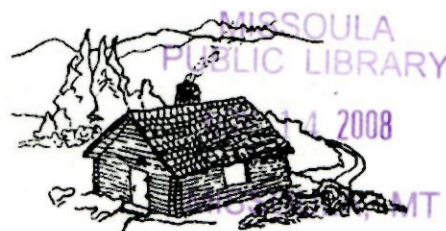


Western Montana Genealogical Society



TOP 10 List For USING ANCESTRY.COM

1. Search one database at a time.
2. Search for one person, in a specific time period, in a known residence location.
3. Learn to "miss-spell" your ancestors names. Make a list of all possible variations of the surname spelling and Soundex code them. If they do not all fall under the same code, you need to search the different spellings (codes). Say the surname to someone else and ask them to write down different ways they think it could be spelled. (Ancestry automatically searches for first name variations, nicknames, and first name by initial only.)
4. Try substituting commonly confused letters as the first letter of surnames – especially those starting with T or F, L or S, I or J.
5. Keep in mind the limitations of the Census Search Interface in terms of the kinds of search fields available in different census years (1850-1870 census do not contain relationship data, so entering father/mother/spouse with the 'exact' match box checked in the

(Continued on page 4)

NOVEMBER 18, 2008 MEETING *****

The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY LARGE DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM.

PROGRAM: *Mystery On Cherry Street*

In 1974 a backhoe operator unexpectedly uncovered a human skull in a Missoula homeowner's back yard. A subsequent excavation revealed the partial remains of two skele-

tons, along with antique coffin hardware. To date, the identity of these individuals and the circumstances of their burials remains a mystery. However, research has provided intriguing information. Katherine Bauml, University of Montana graduate of Anthropology/ Archaeology and Master's degree student in Social Work, will present her evidence and findings about this mysterious case.

NOVEMBER 2008

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Western Montana Genealogical Society 2008 NOV

In The Mail



BEAVER HEAD HUNTERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, 15 S. Montana Ave., Dillon, MT 59725; www.rootsweb.com/~mtbeaver, Sept. 2008. *Beaverhead County History, V.1* is now available at the Beaverhead County Museum, 15 S. Montana, Dillon, MT 59725 for \$62, plus \$7 postage.

BIG SKY ROUNDUP, Montana State Genealogical Society, % Terry Atwood, P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59602; www.rootsweb.com/~mtmsgs. Visit the web site for info on *First Families* and to find instructions and application forms for submitting names for Vol. III.

FADED GENES, Lewis & Clark Co. Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59604; www.rootsweb.com/~mtlcs/index.htm. Sept. 2008. List of Surname queries May 1985-May 2008 for area in and around Helena.

FAMILY CHRONICLE

October 2008. This issue includes articles on Militia Records, Nonconformist Records in Western Europe, Civilian Conservation Corp Records, and an Introduction to Patent Records.

December 2008. Articles on Jail, Criminal and Prison Records, Prisoner of War Records, Church Archives, Resources for Poor Ancestors, Tracking Down Living Relatives, and 'Thinking Outside the Box.'

GEN-BUG NEWS, Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, % Parmley Billings Library, 510 N. Broadway, Billings MT 59101

INTERNET GENEALOGY, November 2008. Articles on Gold Rush Ancestors, Seeking Canadian Ancestors Online, Remarkable Russian Sources, Ellis Island (the new and improved database). Maps Focus shows How to Build a Genealogical Desktop Atlas, and Explore (online) Maps from Home.

JEFFERSON COUNTY GENEALOGY NEWS, P.O. Box 1094, Boulder, MT 59632, Nov. 2008. They are almost ready to move into their new *Heritage Center*.

NGS NEWSMAGAZINE, July-September 2008. Find info on Migration Routes, Timelines, Researching Pastoral Ancestors, and Deciphering Sources.

NGS QUARTERLY, September 2008. Articles include Using Questionable Sources Productively, the Myth of Impossible Proof: Modern Genealogical Methods and a Holocaust Fraud, and Finding Truth

in Traditions.

EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL HELPER, November / December 2008. Articles on the Hereditary Order of the Families of the Presidents and the First Ladies of America, Using Deed Indexes, Improving Your Genealogical Success Rate, Story of the Dust Bowl, Canada Honors the American Loyalist, and Reading Old German Script part 3.

TALES & TRAILS, Columbia Gorge Genealogical Soc., The Dalles, OR, <http://community.gorge.net/genealogy>, Oct. 2008. They have a new book *The Pioneer Cemetery, The Dalles Oregon, 1860-* that sells for \$20 + postage. An order form is on their website. The book includes obituaries and other info for those interred.

THE GENBUG NEWS, Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, % Parmly Billings Library, 510 North Broadway, Billings, MT 59101; www.rootsweb.com/~myygf.

THE TREE BRANCH, Dawson County Tree Branches Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1275, Glendive, MT 59330, October 2008. Report on the condition of USGenWeb on RootsWeb since Ancestry took over a server and many state coordinators have found other ways to host their state's web site.

TREASURE STATE LINES, Great Falls Genealogy Society, 301 2nd Ave. N, Great Falls, MT 59401. August 2008. **Rocky Mountain Husbandman Newspaper, White Sulphur Springs, MT, Marriages—November 1875 through 1889 (A-P).**

Congratulations Paulette Parpart



Paulette Parpart was one of the four winners of the 2008 Anna Mae Hanson award, presented for outstanding contributions to genealogy at the MSGS conference in Butte this past August.

Over the years, Paulette has been dedicated to the Missoulian Indexing Project and to the task of collecting data from Western Montana cemeteries and compiling that info into the Bio-Sheets at the Missoula Public Library.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

*****The Missoula Family History Library, 3201 Bancroft St., Missoula, is open again on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but is still closed on Saturdays until staff is in place.

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* (Closed)

FHL Closures for 2008

Nov 27-29 —————Thanksgiving

Dec 9th- Jan 3rd — Christmas

Recent Addition to FamilySearch

The Library is testing different methods of exporting classes to patrons who reside outside of the Salt Lake City area. The first method to be tested is a set of five lessons in a classroom setting in a video format. These lessons are now available on www.familysearch.org and cover the basics of getting started with family history research in England. The five lessons are called :

Lesson 1: Research Overview

Lesson 2: Census Records

Lesson 3: Civil Registration

Lesson 4: Church Records

Lesson 5: Find Your Ancestors

Simply go to www.familysearch.org and under **Family History Library** in the center of the page, click on the link for **Research Series and Special Events**, then choose **Family History Library Research Series Online** from the box at the left. You can view the videos, outlines and handouts online, or download the outlines and handouts. The lessons are all about 30 minutes and there is also a link to send feedback on these lessons.

World Vital Records Improved Search and Browsing Functionality

Here are a few of the changes we have made:

- Simple drill-down capability from the "View All Databases" tab to explore the entire collection
- New search interface on search results pages for databases and collections, so you can conduct new searches within a specific database without backing out of your current search
- Cleaner search results page that allows you quick access to the records you want
- More intuitive design that provides you with easier access to the tools to help you accomplish your research

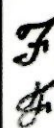








Expanded Collections

These site changes are also being made in anticipation of adding several new premier collections to our site, which include the American Genealogical Biographical Index (AGBI), the UK Census from 1841 to 1901, the largest collection of international newspapers, and other key international collections.

***If you do not have your own subscription you can still access the indexes on this site at home at **WorldVitalRecords.com** and then come into any FHL to download the actual records and images.

FREQUENTLY CONFUSED LETTERS

Handwriting of Census Taker/ Interpretation of the Indexer

F	L	S	T	I	J
					
ie	u	n	m	w	
					
					

MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEW BOOKS

Census Substitutes & State Census Records, by William Dollarhide. GenColl R 371.3 DOLLARH v. 2 Western States

A Guide To Mormon Family History Records, by Kip Sperry. 929.1072 SPERRY

The Official Guide To rootsweb.com, by Myra Vanderpool Gormley and Tana Pederson Lord. 929.1028 GORMLEY

The Official Guide To Ancestry.com, by George G. Morgan. 025.0692 MORGAN

Forensic Genealogy, by Colleen Fitzpatrick. 929.1 FITZPAT

DNA And Genealogy, by Colleen Fitzpatrick. 572.86 FITZPAT

The Dead Horse Investigation: Forensics Photo Analysis For Everyone, by Colleen Fitzpatrick. 929.1072 FITZPAT

More What Did They Mean BY That? A Dictionary Of Historical And Genealogical Terms Old And New, by Paul Drake. GenColl R 423.028 DRAKE

The Army Medical Department 1865-1917, by Mary C. Gillett. 355.345 GILLETT

Waifs, Foundlings and Half-Orphans: Searching For America's Orphan Train Riders, by Mary Ellen Johnson. 362.734 JOHNSON

Family History On The Move: Where Your Ancestors Went And Why, by Roger Kershaw and Mark Pearsall. 304.841 KERSHAW

Lands Of The German Empire And Before, by Wendy K. Uncapher. 943.083 UNCAPHE

MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY

The holdings of the MSGS Library are now listed on the Montana Shared Catalog (Main catalog of the Missoula Public Library.)

(Continued from page 1)

1790-1930 general census search may return false negative results for 1850-1870.)

6. Wildcards may be used **only after the first three letters** of the surname or place are entered, whether you are using * (0-6 letters) or ? (1 letter). **Ancestry has an incorrect example of the ? used after the second letter of a surname (Sm?th for Smith or Smyth.)**
7. Expand/narrow your search criteria by adding birth/death dates using the +/- date searches.
8. Expand/narrow place searches by adding/removing township and county information.
9. For uncommon last names (that are frequently miss-spelled) try searching by first name only, in a specific place and time period.
10. For a very small place you can do a search with no name, entering state, county and township/city which will bring up a list of everyone living in that town.

Beware Soundex Searching

The ability to do Soundex searches is a great help when searching for surnames, but you must be aware that some spellings of a surname might have different Soundex codes and you must do separate Soundex searches for them. You need to Soundex code surnames that have different consonants to see if you need to do more than one Soundex search.

Some examples:

NAME	SOUNDEX CODE
Rogers/Rodgers	R262/R326
Foster/Forster	F236/F623

A Soundex search for Rogers will not return Rodgers.

For complete Soundex rules visit: <http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/census/soundex.html> .For an online Soundex calculator see: <http://www.eogn.com/soundex>

New at Ancestry.com [Missoula Public Library]

- [U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1940](#)
- [McNeil Island, Washington, Penitentiary Records of Prisoners Received, 1887-1939](#)
- [British Army WWI Service Records, 1914-1920](#)
- [U.S. Army Indian Campaign Service Records Index, 1815-1858](#)
- [Holocaust: Schindler's Lists](#)
- [England, The National Roll of the Great War, 1914-1918](#)

US Citizenship and Immigration Service Genealogy Program

The USCIS Genealogy Program is a fee-for-service program providing family historians and other researchers with timely access to historical immigration and naturalization records. You can submit genealogy records requests by using the new forms G-1040, Genealogy Index Search Request, and G-1041A, Genealogy Records Request. Both forms are available on the new USCIS Genealogy Program page at <http://www.uscis.gov>. On the site go to **>Services & Benefits>Genealogy**. This site will allow you to make requests online or by mail using the new forms.

This information came from recent articles in Tales & Trails, the GenBug News, and from the site..

Bits & Bytes



Census Info

This is an interesting site with a lot of background information on US census from 1790-1940. Most interesting is the list of questions asked in each of the census years accessible if you click on the individual census years at the right. They are counting down to the release of the 1940 Census on 1 April 2012. You can see the list of 50 questions asked on the 1940 census on this site. It also includes maps of the US for each of the census years.

www.1930census.com/1940_census.php

Civil War Rosters

Links to Rosters and Muster Rolls, as well as other links pertaining to the Civil War, including links to rosters of people providing laundry services for soldiers.

www.geocities.com/Area51/Lair/3680/cw/cw.html

AccessGenealogy

Offers free, searchable databases of various types, over 400 history and genealogy books, and various genealogy charts and forms

www.accessgenealogy.com

From Genbug News, October 2008

Fee-For-Service Program at USCIS to Begin in August

The US Citizenship and Immigration Service (CIS), formerly called the INS, will begin a fee-for-service program on 13 August 2008. The goal is to increase the turn-around time for requests of immigration and naturalization documents. Costs will be \$20 for a copy of a microfilm document and \$35 for a textual record.

The types of historical records available under the new program include:

- Naturalization certificate files (C-files) from September 27, 1906–April 1, 1956 (from all federal, state, municipal courts and more)
- Microfilmed alien registration forms from 1 August 1940 to 31 March 1944.
- Visa files from 1 July 1924 to 31 March 1944
- Registry files from 2 March 1929 to 31 March 1944.
- Alien files numbered below eight million and dated prior to 1 May 1951.

You may view/download a complete description of the program at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-10651.htm> though the exact details of where and how you can use the service were not available at press time.

**WESTERN MONTANA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

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



We're On The Web
www.rootsweb.
com/~mtwmg

Missoula Public Library
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.

******* 2008-2009 dues were due in September. If you do not have an "09" after your name on the mailing label you have not renewed and this will be your last newsletter.**

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