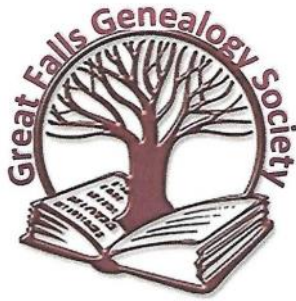


GREAT FALLS GENEALOGY SOCIETY



The Falls Newsletter



FEBRUARY 2024

Established 1975

FEBRUARY MEETING

Our December meeting did not have a quorum so no business could be conducted. We did have a nice tour of the Brother Van House Museum and Great Falls Public Library Director Susie McIntyre gave a program on expectations of our volunteers for the safety of everyone in the library.

We need 10 members to have a quorum for a meeting and if you participate via Zoom you count also. Therefore, you can stay at home, be in your pajamas (we don't judge), snuggle under a blankie with your favorite pet(s) and still be attending the meeting.

Our January meeting was canceled because of the weather. We haven't had a General meeting since November. We'll try again in February!

Our February program: "Wranglers, Dudes, and Homesteaders", featuring Great Falls' pioneer physician, Dr. R.P.R. Gordon. Jan Thomson will present a brief biography of Gordon's life in Great Falls, plus his devotion to the Upper Swan Valley backcountry. Gordon's ranch in the Upper Swan Valley is very famous, and has been featured in a book. Following Jan's overview, a 15-minute documentary of the Upper Swan Valley's homesteaders, dudes, and settlers will be shown. Learn more about our pioneer physician!

The program starts at 6:00 pm Thursday February 8, 2024. The meeting will start approximately 6:30 pm. See you there!

February 2024 Calendar of Events

Thursday, February 1st—Acquisitions Meeting, 3 pm

Thursday, February 1st—Board Meeting, 4 pm

Thursday, February 8th—General Meeting—See above for details

Wednesday, February 14th—Wednesdays at 11, **Clues Found In Death Certificates**, Janet D. Thomson, Facilitator; 11:00 am

Monday, February 19th—Library Closed—President's Day

Wednesday, February 28th—Wednesdays at 11, **DNA Testing: What Should You Expect**, Janet D. Thomson, Facilitator; 11:00 am

Great Falls Montana Family History Center

Address: 1401 9th St NW Great Falls, MT 59404-3338

Email: MT_GreatFalls@familyhistorymail.org

Hours: Wednesday 10:00 am– 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm—8:00 pm or by appointment Call 406-467-3879

WANTED: HORIZONTAL FLAT FILE CABINETS

By Cheryl Lucas

Does anyone know of an engineering firm, planners, etc. that would be looking to donate multi-drawer horizontal flat file cabinets? These cabinets would be used to house our maps and other large items. The main problem we have is getting the cabinets in our library. The doors are only 34 inches wide so that needs to be considered. (My ideal cabinet is 50 inches wide so I can't get it.) There are cabinets for sale that we can purchase but they are \$7,149 each without shipping. They also weigh 945 pounds each so I imagine shipping would put the cost over \$10,000 each. (They won't say how much shipping is until the order is placed.)

2024 Conferences

February 29—March 2, 2024 Roots Tech 2024 Virtual and in Person—Salt Lake City, Utah—<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/>

May 16—18, 2024 National Genealogical Society VIRTUAL! Expanding Possibilities—discount if register before January 31 <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/registration-and-information/>

September 26—28, 2024 Montana History Conference—Great Falls—No Registration Page yet.

September 11—13, 2025 Montana Genealogical Society Conference—Great Falls—No Registration Page yet.

Interested in other conferences? Check out [Conference Keeper](#). Conference Keeper was created as a single go-to website for finding information about genealogy and family history conferences. They list both virtual, hybrid, or in-person events. You can find a conference on almost any topic.

2024 Planned Schedule for Meetings

For planning purposes, here are the 2024 scheduled dates and times for Committees, Board, and General meetings:

<u>Acquisitions 3:00 pm</u>	<u>Board 4:00 pm</u>
1 February	1 February
7 March	7 March
4 April	4 April
2 May	2 May
6 June	6 June
11 July	11 July
1 August	1 August
5 September	5 September
3 October	3 October
7 November	7 November
5 December	5 December
<u>General 6:00 pm</u>	
8 February	
14 March	
11 April	
9 May	
12 September	
10 October	
14 November	
12 December	

Dates and times may be changed if needed through the year. Currently, meetings are hybrid format. The program will be at the beginning of the meeting and the business meeting will be after the program. The length of the program will be announced so Zoom participants can attend only the General Meeting if they desire.

For the consideration of others, when on Zoom please remember to mute your computer/phone during the presentations and classes.

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:

Stacey Corcino, President
Janet D. Thomson, Vice President
Linda Long, Secretary
Cheryl Lucas, Treasurer
Trustees: Gary Campbell,
Diana Kirol, Merle Anne McLeish

Committee Chairs:

Acquisitions: Larry Spicer
Membership: Ann Dues
Publications: Janet D. Thomson
Projects: Vacant
Research: Diane Green
Technology: Linda Long

Webmaster: Merle Anne McLeish

Newsletter Editors: Cheryl Lucas,
Janet D. Thomson

Society Library Hours:

Monday—Saturday
12:00 p.m.—4:00 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 membership.

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 info@gfgenealogy.org.

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Great Falls Genealogy Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit so your donations are tax deductible.



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!

In the past couple of months, we have had two volunteers step down from volunteering in the Montana Room, so we are in desperate need of more volunteers. We are especially needing help on Saturday. Ideally, we would like to have two people scheduled for every day. Part of the reason for having two people is to cover for breaks, absences, etc. Also, if a problem arises two people are good to have. While in the Montana Room you assist patrons as they come in, ensure no one takes anything out of the Montana Room (other than Public Library staff); other than these two duties you may work on anything you want. You may read, craft, work on projects for the Genealogy Society, or sit and contemplate your bellybutton if that is what you want to do.

If you can reliably volunteer for any day of the week in the Montana Room, please let us know. Thank you.

President's Nook

Happy February all!!

I hope this finds everyone doing well and breaking down those brick walls! I myself have not broken down walls but have chipped away at some. I was lucky enough to find some School Records of my family in Montgomery County Illinois in the late 1800's.

I have a few things to pass along this month.

First, we will be getting started on planning our Birthday celebration. If you have any ideas or would like to help please let us know.

Second, we have been asked to participate in the 51st Annual Montana History Conference in September. We have been in discussion with Desiree, President of our State Society, to set up a day with GFGS/MSGs. Currently we are working toward a speaker in the am and in the afternoon a tour and/or a Genealogy Roadshow type of program at the Library. Look for more information as things are decided.

Third, myself, Jan and Cheryl are currently on a group that consists of representatives from the Public Library and History Museum. This group was created by Susie, Director of the Public Library, and is called "Meeting of the Minds". The dream is to become a research destination for all things Cascade County/Montana. Our first step is determining who has what research resources and if there is overlap where the resource should be housed for continuing research use. It doesn't make sense for all of us to have the same resources when we are all suffering with a shortage of room. To that end you may find some shifting in our own Library to accommodate this goal. All of this planning will help all three organizations by letting our patrons know where they can find different resources by producing a guide. It may also help us in the future when applying for grants. Showing that we can work with other organizations for the betterment of our community.

Fourth, MSGS State Conference in 2025. We are still looking for theme ideas. Please be sure to email us or record on form taped to desk printer before March 1st! We will need time to decide from those entered and create a logo by July to give to MSGS. As we get closer I will send out an email or survey looking for volunteers for the Conference. We have several teams lined up to help during the weekend.

And finally, if you are on social media please look for MSGS on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [MSGS website](#). All have been revamped and look fabulous. Be sure to share them with all your friends and family. Social media works best when things are shared A LOT!!

Whew....that is A LOT! We are off to a busy start of 2024.

Happy hunting,

Stacey

Society Business

New in The Library

As of January 2024

- * Our Southern Highlanders A Narrative of Adventure in The Southern Appalachians
 - * Bozeman Map
 - * Yellowstone Map
 - * Wyoming Map
 - * USA 3 Midwest Map
- * Great Falls High School Class of 1958 25th Reunion; 40th Reunion; 45th Reunion
 - * Historical Map Index of Chouteau County, Montana
 - * Great Falls High School Class of 1961 60th Reunion
- * Great Falls High School Class of 1960 30th Reunion and 40th Reunion
 - * Great Falls High School 1960 Roundup
 - * Great Falls A Pictorial History
 - * Fraternal Order of Eagles Page
 - * Commencement Exercises Class of 1960
- * The 272 The Families Who Were Enslaved and Sold to Build the American Catholic Church
 - * Palatine Migrations to Brandenburg and Pomerania
- * Guide to Irish Quaker Records, 1654-1860: With Contribution of Northern Ireland Records

Treasurer's Account

GFGS ended January with a net loss of \$1,607.31. Most of this loss is due to our copier lease of \$600.60 and subscriptions renewals of \$568.90. We also purchased 6 rolls of stamps for \$396.00. We did this before the postage increase so we should be good on stamps for a while. GFGS did receive \$530.00 for memberships in January. It is not too late to pay your membership! Nothing else really happened financially in January so I'll talk more in February. Cheryl

Montana State Genealogical Society 2025 Conference

Will Be In Great Falls!!

We Are Having a Naming Contest!

Great Falls Genealogy Society and Library will be helping Montana State Genealogical Society with their 2025 Conference. The dates are September 11-13, 2025. Remember in 2025 GFGS turns 50! One of the first tasks that GFGS has for the conference is deciding on the name and theme for the conference.

To that end, GFGS is having a contest from now until March 1, 2024 for a Conference Name. If you have an idea for a name please email the Society with your idea. The person who comes up with the winning name will win a prize. Good Luck!!

Watch us
on



Don't forget to like and subscribe. It helps get our content out to the masses. Thank you for all your support!

Society Business

Book Reviews by Janet Thomson

If you thought you had all the info on your New England Pilgrim ancestors, see this book in our GFGS Library. GFGS Library specializes in getting NEW information about these ancestors. Books like this one are under copyright...not available online for a long...long...time!

Moore, Susan H. Pilgrims: New World Settlers and the Call of Home. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 2007.^{JDT}

Well-researched and very readable. Many Pilgrims left New England during the years 1640-1660, and Moore identifies them, along with their motives. Moore's Appendices are very informative: Appendix I: "Pilgrims, Puritans, Migrants"; Appendix II: "New England Settlers Who Returned Home, 1640-1660"—Name, NE Settlement, English Origins, Left NE, English Resettlement, Occupation, et al. Appendix III: NE First Generation Ministers; Appendix IV: Preachers from New England. Moore's Notes are comprehensive and additive, and her Bibliography is STUNNING. Moore identifies (by English county/place and American location) the archives she visited in her quest, and the specific topics researched; she also lists more than 160 primary sources, and 12 pages of secondary sources! Oh, my! Recommended by D. Joshua Taylor and ^{JDT}

New in Our GFGS Library—Transportation Info You Can Use

Berman, Jake. The Lost Subways of North America: A Cartographic Guide to the Past, Present, and What Might Have Been. Chicago, Illinois: The University of Chicago Press, 2023. The title may fool you—there's more to this well-illustrated book than subways! Berman gives a brief primer, including historical background, on transit systems and types within U. S. small and large cities, and HE HAS DRAWN THE MAPS FOR US! Each chapter gives a critical summary of urban transportation in past times, concentrating on a particular city and its problems and opportunities. In many instances, you can "feel" the street car system, railway, bus route... as these meander through a city from your ancestor's neighborhood and environs! Write a paragraph into your family story about what you discovered for the particular period! JDT

U. S. Georgians should definitely read Berman's beginning chapter, "Atlanta: The City Too Busy to Hate" (pp. 6-15) for a rollicking overview of Atlantia's dependence on the railway. For example, see maps of its 1940 Streetcar Lines (started in 1890); their proposed Rapid Transit System (1962); RTS Systems of 1968 and 2022; the fare wars... If your ancestor came from Atlanta or its environs, you'll want to read to find out how her life was influenced by crowded transit systems and constrained planning. Berman performs great overviews and maps of the following U.S. cities: Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis-St. Paul, New Orleans, New York City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Richmond, Rochester, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington, DC. Berman also provides chapters (and great illustrations) on Canadian cities Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver. His recommended reads will draw your attention to entire atlases about particular cities. ^{JDT}

Out online...

Gallatin, Albert. Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, on the Subject of Public Roads and Canals.

Washington, D.C.: Printed by order of the Senate, 1908. Available full-text FREE at catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/100855975. Also available as a reprint, 1968, not free. Remarkable report from the Treasury Secretary recommending that \$20 million be spent on internal improvements for the good of the country. It included: an inland water way from Massachusetts to North Carolina, a major turnpike between Maine and Georgia, several roads crossing the Alleghenies, and a comprehensive set of canals linking the Atlantic seacoast, the Great Lakes, and the St. Lawrence! While not used, today it is regarded as a fantastic template for what did come to be—the transcontinental railroad system, the Interstate Highway System...

This report is well-worth your read; it gives great perspective on the U.S. and its plans in 1808. The U.S. thought big! ^{JDT}

News You Can Use

Tips provided by Janet Thomson:

Here's the word from Bruce Buzbee



RootsMagic Users

Karen Abrams · 1d · 🌐



What is the trick to get the Search field to search on given names as well as surnames? This is in the Index, bottom left, and in the reports. I can successfully search on given name on regular Search (found while seeing if anyone else posted about this yet). Example: trying to search for the first name "Raphael" and am only seeing last name Raphael results. Thank you!

[View more answers](#)



Bruce Buzbee

Type a comma first to signify that you are typing the given name.

Examples:

, John - will give you everyone with John in their given names regardless of their surname

Smith, John - will give you all Johns with the last name Smith (or Smith as part of the last name)

1d Like Reply Edited



[↪ View 1 reply](#)

FAMILYSEARCH CLEANUP TIPS JANUARY 29, 2024



RootsMagic Users

Tom Alciere · 4d · 🌐



Clean up your FamilySearch Family Tree. Open RM 9 and click the FamilySearch icon in the lower left corner. You will have to log into FamilySearch in your browser. When FamilySearch begins requiring 2-factor authentication (2FA) you will need a second factor such as a telephone number where it will send a code for you to key in.

Meanwhile, click SHARE DATA. Go down the list of persons on the left. Look for gaps where you have an event and FSFT does not. Also, you may find persons with two sets of parents, one being a father and mother and the other a father with an unknown mother or a mother with an unknown father of the person highlighted.

Likely you have missing marriages because when you add the bride and groom thru RM the marriage event does not get added. Add the marriage and the marriage source.

Where there are two sets of parents, one set being both parents and the other set being one parent and an unknown, click VIEW ON FAMILY TREE which opens a browser tab. Where the person has only one parent, it should be below where the person has both parents. Make sure the FamilySearch ID of the lone parent matches the FamilySearch ID of the paired parent up above, and make sure the person with one parent matches the FamilySearch ID of the person with two parents. Then click on the pencil that goes with the person with one parent, and you should get a pop-up to edit the person. At the bottom of the pop-up you see a trash can icon and a link that says DELETE RELATIONSHIP. Click that. When it asks you to explain, type in THIS IS A DUPLICATE CONNECTION.

Let me add that if you try to add a parent through RM and the parent does not show up after you attempt, it is probably because the parent is classified as LIVING in FSFT. If the event dates show the person was born more than 110 years ago, click SHOW ON FAMILY TREE and change the death from LIVING to DECEASED and when it asks why you think this is true, write something sarcastic like "Well, her son got married in 1822." Make sure you have unchecked the LIVING box for that person in RM also.



16 comments