

MAR 04 2011



Western Montana Genealogical Society

NEXT MEETING - Tuesday, March 8, 2011

Missoula Public Library

Large Downstairs Meeting Room — 7:00 pm.

Program: BRICK WALL NIGHT

Has your family history search led to a brick wall? Sometimes genealogists can guide each other over, around or through this blockade. Bring your problem to this meeting of sympathetic listeners and present the case of WHO you are looking for, WHAT you want to know, approximately WHEN the ancestor lived and WHERE you have already looked. We all understand WHY you need to know. We will do our best to suggest new research options. Non-members are welcome.

NEW FAMILY HISTORY CENTER PORTAL

The computers at the Family History Center have a new home page called the "Family History Center Portal." Here you will find links to all of the Family History Center programs in one convenient place. The links are:

- Premium Subscriptions- with full access to third-party sites for patron use at Family History Centers. (see Subscriptions page 2)
- Family Search-Discover your family history
- FamilySearch Indexing- Contribute to indexing digital records
- Online Research Courses- Learn the basic methods and key resources to start your family history
- Family Tech- Technology tips for genealogists and family historians
- FamilySearch Wiki- Free family history research advice for the community, by the community
- FamilySearch Forums- Helpful family history research and FamilySearch product information provided by experienced FamilySearch patrons
- FamilySearch Help Center- FamilySearch Knowledge Center, where you will find the Most Requested Questions and Answers about FamilySearch and Indexing, and Video Demonstrations

March 2011

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FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Missoula Family History Library, 3201 Bancroft St., Missoula, has resumed its Tuesdays / Thursday .

COMPUTER RESERVATIONS

(1 hour session)

Call 543-6148

FHL HOURS

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

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

***NOTE:** The microfilm/fiche copy machine is not going to be replaced, so you will need a digital or cell phone camera to take pictures for copies.

Premium Subscriptions

While the other links mentioned in "New Family History Center Portal" can be accessed at home from the FamilySearch.org site, the Premium Subscriptions can only be used while at a Family History Library. These now include:

- 19th Century British Library Newspaper Digital Archive
- Alexander Street Press— The American Civil War (Research Database, Letters and Diaries, Images. Photographs, Posters, and Ephemera
- **Ancestry.com—Library Edition** «New
- Find My Past (British)
- Footnote.com
- The Genealogist (British)
- Genline FamilyFinder (Swedish Churchbooks Online)
- Godfrey Memorial Library
- Heritage Quest Online
- Historic Map Works Library Edition
- **Paper Trail—Pioneer Wagon Train Diaries** «New A Guide to Overland Pioneers Names and Documents from the Oregon-California Trails Association
- Worlds Vital Records

In The Mail



Family Chronicle, March/April 2011. Articles include: Top Websites to Save You Money – Genealogy Style, Become a Brickwall Mechanic, Researching Italian Names, The Search for Elusive Female Ancestors, England's Hearth and Window Taxes.

Internet Genealogy, Feb/March 2011. Articles include: Top Sites for Railroad Records, Civil War Genealogical Resources— State by State (Alabama to Nebraska this issue), Clans of the Scottish Highlands, Scanners and Scanning, Using Google Books.

National Genealogical Society Quarterly, Dec. 2010.

Articles include: Using Lawsuits to Identify Family Origins, 2010 Winner: Family History Writing Contest.

Big Sky Roundup, Jan 2011. Montana Aerial Photos for Genealogy by Nan Breuninger, Helena, Montana. Aerial photos from the 1930's to the present may be found at National Resource Conservation Service offices or a series of books by the Montana Highway Department. See the article for more details.

Treasure State Lines, Great Falls Genealogical Society, Vol. 35, 2010. Map and description of Great Falls Genealogy Library, Cascade County Resource Guide.

SMARTPHONE AS SCANNER

You can download apps for your smartphone (Android or iPhone) that will turn your smartphone camera into a pocket scanner that will take a picture of a document and then automatically clean it up (crop, correct distortions and white balance) and turn it into what looks like a photocopy of the original document. One such free app for the iPhone is **Genius Scan** (available for download from iTunes) which will enable you to quickly scan documents, send the scans by e-mail or whole documents as PDF files. **DocScanner** for Android phones is available for \$4.99 (www.docscannerapp.com/android). Sounds like a handy device while on the road visiting cemeteries, courthouses, and libraries.

Bits & Bytes



In The Shade of Oaks - Member Peggy Harris has a new website for her book "In The Shade of Oaks—A Story of American Heritage."

Visit the web site of her new book:
<http://intheshadeofoaks.com>

FamilySearch.org—records recently added include:

- England and Wales 1901 Census
- Italy 1906-1940 Civil Registration
- Delaware Marriage Records 1913-1954
- New Hampshire Marriage Records 1637-1947
- Texas Birth Certificates 1903-1909, 1926-1934.
- Virginia Naturalization Petitions 1906-1929

Survey Question #8

In a perfect world, how many hours a week would you like to do genealogical research?

- 40, but 3 to 5 uninterrupted hours would be nice
- About 3-4 hours per day (24 hours per week), but some weeks I might not do anything.
- 10 to 15 hrs
- At least 30.
- ?
- 10 or 15 hours.
- One day a week or 8 hours would be wonderful.
- Maybe 10-20 hours a week, if I could do it full time, I'm afraid I'd get burned out. I like that it's a treat, something special I can look forward to doing.
- 20 hrs. I still like field work – visiting strange places in other states.
- 20 hrs! How many hours are there. Maybe 8 to 10.
- The world will never be perfect, and I remain alert at all times to "new" genealogical data, research suggestions, historical revelations, etc. Focused, personal research has to be squeezed in between life's obligations and diversions. This means I never expect to be bored ever again.
- 20 hours.

- Depends. If I'm getting somewhere, probably as many hours as it would take to complete that project. As a rule, though, a couple of hours a day would pacify me.
- I used to do tons, now very little.
- I just work on it now and then—when I find a new clue, address, etc.
- I would really like to do 2 or 3 hours a day.
- 40 hours, but I have to work to pay the bills

Survey Question #9

If you had a good fairy in your house, what genealogical task (e.g. scan photos, scan documents, file loose papers, enter computer data) would you like it to do?

- Good Fairy looking over my shoulder? It helps to have a guiding hand in all my genealogy research.
- I would love my good fairy to find a good computer program and enter all my data for me.
- I just hired a friend to help file loose papers. She will be also helping with photos when we finish with the papers.
- File loose papers
- n/a
- I prefer to do everything myself.
- File and organize and enter data
- Wow.....could the good fairy just do the dishes, laundry and clean the house so that I could do my genealogical tasks? I would like that much better!!!
- YES! All of that, plus more.
- File loose papers and enter computer data.
- Oh, file!! No question.
- Yes.
- My housework.
- Scan photos, etc
- All of the above
- I would love to have someone come in and scan all of the documents and photos that I have . . . while organizing them, of course, with the correct titles. I would also like this good fairy to be at my beck and call and teach me more about the various computer applications that I hardly know how to use, such as Family Tree Maker, Photo Shot, etc.
- Dust, clean the bathrooms, iron, and cook occasional fancy things while I work on genealogy

**WESTERN MONTANA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

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

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. 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

Upcoming Conferences

NGS 2011 Family History Conference **11-14 May 2011, Charleston, SC**

See http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info for more information and registration.

MSGs Conference

Sept 22-24, 2011 Kalispell at the Hilton Garden Inn

Main Speaker; Thomas W. Jones, PhD

Topics:

- Solving the Mystery of the Disappearing Ancestor
- Five Proven Techniques for Finding Your Ancestors European Origins
- Organizing Evidence to Overcome Record Shortages
- How to Avoid Being Duped by the Internet