

WMGS

NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2714 MISSOULA MT 59806-2714

MAY 1996

OFFICERS

President	Jo Potter	251-3588
Vice-President	Betty Rancy	549-8564
Treasurer	Hazel Harley	549-1471
Recording Secretary	Wanda Alsaker	543-5388
Missoula Public Library	Paulette Parpart	721-2665
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).

MILITARY RECORDS - APRIL MEETING

Last month Betsey Douglas talked to us about using military records. She gave out a four page bibliography with references to 64 of the best military sources. A very good source for the 20th century, she said, is "How To Locate Anyone Who Is Or Has Been In The Military" by Lt. Col. Richard S. Johnson. In order to get a military service number (necessary when writing to the National Personnel Records Center for WWI and later service records) you can write to the Military Reference Branch, National Archives and Records Administration, 8th & Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington D.C. 20408. The **Naval Historical Center**, Bldg. 57, Washington Navy Yard, 901 M St. SE, Washington D.C. 20374-5056, has a "Directory of American Naval Fighting Ships" and lists of specific dates where specific ships were. **WWI Draft Registration Cards** should be available for every male born between 13 Sept. 1873 and 12 Sept. 1900. Since big cities had many draft boards, you need to know the person's address from the 1917 city directory of the area and then locate the draft board that covers that area. Some of the big city draft boards can be found on FHL film # 1,498,803. You may also be able to write to a public library in the area and ask if they know of or have a draft board map that they could locate your address on. Copies of WWI draft registration cards are available from the National Archives SE Region, Eastpoint, GA, and are

on file at the family history library. **The 1930/1940 Federal Census identifies veterans.** You can request a search of these census for the veteran if you have an address (Form BC 600.) There is a **Federal Cemeteries Card Index** to all soldiers buried from 1861 to the present in National Cemeteries. For more information on this see the FHL research outline on military records. Copies of Betsey's handout are available on request.

MAY MEETING

THURSDAY, May 9th at 7:00 PM in the large meeting room of the Missoula Public Library. Gerald Schliebe will talk to us about his "Travels and Research in Germany." We will have the election of officers for the 1996-1997 year.

MAY ELECTION SLATE

President	Judith Field
Vice-President	Hazel Harley
Recording Sec.	Irene Berven
Treasurer	Phyllis Duncan

Nominations will also be open from the floor at the meeting. There are no proposed changes to the by-laws this year.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Program suggestions for next year are needed now! If you have a topic that you would like to hear about or are willing to talk on some aspect of genealogical research please get in touch.

Newsletter Articles -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

Computer reservations call 543-6148

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

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

BITS AND BYTES

San Francisco - You may wish to check the current issue of the FEEFHS FrontPage WebLetter on the FEEFHS Web Site at this URL:

<http://dcn.davis.ca.us/~feefhs/>

An article and links there provide information on a new **extraction program for San Francisco births, marriages and deaths (1875 - June 1905)** as well as the **Great Register extraction project (Foreign born voters in California 1872 -- a 61,641 name web-base that is now on line and other surname web-bases.**

Idaho Genealogy and information about the Oregon Trail can be found at :

<http://www.rmci.net/idaho/genidaho/contents.htm>

Northern Cheyenne Tribe Ancestry - a 2000 name database of members is on-line at:

<http://www.mcn.net/~hmscook>

Irish-Canadian List of names of Irish Immigrants who settled in Canada (this list is comprised of names submitted by researchers and is not inclusive) can be found at:

<http://www.bess.tcd.ie/roots/irishcan.htm>

Irish Genealogy E-Mail Newsletter - by Michael O'Lochlain, is a free electronic newsletter. For info send an e-mail to Michael at:

71334.3034@compuserve.com

Cheapest Internet Access Service - is currently WOW at \$17.95 per month. Free WOW! software on CD-ROM is available by calling 1-800-9GETWOW. Info is also available at :

<http://www.wow.com>

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The records of the New York Immigrant Bank are located at the New York City Public Library. You can look at them personally or hire a researcher to look for you. The records are original volumes and contain a lot of personal information on the applicant. Some information found on one woman was her husband's name, the number of children that she had, the date she came to America, the name of the ship and the place she came from in Ireland.

The records are predominately Irish but there are some German names and probably some other nationalities included as the years went on.

They begin in 1850 and go up to the early 1900's. The beginning records are more detailed and more complete. Many records are missing in the later years.

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! We're about in the middle of 1927 at the present.

MSGs COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP

I recently received a letter from Bob Matkins with some results from the computer genealogy special interest group meeting held during the recent annual MSGS seminar in Deer Lodge. About 20 people attended the meeting and showed an interest in forming a SIG for computer genealogy. This group hopes to focus member interest in using computers to: run genealogy software, organize genealogy records, contact other researchers, do research on-line. If there are other MSGS members (any of our society members) who would like to be involved in the formation of this group, they should write or contact Bob Matkins at 3120 Quincy St., Butte, MT 59701 (Tel 406-494-4126).

Bob further said that one of the first goals is to categorize those interested into groups with a common interest. The immediate interest group appear to be Mac computer users, Personal Ancestral File (PAF) software users, and Internet-interested users. A charter needs to be drafted and reference information to assist members with computer genealogy needs to be compiled. Documents with information intended to aid members are being drafted now. Information from other states and other CG-

SIGs are being collected for use in creating a Montana CG-SIG. Anyone interested in these early projects should contact Bob Matkins.

SALT LAKE CITY HERE I COME!

Here are some tips gleaned from the Internet for those planning a trip to Family History Library in Salt Lake City:

Prepare a notebook or file folder for each surname you intend to work on. Sit down and make notes on any problem you have with a family. Map out a course of action on which records would solve the problem you have, census, probate, land & deed records, etc. Do this before you go! If it is your first time to go you will have a tendency to run in a circle, so to speak, not really getting anything done.

There is a large selection of printed books, many of which have not been microfilmed: Printed family histories, county histories, etc. You may not even know what to look for in the catalog but finding the right section and browsing the shelves can yield some surprising finds. They have 268,000 books on the first floor -- many wonderful family histories. Check here early on for your family names. You may hit a gold mine where someone else has already done the work.

Researching the county records you need is the best thing to do there. Go to the computer, (preferable at your local Family History Center before you go to Salt Lake City) punch in Library Catalog, and access everything they have on the time period and area you want. Then copy that on a print out, take it to a microfilm reader, stake out your area and look for the films.

The SLC FHL is organized by locality. The main floor is US/Canada books and general reference material. Second floor is US/Canada microfilms and fiche. First sub-level is European and second sub-level is British (or vice-versa). Organize your list so that you don't have to run back and forth between floors.

The U.S./Canadian films floor is the only one which has dry process microfilm copiers -- there are four of them (two standup and two sit-down). Many other wet process microfilm copiers are available though. Just remember to come home and copy those "wet" copies over on Xerox, etc. or they will turn purple and be unreadable after a period of time.

If you have mass copying to do, try to do it early in the morning when the library first opens -- 7:30 a.m.; you will have better luck getting the best machines.

The change machines tend to run out about 8 p.m. when the attendants are gone! Copy machines take dimes and

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nickels. Change machines will change quarters, dollars, five dollars.

Another person's wish - "I wish I had purchased before I went, a catalog case with wheels and a handle that allows you to pull it behind you each morning going to the library and also through the airport. My briefcase weighed about 45 lbs with all the copies and notebooks, etc." One of those small, wheeled, suit case carriers would probably do very nicely here also.

FOOD:

The Howard Johnson's right next door to the library has a buffet dining room. Food is okay, prices not bad, service was fast because most everyone eating was researching and in a big hurry to get back to the library. The waitpersons were all friendly and helpful. (Editor's note: I personally found the service here quite slow on two separate occasions when I was eating alone.)

There is a break room on the first floor of the library selling drinks, sandwiches, chips, etc. There are many food places in the food courts of two malls within walking distance. Crossroads Mall is 1/2 block from the library. There is a McDonald's etc. in there. ZCMI Mall is 1 block beyond that.

As for the best buys for eating -- at least lunch -- ask the receptionist at the front desk for passes to the LDS cafeteria. The food is good, servings are very ample, and the selection is wide and the prices are best of all! It's only a block or so away -- easy to find.

To get away from the noise, hustle, bustle, etc., try the restaurant located just across from Temple Square. It's located in Inn on the Square. Nice room, nice food, reasonable, quiet.

There is a restaurant on the corner (JB's?) with a nice salad bar and good soup and a coffee shop around the corner (Dees) with average coffee shop fare (and a bit greasy.)

Bring extra goodies (boxed orange juice, muffins, etc.) as this stuff is very expensive to buy from the little gas station marts nearby.

HAVE A VERY GOOD SUMMER!

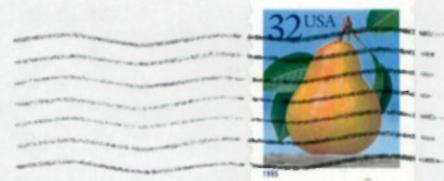
Well, this brings another year to a close for the WMGS. I hope that everyone has a good summer and returns from vacations and genealogical research trips with some good ideas for our programs and discussions next fall. If you happen to find some good sources, catalogues, research aids, genealogy videos, new potential members, etc. please drop a note to the society so we can get it in the Newsletter. Thanks - Judith Field, Editor

NEXT MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE - 1997 IN GLENDIVE, MONTANA

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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