

# WMGS NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2714 MISSOULA MT 59806-2714

MAY 1997

## OFFICERS

President	Judith Field	728-1628
Vice-President	Hazel Harley	549-1471
Treasurer	Phyllis Duncan	251-3177
Recording Secretary	Irene Berven	549-8898
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.

## MAY MEETING

The April meeting will be Thursday, May 8th, at 7:00 PM in the small meeting room of the Missoula Public Library. We will have an evening of genealogical "potpourrie" and ask members to bring a question or short topic of genealogical interest to discuss, or to just come to listen and perhaps help someone else with a genealogical problem. Those who plan to attend the State conference May 2-4 might give us their impressions of the conference.

MAY REFRESHMENTS: Wanda Alsaker

## OFFICERS FOR 1997-1998

Election of officers for 1997-1998 will take place during the May business meeting. The current officers have agreed to be re-nominated, but nominations will still be open from the floor.

## FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

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

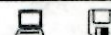
## FHL HOURS:

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



### Member e-mail addresses:

Wendy Garner scooby@marsweb.com  
Judith Field jalf@marsweb.com  
Paulette Parpart parpart@mtlib.org

If there are other members with e-mail address please e-mail them to [jalf@marsweb.com](mailto:jalf@marsweb.com).

### Missoula Public Library:

<http://www.ism.net/~mslaplib>

This has links to the Great Falls and Lewis & Clark Libraries, as well as to the Montana University Libraries.

GENWEB Montana Genealogy Homepage maintained by Wendy Garner:

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

## SOURCES

by Judith Field

This is the first in a series of articles about genealogical sources that are available at the University of Montana Mansfield Library, the Missoula Public Library or the Missoula Family History Center.

## Early American Imprints

Early American Imprints was originally issued as two distinct microform (microopaques and later microfiche) collections reproducing every existent book, pamphlet, broadside and such like material published in America from 1639 through 1800 (*Early American Imprints. Series I, Evans*) and from 1801 to 1819 (*Early American Imprints. Series II, Shaw-Shoemaker*). These are the complete non-serial source materials of American history for the 17th and 18th centuries.

Readex Corporation, which sells the microform and CD-ROM versions, states that *Early American Imprints. Series I* is "the definitive resource of information about every aspect of life in 17th and 18th century America, from agriculture and auctions through foreign affairs, diplomacy, literature, music, religion, Revolutionary War, temperance, witchcraft, and just about any other topic imaginable." It includes complete reproductions, page for page, of works including "almanacs, bibles, books, broadsides, charters and bylaws, cookbooks, maps, printed music, novels, pamphlets, plays, poems, primers, sermons, speeches, tract books, treaties, travelogues and textbooks." In all, *Series I* reproduces about 36,000 items based on Charles Evans' 14 volume *American Bibliography* and the *Supplement to Evans' American Bibliography* by Roger Bristol.

*Early American Imprints. Series II* documents the great expansion and change in the United States in the early 19th century. Readex says that "in addition to books, broadsides, and pamphlets" this second collection "published reports, presidential letters and messages, Congressional, state and territorial resolutions, and the works of many European authors reprinted for the American public." This second series reproduces about 38,000 items and is from the *Shaw-Shoemaker American Bibliography, 1801-1819*.

These microform collections of *Series I* and *Series II*, and the CD-ROM version of *Series I*, are available at the University of Montana Mansfield Library. The microforms are located in the Microform Room, Microprint - Level 3. *Series I* call number is 810 E12 and *Series II* call number is 810 E12 2nd series. In order to use the microform collections, however, one must first consult the Evans' or Shaw-Shoemaker bibliographies, find a title, and get its microform number. A much easier search can be made of *Series I* using the CD-ROM

database *Early American Imprints* on the Mansfield Library's Laser Net available via **Intranet** on computer terminals in the Mansfield Library. At the computer terminal one must return to the Main Menu, select "Electronic Databases" from the Menu and then, from the alphabetical listing of databases available, move to *Early American Imprints* and select it. The program opens giving you a choice of two levels of searches. Level I is easy to understand and prompts you at each step. Level II is a custom search by fields and requires a knowledge of search procedures. Choose Level I to start. You can then type any word or phrase which describes your search topic. You are instructed to use quotes around words with punctuation as "discover'd" or with the logical search words 'and', 'or', 'not', 'to', 'near', or 'same' as in "kings and rulers." The screen will tell you how many 'hits' the search found and you can then choose to narrow the search by adding further search criteria. You will then be presented with a list of citations that match your criteria. One then follows the instructions at the bottom of the screen to view a brief citation, the full citation, print either the list of citations or the brief or full citation, return to search, etc. (Note that while the screen offers you a print to disk or paper option, I was not been able to get a paper printout at the terminal that I was using.)

Armed with this information about *Early American Imprints* you are now asking how can I use this for genealogy? Just search for a surname, an event, a place - anyone, any occurrence or any place fitting into the 17th-18th century time frame in New England for which you would like to find that bit of information to help round out the genealogical data. You might even find some death dates in a recorded funeral sermon.

Here are a few examples from some very brief searches that I made. First, I just entered "bible" as my search topic. The search returned 1841 citation to "bible" which I then narrowed to 20 citations by adding another search criteria "and Rhode Island" to my original search for "bible." I then tried a few of my husband's old New England surnames. On searching "Hazard and Rhode Island" I received citations to the Rhode Island election proxy for Thomas G. Hazard, Esq., who was elected deputy governor of Rhode Island in 1799. A search on the "Gould" surname returned a citation to "A Funeral Sermon on John Gould, Esq. who died 8 Jan 1772, preached by Mather Byles, 1735-1814, rector of Christ Church in Boston" and another to "A Brief Narration of Some Quakers Who Were Put To Death At Boston" by Daniel Gould, ca. 1625-1716, Rhode Island 1700.

The possibilities for using *Early American Imprints* to fill out your genealogy with personal stories and details of the life of the times are limited only by your imagination in selecting search topics.

**CALENDAR CONVERSION ON-LINE**

If you have a date based on one calendar and want to convert it to any other calendar date go to:

<http://www.genealogy.org/~scottlee/calconvert.cgi>

This on-line calendar conversion program will accept dates in Gregorian, Julian, Jewish, French Republican and Julian Day Number and convert them to all of the others. It will even tell you what day of the week the date was so even if you just want to know what day a certain date was on this program will do it.

**GeneaNet SURNAME SEARCH**

From the GeneaNet Search Page - What is Geneanet?

The goal of GeneaNet is to use the power of the Internet to build a database indexing all the genealogical resources over the world, on-line as well as off-line.

It is a list of surnames dating before 1850 which connect to addresses (Web, e-mail, or real world address) where

whole works can be accessed. A powerful multi-criteria search allows you to select the most interesting sources, before further studying the related works.

The concerned genealogical resources are: Families studied by genealogists Genealogical publications (books, periodics) Manuscripts from libraries and archives Official sources (Church registers, deeds, ...) GeneaNet is free, and will remain free forever.

**GeneaNetiquette**

Not to discourage genealogists to work with GeneaNet: Do not disturb a genealogist with too generic questions: specify the state of your work, and be specific with your questions. For a postal request, always send a stamped letter for the answer, even for international mail: check your postal office for more informations.

(I have found many of my French Surnames here that I have not found on other Surname Search pages. These surnames appear to have many European and Canadian researchers.)

**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

**BITTERROOT GENEALOGY FAIR** - May 30-31st. at the Stevensville Family History Library.

**DONNA POTTER PHILLIPS WORKSHOP** - Friday evening and Saturday, Sept. 19-20, 1997 at the Missoula Public Library. The workshop topic is "Turning Over a New Leaf."

**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

WESTERN MONTANA GENEALOGICAL SOC  
PO BOX 2714  
MISSOULA MT 59806-2714



PAULETTE K. PARPART  
415 E. MAIN ST.  
MISSOULA MT 59802-4772