



A NIGHT AT A ROUND TABLE

- CAN WE QUIET OUR CLEVERNESS?** Biomimicry is the conscious emulation of nature's genius to help solve human design challenges. To practice learning from nature, we must quiet our own cleverness and essentially recognize that humans are but one species of over 30 million species currently living on this planet earth. Join **Dayna Baumeister** for a lively discussion on the implications for the human race of believing we as a species belong on a pedestal versus a belief that we are one among many.
- ART OR SCIENCE: HOW TO BEST CHANGE THE WORLD?** The world needs attention—not much argument there. Many of us do-gooders are driven by a need to help heal the Earth, care for the needy, improve education for our children, or stop wars. How can we maximize our impact and best serve as agents of change: by tapping into the collective unconscious through artistic expression, or by solving problems in the lab or in the field through science and technology? There is a right answer; **Richard Oppen**, Director of Montana's Department of Environmental Quality just doesn't know what it is. He's asking the question and hoping you'll help him talk it through.
- GREENER HELENA** What will buildings, energy, transportation and food systems in Helena look like 50 years from now? Can they be integrated? Can cities in Montana become net producers of energy, food and nutrients instead of net consumers? Build on these questions with Missoula builder **Steve Loken** as you imagine a Helena of the future.

ARTS, CULTURE & CUTTING EDGE

- PLEASE, THANK YOU AND OTHER FOUNDATIONS OF CIVILIZATION** Have you registered shock at the apparent collapse of social conventions you used to take for granted? **Elton Anderson**, doing business as Mr. Manners, will console you and affirm that those fundamentals that we once took for granted are alive and still matter. From the formal, to informal; casual to chaos, explore how our social codes of conduct evolved and why we should struggle to maintain them.
- BY OAR AND BY SAIL** "Oh...thy sea is so great and my boat is so small." (Anonymous) Imagine coordinating and executing the building of a 24 foot wooden boat over the course of a year. Then what? 6 people, 6 oars, 3 sails, 3 months and the Inside Passage. This is a conversation about ingenuity, endurance, cooperation and travel. **Ben Brower** and **Becca Leaphart** have it all.
- MOVIES THAT CHANGE YOUR LIFE** Whether it's the moment when Bogey brushes off Ingrid Bergman at the airport or when Luke learns something surprising about his family tree, everyone has moments in film that have left an indelible imprint. Join HHS English teacher **Don Pogreba** in a discussion on the movies that have mattered most to you, the movies we can't help but watch over and over again, and the power of film in contemporary culture. Bring popcorn!
- WINES OF THE WORLD** Take a delicious trip around the world with Sommelier **Chelsey Frank** as you taste wines from different regions and learn about finding good wine in places like Japan, Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Argentina and the U.S. During your tour, discuss varietals, wine making and its history, and how to match and serve the perfect wine. Cheers!
- CROP CIRCLES: MESSAGES FROM E.T.?** Delve into **Richard O'Connor's** study of crop circles as the most important phenomena of our time. Who might these messages to humanity be from and are they an off-world intelligence trying to get our attention? When, where and how in the world do we respond? Dr. O'Connor will be sharing information from the recent Center for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence conference.
- WHAT MAKES THE GREAT BOOKS... WELL, GREAT?** If you think you haven't read the *Odyssey* since someone forced you to, you may be in for a surprise. **Ken Egan**, Executive Director of Humanities Montana, is ready to show you how those "great" themes transcend time and culture and re-occur where you least expect them. From Toni Morrison's *Song of Solomon*, to the Coen Brothers' *Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?* Those "great" themes keep cropping up...because they're Great! What else should you reread, read and what have you missed along the way?

ENVIRONMENT & NATURE

- CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY: A TRUCE?** In the current debate over wilderness and public lands, how does Montana's history shape discussions on conservation, the environmental movement, and what it all means for the future of public lands and conservation campaigns in the Big Sky. Wrestle with these issues and more alongside **Gabe Furshong** of the Montana Wilderness Association.
- THE SECRET LIFE OF GRIZZLY BEARS** Discover what bear hairs and remote cameras reveal about some of Montana's most fascinating animals. Research ecologist **Kate Kendall** has studied grizzly and black bears in Yellowstone and northwest Montana since 1977. While gathering 34,000 hair samples and DNA to learn about bear populations, she also documented some surprising and amusing bear behavior. Be sure to ask, do bears shi...mmy in the woods?
- WHO GETS TO KILL THE SALMON?** **Jay Weiner**, assistant attorney general and expert in water litigation, can guide guests through the labyrinthian details of the Columbia River Salmon litigation conundrum. It is an issue seeking to balance tribal rights, the worth of a species and other environmental issues. Sounds fishy, but the discussion will be lively.

- THE SACRED ROLE OF TREES** The human love affair with trees is the stuff of great literary works, music and poetry, but the role of trees in the world's ecosystem services is an unknown verse. Author and New York Times writer **Jim Robbins** offers insights from his fourth book, *The Forgotten Forest*, which is soon to be published by Random House.
- 100 WAYS TO CONNECT WITH MONTANA'S GREAT OUTDOORS** What is biophilia anyway? Is it cure-able? Join Fish Wildlife and Parks wildlife biologist **Thomas Baumeister** to discuss why interaction with nature is important for our well-being. While you engage in this conversation about our great outdoors, craft a list of 100 ways to explore our own backyard.
- CREATING A SOFT LANDING FOR HELENA** **Jim Barngrover** and **Gloria Flora** are combining their expertise to lead this conversation about how our community can engage in the Transition Movement—building a local and sustainable future in which we take collective responsibility for food and energy security in our own region.

HEALTH SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY

- MONKEY SEE, MONKEY DO** Recent advances in neuroscience have identified mirror neurons in learning behaviors. This affects our social interactions, emotional responses, and language development. There may be differences in gender and the number of mirror neurons. Neurologist **Nicole Clark** will guide the conversation to answer the question, are our personalities "hardwired" or are we just reflections of our environment?
- THE REAL WIZARD OF OZ** Take the concept of an ordinary man with ordinary feelings of inadequacy, not so unusual—unless you place him in Oz and hide him behind a curtain and give him some special effects. Our culture has created myths around many of our own "Wizards." **Dr. Terri Pargot** will lead this discussion of how we can better understand the shared experiences of those who are idealized and those who idealize them.

CHOOSE your top four conversations from the topics listed. Follow a passion, or engage in a new adventure in dialogue.

SIT with an expert who will lead the discussion at your table throughout the evening.

ENJOY stimulating conversation and a relaxing gourmet meal with a menu created just for this event. Wines selected by Len Eckel.

- DEATH, TAXES AND NEW DISEASES** The uproar over H1N1 provides a perfect framework for this discussion with epidemiologist **Dr. Todd Damrow**. Dramatic events unfold regularly about emerging infections. How serious are these threats? And, really, what can we do about them?
- DREAM ON!** An attorney by day, **Jay Dufrechou** also has a doctorate in transpersonal psychology and will lead you on an exploration where ancient spiritual systems meet contemporary psychology. Ponder the mysteries of dreaming and how to remember your dreams to use their energy. Learn the "if it were my dream" method of discussing dreams with others.
- ARE YOU TWITTERPATED ABOUT SOCIAL NETWORKING?** This is your chance to find out what is going on in the social media world with freelance web designer and technology expert, **Steffen Rasile**. How do you network with friends on Facebook or follow someone on Twitter? Discuss the finer points of blogging and digital publishing in the business world or ask that tech question from when you thought it was MyFace and SpaceBook.

HISTORY & WORLD CULTURES

- TRAVEL TO INDIA: MORE THAN THE TAJ AND A TIGER** A world citizen of Indian heritage, **Dr. Tess Augustine** has traveled the length and breadth of the Indian subcontinent sightseeing and doing medical volunteer work. She is going to take you on a journey to three must-see places in India that are not on the usual tourist itineraries. Ladakh, India's last frontier; the erotic temples of Khajurho; and Jaisalmer, the city built from golden sandstone.
- QUR'AN AND THE CULTURE OF WOMEN** What historical and cultural factors have shaped the lives of women, in some cases long before the Prophet Muhammad? How do these considerations continue to shape the lives of women? What does the Qur'an tell us about the proper role of women, and men for that matter? Pictures of women in the Middle East completely covered in the black chador tell only part of their story. Join Carroll professor, **Jeanette Fregulia**, in moving toward a better understanding of women in the Middle East and Islam.

- DEATH IN THE ARCHIVES** Murder, adultery, theft, lepers and mystics—it's all there. Explore the court cases of the archives of Suleyman the Magnificent in Istanbul and the imperial archives. Your guide is archaeologist and professor of Islamic art and culture, **Yvonne Seng**, author of *Men in Black Dresses: A Quest for the Future among Wisdom Makers of the Middle East*.
- 100 DOWN, 100 TO GO?** Carroll College is an anchor of our community and is celebrating 100 years as such. **Bob Swartout**, Chair of Carroll's Department of History, recently completed his book, *Bold Minds and Blessed Hands*, commemorating the centennial. Not only has Carroll evolved over those years, but Dr. Swartout's perception of the institution changed in the course of his writing about it. Find out how.

POLITICAL SCIENCE & ECONOMICS

- FROM BILLINGS TO BALTIMORE** When President Barack Obama asked to meet **Matt Kuntz** to talk about his advocacy for veterans with post traumatic stress injuries, Matt didn't yet know that his work would be mentioned in the President's September 11, 2009 speech on public service and that the Kuntz family would be invited on the Inaugural Train. Learn about these conversations, Matt's personal impressions of the First Family, and the national legislation that was spawned in these discussions.
- FROM INSIDE THE INNER CIRCLE** What are the different "types" of former Presidents? What responsibility does a former President have to the country? How should the sitting President use former Presidents? Join **Matt McKenna** for an insider's perspective on former Presidents. Currently Communications Director for President Bill Clinton and the William J. Clinton Foundation, Matt traveled with President Clinton throughout the 2008 primary and general election campaign, serving as his chief spokesperson. This is a great opportunity to get a glimpse of the inside of a very elite club.
- CITIZENS (RAISING) CAIN?** From the Freemen to the Unabomber, Montana has a storied history of anti-government activity that spans decades. While much has changed since these groups first gained prominence in the late 1980's, much has stayed the same. Join Montana Attorney General **Steve Bullock** for a discussion of the history of the anti-government movement and law enforcement's response.
- CONSTITUTIONALISTS IN FOXHOLES: THE GUANTANAMO LITIGATION** Each branch of our government has had a say in striking the balance between individual liberty and national security in the post-9/11 era. Attorney **Charley Carpenter** has represented three prisoners in Guantanamo since early 2005. Hear his perspective on this compelling and convoluted topic and see how it shapes your understanding of "What should we do with Guantanamo?"
- THIS IS NOT YOUR GRANDPARENTS' RETIREMENT!** Planning for the next great adventure in your life? Have your plans changed? Because it is possible that you'll spend more years in retirement than you spent working, make sure you plan well. **Teresa Olcott Cohea** has an abundance of experience as a financial planner to bring to this discussion. Join her and learn how to make the most of your "Second Act."
- THE ECONOMIC DISASTER, FORMERLY KNOWN AS ICELAND** National and personal debt, banking crisis, unemployment? Sound familiar? **Bill Beaman** has 28 years experience in the field of investments and a world view that we could learn more than a little from Iceland as a microcosm for global economic trends. What do you think?
- MEDIA MATTERS: DOES THE MEDIUM?** Although large metro newspapers have suffered big declines in revenue, nearly all mid-size and small newspapers are still going great guns. **Jim Clarke**, Western Bureau Chief for the Associated Press, reports that while our demand for news is up, it is demand for news on paper that's looking shaky. We may be in the middle of a revolution in news delivery, but fair, accurate journalism from credible sources isn't going out of style. What does this mean for you?

RELIGION

- SAINTS THAT WORK** From Saint Joseph statues for an expedited home sale, to a quick murmur to Saint Anthony to find those lost car keys, a number of rituals have evolved surrounding saints. What makes a saint a saint anyway and how did some come to be perceived as intercessors? Join **John Reis** and explore these answers and discuss how the sacred can touch our lives today.
- BUDDHA IN A BROWN ROBE** Kindness. Compassion. Joy. Equanimity. These four immeasurable minds of love will begin a fascinating discussion and exploration of engaged Buddhism and living happily in the present moment. Learn about the teachings of Vietnamese Zen Master, Thich Nhat Hanh, and **Zan Murray's** experiences in over twenty years of studied meditation practice.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TABLE HOST PHOTOS AND BIOS, PLEASE VISIT

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(406) 443-2545

