

A row of seven buffalo sculptures, each a different color (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and dark blue), are lined up in a dark, industrial-looking space. A large paintbrush with a wooden handle and a dark bristle head lies on the floor in the foreground. The background is dark, with a blue corrugated metal wall on the left.

The Buffalo Hunt

G r e a t F a l l s , M o n t a n a

Front Desk



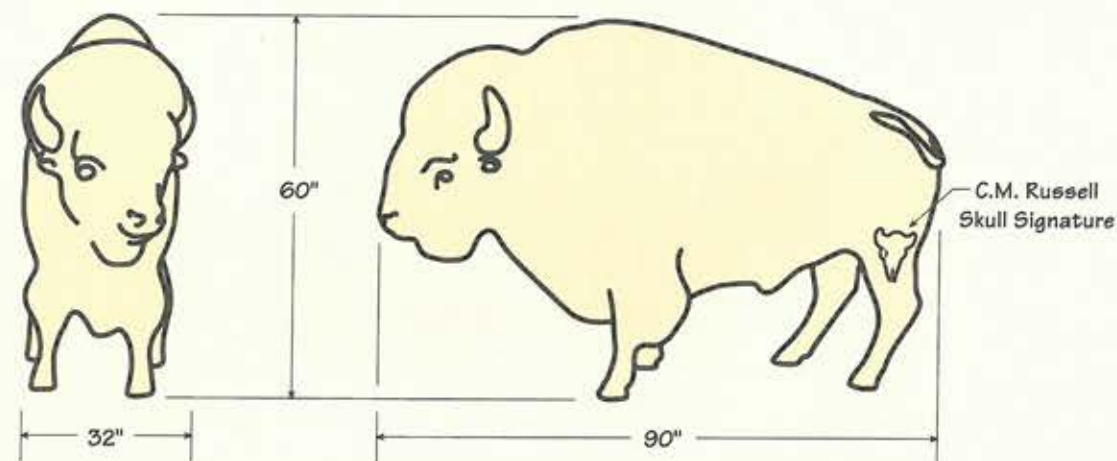
THE BUFFALO HUNT

Spearheaded by the C.M. Russell Museum

The Buffalo Hunt is a public art project, designed to serve as a community art event and fundraiser for exhibit, education and acquisition programs at the C.M. Russell Museum.

This book is dedicated to the sponsors, artists, committee chairs, volunteers and community supporters whose energy and generosity of time and resources brought life to an idea and inspiration to a community. To list their names would require another book!

Credits and Statistics



The fiberglass adult buffalo each weigh 120 pounds and are 90 inches long, 32 inches wide and 60 inches tall.

The fiberglass buffalo calves each weigh between 25 and 30 pounds, and are 50 inches long, 14 inches wide and 36 inches tall.

All of the buffalo are made of a highly durable fiberglass and have been coated with an automotive-quality clear-coat once the final artwork was finished.

Sculptor Joe Halko of Choteau, Montana, designed the original adult and calf buffalo.

The buffalo were fabricated by FiberStock, Inc. of Buffalo, Minnesota.

Design – Wendt, Inc., Great Falls, Montana

Photography – McMillan Studio, Great Falls, Montana

Printing – Advanced Litho Printing, Great Falls, Montana

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgements.....	i
Credits and Statistics.....	ii
Birth of the Buffalo.....	iii
Susan Blackwood.....	1
Karen Bonnie.....	2
Amy Burnett.....	3
Thomas English.....	4
Graham Flatt.....	5
Howard Friedland.....	6
Mimi Grant and Don Grant.....	7
Joe Halko.....	8
Diane Hausmann.....	9
Pam Houston.....	10
Barbara Ivey.....	11
Jan Johansen.....	12
Tim Joyner.....	13
Robert Kercher.....	14
Valentina La Pier.....	15
Dave Maloney.....	16
Janet McGahan.....	17
Vickie Meguire.....	18
Chris Miller.....	19
H. Steven Oiestad.....	20
Michael Patterson.....	21
Julie Pederson-Atkins.....	22
Linda St. Clair.....	23
Sue Toppen.....	24
Ron Ukrainetz.....	25
Larry Zabel.....	26
Jane Shull Beasley.....	27
Charles Fulcher.....	27
Jolene Yellow Robe.....	28
Jenny Yoneji.....	28
Sponsors and Artists.....	29

Birth of the Buffalo, March 1, 2005

Once upon a time, the buffalo, as we commonly refer to them, roamed the plains in the hundreds of thousands. Their singular importance to the Plains Indians made them Monarchs of the Plain. The Buffalo Hunt project, spearheaded and organized by the C.M. Russell Museum to coordinate with Explore! The Big Sky, a Lewis & Clark bicentennial event, is a celebration of the buffalo (bison) and the culture, history and art of the area they once roamed.

The purpose of The Buffalo Hunt project was to create a public art project with broad community appeal and involvement, and to raise funds for the Museum's education, acquisition and exhibit programs.



The buffalo await their artists.

Photo by McMillan Studio

Utilizing the popular idea of painted animals, we wanted a project that would educate, engage and excite the community about the rich cultural and artistic legacy we have in Great Falls. The buffalo motif was chosen for its significance to the area: an historically important buffalo crossing existed on the Missouri River where the Milwaukee Station is currently located; the buffalo is important as symbol and sustenance to the Plains people; buffalo are among the important animals described by Lewis & Clark; and local resident Charles M. Russell, recognized as one of the most important Western artists, featured buffalo in over 400 of his works.

Joe Halko, a sculptor from Choteau, Montana, designed the original model for the project. Fiberstock, Inc., a company in Buffalo, Minnesota, (surely a portent for the project), created the near life-sized fiberglass animals with the C.M. Russell skull "signature" on the rear leg, making them unique to The Buffalo Hunt. To initiate the project

Continued on next page...

Birth of the Buffalo



Diane Hausmann adds a last minute detail to "Dance by the Light of the Moon."
Photo by Mimi Grant

and generate support, one lead buffalo, painted by Jan Johansen, was introduced on September 6, 2003, at the C.M. Russell Museum. Twenty-six adults and nine calves were subsequently "born" and the work of finding "parents" (sponsors) began. A business or individual sponsored each animal. This sponsorship covered the costs of fabrication and embellishment. The artists and sponsors were "paired up" at a special random buffalo drawing. Each sponsor drew a handmade parfleche bag containing the name of an artist. Following the announcement of the name, the artist pinned a small buffalo on a map to indicate the future placement of the completed art piece.

The artists, who had been juried in, began the challenge of transforming each naked buffalo into a work of art. Upon completion, the herd was "corralled" for a photo shoot. Local photographer Mick McMillan posed each magnificent creature to get the right shots. Following the shoot, the herd was transported to City Motor Company where they were given an automotive clear-coating for protection in the outdoors.

The buffalo herd will be unveiled to the public at a special family fun day on May 14, 2005 – Buffalo Daze – that will include a myriad of activities including music, "hunts," painting, beading, storytelling, dancing and food. They will be featured in the parade on June 2, 2005, to kick off the Lewis & Clark bicentennial events. On September 10, 2005, the project will culminate with the "Bull Sale," where all of the animals will be auctioned to the highest bidder and find permanent "homes on the range." This book showcases the 30 animals that will be auctioned.

As the project developed, a new generation of mini (table-top) buffalo were also "born." Twenty of these creations will be painted by invited artists and auctioned with the rest of the herd.

As part of the Hunt, the art departments at each High School—Great Falls High School, C.M. Russell High School, Skyline High School and Central Catholic High School—each received a buffalo to embellish and keep for their school. One calf will be used to introduce the myths of the sacred white buffalo in the installation of the new Bison Gallery at the C.M. Russell Museum.

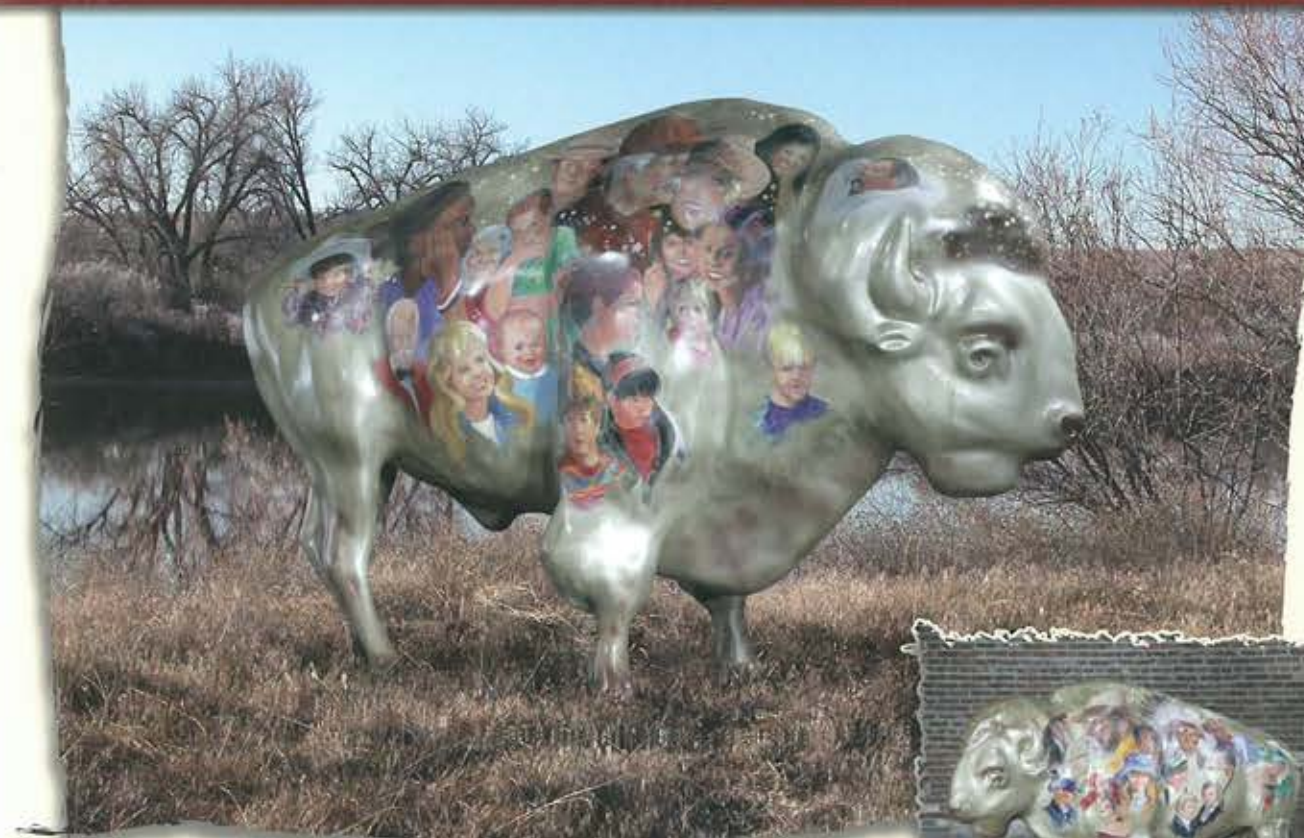
This book is more than a pictorial of the Painted Buffalo. It is also a celebration of people coming together to make something wonderful happen. It tells a story of artists and art, culture and history, fun and friendship, community pride and participation. And it is a salute to the Monarch of the Plains. This project could not have happened without the generous and enthusiastic support of the sponsors, artists, and legions of volunteers. This is their story and their legacy.

May the Spirit of the Buffalo Hunt energize and inspire those who roam with the herd through the following pages. Let the Hunt Begin!

Kitty Wright *Carol Mungas*

Kitty Wright,
Project Co-Chair

Carol Mungas,
Project Co-Chair



"FACES OF THE WEST"

I decided that I wanted to represent the New West as well as the Old West in the faces that I painted on each side. The buffalo's left side represents the faces of the Old West, the heroes and common folk typical of the old romantic West when the buffalo ran in huge herds. The right side represents the many faces of the present West. The stars that shine along the top of the buffalo and tumble down among the 34 faces on both sides remind all who see this buffalo that all of us who have lived and are living here are the true "stars of the West."



“THE SEVEN BROTHERS”

I painted my buffalo to represent the Cheyenne myth, “The Seven Brothers,” or “Quill Woman,” which is a story about how seven brothers rescued their sister from the buffalo nation that wanted to take her for their own because of the beauty of her quillwork. The eight climbed to the heavens and became the Big Dipper, as shown on the buffalo’s face. I see horses as heroic, powerful, fun-loving and affectionate beings, and I try to express this to the viewer in my work.



“SACAJAWEA—MONTANA TO THE PACIFIC”

The theme of this buffalo is Sacajawea as one with the buffalo. The female figure with outstretched arms appears to lift the buffalo into flight, as both seem embodied together. The illusion of direction and movement is emphasized with a cupped wing bird at the top section of the buffalo. The salmon amplifies the determination of the journey and the connection toward the Northwest.



"BUFFALO NIGHTS"

My intent is to portray the vast and haunting mountain and prairie nights in which the buffalo once lived. On one side is the prairie night with distant hills, rolling ridges topped by moonlight, accentuated by a vast dark sky filled with glowing stars and a majestic moon. The opposite side depicts the great mountains of the West, glowing northern lights pulsating through the sky reflecting in the serene river below. Deep darks on the bottom and top of the buffalo serve to accent the lights of the night.



"SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME II"

The name "Shape of Things to Come II" was intended as a play on words. The "shape" is the buffalo itself. The imagery on the buffalo was meant to suggest a change or shift in the way of the West. There is a large vignette of Native Americans adjacent to a slightly smaller one of two trapper/mountain men. The remainder of the scenes suggest more in the way of today's cowboys and the "modern" West. The images are based on my paintings and were chosen as much for their representational value as for the way the composition accommodated the form of the buffalo. I included a small maple leaf on the inside of the left thigh in acknowledgment of my country.



“SAVING THE BUFFALO”

The buffalo nickel is now a rare and valuable coin, just as the buffalo was once a rare and almost extinct animal. Now the buffalo has been saved? The “buffalo bank,” with buffalo and Indian head nickels, complete with a coin being deposited in the slot at the top, is symbolic of “saving the buffalo.”



“BUFFALO SPRING TALES”

The design for our buffalo was inspired by the new beginnings that appear on the prairie every spring. The main subjects are the young offspring of animals and birds that inhabit the land of the buffalo. Some of Nature's spring plants and grasses tie the various animals together. As witnessed by the buffalo, each spring gave birth to new life and tales of these new beginnings.



"THUNDER ON THE ROOF"

With this piece, I am portraying my fascination for the drama of this wonderful place where the prairies meet the mountains. Storm clouds build up quickly on the prairie along the Rocky Mountain Front. The brilliant colors of the setting sun reflect on the golden prairie. Our big sky resonates with the sound of thundering herds of buffalo and antelope. Contrasting with the dark-matted hide and massive size of the agile bison is the beautiful coloration and delicate build of the sure-footed antelope.



"DANCE BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON"

The song "Buffalo Gals" inspired this embellished bison as a salute to these daring women. During a time when women weren't supposed to be in the limelight, they were as tough as men and bold enough to perform for an audience. I painted the different events at rodeos and Wild West shows of the early 1900s on a starry night sky background. The leather ornamentation across the chest displays the Grizzly Bear and Bitterroot flower of Montana.



"MORNING STAR BUFFALO"

The idea for this buffalo came to me as I was brainstorming in my studio. I started with a list relating to the buffalo as a symbol. I wanted something spiritual, and I wanted to convey something meaningful, happy and uplifting. Women had to be included along with lots of color. The Morning Star quilt fit all my needs. This quilt replaced the buffalo hide as an important gift during the traditional "Give Away" in the Plains Indian culture. This is my chance to be part of a "Give Away." I would like to honor the Plains Indian women with my Morning Star Buffalo.



"AMERICA'S GREAT PLAINS"

I wanted to include Naive American symbols in my theme of America's Great Plains. These symbols include the rain clouds, lightning and rain, and the sun above the mountains and canyon; animals running across the plains; and the hands of the Native Americans on one side and the heart line flowing into the heart of the plains with its mountains, canyons and tracks of animals running in wide open spaces on the other.

**"TRAILS PLOWED UNDER"**

In his book, *Trails Plowed Under – Stories of the Old West*, Charles M. Russell's written descriptions are as vivid as his paintings. In illustrating and preserving the West, which was quickly disappearing, Russell wrote about people and happenings that were real, but he further entertains us by exaggeration and humor. I chose a contemporary style to emphasize that I am interpreting these stories from today's perspective.

**"PISHKUN"**

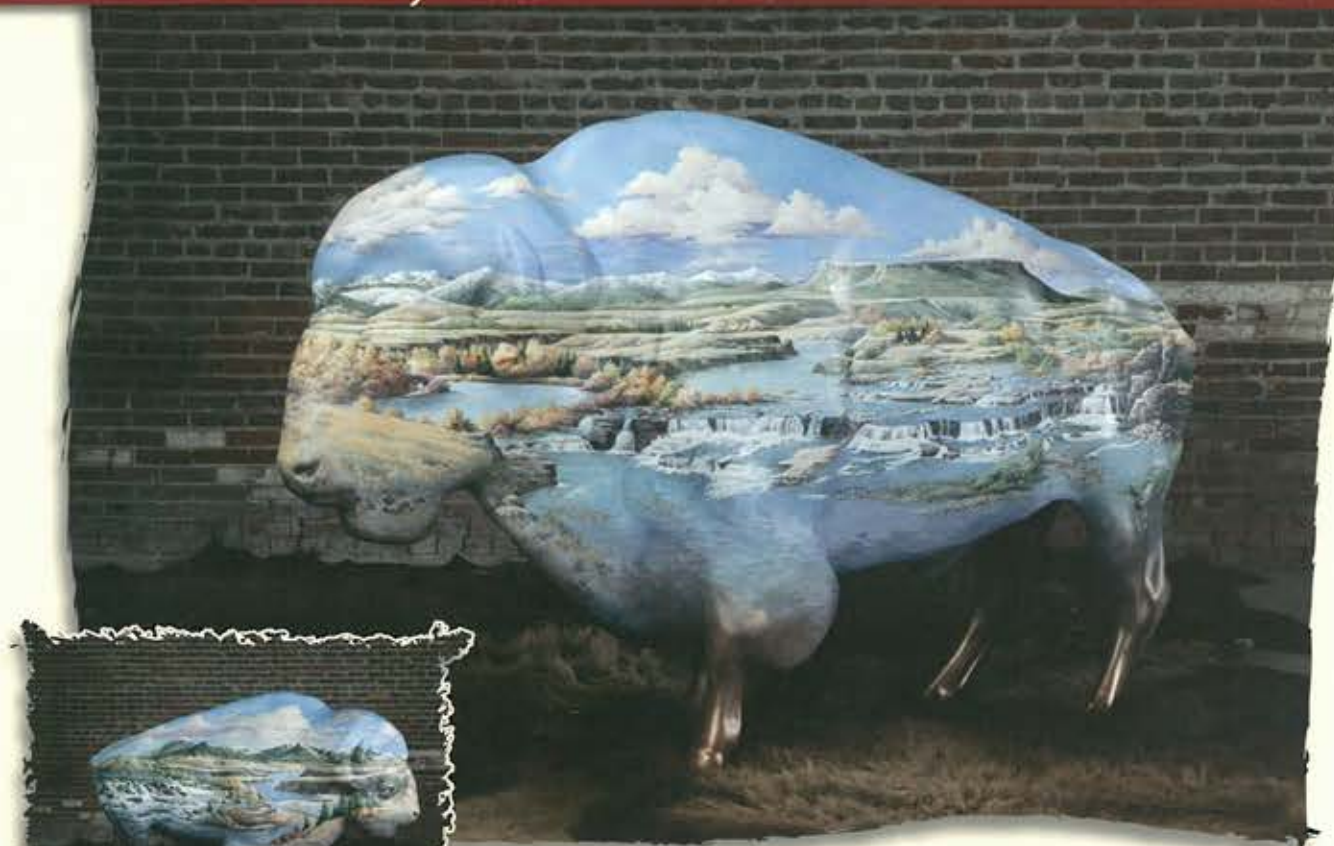
The buffalo or bison is my favorite animal and they have always intrigued me. The image of a Pishkun or "buffalo jump" has been in my mind for years. I wanted to sculpt buffalo tumbling down a cliff. The buffalo grow from a petroglyph on the opposite side, which depicts a painting Charles M. Russell did of a Native American carving a petroglyph. As the buffalo grow from the painting, they change from two-dimensional to three-dimensional and become increasingly more detailed. The larger buffalo is modeled to look like the Halko original.

**"TATANKA"**

The Native Americans of the Great Plains depended on the buffalo for both their spiritual and physical lives. The buffalo or American bison was seen as a symbol of the Great Spirit known as "Tatanka," great provider and protector of the people. The great herds were the source for food, clothing and utensils necessary for their very existence. I portray my buffalo as an all-powerful presence when you first encounter him, then the mystery begins when this powerful being evolves into the great herds of the plains. With the invasion of the white man, the great herds were destroyed and along with them, the Native American culture. This is represented by the skulls left in the prairie in the wake of the passing herds.

**"INI PUKINI" (BLACKFOOT BUFFALO)**

The geometrics in my design are pristine patterns coming to me pure from the Creator, relating to the energy of the Bison and its role in Blackfeet life. The patterns touch and connect with tradition and culture. The life-line is a traditional Blackfeet image and the Bison is a lifeline of the Blackfeet people with deep religious implications in our culture. The mask is an image that translates to traditional quillwork and beadwork. These patterns represent a universal fingerprint that translates across all boundaries. They enhance texture, and focus and ground the work in contemporary culture.



"BOUNTIFUL VISIONS"

The daily experiences and blessings of living in Montana where I have been surrounded by God's remarkable gift of nature were the inspiration for my concept. I reflected on what the native people and members of the Lewis and Clark expedition would have visually experienced in this region without highways, buildings, power lines and structures. I wanted to create the same perception with a panoramic view of the many vistas and landmarks we enjoy in the vicinity of Great Falls.



"THE FOUR SEASONS"

The immense, empty 3-D "canvas" of the bull buffalo offered me a built-in landscape from which "The Four Seasons" emerged naturally over the four quarters of the buffalo – mountainous shoulders and back; rolling plains and valleys of its lower torso. Within winter, spring, summer and fall I painted buffalo plowing through a blizzard, nursing newborn calves, roaming, grazing and sparring. The buffalo seemed to find their place and I recorded them there.



"PRICKLY PEAR AND BUFFALOHAIR"

Loosely based on the landscape of the northern plains, this design focuses on prickly pear cactus and the trouble it caused the members of the Lewis and Clark expedition, as well as homesteaders traversing the arid terrain. The pears are a play on imagery, and the cactus likely got its name from its similarity in shape to the pear. This buffalo is actually two bison in one; many design elements of the daylight image glow in the dark so you won't run into it when it crosses the road at night!



"RAINBOFFALO"

The "Rainboffalo" combines the graceful flowing freedom of a Rainbow Trout with the dignity and scale of the buffalo. It symbolizes my long-time love of the water and a respect for the freedom that wild animals enjoy. Working wood, foam, plaster, clay, fiberglass and metal, the Buffalo was transformed into a buffalo-trout, covered with nearly 1,600 aluminum scales.

**"BUFFALO PONIES"**

When the horse was introduced to the Plains Indians, their way of life changed completely. From that point forward, their lives revolved around their horses for transportation, hunting and battle. The horse provided greater mobility and therefore dramatically enhanced and expanded the Plains Indians' ability to hunt, especially buffalo. The horse is to the Plains culture what the automobile is to our present culture.

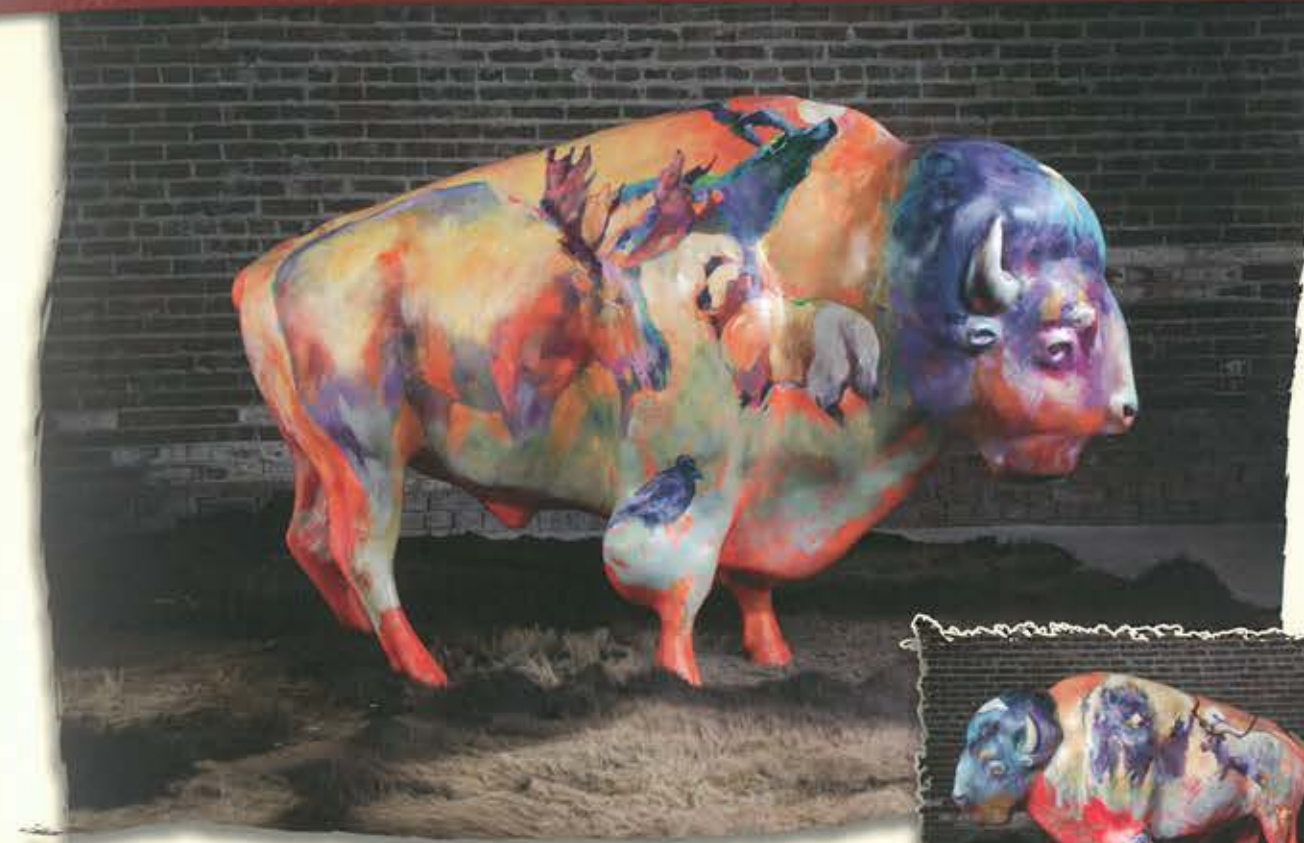
**"BUFFALO BIRCHES"**

Inspired by the beauty I have seen along the Rocky Mountain Front and the Missouri River, I have depicted the habitat of the once plentiful buffalo. This large buffalo "canvas" provided me the space to present these two wide and awe-inspiring vistas in some detail. Since I am also very fond of birch trees, I decided to frame my work with the birches to give it a sense of proportion.



"MIGHTY MO"

This buffalo has brought back wonderful childhood memories of growing up in Fort Benton, Montana, where I was able to hike along the riverbanks hunting for arrowheads and interesting little creatures, exploring caves and carving pictures with sticks into the soft decaying bark of ancient trees. My dad, Oscar "Pete" Pederson, taught me to respect and admire nature. The Eye of the Needle, the Great White Cliffs and the Hole in the Wall are just a few of Nature's paintings on the Missouri that I will keep with me forever.



"ANIMAL MAGNETISM"

The animals that roam the West are all unique and important to our landscape. I believe they are divine spirits and are here to assist all of us on our earthly journey. My buffalo carries on his back a few of these spirit guides.



"MONTANA SKI BUFF"

"Montana Ski Buff" celebrates the fun-filled season of crystal white snow and glorious sunshine that greets Montana outdoor enthusiasts heading for mountains full of winter enjoyment. Outfitted in his own Nordic hat, "Bulle" glasses and B2 skis, "Cool" buffalo is ready to hit the slopes and frolic in the white powdery fun. My friend, Gail Daehlin, assisted me with this project.



"THE BISON BRANCH"

"The Bison Branch" was inspired by my love of history. A "pishkun" or "buffalo jump" exists just outside of Great Falls. When I was younger, I clambered all over that place, finding bones, arrowheads and more than a few live snakes. Explorations like these always lead to more questions. It is ironic that Montana is one of the last strongholds for the bison's eventual recovery from extinction. The evolution of the animal we have come to call "buffalo" is depicted in this "bison branch" of that family tree.



"KEEPERS OF AN ANCIENT COVENANT"

Blackfeet singer-songwriter Jack Gladstone wrote and recorded a profound tribute to the buffalo. The song, "Faces the Blizzard," speaks of all buffalo as the center of a perfectly balanced natural order – "heart of the circle matured formed – a covenant born." But the conquerors came like a storm of arrogance and Faces the Blizzard had to face the storm. He survived and though the covenant is tattered and torn, he is still the center of the circle. The faces depict notable "keepers of the covenant:" Left: Willie Running Crane, Chief Earl Old Person, Carol Murray, Leonard Mountain Chief, Dutch Lunak and Valley Reed; Right: Jim Spotted Eagle, Jack Gladstone, Joe Bear, Steve Reeves and Rose Ann Abrahamson.

"HERDIN' AND BIRDIN'"



Birds are a love of mine, giving us song, beauty and a smile. As you explore my buffalo calf, you will find a Lewis' Woodpecker and a Clark's Nutcracker. In exploring Montana's wonder, you will find the state tree, Ponderosa; state flower, Bitterroot; state butterfly, mourning cloak; and state bird, Western Meadowlark. Happy Birdin'!

Charles Fulcher

"BUFFALO CHIPS"



I guess I am a "chip off the ol' block" using this buffalo as a tribute to my father's sense of humor and the multiple meanings of the word "chips." His affection for the many connotations of the word "chips" (most of which are not seen on my buffalo) and his "buffalo chip" anecdotes always made the long trips to Yellowstone National Park so much fun.

Jolene Yellow Robe

"OPEN RANGE"

In a time before the arrival of the white travelers, the land stretching east of Montana's Northern Rockies was a wildlife kingdom. Millions of bison, great herds of antelope, elk and deer along with timber wolves and grizzly bears were common. It was a vast hunting ground for the Native American nations. The buffalo was of great importance to the Native American way of life and their cultures.



Jenny Yoneji

"PICTOCALF"

I wanted to create a catalog of the rock art found throughout Montana. The faux sandstone finish on the buffalo's surface is embellished with pictographs and petroglyphs found at rock art sites in Montana.



Sponsors and Artists

Benefis Healthcare

"Bountiful Visions" - By Dave Maloney

Benefis Healthcare, an acute care hospital with a Level II Trauma Center, is the largest hospital in Montana, has received numerous quality awards for clinical excellence, provides the best in state-of-the-art facilities and technology and is deeply committed to growing and expanding its operations. A major economic contributor in the area, it generates an average of 20% of the jobs in Cascade County.



Dave Maloney has been a professional artist since 1975, specializing in the Montana landscape and its wildlife. He has distinguished himself as an award-winning artist

on a regional and national scale. Maloney's paintings and illustrations have been featured in magazines and books, and his work has been selected for private, corporate and public collections throughout the United States and Canada. He has participated in 29 C.M. Russell Art Auctions and two one-man shows at the C.M. Russell Museum. Maloney lives in Great Falls, Montana.

Dave Maloney, 704 Grizzly Dr., Great Falls, MT 59404
dmmaloneyart@imt.net

North Central Montana Surgical Center

"Thunder on the Roof" - By Joe Halko

Longtime Great Falls residents Harold and Carmen Poulsen, personally and through the North Central Montana Surgical Center, continue to enhance their medical facilities with original art by established and emerging Montana artists.



Montana native Joe Halko has been sculpting full-time since 1976. He is a member of the Society of Animal Artists, New York, and the Northwest Rendezvous

Group, Helena, Montana. Montana galleries in Whitefish, Augusta and Great Falls, as well as galleries in Vail, Colorado; Santa Fe, New Mexico; and Jackson, Wyoming, represent him. Recent life-size sculpture commissions include an army nurse and a navy sailor for the Central Montana Veterans Memorial in Lewistown, Montana, a nine-foot grizzly for a private residence in Colorado, and two sculptures for Regis University in Denver. Joe created the original buffalo model for The Buffalo Hunt project.

Joe Halko, P.O. Box 1383, Choteau, MT 59422
halko@3rivers.net

City Motor Company

"Buffalo Ponies" - By H. Steven Oiestad

In 2004, City Motor Company celebrated 50 years serving the community of Great Falls. The dealership provides a complete range of services including sales of new and pre-owned cars and trucks, service and maintenance for all



makes and models, and a state of the art collision repair shop.

Steven Oiestad began his art career when he sold his first painting in grade school. He studied art at

Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana, where he received a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education. He has maintained an art studio since 1985. Steve has participated in the prestigious C.M. Russell Art Auction Quick Draw for 14 years, and is a founding member of the Montana Painters Alliance, a juried organization of

professional plein air artists. In 2004 he received the Honorary Chairman's Award at the C.M. Russell Art Auction. He was invited to participate in the six-man exhibition of paintings related to the Lewis & Clark bicentennial anniversary entitled "Contemporary Interpretations of an Historical Journey."

H. Steven Oiestad, Box 7428, Great Falls, MT 59406

Davidson Companies

"America's Great Plains" – By Barbara Ivey "Tatanka" – By Robert Kercher

Founded in Great Falls, Montana in 1935, Davidson Companies provides a full menu of integrated financial services, ranging from personalized retirement planning to investment banking for individual investors, families, businesses and institutions in states across the West. It has grown into the largest financial services company based in the greater Northwest. It is a major contributor to the C.M. Russell Museum and other worthy causes in the communities it serves.



Barbara Ivey's strong Native American heritage and family history on ranches in Colorado and New Mexico inspire the Western themes of her work. She has garnered

numerous awards including the Grumbacher Gold Medal, the Daler-Rowney Gold Medal, the Artist Choice at the Midwest Gathering of Artists and was a finalist in the *The Artist's Magazine* Art Competition. A resident of South Fork, Colorado, and Dallas, Texas, Ivey has taught workshops in Missouri, New Mexico and Texas.

Barbara Ivey, 8719 Autumn Oaks Dr., Dallas, TX 75243; 0045 Whispering Pines, South Fork, CO 81154
baivey@aol.com



are his media of choice. His subject matter is Western wildlife and "permutations" of one image evolving into another. Bob has been a featured artist in the Pacific Rim Wildlife Art Show, and the Portland Audubon Society's 100th Anniversary Show, and has been a participant in the C.M. Russell Art Auction since 1976. With over 50 one-man shows and numerous awards to his credit, Bob's work is in private and corporate collections around the country, including President Ronald Reagan and the Whitehouse Collection in the Smithsonian Institution.

Robert Kercher, 108 Riverview 7 West,
Great Falls, MT 59404

First Interstate Bank

"Morning Star Buffalo" – By Pam Houston

First Interstate Bank is a Billings-based bank holding company with 60 locations in Montana and Wyoming. The Great Falls bank was established in 1891. Recognizing that being a good neighbor is what socially responsible corporate citizenship is about, they are involved in the community to make it a better place to live and work.



A native Montanan, Pam Houston paints her world with transparent watercolor and oils. Interested in the creative arts from an early age, she honed her skills in a wide variety of mediums at the Kansas City Art Institute. For seven years Pam threw pots as a trade, but gave up the clay and wheel for the paintbrush. Since then, she has experimented

with watercolors, acrylics, pastels and oils. Pam's paintings celebrate her passions, lifestyle and environment. She lives with her husband on the Missouri River near Ulm, Montana, a small farming community next to Great Falls. They enjoy canoeing, gardening, hunting and fishing.

Pam Houston, P.O. Box 110, Ulm, MT 59485
info@houstonfineart.com

Flynn Insurance Agency

"Saving the Buffalo" – By Howard Friedland

Flynn Insurance Agency is a locally owned independent insurance agency with offices in Great Falls, Missoula and Billings. It was incorporated in 1957 by Frank Flynn and is currently managed by shareholders in each location. The agency provides complete insurance services to clients in Montana and other Western states.

Howard Friedland was born in Bronx, New York, and now resides in Bozeman, Montana, with his wife Susan Blackwood. He studied fine art and commercial art at New York's High School of Music and Art, and attended college at Cooper Union School of Art and Architecture in New York. Howard worked as an art director for several top advertising agencies in New York and Miami, as well as playing drums for professional rock and jazz bands, before rekindling his love of painting. He has painted, taught and exhibited extensively in New Mexico, Colorado, Montana, Arizona, Florida, Kansas, Mexico, France, Italy, England, Spain and Portugal. His work has won numerous awards and is in many private and corporate collections as well as 10 galleries throughout the West. In 2003 he co-founded the Montana Painters Alliance.



Howard Friedland, 711 Blackmore Place,
Bozeman, MT 59715
www.howardfriedland.com

Fox Fine Jewelers

"Animal Magnetism" – By Linda St. Clair

Fox Fine Jewelers is a locally owned and operated independent jewelry store located on Central Avenue in Great Falls, Montana. As strong community supporters, their goal is to turn customers into friends. They provide high value in fine jewelry through friendly, professional and personalized service to meet the need for quality, individuality and uniqueness.

Linda St. Clair grew up on a farm in rural Tennessee where she developed an intimate familiarity with the



earthy beauty of the animals and the land that spawned her love of painting farm denizens. Today she is a highly regarded artist who captures the personality of the animal through color

and brushwork. She has exhibited nationally at such shows as the Buffalo Bill Art Show, the Salmagundi Club Show, Birds in Art at Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum, the National Arts for the Parks and the Audubon Artists Show. Linda is the recipient of two Grumbacher Gold Medals as well as being in the collections of Bill Marriott of Marriott Hotels and Senator Allen Simpson in Wyoming. Linda is a resident of Del Norte, Colorado.

Linda St. Clair, 366 Frisco Pass, Del Norte, CO 81132;
1012 Marquez Place No. 406, Santa Fe, NM 87505
lindastclairartist@earthlink.net

Great Falls Tribune

"The Seven Brothers" – By Karen Bonnie

Founded in 1884, the Great Falls Tribune is the oldest business in Great Falls, Montana. The 185-employee newspaper has been owned by Gannett Co., Inc. since 1990 and serves one of the largest geographic readership markets in the country. The Tribune has built a national reputation and has won a number of prestigious awards for its diversity efforts, including the Pulitzer Prize in 2000 for explanatory reporting.



A passion for horses has molded and influenced the life of Karen Bonnie from her earliest memories. Her admiration for these noble animals spurred her interest in

Western history, cowboy legend and Native American cultures. Karen expanded her commercial photography career into advertising and graphic design, and in 1991 founded a buckskin garment company. She has been an invited artist at The Governor's Choice Art Show in Santa Fe featuring her hand-tinted photos from the famous Bell Ranch. While at her gallery, the Magpie Woman Gallery in Abiquiu, New Mexico, she met Linda and Dean St. Clair, who encouraged and supported her leap into pursuing oil painting full time. She resides in Del Norte, Colorado, with her husband, Pete, where she draws upon the surrounding community and country for inspiration in portraying the cowboy culture in its present-day reality and all things "of the Horse."

Karen Bonnie, 3180 County Road 13,
Del Norte, CO 81132
kb4ayon@fone.net www.karenbonnie.net

L'Heureux Page Werner and Edward Jones

"Pishkun" – By Tim Joyner

The architecture firm L'Heureux Page Werner has served Great Falls, Montana for over 50 years. The C.M.



Russell Museum is among its many design projects in the community.

Edward Jones is an investment company serving individual investors since 1871.

Tim Joyner is from Great Falls, Montana, and received a BFA from the University of Montana in 1993. He was an art teacher in Cut Bank, Montana, for eight years and has been a professional artist for ten years. Tim works in many different mediums, including pencil, scratchboard, painting, glass etching, ceramic and bronze sculpture. His work is exhibited in a number of galleries and art shows, most notably at the C.M. Russell Art Auction and the Spokane Art Show in Washington. Two of his largest pieces are on display in Cut Bank, where he was selected to paint two murals for the town. Tim lives in Hamilton, Montana with his wife, Jennifer and children, Avery and Mark. He is a full-time artist and stay-at-home dad.

Tim Joyner, 276 South Crest Ave.,
Hamilton, MT 59840
joyner@cybernet1.com

Linnell, Newhall, Martin & Schulke, P.C.

"The Bison Branch" – By Ron Ukrainetz

Linnell, Newhall, Martin & Schulke, P.C. is a law firm that provides specialized legal services to people with claims for workers' compensation, personal injury, social

security disability and employment issues. The shareholders of the firm are Norman L. Newhall, Richard J. Martin and J. Kim Schulke. A total of 13 employees work for the firm, located at 300 Fourth Street North, Great Falls, Montana, near the Cascade County Courthouse.



Ron Ukrainetz, born and raised in Great Falls, Montana, has been a professional artist since 1984. His works have garnered numerous regional and national awards and have

been featured in many publications including *The Artist's Magazine*, *InformArt*, *U.S. Art* and *Wildlife Art News Magazine*. Ron is known for his accurate portrayals of historical people and events, especially relating to Lewis and Clark. He has provided over 150 illustrations for the *National Lewis and Clark Re-enactor's Manual*. In 2003, Crizmac Art and Cultural Materials Company produced *Inspiring Journey: Lewis and Clark Through the Eyes of Artist Ron Ukrainetz*. Ron is a founding member of the Montana Painters Alliance, a juried organization of professional plein air artists.

Ron Ukrainetz, 2104 5th Ave. South,
Great Falls, MT 59405
cedrwing@sofast.net

Milwaukee Station Group

"Rainboffalo" – By Chris Miller

The Milwaukee Station is one of Great Falls' oldest historical buildings. Originally a train depot, it has been renovated for office space that includes Chicago Title Company; Dain Rauscher, investment company; Davis, Hatley, Haffeman & Tighe, attorneys at law; Grabofsky Van Heel & Funderburk, CPA; MacDonalds, corporate office; Mitchell Enterprises, real estate and development; and Pizza Hut (High Plains Pizza), corporate office.



Chris Miller was born in Omaha, Nebraska, and has lived in Great Falls, Montana, since the 8th grade. Since 1993 he has worked as a graphic

designer, software developer and software consultant. Creativity has always bubbled its way into his real and personal priorities. Currently Chris is a web developer at Wendt and participates in the monthly First Friday Art Walks in Great Falls.

Chris Miller, 314 3rd St. North #201,
Great Falls, MT 59401
chris@chrismillerstuff.com
www.chrismillerstuff.com

Montana ExpoPark

"The Four Seasons" – By Janet McGahan

Montana ExpoPark in Great Falls is 130 acres of event facilities, including the Four Seasons Arena, Exhibition Hall, Grandstand and a beautiful shaded park. It is the site for the annual Montana State Fair each July and hosts meetings, conventions, concerts, trade shows, weddings, agricultural events, horse racing and so much more.



Janet McGahan, a second-generation Montanan, received a B.A. from the University of Montana. For thirty-three years she has lived with her husband and children on the

Flathead Indian Reservation near Arlee. She studied with the late Tu Baiziong and works in watercolor, oil and pastel with wildlife as her focus. McGahan has been published by Pine Creek Graphics for a wildlife greeting card series, has done illustrations for *Giving Voice to Bear* and *The Nature of North America* by David Rockwell and has produced cover art for *Bitterroot* by Jerry DeSanto. She has been a

participant in the C.M. Russell Art Auction and Quick Draw and was a selected artist for the University of Montana's Grizzly Prowl Project.

Janet McGahan, Box 71, Arlee, MT 59821
arleeart@blackfoot.net

Montana Federal Credit Union

"Shape of Things to Come II" - By Graham Flatt

Montana Federal Credit Union has been serving the financial needs of the Great Falls community since 1940. From its inception with 35 members, it has grown to over 11,600 members serving residents of Teton, Choteau and Cascade Counties. The company's philosophy is "People Helping People."



Graham Flatt is a Western landscape artist whose watercolors reflect his passion for painting. Primarily self-taught in the areas of design and composition, Flatt has

also attended several watercolor workshops. Recent successes at the Calgary Stampede and the Canadian Finals Rodeo have helped increase public awareness of his work. Flatt was the winner of the 2000 C.M. Russell Art Auction's Ralph "Tuffy" Berg award and was the Honored Guest Artist at the 2001 Calgary Stampede. When not working in his studio, Flatt enjoys teaching watercolor workshops.

Graham Flatt, Box 40, RR1 Site 12,
Millet, Alberta, Canada T0C120
gvflatt@telus.net

Motifs for the Home

"Ini Pukini (Blackfoot Buffalo)" - By Valentina La Pier

Motifs is a specialty gift store in Great Falls offering exclusive, unique, quality gift and home accents since October 1998.



Born in Browning, Montana, Valentina La Pier is an enrolled member of the Blackfoot Tribe. A full-time artist for the past 15 years, La

Pier returned to the Blackfoot Reservation in 2001. She owns and operates an art gallery featuring the works of local Blackfoot artists. Le Pier felt that she "had to return to her ancestral home to be able to spend more time and be more accessible to Blackfoot images in order to question where they came from and why." Working in acrylics, oils and watercolors, La Pier uses bright colors and freeform patterns in her paintings and is influenced by the works of Braque, Motherwell, Klimt and Klee.

Valentina La Pier, P.O. Box 455, East Glacier, MT 59434
blftwomen@yahoo.com

Penthouse Salon

"Keepers of an Ancient Covenant" - By Larry Zabel

Penthouse Salon, a full-service beauty salon in Great Falls, is celebrating 25 years in business and community involvement. In celebration of this milestone, they wanted to sponsor something extraordinary for the community. The Buffalo Hunt is a project that the entire community can be proud of and they are thrilled to be a part of this special event.



Larry Zabel is a representational painter of Western genre, focusing on Montana ranch life, big game hunting and outfitting, with an emphasis on horses. He

has participated in the C.M. Russell Art Auction for 15 years and is a three-time winner of the People's Choice Award for painting. He and his wife, Sharon, have lived in Montana's Madison Valley, the source of much of his inspiration, for the past 17 years.

Larry Zabel, Box 115, McAllister, MT 59740

Seven Blackfoot Ranch

"Dance by the Light of the Moon" - By Diane Hausmann

Seven Blackfoot Ranch, with operations at Brusett, Montana, and Milesville, South Dakota, is a cow-calf and yearling operation owned by Dave and Sandy Solberg. The ranch operations involve their three grown children to different degrees. All the Solbergs are enthusiastic collectors and supporters of Western art and the C.M. Russell Museum.



Diane Hausmann is a self-taught artist who draws inspiration for her work from the wonderful landscapes of the eastern front of the Rockies. Growing up in the suburbs

of Minneapolis, Diane was always involved with horses and art. She holds an Associates Degree in Animal Science from the University of Minnesota and has worked in watercolor for over 20 years. In 2003, she and her husband, Laurence Vincent, opened Hausmann Studio in Fairfield, Montana, as a working studio and custom frame shop. She is a signature member and

President of the Montana Watercolor Society, a signature member of the Northern Plains Watercolor Society, a founding member and past president of the Front Range Art Association, a member of Gallery 16 in Great Falls, Montana, and a participating member of the Western Heritage Artist Association.

Diane Hausmann, P.O. Box 6, Fairfield, MT 59436
vinhaus@3rivers.net

Sletten Companies, Bob and Pat Sletten

"Buffalo Nights" - By Thomas English

Sletten Construction Company is a regional construction firm founded in 1928. Its corporate headquarters are located in Great Falls, Montana, with additional offices in Phoenix, Arizona, Las Vegas, Nevada and Boise, Idaho. It has constructed bridges, dams, medical centers, light and heavy industrial and multi-unit housing projects. Personal attention to each client is a company policy. Community involvement is a company commitment.



Thomas English, a Texan, holds a Bachelor's Degree in Drawing and Painting. He worked for many years as an illustrator and graphic designer. Working in oils and pastels, he

paints on location and in his studio. English has won first place twice in the drawn media division at the Western Heritage Artists Show and two first-place awards in oil painting at the Montana State Fair. English has been awarded the Artist-in-Residence in Glacier National Park and was invited to exhibit his work at the Montana Governor's Mansion.

Thomas English, 701 55th St. South,
Great Falls, MT 59405

Stockman Bank

"Faces of the West" – By Susan Blackwood

Stockman Bank is a family-owned and operated company, with 19 locations across Montana – three serving the Great Falls community. As a leader in the banking industry, they were selected 2004 Montana Family Business of the Year. Their commitment lies with the people and communities they serve. They offer full-service banking, including personal, business, real estate and ag banking services.



Susan Blackwood comes from six generations of artists dating back to Rembrandt's parents. Born in Chicago, she studied art at Northern Illinois University and

watercolor studies with Irving Shapiro at the American Academy of Art in Chicago. Since 1975, Blackwood has taught watercolor in colleges and workshops around the country and overseas in Pakistan, the Bahamas, Great Britain, France and Italy. Currently Susan resides in Montana and leads painting holidays to Europe with her husband, Howard Friedland. The recipient of numerous awards, her original paintings are in seven galleries in the West and in museum shows and corporate collections, including American Express; the French Consulate of Lahore, Pakistan; Anheuser Busch; and the Tucson Desert Museum. After 31 years as a professional watercolorist, Blackwood is turning her skills to oil painting.

Susan Blackwood, 711 Blackmore Place,
Bozeman, MT 59715
sblackwood@mcn.net
www.susanblackwood.com

Sydne and Charlie Abernathy

"Buffalo Birches" – By Michael Patterson

The buffalo is a "natural" for a C.M. Russell Museum project! As long-time volunteers and supporters of the Museum, it was a "natural" for the Abernathys to sponsor a buffalo. Each step along the buffalo trail has been exciting, and they look forward to the parade of the herd.



William "Mike" Patterson is a native of Hot Springs, Arkansas, but made numerous moves across the country and overseas as the son of a career military officer.

He retired from active military duty in 1993 and purchased his first paints, brushes and canvas in 1994. Largely self-taught, Mike did not truly begin to practice and study his art until moving to Great Falls, Montana, in 2001. His focus is on the natural beauty of Montana and his emotional response to "our Creator's handiwork." He has works in The Stage Station Gallery, Seeley Lake, Montana; the Broken Wheel Gallery and Gallery 16, Great Falls, Montana; and the Try-Art Gallery, Louisville, Kentucky.

Michael Patterson, 12 Park Garden Estates,
Great Falls, MT 59404
patter9315@sofast.net

The Best Western Heritage Inn

"Montana Ski Buff" – By Sue Toppen

The Best Western Heritage Inn is Great Falls' foremost resort and convention center, proudly serving Montana since 1972 with a commitment to quality, service and value. It has been the site of the C.M. Russell Art Auction for over 30 years.



Sue Toppen and her husband, Chris live in Monarch, Montana, near the top of King's Hill, a bustling downhill, snowmobile and cross-country ski area. Her oil paintings

feature colorful characters, lively colors and whimsical themes that include women, grandchildren, architecture, floral and landscapes from the Toppens' frequent travels in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Sue has worked as a graphic designer for jewelry design, Montana Products design, and manufacturing and advertising design. She is a member of Four West Art League in Great Falls, the Arizona Artist's Guild, and Coppini Art Academy in San Antonio, Texas. She has participated in many juried shows in Arizona and Montana and is represented by Gallery 16 in Great Falls, Montana.

Sue Toppen, Box 20, Monarch, MT 59463
suetoppen@cs.com

Rick and Sarah Stevenson

"Trails Plowed Under" – By Jan Johansen

Rick and Sarah Stevenson and family own and operate the Circle Bar Guest Ranch and the R&S Angus Ranch in Utica, Montana. They are long-time art collectors and supporters of the C.M. Russell Museum. They are the "parents" of the first buffalo, "Ole," created to kick off The Buffalo Hunt.



Minnesota artist Jan Johansen has been involved in the Western art scene for many years, primarily in Montana. Her work has been accepted in such presti-

gious shows as Allied Artists of America, American Artists Professional League, Pastel Society of America,

Oil Painters of America, International Association of Pastel Societies, Western Art Show and Auction, and C.M. Russell Art Auction. She has been published in *International Artist and Pastel Artist International* and is an elected signature member of Transparent Watercolor Society of America and Pastel Society of America. Working in both representational and contemporary styles, Johansen prefers the contemporary style when depicting historical happenings from today's perspective.

Jan Johansen,
458 Benton St., Anoka, MN 55303
JohansenJanis@aol.com

3 Rivers Communications

"Buffalo Spring Tales"

By Mimi Grant and Don Grant

3 Rivers Communications, with corporate headquarters in Fairfield, Montana, is a 50-year-old telecommunications company originally founded as a rural telephone cooperative. Still a cooperative at its core, 3 Rivers has grown and diversified and now offers long distance, local dial-up Internet, DSL broadband Internet, wireless PCS telephone service, satellite TV, satellite broadband Internet, satellite telephone service and competitive local telephone service, in addition to traditional local telephone service.



Art, with an emphasis on wildlife and the places they inhabit, has always played a role in Mimi

Grant's life and the offspring of animals and birds have always been a favorite subject to paint. Growing up in Colorado near the Rocky Mountain Front and living in Montana have given her a great appreciation of the wild places. With the help of workshops, including one with Robert Bateman, she has refined her techniques in the mediums of scratchboard and oil. She has participated in

the C.M. Russell Art Auction since 1978, the Easton Waterfowl Festival in Maryland, the Southeastern Wildlife Expo in Charleston, South Carolina, the Florida Wildlife Expo in Lakeland and the Pacific Rim Wildlife Art Show in Seattle. Her artwork can also be found at Corbett Gallery in Bigfork, Montana, the Glass Art Shop in Great Falls, Montana and the Warm River Gallery in Austin, Texas.

As a full-time, self-taught artist, Don takes pride in the "used look" of his wagons and stagecoaches. He began his art career in 1980 and is known for his stagecoaches sculptured from wood. He has expanded into bronze and painting. Don's work is in the collection of the Wells Fargo Museum in San Francisco and many private collections. He has been juried into the Pacific Rim Wildlife Show, the Vancouver International Wildlife Art Show in Canada and the C.M. Russell Art Auction. His artwork is at Buffalo Trails Gallery in Bigfork, Montana, and Warm River Gallery in Austin, TX.

Mimi and Don Grant, 3416 9th Street N.E.,
Great Falls, MT 59404
d-mgrant@att.net

Annie and George "Tim" Thom "Mighty Mo" – By Julie Pederson-Atkins

Residents of Pound Ridge, New York, the Thoms were introduced to Montana and the C.M. Russell Museum over 20 years ago. They look forward to coming to Great Falls every spring for the C.M. Russell Art Auction, and to visit the museum and friends they have made through their association with it. They are delighted to demonstrate their support of the Museum by sponsoring a buffalo.



Julie Pederson-Atkins was born in North Dakota

and spent most of her childhood in Fort Benton, Montana. Working primarily in oil or graphite pencil, Julie uses a monochromatic color scheme to evoke an emotional sense of the moment in her elaborately detailed, yet dreamlike drawings of the people, animals and landscapes that touch her life. She holds a B.F.A. from Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. Over the course of her art career, she has garnered a number of blue ribbons and awards. "I like a good challenge and these life-size fiberglass sculptures with all the 'right' curves, certainly are!"

Julie Pederson-Atkins, 614 Alderson Ave.,
Billings, MT 59101
pencilartist614@hotmail.com

U.S. Bank "Prickly Pear and Buffalo Hair" By Vickie Meguire

U.S. Bank is a national bank with headquarters in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Serving Montanans in 11 locations, U.S. Bank has a strong tradition of joining forces to build great places they call home. They work with community partners who understand the needs of individuals, families and organizations, and match their resources with those community needs.



Vickie Meguire was born and raised in Great Falls, Montana, and educated at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York, and Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana, where she earned a B.S. in Education and a Master's degree in painting.

She is a retired art educator for the Great Falls Public Schools, Montana State University and University of Great Falls. Meguire is a Montana Per-Cent for Art recipient and a participating artist in the Caravan Project

funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. She has served on the boards of Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art and *Signatures Magazine*. Vickie is currently a full-time artist residing in Great Falls with her husband, Jerry.

Vickie Meguire, 86 Elk Dr.,
Great Falls, MT 59404
caseye@sofast.net

Wells Fargo Bank "Sacajawea, Montana to the Pacific" By Amy Burnett

The history of Wells Fargo in Montana began in 1866 when Wells Fargo merged all the great stage lines in the West into its Great Overland Mail. One of the stagelines main routes was from Salt Lake City to Helena and Virginia City, Montana. Wells Fargo is proud to have a long-standing tradition of providing outstanding, innovative service to customers throughout Montana.



Amy Burnett, owner of one of the Northwest's largest fine art galleries, is a full-time artist and community newspaper

columnist in Bremerton, Washington. She earned four college degrees, has been featured in most art magazines, and is represented by many galleries in the U.S. and abroad. Burnett's recent concentration has been in the area of painting salmon, and promoting and restoring salmon habitat.

Amy Burnett, 408 Pacific Ave.,
Bremerton, WA 98337
burnett574@aol.com

Buffalo Calves

Buffalo Gals

"Open Range" – By Jolene Yellow Robe

The Buffalo Gals, spearheaded by Jayne McManus and Roberta Boylan, are a group of local Great Falls women who are supporting The Buffalo Hunt in every way possible.



Jolene Yellow Robe, a Native American Sioux, was born and raised on the Fort Peck Reservation

and now resides in Billings, Montana. At a very young age, she taught herself to sculpt, draw and paint, and in the late 1980s she made art a full-time career. Her medium of choice is oil and her subjects range from portraits to wildlife, landscapes and Indian and Western art. She has been the director of the Billings Arts Association and has work in the Moccasin Mountain Art Gallery, Lewistown, Montana; American West Gallery, Billings, Montana; and Stagecoach Gallery, Great Falls, Montana.

Jolene Yellow Robe, 7 Berg Ave.,
Billings, MT 59101
jbyellowrobe@yahoo.com

Dana Ranch Company, Inc.

"Herdin' and Birdin'"

By Jane Shull Beasley

David and Tanya Cameron and Nancy Cameron Davidson own the Dana Ranch Company, Inc. The Dana Ranch, located in Montana's Cascade and Meagher counties, has been a part of the Cameron family since the early 1940s. It produces Black Angus and Angus crossbred cattle and is also home to elk, whitetail and mule deer, ante-

lope, bears, mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes and a myriad of other critters, as well as the birds depicted on this calf.



Jane Shull Beasley was educated at the University of Idaho and Emerson College in Boston, where she also taught History of Costume and Costume Design. Since returning

to Montana in 1954, Beasley has continued her career in painting, sculpture and relief. Her work has been featured in art galleries and private collections throughout North America. She has produced dozens of pieces for Disney World, a sculpture for the Smithsonian, and commissions for Governors, Senators, University Presidents and the presidents of NBC, ABC and CBS. In 1993, she and her husband, Ray, opened Birds & Beasleys, fine art and gift gallery blended with a wild bird feed and supply house in Helena, Montana.

Jane Shull Beasley, 1323 Rimini Rd, Helena, MT 59601
birdbeas@initco.net

Great Falls Surgical Associates

"Buffalo Chips" – By Charles Fulcher

GFSA surgeons, James E. Mungas, M.D. and Dale R. Mortenson, M.D., provide comprehensive general, vascular, laparoscopic and pediatric surgical care to the residents of Russell Country, Montana.



Charles "Chuck" Fulcher was born in Great Falls, Montana, and earned a B.A. in Art/Graphic Design from Montana State University. He has been a professional

designer for 25 years and presently works at Lodestone Advertising as Creative Director and Illustrator. He has exhibited works at Paris Gibson Square and at the C.M. Russell Art Auction.

Charles Fulcher, 605 48th St. South, Great Falls, MT 59405
chuck@lodestoneadvertising.com

Payne Financial Group, Inc.

"Pictocalf" – By Jenny Yoneji

Payne Financial Group, Inc., is a full-service independent insurance agency that provides insurance, surety bonds, employee benefits and financial services to clients across the West. It also has a Select Business Division, serving entrepreneurial businesses, and Specialty Practices, offering risk management services to specific industries. The firm has offices across Montana, eastern Washington and Wyoming and includes Montana International Insurance and Hoiness LaBar Insurance.



Jenny Yoneji was born and raised in Ohio. She received a B.A. in Anthropology from Miami University and a Master's from the University of Montana.

Jenny's lifelong interest in art includes oil painting, watercolor and fiber arts. Her weaving has garnered first-place ribbons at the Montana State Fair. She is a member of Gallery 16 in Great Falls. Jenny and her husband have lived in Great Falls since 1979; they have two grown daughters.

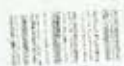
Jenny Yoneji, 516 Fox Court, Great Falls, MT 59404
yoneji@bresnan.net



THE BUFFALO HUNT

Spearheaded by the C.M. Russell Museum

07/16/2010
Buffalo Hunt, The



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