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2018

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27TH ANNUAL LEGACY AWARDS

On Friday, April 27th, The History Museum will hold its annual Legacy Dinner to honor businesses, organizations and individuals that have helped shape, promote and preserve the rich history of Cascade County and north central Montana.

Mike Tabacco, president of Guy Tabacco Construction, will **accept the museum's Commercial Business Legacy Award.** The Tabacco Construction Company, founded in Black Eagle in 1946 by Guy Tabacco, specializes in renovation projects and builds industrial, professional and health care buildings.



The Great Falls Clinic, founded in 1917 by four area doctors, today continues to strive to be a clinic of specialists. Vicki Newmiller, the clinic's CEO, will accept the museum's 100 Years in Business Award. The Great Falls Clinic today has about 90 health care providers working in multiple areas of specialty and continues to grow with Great Falls.

Former Great Falls mayor and veteran Mike Winters will accept the museum's Non-Profit Legacy Award on behalf of the **Montana Veteran's Memorial.** Winters conceptualized the idea of this memorial and with the help of other area veterans have promoted the building of this commemorative structure honoring veterans of all branches of military service.



Mike Winters



Craig Wirth

Independent documentary filmmaker and Great Falls native, Craig Wirth, has produced four History Museum documentaries in the last nine years including: "The Great Falls Story" (2009), "Walter's Great Falls" (2011), "Glacier Park Remembered" (2012), and "Under the Big Stack: Great Falls Smelter Remembered" (2014). Wirth, a four-time EMMY winning documentary producer and writer is completing a fifth History Museum film about the history of the military in northcentral Montana. This new film, "Thunder under the Big Sky," will premiere at the museum this September.

Wirth will be accepting the museum's Person of the Year Legacy Award.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27TH
THE HISTORY MUSEUM

TICKETS:
MEMBERS \$30
NON-MEMBERS \$35

CALL:
406-452-3462

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

We continue to build on our most recent success of Western Art Week (see story below) and will conclude the spring season with our annual Legacy Awards Dinner (see page 1). These events would not be possible without the generous time and financial contribution of History Museum supporters. I am constantly impressed by the hard work of the museum staff as we prepare to honor this remarkable group of Legacy honorees this year. This **newsletter also profiles our museum's hardworking membership director and administrative assistant, Terri Billeter.** Please see her story on page 3.

The Legacy Awards Dinner will include our annual membership meeting and new board **members will be elected. This year's new board members are Peter Johnson, Bill Zins, and Jenny Grasseschi.** I want to thank those leaving the board - Mary Ann Kaufman, Marilyn Moore, and Paul Snyder - for their many years of outstanding service to this museum.

This year's candidates for board officers will be:

Owen Robinson: President
Donna Hartelius: Vice President
Bill Gue: Treasurer
Marge Pribyl: Secretary

We are extremely fortunate to have such capable people assuming board leadership positions at The History Museum. I hope you can attend our Legacy Awards Dinner Friday, April 27th) and I look forward visiting with many of you that evening.

-Jim Meinert
Executive Director



THE HISTORY MUSEUM PARTICIPATES IN WESTERN ART WEEK FOR THIRD YEAR

The Arts Association of Montana held a very **successful Art Show in the museum's Ozark Performance Room** March 15-18. More than 800 people came to the show and many purchased art from 16 local artists and The History Museum.

The museum sold artwork that had been donated by museum members and supporters for the benefit of The History Museum. Proceeds from the sale will help fund necessary museum projects and the artwork donor will receive a tax deduction.



When planning your annual giving, please consider allowing The History Museum to sell your artwork at our show next year. Call or email Ashleigh McCann at 452-3462, collections@thehistorymuseum.org, for more information.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: TERRI BILLETER



As you walk through the front door of The History Museum, you will probably meet **Terri Billeter, the museum's membership coordinator.** Terri came to the museum after a 24-year career with the US Forest Service. Answering a classified ad in the Great Falls Tribune, she was unaware how the museum would create a new perspective for her.

"I was looking for a part-time job, as many newly retired folks do. Something interesting to fill the time and provide a little 'golf ball' money, as my dad would say. What I found here at the museum is an opportunity to look at life a little differently."

As she explains, "I have realized that history is not necessarily defined by the folks we read about in our textbooks. The museum has illustrated to me that all of us create history each day. Extraordinary events are woven into the fabric of our lives, but it is the average person living an average life that is so compelling to me.

The museum is filled with stories of folks just living out their lives, unknowingly making an impact to future generations. **In 100 years, museums will be telling stories about me or you!"**

Transplants from the Midwest, Terri and her husband, John, have two grown children and a houseful of dogs! When not at the museum or spending time with her family, Terri is an avid knitter and reader. **"When I began working here, my reading list grew frightfully long. It is a goal to read every book available in our Gift Shop."** She teaches knitting and especially likes to teach men the craft.

LEGACY LIVE AUCTION ITEMS



18 Holes of Golf for
4—Includes 2 Golf
Carts and Lunch



Front Row Table,
Wine, & Hors
d'Oeuvres for Jazz
Night



Grand Union Hotel
Dinner & Overnight
Stay



Two Tickets to the
Cat-Griz Game & an
Overnight Stay



Flight over the Chinese
Wall in the Bob Marshall
Wilderness



Dinner and
Overnight Stay at
the Historic
Hotel Arvon

COLLECTIONS HIGHLIGHT: “CURE-ALL’S” FROM THE PAST

As an enthusiast of mysteries and puzzles, it has been a very rewarding experience to volunteer at the History Museum. I am a Board Certified Geriatric Nurse Practitioner with a long and varied career as a Registered Nurse, then a Nurse Practitioner. So when I was asked where I would like to focus, I said either nursing history or medical history. I was handed a large box full of very old and dusty bottles and tins. As I started to sort through them, I realized I was in for a treat. Many of them were embossed with fascinating names like “Drs. Pitcher’s Castoria,” “Frostillia,” and “Ingram’s Milkweed Cream”. Fancy bottles were labeled with “Empress Violet Water,” tins with “Dr. Lyon’s Tooth Powder.”

As I started to log the items, I was frustrated that I could not put a more defined description of the item and what was once in the item. This led me to start researching the bottles and learning about bottle markings: distinct marks on the bottom of very old bottles that can tell one where and approximately when the bottle was made. Then I started to research the names that were on the bottles, tins and jars. Wow! This was a real trip down the rabbit hole. One link led to another and then another. Fascinating information about the companies, what they made distributed. Some of the bottles/tonics were **actually sold by traveling salesmen. And yes, much of it was “snake oil.”**



Being a prescriber of current day medications, I was able in my **research on “Antique Medications”** to find what some of these relics held. Some of the ingredients would be considered very **dangerous and even toxic by today’s standards. But there was no FDA or DEA back in the day, so anything could and was put into a mixture and sold as a curative elixir or suave.** Cardiac stimulants such as Belladonna and Digitalis (which come from plants and herbs) were **often found in tonics that touted “energy” and “strength.”** Senna, another plant/herb was found in many tonics for constipation, and is still in most of the over the counter laxatives, today. UTMB (where I received my medical training) has a wonderful listing of Antique Medications that is 75 pages long. Some of the ingredients that were **in some of these “cure all” tonics, powders and creams would make my eyebrows raise and the hair stand up on the back of my neck.** What was interesting is that they were all from natural herbs, berries, nuts, fruits and vegetables. Oh, and alcohol. Sometimes up to 70% alcohol.

Medicine at its best is an art form, constantly evolving. Researching and archiving this wonderful box full of old bottles, tins and jars has been a lesson in just how much has changed in the last 150 years in **the regulation of what is considered “Medicine” and what is not. What also is evident, is that many of the homeopathic remedies that were used “back in the day”, still work today.**

My box of treasures is almost completed, with many a mystery unraveled, a date found, and a story told.

-Rebecca Lozano

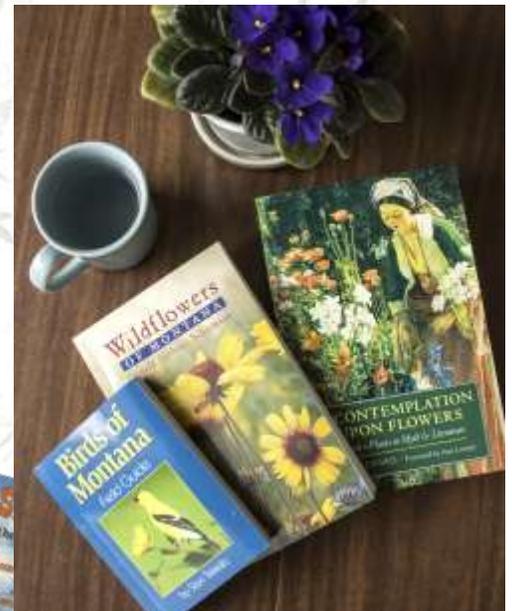
Nurse Practitioner and Collections Volunteer

WHAT'S NEW IN THE GIFT SHOP?

Check in for our newest titles from around the state!



The History Museum Bookstore has hundreds of books available for purchase. Our huge selection of Montana books is sure to have something for history buffs!



Made in Montana products are perfect for gift giving or for family and friends traveling through the area.



Stop in soon to see what's new at The History Museum!

BOOKS • DVDs • JEWELRY • GIFTS • TOYS • SOUVENIRS

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Board of Directors:

Mary Ann Kaufman, President
Paul Snyder, Vice President
Marilyn Moore, Secretary
Bill Gue, Treasurer
Bill Bronson
Donna Hartelius
Tom Kotynski
Lee Janetski
Dirk Larsen
Mike McCleary
Marjie Pribyl
Owen Robinson
Rex Tanberg
Jane Weber

Staff:

Jim Meinert, Director
Terri Billeter, Membership
Dana Beyer, Gift Shop
Harry Elam, Maintenance
Judy Ellinghausen, Collections
Ashleigh McCann, Collections
Megan Sanford, Archives
Sarah Schumacher, Accounting

Volunteers:

Terri Appollini	Naoko Otani
Phil Burton	Linda Schneider
Jerry Clark	Earl Sheldon
Mary Beth Ewen	Sharon Suek
Seamus Jennings	Jim Thoroughman
Toni Larson	Paula Wilmot
Rebecca Lozano	Dinah Woods
Dorothy Nunez	Bill Zins
Harry & Lonnie Nusser	

THE ART OF THE SADDLE—NEW VICTOR ARIO DISPLAY

Put up just in time for Art Week is a new and wonderful exhibit on Ario's Saddlery. An early fixture in Downtown Great Falls, Ario's became nationally known for the beauty and quality of their saddles and leatherwork. Though Ario's is now gone, it's legacy of fine saddle work lives on at Grizzly Saddlery. Come take a look at the good old western days of Ario's Saddlery in the History Museum Gift Shop!

