



News from the Red Caboose

FALL 2019



FRIENDS OF
YELLOWSTONE GATEWAY
MUSEUM
PARK COUNTY, MONTANA

Bridgmans: Cooking at Hay Camp

By Mary Bridgman Leffingwell

The long winter months of having to move to town to go to high school were made bearable by looking forward to summer and cooking at hay camp.

It was in the late twenties and my dad [Charles Bridgman], we called him Papa, would take my favorite girlfriend, this time it was Edna Conrow (Trentman), and me in a model T car converted into a truck, to the Kay Place on upper Looking Glass Creek. It was quite a way so we tried to get everything in one big load.

We packed everything carefully, the groceries first, then the pots and pans on the back end and a few days' supply of split wood and oats for the horses. On top of everything would be our bedding and an old cotton mattress, then the men's bed rolls with a big tarp tied down tightly so

nothing would fly off on the trip over. We would be waiting in the front seat with a two weeks supply of clothes in a sack at our feet.

Papa would climb in over the side into the driver's seat as there was no door on that side.

The roads weren't all that bad except for what we called the "Kay Hill." There was a little ravine that we had to cross before starting up the steep, shaley hill.

Papa would take a run at it, going around the S curve at break-neck speed with us hanging on for dear life, bouncing up over the rocks until after every effort, the poor motor would lug down, sputter and die. This was our cue to jump out, grab the biggest rock and chuck it behind the hind wheels. Papa

would try again, giving it "all she had" making the wheels spin and rocks fly. We would run alongside, ready to block the wheels the next time it died. If we were lucky we made it to the top after

(continued on page 10)



Mary and Russell Bridgman pose with their dogs at their Shields Valley home. Mary, the author, was born in 1914.



The Bridgmans used a buckrake to bring hay to the stack, like this unidentified man.

You Gave A Hoot in 2019!

By Paul Shea, director

Give a Hoot is Park County's first month-long community giving challenge that connects community members with causes they care about most. Three co-challengers, The Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation, Montana Rail Link, and Willow Creek Ranch gave a ten-year \$3.5 million donation to the Park County Community Foundation, including the Give A Hoot program. This new program's aim is to help raise funds for events or programs, or for general operating funds.

Give a Hoot inspires people to come together, show pride in their community, and contribute to nonprofit organizations working in Park County. Funding from the program's co-challengers covered administration, event management, and marketing costs so 100% of each donation stays with the museum.

Individuals and businesses gave \$7,260 in direct donations to the museum through the Give A Hoot program this summer. The Park County Community Foundation partially matched these funds, giving the Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum an additional \$2,831. This money helps museum staff and volunteers meet the challenges of providing an exciting and educational history venue for citizens and visitors.

While we have greatly improved the museum's exhibits over the last nine years, regularly curating new exhibits and art shows, and have developed a popular Fall and Spring Speakers series, none of this could have been accomplished

the support of our wonderful members and sponsors. Give A Hoot gives us important additional support that will help us pay for events, programs, exhibits, and advertising in the coming year. It helps us realize our vision and dreams for the museum.

Once again, we thank all who participated in the Give A Hoot fundraising event this year and those who continue to support the museum in various ways, making the Yellowstone Gateway Museum a must-see attraction in Livingston and all of Park County.

Thank You to Our Give A Hoot Donors!

Anonymous
Kathy Bekedam
Bill & Colette Berg
Richard Bodine
Deborah Brenna
Yvonne Brutger
Merrilee Bryan
Bruce Carroll & Suzanne
Goodman
Conleys Books & Music
Laura Cota
Lisa Culpepper
Milla L. Cummins
Barbara Dean
Audrey & Ed Dodge
Jim Durfey
Priscilla & Richard Dysart
Bob & Robin Ebinger
Nancy & William Edwards
Frank Egan
John Feckanin
David & Joann Gibson
Bruce & Margery Graham
Bob & Glee Greenwood
Dale & Gloria Guidi
Julie A Haight
Jack & Wendy Heckles
JoAnn & John Hillard
Donna Hillman
Stephen Horan
Francis Horiel
Jay Kiefer
Darren Kisor & Lori Todd

Alta LeDoux
Clare & Tom Lemke
Ernie & Stella Liebenow
Cary Lund & Susan Witte
Betsy & Jack Luther
Marcia McCrum
Deidrea McMillan
Scott McMillion
Catherine McPherson
Kirk Michels
Pat & Peggy Mikesell
David Miller
Shirley Petersen
Dona & Hank Poeschl
Barbara Prager
Karen Reinhart
David Ricks
Jaqueline Robbins
Joan Robbins
Hallie Rugheimer
Jean Sandberg
Bob Schleicher
Paul Shea
Jeanne Souvigney
Carolyn Spector
Amy & Tim Stevens
Jeffrey Strickler
Stan & Kate Todd
Rick VanAken
Karrie West
Mardella Whitmore
Roberta Williams
Michael Yardley

Volunteers and Staff

Boards and Staff

Friends

Kate Todd, President
Ed Dodge, Vice President
Paul Shea, Treasurer
Judy Bonnell, Member
Sara Chaney, Member
Robin Lovec, Member
Sabine MacInnes, Member
Mike Palmer, Member
Hank Poeschl, Member

County

Bob Ebinger, President
Jem Blueher, Member
George Bornemann, Member
Dale Guidi, Member
Norm Miller, Member
Andy Olds, Member

Staff

Paul Shea, Director
Karen Reinhart, Curator,
Newsletter Editor
Scott Franzen, Cynthia Holweger,
Jay Kiefer, Rebecca Michie, and
Tanya D. Murray,
Experience Works employees

Volunteers

Nancy Adkins, researcher
Lerick Allen, researcher
Suzanne Brown, cataloger
Merrilee Bryan, education, library
Shannon Burke, education
Diane Chalfant, researcher
Steve Fox, cataloger
Bruce Graham, library, researcher
Sarah Greenberg, researcher, library
Mariah Henry, editor, misc.

Nancy Jurvakainen, tours
Jack Luther, front desk, tours
Allison Parrish, archaeology
Susan Sewell, education
Roddy Stanton, collections, editor
Kris Walker, mural painter
Frank Wombacher, cataloger
Carol Woodley, collections
Ellen Zazzarino, archivist



Scott Franzen quipped, "The best part of my job is zooming into history and drifting around." He's scanning Haberstroh Collection negatives, see back cover.



Above: Suzanne Brown examines a corset prior to cataloging a new donation of Billman clothing.



Left: Members of our Collection Committee examine a steamer trunk full of Iverson family treasures.

MUSEUM HOURS

SUMMER: (5/21 - 9/30)
10 AM - 5 PM, 7 days/week



WINTER: (10/1 - 5/21)
10 AM - 5 PM, Thurs. - Sat.



RESEARCH CENTER:
8 AM - 5 PM, Tues.-Fri.
Please call for an appointment.

Yellowstone Gateway Museum of Park County

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

Musings on Story

By Karen Reinhart, curator

There is no better way to connect with people than through story. Storytelling is a vehicle that transforms history into something real, something that can perk up ears, saving someone from perhaps, apathy and boredom. It can help propel a reader or listener forward, even while thinking about long ago times, because he may realize that people today are really no different from people who lived 2 or 20 or 100 years ago. Across time, cultures, and geography, the stories of our common humanity and experience unite us.

We have had great success at the Yellowstone Gateway Museum using story in our exhibits. The stories that Doris Whithorn and others collected when compiling the *History of Park County 1984* and the oral history interviews that she conducted are invaluable as we interpret the past. And the stories of today are relevant and important, too! To that end, Jay Kiefer has interviewed forty-three people since summer 2017.

Using publications and interviews, volunteer Sarah Greenberg helped compile ranching and farming stories of Park County for an interpretive notebook, which is part of our outdoor agricultural exhibit. This winter, it will be available to read in the Pioneer Room.

Our speaker series programs this fall revolve around ranching and dive into tales from a rodeo bullfighter (rodeo has its roots in ranching), of an early Montana cattle driver and developer, from a ranchwoman and photographer, and finally, we're regaled by a multi-talented performer who gives a musical tribute to farmers and ranchers. (See page 11.)

This year, our intern, Erin Atwood, (see page 5) also mined



National Park. These stories will be interpreted in an upcoming exhibit that highlights the deep and diverse connection between Yellowstone National Park and our county.

And what makes our new walking tours special and memorable? Once again, it's the stories. Tuesday afternoon's tour, "Westside Historic District: Movers and Shakers," includes tales of early, influential Livingston residents. Volunteer tour guides Jack Luther and

Nancy Jurvakainen give these fascinating tours while strolling through architecturally pleasing neighborhoods, Yellowstone and Second Streets, and Sacajawea Park. Thursday evening's "Bars and Brothels: Livingston's Lively Legacy" tour of downtown Livingston and B Street Historic District relays some colorful stories, too, though of a wilder hue. I enjoyed conducting this research and keep

hearing more stories each time I give the tour.

In the exhibit, "Pull Up a Chair: Tales from the Seats of History," twenty-eight different chairs compete with each other for visitor favor. Nearly 3,000 museum visitors (continued on page 5)



Top: Nancy Jurvakainen is ready to begin her tour. Above: Jack Luther telling the stories of one of Yellowstone Street's many architecturally interesting houses.

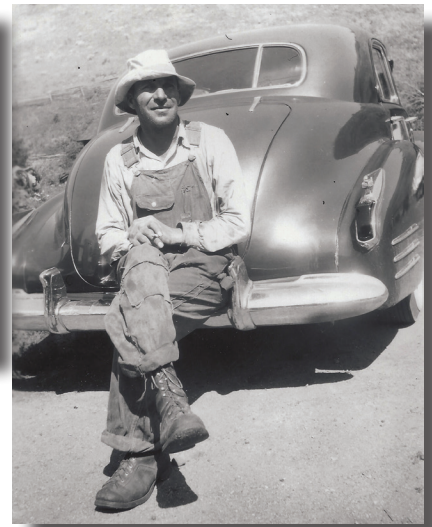
stories from publications and archives in our Research Library. She interviewed "parkies"—a local term for people who've lived and worked in and around Yellowstone

(continued from page 4)
have voted on their favorite chairs so far, taking into account the stories that each chair “tells.” Top contenders (and votes) are the Great Depression Highchair (322) and the Child’s Convertible (310). The Barber’s Chair (185); Elk-legged Stool (173), shown at right; From the Hide of an Ox (161); and the Roundabout Chair (156) are popular, too. Hovering around 50 votes each are A Mangle’s Chair, Switchboard Operator’s Chair, and Adjustable Piano Stool, and the Stitching Pony. Stop in and cast your vote—one per visit—so come often! Two notebooks highlight the chairs’ distinctive stories.

We’re always looking for good stories. If you know of someone who would be a good storyteller, for a program or for an oral history interview, please give us a call!



Above: Our volunteers and visitors seem to either love or hate the Elk-legged stool. Right: George Benolken donated (and probably made) the stool. Here, he sits on the bumper of his car. George and his brother, Leo, donated rifles and other hunting equipment, ranching artifacts, scrapbooks, and numerous photographs of George haying and fishing. They ranched between Livingston and Bozeman on a subsidiary of Trail Creek, near Hoffman. I’ll bet there’s a good story behind the making of this stool.



Intern Inspired by Yellowstone Park Connections

By Erin Atwood, intern

My summer internship at the Yellowstone Gateway Museum was highly valuable. Not only did I expand my knowledge about Yellowstone National Park’s history, I also learned about the valuable roles that Park County citizens played in its creation. I had no idea that these residents would have such an impact on the construction and overall maintenance of the park.

Today, the relationship between Park County communities and Yellowstone Park is larger and much deeper. Historically, people engaged with the park because of financial prospects, but the oral histories I’ve collected throughout the summer have shown that the folks of Park County engage, work, and live in the park because of their pure love of Yellowstone. They have dedicated their lives to being close to and working within the park because the landscape and resources have captured them entirely. Learning this astonished me, but not completely. I know Yellowstone is a magical place that demands to be known and that it can truly change lives. It was simply magical to learn and understand that connection through the eyes of locals.

Park County has an incredible history and an even more incredible sense of community that helps it and Yellowstone Park thrive. Eclectic individuals, both past and present, have left and continue to leave, their



Erin Atwood in front of the museum.

marks on its history. It’s enlightening and inspiring!

I appreciate the opportunity to have been given this internship. I learned great museum skills pertaining to behind-the-scenes research that are essential to creating an exhibit. If you want the exhibit to be great, the research has to be greater. I believe my research skills have increased with my time here and for that I am grateful – especially since thesis research and writing is upon me.

M.A.M. in Miles City

By Roddy Stanton, volunteer

This year the Museums Association of Montana (M.A.M.) chose Miles City to host the annual conference. Four from the Yellowstone Gateway Museum attended: Karen Reinhart, Paul Shea, Kate Todd, and Roddy Stanton.

Kicking off Thursday morning, March 7, was a taxidermy workshop that Paul attended. Our museum has several old pieces which we keep in cold storage, not wanting to bring them into the museum proper, but not knowing what we should do with them. Now we do! Paul has learned how to clean up and care for these "stuffed" animals without spending a lot of money to hire someone else.

While Paul was shampooing taxidermied animals, we ladies joined a tour of the tiny town of Terry, Montana, 35 miles northeast as the crow flies from Miles City. The English photographer, Evelyn Cameron, who chronicled pioneer life in Eastern Montana from the 1890s into the 20th century, lived in Terry. A collection of her photos hangs in a gallery on Main Street next door to the Prairie County Museum, which once housed the local bank. Typical of many small rural museums, storage space is non-existent so "open storage" solves the problem, putting everything in the museum on view in clusters of similar objects. Few labels or interpretation were provided but a couple of volunteers regaled us with stories.

On our way out of town we stopped at the Historic Kempton Hotel which had an "Antiques" sign in the window. Everything



Top: Kate Todd, Kempton Hotel, Terry.
Middle: Humorous church sign. Above:
Montana Bar steerheads, Miles City.

about this colorful hotel exudes "antique," including the building itself. After investigating the tiny shop full of "old things," we explored upstairs, peering into the appropriately appointed, very cozy rooms and discovered a small, bookstore. Burgeoning bookshelves covered the walls, filled with old and new regional books. We had to tear ourselves away.

After lunch back at the conference hotel, we went on a tour

entitled "Saints and Sinners in Miles City." We learned about the four largest, most imposing churches of this town of about 8,500 souls: Presbyterian, Methodist, Episcopalian, and Catholic. The "Sinners" part of the tour took us into the town's three oldest bars, all of which served as brothels upstairs: The Bison, Trails End, and The Montana, each with its own stories of early Miles City.

Dinner that evening was a three-part progressive affair with stops at The Waterworks Art Museum, The Range Riders Museum, and the Historic Miles City Academy, this last stop a former nunnery.

Shorter workshop sessions filled Friday, giving us several choices. We split up in order to cover a wide range of topics, such as: hints for good graphic design, cemetery preservation, historic house museums, museum partnerships for outreach, care of quilts, roles of museum board members, storage solutions, and curating objects ejected from a hot spring in Yellowstone National Park.

The keynote speaker at the banquet Friday evening was Wally Badgett, a former rodeo rider, who told us about the annual Bucking Horse Sale in Miles City where rodeo stock providers come looking for good horses who love to buck!

After a couple more sessions on Saturday morning our quartet rounded up and headed out on the homeward trail, filled with new ideas and possibilities to help us keep your museum fresh and interesting.

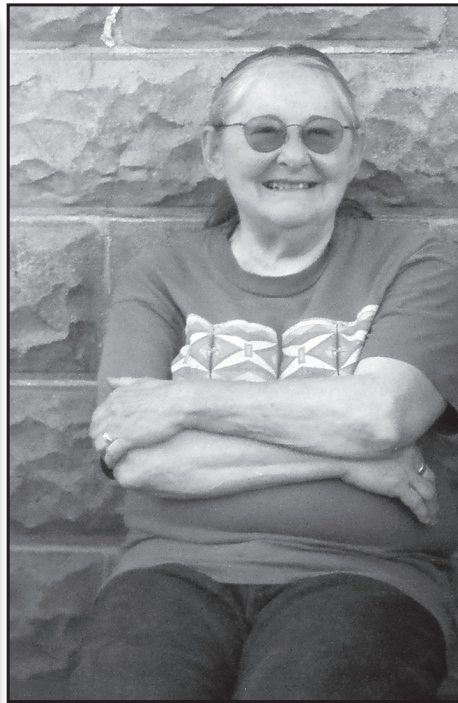
Museum Loses Friends

By Karen Reinhart, curator

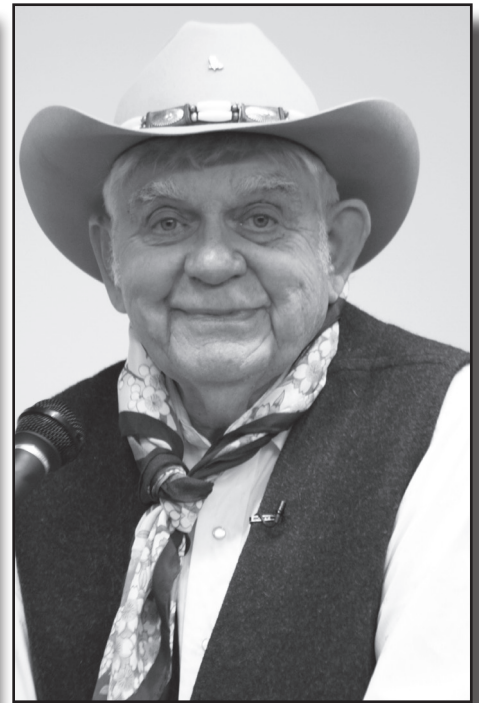
Over the past year and a half, we have lost three community members who were avid museum volunteers and supporters. We miss them very much and greatly appreciate the time and energy that they gave to the museum.



Ray Alt served as a volunteer beginning in 2010 when he was a Museum in the Schools speaker and also created a lithic teaching trunk for the museum. In 2013, Ray spearheaded the creation of the exhibit, "Recreating an Ancient Technology: Modern-Day Flint Knapping." He made more than 200 projectile points; made tools, darts and atlatls; provided lithic (rock) material; and worked closely with staff on interpretation. He organized the first Spring Knap-In that year, inviting regional flint knappers to the museum's lawn to "break rock" and demonstrate the making of projectile points. He knapped at the museum through 2017. The Ray Alt Living History Day is a multi-faceted, free community event held the first Saturday in June at the museum.



BJ Earle was very generous with her time and expertise and served on the museum's Park County Board of Directors from 2012-2019. BJ was a trained archaeologist and was a member of our Collections Committee; she helped us make decisions about which donations should be added to our collections and conducted artifact research. BJ helped with the development of exhibits, including "Recreating an Ancient Technology: Modern-Day Flint Knapping" (2013) and Pull Up a Chair: Tales from the Seats of History (2018). BJ was also eager to help with the museum's programming and special events. She is also sorely missed as one of the museum's newsletter and exhibit-panel editors. A tree and bench will soon memorialize BJ on the museum lawn.



Don Ellis served on the museum's Park County Board of Directors from 2010-2013. He was always eager to further the "cowboy way," using humor and good sense, honor and friendship. He gave inspiring demonstrations at the museum of the cowboy way of life that, for most people, is long gone but always drew a crowd. Known as "Tipi Don," he was the owner of White Buffalo Lodges in Livingston, fabricating and putting up tipis far and wide. In November 2013 Don gave a speaker series program for the museum, sharing colorful stories about his life in the Cooke City and Livingston, and tales of his grandfather who drove cattle from Texas to Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana. One of Don's tipis is on exhibit in the Native Cultures Room.

RECENT COLLECTIONS DONORS

Randine Adams: fire extinguisher
Harriet Alt: photo, Ray Alt earrings
Eve Art: Chico Hot Springs chair
Ron Bayly: recordings
Rod & Sue Beland: Zakovi book
Anita Brawner: books
Penny Cooper: Billman clothing
Paul Dowell: Iverson steamer trunk
Dick & Priscilla Dysart: magazine
David & Joann Gibson: recording
Lindie Gibson: archival items
Fred Gleason: Asher military file
Linda Holland: photos
Bob Jovick: Livingston ordinance codes
Livingston Post Office: photos
Ed Lomeland: Fort Parker items
Sue Martin: archival items
Nick Morrison: playbill

MusEco Media: AB Wilderness DVD
Out of the Blue Antiques: archival items
Park High School: annual
Ron Plaggemeyer: BN seniority list
Tom Read: Chico Hot Springs items
Stephen Roberts: photos, clothing
Sax & Fryer: publications
Harry Schaeffer: Sax & Fryer receipt
Alvin Schaut: postcard
Suzanne Schneider: The Sport items
Matt Smith: Liv. Bar & Grille glass tiles
Caroline Spector: Kaiser family items
Sherry Steele: archival items
Tammy Weisbeck: Guintoni items
Richard Wheeler: books
Karen Wilson: Krieger family items
Sherry Wright: Deutsch/Michel items

MEMORIALS

For BJ Earle
By Lenore Close
By Darci Beaupeurt
By Sara Chaney
By Ronald K. & Judith Gerfen Clark
By Bob & Robin Hoggan Ebinger
By Suzanne Goodman
By Bruce & Margery Graham
By Kerry & Christine Lippincott
By Patricia & Herman Meyers
By Karen Reinhart
By V. C. Wald
By Carol Woodley
By Richard & MaDonna Zander

For Don Ellis
By Donna Crosier and Family
By Richard & Priscilla Dysart
By Bruce & Margery Graham
By Marge Jorgenson
By Cindy & Dan Kenczka and Family
By Jeanne Kenczka and Family
By Jerry Kenczka and Family
By Rick Kenczka and Family
By Chester & Rona Meyer
By Carl & Martha Peters
By Karen Reinhart
By Doug & Shannon Robison
By Doreen Romanchuk &
Atsuko Sakata
By Debbie & Terry Wagner

For Ray Alt
By Karen Reinhart
For Joseph Wallace Glenn
By Carol Glenn Lalani
For Pansy Graham
By Donna L Hillman
By Cliff & Jille Rowe
For Susan Kraft
By Jean Kraft
For Karol Skillman
By Bruce & Margery Graham

OTHER DONATIONS*

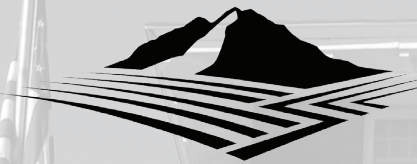
Elizabeth Blavatsky D.D. S., P.C.
Judy Bonnell
Sara Chaney
Mark Dixon & Janice Drout
Park & Melissa Frady
David & Joann Gibson

Donna Hillman
Alta LeDoux
Christopher D "Kit" Libbey
Livingston Lodge #246 B.P.O. Elks
Lore Kann Foundation
Jack & Betsy Luther

Ron Plaggemeyer
Hallie Rugheimer
Susan Sewell
Sky Federal Credit Union
Mardella Whitmore

*Give A Hoot donors, page 2.

2019
MEMBERSHIP
as of
September 1, 2019



FRIENDS OF
YELLOWSTONE GATEWAY
MUSEUM
PARK COUNTY, MONTANA

Please renew or join
today:
Individual \$25
Family \$35
Business \$75
Gold \$500
Platinum \$1,000

GOLD SPONSORS

Carol Glenn & Sal Lalani
Marcia McCrum
Kirk Michels

BUSINESS SPONSORS

Ist Interstate Bank
All Service Tire &
Alignment
Alpine Yamaha
Elizabeth Blavatsky DDS
Dr. Jim Brandau
Robert E. Buchanan
Chico Hot Springs
ERA Landmark
Real Estate
Glenn's Food & Spirits
Huppert, Swindlehurst &
Woodruff PC
Livingston Enterprise
Murray Hotel
Nevins Glass
Obsidian Collection
Out of the Blue Antiques
Larry Raffety, Architect
Sky Federal Credit Union
Tom Murphy
Photography
Tom's Jewelers
Yellowstone Veterinary
Service

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Mike & Patty Adams
Helen & Mel Anzick
Donna & Louis Armentaro
Lowell Asker
Chris Bastian
Little Blue Hand
Patricia Blume & John Mabie
Sandra Christensen
Elsie Cieri
Jo & Susan Colmore
Andrew Dana
Ed Davison
C. Patricia Davidson
Jacqueline den Boer
David & Shirley DePuy
Dick & Priscilla Dysart
Bob & Robin Ebinger
Bonnie & Ervin Ekstedt
Adrienne & Hank Fabich
Cynthia Fargo
Mike Fleming
Bob Frisbey
Jay Lin Gao
Sam Gordon
Patricia Grabow & Family
Bruce & Margery Graham
Ronnie Green
Dale & Gloria Guidi
Kevin & Tina Haines

Bettilee Hallin
Kathryn Held & B. Leigh
JoAnn & John Hillard
Bert & Linda Holland
Jim Hunt
Tom Jerde
Edwin & Ronalee Johnson
Robert L. Jovick
Richard Kern
Lindsay Robb
Betty Lahren
Carol Glenn & Sal Lalani
Alta LeDoux
Vern LeDoux
Clare & Tom Lemke
Kit Libbey
Ernie & Stella Liebenow
Karen Lilley
Patricia Mackinder
Fred Martin Jr.
Linda (Lee) Martin
Frieda & Robert McLaughlin
Larry & Lisa Mehloff
Kirk Michels
Mary & Tim Miller
Raphael Nacci
Barbara Nell
Ken Nelson
Robin Ogata
Harlan & Joal Olson
Carol Whithorn Orr
Edna Peebles
Shirley Petersen
Tina Pidwell
Dalen Purkett
Parks Reece
Martha Riddle
Doug Schemske
Ann & Grace Scher
Roger Selner
Jane Skeoch
Karol & Robert Skillman
Frank Smith
Missy & Randy Stands
John & Meredith Sullivan
Kate & Stan Todd
Gary Travis
Nanette Van Horn
Rick VanAken
Bill & Pat Warfield
Diana Whithorn
J. L. Wilkins
Marilyn Woodhull
Ben Zitomer

FAMILY MEMBERS

Jacob Adams Family
Roberta & Stanley Adams
Goedele Aelbers &
Ian Kellett
Carl Arnatt &
Shannan Piccolo
Rebecca A. Bandstra
Jann Holter Berntsen
Kathleen, & Steven Bekedam

Jamie & Karen Bellah
Cheryl & Homer Black
John & Reeva Bohannon
George & Katherine
Bornemann
George Bouska Family
Dean & Patricia Brandon
Joseph & Sharon Buckner
Shawn Burwell & Jerry Cole
Diane & Paul Chalfant
Sara Chaney
Kent & Mary Charron
Melissa Chase
Bob Clarke
Ed & Helen Cole
James & Patricia Cole
Teresa Coleman
Bruce & Helen Comer
Nelson & Penny Cooper
Shannon Cornell
Mary & Mike Cummings
Nancy & Tom Danaher
Audrey & Edward Dodge
Connie & Tom Dotzenrod
Catherine & Richard
Dowdell
Mark Dixon & Janice Drout
Katherine Dunlap &
Jim Peaco
Jim & Netzy Durfey
Nancy & William Edwards
Eyecare Professionals
Robert & Loraine Eyman
Jerome Fallon &
Gretchen Jennings
Megan Fay & William
Hartman
John Feckanin &
Lucy Heger
Andy & Denise Fisher
Melissa & Parks Frady
Bob Fry & Tami Keefer
Jeanne & Randy Gates
Bev & Gary George
Sandy Gibbs
David & Joann Gibson
Shelley & Tom Gierhan
Bernice & John Gillespie
James & Susie Girdler
Daniel & Lynda Gravage
Cathy & Joe Hanser
Amanda Harms
Beverly Harris
Marilyn & Tom Harris
Don & Lisa Hartman
Jane Haugen & Dana Latsch
Dave Hill & Kim West
Marjorie & Robert Kamps
Bill & Patty Kamrath
King Family
Harry & Kaye Kolkman
Bruce & Carol Kron
Keith Lawrie & P. Brant
Robey
Dave & Julie Lichte

Betsy & Jack Luther
Ken & Sabine MacInnes
Brad & Jenny Malloy
Jennifer A. Mason
Missy Mayfield
Ernie & Susan Meador
Rosalie & Tom Melin
Norm Miller & Kris Walker
Kathleen & Robert Mitzner
Gary & Lauren Needleman
Andrea & William Nelson
Denis & Mike Nelson
Heidi & Tony Nunnikhoven
Andy & Sandrine Olds
E. D. & Sonny O'Neill
Margaret M. Owens &
Allen W. Knauber
Barbara & Michael Palmer
Allison & Tim Parrish
Dona & Hank Poeschl
Jamie & Steve Potenberg
Charles Pyle
Bob Raney & Jeanne-Marie
Souvigny
Caroline & Mark Rehder
Dale & Linda Reinhart
Karen Reinhart
Dave & Jean Ricks
Tandy Riddle
David & Rose Rigler
Beverly & David Roberts
Marilyn & Tom Roth
Cliff & Jille Rowe
Hallie B. Rugheimer
Sarah Sandberg
Paul Siebels
Vicki & Wayne Sielaff
Dennis & LouAnn Skattum
Jim & Lois Smith
Earl & Evelyn Stermitz
Greg Strong
Kari & Matt Swan
Carolyn & Joseph
Swindlehurst
Harriet Tamminga
Carol & Terry Tecca
Bobbie Williams
Ellen Zazzarino

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Mark Adams
Randine Adams
Harriet Alt
Brian & Rachel Anderson
Michael B. Anderson
Steve Bickwermert
Judy Bonnell
Anita Brawner
Merrilee Bryan
Robert Bryan
Milla Cummins
Ruth K. Dargis
Mae Dunlap
Lill Erickson
Sheila R. Finco

Steve Fox
Nancy Gentzel
Dean Gilbert
Suzanne Goodman
Carol Goosey
Louis Goosey
Sarah H. Grigg
Julie A. Haight
Spencer Hall
Kerry Hallin
Donna L. Hillman
Charles Holliday
Jim Horan
Steve Horan
Bill Jones
Julie Kennedy
Nancy Kessler
Jay Kiefer
Ruth M. Kincaid
Jean Kraft
Jill Kraus
Alta LeDoux
Ed Lomeland
Robin Lovoc
Sunny Mandeville
Kay McAllister
Pat Miller
James O. Murray
Dan O'Connell
Ray Olson
Wendell C. Olson
Patti Orndorff
Melinda Peirce
Ken Petersen
Shirley Anne Petersen
Leslie Pierson
Marilyn & Rich Plaggemeyer
Ron Plaggemeyer
Adrienne Pollard
Diane Powers
Joan Robbins
Larry Ruggles
Tats Samio
Jean E. Sandberg
Bob Schleicher
Susan Sewell
William Shannon
Lois A. Shrack
Helen Sims
Mary U. Smith
Nicole Snow
Carolyn Spector
Rosamond Stanton
Jeff Strickler
Florence Taylor
Leonard Thomas
Mike Thomson
Cessie Wafer
Marlys Werle
Mardella Whitmore
Mary Wiens
Carol Woodley
Michael Yardley

Thank you!

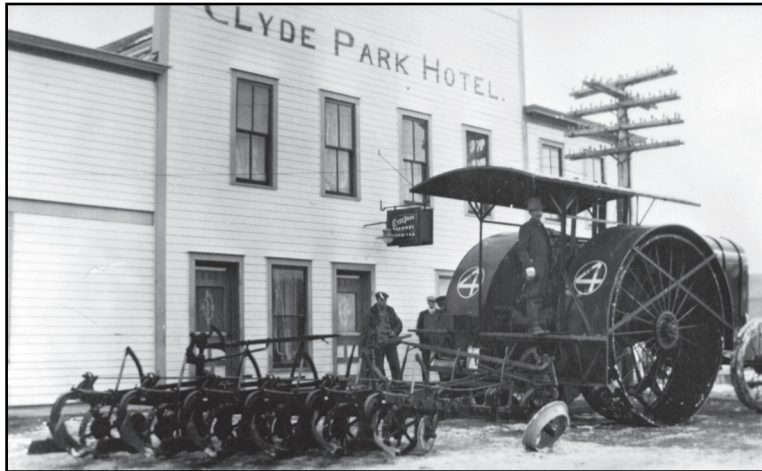
(continued from page 1)
two or three tries. Puffing and panting we would catch up to where Papa would be waiting.

After crossing a long alfalfa field, we looked down on the homestead buildings of Joe Kay. There was a long slab shed that was used for a barn, a granary built out of sawed lumber and a two-room log cabin that would be our home and cook house. There was a high timbered ridge on the west and down country you could see the whole length of Looking Glass Creek and Shields Valley with the Crazy Mountains rising in the distance.

The woodchucks scattered as we bounced to a stop in front of the cabin. Piling out we would unwire the door and pick our way through the pack rat nests and woodchuck droppings. Papa would shovel out the winter's accumulation while we would sweep the cobwebs, the dirt and dust from the logs and shelves and from the old wood cook stove. After three or four sweepings we would turn the benches and tables right side up and scrub everything with homemade lye soap.

We then began unloading. The men's bedrolls and wood were on the porch. Everything else went inside. The coffee, canned goods, lard pails of dried fruit, macaroni, and beans would all go on the shelves. Big tall cans with tight lids, full of flour, sugar, and loaves of home-made bread were stored under our work table. We took some flour sack dish towels pinning them up to the paneless

windows for curtains. An oil cloth on the table and a handful of wild



The author's father, Charles Bridgman, is standing on the "Big Four" kerosene-powered tractor that he won in a contest in St. Paul, MN for his wheat in 1912. But it was too large for Shields Valley sidehills.

flowers in a tin can finished our kitchen.

In the back room was an old iron bedstead with flat saggy springs where Edna and I would sleep. A couple of apple boxes with a board across was our dressing table. As the window was low and had no glass, it seemed more adventuresome to go in and out through it instead of going through the kitchen. Besides it was closer to the little house out back.

The men's wash bench was set up on the porch with an enamel bucket, a dipper and wash basin, a bar of soap and hand towels made out of salt sacks.

Below the barn was a spring which was piped into a watering trough where we would sink a big crock with a heavy lid to keep the milk, butter, and cream cold. It was a long way to carry the buckets of water back to the cabin but tomorrow the men would haul us a barrel of water on a stone boat.

Breakfast was our best meal. In the middle of the day it was pretty hot and the flies were bad, but the

mornings were beautiful. The sun coming up over the Crazies, the warmth of the crackling fire in the kitchen stove, the smell of coffee boiling and bacon frying, hearing the birds singing and sounds of the men feeding and watering the horses before they came in for breakfast.

We never had any problems with appetites except once when we had an invasion of army worms that crawled up, over, and into everything.

In the evenings after the dishes were done, the beans and dried fruit soaking for the next day, some of us would sing. We knew fourteen verses of "Abul Alulbul Ameer" [sic] and composed an original "When Its Hay Time on the Kay Place" to the tune of "When Its Springtime in the Rockies." One of the hay hands who fancied himself a forerunner of Gene Autry would serenade us with his guitar and sing "Way Out West in Kansas" which we thought was pretty dumb because everyone knew Kansas was East. Some of the men would sharpen sickles or replace broken rake teeth. One by one they would drift off to bed. We were always the last to leave because we didn't want to miss anything. It was long hours and hard work but there was great satisfaction to listen to the crickets, to smell the new mown hay and to look up at the sky filled with stars which seemed close enough to touch. Five o'clock came early. Tomorrow was another day. ☼

This article was originally published in the History of Park County 1984.

A RANCHING ROUNDUP: STORY AND SONG

a speaker series

Wed., October 2, 7PM, Park Photo*

Bulls, Bruises, & Brotherhood: Stories of a Rodeo Bullfighter

Bullfighting history and the art of working with bulls in the arena—whatever it takes to get a bull rider safely to the fence. Includes old-fashioned wrecks.

Raymond Ansotegui, presenter



Wed., October 16, 7PM, Park Photo*

Treasure State Tycoon: Nelson Story & the Making of MT

Story was a colorful and contradictory figure whose influence on Montana's development was profound and rivaled by few others.

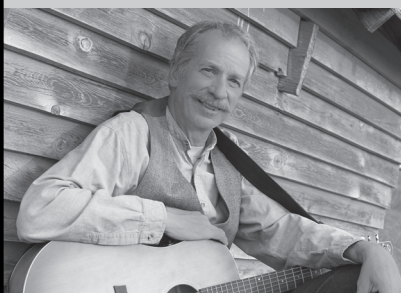
John Russell, presenter

Wed., October 30, 7PM, Park Photo*

A Pure Quill Montana Photographer

Van Cleve shares stories of her career taking photographs that document the western range, ranchers, rodeo, cowboys, and cattle women. She grew up on a ranch near Big Timber.

Barbara Van Cleve, presenter



Wed., November 13, 7PM, Park Photo*

The F.A.R.M. Show (Farm & Ranch Musical)

A fast-paced family-friendly show using music, poetry, history, legends, lies, and a few laughs to celebrate the myriad aspects of agriculture through the ages.

Neal Lewing, presenter

Rancher. Citizen Activist. Montana 1997

Black and white photographs will be on exhibit at Park Photo during the Speaker Series, featuring photography by John Gayusky. He photographed nine ranches from Sweet Grass County to Circle in eastern Montana, documenting the inspiration behind ranchers' involvement in natural resource and agricultural policy making.

*All programs are free and are held at Park Photo, 115 S. Main St., Livingston, Montana. Refreshments served; donations are appreciated. Please call 406.222.4184 for more info.

www.yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org

FRIENDS OF THE
YELLOWSTONE
GATEWAY MUSEUM

P.O. Box 815
118 W. CHINOOK ST.
LIVINGSTON, MT 59047

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
LIVINGSTON, MT
PERMIT NO. 96

Current Resident Or:



See inside

"Bridgmans: Cooking at Hay Camp" by Mary Bridgman Leffingwell, page 1
A Ranching Roundup: Story and Song, fall speaker series, page 11



Haying on the Dailey Ranch, Paradise Valley.
Photo by John C. Haberstroh, Yellowstone Gateway Museum Collections.