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FADED GENES

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HELENA, MONTANA

**FADED GENES
IS PUBLISHED FOUR
TIMES A YEAR;
MARCH, JUNE,
SEPTEMBER &
DECEMBER
BY THE
LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

Please direct all queries to: Queries Committee Chairperson P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59604. Queries submitted by members to the FADED GENES for publication are free. Non-member queries are charged \$10.00 new rate effective 12/1/2019.

Direct all other correspondence to the Lewis & Clark County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59604. Please enclose a LSASE with the correspondence if you anticipate a response.

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Please send appropriate copy to: Lewis & Clark County Genealogical Society, c/o editor, P.O. Box 5313, Helena, MT 59604.

LIBRARIES

Genealogy Library, Helena. Located in the Lewis and Clark Public Library. Staffed Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 1:00-3:00 pm. Books are available to peruse anytime the library is open.

Family History Center, Helena. 1610 East 6th Avenue. Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Entrance at the back of the LDS Church on west end toward the Capital. Telephone no. 406-443-0716

Lewis & Clark Public Library, Helena, 120 S. Last Chance Gulch. Hours: Monday-Friday 10:00 am to 8:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday 11:00 am to 5:00 pm (Hours subject to change).

Montana Historical Society Research Center, Helena, Memorial Building, Roberts & 6th Avenue. Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Tuesday-Friday (except holidays). Temporarily closed begin Jan 1, 2023 due to construction of new building.

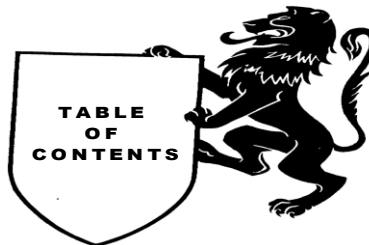
Montana State Library, Helena, 6th Avenue & Sanders. Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday-Friday (except holidays).

Suggestions?

We are always glad to hear from you! What materials do you want included in the newsletter? Do you have any family stories you wish to publish? Any and all suggestions and additions for this newsletter are appreciated. Send your suggestions to the Editor or any of the Officers.

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Treasurer	Sandi Olsen	443-5743
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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Library Coordinator Mary Pitch 443-3452

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Dues are: \$20.00 per individual or \$25.00 per family. Dues are payable by February 1st of each year. Payment of dues prior to the third quarterly newsletter will ensure you copies of all current year newsletters. Organization subscription with no exchange is \$10.00 per year. Due to limited space the Society cannot accept newsletters with other societies but we are willing to still provide you our copy at no charge.

MEETINGS

Society General meetings are generally held the third Wednesday of each month at Lewis & Clark Public Library, 120 S Last Chance Gulch at 6pm.

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Lewis & Clark County Genealogical Society
email address: lccgen1@gmail.com

You may contact any officer through this address or if you have any research needs for Helena and the local area.

You may also see more information about our society at our **NEW** website: www.lccgsmt.org

Follow us on FACEBOOK - Lewis & Clark County Genealogy Society

Montana State Genealogical Society (MSGGS)
Website: montanamsgs.org

MSGGS Library Catalog:
mymontanalibrary.com

President Message

At our September meeting Roberta Gebhart from the Montana Historical Society presented an update on the new building progress, how they are protecting the collections during construction, their new partnership with Newspapers.com, new content on Chronicling America, and new Haynes images on the Montana History Portal. It was a wonderful presentation and exciting to see what the new building will look like.

Many members of our society attended the Montana State Genealogical Society State Conference at Bozeman September 21-23, 2023. The theme was “Our Present and Future from the Seeds of Our Past.” We learned a lot from national speakers Annette Burke Lyttle and Tina Beard, enjoyed a banquet with guest speaker Dr. Matthew Herman, Professor of Native American Studies at MSU, and spent all our money at the Book Frolic. We were happy that we remembered to get a group photo!



At our October meeting, we announced a committee was called by the board to update the By-Laws which had not been updated since 1995. Julie Walker, Sandi Olson, and Liza Guevin volunteered to be on the committee. For the October program, we had a national speaker via Zoom, Jennifer Roodzant of The Descendant Genealogist. She presented “After the Fire: Techniques for Overcoming Record Loss.” It was an enlightening program on how to use alternative records and sources in places that have had record loss.

Our November program was very well received – Nick Sheedy, Lead Genealogist for the PBS television show Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., joined us to talk about his career and working on the show. Afterward he did a question-and-answer session. The program was recorded and is available at this link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/s0Ej2WGRzVx1PW23YchfYNjSITJyU4pc-iT8ht46mWLSajph2_bSir5-7lLvjlIm.ZhkemOQRQk_50vBy

Passcode is: #Mi+B7P%

At our December meeting we followed up on a recommendation by the Board of Directors to increase the annual dues from \$16.00 to \$20.00 for an individual membership, and from \$21.00 to \$25.00 for a family membership. A vote was held and the recommendation passed. That was followed by our annual Holiday party where everyone brought treats and a story or heirloom to share. The time went very quickly as everyone shared a story about a favorite ancestor, research finding, or brought an heirloom for “show and tell.” Program director Dennis Heffner ended the evening with some fun games.

In January, member Dianne Klinski shared a fascinating research project to learn the identity of her adopted cousin’s birthparents. Her cousin was born in Germany and adopted around age five. Dianne was able to find records about his birth family in the Arolson Archives. She used several other sources to piece together what happened.

In February we had our annual election. Helen Hoffman’s term was up as a board member at large. The slate of officers for voting was President: Julie Walker, Vice President – no nominations, Secretary Dianne Klinski, Treasurer Sandi Olson, and Board Member at Large Dodie Heffner. All voted in favor of the officers, and they were elected for another year. Our February program included a history of Ireland and how to start with Irish ancestry research, which can be very difficult.

We are looking forward to some great programs in 2024 and more genealogy research fun!

Julie Walker
President

Library Report

The genealogy library has a new printer that will allow you to scan or copy documents. They have also furnished us with a sign that states that our table is reserved for the society Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 1-3.

The viewing report for 2023 was received. We had a total of 7,211 books viewed in the year. This is an average of 600 books per month. The largest being March with 908 and the lowest was June with 308. Our average books per month was more than we digitized

Free Access to Montana Newspapers from Montana Historical Society

Montana Historical Society partnered with newspapers.com and all of the Montana newspapers that were on microfilm have been digitized and are available to view free of charge. Go to mhs.mt.gov/Research Click on historic newspaper and the their link to Newspapers.com Public Access Portal. When putting in a name it will ask you if you want it in “quotes” the answer is Yes! That way you get “John Ross” rather than all article with John and Ross. Once it brings up articles, you can limit what you see. On the right hand side you can drill down to a county. It even lets you put in or choose ten years at a time. At the top you can choose a category, newspaper or sort. I like to sort by oldest first. This gives you a view of their life in the newspapers. Not all newspapers were on microfilm at the library, but this is a great asset to be able to research. Happy Hunting.

The Following books have been donated to the library. Many of them came from the book frolic at the Montana State Genealogy conference in September. Karen, Paul and Rita input them into the library catalog and can be found in the index. They are shelved and ready for your use.

The Families of Moore County, NC 1790-1850 Census and 1777-1823 tax records

Holmes County Ohio to 1985

Sprague, Lamont, Edwall Washington 1881-1981

Beautiful City of Miles (City)

Red Lodge Landmarks

Next Year Country, The Story of Eastern Montana

Back Trailing Along the Little Missouri

Photo History of Aldridge

Trails and Tales of the Highwoods

Anderson Biem Communities

Settlers and Sodbusters, The Bicentennial Project of the Hot Springs Historical Society

Montana Sweet Grass Country: from Melville to the Boulder River Valley

Local Community History of Valley County Montana

Tales of Treasure County

History of Garneill-Judith Gap Area of Central Montana

Crosscuts and Rails, (History of Whitepine, Belnap and Alger)

German Census Records 1816-1916

Census Substitutes & State Census Records V1, V2, V3

Yearbooks:

College of Great Falls 1953

Centerville HS 1948

Choteau HS 1954

MSU Bozeman 1943

Roundup 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951

Calendar of Events

Here are our program topics for the next few months:
Mar 2024 – Oct 2024

- Mar: Roots Tech Review --> Julie Walker / Dennis Heffner / Others
 - Apr: A look at Butte Silverbow Public Archives --> Lindsey & Aubrey
 - May: Native Americans & Genealogy --> Mike Jetty
 - June: Maps (using several map websites to do research & view & create maps) --> Dennis Heffner
 - July: Home of Peace Cemetery, Jewish Cemetery Visit --> Patty Dean
 - Aug: Annual Potluck Picnic
 - Sept: Researching for Family Book --> Christy Leskovar
 - Oct: Navigating the Records from the War of 1812 --> Brian Rhinehart
-

From Wall Street Journal October 28, 2022

Agents Who Took Deals to The Grave

by Mary-Jean Gianquinto, Associate broker, The Corcoran Group, Brooklyn Heights N.Y

It was an estate sale in Carroll Gardens. Estate sales are usually complicated, with families and lawyers, but I've never experienced anything like this. I was representing the buyers. Basically, the title company wouldn't clear us to close because they couldn't find the death certificates of the owners' deceased grandparents. They had died in the 1960's, and in a very typically Brooklyn-Italian situation, the son had inherited the house. When the son died and his wife died, that's when the children put the house on the market. We had the death certificates of the sellers' parents, but they weren't on the title.

Clearly the grandparents were dead, or they would have been vampires, but the title company wouldn't budge. No one could prove that the grandparents had passed away years ago and the title wouldn't clear. The listing agent actually tried to go to the Department of Health to get death certificates, but because of Covid, he couldn't. You had to apply online, and once you do that it kind of goes into a black hole.

The listing agent and I put our heads together. The agent said, "Well, maybe we can go to the cemetery and take a picture of their tombstones. When are you free?"

They were buried in Calvary Cemetery in Queens, which is huge, like a city. We had to go to the office to find them. No one was fazed by it, they gave us the plot numbers, like, "Oh yeah, this is where they are."

It just happened to be a dark, dreary day, a perfect cemetery, found the graves, and took a couple of pictures of the gravestones. I'd never done this before, but bottom line: We had to get it done.

The worst part of this is that after everything was cleared, the buyer backed out—four days before the closing. It was this title situation. They had waited a long time, and when something is held up and people have time to think, that's what happens. There are two things that will kill a deal: time and lawyers.

How many ways can you find 2nd or 3rd cousins?

By editor Terry Atwood

I am constantly looking for relatives that are alive (or recently deceased) that may be related to me even if several generations back. The following are some of the sources that I have had the best results.

DNA Results – this of course only works if the person with a match has entered a tree. For those people who have high matches, I will contact them even if they have no tree, just in case they are willing to share their information with me. Besides the normal DNA testing sites, I find it quite useful to look at Gedmatch results which crosses the DNA sites and also allows for pedigree charts.

Family Search and its connection to Rootstech. I just recently spent many hours looking at the 2nd and 3rd cousins connected through the Rootstech Relatives link (they said I have 26,036 relatives). Sometimes this will actually provide me missing links and many times it only gives me a cousin's name but I can't complete their side because of living relatives. It's still fun to note that they exist and maybe connect with them through Family Search later. I know for a fact that some of the close cousins are not related directly to me because they connect through a second marriage (step or half cousins) because Family Search allows you to show step parents as actual parents of a child.

I belong to a obituary group that reports any deaths of anyone related to an Atwood (directly or through marriage). He provides the complete obituary so if someone dies in an area that I know should be connected to an Atwood (western United States or Canada, especially), I immediately look at my Family Tree Maker data and hopefully I can tie to their parents or spouse. I just recently received an email for a woman that was previously married to my dad's older half-brother – I knew her name but had no details about her until this obituary. In the obituary it even mentions a child they had that gives me a half-first cousin that I never knew about.

1950 Census – Shortly after the census came out I did a lot of searching for family names and locations where I thought families would be found. I was able to add many children and families to my database. Earlier censuses of course can be used but the further back you go the more distant the relationships become.

Family books – If you're lucky enough to find these sources printed in the last 50-70 years, they are a treasure trove of information. I'm lucky in that my Petty line produced a book in the mid 1940's that listed children born at that time. My dad was listed in it indirectly, although incorrectly as a daughter to my grandmother. My Atwood line also has a book that was republished in 2016 from a book written in 1980. It goes clear back to the original Thomas Atwood (1610-1682) and traces many of the lines through 12 or more generations. Even though it doesn't have a lot of my more recent generations, it gives me lots of other Atwood's related to me – which helps me sometimes with the DNA results.

I recently came upon WikiTree which has pedigree data similar to Family Search. I haven't spent a lot of time looking at this information but was excited to know it exists.

I'm sure that many of you have other sources that are helpful to you. Please share them with the society so that we all get to keep digging into our family members.

Lewis & Clark
County
Genealogical
Society



P.O. Box 5313 Helena, Montana 59604

Membership Application

SOCIETY INFORMATION

1. The Society meetings are usually held the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the large meeting room at the Lewis & Clark Library, 120 S. Last Chance Gulch.
2. The Society has a library located at the Lewis & Clark Library which is open any time the library is open. Volunteers from the society are there Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 1:00 to 3:00 PM to help if needed.
3. Members can at no cost have Queries published in the society's quarterly newsletter.
4. The membership dues are \$20.00 individual and \$25.00 family per year. Membership starts in March and payments received after August will begin the next year. Make checks payable to Lewis and Clark County Genealogical Society, or LCCGS.

Date: _____

Membership type: Individual Family

Name: _____

If Family membership, names of other members: _____

Email address(es): _____

Mailing address: _____

Telephone number: _____ landline cell phone

Newsletter preference: email paper/mail

Mail form and dues to:

**LCCGS
P.O. Box 5313
Helena, MT 59604**

Lewis & Clark Co. Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 5313
Helena, MT 59604

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GUARANTEED
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REQUESTED

TO:

SWAP AND SELL

This section in the newsletter is for the listing of genealogical items such as city directories, school annuals, any books, newsletters, etc. that are no longer needed or that you might have duplicates of, either to trade for similar items or sell. We reserve this privilege for our membership and those societies that we exchange newsletters with at no cost of listing. We need to receive the information you wish to have published at least one month prior to our publishing date.