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FADED GENES

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

HELENA, MONTANA

**FADED GENES
IS PUBLISHED FOUR
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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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Full page	7"x 10"	\$30.00

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.

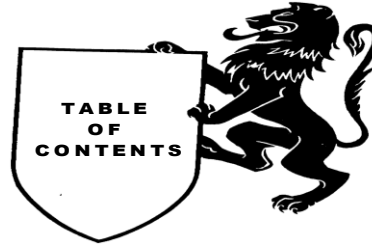
Montana State Library, Helena, 6th Avenue & Sanders. Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday-Friday (except holidays).

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.

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MEMBERSHIP

Membership Dues are: \$16.00 per individual or \$21.00 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 (MSGs)
Website: montanamsgs.org

MSGs Library Catalog:
mymontanalibrary.com

President Message

Many members of our society are anticipating the Montana State Genealogical Society annual conference in Bozeman September 21st to 23rd.

(<http://montanamsgs.org/conferences.html>) This annual gathering is a fun event to learn about new genealogy methods and sources, and connect with genealogy friends around the state. National speakers Annette Burke Lyttle and Tina Beaird will present a variety of lectures sure to provide ideas and strategies to advance your research and genealogical goals. I encourage everyone to attend, it's a very fun event, especially the evening banquet and socializing.

Speaking of the state society, I encourage members to consider volunteering for a role on the Executive Board. The MSGS is seeking nominations for the positions of President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Secretary. You can nominate yourself or others, as we need people to fill the positions to keep the society going strong! The time commitment is not a large one. If you can help, email Mary Pitch at msgstr registrar@gmail.com.

This past June, after a hiatus for the remodel, our monthly meetings returned to the Lewis & Clark Library. It has been wonderful to be back in the new beautiful high-tech large conference room. We've been able to use their equipment and present our programs online as well as in person. The meetings are promoted to the public on the library website, which has brought in many new faces. Program director Dennis Heffner took the opportunity at the June meeting to show the group some tips and tricks for using Google in our genealogy research.

July's meeting and program included railroad expert John Shontz sharing information about Montana's historic railroad lines and how people traveled in our ancestor's times. For the first time in our society, the meeting was recorded and is available to watch online:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/INtVFfAp4Y9CjBhRdRdaM7Grwv4Yy3vpab0AX5UQ55O4-zb4QcKpDBIScwM3UgcH.e4oAolKpuQjtE2Tk>

In August we gathered for our annual summer picnic and potluck. We shared a meal and stories of some fun genealogy finds over the past months.



We are looking forward to kicking off the fall program year with some exciting programs. In September staff from the Montana Historical Society will give an update on the new building construction and how they are handling the archives during the process. See you then!

Julie Walker
President

Calendar of Events

Future Programs of the LCCGS and other important dates to note. Some of the programs are tentative so wait for the Calling Committee notification. If you have an Email address, please give it to Mary Pitch and she will send you a meeting reminder electronically. This should help in speeding up the calling process.

At this time we are going to start meeting at the Public Library on the 3rd Wednesday of the month starting at 6pm. This change will help us be closer to our library books as well as better internet access.

We need input from all members as to what kind of future events your society should be having for their monthly meetings. Without your help, our Society cannot grow or continue to provide wonderful meetings. To make a recommendation, email Dennis Heffner atdheffner98@aol.com.

MT DEATH INDEX CD - UPDATE-2008-2012

The Montana State Genealogical Society has created a 3rd Montana State Death Index CD that covers deaths in the State from 2008 to 2012. This update is available for a price of \$10. The 2nd CD for years 2003-2007 is still available for \$10. This will be a great addition to the original CD, which covers all the deaths reported to the State from the 1800s through 2002. Most of the records give the person's age and the county where they died. The data is in Microsoft ACCESS format in 10 year searchable increments if you don't know exact information. Included on the CD is a current list of Montana Counties, their numbers, and addresses. There is a helpful "read-me" file that explains some of the intricacies of the database. The original CD is still being offered for \$20.00, which includes postage and handling. Send your order to MSGS, PO Box 5313, Helena, MT 59604.

Grandparent's Day Sept 10, 2023

Submitted by Terry Atwood

Grandparent's day is the second Sunday of September. I've always thought of this day more from the perspective that I am a grandparent. One of my genealogy blogs brought out that we should think about our grandparent's (and even great-grandparents) that have passed and our times we had with them when we were younger. It got me thinking about how I dealt with my grandparents as I was growing up.

I had 4 sets of grandparents because of divorces. My maternal grandmother, Viola Klein (Bier, Whitman, Maciel) lived in town (Billings), so saw her quite a lot. I only knew her as a Maciel. We called her the close grandmother. Her parents died before she was 11 so no way of meeting them. It's also because of this situation that my grandmother knew very little of her family history (although once in the late 1980's we did go to a family reunion in Lolo and met some of the Klein family.)

My paternal grandmother, Phyllis Christensen (Atwood, Brinley, Dyet) was called the far away grandmother as she lived in Utah. We saw her about once every other year, usually for Christmas or during a summer trip to Utah. She did make one trip to Helena a year after our child was born in 1984. We also had family reunions every 3 years prior to her death in 1997 so got to see her then with all the relatives. I may have met her father Lester Christensen because he died in 1996 but I was too young (I was born in 1958) to remember and I haven't seen any pictures with us visiting him. Her mother had died in 1942, so if there was a picture of a wife it would have been his second wife who happened to be a sister to my great grandmother.

I saw a lot less of my grandfathers. My maternal grandfather Ted Bier lived outside of Billings on the farm near Molt and I didn't see him a lot unless we went to the farm. I don't have a lot of memories of him until I was about 10. I do recall one of the best times with him was when we went to Martinsdale Reservoir and went fishing in his little motor boat, which almost capsized in a storm that popped up unexpectedly. As we got older, we did start to do a little more with him. About 1969, I met his father (my great grandfather Conrad Bier) who was the only great grandparent I ever remember meeting (he lived in North Dakota), which was about a year before he died. He was a very tall German Russian. His wife had died about 20 years before him (10 years before I was born).

Meeting my paternal grandfather Hyrum Atwood was one of my biggest and earliest genealogy accomplishments. My dad really did not know his father (they divorced when he was less than 2 years old) and the last time he had seen him (from a distance) was just before he joined the army in 1946 (dad was about 18). He did keep in contact with some of his half-siblings but never met him again until 1981. It was at this time that I had gotten into genealogy and wrote my grandpa a letter. Out of this letter writing, he finally decided to come up to Billings for a visit. We had a wonderful visit and sadly he passed away about a year later, so I was happy that the visit took place.

Just When You Think You Know Someone ...

Submitted by Gary Wulf

In June I went to Sitka, AK to attend a memorial for Galen Insteness, the uncle I'd been closer to than any other of my parents' siblings. He lived in Alaska most of the time from 1947 until his passing in 2022. During my 8 years in Alaska, I saw him often, and even lived with him for a while in a remote cabin I'd helped him build.

As his three children and five other cousins went through the meager possessions he'd kept with him in small quarters in the Alaska Pioneer's Home several items caught my attention.

First, a large stack of genealogy research. I'd known he'd written a brief family history for one of our reunions, but the volume of material was surprising. (I could barely get my 4" high pile into the remaining space in my carry-on luggage.) I had sent him emails of my findings from time to time but was unaware of how deep his interest went.

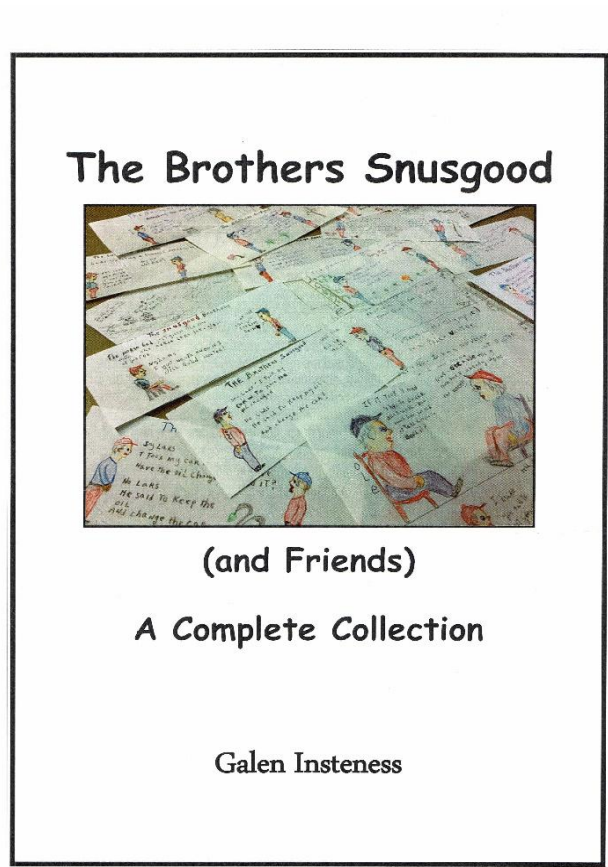
Second, we found a deed for the property he had purchased northwest of Kalispell, MT at age seventeen, and on which he immediately erected a tar-paper shack. He had moved with his parents & siblings to the Flathead area in 1944 after his dad had given up trying to make a living on the family homestead near Froid, MT and auctioned off the farm and equipment. Evidently the "land is wealth" mantra had caught Galen's attention even at that tender age. The failure of the dry-land farm he may have ignored when he saw how green northwest Montana was.

During his time at the Pioneer Home, Galen drew illustrations of staff there. His letters to me had often included drawings to illustrate comments but I was unaware of how prolific he became at the Home.

At the urging of the editor of the Home's monthly newsletter, The Prospector, he started contributing original cartoons to the newsletter. They depicted events in the lives of The Brothers Snusgood, which became the title of the Prospector's monthly comic strip. In 2018 the editor assembled them and several yet-unpublished ones into homemade glue-bound booklets for Galen and his kids. This eventually led to the publication of "The Brothers Snusgood (and Friends) A Complete Collection" in 2022.

The "Snusgood" in the title may need explaining to non-Norwegian readers. Snus is Norwegian for snuff, or pinch of snuff, finely ground tobacco inserted into the nose, but often used for any tobacco (Norwegian tobakk) that was chewed, rather than smoked.

Galen's experiences with his father's snoose-chewing (as spelled by my Norwegian relatives) may have suggested the title. Galen would hold a board on which Grandpa Helmer was sawing while dribbling snus juice onto Galen's hands. Passengers in the back seat of the car would have to be wary when Helmer spit out the driver's window to avoid getting hit by the spray through the back window.



The Lives of the Capt James Moore family: Submitted by Elizabeth Guevin

During the American Revolutionary War, Capt James Moore, my 5 times great-grandfather was in charge of a rifle militia in the Guilford Court House Battle. Then he had the unfortunate luck to be in the Abb's Valley Massacre.

The Guilford Court House Battle took place in what is now Greensboro, North Carolina. The battle pitted Loyalist Lieutenant General Cornwallis against Major General Greene. Although Greene was defeated, it was a strategic victory for the Revolutionary troops. Cornwallis was fresh off his victories in Georgia and South Carolina, when he encountered Greene. Greene's troops were outnumbered; however they destroyed 27% of Cornwallis's troops. Cornwallis decided North Carolina was not worth his trouble, so he split his troops as he marched into Virginia. Half went into the north and the other to the south. This led to his defeat as he met General George Washington in battle.

Now back to Capt Moore. After the war, Moore returned home to Abb's Valley, Virginia. He settled into a good life with his wife, Martha, and their children on land he had bought from other settlers who decided to move back to cities and land he bought from his in-laws.

On 14 Jul 1786, Capt Moore was out in a field attending horses with a hired hand, when a band of Shawnee attacked. Capt Moore ran for his cabin. The hired hand was killed with a tomahawk to the head. When the Capt, with 3 children in tow, got to their cabin, another band of Shawnee were attacking. His wife, Martha had shut the door to the cabin in hopes of saving the other children and a hired man and woman also in the cabin. Locked out, Capt Moore and the 3 children were slain. Before the Shawnee breached the door to the cabin, the hired man was looking out a shuttered window and was killed with a bullet to the eye. While the Shawnee were breaching the cabin door, the hired woman, Ellen, hid beneath a floor board. The Shawnee eventually got in and took Martha and her 5 children captive.

The Shawnee set off back to their camp with their captives. Two of Martha's children were very young. The Shawnee deemed the infant and the 3 year old not worth having, so they were violently killed. Back at the cabin, Ellen came out from under the floor board. She wanted to go for help. She ran into the woods, got lost, but the Shawnee found her, and she joined Martha and the 3 remaining children. When the Shawnee got to their camp, Martha, Ellen and the eldest child, Jane were burned at the stake. This left Mary and John Moore still alive.

The Shawnee often took young captives and sold them into slavery. So this was Mary and John's fate. Each was sold to a different owner. Mary went to a trapper, who sold her to another and she was sold again, the last time to another trapper. John went to a tradesman and ended up at Fort Detroit.

One day on an unknown date, John with his owner were at a fort in Canada, trading. He saw his sister! She was there with the trapper who owned her, trading furs. She looked dirty, emaciated, and "the picture of destitution and wretchedness". Over time, John and Mary were able to meet and converse several times.

Back in Abb's Valley, at the site of the massacre, there was a knight in shining armor. Capt Moore's eldest son, James Moore, III who was away during the attack. When word reached him, he hurried home. He was 16 years old, and he set out to find Mary and John. James started his journey with a tomahawk, musket and a knife. It would take him 3 long years, but he eventually found Mary and John and would buy them back from their owners.

The three siblings returned to Abb's Valley, Virginia. Mary wed Pastor Samuel Brown. The church where he was the pastor and they married, still stands. Mary gave birth to 11 children. After her husband died, (1818), she had a cradle made for her to curl up in and sleep every night until she died in 1824. It was said she suffered from insomnia from her years in captivity. Before she died, Mary recounted the story of the Shawnee massacre, her capture, years in slavery, and then her quiet life afterwards, to her son, James Moore Brown. James wrote a book, "The Captives of Abb's Valley, A Legend of Frontier Life".

Lewis & Clark County Genealogical Society

Membership Application

SOCIETY INFORMATION

1. The Society meetings are generally held the third Wednesday of each month at Lewis & Clark County Public Library large meeting room, 120 S. Last Chance Gulch, at 6:00 pm., although summer meetings may be held at other locations.

2. The Society has a library located in the Lewis & Clark County Public Library. Hours: Tuesday and Thursday and Saturday 1 pm to 3pm. Members can use any time the main library is open.

3. Members can at no cost have Queries published in the Societies Quarterly Newsletter. The Newsletter is exchanged with other Societies both in and out of state.

4. The Membership Dues are: Individual - \$16.00 and Family - \$21.00. Membership starts in March and payments received after August will begin the next year.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE QUESTIONS LISTED BELOW:

SURNAME _____ FIRST NAME _____ MIDDLE NAME _____

DATE OF BIRTH: MONTH _____ DAY _____ YEAR _____

APPLICANTS PLACE OF BIRTH: CITY _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ MAIDEN NAME _____

SPOUSE'S NAME: SURNAME _____ FIRST _____ MIDDLE _____

DATE OF BIRTH: MONTH _____ DAY _____ YEAR _____

SPOUSE'S PLACE OF BIRTH: CITY _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ MAIDEN NAME _____

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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.