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Newsletter

President's Message—

Bill Peterson, President, Museums Association of Montana

The Museums Association of Montana (MAM) promotes professionalism and cooperation among the Museums of Montana. MAM is an organization for all types of museums—art, history, science and general—and individuals who are interested in improving and strengthening Montana's museums.

Greetings,

As the willow leaves are just now starting to turn yellow outside my office in Nevada City, I am pleased to report that our summer numbers at the Nevada City Museum were up from last year. I hope that is the case for all of Montana's museums.

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THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS December 4, 2009

The MAM Newsletter is published quarterly by the Museums Association of Montana, a nonprofit organization of institutions and businesses, dedicated to promoting communication among all types of museums in Montana. MAM is an all volunteer organization whose support comes from its membership and from occasional public and private grants.

As a forum for exchange of information and ideas, the MAM Newsletter needs your contributions. Deadlines for submitting articles and announcements are: December 4, 2009.

Please send information to:

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225 North Roberts
Helena, MT 59620-1201
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We at MAM are busy planning the next Museums Association Conference. The 2010 conference will be held in Butte, and I for one, am quite excited about our return to the Mining City. The second MAM conference I attended was held in Butte, and to this day remains as one of our most successful in terms of participants and overall experience. This year will be quite exciting as we will be in Butte from March 11-13, those most adventurous souls may wish to stay on for the St. Patrick's Day festivities. We will be sending more information to you regarding the conference, programs, and registration opportunities this fall.

I am pleased to report the Montana Historical Society and the Museums Association of Montana have entered into a formal agreement of mutual cooperation. Since 1967, the relationship between the two agencies has been one of strength and teamwork, held together through professionalism and goodwill, cemented by a handshake. While that is still the case, there is now a formal agreement between the two agencies which is a positive step for all of Montana's museums and history by lending a greater degree of surety to the relationship between the two agencies.

I continue to work with the American Association of State and Local History regarding the State Federal Coalition and the Federal Formula Block Grant project as well as the IMLS reauthorization legislation. I try and pass on relevant information to our members via the new list serve introduced in the spring. The list serve continues to be a great way to share information regarding our members and their museums. If there is something going on at your museum you wish others to know about, or if you have questions that other members can answer, send your message to Deb Mitchell at dmitchell@mt.gov and she will post your message to the list serve. When you see advocacy alerts on the list, do not be afraid to speak out on behalf of your museum. Museums and history are now more important than ever before in our ability to help our elected officials make informed decisions.

As one who dislikes delivering bad news, there is one that I must address. Even such tight financial operations such as MAM are not impervious to the economic downturns we have been experiencing. Periodically the Museums Association of Montana prints and distributes a map of Montana's museums. These are a widely popular way of advertising all of Montana's museums to the travelling public each year. In the past MAM has always been able to include non-member museums on the map, as sort of goodwill gesture if you will. However, beginning with the next printing, MAM will be able to include only member museums on the maps. I would therefore urge all non member institutions to join MAM as your map listing will be an automatic membership benefit.

I hope to see all of you soon.

Bill



**2009-2010
Museums Association of
Montana
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- Membership Coordinator
Deb Mitchell
Phone: 444-4789
E-Mail: dmitchell@mt.gov

BECOME A MAM BOARD MEMBER!

The Museums Association of Montana is looking to fill **two** Board of Director positions beginning in 2010.

As a Board member you will bring your expertise and the experiences of your museum to the organization, making MAM stronger and helping to further its goal of bettering all of Montana's museums. You will be a voice for your museum and the museums in your region by sharing your concerns, opinions, and ideas for the benefit of museums across the state. You will attend four Board meetings per year—one immediately before the annual MAM Conference at the conference location, another at the annual Montana History Conference, and two others in varying regions throughout the state.

If you would like to be a part of our dynamic Board of Directors, contact Deb Mitchell at (406) 444-4789 or dmitchell@mt.gov.



MAM Mission Statement

The Museums Association of Montana (MAM) promotes professionalism and cooperation among the Museums of Montana. MAM is an organization for all types of museums—art, history, science, general, and individuals who are interested in improving and strengthening Montana's museums.

**MAM's address:
P.O. Box 1451
Helena, MT 59624**

IMLS *Connecting to Collections Bookshelf* Initiative

Montana's Recipients

2009

The *Bookshelf* comprises resources for collections typically found in art or history museums and in libraries' special collections, with an added selection of texts for living collections. It is a component of *Connecting to Collections: A Call to Action*, a strategic initiative by IMLS to address the challenges described in *A Public Trust at Risk: The Heritage Health Index Report on the State of America's Collections*, an IMLS-funded study conducted by Heritage Preservation.

Most recipients have small budgets and staff, and have demonstrated an urgent need for this permanent resource. History museums, historic houses, and academic libraries with special collections are especially well represented among the recipients, as are zoos, aquaria, botanical gardens, and nature centers. The IMLS Bookshelf was made possible by a cooperative agreement with the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) with support from the Getty Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.

This is the third and final installment of the *Bookshelf* program, which has distributed 2,751 sets of books, online resources, and a user's guide to institutions in every part of the country.

Congratulations to Montana's Winners!

Historic Crail Ranch - Big Sky, MT

Contact: Mr. Albert Lockwood
(406) 995-2160; lockw_afl@comcast.net

Stone Child College/ Rocky Boy Community Library - Box Elder, MT

Contact: Mrs. Helen Windy Boy
(406) 395-4875; ndnoutreach@yahoo.com

Mai Wah Museum - Butte, MT

Contact: Ms. Janet Sperry
(406) 723-3231; info@maiwah.org

Glacier County Historical Museum & Archives - Cut Bank, MT

Contact: Mr. Dennis Seglem
(406) 873-4904; bseglem@northerntel.net

Beaverhead County Museum - Dillon, MT

Contact: Mrs. Bette Hull
(406) 683-5027; hull@bmt.net

C.M. Russell Museum - Great Falls, MT

Contact: Ms. Sharon McGowan
(406) 727-8787; smcgowan@cmrussell.org

Phillips County Museum and H.G. Robinson House & Gardens - Malta, MT

Contact: Ms. Jessica Michal
(406) 654-1037; jkmichal@gmail.com

Beartooth Nature Center - Red Lodge, MT

Contact: Mr. Jeff Ewelt
(406) 446-1133; director@beartoothnaturecenter.org

Carbon County Historical Society & Museum - Red Lodge, MT

Contact: Mrs. Debra Hronek, (406) 446-3667;
preservation@carboncountyhistory.com

Jefferson Valley Museum - Whitehall, MT

Contact: Ms. Arcylle Shaw
georgina@mtweb.net

The Gaylord Partnership Program

One of the many benefits available to MAM members!

As a member of the Museums Association of Montana, your institution qualifies for fantastic savings on orders you place with Gaylord.

- ◆ Save **15%** on archival preservation, conservation, and exhibit supplies
- ◆ Save **10%** on exhibit cases, furnishings, and equipment
- ◆ Spend **\$100** and Get Free Shipping on your supply orders. (Furniture and equipment orders are excluded and applicable shipping charges will apply.)



Your Trusted Source™

If you are a MAM member and have not received the discount code, contact Deb Mitchell at dmitchell@mt.gov or (406)444-4789

As an added bonus, Gaylord will donate 1% of members' purchases back to MAM!

Easy ways to order from Gaylord Bros:

Call our friendly customer service department: 1-800-448-6160

Fax your order to us: 1-800-272-3412

Visit us online 24/7: www.gaylord.com

Mail us your order: Gaylord Bros. PO Box 4901 Syracuse, NY 13221



Museum Assessment Program

"We believe the program is a god-send."

Join the hundreds of other museums--large and small, of all disciplines--that have utilized the Museum Assessment Program (MAP) in improving their institutions. Regardless of which assessment these museums choose (institutional, collections management, public dimension, or governance), the program has enriched both their staffs and their stakeholders, and bolstered their ongoing efforts to meet their mandate of public service.

Combining thorough self-study and peer review, MAP is an enlightening process for all involved. Past participants have reported a clearer vision of their mission, motivated staff, closer ties with their boards, and enhanced communication with internal and external constituencies.

Accepting applications NOW on a rolling basis through the postmark deadline of November 30, 2009.

Applications can be found at www.aam-us.org/map.

MAP staff are available to answer any questions at map@aam-us.org or 202-289-9118.

NEW PALEOINDIAN SURVEY AVAILABLE FROM MONTANA'S STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

PRIVATE COLLECTORS MIGHT HOLD KEY TO MYSTERIES OF THE PAST

It isn't often that you can become part of answering some of the ancient mysteries of the past. The Montana Historical Society is teaming with archaeologist Ruthann Knudson, head of Knudson Associates of Great Falls, to gather information on Montana Paleoindian artifacts.

"There has been minimal systematic survey done in Montana. Until we can collect Montana Paleoindian information, most of which is in the heads and collections of avocational or amateur archaeologists, we won't know what is out on the landscape and in collections," Knudson said.

Society and State Archaeologist Stan Wilmoth said that private collections could hold important clues to the past. "Many, if not most old sites or artifacts, are found by accident – by workers or landowners doing some other kind of work, often in an erosional setting where buried artifacts are unintentionally uncovered," Wilmoth said. "In many of those situations no one ever hears about something that could be very important. This is a chance to change that."

The Montana survey will become part of the national Paleoindian Database of the Americas. Similar surveys are underway across the United States, Canada and in Mexico to add to the database. "When primary archaeological data are compiled, and available for inspection, they can tell us new and previously unrecognized things about the past," Knudson said.

The artifacts and private land sites reported in the survey will remain the property of those who own them, Wilmoth said. There is a misconception among some that reporting significant archaeological finds on private land will result in governmental interference with private property rights, Wilmoth said. That is not true. However, he urged those who make new discoveries to contact archaeologists to help them preserve the discoveries and to gather more information by scientific and perhaps careful excavation. "Usually the information associated with the artifacts at the find spot is lost because even if the collector owns the land and has legal title to the artifact, the owner may not know what to do to preserve any of that information," Wilmoth said.

Knudson said those with projectile points, other artifacts or knowledge of sites, whether they are professional or amateur archaeologists, are urged to take part in the survey. The survey form can be printed out by going on-line to www.montanahistoricalsociety.org/shpo/forms.asp. She said the most critical information to provide are digital color photographs of the front and back of the artifact and a side view if possible taken beside a ruler or coin to identify size. "These surveys will, I think, give people a place where some of the importance of their find is recognized and recorded," Wilmoth said. "The information at a general level will be available nationally and even internationally to researchers interested in late Pleistocene-early Holocene archaeology."

No information will be distributed without the permission of those providing it.

Knudson said that people with questions about the survey or their artifacts or sites can contact her at 406-216-2676 or at paleoknute@3rivers.net.

History Mystery Kits – Montana-Dakotas BLM

The BLM Heritage Education program in the Montana State Office developed a partnership with the Western Heritage Center to create educational products focusing on the cultural resources in the Yellowstone River Valley. It was decided that the products of the 5-year partnership would be a series of HISTORY MYSTERIES: games or activities where students would be required to fill in the ‘Who’, ‘What’, ‘When’, ‘Where’, ‘Why’ and ‘How’ of a local resource/legend.

This first year’s product was a game focusing on the Sacrifice Cliff. The mystery of Sacrifice Cliff (where Crow Indian warriors on horses jumped off the cliff to their deaths) is the location of the cliffs and the story behind the legend of the warriors; there is debate on which area around Billings is the actual Sacrifice Cliff, one location being on BLM lands.

To play, the teacher divides the class up into five groups, with each getting one of the Source Files. Their mission is to comb through all of their research materials and come up with the most logical conclusion to the mystery and then compose their own interpretive sign to tell the story. The kit does not advance one version of the story as the correct version.

The second kit developed was the Pryor Mountains Wild Horse kit; this product is a huge board game that an entire classroom can fit around. The game has students answer the questions about the wild horse herd, such as who used them (culturally), where did they originate, how did they adapt to their environment? GOAL...for each team to trot their horse around the game board, which represents a year in the life of a Pryor Mountain Wild Horse, gathering ‘clue cards’, while trying to avoid seasonal hazards.

Once again, this is not an exercise in spoon-feeding distilled information...the object here is to provide students with cited references and their educator’s guidance and let them weigh evidence/clues. Three more kits will be developed for the school system.



Below are links from the History Mystery kit: one is the BLM news release and the other is an article in the Billings Gazette with photos of students using the kits (it takes a minute to open).

<http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/prog/bcc/mystery.html>

<http://billingsgazette.net/articles/2008/02/08/news/local/25-mystery.txt>

collection care: tips, news, & updates

This “**Potential Acquisition Questionnaire**” was developed by the Minnesota Historical Society. The questionnaire allows staff to obtain more information about potential donations before making an acquisition decision. Before you accept an object into your collection, you must be sure that it fits into your mission and the scope of your collecting plan. This questionnaire can help! Please feel free to use and/or adapt the document to fit your institution’s needs.

POTENTIAL ACQUISITION QUESTIONNAIRE

You may not be able to answer all of the questions below but whatever information you can provide will assist us in making an informed acquisition decision. If there is not adequate space for your answers, please attach additional pages.

Object(s) or collection name & description; include quantity, height, width, approximate weight, colors, material, labels, patent dates & numbers, marks appearance, etc. when known.

What is the function of the object(s), if applicable?

Who is the manufacturer, maker or artist?

When was the object(s) made &/or used?

What is the name of the person who used it & where did she/he live? How did you come to own it?

What is the significance of the object(s) to the history of an individual, organization, event, time, business or locale, cultural/ethnic group, the State of Montana, the Northern Rockies or the U.S.?

What is the condition of the object(s)? Are any parts missing or been replaced? If so, which ones? Is the upholstery or finish the original? What is the condition of the finish?

Can the object operate or function as it did originally? Has it been modified or updated? For what purpose?

If you have any newspaper articles, publications, sales catalogs, directories, historic photographs, interviews, etc. that document the object’s history, please indicate & include copies with this questionnaire if possible.

Why are you interested in making this donation to the Montana Historical Society?

Owner’s name, address, zip code, day telephone number, & e-mail address if possible.

If you include any photographs or other documentation with this questionnaire, please indicate if you want the items returned.

THANK YOU!!

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Mountain Plains Museums Association Annual Meeting and Conference

New West Solutions in Old West Settings

October 5-9, 2009—Cheyenne, Wyoming

303-979-9358, info@mpma.net, www.mpma.net

Montana History Conference

Great History Falls Here!

October 15-17, 2009—Great Falls, Montana

406-444-4741, klambert@mt.gov; Kirby Lambert

Montana Historical Society; www.montanahistoricalociety.org

Museum Computer Network Conference

Museum Information, Museum Efficiency: Doing More with Less!

November 11-14, 2009—Portland, Oregon

Visit www.mcn.edu/conferences for more information

Museums Association of Montana

Pick and Shovel: Digging into Museum Work

March 11-13, 2010—Butte, Montana

www.montanamuseums.org

American Association of Museums Annual Conference

Museums Without Borders

May 23-26, 2010—Los Angeles, California

www.aam-us.org

Keep your museum's staff and visitors safe and healthy!

Check out these informative websites...

Museum Security

<http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/aama/issues/2009-07-08/1.html>

Tips for Avoiding H1N1 Flu

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/public_gatherings.htm

http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1flu/business/toolkit/pdf/Business_Toolkit.pdf

Disaster Preparedness

<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TFPlanPrepare.html>

<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TFRespRecover.html>

<http://www.conservation-us.org> (Click "Resource Center", then "Disaster Response & Recovery")

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Online Courses and Webinars

The Upstate History Alliance's slate of Collections Care and Preservation Online Courses provide basic and practical training at a low fee (starting at just \$45!). These courses are designed for staff, volunteers, board members or interns at small to mid-sized museums. Courses are to be taken at your own pace, and about 1 hour of work time per week to be completed at your convenience. The courses also offer interaction with qualified instructors and assignments are based on your own collections. Topics include Collections Management 101, Climate Control for Small Institutions, Introduction to Reformatting, Basic Preservation and Care of Paper Based Materials, and Conservation and Preservation of Photographs and Albums.

If this sounds like what you or your staff need to improve collections care practices at your institution, visit <http://www.upstatehistory.org/services/OnlineLearningCommunities.html> for more information, course descriptions and dates, prices and registration.

Questions? Call 800.895.1648 or email info@upstatehistory.org

AAM Announces Online Advocacy Training Series

FREE 4-part online series to help the museum field learn about advocacy for museums. Every advocate's voice makes a difference in our efforts to reach every Member of Congress about the value of museums. AAM is pleased to be working with the Advocacy Guru Stephanie Vance to offer the following programs:

Thursday, September 17 - 1pm EDT

Advocacy and Legislation 101: Understanding the Basics of Advocacy and its Application to City Hall, the State Legislature and Beyond

Friday, October 23 - 1pm EDT

Budget and Appropriations 101: Understanding the Process and Timelines, and Learning How and When to Effectively Weigh In

Monday, Nov 9 - 1pm EST

Building Relationships with Elected Officials: Strategies for Getting to Know Your Elected Officials and Involving Them in Your Museum

Tuesday, Dec 8 - 1pm EST

Making Your Case 101: What to Say, How to Say It, and Getting Your Staff and Visitors Involved in Your Museum's Cause

For more information or to register, visit http://www.speakupformuseums.org/advocacy_trainings.htm

American Association for State and Local History

[Basics of Archives: Online Workshop!](#)

Dates: Anytime between October 19-November 29, 2009

Time/Duration: 15-20 hours

Learn the core aspects of managing and protecting historical records and collections using appropriate principles and best practices. You'll learn how to acquire your collections, process, house items, and more!

Cost: \$85 members/\$150 nonmembers

Become a member and SAVE \$65 .

For more information, contact Bethany Hawkins, Program Associate, at 615-320-3203 or by email at hawkins@aaalh.org.

MONTANA HISTORIC PRESERVATION STIMULUS GRANTS AVAILABLE NOW



In April 2009, the State of Montana set aside \$4 Million of the state's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for grants to repair and stabilize heritage properties. The Montana Preservation Alliance worked with our Governor's office and the Montana Department of Commerce to create this pool of money to distribute across Big Sky Country.

Now, beginning September 15, 2009, local, state & tribal governments, non-profits and private landowners across Montana can apply for sorely-needed assistance to repair, stabilize and rehabilitate historic properties.

Funding for "hammer ready" historic preservation projects will help to preserve landmarks that are central to our history as Montanans and create jobs, revitalize our cities & towns, and boost tourism.

Thanks to the vision of our state leaders, these public works will foster stewardship of our irreplaceable historic places and protect Montana's lasting heritage.

For more information on the Historic Preservation Competitive Grant Program,
or to apply for funds,
visit <http://recovery.mt.gov/commerce/hpg/default.mcp>, or call 406-841-2776.

APPLICATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 16, 2009



This message brought to you by:
The Montana Preservation Alliance
120 Reeder's Alley, Helena, Montana
www.preservemontana.org 406.457.2822

2010 Federal Grant Deadlines

National Endowment for the Humanities – NEH

Collaborative Research: Deadline - October 29, 2009

National Digital Newspaper Program: Deadline - November 3, 2009

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections: Deadline - December 8, 2009

Questions? Contact: 800-NEH-1121 or 202-606-8269, publicpgms@neh.gov, or www.neh.gov

Institute for Museum and Library Services – IMLS

Museums for America: Deadline - November 2, 2009

Museum Assessment Program: Deadline - November 30, 2009

Conservation Assessment Program: Deadline - December 1, 2009

Connecting to Collections (Statewide Planning): Deadline - December 15, 2009

Connecting to Collections (Statewide Implementation): Deadline - December 15, 2009

Questions? Contact: 202-653-IMLS, imlsinfo@imls.gov or www.imls.gov/grants

See www.grants.gov for more grant opportunities

Note: All Federal Grant applicants are required to provide a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number when applying for Federal grants or cooperative agreements.

2010 Montana Grant Sources

Humanities Montana



Several grants are available through Humanities Montana. For grant descriptions and proposal deadlines see the Humanities Montana's website at: www.humanities-mt.org/grants.htm or call 406-243-6022.

Montana Arts Council



MONTANA **ARTS** COUNCIL

The Montana Arts Council offers several grant opportunities including: *Artists in Schools and Residencies, Opportunity Grants, and Professional Development*. Application deadlines and processes vary. See the Montana Arts Council website at: www.art.mt.gov or call 406-444-6548.

Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame project achieves major milestone in hiring of Director of Finance and marketing firm

Wolf Point – Christy Stensland, Executive Director of the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame & Western Heritage Center (MCHF&WHC), announced the hiring of finance and marketing experts to help the MCHF&WHC on its path to completion.

“We are delighted to announce exciting progress through the hiring of Aaron Lyles as our Director of Finance and the firm Beargrass Marketing, led by Michele Reese, to provide leadership to our marketing efforts,” said Stensland.

Lyles grew up on a ranching and farming operation near Big Timber, Mont. Because of his background and appreciation of Montana's heritage, Lyles was a natural fit with the MCHF&WHC, Stensland said.

“The Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center not only seeks to preserve and honor our rich heritage, but also to pass on to future generations those values that have forged who we are today,” Lyles said. “It is an honor to add my iron to the fire and join this growing community of fellow Montanans interested in creating a lasting tribute to Montana’s cowboy way of life, Native American culture and Western heritage.”

Prior to becoming involved with the project, Lyles was impressed by the authenticity espoused by the mission of the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame & Western Heritage Center.

“The Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame is not here to glorify or honor the Hollywood version of the American West,” he said. “It’s here to honor the real, working families—the people who made a daily difference in our communities and those who have left a Montana legacy that is noteworthy.”

Since being designated by Montana State Legislature in February 2003 as the Official Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame, organizers have witnessed a groundswell of support from all corners of the state, Lyles said.

“Whether you are in Baker, Kalispell or some destination in between, the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame is your hometown organization working to honor those in your community that have contributed to who we are today,” he said. “If you are interested in learning more or would like to become involved, please consider my door always open and the invitation to participate always extended.”

Lyles joins the MCHF&WHC after working for five years as an executive with the Boy Scouts of America where he focused on volunteer cultivation and fundraising with the Tennessee and Montana Councils. Prior to serving as an executive with the Boy Scouts, Lyles put his music business administration degree to work as an audio engineer for Belmont University in Nashville where he worked with many notable recording artists from George Strait to Bob Seger. As Director of Finance, Lyles will develop and implement funding strategies to support the MCHF&WHC.

Lyles lives in Bozeman with his wife, Terri. He can be reached at ALyles@montanacowboyfame.com or (406) 600-8231.

Michele Reese of Beargrass Marketing in Whitefish, Mont. will work alongside Lyles to advance the goals of the MCHF&WHC.

“Michele’s years of experience in building destinations and tourism marketing will be vital to our ability to accomplish our important mission,” Stensland said.

Reese is a recognized expert in tourism and travel-related industries. Before starting Beargrass Marketing in 1991, Reese was executive vice president of marketing and sales for Walt Disney Attractions and Disneyland Resorts.

Michele is a sixth generation Montanan who lives in Whitefish with her husband Dennis Foley. She can be reached at MReese@montanacowboyfame.com or (406) 862-8746.

To learn more about the Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center visit www.montanacowboyfame.com or call (406) 653-3800.

The 2010 Paul E. Buchanan Award for Excellence in Field Work and Interpretation

The Vernacular Architecture Forum (VAF) seeks nominations for the Paul E. Buchanan Award for 2010. Initiated by VAF in 1993, the Award recognizes significant contributions to the study and preservation of vernacular architecture and landscape studies that did not take the form of books or published work. Projects completed in 2008 and 2009 are eligible for consideration.

Last year's award went to the Triangle Modernist Archive, Inc., for creating and maintaining Triange Modernist Houses, an extensive online archive that catalogs, preserves, and promotes modernist residential design in the Triangle area of North Carolina. Please see website below for more information, links to their site, as well as information on past winners and application requirements.

Deadline for applications is January 15, 2010.

The award winner will be announced at the 30th annual meeting of the Vernacular Architecture Forum in Washington, D.C., May 19th-22d, 2010

For more information and an application please visit:

[http:// www.vafweb.org/awards/buchanan.html](http://www.vafweb.org/awards/buchanan.html)

or contact Kathryn R. Merlino at krm@uw.edu or 206.355.1261

PastPerfect Offers Training CDs!

PastPerfect sells training CDs as a set or individually to meet your project's needs. The PastPerfect 4.0 CD Training Series comes with all three training CDs, a User's Guide and free shipping. It costs just \$119.00. Individual CDs are only \$39.00 each, which includes shipping.

TRAINING CD: Cataloging Your Collection with PastPerfect 4.0

TRAINING CD: Managing Contacts, Donations, and Membership with PastPerfect 4.0

TRAINING CD: Researching and Reporting with PastPerfect 4.0

Training CDs may be purchased at our online store

<http://www.museumsoftwaresolutions.com/Merchant2/merchant.mv>

or by calling us toll free 1-800-562-6080.

Recap of the 2009 Museums Association of Montana Annual Conference in Billings



Emma Church and Lillian Kooistra-Manning
at the St. Patrick's Day Parade

The Museums Association of Montana (MAM) promotes professionalism and cooperation among the Museums of Montana. MAM has been providing training and networking opportunities for over forty years during the annual museum conference. This past year, the conference was held in downtown Billings from March 12-14, 2009, which coincided with the St. Patrick's Day celebrations. The conference drew ninety participants.

The conference sessions provided information and training on museum management, the protection of collections, advocating cultural tourism, interpretive writing, surviving as a small town museum, and new technologies.

Richard Sims, Director of the Montana Historical Society, presented a short talk entitled, *The Importance of History for the Present*. Wally McRae, Montana's famous cowboy poet, regaled us with stories from eastern Montana during the BBQ dinner. Several conference participants rode in the buses of the Yellowstone Preservation Trust during the annual downtown St. Patrick's Day Parade. Thanks to all the speakers for their time and talents. Thanks to the generous donors for making this year's silent auction one of the most exciting and profitable.

The Annual Museums Association Museum Conference is designed for all the caretakers of Montana community history. The Montanans that come to this conference will be empowered to go to their respective communities with practical skills and knowledge that can improve the offerings of their local museums and cultural sites. Next year's conference will be in Butte, one of the most popular conference locations, on March 10-13, 2010.

Kevin Kooistra-Manning



Cowboy poet Wally McRae with MAM Board members



Small Town Museums Session



Richard Sims, Kevin Kooistra-Manning, Jude Sheppard, Bill Peterson

Join us for the 2010 Annual MAM
Conference in Butte on March 10-13

Cheers!

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**for the 2010 Museums Association of Montana Annual Conference:
“Pick & Shovel: Digging into Museum Work”**

March 10-13, 2010

The Mineral Museum, MSU campus, Butte, Montana

Back in Montana’s most famous mining town, the Museums Association of Montana continues its work of helping Montana’s hardworking museum staff. Proposals are requested for presentations, workshops, papers, or panels on how you make your museum a better place for object preservation, local history, and your community.

Presentations should focus on best practice in the field, and take into account the needs of all sizes of museums, particularly smaller museums on tight budgets. Suggested topics include: object identification, fundraising—including non-traditional methods, membership and board development, conservation, and public education.

Please submit your proposal in outline or abstract format, along with the form below. Outlines/abstracts should be no more than one page. **Submit proposals BY January 7, 2010 to Deb Mitchell, MAM Coordinator, PO Box 1451, Helena, MT 59624.**

Other useful information: Presenters volunteer their time and travel. Presenters must register for the conference if attending programs other than their own presentation. Presentations are usually 1 ½ hours in length; workshops are 2-6 hours. Attendees appreciate outlines or other handouts.

Contact person/presenter: _____

Title/Institution: _____

Address: _____

Phone/fax/email: _____

Panelists or co-presenter/s: _____

Working title or topic of presentation: _____

Format: Presentation _____ Panel _____ Workshop _____ Roundtable _____

Other (please describe) _____

Anticipated length of session: _____ **Are handouts anticipated?** _____

Anticipated equipment needs (microphones & podiums provided): slide projector _____ VCR/television _____

PowerPoint projector _____ Laptop for PowerPoint _____

Other equipment (tables, etc): _____

+++++ATTACH OUTLINE OR ABSTRACT+++++

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software tools & products **SOFTWARE**
AASLH Organizational Members receive a 20% Discount on all PastPerfect Products

Advertise in the Museums Association of Montana Quarterly Newsletter

The Museums Association of Montana has great opportunities for advertising in our Quarterly Newsletter, great rates and an expanding subscription base. Our newsletter goes out to all members; over 100 at this time. With your support we can increase that to over 300 quarterly issues. Our advertising rates below can be received at a discount if you are a MAM member at the Benefactor and Corporate levels!

<u>Advertisement Size</u>	<u>Dimensions - H X W</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>MAM Benefactor/Corporate Member Rate</u>
1/2 page (horizontal)	4 1/2" X 7 1/2"	\$100.	\$90. / \$80.
1/4 page (vertical)	4 1/2" X 3 1/2"	\$ 50.	\$45. / \$40.
1/8 page (horizontal)	2 1/2" X 3 1/2"	\$ 25.	\$22.50 / \$ 20.

For more information regarding membership and newsletter advertisement opportunities! Call Deb Mitchell at 406-443-8219 or 444-4789, or email: dmitchell@mt.gov.



Is there a historic building, property or place near you at risk?

The Montana Preservation Alliance has maintained a Most Endangered Historic Properties List in our state since 1992. Bringing attention to threatened buildings, sites and places has raised awareness in communities statewide and resulted in many success stories.

Don't miss out on your opportunity to help save a part of Montana history by sending MPA your nomination for the 2009 Montana's Most Endangered list. Despite hard-fought battles and common sense ideas from preservationists, around the state there are those who still believe that demolition or neglect of our heritage is acceptable. At MPA, we have found that there is almost always a solution, a way to save a building or protect a cultural site.

Properties selected for the Most Endangered Historic Properties List will receive MPA's assistance in developing support to remove the threat. Nominations will be accepted if postmarked by **October 23, 2009**.

The 2009 list will be announced at MPA's annual members meeting, November 12, 2009.

Criteria

There must be a degree of endangerment by owner neglect, proposed demolition, rezoning, or redevelopment, and/or other human or environmental factors.

- The property must be listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
- There must be evidence of local support (or the clear potential for building local support) for preservation of the property.
- A separate application form must be submitted for each nominated property.

Selections will be made based on their significance as determined by MPA and not solely on the degree of endangerment.

To obtain a nomination form, contact the Montana Preservation Alliance office at 406-457-2822.

Completed nominations, including photographs and site map, must be postmarked by **October 23, 2009**.

Please send nomination materials to info@preservemontana.org or MPA Most Endangered Committee
120 Reeder's Alley
Helena, MT 59601

Exhibit Opening



Land Of Many Stories: The People & Histories of Glacier National Park

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Opening remarks—6:30 to 7:30 pm Capitol Rotunda

Exhibition Preview: 7:30-9:00 pm

Risky, Big and Bright
Montana
Historical Society

Montana Historical Society

225 North Roberts • Helena, Montana

(406) 444-4710 for more information





MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Membership Year now runs from your date of payment)

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Institutional Member

- Newsletter
- Membership decal
- Listing on the MAM map (2008 map)
- Listing on the MAM website
- One vote at annual membership meeting

Annual Operating Budget

Below \$50,000	\$ 25	___
\$50,000 - \$100,000	\$ 35	___
\$100,000 - \$200,000	\$ 45	___
Above \$200,000	\$ 55	___

Extra Newsletter \$ 10 ___

Benefactor \$100 ___

- Newsletter
- 10% advertising discount in Newsletter
- Listing on the MAM website

Corporate (for profit) \$300 ___

- 3 Newsletters
- Membership decal
- 20% advertising discount in Newsletter
- Listing on the MAM website

Individual Member \$ 20 ___

- Newsletter (published quarterly)



Join MAM Today & Encourage Others to be part of MAM!

Big news! Your MAM Annual Membership is yearly based on your date of payment. This new service has been implemented to provide your organization the full annual benefits of MAM.

If you haven't already renewed—please send in your membership to keep connected to your peers! And tell others about all that MAM has to offer small museums! Use this convenient membership form or download the form at our website:

<http://www.montanamuseums.org>

MAM provides access to lots of museum resources—the annual conference, quarterly newsletter, technical workshops, annual awards, conference scholarships, and a network of support and promotion of museum issues. With your membership or donation we can continue to bring professionalism to and cooperation among all of Montana's museums.

So that we can better serve you, please fill in all information and return form and payment to address below.

Organization (you are associated with): _____

Individual/Contact (year round contact): _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address (City/State/Zip): _____

Street Address (City/State/Zip—need for map): _____

Phone Number (year round contact number): _____ Fax: _____

(Circle One) Tourist Country Region — **Custer / Glacier / Gold West / Missouri River / Russell / Yellowstone**

Email Address: _____

Seasons/Hours of Operation: _____

Make checks payable to: Museums Association of Montana

Send above form and check to:

P.O. Box 1451, Helena, Montana, 59624

Visit the MAM Website at
www.montanamuseums.org

c/o MHS
P.O. Box 201201
Helena, MT 59620-1201



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



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