



## MONTANA ARCHIVIST

NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE HISTORICAL RECORDS  
ADVISORY BOARD

### In this issue:

- BLITZ!! 2019
- Featured Collection
- Training and Resources
- Upcoming events

### Archives Blitz! 2019:

Broadwater County Museum was the lucky recipient of the Blitz! grant this year.

The Blitz! supports archival training and a week-long archival collection work session. Museum director Linda Huth received the grant on behalf of the museum.



The Blitz! training and work event was held the week of November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Huth, members of the SHRAB, Montana Historical Society Archives staff, and five local volunteers worked throughout the week on cleaning, repairing, rehousing and cataloging historic maps relating to Broadwater County and the region.



The event was funded by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the grant funding arm of the National Archives.

Thank you to Linda Huth for being a great hostess, and to the following members of the MHS staff (Anneliese Warhank, April Sparks) and the SHRAB (Heather Hultman, Anne Foster and Kathryn Kramer). It was a productive event with nearly 100 maps undergoing preservation treatment.



## Featured Collections: Cookbooks and Food ways Collections

By Zoe Ann Stolz, MHS ; Heather Hultman, MSU, Anne Foster

### Montana Historical Society:

This fall, the MHS Research Center's Library obtained its 1000<sup>th</sup> Montana Cookbook. Hobson's celebratory 2008 *Pride of the Judith* cookbook is a gem! The creators included everything necessary for a coveted community cookbook, including family information, personal commentaries, photographs and recipes. The book committee gave more than a nod to local history by featuring advertisers and recipes from the 1920 *Ladies Aid Cook Book*, published by the local Moccasin Presbyterian Church.



Fall of 2002, the MHS Research Center Cookbook collection consisted of less than 100 volumes. At that time, Maureen Hathaway donated almost 300 Montana Community cookbooks. Since then, the collection has grown, usually a few volumes at a time. But sizeable contributions from collectors Carol Power Gilluly and Bessie Kocar Eggum added significantly to the collection.

To date, the 1881 Montana Cook Book Edited by the Ladies of Butte City is the oldest book in the collection. Contributors hailed from Walkerville, Meadersville, Deer Lodge and Helena. Other favorites in the collection include ca. 1907 Red Lodge Cook Book compiled by the Ladies Society of the Congregational Church, Montana Federation of Negro Women's Clubs Cook Book, ca 1927, Lewistown's multiple homestead era editions of Daily Bread, sponsored by the "Home Workers" Society of the First Presbyterian Church, the 1968 and 1969 Blackfeet Cookbooks coordinated by the Blackfeet Vista Workers, and Miles City Range Reps 1976



Grandma's Favorite Recipes. The Yaak Women's Club 1999, Yaak Cookbook proudly documents the NW Montana valley's culture with photos, contributor's names, and the chapter "Recipes Native to the Yaak." Wine drenched Cougar Casserole followed with Huckleberry Buckle—the perfect meal!

## Montana State University:

Processed in August 2018, Collection 2636 - the **Belle McDonald Cookbook** (circa 1913-1938) contains an assortment of recipes created or collected by McDonald. Belle Fisher left the cookbook to Bob and Joanna Nute upon her death in 2000. The Nute's donated the book to Montana State University Library in 2018. Belle McDonald was born October 6, 1874 to Richard and Mary Harris McDonald. The McDonalds traveled from Missouri by wagon train to Montana, staying briefly in Virginia City prior to settling in Bozeman. The couple had four sons who did not survive to adulthood as well as three daughters Belle, Mollie, and Melissa. Belle McDonald died February 22, 1950.

Of the three McDonald daughters, only Mollie married and had two children. Mollie was the first African American child born in the Gallatin Valley. She had a son, Richard and a daughter Belle. Belle McDonald Ward Fisher was born April 7, 1905. Over the course of her life Belle lived in Butte as well as the McDonald home, one of Bozeman's oldest residences, which was built on the family's homestead site. Belle McDonald Ward Fisher died February 9, 2000.

The women in the McDonald family were known for their cooking. Mollie served as the head cook for 20 years at then Montana State College's Hamilton Hall. The *Montana Federation of Negro Women's Club Cookbook*, circa 1922 includes recipes from the McDonald sisters.

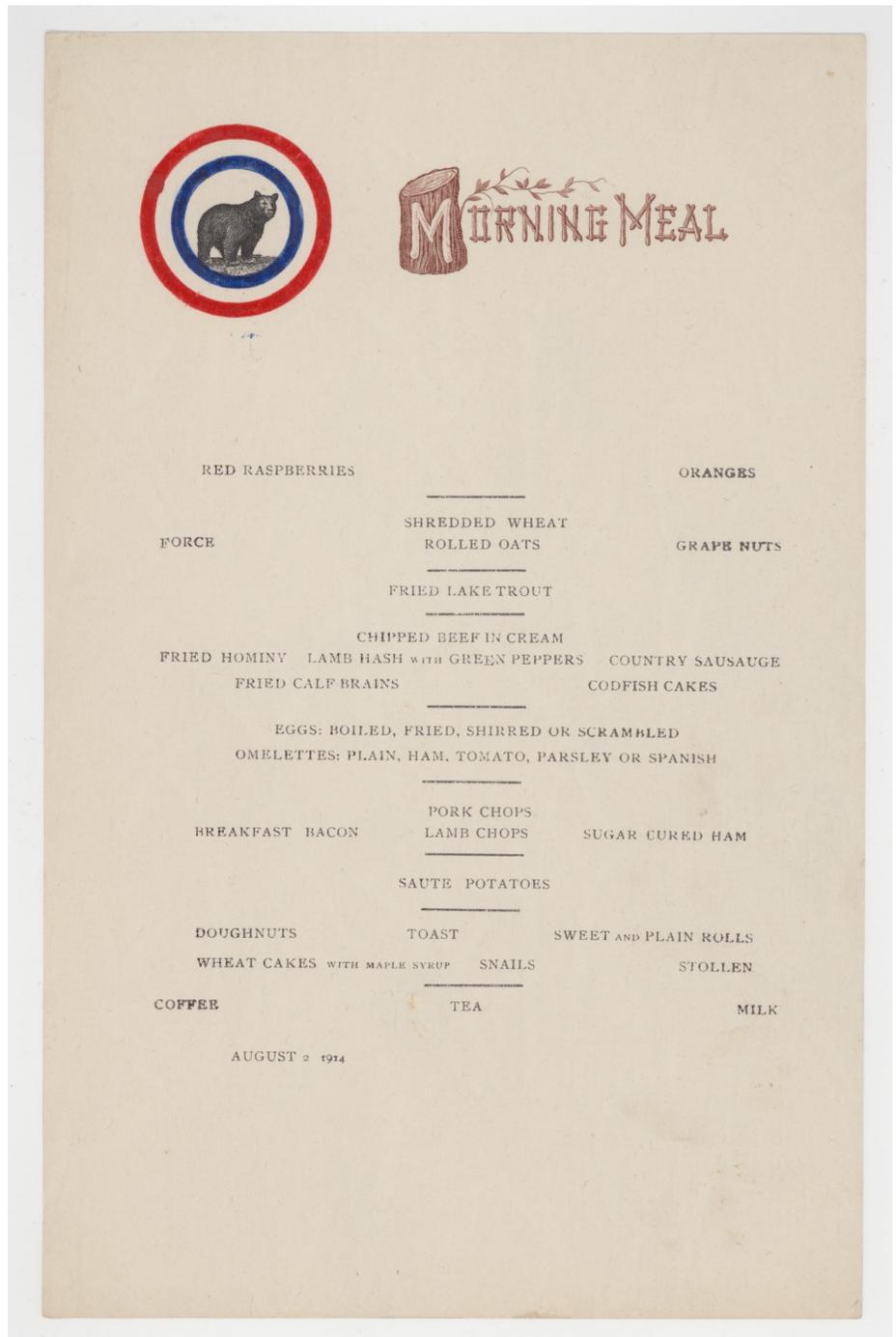
The Belle McDonald cookbook provides a unique glance into the practice of preparing and cooking food during the early 1900s. Recipes range from breads to soups, cakes to salads. Additionally, the collection also includes a 1938 Retailer's Edition of *Modern Homemaker* which provides tips and instructions on canning, as well as recipes for assorted canning projects.



## Yellowstone National Park:

Would you eat cold ox tongue—for breakfast? What about pig’s knuckles in jelly? Heard of chow chow? Maybe consommé en tasse is more your style? All of these items were on offer at Yellowstone National Park, if one were fortunate enough to be a “dude” staying at the Lake Hotel or Old Faithful Inn in the 1910s. We know what people were eating because of our extensive collection of menus.

In addition to providing the opportunity for kids on our public tours to wrinkle their noses or make gagging sounds, these menus provide a unique glimpse into popular culture-and tastes-during one all-American past time: a visit to a national park. The menu collections form a small portion of our concessioner collections from the Yellowstone Park Company and Xanterra Parks & Resorts as well as the predecessors of both companies. The menus range in date from ca. 1910 to 2010 and include meals offered at the park’s iconic hotels along with camps, lunch counters, and even a few employee dining rooms. Studying the menus across time offers valuable insight into visitors’ changing tastes and expectations. In depth study of a particular time or location can set the stage for fiction writers and inform researchers on topics as wide ranging as food history to economics to industrialization. For more information on the collections, please see our website at: <https://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/historyculture/archives.htm> or email [yell\\_archives@nps.gov](mailto:yell_archives@nps.gov)



## Training Opportunities: Webinars!

- **AASLH (American Association of State and Local History):**

Basics of Archives: The newly revised Basics of Archives online course is designed to give organizations and individuals who are responsible for the care of historical records an introduction to the core aspects of managing and protecting historical records collections, using appropriate principles and best practices.

The course consists of seven lessons:

- Archives and Archivists
- Acquiring Your Collections
- Processing Collections
- Housing Your Collections
- Access and Outreach
- Digital Records
- Digitization



Course details:

- January 27 - March 1, 2020.
- \$85 AASLH Members / \$160 Non-members,
- registration open November 1, 2019 - January 19, 2020.
- The course is online, self-paced course with instructor feedback.
- 5 weeks; 15-20 hours to be completed anytime during the five-week course period (dates above).

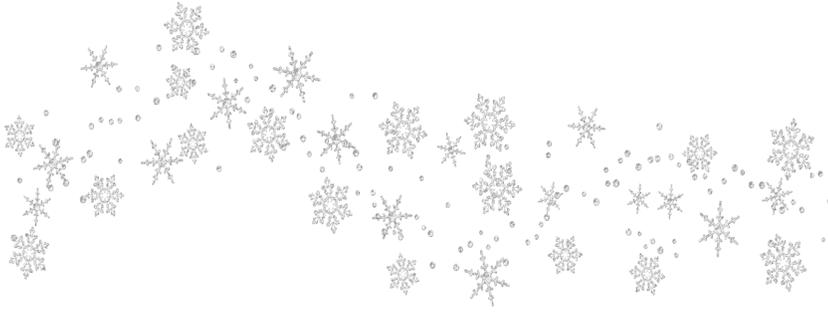
- **Council of State Archivists:**

Webinars include emergency preparedness, advocacy, projects planning and more. Most are available on YouTube. For more information see listing at <https://www.statearchivists.org/programs/videos-and-recordings/cosa-member-webinar-recordings/>

- **NAGARA (National Association of Government Archivists and Records Administrators)**

Webinars focus on state and local government records issues including electronic signatures, functional records scheduling, transitioning from one administration to another, and digital content management tools and techniques. See at [https://nagara.org/Public/Resources/Webinar\\_Archive/NAGARA\\_Custom/Webinar\\_Archive/Archive.aspx?hkey=b47d5bdd-a5e4-4f84-8e5f-49eecbf52499](https://nagara.org/Public/Resources/Webinar_Archive/NAGARA_Custom/Webinar_Archive/Archive.aspx?hkey=b47d5bdd-a5e4-4f84-8e5f-49eecbf52499)





**Upcoming Events, Conferences and Training Opportunities 2020**

**Local/Regional**

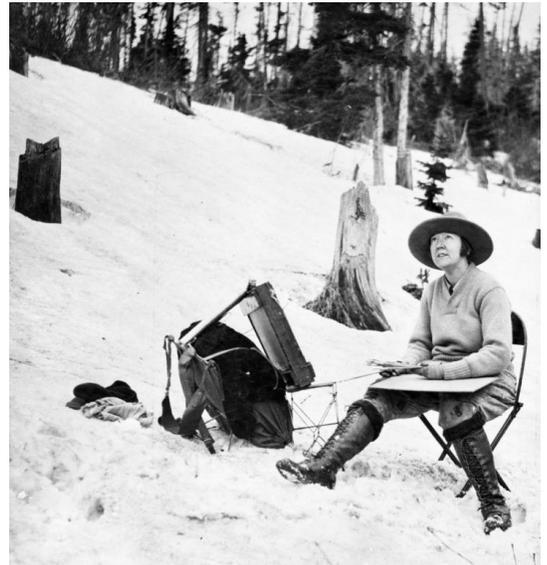
- March 26-28**    **Museum Association of Montana Annual Conference, Missoula.**
- April 1-4**     **Montana Library Association Annual Conference, Missoula.**
- Sept. 24-26**   **Montana History Conference, Butte, MT**

**National**

- July 7-11**      **NAGARA Annual Conference, Denver, CO**
- Aug. 2-8**      **CoSA/SAA Joint Meeting, Chicago, IL**

**Montana SHRAB Board Members:**

- **Jodie Foley, Montana Historical Society**
- **Aubrey Jaap, Butte Silver Bow Archives**
- **Anne L. Foster, Yellowstone National Park**
- **Heather Hultman, MSU, Bozeman**
- **Kathryn Kramer, Charles M. Russell Museum**
- **Kathleen Mumm, Madison County**
- **Eileen Wright, MSU, Billings**



Lucile Van Slyck in Glacier National Park, 1929. Pac 93-09-18. MHS Photograph Archives



**2020 MONTANA BLITZ! PROGRAM**  
**Host Institution Application**

The Montana State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) is pleased to announce an on-site assistance program for cultural heritage institutions in Montana. The Blitz! Program provides funding and support for a week-long processing event to be held at a cultural heritage institution with significant archival collections, a proven need for assistance and a well-organized processing plan that includes collection descriptions, specific goals and guidelines.

Participating institutions will be responsible for overseeing local advertising for the program, soliciting local participants, providing a dedicated workspace for attendees, providing workflow guidelines, and information about local housing options for participants. SHRAB members will assist in these efforts and provide guidance and participate as processors in the Blitz!. The Blitz! should be planned for and completed by October 15, 2020. This program is made possible through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). Application DEADLINE: July 1, 2020.

Return completed form to:

Montana Historical Society  
c/o Jodie Foley SHRAB Coordinator  
225 North Roberts  
Helena MT 59620  
or via email to [jofoley@mt.gov](mailto:jofoley@mt.gov)

Applicant Name:

Institution:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Questions: Please limit answers to 2 pages

What is your institution's annual budget? How many FTE (full time equivalent) paid employees does your institution have? How many FTE (full-time equivalent) volunteers does your institution have?

Describe the records you would like to see processed during the Blitz!. Please be specific as to type (series), significance, extent and current condition.

How do you plan to promote the Blitz! and find participants?

Please complete and attach a one-page project description that includes specific goals to be accomplished by the Blitz!. (This may include but need not be limited to linear feet processed or inventoried, finding aids completed, guidelines and procedures established, online access/description, and/or cataloging entries created).

**2020 MONTANA SHRAB STUDENT ARCHIVIST PROGRAM  
Host Institution Application**

The Montana State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) is pleased to announce the continuation of an on-site assistance program for cultural heritage institutions in Montana. A graduate level student archivist will be chosen to each provide up to 400 hours of archival project assistance to a Montana heritage institution over the summer of 2020 (June to September). The student will provide assistance based on specific goals set by the institution and may include archival surveying, collection processing, cataloging, basic conservation, archival basics training, creation of finding aids and creation of online inventory/content access options. Participating institutions will be asked to provide a dedicated workspace for the student, information about local housing options, and provide workers compensation insurance.

This program is made possible through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

**Application DEADLINE: February 15, 2020.**

Return completed form to:

Montana Historical Society  
c/o Jodie Foley SHRAB Coordinator  
225 North Roberts  
Helena MT 59620  
or via email to [jofoley@mt.gov](mailto:jofoley@mt.gov)

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Institution:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions: Please limit answers to 2 pages**

- **What is your institution's annual budget? How many FTE (full time equivalent) paid employees does your institution have? How many FTE (full-time equivalent) volunteers does your institution have?**
- **Briefly outline your institution's experience with historical records. Include any special projects that your institution has worked on or in which you are currently involved.**
- **How would the Student Archivist's work fit your institutions goals/mission?**
- **Please complete and attach a one-page project description that includes specific goals to be accomplished by end of the students stay. (This may include but need not be limited to linear feet processed or inventoried, finding aids completed, guidelines and procedures established, educational programs created, and/or cataloging entries created).**