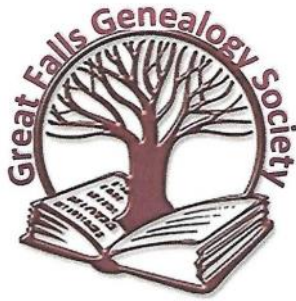


GREAT FALLS GENEALOGY SOCIETY



The Falls Newsletter



JUNE 2024

Established 1975

President's Nook

Happy Summer!! It has been a hot minute since I wrote anything. I hope everyone is planning some great trips over the summer or maybe a staycation! I will be taking a short trip to Butte for a convention and working in the yard as well as putting to work the things I'm learning in my Genealogy Principles class from Boston University. Boy I sure did think I knew quite a bit but I'm now realizing I have been doing easy research on my family.

In June we have some great activities and ways to get involved with YOUR Society. June 8th will be the Summer Bash at the Great Falls Public Library. It is only from 3pm to 6pm and we would love to have volunteers help out with our table. Then June 28-30 is Summer Celebration in Fort Benton. We did this last year and we had a positive response from passers by. Please check the available shifts on the Upcoming Events board in the Library. Or give us a call if you are interested and want to help out. This is an excellent way to attract new researchers and members. We can't grow as a Society if we stay quietly locked away on the 3rd floor of the Library.

Mark your calendars for September 26-28, 2024 for the 51st Annual Montana History Conference. Montana State Genealogical Society along with us will be hosting a day at the library to include a speaker and a Heritage Hustle to help people start their family history research. We will need help with tours or just hang around in the Montana Room and Genealogy Library to help anyone that comes up to explore.

Now onto the 2025 Montana State Genealogical Conference being held here in September at the Heritage Inn. We have settled on the theme of the conference and a logo and has been sent to the State President. Thank you to all that voted in the last questionnaire. We did adjust it a bit (years from 50 to 36) so as to not cause confusion between our Society and the State Society. This theme is the brainchild of Ann Dues!! Thank you Ann!! When we get to 2025 we will start putting together our teams for the various aspects of the conference. It will be wonderful to host this conference in Great Falls.

June 2024 Calendar of Events

Thursday, June 6th—Acquisitions Meeting, 3 pm

Thursday, June 6th—Board Meeting, 4 pm

Summer Wednesdays—Every Wednesday, 1—2 pm, - Janet Thomson,
Facilitator—Zoom, Log in and ask questions, brag or just touch base



Wanted: Homestead or Ownership Maps

GFGS will take any Homestead or Ownership Maps that you no longer want or need. Preferably areas in Montana but if you have one from another state that would be welcome also.

2024 Conferences

August 6—9, 2024 Foundation for East European Family History Studies (FEEFHS)—Salt Lake City, Utah. <https://feefhs.org/index.php/conference-2024/announcement-main> If you use code m06c2a when registering for the conference GFGS will receive \$20 after the conference. For those who might be unfamiliar, FEEFHS was organized in 1992 as an umbrella organization for many genealogy organizations and researchers that focused their research on areas of Eastern Europe. By 2009, FEEFHS refocused its efforts on providing educational opportunities specifically to individual researchers. The scope of FEEFHS encompasses a broad definition of Eastern Europe, including areas of Central Europe. FEEFHS is particularly focused on research in the counties of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, German Empire, Polish/Lithuanian Commonwealth, and Russian Empire/USSR.

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.

Membership Numbers

June	2023	2024
Single	119	104
Joint	20	18
Memberships	139	122
Individuals	159	140

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>
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>	
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.

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!



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 Editor: Cheryl Lucas,

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.

Society Business

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!

Ideally, we would like to have two people scheduled for every day in the Montana Room. 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 think about the weather if that is what you want to do.

We also need librarians to help in the Genealogy Library itself.

Starting June, the Public Library will be open on Sunday and we are planning to be open on Sunday as well. If you can volunteer Sundays please let us know.

Contact the Society by email, phone or mail if you are able to volunteer any day.

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

New in The Library As of May 2024

- * Canoeing With the Cree
- * The Dinkum Dictionary: A Ripper Guide to Aussie English
- * Dreamkeepers: A Spirit-Journey into Aboriginal Australia
 - * England and Wales: A Traveller's Companion
 - * Flouring Mills of Montana Territory
 - * Montana-Idaho-Wyoming Ghost Towns
- * Nch'i-Wana "The Big River" Mid-Columbia Indians and Their Land
- * Lewis & Clark and the Corps of Discovery in Montana Colored Map
- * Why the Dutch are Different" A Journey into the Hidden Heart of the Netherlands
- * Gold Rush Wife: The Adventures of Nellie Frost on Turnagain Arm, 1895-1901
- * A Century Blessed One Hundred Years Catholic Church in Poplar 1885-1985
 - * Episcopal Clerical Directory 1997
- * Children of Orphan Trains from New York to Illinois and Beyond
- * Country Cookbook Chouteau County District Hospital
 - * Crow Mary
- * The Divorce Colony: How Women Revolutionized Marriage & Found Freedom on the American Frontier
- * Frank Little and the IWW: The Blood That Stained an American Family
- * Holy Smoke, What's Cookin' Immaculate Conception Altar Society, Fort Benton, Montana
- * The Life and Times of Patsy Clark Mining Pioneer
- * Logging for the Company: Marcus Daly and Flume Logging Near Anaconda, 1883-1917
- * Operation RYPE A World War II OSS Railway Sabotage Mission in Norway
- * The Salem Witch Trials: A Day-by-Day Chronicle of a Community Under Siege
- * Eighteenth Century Register of Emigrants from Southwestern Germany (to America & other countries)
- * Camp Douglas: Wyoming's World War II Prisoner of War Base Camp
- * Catholic Baptisms in Western Pennsylvania, 1799-1828: Father Peter Helbron's Register
- * First Peoples of Great Salt Lake: A Cultural Landscape from Nevada to Wyoming
- * Japanese Americans at Heart Mountain: Networks, Power, and Everyday Life
 - * Lost Coal District of Gebo, Crosby and Kirby
- * Montana's DAR Markers: Honoring Where History was Made
 - * My Family Tree Activity Book
- * Origins of Crow Agencies in Montana: Transitioning Beyond the Buffalo
- * The Royal Descent of 900 Immigrants to the American Colonies
 - * Who Are the Members of My Family?
- * Black Diamonds from the Treasure State: The Incredible Saga of the Montana, Wyoming & Southern, and Yellowstone Park Railroads

Society Business

Opportunities to Serve the Society

GFGS's elections of officers is in November. And in June our nominating committee goes to work. If you would like to serve the society in some capacity here are the positions and what their duties are. Contact the Society by email, phone or mail if you are willing to serve in one of these positions. If you are nominating another member, please remember that they have to agree to serve. With meetings being held both in person and Zoom, residence in Cascade County is not a requirement any more unless there are physical things that need to be done.

President—1. Preside at all meetings of the general membership and the Executive Board. 2. Appoint all committees, naming the chairman, with the exception of the Nominating Committee. All appointments must have the approval of the Board. 3. Sign, with the Secretary, all contracts and documents authorized by the Society. 4. Sign, with the Treasurer, checks for authorized disbursements on behalf of the Society. 5. Be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Vice-President—1. Assume the duties of the President in the absence of, or at the request of, the President. 2. Assume the duties of the President for the remaining term of office in the event of a vacancy in the office of President. 3. Be chairman of the Program Committee.

Secretary—1. Keep a record of the proceedings of the Society and Executive Board. 2. Keep and have available a book (aka "How to Book") containing the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules of the Society. 3. Maintain a current paper and electronic inventory of all legal documents, records, and equipment belonging to the Society. 4. Sign, with the President, all contracts and documents authorized by the Society. 5. Co-sign checks in the absence of either the President or Treasurer. 6. Be responsible for the management of the Society's correspondence including electronic communication. 7. Officers and committee chairmen shall furnish original incoming and copies of all outgoing correspondence to the Secretary.

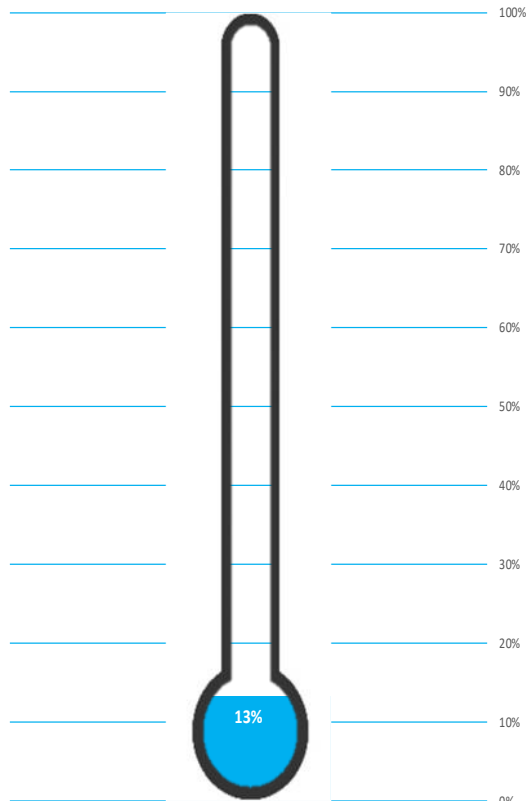
Treasurer—1. Be the authorized custodian of funds of the Society. The treasurer receives and disburses monies as prescribed in the local Bylaws and Standing Rules or as authorized by action of the Society. 2. All funds received shall be deposited in a bank approved by the Executive Board in an account in the name of the Society. 3. Prepare a budget for the following fiscal year and submit it to the Society at its next Annual Meeting. Bills for amounts over \$100.00 will be presented to the membership for approval with the exception of routine business expenses. 4. All checks must be signed by two of the three following officers: Treasurer, President or Secretary. 5. Prepare and submit a monthly financial statement containing the income and disbursements of the month as well as year-to-date figures. Copies should be made for all Executive Board members. The report should be signed by the Treasurer. A copy shall be available upon request.

Trustee—1. Serve as the Auditing Committee for the Society. 2. Assist the President in other areas as needed. 3. Will receive mail ballots and hold, unopened, until the Annual Meeting (when applicable).

Committees—

1. Research Committee—research sources in our Library for anyone requesting this service, provided they have prepaid the required fee.
2. Acquisition Committee—searches out desired materials for the Society and presents a list of recommended acquisitions and de-acquisitions to the GFGS Executive Board.
3. Tech Committee—install, maintain, and manage all GFGS computer hardware, software, network, Internet website(s) and associated social media. Stay current with and implement updates, upgrades, and new versions of software and all things computer and internet.
4. Membership—The membership committee manages the membership of the Society. Our membership drive begins on September 1 of each year.

Map Drawer Campaign



Goal:	\$20,000.00	100%
Goal Achieved:	\$2,670.00	13%

Opportunities to Serve the Society—continued

People File—A basket is provided where items for the People File may be placed. The People File volunteer organizes and files all material by last name.

Obituaries—The obituary volunteer(s) shall be responsible for copying those obituaries that are available digitally (see project list for which mortuaries are available).

Four Generation Charts—The four generation charts volunteer is responsible for entering the information on any chart received by members into the database available at the library.

Newsletter Editor—The newsletter pertains basically to the Society, its events and people. It should include announcements, upcoming meetings and programs, new member introductions, volunteer recognition, and any other items of interest to our members.

Treasure State Lines Editor—The editor needs to accumulate materials to be considered for publication and publish any items which are specifically requested by the Executive Board.

Audit Committee—Comprised of the three Executive Board trustees. The audit committee shall audit the Treasurer's accounts at the end of the fiscal year. A signed report of their findings shall be presented to the Executive Board and the general meeting.

Project Chair—The project chair keeps track of the projects the Society is working on and assigns projects to any member interested in working on them.

And as always—if you want to work on a project we can use help with those also.

Inventory of Great Falls Public Library Maps

In January 2024, 3 members of Great Falls Genealogy Society undertook a project to assist the Great Falls Public Library by inventorying their map collection. Larry Spicer and Barbara Mittal inventoried the maps and Cheryl Lucas entered the list into a database. This project helps GFPL in knowing what they have and where. We thought we had the project done in March, but in April GFPL staff found another map cabinet which was filled with treasure!

United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey Maps (Topographical)

There are 2,446 7.5-minute maps in the three cabinets on the second floor. There are 2,365 7.5-minute maps in the drawers in the basement. Of these maps in the basement 171 are duplicates. There are 1,608 duplicates between the two floors. On the second floor there are very few maps from the western part of Montana. Also, in the back of cabinet 3 on the second floor there are 47 Wyoming quadrangle maps. There is a total of 4,811 7.5-minute maps between the two floors. There are 237 15-minute maps in the basement. 34 of these are duplicates. 28 were printed before 1920. A lot of these old maps are in fragile condition. Two of them list Chouteau county but spell it Choteau. Not all of these maps list a county because they cover areas that are more than one county. Some of these maps cover areas that are in more than one state and/or province also.

Miscellaneous Maps

There are 82 miscellaneous maps in two drawers of the wooden cabinet in the basement. There are 8 Lewis and Clark Bicycle Tour maps. The majority of the other maps are National Forest or Wilderness areas. Four maps are of the Montana Territory. At least three maps are duplicates. It is hard to tell because some of them are folded and others are unfolded.

Treasure Chest Maps

There are 989 maps in the Treasure Chest. 131 of them are duplicates. There are 335 General Highway Maps of the counties of Montana—each county has multiple sheets for the county. The average creation age for all of the maps in this chest is 1948. There are copies of some very early maps in here also. It is just filled with treasure!

News You Can Use

NEWS FOR GENEALOGISTS!

National Archives Expands Joint Digitization Effort With Ancestry
Press Release ·
Thursday, May 9, 2024
Washington, DC

Millions of Historical Records Held by the National Archives to be Digitized and Made Accessible Through Public-Private Collaboration

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) today announced a new multiyear agreement with Ancestry to digitize, index, and publish tens of millions of historical United States records, previously unavailable online.

“The National Archives is the nation’s record keeper, and we hold billions of stories in our collection. Our mission is to preserve, protect, and share those stories with all Americans,” said Dr. Colleen Shogan, Archivist of the United States. “Our collaboration with Ancestry is a great example of a public-private partnership. By working together, we will digitize millions of records from our holdings and make them available to the public.”

Howard Hochhauser, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer at Ancestry, signs an official agreement with Dr. Colleen Shogan, Archivist of the United States, at a signing event at the National Archives Building on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, in Washington, DC. The signing marks the official agreement between Ancestry and the National Archives and Records Administration. National Archives photo by John Valceanu

The records to be digitized include U.S. military morning reports from World War II; Selective Service draft cards covering the post-World War II draft registration between 1948 and 1959; naturalization and immigration records held at the National Archives at San Francisco, CA; records held in San Francisco, CA, related to Asian Americans; and records held at the National Archives at Denver, CO, relating to Native Americans. The scope and depth of these records reflect the richness and diversity of America’s history.

Since 2008, the National Archives and Ancestry have collaborated to make important historical records more available to the public. The digitization of these records since the beginning of this collaboration and their availability through both the National Archives Catalog and the Ancestry platform help the public more easily find and access pieces of the nation’s, and their families’, history.

Today, the Archivist of the United States and Howard Hochhauser, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer at Ancestry, officially signed an agreement to continue and expand the successful public-private collaboration. The new agreement documents the commitments by both the National Archives and Ancestry to digitize tens of millions of historical records.

“We’re honored to take a leading role in preserving the story of America through this agreement with the National Archives,” said Hochhauser. “Given their role as the holder of the country’s largest and most distinguished collection of records, this collaboration reinforces Ancestry’s commitment to expand accessibility to historical records.”

Additional collections and projects will be identified, agreed, and announced between the parties under this agreement. Records from Record Group 21, Military Petitions for Naturalization, 1918–1947, will be scanned beginning this month at the National Archives at San Francisco.

Learn more about how the National Archives works with other organizations to digitize and make available National Archives holdings. A list of current digitization projects is online.

About the National Archives

The National Archives and Records Administration is the nation's record keeper. It safeguards and manages the official records of the U.S. Government, ensuring the documentation of our nation's history. Online visitors can explore millions of digitized documents, photographs, films, and more in the National Archives Catalog at catalog.archives.gov.

About Ancestry

Ancestry, the global leader in family history, empowers journeys of personal discovery to enrich lives. With its unparalleled collection of more than 60 billion records, over 3 million subscribers, and over 25 million people in its growing DNA network, customers can discover their family story and gain a new level of understanding about their lives. Over the past 40 years, Ancestry has built trusted relationships with millions of people who have chosen it as the platform for discovering, preserving, and sharing the most important information about themselves and their families.