

THE MIRROR

“Reflections from the Past; Looking to the Future”

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First Quarter 2014

MOWH Annual Fund Raiser

The annual fundraiser for the Museum of Women's History was to be held on February 26th, but due to low reservation count and very bad winter weather, this luncheon has been postponed *until further notice*. Our featured speaker will be Kevin Kooistra from the Western Heritage Center.

Memberships were due, beginning in January for 2014. Reminder letters have been sent out. You must be a paid current “friend” to attend the Annual Member Meeting.

The Annual Meeting was postponed due to bad weather and will be held on April 25th, from 11:00 to 1:00 at MOWH Street Level.

The big move will be in progress, so it will be a farewell to this area. No food will be served.

WHEN are we open?

We are consolidating to the Lower Level! **Not by choice.** The Landlord has asked us to move from the Street Level, partly due to the inconsistent hours.

The Museum will still open **WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE ON & THE DOORS ARE OPEN!**

Call for appointments: 248-2015

Women's Suffrage Movement Suffrage - 100 years in Montana

Montana women received the right to vote in 1914, six years before the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, which guaranteed women's suffrage nationwide.

Montana's Indian women did not gain the vote until 1924, with the passage of the Indian Citizenship Act.

Featured Montana women of this quarter:

Julia Ereaux was born in 1872 on the South Fork of the Sun River. Julia grew up in a bicultural family and was fluent in French, English, and Gos Ventre. She became a rancher and a newspaper correspondent, and served as a Fort Belknap tribal council member. She promoted traditional indigenous arts and worked to prevent the spread of tuberculosis on the reservations. A founding member of one of the first Indian women's clubs in Montana, Schultz devoted her life to the well-being of the A'a Ni Nin people. Read more about Julia Ereaux Schultz at montanawomenshistory.org

Other Famous Suffrage Era Women:

Lucretia Mott helped organize the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848, which marked the beginning of the Women's Rights Movement in the U.S.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton was the first to demand the vote for women when at the Seneca Falls Convention, which shocked the entire convention.

Susan B. Anthony began her work in women's movement in 1850.

Lucy Stone founded the *Woman's Journal* which served as the voice of the women's suffragist movement for 47 years.

1930-1946 (THE DEPRESSION & WWII)

As the Great Depression settled on America, women lost many of the gains they'd made in employment during the previous few decades. Jobs were scarce, and even the Federal Government concurred that what jobs there were should go to men, the traditional breadwinners. Married women mended, patched, and remade clothes, prepared simple meals, and tried to keep their families together. The birth rate fell as couples chose not to incur the expense of more children. Young couples put off getting married because of the expense of housing and the uncertainty of what was ahead. One bright spot in this gloomy picture was the motion picture industry which churned out light-hearted movies about an idealized wealthy upper class. For a few cents and an hour or two of time, it was possible to escape into a world of top hats, lavish evening gowns, mansions, and chauffeured limousines.

The entry of the US into WWII changed all this. Women were suddenly in demand on all fronts – as wives, as military personnel, and in factories that turned out weapons and materials for the armed services. Young couples rushed to the altar to say their vows before the men shipped out. The WACS and the WAVES enlisted female soldiers and sailors to perform non-combat duties and free up more men for fighting. Women were recruited to work in skilled labor jobs that had previously been closed to them. “Rosie the Riveters” went into the factories to work, earn decent wages, develop camaraderie with women from diverse backgrounds and experience a degree of independence unknown before.

Traditions were being shaken to the core, and many Americans worried that our whole societal fabric would break down if women didn't devote themselves primarily to home and family. But the fact was, the Victorian “angel of the house” was a less appealing role model for young women of the 1930's and 40's who had seen a little of the world and felt they could help to make it a better place.

Museum Events

Thank you to all those participating in our fur raffle fundraiser. The first fur was won by Alex Gregory, the second by Judy Senteney & the third by schoolteacher, Linda Zemlicka.

On the MOWH's TV7 show, Bernie Wahl was interviewed by Souther. (yes, it is the other way around). This was a surprise change and nice to learn about Bernie's many versatile experiences in her yet so young life!

Greg Lamont and Emily Nance from KULR-TV, Channel 8 was given a tour of the Museum of Women's History by Brenda Eichele, which was broadcast on Greg's Sunday Roundtable on February 16, 2014.

It turns out that tour will be the last to be recorded about the historical facts and displays the MOWH has on the Street Level of 2824 3rd Avenue N, as that space will be vacated by MOWH. The address will now be just 2822 Third Avenue N. The transition from Street Level to Lower Level will be during April & done by May 15th.

All Optimum email addresses will be changing to “Charter” by June 30th, so the museum's email address is now museumofwomenshistory@charter.net

The Web site has been improved! Though it is still being worked on, it is a bit more impressive.

Web address is: www.museumofwomenshistory.org

Thank You 1ST QUARTER DONATIONS

MEMORIALS

DOROTHY McLAUGHLIN

FROM GEORGE SHERMAN

MAXINE WILSON

MORE 2014 'FRIENDS' MOWH

MAXINE ALLMAN

CAROLYN CROUCH

KAREN ERDIE

GLENDA FELDSIEN

MILDRED GREENE

ALEX GREGORY

DARLENE HOLMES

DOROTHY ISRAEL

DOROTHY JAROSZ

MARY KELSO

BETTY KLIMPER

MARY LADAS

SHERRY MANSHEIM

ROBERTA MEYERS

PATTY MILLER-SABIE

MARGARET PING

LUCILLE SCHNABEL

LUCIE SCHNABEL

JUDY SENTENEY

GEORGE SHERMAN

ROBY SHERMAN

SHIRLEY SHERMAN

MARGARET THOMPSON

LINDA VAN SKY

BERNIE WAHL

MAXINE WILSON

SANDY WYMAN

SUE ZELLER

PLUS SIX LIFE MEMBERS
& SEVEN FROM LAST QUARTER

EVEN THOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO FUNDRAISER AS
OF YET, THE FOLLOWING SENT IN DONATIONS IN
HONOR OF THE EVENT:

MARY LADAS

SHERRY MANSHEIM

MARGARET PING

LINDA VAN SKY



WINDOW DISPLAYS

January: It was cold & so much snow, so the window held a Winter Wonderland, along w/the furs that were to be raffled.

February: Featured many interesting items pertaining to the Suffrage Movement & announcing the 2014 Fundraiser.

March: More on the Suffrage era.

The Display: featuring Evelyn Cameron's early photography carried over into March thanks to the Western Heritage Center.



Woman of the Quarter
Margaret Tobin

“I don’t care what the newspapers say about me, as long as they say something.”

Margaret “Molly” was born into an Irish family in a tin-can river shack in Hannibal, Mo. As a young girl, she moved to the gold fields of Colorado & married Jim Brown who was several years her senior, and one of the few to ‘strike it rich’.

She traveled the world learning how to dress, curtsy, speak French and sing opera.

She was booked on the Titanic & was one of the ‘women & children first’, so had many stories of her night on a life boat. The “Unsinkable Mollie Brown” was a flamboyant philanthropist with a life of travel, adventure & generosity.