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PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAY 10 2008

MISSOULA, MT

Western Montana Genealogical Society



FamilySearch WIKI

May 2008

The following is from a letter from FHC Support on 3/25/08:

"We would like to invite you to participate in the FamilySearch wiki. The wiki is a new community website dedicated to helping people throughout the world learn how to find their ancestors. The site helps people find, use, and analyze records of genealogical value.

The site is being built to replace the Research Guidance and Research Help tabs on FamilySearch.org. Although we seeded the site with the Church's current publications including research outlines, "part A" guides, and foreign word lists, don't make the mis-

take of thinking the wiki has the same information as that on FamilySearch.org. The wiki is better in five important ways:

1. We divided long publications into short articles so users needn't read a 40-page publication to find answers.
2. We added a search engine to make all of the information easy to find.
3. We updated content. While adding the seed content, we updated Website addresses, contact information to libraries and archives, and other facts.
4. We authored a great deal of new content which covers lo-

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MAY 13, 2008 MEETING

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY LARGE DOWN-STAIRS MEETING ROOM.

Program: Jamestown Settlement, 1607

The Jamestown settlers did not know they would become the earliest ancestors of the first re-

publican nation on earth. But by establishing---for themselves---America's first representative assembly, an orderly recording of private property titles, and a citizen militia commanded by a civilian governor, they laid a foundation upon which the United States of America would be built. Slide presentation will be given by Peggy Harris.

WMGS Officers 2007-8

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In The Mail



BEAVER HEAD HUNTERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, 15 S. Montana Ave., Dillon, MT 59725; www.rootsweb.com/~mtbeaver, **March 2008**.

Pat Darling compiled the *Causes of Death in the 1880 Mortality Census of Montana*. Of the 85 cause of death, the top 6 were: pneumonia 33, diphtheria 25, Scarlet Fever 19, TB 17, Gunshot 13, suicide 12.

BIG SKY ROUNDUP, Montana State Genealogical Society, % Terry Atwood, P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59602; www.rootsweb.com/~mtmsg, **April 2008**.

See article *Internet Public Library* whose web address will take you to a listing of the active links to the various State Archives or other repositories many of which offer access to online databases. See Bits & Bytes.

FADED GENES, Lewis & Clark Co. Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59604; www.rootsweb.com/~mtlcgs/index.htm, **March 2008**. There is an update on the work at the library and a long list of new books donated to the Genealogy Library.

FAMILY CHRONICLE, **June 2008**. Here are 54 pages packed with great articles on: Researching the Farmers in Your Family, Early Photography, Using the pre-1850 US Federal Census, Preserving Your Heritage, Documenting Heirlooms, Wolf and Predator Bounties, Fur Trade Records, Funeral Home Records, English Parish Burial Records, and Typos.

GEN-BUG NEWS, Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, % Parmley Billings Library, 510 N.

Broadway, Billings MT 59101, **April 2008**. They have a good lineup of programs coming up if you're in the area: Using Photography to Enhance Your Family History & Preserve Heirlooms (May 27th), and The Smith Mine Disaster—genealogies of the families affected by it (June 24th.)

INTERNET GENEALOGY, **May 2008**. This issue features: Viva Italia! A look at 20 of the best websites for tracing Italian roots, Library of Congress Online Resources, Finding Confederate Pension Papers, US Passport Applications, Tax

Records, The Great Genealogy Paper Chase—How to find diaries and unpublished family histories. There is also a special 24 page preview of their new magazine *Discovering Family History*.

JEFFERSON COUNTY GENEALOGY NEWS, P.O. Box 1094, Boulder, MT 59632, **Feb 2008**.

There is an update on the Heritage Center which is housed at the old Boulder Bank Building. When completed they will have an Art Center showing the work of local artists, Local Museum, Education Center, Genealogy Research Center and Archives, and a Visitor Center.

NGS QUARTERLY, **March 2008**. Articles include Proving a Double Enumeration in the 1910 Census, Using French-Canadian Parish Registers, Tying Together Indirect Evidence.

EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL HELPER,

MAY/JUNE 2008. Articles on Mining state historical society periodicals, Researching the priests in your family, Statewide name lists for the Civil War era: Tennessee—Vermont, Reading old German parish registers, and Best obituary sites on the Internet.

THE TREE BRANCH, Dawson County Tree Branches Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1275, Glendive, MT 59330, **March 2008**. Dawson County and Eastern Montana Death Notices, Jun 2007-Feb 2008.

Fascinating Epitaphs

In a cemetery in England :

*Remember man, as you walk by,
As you are now, so once was I
As I am now, so shall you be.
Remember this and follow me.*

To which someone replied by writing on the tombstone:

*To follow you I'll not consent ...
Until I know which way you went.*

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

*****AFTER JUNE 14TH, THE MISSOULA FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY WILL BE OPEN ON THURSDAYS ONLY DURING THE HOURS LISTED BELOW. THIS WILL BE IN EFFECT AT LEAST UNTIL SEPTEMBER.

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

FHL Closures for 2008

May 17th _____ Temple Stake Day

May 24th _____ Memorial Day

July 24th _____ Pioneer Day

Aug 5-9 _____ Fair Week

Aug 30th _____ Labor Day

Oct 4th _____ General Conference

Nov 27-29 _____ Thanksgiving

Dec 9th- Jan 3rd _____ Christmas

New Records on FamilySearch Labs

<http://labs.familysearch.org>

Texas Deaths 1890-1976

1895 Wisconsin State Census

1850 US Census & Mortality Schedule
(updated)

Washington Death Certificates, 1907-1960

***** By-Laws Review ***

For members of the WMGS A copy of the by-laws with the proposed revisions highlighted is included in this newsletter. Please take a minute to review the changes which are highlighted in bold text. We will vote to adopt the proposed changes at the meeting Tuesday May 13th.

WMGS TABLE at JULY 4th FORT MISSOULA CELEBRATION

There's going to be a display table set up at the big 4th of July celebration at Fort Missoula this year. I am organizing it and I would love some table buddies. I talked to Bob Brown several weeks ago and he described the set-up on the lawn behind the museum. It's very informal. I'll have to decide how to weather-proof it - sun, wind and rain, but that should be fairly easy. It's going to be an easy set-up. I would love some company.....either to sit with me or to let me wander about occasionally. I'm embarrassed to say that I've never attended the celebration. There will be a sign-up sheet at the May 13th meeting.....just interested folks, not time slots yet. I'll call you later on the details. This will be our first public display and outreach this year because of the cancellation of History Days at the mall. I hope that we can find more places to be visible.

Nancy Shrader 543-2886 najash@msn.com

Archaeology Month at UM

This past month, I attended 7 evening lectures at the University Center presented by the UM Anthropology Students Assn. Their purpose was to promote Montana archaeology and to present current projects. The seven topics were Public Archeology in Montana (public awareness), the Yellowstone Archaeology Project (the town of Cinnabar), Archaeology of the Jocko Lakes Fire (exposed artifacts near Seeley Lake), The Big Timber Chinese Community (recent excavations in town), The Historical Archaeology of Fort Owen (history and cataloging of current artifacts and those collected in the 60s), Historic Settlement and Mining of the Garnet Range (mostly mine works), and The Chinese in Montana (demographic information, history and artifacts). The lectures were very interesting and well attended. I look forward to next year's series.

Nancy Shrader

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calities, topics and records never before covered on FamilySearch.org.

5. The site is dynamic—the community (including individuals from the Family History Library) are adding new content each day.

Like all wikis, this site's content is being grown by the community. This allows users to update content faster and increase the coverage of localities and ethnic, religious, and racial groups. We plan to release sister sites in various languages once we have volunteers to coordinate them. We invite you to add content or edit what's already there. The site contains many "starter pages" which need more information. Feel free to contribute! Don't worry about whether you write perfectly—other users will help correct any mistakes you make, and a History tab on each article allows users to see all revisions to a page and recover facts if necessary. As with Wikipedia and the Linux operating system, the collaboration of many volunteers will produce a very accurate product over time. The key to the success of this endeavor will be contributions from knowledgeable individuals like family history center directors and staff."

This site is currently in beta testing and is only in limited release at this time. There is a feedback link to offer suggestions for improvements.

Check out the site at:

<https://wiki.familysearch.org>

[Currently there is no information on this site for Missoula County, or other Montana Counties. Perhaps over the summer members of the WMGS can put together an article about the resources available at the Missoula Public Library for Missoula County and Western Montana.]

What's a WIKI?

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:

wiki is a collection of web pages designed to enable anyone who accesses it to contribute or modify content, using a simplified markup lan-

guage (html is a markup language.) Wikis are often used to create collaborative websites and to power community websites. For example, the collaborative encyclopedia Wikipedia is one of the best known wikis. Wikis are used in businesses to provide affordable and effective intranets and for Knowledge Management. Ward Cunningham, developer of the first wiki software, WikiWikiWeb (www), originally described it as "the simplest online database that could possibly work".

TRIP TO THOMPSON FALLS TO RECORD GRAVE STONES

To those of you who signed up, the date now chosen is **Saturday, June 21**. Paulette will call a preliminary workshop meeting one evening before that time to instruct us about an abbreviation code and an organized method of moving through the graveyard. For both the volunteers, and for those of you who missed the meeting and proposal, but may wish to join in, here is an update: This project is not quite starting from scratch, but is to build upon earlier stone readings and bring all up to date. We will meet at a designated parking spot and drive up in as many cars as needed. I'll bring a cooler with water bottles and cans of lemonade, and each participant should pack a sack lunch. We may need another cooler, depending upon the number of people who come along. If you want a different drink, please bring that too.

Paulette asks that anyone who has one or more spare clipboards, please bring them also. If you have a fold-up camp stool, consider that too. Wear long pants, sturdy shoes, a hat or visor, and maybe bug repellent. New volunteers, please let me know that you wish to be included, and if you could be a driver if needed. Paulette will set the pre-trip meeting date some time closer to the event, and it will be helpful if everyone who plans to make the trip can also make it to the pre-trip meeting so that we all know the methodology before we are on site.

Peggy Harris 728-6615; oldpond@AOL.com

New at Ancestry.com [Missoula Public Library]

U.S. IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1862-1918

The information on these lists contains the name of the person or business being taxed, their address, the taxable period, and the amount of taxes being reported. For most of the states, the time period covered is only the 1860's. It usually shows what was being taxed, like carriages, and other property or the kind of business the person was involved in.

German Historical Directories (1790's-1940's)

A great help for identifying where ancestors lives, and may provide additional information such as occupation. It also includes directories of professional associations and societies. There are over 500 new directories spanning 150 years (1790's - 1940's).

British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920

World War I saw many young British soldiers rise to become battlefield heroes. This series includes over 5 million names in index cards detailing war decorations, badges and award recipients and represents roughly 90% of everyone who fought in the British Army during WWI - the most complete online list of British WWI soldiers available. If you have British war heroes in your family, this collection is definitely worth a look.

WMGS OFFICERS for 2008-2009

President: Peggy Harris

Vice-President: Nancy Shrader

Secretary: Theresa Woomer

Treasurer: Bonnie Schuster

Nominations from the floor and re-election will be held at the May meeting.

Bits & Bytes



The Proceedings of the Old Bailey, 1674-1913

"A fully searchable edition of the largest body of texts detailing the lives of non-elite people ever published, containing 197,745 criminal trials held at London's central criminal court. The Old Bailey Proceedings Online makes available a fully searchable, digitized collection of all surviving editions of the **Old Bailey Proceedings** from 1674 to 1913, and of the **Ordinary of Newgate's Accounts**, 1690 to 1772. It allows access to over 210,000 trials and biographical details of approximately 3,000 men and women executed at Tyburn, free of charge for non-commercial use." [Full image scans are supposedly available for these records but I was only able to see a short highlight.]

www.oldbaileyonline.org

Canadian Ancestors—That's My Family (Or Voici Ma Famille in French)

www.voicimafamille.info

A great site for Canadian ancestors, searchable by province. In the advanced search you can search by first and last name and province. The search results may return in either English or French.

Washington State Death Certificates, 1907-1960

This statewide index was recently added to the FamilySearch's new Record Search site:

search.labs.familysearch.org

Internet Public Library

www.ipl.org/div/subject/browse/hum03.65.55.90.75

This long link will take you directly to the State Archives listings. From the home page at www.ipl.org go to Subject Collections >Regional and Country Collection >North America >United States >State Archives. It is worth exploring from the home page to see all of the other resources available from this resource which is truly an amazing undertaking.

**WESTERN MONTANA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 2714
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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.

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.

Upcoming Conferences

National Genealogical Society—Conference in the States

Kansas City, Missouri 14-17 May 2008. "Show Me the Way to Our Nation's Records," the annual NGS Conference in the States.

www.ngsgenealogy.org

Montana State Genealogical Society Conference

Butte, War Bonnet Inn Sept 19th & 20th 2008

Watch for flyer in the mail this summer!!