



**WESTERN MONTANA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O. Box 2714
Missoula, MT 59806**

OCTOBER 1991

OFFICERS FOR 1991-1992

President	Jo Potter	251-3588
Vice-President	Dorothea Berthoud	244-5684
Treasurer	Hazel Harley	626-5581
Recording Secretary	Wanda Alsaker	543-5388
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Bergum	251-2497
Librarian	Paulette Parpart	721-2665 @ Library
Newsletter	Judith Field	728-1628

DUES are \$10.00/year for individuals or \$12.00/year for a family. Remember that we are starting a new year so re-novels are now due. Please use the membership form in this newsletter and either bring it with your dues to the next meeting or mail it with your dues to WMGS, P.O. Box 2714, Missoula, MT 59806-2714.

MONTHLY MEETINGS are held on the second Thursday of the month (September-May) at 7:00 pm in the small meeting room of the Missoula Public Library.

Last month Mary and John Bergum showed us their program for computerizing the vital records from the Missoulian. This is a wonderful program, and would be a great addition to any indexing project. Thank you Mary and John!

OCTOBER MEETING will be on Thursday, Oct. 10th. We will be having a work session at the library doing indexing from the Missoulian, page numbering for bio-sheets and some filing of the sheets. Please come and help.

NOVEMBER MEETING we hope to have Dorothea Berthoud tell us about the genealogical conference she attended this summer.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE will be held Oct. 24-26 at the Missoula Public Library. Hours will be Thurs. 6-8:00, Fri. 10-5:00, and Sat. 10-4:00. You can bring your donations of books for the sale to the library. Volunteers are also needed to help work the sale - call the library at 721-2665 and leave your name and phone number.

FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

- The computer disk edition of the new Library Card Catalogue is now in.
- Harold Fisher has installed the Military Index part of the Social Security Index. This is an index to those service people killed in the Korean and Viet Nam Wars only.
- An updated version of the Ancestral File on Compact Disk has arrived - one more disc has been added to the original five. You can now send corrections to Salt Lake City on floppy disc, and submitters names are listed.

MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

The 1992 Seminar is set for May 1 & 2 in Billings. Topics are not yet set.

The Newsletter, "Big Sky Roundup" has a new editor, Marilyn Lewis, who currently has two addresses:
R.R. #2 Box 2246, Lewiston, MT 59457 and 6340 Blackfoot Drive, Helena, MT 59601

Please send her articles for the Newsletter and your queries, the first of which is free if you are a member, rest at \$3.00 per 30 words. (If you are a paid-up member of the WMGS, you will be a member of MSGS as soon as we get our new membership list and \$1.00/member dues sent in).

The Cookbook Project netted \$311.17 so far. Some cookbooks are still available from Florence Wagstaff, P.O. Box 923, Billings, MT 59103. They were selling for \$6.75, postage included.

THE MAIL

Big Horn County Genealogical Society Newsletter, had an interesting item on WW I Draft Registration Cards extracted from the Chapel Hill News. All men living in the U.S. in 1917-1918 who were born between 1873-1900 had to register for the draft even if they were exempt from military service. Information included exact birth date, perhaps where born, occupation and current address. If you write for application forms, you can get copies of the cards for \$5.00/card. Application forms and the copies are available from: National Archives Records Center, Southeast Branch, 1557 St. Joseph Ave., East Point. GA 30344.

GALLATIN TRAILS, Aug. 1991, Bozeman. Part of Dokken-Nelson Funeral Book, Bozeman, MT for 2 Feb 1921 - 28 July 1923.

TREASURE STATE LINES, Vol. 16, No. 3, 1991. Great Falls Genealogy Society. Augusta, MT cemetery records; Cascade Co. Farm and Ranch Directory 1942-1943, cont.; article on Probate Records in Sweeden from Heritage Quest #32.

BITTERROOT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER, Sept. 1991. Meeting Oct. 23rd will have Clare Rhein of Stevensville who is a volunteer archivist at the U of M speaking on "Aspects of Local History". On Nov 20th Gladys Peterson of Missoula, who has done oral tapes for the U of M archives, will talk on "Approaches to Local History". These meetings will be at 1:00 pm at the Ravalli County Courthouse Council on Aging Room in Hamilton.

An article I missed from the July 15th Missoulian, states that the National Park Service has begun to make a computerized directory of all 3.5 million Civil War soldiers. Visitors to Civil War battlefields will soon be able to ask a computer about their ancestors, Yankee or Rebel!

THE PANGBURN LETTER, Sept. 1991.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE MAIL. This week I got a surprise package from Maurice Helterline who is now living in Seattle. He has updated his Sanders County Death and Burial Records, and sent us a spiral bound, two volume book of the records. Vol. I is the INDEX TO DEATHS IN (AND RELATING TO) SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA. The primary emphasis of this volume is the indexing of names whose obituary or mention of death appears in the Plainsman, and at times the Missoulian (newspaper sources are included). Vol. II is the INDEX TO BURIALS IN SANDERS COUNTY, MONTANA. A copy will be added to the genealogy collection at the library as soon as possible.

PHONE DISK SEARCH - Search the entire US for \$8.00/surname (up to 250 listings, additional set of 250/\$5.00). Also all of Ontario and Quebec, Canada for \$5.00/surname. Request forms available at meeting, or from Precision Indexing, PO Box 303, Bountiful UT 84011-0303. Names will be sent either as a printout or on mailing labels.

Last month I tried this phone disk search and sent in an order for my maiden name of LAUCHAIRE (which I knew to be limited entirely to descendants of my great-grandfather) as I have been searching for descendants of an uncle who moved to California 50 years ago. I knew that he probably had two sons who were married in California as I had found their names in the California Marriage Indexes at the Family History Center, but had not been able to find them in any California phone directory (5 year old fiche directories at the U of M). Two weeks after I sent in my search request with \$8.00, I had their names and addresses and a phone number for one of them. The list contained 17 names only 7 of which were known to me! While this was great news, there was one glaring omission from the list. For some reason, my brother who lives at the same address as my mother but has a separate phone (listed, same number for over 20 years) was not on the list! Perhaps their computer is programmed to only list one name per address. Another curious thing was that only 7 of the names came listed with phone numbers. The rest had only area codes. If they are using lists of all subscribers to any phone service, even if they have unlisted phone numbers, then this service is better than trying to search phone books that do not list people with unlisted numbers. I intend to write to Precision Indexing concerning my results. JALF

REQUEST FROM A MEMBER - I am doing a state wide research project and would like to extract information on Civil War veterans from Montana county histories. Would like to borrow, rent or purchase any EXCEPT the following which I have. Beverhead, Broadwater, Carter, Dawson, Garfield, Hill, Judith Basin, Missoula, Park, Pondera, Powder River, Powell, Roosevelt, Sheridan and Teton. Any information regarding those veterans, Confederate or Union, would be appreciated. Cathryn Strombo, 140 Mullan Rd. W., Superior, MT 59872, 822-4626.

WHAT OTHER SOCIETIES IN MONTANA ARE DOING

Society reports:

- Cut Bank - doing Choteau, Mt. marriages
- Billings - have 147 members, have Genealogy Tote Bags for sale
- Chester - doing cemetery list, book "Homesteader Names", publication
- Deer Lodge - have 11 members and are brand new! Indexed 1869 New North West, Indexing cemeteries in Powell Co., has newsletter
- Glasgow - has 28 members, indexing Glasgow Courier, newsletter
- Great Falls - indexing Treasure State Lines, 1910 Cascade Co. census, publication
- Bitterroot Valley - Pioneer History on people there 100 years or more, newsletter
- Havre - Indexed 4 cemeteries, Goldstone records, school, Havre cemetery, indexing newspapers
- Chinook - 12 members, indexing area abandoned cemeteries
- Hardin - Indexing 1908-1938 Hardin newspapers, Hardin cemetery, Crow Reservation death records, newsletter
- Lewis & Clark - 50 members, Indexing county cemeteries, birth, death & marriage in Co. records
- Miles City - 20 members, doing cemetery census, Calvary Cemetery clean up
- Missoula - Indexing Missoula Co. cemeteries, birth, death & marriages in Missoulian

An interesting research request that arrived last month asked if we knew the family history of Henry PLUMMER, the sheriff and reputed outlaw leader of Bannack, Montana, who was hanged by vigilantes in 1864. After finding every book on Henry Plummer missing from the University Archives, I found a very good biography at the city library. It is entitled "Hanging the Sheriff, a Biography of Henry Plummer", by R.E. Mather and F. E. Boswell. According to these authors, William Henry Handy PLUMMER was born in 1832 in Addison, Maine to Jeremiah and Elizabeth (HANDY) PLUMMER. He was the youngest of seven children and married Electa BRYAN on 20 June 1863 at Sun River Crossing, MT. He died 10 Jan. 1864 in Bannack, MT. He was descended from Francis Plummer of England who settled in the Massachusetts Bay area in 1634!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM:

Membership is from Sept.- May. Your 1990-91 dues are now due. Dues are \$10.00 for an individual or \$12.00 for a family membership.

Name: _____

Send to:

Address: _____

Western Montana Genealogical Soc.

P.O. BOX 2714

Telephone: _____

Missoula, MT 59806-2714

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