Ringing in the New Year

On the Road Again
Preparation for another amazing Road Show

With winter settled in all around us, and snow beginning to pile up there is no better time to start daydreaming about your next summer road trip! This coming June our award winning, bi-annual touring conference will feature the history of White Sulphur Springs and Meagher County.

The Montana Preservation Road Show launches from a different small town every other year with the mission to immerse participants in the history and culture of rural Montana, spotlight great local preservation efforts, and raise awareness of the importance of preserving Montana’s historic buildings and cultural landscapes.

With generous support from the US Forest Service and the National Endowment for the Humanities, we will experience barns and homesteads, commercial buildings, depots, hotels, railroads, museums and the history of prominent locals from Ivan Doig and Taylor Gordon to the Ringling Circus family. Along the way, veteran preservationists, local historians, architects, archaeologists, authors, and professors all join in to provide a well-rounded portrait of the historic places that define Meagher County and her people.

The Road Show welcomes history lovers of all kinds, from everyday enthusiasts to professionals. Backroad adventurers, art & literature enthusiasts, and lifelong learners will also feel right at home amongst our tours, lectures, and daily activities. For those who can’t attend the full conference, several events will be open to the public including workshops, the MPA Preservation Awards Dinner, and an afternoon walking tour of downtown.

Registration opens February 1, 2020, so book your room and get ready to head out for the 2020 Montana Preservation Road Show, June 10-13 in White Sulphur Springs.

Grants Available

NEW! State Historic Preservation Office
Due: January 6, 2020
Revitalizing Montana’s Rural Heritage
Grants are now available to rural property owners (pop. 50,000 or less) hoping to rehabilitate and repair of historic properties. These reimbursement grants will be between $10,000 and $100,000.

https://mhs.mt.gov/Shpo/RMRH

Montana History Foundation
Due: January 10, 2020
In 2020, $160,000 in grant funding will be available. The Montana History Foundation is offering grants of up to $10,000 for projects that help preserve and protect Montana’s history. Open Now!

https://www.mthistory.org/grants/

New! Montana Department of Commerce Preservation Grants
Due: February 28, 2020
Thanks to the passage of Senate Bill 338, the new Montana Historic Preservation Grant Program will pair historic preservation and economic revitalization. This program will address both the financial and preservation gaps of projects for museums and historic properties big & small.

https://tinyurl.com/wa9wk2d
Mary-ment & Joy!
Meet the New MPA Restoration Director

As the new restoration director at MPA, I am excited by this new opportunity and hope to meet many of you in the coming months. Coming from a carpentry background, I’m hoping to bring more hands-on trainings and chances to get involved in field work activities to the area. From my experience teaching window restoration, I’ve found that learning even a small portion of a trade brings a greater appreciation for the project and a realization that it can be easier to save some buildings than people might think.

One of my other passions is trying to get more women involved in the trades. I, myself, didn’t get involved until after college, mostly because it was just never an option that was presented to me, though I always loved working with my hand and making stuff. My hope is to reach out to younger girls to give them a chance to get their hands dirty and foster an interest at an early age. Also, getting more adult women involved and giving them an experience that maybe they’ve never had before (or expand their interest!)

Having just moved here from out of state, I haven’t seen much of Montana yet, but am looking forward to traveling around and seeing what the state has to offer – for work and for play! When I’m not organizing trainings, you’ll find me paddling around the waters of western Montana or fiddling around my little garage shop.

- MPA Restoration Director, Mary Webb

¡Una Gran Celebracion!
Finishing up the Butte All Nation’s workshops

After a year of making new friends and learning about the heritage and culture of Butte’s ethnic communities, our part in the All-Nations Projects will culminate with four beautiful exhibits on Butte’s rich cultural heritage. With some help from friend and board member Dr. Rafael Chacon, the final workshop on Hispanic and Mexican heritage drew the series of gatherings to a close. Across four workshops, we saw nearly 100 people, who joined in to share the history of their family’s journey to Butte and relive the memories of their young lives and traditions. The incredible Butte Public Archives staff took a larger number of items on loan to share with the wider community and was able to give each participant the knowledge of how to best care for these items as well as a packet of materials to aid their efforts.

The Archives will be hosting a correlating exhibit with each ethnic workshop over the course of 2020 and will give final All-Nations presentation. The MPA would like to extend a huge thank you to our generous sponsors at the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Greater Montana Foundation, Friends of the Butte Archives, KBOW & Butte Broadcasting, and all of the families who participated for making these unbelievable workshops possible.

The History of Fish
Researching the Bozeman Fish Technology Center

Ringing in our 2020 projects, the MPA has partnered with the USFWS to help document the history of the Bozeman Fish Technology Center (BFTC). The BFTC has lived many lives and operated in numerous capacities since opening as a national fish hatchery in the mid-1890s. Aside from hatching and researching fish, the grounds have served as both a natural respite and gateway to outdoor adventure for decades. As an ever-growing facility, buildings have come and gone over the years, but the BFTC includes at least two of the original structures. This new project aims to reevaluate the existing National Register listing for the Superintendents Quarters and add several other buildings to the listing including the Second Quarters built in 1919 and the carriage house built in the early 1920s. Work is also underway to create a defined historic boundary around the campus and a review of the stone entrance pillars is underway. We feel fortunate to have spent a few days touring the historic grounds, feeding fish, and working with the incredible staff at the BFTC. Who knew the history of fish could be so much fun?
We Could Not Do It Without You.

The Montana Preservation Alliance is proud to say that we don’t ever accomplish anything on our own. It is the dedicated members and volunteers you see below who enable us to rescue endangered properties, restore windows, survey historic main streets, plan for the future of historic preservation in Montana, and so much more. This holiday season we would like to extend our gratitude to all who have helped to empower our communities and save history.

We Could Not Do It Without You.

Special thanks to those who chose to give generously in anonymity
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Give the gift of preservation today! You or your loved one will receive a one-year subscription to our Preserve Montana newsletter, notices of upcoming events, updates on statewide preservation issues, and discount admission to the Montana Preservation Road Show and workshops throughout the year.

Advanced Membership:
- Platinum $2500
- Golden $1000
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- Titanium $75
- Aluminum $50
- Iron $25

Endowment Giving
A gift to the MPA Endowment fund makes a lasting impact on historic preservation across Montana, while helping you save on taxes. A one time gift of $3,000, $5,000, or more can help promote the MPA mission and empower future historic preservation projects.

Donate Online
If cutting a check just isn’t your style visit us online at PreserveMontana.org/donate to give to historic preservation causes today.

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