Genalogical Society

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Western Montana Genealogical MISSOULA Society PUBLIC LIBRARY WMGS NEWSLETTER MAR 0 7 2003

Typing Every Word

by Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG

In my lectures and writing I often advise that you should "read every word" or "transcribe the document." Recently, however, I realized that those phrases don't fully convey the message. Several months ago an Internet cousin advised me of a will that (I am embarrassed to admit) I had missed finding in a sweep searching for information about a migrating ancestor.

The will was that of the fatherin-law of our known ancestor. which named the daughter and her spouse. We had had no prior clue of her identity. Thus, I now have a new surname to research in depth. A survey of published abstracts pointed to several additional documents in the county, primarily wills, giving a It was as I was typing each number of relationships.

I hired a researcher to obtain a copy of the original will and told my Internet cousin that I would send her a copy. I also requested copies of all papers in the probate, plus files for the other individuals of the same surname.

When the copies arrived, I quickly read every word. They had several interesting details, but no genealogical breakthroughs. I prepared an envelope to mail the copies to my Internet cousin, but in the crunch of work and everything else I'm behind on, the copying was always on the "to do tomorrow" list.

As penance for my tardiness, I made a transcription of the will to include with the photocopies.

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WMGS MARCH MEETING

The next meeting of the WMGS will be on Tuesday, March 11th, at 7:00 PM in the Large Meeting Room of the Missoula Public Library. After the business meeting Jennifer Driscoll will present a program on the Bureau of Land Records. We will have an online computer available so we can access the BLM web pages and homestead records hands-on!

Need a ride or want to car pool? Call Judith Field at 728-1628 if you need a ride or can volunteer to pick up people who need a ride.

Western Montana Genealogical Society

March 2003

WMGS Meeting, Tuesday, March. 11th, 7:00 pm, at the Missoula Public Library Large Meeting Room.

WMGS Officers 2002/2003

President Jennifer Driscoll 728-1724 Jenndriscoll@hotmail.com

Vice-President **Paulette Parpart** 728-8054 Library 523-2858 parpart@missoula.lib.mt.us

Treasurer 728-0594 Marcia Porter mporter@bigsky.net

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Newsletter Editor 728-1628 **Judith Field** jalf@marsweb.com

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MISSOULA, MT

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2003 WMGS SURNAME INTEREST LIST

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Brittany Coast, FRA

Allegany Co., PA; Warren Co., NY MO Shannon & Dent Co., MO Poznan, POL GER; IA, WI; CA; Bonita, MT SC; TN Jevnaker, Opland, NOR GER; IA, WI; CA; Bonita, MT NY; MI; MD Pommern, GER OH ENG; PA KY

IL: KY Webster Co., MO VA: TN: NC NY; MI IRE; NY; FL VA; OH; MN; IRE; Ontario, CAN; ND Waterford, IRE; MN ENG; NS, CAN; IA; Missoula Co., MT Herkimer, NY IRE; NY; FL PA NE; NY IN OH; MI Co. Wexford, IRE; NYC, NY WV; WI; MN;VA NY Dublin, IRE; MN VA; TN; NC KY; TN; MO GER VA: NC IRE; NY; FL

Providence, RI; Bristol Co., MA Bavaria, GER; MN; WI Ellie Moss Sandra Lee Aschenbrenner Laura E. Gregory Jo Potter Laura E. Gregory Peggy Stellmach Wanda Alsaker Cathryn Strombo Paulette K. Parpart Wanda Alsaker Loren & Barbara Johnson Paulette K. Parpart **Evelyn Newell** Evelvn Newell Loren & Barbara Johnson Sandra Lee Aschenbrenner Sandra Lee Aschenbrenner Hazel Harley Laura E. Gregory **Blanche Tate** Loren & Barbara Johnson Margaret L. Harris Wanda Alsaker Phyllis Duncan Peggy Stellmach Wanda Alsaker **Ruth Cummings Smith** Margaret L. Harris **Ruth Phillip Ruth Cummings Smith** Loren & Barbara Johnson **Ruth Cummings Smith Judith Field** Ellie Moss Blanche Tate Ellie Moss Blanche Tate Ellie Moss Peggy Stellmach Phyllis Duncan Peggy Stellmach Margaret L. Harris Sandra Lee Aschenbrenner William and Shirley Morrison **Judith Field** Phyllis Duncan

DE, MD, IN

2003 WMGS SURNAME INTEREST LIST

Fitz Jarold Fitzgerald Flaherty, John Fowler Gilligan, Michael Goessman Goit Gorman Graf Gregory Haecherl / Haecherl Hale Hardin Harker Harley Harris Harris Harrison Hassenforder Hathaway, Maggie Hawkins Hazard Hearne Henson Hollatz Irish lverson lverson Jacobson Jarrell Jeffrey Joy Keedraon Keefe Keith Kereszte Kilby King Lauchaire Laucher Lee Lee Legvold Lewis Linnott Major

DE; MD; IN IL, MT Darby, MT MA; IA VA; TN, NC; SC SCO; Ontario, CAN GER; US; Jackson & Webster Co., MO Laura E. Gregory Lenawee Co., MI Austria; GER; MN; ND KY Miles City, MT OH MT: WY IRE; NY; FL Providence & Smithfield, RI VA Haut-Rhin, FRA; NJ Lewis&Clark & Ravalli Co., MT Providence, RI; Bristol Co., MA RI CO DE GER NY Jevnaker, Opland, NOR Tamter, Arnesdtr, Oslo, NOR Tamter, Arnesdtr, Oslo, NOR DE, MD, IN NM; TX; AK; TN; MO Brittany Coast, FRA Waterford, IRE NM; TX; AK; TN; MO HUN; ROM VA; NC NYC Haut-Rin, FRA GER MD

IRE; Ontario, CAN; ND MO

Loren & Barbara Johnson Loren & Barbara Johnson Carma Gilligan Ann Ross Carma Gilligan Ellie Moss Cathryn Strombo William and Shirley Morrison Laura E. Gregory **Phyllis Duncan Evelyn Newell** Ann Ross **Evelyn Newell** Hazel Harley Margaret L. Harris Loren & Barbara Johnson Margaret L. Harris **Judith Field Helen Viviane Judith Field Judith Field Evelyn Newell Ruth Phillip** Paulette K. Parpart **Blanche Tate** Paulette K. Parpart **Phyllis Duncan** Phyllis Duncan Loren & Barbara Johnson William and Shirley Morrison Jo Potter Ellie Moss Peggy Stellmach Jo Potter Ellie Moss Phyllis Duncan Fern Kauffman Judith Field **Judith Field Ruth Phillip** Sandra Lee Aschenbrenner Sandra Lee Aschenbrenner **Ruth Phillip** Phyllis Duncan Jo Potter

2003 WMGS SURNAME INTEREST LIST

Markley McGregor McLellan Metcalfe Mielke Mitchell, Wm Morris Morrison Motzko Musick Mutters Nachmann Neske Newell Northrup **O'Brien** O'Gorman O'Keefe Olson Ottermann Owen Pace Parker Parker Parpart Patterson Patterson Pennington Perrine Phillip Pickett Plachetko Pollard Porter Potter Pray Quillevere Raleigh Rayment Reddy Reist Roberts Robinson Russell Rust Ryan

Long Island, NY Nova Scotia, CAN VA; TN; KY; MO MN; GER KY VA KY KY Austria; GER MN; GER OH NY Nova Scotia, CAN Waterford, IRE ND; SWE Bavaria, GER; MN; WI KY; TN; MO VA; TN; NC NM; TX; AK; TN; MO NM; TX; AK; TN; MO West Prussia, GER MO WV; WI; MN;VA VA; TN, NC; SC NC VA; OH; KY; IA VA KY; MN; VA; NC NM; TX; AK; TN; MO ME Brittany Coast, FRA FRA Ontario, CAN; CT Dublin, IRE; NYC, NY KY; OR; ME

London, Surry, ENG Lee Co., IA OH ;NB Waterford, IRE Sandra Lee Aschenbrenner Judith Field **Judith Field** Ellie Moss Paulette K. Parpart Carma Gilligan Margaret L. Harris William and Shirley Morrison Peggy Stellmach Hazel Harley Hazel Harley **Phyllis Duncan** Paulette K. Parpart **Evelyn Newell Blanche Tate Judith Field** William and Shirley Morrison Peggy Stellmach Paulette K. Parpart Phyllis Duncan Ellie Moss Blanche Tate Jo Potter Jo Potter Paulette K. Parpart Jo Potter Ellie Moss Ellie Moss William and Shirley Morrison **Ruth Phillip** Hazel Harley **Peggy Stellmach** Margaret L. Harris Hazel Harley Jo Potter Loren & Barbara Johnson Ellie Moss **Ruth Phillip** Cathryn Strombo **Judith Field** Fern Kauffman Hazel Harley **Judith Field** Laura E. Gregory Hazel Harley Peggy Stellmach

2003 WMGS SURNAME INTEREST LIST

Schnitzer Scott Sharp, Freeman Shedd, Geo Smith Smith Smith Smith, Homer Sneve Snider/ Snyder Springer Stanfield Stauffer Stellmach Svenson Swanson Tanner Tate Tatum Thompson Thompson Thun Tonsager Trezevant Tufts Turner Underwood Upchurch Von Comer Voss Waggoner/Waggener KY; OR; IL Walker Warford Watts Webb Weinzerl Wheatley Wigfield Wilfarht Wilson York Young, Basil M. Zarling Zinter

Poznan, POL Nova Scotia, CAN Ravalli Co., MT SC, MT NY; MI TN VA Ravalli & Silver Bow Co., MT NOR ENG IRE CAN; PA; NE Opole, POL SWE MN; Missoula Co., MT Darby, MT VA; TN; NC VA PA; OR MO MN; West Prussia, GER Askerus, NOR VA PA OH VA: NC GER VA; TN, NC; SC ENG: WV Missouri Niagra, Ontario, CAN Reynolds Co., MO ENG; OH; OR; VA VA Austria; GER KY NM; TX; AK; TN; MO KY; IN WI: GER WI; GER

Peggy Stellmach **Judith Field** Helen Viviane Carma Gilligan Loren & Barbara Johnson **Ruth Cummings Smith** Margaret L. Harris **Helen Viviane** Peggy Stellmach Fern Kauffman **Ruth Phillip Ruth Phillip** Fern Kauffman Peggy Stellmach Wanda Alsaker Wanda Alsaker Ann Ross **Blanche Tate** Margaret L. Harris Hazel Harley Jo Potter Paulette K. Parpart Peggy Stellmach Margaret L. Harris Sandra Lee Aschenbrenner Peggy Stellmach Cathryn Strombo Margaret L. Harris Wanda Alsaker Ellie Moss Hazel Harley **Evelyn Newell** Jo Potter Laura E. Gregory Laura E. Gregory Peggy Stellmach Hazel Harley **Ruth Phillip** Phyllis Duncan Loren & Barbara Johnson Jo Potter Cathryn Strombo Paulette K. Parpart Paulette K. Parpart

Missoula Public Library Books

The Family Tree Guide Book by the editors of Family Tree Magazine, introduction by Emily Anne Croom. "This book combines essential genealogy guidelines with online directories and region-specific travel information and features detailed information for every state and province, with 1,300+ Web Sites, 2,000 Family History Centers, 200 Archives and Libraries, 38 In-Depth City Guides, and 63 Maps including every state and province." **929.1072 FAMILY**

Trace Your Genes to Health by Chris Reading, M.D. with Ross Meillon. This book offers a "comprehensive approach to understanding medical genetics through family tree health diagrams and its dietary/ nutritional protocols that relate to numerous common conditions that *can typically be prevented*, or at least carefully managed. **616.042 READING**

Your Guide to the Federal Census by Kathleen W. Hinckley. This book gives "stepby-step instructions for finding the census records and indexes you want, details about information each census records, from 1790 through 1930, special procedures for obtaining census information collected from 1940 through 2000, guidelines for working with non-population schedules, including agriculture, industry, manufacturing, mortality, social statistics, veteran, and dependent classes, guidelines for researching those hard-to-trace populations, including slaves, nuns, monks, military personnel, and Native Americans." GenColl R 3173

Your Guide to Cemetery Research by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack. This book will help you "determine when and where a person died, locate the exact cemetery in which a family or individual is interred, analyze headstones and markers, interpret funerary art and tombstone iconography, including symbols, epitaphs, and inscriptions, safely make a rubbing or a cast of headstones and markers, conduct cemetery surveys, and use cemeteries to find your living relatives." 929.5072 CARMACK

Digging for Genealogical Treasure in New England Town Records by Ann Smith Lainhart. This book "contains full descriptions of eighteen different types of records, tips on how to find and understand them, ...and lists records available in print, typescript, and microfilm." The record types include "earmarks, licenses, mortgage books, military records, poor records, selectmen's minutes, and tax records." 929.1025 LAIN-HAR

Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research, Fourth ed., by Marcia D. Melnyk. A completely revised edition, this book "includes detailed information on how to do research in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. A new chapter features information on how conduct New England regional research...and includes material on research repository listings, collection holdings, hours, and directions." 929.1072 GE-NEALO

Guide to Manuscript Collections in the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Timothy Salls, ed. This book will "direct family historians to an unprecedented wealth of resources – most available only in the R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department at NEHGS. The NEHGS manuscript collection ... contains more than 2 million items." This guide is a fully indexed reference for this manuscript collection. 929.2 SALLS

*** The Missoula Public Library has 8 computers connected to the Internet that you can use for free for up to three - 30 minute periods per day (you have to leave after each 30 minutes.)

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In The Mail

FAMILY CHRONICLE; January/February 2003 [This is a free copy. They will give us a free 1 year subscription if we promote this magazine to our members on two occasions. "Orphans in North America: Who Am I" explores the history of orphanages in Canada and the US; "10 Ways to Jump Start Your Research" suggests ways of getting your research into high gear; :Importing Gedcom Files" shows you how to resolve some compatibility problems when you import a Gedcom file that was exported from a program other than the one you are using. Other articles of interest: "Online Newspaper Archives," Mapping Surname Distributions from Census CDs," and "Brickwall Solutions."

FAMILY HISTORY MAGAZINE; (Everton's) January/February 2003. Feature articles include "A Historical Profile of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society," Persistence Pays Off: A Genealogy Case Study," "From Finding Jabez: An American Journey Tracing Descendants of American Indian Captivities," "Salt Lake City: Treasure House of Historical and Genealogical Information," and "Grier: Six Men, One Name."

FORUM, Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940, Winter 2002. See article on the launch of the new records preservation and access site, and "Sources: Finding Ship Passenger Lists, 1820-1897, Part III—Internet & CD-ROM Resources." For courses on Genealogical Study see "Contentment or Commitment? Your Choice."

HERITAGE QUEST; January/February 2003. This issue focuses on *Researching a Royal Line* with articles "Ties With the Royals," "Plantagenet Ancestry," and "pleasantly Noble." Other interesting articles include "The Search for Free African American Ancestors" "Musing and Gleanings From the World of Genealogy,"

"Adoption Research," and Immigration Sources

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Family History Library

COMPUTER RESERVATIONS

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	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Wed. Thurs.	7:00 - 9:30 PM 12:00 - 4:00 PM & 7:00 - 9:30 PM.

Missoula Family History Center Online

The Missoula Family History Center will be online by Saturday, March 7th. Both computers will be networked and all of the CD ROMs will be loaded into the computer and accessible from either computer.

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.

Bits & Bytes 🖫 🗯 🕆

Preservation and Access of Records

The FGS has launched a new web site to keep all genealogists informed of world-wide issues relating to the preservation and access of records having genealogical and historical value. Visit this site to see state list of records.

http://www.fgs.org/rpa/

Missouri WWI Records Online

This WWI Service Record Database has more than 145,000 records of Missouri veterans. http://www.sos.state.mo.us/archives

German Immigrants in the USA Research Center

You don't need to have German immigrants to appreciate this site. There are some very nice maps available if you click on "Findings" then "Maps" and you get a lot more maps if you go to the "FEEFHS MAP ROOM" by following that link. Some of this is in German, but there is also an English homepage. There is an extensive ex-

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Western Montana Genealogical Society

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word into my word processing program that I realized something fundamental.

Typing is slow, very slow. It takes a lot of time. Thus, we normally might not do it unless we felt the need. However, as I typed, I discovered something else. Because typing is slow and by nature sequential, you can't skip ahead as you do when reading. When you type every word, you must read every word, and the slow pace provides plenty of opportunity to think about each word. I realized that there were lots of words to think about in that will.

The will began with the typical "In the name of God Amen" and contained several other phrases relative to the testator's belief in the Almighty. However, having typed a number of wills with exactly the same wording, I've learned not to form any conclusions about personal devoutness.

It continued, providing me with a township and county of residence. I knew that the township named is not in that county, so I stopped typing to get a reference book on the state. I learned that nine years later, part of the township would become part of another county, and that twenty years later, it would become a county of its own.

This prompted me to retrieve the statewide topographical atlas to learn more about this area. I knew the area I was most interested in, based on the other documents I had skimmed. I looked for towns, rivers, roads, and mountains. I also looked for political boundaries. Imagine my interest when I realized that the adjoining county and townships were ones in which I had also noted the surname, but dismissed as "probably not my family" because it was a different county. I immediately began pulling out books, papers, and CDs, collecting information.

I finally remembered that my purpose was to type the will, and I had a grand total of 17 words typed. Word 18 got me out of my chair again. The testator's occupation is given as yeoman. Of course, what first pops into mind is "yeoman of the guard." I know that doesn't apply here, but to refresh my memory I retrieved my trusty college

dictionary. The first definition is "an attendant or officer in a royal or noble household." Not my ancestor. The second definition is "a small farmer who cultivates his own land." Yep, that sounds like my ancestor.

I returned to typing "being at present sick and weak in body." This gave me a mental image. He wasn't injured in an accident, and he didn't write the will solely because he planned ahead. (I didn't need to get up for this insight.) The will continued with the usual provisions for burial (no location named), debts, and funeral expenses.

Then he got into the bequests. His "eldest" son got land. This word is not in the abstract. Of course, often it was the eldest son who got the land, but not if the older sons were already provided for. Important information. The land is in the same township, but the will names the adjoining landowners. More important information. I will want to research them. I once again leave the keyboard, to get a pad of sticky notes and paper to start a "to do" list. The acreage is given and I want to be certain I've learned everything I can about this land. I have copies of several deeds for the family. Maybe I should check this now. I look at the stack of books and papers surrounding my computer and decide to be content with a sticky note instead.

He also gave this son "all my grain now in the ground in the house and in the barn either thrashed or in the straw whatsoever." Imagine, grain kept in the house. It makes sense, especially for grain in sacks to reduce the risk of rodents, but I hadn't thought of that before.

To a daughter he gave "my new fustian bed and a pillow thereto." I know this means she is unmarried. I vaguely think fustian is some kind of fabric. Reference to the dictionary tells me it is "a strong cotton and linen fabric." Another definition says "a class of cotton fabrics usually having a pile face and twill weave." I hadn't thought of it being like corduroy or velour.

I added to my mental image of the family, which had a new spinning wheel and bee hives (bees

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both provided sweetener and helped pollinate plants). They apparently grew flax. This sent me to a reference book on everyday life in the time period to learn more about flax growing and processing. There are several books or series like this; look in the youth section at the library (I bought mine at a library de-accessioning sale). Now you can find much information like this on the Internet.

As my typing neared the end of the will, I learned that one of the sons was under fourteen (again, not in the abstract). Another son (by inference, an adult) was to "give him schooling and allow him to be educated and receive the Holy Sacrament." Maybe my ancestor was devout, after all.

Perhaps the best advice I can give you if you want to get to know your ancestor better is "Type every word." But be forewarned: typing can be a messy proposition! It took me quite some time to replace all of the reference materials, folders, and documents I had pulled out.

<u>Patricia Law Hatcher</u>, CG, FASG is a technical writer, instructor, and professional genealogist. She has written, edited, and produced numerous publications and has written articles for The American Genealogist, The Maine Genealogist, the New Hampshire Genealogical Record, The Virginia Genealogist, and Ancestry Magazine. She is the author of Producing a Quality Family History.

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planation of the pitfalls in using "Germans to America" if you follow the passenger lists tab.

http://www.uni-oldenburg.de/nausa/ nausae.htm

Little Known Facts About the American Revolutionary War

If you would like to see the rest of these "facts" visit this site from the *Delaware Facts Page*.

http://www.state.de.us/facts/ushist/ revfacts.htm (Continued from page 7)

and Strategies: Periodicals—Finding Hidden Sources."

NGS NEWS MAGAZINE, January/February 2003. If you have digital pictures, "Digital Photographic Sourcing Part 2: Organizing Visual Sources" will be of interest. Also, see "Family History Online: #8 Looking Forward (and a Look Back," and "They Are My Ancestors Part 2" in the Copyright Corner.

TANGLED ROOTS GENEALOGY SOCI-

<u>ETY</u> - Newsletter, P.O. Box 1992, Cut Bank, MT 59427; January 2003. They have "Deaths Reported in the Cut Bank Pioneer Press from September Through December 2002."

<u>GEN-BUG NEWS</u>, Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, % Parmley Billings Library, 510 N. Broadway, Billings MT 59101; January 2003. This issue has the YGF Membership List. Also, see the book review of <u>The Hidden Half of the Family</u> a book on researching the genealogy of women in the U.S from the 1600's to the beginning of WWII written by Christina Kassabian Schaefer, CRGS, 1999. The "How I Solved It" column by Athna May Porter, gives an example of using the Quebec Canadian Census to solve a problem.

The Americans of 1776 had the highest standard of living and the lowest taxes in the Western World!

Farmers, lawyers and business owners in the Colonies were thriving, with some plantation owners and merchants making the equivalent of \$500,000 a year. Times were good for many others too. The British wanted a slice of the cash flow and tried to tax the Colonists. They resisted violently, convinced that their prosperity and their liberty were at stake. Virginia's Patrick Henry summed up their stance with his cry: "Give me liberty or give me death!"

From "Little Known Facts of the American Revolutionary War"]

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

> We're On The Web www.rootsweb. com\~mtwmgs





MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY EX 301 EAST MAIN ST. MISSOULA MT 59802

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 nonmembers.

We 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.

Upcoming Conferences

NGS Conference in the States—May 28-30, 2003, Pittsburgh, PA. As NGS and GenTech merged on 31 July 2002, this conference will also have GenTech lectures. See www.ngsgenealogy. org for more information.

Federation of Genealogical Societies & Florida State Genealogy Society—Sept. 3-6, 2003 at Renaissance Orlando Resort at Seaworld, Orlando, FL. See www.fgs.org.

Montana State Genealogical Society Conference—Sept. 26-27, 2003 will be at the Best Western Great Northern Inn, in Havre, Montana. The featured speaker will be Christine Rose, CG, CGL, FASG, who will present four lectures: Federal Land Records, Military Records for Problem Solving, and Using Little Known and Neglected Sources, a Potpourri. Local accredited genealogist, Sylvia Murray, will also be a presenter. See www. Rootsweb.com/~mtmsgs.