

# The Wagon Tongue

Volume 12 Issue 2

Madison Valley History Association, Inc.  
website: [www.madisonvalleyhistoryassociation.org](http://www.madisonvalleyhistoryassociation.org)  
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April 2014

**From the Wagon Seat:** March has come in like a lion and gone out like a lamb..somewhat. The time has gone by fast. The summer birds are back and everyone is planning for their summer. The days are already filling up. Your MVHA board is at work planning too.

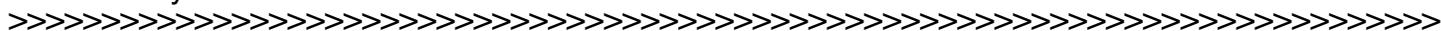
In January, we revisited the Madison River Gorge with Kevin Brenneke as our leader. There were lots of pictures, stories and the gorge is still a spectacle to see. In February we had Toyia R. Hatten, Holistic Herbalist, talk about remedies of the past and future using parts of flowers or the whole plant. She had samples which were tried by some members and they worked. It was a very informative program arranged by Liz Applegate. For March, we had the 6th annual William Ennis birthday celebration on March 17 with an Irish Stew dinner at the school cafeteria. There were about 90 people who showed up to celebrate which was a little less than last year but still a great success. Everyone had a good time. Larry Love, President, sang a few songs. Liz Applegate, secretary, had a silent auction and sold history books and other items. We had a great crew and lots of help putting on the celebration. A big thank you to Bill and Liz Applegate, Kevin and Marty Brenneke, Charlie Campbell, Dottie Fossil, Kay Frisbie, June Haigh, Shirley and Scott Harper, David Hoag, Lester Klatt, Larry and Shirley Love, Devonna Owens, Otis and Jo Thompson, Zoe Todd, Karen Shores, John and Ann White and Rachel VanWingen. Also our great bakers who made Irish Soda Bread and Blarney Stones..Liz Applegate, Charlie Campbell, Mona Durham, Pat Hale, Bobby Klatt, Devonna Owens, Jo Thompson, Rachel VanWingen, Phyllis Wasick and Ann White. And thanks to anyone else who also helped in any way but did not get their names recorded on any lists. Your help was much appreciated.

In April will be Lee Robison giving the family history of the Robisons and Armstrong's. Plan to attend.

May will be the annual meeting. It will be moved from Trinity because of the remodeling project. So stay tuned for announcements as to where it will be held.

The MVHA still needs your active support in order to follow our mission. We still need ideas for programs, or have you give a program about your family history or Madison Valley history, help with hosting the museum this summer, to be a member of the board, be a chairperson of a committee and basically be an active member.

MVHA usually has a June meeting for the return of our summer people. We need a program for that meeting. We will have a couple of field trips this summer so stay tuned. Stay healthy, have a great spring and summer. Keep the MVHA on the top of your "to do" list and Forward, Ho the Wagons. Your Wagon Master Larry Love



**Visit a Museum this Summer!** First of all, visit the **MVHA Museum** 4 miles from Ennis on MT Highway 287 on the way to Virginia City. Great museum preserving the history of the Madison Valley and also the very famous "beast".. Open Memorial Day weekend and for the summer on June 10th Tuesday through Sunday 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Admission free. Donations welcome. Another museum of interest close by is the **Jefferson Valley Museum** at 303 S. Division. It is housed in a restored 1914 barn located 3 blocks south from the middle of down town Whitehall. Admission free and donations welcome. The **American Computer and Robotics Museum** at 2023 Stadium Drive in Bozeman has exhibits that trace more than 4,000 years of navigation and computing devices from abacus, early mechanical, electrical and electronic calculations and computers through the microchip. **Gallatin County Pioneer Museum**, 317 W. Main St. Bozeman, Mt. is located in the old Gallatin County jail and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Good collection of history of the Gallatin Valley. **Headwater Heritage Museum and Gift Shoppe**, 2002 Main St., Three Forks, Mt is located in a 1910 bank building with rooms depicting scenes from the past such as a late 19th century kitchen, laundry nook, dental office, schoolroom, beauty shop, millinery room and blacksmith shop. Also the largest brown trout caught in Montana. **Museum of the Rockies**, 600 W. Cagy Blvd., Bozeman, Mt has permanent exhibits in geology, paleontology, ethnology and Montana History. Don't miss the current exhibit Geckos Tails to Toepads on display until Sept. 8. While there visit the Taylor Planetarium and visit the Paugh regional history hall. More museums will be featured in July.

**Welcome to Membership** The following have joined since the January issue. If you know any of these new members or if they live near you, please invite them to attend the next MVHA meeting and welcome them aboard.

**Black, Dee & Linda** (F) 605-347-7968

P.O. Box 113

St. Onge, SD 57779

**Campbell, Charlie** (I) 970-402-6704

P.O. Box 153

Ennis, MT 59729

**Edgmond, Barbara** (I)

625 E. Davis

Bozeman, MT 59715

**Jackson, Tim & Roberta** (F) 406-685-3391

P.O. Box 2855

Norris, MT 59745

**Kidd, Alice** (F) 253-677-8618

P.O. Box 4025

Gleed, WA 98904

**Pierce, Barbara** (I) 570-0711

P.O. Box 1032

Ennis, MT 59729

**Robison, Lee** (F) 301-518-9486

P.O. Box 6103

McAllister, MT 59740

**VanWingen, Rachel** (I) 682-3036

52 Bowtine Lane 59729

Ennis, MT 59729

**Membership Update** 2013 memberships are now overdue. Please check your address label on your issue of the Wagon Tongue and you can tell when your membership is due or if you have not purchased it yet. Some of you have taken care of business and your 2013 membership has been received. Thank you! Your membership is good for a full year from the date that you purchased it and you are not penalized for submitting early. If your 2014 membership is due during April, May., or June, or if you are past due, you will find a membership renewal slip included with this issue. Memberships are \$5.00 for students, \$10.00 for individuals, \$15.00 for families, \$50.00 for Businesses, \$100.00 for Patrons and \$500 or more for Benefactor.

If you are inviting a new person to join or want to purchase your membership before it is due, just write name, mailing address and type of membership on a slip of paper and mail with membership fee to MVHA at P.O. Box 474, Ennis, MT. 59729.

The Board of Directors of your Madison Valley History Association appreciates all the memberships that are purchased as this allows them to have funds to continue the work of developing a museum in the Madison Valley:)

If anyone needs a ride to a meeting, please call 682-5780 and we will arrange a ride for you.

#### **Member News**

Donna Bausch, long time MVHA benefactor, celebrated her 95th birthday on Jan. 18. Donna's great granddaughter, McKinley Murphy, also celebrated her 2nd birthday with her great grandmother. Happy

Birthday to both of the birthday girls.

The musicians in our group are still busy. After months of practice, Larry Love on Saxophone and Vicky Gordon on Flute joined their other community band members for a concert on April 10. If any other history members or their family or friends would like to dust off their old instruments, the community band is welcoming new members to start any time. Playing your instrument is like riding a bicycle, you never forget. Just have to start practicing. Contact Larry or Vicky for more info.

Check out the Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014 issue of the *Madisonian* Lifestyles page for Jack Reints: Jeffers staple and generous neighbor. Great story about one of the pieces of history in the Madison Valley. Jack is brother to Elso, long time MVHA member. Maybe we can get Jack to join up since he is now a piece of history!

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#### **Memories**

**Addie Beth Stiles** passed away at the Ruby Dell Ranch near Alder on Dec. 31, 2013. Addie was born in Sheridan, MT to Mary (Carey) and Lester E. Stiles on Aug. 11, 1953. Addie spent her life in Virginia City and then Nevada City for several years when the family home was destroyed by fire in 1962. Addie's mother was employed at Nevada City by Bovey Restorations where she was in charge of the hotel, motel and exhibits from 1962 to 1966. In April of 1967 Paul H. Love appointed Mary his Deputy Clerk of Court. When Paul retired at the end of 1971, Mary was appointed to fill his office, a position which her father Matt Carey had held from 1909 to 1936.

Addie attended school in Virginia City and Ennis and graduated from Bozeman High School. She also attended Bozeman Vo-Tech. She married Jerry Mason in 1979, lived in Virginia City and had two daughters, Ashlee and Amber Rose. In 2003, Addie moved to the Anderson Ruby Dell Ranch with her fiancé, Jim Anderson. *Progressive Years*, pg. 21 Mary (Carey) Stiles **Virge Margaret McDaniel** (Tad) passed away Jan 5, 2014 at the age of 102 at her home in Tillamook, OR. She was born on a sheep ranch near Belle Fourche, S.D. on July 30, 1911 to Denver and Jennie(Close) Tidball. When she was only 1, the family of five spent several summers living in a sheep wagon out on the open range with their large band of sheep. Virge spent time in Colorado, returning to South Dakota and after graduation from high school, she continued to work in a general store and there she met a young Texan, J.P. McDaniel and they married in 1935. The following year they moved to Montana and operated a general store, gas station and small trucking company in Pony, MT for about 10 years. Relocating to Ennis, MT they continued in the grocery business and further expanded to include a meat market, locker plant and garage. This was located where the West of the Madison building is now. In 1953, they followed J.P.'s dream and moved

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**Memories** *continued from page 2*

to Alaska. They sold the Ennis market to McQuaigs and eventually Restvedts operated a store and meat market there before moving up to where the current Deemo's location is located.

**Jerry L. Krusemark** passed away on Jan. 9, 2014 at Generations Assisted Living in Ennis. He was born on April 7, 1931 on a farm near Truman, Minn. to Lester and Mildred(Linn)Krusemark. After schooling, military and early work, Jerry began driving truck for 19 years and in 1989 moved to the Madison Valley continuing to drive truck until his retirement in 1996. After retirement he began driving school bus for the Ennis Schools.

**Rodney E 'Sandy' Sandell** passed away on Jan. 17, 2014 in Carmel, Ind. He was born in San Diego, CA on March 14, 1923, to Alfred E. and Doris Baker Sandell. Sandy was an active member of the Ennis Lion's Club and worked summers in Yellowstone National Park for many years before moving to Carmel, Ind.

**James Curtis Carpenter** passed away on Feb. 27, 2014 in Phoenix, Arizona. He was born in 1938 in Choteau, MT to Edward and Edna Carpenter. James grew up in the Madison Valley near Ennis where he began training horses at young age and got a reputation as a gifted horse trainer.

**Henrietta 'Penny' Cusack** passed away Feb., 2014 in Ketchikan, AK. She was born in Ennis, MT to Grace and Wilson Clark on Dec 14, 1940. After graduating from high school in Ennis in 1958, she attended Columbus School of Nursing in Great Falls, MT. She worked in Ennis for a short time, then on to San Jose, CA and went on to a brand new hospital in Ketchikan, AK to continue her nursing career. She met Mike Cusack on a blind date and married in April, 1964.

**Larry Gleason**, long time MVHA member, passed away in the Madison Valley Hospital in Ennis, MT on Feb. 11, 2014. He was born to Viola and Albert Gleason on Jan. 9, 1930 in Ellensburg, WA. While growing up in Washington, he learned to ride, rope and drive a team of horses. After graduation, he and Walt Miller planned to go to Mexico but they soon ran out of money and came to Ennis where Walt's mother, Ida Schooler, ran a cafe. Larry washed dishes there to pay for his keep and soon used his early training to obtain ranch hand jobs. Larry continued to work for some of the big Madison Valley ranches and competed in amateur rodeos as a rodeo clown with Gene Warburton. He also did some actual rodeoing and was tri-state steer wrestling champ in 1955.

He met Ruby Faraasen from Hinsdale, Mt and they were married in Ennis in 1956. In 1958, Ruby and Ida Schooler started the Dairy Queen and Larry started working at the Texaco Station on main street which he operated for 16 years. He then teamed up with Ruby at the Dairy Queen and operated it until 1995.

Jonathan Losee of Vancouver, B. C. shared a memory of his for Larry Gleason. "In 1960, my dad got me a go-cart. He had John Krause in Norris fabricate it from a thick piece of plywood, some scrap steel angle iron, four wheels and a lawn mower engine. For a

10 year old, it was instant freedom. It gave me the ability to noisily wheel around our big yard in front of the log house on Main Street of Ennis, and I wore out a muddy circuit in the grass over the summer, much to the chagrin of our landlord. The most fun though, was when my folks were not home, which was frequent as they spent all of their time at the hospital. I would venture out of the yard and bump along the gravel back streets I knew so well. I would motor past Jeffers', Evans', Tillingers', and Mainwarings' homes, Hickey's and Scully's motels, and being low on gas I would pull up to the Tex station, drive over the bell and shut down the engine.

Out of the station would come Larry Gleason, the tallest happiest man I knew in town. From my vantage point four inches above the ground, he was a giant outfitted in his Texaco issued uniform, greasy from years of oil changes and fixing flats. 'Fill'er up' I would say. He would laugh and look way down at me through those thick glasses and make a big fuss about me wanting gas. 'What kind of mileage do you get in that rig o' yers?' he would ask. 'Want me to check the oil?' Called me 'Young Doc' and filled up my quart tank taking no bother to accept money, which of course, I did not have, and assured me of making sure I took a safe route home along the back streets.

What a wonderful memory of a wonderful man, who gave our town many heartfelt smiles, clowning at the rodeo, flipping burgers at the DQ when it opened in May, making a big fuss over everything and everybody. He was certainly loved in the community and will be sorely missed." Thank you, Jonathan, for sharing.

**David E. Beardsley** passed away on Feb. 19, 2014 in Encinitas, CA. He was born on Oct. 14, 1931 in Elkhart, Ind., son of Edward and Olive Beardsley. He spent his childhood in Elkhart with frequent trips to Ennis where in 1949 his family built a cabin up Jack Creek. In 1954 he married Nancy Stahr Leadbeater of Elkhart. After time in the Navy, David earned a degree in animal husbandry from Montana State College in 1956. Returning to Ennis, he worked on local ranches and managed the Beardsley Stock Ranch on Varney Road for 10 years. In 1963 they moved to Bozeman where he owned and ran Long's Big O Tires and Alignment for 13 years. In 1978 the family moved to Scottsdale, AZ then moving to California.

**Emerson 'Brooks' DeHony**, long time MVHA member passed away Feb. 24, 2014 at the Central Wyoming Hospice in Casper, Wyo. Brooks was born in Ennis on April 21, 1927, to Merrit and Ada Dehony. A memory of Brooks is not complete without starting with his family. Brook's father, Merritt Brooks DeHony was born in Kansas City Missouri on Sept. 29, 1879. When he was 21 years old he possessed a desire to live in the frontier country of the Old West. He came to Montana for the first time in 1900 and returned to the Madison Valley on October 13, 1904 by stagecoach. He brought with him a small suitcase and his banjo. In 1915 he homesteaded west of Ennis. He married Ada Warwood

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**Essay Winners** *continued from page 4*  
freight business from there. Before long he opened up other businesses, such as, a general store, a livery stable. He even opened up a post office, where he became the first postmaster, a job that kept on in his family for eighty four years.

Ennis died on July fourth in the year of 1898 from gunshot wounds. He was shot in Virginia City when he was on business. When he was standing outside of the hotel he was staying at, the Madison House, Martin Peel came up and shot him. This happened on June eighteenth in the same year he died. We don't know why he was shot but some say it was because of a feud between the two "old-timers".

Another reason I like him is because he was brave. He sailed over from Ireland when he was only fourteen to find a better life in the new world, and I believe he did just that. He founded a beautiful town, a place where he could live with his wife, Katherine Shriver Ennis, who was born in Ohio and who moved in with her parents when Ennis homesteaded and then moved back. That is some *history* of our town and it's founder, without him we wouldn't have Ennis.

Congratulation to our student winners. They both received gift certificates and a copy of Early Days of the Madison Valley by James Spray.

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*History of the Jumping Horse Ranch* by Robert Beck with Nancy Lein Griffin with research by Helene Beck. In the January issue, we left off with a short history of Ennis' founder, William Ennis being shot by Martin Peel. (Pioneers continued)

William Maginness located his claim to the east from the Jumping Horse Ranch headquarters, across the Jack Creek Road from the Fay Jeffers house. Maginness built a large home and although records of his family are difficult to trace, he is remembered as a "character", well liked by all who knew him. Ralph Paugh remembers that everyone in the community would stop by for a visit just to hear his stories, because he "had a million of them." Maginness was married for a short while, but his wife left and their daughter was raised in Denver. Maginness sold his ranch to Ernest Vetter in 1917.

Ralph Paugh remembers that his mother, Minnie Vetter Paugh, and Emma Maginness once set out on a journey by themselves with a team of horses and wagon bound for Dillon. This was not a shopping trip all pioneer women would have taken. Ralph Paugh said his mother told him of the trip many years later while they were driving along the same route. As they stopped at the old Painted Rocks stage station on the Beaverhead River near Dillon, Ralph said his mother noticed a large hole cut in the side of the station wall. She remembered her earlier wagon journey to Dillon. She and Mrs. Maginness had marveled over a large original painting of a buxom girl and a pitcher of beer which had formerly adorned this wall of the stage station.

County records indicate that Chester and Harold Bower, sons of Alexander "Chub" Bower, were 5

the first owners of a partial section along the eastern boundary of the Jumping Horse Ranch. The deed is recorded in 1920, a date much later than other property claims. Possibly the section was a state owned section which became for sale in that year. Chub Bower was 14 years old when he and his father came to the Madison Valley in 1864. Chub's mother died and his father remarried the sister of E.A. Maynard, a prominent early Madison Valley pioneer.

The northeastern sections of the Jumping Horse Ranch, known by Mountain Ranch, were originally a part of the property acquired by E. A. Maynard. Maynard built his home along the Madison River, but used the Mountain Ranch as summer pasture for his stock. Maynard arrived in Virginia City in 1864, one year after gold was discovered at Alder Gulch. He returned to Michigan in 1870 to marry Helen Briggs, the sister of L. S. Briggs. Maynard is credited with sowing the first grain in the valley, which was threshed by using horses to tramp it out on the ground. Contrary to the fate of the records of many obscure Madison Valley pioneers, the Maynard family is in possession of many letters and reminiscences of Ethyl Augustus Maynard. Maynard estimated there were 100 people in the Madison Valley when he arrived. A community social on New Year's Eve of 1865 brought 50 people, only 12 of whom were women.

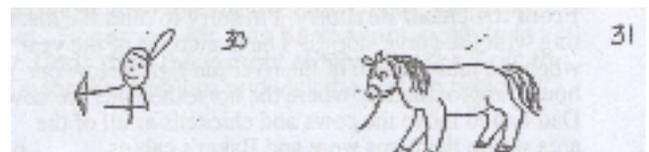
The northwestern sections of the Jumping Horse Ranch were originally claimed by George Watkins, a colorful Madison Valley pioneer. The Madison County Museum in Virginia City has a large collection of Watkins family photographs and letters. Watkins, a former Pike's Peak freighter, like Switzer and Ennis, was one of the first residents of the valley. Later in his life, Watkins divided his ranch between his children, Irene Watkins, Stanfield Thatcher, Catherine Watkins, Richards Carrau, J. Spencer Watkins, and Andrew Jackson (Jack) Watkins. In 1919 the J. Spencer Watkins property was attached for a sheriff's sale, which apparently never reached conclusion. J. Spencer Watkins retained the property until 1931 when it was sold to Wetmore Hodges. Jack Watkins operated his portion of the Watkins ranch until 1978 when he sold the ranch to the Ben Johnson's Property Development Corporation. The property was to be subdivided into one hundred 20 acre parcels. This land use proposal drew substantial criticism from neighboring ranches and in 1980 was purchased by Robert Beck to prevent housing development encroachment in an agricultural land use region.

History of the Jumping Horse Ranch to be continued in July with Lewis Michner and Wetmore Hodges.

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**Montana Trivia** Answers from January 2014

#28 Three Forks #29 Lima



**For your Reading Pleasure**

'Climbing Mountains in a Skirt' Women in Montana's History. Gary Forney, MVHA member and the Elling House Arts and Humanities Center, in cooperation with the Virginia City Preservation Alliance, and with support of the Humanities Montana, is presenting a lecture/discussion series celebrating Montana's Territorial Sesquicentennial and the contributions made to Montana history by some of its notable women. The programs will be held in the historic cabin of Frank and Minnie Linderman near Laurin, MT at "Robber's Roost". All presentations will be open to the public at no charge.

**June 29, 2:00pm** Pretty Shield, Medicine Woman of the Crow Dr. Kristen Ruppel, Assistant Professor of Native American Studies, Montana State University. Hosted by Friends of the Sheridan Library

**July 17, 1:00pm** Grace Stone Coates: Her Life in Letters Lee Rostad, author/historian Hosted by the Madison Valley Book Club

**August 14, 6:30pm** Girl from the Gulches: The Story of Mary Ronan Dr. Ellen Baumler: Interpretive Historian, Montana Historical Society

**Looking Ahead**

**May 15, 2014** MVHA Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Time and place to be determined.

**Museum open for Memorial Day Weekend May 24-26, 2014**

**June 10, 2014** Museum open for the summer season

Walk of Names Remember a family member with a Memorial on the Walk of Names. A great way to do a memorial or make a gift. MVHA's project for 2013 was to complete the deck and handicapped walkway to the Forge building. MVHA still does not have enough board orders to complete this project. Orders are being taken for the Walk of Names boards. You may order one for \$50 at the address below or by calling 682-5780 or 682-7415. Madison Valley History Association, Inc. P.O. Box 474 Ennis, MT 59729. Your donation is tax deductible. Boards are needed to complete the project.

Early Days of Madison County by James S. Spray and the MVHA Historic Cookbook are available for sale and make great gifts for Mother's Day, Father's Day, for birthdays or just a great gift for anyone. Check out the new "beast" packet with photo magnet. Great gift idea. Just contact MVHA at P.O. Box 474, Ennis, MT 59729 or call 406-682-5780. or stop by the the museum over Memorial Day or when open for the season on June 10, 2014

**From the eMail Box:** Larry, I'm sorry to miss the meeting with the gorge stories. I have pictures of the year when the main stream of the river ran right below our house, approximately where the horseshoe pits are now. Dad had to move the cows and chickens as all of the area where the barns were and Baker's cabins,

**MVHA Board of Directors**

President: Larry Love  
Vice-President: Otis Thompson  
Treasurer: Kevin Brenneke  
Secretary: Liz Applegate  
Director and Historian: Don Black  
Director: Devonna Owens  
Director: Jimmy Carlson  
Meetings held monthly on the **third** Thursday of each month or as scheduled. Watch Madisonian for details of time and place and program. Board Meetings are held the **1st** Wednesday of each month 10:00am. First Madison Bank conference room Oct. to April  
Museum MVHA Office May to Oct.  
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*Madisonian* Obituaries  
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Progressive Years pg 21 Mary Carey Stiles  
Pioneer Trails and Trials pg 47 Pearl Gairrett  
*I like William Ennis because..*  
Alyssa West and Ravyn Boyd  
*History of the Jumping Horse Ranch*  
by Robert and Helene Beck &  
Nancy Lien Griffin

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now the Riverside Motel, were all sitting in water. Our house sits on a high enough foundation that we did not have water in the house. Dad wore his fishing boots around the yard and he had to carry me in and out of the house. The corps of engineers came in after the gorge and built the dike through our pasture, so that the river would no longer flow passed our house. I have pictures showing our house and the motel sitting in water. Margaret Ann Olson Crennen editor's note.. Margaret Ann believes this was around the early '40's. From Karen Marinos:  
Hi! Thank You for the info on tonight's gathering and wished I could be there but my job pulls me out of bed by 4:30 every morning and then on go til 2:00. I had to be in Bozeman yesterday and so won't make it but someday I will. Interested in the gorge history and pictures and stories so it is a bummer.  
We did learn that Johnny Matthew Kennedy had owned property that was overtook by the gorge and where it all happened is now the Jeffers River Access. Well hope you have a good turn out and be talking or hearing from you. Will tonight's presentation be in the news bulletin that you mail to us?

**History Tidbit** Dr. T. B. Marquis was the coach of the Madison Valley Antelopes baseball team. (D.Black)