

The Wagon Tongue

Volume 17 issue 3

Madison Valley History Association

July 2019

website: www.madisonvalleyhistoryassociation.org

Visit MVHA on Facebook: "Madison Valley History Association"

Our mission is to develop a museum to house and preserve collections of artifacts, tapes, photographs and stories of historical importance to the Madison Valley and interpret them through display and education.

From the Wagon Seat Summer has set in with vengeance. Hope everyone is having a good one with friends, camping, traveling and helping out and enjoying your Madison Valley History Association.

The MVHA is still "rolling along". At our April meeting, Kitty Eneboe gave a great program about her grandfather, Samuel V. Stewart who was a two term governor of Montana in the early 1900s. Kitty is not a member of the MVHA but a community member who has historical roots and stepped forward to share her historical story. MVHA thanks her very much for sharing. At the annual meeting on June 1, 2019, MVHA approved the budget and elected directors to the board. Otis Thompson was elected for another three year term, John Gecho agreed to stay on for one more year and Marty Brenneke was elected to finish a term for one year. Thank you very much for stepping up to serve your organization and continuing preserving the valley history. We need members to be thinking this next year about how they could serve the organization as MVHA needs board members to be the leadership of the organization. Without a board the MVHA cannot function as a 501c3 organization. So be thinking about how you could serve as it is not a difficult job, gives you a chance to meet new people and serve your community.

At the organization board meeting the officers from last year consented to continue their positions...Otis Thompson as Secretary, Kevin Brenneke as Treasurer, Brandi Palmerton as Vice President and Larry Love as President. I thank those individuals for doing a great job. They are the ones who keep the MVHA functional.

The museum opened for the season on June 11. The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. So far this summer, there has been a steady flow of folks visiting the museum as MVHA shares the history of the Madison Valley. Mona Durham is the scheduler so call Mona at 682-4638 to volunteer for a 3 hour shift to help keep the museum open. No one can visit if MVHA does not have a volunteer on duty. It is a fun duty as you greet and chat with guests and show them around to the 3 buildings. And you always work as teams of two so it is pretty easy. And you will discover new displays and things you haven't seen before..

Our programs continue to be great. The July 27th Field Trip was to the Alfred and Sarah Parent homestead. Parents were Mary Kay Frisbee's grandparents and Mary Kay gave an interesting talk about the history of their ranching and mining of the valley. The Frisbees have kept the land in the family and it is a very beautiful area to spend weekends and vacations. After a picnic lunch by the lake, the group met up with Tim and Steve Jackson for a tour of the Revenue Mine area stopping to see several old mine sites as we learned of the mining in that area. Tim also shared the history of the stage coach routes in the area and took us to a grave site of a former passenger who died on the stage coach and they stopped and buried him/her right along the route, so as the story is told. Now our next history question will be to determine who is buried there. Tim took us over hill and dale down to Sterling and some folks in the group continued for a tour of Sterling. Anyone who did not know how to drive Montana backroads does for sure know now.

August plans are to visit the Madison earth quake site for the 60th anniversary of the earth quake. Still in the planing stages as we want to avoid the huge crowds that will be there on the actual date, August 17.

And please remember, the MVHA will continue to need member help and support to continue our mission. Because the current group is getting older each day, we are looking to younger members and volunteers. Encourage your young friends and family to come and help preserve the interesting history of the Madison Valley.

Keep the wagons rolling, Your Wagon Master, Larry Love.

The gun raffle of the 1866 Yellowboy Saddle Ring Carbine Little Bighorn Commemorative continues and not many tickets of the 250 to be sold are still available.. The drawing is still to be determined, sometime after the last ticket is sold. You do not need to be present to win. Get your tickets purchased by sending in your order blank from the April 2019 Wagon Tongue or order by submitting your name, address and phone number and the number of tickets you want to purchase. Tickets are \$10 each. If you sell tickets to friends or family include their names on your order. Mail order and check to MVHA PO Box 474, Ennis, MT 59729. Any proceeds from this raffle go to continued development of the history museum.....

History Titbit: Origin of the term **Hog Wash**. Steamboats carried both people and animals. Since pigs smelled so bad, they would be washed before being placed on board. The mud and other filth that was washed off was considered useless "Hog Wash".

Membership: New members since April 2019. MVHA thanks the following for joining and for their support.

Dave Coghill & Son(F) Vashon, Washington
Membership update Just check your address label on the envelope and you can easily tell if your membership is paid or which month you are due. Your membership is good for a full year from the month you purchase it and you are not penalized for submitting early. If your 2019 membership is due during July, August or September or if you are past due, you will find a membership renewal form included with this issue. Memberships are now \$10.00 for students, \$15.00 for Individual, \$20.00 for Families, \$50.00 for Businesses, \$100.00 for Patrons and \$500 or more for Benefactor. If you are inviting someone to join or if you 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.

Thank you to all renewing members who have generously submitted your renewal memberships. The MVHA Board of Directors appreciates all memberships that are purchased and your support as this allows them to have funds and membership to continue the work of developing a museum in the Madison Valley and arranging programs for the community.

If anyone needs a ride to a meeting or program, call 682-5780 and a ride will be arranged for you.

Receiving your Wagon Tongue Several years ago the MVHA started using non-profit organization postage stamps. The MVHA saves a considerable amount of money since we mail out most of the quarterly newsletter, **The Wagon Tongue**. MVHA did not know that non-profit stamps are not forwarded and if you have a forwarding address during the winter months or any other time, your Wagon Tongue is dumped in the trash. It is not returned to sender so MVHA does not know who you are. Please let the MVHA know by phone to Shirley Love 406-682-5780 or by email to whitneypranch@wispwest.net or even to MVHA P.O. Box 474, Ennis, Mt 59729 and the address labels will be updated. Also let MVHA know the approximate date you leave in the fall and the approximate date you will arrive in the spring so the correct address label will be used. Thank you to those who have already provided this information.

Memories

LeRoy W. Thom passed away at Hastings, NE. on July 29, 2018. He was born on April 9, 1925 to John and Johanna (Peters) Thom on a farm near Ravenna, NE. Leroy graduated from Grand Island High School in 1942 and was a pilot in the Naval Air Corp during WW II from 1943-45. He married **2**

Jean E. Ballance on Sept. 5, 1948 in Lincoln, NE. He obtained a BS at University of Nebraska in Agricultural Engineering in 1949. He founded the T-L Irrigation Co in 1955 which manufactured hydraulic irrigation systems for farmers in the U.S. and many other countries. He owned and operated the Call Ranch (Bar 7) in the Madison Valley.

June Gail Haigh, long time MVHA member, passed away in Billings, MT on Dec. 23, 2018. He was born June 17, 1924 in Three Forks, MT to Gail and Margaret Haigh. June graduated from Three Forks High School. After graduation, he was inducted into the US Marines. and served in World War II. After the war, he returned home to attend Montana State College where he earned a BS degree in Soil Science and later obtained a Master's Degree in Range Science. He worked for the U.S Soil Conservation Service. He married Violet Gilbert. June loved hunting and fishing and if you have been a member of MVHA for a few years, you will remember stories that he submitted to be printed in the Wagon Tongue. June and Les Klatt were a team of volunteers at the museum and received rave complements. Obit provided by Les and Bobby Klatt.

Melvin J. Hagl passed away March 19, 2019. He was born on October 1, 1944 in Butte, MT to Harry and Madeline Hagl, Sr. He was a Vietnam War Veteran and earned a Master Carpenter Certification while serving. His first love was his sawmill and he always said that "Sawing was the easiest part."

Lester M. Kilman, long time MVHA member, passed away on April 10, 2019 at Bozeman, MT. Lester was born Aug. 15, 1932 in Verona, Wisconsin to Karl and Frieda Kilman. They moved around during his childhood as his father took care of cheese factories and did mining before settling in Pony in 1940. He attended Pony Elementary school and several other local elementary schools as his family moved for work. He graduated from Harrison High School in 1951. After graduation, he joined the Navy and served with the Sea Bees. He met Pearl Neville at the movie Theatre in Ennis. They were married in Jeffers, MT in 1954. They raised their family in Ennis where Les was custodian at Ennis High School for 37 years. They moved back to Pony after retirement and Pearl and Les spent 25 years as snow birds spending their winters in Quartzite, AZ. They moved back to Ennis for Lester's last years.

Jean Estelle Thom passed away on April 15, 2019 in Hastings, Nebraska. Jean was born in Lincoln, Nebraska on October 27, 1927 to Hobart "Earl" and Alma Ballance. She graduated from Lincoln High School and attended

(Cont on page 3)

(cont from pg 2) the University of Nebraska. On September 5, 1948, Jean married LeRoy W. Thom in Lincoln, Nebraska. Jean helped her husband, LeRoy, start the T-L Irrigation Co. in 1955. She was very active with the company in the early years and was the Corporate Secretary and on the Board of Directors until her death. Jean owned and operated the Call Ranch (Bar 7) in the Madison Valley with LeRoy. (editor's note: I met Jean by way of Smitty Overstreet and Jean and Smitty were avid rock hounds and both had collections of Indian arrowheads).

Marilyn Marie (Toby) Wilkins passed away on May 9, 2019 at Madison Valley Manor in Ennis, MT. Toby was born in Arlington, Nebraska on Feb. 3rd, 1929 to Lawrence and Maude Hall. She attended school in Arlington and graduated from high school there. On her 18th birthday, she eloped with the love of her life, Joe C. Wilkins. They lived in Arlington and then Fremont. Toby and Joe moved to Austin, Minn. in 1975. While in Austin, Toby decided to go back to school to attend nurse's training and become an LPN. She worked at a long term care center. In 1990, she and Joe retired to Ennis, MT. She worked at the Madison Valley Manor, the same care center where she later became a resident. She and Joe were very active with the original Senior Center and Meals on Wheels when the Senior Center was in the Ennis Town Hall.

Donald Norman Clark passed away May 15, 2019 at the Madison Valley Hospital in Ennis, MT. Don was born May 18, 1928, in Long Valley, South Dakota to Clem and Artie May Clark. In 1938 the family moved to the Madison Valley. He attended school in Ennis. After jobs in Washington and serving in the Army he returned to the Madison Valley working as ranch manager at the Channels Dude Ranch and for the Corral Creek Ranch.

Carol Jahns Orr, former MVHA member, passed away on May 29, 2019, in Ennis. She was born in Alhambra, California on June 28, 1923, to Alfred Heinrich and Cecelia Jahns. Carol grew up in Seattle, Washington. She graduated from Roosevelt High School and in 1944 graduated from University of Washington with a BA in Political Science. Carol met her future husband, Arthur (Toby) Orr from Cameron, MT, a Navy pilot, on a blind date. They were married in Seattle, WA on June 30, 1944. When the war ended, they moved to Cameron, MT and ranched together for 20 years. They owned the Bear Creek Ranch (now Sphinx Mountain Ranch) and Antelope Basin Cow Camp. While being a hard working ranch wife, Carol started a club for ranch wives called the Mad Gals. They sold Bear Creek Ranch in 1964 and bought a ranch along

the Madison River which they called Hiverwood. After many years traveling and working, they moved back to the Madison Valley in 1990 and opened an antique shop in Ennis, The Wayfarer.

The Memorial service for **Jane Jeffers Rybus** was held on July 6, 2019. Greta Rybus, Jane's granddaughter presented the following story of Jane that she compiled and sent in to the New York Times which shows the part each of us play in our history.

Our ancestors brought goods and cattle to this valley, making the journey Northward from Texas and Westward from New York, eventually founding Ennis and Jeffers. Their children grew up to marry and raise Jane Jeffers, a child born in 1924. I am one of Jane's three granddaughters, along with Emily and Sarah.

Jane grew up in a ranching family: branding their cattle with a simple outline of a house. Much later I would find the symbol in a booklet of brands in the valley, used to identify animals that strayed.

As a child, she rode horseback, dressed as Robin Hood for Halloween, and went skiing on a little ski hill up Jack Creek.

She left Ennis for the University of Montana in the middle of World War II. Of that era, she said "During my life in college all the men were gone, we women finally were able to take on men's jobs. Women were empowered during those years. After the war when the men came home, we lost it." She joined a sorority and her sisters called her "Jeff". She became the first woman student body president and graduated with a degree in English. She felt freedom.

She dreamt of becoming a writer in New York. But this was a time of few choices, even for ambitious women. Instead, she did what many women did. She married Henry Rybus, a kind and gentle man, but she was an unsettled housewife. She became a mother of three, and for a time, a teacher.

Divorced, in her sixties, she moved back to Ennis, living in the last house on main street across from two saloons, waking occasionally to bar fights. She became the unofficial town historian, an avid reader and bridge player. She looked out windows and watched for deer and birds. She went on archeological digs and took weekend-long workshops on how to pronounce "Sacagawea". Her home is filled with old photos, artifacts, and collected stones.

She grew older and content. Toward the end, dementia quieted her. My father would visit and they would hold hands as he read aloud Wallace Stegner. Always aware of my grandmother's lack of choice, I chose to follow her life with the freedoms of my generation: I graduated from the University of (cont pg 4)

(cont from pg 3) Montana 64 years after she did and left for the East to become a photojournalist.

At the end of each year, the New York Times compiles stories of impactful, notable people who had passed the previous year. They asked readers to submit stories of loved ones who had passed, because the people we love are notable and impactful to our own lives. And Jane was that to all of us: she was our family, our friend and to me a guiding force. She also was someone who showed us how deeply we can be connected to a place. Hiking up Jack Creek, my Uncle Curt said, "Living in Ennis, Jane was at peace." To many of us, Jane was both a person and a place: she was Ennis and she was this valley and all the stories in it.

While we are here to say a final goodbye and mourn Jane, we are also mourning the end of 156 years of our family's presence in this valley. Most of the land, the little house on Main Street, and now all the family who once came to this valley are gone. But that's why, if we think about it, we mourn more deeply because we have lost things we love. But, people like Jane and places like Ennis continue to shape us: they are why my father, Tom, loves the West; why my mother, Pam, does crossword puzzles like Jane did, and why I remain firm in making my own choices; because I know the stories of my family, this place, and my grandmother. And maybe, while our presence here has waned, Jane and this valley has impacted each of you, too.

from Greta Rybus, Jane's granddaughter

Rodeo season has come and gone in Ennis but it is time to examine the history of the **Ennis Rodeo Association**. From The Madison Valley A High Mountain Community by Minnie Paugh

The first rodeos were called "bucking contests". They may have been promoted by the saloons in Ennis because they were completely open to the public and only the saloons could have profited from the gatherings of ranchers. The contests were on the main street of the little town. In 1911 or 1912 a corral was built south of Angles Blacksmith Shop where the Gambles Store was in 1974. Bucking contests were held in the corral also without charging admission. During these years, Oz Wingate, who was a bartender in one of the saloons, told Theodore Paugh that he took in as much as a thousand dollars on a rodeo day. Riders came to Ennis for the love of the contest, not for the money, but the saloons gave money for the purses and after a contest the spectators passed a hat so that the riders usually received between \$5 and \$20

for an afternoon. Some of these riders were Bert Vetter, Johnny Kennedy, Fae Selby, Rusty Selby(1) Otto Kirby and Bill Gray.

Sometimes the horses would be started from Larry Dunn's "Sunshine" then from the saloon run by Jack Spray. The animals were held at Wallace Green's livery stable or Arthur Nelson's stable. (Nelsons later bought out Wallace Green.) On one happy occasion a horse escaped the hazers and took his rider up the school house hill and he was finally caught near the rocky point off the road at Eight Mile. Ed Michener was the hazer who caught up with the runaway.

Races were also held on the main street of Ennis. Laurence Jeffers specialized in the "saddle and go." His old horse didn't need its saddle cinched.

Just after 1920 Jack Conners who owned a saloon in Ennis built a rodeo corral south of the Ennis Ball Park (which was laid out about 1910) near where Chick Armitage lived. Si and Ted McAllister were riding at this time. In 1924 the Rod and Gun Club had a rodeo there with a fine group of riders including Powder Face Tom Eckert. "Rich" Richter did the producing himself. Johnny Kennedy bought this corral from Jack Conners and some people remember only the period when Johnny was running it. In 1919 Charles J. Manley started a rodeo at his ranch near Shell Creek Canyon. He used his own rodeo stock and had a show every Sunday in July and August. In 1926 he enlarged the coral and had a few shows with as many as 200 spectators. Dudes attended from the Elkhorn Dude Ranch and from the 9 Quarter Circle. The corral was only used three times.

In the 1930s Emmett Womack built a rodeo arena east of Ennis near the banks of the Madison River. Charles Manley furnished his broncs at first, but later Richter and Ellinghouse produced his show. Emmett was a member of the Rodeo Cowboys Association so his riders were professionals. He established a show date in the middle of June and many world champions rode for him after they finished the Southern rodeo circuit. In 1944 Emmett was injured while breaking a bronc in his corrals. He never was able to tell anyone what had happened to him and he did not recover enough to return to rodeoing.

Amos "Rusty" Selby rode in Ennis rodeos about 1914. He moved to Illinois and started his Diamond Horseshoe Rodeo in 1925 in Tonica. Its permanent home became Cornell, Illinois, 82 miles from Chicago. This was a traveling rodeo often booked at state fairs. It featured television stars such as Roy Rogers. This show closed in 1967. (cont on pg 5)

(cont from pg 4) The annual Ennis rodeo was produced in 1974 by the Ennis Rodeo Association. This corporation grew from a roping club and a racing organization which combined in 1952 to build a modern rodeo arena and race track. The roping club started in 1948 to engage in friendly competition in calf roping contests with small jackpots as prizes. The club never had more than twelve members which included Melvin Icenoggle and Jim Armitage. They had a rodeo in 1949 and 1950 and several jackpot roping contests. They raised their operating funds by paying dues and they encouraged the Madison Valley people to become interested in rodeos after World War II. They held their first rodeo in 1948 in Womack's corrals before they were torn down. The racing organization started in 1951 and held their first meet on a straightway track beside the local airfield. Their quarter horse races were held in Ennis several years until the race track was built at Beaumont near Belgrade by Lloyd Shellhammer. The backers for the Ennis races were Chuck Aaberg, Jim McAllister and Lloyd Shellhammer. Aaberg and McAllister raced their own horses. Some of the best quarter horses in the West raced in Ennis. They had paramutual betting. Chuck was so interested in the arena and track that he brought work crews from the Sun Ranch to work on the construction.

The rodeo association was incorporated as "The Madison Valley Rodeo and Racing Association." Chuck Aaberg was the secretary of the new corporation and he gave much thought to the means by which it could be kept free from business interests in Ennis who might want to schedule rodeos for their profit rather than for the good of the community and the association. Sumner Gerard was the state Senator from Madison County, and he used his position to cause the state legislature to pass a special law to permit the Madison Valley Association to sell A and B stock. "A" stock was for voting and only one share could be purchased by an individual or business. "B" shares were sold to finance the rodeo arena. They were sold in \$10, \$50 and \$100 denominations. Most of the money for the association was raised by the sale of \$10 shares and very few \$100 shares were issued.

The first expenses of the association were paid by loans co-signed by members of the association. Business people in Ennis and neighboring communities as far away as Bozeman were asked to make donations and they supported the activity with great generosity. Their first expenses was the purchase of their rodeo grounds on the terrace east and slightly north of Ennis. They acquired

between 70 and 120 acres from Earl Love Sr in 1952 and laid out a straight away tract before a permanent arena was built.

The sale of shares financed the lumber to build the rodeo arena which was designed and constructed by Melvin Icenoggle. He was the only salaried person working on this community project. At least 100 people in the community gave generously of their time to make the arena possible. They were the businessmen and the laborers from the town as well as ranchers. The major work was done in 1953 under the supervision of Melvin Icenoggle who was shoeing horses in th country. He was an active member of the Roping Club and had had experience working with the crews who built the rodeo arenas in Southwestern Montana. He had been rodeoing all over the West since he was a boy of sixteen. He was required to design an arena which would set inside a circular racing track a half mile long and in between rock bars. Otis Crooker then designed bleachers on skids that could be turned from the racing track to provide seating for the rodeo arena. In 1953 the association held two rodeos and a race meet. The present grandstand was later purchased from the arena at West Yellowstone after their rodeo club went broke. This purchase used all the Ennis funds and the lumber was hauled by members of the of the Rodeo Association supervised by Carl Hubner. The seating was assembled for the 1959 rodeo with Harold Holt in charge of the work crew. Additional bleachers were acquired from Gatton Field at Montana State College when its old seats were replaced. In 1957 the rodeo grounds were valued at \$15,000. It was used by the Roping Club, the Madison High Riders, the Valley Vaqueros and the Side Saddle Club with the permission of the Ennis Rodeo Association.

All the work during a rodeo or race was done by local ranchers and business people. In the first years of the association no passes were issued to the families of the workers. In 1960 a worker received a pass for his wife and three beer tickets. Often the entire family was employed for the duration of the celebration. They handled advance ticket sales, built the floats for the parade, manned booths selling food and refreshments and took care of the stock during the rodeo or race. After the events of the day were over, cleanup crews were needed to ready the grounds for the next day.

Coffee and hot dogs have been sold by the Madison Valley Woman's Club since the concession was given to them in 1959. Irma Manley has consistently worked with this project which has been two booths

(cont on page 6)

For Your Reading Pleasure

An Ornerly Bunch presents tales and anecdotes compiled from the Montana Writer’s Project. Enjoy pioneer yarns from chapters such as Curious Animals, Tall Tales, Tales of True Pioneers, and many more.

Looking Ahead

August Field trip for the 60th Anniversary of the Madison Earth Quake Date and time to be announced.

Sept History of the Madison Meadows Golf Course Date, time and place to be announced

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2019 Linderman Cabin Speaker Series Held at the Linderman Cabin past Laurin at Robber’s Roost site.

“Dressing For the Ball” Thurs. Aug. 8, 6:30pm
Janet Allestad will be sharing information on the customs and culture of how women would prepare and dress for the balls held in early Virginia City.

“And a Good Time Was Held by All” Sunday, August 11, 2:00pm Mark Weber will be presenting an overview of the social life and cultural fabric of the Alder Gulch in the mid-1860’s.

+++++Rodeo continued from pg 5+++++ which were closed and rewired in 1963. The Boy Scouts are responsible for the sale of pop and the Lion’s Club sold the beer. Before 1959 the 4-H Clubs had the food concessions and that time the Buttons and Bowls Club bought the first American Flag carried in the rodeo parade. Adult clubs with concessions kept half of their profit but junior organizations may keep all of theirs. The sheriff has always deputized about ten men to police the grounds. In the early days Denny Wonder guarded the ticket booth. Recently a deputy sheriff has been assigned to watch the ticket booth and the concessions to guard against theft. In the old days the funds were held in the bank vault in Cloe Paugh’s insurance office until the rodeo was over. When it was convenient the board of the association would count the money and bank it in Bozeman. The person who took the money to Bozeman was protected by an armed escort car. In recent years the rodeo takes in about \$15,000 but only about \$1500 is profit. The money is banked in the First Madison Valley Bank. The Ennis Rodeo was and continues to be a local tradition. It links the modern community to its western heritage more colorfully than does any other event. Since the first trail herd came to the Madison County, the Madison Valley has provided grazing for cattle and horses. Fine riders were needed to break and school the horses for the old VF Ranch and to train Morgan L. Morgan’s little Mountain Lilys into the smartest, toughest little horses in the West. Such names as Tom Whitney, Joe Spray, Walter Long

MVHA Board of Directors

- President: Larry Love
- Vice-President: Brandi Palmerton
- Treasurer: Kevin Brenneke
- Secretary: Otis Thompson
- Director: John Gecho
- Director: Eric Palmerton
- Director: Marty Brenneke
- Historian and researcher: Don Black
- Graphic Design and Facebook: Liz Applegate
- Meetings and programs held monthly on the **third** Thursday of each month or as scheduled. Watch the Madisonian, posters and your email for details of time, place and program. Please call Larry Love 682-5780 for date of board meeting.. *The Wagon Tongue* will be published quarterly. Next issue will be October 2019. Articles of historic interest and memories of the departed are welcomed. Your editor needs your history stories!
- Editor: Shirley Love whitneypranch@wispwest.net
- Contributing editors: *Madisonian* Obituaries, *Memory of Jane Rybus* by Greta Rybus *Ennis Rodeo Association The Madison Valley A High Mountain Community* by Minnie Paugh
- 2019 Linderman Cabin Speaker Series Gary Forney

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+++++ and Frank Daems bring colorful memories to a few of old timers who tell their grand children about the riders when broncs were ridden in the streets of Ennis or on the open prairie.

The rodeo is always enjoyed as a business stimulator by some of the business people of the community. The gathering of friends and neighbors from surrounding communities and states is appreciated by the natives of Ennis and the Madison Valley. With the development of the tourist trade and growth of riding clubs many people support the rodeo for the love of rodeoing and the enjoyment of showing their well trained animals. The Ennis rodeo is a scheduled event on the calendar of several of the Montana dude ranches.

The October issue will continue with the rest of interesting details of the Ennis Rodeo Association and many more well known names from the Madison Valley.

This information has been compiled by Minnie Paugh from the minutes of the Ennis Rodeo Association and interviews with: Melvin Icenoggle, Charles Aaberg, Roy Daems, Ralph and Theodore Paugh, Winnifred Jeffers, Roy Reed, Irma Manley and Frances Womack.

History Tidbit Bear Creek School House was built in 1909 to replace the old one room log building. It now celebrates 110 years.