



News from the Red Caboose

WINTER 2015



We Can Make Our Museum Accessible to All!

By Paul Shea, Director

Park County soon will be prioritizing the projects in its draft Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). The museum is on the list for ADA upgrades and compliance. Ours is a huge project that will involve much work both outside and inside the old North Side School. I have often mentioned this, but now it is time to get down to work and get things done. Unfortunately, the county has not currently scheduled our project within the next five years as an expenditure that will come out of its operating budget. Well, no kidding, where in our budget would the money come from? Other resources need to be looked at, mainly grants.

Although the county has many urgent needs, we still hope to become a higher (i.e. five-year or less) priority—after all, museums are a proven source of revenue and civic pride for many county businesses and residents. **You can help by letting the county commissioners know that you support making the museum accessible to all. Either contact the commissioners directly or send your comments on the CIP to projects@parkcounty.org. Voice your opinion—your participation is needed so that we can go**

forward with this project.

Where do we stand? Where else might the money come from? We ourselves continue our efforts to



secure funding through grants and fundraising. To date the Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum



have put together over \$30,000 towards the estimated \$225,000 needed for this project.

We have recently spent \$3,470 of these donations on new bannisters for the stairwells. These were much needed and bring us one small step closer to ADA compliance. The bannisters were manufactured by J and L Fabrications of Livingston. They are beautiful powder-coated metal bannisters that add an elegant look to the stairs, as well as serving an important safety function.

The Friends cannot be expected to raise all the funding needed, wish for that as we might. Other resources need to be looked at, mainly grants. The funds we raise will be used as match monies for grants, seed monies for additional donations, and a good faith showing of our willingness to help make this wonderful museum accessible to all. All donations to the Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum are tax deductible.

A closer look at ADA and what (continued on page 2)

Left, top: Stairs greet visitors when they first step into the museum. Left: Steps and inadequate railing lead up to the museum's front door.

Accessible to All, continued.

(continued from page 1)
it means for us. In short, “The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in employment, State and local government services, public accommodation, commercial facilities, and transportation.” Public accommodation is the part that pertains to the museum.

We are a government-funded public service located in a public building. ADA requires that we provide access for all persons with disabilities. At the present time, we are depriving people with disabilities of the opportunity to learn about our history through our exhibits, library, and archived materials. We have also had to turn away volunteers who were unable to navigate the stairs.

In the past four years we have had to greatly curtail the public programs held here because of lack of access. Rather, our speaker series have been held at the ADA-compliant library and high

school. We would like to use our museum to host such events, thus simultaneously showcasing our wonderful exhibits and raising awareness about our Research Center.



Left to right: Karen Reinhart with Lori and John Olson, J and L Fabrications, during installation of the new bannisters.

To meet ADA compliance several physical problems have to be addressed. We must start with access to the building, from parking spaces to the front door entrance. Currently, there is no dedicated handicap parking, but it could be added at either or both sides of the museum. The steps necessary to gain entry at the front door do not meet ADA code. This problem could be remedied by constructing a ramp

from the sidewalk to the front door, thus eliminating all steps.

Once inside the museum one is presented with stairs to everywhere! Stairs lead down to the research room, offices, and outdoor exhibit areas, as well as up to the exhibit halls.

The answer to our stair problem is an elevator. Some discussion has been held on this and some engineering has been looked at. The way the floors and landings are situated makes access from the outside problematic. One solution is to install the elevator in one of the two stairwells. This would answer the access problem while leaving one staircase as an emergency exit. Another solution would still be needed to address back lot access from the main building. Finally, the restrooms. Once they also are made ADA compliant the museum would be able to receive all visitors.

What can you do? Let the county commissioners know how you feel about making the museum available for all visitors, call or email them your concerns and support for this project. You can also make a tax deductible donation to the Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum ADA fund. Thank you for all of your support and help over the years. It has gone a long way to help make our museum one of the best in Montana.

If you can help, please contact Paul Shea at 406-222-4184 or by email, pshea@parkcounty.org.

Thus far, ADA funding has come from the following donors:

~ ~ ~

- \$10,000 - The Stafford Foundation
- 10,000 - Earl & Evelyn Stermitz
- 10,000 - The Solid Rock Foundation
 - 500 - The Dalton Family Trust
 - 250 - Fred Martin Jr.
 - 100 - Bruce & Margery Graham

Volunteers and Staff

We Appreciate Our Volunteers:

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Carol Woodley

Ellen Zazzarino
and our board
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Livingston, MT 59047
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museum@parkcounty.org
yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org



Would you prefer
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email?

If so, please
send Paul an
email, pshea@
parkcounty.org.

Thank you!



In October, museum staff and volunteers enjoyed a field trip to the National Park Service's Heritage Research Center in Gardiner where they toured the archives (top), library, and museum collections (middle) and also toured the new Cooke City Museum (bottom).

A Rare 1909 Glimpse into Park County High School

By Bruce Graham

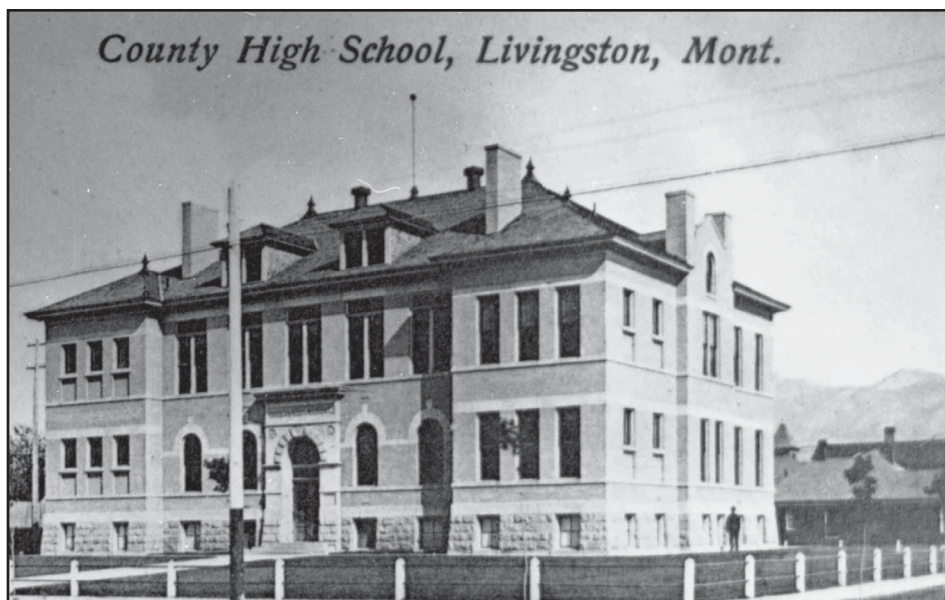
The Park County High School Course of Study and Rules and Regulations—1909 booklet, part of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum Research Library, is very rare and indeed may be the only copy still in existence. The booklet lists the graduates of the three-year Livingston High School from 1893 through 1900; the next year's seniors were incorporated into the four-year Park County High School and thus became the class of 1902. The booklet lists Park High graduates from 1902 through 1908.

Many of these graduates became an integral part of Livingston's history; among the more prominent names are Daniel Miles, Vard Smith, Robert Talcott, Florence Goodson, and James Vicars. Others are important for more personal reasons, such as finding my own grandmother, Rosa Stumbo, listed among the 1898 graduates. The 1898 list of graduating seniors was important enough to be pasted into several of the Park High School annuals, the *Arrow*, starting in 1916.



An early Home Economics class at Park County High School.

The history of the Park County High School building is also a part of the booklet. In 1904 a levy



had been passed to build a new high school. Construction was started that April and completed in December; the first students were in the school on January 3, 1905. Before that, high school classes were conducted upstairs in the Westside School. The 1904-1905 school year had 120 students; this number remained fairly constant into the 1909 school year. That year there were six teachers, including Principal Lewis Terwilliger.

Four courses of study of four years each—Classical, Scientific, English, and Commercial—were taught at Park County High. The classes to be taken in the four disciplines, listed by class in each semester, are included in the booklet. An outline of each class and a list of the books used are also provided.

The Classical course of study included works by the Roman authors Cicero, Virgil, and Ovid. Scientific courses included zoology, physics, and chemistry, and at that time, English and

The graduating class of 1909 was the first class that attended all four years of high school in the new Park County High School building at 5th and Callender Streets.

French or German. Among the works studied by German language students were a novella, *Immensee*, and *L'Arrabbiata* by Paul Heyse (a 1910 Nobel Prize for Literature recipient). Students in the English course spent their last semester in practice teaching. Commercial courses included two years of penmanship; students then progressed to typing and stenography.

Among the rules was that cleanliness in person and in clothing was required of every pupil, and that persistent neglect in either particular would be deemed sufficient cause for suspension. Other, more academic, rules addressed attendance, behavior, and qualifications for advancement and graduation.

Museum Receives NEH Grant

By Karen Reinhart, Registrar

The Yellowstone Gateway Museum received a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Preservation Assistance Grant in December. The \$5,102 grant supports the museum's ongoing work of properly storing archival materials held in our collections. We were the only organization in Montana to receive funding for a preservation project during this year's grant cycle.

Local archival consultant and museum volunteer Ellen Zazzarino assessed the museum's storage needs in 2013. She recommended relocating materials to storage areas in the museum that are regulated by our HVAC system, keeping temperature and humidity swings at a minimum. The timely re-housing of these collections is necessary to prevent deterioration of photographs, artwork, and paper items.

The grant funds the purchase of



A sampling of photos ready for processing.

three fire-proof file cabinets as well as archival (acid-free) boxes, sleeves, folders, and related supplies. The



Ellen Zazzarino holding one of the photo albums whose photos will be re-housed during the NEH-funded project. The museum is very fortunate to have Ellen as a volunteer archivist.

If you would like to help the museum preserve the treasures of our past, please contact Karen Reinhart at 222-4184 or [kreinhart@parkcounty](mailto:kreinhardt@parkcounty).

file cabinets will be installed in our Photo Archives room, adding to those that currently house the Whithorn Photo Collection. Once properly re-housed, thousands of photographs and other materials will be more accessible to researchers as well as to museum staff, improving our ability to curate exhibits that chronicle our history.

Significant treasures will be properly stored because of this grant award. Collection materials include early photographs and

papers of individuals who moved to Livingston to work on the Northern Pacific Railway, to visit or work in Yellowstone National Park, and the ranchers and homesteaders who relocated to Montana from the 1880s to 1940s. Framed artwork is also included.

Museum staff is very excited about this grant and the work that it will allow us to do. But we need your help. The museum is looking for volunteers who would help us place photographs and other materials in archival sleeves and folders. So, even if you are not comfortable using a computer, there is important work that you can do to help preserve local history. There is also a need for scanning and cataloguing items into our PastPerfect museum software.



One of twenty-five double-sided photo displays that need to be properly stored.

New Summer Exhibit: Exploring Yellowstone through Art

By Karen Reinhart, Registrar

The museum is pleased to host a summer art exhibit designed to not only involve the creative community while simultaneously supporting our mission of interpreting the connection between Park County and Yellowstone National Park, but also to provide an enjoyable visual experience for our visitors. The artwork will depict scenes from, or directly inspired by, the park. Current and former residents of the county, as well as the park, will be represented. A brief story about the artist's inspiration for each piece will be included.

Yellowstone has a long history of inspiring artists. Before the park was created, artist Thomas Moran, along with photographer William H. Jackson, documented the wonders of the park, helping build support for its preservation. Since the creation of Yellowstone National Park in 1872, thousands of artists have followed in their footsteps, finding inspiration from the park's wild places and wildlife. This relationship between the wonders of nature and the desire to interpret them will continue to enthrall artists far into the future.

Artists share their interpretation of place, conveying the history and culture of an area in ways that cannot be duplicated; each work is unique. The viewer gains not only a greater understanding of place but art also possesses intangible and ineffable qualities that enhance the viewer's experience. We hope that you and your family and friends will visit the museum this summer and glimpse Yellowstone through the eyes of local artists.

The gala opening of the exhibit is slated for Friday, May 1; artwork will be displayed through September 30.

Sponsorships of the exhibit are available and appreciated, helping the museum to offset costs. Please contact Paul Shea at 222-4184 for more information.

Are you a local artist?

While we have had many enthusiastic responses, there still is space (and time) for more artwork. The museum is interested in exhibiting all media, including limited-edition prints of original artwork and sculpture. However, no photography will be accepted for this exhibit. Artists are welcome to submit one piece, limited only in size—25" is the maximum. If desired, artist contact information may be included so that if a piece is for sale, interested parties may contact the artist directly.

Please contact Karen Reinhart at kreinhart@parkcounty.org or call 406-222-4184 for more details.
Deadline is April 1.

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Join the Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum TODAY!

The mission of the Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum of Park County, Montana is to support the museum, its successors and affiliates by raising funds for the perpetual care, growth, improvement and expansion of the museum and by serving as a source of volunteers.

Annual Memberships:

\$25/Family; \$15/Individual;
\$50/Business

Name _____

Address _____

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Please return to: PO Box 815, Livingston, MT 59047

Membership Perks: Free Admission to the Museum, newsletter subscription, gift shop discount, insider updates and more!

Keeping History Alive

Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum

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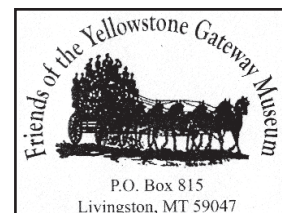
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Maps, Plans, and Blueprints

By Roddy Stanton

For years the City of Livingston stored scores of boxes of documents and hundreds of old maps, plans, and blueprints, all jumbled together, in a room on the third floor of the former Eastside School. When the Shane Lalani Center for the Arts assumed building ownership and began renovating the former classrooms, these boxes and scrolls were moved to the basement.

About three years ago, the city offered the collection to the museum. Director Paul Shea looked into boxes and unrolled plans. He chose those papers most suitable for the museum's archives, including rolls of maps, plans, and blueprints. My project is to inventory them before the Collections Committee decides whether to officially accept them for acquisition into the museum's collections.

Many of the papers are submittal



Roddy Stanton and Clint Tinsley examining a map in the museum's Research Center.

plans for building applications, some professionally prepared; others, less formal, are on scratch paper and a few are on paper napkins. The plans include both new buildings and renovations of private and commercial properties, city plats of road and sewer projects, Main Street facade

renovations, and subdivision plats for specific addresses.

The Yellowstone has its share of drawings showing the movements over time of the river channels, the development of the lagoon and Sacajawea Park, as well as old flood plain and flood way maps. The level of detail is fascinating, such as the pencil drawing showing how to construct a barbecue unit for city park picnic areas.

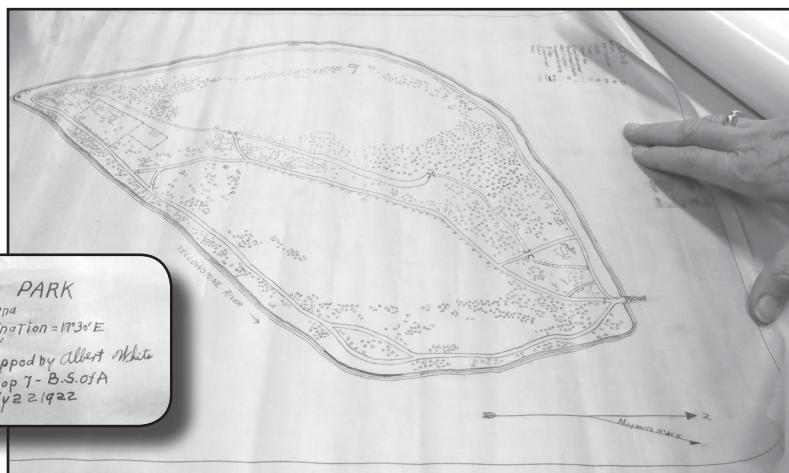
The museum has also gained a stunning black-and-white aerial photograph of Livingston from 1962, long before satellites orbited overhead.

Perhaps the most unusual map unearthed to date is the 1922 plat, according to Clint Tinsley, former Public Works Director, of city-owned wells. The areas of influence that depict the draw-down zones of water to the wells resemble oriental fans. These wells continue to serve Livingston today.



SACAJAWEA PARK
Livingston, Montana
Magnetic Declination = 11°30'E
Scale 1" = 75'
Mapped by Albert White
Troop 7 - B.S.O.F.A
July 2, 1922

Making a Connection



One of the earliest items in the collection, dating from 1922, is fourteen-year-old Boy Scout Albert White's mapping project, for Troop #7, of Sacajawea

Park (above and left). We searched our database and discovered that the Whithorn Photo Collection includes a photo of White as a 16-year-old Eagle Scout. He attended the International Jamboree in Denmark in 1924, the year the photo was taken (far left).

Connect with your museum

CALENDAR

Livingston Programs

Gardiner Programs

March 19—Thursday

Pathways to the Past: 12,000 Years of Prehistory and History in Yellowstone

7:00 PM

Livingston-Park County Public Library,
228 W. Callender

Yellowstone National Park Archaeologist Staffan Peterson gives a PowerPoint program about current archaeological research and stewardship for the park. All welcome! Refreshments. Free.

March 26—Thursday

Friends of YGM Annual Meeting; Dogs of Livingston: An Historic Look

6:30 PM (meeting); 7:00 PM (program)

Livingston-Park County Public Library,
228 W. Callender

Following the meeting, Paul Shea gives a PowerPoint program about a dog register book dated 1895 to 1939, and the interesting history that the entries reveal. All welcome! Refreshments. Free.

March 30—Monday

Dispelling Modern Stereotypes

7:00 PM

Gardiner School, 510 Stone Street

Indian Education Specialist Mike Jetty talks about Montana law for Indian education and debunks commonly held stereotypes and misconceptions about American Indians. All welcome! Free.

April 15—Wednesday

The Apsaalooke (Crow) in Yellowstone and the Gardiner Area

7:00 PM

Gardiner School, 510 Stone Street

MSU Native American Studies professor, Dr. Shane Doyle, gives a presentation about the cultural significance of these areas to the Crow Tribe. All Welcome! Free.

April 16—Thursday

Gateway to Yellowstone: The Raucous Town of Cinnabar on the MT Frontier

7:00 PM

Livingston-Park County Public Library,
228 W. Callender

Yellowstone National Park Historian Lee Whittlesey gives a program about the small community north of Gardiner that was the Northern Pacific Railroad terminus for nearly 20 years.

All welcome! Refreshments. Free.

June 6 & 7—Saturday & Sunday
Knap-In Weekend

Sat., 9 AM - 6 PM & Sun., 9 AM - 1 PM

Yellowstone Gateway Museum,
118 W. Chinook

Flintknapping and other primitive craft demonstrations and workshops on the lawn. Free weekend at the museum. Bring your friends and family. Call 222-4184 for more information.

Did you know that your museum is open year-round?

Museum winter hours:

10 AM - 5 PM, Thurs. - Sat.,
special groups by appointment.

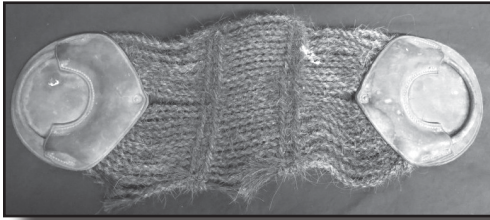
Summer hours:

10 AM - 5 PM, 7 days/week

Research center hours:

8 AM - 5 PM, Mon. - Fri., year-round.
Please call Paul Shea to make an
appointment, 222-4184.

Recent Donations



Mohair cinch that was used with McClellan's saddle. It hung on the wall at Anvil Inn in Cooke City, formerly Shaw's Camps; item was donated by Don Ellis.



Gardiner High School 2009 Annual, one of twenty-two that the school donated to the museum.



BJ Earle, Roddy Stanton, and Paul Shea, members of the museum's Collection Committee, examine a refurbished milk cart, a recent donation from Shirley Petersen.

Collections Donors

Sue Berg	Jerre Glasgow	Elaine Hoell Marley
Beverly J. Peters	Bruce Graham	Dwight Minton
Dave Bohart	Ronnie Green	National Park Service
George & Kathryn	Sue Henson	Shirley Petersen
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Anne Foster	Tina Libsack	Ellen Zazzarino
Gardiner High School	Connie Malcolm	

Other Donations

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Craig Carlson	Rick VanAken
Anna Davis	Lorraine Wentz
William & Nancy Edwards	Denise Werle
Judy Langdon	



A cigar box hand-painted with western scenes, inside and out, by local artist Node Edison, was given to the museum by Elaine Hoell Marley.

Memorials

For: Carlo Cieri By Narissa Keough	For: John Lopez By Roberta Martin
For: Ellen Gimbel By Donald Gimbel	For: James Edward McElvy By Faye Stow
For: Pansy Graham By Cliff & Jille Rowe	For: Maxine Mathias By Cassandra DeKantor
For: Frances Maxine Holmes By Pamela Tracy	For: Ray Webb By George Goldsmith & Catherine L. Sorensen
For: John Hudecek By Sandra Christensen	



Shoes that belonged to Jeri Berens Hoppe of Gardiner. She was Miss Park County and also competed in the Miss Montana competition in the 1950s. The purple shoes and matching pantsuit were donated by Anne Foster.



The Museum's Family Research Collections

The museum now has two important family research collections available for researchers: the Doris Whithorn Curator Collection and the Park County Family History Collection. Finding aids can be found on our web site, www.yellowstonegatewaymuseum.org.

The curator collection includes history of Park County material, dating from the 1880s to 2013. Especially important are the original, unedited family histories—many handwritten—that were gathered for the *History of Park County, 1984*.

The family history collection contains family and individual histories, clippings, articles, and genealogy records, organized alphabetically by surname. It also includes information about other well-known Montanans and residents of the West.

Both of these collections are open. The museum continues to collect family histories, genealogies, and pertinent materials that document the lives of individuals and families residing in Park County, Montana. We welcome any additions you might have.

Genealogy Research at the Public Library

By Christy Beatty

The Park County Genealogy Society has been very busy on a series of projects. During the last year we have added a wealth of information to our research collections, which are housed in the microfilm room at the Livingston-Park County Public Library. These collections include binders of obituaries dating from 1998 to the present, Park County Citizenship and Naturalization Indexes (both declarations of intent and final papers), Park County Coroner's Inquest Register Index, and the Park County Military Discharge Index through 2000.

We have several more collections that, once digitization is completed, will be made available for research. Visitors are encouraged to come and use these collections for their research.

The library is open from noon to 8 PM on Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 AM to 8 PM on Wednesdays and Thursdays; 10 AM to 6 PM on Fridays, and from 10 AM to 5 PM on Saturdays.

Chico Cemetery 1854-2014

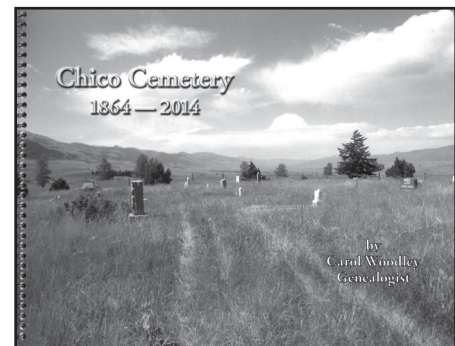
By Carol Woodley

Chico Cemetery 1854-2014 tells the stories of those people known to be buried there. The stories are augmented by pictures contributed by many of the families, obituaries, excerpts from probates, relevant mining activities, and other information gathered over years of research. The Chico Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in Montana and the oldest in Park County, so it is historically significant.

Although the stories are about people's past, the future is the reason it was written. Genealogy, the study of one's ancestors, provides a foundation for identifying our family values. This book offers a challenge and an opportunity to add to an on-going

narrative that will be embraced as younger generations seek to preserve their families' past.

To purchase the book, please send a check for \$35.00, plus \$6.00 postage, to Carol Woodley, 421 S. 13th Street, Livingston MT 59047.



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The Enduring Contributions
of Richard “Dick” Dysart

Dick recently resigned from the Friends of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum board, a position he held since 2002. As head of Publications, he shepherded the reprinting of many Whithorn books. But his biggest contribution was creating Indexes for twenty of Doris’s books.

We are grateful for his tireless efforts at making Park County history more accessible.

Dick Dysart holding his magna opuses—the reprint of the *History of Park County 1984* and its *Index* which includes 33,000 line entries in which 1,200 families and 500 businesses are identified.