

The
Brinton
Museum

NEWSLETTER vol 17 no. 2

Director's RUMINATIONS

Ken Schuster *Director & Chief Curator*



Fall is quickly fading into winter and with that comes the end of the year, so let's reflect upon The Brinton Museum's 2016 year.

We opened the year with our first show in February centered upon art produced by 5th graders from Sheridan County in our **All-Schools Student Art Show**, which was quickly followed up by our **Annual Illustrator Show** featuring the work of Victor Juhasz. Throughout the year we hosted educational programs centered upon our **To Honor the Plains Nations** exhibition as well as numerous meet-the-artist events which are in fact education programs for those of us not enrolled in schools, featuring poets, like Henry Real Bird, writers, such as Robert J. Randisi & Christine Matthews and artists of the caliber of Everett Raymond Kinstler and Clyde Aspevig. These programs are the Brinton Museum's *raison d'être* because first and foremost our mission is education. So we were thoroughly excited about our proposed new Brinton Education Center.

The passing of Forrest E. Mars, Jr. in July has necessitated a changing of the institution's plans. The paradigm that was The Brinton Museum in early 2016 is evolving into a leaner institution which is just as committed to education as before, although be it on a much tighter budget and with less staff. TBM faces a time in which we need the help, resolve and financial support of all of our patrons, donors, members and staff, so that we can move The Brinton Museum into its next phase. In this stage we do not

plan to forsake Forrest's goals and standards for the institution but we recognize that in order to achieve them we need to call upon the resources of many and not just a few individuals.

Education remains at the forefront of our mission, so a new Ed Center continues to be on the agenda, it just is taking a backseat to our reorganizing the institution's operations. As a first step, this coming summer we hope to open the Brinton Leather Shop in the Brinton Bunkhouse which is attached to the Ranch Foreman's House. However the Printmaking facility, classroom/exhibition/presentation spaces, staff offices and board room are on hold. I urge you all to remain positive about TBM's potential because our staff and Board of Directors remain steadfast in their support of our efforts.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to help us ensure our commitment to education here at The Brinton Museum or discuss a plan in which we can work together to make it all a reality.



Following Helen Brinton's desire "that the institution be a source of education and enjoyment to all"

IN MEMORIAM

The Brinton Museum sadly lost four very close friends this year and we mourn their loss and extend our heartfelt sympathy to their respective family members whom they loved and cherished.

Dearest Brinton Family,

*By now most of you are aware of the passing of our dear friend and most ardent patron **Forrest E. Mars, Jr.** Indeed Forrest was a true citizen of the world and could have lived in any corner of it, but Big Horn, WY was his home, and he was a proud and active member of our community as witnessed by his many gifts to the numerous public efforts around Sheridan County, not the least of which was made to this institution. We say farewell to our beloved friend and neighbor with sad hearts but with the enduring memory of a kind and generous man who enjoyed helping worthy causes, not for the glory, nor for the honor, but for the enduring benefit they bring the community.*

Donations in memory of Forrest E. Mars, Jr. are still arriving, at this time we are at almost 100 individual donations which also include art and artifacts given to the museum in his honor, details coming this spring.

Virginia T. Patton was a kind wonderful person with a multitude of accomplishments too numerous to list here. But, Jin will always be known to me as the person who cemented the friendship between myself, her and John by spending hours with me and my fellow researcher, Jim Jereb studying their extensive collection of Hans Kleiber fine art prints in the basement of their home

on Crescent Drive in the early 1990s. It is impossible to say enough positive things about the Pattons and their generosity was aptly displayed when they gifted their fine collection to The Brinton Museum in order to share it with the community and the world in the fall of 2014.

Edwin “Darracott” Vaughan, Jr. was a world-renown urologist who moved to Sheridan with his beloved wife Anne in 2010 and quickly made themselves an integral part of the community and of our friends and membership base here at The Brinton Museum. As a mark of his gracious good heartedness Darracott helped us arrange the loan of his portrait from Cornell Medical Center in NYC for our Everett Raymond Kinstler Show here at TBM. His presence was sorely missed by all at the opening.

Robert L. Wallick our beloved neighbor and friend was a truly talented individual whose breadth of knowledge spanned and mastered disciplines as diverse as art, aviation and golf. Bob care passionately about art as well as our natural environment and was an avid supporter of the Powder River Resource Council and The Brinton Museum. Big Horn, this institution and the state of Wyoming have benefitted greatly thanks to the fact that Bob and his wife Joan have called this area home for over 50 years.



From the new **CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

Robert G. Berger

I am thrilled to be a part of the continuing legacy that is The Brinton, as are the other dedicated members of the board. We will strive to keep the museum accessible and interesting for the people of our community and our visitors. We are highly fortunate to have an extraordinary new museum facility, arising from the generosity of Forrest Mars and many other contributing

donors. Now we have the opportunity to keep The Brinton operating and sustainable for the long-term to serve its continuing missions of education, historic preservation and display of great works of art. With your help as committed volunteers, generous donors and loyal members, The Brinton has become and will remain a key part of our rich local cultural environment.

The Brinton Museum **BOARD**

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as of December 5, 2016

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**Plus over 400 Contributor, Family, Individual,
Senior & Student members, THANK YOU!!**



EXHIBITIONS

Barbara McNab *Curator of Exhibitions*

Summer and fall at The Brinton Museum are perhaps our busier times of the year and this summer and fall were no exceptions. Our first **Bighorn Rendezvous Art Show & Sale** held in August was a huge success. More than a year in the planning, this premier event showcased outstanding art by thirty-seven members of the prestigious Northwest Rendezvous Group of Artists and nine invited guest artists.

Canyons & Crescendos: Music of the American West also happened in August and featured a lecture in the Brinton Pavilion by Dr. Ariel Downing who spoke on the fascinating history of popular cowboy songs. To bring to life that ol' time feelin' of songs sung under the light of a silvery moon, Sheridan-area musician Dave Munsick illustrated a selection of cowboy songs on his guitar. Iconic standards such as Red River Valley and the Irish poem-turned-song Dogies Lament were among the popular musical compositions included in the evening's program.

The Brinton's 4th annual **Small Works Show** which opened in September included over 300 works by more than 150 diverse artists who were invited to create pieces keeping closely to an 8" x 10" format. **The Spear-O @ The Brinton Museum** exhibit in October featured a suite of paintings by eleven talented artists who spent a week in July on retreat at Northern Wyoming Community College District's historic Spear-O Mountain Campus. Our 26th Annual Holiday Show - **Dimensions of Nature** - featuring wildlife artists Mark McKenna (Powell, WY) and Jeffrey Burnham Rudolph (Cody, WY) opened in the Jacomien Mars Reception Gallery the Saturday after Thanksgiving. The Holiday Show includes fifty-nine works of wildlife and animals in oils, bronze and stone.

An exhibit of historically important



Rudolph, Catamount



Rudolph, Ursus



McKenna, Cottails and Honeysuckle



McKenna, Winter's Royal Haven

photographs of the American West by renowned 19th century photographer **William Henry Jackson** is currently on display in the S. K. Johnston, Jr. Family Gallery. A member of the 1870 U.S. government survey that preceded the U.S. Geological Survey of the Territories, and the 1871 Hayden Geological Survey, Jackson's incredible photographs of the majestic Yellowstone River region and Rocky Mountains were instrumental in the establishment of Yellowstone National Park in 1872. He also produced hundreds of photographs for the Union Pacific Railroad and was a member of the World's Transportation Commission from 1894 to 1896. Photographs in The Brinton Museum's loan exhibit include Jackson's official survey material, large format landscapes, smaller vignettes and late color work.

1214. High Bridge Near Buene Vista, Colo., Midland Ry., albumen print by William Henry Jackson, Forrest and Jacomien Mars Collection.

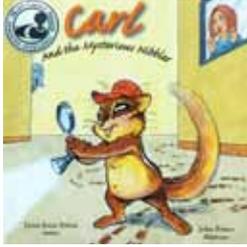




Highland Park Elementary, 4th Grade and Big Horn Elementary, 5th Grade



John Potter



Carl and the Mysterious Nibbler

Special educational programs offered this fall included an **American Indian cultural sharing event** in October with guest speakers Linwood Tall Bull of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Vernon Whitman of the Apsáalooke (Crow) Nation and respected historian Mardell Hogan Plainfeather also of the Apsáalooke (Crow) Nation. Each of these visiting storytellers shared their personal knowledge about the fascinating life and culture of the Cheyenne and Crow peoples. Guided tours of the museum's **To Honor The Plains Nations** exhibit that includes art and artifacts of the Cheyenne, Crow, Nez Perce, Lakota, Blackfeet, and Kiowa peoples can be scheduled for school groups throughout

the school year. K-12 lesson plans related to Western art and American Indian artifacts are available through The Brinton Museum's education department. We will again present the **All-Schools 5th Grade Student Art Show** in February. The museum's 12th Illustrator Show, **The Art of John Potter**, will feature original children's storybook illustrations by award-winning artist John Potter of Montana who will be in residence for one week at the Brinton in March for student tours.

On the birding front, Audubon Rockies and Bighorn Audubon Society in cooperation with The Brinton Museum were instrumental in the recent designation of the Quarter Circle A Ranch as an **Important Bird Area (IBA)**. Over 100 bird species have been identified on the Brinton grounds! A copy of **Bird Checklist for The Brinton Museum** that includes information about bird species is available in the Brinton's Museum Store. Birding at the Brinton, free and open to the public, is held on the third Saturday of the month throughout the year.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS AND DOCENTS!

Do you like **PEOPLE, ART, and HISTORY?**

Have you considered volunteering at The Brinton Museum? We have many opportunities available for volunteers, from help with mailings; parking at events; gallery, front desk and museum store assistance; to manning Little Goose Creek Lodge to driving our "Mars Rovers"!

Or, you might be interested in training to become a **DOCENT**, leading gallery, historic house and grounds tours?

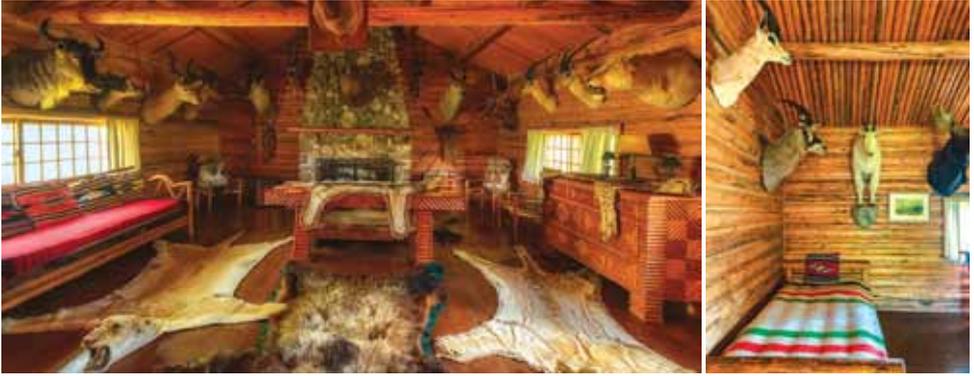
Please call or email Barb McNab at 307-763-5924 or

bmcnab@thebrintonmuseum.org.



LITTLE GOOSE CREEK LODGE

Doug Moomey *Museum Member and Volunteer*



The Little Goose Creek Lodge, the log cabin on the bank of the creek near the entrance to the Brinton Museum property, was built by Bradford Brinton in the 1920s as a place where he could entertain guests in a more casual atmosphere than at the ranch house. Mr. Brinton and his guests could enjoy beautiful views of the Little Goose Creek and the Bighorn Mountains from the deck, cook a meal on the outdoor grill, enjoy good conversation and drinks, and perhaps play a few hands of cards.

Today, the Lodge is used to display Mr. Brinton's outdoorsmanship. He enjoyed hunting big game both in North America and Africa, and most of his hunting trophies are on display in the larger room, as are Masai shields and spears. Much of the furniture in the Lodge is hand crafted and one-of-a-kind. Dances were held in the large room, and music was provided by a Victrola record player, which still sits in one corner of the room.

Two stone fireplaces, one in each room, provided heat on chilly evenings. Both fireplaces display screens designed by Big Horn artist Thomas Makinley "Chip" Wood (1901-1979); the scene on the screen in the larger room is of the African Serengeti and the Quarter Circle A Ranch gate is depicted on the screen in the middle room.

The Lodge was built using logs

hauled from Poverty Flat in the nearby Bighorn Mountains. Because of this type of construction, as well as its close proximity to the creek, shaded by trees, the interior of the lodge stays significantly cooler than the outside temperature during the summer. The Lodge was built in two phases. The original cabin, built in the 1920s, consisted only of one room, today's middle room. In 1927-1928, the trophy room and a bathroom were added to the original structure. Each window has a sturdy shutter to protect the interior from winter weather; the hefty door also serves the same purpose. Because the original cabin is perched on a steep slope, the walls and roof have been reinforced to prevent damage, using two large steel rods encased in logs, running the width of the room and anchored through the outside walls.

The Little Goose Creek Lodge is truly a Brinton Museum treasure. It offers a remarkable view of Mr. Brinton's outdoor activities as well as a glimpse of how he spent more casual moments. Additionally, it offers a pleasantly cool place to spend a few minutes on a hot summer afternoon. The Little Goose Creek Lodge is open during the summer months from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and one of our friendly volunteers will be on hand to greet visitors and show them around the Cabin.

MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

Tod Windsor *Memberships/Sponsorships*

We like to remind people that our Brinton Museum memberships are a great value. In addition to supporting our fantastic facility and mission, members receive discounts at the Museum Store, Free Family Guest Passes that they can share with friends and visitors, and member-only invitations to opening receptions and events. Your membership and support of The Brinton Museum is vital to our success of preserving art and artifacts of this area and educating future generations on a unique aspect of life in the Wyoming West.

You can now pass along your love of The Brinton to others with our new **Gift Membership** program. A membership can be purchased for anyone you designate, and we'll send the recipient a new member packet and a card with your personal message. We all know someone who has "everything" and makes gifting impossible; a gift membership to The Brinton is a tidy solution.

Recently the parent of a Sheridan College student approached us with a novel idea: encourage college students to visit The Brinton Museum using good, healthy

food as encouragement. We turned her suggestion into the "**Culture & Cuisine**" program. The Culture & Cuisine program combines Admission to the museum along with Lunch in the Brinton Bistro. For \$20, we send the student a gift card, with a personalized message from the parent or giver, which gets them into The Brinton and a Free Lunch, including drink and dessert, at the Brinton Bistro. We even put a link on our website under The Brinton Bistro to purchase a Culture & Cuisine package online.

Speaking of our website, you can easily **renew your Membership online** using the link under the "Members & Volunteers" tab. We love getting mail as much as anyone, but we tire of recycling envelopes and love notes, and our waistlines are expanding with all the sweet things our members include when they renew by mail. So if you forget to renew by mail, pour a cup of coffee, pad over to your computer in your fuzzy bunny slippers, and renew your membership online. Unless your name is Jan, in which case, thank you for the brownies and please renew again by mail soon.

A NOTE FROM ISABEL WALLOP

Board Member and President of the National Advisory Council

If you are a shopper on Amazon, an easy way to contribute to the museum is simply to log on to **AmazonSmile.com**, designate The Brinton Museum as your charity of choice and a portion of your purchase price will be remitted to the museum. On **AmazonSmile** you can change the beneficiary any time you shop, so you are not locked in to just one charity, but of course I urge you to "**Think Brinton!**"

THE SENTINEL HAS ARRIVED!

Our "**Sentinel of the Plains**" is in place next to the entrance of the Forrest E. Mars, Jr. Building overlooking the museum grounds. Please watch for an announcement of the official dedication this coming spring.



MUSEUM STORE NEWS



Congratulations to **Tom Steger** who won the drawing for the Pendleton Blanket during the weekend shopping event and sale at the Brinton Museum Store! We are planning another sale on December 18 during the Open House. Lots of new seasonal gift items!

Gift Certificates for the Museum Store and Brinton Bistro make great stocking stuffers.

TWO LEGGINGS SHIRT UPDATE:



Remember back in April when we reported that this outstanding artifact, which we had submitted to the Wyoming State Historical Society to represent The Brinton Museum, had made it to the Top 25, and we were asking you to vote for “our shirt”? Thank you all for voting for our Two Leggings Shirt! **It was voted one of Wyoming’s Top 10 Most Significant Artifacts in 2016!**

Two Leggings’ shirt is historically and artistically one of the most important pieces in the Goelet and Edith Gallatin Collection at The Brinton Museum. It is on exhibit in the John and Adrienne Mars Gallery in **To**

Honor The Plains Nations. Attributed to Two Leggings (ca. 1847-1923), Chief of the River Crows, this painted buffalo hide war shirt dates from c. 1870. The shirt is blackened all over, indicating that Two Leggings was the first man to capture a gun and strike coup in battle. The fringe is painted the sacred red and a flintlock rifle is painted on the rear of the right sleeve, symbolizing the captured weapon. A sacred Thunderbird is painted on the back representing Two Leggings’ supernatural guardian. The single braided hair lock, tied at the front of the right sleeve, may be from an enemy scalp.

The Wyoming State Historical Society in partnership with the University of Wyoming Libraries initiated Wyoming’s Most Significant Artifacts program to provide recognition to the cultural institutions throughout Wyoming that preserve and provide access to collections that enhance our enjoyment and understanding of Wyoming’s heritage and provide ongoing learning and research opportunities.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BISTRO



Travis Sorenson
Bistro Executive Chef



My ideal evening is one spent with good friends, good drinks, and great food. Here at The Brinton Bistro we strive to create this type of dining experience for you, and we hope it is one of the best memories of meals you will have.

FUNDRAISING AND WEBSITE NEWS

Our website WWW.THE BRINTONMUSEUM.ORG is always evolving. Now we have a **Feedback Feature** in place on the front page and on the current exhibition page—please take a look and complete the short survey, your comments are very important! The Brinton participated in “**Giving Tuesday**” for the first time this year **#GivingTuesdayTBM**. We featured two important projects for funding and the campaign continues as part of our Year-End-Appeal:

#1:

An **old-time leather workshop** with world-renowned leather crafter & artist **James F. Jackson**.

He will set up the shop with his collection of antique tools in the old Brinton Ranch Bunkhouse addition to the Ranch Foreman’s House.

This will allow for a permanent display as well as demonstrations for our visitors and workshops for children and adults. Our goal is to raise \$40,000 for adapting the existing space, setting up the workshop, and wages for our leather artist.



Jim Jackson at work

#2:

Introduced first at our **Special Collectors Evening** in October, **Display Cases** are needed for our **new rare American Indian Collection acquisitions**, so we can share these exquisite objects with our visitors:

The goal is to raise \$40,000 to build archivally safe mounts and custom museum display cases for the new objects to go on exhibit in the **John and Adrienne Mars American Indian Gallery** this spring.



Blackfeet War Chief's Shirt and Leggings, 1830s



Apache Woman's Dress and Moccasins, 1850s

Please check out the enclosed response card! Donations can, of course, also be made safely and securely online on our website and will be processed through Network for Good.

www.thebrintonmuseum.org

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EXHIBITS & EVENTS

NOVEMBER 26 -
DECEMBER 18

26TH HOLIDAY SHOW: Dimensions of Nature
featuring Mark McKenna and Jeffrey Burnham Rudolph

DECEMBER 18,
3 to 5 p.m.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

FEBRUARY 9 -
FEBRUARY 17

ALL-SCHOOLS 5TH GRADE STUDENT ART SHOW
February 10 (Friday) Reception for the students

FEBRUARY 12
2-4 p.m.

LOVING THE BRINTON - Docent and Volunteer Appreciation Party

MARCH 15 -
APRIL 30

12TH ILLUSTRATOR SHOW - The Art of John Potter
March 19 (Sunday) Artist's Reception
March 20 - March 24 School Tours with artist in residence

MARCH 15 -
APRIL 30

GOLLINGS AND KLEIBER IN THE CLASSROOM

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Friday, JUNE 30: BRINTON GALA
Saturday, July 22: CONCERT featuring RIDERS IN THE SKY & THE
CRAFT BROTHERS
Weekend of AUGUST 4 to 6: 2nd BIGHORN RENDEZVOUS
Monday, AUGUST 21: SOLAR ECLIPSE

WINTER/SPRING HOURS:

UNTIL DECEMBER 23:

Museum open: Wednesday to Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and by appointment

Bistro open: Lunch Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Brunch on Sunday 9:30 to 1 p.m.
Dinner on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

JANUARY 4 TO MARCH 14:

Museum open: Saturday and Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and by appointment

Bistro open: Lunch Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Brunch on Sunday 9:30 to 1 p.m.
Dinner on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

MARCH 15 TO APRIL 30:

Museum open: Thursday to Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and by appointment

Bistro open: Lunch Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Brunch on Sunday 9:30 to 1 p.m.
Dinner on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

MAY 1 TO LABOR DAY:

Museum open: Daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bistro open: Lunch Monday to Saturday and Brunch on Sunday.

Dinner on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.