



Tumbleweed Trails

Jefferson Valley Museum Annual Newsletter

Fall
2024
Issue
#31

Board Members

Ron Hunt, President
Tim Mulligan, VP
Arlene Weber, Sec.
Lauri Rathie, Treas.

Directors

Jerry Fleege
Norm Tebay
Diane Jensen

INSIDE

MEMBERSHIP AND MEMORIALS

Updated listing of our members who have achieved Life Member through levels of Benefactor

News Bits from 1925

News tidbits from each month of 1925 and a selection of school photos

Renew or Help Find New Members

Form to renew your membership or pass it on to a friend or family member so they can become a supporter of the Jefferson Valley Museum.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF PRESERVING LOCAL HISTORY

The dream started more than 30 years ago and became a reality with the opening of the Jefferson Valley Museum in 1995. Our facility and exhibits have grown thanks to the support of memberships, memorials, donations, and grants from local and state organizations. The incredible undertaking involved many hours by Roy Millegan who started collecting history interviews and items back in the 1980s. Our original group of dreamers are mostly gone now but their dream is kept alive through the work of our current volunteers who continue to spend hundreds of hours each year taking care of artifacts and/or providing personal tours to our summer visitors.

MORE THAN JUST ROOMS OF ARTIFACTS

(photos taken from the Whitehall Ledger)

Our museum is more than just rooms full of artifacts from the past. We offer history education year-round. A partnership with the Whitehall Grade School third grade teachers brings students to the museum throughout the school year. They learn about a variety of topics from U. S. and local history. The September 2024 visit focused on communication. Students were shown an old telephone switchboard, learned about early postal services including the mailing of children, wrote a postcard to themselves which they received at school and made a pencil cup for their school desk. Third graders will be coming back several more times in early 2025 for more hands-on learning and who doesn't remember how much fun it was at that age to just get out of the classroom and away from school for a field trip.



History tours of our area have been offered during Frontier Days for more than a decade. A change was made in 2024 with the summer tours being discontinued and a fall option initiated. Last year was an October Ghost Walk tour of downtown Whitehall followed by a free movie at the Star Theater. This fall a walking tour of the Whitehall cemetery provided the opportunity to meet some of the dearly departed who contributed to the building of our community, valley, and even the State of Montana. The cemetery tour will be offered once more after the first of the year as an indoor presentation at the museum. Date and time will be announced on the museum Facebook page and the museum website.



TOUR OF GRAVES: Jefferson Valley Museum's Arlene Weber gives a history to Whitehall Cemetery tour guests. Photo courtesy LORIE STEERMAN

VISITATION SUMMARY, Nov 2023 through Oct. 2024: 2024 525 2023 583

YELLOWSTONE THEATRE
OCT. 10 and 11

**"MIGHTY LAK
A ROSE"**

Do you often wonder why certain pictures thrill you so deeply and linger in your memory and make you feel happier? Pictures like "The Miracle Man," "Humoresque" "Over the Hill." Such pictures are rare, but this is one of them.

Comedy—
"HIS NEW MAMMA"

25c and 50c

Wednesday Oct. 14

**"THE SIGNAL
TOWER"**

—WITH—
Virginia Valli
Wallace Beery
Rockliffe Fellows

In it you will see one of the most thrilling spectacles the screen has ever revealed—a train crashing from a trestle hundreds of feet high into a swirling, rushing flood below.

Comedy—
Reginald Denny in
"THE
LEATHER PUSHERS"

The Country Store is a Success—It Will Be Continued Indefinitely

20c and 35c

"For A Good Time Say Grace"

DANCE

August 21st at Grace, Mont.
DANCING \$1.00 PER COUPLE
Ladies Free

SUPPER 50c EXTRA
Served 12:00 to 12:30

SPLENDID FLOOR

Music by
ZEPHER TRIO
(NAUGHTEN'S RANCH)

CRYSTAL GLEN

17 miles (30 minutes) from
Whitehall on Yellowstone Trail
to Butte.

Highlights from 1925 in the JV News

January - Auto Accident Could Have Been Serious Last Wednesday, Mr. and Mrs. Moon and friend James Todd slid off the bridge near the Sparrell place resulting in their Ford taking a plunge in the water. Mrs. Moon was trapped under the car while the men folk were thrown out. All were shaken up but no one was seriously injured.

February - Firemen's Grand Ball is Great Success The ball, held on Washington's birthday at the Yellowstone Hall was a great success socially and financially. Green's Melody Makers furnished the tunes and the Palm Hotel a sumptuous dinner.

March - New Chicken House Being Built Just South of Town C. H. Miller and Son are constructing a model chicken house for Mr. Bob White, one of our popular barbers. Measuring 22x70 feet, it will be a fine addition where Mr. White can continue his successful business.

April - Jefferson Valley News Under New Ownership F. C. Fessenden steps down as Editor and Publisher of the Jefferson Valley News and turns over the duties to John W. and Clark Pace. Mr. J. W. Pace owned the Whitehall Jefferson Valley Zephyr from 1896 to 1909 and Clark Pace is a native of Whitehall.

May - Huntley Headed to State Meet Declamation contestants Edward Alexander and Chester Huntley competed last Tuesday. Mr. Huntley will represent Whitehall high school in the state meet in Missoula next week.

June - American Legion Raising Money for Orphans' Endowment The Whitehall Post of the American Legion is hoping to raise \$200.00 for the Orphans' Endowment fund. The fundraising is planned so no one will be tapped very hard. Whitehall has the only Legion post in the county.

July - Young Pennsylvanian Dies in Legion Ave. Car Wreck Franklin T. Williams, 22, of Pittston, PA died from injuries sustained in a car accident on Legion Avenue. Mrs. Thompson was pulling across Legion when Williams swerved toward the front of her car instead of going behind it. The car flipped and pinned Williams underneath. He later died at Mrs. Ziegler's hospital.

August - Some Excellent Ore Shipped From Whitehall John R. Hedley, of Long Beach, CA, shipped a car load of ore yesterday which is reported to be rich in lead, silver and gold. The ore was taken from the Minerva and Perhaps claims northeast of town.

September - Butte Driver Hits Toepfer Boy Gene Toepfer, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Toepfer was struck by a driver from Butte on the road in front of the family ranch about three miles southwest of town. The child escaped serious injury Sunday, and it was fortunate that Dr. Seivers of Butte happened along shortly after the accident.

October - Freshman Class Initiation Held Last Week Thirty-one members of the new Freshman class of Whitehall High were initiated by the Sophomore class under the supervision of class president Fred Noyd and class sponsor Jessica Kremer. The get-acquainted dance was well attended by the students, alumni and a few outsiders.

November - Whitehall Streets Getting Help More road material has arrived and is being placed on our city streets. More loads have been promised, we hope in time for winter weather.

December - Popularity Contest Exciting The contest for the most popular young lady at Whitehall High School is drawing interest and lots of votes from around the valley. With only 22 days remaining, Ethel Sleeman, Clara Belle Bushey and Shirley Miller are well in the lead over the other 16 young women.

WHS in 1925

GERTRUDE HILL
CAPT and
L-G

ESTHER HILL
R-G

MABLE LEWIS
SUB

MILDRED HUGHES
SUB

SARAH McARTHUR
R-C

ALPHA LARSON
J-C

MARGARET HUGHES
L-F

KATHRYN CLINTON
R-F

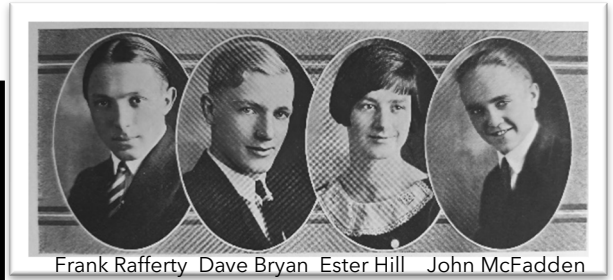
1925
CHAMPIONS
SOUTHERN
MONTANA
DISTRICT, and
CLAIMANTS
STATE
CHAMPION-
SHIP.

Girls Shown Hereon Were Awarded the Official "W" for Excellence in Girls' Basketball.

—:—

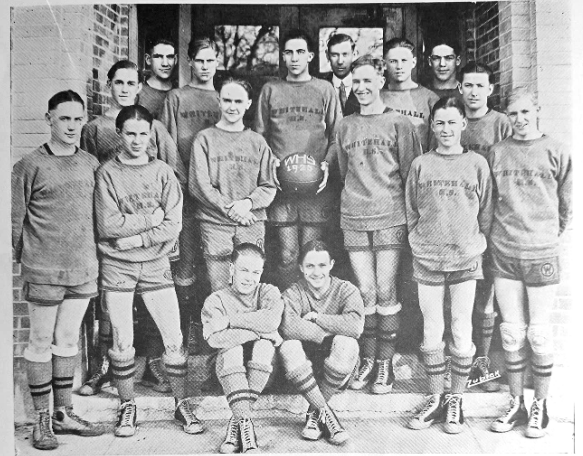
ALL DISTRICT SELECTIONS
Gertrude Hill, Guard
Margaret Hughes, Forward
Mildred Hughes, Center

Students' Association Officers



Frank Rafferty Dave Bryan Ester Hill John McFadden

Basketball Squad



(Back row from left to right)—Richard Bruner, Clarence Severson, Sylvester Wolverton (Captain), W. J. Bierrum (Coach), Tulsa Eaton, Allen Murphy.
(Middle row)—Raymond Painter, John McFadden, Jack Briscoe, Alvin White.
(Front row)—Almer Halverson, William Manlove, Gillis Carter, Dave Bryan.
(Seated)—Earl Mikesell, Frank Rafferty.

—GAMES PLAYED—

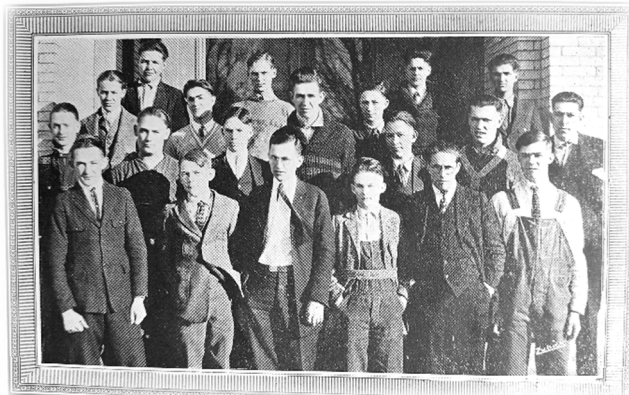
Whitehall 46	Twin Bridges 7	Whitehall 18	Three Forks 15
Whitehall 17	Butte 13	Whitehall 45	Broadwater 18
Whitehall 14	Gallatin 5	Whitehall 19	Jefferson 14
Whitehall 24	Jefferson 8	Whitehall 17	Powell 24
Whitehall 10	Billings 12	Whitehall 19	Beaverhead 15
Whitehall 18	Beaverhead 16	Whitehall 25	Sheridan 5
Whitehall 12	Anaconda 9	Whitehall (14) 0	Powell (18) 2
Whitehall 12	Gallatin 22	Whitehall 9	Anaconda 6

MODERN
HOTEL AND CAFE
Whitehall, Montana

MRS. LOT BORDEN
Owner and Manager

Agricultural Club

Its purpose: boosting the agriculture course, the fulfillment of school and community enterprise and forming closer bonds between the boys.



Jefferson Valley Museum—Membership Classifications as of October 31, 2024

Benefactors—GOLD: \$5,000 or More		Note: (D) denotes deceased	
Brooke, Tene (D) & Basil (D)	Huckaba, Ralph (D) & Violet (D)	Robert, Paris Do More Trust (D)	Wolverton, Robert (D) & Kristina
Bryan, John D.	Hunt, Ron & Sandy (D)	Sacry, Gayle & Kathryn	
Cowdrey, Buz (D) & Judy	Jardine, John (D)	Sims, Connie	
Ellerton, Catherine (D) & Jim (D)	O'Brien, Pat	Shaw, Dorothy (D)	

Benefactors—SILVER: \$2,500 to \$4,999			
Akerblom, Dr. Ingrid	Martinell, Bret & Jonie	Selby, Gay	
Brooke, Tom & Ann	Millegan, Roy (D) & Vera	Skillman, Susan Taylor	
Hoyenga, Kermit and Kay	Sacry Electric	Do More Trust—Paul Robert (D)	

Benefactors—BRONZE: \$1,000 to \$2,499			
Akin, June (D)	Holmes, Roger (D) & Edna (D)	Moore, Karan Metully	Scott, Duane & Ilene
Beyer, Roger	Hoopes, Clifford & Pat	Mulligan, Tim & Andrea	Scott, Kenneth & Margaret
Bray, William	Kountz, John & Roxcee	Miller, Roy	Wolverton, Kevin
Brooke, Janet & Jim Whaley	Landis, Lois (D)	Payne, Gordon (D) & Sharon (D)	Woodward, James & Carol
Edwards, Vicki	Larsen, Charles E.	Rocky Mountain Bank	Youngman, Collyn Bruner
Harrington, Tom & Twila	Lewis, Charles	Sacry, Jim & Nancy	
Hay, John (D)	Lyda, Merle (D) & LaVida (D)	Salsbury, Douglas	
Hawley, Trudy (D)	May, John	Schai, Neil (D) & LeAnne	

Patrons: \$500 to \$999			
Barkell, Clifford & Ethel (D)	Herbolich, Bill (D) & Donna (D)	Maichel, Helen	Shupe, Barbara & Mel
Brazill, William & Sharon	Hixson, Harry (D) & Donna	Manion, James (D)	Smith, Ernest & Pamela Smith Kuehl
Brunet, Kevin & Dana	Jenkin, Tom & Carilyn	Patrick, Bob (D) & Wilma (D)	Speck, Stan (D) & Karen
Casagrande, Bob (D) & Terrie	Jones, Mary Louise	Patrick, Glenn & Carol	Swanberg, Shirlee & Marvin (D)
Court, Virginia & Jim	Judd, Len & Gloria (D)	Pryor, Garland (D)	Swisher, Mike & Ann Akin
Davis, Shawn	Joy, John (D) & Sue	Rominger, Judith (Ross)	Tash, Don (D) & Penny
Fuller, Ron & Vicki	Kenworthy, Bill	Sacry, Dr. Dennis	Tebay, Norman & Michelle
Hampa, Ron & Nancy	Kreis, John & Sally	Shaw, Arcylle & Doug (D)	Weber, Arlene

Life Members: \$250 to \$499			
(D) indicated deceased Please note: when a single person or both in a couple are deceased, they are removed from the Life Member list.			
Black, Debbie Noble	Fleege, Jerry & JoLynn	Kneeland, Keith & Kristen	Stoll, Ilene
Adams, Bob & Carolyn	Hain, Ronald (D) & Alice	Kountz, Cord & Jodi	Samuelson, Maxine
Anderson, James	Geary, Tim	Lankford, Hugh (D) & Gertrude	Scharf, Darrell & Ann
Anderson, Rich	Getz, Garry	Loghry, Gary	Simon Ranch
Armstrong, John	Glover, Dan & Dottie	Ludwig, Gloria	Sjoberg, Leonard
Armstrong, Rhea	Grasser, Bertie	Maple, Terry	Sleeman, Jack (D) & Rita
Baird, Kennon	Grauman, Dave & Becky(D)	Marx, Glenn & Teri	Sologub, Joe & Terri
Brook, Grant & Holly Stiles	Hain, Lee	McFadden, John & Kathy	Suttner, Lee
Buckner, Steve	Hamilton, Keith & Connie	McClean, Barry & Trudy	Sweet, Ralph
Burton, Don & Diana	Hamlin, Ken & Patricia	Mears, Howard & Judy	Truckle, Jack & Donna
Carey, Tom (D) & Helen	Hanneman, Debbie & Family	Mears, John & Judith	Vigilante Electric
Carmody, Janice	Hanson, Martha	Millarke, Linda Weber	Volz, Brenda & Dan (D)
Charles, Bev	Hensleigh, Mary	Monforton, Tom & Rachel	Wall, Mike & Deanna
Clark, C. A. & Ramona	Holman, Pat	Oswald, Mike & Joyce	Waltee, Glenna & Don (D)
Coonrod, Richard & Rita	Housman, Curt & Deiadra	Partrick, Robert & Frances	Welton, Miriam Eddy
Culpepper, Jim & Barbara	Huckaba, Kipp & Dawn	Peterson, Allan & Bev	Weyer, Florence
Davis, Joe & Kay Ann	Johnson, Calvin & Michelle	Piazzola, Sandra	White, Kayel
Dawson, Jack	Kelley, Rick & Mikel	Rennie, Dick (D) & Dixie	Whitehall Senior Center
Edwards, Bev & Reid (D)	Kemp, Lynette	Rich, Greg & Tracie	Wideman, Chuck
Ely, Mary J.	Keogh, Gerry & Marty (D)	Roberts, Don (D) & Pat	Williams, Rick
Fellows, Tom	Kilburn, Cecil (D) & Betty Tatum	Sacry, Steve & Brenda	Wisner, Terry & Family

Commercial Members

Barrick Golden Sunlight Mine	Corner Store	Wagner Nursery & Landscape Co.	Whitehall Chamber of Commerce
Breining Homes, Inc.	Rocky Mountain Bank	Whitehall Ace Hardware	Whitehall Medical Clinic

Grantors

Barrick Golden Sunlight Mine	Jefferson Valley Community Foundation	Pat O'Brien Foundation	Town of Whitehall
Country Store	Jessie A. Cole Foundation	Montana Office of Tourism	

Memorials Received During 2024 (November 2023 through October 2024)

Ballard, John	Doris Durnam, Rayleen	Hinton Brand, Sharon	Marzette, Monte	Weidinger, Larry
Brown, Barbara	Forcella, Teleo	Jackson, Sam	Sacry, Sandy	
Dove, Alice	Hain, Ron	Joy, John	Smolik, Bonnie	

We wish to thank all of those that remembered someone with a memorial to the museum. Names are engraved on a brass plate and added to our MEMORIAL BOARD.

MEMBERSHIP DUES—Life members and above are encouraged to make donations to help move to the next level of membership classification. The previous page has a list of members who have become life or above. We sincerely thank all who contribute since this is what keeps your museum open from year to year. If you know of someone who is interested in becoming a museum member, please have them contact us about the various categories we have listed below or give them the application in this newsletter. If there are questions about your classification or any changes that should be made, please contact us.

Make all payments to: **Jefferson Valley Museum, PO Box 902, Whitehall, MT 59759.**

IF YOU NEED A RECEIPT FOR TAX PURPOSES, PLEASE REQUEST ONE WHEN REMITTING.

MEMBERSHIP Types: Annual (January through December)		One-time Donations or <u>Accumulated</u> Total Contributions	
Active Member	\$10 per year	Life Member	\$250–\$499
Family Member	\$20 per year	Patron	\$500–\$999
Commercial Member	\$100 per year	Benefactor—Bronze	\$1000 to \$2499
Sustaining Member	\$25 per year	Benefactor—Silver	\$2500 to \$4999
Boardwalk planks are \$35.00 each. Contact the museum for additional information about ordering a plank.		Benefactor—Gold	\$5000 or more

All members are entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting on the first Thursday of April. These meetings are held at 7 P.M. at a location to be announced. There will be a vote for open Director positions, business discussion of importance to the membership and a vote, if necessary. Afterward our program will begin with a Montana history review. **Our presenter for the April 3, 2025 Annual Meeting is author Sally Thompson providing information from her book "Disturbing the Sleeping Buffalo", history facts about Montana that many may not know.** Put this date on your calendar now so you can join us for what is certain to be another interesting speaker and topic as we celebrate the start of our 30th season.

Museum Email	Museum Telephone	Face Book Page	Website
jeffersonvalley746@gmail.com	(406) 287-7813	Facebook.com/Jefferson Valley Museum	https://jeffersonvalleymuseum.org

The Jefferson Valley Museum was envisioned, developed and is still maintained by local volunteers and supported financially through donations and memberships. The museum is open to all people with no entrance fee. To ensure the continued operation of the museum, which helps to preserve our valley's past for future generations, **WE NEED NEW MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS.**

You can help by remaining a supporter and encouraging others to become a member supporter. Annual member contributions help pay for maintenance, monthly bills and the cost of preserving donated artifacts as do memorials made in honor of a family member or friend.

All members (Family has two votes) are entitled to a vote at the Museum Annual Meeting held on the first Thursday of April.

You can renew your support for the JV Museum by completing the form below or passing it on to a family member or friend.

Questions? Contact the museum at 406-287-7813 (landline). Leave a message if no answer. We will respond in about one week if message is left after 4 PM on a Monday outside of our open season (Memorial Day Weekend - Sept. 15).



JEFFERSON VALLEY MUSEUM MEMBER APPLICATION or RENEWAL

Annual Membership Types: (Check one)

Individual \$10.00 Family \$20.00 Sustaining \$25.00 Commercial \$100.00

One-Time Membership Levels (or cumulative total from annual memberships):

Life Member \$250 - \$499 Patron \$500 - \$999 Benefactor Bronze \$1000 - \$2499

Benefactor Silver \$2500 - \$4999 Benefactor Gold \$5000+

Name (or Business Name for Commercial): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ Email (Optional) _____ @ _____

Make checks payable to JEFFERSON VALLEY MUSEUM Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail to: Jefferson Valley Museum PO Box 902 Whitehall, MT 59759

The Jefferson Valley Museum is a 501c3 organization. Contributions are tax-deductible under current IRS codes.