

Contents

MONTANA THE MAGAZINE OF WESTERN HISTORY | WINTER 2011 | VOLUME 61, NUMBER 4

3 The West Loved Oysters Too!

A LOOK AT THAT TIME IN AMERICA WHEN THOSE BRINY BIVALVES WERE ALL THE RAGE, EVEN BEYOND THE MISSOURI RIVER

Paul L. Hedren

16 Staging the Past in Montana's Alder Gulch

RUMINATIONS ON HISTORY, TOURISM, AND PRESERVATION

by J. Philip Gruen



p. 3

34 'Our Snow Covered Trail'

A MONTANA FREIGHTER RECALLS THE HARD WINTER OF 1906-1907

by Joseph M. Hartmann

55 Ahead of His Time

JOSEPH KINSEY HOWARD AND THE WRITING OF *STRANGE EMPIRE*

by Heather Devine



p. 55



p. 16

p. 34



Contents

WINTER 2011 | VOLUME 61, NUMBER 4

73 FROM THE SOCIETY Cons Online

A MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY DIGITIZATION PROJECT

by Caitlan Maxwell and Jodie Foley

- 76 **REVIEWS** de Steiguer, *Wild Horses of the West*, reviewed by Albert L. Hurtado | Truettner, *Painting Indians and Building Empires in North America, 1710–1840*, reviewed by Patricia A. Etter | Lawrence and Lawrence, *Violent Encounters*, reviewed by Emily R. Wardrop | Powers, *The Killing of Crazy Horse*, reviewed by Eli Paul | Johnson and Johnson, *Two Toms*, reviewed by Henry E. Stamm IV | Hutton, ed., *Roundup!* reviewed by Willard Wyman | Smith and Frehner, eds., *Indians and Energy*, reviewed by Andrew Gulliford | Kohl, *I Do*, reviewed by Katherine Jellison

87 CLASSIFIEDS

88 MEMBERS

90 NOTES



p. 73

ON THE COVER *Montana Winter Scene* by Harvey Thomas Dunn (1907, oil on canvas, 36¼" x 24") depicts the hardship endured by freighters hauling supplies through deep Montana snows in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Such a scene is vividly described in Joseph M. Hartmann's memoir about freighting between Zortman and Malta, which begins on page 34. Dunn's rendition captures the events Hartmann described so well that one could imagine that Dunn witnessed it.

Born and raised on a South Dakota homestead, Dunn belonged to the Brandywine group of illustrators, which included N. C. Wyeth, Frank Schoonover, Philip R. Goodwin, and others. Unlike his colleagues, however, Dunn did not illustrate cowboys and gunfights. He preferred painting western farmers and pioneers, partly in honor of his father, a South Dakota sodbuster. Dunn's work appeared regularly in such magazines as *Collier's Weekly*, *Harper's Magazine*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, and *Scribner's*. His *Montana Winter Scene* appears courtesy the Rockwell Museum of Western Art, Corning, New York (gift of James McMahan, 78.107).

On the back cover is a pad-style beaded saddle that belonged to Gabriel Dumont, the military commander-in-chief of Louis Riel, the famous Métis leader. Heather Devine's article (beginning on page 55) examines writer Joseph Kinsey Howard's experiences writing *Strange Empire*, a history of the Métis people. The saddle is in the collection of the Montana Historical Society Museum, Helena (X1964.16.01).

STAFF

Molly Holz, *Editor*
Glenda Clay Bradshaw, *Photo Editor*
Diane Gleba Hall, *Graphic Designer*
Tammy Ryan, *Business Manager*
Christy Goll, *Assistant Editor*

EDITORIAL BOARD

Laurie Arnold
Gordon Morris Bakken
Larry Cebula
Annie Gilbert Coleman
Margaret Connell-Szasz
Philip Deloria
Brian W. Dippie
Clyde Ellis
Francis Flavin
Dee Garceau
Andrew Graybill
Jerome A. Greene
Paul A. Hutton
Laurie Mercier
Mary Murphy
Paula Petrik
Sherry Smith
Robert R. Swartout Jr.
Elliott West
Richard White
Lee Whittlesey
Liping Zhu

CONSULTANTS

Ellen Baumler, *Historical Research*
Kirby Lambert, *Western Art*
Delores Morrow, *Photograph Research*
Jennifer Bottomly-O'looney, *Western Art*
Brian Shovers, *Historical Research*

MHS DIRECTOR

Bruce Whittenberg

MHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bob Brown, *Whitefish*
Steve Carney, *Scobey*
Janene Caywood, *Missoula*
Jim Court, *Billings*
Shirley Groff, *Butte*
Kent Kleinkopf, *Missoula*
John G. Lepley, *Fort Benton*
Sharon Lincoln, *Billings*
Steve Lozar, *Polson, President*
Robert F. Morgan, *Helena, Emeritus*
James W. Murry, *Clancy*
Thomas Nygard, *Bozeman*
Lee Rostad, *Martinsdale*
Crystal Wong Shors, *Helena*
Ed Smith, *Helena*
James Utterback, *Helena*



Big Sky. Big Land. Big History.
Montana
Historical Society
montanahistoricalsociety.org

Montana The Magazine of Western History (ISSN 0026-9891) is published quarterly by the Montana Historical Society. Subscriptions are \$35 per year or \$65 for two years. Foreign orders add \$14 per year for postage in U.S. funds. Direct subscription and advertising questions to Business Manager and editorial correspondence to Editor, Publications, Montana Historical Society, 225 N. Roberts St., P.O. Box 201201, Helena, MT 59620-1201. Unsolicited manuscripts cannot be returned without return postage. Authors are responsible for the interpretation in their articles. Articles are abstracted and indexed in *Historical Abstracts and America: History and Life*, Santa Barbara, CA; *Arts & Humanities Citation Index*, Institute for Scientific Information, Philadelphia. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. Periodicals postage paid at Helena, MT, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Montana Historical Society, P.O. Box 201201, Helena, MT 59601.
©2011 Montana Historical Society. USPS 594 320 Volume 61 Number 4 Winter 2011