

WMGS

NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2714 MISSOULA MT 59806-2714

February 1995

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MEMBERSHIP

Dues are \$10.00 a year for individuals or \$12.00 a year for a family, and includes the 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 send dues to the society mailbox or bring to the next meeting.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Held on the second Thursday of the month (Sept.-May) at 7:00 PM in the large meeting room of the Missoula Public Library (unless otherwise noted). We have four meetings left in the 1994-1995 year and are still in need of 1 or 2 more programs. If you have any suggestions for programs or comments about the possible programs outlined below please call Judith Field. We need some input on this.

Possible programs :

Document Preservation - Susan Reneau, who spoke on Mocassin Joe and showed us his actual diary in January, has agreed to come back in the spring and show us how she preserved the diary by encapsulating it in acid-free mylar sheets. These sheets are available via catalogue and we are considering purchasing some of these preservation supplies in bulk quantity and holding a document preservation workshop for one of our meetings. There is also an archival paper preservation kit available from a company called MY TIME which markets the kit for the Maryland State Archives. This kit includes an acid-free storage box, folders, polyester film sleeves, acid-free bond paper, erasure pad, soft-bristle brush, inventorying materials and step-by-step instructions. I hope to have more information and costs of this kit in the next Newsletter.

Newspapers - Paulette Parpart said that she will do a program on how to find and use newspapers in the area you are working in.

QUERIES

We welcome queries from members (published free) and non-members (\$2.00 each). The society will undertake brief search requests (cemetery index, obituary indexes, etc...) for a fee of \$2.00 plus SASE and copy costs. Send queries/research requests to P.O. Box 2714, Missoula MT 59806-2714.

FEBRUARY MEETING

Thurs., Feb. 9th at 7:00 PM at the Missoula Public Library small meeting room. Blanch Tate will present a program on "Records Unique to the DAR Library in Washington, D.C. and How to Access Them". We may also do a short (5-10 min.) refresher on indexing the Missoulian vital records.

Refreshments for February : Wanda Alsaker (cookies) and Enid Erie (punch).

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The current FHL hours are Mon., Tue., Thurs. & Sat. 12:00-4:00 PM and Tue., Wed. & Thurs. 7:00- 9:30 PM. Please call 543-6148 during library hours to reserve your computer time. The computer at the library has been so busy lately that you should definitely make a reservation for computer time. It is almost always booked up a least a day in advance. Reservations are for 1 hour, but you can use the computer after your time is up if no one else wants to use the computer.

MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEW BOOK - the book that was purchased in memory of Virginia Gore, "Kentucky Ancestry", has arrived and should be processed by the time of this Newsletter.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LOCAL MONTANA

HISTORIES MAY BE UPDATED At a recent meeting of the Montana Librarians Association a plan for updating the Bibliography of Local Montana Histories was discussed. Data would be collected from all local libraries, historical societies and genealogical societies in the state on what local histories were known to them. It was proposed to look into applying for a grant to hire a researcher to actually go to the smaller libraries that are not connected via computer.

MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

• BOARD MEETING AND STATE SEMINAR

The Montana State Genealogical Society executive board meeting was held in Dillon on Jan. 16th at the home of Darlene Hildreth of the Beaver Head-Hunters Genealogical Society who will be hosting the 1995 Montana State Genealogical Seminar. After a tour of the seminar site at Western Montana College, the Dillon Museum, and the Dillon Chamber of Commerce, where the Friday evening registration and entertainment will be held, we returned to Darlene's home for luncheon and the board meeting. Because we did not have a quorum of the MSGS board present, President Pat Thompson dispensed with the regular board meeting and we had a discussion on the upcoming seminar. It should be an interesting seminar which will include an old clothing fashion show and a look at the photo collection at the Dillon Museum on Friday evening, and workshops on the Internet, and local history. Other workshops are tentatively scheduled on census and Scandinavian research. The seminar brochures and workshops schedules should be in the mail by Feb. 17th. Pre-registration will be \$35.00 and motel information will be in the brochures. Please mark your calendars for the 1995 MSGS Seminar in Dillon from April 28-30th.

OTHER SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

1995 National Genealogical Conference in the States May 3-6, 1995 in San Diego, CA. Full details for this conference are in the Nov.-Dec. 1994 NGS Newsletter at the Missoula Public Library. Registration is \$110 for members and \$150 for non-members. The workshop are too numerous to mention, but it sounds like there will definitely be something for everyone.

IN THE MAIL

GEN-BUG NEWS Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, Billings, MT. Jan. 1995. They have just been given a lifetime membership to the Journal of the American Historical Society of Germans From Russia. They will also be having a Heritage Quest Road Show with Leland Meitzler on May 6th from 10:00 to 4:00 (place to be decided.)

THE TREE BRANCH P.O. Box 1275, Glendive MT 59330-1275 (Dawson CO., MT). Winter 1995. Death notices Sep-Dec 1994. Reports Texas death records closed due to misuse by illegal aliens, Ohio adoptions

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before 1864 are open, and Indiana adoptions are open if all parties (adoptee, birth parents, adopting parents) agree.

TREES AND TRAILS Flathead Genealogical Bulletin, P.O. Box 584, Kalispell MT 59803-0584. Dec. 1994. Flathead Co. Marriages 1911-1920 (con't.); General Index to Deeds, 1884-1887 (con't.), 1994 volume index, list of books about the area:

1. THE WPA GUIDE TO 1930'S MONTANA, originally published as MONTANA: A STATE GUIDE BOOK, has info on Montana up to the 1930's. [1994].
2. NAMES ON THE FACE OF MONTANA, based on the US Post Offices that were in Montana.
3. TAPESTRIES OF YESTERDAY, published by Libby Montana Institute of the Arts Writers Group, Inc. [1993].
4. HOMESTEAD MEMORIES, 42yrs. Of homestead life in North Fork. [1977].
5. CABIN FEVER, A Centennial Collection of Stories About the Seeley Lake Area; comp. By Seeley Lake writers club. Dedicated to the people of the Blackfoot, Clearwater, and Swan Valleys - past, present, and future. [1990].
6. STONER CREEK AND BEYOND LAKESIDE, MONTANA, by Sylvia Murphy. Subtitle: Landmarks and Legends of Lakeside. [1983].
7. THE HISTORY OF THE CANYON AREA, by the Canyon Citizen Initiated Zoning Group. [1994].
8. SWAN RIVER ECHOES - 100 Years Of The Past, project of Swan River Homemakers Club - a compilation of pioneer stories. Printed by Big Fork Eagle, Big Fork, MT.

TREASURE STATE LINES Great Falls Genealogy Society, Paris Gibson Square, 1400 1st Ave. North, Great Falls, MT 59401. Nov. 1994. Subject Index to the Treasure State Lines, Vol. 1-19, 1976-1994, is available for \$3.00, 1901 Birth Register, Great Falls, Jan-June; Great Falls Honor Roll for Military Duty, from Great Falls Tribune of July 7th 1917 (con't.); Surname Index to 1994 Treasure State Lines

GALLATIN TRAILS Gallatin Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1783, Bozeman, MT 59771-1783. Feb. 1995. Dokken-Nelson Funeral Register 1929-1933, Part I, guide to understanding early land measurements.

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER Nov.-Dec. 1994. Article and author index, queries index. In the CIG (Computer Interest Group) Digest there are lots of great articles for those

doing their genealogy on computer or looking to get one - multi-media and genealogy, PAF Utilities (Part 2), Genealogist's Guide to Internet (part 6), entering PAF sources with HOTNOTES (a PAF utility program.) There is also a complete schedule for the 1995 Conference in the States. (These are also available at the Missoula Public Library.)

MISSOULIAN INDEXING

We now have a group that meets on Tuesdays at 1:00 PM in the Montana Room of the Missoula Public Library to work in indexing of the vital records from the Missoulian. Anyone who would like to help is welcome to join us, or work out another time that is convenient for you. It really only takes a few minutes to get started. We are currently working in 1926 so there's a long way to go yet!

BITS AND BYTES



PERSONAL ANCESTRAL FILE 2.3 USERS GUIDE

Aug. 1994. The supplement covers changes in PAF 2.31. There is an appendix on using PAF in Windows 3.1. The Guide and Supplement can be ordered from the author for \$29.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Also, those who purchased the 3.2 Guide before the release of PAF2.31 are encouraged to contact the author for a free Supplement.

For more info write to:

Joan Lowry
7371 Rue Michael
La Jolla, CA 92037

(If there is enough interest, the society will try to set up a bulk order at a discount.)

NEW YORK STATE RESEARCHERS point your gopher to: unix6.nyscd.gov

This is a great resource, loaded with all kinds of genealogical research data on the records and how to find them that are at the NY State Library in Albany. You'll find info on photographic collections, military records, vital records, immigration, probate records and lots more

HOW TO DO GENEALOGY PROPERLY

The following is advice given by Brian Randell, Dept. of Computing Science, University of Newcastle, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU, UK

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If you want to do genealogy properly, consult the book by N.C. Stevenson, Genealogical Evidence; a guide to the standard of proof relating to pedigrees, ancestry, heirship and family history, Laguna Hills CA, Aegean Park Press, 1979, 233 p.

"An excellent account by a lawyer and genealogist of the standards of proof that should be sought in establishing an individual's ancestry, whether for producing a documented genealogy, or for legal purposes. Though aimed at an American readership, and dealing mainly with American records and laws, it is well worthy of study by genealogists in other countries, particularly the UK given the links (both of emigration, and of legal heritage) between Britain and the USA. Quotes from many legal judgments, but nevertheless is very readable. Provides careful and thought-provoking analyses of the strengths and weaknesses, as genealogical evidence, of various types of official records (vital, court, land and census records), church and family bible records, newspaper files, monuments, etc., and published and private genealogies and genealogical directories - a number of which are roundly criticized, Burke's Peerage in particular. To quote from the introduction: "... there are some who believe that the rules of evidence in our legal system and in effect in our court proceedings are too technical and not completely practical for genealogical, historical and biographical research. This belief is not valid." "This is perhaps shown best by the excellent chapter on 'Rules of Evidence Applied to Genealogy'. The book is thus a great antidote to the motherhood statements about the need for careful research found in many guides to genealogy."

IRISH RESEARCH HELPERS

- The Placenames office, in the Ordnance Survey Office, Phoenix Park Dublin 8 will assist in tracing Irish Placenames
- The Genealogical Office, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 will assist with genealogical research. They will charge a fee however.
- Historical Research Associates, Glen Cottage, Glenmachan road, Belfast BT4 2NP, Northern Ireland. In particular, Joan Phillipson B.A. (Hons), A.U.G.R.A. her phone number is : 0232 761490 or 09603 68502
- Some students at Trinity College are setting up a genealogical research aid using IITML for Mosaic (this makes use of the World Wide Web or WWW which is one of the search media available via Internet and your computer modem.)

NEW JERSEY VITALS/ARCHIVES ACCESSIBLE

It has been reported over the last few years that it is next to impossible to get any records from New Jersey for "genealogical research". This apparently has changed as per the following info I came across recently:-

"The State Archives maintains all Birth, Marriage and Death records from May 1848 through May 1878. ... The Advance fee for each search type is \$4.00. The search fee is non-refundable whether or not the requested record is found. If found, a typed transcript will be mailed at no additional charge. Advanced payment should be made in the form of check or money order, payable to: New Jersey General Treasury, and search forms can be obtained from:
Department of State, New Jersey State Archives, 185 West State Street CN 307, Trenton, NJ 08625-0307."

For records after May 1878, they offer over the counter service, a service which you can call a "Vital Clerk" person who takes your request and credit card no and processed within 48 hours. (609) 633-2860. Can be done by FAX also, (609) 392-4292.

Fees are One year search and copy of vital record	\$4.00
Additional copies ordered at the same time	\$2.00
Each additional year searched at the same time	\$1.00 per year
Creation of a new certificate following adoption	\$6.00
Court ordered legal change of name	\$6.00
Census	\$2.00

Reasons listed on application include school/sports, social security id card, passport, drivers license, GENEALOGY, welfare. Checks to be made out to "State Registrar" and sent to:

State Registrar
New Jersey State Department of Health
CN 370,
Trenton, NJ 08625-0370

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