

GREAT FALLS GENEALOGY SOCIETY

The Falls Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2020

Celebrating 45 Years - 1975-2020



The Genealogy Library will be closed Through December

Given the increasing number of COVID cases in Cascade County, the GFGS Board feels that we owe it to our volunteers, community, and our health workers to be cautious. For that reason, the GFGS Library will be closed through 31 December 2020.

GFGS Genealogy Hour Wednesdays at 11 a.m. (MST) via ZOOM, beginning 2 DECEMBER 2020.

The Great Falls Genealogy Society has its own ZOOM platform for its monthly General Meetings and it is also available for us to use to communicate with members.

“Wednesdays at 11AM” offers members the chance to participate in a **brief overview of new sources/resources**, and “What’s New in the Library and Online” (books acquired, those available to check out, new resources at our web page). **Participants can also make queries concerning their personal genealogies and talk about their latest finds.**

Join Jan Thomson, Moderator, by answering the ZOOM invitation mailed to you; you must answer the invitation at the time specified. Jan will have our ZOOM site open from 10:55AM through 11:05AM on the Wednesdays specified.

For more information, email Jan at: jannyt2162@bresnan.net; or 406-788-2162 (please text).

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

With the number of COVID cases in Cascade County continuing to climb, the Great Falls Genealogy Society Board felt we owed it to our volunteers, as well as the Great Falls Public Library, to keep our Library closed. At present we plan to be closed through to the end of December, 2020 and will reassess the local situation at that time.

I wish more of our members had joined us for our October GFGS General Meeting. Rev. Bob Skinner gave an excellent presentation on what has shaped life in the Ukraine and how that has changed since the collapse of the Soviet Union. He has given us permission to post his talk to our website for a limited time, so if missed the presentation and are interested in it or would like to view it again, go to <https://gfgenealogy.org> and follow the instructions there.

Until it is judged safe for us to re-open the GFGS Library, please do all you possibly can to remain safe and healthy. I just finished a time of self-quarantine, being notified that my COVID test results were negative! That was a relief!

*-Larry D. Spicer
GFGS President*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, December 3rd - Acquisition Meeting, 1:00 p.m., via Zoom

Saturday, December 5th - Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m., via Zoom

Thursday, December 10th - GFGS General Meeting, 6:00 p.m., via Zoom.



**NEW IN THE
LIBRARY
as of
3 October 2020**

Books:

- A Warrior of the People
- Algeria Temple, Helena, MT
- American Ex-prisoners of War
- Carmack Family Genealogy, The
- Encyclopedia of Indian Wars: Western Battles and Skirmishes 1850-1890
- Fever Season: The Story of a Terrifying Epidemic and the People Who Saved a City
- Finals, The: A Complete History of the National Finals Rodeo
- Fish into Wine: The Newfoundland Plantation in the Seventeenth Century
- Historic Tales of Whoop-up Country: On the Trail from Montana's Fort Benton to Canada's Fort Macleod
- History of the Early Settlement and Indian Wars of Western Virginia
- History of the Ojibway People
- I, Rigoberta Menchu: An Indian Woman in Guatemala
- Jamestown Brides, The: The Bartered Wives of the New World
- Magic of German Church Records, The
- New England's Generation: The Great Migration and the Formation of Society and Culture in the Seventeenth Century
- Quartered in Hell (WWII)
- Rainy River MNO Root Ancestors (Metis)
- Ranching in the Shadow of Wolf Butte
- Sons of Wind and Soil (Nobleford, AB)
- Strangers in Blood: Fur Trade Company Families in Indian Country
- Where They Fell

Yearbooks:

- C.M. Russell High School, *Russel-log*, 1983, 1998, 2000-2003, 2005, 2008-2009, 2016-2018, 2020

Directories:

- Trinity Lutheran Church, 2006, 2012, 2017

DUES ARE DUE!

*It's membership
renewal time.*

If you haven't renewed your membership, please take a moment to do so. Membership dues are the primary source of our operating funds. Your continued support as a member is the fuel that keeps us going.

THANK YOU!

This Incredible Google Experiment Lets You Time Travel to Your Ancestors' Hometown 200 Years Ago
29 Oct 2020

Nate Berg has published an article in the [Fast Company](#) web site that will interest many genealogists. He describes his latest project as a virtual reality trip through your home town 200 years ago. However, if it was me, I'd be more interested in seeing my ancestors' home towns of 200 years ago.

Old fire insurance maps of several major U.S. cities have already been converted to virtual reality. The map, called "rø," is a project Raimondas Kiveris has led through his research into artificial intelligence and machine learning at Google. Though still in a very early form, the map is functional enough to offer a glimpse of what someone would have seen on a city street decades in the past.

The map was created using historical fire insurance maps, a rich source of information for the built environment that includes precise information about building ages, sizes, heights, roof shapes, and even materials. The map creates simplified 3D models of these buildings.

Eventually, with enough visual data contributed, Kiveris says the map will be able to create lifelike representations of entire neighborhoods that could be good enough to use as the setting for video games or even movies.

You can read a lot more about this project at: <https://bit.ly/34BCxxy>.

-Eastman's Online
Genealogy Newsletter

**MISSION OF THE
GREAT FALLS
GENEALOGY SOCIETY**

The mission of the Great Falls Genealogy Society is to promote and encourage active interest in genealogy, compile accurate and complete genealogies and collect and preserve genealogical records. Additionally, the Society will foster education and training in genealogy through courses and instruction in genealogy, lectures, forums, seminars, and special work.

Officers:

Larry D. Spicer, President
Jan Thomson, Vice President
Ann Dues, Secretary
Cheryl Lucas, Treasurer
Trustees: Jerry Clarke,
Linda Long, Gary Campbell

Committee Chairs:

Acquisitions: Larry Spicer
Membership: Ann Dues
Publications: Jan Thomson
Projects: Carol Byerly
Research: Diane Green
Technology: Linda Long

Webmaster:

Merle Anne McLeish

Newsletter Editor:

Linda Long

Society Library Hours:

Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



The Falls Newsletter is published monthly by the Great Falls Genealogy Society, 301 2nd Ave N, Great Falls, MT 59401. Members of GFGS receive the newsletter as part of their memberships.



Members and the public are encouraged to submit material for publications. Articles should be sent electronically if possible. Deadline for submission is the fifteenth of the month. Neither Great Falls Genealogy Society nor the editor assumes responsibility for errors of fact or opinions expressed by the contributor. The editor reserves the right to edit material prior to publication. Send articles to the office at the above address or electronically to gfgenealogy@genlibrary.org

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We're on the Web!
gfgenealogy.org