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MAY 06 2010



Western Montana Genealogical Society

NEXT MEETING - Tuesday, April 11, 2010

Missoula Public Library, large downstairs meeting room, 7:00 pm.

PROGRAM: "Irish Studies: Past and Present"

Dr Bernadette Sweeney will give a presentation on The Gathering: Collected Oral Histories of the Irish in Montana and will also introduce some of her other work with the University of Montana, as a professor of Irish Drama with the Irish Studies Program. Although not a genealogist herself, Sweeney will also talk on undertaking such research in Ireland, describing some of the potential pitfalls and possibilities.

The Gathering: Collected Oral Histories of the Irish in Montana' is a long-term interdisciplinary oral history project which seeks to record and to archive the Irish and Irish-American folk histories, performances, practices, and traditions. In part, the impetus for this project comes out of a visit in 2008 by pre-eminent scholar of the Irish lament or Caoineadh tradition, Professor Seán Ó Coileán. After Professor Ó Coileán's lecture on the lament tradition, in which he made clear the historical disappearance of the Caoineadh in Ireland, a number of Butte and Anaconda elders came down to talk to him. These living repositories of the memory of Irish and Irish-American tradition explained to Professor Ó Coileán that the Caoineadh tradition lived on in Montana and that they, themselves, had witnessed the very traditions that Ó Coileán knew to have vanished in Ireland. This project will record and build on traditions and connections that are currently in danger of being lost. The Gathering will do much to raise the profile of the Irish community in Montana, through its links to the Irish Studies program and the wider academic community at University of Montana. It will also further the University's partnership with University College Cork through research, and will further connections between the University of Montana and the wider community.

Sweeney is a native of Ireland and married to Butte-Irishman Bryan Ferriter. She studied at the University of Ulster and Trinity College Dublin. She has worked as professor of drama and theatre at University College Cork since 2002, and as adjunct faculty with the University of Montana since 2009. She is the Research Director of The Gathering: Collected Oral Histories of the Irish in Montana.

MAY 2010

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Inside this issue:

WMGS May Meeting	1
In The Mail	2
Family History Library	2
Ancestry.com	2
Bits & Bytes	2
Genealogy Question #5	3
Message From the President—Elections, 4th of July, Genealogy Classes.	3
Dues	4
Upcoming Conferences	4

Western MT. Genealogical
Society Newsletter
MAY 2010

In The Mail



National Genealogical Society Quarterly, March 2010. The article, *Research in Nebraska*, is a great guide for those researching in that state.

NGS Magazine, January-March 2010. Articles include *Documenting Death in the Civil War with Union War Department records*, *Following the Trails of Daniel Boone and Other Western Travelers*, and *Immigration Alternatives* which shows Ellis Island alternatives, non-New York Immigration routes and non-U. S. arrival port

Internet Genealogy, April/May 2010. This issue looks *Instant Gratification and Finding Obits Online*, *Getting More From Google*, *California Dreamin': Researching the Golden State*, *Researching Firefighters in the Family*, and *Portraits From the Past*.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Missoula Family History Library, 3201 Bancroft St., Missoula, has resumed its Tuesdays / Thursday / Saturday schedule and is open all hours listed below.

COMPUTER RESERVATIONS

(1 hour session) Call 543-6148

FHL HOURS

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] May resume soon

Closures: Remember that the Missoula FHL will be closed for Fair Week in August

FamilySearch

April 28, 2010: **New Records Available to Search**
FamilySearch released 300 MILLION new indexed records. To see a list of the collections available, go to <http://fsbeta.familysearch.org/s/collection/list>. To search the records, go to <http://beta.familysearch.org>. [This appears to be an updated version of the Record Search Pilot on the FamilySearch.org site, with a greatly expanded advanced search feature.

ANCESTRY.com

Ancestry.com announced online versions of The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy and Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources are now available for free in a wiki format. The online editions are the latest versions of those books, and the new online versions are searchable by every word. These 'wiki' versions will allow users to update, expand on and even add to information (pending review.)

FamilySearch Pilot (www.FamilySearch.org then under Search Tab)

Many recent updates and additions including:

- Canada Birth & Baptisms, 1661-1959; Death & Burials, 1664-1955; Marriages, 1661-1949.
- Nova Scotia Birth & Baptisms, 1702-1896, Marriages, 1711-1909
- Ontario Birth & Baptisms, 1779-1899, Marriages, 1800-1910
- Quebec Birth & Baptisms, 1662-1898
- Many US State Birth & Marriages records have been added or updated, including Montana Marriages, 1889-1925, which shows marriage place, date, and names of bride, groom, and parents.

Bits & Bytes



Montana Historical Society Centennial Farm & Ranch Program

This program will recognize Montana farm or ranch families that have owned or lived on their land for 100 years or more.

www.his.state.mt.us/research/library/MTCentFarmRanchProg.asp

[From Beaver Head Hunters, March 2010, p. 6]

Montana Historical Society Wiki

www.his.state.mt.us—go to the 'Research Center' tab, click on 'Online Resources', then 'Montana History Wiki'.

[From Faded Genes, Vol. 27, No. 1, p. 12]

Sorenson's Molecular Genealogy Site has a video about how Autosomal DNA is passed from generation to generation. You can view the short video at: <http://www.smgf.org/education/animations/autosomal.jsp>

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Genealogy Question #5</h2> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">What is the best organizational tip or hint that you've been given or discovered?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think that it is very important to have print-outs of each document. You never know what else is going to be important, so if you only take notes from the document you may not include info that could be useful at a later date. • How to write dates consistently and to use the maiden name of women • Don't let your filing go so long as I do..... • Keep everything no matter how insignificant... you might need it. • Organize by dates • Googlebooks.com has millions of old books scanned available for free online. Books that I have had difficulty accessing I can now find at 3am and use them for as long as I want. There is a search tool and you can type in a name, area, or event and read full books. The books are scanned, not transcribed. Great Resource!!! • "Have a plan"....but I don't follow that advice. • Don't take yourself too seriously. • Keep struggling to maintain a chosen organizational system, even though it is difficult to keep up to date! • Searching GOOGLE has been a tremendous help, and then to be able to cross reference my info from all sources. On my mother's (Green) side, just hearing her talk about family in Ashland, Wisconsin was a big help. But she was not able to write it down. In October, 1989, I had enough money to make the trip from Missoula to Ashland to research her ancestry. The trip was very worthwhile. • Start binders and keep each family separate or at least get enough smaller file drawers - one for each family. • Get a computer program! • Cite your sources! Nothing is more important. 	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Message from the President</h2> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">WMGS Elections</p> <p>We have a slate of nominees for WMGS officers, 2010-2011. It is Nancy Shrader – president, Brenda Miller – VP, Susan Doores- Treasurer, and Jackie Reimers – Secretary. We can also accept nominations from the floor before the voting at the May meeting.</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">4th of JULY</p> <p>Over the summer, there are two things to keep in mind. We will again have a display booth at the Fort Missoula 4th of July celebration on Sunday July 4th from 10-4. It is a Sunday so the format will return to our earlier, simple manifestation. Last year the LDS church joined us, but they are unable to so again because of church obligations. I will be looking for volunteers to help out. I will be out-of town, but I'm sure that the show can go on. In the past, we've had an abundance of drop-in volunteers to make the day lots of fun. This year, we will need to have a tighter schedule because I won't be spending the day there. Set-up and the visitation with the <u>public</u> is very easy. I'll have a sign-up sheet at the meeting for about 3 shifts of 2 people each. I hope that we can have a few new volunteers this time.</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Genealogy Classes</p> <p>We will have flyers ready for the beginning genealogy classes that will start up in Sept. Larry Spicer will be teaching those classes on Tues nights, starting on Sept 21 at the First Church of the Nazarene. They will last about 6 weeks, depending on the needs of the students. I will also email the flyer out to members so that they can post the announcements. I hope to see you at the meeting.</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Nancy Shrader</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't think I have had one that has really helped. • A system for setting up my printed materials. Also, the advice to type every word and not just scan. It helps me find connections I might otherwise have missed. • Family Tree Maker computer program. "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy" by Christine Rose and Kay Germain Ingalls.
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**WESTERN MONTANA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

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Missoula, MT 59806-2714



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

Missoula Public Library
301 East Main St.
Missoula MT 59802

5980234799 C014



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. Membership runs from September to May of the next year.

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.

2010 Conferences

MSGS 21st Annual Conference

Sept 23-25, 2010, "Reach For the Stars" will be in Lewistown, Montana at the Yogo Inn. The national speaker will be Mary Clement Douglas, from Salina, Kansas. Registration is \$40 with optional three meals at \$42. Room rates will run from \$74.99 to \$94.99.