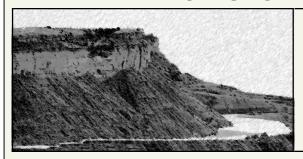
Volume 2 Issue 4 October 2009

YELLOWSTONE GENEALOGY FORUM





News from the President

Harvest Time – a time to glean the fields. Have you "gleaned" your resources? This summer I began "gleaning" the genealogy magazines I collected over the years. The information in most articles stayed relevant to research even with the passing of time. I read them to learn, copy what I will need for future reference, then pass the magazine to others.

The annual state conference always gives me inspiration and direction for more research. The speakers this year were great (as they usually are). The topic of Ohio could be relevant to many people as our ancestors from New York through Virginia following the trails and waterways westward through that state. It was also the first Public Land state.

The connections you make at conference are important. Attendance at Forum meetings creates connections, too. Members are very willing to help others. Volunteering – librarian, fundraiser, speaker, project worker - keeps the club vibrant and an asset to its members. When a volunteer opportunity comes up, please step forward.

Current Volunteer Opportunities:

Genealogy Room at Parmly Billings Library – Fall clean-up day needed; librarians Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Obituary Index – One month obligation; Indexer needs spreadsheet software & Billings Gazette.

Fundraiser – Wednesday, October 28th from 6-8 pm at Herberger's store – sell \$5 coupon books. From now until November 13th, sell (not at store) coupon books for \$5 each.

Programs for 2010 - Is there a topic on which you could speak to the Forum? Is there something you learned that you want to share with other members?

Beth Aaron Cemetery project – Saturday, October 24th beginning at 11 am. Take photos; transcribe headstones.

"As you sow, so shall you reap." Your involvement with the Forum will provide great benefits to you.

P. J. Smith

President

406-669-3139

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

October 29-31 2009 November 1, 2009

November 7, 2009

International Black Genealogy Summit at Fort Wayne, IN The History of Funerals for El Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) at Ft. Lauderdale, FL

www.blackgenealogysummit.com www.sherman.library.nova.edu

Discovering Your Appalachian Ancestors at Akron, OH Washington, DC Research Tour at Washington, DC

Genealogy Friends' Annual Family History Library Retreat at Salt Lake City, UT

www.azwvgs.org

www.genealogyfriends.org www.fhexpos.com www.rootsmagiccruise.com

speccollections@akronlibrary.org

January 22 -23, 2010 February 14-20, 2010

December 22 - 30, 2009

January 11-17, 2010

Mesa Arizona Family History Expo at Mesa, AZ

3rd Annual RoostsMagic Cruise

2010 Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy

The following announcement was written by the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy: For sixteen years, genealogy researchers have basked in an exciting week of in-depth learning. The majority also took the opportunity for personal research at the renowned Family History Library.

In 2010, the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy will take place January 11-15, taught by expert genealogists, such as Paula Stuart-Warren, Thomas W. Jones, Kory Meyerink, John Philip Colletta, Mary E.V. Hill, Barbara Renick, Patricia Law Hatcher, Craig Scott, Elissa Scalise Powell, Karen Clifford, John M. Kitzmiller, Debby Horton, and Kahlile Mehr.

BECOME more effective with:

Computers and Technology **Accreditation and Certification Preparation** Personal Project Problem Solving

EXPLORE the many possibilities of the records of:

Scotland

Central and Eastern Europe

Mid-Atlantic States (New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland)

FOCUS on:

American Records and Research **Immigrant Origins** Producing a Quality Family Narrative American Land and Court Records U.S. Military Records

Choose one of the above courses for an extensive learning experience. Classes finish in the afternoon each day allowing research time at the FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY, located just two blocks away.

In addition, there are 15 optional evening classes on dynamic topics ranging from maximizing Internet searching to solving research problems to organizing what you find. So much to choose from! These classes are open to all for a minimal price.

No matter which course you attend, you will have improved skills by January 15th. Why wait? The early bird special ends November 15, 2009. For more information and to enroll online, visit www.infouga.org.

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at http://www.eogn.com.

Family Search Community Trees

Family Search Labs added something new today: Family Search Community Trees.

As the site says, "Ever wish you could reconstruct the families that lived in your ancestral village in the 1750's? Family Search works with individuals and groups with the expertise to piece together the families that lived together historically in a community. We're experimenting with ways to make these richly-sourced lineage-linked trees more available and expand the number of people helping with this effort. Check it out and tell us what you think.

"Community Trees" are lineage-linked genealogies from specific time periods and geographic localities around the world. The information also includes the supporting sources. Most of the genealogies are joint projects between Family Search and others who live locally or have expertise in the area or records used to create the genealogies. Each Community Tree is a searchable database with views of individuals, families, ancestors and descendants, as well as printing options.

"The scope of partner projects may be a small, grass roots village or township working together to form a family tree of all the known residents of its community for a given time period. Some are genealogical and historical societies working with Family Search to index several sources of data to link them to common, lineage-linked genealogies of a targeted geographic area of interest."

"The scope could also be focused on a particular record set and locality. The goal may be to identify and reconstitute all families of a particular place from a village, county, or even a country. Many of the current projects were produced by Family Search's Family Reconstitution team and date back to the medieval times. One even has the audio of the oral genealogies attached."

"GEDCOM downloads of the community trees may be available depending on any records access restrictions. No living information is available in this public view. Edits and corrections to these databases are usually restricted by the partners, but please contact them to offer suggestions, corrections and new information. Some partners may have additional information or enhanced versions of the genealogies on their own website. These databases will be updated if they are a work in progress."

Comment by Dick Eastman: This is a great project! However; don't forget that you are looking at test software. It is almost guaranteed to have a few bugs. The reason for opening it up now is to ask the public to help identify those bugs.

You can learn more at http://histfam.familysearch.org/ and also at http://histfam.familysearch.org/learnmore.php.

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The need for Volunteers

We are going to be in the need of volunteers to help with some indexing projects that we have coming up. The best part of this is you will be able to do it at home. We will have copies of the books and then all you will have to do is extract the information from the copy pages and put in to a spreadsheet similar to how we do the obit project now. As referenced earlier, you can do this at home so don't be afraid to sign up and help. The more people we have to index the sooner we can move on to other projects. If you are interested contact a PJ Smith, Verb Valentine, Shawna Valentine or any other board member and they will put you in contact with the right person.

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GOLDEN GULCH, THE STORY OF MONTANAN'S FABULOUS ALDER GULCH

The book called Golden Gulch, the Story of Montanan's Fabulous Alder Gulch by Dick Pace was published in 1962. Our member Judy Cohen was kind enough to read the book and created a name index for the book. The book is located in the Gen Room so you can go take a look and see if your ancestor was there or talked about now that we have a name index. Thank you Judy for taking the time to read the book and then compile the name index.

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MSGS REPORT

First Families and Early Settlers of Montana:

Volume III of this series will be going to press soon and MSGS doesn't want you to be left out!

If you have an ancestor that was in Montana before 31 December 1929 be sure to get your paperwork sent in by 1 March 2010. We do require an application form with documentation to be filled out in order for your ancestors to be included. This, along with additional information may be found at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mtlcgs/ffm_esm/msgs_1st.htm

In addition, if you have a correction or are now able to provide a photo of entries printed in either Volume I or II, please send them to Shawna Valentine at smv2222@bresnan.net, or mail to 3420 Granger So #20, Billings MT 59102 by 1 March 2010. Please indicate your name, your ancestor's name, and if possible the certificate number.

For Sale YGF Items

Montana enamel pins \$5.00 each
Heart Key Chains with "Genealogy" on them \$2.50 each
Thank You Notes package \$3.00/package
Genealogy Post Cards \$1.50 each
Canvas Tote Bags "Genealogy is my Bag" \$5.00 each

(2 styles pocket or no pocket) same price for each

Contact Louise LaRue at 252-1070 or email lourue@imt.net

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Society's happenings

October 2009 Membership Report

As a reminder, YGF dues lapse as of September 1st each year. If your address label indicates that we have not received your renewal, this will be your last Gen Bug. We don't want to lose you, so please don't let that happen! Remit your renewal today.

Yearly dues are only \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a family. Donations of any amount may also be made to the YGF Book Fund to purchase books for the Gen-Room; to the YGF Library Fund to cover all other needs of our Gen-Room; and/or to the Stern/NARA Gift Fund which makes more National Archives documents available to genealogists.

Checks should be made payable to YGF and mailed to Shawna Valentine, YGF Membership, 3420 Granger So #20, Billings MT 59102. If you have not yet renewed, a pre-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Also, if you have a new address, phone number, or e-mail address, please let me know at: smv2222@bresnan.net. The year's roster will be printed soon for our next issue and I need your help in making sure all your information is current.

I would also like to welcome back former member:

Sue Delger 2212 Hoover, Billings MT 59102 252-6226 randsdelg@aol.com

Thanks!

Shawna Valentine, Membership Chairman

WE HAVE LOST ONE OF OUR FOUNDING MOTHERS

Farrell Jane Stewart, 74, of Billings, passed away peacefully in her home on Oct. 14, 2009.

She was born in Edina, Minn., on June 1, 1935, to William and Dorothy (Keller) Coffman.

Farrell attended school in Edina and graduated from the University of Montana with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Journalism in 1957. While attending the University of Montana, she was a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority. On May 8, 1958, she married Robert Burns Stewart. The couple later divorced.

Farrell was a reporter for the Billings Gazette from 1957 to 1959, reporting sports information. She was the public relations director at Eastern Montana College from 1964 to 1968 and Rocky Mountain College from 1970 to 1971 and completed a career as a news writer for Eastern Montana College with 26 years of service in 1998. She was also a founding member of the Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, member of Junior League of Billings and Montana Press Women.

Farrell was passionate about life and enjoyed spending time with family and friends. Her favorite activities included the Book Club, The Ya Ya Group, Mah Jong, and her Retirees Luncheon.

Survivors include her children Robert (Dawn), Leslie (Bruce), Jennifer and Todd! (Karen); grandchildren Jared, Courtney, and Maura.

Our deep thanks goes to sister Jenni for her selfless devotion to making Mom's last months so happy.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23, 2009, at the Mayflower Congregational Church. Condolences may be sent online to www.cfgbillings.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the charity of one's choice.

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Helena Conference 2009

The conference is a memory but what a memory!

There were 80 full registrations which came within the planner's projections for Helena.

Jana Sloan Broglin was well received by the attendees and did a marvelous job of holding everyone's attention until the very end. She was very knowledgeable on all the topics she presented and her sense of humor was enjoyed by all.

Sister Dolores Brinkel of the Catholic Diocese helped many of us to understand researching within the Diocese records. The speakers from the Montana Historical Society gave us a wealth of information on their records and the importance of collecting oral history. Karen Huck and Roberta Gebhardt taught the correct method to search the Montana Shared Catalog as well as the different collections in the MSGS library.

The 2009 Anna Mae Hansen Award went to Shirley Rogers who is well deserving of the honor. There were numerous First Family and Early Settler Certificates given out and Volume III is filling fast. Remember the deadline is March 1st.

The banquet entertainment by the Lonnquist's on the Fort Peck Boomtowns was a wonderful opportunity to learn about that particular phase of Montana history.

Thanks to the 13 of you from YGF for attending. Thanks also to Lewis and Clark County Society for hosting the conference in Helena.

Next year we will be "Reaching for the Stars" in Lewistown at the Yogo Inn September 23, 24, 25, 2010. Details to follow.

Verba Valentine 1st Vice President, MSGS

Records of 82 Years Of Canadian Immigration To The UK Now Online

The following announcement was written by Ancestry.ca: Journey of more than 2.6 million Canadians travelling and immigrating to the UK available on Ancestry.ca

- Details all passengers who arrived by sea in the peak period of British immigration.
- Thousands of Canadians will have ancestors in the collection.
- Famous Canadians with a link to the collection include Yousuf Karsh, Lennox Lewis, and Andrew Bonar Law.

(Toronto, ON – October 20th, 2009) The UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960, detailing the travels of Canadian men and women who arrived in the UK during the twilight years of the British Empire, are available on Canada's leading family history website Ancestry.ca.

The collection contains records of more than 18 million immigrants and tourists who arrived on British shores throughout the 19th and 20th centuries before commercial flights became the norm. Among those listed are 2.6 million passengers who set sail from Canada's shores.

Much of the movement during the 82-year-period the collection covers were as a result of British colonies achieving independence. Citizens of these countries, like Canada, were able to move to the UK under the British Nationality Law, and came in the millions in search of prosperity and employment.

Article is continued on page 8.

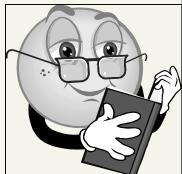
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New Books in the GenRoom

"Campbell County (Wyo.) Chronicles: The Way We Were"

"The Oxford Dictionary of English Christian Names"

"A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England: Showing Three Generations of Those Who Came Before May 1692, On the Basis of Farmer's Register"



Records of 82 Years Of Canadian Immigration To The UK Now Online

The collection contains records for the arrival into the UK of many Canadians of note, including:

- Yousuf Karsh Renowned photographer who took the famous portrait of Winston Church with the scowl. The photo captured Churchill and the Britain of the time perfectly defiant and unconquerable. Karsh traveled to the UK in September 1943 aboard the merchant ship Tungsha, setting sail from Halifax and arriving at Bristol, England.
- Andrew Bonar Law Born in New Brunswick, he would become, to this day, the only foreign-born UK Prime Minister. Law made several visits between the UK and Canada, including an August 1908 trip with family from Halifax to London aboard the S.S. Ulunda.
- Lennox Lewis The parents of the 1988 Canadian Olympic boxing gold medalist and former heavyweight champion of the world moved to England from Jamaica in the 1950s. Lennox's mother, Violet, arrived in August 1957 aboard the S.S. Irpinia.
- Max Aitken The First Baron of Beaverbrook was born in Ontario and moved to the UK where he became a newspaper tycoon and writer during the early 1900s. He lists his occupation as 'journalist' on a manifest from the Empress of Britain, which arrived in Southampton, England from Quebec in August 1939.

Each record includes the passenger's name, age, occupation, and intended address in the UK.

The collection is a hugely valuable tool for anyone trying to trace their family's global movements and provides a unique insight into immigration patterns at a time of great change and decline in the life of the British Empire.

Ancestry.ca Marketing Director, Karen Peterson comments: "Many Canadians travelled and moved to the UK during this time period – some looking for better job opportunities, others to reunite with family and some even to help in the war efforts."

"These records are a vital resource for anyone tracing their family's movements to the UK and could shed light on the British ancestors of countless Canadians."

The collection also reveals information on tourists and those returning to the UK during the golden age of maritime travel. Famous names that appear include Canadians Lester B. Pearson, Sir Frederick Banting, Vincent Massey and Lawren Harris as well as American political and cultural icons such as Albert Einstein, Walt Disney and Ronald Reagan.

The *UK Inbound Passenger Lists* complements Ancestry's already comprehensive international collection of passenger lists, which includes the names of more than seven million immigrants who travelled to Canada between 1865 and 1935.

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at http://www.eogn.com.

No periodical listing was submitted for this newsletter. So until next year when we have a new Genbug you might go down to the GenRoom and see what is available Be sure to look at the old ones that are on the shelf or as you come into the GenRoom. You just might find something that will help you out with your research and it only takes a few minutes to look at what we have in there.

Locating Your Ancestor's Final Resting Place By Juliana Smith 21 October 2009

With Halloween just around the corner, you're probably noticing an inordinate number of tombstones popping up on the lawns of your neighbors. Being a family historian, you may find yourself drawn to these mini-cemeteries, but alas, unless you're related to Seymour Bones or Izzy Deadyet, they probably don't contain any clues to your ancestry.

Genealogists are generally ahead of the curve when it comes to appreciating cemeteries because of the great information we can often find in them. However, sometimes locating your ancestor's final resting place can present a challenge.

Your ancestor's death record is a good place to start your search. Many death records provide the name of the cemetery in which the deceased was to be buried. Obituaries are another obvious source of burial information.

In cases where you don't know the death date or have been unable to locate these records, going directly to the cemetery is another option—but to which cemetery? Start your search close to where your ancestor lived and check the cemeteries nearest your ancestor. Some religious sects maintain their own burial grounds.

However, your ancestor might not be buried as near to home as you'd think. As cities grew, sometimes the dead were moved to make more room for the living. An example of this is chronicled in the **Encyclopedia of Chicago**. In this article it describes the removal of bodies from Chicago's City Cemetery, which was located in what is now Lincoln Park, to various other cemeteries.

As the cemeteries in larger cities were pushed to the outskirts and beyond city boundaries, there was also an increased need for transportation to the cemeteries. Often spur lines were created off railroads in the city and special funeral cars would transport the deceased and mourners to the cemetery.

In some cases, an ancestor may have been transported to an entirely different city or state for burial, perhaps with other family members. Since the transport of bodies was regulated because of the fear of infectious diseases, you may be able to locate body transit records or burial permits. Body transit records for New York City, 1859-1894 have been microfilmed and are available through the Municipal Archives of City of New York, as well as through the Family History Library. Check on the city, county, and state levels when seeking out these records. **The Washington State Digital Library** has McNeil Island Burial Transit Permits 1944-1961 online. **The King County [Washington] Archive** lists burial permits among its holdings as well.

You may even find that some of these records have been made available online. The Michigan USGenWeb Project has posted Lenawee County, Michigan, Fairfield Township Burial Transit Permits, 1940-1953 in its archives.

Other Resources

If you can get your hands on a good local map for the vicinity in which you are searching, you may find the cemeteries outlined on the map.

The U.S. Geological Survey's **Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)** is a very useful tool for locating cemeteries and other features near where your ancestor lived. Click on "Search Domestic Names" and by entering the county name and state and selecting "cemetery" from the "Feature Class" drop-down menu, you can see a list of cemeteries for a particular county. From the list of results, you can click on each cemetery name for more information and to map the location using MapQuest and other mapping tools.

If you want to look at railroads near your ancestor's home and what cemeteries were connected to that line, see the **Railroad Maps Collection**, **1828-1900** at the Library of Congress.

You may find your ancestor's cemetery has an online index. Ancestry.com has more than two hundred cemetery databases among its collections, and some cemeteries are even posting their own indexes online. **Green-Wood Cemetery** in Brooklyn, New York is a good example of this.

Genealogical societies are great when it comes to recording cemetery information. <u>The Chicago Genealogical Society</u> has just published a new book of *Chicago Cemetery Records 1847-1863* and has published several other titles with information from area cemeteries. Check with societies in the areas in which your ancestor lived for similar publications or online databases.

These are just a few ideas to get you started. Do you have a tip for locating ancestral graves? Please share it with us in the comments below.

We're on the Web www.ancestry.rootsweb.com/ ~mtygf

Address Service Requested

YELLOWSTONE GENEALOGY FORUM C/O PARMLY BILLINGS LIBRARY 510 NORTH BROADWAY BILLINGS, MT 59101

2009 Programs & Events at a glance

January 27th Repairing Old Books by Paul Reeder
February 24th Restoring Old Photos by Steven Kops

March 24th Podcasts, websites, and other Genealogy tech tips by Jason Herman & Rick Davis

April 28th Loween Peterson – Doing research in Sweden

May 26th BLM – History Mystery

June 23rd 1st ½ - High Plains Women's Museum

2nd 1/2 - Yellowstone County Museum

July 28th Kevin Kooistra-Manning – Railroads Shape Our Towns

August 25th Ellen Arguimbau, MT State Historical Society—Hidden People in the Archives

September 22nd What I Found on My Summer Vacation—reports of successful research

September 25th & 26th MSGS State Convention, "Growing Genealogy", Red Lion in Helena, MT

October 27th Rick Davis, Family Search Wiki and Family Search Updates and other Tidbits

November 24th Land Records by Our very own president PJ Smith

December 22nd No Meeting

Please remember, these are subject to change!