



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

WMGS NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1994

OFFICERS FOR 1993-1994

President	Paulette Parpart	728-8054
Vice-President	Judith Field	728-1628
Treasurer	Laura Gregory	543-7369
Recording Secretary	Enid Erie	251-3583
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Bergum	251-5944
Librarian	Paulette Parpart	721-2665 @ Library
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.

April meeting so we can present a slate of officers for 1994-1995 at the May meeting.

Thanks to Harold Fisher for a great program in March on Norwegian records.

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

MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - The deadline for pre-registration for the MSGS Conference, "Bits, Bytes, and Bull", was April 8th. You can still register on Friday afternoon, April 22nd from 2:00 to 7:00 P.M., or Saturday morning, April 23rd from 8:00 to 9:00 A.M. Registration at the door will be \$40.00.

APRIL MEETING - Thursday, April 14th at 7:00 pm in the Large Meeting Room of the Missoula Public Library. Marcia Porter will give a short update on her previous program on the records available in the Missoula County Courthouse. The group will then put together the registration packets for the upcoming MSGS Conference, "Bits, Bytes, and Bull", which is being held in Missoula from April 22-24th.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY - The current FHL hours are Mon., Tue., Thurs. & Sat. 12:00-4:00 and Tue., Wed. & Thurs. 7:00-9:30 PM. The FHL will be closed on Saturday, April 23rd, so that the librarians can attend the MSGS Conference that day. If you haven't been to the FHL lately, please note that you can now call ahead to reserve an hour of time on the computer and won't have to come in only to find that the computer is all booked up that day. The new system will allow more time for

If anyone has an item that could be used as a door prize for the conference please bring it to the meeting Thursday. We will also be asking for a nominating committee at the



working with Ancestral File and Temple Ready. Please call 543-6148 during library hours to reserve your computer time. You can also sign up at the library for a week in advance.

**NEW CD ROM FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOGUE** - the FHL has just received a new addition of the card catalogue from Salt Lake City. It is dated Nov. 1993. (The fiche catalogue remains the same.)

**FIXES FOR TEMPLE READY AND ANCESTRAL FILE** - the FHL has also just received some programs to help Ancestral File and Temple Ready run better. These are not new programs, just fixes for some computer problems that have been appearing when running these two programs. Hopefully, this will fix the problems we have been having with Temple Ready freezing up and the CD ROM drive going off line.

**UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA LIBRARY**  
The University Library has three sets of newspaper indexes that you may find useful.

**I. NEW YORK TIMES OBITUARY INDEX**  
This is in book form, and gives you an exact reference to where the obituary appeared (date, section, page, etc.). There are 2 volumes: v. 1 covers 1858-1968, and v. 2 covers 1969-1978. (The paper started in 1851). BUT ... They leave out \*lots\* of obituaries. It doesn't cover all the small, paid-for, death notices. Also, at least as important, it \*only\* indexes things which are called "obituaries" -- not news accounts, stories about disasters, etc. (See next index). So, you won't find an entry for "Abraham Lincoln",

for example.

**II. NEW YORK TIMES INDEX**  
Complete Index to the New York Times. This is a very large set. Starting with v. 1 in 1913, it is published semi-monthly. There are annual cumulations for 1948-1957, but most of the volumes are quarterly collections. Anyone doing research anywhere in the country (at least for dates after 1851) may find this index useful. This is a "What, Where, When" index. It indexes major events that took place anywhere in the world, as well as local events such as law suits and criminal cases. This index is on the Reference Index Table 1, call no. 071.471 N532.

When you find the Newspaper you need you'll need to check the library's serials to find a microfilm copy of the paper you want.

**III. THE ANNUAL INDEX TO THE TIMES, LONDON**  
Call No. 072 T583i Ref.

**IN THE MAIL**  
*NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY, VOL. 82, NO. 1, MARCH 1994.* - articles on "The Notarial Acts of Quebec", "Proving a Maternal Line", and "Applying the Preponderance-of-the-Evidence Principle --". The last two articles should be very helpful to anyone doing genealogical research.

**HERITAGE BOOK NEWS - APRIL 1994**  
A new edition of their catalogue featuring books, computer software, and CD ROM databases.

We also have received the following quarterlies:  
*TREASURE STATE LINES, FEB. 1994*  
*(GREAT FALLS GENEALOGY SOCIETY)*



THE PANGBURN LETTER, APRIL 1994  
FADED GENES, MARCH 1994.  
(LEWIS & CLARK CO. GEN. SOC.)  
GALLATIN TRAILS, FEB. 1994  
(BOZEMAN, MT)  
TREE TRAILS, MARCH 1994  
(FLATHEAD GENEALOGY BULLETIN)  
BIG SKY ROUNDUP  
(MONTANA STATE GEN. SOC.)  
POWELL CO. GEN. SOC. BULLETIN

NEW BOOKS AT THE MISSOULA  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Last month at the Everton workshop in Helena, the WMGS purchased two copies of the new edition of the Handybook for Genealogists which is put out by Everton. These will be placed in the Missoula Public Library in memory of the husbands of Jo Potter and Dorothea Berthoud, both of whom passed away last year.

THE SOURCE BOOK OF COUNTY COURT  
RECORDS - A Concise,  
Straightforward, and  
Informative Reference Manual To  
The Main and Secondary  
Repositories of American County  
Court House Records.

This book shows the county court structure, state by state, with over 5,300 individual county courts surveyed. It tells how to obtain civil, felony, and misdemeanor records, giving costs, restrictions, indexing data, date availability, and mode of access. There are over 11,500 addresses and phone numbers for county recorders, county assessors, and probate courts, a city/county cross reference, and much more. This book can be looked at the Information Desk and has a call number of R 016.9293 SOURCES

CONFEDERATE LIBRARY - seeks to house 9448 rolls of microfilm. Their goal is to obtain copies of the entire set of

Confederate records that have been microfilmed. They feel that original Confederate records which are in the National Archives are in a "deplorable state and are being treated with the same care and concern as my children treat their candy wrappers." At a cost of \$23.00 per roll, the 9448 rolls of film represent a \$217,304.00 investment. In order to raise money, the Confederate Library is asking for donations. For \$100 they will place your Confederate ancestors name in stone alongside those of his comrades in the Confederate Veterans Memorial Walkway at the Confederate Library. For \$30, you can get three Counterfeit Confederate Ten Dollar Certificates. They are also asking for donations of books on Southern history and literature to library's collection. For more information or to make a donation their address is:  
Confederate Library  
Suite 6  
6057 Executive Center Dr.  
Memphis, TN 38134

THE GENEALOGISTS' BACKPACK

Large backpack with many pockets containing: file folders or 3-ring binder with charts, blank forms, Soundex quick reference card, acid-free page protectors, pens and pencils of various colors, business cards, notepad, index cards, envelopes, stamps, flashlight for finding skeletons in closets, flowers and chocolates for enticing elderly relatives into revealing family stories and letting you copy their old photos, tape recorder for interviewing relatives, plus cassettes of interviews and ---  
to be continued



UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS \*

April 22-24th MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE  
MAY 13 - 14th IDAHO FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE - see Feb.News  
JUNE 1 - 4th 1994 NGS CONFERENCE IN THE STATES, HOUSTON TEXAS

Registration forms for all of the above seminars and conferences  
are available at the information desk at the Missoula Public  
Library.

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