

GALLATIN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MINUTES

Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

The January meeting of the Gallatin County Genealogical Society was held at the Bozeman Public Library in the large community room with 28 members and 24 visitors present. Due to the large number of community members attending Derek Strahn's presentation, President Bonnie Jackson postponed the business portion of the meeting until February, because there wasn't any pressing business. The door prize, a signed copy of *The Montana Medicine Show's Genuine Montana History* by Derek Strahn, was won by Rosemary Lee.

Derek Strahn, a social studies teacher, who teaches American Studies and U. S. Government at Bozeman High School, began his presentation by playing a segment from his radio program "The Montana Medicine Show," which airs Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., as well as Saturdays at noon, and Sundays at 10:00 a.m. on KGLT (91.9 FM on the campus of Montana State University in Bozeman). This allowed the audience to see how he took his historical vignettes that are a part of a collection of radio broadcasts and turned them into his book, *The Montana Medicine Show's Genuine Montana History*. Using a slide-show with vintage pictures, he shared several stories from his 2014 book, *The Montana Medicine Show's Genuine Montana History*. One story was about the Orem-O'Neil Fight in Virginia City, Montana Territory, which was "one of the longest and most brutal fights in American ring history." The contest pitted 29-year-old teetotaling saloonkeeper and veteran welterweight Con Orem against the Irishman Hugh O'Neil, 34, a whiskey-drinking heavyweight. The slugfest lasted more than three hours and ended in a draw. After his presentation, which included a Q&A, Strahn sold and signed 24 books. Refreshments were served.

The Gallatin County Genealogical Society will next meet at 11:00 am, Saturday, February 13, 2016, in the large community room at the Bozeman Public Library. Bonnie Jackson and Tricia Thompson will present the program "Hidden Treasures at Ancestry.com."

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Jackson
GCGS President