reputation as a place for families, where children can learn and explore their history in an exciting and fun venue. Plans include a sensory touch-table exhibit, a dress-up costume trunk, an expedition journal, a train set, and more.

**Adult and Family Programming:** The museum plans to bring professional speakers to Park County, to engage youth and adults in compelling cultural and natural history programs.

# Always a Need: If You Don't Help, Who Will?

By Bruce Graham, President of the Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum

The Yellowstone Gateway Museum was started by volunteers and for many years it was run by a volunteer force. Today, we continue to need help from local citizens in order to operate. We have many volunteers, but there is always a need for more.

*Volunteer projects: scanning pictures and documents, conducting and recording oral history interviews, indexing documents, creating finding aids, and working in education.*

Dedicated museum volunteers donated the equivalent of about one and a half full-time positions at the museum in 2012. This donation of time is important but unfortunately makes only a small dent in all the projects that need to be done.

Each volunteer brings a unique



Volunteer Ellen Zazzarino processing the Doris Whithorn Curator Collection

talent to the museum and I am sure all have gained more from their efforts than the time and expertise they donate. Ellen Zazzarino, who was an archivist at the Denver

Library, has donated a lot of time sorting through Doris Whithorn's files and records. Ellen archived and preserved two file drawers of family history documents, filed them alphabetically, and placed them in the research room for public access.

She also found many Park County and Montana history books to add to the research library.

Dick Dysart is indexing the huge book, *History of Park County, Montana*, published in 1984, and will need volunteers to proofread.

Through their research of local newspapers, two volunteers from the past—Miles Iverson and Ellery Christian—wrote many books that cover a variety of Park County subjects, from local schools, Hunters Hot Springs, and the Pine Creek Store to Rex Moore, the Livingston Roundup, and many other local items of interest. Their books are a gold mine of information that is available to any researcher who visits the museum. The compiled information can be read without the need to sort through thousands of local newspaper pages.

Volunteering at the museum is a way to help preserve the history of Park County and make it available

to others. Here are a few of the many volunteer projects that I see a need for: scanning pictures and documents, conducting and recording oral history interviews, indexing documents, creating finding aids, and working in education. Because there is a continuing procession of items donated to the museum, the need for help and volunteers never ends.

I invite you to volunteer for the museum; for more information please call the museum and speak with Paul Shea or Karen Reinhart at 406-222-4184. Thanks!

## We are Grateful to our Current Volunteers:

Mary Jane Ammerman  
Judy Bonnell  
Bruce Carver  
Carol Carver  
Cheryl Chmielewski  
Daniel Davidson  
June Doolittle  
Shirley Gasek  
Georgia Hall  
Ken Kaffenberg  
Harry Kolkmann  
Melinda Peirce  
Cody Redmon  
Roddy Stanton  
Ellen Zazzarino

. . . and our board members, p. 2

**Editor's Note:** Bruce Graham has been working on an important volunteer project for nearly a year. He is inventorying, organizing, and creating a finding aid for books and publications in the museum's new research library. Thanks to Bruce there are more than 1,000 books, periodicals, and other published works that we are ready to share. One of his favorite books is the *Farmer's Directory, 1915-1916*, a rare book that lists the geographic locations of Park County farmers and ranchers, as well as what they grew or raised.

# Museum Offers Teaching Trunks to Educators

By Karen Reinhart, Museum Registrar

The Yellowstone Gateway Museum has developed four teaching trunks for teachers to check out and share with their students either in their classrooms or at the museum. These trunks explore the history of Park County as interpreted through the traditional lifeways of native people. Each trunk is thematic and is packed with hands-on activities designed for early elementary grades through high school. Lesson plans are from the Montana Office of Public Instruction: Indian Education For All, as well as the Smithsonian, the National Park Service, and the Montana Historical Society. Curriculum development online resources are included in each trunk.

Our goal is to share the trunks with all of the Park County communities, from Wilsall to Cooke City. They are designed for classroom use for one or more weeks. The trunks are free to Park County educators, including home-school teachers, and youth groups.

short, one-period-long introductory lesson plans based on each trunk's thematic books, photographs, and objects. Ken and museum staff are happy to bring the trunks to the classroom and give a special presentation.

## The **Local Food and Medicine Cabinet**

trunk is an impressive show-and-tell of native Montana plants. Park High School students collected fifteen specimens from the area around historic Fort Parker, east of Livingston, and carefully preserved them in a specimen box. Students learn how native people used the plants for food or medicine.

The **Tools of the Trade** trunk explores handmade tools that were used in early Native American cultures, and includes stone tool displays created by local knapper Ray Alt. Students handle replicas of traditional tools and explore the ways

that native people used the bison for food, clothing, jewelry and more.

## The **Pack Your Bags and Travel**

**through Montana** trunk helps students discover their history through the use of topographical maps. The collection highlights Montana's seven reservations and many tribes. It explores the Livingston area or "The Great Bend of the Yellowstone" through time and stories.

The **Step into a Native American Closet** trunk includes hands-on examples of the fashions and fabrics of Montana's local tribes. Students view postcards in the Gallery of the Past, featuring native people, their lands, animals, and culture.

Please visit [www.yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org](http://www.yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org), or contact me at 406-222-4184 or [karen@parkcounty.org](mailto:karen@parkcounty.org) to reserve a trunk and for more information. If you are willing to help by volunteering in education, I am happy to talk with you!

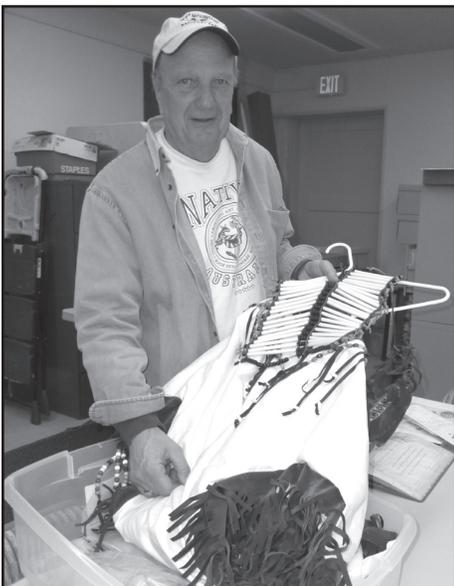
*Would you enjoy volunteering in education?*

*We are looking for county-wide volunteers who are interested in giving school or museum programs.*

*We also need help developing history trunks.*

Outreach to our schools is part of the museum's mission, so please help spread the word.

The museum wants these trunks to not only be accessible but also easy to use. One of our new volunteers, Ken Kaffenberg, a retired teacher, is developing



Volunteer Ken Kaffenberg inspects trunk

# Collections Conversation

By Karen Reinhart, Museum Registrar

As the new registrar, I am becoming acquainted with the museum's vast collections and I know it will be an ongoing and enjoyable process. Here, I thought it would be fun for our members to peek into two of the museum's recently acquired collections.

Last year, the Yellowstone Gateway Museum received a grant from the Montana History Foundation (MHF) to process and preserve items that John Fryer generously donated to the museum. As part of that grant's requirements, a selection of photographs from the Sax and Fryer Collection was uploaded to the Montana Memory Project; to view those photos and many others, please visit

<http://mtmemory.org/>. I've added a few additional Sax and Fryer images here.

I've also included highlights from the Krohne Family Collection, an assortment of wonderful artifacts dating from 1882 forward. Museum staff and volunteers are writing another grant to the MHF to support the preservation of the collection's more than 2,000 items, including digitization and the development of a finding aid, making the collection accessible to history enthusiasts and researchers.

We appreciate each and every item that you donate to the museum, and take great care in keeping your treasures safe for future generations.



Sax and Fryer Collection



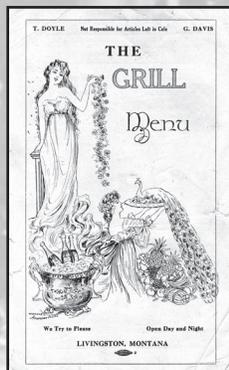
Krohne Family Collection



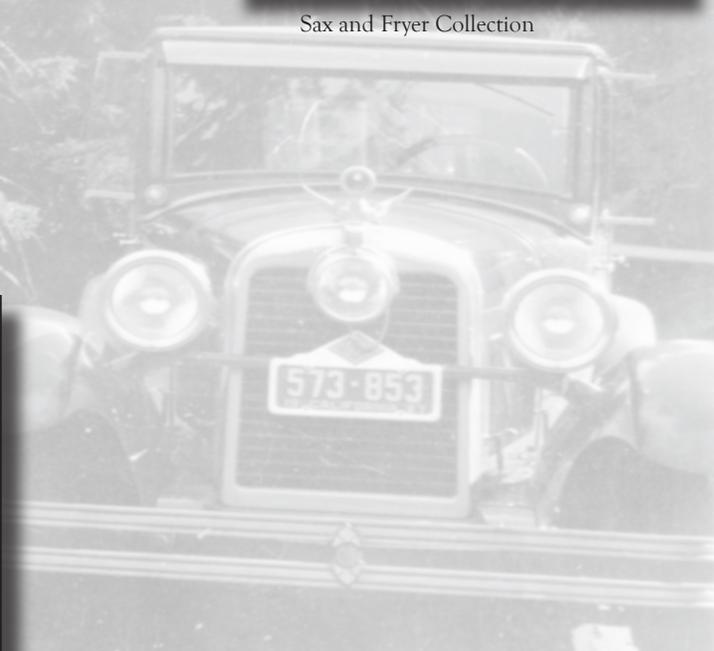
Sax and Fryer Collection



Sax and Fryer Collection



Krohne Family Collection



Krohne Family Collection

# Seniority on the Railroad

By Dick Dysart

There was a pecking order for everyone who worked for the Northern Pacific Railway. The order was spelled out in a little booklet, published each year, called the *Railroad Men's Time and Seniority Book*. Each worker was

a shirt pocket. They contain a lot of history about the railroad workers who lived here. Each worker is listed by name (last name, first name or initials) and arranged by seniority number, date of employment, and date of last promotion. If your parents or grandparents had a history of working for the railroad, you may be able to find their names in these booklets.

In addition, railroad trivia buffs will find the horsepower and weight of each locomotive in the fleet. For me, an extra historical bonus was seeing the advertisements from Livingston merchants of the day.

**The Old Montana Division**

**RAILROAD MEN'S TIME AND SENIORITY BOOK 1967**

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ranked numerically from one on down, within their job specialty: Train Conductors, Engineers, Firemen, Brakemen, Switchmen, Yardmasters, and Yardmen. The most senior fellows at the top of each list could make some choices that the fellows at the bottom could not. For example, conductors with top seniority had their choice of which run they wanted between Livingston and Laurel, Butte, or Helena. And, in the case of laid-off employees, workers with highest seniority were always rehired first. Importantly, these seniority rules were not established by the employer, the Northern Pacific Railway, but by the various labor unions.

Each booklet measures 4" by 7.5" and easily fits in

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N. P. ENGINEERS (Continued)

87	87	Kopke, L. P.	4-14-44	9-22-57
88	88	Nissen, H. K.	4-15-44	9-22-57
89	89	Orr, A. W. C.	4-22-44	9-22-57
90	90	Altimus, W. B. Jr.	5-27-44	9-22-57
91	91	*Ricci, M. S.	8-07-44	9-22-57
92	92	Antonovich, G. F.	8-07-44	9-22-57
93	93	*Holley, John	8-16-44	9-22-57
94	94	*Mills, G. G.	8-24-44	9-22-57
95	95	Indendi, C. N.	12-12-44	10-28-57
96	96	Whitfield, C. J.	1-02-45	10-28-57
97	99	Pardee, P. S.	6-04-45	7-02-59
98	100	McConnell, J. E.	6-15-45	7-02-59
99	101	*Marcello, A. M.	7-09-45	7-10-59
100	102	Gwin, C. S.	7-09-45	7-10-59
101	103	Snyder, A. A.	8-01-45	7-10-59
102	104	Moore, R. W.	10-24-45	7-10-59
103	105	Mohr, H. A.	10-25-45	7-10-59
104	106	Barthuly, Calvin	10-26-48	9-29-62
105	107	Bondie, K. F.	12-27-45	7-10-59
106	108	Tataraka, J. E.	9-24-48	9-29-62
107	109	Romans, K. C.	10-26-48	9-29-62
108	110	O'Rourke, J. H.	6-16-49	12-24-62
109	111	Payne, T. C.	6-15-49	9-29-62
110	112	Frank, Elmer	6-16-49	12-24-62
111	113	Killebrew, C. W.	6-21-49	12-24-62
112	114	Goble, Loren	9-02-49	12-24-62
113	115	McLees, J. E.	8-11-50	1-06-65
114	116	Jackson, C. L.	10-20-50	1-06-65
115	117	Saxbury, R. W. Jr.	10-20-50	1-06-65

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N. P. ENGINEERS (Continued)

116	118	Fletcher, Floyd	11-03-50	1-06-65
117	119	Stahl, L. G.	11-06-50	1-06-65
118	120	Zwarrmann, L. P. Jr.	11-20-50	1-06-65
119	121	Danielson, W. J.	8-20-51	1-06-65
120	122	Teeple, J. G.	11-18-51	1-06-65
121	123	Strevor, G. E. Jr.	8-12-52	1-06-65
122	124	Ripley, B. D.	7-26-53	1-06-65
123	125	Schwenneker, Warren	8-04-53	1-06-65
124	126	Saxbury, R. J.	8-12-53	1-06-65
125	127	Herbst, J. L.	10-27-53	1-06-65

\* Indicates men who must wear glasses constantly.

---

N. P. FIREMEN'S SENIORITY LIST  
Rocky Mountain Division — January 1, 1967

No.	Name	Employed as Fireman
97	*Anderson, N. V.	1-20-45
98	Pearson, R. V. (L/A)	3-14-45

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**HURZLER HOTEL**  
BUS DEPOT  
The Railroad Man's Hotel  
Laurel, Montana

Note: In the Yellowstone Gateway Museum Research Room, there is also a rare 1939 list of Livingston NPRR Shop Employees, including specialty tradesmen and workers in the Roundhouse.

The museum has quite a collection of booklets, dating from 1950 to 1978, but we need copies of those published before 1950 and after 1978. If you find one, please bring it in so we can make a digital scan.



# The Beaver Creek Rural Telephone Company Story

By Bruce Graham

The first meeting of the Beaver Creek Rural Telephone Company was held on June 15, 1911, with the purpose of providing telephone service for residents on the Swingley route east of Livingston. Mountain States Telephone Company would not provide the line to the area because there were too few residents. (The same thing occurred with the electric power for these people.

Rural Electric Association would not put in power lines so residents asked Montana Power to supply the line, which they did—its only rural electric line in Park County.)

The telephone, invented in 1876 by Alexander Graham Bell, rapidly spread across the country. Workers soon erected a lot of telephone poles and lines, perhaps using telegraph company poles. The first telephone exchange in Montana was in Butte in 1882, and the first toll line from Helena to Livingston was completed in 1893. A telephone exchange was inaugurated in Livingston in 1898. (See the *Montana Almanac 1959-1960* for more details.)

Beaver Creek Rural Telephone consisted of twelve stockholders, who put up at least \$25 each; they also put up the poles and strung the wire on the main line. The group also agreed to pay a line charge each year to Mountain States Telephone for the use of its exchange; this was \$6.00 at startup. Stockholders then purchased what they needed for the side lines to their homes: lines, wire, brackets, insulators, and phones. The 1907 wall mount telephone sold for \$11 and had a built-in generator for signaling the operator.

There appears to have been a limit to the number of phones that could operate on a line without adding

additional wires. These were party lines, so each subscriber had a distinctive ring. A few other people were allowed to connect to the line as subscribers; they had to pay more than the original stockholders.

The Beaver Creek line connected to the Mountain States line at the H Street Bridge in Livingston. The line followed the road across Harvat's Bridge, up the hill and along the county road that existed at that time. About this same time others formed the Mission Creek Telephone Company and sought to connect to the same line or use the same poles for its line. Neither proposal was allowed, so Mission Creek residents put up their own line on poles parallel to the Beaver Creek line but on the opposite side of the road and continuing to the West Boulder Valley.

The records show that there were numerous stockholders over the years until 1953, when Mountain Bell took over and installed its own

line. Three times during this period the stockholders were able to pay themselves a dividend. The stockholders sold their stock, but there is no record of what the stock sold for.



"The Little Ford Rambled Right Along. Livingston, Montana, 6-16-18." The line on the left is a power line and the line on the right is a telephone line. The automobile would have just crossed Harvat's Bridge, which once spanned the river near the fairgrounds.



The author's 1907 wall mount telephone

# CALENDAR

**March 28**

**Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Party**

**Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum**

**6:30 PM, Senior Center, 206 S. Main**

Artwork by Rachella Devine



Carol Woodley, Genealogist and Park County Archivist, presents a program titled "Hunting Your Ancestors in Cemeteries."

Members and others interested in learning more about the museum and the Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum are urged to attend. Refreshments provided.

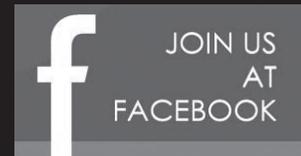


## It's Time

—To share your email address.

We're developing a list to keep you up-to-date on museum happenings. Please send your email address to kreinhart@parkcounty.org. Thanks!

—To like us on Facebook, another way to keep in touch with local history and the Yellowstone Gateway Museum.



—To visit our website:

[yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org](http://yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org)

—And most of all, to visit our museum and research center!

Museum winter hours:

10-5, Thursday-Saturday, through May 23; Research Center hours: 8-5, Monday-Friday, year-round.

**May 18 and 19**

**Montana's Spring Knap-In & Archaeology Exhibit Opening**

**9 AM-6 PM, Saturday; and 9 AM-1 PM, Sunday**

**Yellowstone Gateway Museum, 118 W. Chinook**

Expert flint knappers demonstrate their craft. Ages 18 and over are invited to try their hand at making a stone point. Other activities to be announced. Free. Fun for the whole family. Rain or shine.



Photo courtesy of James C. Keffer

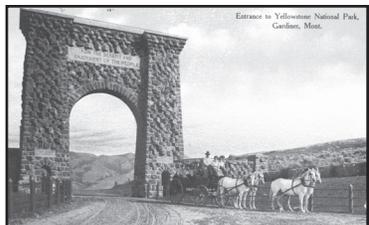
"On the Trail of Archaeology," a new museum exhibit, opens.

**May 25**

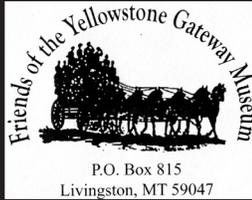
**Museum's Summer Opening Celebration**

**10 AM-5 PM**

**Yellowstone Gateway Museum,  
118 W. Chinook**



New Exhibits. Free Admission. Bring your friends and family.



THANK YOU

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 Andrew Dana  
 C. Patricia Davidson  
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(continued from p. 1)

Please visit the Expedition Room at the museum to see Knotty. . . and feel free to touch her!



Knotty in the Expedition Room

## The direct lineage from William Clark to Churchill Clark:

**William Clark, 1770–1838**

**Meriwether Lewis Clark, 1809–1881**

(William Clark named his first-born son after his expedition partner.)

**Meriwether Lewis Clark, Jr., 1846–1899**

**John Henry Churchill Clark, 1874–1915**

(Churchill Downs of Kentucky Derby horse racing fame was established by Meriwether Lewis Clark in 1874.)

**William Churchill Clark, 1909–1974**

**Churchill Carleton Clark, 1930–2005**

**Churchill Carleton Clark, Jr., 1965–**

(He built Knotty, dugout canoe.)

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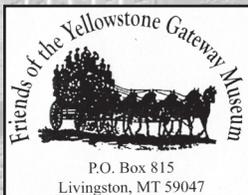
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Old Railroad Secrets:  
Back in the good old days...

- Beginning wages at the Northern Pacific Railway Shops in Livingston were only 21 cents an hour in 1902.
- Northern Pacific Railway brakeman Warren McGee was known to stop the train and shoot pheasants on the run between Reed Point and Laurel.

~ Dick Dysart

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