

The Wagon Tongue

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Madison Valley History Association, Inc.
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July 2014

From the Wagon Seat: Wow! Summer has come on with vengeance. It is hot and humid. It has been a busy summer. Seems like it is going by way too fast. I hope your summer is going the way you want.

In May at the annual meeting, we adapted a working budget and elected Kevin Brenneke and Jimmy Carlson to another term on the board and elected Marty Brenneke to replace Don Black. Don will still continue as our historian and researcher. MVHA thanks all of you for stepping up to take these positions. The program was members sharing history tidbits of themselves and their families and the program was great and enjoyed by all. Lots of history out there!

Thanks to Otis Thompson, Marty Brenneke, Vergil Lindsey and Larry Love for finishing the handicapped ramp going to the forge building. It looks great and the walk of names continues down the ramp. Drop by and look at it.

Come to the museum and check out the latest display in the Fashion Room. Toni Scully and Kevin Brenneke painted the room, put down a floor covering and displayed a beautiful apron collection on loan to the MVHA by Toni Scully. It is certainly a step back in time! Thanks, Toni and Kevin

Also stop by the museum or better yet, when you are volunteering, check out the deck of historic Madison Valley playing cards the MVHA now has for sale in gift shop. Liz Applegate put this all together, finding photos and interviewing folks and working with the board to get a historically correct product. Thanks go to Liz for all her hard work.

In June the program was held at the museum with Tom Erdie presenting the program on Ennis High School baseball. Quite a few in the audience shared stories about Madison Valley Baseball. Also in June, the Board of Directors elected the same slate of officers as the previous year. Congratulations and thank you to all of the officers.

In July we had our field trip to the town of Ruby hosted by Charles Gilman and to Robber's Roost with Gary Forney sharing that history. After lunch some of the group stayed for the book talk by Lee Rostad on Grace Stone Coates: Her Life in Letters hosted by the Madison Valley Book Club at the Frank "Bird" Linderman cabin.

In August the field trip will be to the Power Plant and to the old Woodworth House that Gayle and Danette Clark have restored. The details for this event are still being worked on so stay tuned and plan to attend.

As we move into August, Bonnie Matsick will be our museum scheduler. If you haven't had an opportunity to help out at the museum this summer, give Bonnie a call at 682-4301. The MVHA really does need your help in order to keep the museum open on a regular basis.

We will be at the Nearly New Store in September for a hamburger BBQ and potluck with a history of Angle Hardware presented by Larry Love.

The MVHA is rolling along and with your help, ideas, suggestions and donations of time and money, we will continue to do so. Have a good summer. Keep the Wagons Rolling. Larry Love, MVHA president

As part of Lee Robison's presentation on the Woodworths in the Madison Valley at the April meeting of the Madison Valley History Association, he brought cookies that his wife Kathy made using Ida Woodworth McKee's recipe. The recipe comes down to us because it was recorded on a 3x5 notebook sheet by Ida's daughter, Zora McKee Armstrong. These cookies were a hit and Lee was asked to share it with the members of the MVHA.

Grams Sour Cream Cookies Zora left no instructions for baking the cookies but when Kathy made them, she preheated the oven to 375° and baked about 15 min. or until set making sure not to let them get too brown. For flavoring Kathy used 2 tsp vanilla. Could probably use lemon extract or ground cinnamon or cloves. Kathy substituted butter for lard. She melted the butter but that may have made the dough sticky so she suggests using room temperature butter. The dough was very sticky so Kathy spooned a cookie size portion from the dough, rolled this in a bowl of sugar and shaped into a ball before placing on a greased cookie sheet. She put the sheet of cookies in refrig for a few minutes.

Lemon Icing Kathy made an icing as follows:

1 - 1 1/2 cup confectionary sugar Juice from one lemon 3 eggs beaten in
1/4 cup butter Sprinkle of salt

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.

Roger, Barbara & John (F) 406-595-0902

P.O. Box 1220

Ennis, MT 59729

Vink, Linda & Pete (F) 682-4428

P.O. Box 282

McAllister, MT 59740

Membership Update 2014 memberships are now due. 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 2014 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 July, August, or September 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 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

Long time MVHA members, sisters Kathryn Wonder Brooks and Clarice Wonder Brooks were recently featured on the Thursday, June 5, 2014 *Madisonian* Lifestyles page with "From Indian Creek to Jeffers, the Wonder Family is a Madison Valley Staple" with a great family history of the Wonder family.

The Madison Valley is losing long time MVHA members, David and Bonnie (Owens) Bausch. They have sold their house and are moving to California to be closer to family. MVHA will miss them as they were contributing members. Bid them "so long" and hopefully we will see them back on visits to the Madison Valley.

Memories

Mary Ann McDonnell, long time MVHA member passed away in November 2013. No obituary or other information has been received yet about Mary Ann's passing.

Raymond George Carkeek passed away March 19, 2014 in Bozeman, Mt. Raymond was a long time MVHA member and his history goes back a long way 2

in the Madison Valley. Raymond was born at the family ranch near Cameron on June 28, 1922 to Pearl and George Carkeek. "Married at last" read the sign that friends tied to the honeymoon buggy in which Pearl and George rode off to Butte after their wedding on April 19, 1911 at the Storey home on Bear Creek.

George had come to work for Amos Storey several years before that and had "kept company" with Pearl most of the time. With wages at \$1 a day, it took a long time to save enough money for a down payment on 160 acres they were to buy and live on for the next fifty years.

Raymond's father, George was born in Pensilva, Cornwell, England, and came with his mother to America when he was 5 years old. George's father had come earlier to find work in the mines of the new world. He was working in Aspen, Co when his family arrived. Later they moved to Butte and remained there while the children were growing up. George shined shoes and all the children gathered coal that spilled from the trains and sold it by the sack to supplement the father's meager miner's pay.

George and his father came to the Madison and took up a homestead on Corral Creek.

Raymond's mother, Ethel Pearl Storey, was the oldest daughter of Amos and Lillie Storey, Madison County pioneers. She was born in their log home only one mile from where she was to spend the rest of her life.

George and Pearl bought the Boardman place. With that land and 80 acres given to Pearl by her father, the young couple started a ranch that was to encompass thousands of acres.

Raymond's primary education was in a one room school on Bear Creek. He graduated from Gallatin County High School in Bozeman, attended Montana State College in 1940-41 and his formal education was interrupted by WWII. After the war, he teamed up with his father to run the ranch. Raymond took over management of the ranch when his father retired. He also helped organize and charter the First Madison Valley Bank in Ennis. He sold the ranch in 1970 and moved to West Yellowstone and opened a real estate office.

Jean Baker Armstrong passed away on April 1, 2014. Jean was a long time MVHA member and historian. Community members depended on her to answer many history questions.

Jean was born at home on April 23, 1924 at the Valley Garden Ranch near Ennis to Harry and Lydia "Ollie" Baker. Her father, Harry, was born in Virginia City, Mt. Mother, Lydia Olive Vetter, came from Mount Helly, Ohio with her mother, Harriet Vetter, to join her father, Charles E. Vetter, who had leased a farm on Jack Creek, which is now part of the Jumping Horse Ranch.

On that trip West, Ollie and her mother came by train to Bozeman and then by stage to Red Bluff where Charles met them. They then bought the Belle Jeffers Ranch. Ollie started the 8th grade at the Jack Creek School and worked for different farmers and ranchers in the valley doing cooking and housework. (cont. pg. 3)

Memories continued from page 2

Ollie and Harry were both employed at the Valley Garden Ranch, she as a cook and he as a farm laborer, where they met and later married on July 1, 1910. After their marriage, they moved to Virginia City where Harry worked in a livery stable for a year or two. They moved back to the Madison Valley and went to work at the Tom Hodgens Ranch. That fall they went to work at the Granite Mountain Ranch (old Butler Ranch, later known as the Sun Ranch). From there, the Bakers moved back to Virginia City and later to Ennis where Harry worked in a livery stable for Art Nelson. Following that he worked on various ranches in the valley, including the Valley Garden. They moved into town and ran a cafe for a couple of years and then back to the Valley Garden which Harry leased. Lilah Jean was born there in 1924. They ranched for two years at the Old Elling Ranch (Al Thexton's) in Varney and then leased the Green Acre Ranch near McAllister. They again moved into Ennis in 1931 and had a restaurant as well as a bakery. Jean attended school in Ennis and married Robert Armstrong, son of Frank and Zora (McKee) Armstrong, on May 24, 1943. Jean worked as a waitress, loving her job. She first worked for the family owned Baker's Cafe which is now known as the Ennis Cafe. She later worked at Bette's Cafe.

Kathy K. Sheffield of Ennis passed away on April 3, 2014 at the Madison Valley Medical Center.

Kathy was born in Carrington, N. D. to Lloyd and Elaine Kriewald. The family, moved to the Madison Valley in 1961. Kathy graduated from Ennis High School in 1964. She found work at the Fish Bowl Lanes where she met Gordon Sheffield and they married on Jan. 22, 1966. After her marriage, Kathy worked at a variety of jobs and began working as a sorter at the Sierra Talc Mine now Imerys Talc Mine. After retiring at the mine, she worked at KD's Market, now the Madison Foods.

Volker Gene Saier passed away on April 8, 2014 at the Madison Valley Manor. Volker was born in White Sulfur Springs, Mt on June 16, 1929 to Eugene Karl Saier and Pauline Luise Pfund Saier.

Volker's father, Eugene, was born in Konstanz on Bodensee in Germany. In 1923, after reading all the Buffalo Bill books he could find and he decided to see what everyone in Europe called the "Wild West." He found employment with his uncle who was a miner and trapper near Martinsdale, Mt and eventually went to work for the Holiday Ranch. Volker's mother Pauline Ffund, came to Martinsdale from Germany with her sister, met Eugene and married one year later. Volker, only 10 months old, moved to Ennis with his parents. Volker attended elementary and high school in Ennis. He was a downhill ski racer for the Ennis Ski Club during and after his high school days. He joined the Marines and served in the Korean War. Volker met Lois Sannes on a ski hill and they were married May 29 1956. Volker ranched with his parents and continued ranching on the family ranch for most of his life. 3

Elizabeth(Betty) Hudson, long time MVHA member passed away April 8, 2014 at her residence in Dallas, Tx She was born on Jan. 17, 1931 in Tulsa, Okla. She graduated from John Carroll High School and attended the Univ. of Oklahoma. Betty first came to the Madison Valley in January 1968 to look at an unfinished cabin as a possible family vacation home. It was on the land that Denny Wonder had homesteaded in 1930. The Wonders had three girls there and then moved to Ennis in 1937. Denny sold the homestead in 1960, at which time his cabin was torn down and the cabin that the Hudson's eventually purchased had been started.

What is known in the valley and on the maps as the Wonder Ranch has been Betty's summer and fall slice of heaven for 46 years. Betty's children and now grand children will continue to enjoy the Wonder Ranch.

Ruth Haak, long time MVHA member and faithful volunteer passed away April 12, 2014 at the home of her daughter in Sholhola, Penn. Ruth was born on May 1, 1937 in Bethlehem, PA. Ruth acquired property in the Raynolds Pass area and came north from Florida every year to spend June through October at her Mont-ana home. Ruth, Deb Townshend, fellow MVHA member, and Jan Harris started the famous walking group, Women of the Wild (WOW) back in 1985. For nearly three decades Ruth led thousands of visitors and residents alike on hikes throughout the Madison Valley and Yellowstone areas of Montana and Idaho. She is best known for her whistle to get everyone's attention and it is known that you try not to stand near her when the whistle blasts. She was short in stature but huge in leadership of her walking group.

Dan Segota, long time MVHA member, passed away at his home on May 16, 2014. He was born on Dec. 10, 1929 to Mike and Francis Pavic Segota in Red Lodge, Mt. During his childhood years, his young life was spent living with family and friends all over the state of Montana. His family finally settled in Ennis in 1946 and Dan graduated from Ennis High School in 1948. He joined the Navy and after he completed his time, he returned to Ennis to marry Virginia Schabarker on July 1, 1950. Dan spent a lot of time rodeoing and he won the Montana State Rodeo Association Steer Wrestling Championship in 1958. He was instrumental in forming the Ennis Racing and Rodeo Association. He also worked many hours in making the Ennis golf course a reality. He worked for the Montana Highway Department and then started his own contracting business. **Carole Rae Krauss Love**, long time MVHA member, passed away on May 19, 2014 in Dillon, Mt. She was born on March 14, 1932 in Ennis to John E. and Florence (Daems) Krauss.

John Krauss was born in Colorado and came to Montana with his family and arrived in Norris in 1908, settling on the Elling ranch at Varney. In 1909 John's family bought a ranch south of Alder, staying there until 1913. John also worked at various ranches and in the woods in the Bitter Root Valley.

Florence Daems was born in Virginia City, Mt., went to 1st grade there before moving (cont. pg 4)

Memories continued from page 3

with her family to Varney and finished grade school at the Varney school. She went to high school in Virginia City and graduated from Sheridan High School. She attended the State Normal College in Dillon and taught at the Eight Mile School between Ennis and Virginia City. She met John Krauss and in 1925 they were married in Sheridan. John went into the trucking business with his brothers and A.M. Welles. Carole was born and spent her early years in Norris. After a few years, her father bought his brothers out and he and Mr. Welles operated the business until 1935, when he sold his interest to Harold Helt. When Carole was three years old, John and Florence took their family to Oregon where they purchased a dairy farm, but after a few months, they decided they were not dairy people. They sold out and moved back to Norris where John bought the Texaco Service and Repair Shop. They lived one year in Bozeman when Carole was in 6th grade and she often spoke of how she loved it there before moving back to Norris. Carole graduated from Harrison High School. She met Earl Love at a track meet when she was in 8th grade and he was a senior. After Earl returned from the service in Korea, they married on June 17, 1950 and moved into a rustic one-room cabin on Steffens Street in Ennis. In 1952 they built their first home north of Ennis on the family ranch on land that is now the new Madison River Propane. They moved to Dillon in 1960 when Earl was named district conservationist for the Soil Conservation District. Earl and Carole had been married for 52 years when Earl passed away and Carole lived the rest of her life at her home N of Dillon.

Carolyn Jean 'Punky' Tichenor passed away on May 25, 2014 at the Madison Valley Medical Center in Ennis. Punky was born in Havre, Mt on July 13, 1940 and was raised in Big Sandy, Mt where she graduated from high school in 1957. She married her high school sweetheart, Daryl Tichenor, in 1958 and they had been married 55 years before her passing. They moved a lot during their early years before setting up shop at the Madisonian in Virginia City, Mt and continued to live in Virginia City. Punky's early career was very varied and she became co-owner and publisher of *The Madisonian* which she and Daryl leased in 1970 and purchased in 1971. Punky was very skilled in all the talents needed in the newspaper business and continued learning over the years. After selling the paper in 2002, she continued working there setting type for the new owners. After that job ended, she volunteered helping Daryl at the Spencer Watkins History Museum in Virginia City.

Eugene Richard Gillan passed away June 8, 2014 in Ennis. Gene was born in Eureka, Ill on Feb. 13, 1929 to Elbert and Laura Bryant. Due to diseases at that time, both his parents perished and he and his brothers and sisters were adopted. Gene was adopted by Faye and Goldia Viola Gillan. During the depression the Gillan family moved a lot to secure employment. Gene graduated from Shepherd High School in Shepherd, Mich. where he met Mary Lou Zook and they married on Dec. 1, 1950. After military commitment and

career at Dow Corning Corp, he retired and eventually traveled the United States and moved to Belt, Mt. Four years later they moved to Ennis. He and Mary Lou were members of the Ennis Lions Club and the Presbyterian Church.

Barbara 'Bobbe' Pope passed away June 21, 2014 at Generations Assisted Living. Bobbe was born on Nov. 19, 1920 in Irvington, Calif. to William Z, and Lucille (Berrtram) Foster. Bobbe moved to Bozeman and then to Ennis to be near her daughter and son in law, Wendy and Jim Finley. Wendy and Jim are from Goleta, Ca but retired in Ennis because Jim was friend of George and Mary Ann Alger, long time MVHA members.

Annual meeting The annual meeting of the MVHA was held on May 16, 2014. The program was members sharing tidbits of their and their family's history. The program was great and a lot of history was shared. Our member, Roger White, who lives the furthest away in Aberdeen, Scotland strives to be an active member despite the mileage and sent the following family history to share with the members:

My interest in MVHA came about because of my ancestor, William John Foreman (grandfather of your member Bobby Foreman), who emigrated from England to Montana in about 1869. It took me a long time to find out anything about him but in the last year or so I have discovered he was probably not the only relative to travel to Madison County.

I discovered for example that W J Foreman had an uncle in England, his mother's brother, called John Goldfinch. I had no reason to research him but when I found W J's Ruby Valley homestead record on the Bureau of Land Management's web site, lo and behold, the 160 acres next to his was farmed by a ... John Goldfinch. His uncle? I haven't been able to prove it but he came from England and he's the right age. By 1900 he'd moved on to Oakland, California, where he died, unmarried, so no descendants to look for.

W J Foreman also had a younger brother, Richard who disappears from the English records after 1881. Roll forward to 1900 and a Richard Foreman, right age and born in England, is a bar tender enumerated in the census at Brandon Township. Ten years later a Richard 'Forman', same age, is in the household of Thomas Thexton, whose wife is Margaret Ann Foreman, daughter of W J. He's also described as an 'Uncal' which of course 'my Richard Foreman would have been, of Margaret Ann. He disappears to me after 1910.

If that wasn't enough, W J had a sister, also Margaret Ann, who married a man called Frederick Latus in England and they pitch up in Montana sometime before 1897. They had at least five children. Kate married a Charles Savage in Bozeman, Bessie married John Stewart in Billings, Ralph married a woman named Susan, family name unknown to me, Vincent I can find no spouse for and Frances died young. Various of them seemed to have moved to not only Montana but then on to California, British Columbia and Alberta. (*cont.pg. 5*)

