

WMGS

NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2714 MISSOULA MT 59806-2714

MARCH 1996

OFFICERS

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Treasurer	Hazel Harley	549-1471
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Editor	Judith Field	728-1628

MEMBERSHIP

Dues are \$11.00 a year for individuals or \$13.00 a year for a family, and includes the Newsletter (Sept-May) and membership in the Montana State Genealogical Society. Send membership dues to WMGS, P.O. Box 2714, Missoula MT 59806-2714.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Held on the second Thursday of the month (Sept.-May, except Dec.) at 7:00 PM in the large meeting room of the Missoula Public Library (unless otherwise noted).

MARCH MEETING

THURSDAY, MAR. 14TH at 7:00 PM at the home of Jo Potter, 5055 Evergreen Road. Jeff Smith of Internet Connect will show us how to connect our computers to the Internet, some of the research tools we can access, answer questions, etc.

DIRECTIONS: Take HWY 93 S. toward Lolo. Turn right at the sports center onto Blue Mountain Road; take the first left onto Evergreen Road and go about 1/4 mile. Hint: wear sturdy shoes - there are no sidewalks.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

April - Betsy Douglas will talk on "WWI Records".
May - Jerry Schliebe will talk about his "Research in Germany".

Articles sent to the P.O. Box will always get to the Newsletter editor. Newsletter articles can be on any genealogical topic. Short family histories and anecdotes from Western Montana would be greatly appreciated.

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 \$5.00 plus SASE and copy costs of \$.25 per page. Send queries/research requests to WMGS - QUERIES, P.O. Box 2714, Missoula MT 59806-2714.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

Hours: Mon., Tue., Thurs., Sat. 12:00-4:00 PM and Tue., Wed., Thurs. 7:00-9:30 PM.

Closed: April 6, 1996; May 25-27; July 3-4; Aug. 5-10; Aug. 31-Sep. 2; Oct. 5; Nov. 28-30; Dec. 16-Jan. 1, 1997.

Film Orders: Orders for film and fiche are going to be phoned in for the time being (after SLC lost 2 orders in a row). The orders will still go out on Wednesday mornings. The FHL was filled to capacity late last week when 3 film orders came in at once! Do remember to call ahead to reserve computer time at 543-6148.

New Items: An update to the Parish and Vital Records & Restricted List on fiche has arrived. Also, an update to the Family Search Temple Ready Guide has been placed in the Family Search book on the shelf next to the main computer. The big news is the arrival of the CD ROM version of the Scottish Parish Vital Records Index. There is a pamphlet explaining how to use the new CD ROM version in the basket on the library table. The records are the same as those found on the fiche version of the index, but they are now much easier to search and copy. It is not necessary to specify a county with the CD ROM version, so you can search all of Scotland easily. Also, you can do a parent search, the same as with the IGI, to bring up all of the known children of a couple at the same time. It is estimated that this index contains about 65% of the people in Scotland from time Parish records were started to around 1854.

Can you return any films that you ordered on Indefinite loan? The FHL has run out of space to store films. Library director, Ladene Hughes, has asked that patrons review the list of films that they have ordered on indefinite loan to see if there are any that could be sent back to SLC.

INDEXING

The group indexing of the MISSOULIAN is continuing on Tuesdays at 1:00 PM in the Montana Room of the Missoula Public Library. Once you've been trained on what to do, any time that the library is open, it's OK to come on in and index!

IN THE MAIL

BIT O' ROOTS, Bitterroot Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 350022, Grantsdale, MT 59835-0022; Vol.8, No.1, Jan. 1996. A new book by Ada Powell, of the Bitterroot Genealogical Society, has just been published.

Bitterroot Memories is a collection of stories about the Bitterroot Valley, such as Frank Lloyd Wright, the forts, and the ceremony Indians performed before they dug the Bitterroots. The price of the book is \$10.00 + \$2.00 shipping and may be obtained from Ada, 142 Kurtz Lane, Hamilton MT 59840.

CENTRAL MONTANA WAGON WHEELS -

Lewistown Genealogy Society, 701 W. Main, Lewistown MT 59457; Vol. 17, No. 2; February 1996. There is an article by Lily Zwolle on "Leading Figures Around Town in the Early Days" which mentions Merci Jackson, Christina Scheid, Dora Dykins, Hester Cox, Bertha, Clara and Fritz Harri, Mary Simpson, wife of Hewitt Klingen, Louise McLoughlin, Grace Pennock, and Lily's mother, Elsa Meyers Woods.

GEN-BUG NEWS - Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, % Parmley Billings Library, 510 N. Broadway, Billings MT 59101; January 1996. Article on **Museum of Women's History** in Billings, MT.

THE TREE BRANCH - P.O. BOX 1275, Glendive MT 59330-1275; Vol. 2, No. 8; Jan. 1996. Dawson Co. deaths Sep. - Dec. 1995; Babb/Rust pedigree chart - Blackjack, TN.

TALES & TRAILS - Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society, % The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St., The Dalles OR 97058-2270; Vol. 10, No. 1; Jan. 1996. Here is a possible source of adoption records: from "**AN ADOPTION IDEA**" - " 'In Re' means 'In regards to something' - which can mean 'In regards to an adoption record.' You can sometimes find adoptions listed in the county record books where divorce and probate records are filed. The courts are very clever and instead of putting the adoptions under 'A' they placed them under 'I' in the records. In these records, generally open to the public, they are indexed alphabetically. The **FIRST** rule is never to say you are looking for an **ADOPTION** - but that you are looking for a divorce or probate."

MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY

There are several new books that are of interest to genealogists.

DO PEOPLE GROW ON FAMILY TREES? - GENEALOGY FOR KIDS AND OTHER BEGINNERS, THE OFFICIAL ELLIS ISLAND HANDBOOK, by Ira

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Wolfman; forward by Alex Haley; illustrations by Michael Klein, Workman Publishing, NY. **GenColl R 929.1 WOLFMAN. DO PEOPLE GROW ON FAMILY TREES?** is described as "the complete introduction to genealogy. Play sleuth, lawyer, psychologist, geographer, writer, pen pal, and puzzle solver as you learn to conduct an interview, decipher old-fashioned hand writing, interpret names, track down far-flung relatives, dig up documents, sift through archives, and compile a family tree." It also includes a "Working Genealogists Kit: Dictionary of American Last Names, Pedigree Chart, Family Group Sheet, Correspondence Log, Where to Write for Birth and Death Records, Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Request Form G-639, Guide to the National Archives Regional System."

AN OUNCE OF PRESERVATION - A GUIDE TO THE CARE OF PAPERS AND PHOTOGRAPHS, by

Craig A. Tuttle, Rainbow Books, Inc. **GenColl R 025.84 TUTTLE**. This "tidy guide prepares users for undertaking remedial measures. It presents information on paper, inks, environment, storage, and repair simply and clearly; considers the special needs of different materials; and, in generous appendices and a glossary, helps put users in touch with the specialized worlds of preservation and conservation." With the help in this book "you will be able to recognize, prevent and treat damage caused by temperature and humidity; fungi, insects and rodents; light exposure; pollution and water; framing and lamination; mechanical disfigurement; fire and theft."

HOPE FOR LOST RECORDS

Blanch Tate sent in the following article:

During a class reunion in Bledsoe Tenn. several friends decided to explore the old school building. It had been vacant since 1980. In the attic they found boxes of old paper, bundled with string and brown wrappers. The boxes turned out to be the chancery court records for more than half of the 19th century. They had been thought to have burned in a 1909 courthouse fire. The Bledsoe Historical Society is cleaning, sorting, and indexing those lost records.

(Chattanooga Times, Jan. 29, 1996; p. B1 & B3.)

MONTANA STATE CONFERENCE

Hopefully everyone received the the information about the 7th Annual Montana State Conference, "Signposts", in the mail last week. (See last page for carpool ideas.) Also, since Betsy Bouglas will be talking to the WMGS about WWI records the week prior to the conference, you may want to schedule your sessions accordingly.

BITS AND BYTES**THE IRISH FAMILY HISTORY FOUNDATION**

has a home page at: <http://www.mayo-ireland.ie/>

The Irish Family History Foundation is the coordinating body for a network of government approved genealogical research centers in the Republic of Ireland (Eire) and in Northern Ireland which have computerized tens of millions of Irish ancestral records of different types. To find out more about the holdings of the centers and some information on the areas they serve you may click on the relevant county and link to it's page. Each center has a form that you can download and fill in with information on the ancestor that you are looking for. Cost for initial searches to assess the volume of information available on a family is \$25 U.S. comprehensive Family Reports are \$250 and upwards. Single record searches (presumable for a particular person and event) are also available (cost unspecified.) All work is done by professional genealogists and all queries are answered within a few days of receipt.

EUROPEAN PHONE BOOKS ON-LINE:

FRANCE <http://www.epita.fr:5000/11/>

BELGIUM <http://www.infobel.bel/>

WASHINGTON STATE - GENEALOGY/HISTORY

Information about sources in Washington State (and the Northwest) is available from the **Generations NW Genealogy Homepage** at:

<http://www.whidbey.net/~jpterry/heritage.htm/>

WMGS NEWSLETTER**HOW MANY LETTERS IN A SURNAME?**

According to the Social Security Administration here is a compilation of the number of letters in U.S. Surnames:

# Letters	# Surnames with that # of letters	
1	25	
2	253	
3	3634	
4	31255	
5	143078	80.23%
6	84	

Clearly just over 80% of U.S. surnames are SMITH, BROWN, JONES, ADAMS, ALLEN, etc.

CATHOLIC CHURCHS IN THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE MISSOULA DEANERY

- 1841 St. Mary's Mission - Stevensville
- 1854 St. Ignatius Mission
- 1864 St. Louis Church at Frenchtown/ became in
- 1884 St. John the Baptist at Frenchtown
- 1873 St. Patrick Hospital founded
- 1881 St. Francis Xavier Church - Missoula
- 1889 St. John Berchman's Church - Arlee
- 1891 Church at Hall (originally St. Michael in Church Crossing 2 mi. south of Hall.)
- 1896 St. Francis Parish - Hamilton

CENSUS ABBREVIATIONS USED IN SOUNDEX RELATIONSHIP COLUMN

A few days ago a question arose as to what the term Pa in the relation-to-head-of-household column of the soundex meant. In looking it up it was found to mean 'Partner - (share common abode)'. Here is the official list of abbreviations used in the Soundex system :

Soundex Abbreviations
Relationships to Head of Household

A	Aunt	GF	Grandfather	Nu	Nurse	SM	Stepmother
AdD	Adopted daughter	GGF	Great-grandfather	O	Officer	SML	Stepmother-in-law
AdS	Adopted son	GGM	Great-grandmother	P	Patient	SS	Stepson
At	Attendant	GGGF	Great-great-grandfather	Pa	Partner (share common abode)	SSi	Stepsister
B	Brother	GGGM	Great-great-grandmother	Pr	Prisoner	SSiL	Stepsister-in-law
BL	Brother-in-law	GM	Grandmother	Pri	Principal	SSL	Stepson-in-law
Bo	Boarder	GNi	Grandniece	Pu	Pupil	Su	Superintendent
C	Cousin	GS	Grandson	R	Roomer	U	Uncle
D	Daughter	GU	Great-uncle	S	Son	W	Wife
DL	Daughter-in-law	Hh	Hired hand	SB	Stepbrother	Wa	Warden
F	Father	I	Inmate	SBL	Stepbrother-in-law		Citizenship Status
FB	Foster brother	L	Lodger	Se	Servant	A	Alien
FF	Foster father	M	Mother	SF	Stepfather	NA	Naturalized
FL	Father-in-law	ML	Mother-in-law	SFL	Stepfather-in-law	PA	First papers filed
FM	Foster mother	N	Nephew	Si	Sister		
FSi	Foster sister	Ni	Niece	SiL	Sister-in-law		
GA	Great aunt			SL	Son-in-law		
GD	Granddaughter						

UPCOMING SEMINARS

MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SEMINAR, "SIGNPOSTS", April 26-27, 1996 in Deer Lodge, MT. Fliers went out to society members last week. This year registration is \$38 for the seminar, lunch and banquet, and \$26 for the seminar and lunch only. Anyone who wishes to car pool should contact Paulette Parpart so we can arrange rides for Friday, April 26th, and, also on Saturday morning, April 27th, for those who only wish to attend the seminar and lunch. Remember to pre-register by April 10th.

FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES NATIONAL CONFERENCE, "IN YOUR ANCESTORS IMAGE", August 14-17, 1996, Rochester NY. Fliers available.

FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES - DALLAS IN '97, "UNLOCK YOUR HERITAGE", Sept. 3-6, 1997, Dallas, TX, hosted by the Dallas Genealogical Society.

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