GREAT FALLS GENEALOGY SOCIETY

The Falls Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026

Established 1975

Future Happenings in 2026

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

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

⇒ **October 10th, 2026** 10:00 AM – Chat with Dennis Sugden

⇒ **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** General Meeting 6:00 PM GFGS Library—Annual Meeting and Potluck

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

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

Starting Year End Income Tax Planning? Don't forget that GFGS is a 501(c)3 entity. All donations to the Society are tax deductible.

October 2026 Calendar of Events

Thursday, October 1st — Acquisitions Meeting 3 PM, Board Meeting 4 PM

Thursday, October 8th — General Meeting, 6:00 PM, Great Falls Genealogy Society Library, Program: ***"What has been your most interesting genealogy find?"***

Saturday, October 10th, 2026 10:00 AM Talk with Dennis – Zoom call to Dennis for those who would like to chat with him.

Saturday, 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

Upcoming Conferences

No upcoming conference in Montana. 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.

October 10 at 10 am here in the GFGS library we will have a Zoom call with Dennis Sugden for all those who would like to chat with him and see how he is doing.

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.

Membership News

Welcome to Our Newest members:

Patricia Horst, Great Falls

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**
1 October	1 October
5 November	5 November
3 December	3 December
General 6:00 pm	
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.

New in the library as of September, 2026

- Brady All School Reunion 1929 – 2005
- Dutton High School 75th 1930 – 2005
- Brady High School yearbook 1930, 1935, 1940, 1952, 1982, 1986, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1997, 2001
- One Night in a Bad Inn
- Memory Lane, Wellington, Ohio Vol. 1 & 2
- Brady Fire Map 1914/1927 (2)
- Farm Allotments from Pondera County News, Conrad, MT 1933
- Sanborn Maps Conrad 1910, 1920, 1929, 1937
- Sanborn Maps Brady, MT 1914, corrected 1927
- Belt High School yearbook 1925, 1926, 1928-1933, 1935, 1937-1938, 1948-1949, 1954, 1955, 1958, 1960, 1962-1964, 1966-1975
- East Junior High yearbook 1988, 1989
- Fort Benton High School yearbook 2007
- Centerville High School yearbook 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994-1998, 2000-2023
- CMR Class of ’74 Senior Wills
- National Geographic Afghanistan Land in Crisis
- National Geographic Africa’s Natural Realms
- National Geographic Alaska
- National Geographic Atlantic Canada
- National Geographic China Journey of Rock and Water
- National Geographic Europe
- National Geographic Map of Mexico
- National Geographic Map of Mexico & Central America
- National Geographic Middle East Crossroads of Faith and Conflict
- National Geographic History of the Philippines
- National Geographic Southwest Asia
- National Geographic The Two Koreas
- National Geographic West Indies
- National Geographic The World Political
- Mountain View Elementary School yearbooks 1976-1977, 1977-1978
- North Middle School yearbook 2004
- Passage to Liberty The Story of Italian Immigration and the Rebirth of America
- Life Stories of Members of the Black Hills Chapter of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society
- Buffalo Woman Comes Singing
- The Common Stream (England)
- Gifford Pinchot and the Old Timers Vol 1&2
- Legend Keeper: More Trails and Tales
- Pawnee Bill: A Biography of Major Gordon W. Lillie
- Sage Creek: McDougall & I
- Six Years with the Texas Rangers 1875-1881
- Sixty-fifth Annual Commencement Montana State University Missoula 1962
- Tall in the Saddle: The “Long George” Francis Story 1874-1920
- The Texas Rangers Images and Incidents
- University of Great Falls Alumni Directory 2017
- Where the Wind Never Sleeps: A Memoir from the High Plains of Montana
- The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1636-1638 – Vol 2, Bi-

Society Business

HELP NEEDED!!!

For those who don't know – Dennis Sugden had a medical event at the beginning of September. He is no longer able to be a librarian for the Montana Room or Great Falls Genealogy Society Library. (He has moved to North Dakota to be closer to his son, daughter-in-law, grandchildren, and especially great-grandchildren.) Dennis covered multiple shifts a week for us and we now need help covering his shifts in the Montana Room.

Dennis covered the Sunday shift from 1 – 4 and the Friday shift from 12 – 4. He also covered the second Saturday of every month from 12 – 4. If anyone can help us cover these shifts, that would be wonderful. You don't have to work every one of these shifts a month. For example, if you can only work on the fourth Sunday a month that would be fine. We just need to know which day you could work so that we don't end up with six people one day and no one other days. Please let us know if you would be able to work any of these shifts.

If there is no one in the Montana Room, the librarian in the Genealogy Library will have to close the Genealogy Library and sit in the Montana Room.

Remember, keeping the Montana Room open is how we pay our rent for our wonderful space we have in the Public Library.

NOMINEES FOR SOCIETY OFFICES

President—Stacey Corcino

Vice-President—Jan Thomson

Secretary—Pegi Palmes

Treasurer—Cheryl Lucas

Trustee—Dave Feist

Write-in nominations may be made by the general membership, provided each nominee has given written consent to serve if elected. Write-in nominations, with written consent of nominees, may be mailed in, or brought to the October meeting.

If, after the October meeting, there is only one candidate for each position, then no ballots will be necessary and the list of nominees will be considered elected by acclamation at the November meeting. If any position requires an election, ballots will be distributed to members.

News You Can Use

Lineage & Heritage Societies

Did you know that there are over 300 lineage and heritage societies? We learned about these at the Montana State Genealogical Society Conference in September. (Great conference – sorry if you couldn't make it.)

For a list go to The Hereditary Society Community (hereditary.us). The Hereditary Society Community of the United States of America ("HSC") is a non-profit organization, founded in 2002, which conveys the public interface for over 300 lineage societies. HSC's primary mission is to facilitate and increase the community's aggregate focus on genealogical accuracy; access to information and research tools; accurate public listing of contact data non-partisan civic outreach; historical education; scholarship; and fraternity and collegiality between organizations.

There is a "Son of a Witch" society for descendants of American Colonies' witches. Check out "National Society Descendants of American Farmers" for men, women, and children of ALL ages who are lineal descendants of a "farmer" living within the present boundaries of the United States between July 4, 1776 – July 4, 1914. "Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers" is for any person whose lineal ancestor resided in Montana on or before December 31, 1868, is eligible for membership in this society.

With over 300 societies, there is sure to be something for everyone. Our presenter told us about one person she knew who had membership in over 62 organizations! Can you beat that?

1940-1955 ALIEN REGISTRATIONS INDEX, MONTANA, now a digitized index.

Record Group 566, Alien Registration Division.

Use: Flexoline Index Database Index at: ↓

aad.archives.gov/aad

→See "What's New" and enter the Flexoline Index database.

After finding your person (basic info), you can use instructions to obtain the original file (available from NARA).

GFGS Library plans to retrieve all of the index entry information for Cascade County's entries, and will place these 2-pagers in a binder available in our Cascade County section (in process), making initial research easier for our patrons.

For those who would like to learn more, contact Jan at jannyt2162@ gmail.com

She is willing to do a 1-hour info session.

Read more: Nara.gov. **Search on** Flexoline Index Database (Public Use Version), Record Group 566, FAQs (great info there). ***GFGS Library also has a 3-ring binder with information to help*, for those who prefer a written manual (available in library, 10/5/2026).**

Alien Registration Records were created under the "Alien Registration Act of 1940". These records relate to noncitizen immigration, and are restricted to information for individuals born more than 100 years ago. ***In Cascade County, Montana, more than 1,000 aliens registered*** before the deadline on December 31, 1940; these are valuable records for genealogists. **Flexoline Entries may give you: Alien # (A-Number), Last Name, First, middle initial, DOB, Country of birth, place of registration, gender. A few may give date and port of entry, Visa number (depending on immigration classification). You can use this info to write for the much-larger file.**

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