

# Western Montana Genealogical Society



## September 8, 2009 MEETING

Tuesday, September 8th at the Missoula Public Library, large meeting room, 7:00 pm.

**Program: "The Natives of Montana Archives Project"** by Miranda McCarvel, is a graduate student in the Linguistics Program in the Anthropology Department at the University of Montana. She specializes in morphophonology, Blackfoot, and Jersey, and is currently writing her thesis on allomorphic variation in Jersey. She was born and raised in Great Falls, Montana. She is an amateur genealogist and her ancestry includes Norwegian, Jersey, English, Irish, and Russian German.

The Natives of Montana Archives Project (NOMAP) began in June 2008. The purpose of this project is to obtain copies of all documents pertaining to Native Americans who have historically used or currently reside in the area now known as

Montana. The sources for these documents are currently the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), the Smithsonian Institute's Anthropological Archives, and the Library of Congress, all located in Washington, DC. In June 2008 a team of five University of Montana students, lead by Professor David Beck, went to DC to locate and review what resources were available for this project. This summer, two graduate students, Miranda McCarvel and Wilena Old Person, along with Professor Beck, spent the month of June digitizing records in the NARA. Eventually this project will create a researcher's database housing close to or more than a million documents in digital form. Miranda will talk about her research in DC along with the history of the project and some of the interesting documents found in some of these collections.

## USING & CORRECTING GENEALOGY DATABASES

Every day new databases are being up-loaded to a multitude of genealogy sites on the Internet. Some of these databases represent years of hard work and good research and are

well sourced. Others are compilations that have been secured from various sources including bits and pieces from other Internet databases, which rarely

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## September 2009

### WMGS Officers 2009-2010

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## In The Mail



**BIG SKY ROUNDUP**, Montana State Genealogical Society, % Terry Atwood, P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59602; [www.rootsweb.com/~mtmsgs](http://www.rootsweb.com/~mtmsgs).

They have reached an agreement with Richard H. Fretheim and his collection of Norwegian marriage & naturalization records within Montana is now on their website.

In "1940 Census", Pat Darling, informed that the National Archives has announced that they plan to release this census directly to on-line digital images after it is released on April 12, 2012. There is no indication if it will be free, subscription, or indexed. Pat also contributed a list of burials in the Poindexter Cemetery which is in the middle of a field in the Beaverhead Valley.

### **FAMILY CHRONICLE**, July/August 2009

Articles Include: Recession Proof Your Research, Hidden In Plain Sight, Arriving In New York, Researching Scottish Ancestors, Western Living.

### **GENEALOGICAL HELPER**. Rest In Peace.

The Genealogical Helper has **ceased publication** as of the Jan/Feb 2009 issue. Former editor Leland Meitzler has posted an article on his blog that says, amongst other things, "We are in mourning for this grand old magazine." You can read Leland's full report at <http://www.genealogyblog.com/?p=5679>.

### **INTERNET GENEALOGY**, August/Sept. 2009.

Articles Include: Finding Digitized Historic Maps Online, Tpo 10 Sites For Norwegian Genealogy, It's All In The Genes—using DNA for genealogy research, North Carolina Online, Hamburg Passenger Lists. Eight Great Apps For Genealogists—looks at some fun and functional tools anyone can use.

### **NGS NEWSMAGAZINE** , July/September 2009.

Features:Wikipedia & Citizendium, Cross Country 1850: Tracing Your Ancestor's Westward Journey, African American Veterans in the Grand Army of the Republic, Exploring the Economy [of our ancestors], Case Study: They

## Bits & Bytes



### **The National Archives of Ireland: 1911 Census**

The returns for 1901 and 1911 are arranged by townland (the smallest division of land) or, in urban areas, by street. The 1901 census lists, for every member of each household; name, age, sex, relationship to head of the household, religion, occupation, marital status and county or country of birth. The census also records an individual's ability to read or write and ability to speak the Irish language. All of this information is given on Form A of the census, which was filled in and signed by the head of each household. Where the head of the household could not write, his or her mark, usually an X, was recorded and witnessed by the enumerator.

The same information was recorded in the 1911 census, with one significant addition: married women were required to state the number of years they had been married, the number of their children born alive and the number still living. [They talk about the complete 1901 Irish Census on this web site, but there is no indication of its availability online.]

<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>

Online Irish Census Records & Indexes (including some 1901 census records) can be found at:

<http://www.genealogybranches.com/irishcensus.html> or

<http://www.genealogybranches.com/irishcensus.html>

For information on other genealogy sources in the National Archives of Ireland :

<http://www.nationalarchives.ie/genealogy/sources.html>

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**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**  
SUVCW National Graves Registration Project was established in 1996. The National Graves Registration Database is now available to all. The

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## FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Missoula Family History Library, 3201 Bancroft St., Missoula, will resume its Tuesdays & Thursday schedule starting September 15th. Until then it is only open on Tuesdays as indicated below.

### COMPUTER RESERVATIONS

(1 hour session)

Call 543-6148

### FHL HOURS \*EVENING HOURS CHANGE\*

Mon. CLOSED

Tue. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM & 6:30-8:30 PM\*

Wed. CLOSED

Thurs. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM & 6:30—8:30 PM\*

Sat. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM\* (Closed)

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### Family History Center Services Portal

Available Services Now Include:

- 19th Century British Library Newspaper Digital Archive
- FamilyHistoryLink
- FindMyPast.com
- 1911 UK Census
- Footnote.com
- The Genealogist
- Genline.com (launcher)
- Godfrey Memorial Library
- Heritage Quest Online
- Historic Map Works Library Edition
- World Vital Records
- Alexander Street Press—The American Civil War
  - Research Database
  - Letters and Diaries
  - Images, Photographs, Posters, and Ephemera

All of these services can be accessed for free on the Family History Center computers.

## QUERY

New member, Barbara Case Helwick writes:

Need information on James Thomas CASE (1861-1951). He died at a nursing home in Missoula but was buried at Anaconda; would like information on the nursing home which was the Weldon Rest Home located at 233 East Pine St. in Missoula at that time - need records. He was my grandfather and was married first to my grandmother, Emma HEROD CASE, in 1883 in TX but they lived in MO where all of their seven children were born. He married second to May HOLLENBECK and third to Ida CARY, both at Anaconda. He may have been married to a woman before May HOLLENBECK and had a child by her? He lived in Anaconda many years and was employed at the Copper Smelter starting about 1898.

Barbara CASE HELWICK

PO BOX 50345

Casper, WY 82605-0345

*(Continued from page 1) "Using & Correcting..."*

credit the original contributor or source. I have come across information in several online databases that I know could only have come from my database, only to find that my name and contact information are not included as a source. If you want to include information from others in your database, do contact that person to ask permission—you may even find that they have other information not included in their original database.

It is often hard to correct information in online databases. If you find errors and there is contact information for the submitter do take the time to offer your corrections so as to try to prevent the spread of miss-information which is all too easy these days.

If you have used the **census records on Ancestry.com** recently you will have noticed a new feature in the census databases. They now appear in a split window with the original census page on top, and an every name transcription below. The transcription area allows you to make correction in any of the fields.



(Continued from page 2) "In The Mail"

Did Not Die About 1820..., Child of No One: Researching Illegitimate Ancestors.

### **NGS QUARTERLY, June 2009.**

This issue focuses on "Information, Knowledge, and the Wisdom to Know the Difference" with articles that show that "gathering information is just the first step. Knowledge to understand its meaning in the context of time and place is the next." Articles include:

Family Lore and Effects of Slavery on the Black Psyche - why a black woman in 1884 in Virginia claimed Pennsylvania as a birth place.

'Middling Sorts' and Baptisms—how socioeconomic patterns can help researchers distinguish among same name contemporaries.

Nathaniel Ruggles, Setauket Spy—loyalist or patriot spy, one man or two men of the same name at the same time?

(Continued from page 2) SUVWCW Graves

database was activated February 22, 2005. This will make all original registrations available for viewing by the general public, as well as allowing for new registrations to be entered through their online program.

There are two sections/areas in the online program:

- **Public Area** (for viewing/searching only)
- **Submitter Area** (for those with approved accounts and allowed to enter registrations)

You can enter just a state/city to see a list of all recorded Union Veterans buried in that location. There are 42 Union Veterans listed for Missoula, Montana. Clicking on a name will bring up the veterans known information—name, unit, cemetery, death date, whether or not there is a military headstone and if it is in need of repair, etc...

## **GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC / GAR RECORDS**

The GAR or Grand Army of the Republic was begun in 1866 by Union Veterans of the Civil War. More than 8,600 community-level Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) have been documented to date and that information is accessible through a map link on the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War page at: <http://www.suvcw.org/garposts/index.htm>. Below is a list of post in Montana from that site. There are no actual veterans records on this site.

Num1	Post Name	Location	State	Dept	Source	County
1	John Buford	Fort Custer	MT	MT	JH1	no listing
2	Lincoln	Butte	MT	MT	JH1	Bow
3	Wadsworth	Helena	MT	MT	JH1	Lewis & Clark
4	George H. Thomas	Deer Lodge	MT	MT	JH1	Powell
5	Custer	Sheridan	MT	MT	JH1	Madison
6	Frank Blair	Virginia City	MT	MT	JH1	Madison
7	Farragut	Livingston	MT	MT	JH1	Park
8	Steedman	Dillon	MT	MT	JH1	Beaverhead
10	William English	Bozeman	MT	MT	JH1	Gallatin
11	Frederick Winthrop	Missoula	MT	MT	JH1	Missoula
12	Thomas L. Kane	Glendive	MT	MT	JH1	Dawson
13	J.B. McPherson	Boulder	MT	MT	JH1	Jefferson
14	U.S. Grant	Miles City	MT	MT	JH1	Custer
15	John A. Logan	Billings	MT	MT	JH1	Yellowstone
16	George G. Meade	Anaconda	MT	MT	JH1	Deer
17	Thomas F. Meagher	White Sulphur Springs	MT	MT	JH1	Meagher

### **Sources**

JH1 = Jeff Henningfield, SUVWCW Gov Isaac Stevens Camp-at-Large #1; GAR Post Project Chair, 2000



## Missoula Public Library

### NEW BOOKS:

**A Guide To Family History Resources at the Minnesota Historical Society**, 929.1072 MINNESO

**Estate Inventories—How To Use Them**, by Kenneth L. Smith. 929.1072 SMITH

**Following The Paper Trail—A Multilingual Translation Guide**, by Jonathan D. Shea & William F. Hoffman. 929.1 SHEA

**Genealogical Proof Standard—Building A Solid Case**, by Christine Rose. 929.1 ROSE

**Genealogy Helps, Hints, & Hope**, by John W. Heisey. 929.1 HEISEY

**Germans IN Minnesota—The People Of Minnesota**, by Kathleen Neils Conzen. 977.6004 CONZEN

**Irish In Minnesota—The People Of Minnesota**, by Ann Regan. 977.6004 REGAN

**Migration Patterns IN Canada**, by Dr. Edward Smith. 929.1 SMITH

**Migration Patterns In The United States**, by Beverly Whitaker. 929.1 WHITAKE

**Minnesota Genealogical Index**. 977.76 MINNESO V.1

**Norwegians In Minnesota—The People Of Minnesota**, by Jon Gjerde & Carlton C. Qualey. 977.6004 GJERDE

**Researching American Wills and Administration Records**, by Scott Andrew Bartley. 929.1072 BARTLEY

**Researching American Cemetery Records**, by Scott Andrew Bartley. 929.1072 BARTLEY

**Researching Canadian Religious Records**, by Ryan Taylor. 929.3072 TAYLOR

**Social Networking For Genealogists**, by Drew Smith. 929.1028 SMITH

**Swedes In Minnesota—The People Of Minnesota**, by Anne Gillespie Lewis. 977.6044 LEWIS

## Ancestry.com

Ancestry.com has recently added 'Enhanced Image Pages' to almost all of its Census Databases. These new image pages offer split screens with the actual census image on top, and a transcription of the page below. The response to this new format has been varied. Some people like it, others don't. It doesn't work on a Mac! Some say it doesn't work with IE8, or have trouble saving or printing the census images. I had the later problem with IE8, but it went away after I deleted the old version of a 'virtual credit card number generator' program (ucs.exe) from Citi Bank (also use by other banks) and installed the new version which is compatible with IE8. One good feature of the enhances image pages is that you can quickly make corrections to any field in the transcribed image. If you really don't like it, or want to see a larger view of the original census image, you just click the double arrows at the bottom and the right side of the census image, and the census image will be full screen.

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Ancestry has pulled the historic **Drouin Collection**, which contains Quebec records spanning 346 years from 1621 to 1967. A judge sided with the Drouin Institute, which owns the records, and claimed that Ancestry had not fulfilled its contractual obligation to fully and properly index the collection. Ancestry was granted 60 days (from Aug. 12th) to remedy the situation, but it remains to be seen if they can re-index 55 million names in that time. Not only has Ancestry removed access to the Drouin Collection from its website, but it has removed documents from this collection that Ancestry.com members had saved to their shoeboxes and online family trees. This has infuriated many who paid to access these records and spent many hours researching only to have these records removed from their files. They have no recourse, but the lesson here is **ALWAYS save documents to YOUR computer and make a backup or printed copy.**



# MONTANA MAGAZINE

WESTERN MONTANA  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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



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

FOR USE IN LIBRARY ONLY



## NEWSLETTERS

Missoula Public Library ex  
301 East Main St.  
Missoula MT 59802

PUEBLO  
LIBRARY  
MIS  
MT

### Dues & Queries

**DUES FOR THE NEW YEAR ARE NOW DUE.** Use the enclosed form to renew. Mailing label '09' after your name indicates this years' dues are now due. A '10' indicates dues are paid. Please update e-mail & other info. Thanks.

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

#### 20TH ANNUAL MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

September 24-26, 2009 Helena, Red Lion Colonial Inn Friday:

- Ohio: The Great Land Experiment
- Family History Through Stories: Genealogy & Oral History
- Accessing & Researching Records at the Catholic Diocese of Helena
- Montana Historical Society Research Center Genealogy Resources
- The Role of the Genealogical Society in the 21st Century

Saturday:

- Ohio Records & Repositories
- Montana Shared Catalog
- Hookers, Crooks, and Kooks: or Aunt Merle Didn't Run a Boarding House

If you need a registration form e-mail [jalf@marsweb.com](mailto:jalf@marsweb.com).

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September 2009