



News From The Red Caboose

FALL 2012



YGM HONORED BY CROW TRIBE VISIT

By Paul Shea, Director

Until 1868, the majority of Park County was Crow Country, and the first Crow Agency was located just east of Livingston, at Fort Parker. The Museum has enlisted the help of the Crow Tribe to authenticate our collection of Crow artifacts. We recently invited representatives from the Crow Tribe to help identify and interpret some of our Native Cultures collections.

Burton Pretty On Top, Crow Cultural Officer; Hubert Two Leggins,



Director Paul Shea and Burton Pretty On Top, Crow Cultural Officer, discuss a war bonnet in the Museum's collection.

Crow Historic Preservation Officer; and Joe White Clay and Richard White Clay from the Crow Cultural Office joined Museum staff and board members for the day to educate us on Crow history and the significance of the Museum's collections. It was found that the majority of the collections are of Crow Tribal affiliation, while some artifacts have mixed elements and cannot yet be associated with a particular tribe.

This marks the dawn of a long-term relationship with the Crow Tribe. The Museum will continue to work with the Crow Cultural Office and the Little Big Horn College to expand the interpretation of Crow artifacts in order to create new educational exhibits. ❖

OUT OF THE CLOSETS, INTO THE LIGHT

By Bruce Graham, President

For the historically curious, researchers, and genealogists, a gold mine of information awaits you in the research room of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum. Books, manuscripts, reports, and booklets that had been tucked away in storage have been brought into the light of the research room; several of the items on the history of Park County, Montana, and Yellowstone Park are not readily available elsewhere.

In accordance with the Museum's mission these items are being collected, protected, and made available for the education and benefit of the people. Some texts are being digitized to protect the original source; they are now accessible on computers in the research room.

Among these treasures are early Park County voting registration books, high school annuals, and telephone directories—the earliest of which is a 1925 Livingston Directory. There are several booklets, dating from 1941, advertising the Trout Derby; many books by local authors describe life in Livingston and provide family histories. One of our unique items is a 1915-1916 Farmers Directory listing Park County farmers and ranchers and their property locations. ❖

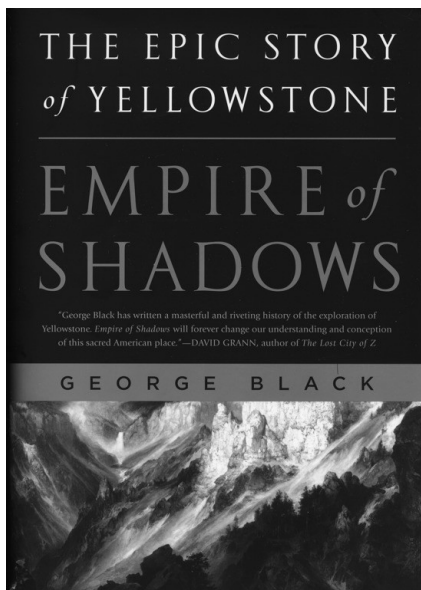
**Memorial Day thru September: Open 7 dys/wk 10AM-5PM, October to Memorial Day: Open Thu, Fri, Sat 10AM-5PM
Adults \$5, Seniors \$4, Under 18 FREE!**

NEW PARTNERSHIP BRINGS THE MUSEUM DOWNTOWN

YGM has teamed up with Elk River Books to bring historical writers to the area. To kick off this new partnership, we co-sponsored a reading with author George Black from his new book, *Empire of Shadows: The Epic Story of Yellowstone*.

“Empire of Shadows is the epic story of the conquest of Yellowstone, a landscape uninhabited, inaccessible and shrouded in myth in the aftermath of the Civil War. In a radical reinterpretation of the nineteenth century West, George Black casts Yellowstone's creation as the culmination of three interwoven strands of history - the passion for exploration, the violence of the Indian Wars and the ‘civilizing’ of the frontier - and charts its course through the lives of those who sought to lay bare its mysteries.”

To find out when our next joint reading will be stop by Elk River Books at 115 E. Callender St., visit their website, ElkRiverBooks.com, or our facebook page, Facebook.com/Yellowstone. GatewayMuseum.org. ❖



THE SMITHSONIAN VISITS YGM

The Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) Office of Education joined Museum staff and the Crow delegation to celebrate the conclusion of a museum/school grant. NMAI was gathering information on Montana's Indian Education For All (IEFA) program. The team also met with members of the Office of Public Instruction, the Montana Historical Society in Helena, and Montana State University.

The Livingston recipients were selected as an outstanding example of museum/school collaboration. YGM and Livingston schools created a speaker series, teaching trunks, and 3-D displays. The project culminated in a cross-cultural field day at Fort Parker, the first Crow Agency. Livingston School Superintendent, Dr. Rich Moore, and three district principals—Luke Shelton, Robert Stevenson, and Lisa Rosberg—joined the afternoon meeting.

The NMAI delegation was an eager audience as the Livingston grant team shared details on the implementation of the program. The meeting concluded with comments from school administrators, teachers, parents, students, tribal members, and Museum personnel.

NMAI promised continued enthusiastic support and communication with the schools and with YGM. ❖

Education Coordinator Laura McCarthy welcomes the Smithsonian with gifts. For more photos, go to: Facebook.com/Yellowstone. GatewayMuseum.org. For more about our Native Cultures collections go to: YellowstoneGatewayMuseum.org.

CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

WE JUST MADE IT A LITTLE EASIER

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Above your name and address is the date when your membership will expire. This will help keep you informed of when your membership is due. *If the last number is 2100 you are a lifetime member, but we always appreciate donations.*

So check out your mailing label, and when the time comes, return your dues in the enclosed envelope. Questions? Please call us at 406-222-4184.

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