

NOV 08 2007

MISSOULA, MT

# Western Montana Genealogical Society



## MONTANA ROOM COLLECTIONS & SURPRISES

NOVEMBER 2007

At the November meeting Paulette Parpart talked about the collections in the *Montana Room* of the Missoula Public Library. She gave a brief description of many of the volumes available at our Missoula library and said to be sure and check for similar collections at other county libraries.

The following is a brief listing of some of the older works available in the Montana Room:

- War of the Rebellion – of these 225 volumes on the Civil War we have 221. There is an index by last name and each volume is indexed separately. They contain copies of all kinds of actual records of the war.
- Grand Army of the Republic
- Hudson's Bay/Champlain Society Books – Far West &

Rockies Series with information on Western settlement. The library still gets new copies.

- Subscription Biographies- 10 sets for the Pacific Northwest. Check the "Mug Index" at the reference desk for a combined index to many of these volumes.

- Stout's History of Montana – 3 volumes are indexed in the "Mug Book", but the 1921 Special Edition is only indexed in the back of that book.

- County Subscription Biographies

- Family Histories- as of Florence Deschamp and the Chaffin's of Ravalli County.

- Brands across montana
- Missoula Historical Resource Survey – 7 volumes, which includes old houses.

- Business Directories

(Continued on page 4)

## NOVEMBER 13, 2007 MEETING

The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 13th at 7:00 PM in the large downstairs meeting room of the Missoula Public Library. The program will be "**Writing a Family History Book**" - Carma Gilligan, a self-published author, will give

a program on writing your own family history book. Her computer experience is with Word and Family Tree Maker. She will give pointers on assembling your research into a book and will bring examples of her several different books.

### WMGS Officers 2006-7

<b>President</b>	
Peggy Harris	728-6615
odpond@aol.com	
<b>Vice-President</b>	
Nancy Shrader	543-2886
najash@msn.com	
<b>Treasurer</b>	
Bonnie Schuster	721-1549
bonnie.schuster@umontana.edu	
<b>Secretary</b>	
Sidney Reynolds	542-0265
Sidrey@aol.com	
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	
Judith Field	728-1628
jalf@marsweb.com	550-3677
<b>Librarian MPL</b>	
Paulette K. Parpart	258-3858
parpart@missoula.lib.mt.us	

### Inside this issue:

Montana Room Collections & Surprises	1
WMGS September Meeting	1
In The Mail	2
Family History Library	2
FHL New Programs & New Computer	3
National Personnel Records Center	3
NARA Fee Increases	4
Missoula Public Library—New Books	4
Bits & Bytes	5
Dues & Queries	6
Upcoming Conferences	6



## In The Mail



**FADED GENES**, Lewis & Clark Co. Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59604, [www.rootsweb.com/~mtlcgs/index.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~mtlcgs/index.htm), September 2007. See "tips From the Pro: Keep an Eye on E-Bay" by Megan Smolenyak for tips to see if your family treasures are being sold on E-Bay. Under "Montana State Genealogical Library" it was reported that the Montana State Genealogical Society has placed their book collection in the Lewis & Clark Genealogical Library, and both the collections of the MSGS and the L & C Gen Library are being placed in the online Montana Shared Catalog where they will become available when 80% of the collection has been cataloged.

**GEN-BUG NEWS**, Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, % Parmley Billings Library, 510 N. Broadway, Billings MT 59101, October, 2007. The society is selling "Early Families of Billings" 15 month calendars for \$10.00. They contain interesting photos and data about different Billings families. If you would like to purchase one, contact Verba Valentine at 656-9840.

**GENEALOGICAL HELPER**, November/December 2007. Articles include "The Lost Colony: Was it Really Lost?", "Canadian Ancestors: Finding Canadians in the States", "Scandinavian Research: On Writing to Family Farms in Norway", and "New Family History: The Best Foreign Map & Gazetteer Internet Sites." Also, "Statewide Name Lists of the Civil War Era" continues with New Hampshire to New York.

**INTERNET GENEALOGY**, November 2007. Don't miss "261,939,955 Names Found Online!" with a listing of over 120 online databases. Read "Big Changes at FamilySearch.org" to find out what's ahead for genealogists on [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org)—new partnerships, new records, and a coming 'new look' for Familysearch. "Chronicling America" will help you access information about old newspapers and select digitized newspaper images. [See

Bits & Bytes for link.]

**NGS NEWSMAGAZINE**, July-September 2007. See articles on Orphan Train Riders, River Map Research, and Estate Inventories. If you've just gotten a big pile of genealogy research from someone you need to read "Where to Start When You Inherit Genealogy."

**NGS QUARTERLY**, September 2007. This is a theme issue on *Law and Genealogy*—understanding the laws that were in force at the time may help you understand why your ancestors did some things the way they did. See articles on the Common Law of England, Civil Law Concepts and Genealogy, Genealogical Applications of American Statute Law, and Protestant Church Law and Records in America.

**TALES & TRAILS**, Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society, % The Dalles Public Library, 722 Court St., The Dalles, OR 97058-2270, October 2007. "Fewer Questions on 2010 Census Form" highlights some of the tensions and wrangling over the questions to be asked on the 2010 census form. All 2010 forms will be 'short' forms asking for gender, age, race, ethnicity, relation to head of household, and if house is rented or owned. See "Newspaper Access Using the Internet" for some tips on how to search for newspapers of interest.

## FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

### COMPUTER RESERVATIONS

(1 hour session)

Call 543-6148

### FHL HOURS

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

\*NOTE: Library closes 1/2 hour earlier on Tue. & Thur. evenings, 1 hour earlier on Saturday.



### FHL New Databases & New Computer

The Missoula Family History Center has just received a brand new computer and two new, big, flat screen monitors! We have two computers on the Internet again. We also have gotten 5 new partnership databases up and running. These must be accessed separately from FamilySearch.org and there is a separate icon on each computer desktop to access them—**Family Search Center Services**. If you click on this icon you will be presented with links to 5 new databases which can be fully accessed for FREE ONLY at the Family History Library.

**Footnote** ([www.footnote.com](http://www.footnote.com)) - features searchable original documents including Revolutionary War Pension Files, Civil War Pension Indexes and Confederate Soldiers Records, Naturalization records (NY, MA, MD, PA), & City Directories for CT, MA, ME, NH, RI. You can go to this website and browse their titles at home, even do a search, then come into the library to look at the actual record.

**Godfrey Memorial Library** ([www.godfrey.org](http://www.godfrey.org)) - diverse collection of records, newspapers.

**Heritage Quest/ProQuest** ([www.heritagequestonline.com](http://www.heritagequestonline.com)) - Census, Bounty Land Records, PERSI, Scanned Books.

**Kindred Konnections** ([www.kindredkonnections.com](http://www.kindredkonnections.com)) - over 230 million pedigree linked names with submitter information.

**World Vital Records** ([www.worldvitalrecords.com](http://www.worldvitalrecords.com)) - has a wide variety of international records, including more than 60 parish registers, Scottish death records, UK marriages, and Irish prisoner records. There are more than 300 newspapers, and over 500 online databases, including vital, military, land, pension records, reference materials, family histories, maps, gazetteers, and international coops.

## National Personnel Records Center Opens more than Six Million New Military Personnel Files

Press Release      October 22, 2007

St. Louis, MO... The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) will open for the first time all of the individual Official Military Personnel Files (OMPFs) of Army, Army Air Corps, Army Air Forces, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard military personnel who served and were discharged, retired or died while in the service, prior to 1946. Collectively, these files comprise more than six million records. This is the second step in the progressive opening of the entire paper and microfiche OMPF collection of over 57 million individual files. Additional military personnel records will be made available to the public each year through 2067 until the entire collection is opened.

These archived files are treasured by family members, historians, researchers, and genealogists. Contained in a typical OMPF are documents outlining all elements of military service, including assignments, evaluations, awards and decorations, education and training, demographic information, some medical information and documented disciplinary actions. Some records also contain photographs of the individual and official correspondence concerning military service.

To view an original record, individuals may visit the NPRC Archival Research Room in St. Louis, MO.

Telephone is 314-801-0850.

Research room hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Central Time Tuesday through Friday.

Visitors are strongly encouraged to call ahead to make reservations.

To obtain copies of records, customers may:

Write to NPRC at 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63132,

Fax a request to 314-801-9195, or

Submit a request through [eVetRecs](http://eVetRecs), or

On a Standard Form 180.

Information about records available at NPRC is also

*(Continued on page 5)*



## NARA Fee Increases as of 1 October 2007

### Type of record

- (1) Passenger arrival lists
- (2) Federal Census requests
- (3) Eastern Cherokee applications to the Court of Claims
- (5) Full pension file more than 75 years old (Civil War and after), up to and including 100 pages
- (6) Full pension file (pre-Civil War)
- (7) Pension documents packet (selected records)
- (8) Bounty land warrant application files
- (9) Military service files more than 75 years old

### Order form

### Fee

NATF Form 81 .....	\$25.00
NATF Form 82 .....	25.00
NATF Form 84 .....	40.00
NATF Form 85 .....	75.00
NATF Form 85 .....	50.00
NATF Form 85 .....	25.00
NATF Form 85 .....	25.00
NATF Form 86 .....	25.00

For the full article see: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-16233.pdf>

(Continued from page 1)

Montana Room Collections

- *Directory of the National Society of the DAR*
- *Township Atlases*
- *Genealogies in the Library of Congress – 7 volumes. Titles found in these books can be borrowed through Inter Library Loan.*
- *Mayflower Society – books show 5 generations of Mayflower families.*
- *Telephone Books*
- *City Directories – older ones are in the locked case.*
- *Cole's Directories – similar to city directories and go back to the 1970's and 80's.*
- *Sandbourn Maps for Missoula – old fire insurance maps showing old buildings in great detail*
- *File Cabinet Bio-Sheets – these files contain records on 80,000 people buried in Western Montana in the original Missoula County (less Flathead County which has its own project). The bio-sheets contain information from tombstone and cemetery records, obituaries, mortuary records, and official Missoula County records.*

### New Works in the Collection:

- Cemetery Indexes
- Newspaper Indexes – Missoulian, Ronan Pioneer, Flathead Courier
- Stevensville In The Korean War
- Computer Resources in the Montana Room
- Montana Death Index – 2 files: pre 1954 and 1954-mid 2002.
- Genealogists Address Book
- Cemetery Indexes – for the 7 counties that

originally comprises Missoula County: Missoula, Lake, Sanders, Ravalli, Mineral, Granite, and Lincoln.

- Heritage Quest Online – available at all computer terminals in the library and can only be used at the library.

### Surprises!!!

**Ancestry.com** – currently available at all computer terminals in the library EXCEPT the Montana Room, but it will be added to that computer eventually. This is the complete subscription to Ancestry.com but it can only be used at the library. You will find US Census 1790-1930 and British Census 1851-1901, Immigration & Naturalization Records, Newspaper records, Military records (Civil War, WWI, WWII), vital records and much more. You can bring your own memory stick to plug into the computer to save your finds to print out at home.

**Microfilmed Vital Records** for each of the 7 original counties of Missoula county as filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah.

**NOTE: These films will not be available until after they are catalogued, perhaps in early 2008.**

- ⇒ Missoula County Marriage Records – 1892-1949, index and records
- ⇒ Naturalization Records – index and records
- ⇒ Index to Births – 1872-1921
- ⇒ Index to Deaths – 1895-1929



## Missoula Public Library—New Books

### Evidence Explained, Citing History

Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace, by Elizabeth Shown Mills. 907.2 MILLS and GenColl R 907.2 MILLS

Military Records at Ancestry.com, by Esther Yu Sumner. 929.1028 SUMNER

Indiana Civil War Veterans, Transcriptions of the Death Rolls of the Department of Indiana, Grand Army of the Republic, 1882-1948, by Dennis Northcott. 973.76 NORTHCO

Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska Civil War Veterans, Compilation of the Deaths Rolls of the Departments of Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, Grand Army of the Republic, 1883-1948, by Dennis Northcott. 973.76 NORTHCO

A Medical Miscellany, For Genealogists, by Dr. Jeanette L. Jerger. GenColl R 610.14 JERGER

Nicknames, Past and Present, by Christine Rose. 929.2 ROSE

Courthouse Indexes Illustrated, by Christine Rose. 929.1072 ROSE

Sources for Local Historians, by Paul Carter & Kate Thompson. 942 CARTER

Acadian Genealogy and Notes Concerning the Expulsion, by Placide Gaudet. 929.371 GAUDET

(Continued from page 3)

Military Personnel Files

posted on the National Personnel Records Center web page.

Archived, public records are subject to the National Archives and Records Administration's published fee schedule. **Copy fees for archived OMPFs are waived for veterans or primary next-of-kin (surviving spouse or children of the veteran) if the records are needed to validate a benefit or entitlement.**

The fee schedule for OMPFs is as follows:

OMPFs 5 pages or less: \$15

OMPFs 6 pages or more: \$50 (most OMPFs fall in

this category)

\* OMPFs of Persons of Exceptional Prominence (PEP): \$.75 per page

\* PEP records include the OMPFs of famous individuals such as former Presidents, famous military leaders, decorated military heroes, celebrities, entertainers, and professional athletes who left military service and have been deceased for at least 10 years). Archived records are subject to a limited privacy exemption under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. As such, all records are reviewed prior to release and social security numbers are redacted.

## Bits & Bytes



### Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers (Beta)

<http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/>

This site allows you to search and read newspaper pages from 1900-1910 and find information about American newspapers published between 1690-present. Chronicling America is sponsored jointly by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress as part of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). \*\*\*\*\*

### Yellowstone County & Billings Genealogy

<http://www.billings.lib.mt.us/geninfo.html>

Vital Statistics printed in the Billings Gazette and City Directories from 1882-1901 listed alphabetically by last name. Other links to Idaho, Wyoming, North Dakota, Alberta and British Columbia Genealogy resources. \*\*\*\*\*

### Canadian Health Obituaries Index File

<http://www.health.library.mcgill.ca/osler/cfstand/chobit.htm>

The Osler Library has, for many years, maintained an "obituary file" of Canadian medical obituaries and death notices. This file is an INDEX which refers researchers to the full obituary. Dates range from 1833-2000. The data fields in the search results include last name; first name; title of publication; publication date; volume and page number; and birth and death dates, if known. \*\*\*\*\*



**WESTERN MONTANA  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

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 non-members. **DUES were due in September for the 2007-2008 year. If you have still have an 07 in address label after your name (08 is paid) this will be your last Newsletter if dues are not received by January 1, 2008.** Please use the form from the September Newsletter or the form available on our website (address above) to submit your dues and information for the new WMGS year which began Sept. 2007.

The Surname list will be printed in the January Newsletter and will also be available online on the WMGS website.

## Upcoming Conferences

### **National Genealogical Society—Conference in the States**

Kansas City, Missouri 14-17 May 2008  
[www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org)

## Submissions

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.