

Anzick Collection Puts MHS at the Center of Archaeology Worldwide

New scientific research has focused worldwide attention on the Montana Historical Society's exhibit of 13,000-year-old stone tools and weapon points that were discovered in 1968 on the property of Mel and Helen Anzick at Wilsall, near Livingston.

The couple's daughter, Sarah Anzick, is a molecular biologist who worked on one of the first human genome studies. She did research on the remains of a two-year-old boy buried at the site as well as the antler tools also found at the site.



Electronic and print reporters gathered at MHS for a major press conference on the Anzick Collection.

The results of the study were released at a news conference at MHS and at another news conference hosted by one of the world's top scientific journals, *Nature*, in London. The study was published in *Nature*. MHS was proud to have

the key members of Sarah's team available for its press conference.

In 2009, Sarah began to put together a team of scientists to study the remains. She contacted Eske Willerslev at the University of Copenhagen, who is a leading expert on palaeobiology. Willerslev did DNA analysis that clearly showed that the boy's bones were closely matched to the DNA of present-day Native Americans.

"My heart just stopped," Sarah said. Willerslev said the genetic studies bear out what Native American oral traditions have said all along, that they were descendants of the first people on the North American continent.

Another member of the team was Michael Waters of Texas A&M University, an expert on what is known as Clovis culture. He said the evidence shows that the first humans on the continent came from Asia and not Europe or other

Anzick (cont. on p. 4)

Top 20 MHS Museum Store Books

The Montana Historical Society Museum Store has released its list of twenty bestselling Montana history books of 2013.

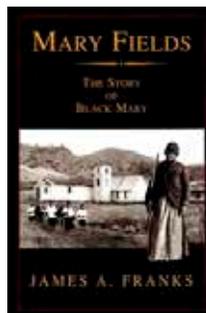
Seven of the top twenty books were published by the nationally award-winning MHS Press, Rod

Coslet, store manager, said. "We strive to provide the most complete selection of books about Montana history. We offer books that would be interesting to our customers and members regardless of the publisher."

Not surprisingly, *Montana: Stories of the Land*, published by the MHS Press, was the top seller for the year. The nationally award-winning history textbook is used in schools across the state and is written so that anyone interested in Montana history can enjoy it.

Mining Childhood, also published

Books (cont. on p. 4)



Mary Fields: The Story of Black Mary is a best-seller at the MHS Museum Store.

Celebration, Excitement, Enthusiasm BY BRUCE WHITTENBERG

“No day ever dawned but that it carried the essence of yesterday with it.”

—K. ROSS TOOLE, first full-time director of the Montana Historical Society, 1951–1957

The Montana Historical Society is about Montana’s past, present, and future.

As you read in the last issue of the *Society Star*, the next eighteen months will be filled with celebration for the 150th anniversary of the creation of Montana Territory and of the Montana Historical Society, the 150th birthday of Charles M. Russell, and the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage.

Our activities will highlight the work of the Montana Historical Society, our remarkable museum and archival collections, educational programming, publications,

and historic preservation work. This work began in 1865 in Virginia City, and we continue it every day.

We are excited about what’s happening today. We are finalizing plans for the publication of *Montana’s Charlie Russell*, the first catalog of the MHS collection of Russell art. We have refreshed the Mackay Gallery of C. M. Russell Art and celebrated Charlie’s 150th birthday. Public programs are drawing full houses, and our staff are traveling the state to tell the stories of Montana and the West, including the remarkable Women’s History Matters project. We

are excited about the forty-first annual Montana History Conference, “Montana Milestones,” in September. The Research Center continues to expand the reach of the archival collections with the digitization of important documents, newspapers, and photographs.

We are enthusiastic about the next 150 years for the Montana Historical Society. We will continue to share history. We will renovate the Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building. We will see the construction of the Montana Heritage Center, and we will see the greatly increased accessibility and visibility that these projects will provide.

All of this activity and the prospect of the Montana Heritage Center would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of the great staff that makes it all happen. Every day, in every corner of Montana, the Montana Historical Society team is working for Montana past, present, and future.

One hundred fifty years is a remarkable milestone! Even more remarkable is that this institution began twenty-four years before Montana became a state. The vision of Montana’s founding fathers lives on through all the staff does. We invite you to visit and lend your support to MHS—join the celebration of our history and help keep the enthusiasm alive for the next 150 years. 🌟

SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING OLD

Treasures from the Society Collections

Sometimes the treasure chest itself means more than the things that were once inside it.

The MHS Museum staff recently acquired a large wooden trunk that simply had the words “Bremen=Helena City/Montana=Territory/U.S. Amerika” printed on it.

It is a wonderful object that allows us to imagine stories from the past—about the people who came to Montana and the things they brought with them or had sent to them to find a new life in “Amerika.”

The staff, as it does with all objects, continues to look for clues to learn more about the trunk. A small label on the side reads “D. Eider/Zwischendeck/No. 31.”

They have learned that the *SS Eider* was a German ocean liner built in 1884 that had a short his-



tory of its own. In 1892, the ship went down off the coast of England in what accounts at the time said was one of the most impressive and memorable shipwrecks seen there. What the ship brought to Montana over its short service is left for others to discover.

The trunk will be included in the upcoming exhibit *Montana’s Territorial Legacy: The Montana Historical Society*, opening May 22, 2014. 🌟

About Us

The *Society Star* is published quarterly by the Montana Historical Society as a benefit of membership.

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Yellowstone Art Museum Going Strong at 50

When you are on the road near Billings, drop by and wish the Yellowstone Art Museum a happy fiftieth birthday.

As Executive Director Robyn Peterson and her staff took a look back, they found out they had two stories to tell.

“One involves the institution’s founding and steady growth, and the other centers on the historic building that forms part of the current site,” she said.

The latter story is how the historic Yellowstone County Jail was saved from demolition in 1962 and transformed into what was then called the Yellowstone Art Center in 1964. The first is a dramatic new building that incorporates the old



jail and features wonderful art exhibits.

The museum features new contemporary art that originated in the Northern Rockies and the Northwest environment as well

as historic and traditional art that has significance to the region.

If you love art, history, and historic preservation, the Yellowstone Art Museum is well worth a visit. 🌟

SOCIETY STAR PROFILE

Rich Aarstad and Caitlin Patterson Keep Montana’s Memory Alive

As the Montana Historical Society’s archival collections expand, the ways in which they are organized and made available to the public must keep pace.

Rich Aarstad, MHS’s senior archivist, and Caitlin Patterson, MHS’s electronic records archivist, work hard to keep up with both the needs of preserving and organizing the collections as well as the rapidly changing technologies that make them more accessible to patrons.

According to Aarstad, the biggest change he has seen since joining MHS in 2001 has been making collection descriptions available online and searchable by word. He said there has been “an exponential spike” in the number of people who make their first contact with the MHS Research Center through the Internet.

Patterson, a Vancouver, Washington, native who came to MHS



Aarstad and Patterson in the midst of the modernization of the MHS Archives.

in 2011, grew up in the digital age. “When I got my first computer, online research was unreliable,” said Patterson, who is twenty-six. But she has seen the reliability and access to collections continue to improve. As more people view the collections online, she said, MHS

makes more information available.

For example, Aarstad said, in old documents a woman’s name is often listed with only a “Mrs.” and the name of her husband. “Women kind of disappeared after they got married,” he said. If a woman’s maiden name is discovered, it can be added as a searchable word in the descriptions.

The archives team recently boxed up and temporarily moved the collections out of MHS to make way for a new compact mobile storage system that will increase storage capacity by about 40 percent. It was a massive undertaking in which 16,000 boxes were put on pallets and moved to temporary storage. The archives had not been moved since the 1950s.

“We had some pretty impressive dust bunnies,” Aarstad joked.

Both said that the experience gave them even more respect for the collections. “We put our hands on everything in the archives. It strengthened and deepened the relationship we have with the collections,” Aarstad said. 🌟

Anzick (cont. from p. 1)
places previously speculated.

"This is very exciting," Waters said. "My career has been spent studying the Clovis people to learn who they were. It's just a red letter day. It's just nice to push the science forward."

The Anzicks have always been sensitive to Native American culture in caring for the human bones. Sarah asked Montana State University Native American studies professor Shane Doyle, a member of the Crow Tribe who was born near the burial site, to join the team.

Doyle has met with all of Montana's tribes and is arranging a ceremony to rebury the human re-

mains in the spring at a protected site near where they were found. He said it is clear that the family of the boy took great care in the original burial, and it is time to return him to the land once again.

"This little boy has given as much as we can ask," Doyle said.

MHS and State Archaeologist Stan Wilmoth said the Anzick collection is the largest and best dated Clovis assemblage known. Included in the collection are eight Clovis points, eighty-six bifaces, six to eight worked and/or used unifacially modified blades and scrapers, and fragments of six to eight beveled and incised antler rods about ten to eleven inches long.

"The function of the rods

remains one of the most fascinating research issues of this unique research collection dating from 12,600 to 13,000 years ago," Wilmoth said. "The rods are somewhat older than the stone tools, being about two hundred and four hundred years older. Thus the rods themselves were curated artifacts 12,600 years ago."

The collection was divided among the Anzicks and the families of those who found the collection on the property, now represented by Faye Case, Calvin and Mary Sarver, and Jeanna Fry. They have all allowed MHS to exhibit the entire collection in Montana's Museum.

MHS director Bruce Whittenberg praised the work of all involved. "Stan's work with Montana's Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, the families, and those involved in the Anzick collection has helped assure all those with a passion for this site and what it represents that the Montana Historical Society shares their commitment to stewardship for decades and centuries to come," Whittenberg said. 🌟

Books (cont. from p. 1)

by MHS, came in second with a fresh look at Butte history told from the perspective of children who grew up in the mining city.

In third place was *Hand-Raised: The Barns of Montana*, which is a beautifully photographed coffee-table-style book of historic barns across the state with a compelling story of the history of ranching and farming in the state.

Coming in fourth and fifth were *Girl from the Gulches* by MHS interpretive historian Ellen Baumler and *I Do: A Cultural History of Montana Weddings* by MHS historical specialist Martha Kohl, also both published by MHS.

Perhaps the biggest surprise on the list, Coslet said, was that *Mary Fields: The Story of Black Mary* came in at number seventeen. It is the story of a black woman who worked at St. Peter's Mission. She later moved to Cascade. Among other things, she was the first black woman—and only the second woman of any color—awarded a U.S. mail delivery contract.

Another surprise was *Montana UFOs*, published by Riverbend Publishing and written by Joan

Bird of Helena. It details the history of Montana's reported UFO sightings and came in sixth.

For information on these and many other Montana-related books, call the store toll-free at (800)243-9900.

Here is the top twenty list in order of sales: *Montana: Stories of the Land*; *Mining Childhood*; *Hand-Raised: The Barns of Montana*; *Girl from the Gulches*; *I Do: A Cultural History of Montana Weddings*; *Montana UFOs*; *The Ledgerbook of Thomas Blue Eagle*; *Nothing to Tell: Extraordinary Stories of Montana Ranch Women*; *Visions & Voices: Montana's One-Room Schoolhouses*; *Montana Beer: A Guide to Breweries in Big Sky Country*; *Montana Women Homesteaders*; *Montana Moments: History on the Go*; *Montana Territory & the Civil War*; *Sears & Roebuck Catalogue No. 114*; *Montana's Historical Highway Markers*; *Dining Car to the Pacific: The Famously Good Food of the Northern Pacific Railway*; *Mary Fields: The Story of Black Mary*; *Empty Mansions: The Mysterious Life of Huguette Clark*; *Sweet Thunder*; and *The Whole Country Was One Robe: The Little Shell Tribe's America*. 🌟



Helen, Sarah, and Mel Anzick in the MHS Conservation Lab with the ancient tools now on display in the MHS Museum.

Russell Art Gallery Has a New Look

To celebrate this year's 150th anniversary of the birth of Charlie Russell, MHS curators have redesigned the Mackay Gallery of Russell Art to feature even more of his work.

The gallery has been revamped with new LED lighting, which is brighter and safer for the artwork and provides clearer viewing of Russell's work. New cabinets feature drawers filled with Rus-

sell's illustrated letters and other smaller works.

Andrew Smith of Long Beach, California, was hired to conserve the larger-than-life statue of Russell, which is the original model for the statue that represents Montana in Statuary Hall at the U.S. Capitol building.

"Russell ranks right in there with all of the great artists in American history," Smith said. 🌟

Original Governor's Mansion News

Montana history has long been a treasured part of the life of Troy and Shirley Helmick, as it was to their daughter Charmaine Pentecost—known to her many friends at MHS as Char.

Char and her husband Karl were killed in a motorcycle accident

in 2009. Char worked for several years in the MHS Museum Program and later was on the board of the Original Governor's Mansion Restoration Society.

To honor their daughter's memory, Troy created a beautiful pen and ink drawing of the OGM that will hang in the Char Pentecost Board Room at the OGM.

Char would have been proud of the OGM board's recent donation of \$8,250 to the Outreach and Interpretation Program to create two traveling educational footlockers telling the history of the OGM that will be used by students all across the state. They will focus on the lives of the children who lived in the mansion and how life in Montana has changed over the years. 🌟



(Left to right) MHS director Bruce Whittenberg, OGM tour guide Bobbi Harris, and Shirley and Troy Helmick.

Military Enlistment Cards on Montana Memory Project

The Military Enlistment collection on the Montana Memory Project is an exciting collection that researchers can use to find information on genealogy, military history, and other topics.

The cards tell where the enlistee is from, address, marital status, date of entry into service, next of kin, and more. The cards also list service information, such as cause of separation, post locations, and type of discharge. More informa-

tion may be included, such as the battle or incident where a person was killed in action. The cards are text searchable.

The collection consists of about 135,000 enlistment Montana cards from the Spanish-American War, early 1900s, World War I, and World War II. The cards are part of the Montana Adjutant General's Office Records 1889–1959. Go to www.mtmemory.org to access the records. 🌟

MHS Magazine Honored

MHS's *Montana The Magazine of Western History* has been inducted into the Cowboy Hall of Fame at the Western Heritage Center.

Hall of Fame executive director Christy Stensland said the honor recognizes the "icons of Montana heritage."

"Our mission is to honor our cowboy way of life, Indian culture and our collective shared western heritage," she said. "The magazine was selected because of its significant contributions over the years in passing on and preserving those stories with the power of the written word. It is well deserved." 🌟

Art Donations Can Give in Two Ways

Stan Lynde would doff his trademark cowboy hat to his friends Chuck and Penny Jarecki of Polson.

The Jareckis recently donated a Stan Lynde painting to MHS. The sassy cat titled *Dignified Lady* will be added to the MHS permanent art collection.

Another painting—an untitled desert cactus scene by noted southwestern painter Jim Fetherolf—was given by the Jareckis to the Montana History Foundation to be sold to benefit MHS. The proceeds will be donated back to MHS in Stan Lynde's memory. 🌟



(Left to right) MHS curator Amanda Trum, MHS Board of Trustees president Crystal Shors, Montana History Foundation director Amy Sullivan, and MHS director Bruce Whittenberg accept the paintings from Penny and Chuck Jarecki.

Women's Suffrage

A TIME TO LOOK BACK, A TIME TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE

This year marks the one hundredth anniversary of women's suffrage being approved by Montana voters. In honor of this centennial, the Montana Historical Society is encouraging all Montanans to take a new look at the important roles women have played in our state's history. A good place to start is the *Suffrage Daily News*, a newspaper that began publication in 1914 in Helena.

The paper is well written and thoughtful—as well as tough and challenging. In a September 1914 issue, for example, the front-page headline speaks glowingly of a parade held at the Montana State Fair by suffrage supporters, touting it as the “most significant ever seen in the Northwest.”

The front page also carries a political cartoon of a meeting in a cigar-filled backroom. Attending this anti-suffrage meeting are caricatures labeled “Food Doper, Anti-suffragist, White Slave Dealer, Saloon Keeper, Special Privilege, and Gang Politician.” Montana suffragists used images like this to win an important victory for Montana women.

On November 3, 1914, Montana men went to the polls, where they voted 53 percent to 47 percent in favor of women's suffrage. It would be another six years before women got the vote nationally. Montana suffrage supporters rejoiced and in 1916 followed up their victory by electing Maggie Smith Hathaway (D) and Emma Ingalls (R) to the state legislature and Jeannette Rankin (R) to the U.S. Congress.

An air of inevitability surrounded the victory, but it had not come easily. Montana women's rights advocates first proposed equal suffrage twenty-five years earlier at the 1889 state constitutional convention. It failed, but the seeds were planted.



Political cartoons like this helped suffragists defeat their opponents.

Belle Fliegelman, of Helena, who shocked her mother by speaking on street corners and in front of saloons, and Margaret Smith Hathaway, of Stevensville, who traveled over 5,700 miles promoting the cause and earning the nickname “the whirlwind.”

From its headquarters in Butte, the Montana Equal Suffrage Association argued that “those

who must obey the laws should have a voice in making them,” and that women's ingrained morality “would reduce political corruption and make it easier to pass humane legislation.”

The campaign finally emerged victorious. In general, farming counties supported suffrage, whereas mining counties opposed it—possibly out of fear that women would vote in Prohibition.

The promise that women would make politics more moral remained an open question. As the *Harlem Enterprise* editorialized after the votes were counted: “Evidently Montana has a better educated body of men who recognize the intelligence of their women. . . . Now we will see whether politics in the state will be more ‘rotten’ than under the control of men.”

To learn more, visit MHS's historic newspaper collection at <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85053121/> or go to montanawomenshistory.org. ★

Women's History Matters



Please Help MHS Acquire Significant Crow Photo Collection

BY SUSAN NEAR, DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING OFFICER

Prior to the popularization of photography in America in the 1850s, there was no way to visually document the life of Indian people except through an artist's conception. In Montana, the only images of Indian people before the 1860s were created by artists traveling with expeditions. Some of the earliest photographic images of Indian people in Montana, a group of nearly 2,800 vintage photographic prints collected over a thirty-year period by Bud Lake and Randy Brewer, have been offered for sale to MHS.

The collection contains photographs taken by significant photographers of the Crow Indians from the 1870s to the 1920s, including Orlando Goff, Richard Throssel, Fred Miller, and Frank Rinehart. From portraiture to action shots, the photographs depict dress, foodways, dance and ceremony, housing, and many other aspects of Crow culture. In addition, the collection contains

valuable documents, including census records, court cases, biographical information, and correspondence about the history of the Crow people. The combination of vintage photographs with research materials makes this a one-of-a-kind collection.

Many of the items in this collection would sell for thousands of dollars individually. But Lake and Brewer have generously agreed to sell the entire collection to MHS for \$209,675. This amount, while not inconsiderable, is well below market value.

Lake and Brewer chose MHS as the proposed home for their collection because of MHS's reputation as a research facility with the ability to provide public access to the collections. Lake said, "We selected MHS because of its statewide, national, and international exposure to the preservation and promotion of the history of Montana. Our photograph collection will be expertly



This photograph of a Crow child by Fred Miller is part of the collection of historic photographs that MHS seeks.

First Door on the Left

BY REBECCA BAUMANN, MHS MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

We have so much to celebrate—come join us! Spring is here, and we have several new and exciting exhibits on the horizon. The Mackay Gallery of Russell Art has been redesigned to include more of Russell's work. Newly installed cabinets feature twenty-four drawers, each filled with Russell's art. We also are exhibiting several works of art by Charlie Russell on loan.

In May, we will premiere a new exhibit, *Montana's Territorial Legacy: The Montana Historical Society*, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the creation of Montana Territory. The territorial assembly felt so strongly about preserving

and protecting Montana's history that it also founded MHS in 1865.

With your support, membership at MHS is robust and growing. I enjoy talking with you and all our members. When you call, e-mail, or write, I am always eager to help out, answer questions, and assist you with what you need. Membership is vitally important to the Montana Historical Society, and I want to get to know all our members.

I hope you can stop by this year and visit the new exhibits, do a bit of research, shop in the Museum Store, and enjoy all the benefits of your membership because history is worth celebrating! 🌟

cared for by the extremely knowledgeable staff and made available to those with interests similar to our own." MHS staff met with the Crow Cultural Committee, which supports the acquisition by MHS. Opportunities for future collaboration between MHS and the Crow Tribe abound with this project.

MHS is kicking off a private fundraising effort to secure the collection. We will approach foundations and corporations for support—but your help is critical. Please consider a special donation to help MHS acquire the collection. For more information, please contact: Susan Near (406-444-4713/snear@mt.gov) or Molly Kruckenberg (406-444-4787/mkruckenberg@mt.gov). You can make a contribution online at <https://app.mt.gov/mhsdonations>; or, you can send your check earmarked for the Crow Photograph Collection to: MHS, PO Box 201201, Helena, MT 59620-1201. Thank you for all of your support! 🌟

Big Sky. Big Land. Big History.

Montana Historical Society

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*We are
thankful for
our members!*



This is one of the earliest photographs taken of Indians in Montana. It is part of an important collection being offered to the Montana Historical Society by Bud Lake and Randy Brewer that also includes research they compiled on the collection over the years. These photographs of the Crow nation, taken by various photographers from the 1870s to the 1920s, record Crow life much as it was before non-Indians began to move into the West. The Crow Tribe has expressed its support for the acquisition of the collection by MHS, which will work with the tribe in presenting it to the public. MHS needs your support to raise funds to purchase this remarkable collection. See the story on page 7 to learn how you can help.