

WMGS

NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2714 MISSOULA MT 59806-2714

APRIL 1997

OFFICERS

President	Judith Field	728-1628
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Treasurer	Phyllis Duncan	251-3177
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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.

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.

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.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Meetings are 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. Non-members are welcome guests.

APRIL MEETING

The April meeting will be Thursday, April 10th, at 7:00 PM in the large meeting room of the Missoula Public Library. We will welcome Julie Mace of the University of Montana Mansfield Library as our guest speaker for the evening. Julie will be discussing the preservation of documents. There will be demonstrations and we invite you to bring your questions and problem documents to the meeting. This is an important topic for all of us who want to be able to preserve our precious family

documents for the generations to come and a good opportunity to get some professional advice for free!

APRIL REFRESHMENTS: Irene Berven

NEW NEWSLETTER COLUMNS

Starting with this issue we introduce a new columnist. Wendy Garner, who lives in Missoula, will be doing a series of articles for the column "Heirloom Genealogy." While busy with her young family, Wendy has maintained her interests in genealogy and needlework. For this newsletter she has written an introductory article to a series of articles on genealogy in handicrafts and art. Wendy also has taken an interest in the computer genealogy GENWEB project by setting up a homepage for Missoula County Genealogy. Visit her home page and check out some of her links at: <http://www.marsweb.com/~scooby/>.

The second new column, "Local Library Resources", will be introduced next issue. It will focus on some of the resources of genealogical interest at our local Missoula Libraries: The University of Montana Mansfield Library, the Missoula Public Library and the Missoula Family History Center.

OFFICERS FOR 1997-1998

The current officers have agreed to be re-nominated for the May board election, but the slate is still open.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

Computer reservations / Information: call 543-6148 during library hours.

FHL HOURS:

Mon.	12:00 - 4:00 PM.
Tue.	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM & 7:00 - 9:30 PM
Wed.	7:00 - 9:30 PM
Thurs.	12:00 - 4:00 PM. & 7:00 - 9:30 PM.
Sat.	12:00 - 4:00 PM.

INDEXING

The group indexing of the MISSOULIAN is continuing, (and growing!), on Tuesdays at 1:00 PM in the Montana Room of the Missoula Public Library. We had 5 people indexing last Tuesday! 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 in 1929 at the present

BITS AND BYTES



GENWEB Montana Genealogy Homepage maintained by Wendy Garner:

<http://www.marsweb.com/~scooby/>

HERITAGE BOOKS free e-mail Newsletter, "Heritage Book News." Send them your e-mail address requesting the free newsletter to:

heritagebooks@pipeline.com

KINDRED KONNECTIONS: They have linked pedigree files with millions of names and thousands of GEDCOM files Use of the master index is completely free. If you find people of interest that you want to download, you will need to join the library by paying a membership fee (currently at \$15/month or \$100/year). After joining you will be able to download all the data you wish. Check out the indexes for free at:

<http://www.kindredkonnections.com>.

HEIRLOOM GENEALOGY *by Wendy Garner*

How will you share your research with the generations to come? Today we have many tools at our disposal for communication and preservation of information: cameras, typewriters, computers, printers, telephones, the Internet and a variety of non-profit groups and businesses and the services that they provide. Genealogical information is available in a wide variety of forms, and for those of us passionate about our family tree, we are eager to search them out. What about those descendants of the future that aren't quite as eager to pour over pedigree charts or read the results of many years of research? How can you give them a sense of family history?

Our ancestors created connections by recording family history on whatever was available or in style for that time period. In Europe, "Netherlandish painters depicted family groups in frontal alignment and occasionally painted names and ages directly on the canvas to identify the sitters." Family Bibles were used to record important events such as births, deaths and marriages. "By the seventeenth century, European craftsmen were commissioned to carve marriage dates, accompanied by the initials or names of the participants, on bedsteads and chests or engrave them on ceremonial glass and silver." Early Americans used furniture, pottery, portraits ("At times, even deceased family members were included in the portrait and their position in the group or the use of symbols indicated that they were no longer alive."),

watercolors, samplers, silk embroideries and quilts. These creations have become vital links with our past. They often communicate more than genealogical facts. They can give us a sense of our ancestors' personalities, values, and can even provide details about the way they lived.

Our predecessors marked their place in time with the tools and materials of their time. In doing so, they challenge us to make full use of **all** the resources at our disposal. We are not limited to the accessories of daily life, for that is what many of the things they used have become to us. Beds, chests, comforters, and dishes are valued less and often don't last as long because they can easily be replaced. Yet, with this rise in consumerism, the means of artfully recording family history also becomes more accessible. In future articles, let's discover, together, how we can creatively connect our families' history, present and future.

My principle interest is the genealogical needlework sampler, however, I see this as an opportunity to search out other options such as quilts and wall hangings. If you have any ideas or suggestions as to other possibilities, please share them with me. I look forward to our journey together into the creative expression of family history.

(All of the historical references came from: Family Record: Genealogical Watercolors and Needlework, Copyright 1989 DAR Museum.)

Wendy can be reached via e-mail at:

scooby@marsweb.com or 728-3860

HERITAGE BOOKS NGS CONTEST

Be a Winner - The biggest news at HB this month (March) is the beginning of the free monthly drawing for a complimentary membership in the National Genealogical Society. Beginning in March, 1997, and continuing through the remaining months of 1997, Heritage Books, Inc. will hold a monthly drawing for a free, one-year, membership in the National Genealogical Society, compliments of Heritage Books.

The NGS is one of the finest genealogical societies in the world, and publishes the "National Genealogical Society Quarterly" which is widely acclaimed for its excellent articles on research techniques and methodology, as well as other topics. The society also publishes a bi-monthly newsletter with all the latest genealogical news, including a computer genealogy section and member queries. In addition, NGS sponsors an annual, multi-day, "Conference in the States" seminar in collaboration with various state and local societies, offers a correspondence course on genealogical research, and maintains a substantial genealogical library. Members receive both

periodicals as part of their membership, as well as discounts on conference registration fees and purchases of Society publications. Their "books-by-mail" lending program is also a very attractive feature for members who cannot visit their large library in person.

This drawing is open to all US residents, except employees of Heritage Books, Inc. and their immediate families. To enter simply send an official United States Postal Service postcard to "Heritage Books, Inc., 1540 Pointer Ridge Place, Bowie MD 20716" with your return address on the upper left-hand corner of the address side of the card, and the letters "NGS" on the message side of the card. The entries must be on official USPS post cards (they have the necessary 20 cents postage printed on them, and are available at all post offices); no other medium will be accepted. The message side of the card must be blank, except for the letters, "NGS." You may enter each month if you wish, but please, only one card per household per month.

Each month Heritage Books will draw a winner at random from the cards received during the previous month. The winner will be notified by mail, and announced in the next issue of our monthly publication, "Heritage Book News," and at our web site "www.heritagebooks.com." The surplus cards will then be discarded, and the process will start over for the next month. The winner will receive a one-year membership in NGS, compliments of Heritage Books. If the winner is already a member of NGS, their membership will be extended for one year.

FIRST FAMILIES OF MONTANA

The Montana State Genealogical Society will issue "First Families of Montana" certificates to descendants of someone who arrived in Montana prior to statehood, 8 Nov. 1889 and/or "First Settlers of Montana" certificates to descendants of someone who arrived from 9 Nov. 1889 to 31 DEC 1929. Fill out the enclosed application and send it to the address on the form with \$10.00 for each certificate that you apply for. Photocopy the form as needed. Always use maiden names for females. Attach one COPY of documentation per generation to prove lineage. Acceptable proofs are: census records; land records; birth certificate; church or baptism record; death certificate; cemetery or obituary notice; marriage certificate; newspaper item, tax records with dates and places; school census records with dates and places, immigration or naturalization papers or news clippings; published family histories; county histories; personal papers, diaries, letters, and journals if they are dated and give place. Family group sheets and pedigree charts must be documented. MSGS hopes to be able to present

certificates at the state seminar in Glendive. Get your application, with proper documentation copies, in as soon as possible.

IN THE MAIL

BIG SKY ROUNDUP, Montana State Genealogical Society, Marilyn Lewis, Ed., Rt.2, Box 2246, Lewistown, MT 59457. March 1997. See "First Families or Settlers of Montana" with application.

FADED GENES, Lewis & Clark Co. Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59604; Vol. 14, No. 1, March 1997: Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Divorces Extracted from *The Weekly Independent*, Deer Lodge, Montana (contd. from Dec. 1996).

GALLATIN TRAILS, Gallatin Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1783, Bozeman, MT 59771-1783; Vol. 18, No. 11, Feb. 1997. Dokken-Nelson Funeral Register, Bozeman (1936)..

THE TREE BRANCH, Dawson Co. Montana, P.O. Box 1275, Glendive, MT 59330-1275, Vol. 16, No. 1, Feb. 1997. They are hosting the 1997 Montana State Genealogy Conference. If you did not get a brochure in the mail there's one in this newsletter.

TREES AND TRAILS, Flathead Genealogical Bulletin, Flathead Valley Genealogical Society., P.O. Box 584, Kalispell, MT 59903-0584; Vol. 22, No. 1, March 1997. They have collected and copied over 1200 photos depicting early Flathead history and a book will be published with about 350 of these photos. This should be on the market around Christmas 1997. This issue continues the Flathead Co. General Index to Deeds, Grantors of 1884-1897.

HERITAGE QUEST Mar/Apr 1997: Features include articles on "Presidential Candidates", "Captains To Deck Hands: Who Were The Men Of The Sea", "Villains", "Photographs: Our Window To The Past", and "Magna Carta Sureties & Nobles with American Descendants." Also has sections on Germanic, Irish, Hispanic, and Scandinavian research.

All of these Newsletters, Quarterlies, and genealogy magazines are available in the Genealogy Collection, Missoula Public Library

Wondering why you can't find your Revolutionary era ancestors in any church records? On a show called "Myth America", airing locally on TLC, I heard the statement that "in 1787 only 20% of the American population belonged to a church" while today, it was said, about 60% of the American people are church members.

MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE - MAY 2-4, 1997 will be hosted by The Tree Branches Genealogical Society in Glendive, Montana

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE IN THE STATES - MAY 7-10, 1997 "Cradle of a Nation", locally hosted by the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania You can write for a conference brochure to : NGS '97 Conference Registration Brochure, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington, VA 22207-2329

DONNA POTTER PHILLIPS WORKSHOP - Sept. 19-20, 1997 at the Missoula Public Library.

YELLOWSTONE GENEALOGY FORUM 20th ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR - Sept. 26 -27, 1997. Will feature speaker Curt B. Witcher from Fort Wayne, Indiana.

THE GENEALOGISTS VIDEO RESEARCH GUIDE - This three volume set belongs to the WMGS and is available for viewing by members Call Judith Field (728-1628) if you would like to view the videos Part I: Home Sources, Family Search, Published Histories, Record Keeping; Part II: Census and Probate Records; Part III: Land, Military and Vital Records

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