



WESTERN MONTANA
 GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
 P. O. BOX 2714
 MISSOULA MT 59806

WMGS NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1993

OFFICERS FOR 1993-1994

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Recording Secretary	Enid Erie	251-3583
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Begum	251-5944
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Newsletter Editor	Judith Field	728-1628

DUES *** Dues are \$10.00 a year for individuals or \$12.00 a year for a family, and includes Newsletter (Sept-May). Please include an extra \$1.00 with your dues if they would also like to be a member of the Montana State Genealogical Society through the Western Montana Genealogical Society. ***** Please check your mailing label to see if there is a * after your name. This indicated that your 1993-94 dues are paid. Please pay your dues if you wish to continue getting the newsletter. Thanks.

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

NOVEMBER MEETING - Thursday, nov. 4th at 7:00 pm upstairs in the Montana Room of the Missoula City Library. Don Spritzer, a reference librarian, will talk about "Reference Books That Can Help You In Your Quest." These will not be genealogically oriented books, but general reference books that are available at the Missoula Library (or most public libraries).

STATE INDEXING PROJECT

VOLUNTEERS MEETING IN HELENA - Friday, Nov. 5th at 10am. to show volunteers what they will need to know to help with the statewide indexing project. We need to know by this Wednesday how many people will be going to Helena. Please call Paulette or Judith if you can go and did not sign up at the last meeting. For those who wish to stay, the orientation session will be followed by lunch and a MSGS board meeting.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY
 Note that due to a shortage of librarians the FHL is now CLOSED on Wednesday afternoons (still open Wednesday nights.) The current FHL hours are Mon., Tue., Thurs. & Sat. 12:00-4:00 and Tue., Wed. & Thurs. 7:00-9:30pm.

FREE CATALOG OF GOVERNMENT MILITARY HISTORY BOOKS
 In the Apr-June 1993 issue of Army - Echoes (The Official Bulletin for the Army Retires) there was listed a free catalog of government military history books available. The catalog lists official military history books covering the Civil War, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the middle East and more. The books listed in the catalog feature detailed descriptions of key battles, personal

memories of participants, and information on strategy and tactics. To request the free catalog, write to:

Superintendent of Documents
Military History Catalog
Room 3095, Mail Shop SM
Washington, DC 20401

NY State Vital Records

The New York State Archives (518) 474-8955 has recently initiated a by-mail search of the indexes to the New York State Dept. of Health vital records. Requests can be made by mail for a fee of \$5 for a three-year search for each name. The indexes cover 1881-1943 for marriages and deaths, and 1881-1918 for births. The indexes do NOT include New York City. The indexes provide only name, date, place of event, and NY State Dept. of Health certificate number. Abstracts of birth, marriage, and death certificates are then available for a fee (\$5) from the local registrar of vital statistics or from the Dept. of Health (\$11). The quick way to obtain a copy is to contact the local registrar in most cases. The indexes and certificates for events between 1880 and 1920 sometimes lack data that may be found in records maintained by local registrars. Address for mail requests is New York State Archives, Cultural Education Center 11 D 40, Albany, NY 12230. First write for the form they use: "Vital Records Index Search Request Form".

General Land Office Records on CD-ROM: ARKANSAS

Tired of poring over dusty archives for records of Federal land patents? Help is on the way with the General Land

Office Automated Records Project, an upcoming CD-ROM series from the Bureau of Land Management. Each General Land Office CD-ROM will provide quick-search electronic access to historic Federal land patent records for a specific state. The first in the series contains information on land patents issued in Arkansas from the late 1820s through June 30, 1908. For each patent, or deed recognizing a homestead or cash sale, you'll find -

- . name of patentee
- . date of patent
- . patent authority
- . legal land description

Two additional CD-ROMs are scheduled for release in the spring of 1994. These provide Federal land patent records for Louisiana and Florida. CD-ROMs for Mississippi, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Ohio will be available within the next 12 months. Stock numbers and prices are not yet available.

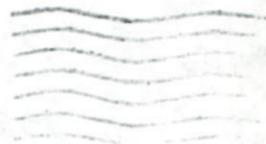
System requirements: IBM PC, XT or AT with 540KB free RAM; DOS 3.0 or higher, 1 mb free hard disk space, and a CD-ROM drive with ISO 9660 drivers. The cost of the Arkansas CD-ROM, General Land Office Records: Arkansas on CD-ROM, item # 024-01-00181-6, is \$15 (\$18.75 foreign) including S&H and can be ordered by sending your name, address, and daytime phone # to:

Superintendent of Documents
P.O. Box 371954
Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954

CALENDAR:

Thurs. Nov. 4th - WMGS meeting
Friday Nov. 5th - Orientation meeting in Helena for state indexing project.

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