

The Wagon Tongue

Volume 9 Issue 4

Madison Valley History Association, Inc.
website: www.madisonvalleyhistoryassociation.org

October 2011

From the Wagon Seat It looks like fall here. The leaves are turning yellow, the birds are flocking up and we have had our first blast of cold weather with snow in the mountains.

The MVHA held its last field trip for the season in August. We visited the reclamation site of the upper O'Dell wetlands area on the Granger Ranches. Jeff Lazlo of the Granger Ranches was host. He explained and showed pictures of the restoration of the O'Dell Creek wetlands. This area is south of Ennis about 7 miles below the Varney cut-off. It is an effort of private and public funds to restore the O'Dell headwaters to its original habitat before the area was drained in the '50's. Jeff related that there are now more species of birds, flowers, more willows and more water in O'Dell Creek. We learned that the white house located under the hill was used for the living quarters for the haying crews that were haying the Madison River bottom which was turned from wetlands to hay fields in the 1950's. The MVHA is seeking more information on the history of that area such as homesteaders and early residents. If anyone has any information, let the MVHA know.

The MVHA museum closed for the season on Sept. 15. We had a good summer with the opening of the Coss/Angle Forge Building. But we were down in numbers of visitors this year. This was probably due to our reduced hours going to 1:00pm to 4:00pm instead of all day. We have also heard that a lot of museums saw their numbers drop this summer too. A big thank you to all of you who took time to host the museum. We also need to thank the schedulers lead by Kevin Brenneke with Bonnie Matzick and Shirley Love helping out.

In looking ahead, the MVHA will sell cookbooks at the Hunter's Feed and we will again have a booth at the Madison Valley Woman Club Holiday Bazaar. Plan on signing up to help.

Our program for September was a real crowd pleaser. It was probably our biggest attended program with about 70 in attendance. Special thanks to Don Black who presented "A Conversation with the Founding Father's Descendants" featuring Jane Rybus and Shirley Gustafson. In a relaxed setting, the two living pioneers of founding families shared their experiences in growing up in the valley. Questions were asked of them from the audience to the delight of everyone. Thanks, Jane and Shirley.

Our programs continued this month with the history of sports in the valley. Board members and other MVHA members will give historical perspective to baseball, football, bowling, skiing and any other sport in the valley. November's program will be a program about Grizzlies. December will feature our annual Christmas potluck with members asked to bring their oldest and most favorite Christmas cards.

The MVHA board would like to thank everyone for helping out this year. Their ideas, hours working at the museum, working on projects and financial support help preserve the colorful and important history of the Madison Valley. It takes each and everyone of us to do a part in some small way to keep the wagons rolling. Your co-wagon master, Larry Love

History Tidbit: Sterling was once a thriving mining town--more than five hundred people lived there in the 1860s. There were four quartz mills made of square stones cemented together with a mixture of lime and horsehair; the remains of one are still standing. The town was three miles west of Norris on Hot Spring Creek. The post office opened in 1867 with Andrew Hill as postmaster.

"The culmination of every miner's dream was to locate a mine comparable to the Monitor on Richmond Flats. Someone had grubstaked two miners to drive a tunnel and they had worked all winter unknowingly along the side of this rich vein. Then one day, while they were outside in the sunshine eating their lunch, a cave-in occurred, exposing the vein...It was four feet in width and six inches of wire gold in the center. The ore assayed at \$6,000 a ton after all specimens were picked out and at the old price of \$19 an ounce. A sample of the ore sent to the World's Fair in San Francisco in 1859 received first prize. It took four years to mine this body of ore. My dad hauled seven tons of ore a trip to Norris and a ton and a half of coal back to the mine. Old Rock and Him were the lead horses of his six horse team. Many a cold and windy day, Dad would tie the reins to the dash board and get down out of the wind. The horses knew just where to go" (Cecil M. Reel, Madison Valley Trails and Trials) By 1872 most of the ore had been mined and people had left Sterling. W. R. Reel, a Montana miner, bought the land and claims including the town site where he built his ranch house. The land is now in hay and pasture. The post office closed in 1883.

Names on the Face of Montana The Story of Montana's Place Names by Roberta Carkeek Cheney page 243-244

Welcome to Membership The following have joined since the August issue. Please add to any membership list you might be keeping.

David and Marti Hoag (F) 682-3875

P.O. Box 151

McAllister, MT 59740

Jack and Kathryn Northway (F) 682-4747

P.O. Box 65

Ennis, MT 59729

Dorothy Dougherty (I) 682-4461

10 Comleyville Rd.

Ennis, MT 59729

Membership Update 2011 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 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 membership is due during Oct. Nov, Dec. or Jan. you will find a membership renewal in this issue. Memberships are \$5.00 for students, \$10.00 for individuals, \$15.00 for families, \$50.00 for Businesses and \$100.00 for Patrons.

The MVHA has been currently doing a campaign to raise funds for the Phase II of the Museum. If you made a donation of \$500 or more, your membership status has been elevated to Benefactor.

If you are inviting a new person to join or want to purchase your membership before it is due, just write out 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:)

Memories

The Wagon Tongue has been getting favorable feedback on the memories of our members and long time Madison Valley residents and natives who have passed on. Please help out by sending your stories and memories about deceased members or residents to the Wagon Tongue. Obituaries from the local newspapers will not be reprinted. We are looking for stories that will expand on the deceased lives, genealogy, and contributions, etc. to the history of the Madison Valley. The Madison County Trails and Trials and Progressive Years have helped but not everyone's family history is included there and sometime there are good stories out there that have never been printed. So help out if you have information to share. The Wagon Tongue does not want anyone excluded because of lack of new stories. Please, I need your stories. I do not have much information on some of these folks.

Jinny R. Beardsley Combs, age 81, wife of MVHA

member, Peter Combs, passed away Aug. 8, 2011 at her home on the Diamond J Ranch up Jack Creek. She was born May 3, 1930 in Los Angeles, CA. She married Peter Combs on Oct. 28, 1950 and in 1960 she and Peter moved to Ennis and bought the Diamond J Guest Ranch which became a passion for Jinny to welcome guests from all over the world. *Madisonian, Aug 18, 2011*

Frances C. Leding Hubner, age 73, passed away Aug. 8, 2011. She was born in Raton, N. M. on Sept 4, 1937. She married Steve Hubner on May 7, 1960. She began her working career as a waitress, later sold clothing at the Poole Hall in Ennis and then became a successful insurance agent for many years. *Madisonian Aug. 18, 2011*

Kathryn E. Martin Clare, age 85, passed away Aug. 12, 2011 in Butte, MT. Kathryn was born to Claude and Ruth Martin on July 13, 1926 in Jeffers, MT. She is the grand daughter of M.A. and Lena Kathryn Switzer. Her happy childhood revolved around her grandfather's and father's general store and post office, Switzer and Martin, in Jeffers,

In 2010, Kathryn contacted the MVHA and offered to donate a quilt made by her great grandmother, Catherine Shannon Gilmer who was married to Campbell Gilmer. Catherine put the quilt together when her husband went for a time to the California gold fields. In 1880 the family traveled to Montana and eventually took up a homestead 3 miles south of Jeffers.

Don Black, MVHA historian, was able to meet Kathryn this past year and did an oral interview with her. He was also able to attend her funeral in Helena and when remembrances were shared during the service, a family member said that one of the special highlights of Kathryn's life was visiting the MVHA museum this past summer and seeing her quilt on display and seeing the wonderful saving of history that the MVHA is doing. Plan to stop by the museum next summer and see this special piece of history donated by this very special lady. Info provided by Don Black and Kathryn Clare

James Allen Walker, age 72, passed away at his home on August 20, 2011. He was born May 31, 1939 to Harry S. and Alma (Hinsen) Walker in Bozeman, Mt. He worked for the Montana Highway department for 29 years In 1977 he was transferred to Ennis and was the maintenance supervisor until his retirement in 1993. *Madisonian August 25, 2011*

Marcele Ann Scully Bohleen of Worland, Wyo passed away Sept. 4, 2011. She was born on Feb 5, 1949 in Dillon to John and Madalyn (McDonnell) Scully and is sister to MVHA member, John Scully. She graduated from Ennis High School in 1966 and from MSU. She worked for the Ward Ranch in Paradise Valley where she met her husband, Gene. They lived in Billings and then Worland. She worked in the insurance industry up to her death.

John Branger IV passed away on Sept. 11, 2011. He was born Nov. 21, 1949 to John P. Branger and Elizabeth Jean O'Shea. He grew up on the family ranch on the

commercial wealth had evolved in the Hot Spring Mining District. This community, Sterling, was situated about three miles west of today's Norris--the district's geographic epicenter. The only existing photograph, taken probably in March or April of 1866, catches the town in a very early stage of development. Perhaps a dozen structures can be identified in the vicinity of the townsite. Later that year, a member of a wagon train passing through provided a rough estimate of thirty structures, a considerably larger number than he has seen in passing through the village of Bozeman.¹ A year later, in November 1867, an employee of the Midas Mining Company, situated up Hot Spring Creek at Midasburg, the company's camp just west of Sterling, noted that "[a] large number of buildings of every size and shape, for store houses and residences, are being erected in every direction. ² Then, in October 1868, the territorial surveyor, John L. Corbett, reported that the community was composed of "between 40 and 50 houses and stores," excluding quartz mills.³ That the town was the direct offspring of the decision of the Herschel Mining Company of Virginia City, the Clark & Upson Mining Company of Hartford, Connecticut, and the New York and Montana Mining and Discovery Company of New York City, New York, to locate at that site is indisputable.

The actual organization of Sterling into streets and lots was largely the work of an irascible, fiftyish Kentucky-born Missourian named Jordan Warren Hyde--known locally as the "old man"--who had been active in the Hot Spring area since the summer of 1864, when gold was first discovered in the district.⁴ Hyde possessed a vital chunk of Hot Spring real estate. This quarter section lay astride the road where it crossed Hot Spring Creek below the Clark & Upson mill, the ruins of which are still evident today. One-quarter of a mile wide, Hyde's property straddled the creek easterly for one mile, and encompassed the entirety of what would develop into the "city" of Sterling. ⁵

Although the exact origin of the name, Sterling, is unknown speculation suggests two possibilities. Etymologically, Sterling was an appropriate name for a camp situated in a district held in high esteem for the excellent values of its gold-bearing ores. And by such reasoning is that name understood today. But there is another feasibility. Hot Spring District was inhabited by a substantial number of southerners. A secessionist element, shepherded by a Kentucky-born Missourian, the Rev. Learner Stateler, resided in nearby Norwegian Gulch. Jordan Hyde, upon whose land Sterling was situated, was of similar background--born in Kentucky and raised in Missouri.

Henry A. Ward, superintendent of the Midas Mining Company of Rochester, New York, had described his company's work force as two-thirds men and women of southern birth. On occasion Ward employed the terms "Missourians" and Price's army men" to lament the disproportion of southerners to northerners under his employ.⁶

Consequently, that Sterling could have been named after the Confederate General Sterling Price cannot be taken lightly. Former Governor of Missouri, Sterling Price had raised a guerilla force in 1861 and joined the Confederate army.

When his force was finally cornered and shattered in the battle of Mine Creek, Kansas, in December 1864, large

numbers of his men had fled west to escape capture. Just how many did so is in question, but that Ward and others were convinced of their presence and influence in Montana is indisputable.

Nathaniel P. Langford, collector of federal taxes, argued that in the early day "Four-fifths" of Montana's residents were openly declared Secessionists," and that Montana was "more disloyal as a whole, than Tennessee or Kentucky ever was."⁷ Langford exaggerated, but, as Clark Spence, author of a noted history of Montana, observed, "secesh" opinions were not myth, but were strong enough to color the political life of the territory's early years.⁸ It is a fact that secessionists in Virginia City, holding a substantial voting majority during the 1860's, had initially named their community "Varina" in honor of Jefferson Davis's wife, only to have the camp renamed "Virginia City" by northerners appointed to public office through the auspices of the victorious Republican national administration. In short, Sterling, like Confederate Gulch, and other Montana name-places, may have reflected southern Civil War influence.

In any case, Jordan Hyde, a Missourian, laid out two streets. Main Street ran east and west, roughly paralleling Hot Spring Creek, with its western end pointing straight toward Hot Spring Creek canyon and the Clark & Upson, and New York & Montana Mining & Discovery Company mill sites. Hill Street bisected Main Street at right angles, north and south. It might of employed the existing bed of the road that ran from Virginia City through Meadow Creek to the Norwegian diggings. And to carry the Confederate name speculation further, this principal thoroughfare, while proceeding up a hill north of the townsite, might have been named, not for topographical reasons, but for the distinguished Southern Generals Ambrose Powell Hill of Virginia, or Daniel Hill of North Carolina.

Most of Sterling's businesses were situated on Main Street. This can be determined by examining descriptive Grantor and Grantee records in the Madison County Clerk and Recorder's office. For example, when John Hyde sold a lot to Andrew A. Hall and Don O. Spaulding in December, 1866, it was described as being the lot upon which was situated the Michigan Store--obviously named for the state in which Hall and Spaulding, the new owners, had formerly resided. This lot was eighteen feet wide, sixty feet deep. It fronted on the north side of Main Street and was bounded on the east and north by a lot owned by William R. Reel and John Cullimore; on the west by another lot owned by Hyde. Records of Hyde's sales of lots to Daniel F. Percival & Company are equally instructive. In October 1866, Percival purchased lot No. 1, situated on the northeast block on Hill Street, facing thirty feet in front and running back seventy feet to its rear. This lot would have been the first lot north from the corner or Main and Hill. In April 1867, Percival purchased the corner lot itself, forty feet wide, fronting on Main Street. These three purchases indicate that Percival was owner of some of Sterling's prime commercial real estate. In such a manner a crude idea of what a town looked like can be constructed.⁹

Business license receipts, a number of which have survived for Sterling, offer additional evidence of the mining camp's commercial character. Those for 1867 document two boarding houses,

(Continued on page 5)

two hotels, four mercantiles, five saloons, two butcher shops, and three livery or feed stables. Licenses were also issued to a hatter, to a billiard hall owner, and to one of the town's merchants for a retail liquor business.¹⁰ No receipts exist for blacksmith shops, but Henry Ward reported in February of 1867 that no less than five had opened for business in Sterling in the preceding twelve months.¹¹ Inasmuch as the value of a mining district could be determined in part by the number of blacksmiths at work in it, the presence of as many as five in Sterling mark the community as one of some energy. In all, at the height of its existence, Sterling possessed as many as twenty-four separate business establishments, some of which, undoubtedly were combined under the same roof. It was an active commercial community, although it lacked a bank and a newspaper. In addition to the facilities in Sterling, the mining companies lying at its western edge had their own licensed boarding houses, stables and blacksmith shops. Licenses were mandated by law for every miner, merchant, and businessman (including lawyers and brokers) and were good for 6 months. The standard licensing fee for a miner was ten dollars, but those for businesses varied, apparently according to size of structure and volume of trade. That Sterling's businesses were small in comparison to those in Virginia City and Nevada City is apparent.

Whereas a saloon in Nevada City was assessed fifty dollars, John H. McCabe's saloon in Sterling was assessed fifteen. The license for Fish & Toinbee's mercantile in Sterling cost twenty dollars, while Julian M. Knight paid forty-five for his in Virginia City.¹²

These records are helpful in other ways; the licenses that Percival took out indicate that the company was in the boarding, mercantile, and retail liquor businesses; thus Percival's lots on Main and Hill probably contained these type of businesses.

Countywide resistance to paying license fees appears to have been large; in Virginia City many residents neglected to file for licenses. Failure to do so earned them a day in court and fines as high as \$500.¹³ There is no record of delinquency for Sterling, but that virtually no Hot Spring miners took out licenses suggests they took the requirement lightly. No doubt Sterling's distance from Virginia City played into the hands of scofflaws. Sterling's population was never permanent enough to take the organization of city and county governance very seriously.

Editor's note. The MVHA had a field trip to Sterling a few years ago. Maybe another field trip to the area would be interesting.

Endnotes

1. Benjamin Dailey Diary, 1866, entry of Sep. 7, 1866, Special Collection 2074, Montana Historical Society Archives, Helena, Montana Hereafter cited as MHSA.
2. This letter, dated Nov. 4, 1867, was printed in the Montana Post Tri-Weekly, undated, Henry A. Ward Papers, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Rush Rhees Library, Univ. of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y. Hereafter cited as WP (Ward Papers)
- 3."Exterior Boundries of Townships One-two-Three-Four-Five South Range One West of the Principal Meridian

in the Territory of Montana." Field Notes, entry of Oct. 10, 1868, Bureau of Land Management, Billings, Montana.

4. Hyde appears on the October 1864 Willow Creek Poll List. See Poll Lists for the Montana Territorial Election of 1864, Records of the Montana Territory, Secretary, 1864, Record Series 160, MHSA

5. Record Book C, p.255, Clerk and Recorder's Office, Madison County Courthouse, Virginia City, Montana. Hereafter cited as MCC.

6. Ward to George Mumford, Sept. 6, 1867, WP

7. Quoted in Clark C, Spence, *Montana: A Centennial History* (New York and Nashville, 1978), 73

8. *Ibid*

9. Q/6, L/589, P/413,R/29,MCC

10. State of Montana, Business License Receipts, etc., Collection No 72, University of Montana Archives, Mansfield Library, Missoula, Montana Hereafter cited as UMA

11. Ward to Mumford, Feb. 20, 1867, WP

12. Business license Receipts, UMA

13. *Montana Post*, May 11, 1867

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### **2011 Season Museum Update**

The 2011 museum season is pretty much over. It was a good season with the opening of the Coss/Angle Forge Building. We still do open for folks who call during the off season so if you have guests, friends, relatives, school classes, or anyone who would like to visit the museum, just call Larry Love or Otis Thompson.

329 guests signed the guest book for 2011. This is down from 2010 but we changed our hours per day from 6 hours to 3 hours so missed a few that way. After visiting with other museums, we learned that attendance is down in a lot of other places so maybe we did not do too badly.

Our guest book register is only as good as the folks who are willing to sign or volunteers who invite them to sign. So total numbers are not an exact science. And sometimes a family head will sign for the family with only one entry and actually any number from two to five or six or more could have visited.

Montana led the way with most registered visitors with 163 guests and 83 of those were from somewhere in the Madison Valley. Also recording guests were California(25) Washington(16) Idaho(13) Utah (11) Oregon(9) Texas(7) Mississippi(6) North Carolina(6) and Arizona, Connecticut, and Georgia with 5 each. Any other state had 4 or less and 22 states did not record a visitor. 20 folks signed in with no state or area listed. Germany had 5 guests and Romania and Ireland had 1 each. So folks did come from far and near to visit our museum and learn our valley history.

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 MVHA member Robert Hughes has provided the WT with a electronic copy of his father's (Thomas Hughes)diary written from Oct. 31, 1904 to early 1906. This diary has been reprinted in past, this, and future issues of the WT. First part was in Oct. 2010 , second in Jan. 2011, third in April 2011 and fourth in August 2011. If you have missed the first four installments check the web site or request a copy of the previous 4 issues.

DAD'S Diary submitted by R R (Bob) Hughes. The August 2011 issue left them ( continued on page 6)

**Dad's Diary** (Continued from page 5)

on Christmas Day, Dec 1904 after eating two dozen oranges.

**Monday Dec. 26**

Clark put Army to cultivating orange trees this morning. Evidently doesn't like the appearance of "Yours Truly".

**Tue. Dec. 27**

Went to picking oranges this morning. Boss told us to try and get out 40 bxs apiece and he would be satisfied as we were picking colors. We got about 25 apiece, and expected our time, but didn't get it. We are living on hot cakes 3 times a day and it will take some scheming to make our supply of grub last until we can get another as we have determined not to ask the boss for any money until Sat.

This is a hell of a country for a hired man, he isn't considered as good as the average people. They never board him and if he gets to sleep with the horses he may consider himself lucky. The man we are working for is a little better than the average though.

**Wed. 28**

Still picking, improving a little. Grub all gone. Had almost decided to humble our pride and ask Clark for our money, but it wasn't necessary as he came around and gave us a V without asking. Had evidently been seeing more than he let on.

**Thur. 29**

Picked oranges all day. Spent another dollar for grub, cheap living.

**Fri. 30**

Improving every day in orange picking, but still couldn't make much picking by the box. Have come to the conclusion that I aint worth a damn can't seem to do anything well. Might possible shovel manure but some way or another I don't like that. This bumming around has got to be stopped too, as I would soon get so a week in one place would be all I should want to stay. Can't see any other way of getting around to where I want to go this summer, but bumming, but I shall have plenty by then.

The boss told me tonight that I could get a steady job teaming of a neighbor, so think he intends to keep Army on the ranch and send me on the "hike" or in other words make a tramp out of me. He may help me get a job though as he says a fellow wants me to drive team tomorrow.

**Sat. 31**

Rained all forenoon so didn't try my new job. Army has been hauling oranges.

**Jan 1, 1904**

*R. Hughes' Note: 1904 has been written for the date of January 1st. This is obviously a mistake. January 1st, 1904, was on a Friday, Jan 1st, 1905, was Sunday.*

Well the New Year came in without any great demonstration on my part. Doesn't seem to make any difference whether I am broke or not. The boss came through with another V last night so we went to town and bought ourselves a new outfit.

**Monday Jan 2nd**

Got promoted this morning. Boss put me to driving team, beats picking oranges. He evidently thinks he is

running quite a risk trusting a team to me. Blamed old skates can't hardly navigate. He should see the one we've got up in Idaho if he thinks we can't manage his.

**Tues. Jan 3**

Still teaming, good job.

**Wed. Jan 4**

**Thur. Jan 5**

**Fri. Jan 6**

**Sat. Jan 7**

**Sun. 8th**

Boss dig up an X last night. Went to San Bernardino, got some more grub and Army got his whiskers trimmed. Looks like a starved coyote with them off. Have been letting my mustache grow, at present can count 18 hairs, all colors, but white is the prevailing color.

Can't see why I don't hear from Bill, has been two weeks since I wrote him. Wrote to Mabel last Sun. but don't hardly expect an answer; have a hunch she is too busy running that damned automobile. Well, it can't be helped, I guess, and I have no right to kick as the present state of affairs was brought on by the all prevailing wisdom of the "Hon. T. S. himself. Things have begun to look a little better though, the boss has evidently commenced to think we mean business for he is treating us better all the time. Says he can keep one of us all the time and has applied for a job for the other.

**Mon. Jan. 9**

Raining when we got up this morning. Clark had nothing for us to do, so to accomodate Buzan, the only white man I've seen in this country, we went to help him scatter lime for (?) (*not legible*) As a consequence, burned our legs and it looks as if I shall be laid up for a week. Buzan doing all he can for us. Fine fellow, has a heart in him as big as a mule. He thinks it was his fault and our burns hurt him worse than they do us.

**Tues. 10**

Still raining. Nothing doing except the burning of my leg which is continually busy. Whole front eaten off. Army is improving fast.

**Wed 11**

Raining yet but trying to clear up. Trying to make up for lost time as it hadn't rained for 10 months before we came here.

Got a letter from Ed today. All kinds of surprising news. Surely did enjoy reading it.

**Thur. 12**

Army is working today but I cannot. Hope I can work tomorrow but don't know how leg will be by then.

**Fri. 13**

Clark got two new horses today. They are what are called broncos down here. One is 15 years old and the other about 12. Have been working them this afternoon learned lots of things didn't know before about breaking horses. The boss wouldn't trust them to me at first so he hitched them to a cultivator and drives them around a foot afraid to get on the seat, and as horses are both balky, and want to go fast,



**Dad's Diary** (Continued from pg 6)

he can't keep up, there by stopping them which causes them to balk again. I advise him to get on the seat and let them go but my advice is not taken. Finally lets me have the team and I cultivate all afternoon without any catastrophe.

**Sat. 14**

Still cultivating. Leg is pretty sore and when an orange hits it, there is probably some eloquent language floating around.

Boss had to drive my team awhile again this morning

**Sun. 15**

Stay at home today and build a bunk.

**Mon. 16**

Got a letter from Mabel. Helps some. Worked half a day.

**Tues. 17**

Commenced plowing this afternoon. Boss drove my team first few rounds for me. Hasn't much confidence in my horsemanship. Would like to see him handle Red.

**Wed. 18**

Plowing today. My leg doesn't seem to improve much with walking.

**Thur. 19**

Plowing. Leg getting worse.

**Fri. 20**

Boss put me to cultivating. Easier on my game leg. Heard from Geo. Laurence today. No encouragement. Was very much surprised to receive a letter from Dad. Can't imagine what has come over him unless he is trying to get me back into the straight and narrow path. Evidently thinks I am pretty far gone. He could think it as hard as he could and then he would not be able to realize how worthless I am.

Geo. Laurence was the husband of John Wesley's older sister, Tom's aunt

*Note: Booklet 1 ends here and booklet 2 continues Nothing was entered from Jan 20th until Sunday. March 19th. Apparently they worked for Mr. Clark for that time.*

**March 19 Sun**

Left Clarks with \$69 between us. Intend to railroad out of Berdoo. Rainy and disagreeable, watchful police and "brakey" wears big boots. Lose our nerve and buy tickets to the Needles, \$20 all shot to \_\_\_\_\_.

**March 20, Mon.**

Traveled all night through desert. Desert all the time, nothing green in spite of all the rain. Am sitting on the banks of the silvery Colorado at Topock. Can't seem to feel the romance of the situation as the author of the "Silvery Colorado" did. He was blind or crazy or he would have seen that the silvery Colorado is muddier than the Missouri. Hell of a place for a river. Desert all sides and not a tree big enough to tie a cayuse to.

**Tues. March 21**

Arrived in Kingman this morning. Laid around Topock last night, trying to get out. Got on blind but was persuaded to get off again. Have bum eye as a conse-

quence, engineer turned steam vent on us. Kingman pretty good place, lots of good mines and at the edge of the stock country. Prospects look pretty good from here. Could get work here in mines and lots of teaming, big 18 and 20 horse teams.

**Wed, March 22**

In Hackberry today, cowpuncher supply (?) Came close to getting a job riding.

Sheriff corraled an Indian here who had chopped his bro head off for fun. Good sport, I guess.

**Thur March 23**

In Siligman today, Nothing doing. Too early for riding. Old (?) entertains us. (To be continued January 2012)  
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Marion Morton visited Ennis for the McAllister Reunion this past summer. She now lives in Bothell, WA. When she first joined the MVHA a couple of years ago. She gave me this story about herself. I have had it tucked away with my WT files waiting for a space for it to fit so here goes, Marion.

Marion was born in Ennis, Montana. Flying has always been a passion of hers and she was a flight attendant and later a pilot, for 30 years. Her first husband, Tom, was a Pan Am pilot and navigator on a Boeing Strato-cruiser and they were based in Rio de Janero. He lost his life in the Brazilian Rain forest in 1952. Marion later married a doctor who shared her love of flying, and the two always had their own plane, trading older models in for a faster, newer one. They flew often, going south in the wintertime or cross-country when ever they chose. Marion says, "It was a great life".

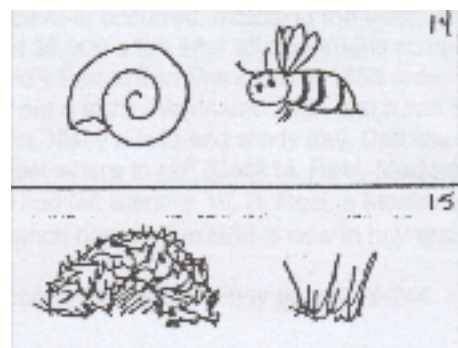
Professionally, Marion said she enjoyed her time flying for Pan Am in the early 1950's from Seattle to Alaska the most. Their destinations in Alaska were Ketchikan, Juneau, Fairbanks and Nome. They also flew to Whitehorse, Canada. In her travels, she saw the migration of Caribou, the northern lights, the many totem poles of Ketchikan, glaciers, waterfalls, and the volcanoes of the Aleutian Islands.

She had many adventures in her time in the air: being thrown to the ceiling of a galley during turbulence, struggling with motion sickness before drugs like Drama-mine were on the market, parachuting, and making an emergency landing on Lake Sammanish with her terrified 10 year old daughter, Karen.

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**Montana TriviaAnswers** to Aug. 2011

#12 Bozeman #13 Baker



**Looking Ahead**

**Nov. 17, 2011** 4:00 pm First Madison Valley Bank  
“Grizzlies and History” Steve Primm

**Nov. 26, 2011** Madison Valley Woman’s Club  
Holiday Bazaar

**Dec 15, 2011** MVHA Christmas Program and Party  
Trinity Episcopal Church 4:00 pm. Bring your oldest  
and most favorite old Christmas Card

**Jan. 19, 2012** 4:00 pm First Madison Valley Bank  
Program TBA

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**MVHA Cookbook**

It is not to late to get a copy of the MVHA historical  
cookbook. It will be available at the MVHA booth at  
the Hunter’s Feed on Main Street Ennis on October 21.  
Also at the MVHA booth at the Madison Valley  
Woman’s Club Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 26.

You may still order copies for \$15 plus \$3.00 shipping  
and handling to MVHA, P. O. Box 474, Ennis, MT  
59729.

This book will make a great Christmas gift and great for  
a Grandmother, Grandfather, mother or father and  
maybe even for one of the kids.

**Madison Valley History Association, Inc.  
Board of Directors**

Co-President: Otis Thompson

Co-President: Larry Love

Treasurer: Neil Kent

Secretary: Duane Thexton

Director: John White

Director: Kevin Brenneke

Director: Don Black

Meetings held monthly on the **third** Thursday of each  
month. 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.

The Wagon Tongue will be published quarterly. Next issue  
will be January 2012.

Editor: Shirley Love

Contributing editors: R.R. Robert Hughes *Diary of Thomas  
S. Hughes Dec. 25, 1904-Mar. 23, 1905*

*Madisonian* Obituaries

Kathryn Martin Clare Don Black

Brooks DeHoney *Born and Raised in  
Ennis*

*Sterling Part 1* Dr Jeff Safford

History Tidbits: *Sterling* page 243-244

Names on the Face of Montana by

Roberta Carkeek Cheney

Madison Valley History Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 474  
Ennis, MT 59729

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