GREAT FALLS GENEALOGY SOCIETY

The Falls Newsletter

JULY 2026

Established 1975

Future Happenings in 2026

⇒ **July 2nd, 2026** Acquisitions meeting 3 PM Board Meeting 4 PM

⇒ **July 9th, 2026** 6:00 PM GFGS Members Only Visit the Montana Museum of Railroad History State Fairgrounds

⇒ **July 18th, 2026** 10:00 AM —12:00 PM, Third Saturday Program ***History of Fort Shaw*** with Burnette Batista RSVP to GFGS To Save a Seat! Only 10 Available Spots!

⇒ **August 15th, 2026** 10:00 AM —12:00 PM Third Saturday Program ***From Planes to Missiles and Beyond: A History of Malmstrom AFB*** with Troy Hallsell

⇒ **September 3rd, 2026** Acquisitions meeting 3 PM Board Meeting 4 PM

⇒ **October 1st, 2026** Acquisitions meeting 3 PM Board Meeting 4 PM

⇒ **October 8th, 2026** 6:00 PM GFGS Library ***"What has been your most interesting genealogy find?"***

⇒ **October 17th, 2026** 10:00 AM —12:00 PM Third Saturday Program ***"These Riches We Contend For": Montana and the Fur Trade*** with Austin Haney

⇒ **November 5th, 2026** Acquisitions meeting 3 PM Board Meeting 4 PM

⇒ **November 12th, 2026** 6:00 PM GFGS Library—Annual Meeting and Potluck

⇒ **December 10th, 2026** 6:00 PM GFGS Library—Christmas Party

July 2026 Calendar of Events

Thursday, July 2nd—Acquisitions Meeting, 3 pm
Thursday, July 2nd—Board Meeting, 4 pm
Thursday, July 9th— 6:00 PM GFGS Members Only Visit the Montana Museum of Railroad History State Fairgrounds
Saturday, July 18th—10:00 AM —12:00 PM, Third Saturday Program ***History of Fort Shaw*** with Burnette Batista RSVP to GFGS To Save a Seat! Only 10 Available Spots!

Upcoming Conferences

September 10—12, 2026 Montana Genealogical Society Conference—Montana Heritage Center, Helena Registration https://montanamsgs.org/conference/

September 24—26, 2026 Montana History Conference—DoubleTree by Hilton, Billings. 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.

Check us out on Facebook!

New posts appearing frequently. When you look at our page, please take the time to comment on the posts so that we know you have looked at it. Lots of information, hints, and jokes appearing. Have fun with it.

If anyone has a success story that you would like to share, please submit it to be published in the newsletter. A request has been made to have success stories in the newsletter but we need people to let us know their successes. I can't make them up on my own!

Check us out on

facebook

2026 Planned Schedule for Meetings

For planning purposes, here are the 2026 scheduled dates and times for Committees, Board, and General meetings:

Acquisitions 3:00 pm	**Board 4:00 pm**
2 July	2 July
6 August	
3 September	3 September
1 October	1 October
5 November	5 November
3 December	3 December
General 6:00 pm	
State Conference	8 October
12 November	10 December

Dates and times may be changed if needed through the year. Currently, meetings are hybrid format. The program will be before the meeting and the business meeting will be after the program. The length of the program will be announced if possible 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

YouTube

We are an affiliated library with

FamilySearch

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 (2023-2026)
Janet Thomson, Vice President (2018-2026)
Pegi Palmes, Secretary (2025-2026)
Cheryl Lucas, Treasurer (2014-2026)
Trustees: Donna Winters (2026-2028)
Diana Kirol (2021-2026)
Merle Anne McLeish (2023-2027)

Committee Chairs:
Acquisitions: Larry Spicer
Membership: Stacey Corcino
Publicity: Stacey Corcino
Publications: Cheryl Lucas
Projects: Janet D. Thomson
Research: Diane Green
Technology: Cheryl Lucas

Webmaster: Merle Anne McLeish
Newsletter Editor: Cheryl Lucas

Society Library Hours:
Monday—Saturday
12:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
Sunday
1:00 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

New in The Library As of June 2026

* Lineage Book of the National Society of Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America 1919 Vol VII
* Lineage Book of the National Society of Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America 1924 Vol XV
* Rapier, Hayden and Allied Families Colonial Maryland and Kentucky
* Indian Givers How the Indians of the Americas Transformed the World
* Illinois Indiana 2017 map
* Learn to Use Court Records A Research Guide
* Tracing Your Revolutionary War Ancestors
* Understanding Revolutionary War and Invalid Pension Ledgers 1818 - 1872
* Waheenee An Indian Girl's Story told by herself
* Cascade County Montana map 1940 (corrected to 1958)
* Cascade County Ownership map 1966
* The Art of Frank C. McCarthy
* Commencement The Class of 2012 Great Falls High School
* Crow Killer The Saga of Liver-Eating Johnson
* Fort Ord California US Army Training Center Infantry Co. D 5th Battalion 3rd Brigade
* Great Falls HS yearbook 1960 Roundup (duplicate)
* Montana Cropland Data Layer map 2018
* Traverse City State Hospital (MI)
* Tribal Sovereigns of South Dakota
* Beneath the Backbone of the World
* Black Death Spread map 1346-1355
* Cascade County Commission Proceedings 1887-1888
* Cascade County Commission Proceedings 1889-1890
* Columbia Icefield Alberta – British Columbia map 1969
* Historic Storms of New England
* Elk Love A Montana Memoir
* Korean War Order of Battle
* Death Notices From the Christian Advocate 1858 to 1872 Volume 5 (Ontario)
* Obituaries From Ontario's Christian Guardian1836-1850
* Obituaries From Ontario's Christian Guardian1851-1860
* Obituaries From Ontario's Christian Guardian1861-1870
* Railroad Map of Montana 1880-2019
* Washington, DC map
* World War II Atlas 1939-1945
* In the Shadows of the Rockies A History of the Augusta Area
* The Ohlone Way Indian Life in the San Francisco-Monterey Bay Area
* Spokes, Spurs and Cockleburs (for sale)
* The Anaconda Copper Mining Company of Great Falls
* Biographies of Alaska-Yukon Pioneers 1850-1950 Volume 1
* Biographies of Alaska-Yukon Pioneers 1850-1950 Volume 2
* Biographies of Alaska-Yukon Pioneers 1850-1950 Volume 3
* Biographies of Alaska-Yukon Pioneers 1850-1950 Volume 4
* Biographies of Alaska-Yukon Pioneers 1850-1950 Volume 5
* Atlas of Wyoming Outlaws Penitentiary 1990 1st Ed.
* Time Never Ending: St. Xavier Centennial Histories, Bighorn County, Montana
* Japanese in Wyoming, WY
* A History of Presbytery of Wyoming, Synod of Rocky Mountains

Available at our library for your use:

Society Business

President's Nook

Happy July! I can't believe we are approaching the halfway point of summer. Where does time fly when you are researching.

Thank you for those that came to our member exclusive tour of The History Museum. Connie gave us a great tour of the facility, and we had the opportunity to see what they have in the back recesses of the facility. Kind of like the warehouse in Raiders of the Lost Ark. Lots of cool stuff. I would highly recommend using them in your Cascade County Research endeavors.

Don't forget we have another member (+1) exclusive on July 9th at 6pm. We will be meeting at the State Fairgrounds in the Railroad Museum for a talk and a tour. This should be a fascinating look at how railroads have impacted our area. I look forward to seeing you there.

Croxford scanning is cruising right along and are up to 1936 having started at 1931. How many of you have been waiting to get access to these records! I know I have but mine will have to wait until 1980 and 1985. What a great addition to our collection. Thank you Jan, Patti and the scanners for taking on this project for us.

Family Search continues to scan the Coroner Records for us and the Family Search website. They are projecting completion for the end of summer. After which we hope they will be starting the scanning at The History Museum. Please put up a collective prayer that moves forward.

Larry Spicer has agreed to be our Election Committee. We have a Trustee position opening and if you are interested please let Larry know. Other positions that could be open are Vice President and Treasurer. Jan and Cheryl are willing to step down if someone has a "burning" desire to step up. If you have ever thought about stepping into one of these positions, I encourage you to do so. It is a wonderful way to give back to our Society and Library and steer our organization into the future.

Just a heads up for our September General Meeting. Due to three of our Board members being at the MSGS Conference in Helena we will begin meeting after the summer break in October. For that October meeting we will be meeting at 5:30 pm instead of 6 pm and in place of a program we are encouraging you to bring your best genealogy discovery or research breakthrough. Now is your time to shine and crow about your own research! We can't wait to hear!!

Whew…that is a lot! Have a wonderful 4th of July celebrating our country's 250th Birthday! Stay safe and happy ancestry hunting!

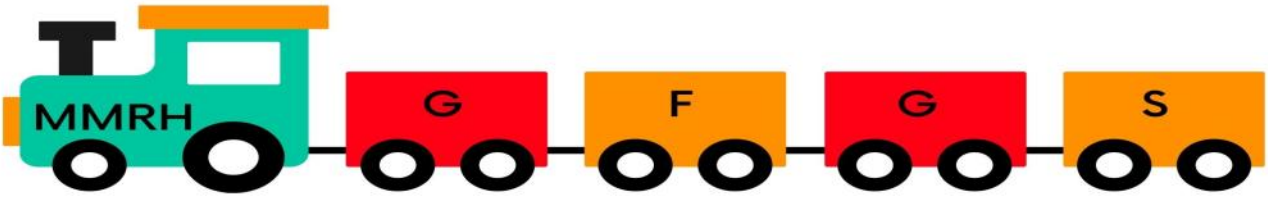
Stacey

Society Business

MEMBER EXCLUSIVE

Talk & Tour

Montana Museum of Railroad History
July 9, 2026 @ 6pm
State Fairgrounds
400 3rd St NW



Join us in September in Helena for the MSGS Conference

Classes about: AI, DNA & Lineage Societies

Book Frolic with a Gamblers Sale

Raffle Baskets

Head to the MSGS Website to register

Society Business

Society Business

GFGS 2026 SEMINAR & CLASS SERIES

3RD SATURDAY PROGRAM

"These Riches We Contend For": Montana and the Fur Trade

presented by
Austin Haney
Education and Programming for the C.M. Russell Museum

Come learn about some of the major players of our region's fur trade era, and how their stories helped shape the Montana we know today.

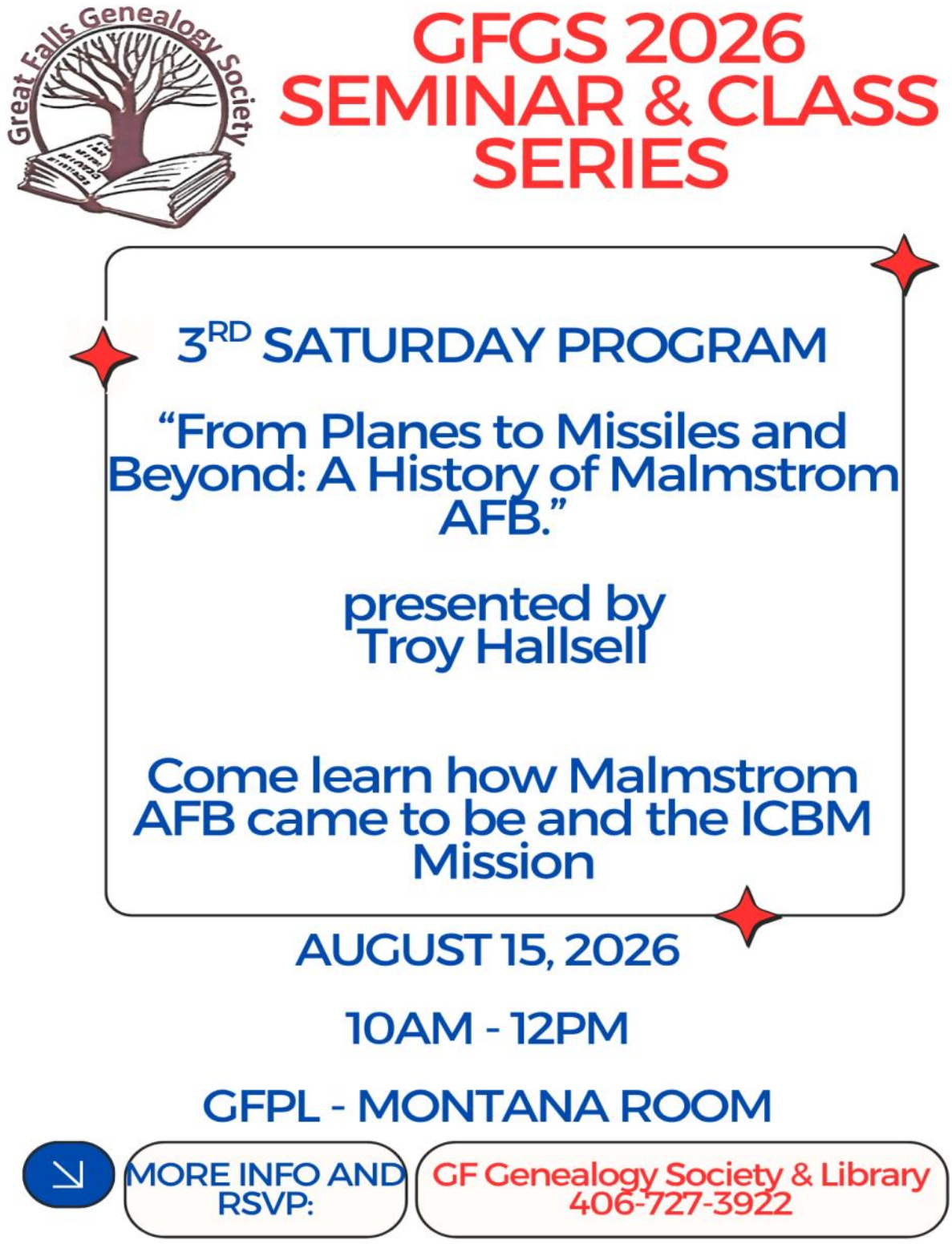
OCTOBER 17, 2026

10AM - 12PM

GFPL - MONTANA ROOM

MORE INFO AND RSVP:

GF Genealogy Society & Library
406-727-3922



Troy A. Hallsell, PhD is the 341st Missile Wing Historian at Malmstrom AFB, Montana. Before coming to the Air Force as a government service civilian, he served in the United States Army from 2005-2010 as an all-source intelligence analyst. After a stint at the National Ground Intelligence Center in Charlottesville, Virginia he entered graduate school in 2011 and earned a PhD in history from the University of Memphis in 2018. He is also member of the Cascade County Historical Society's Board of Directors and the author of several articles on military, urban, and western history topics.