

Gallatin County Genealogical Society Meeting
July 14, 2012

Business:

President Michelle Westerberg called the meeting to order. There were 16 people in attendance.

Members voted on and accepted the bylaws as presented.

Heather Bienvenue was elected Vice President.

Tricia Thompson handed out receipts and charter membership cards to those who had previously paid the \$10.00 membership fee. All members must turn in their addresses and phone numbers so that information can be forwarded to the Montana State Genealogical Society. The information will be used to notify members of the upcoming State Genealogical convention in September.

The GCGS needs to pay dues to be members of the Montana State Genealogical Society.

Treasurer's Report:

16 dues paid	\$160.00
Cash from previous society	<u>4.27</u>
Income:	\$164.27
Operating supplies	30.58
Balance on July 14, 2012:	<u><u>\$133.69</u></u>

President Westerberg updated the members on the Gallatin County record retention project. Jennifer Brandon, Clerk of District Court, has agreed that our members can come to the County and start indexing records. There is a small desk available which would allow one person with a laptop to work. Members should give two days notice before showing up. It was determined that we would start with naturalization records. Before we begin, someone will create a template everyone can follow. Volunteers can also go in and handwrite the record, then take that information home and add the information to a template. Eventually our society can charge a fee and start researching for others.

One member suggested a GCGS member make a list of resources available at the Pioneer Museum. Bill Goold offered to do this as he is a volunteer there.

Obituary Indexing Project – The purpose of this project is to index the date of the obituaries currently taped in binders so the obituary can be found easier at the Bozeman Public Library when researching.

Eventually our members can go the Bozeman Daily Chronicle and fill in the information not found in the binders.

Bonnie Jackson will start collecting current obituaries from the Chronicle.

We would like to have a chair person to head the Obit Committee.

President Westberg handed out Excel spreadsheets for members to begin transferring data from the binders of obituaries to the spreadsheets.

Program:

Tricia delivered a brief program about Ancestry.com. About 50% of our membership is on Ancestry.com. Tricia encouraged everyone to add their information to the website. Anything that can be scanned can also be added. This is a great way to preserve your information for ever.

If you make your information public on Ancestry.com others can access it. No information can be made public unless the person to whom the information relates is deceased.

Those who are not members of Ancestry.com can add their family history to the site but cannot do any research.

Tricia shared a spectacular story about a family bible that was mailed to her after a stranger discovered her family line on Ancestry.com.

Work:

The remainder of the meeting was spent starting the obituary indexing project.