

# Western Montana Genealogical Society



Nov. 2004

## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

By Juliana Smith

— Ancestry Daily News

When interviewing family members, whether it be in person, by phone, or by mail, it is helpful to come up with a list of questions beforehand. Here are some questions that can help get the interview rolling and possibly provide you with leads on where to look for new records:

- Where did you grow up?
- How long did your family live in the area(s)?
- Were there other family members in the area? Who?
- Did you live on a farm? What kind of crops did you grow?
- What kind of livestock or

other animals did you keep?

- Did you have any pets?
- What was the house or apartment like? How many rooms?
- What kind of amenities did it have? (indoor plumbing, electricity or gas, phone, television, etc.)
- Were there any special items in the house that stand out in your mind (favorite possessions of yours, your parents, or siblings)?
- What kind of area/ neighborhood was it?
- Did the town have a railroad? Post office? What kind of stores or shops?

(Continued on page 4)

## WMGS NOVEMBER MEETING

The WMGS will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 9th, at 7:00 PM in the Large Meeting Room of the Missoula Public Library.

We will have a program on "Creating Genograms or Medical Pedigrees Charts" showing the genogram symbols, basic charts, and how they can be created by

using a computer drawing program, or by a free software program that creates genograms from a gedcom file created by a genealogy software program.

We will also have more organization for the State Genealogical Conference which we will be hosting in September 2005.

**WMGS Meeting,  
Tuesday, Nov. 9th,  
7:00 pm, at the  
Missoula Public  
Library Large  
Meeting Room.**

### WMGS Officers 2003/2004

**President**  
Paulette Parpart 728-8054  
Library 258-3858  
**Vice-President**  
Judith Field 728-1628  
Jalf@marsweb.com 550-3677  
**Treasurer**  
Harold Fisher 721-5333  
Hfisher@montana.com  
**Secretary**  
Terri Denney 251-4006  
Olivia@marsweb.com  
**Newsletter Editor**  
Judith Field 728-1628  
Jalf@marsweb.com 550-3677

### Inside this issue:

In The Mail	2
Missoula Public Library—New Books	2
Bits & Bytes	3
Family History Library	3
Ancestry.com Update	5
Dues & Queries	6
WMGS Election	6



## In The Mail



**FAMILY CHRONICLE, October 2004.** Feature articles include: "Cracking the Da Vinci Code of Genealogy," "Digging Deeper: How to Wring More Family Secrets Out of the Records You've Already Researched," "Social Security Records: How and Why to Use Them in Your Research," "In Their Time and Place: A Guide to Writing a Detailed Family History," and "The Art of the Interview: How to Get the Most Out of Your Family History Interviews."

**December 2004.** Features include: "The Best Online Databases," "Military Pension File Secrets: How to Access the Surprising Amount of Information They Contain," "The Experts Answer: Professionals Share Their Solutions to Tough Problems," "Tracking Your Research: The Art and Science of Using Research Logs to Speed and Organize Your Research."

**GEN-BUG NEWS,** Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, % Parmley Billings Library, 510 N. Broadway, Billings MT 59101; Oct. 2004. With the article "Census Research—Revisited" they have reprinted a 50% scale of a Census History form that lets you record census information on one family from 1790-1930. The form is no longer available, but can be enlarged, double-sided at a print shop. Under "Polish Research" there is info on the Polish Genealogical Society of America.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY GENEALOGY NEWS,** Jefferson County Genealogy Society, P.O. Box 1094, Boulder, MT 59632; October 2004. Report on the restoration of the old bank building on Main street into the Heritage Center to be used for community events, historical displays, and for a genealogy library that will store Jefferson County genealogical records and assist families in researching their ancestors.

**NGS QUARTERLY,** Vol. 92, No. 3, September 2004. Feature articles are: "Identifying John Trapper, a German Immigrant Laborer in Early 19th Century Philadelphia, Through the Records of His Children," "Finding the Irish Origins of Charles Doherty," and "William Colwill of Bresgerule: A Man With No Roots?"

**TALES & TRAILS,** Columbia Gorge Genealogical

Missoula Public Library—  
New Books

**Genealogist's Handbook for Upper Saint John Valley Research,** by George L. Findlen.

**Start Your Own Newsletter From Scratch,** by Jim Terhune.

**Census of the Blackfeet, Montana, 1897-1898,** by Jeff Bowen.

**A Genealogist's Refresher Course, 2nd ed.,** by Judy Jacobson.

**Grow a Family Tree,** by William Dollarhide.

**The Conceptual Approach to Genealogy,** by David C. Chamberlin. "...about organizing, evaluating, and compiling information into a family's genealogy....material supplemented with numerous examples and exercises to give you hands-on experience in using the principles and techniques described."

**Locating Your Revolutionary War Ancestor, A guide to Military Records,** by James C. Neagles and Lila L. Neales.

**Scottish-Irish Family Research Made Simple, revised ed.**

**A Field Guide For Genealogists, second ed.,** by Judy Jacobson.

**A Preservation Guide, Saving the Past and the Present for the Future,** by Barbara Sagraves.

**Family Chronicle's Introduction to Genealogy.**

**Directory of Photographers in the United States 1888 & 1889 and Canada 1889,** comp. By Diane VanSkiver Gagel.

**German-American Genealogical Research Monograph Number 7, "Nineteenth-Century Emigration of 'Old Lutherans' From Eastern Germany (Mainly Pomerania and Lower Silesia) to Australia, Canada, and the United States",** by Clifford Neal Smith.

**The Everything Irish History & Heritage Book,** by Amy Hackney & Ryan Hackney. "From Brian Boro and St. Patrick to Sinn Fein and the



## Bits & Bytes

**Census Trail**—"Our goal is to restore missing censuses from alternate records that exist and make them readily available on our website." They say they are building census records for each decade before 1790 and, so far, have 74,000 names on file and are adding more on a frequent basis. From the site you can look at a list of states and areas that are being reconstructed, and, in some cases, a bibliography of where the info is coming from.

This is a note from the site : "Federal census records are missing for some counties even though the rest of the state may be available. For example: The eastern third of Tennessee counties are missing the 1820 census, many South Carolina counties are missing the 1790 census, and many Virginia counties are missing the 1810 census."

To search for names you must be a subscriber. The individual subscription fee is \$10 per year. To check it out go to:  
<http://www.censustrail.com/index.php>

### **Citation Machine - [If you're not sure how to cite a source, collect your source information and visit this site.]**

Citation Machine is an interactive Web tool designed to assist teachers and students (and other information users like genealogists) in producing reference citations for crediting information from other people. You merely...

1. Click the type of resource you wish to cite
2. Complete the Web form that appears with information from your resource
3. Click **Make Citations** to generate standard MLA & APA citations.

The principle goal of this tool is to make the proper crediting of information property so easy that it becomes a habit, not a laborious task that we stop doing outside of school.

[http://www.landmark-project.com/citation\\_machine/index.php](http://www.landmark-project.com/citation_machine/index.php)

## FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

### COMPUTER RESERVATIONS

Call 543-6148

### FHL HOURS \*\*\*\*\* NOTE NEW HOURS

**Mon. CLOSED**  
**Tue. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM & 7:00 - 9:30 PM**  
**Wed. CLOSED**  
**Thurs. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM & 7:00 - 9:30 PM.**  
**Sat 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Both online computers can access Family Search and the Ancestry.com databases. Please try to call ahead or come into the library and sign up to insure you will be able to use a computer when you visit. Unfortunately, the DSL Internet connection is still not running.

\*\*\*\*\*

Bits & Bytes (continued)

### Quaker Obituaries

This index (not complete abstracts) of obituaries and death notices in the *American Friend* was compiled between 1996 and 1999 by Thomas D. Hamm. Additional information often, but not always, includes maiden names of women, parents, survivors, dates and places of birth and marriage, meeting affiliation, and previous residences.

The *American Friend*, published between 1894 and 1960... Nearly all of the obituaries here are of members of the Five Years Meeting; thus relatively few members of Conservative or Hicksite/Friends General Conference meetings are included, although there are exceptions...we did not abstract all information found in the obituary, ... (only) what we thought necessary for purposes of identification. That includes name, date of death if given, place of death, and age or year of birth.

<http://www.earlham.edu/~libr/quaker/obituaries/index.htm>

(Continued on page 5)

**To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root." - Chinese Proverb**



(Continued from page 1)

- What was your family's religious affiliation?
- Where did you go to church?
- What religious ceremonies did you take part in?
- Did you have godparents or sponsors?
- Where did you go to school?
- What level education do you have?
- What was your favorite subject to study?
- Did you have any special interests when you were growing up (sports, hobbies, crafts, etc.)?
- What kind of games did you play?
- What was your favorite toy?
- What other things did you do for fun (go to beach, park, movies, zoo, etc.)?
- Did your family ever take trips or go on vacation?
- Do you speak any foreign languages?
- Did you have family reunions?
- Who were your friends when you were growing up?
- Who were the close friends of the family?
- Describe the personalities of your family members.
- Are there any physical characteristics that run in your family?
- Were there any serious illnesses in your family?
- Do any illnesses run in the family?
- Were there any memorable traditions that your family practiced?
- Can you remember any stories that were told to you as a child (fictional, folklore, or real life)?
- What events stand out in the memory of your childhood (historical, personal, familial, terms or disasters, fire, etc.)?
- What inventions or developments changed your life, and how?
- What was your father's occupation? Where did he work?
- Did your mother work? Where?
- Did you work? Where?
- Did anyone in your family ever serve in the military?
- Did anyone in your family ever hold a public office?
- What was your favorite song?
- Did anyone in your family play a musical instrument?
- What were your family's favorite meals? Are there any special family recipes?
- Were certain foods eaten or avoided on certain occasions?
- Were you ever mentioned in a newspaper?
- What kind of organizations did your family belong to (fraternal, charitable, scouting, etc.)?
- What special skills do you have?
- How did you come into your profession?
- When did you move away from home?
- Have you ever been married? If so, to whom? When?
- Where did you meet your husband/wife?
- Did you exchange any special gifts?
- How long did you date before getting married?
- Where did you get married?
- Who participated in your wedding?
- Did you have a reception? Was there music? What songs were played?

(Continued on page 5)



## ANCESTRY.COM UPDATE

**1900 Census Index** Ancestry continues to add states to the index of names which are linked to the actual census images. This is an INDEX TO ALL INDIVIDUALS enumerated in the 1900 Census. This is an important census for immigration because it asked for the year of Immigration, the number of years in the United States, and citizenship status of foreign born individuals. States now indexed are: Alabama, Alaska Territory, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Indian Territory, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, and Wisconsin.

### 1910 US Census Index Linked to Images

This index is an index to the HEADS of HOUSEHOLD only, but it is helpful in looking for Civil War records because it included the question "Survivor of the Union or Confederate Army or Navy" to the list of questions asked by the census taker.

\*\*\*\*\*

*(Mail—Continued from page 2)*

Society, % The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St., The Dalles, OR 97058-2270, October 2004. This issue has an Obituary of Anita Kenny Frake, 86, of The Dalles, OR; the story of Edward A. Wilson (cont. from Jul 2004); transcription of the Old Carson Cemetery in Carson, WA (begins A-B); burials from the Pioneer Cemetery [The Dalles] (M-P); review of Sheriffs of Wasco County: 150 Years 1854-2004, by Darlena Hill of the Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society.

**THE TREE BRANCH**, Dawson County Tree Brances Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1275, Glendive, MT 59330, October 2004. "Dawson Co. and Eastern Montana Death Notices Jan-June 2004," "Packing Allowances for Early Wagon Train Migrations," "The Territorial Papers of the United States by John Stemmons." [See bits & Bytes for webpage where info on the names and relevant information to them in these documents before 1825 can be accessed for a fee.]

*(Interview—Continued from page 4)*

- Do you have a copy of your wedding invitation?
- Was there an announcement in the newspaper? Which paper?

Copyright 2000, MyFamily.com.

This article may be reproduced in whole or in part for non-commercial purposes provided that proper attribution (including author name) and copyright notices are included.

\*\*\*\*\*

*(New Books—Continued from page 2)*

Troubles, all you need to know about the Emerald Isle." Here is authoritative information on: Celtic mythology and ancient folklore, Irish literary tradition, the potato famile, Irish in America, the Troubles and the road to peace, religion and family life.

**Missing Pieces, How to Find Birth Parents and Adopted Children, A Search and Reunion Guidebook**, by Paul Drake and Beth Sherrill.

*(Bits & Bytes—Continued from page 3)*

### Historical Directories of England and Wales

Historical Directories, a digital library project of the University of Leicester, contains local and trade directories for England and Wales, from 1750 to 1919. They are high quality reproductions of comparatively rare books, essential tools for research into local and genealogical history.

Find out which directories available, using one of our three **Find by** options (Location, Decade, Keyword) then open an individual directory, browse or conduct searches within it. If you're interested in finding out more about reading and using these directories to your advantage, then take a look at their History Notes Link. From this Notes Link you can also go to their General Web Links page which has links to British Genealogy, Local & Urban History, and Military History

<http://www.historicaldirectories.org/hd/index.asp>





P.O. Box 2714  
Missoula, MT 59806-2714



**We're On The  
Web  
[www.rootsweb.  
com/~mtwmgs](http://www.rootsweb.com/~mtwmgs)**

PAULETTE K. PARPART 05  
2206 1/2 W. SUSS  
MISSOULA, MT 59801

## Dues & Queries

Dues are \$11 a year for individuals and \$13 for families, which includes a Newsletter (Sep, Nov, Jan, Apr, & May) and membership in the Montana State Genealogical Society. Queries are published free for members, \$2 for non-members.

We would appreciate any submissions of articles on genealogy for the Newsletter including *How You Solved It*, local pedigrees, book reviews of local history/genealogy books, and any genealogy news items.

## WMGS Elections

Elections were held at the September meeting. The new officers are: President: Paulette Parpart; Vice President: Judith Field; Secretary: Terri Denny; Treasurer: Harold Fisher.

## Dues Are Due

**Please check your newsletter mailing label to see if you have paid your dues for the 2005 year. If your name has an '05 after it, your dues were paid. Thank you.**

**Dues must be paid by the end of this year (Dec. 31, 2004) to continue receiving the newsletter.**

## Upcoming Conferences

**2005 NGS Winter Warm-Up—20-22 Jan 2005, Wyndham Phoenix Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona. Cost is \$150 for members, \$205 for non-members + cost of workshops @\$25 (some free.)**