

Upper Swan Valley Historical Society

NEWS & NOTES



SUMMER 2019

DISCOVERY—COLLECTION—PRESERVATION—EDUCATION

VOL. XIII, NO. 2

Trina Arnold *Valued Volunteer*

When Trina Arnold moved to the Swan Valley in 2015, she began learning about the place by reading many books from the Swan Valley Museum and the library.



“I wanted to learn as much as I could about the valley and the people who homesteaded in the area. My interest took me to the museum, where I now volunteer,” she said.

Trina was born and raised in Sonoma County, Calif., which is about 40 miles north of San Francisco and considered wine country now, she said.

Trina attended public schools and earned a BA and teaching credentials at Sonoma State College.

She taught kindergarten for 20 years and 2nd grade for 18 years in the same public school district in Petaluma, Calif., near Sonoma. She retired in 2008.

Trina’s husband John also attended public schools in Sonoma. They were married on July 4, 1976, the country’s bicentennial year. They have one son, Matt who lives in Condon with his wife Vicky and two sons.

“We always dreamed about living in

Continued page 6

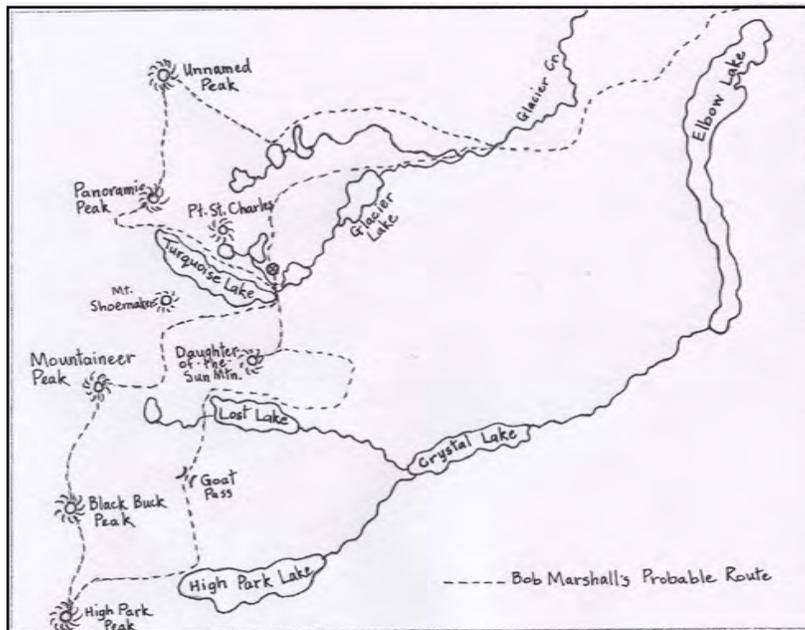
Bob Marshall’s Epic Trip of 1928: The Final Two Days

By Steve Lamar

This story also ran in the July 4, 2019 Seeley Swan Pathfinder

A legendary advocate for wild country, 27 year-old Bob Marshall hiked an astounding 288 miles in eight days during the summer of 1928. Much of his arduous backcountry trip took place in the wilderness that would later bear his name.

Over the years I have explored and hiked much of the area in the Mission Mountains that Bob Marshall visited during the final two days of his trip 91 years ago. I climbed most of the mountains he climbed and camped in the same area he camped. While Bob Marshall averaged 36 miles a day on his journey, I averaged 6-7 miles per day at best. After



Map by Sharon Lamar

examining his careful and detailed journal entries, I traced the probable route he took on the last two days of his trip (see map).

Bob rode up to the Flathead National Forest Office in Kalispell from Missoula where he worked as a USFS forester at the Northern Rocky

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Bob Marshall, continued from page 1

Mountain Forest Experiment Station. He caught a ride to a trailhead in the Echo Lake area to begin his trip on August 28. During his epic journey he hiked across the Swan Range, down the South Fork of the Flathead River, across the Swan River Valley, up the Mission Mountain Range, and down the Clearwater River drainage to Seeley Lake. He climbed 12 mountains, visited four fire lookouts, and walked an average of 36 miles a day during his eight-day trip.

A noted hiker with incredible stamina and endurance, Bob regularly took long-distance hikes. As one source noted, friends and acquaintances rarely hiked with Bob a second time because his pace was too fast and the distances too great.

Bob kept meticulous records of his trip in a field journal. He seemed fascinated with numbers, noting his daily mileage, starting times and arrival times. He recorded exact distances between locations, including total distances for each day.

The final two days of Bob Marshall's grand adventure were spent hiking across Swan Valley, exploring the Turquoise Basin area in the Mission Mountains, and finally hiking all the way to Seeley Lake.

After spending the majority of the first six days hiking and climbing in the South Fork, Bob crossed Gordon Pass, and spent the night at the Holland Lake Guard Station located at the present-day Holland Lake beach.

On the seventh day he was on the move by 7 am. He hiked past the Gordon Ranch and continued along the "Elbow Lake Road" that led to the present-day Lindbergh Lake. He proceeded to Elbow Lookout and headed to Glacier Creek arriving at noon. From there it took him a mere one hour and ten minutes to hike to Lagoon Lake arriving at 1:10 pm.

The original trail from Glacier Lake to Lagoon Lake was shorter in length and steeper and rougher than the gentle grade of today's route. At this point Bob had walked 17 and a half miles. For many people this would have been more than enough hiking for one day. But the legendary hiker was just getting started.

Before Bob Marshall's visit, in 1922, well-known USFS employees Theodore Shoemaker and Jack Clack led a group of photographers and writers into the Mission Mountains. The objective of the exploratory trip sponsored by the Northern Pacific Railway Company was to scout the area for future tourism promotion. They named many of the landmarks in the area. Shoemaker, along with other members of the Montana Mountaineers (an outdoor club from Missoula) made the first recorded ascent of Mountaineer Peak in 1923. That same year Shoemaker created a map of the area titled, "*Turquoise Basin—Flathead National Forest.*" (The map on page 1 was based on this map.)

Continued page 4

Outfitting stories entertain crowd, add to the historic record

About 60 people attended the August 3 Outfitting and Guiding Celebration fundraiser. Storytellers included Leonard Moore, Tom Parker, Rod Boothby, Rich Nelson, Ellie Greenough for Lloyd Hahn, Pat Tabor and audience members. The event was recorded and videotaped.



Leonard Moore recited poetry and told stories of his family's lifetime of outfitting.

Candy the mule.



Tom Parker talked about how meeting the old time guides, such as Ed Beck, Russ Fox, Harold Haasch, Joe Wilhelm and others, shaped his perspective and helped him with his outfitting career.

Who We Are

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News & Notes is created
and distributed by the
Upper Swan Valley
Historical Society. Be-
come a member, donor,
or volunteer.

USVHS welcomes all
volunteers! If you would
like to volunteer contact
President Steve Lamar,
754-2745, or Colleen
Kesterson, 754-2377.
Your support is greatly
appreciated!

Outfitting Storytelling Packing Demonstration

Rod Boothby, Tom Parker, J.D. Harding
and Candy the mule gave a packing
demonstration at the outfitting and guid-
ing celebration.



USVHS RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

Every little bit helps. Your support keeps the Upper Swan Valley Historical Society viable. Raffle sales help us offer programs, create exhibits and pay the many expenses, such as electricity, maintenance, insurance, taxes and upgrades. Thank you for lending a hand by participating in this charitable raffle.



#1 Western Saddle by Red Ranger
Saddlery, #1154. Est. value
\$300. Donated by Susan Novosel.
Red ticket



#2 Karastan area rug, 8.8'x12', used,
wool, Heriz pattern, moth free,
estimated value \$700, donated by Susan
Novosel. **Blue ticket.**



#3 Quilt, 64"x64", penguin
theme, estimated value \$150,
made and donated by Sally Walker.
Yellow ticket



#4 Truck load of gravel (12 yards) from
Matthew Brothers Construction, \$220
value. Delivered between the Summit and
Salmon Prairie. **Green ticket**

Ticket Prices: \$5 each or 4 for \$15

An unlimited number of tickets will be sold in the USVHS August newsletter and will be available at the Swan Valley Museum and Swan Valley Library. The drawing will be at the USVHS Annual Meeting October 18. Winners need not be present to win. Raffle proceeds support the Upper Swan Valley Historical Society, Inc.

Bob Marshall continued from 2

No doubt Bob left the bulk of his camping gear at Lagoon Lake where the trail ended. Shoemaker had marked this spot on his map as “Area Containing Practical Camp Sites.” It seems almost certain that Bob used Shoemaker’s map to guide him on his journey.

From Lagoon Lake he traipsed onward to Turquoise Lake, proceeded around the lake to a pass located between Mount Shoemaker (8644’) and Daughter-of-the-Sun Mountain (8777’), continued on to the Mountaineer Lake area, and climbed to the summit of Mountaineer Peak (9261’).

After he ascended Mountaineer Peak, he scampered along the ridge in a southerly direction, climbed Black Buck Peak (8870’), descended down the easterly slope where he again headed in a southerly route and ascended High Park Peak (8480’). At this point in the day, Bob had walked 25 miles and climbed three mountains. But the famed hiker wasn’t finished as there were still peaks to climb and miles to walk.

Bob headed back to camp using a different route. He proceeded to walk to High Park Lake and continued half-way around the northwest shore. From there he hiked up to Goat Pass and dropped down to Lost Lake. He worked his way past the lake, found a route up the cliffs into the Seepela Lake area where he summited the Daughter-of-the-Sun Mountain. Perhaps even the renowned Bob Marshall himself was feeling the toll of this rugged terrain. In the waning daylight, he worked his way downward toward his camp.

All in all, on this September day, he trekked 34 miles and climbed four mountains. According to notes in his journal, he made camp at 8:35 pm, built a fire at 8:50 pm and ate supper at 9:15 pm.

On the final day of his remarkable journey, Bob woke early at 4:45 am and was back on the trail again. He reached the top of Point St. Charles (8323’) at 6:50 am. No doubt he enjoyed the sunrise for the next 20 minutes. He then hooked around into the high basin south of the peak, continued on to Lone Tree Pass, and climbed up and around the ridge to the original Panoramic Peak (8650’). From here he ran the ridge in a northerly direction to an unnamed peak (7752’) before scurrying down to Heart Lake. He proceeded down to Glacier Creek, and eventually hooked around to Elbow Lake. He took a leisurely 50-minute rest break at the lake before pushing onward. He walked to the main dirt road, turned south and walked to the Seeley Lake Post Office where he ate supper 9:30 pm.

The final day of his trip he walked 42 miles and climbed three peaks. To say Bob Marshall was tired when he went to bed at exactly 10:10 pm that night might be an understatement.

USVHS 2019 CALENDAR

Upper Swan Valley Historical Society Fundraiser Celebrating Outfitting and Guiding history

August 3 at Swan Valley Museum.

Huckleberry Festival, Swan Lake

August 10, USVHS booth.

Museum closes, Labor Day, September 2

School Tours

September/October at Swan Valley Museum.

Tour of the Arts

October 12-13 at Swan Valley Museum.

USVHS Annual Meeting and Raffle

October 18, 1PM at Swan Valley Community Hall.

Frostbite Festival Holiday & Bake Sale

December 7, 10AM-3PM at Swan Valley School, Saturday.

Swan Valley Museum

Open in Winter by Appointment

Call (406) 754-2745 or (406) 754-2238

Summer: Memorial Day - Labor Day

Friday - Sunday, 12pm - 4pm

info@SwanValleyHistoricalSociety.org

www.SwanValleyHistoricalSociety.org

Steve Lamar or Fern Kauffman are the people to call
for accessibility questions (phone numbers above).



What is it?



Sharon Gressle collection

USVHS Priorities

The USVHS priorities are the preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage of the Swan Valley. As such our focus is on:

- Discovering and assembling records of historical work.
- Providing educational outreach and research opportunities.
- Preserving historical artifacts and sites of significance.

Recent Accomplishments

- First Fridays storytelling.
- Hardened surface trail around the museum grounds, improving access for all.
- Clothier Family Tree.
- "100 Years of Fire" celebration.
- Maki Cabin open with a tool exhibit.
- Swan Valley Digital History Tour for smart phones with the new Upper Swan app (see ad).
- Ductless heat pump for the Swan Valley Museum.
- Revision of Chronology book.
- The Huck Book reprint.
- Outfitting & Guiding Celebration and Fundraiser at Swan Valley Museum.
- Continuing cataloguing of donations.

Upcoming and Continuing Projects

- School tours at the Museum.
- Tour of the Arts.
- Annual meeting,
- Frostbite Festival.
- Digital archive system.
- Oral History Project Phase II.

How You Can Help see page 7.

July 4th 2019



Our 2019 July 4th parade float featured a fire fighter in a fire shelter (mannikin), Smokey Bear, Uncle Sam (Dixie Meyer) and firefighters (Sue Cushman, Barb Raible and Helene Michael). Tom Michael drove the truck.

The USVHS "100 Years of Fire" theme this year was in remembrance of the 1919 fires that burned much of the west side of the valley, as well as the fires since then that have affected the people and forests here for a century.

Swan Valley Digital History Tour

Take a self-guided tour of the Swan Valley Museum and historic sites in the Swan Valley by downloading this free app to access photos, audio, video and narrative, using your cell phone or other electronic devices. To download, visit the app store for your device and search for the "Upper Swan" app (see logo above). Also available with the NextExitHistory.com free app.



Who Visits the Museum?

By the Fourth of July 2019, visitors to the Swan Valley Museum & Heritage Site had come from Alberta, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Netherlands, Oregon, Osaka, Seattle, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vienna and Wash. D.C., as well as Montana.

How do we know? We invite every visitor to sign the guest register.

Thank You for the Heat Pump

We put out a request for assistance to acquire a ductless heat pump for the Swan Valley Museum and many responded. We are grateful to Blackfoot and the private donors for their financial contributions, and to Missoula Electric Coop for a generous rebate which significantly reduced the cost. The heat pump was installed in April this year by High Mountain Heating and Air, Seeley Lake. It is already saving energy and reducing operating expenses at the Museum. It will stabilize the temperature and protect valuable artifacts and exhibits. The heat pump is nearly paid for.

Thank you to all who helped.



Arnold cont. from p. 1

the mountains,” Trina said. “John and Matt discovered the valley in 2014 on a road trip and decided it was to be our new home.”

Four generations of the family originally moved here in 2015. Trina’s mother who will soon be 99 moved back to California after two years to live with Trina’s brother.

Trina spends much of her days with her two grandsons, Aric and Ben.

She also volunteers at the Swan Valley Library on Fridays. She started doing story time but now shelves books and helps Librarian Colleen Kesterson in any way she can. Trina helps with the library’s parade entry and the used book sale on July 4th.

At the Swan Valley Museum, Trina said, “I am enjoying volunteering. I have met some great people and learned a lot.”

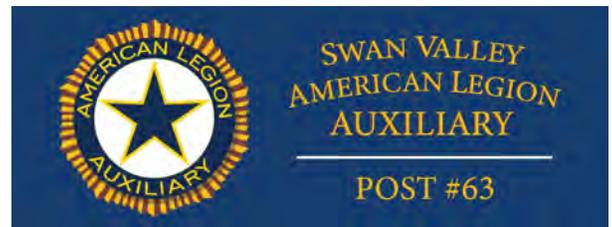
A thank you for off-hour Swan Valley Museum visit

Dave Stenhouse asked USVHS President Steve Lamar to give a special thanks to Fern Kauffman for opening the museum on a Thursday when his brother and family were visiting. Dave wanted especially to show off his father's and grandfather's military uniforms that are on display. He said he greatly appreciates everything we have done at the museum.

The Swan Valley Museum can be visited year-round by appointment on days when the museum is closed. Board members or any of the docent volunteers can give a tour. Call 406-754-2745 or 406-754-2238.

Membership? Have you paid your annual dues since July 1?

The USVHS is successful because of the support of members and donors. An annual membership runs from July 1 - June 30 each year. This schedule works because it allows people to join or renew during the July 4 celebration when many people are at home in the valley. A membership begun now will be active until June 30, 2020. Please join if you haven't already.



Recipe

Huckleberry Crisp by Georgina Staggs

From *The Huck Book*

Crumb mixture

1-3/4 Cup oatmeal
 2 Cups flour
 1 Cup brown sugar
 1 Cup butter, melted
 1/4 tsp. salt
 1 tsp. cinnamon

Topping

1 Cup pecans, chopped

Filling

1-1/2 Cups sugar
 3 Heaping Tbsp. flour
 1 to 1-1/2 Cups water
 4 Cups huckleberries
 1 Tbsp. lemon juice

Mix crumb mixture until crumbly. Put half into greased and floured (9x13) pan. Top with half of the pecans. In a saucepan combine sugar, flour and 1 to 1-1/2 cups water and simmer until thick. Remove from heat and add 1 Tbsp. lemon juice, then add the 4 cups of huckleberries. Pour over the crumb mixture. Sprinkle remaining crumbs and pecans on top. Bake at 375 F for one hour. Serve with ice cream or whipped cream.

Note: You may cut this recipe in half.

What is it?

Answer

3-Way Braid-Aid tool set for braiding three strands of a rug or a mat.

Sharon Gressle
 Collection

USVHS Volunteers Make It Happen



HISTORY LIVES HERE

Support the discovery, collection, interpretation and preservation of local historic and cultural resources.

We thank you, and future generations will thank you, too!!

The Upper Swan Valley Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit corporation. Federal Tax ID #77-0666044.

Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations. Contributions will be acknowledged by letter.

Please make all checks payable to: Upper Swan Valley Historical Society, Inc., POB 1128, Condon, MT 59826

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: July 1—June 30

Individual: \$25 Family \$35 Business: \$100

CONTRIBUTIONS: Amount—\$ _____

Memorial: ___ In honor of: _____

Name: _____

MULTI-YEAR PLEDGE: 3 YEAR _____ 5 YEAR _____

Total pledge amount \$ _____ Amt paid now \$ _____

Choose payment schedule: Annual: ___ Quarterly: ___ Monthly: _____

Undesignated contribution or pledge: _____

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SIGNATURE _____ Date: _____

How Can You Help? Keeping the Swan Valley Museum open requires a team of dedicated volunteers, inspired members and consistent financial support in order to have a viable operation and be able to pay the many expenses such as electricity, heat, insurance, taxes, maintenance and upgrades. To this end we are actively growing our membership and inviting new donors along on our exciting journey. As the saying goes “many hands make light work” and this endeavor is no different. We invite you to begin, or continue, your support of the USVHS through membership, volunteering or donations (one time, monthly, yearly or lifetime options). We are proud to call Swan Valley our home and look forward to preserving our rich history! Thank you for making a difference! Please contact Steve Lamar, President at (406) 754-2745 or info@SwanValleyHistoricalSociety.org.

We thank you for your generous support.

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Wilhelm Collection photo



Partial funding for this project was provided by Montana's Cultural Trust.

The USVHS is funded in part by coal severance taxes paid based upon coal mined in Montana and deposited in Montana's Cultural and Aesthetic Projects Trust Fund.



Daughter-of-the-Sun Mountain in the Mission Mountains, one of four peaks Bob Marshall climbed in one day in 1928 (see story page 1). Luke Lamar is in the foreground of this photo taken in 2019. Steve Lamar photo

Inside

Bob Marshall's epic journey in the Mission Mountains, page 1.

Photos of outfitting and guiding celebration, pages 2 & 3.