Jim Grinder, My Parents Friend

In the Pacific Northwest in 1868 or 1877

By Chalk Courchane

Jim Grinder was born as James Edward Grinder on May 23, 1868, or 1877, or 1879 in British Columbia, Canada. His parents were Phillip Grinder and Marguerite "Nancy" Kistamalix.

Jim was a teller of tall tales and half-truths and throughout his life never completely told the truth about where he was born or when. Maybe to keep his family from embarrassment or to throw the law off whatever reasons he had he created a legend about himself. According to him he was born May 23, 1868 of Nez Perce parents and a member of the Nez Perce tribe. By one account he was a full blood Nez Perce but most others say he was half Nez Perce. He was actually one half Shuswap, a Salish tribe in British Columbia and so he could speak one dialect of Salish probably very similar to Bitterroot Salish or Pend d'Oreille (Kalispel).

His mother Marguerite "Nancy" Kistamalix was full blooded Shuswap, born about 1839 or 1840 at Alkali Lake, British Columbia and she died at Big Bar on March 7, 1924.

His father Phillip Grinder was born on January 10, 1818 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (or Jan. 3, 1818 Audrey Higbee Sep 29, 2008). He came west in about 1858 (Deanna Nelson May 19, 2012) and settled in Big Bar, British Columbia where he married Marguerite and raised 11 or 13 children (depending on which source is believed). Phillip died at Big Bar in 1915. His father seems to have also been named Phillip Grinder and his mother Elizabeth Calhoon.

Jim's siblings and descendants will be dealt with at the end of this piece.

Duzzie Glover of Polson, Montana came across his baptism which shows: James Grinder was baptized on December 13, 1883 at St. Joseph's Catholic Mission, Williams Lake, Big Bar, British Columbia. It states as his birthdate 1879. His parents as Phillippe Grinder and Marguerite Kistemalix. So if this is correct than he was only 99 or 100 instead of 109 when he died.

Although he was probably born at Big Bar, British Columbia Jim told an interviewer, Carlene Cross, that he came from John Day, Oregon near the Wallowa Mountains. On his prison records he says he came from Kamaroose, British Columbia. Another time he said Okanogan, Washington.

Not much is known of his early years, but he was raised at Big Bar. By legend he was supposed to have been a horse handler for Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch. This has not

been confirmed as I was not able to go back to that period of time when looking for his Montana State Prison records at the Montana State Historical Society Archives.



This log building was "Phillip Grinder's hotel and post office and dates from the time when the Canyon trails were still a major route of travel between Lillooet and the Cariboo and Big Bar was a relatively busy place." British Columbia Archives # I-22450 http://www.cayoosh.net/bigbar.html received from Al Yerbury 1/2/2014

From Gold Country GeoTourism Program, Pioneers and Early Settlers, Jesmond.

Gold Country Communities Society
P.O. Box 933 Cache Creek, B.C. V0K 1H0
Tel: 1-877-453-9467
email: info@exploregoldcountry.com

Harry Marriott wrote "Cariboo Cowboy" in it he mentions Phillip Grinder. (Harry Marriott was a cowboy-rancher from stagecoach days to the jet plane era, beginning in 1912 when he arrived at the Gang Ranch after a 100-mile journey by freight wagon).

"I was riding down on Big Bar Creek and was going through the Grinder Ranch on my way back up to the mountain and I happened to see old Phil Grinder sitting in his chair with the sunshine warming up his old bones. I stopped my horse and talked to the old gent for a few minutes and happened to mention that his old compadre, Stranger Wycott, had died a few days earlier at the Gang. Old Phil Grinder turned in his chair and said to me, "Harry, ain't a man a damn fool to die in the spring?" And I said, "I guess you're right Phil, but none of us has too much to say about how long we figured on staying in this old world."

However, old Phil must have had it all figured out because he hung on till late December of that year, 1914, then contracted pneumonia. Of course, at his age of nearly 96, the rugged old settler was not able win the battle." Cariboo Cowboy, page 45, Harry Marriott.



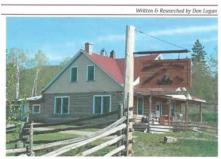
Phillip and Marguerite "Nancy" Grinder (from Duzzie Glover)



Phillip Grinder (from Duzzie Glover)

PIONEERS & EARLY SETTLERS

Jesmond



You will not find a restaurant, or even a store at Jesmond, but there is something magical about the quiet of the country road, the mountains and the soft green and gold of the sun and the ranchlands. You can almost hear the echoes and smell the dust created by horses and by the old mail truck on the hot summer days of an era gone by.

The history of Jesmond dates back to 1889 when a roadhouse was established. Known then as "Mountain House," it was built on Lot 150 by Nicolas Hammond. Nicolas sold to Philip Grinder, an American from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Philip had settled first at Alkali Lake, then Big Bar, before settling down at Jesmond, where

In the early days, Phil operated a freight packing business and was away for months at a time.

He and his native

he preempted the

land for the road-

wife, Nancy Kastalamara, had eleven children and thus began a dynasty of Grinder descendants. Edward Haller, Philip and Nancy's grandson, lived with them during 1907 and 1908, helping around their small farm. Eddie gave an interview to the Vancouver City Archives in 1958 and related the following story.

Three packers, Philip Grinder, Conrad Kostering and Alex Burnett had joined forces to make a large pack train to the Nass Country. It was springtime and the winter had been long and hard, upon arriving they encountered natives who were near starvation and desperate. Unable to trade with the natives and concerned for their safety, they abandoned their



Grinder's Mountain House



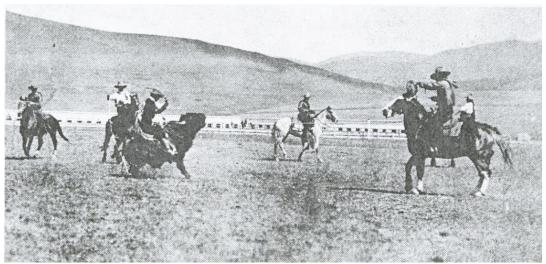
Rebuilding the Mountain House in the 1920s

supplies and headed home with their undernourished pack animals. Without food, they were forced to resort to utilizing pack animals for sustenance on the return to civilization. This misadventure ended the packing business for all three, each settling in the Big Bar and Jesmond region.'

Philip and Nancy's son in law, Grant Lee, sold Mountain House in 1912 to Harry and Louise Coldwell, a newly arrived family from England. There they raised three children, Pete, Elsie and Evelyn.

Received from Al Yerbury 1/2/2014

At age ten he said he was with Chief Joseph's band of Nez Perce on their 1877 escaped through Montana to Canada. He drifted into the Flathead Reservation about 1900 or 1905. He worked as a cowboy, rodeo rider, and rustle. He also followed the Wild West Shows. He was about 27 years old.



Jim Grinder rides at buffalo at the Missoula Stampede in 1904

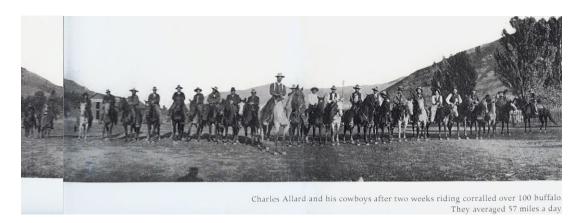


Jim Grinder takes at spill off a buffalo at the Missoula Stampede in 1904. Ropers are Carl Davis, left, and Charley Allard (photo from Tommy Pablo) Id: The Fabulous Flathead, the Story of the Development of Montana's Flathead Indian Reservation, as told to Sharon Bergman by J.F. McAlear, President of the Reservation Pioneers, 1962, The Reservation Pioneers, Inc. & Treasure State Publishing Company, page 158.

Grinder worked for Michel Pablo and Charles Allard for many years, including during the famous buffalo roundup of 1907. Along with 25 of the best cowboys on the reservation.

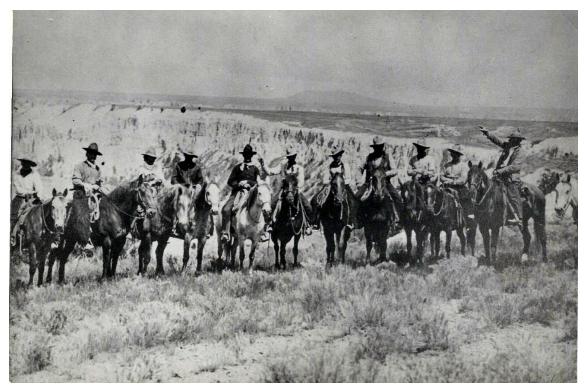


This article from The Flathead Courier, Thurs., May 30, 1974, page 7 puts the buffalo ride in 1915:



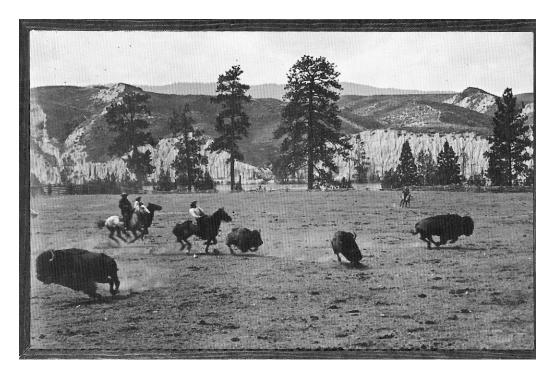
"Other top cowboys, were border-line outlaws like Hector McLeod, who was shot and killed in a card game in Nevada; and Jim Grinder, who was one half Nez Perce Indian. Jim spent some time in Deer Lodge Prison. Dad said, "He was really a likable guy, and a good story teller. He was fearless, and could ride anything with hair on it."

Western Montana Cowboys, Bud Cheff, Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana, Quarterly Newsletter, Summer 2013 #55, page 2.

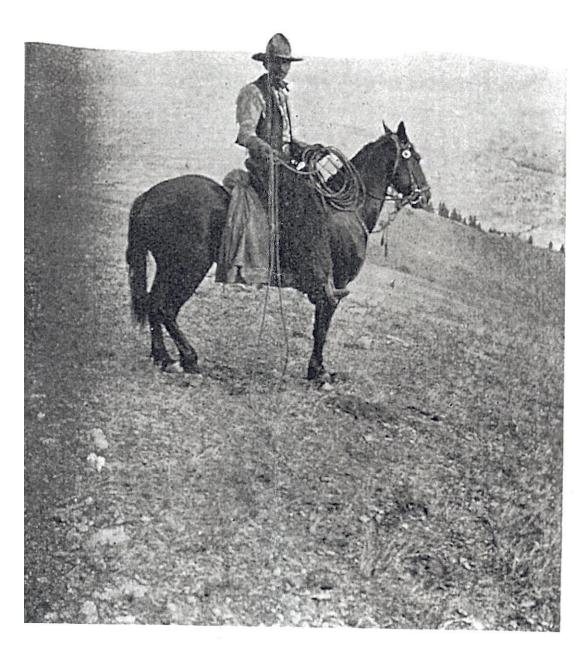


L-R: Mrs. Billie Irvin, Alex Pablo, Joe Bonaparte, Fred Decker, Bill Matt, Joe Marion, George Sloan, Walter Sloan, Jim Michell, Jim Grinder, Charles Allard, and Billie Irvine (out of picture).

These photos come from the collection of Donna (Dupuis) Yerbury, received from Al Yerbury 11/6/2013



Post Card – "Buffalo Roundup on Montana's Flathead River, about 1905. What few bison remained of the vast herds that once roamed this area became of some commercial value for their meat ... the main obstacles being (1) rounding the huge beasts up, and then (2) finding a boxcar strong enough to hold them." Big Sky Magic Enterprises, Helmville, Montana. Historic photos from the L.S. Jorud collection, courtesy State Publishing Co, Helena, Mt



Typical Montana cowboy.

"Jim Grinder, one of Montana's oldest citizens, chalked up another year last week as he observed his 106th birthday anniversary at St. Joseph Convalescent Center in Polson. Many stories have been written about him and his experiences as a Montana pioneer. Among them is the buffalo ride he took at a Missoula rodeo in 1915. He was thrown once, got back on and finished the ride. But he was badly injured during the incident and spent several weeks in the hospital. Fans and well-wishers, however, contributed some \$1,400 to help pay the expenses."

Carlene Cross (a Jocko Finlay descendant) tells the story of the roundup better than most others in her book "The Undying West – A Chronicle of Montana's Camas Prairie, Fulcrum Publishing, Golden, Colorado, 1999, pp. 17-178:

"The wranglers crossed the Little Bitterroot Valley, a range of more than fifty miles, looking for the beasts. Once they'd locate a small group, the hard work began.

Corralling bison was like herding enraged cats, give or take two thousand pounds. The fast, agile creatures dispersed in every direction. If they didn't scatter, they charged their captors, gored horses, and treed photographers. One bison knocked a cowboy and his horse down and, even after being shot twelve times, broke through the corral and escaped. Another bull carried a man and his pony three hundred yards on his horns before stumbling and dropping the passengers.

To avoid as much chaos as possible, the cowboys separated the cows and calves from the bulls. They drove the cow and calf pairs south to the railway stockyards in Ravalli. They then ran the bulls into large mobile carts with sturdy ten-foot sides and hauled them to Wainwright. After an entire summer's work only a hundred were in captivity.

Pablo abandoned the roundup until the next spring when he put Charles Allard Jr. in charge. Young Charley, a good friend of Jim, tried another approach. He and his hired hands built a ten-mile fence line along the ridge of a hill that led diagonally down to a narrow point in the Flathead River. On the other side of the river they built corrals with chutes that opened into stock wagons. The bison were driven down the hill into the water and made to ford the river. Once the exhausted animals emerged, they walked them into the pens, up the chutes, and onto the wagons.

Although this new strategy worked better, it still took five years to gather all the stock. The final headcount reached seven hundred and became the largest transfer of Old Man Buffalo ever recorded."

The famous artist, Charles Russell even showed up to help in 1908 and 1909.

The buffalo were sold to the Canadian government and the last of the buffalo were shipped off to Canada's Woods Buffalo Park in 1912. By then Jim was in prison.

Jim spent considerable time in Montana's State Prison at Deer, Montana.

In 1908 he stole some horses from Charles Allard.

The Inter-Lake (Kalispell, Montana) August 21, 1908, p5:

"Local News Notes from Thursday's Daily.

Jas. Grinder, who decamped from the reservation with a team of horses belonging to Chas. Allard, has been located at McLeod, Alberta, and it is supposed he will be taken into custody today. Grinder is the half breed who was riding some of Allard's horses at the Fourth of July races here."

The Kalispell Journal, August 27, 1908, p5:

"Chas. Allard is in town this week from the reservation, trying to get track of two fine horses that suddenly disappeared from his place. Horse stealing has become so common in the western part of the state that Mr. Allard is quite sure that the horses were taken away by a thief."

"Local

Sheriff W. H. O'Connell left this morning for Fernie to recover the two horses that were recently stolen from Chas. Allard's place on the reservation. It is supposed that Jim Grinder, a half breed Indian of the reservation, stole the horses and took them across the line, selling them in Fernie for \$250. Sheriff O'Connell thinks he will also be able to land the suspect and bring him back, as he is supposed to be somewhere in the neighborhood of Fernie."

The Inter Lake (Kalispell, Montana), September 4, 1908, p7: "Local News Notes From Saturday's Daily.

A telegram was received from Sheriff O'Connell this morning saying he had recovered Chas. Allard's stolen team of horses at Fernie, and had Jim Grinder under arrest at Pincher."

The Inter Lake (Kalispell, Montana), September 4, 1908, p7:

"Local News Notes From Monday's Daily.

Sheriff O'Connell returned from British Columbia last night with Jim Grinder, wanted for stealing Chas. Allard's horses."

From The Inter Lake (Kalispell, Montana), September 4, 1908, p7.:

"Local News Notes From Tuesday Daily.

An information against Jim Grinder for grand larceny, has been prepared by County Attorney McKeown, Grinder is the man who was brought from British Columbia on the charge of having stolen a team belonging to Chas. Allard."

And from The Kalispell Bee, Sept. 4, 1908, p5:

"A man named Grinder was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary by Judge Erickson this morning for stealing a couple of horses from Charles Allard on the reservation."

One account says that he stole and swam some horses across the Flathead Lake to Wild Horse Island, with the Sheriff waiting for him. The newspaper article makes it clear that he had escaped to Canada.

The Inter Lake (Kalispell, Montana), September 11, 1908:

"Local News Notes From Friday's Daily.

In district court this morning James Grinder plead guilty to grand larceny, and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary."

At Deer Lodge there was an infamous, horse named "Ghost" that had thrown every rider to climb on him. The warden of the prison offered Jim a parole if he could ride the Ghost. Not really believing that Jim could do it. When Jim broke the horse the warden kept his word and paroled him.



Received at Deer Lodge September 7, 1908 and discharged on August 2, 1909. He was serving a five year sentence for grand larceny.

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12. Number of Previous Convictions in this or any other State, and in what County and State. One	ounty
erved 5 Years from Flathead County.	
14. Date of Arrival in Montana, and by Whom Employed, Since Arrival Benn Her all his Life orked on Flathead Reservation. 16. If Married, Wife's Address. 16. Names and Addresses of Parents.	
17. Health of Convict, whether free from disease Good. 18. Did You Plead Guilty? Yes or Stand Trial?	
19. Was the Sentence Fixed by the Jury, or by the Court?	
Marks or Deformity on Prisoner Cows Head Tattoed Left Fore Arm. Mail - Yes	
Shoes - 7; Eyes - Black; Hair - Black; Teeth - Lewer Front Uneven;	
Tobacco - Yes; Read & Write - Yes; Features - Slim; Religion - Cath	1.
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A Wild West Show was put on in Missoula by the Missoula Chamber of Commerce at the Missoula County Fairgrounds, July 4th weekend of 1915. The first Missoula Stampede had bulldogging, bronc and bull riding, wild horse and stage coach races, cowgirls; bronc riding, buffalo roping and tying, all together there were 22 events. Also there was a parade on Higgins Street (in which rose Charles Russell and Edgar Paxson), a carnival called Frontier Town, band concerts at the Missoula County courthouse and at the university, wrestling and boxing matches at theaters and gymnasiums, parachute drops from a hot-air balloon by the Northern Pacific depot. It lasted four days! These Wild West Shows would last from 1915 to 1918. "Charles Allard drove his bison herd down from Polson, a four-day trip. Jim Grinder of Hot Springs, billed as "the world champion buffalo rider," finally got a saddle on one, which immediately quieted the animal. When Grinder got on, the young bull reared and fell back, burying Grinder.

He climbed back on, but the beast was through for the day. "He was there not to amuse, but to rest, and so he remained prostrate while Grinder perched above, fanning himself and the beast," a reporter observed. "Missoula Stampede began as a citywide extravaganza", by Kim Briggeman of the Missoulian. http://missoulian.com/news/local/missoula-stampede-began-as-a-citywide-extravaganza/article_55aeade8-856e-11de-ae84-001cc4c002e0.html

The rodeo at Missoula petered out about 1919, but there were a few in later years, some in the 1930s, one in 1941 when the grandstands burned down, and that ended things until they were again started up on 1954. The professional rodeo by the Rodeo Cowboys of America run from 1946 into the 1950s, it was called the Missoula or Jaycee Stampede. Oral Zumwalt and Bud Lake ran a rodeo out of Zumwalt's Miller Creek Ranch from the late 1950s to 1987 and from the fairgrounds until 1994.

In 1915 he married Mary Pablo, a daughter of Michel Pablo. Several articles about his marriage appeared in the local newspapers.

From The Ronan Pioneer, Fri., Sept. 24, 1915, p4:

"James Grinder and Mary Pablo secured a marriage license on Monday, September 20, and were married in Missoula on the same day."

From The Ronan Pioneer, Fri., Sept. 24, 1915, p4:

"While returning to Ronan on their honeymoon trip last Tuesday, Mr. and Mrs. James Grinder experienced an auto wreck. In making a sharp turn the car ran into the bank and all four wheels were broken off and completely demolished. The car was a Reo and the driver is said to have been "going some."

From The Daily Missoulian, November 11, 1915, page 5: "Polson

Mrs. Mary Grinder, who has been seriously ill, will soon be able to leave the hospital and return home near Ronan."

From The Daily Missoulian, Jan. 16, 1916, Wednesday, page 2: "Two Bootleggers Brought Here By Ramsey

High-Brow Flathead Folks Arrested as Result of Lively Booze Party.

While Mr. and Mrs. Jim Grinder and a party of their friends were celebrating at a house-warming party at the Grinders' home on the reservation, Special Officer Ramsey and Major Fred Morgan made an informal call. The officers noticed that booze must have been flowing freely, poked about, discovered several partly-filled bottles and caused the arrest of Grinder and Albert Roeder.

The two men were brought here last evening. Roeder had his preliminary hearing before United States Commissioner Bailey at Ronan and was bound over to await the action of the federal grand jury. Grinder will probably be arraigned before Commissioner W. P. Smith here this morning.

Jim Grinder was married not long ago to the divorced wife of Tony Barnaby. Mrs. Grinder is a daughter of Michel Pablo. It was a fine new home that had just been completed on her allotment that was dedicated in the house-warming party."

From The Ronan Pioneer, January 28, 1916, page 4:

"Jim Grinder was arrested Tuesday by special officers of the government charged with introducing liquor on the Flathead. A raid on the Grinder house Monday night, during the festivities of a house-warming dance, resulted in the officers finding a bottle of whiskey hidden in one of the beds. Grinder, we understand, denies all connection with the bottle of booze and declares he did not know it was on the premises. He was taken to Missoula for preliminary hearing."

From The Daily Missoulian, January 29, 1916, page 8: "Jim Grinder Here And Is Under Bonds Alleged Bootlegger Who Skipped His Hearing Shows Up In Court.

Jim Grinder, son-in-law of Michel Pablo, appeared before the United States Commissioner Wallace P. Smith yesterday, after having suddenly disappeared on the eve of his hearing on a charge of bootlegging. He was placed under \$500 bonds.

Grinder and his wife recently finished a new house on Mrs. Grinder's allotment, midway between Ronan and Polson. To the housewarming they invited a multitude of friends, and to insure the success of the party they served a little of the forbidden booze. Federal officers, though not invited guests, intruded upon the party and were rude enough to arrest the host.

Grinder was brought to Missoula Monday night, and was to have been heard Tuesday morning. But on Tuesday morning he was not be found. Yesterday he reappeared. If he skips again it will cost him \$500."

From The Daily Missoulian, April 7, 1916, page 8: "Frame-Up" Hinted By Indian On Stand

James Grinder Intimates That Special Officer Was Vengeful.

James Grinder, "half-Indian and half-Irish," on trial in the United States district court on charges of selling liquor to Indians on the Flathead reservation, intimated from the witness stand yesterday afternoon that Special Officer Ramsay arrested him in revenge for his failure to "squeal" on a white man.

Grinder testified that Ramsay approached him some time before his arrest and asked him to give evidence against the owner of the Flathead lake steamer "Klondike," who was suspected of selling liquor to Indians. Ramsay told Grinder, the latter said, that if Grinder would testify against the boat's owner the vessel could be sold by the government. Grinder refused to "squeal," and now attributes his subsequent arrest on what he calls false charges to the special officer's anger.

Grinder took the stand in his own defense late yesterday afternoon and denied all of the allegations of the government. Federal witnesses, most of them Indians, had told of getting beer and whiskey from Grinder at Arlee during the Indians' big hand game there in July. The government witnesses were explicit and emphatic in their statements.

Grinder denied that he was in Arlee for more than one day at the time of the game, which lasted for more than a month, and declared that he had no liquor at the time. He said that he had twice served time in the state penitentiary for violations of the state laws.

Grinder was the first witness called by the defense, and the court adjourned, at the conclusion of his testimony. The trial will be resumed at 9:30 this morning.

Another case against Grinder is next on the court's calendar."

From The Ronan Pioneer, April 14, 1916, page 1:

"For Introducing Liquor Federal Court Convicts

The April term of the federal court has been in session in Missoula for the past ten days, its time being principally taken in the trials of men and women charged with selling liquor to Indians, introducing or attempting to introduce liquor on the Flathead reservation. As usual, during a session of the federal court, the reservation country has been more or less depopulated, each case demanding a large number of witnesses. Out of all the whiskey cases tried, only one defendant escaped – a case from Camas. Those convicted and sentenced are:

Mary Dupuis, 60 days in jail and \$100 fine.

Hallie Goldsmith, 100 days in jail and \$200 fine.

James Grinder, 130 days in jail and \$100 fine.

James Murtaugh, 100 days in jail and \$100 fine.

Louis Pablo, found guilty of taking whiskey onto the reservation. Sentence will be given later.

Henry Matt of Arlee, was tried and acquitted on a charge of giving liquor to another Indian.

William Moore, colored, found guilty of giving whiskey to Indians.

Joseph Bonaparte, bootlegging, case postponed until Oct. 9.

Doris Hand, found guilty of bootlegging, sentence postponed until Oct. 9.

Alex McLeod entered a plea of guilty to the charge of introducing liquor on the reservation and sentenced suspended until Oct. 9."

From The Daily Missoulian, Feb. 16, 1917, page 2: "Grinder-Dorn

James Grinder and Miss Leona Dorn, both of Ronan, were married by Judge Dyson at his office yesterday afternoon. They will make their home at Ronan." Also see The Ronan Pioneer, Feb. 16, 1917, page 8.

From The Daily Missoulian, June 10, 1917, page 3: "Accused of Taking Liquor to Flathead

James Grinder was arrested yesterday by federal officers on a charge of introducing whiskey into the Flathead reservation. He was given a preliminary hearing by United States Commission W, P. Smith and bound over to appear before the federal grand jury. Grinder has been arrested on similar charges several times before."

From The Ronan Pioneer, November 23, 1917, page 8:

"Mrs. Jim Grinder was arraigned before Magistrate Allen in Missoula Saturday morning and admitted that she was guilty of violating the rooming house ordinance. She was released on \$100.00 bonds to appear tomorrow for sentence."

From The Daily Missoulian, May 28, 1918, page 2: "Bullet Fired By Indian Taken From Officer's Arm

W. G. Brown, special United States officer, who was shot in the arm Saturday during a gunfight with Peter Matt, a halfbreed, went to St. Patrick's hospital yesterday and had the bullet removed. The fight occurred on the reservation when Brown was arresting Matt and Jim Grinder on a charge of stealing a large quantity of seed wheat. During the melee the Indian was wounded in the leg by a shot from the official. He is recovering." (note: This Peter Matt was the son of John Baptiste Matt and Mary Therese Finley and husband of Della Collins Matt).

From The Ronan Pioneer, May 31, 1918, page 1: "Two Wounded In Gun Fight

In making the arrest of Peter Matt and James Grinder, half-breed Indians, charged with stealing wheat from the granary of John J. Rogers living on Mud creek, U.S. Officer W. G. Brown was shot in the arm and Pete Matt is in the Missoula hospital with a gunshot wound in his hip.

Upon being notified of the activity of Matt and Grinder in the wheat business last Friday night, Officers W.G. Brown and J.C. Curtis proceeded to the Rogers ranch and waited until they were leaving the granary with a full load of wheat. When commanded to surrender, Grinder threw up his hands and gave up, but Matt slid off the wagon with a shot gun and fired at Brown, striking him on the left forearm. But Brown and Curtis fired at the same time and it is thought that Curtis' bullet was the one taking effect in Matt's hip. He dropped to the ground with a loud howl of pain and let himself be taken and disarmed. They were brought to Ronan along with the wagon load of wheat and Dr. A.K. Resner attended to the wounds of the two men. Sheriff Green was notified and came out from Missoula Saturday morning to take Matt and Grinder to Missoula where one was lodged in jail and the other in the hospital.

Officers Brown and Curtis went to Missoula also and while there Mr. Brown was operated on and had the shot and particles of clothing removed from his arm, and while the wound is serious and painful he is expected to recover in due time. Matt's injuries are more serious and it will be some time before he will be able to walk.

Matt and Grinder are both well known on the reservation and have been in trouble several times before. The present case against them is serious and they will probably get a heavy sentence, particularly Matt."

From The Daily Missoulian, July 11, 1918, page 3:

"Matt and Grinder, Indians, Enter Pleas of Not Guilty

Pleas of not guilty were made by Peter Matt and Jim Grinder, half-breed Indians, when they were arraigned in the district court yesterday on charges of assault and burglary. Both men were arrested by Special Officer W. G. Brown several weeks ago while they were driving a wagon containing wheat which they were supposed to have stolen. Grinder gave himself up, but Matt fired on Brown and wounded him. The officer in turn wounded Matt.

Judge Lentz fixed Grinder's bond at \$750, while Judge Duncan fixed Matt's at \$650."

From The Daily Missoulian, Aug. 6, 1919, page 7:

"Report Matt Dropped Dead of Heart Failure in Prison

Peter Matt, who was sent to the state penitentiary from Missoula, dropped dead of heart failure while working with a road gang near Garrison, according to word received here.

Matt was sent to the prison about six months ago to serve a sentence for grand larceny. The sentence was from five and one-half to 15 years. Matt and Grinder were arrested by Deputy Jack Curtis and Officer Brown for stealing wheat. They were stopped by the officers. Matt shot Brown in the arm and Curtis returned the fire, getting Matt in the leg."

Geri Mae Vallee Owen wrote on April 7, 2012: "I remember Jim Grinder. He used to go hunting with my step dad Jay Hawley and Vic Cordier. He used to tell us kids alot of his stories. Wish I could remember them. We would tell us about running whiskey thru Montana. We would say and then what? He would add more to the story so don't know if it was all true, but he would tell some of them to my parents. We really enjoyed listening to him."

DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF THE CONVICT

Required by the State Board of Prison Commissioners Upon Receipt of the Convict at the Penitentiary

OFFICE OF THE WARDEN OF THE STATE PRISON

	Deer Lodge, Montana, Jan 19th 1919	191
To the President of the Board of Prison Commi	issioners:	
In accordance with the requirement	ts of the Board of State Prison Commissioners, I have	ve the honor
to report:		
1. That* James Grinder		a Convict,
was received at the penitentiary on the		191_9_
2. Age 42 year	78.	
3. Bern in State of	dr Foreign Country Canada	3
4. Occupation Rancher		
5. Complexion Dark		
6. Height 5 feet, II	b inches.	
7. Weight160	1 1 5 7)
8. Convicted of Burglary Ist D	egree	1
		1
10. Term of sentence is 7 to 15	Years and	Months
11. Crime committed in Ronan	Town, Missoula	
		County
	1915, X M. S. P. G. L. 5 yrs Bis,	
		1911
3. Where and by whom employed, previous to a	coming to Montana	
4. Date of arrival in Montana, and by whom e	mployed, since arrival	
5. If married, wife's address	mes Grinder, Butte, Mont.	***************************************
6. Names and addresses of Parents	*	
R&W yes, Feat, Comrse, Relig Cat	wn, hair black, teeth good, tob, ye tholic, re arm, tat. P. Matt, left forear	
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From The Flathead Courier, Thurs., July 7, 1932, page 1:

"The state of Montana versus James Grinder; defendant charged with the crime of grand larceny; upon request of county attorney said case passed until next season of court.

Three Men Taken To Deer Lodge Pen

Sheriff N. A. Palmer and Under-sheriff Chellis Beavers departed Tuesday with James Grinder, Narcissis Pichette and Frank Finley for Deer Lodge, where the three men will be confined in the penitentiary; the former for the violation of his parole and the other two for grand larceny. Pichette was sentenced by Judge Duncan to serve one year and Finley 14 months."



Uncle Frank Allison, Uncle Phillip Ashley and Jim Grinder, taken at the Allison ranch near St. Ignatius, Montana.

"In 1935 or 1936 old Jim Grinder used to stay with us, I think he was paroled to Dad. He had been in Deer Lodge pen. Some of his old Wild Bunch buddies came to see him about that time." Recalled by Jimmy Courchane "From There To Here – A Wenatchee Family's Travels From The Last Best Place To The Apple Capital of the World" David Charles Courchane, 2003.

"When we lived in Polson, Montana, Jim Grinder would come by to visit. Us kids, myself Jimmy and Dona, would be out in the yard playing when we would see him coming across the field to our house. He would always be carrying a gunny sack or flour sack of food. We would all yell out to him, "Jim! Jim! He was a tall man and liked us kids. Once he came with his "wife" Mary and had in the sack chickens. He was in a hurry and gave the sack to Momma and said get then cleaned and get rid of the feathers. Momma knew what

he meant. So she plucked the chickens and burned the feathers in the stove and poured the chicken water into cracks in the wood floor. As she was frying up the chicken the sheriff came by to see if Jim Grinder was around. Seeing no evidence of newly killed chickens he left. Soon afterwards Jim and Mary returned and they all had a good chicken dinner! We would have went hungry sometimes if Jim Grinder didn't bring by food. Recalled by Lilly Courchane Jones 2008.

"James (Jim) Grinder, an Okanogan Indian married and living among the Flatheads, was the first man to ride a buffalo with a saddle. The incident took place in 1915 at the then-famous stampede in Missoula. The animal rolled over on him. He drew five hundred dollars in prize money, which was considered "a goodly sum." Five hundred dollars was also a "goodly" medical bill for that day and Jim laid it out in a Missoula hospital. He was ninety-six years old when I first talked to him. "Feel here," he said to me. I hesitantly touched the indicated spot on his ribs. "Feel here," he said again and I gently touched a knot on his collarbone. He had led a hard riding, hard drinking, cowboy life and lived to near the century mark. I never heard him say whether he considered the prestige worth the consequences." Seasonal Travelers –Mildred Chaffin 1988

My cousin, Uncle Joe Ashley remembered that "Jim Grinder could skin a pig in the dark! People were glad to see him come to visit as he always had fresh meat."

Janice McClure wrote on April 7, 2012: "My Dad, worked with Jim Grinder at Kerr Dam Construction."

Janice McClure wrote: "I remembered the other name he went by was Gabriel Gustav."



Joe Bird and Jim Grinder having a drink, Jim liked a shot of whiskey, he is over 100 in these photos.



The two above Polaroid photos were taken either by Darlene or Bob Matt at the Silver Dollar Bar in St. Ignatius, Montana 1974.

One night Bob Matt and Joe Ashley came busting into the Silver Dollar Bar while I was bartending, they had Jim Grinder with them. Bob said, "We busted Jim out of the Rest Home!" (The one in Polson I think.) After a few drinks of whiskey and some poses for the camera they took him back to Hot Springs. What a nice surprise! I later asked Bob Matt to ask Jim if he knew Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. Bob said when he asked Jim he just said, "They were tough hombre!"

Carlene Cross author of "The Undying West – A Chronicle of Montana's Camas Prairie," first met Jim Grinder in 1975. She was hired to care for him and his roommate, an Asian named George. They were residents of Hot Spring's Rest Home.

Carlene wrote, "He would rise early and make his bed carefully, tucking the corners into perfect edges. Then he would climb on top and, pulling his long legs up to his chest, sit staring into the darkness – silent and still! Jim was tall and handsome, with the exquisitely defined cheek-bones the Nez Perce posses. A ragged scar edges its way down his beautiful features, and around the pupil of his eyes swirled a smoky ring – the same you'd find in the eye of an old mountain lion – intense, patient, and aware. When he looked at you, solid and steady-like, you knew he saw deeper than most. In his calm he could feel your soul's breath."

Carlene Cross also said he was no trouble to the nurses at the Hot spring's Nursing Home. He would once in awhile walk to town the Pioneer Bar, sit at the bar, roll a Bull Durham cigarette and order a drink. After a while the bartender would telephone the nursing home to have someone come and get him. One time he tried to smuggle a pint of whiskey home inside one of his sock's. When the nurses found it they didn't get upset about but simply scolded him a little, and poured it down a sink.

Another woman wrote about Jim Grinder in her book, "An Elephant in Every Yard", Jo Rainbolt. Jo Rainbolt met and visited Jim for the first time when he was 106 years old. He was at that time talking to his old friend, Louie Gingras.

Here's the full story on page 13:

Chapter 2 Jim Grinder (Jo Rainbolt)

"When I first met Jim Grinder, he was a reluctant roomer in a rest home in northwestern Montana.

"Reason I'm here, just feel this," he said and placed my hand on his clean white T-shirt just over the rib cage, "Feel it? I was riding a buffalo and fell off backward."

Even though the rib cage felt just like a rib cage, I nodded agreeably while wondering how recently Jim had been riding a buffalo. He was 106 years old at the time and had been in the rest home for several years. Did he fall off a buffalo at age 104?

I didn't ask because several of my questions had already brought gentle guffaws from Jim. Besides, he was interested in exchanging old-time tales regarding unsolved murders and hidden gold caches with Louie Gingras, a Kootenai Indian and longtime friend. Louie had introduced me to Jim by saying, "This is Jo. She's writing my life story, and I'll let you read the first page."

"Jim said he didn't like rest home cooking so he mostly ate bananas and cookies. 'When I cook for myself I eat stew and fish. Pretty soon I'm getting out of here, go to Canada and get back on my own."

He told me he was an Irishman from Canada, but Louie later amended that and said Jim was a Coeur d'Alene Indian from Washington state. Louie also told me Jim's buffalo accident probably happened around 1910, when the last of the buffalo were rounded up.

Louie told Jim he had an aunt living in the rest home, and Jim replied, "Yuh" That old lady still alive?" It was obvious he didn't consider himself old.

When he left we told Louie, "I think I'll live forever."

"Well, I'm gonna catch up with you," Louie replied.

The summer of 1977 Louie and a friend and I went to visit Jim, who had moved into a rest home in Hot Springs, Montana. It was during Homesteader Days celebrations, and Jim had been dressed up all day, hopefully waiting for somebody to arrive for him.

"Put on your cowboy hat; we'll take you to town," I said, and Jim smiled his gentle smile at me and Louie and my friend, and said, "Good, there's a lady for each of us."

As I was helping Jim out the front door into the summer sunlight, a nurse came up and said, "You know, if you take Mr. Grinder out, you're responsible for him."

I smiled and said, "Certainly."

"Well, you'll have to sign this," she said, and handed me an official-looking form. I signed and another elderly man came up and asked if I'd sign him out, too, and I said, "Sure."

"Only trouble is, my legs play out," Jim said in his soft voice after we had parked the car and were walking down Hot Springs' main street toward Jim's favorite bar. I wondered what would happen if his heart played out; would I be held responsible?

As we made our way through the crowded bar, voices carried along over the music of the live band. First hushed, awed voices, then jubilating – "It's Jim Grinder, old Jim. He's over 100 years old!" I was glad I'd signed him out.

We sat at a round table at the back of the bar so people could call on Jim. They paid homage. "Bless your heart, Jim, you're still alive," a tearful man said.

Jim told me he lived so long because he "lived an outdoor life." His face reflected a lifetime of living with the elements. He had aged naturally, as rocks and trees and barns do.

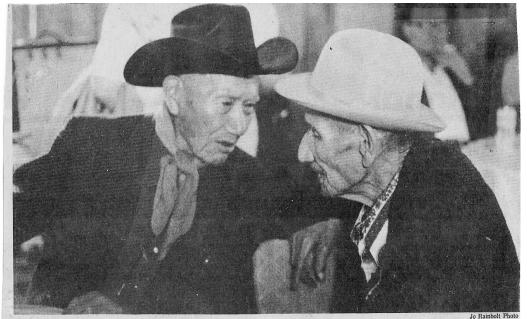
His face didn't look a century old, but his hands did. Jim's hands were beautifully long, slender brown hands with fingers slightly twisted with arthritis.

Jim didn't trust the mail to deliver the color photographs I took of him and Louie, so I promised to deliver them. But when I returned to Hot Springs later in the summer the nurses at the rest home said Jim was in Missoula having a pacemaker put in. When I went to Missoula hospital the next week, Jim had checked out. I hoped he had gone back to Canada to live in a cabin and cook stew and fish.

He died in the Hot Springs nursing home October 23, 1977. He was 109 years old.

He was born in Okanogan, Washington, on May 23, 1868. He came to Montana around the turn of the century and made friends throughout the state as he moved from one community to another, following wild west shows and picking up ranching jobs.

Eighty-five-year-old Louie was wintering with relatives in Great Falls, and when I wrote and told him his old pal had died, Louie wrote back, "Last time I saw him he told me he was going to B.C. in two weeks. I guess he meant heaven. Now I know that I will catch up with him. I have twenty-four years to go."



One-hundred-and-nine-year-old Jim Grinder, right, and his long-time friend, Louis Gingras,

85, talk of old times during a visit this summer in a Hot Springs bar.

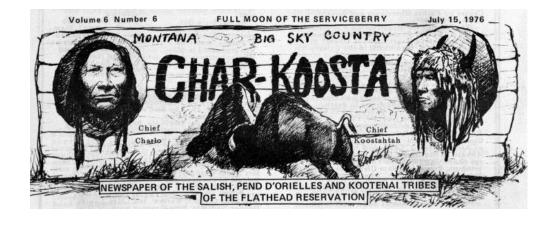
NorthWest Edition

Missoulian

Vol. 105 No. 169 Founded May 1, 1873

Missoula, Montana, Monday, November 14, 1977

Single Copy 20°





Jim Grinder died October 23, 1977 at 109 years old.

The Flathead Courier, Thurs., Oct. 27, 1977, page 9, col. 7-8:

"Jim Grinder, 109, Dies in Hot Springs Jim E. Grinder, whose life spanned some of the most rugged years in the west, died Sunday, Oct. 23, in the Hot Springs Convalescent Home at the age of 109. A member of the Nez Perce Indian tribe, Grinder was born May 23, 1868, in Okanogan, Wash. Most of his early life was spent as a cowbvoy, and he enjoyed riding so much he had often boasted he could ride anything with hair on it.

Grinder arrived in the Polson area (there wasn't a town then) in 1900 when travelers arrived by horse, stagecoach or later by the Klondike on Flathead Lake. He recalled that at that at this early year, Polson had only a livery barn, a little store where the Pizza Pier now stands, and two small cabins owned by Mrs. Bonaparte. This was before the bridge was built and crossing the river was by rowboat.

His first boss here was Michel Pablo, sometimes called the Buffalo King of the World. It was during this period that he went on the last of the buffalo roundups. He loved the wild, wild west and broke broncs, rode in stampedes, and savored the life of a cowboy to the fullest. One of the legends of his colorful experiences include the time he mounted a buffalo and hung right in there to ride the rugged beast.

His rugged outdoor life is credited with giving him such a long and active life. He worked vigorously until he was beyond 80 years old, and had few infirmities of age, even in his final years.

Rosary was recited Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. in Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Hot Springs. Funeral services are scheduled today (Thursday) at 11 a.m. in the church. Burial will follow in the Lakeview Cemetery in Polson. The Shrider Funeral Home of Plains is in charge of arrangements."

GINGRAS, LOUIE
THE FLATHEAD COURIER.THURS.July 29,1971.Pg.2,col.3-4



Louie Gingras

Indian Portrait By Megesima

Jim Thorpe, legendary Mohawk athlete of the turn of the century, was a school mate of one of our local people. Louic Gingras, 79, as of last Saturday, remembers Jim throughout three years of attendance at the Carlisle Institute in Pennsylvania, beginning in 1910. In reminiscing about Thorpe, Louic recalls he was a big man and an all-around athlete. Existing sports records bear out claims to Thorpe's fame, bringing to mind the present-day Olympic runner, Sioux Billy Mills of the 10,000 meter record mark.

Mr. Gingras recalls that he was among twelve Indians who made the trip east that year when the train took four days and nights to arrive in Carlisle. Others from this area who were in the company were Jimmie Kallowatt, Frank Roder of Ronan, Jöhn Roullier, Johnnie Buchard and two of the Pablo girls.

In connection with athletics, Louie comments that a Navajo named Tewanama out-ran two horses successively in a race staged in London in 1912 when the track team traveled there.

the track team traveled there. Carlisle, which later closed, was well-known as an Indian school in those days, and Gingras states that enrollment approached the 2,000 mark with Indians from many parts of the United States, Puerto Rico and Alaska. The Superintendent of the school, a man named Cameron, had formerly been at Ft. Shaw, Montana, and here on the Flathead Reservation.

Louie observes that although Indians in those days were not allowed to wear braids to the school, he has pleasant memories of Carlisle and enjoyed being with the other Indians there. He stayed in regular quarters while athletes like Thorpe lived with the football team, when he wasn't busy out

high jumping his own height of 6 feet, 1 inch.

Louie, whose mother was a full-blood Kootenai, also has Cree and Flathead ancestry. His grandfather was in the California gold rush and later settled at DeMersville, Montana, an old settlement below present day Kalispell.

Louie Gingras died December 30, 1986 in Ronan, Montana and is buried in Dayton, Montana. He lived to be 92 years old. He attended the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania.



Jo Rainbolt

MISSOULA - Jo Rainbolt, 65, flew away like a mountain bluebird in autumn Dec. 19, 2006, shortly before midnight at St. Patrick Hospital. Her loving daughter, Kristen, and devoted partner, Lee, were by her side. Jo successfully battled multiple myeloma for the last year, only to be attacked by pancreatic cancer in recent weeks. When it became apparent that the cancer had too firmly taken hold of her body, she accepted this and decided to gracefully surrender.

Jo was born the daughter of Pearl Velma Peterson and Mervin Carl Thompson on April 23, 1941, in Estherville, Iowa. She moved to Missoula in 1964 with her husband Richard Schloemer to attend college. Jo graduated with a BFA from the University of Montana in 1969. She lived in the Bitterroot Valley for more than two decades, Hot Springs for 12 years and Missoula this past year. She enjoyed the last three summers overlooking the vast waters of Flathead Lake near Woods Bay. Jo raised five kids on a ranch in the Bitterroot with her second husband, Wynn Rainbolt.

Boundless vitality, flawless perspective and a noncritical love of living made Jo a friend to all. She had a way of seeing the good in everyone and finding the beautiful details of every person that touched her life. Jo was full of positive energy, closing the door on all negativity. Forgiveness came easy and she can still be heard saying, I just want everyone to like each other." Jo was a magnet to all who were fortunate enough to come in contact with her.

Jo lived a life close to the earth. The outdoors and nature were truly her chosen place of worship. Fresh air was the fuel that kept this girl of nature flowing. In return, Jo saw it as her duty to defend and be a steward of the rivers, trees, fish, bears and other beings that were the source of her strength.

Jo gave back to this world through her various forms of artwork. She started as a newspaper reporter for the Missoulian in the early 1970s. Her writings on the critical issue of clear-cut logging in the Bitterroot won her the Correspondent of the Year" award in her first year. Her interest in people led her to write the well-known column An Elephant in Every Yard." Jo said, Everyone has a story; it's fun to draw it out."

This love for people led her to publish seven books in her lifetime. From a look at the twilight era of the American cowhand in The Last Cowboy" to the Missoula Valley History" book, Jo talked to countless old-timers" and preserved their stories and way of life for future generations. An avid singer, Jo co-wrote another book titled Singing is Natural" - singing made her happy!

Jo was more than a simple taker of photographs. From chronicling the life of a family growing up in the Bitterroot to capturing the essence of the Tarascan Indian women of Mexico, she had a way of capturing the spirit in her photos and drawings. Like her writings, her images will live on for all to experience.

Later in life Jo's form of artistic expression was with pen, paper, pastel and watercolor. She drew much inspiration and strength from some of her best friends, animals. From her Fire Bears to her Medicine Animals and her beloved Elephants, Jo's works express the colors and majesty that made this world special. She magically sketched the human form with a quickness that seemed effortless. She was a master of essence, filling countless pages with images of the ordinary.

Jo's legs carried her over countless miles of this earth. Her travels were an inspiration for much of her artwork. From the mountains of Mexico to the beaches of Bali, from the Aegean Sea of Greece and Turkey to the heavenly views from the Bob," from the cobblestone streets of Italy to the rocky waters of Flathead Lake, from the endless expanse of Alaska to the smaller untouched islands of Hawaii, she sought to experience out-of-way places. Jo's stamina carried her through this life and will be well-suited for whatever journey lies ahead.

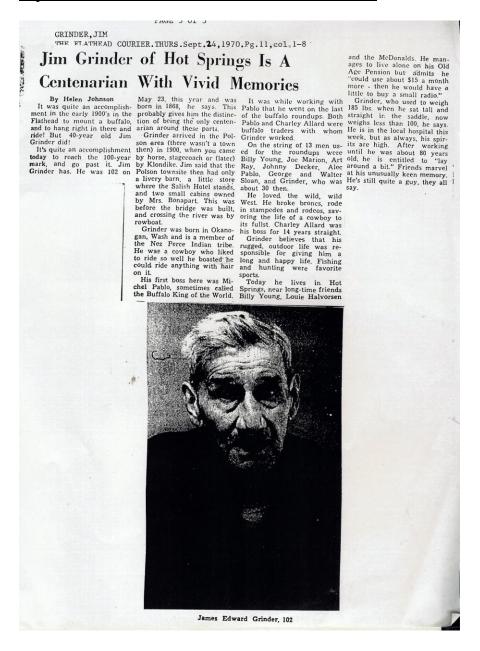
Jo spent much of this year at her daughter's home on the hills overlooking Missoula. She was often visited by bluebirds, hawks, elk, whitetail, fox and an occasional cloud elephant. While elegantly handling chemotherapy treatments, she passed the days sketching and painting. Chemo fatigue gave me enough rest and introspection to last for years. I drew like never before. I am grateful I got out my oil pastels and biggest paper and painted what I felt," she said during an interview with the Great Falls Tribune in November. Some of her most recent work is currently displayed in The Art of Healing," an exhibition in Great Falls.

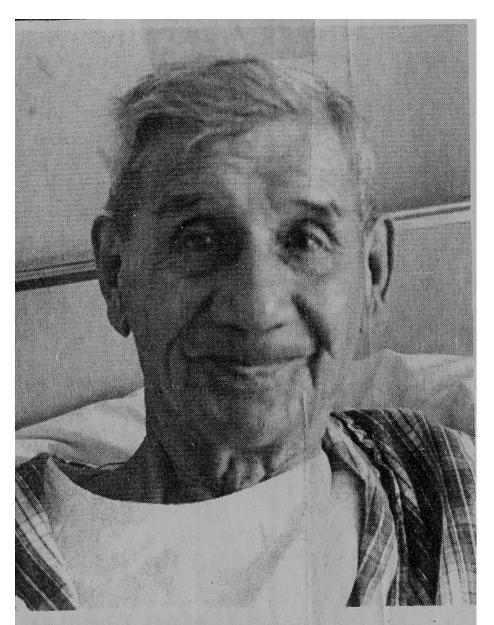
Jo is survived by her partner, Lee Zimmerman; daughters Kori Jo Schloemer and Kristen Schloemer Nicolarsen and her husband, Scott Nicolarsen; adopted son Jed His-Law; stepdaughters Tahlia Rainbolt and Kim Rainbolt; sister Pat Cardarelle and brother Merv Thompson; one niece and three nephews. Her grandson, Colter Jack Nicolarsen is due in June.

A memorial celebrating Jo's rich and full life will be held at 1 p.m. on Jan. 6, 2007, at the First United Methodist Church in Missoula (across from the public library). All are welcome.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks you to plant a tree or perennial flowers in her honor

http://missoulian.com/news/local/obituaries/05thu/articl

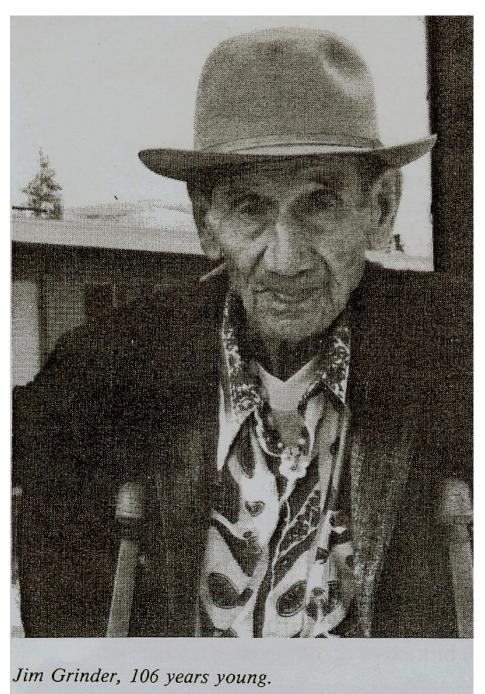




HE'S PAST 102 — Jim Grinder, who says he was born May 23, 1868, in Okgunah, Wash., is shown shortly after he observed his birthday in St. Joseph Hospital, Polson. Grinder, a cowboy in the Polson area since 1900, says he owes his long life to "being an outdoorsman, having a good time and enjoying himself." (Marge Anderson Photo)



JIM GRINDER. 105-year-old western Montana pioneer, was pictured at the Polson - Flathead Historical Museum last Sunday with a photo taken of him riding a buffalo in a Missoula rodeo in 1915. He recalled he was thrown once, got back on and finished the ride only to be badly injured by the time it was over. He spent several weeks in the hospital and when he was released he was given some \$1,400 that had been contributed by rodeo fans and other well-wishers. He tried to ride buffalos twice after that but Humane societies prevented the rodeo producers from allowing it. Grinder, a resident of St. Joseph Convalescent and Retirement Center in Polson, had many stories written about him. This past summer a reporter from San Francisco, writing for the National Enquirer, came to Polson to research a story on him: The museum closes for the season this Sunday at 5 p.m. (Courier photo)



From "An Elephant in Every Yard" Jo Rainbolt

The other children of Phillip Grinder and Marguerite "Nancy" Kistamalix:

Julia Anne Grinder b: on February 18, 1861 in Lac La Hache, B.C. Canada and died on March 15, 1951 in Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada. She married Thomas Pocock (1837-1911) and they had the following children:

Minnie Gertrude Pocock (1882-1925)

Bertha Augusta Pocock (1882-1967)

Anna Mary Pocock (1884-1911)

Thomas William Pocock (1887-1966)

Nellie Pocock (1890-1947)

Hazel Pocock (1892-1985)

Walter Pocock (1896-1966

http://www.mundia.com/ca/Person/47762222/12810669914

Evaline Marrianne Grinder b: Abt. 1864, d: 14 Dec 1954. She married Joseph

Haller (1836-1900) and had the following children:

Joseph "Joe" Haller (1870-1908)

Alex Haller (1871-1942)

William Haller (1874-1950)

Charlie "Char" Ignatius Haller (1877-1960)

Mary Seraphine Louise Haller (1882-) (or Mary Seraphine Louisa Sterling?)

George Haller (1886-1970)

August Francis "Gus" Haller (1887-1979)

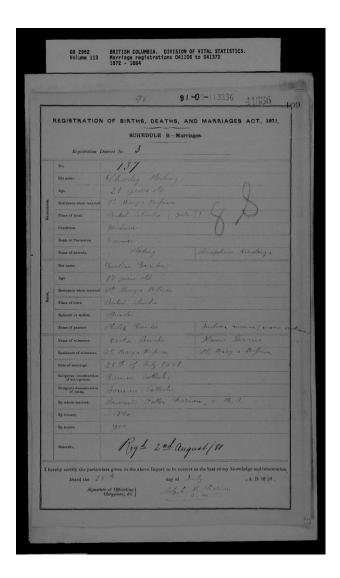
Edward James Haller (1890-1961)

Mary Agnes Haller (1899-1957)

Minnie Haller (1899-1957)

Rose "Rosie" Haller (1900-1981)

http://www.mundia.com/ca/Person/47762222/12810670066



Margaret Grinder born on October 24, 1865 in Big Bar, British Columbia and died on December 14, 1953 in Big Bar, B.C. Canada. (Other dates of are birth: March 26, 1866 and death December 14, 1954). She first married Barney Glen O'Rourke born on May 6, 1865 in Ireland. Their children were Thomas Glen O'Rourke born April 30, 1903 in Jesmond, British Columbia, Canada and died January 20, 1979 in Nicola Valley GH; Merritt, British Columbia, Canada; Bessie O'Rourke born in 1907 in Big Bar, British Columbia, Canada

She married Prince Albert Hartman (1845-1915) on December 6, 1881 at Big Bar and they had four children: Rose Ellen Hartman (1882-1964); Herbert Hartman (1884-); Clara Belle Hartman (1890) and John Albert Hartman (1894-) In 1881 at the age of 16 she lived in Cariboo, British Columbia.

http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/8947993/person/1481488887?ssrc=

We see this from Deanna Nelson: "Margaret or Maggie Grinder, their daughter, married Barney O'Rourke an Irish immigrant born in 1865 and arrived in Canada in 1882. My grandfather, Thomas O'Rourke was born in Jesmond in 1903 and died in Merrit, B.C. in 1979. He married Nancy Swakum (1915-1982).

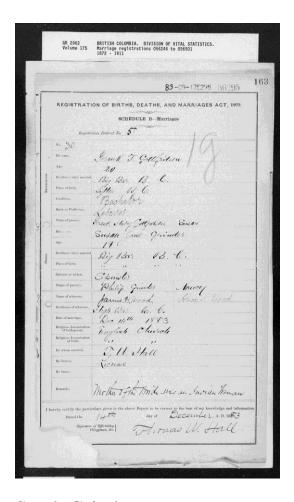


Margaret Grinder Hartman

Susan Jane Grinder born about 1870, and died June 13, 1946. She married Frank T. Gottfriedson (1864-1950) and had the following children:

Francis Henry Gottfriedson (1883-1949) Louisa Gottfriedson (1887-)

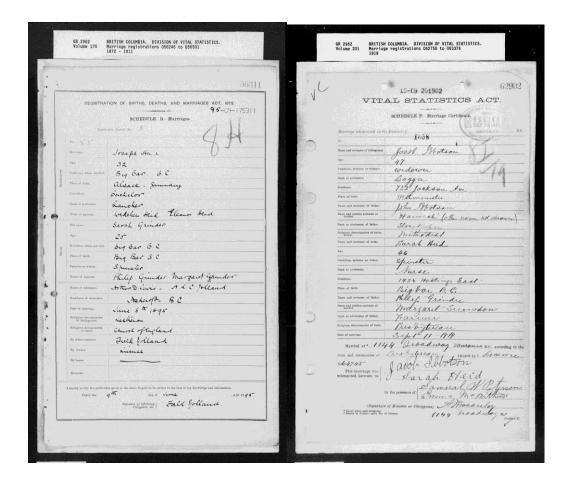
Then Susan married Grant Lee (1870-1952)



Sarah Grinder born on July 27, 1872 and died on January 6, 1942. She married Joseph Heid (1861-1914) and they had the following children:

Charles John Heid (1892-1977) Louis Heid (1896-1948) Emma Heid (1898-) Dora Heid (1907-) Marie Heid (1910-1999)

Then she married Jacob Ibbotson http://www.mundia.com/ca/Person/47762222/12810669914



John Grinder born on December 23, 1872 and died on May 10,1961. He married Angelina Miller and had the following children:

Henry Grinder (1929-1993) Cecelia Grinder (1873-)

He also married Angelina Tresierras (1868-1939)

He also married Suzanne Askwemenac He also married Emile Hance (1884-1950) http://www.mundia.com/ca/Person/47762222/12810669914

We see this from Katherine "Kate" Green: "Philip was also my great grandfather. You have (she is addressing Audrey Higbee) an unbelievable amount of relatives in British Columbia. Philip was married to Nancy a Shuswap woman. She gave birth to Johnny Grinder. Johnny Grinder had a child with Alice Hance known as Violet Grinder. Violet Grinder was my mother. Violet had many children as did her brother and sisters." October 21, 2010

Carla Grinder writes on July 30. 2002:

"Hi!

My name is Carla Grinder. I live in Chase BC, originally from Big Bar Creek

BC. I am looking for information on my gg-grandfather Phil Grinder whom i believe originated from PA in the late 1800's or early 1900's. I do not know the name of his wife just that he was an outlaw from PA. My g-grandfather's name was John Grinder and there was a Jimmy or James Grinder who moved back to the USA. I do not know if he was Phil Grinders son or brother. I know someone who might know the name of Phil's wife. I will post it if i find out. Also we are of Native Ancestry. i believe there to be appx 400 grinders in BC,Canada. We range from fair skinned to dark, blonde to dark hair, blue-eyed to brown-eyed. We are having our first Grinder Reunion on Aug 9-12, 2002."

http://genforum.genealogy.com/grinder/messages/110.html

William "Billy" Grinder – born on April 5, 1875 and died on December 16, 1969 in Ashcroft, British Columbia, Canada. He married Minnie Kostering on August 31, 1900 in Clinton, B.C. He seems he was also married to a Mattie Rains. He had 11 children with Minnie. Among them was Isador William Grinder (1900-2000); Henry Leslie Grinder (1901-1991); Johanna Mary Grinder (1904-1923); Phillip Frederick Grinder (1905-1923); Louise Agnes Grinder (1907-1964); Mary Irene Grinder (1909-1996) and Albert William "Bert" Grinder (1918-) plus four others.

http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/47762222/person/12810670697 1/2/2014 Bryon Genealogy_2012-10-17

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Chat William Grinder

and Marguerite Kastanalara

born in Big Bar Creek, B.C.

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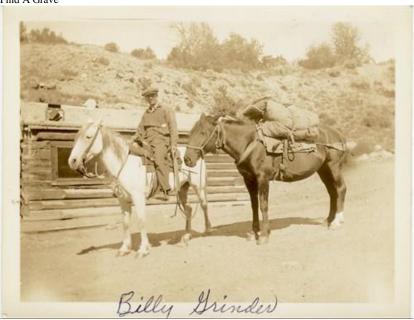
Patrol Society 6, 1947

All Desired.





Find A Grave





"Hi Chalk,

Here's a picture of Isadore Grinder (1900-April-2002), his son Phillip Grinder, on the right, and my brother Bob (Yerbury) on the left, in British Columbia.

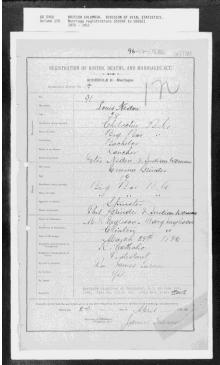
Isadore was a Shuswap? Indian, and lived at the Dog Creek reserve. Isadore is buried at "The Old Cemetery" at Clinton, British Columbia. He had 5 or 6 brothers.

He was married to Mary Louise Garrigan. Their son Phillip Grinder is deceased. I hope that this is of interest to you." Al (Yerbury) 10/23/2013

"Hi Chalk,

I talked to my brother, and he bringing me some photos of the Grinder's. He knew them very well. He would go up to Clinton BC on moose hunting trips. Isadore Grinder & his son Phillip, were his guides. Both are deceased. Here is what he had to say about Isadore: Isadore Grinder was born either 8-April-1899 or 1900. He was born on the Shillshwup? Reservation in British Columbia, near Dog Creek. He had several siblings. He had a brother named Henry Grinder. There is a road, named after him in Clinton BC named "Isadore Road". My brother said that Isadore told him that he had family who moved to Montana. I hope that this helps! Al (Yerbury)" (Grinder Family, /13/2012 8:44:31 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time)

Clemence Emma Grinder born on September 2, 1877 in Lytton, B.C. Canada and died March 9, 1970 in Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada. She married Louis Vedan (1856-1955) they had one daughter, Cecelia Sadie Vedan (1903-1968).



Some of the Grinder family genealogists add Grant Grinder as a child of Phillip Grinder. I have trouble with the fact that he was born in Pennsylvania and this makes me think he was actually a brother of nephew of old Phillip. I do know that old Phillip Grinder had siblings in that state for one a sister named Maraget Grinder.



Grant Grinder must be a nephew of Phillip Grinder.

http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=GRI&GSpartial=1&GSbyrel=all... 1/2/2014

Grant Grinder's wife was Eva Clerke Archer (1868-1958).

Many of the Grinders worked on the Gang Ranch:

"The Gang Ranch is a famous and historic Canadian ranch in the Chilcotin region of the Central Interior of British Columbia. It is located 28 miles (45 km) north of Clinton on the West bank of the Fraser River opposite the Indian Reserve community of Dog Creek. The ranch, near Alkali Lake was founded in 1863. For many years the largest ranch in North America, it is now the second largest in Canada, after the Douglas Lake Ranch. The Churn Creek Protected Area is also nearby.

Two American brothers, Thaddeus and Jerome Harper traveled from Harpers Ferry, Virginia, via California, to BC in the Cariboo Gold Rush. They mined in Yale, British Columbia, and lived in Victoria for a time. At one point they were accused of supporting the rebel Confederacy and plotting against the nearby North. One account suggests that they were asked to leave the border area of BC. Some miners worked their way up the Fraser River seeking gold and found the remote plateau. Unsuccessful in their search for gold, the Harpers settled on the west bank of the Fraser River in 1863 and installed a gang plow. Thus the Gang Ranch began its long operation.

The Harpers made an agreement with the Chilcotin Indian Kalalest whereby the land at the confluence of the Chilcotin and Fraser rivers was divided between theFirst Nations and the Harpers. The Harpers began to drive cattle from Washington or Oregon, hundreds of miles on the hoof, northwards to feed the hungry gold miners. One drive was made from Utah. The brothers bought and sold stock, and land, moving frequently at first. The town of Horsefly was first called "Harper's Camp" and included a steam sawmill. From their gains with the cattle drives, the brothers expanded the Gang Ranch. The Harpers had misfortune, including a severe winter in 1878 which killed thousands of cattle. Despite this, the brothers persevered. In 1883 they bought 8,900 acres (36 km²) of Chilcotin land from the Government. The brothers also had rangeland at Hat Creek, Cache Creek and Kamloops, in all about 38,000 acres (150 km²). The ranch first operated under the name "Canadian Ranching Company." The brothers ran into financial difficulty and the Western Canadian Ranching Company was sold to an English partner, Galpin, of the Cassell publishing house in 1891.

Considerable work was needed: fencing pastures and building sawmills, bridges, bunkhouses, and roads. At the same time they had to oversee the feeding, droving, and rounding-up of thousands of head of cattle in rough terrain. With the goodwill and assistance of the Chilcotin people, the ranch grew and prospered. Families such as Gaspard, Paternaude, Farwell and Kalalest, settled in the area. The English owners continued with the ranch for decades, into the twentieth century. A combination of absentee landowners, salaried English managers, isolation, and rough BC bush meant that the business was not always profitable. The hardscrabble way of the ranch, combined with the hard work of developing a business in raw territory, was costly. Then the Depression and the market crash took its toll. The English owners eventually sold the ranch, but not before introducing English farming practices to the area, and English housewares and furniture to the "Big House" on the premises.

In the late 1970s the ranch was bought by Alsager Holdings. This was the first time in many years that the ranch had been Canadian owned and television news crews came out several times from Vancouver, to cover the story of the ranch's Canadian ownership and subsequent fall into receivership. Dale Alsager and his wife lived on the ranch in a house they built at the headquarters. Lonnie Jones was then manager and cow boss. He rode and made camp with the cowboy crew. Bob Munsey from Paulina, Oregon was the cow boss before Lonnie Jones took over." http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gang_Ranch



https://www.google.com/search?q=gang+ranch+bc&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=H-HJUr3UG4nYoATsroLwDg&sqi=2&ved=0CAcQ_AUoAQ&biw=1464&bih=794#facrc=_&imgdii=_&imgrc=6ri9xT_cqDPBkM%3A%3BkfMU2noBVLWqnM%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.firstnations.de%252Fimg%252Fi06-3-1-gang-2.jpg%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.firstnations.de%252Fdevelopment%252Fsecwepemc-tspeten.htm%3B383%3B238



Autumn colors at Gang Ranch in Fraser Canyon taken by Kalevi Sissonen www.sissonen.com

The Grinder's kept up the ranch life and many of them were rodeo riders like Jim Grinder, one such was Floyd Grinder:





"Floyd Grinder was born on the family ranch near Clinton in 1942. His family were pioneer ranchers in the area since the 1800's and Floyd learned all the ranching skills at a young age. As a youngster he helped his father to bring cattle from the Gang Ranch to the railhead at Ashcroft. He used to tell stories about running wild horses off Big Bar Mountain with his Dad and brothers. Rodeo was one of Floyd's great loves. He competed in rodeos all over western North America and won many championships and all-round titles over the years. Floyd once represented BC at the Calgary Stampede as part of the BC Rodeo Team. He was also awarded the BC Rodeo Association's Lifetime Achievement Award in 1991. When Floyd wasn't riding in a rodeo, he could usually be seen helping with the stock, pulling gates and helping other riders. Floyd ran a successful logging operation for 23 years, and was a licensed big game guide and outfitter, and a

licensed trapper. He initiated the very successful Clinton "Old Timers Rodeo" held annually for 9 years. In every path Floyd chose throughout his life, he was always a gentleman of the highest magnitude. He was loved and well respected by all who came into his life." http://www.bcchs.com/archives.html#grinder

Sources:

"I Will Be Meat For My Salish" The Buffalo and Federal Writers Project Interviews Relating to the Flathead Reservation - edited by Robert Bigart - Biographical Glossary of Flathead Indian Reservation Names" by Eugene Mark Felsman and Robert Bigart

The Undying West – A Chronicle of Montana's Camas Prairie, Fulcrum Publishing, Golden, Colorado, 1999, pp. 170-178:

"An Elephant in Every Yard", Jo Rainbolt, Falcon Press Publishing Co., Inc., Billings and Helena, 1980, Chapter 2, pp. 13-16

Montana State Prison, State Prison Convict Register and Personal Description Book, page 435. Reels: 11, vol., 8, p.134; 1, page 106 and reel 7, p 435.

Personal Recollections of members of the Courchane Family

Newspaper clippings from The Daily Missoulian, Missoula, Montana (from Bob Bigart and Gene Felsman)

Newspaper clippings from The Ronan Pioneer, Ronan, Montana (from Bob Bigart and Gene Felsman)

Recollections of Geraldine Vallee Owens, email & Facebook. April 7, 2012.

Recollections of Janice McClure, email & Facebook, April, 2012

Yerbury Family Recollections, email April 13, 2012 (Al Yerbury & brother) & New information from Al Yerbury January 2, 2014.

New Information from Ancestry.com from Duzzie Glover (Dec.2013 and January 2014)

Ancestry.com information on the Grinder family.

