

Lewis & Clark on the Rocky Mountain Front

MONTANA

M A G A Z I N E

map inside: Ski Montana!

100 Years in
the Forest Service
Ski at Lookout Pass
Into the Bitterroots
Bridger Bowl's
50th Birthday



Glimpses of Life in Montana!

DISPLAY UNTIL MAR. 15, 2005



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by Sandra S. Murray

FEATHERED PIPE

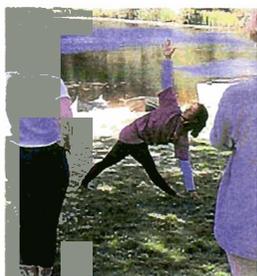


MANYPeople come to a Montana ranch for a “Western” experience, but more than a few also come for something more “Eastern” in flavor. Thirty years ago, India Supera founded the Feathered Pipe Foundation at a ranch that she inherited from a friend, Jermain Duncan. Today, the Feathered Pipe Ranch is known internationally for its yoga workshops, and the foundation’s expanded activities include many areas of holistic health, new thought, and public service/outreach.

The ranch has a real Montana history. Leo Zimmer homesteaded it until he sold it to the Rheem family, who sold it to Duncan. Zimmer built three buildings that still are in use: the Chalet, the Main Lodge, and Lake Cabin. The Foundation has added a few more cabins and a bath house, as well as tepees and yurts. Over the course of a summer up to 400 people attend workshops at the ranch. The vast majority come from out of state.

“Everything having to do with the Feathered Pipe has magic in it,” said

India, who as a twenty-seven-year-old woman started the center with (in her own words) “zero skills.” Today she is the guiding executive director of one of the oldest and most successful retreat centers in the U.S. A recent statement of her contemporary philosophy is insightful: “The bravest and most revolutionary act we can do is not to be afraid.”



Many events are planned to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary this summer, as well as a full schedule of programs. One goal is to bring together many previous teachers from workshops over the years, as well as the early planners, supporters, and staff who made the Feathered Pipe Ranch successful. Sunday of Memorial Day weekend the facilities will be open to the public for yoga classes and celebrations. The annual peace encampment at Blacktail Ranch (a sister facility) led by Cree elder Pat Kennedy will take place July 27–31. Also open to the public will be a four-day prayer ceremony led by Huichol shaman Brant Secunda over the fall equinox.

Call 442-8196 or check the website at www.featheredpipe.com for information on programs and events.

*The Feathered Pipe’s main lodge;
Yoga instruction by the pond*

ZANE WILLIAMS PHOTOS COURTESY OF FEATHERED PIPE FOUNDATION