



## The Montana State Genealogical Society cordially invites you to join them October 4, 5, & 6, 2007 for their 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Billings, Montana

Hosted by the Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, this year's event offers a tremendous opportunity for all genealogists. Eighteen presentations are scheduled, ranging from beginning level to advanced, so everyone will be able to select their own schedule based on their own interests. Quality genealogical materials will be available for purchase and there will still be plenty of time to socialize and mingle with fellow genealogists.

### Location & Accommodations

The Conference will be held at the Billings Holiday Inn Grand Montana at 5500 Midland Road. This is just off I-90 at Exit 446. They are offering special MSGS Conference hotel room rates at \$72.00/night for single or double occupancy. Additional person is \$10.00/night. Call 406-248-7701 **by Thursday, September 13, 2007** to guarantee conference rate reservations. Specify you are with the Genealogy Conference. This full-service facility offers free parking.

### Registration

The Conference Registration Desk will be open:

Thursday, October 4, 2007: 4:00 – 7:00 pm in the Atrium Area  
Friday, October 5, 2007: 7:30 – 9:00 am outside the Missouri Room  
Saturday, October 6, 2007: 7:30 – 9:00 am outside the Missouri Room

### Exhibit Area

**What a wonderful opportunity to enhance your home libraries! Browse actual publications rather than just looking at a title or perhaps a front cover online. And – no extra shipping charges!**

- **Various Montana Genealogy Societies** will offer their publications
- 2 National Level Genealogy Book Vendors are planning on attending:
  - **The Genealogy Shelf** from Bountiful, Utah is the largest mobile genealogy book store in the US. They carry many of the most popular books, CDs and software for genealogists, offering products from over 100 publishers.
  - **Arlene Eakle** will be selling her Genealogy Books & Research Information Products. These range from special topics such as Cemetery Research, Marriage Records, Tax Records, and Migration Patterns etc. to Research Guides covering specific states.
- Don't forget the **Book Frolic**, the MSGS Fund Raiser! Check your bookcases for annuals, city directories, histories, family histories, genealogy books, tapes or videos. Bring them to the conference Thursday evening to be sold by silent auction. Please – only genealogy or history related materials.

**The Exhibit Area will be open in the Missouri Room:**

Friday, October 5:  
10:00 – 10:30 am  
1:00 – 1:30 pm  
2:30 – 3:00 pm  
4:00 – 4:30 pm

Saturday, October 6:  
8:00 – 9:00 am  
10:00 – 10:30 am  
1:00 – 1:30 pm  
(Book Frolic closes at 1:30 pm)

Thursday, October 4, 2007

<p><b>3:00 – 6:00 pm</b></p> <p>Meet in the Atrium Area (by the Hotel's Registration Desk)</p>	<p><b>Cemetery Rituals and Customs of Yesteryear</b>  <i>Tour given by Montana Fun Adventures of Billings</i></p> <p>The 1<sup>st</sup> half of the tour buses participants to 3 Billings Cemeteries: Boothill, Calvary, and Beth Aaron. Your guide will share information on Victorian mourning customs, funerary customs, headstone typology and symbols, with tidbits on who is buried in each cemetery. The 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the tour is walking Mountview Cemetery and discovering symbols on headstones. Visit the grave sites of famous and unusual people and learn their stories. Included are Henry Frith, the first settler to what is now Yellowstone County; Jean McCormick, who claimed to be the daughter of Calamity Jane and Wild Bill Hickok; P.B. Moss, builder of the Moss Mansion; I.D. O'Donnell, instrumental in bringing the sugar beet factory and the "Big Ditch" to the area; Sheriff James T. Webb, who was murdered in 1908, King of the Gypsies &amp; the Chinese section. Included in the tour cost of \$20.00/ person (not included with standard conference registration) is material on headstone symbols.</p>
<p><b>6:00 pm</b></p>	<p><b>MSGS Board Meeting</b></p>

Friday, October 5, 2007

<p><b>8:30 -10:00 am</b></p>	<p>Opening Session: Welcome &amp; Announcements          Keynote Address: <b>Through the Looking Glass: Making Sense of Digital Genealogy</b>  <i>Laura G. Prescott</i></p> <p>The places we visit through our computer screens would appear as bizarre to our ancestors as Alice's trip through the looking glass. The Internet has become an essential resource for genealogists, but we can't do all our research online. We'll discuss how to balance traditional research with modern methods, explore the pitfalls of trusting what you find on subscription and free websites, and review some entertaining case studies that highlight the importance of pursuing your family history both online and off.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1</b></p>		
<p><b>10:30 – 11:30 am</b></p>	<p><b>Following Up: Turning Internet Databases Into Real Sources</b>  <i>Birdie Monk Holsclaw</i></p> <p>How to find and use various resources, on and off the Internet, to follow up after you find an ancestor's name in an Internet database. A series of short case studies will follow up on Ancestry databases, the IGI (International Genealogical Index), and other popular internet databases.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>Tracing Ancestors Who Lived in Cities</b>  <i>Arlene H. Eakle, Ph.D.</i></p> <p>Over 65% of our ancestors before 1900 lived in cities and towns. 80% of immigrants spent one or more years in cities. Special research strategies &amp; sources available to locate and document lives of your ancestors in Boston, Hartford, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, Cincinnati, Charleston, &amp; other cities. Also included is how to search small town America – these records are separate from county sources.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>The Bozeman Trail</b>  <i>Cleve Kimmel</i></p> <p>Although Congress supported building a "Montana Road" to the gold fields of Western Montana as early as 1864, the undertaking met numerous set backs primarily because it crossed the heart of contested Sioux land and the Sioux didn't take kindly to the idea. Discover the important roles Jim Bridger and the military played in establishing and protecting the route which was later referred to as the Bozeman Trail from Fort Kearny to Virginia City.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>4</b></p>
<p><b>11:50-1:00</b></p>	<p><b>Lunch:</b> Menu – <b>Yellowstone Club Sandwich</b>          (Ham, Turkey, &amp; Swiss Cheese with Lettuce, Tomato &amp; Pickle on a Freshly Baked Croissant Roll with Country Potato Salad, includes coffee service)</p>		

# Friday, October 5, 2007, Continued

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1:30 – 2:30 pm</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Timelines: Placing Your Heritage in Historical Perspective</b> <i>Laura G. Prescott</i></p> <p>This topic stresses the importance of placing ancestors within their historical, social, &amp; political environment. Learn how to match historical events to an ancestor's life, or synchronize one ancestor's life events to another's using genealogical software as well as everyday software programs to create a graphic profile and timeline.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>5</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Migration Patterns Into the Central United States</b> <i>Arlene H. Eakle, Ph.D.</i></p> <p>Specific sources and their locations, exact routes (including stopping places along the way), places of origin for group migrations, and the foreign influx directly from Europe and Canada.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>6</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Opportunities for Research at the Bureau of Land Management</b> <i>Cyndi Eide</i></p> <p>Learn what land records can be obtained from the General Land Office website, then discover what is available at the Billings Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This office maintains the land and mineral title records, including survey, for Montana, North Dakota &amp; South Dakota. She will also discuss where to find other state's records.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>7</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3:00 – 4:00 pm</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Family History Sources at the National Archives: Rocky Mountain Region</b> <i>Eric Bittner</i></p> <p>After a brief overview of the general holdings in the National Archives nationwide, Eric will discuss how the regional archives differ from the National Archives in Washington, D.C. He will highlight what types of records are available in Denver (especially those valuable for genealogists), how to use their facility, and how to access their records long distance.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>8</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>How to Turn a Clue Into a Usable Source</b> <i>Birdie Monk Holsclaw</i></p> <p>Genealogists find lots of clues in their research, and this lecture will suggest some approaches to help get the most out of every clue. How do we turn a clue into a source? When is a clue not a clue? What if this clue really IS the end of the road?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>9</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4:30 – 5:30 pm</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Treasures Within the Ivory Tower: Finding Family in Academic Archives</b> <i>Laura G. Prescott</i></p> <p>Locating an ancestor within the archives of an alma mater produces a wealth of family information, photos, correspondence, and more! Learn where to look, what you can find, and the most efficient techniques to get the information you seek.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>10</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tracing Native American Ancestors</b> <i>Arlene H. Eakle, Ph.D.</i></p> <p>Indian ancestors can be found on the pedigrees of at least 20% of Americans. They are shrouded in myths and misinformation leading to discouragement. This session will focus on research strategies, record sources, information exchanges, and newly-indexed information so you can identify and trace your native lines. It will also include matriarchal kinship.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>11</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>6:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>Banquet: Celebrate the 125th Anniversary of Billings</b></p> <p>Experiencing the history of Billings is the theme and what better way than to see actual events as TV News Anchor Jake Whittenberg, along with archivist Kyle Rickoff from Q2 News, share priceless vintage footage and stories from the historic news items that are stored in KTVQ's "vault". Guests are welcomed to dress in costume from any era of the city's history -- from the pioneer days of 1882 to present day and anywhere in between. Note this means that even today's attire fits into the description, so don't fret if you hate costumes! Spouses and friends are all welcome to attend the banquet, even if they haven't registered for any of the Conference Sessions. You just need to reserve space for them on your registration form.</p> <p>Menu: (<b>Choice between 2 Entrees</b> – Please indicate your preference on Registration form.) Entrees are served with Chef's Dinner Salad, Parsley Butter Red Potatoes &amp; YGF 30th Anniversary Cake.</p> <p><b>Apple and Almond Chicken</b> (Chicken Breast stuffed with Celery Sage Dressing and Red Apples, then topped with Demi-glace and sprinkled with Toasted Almonds.)</p> <p><b>Pork Medallions</b> (Medallions of Pork, slow roasted and topped with a Creamy Bearnaise Sauce.)</p>		

Saturday, October 6, 2007

7:30 - 8:30 am

Montana State Genealogical Society Business Meeting

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9:00 – 10:00 am</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Beginning at a Black Oak: Reconstructing Your Ancestor's Neighborhood with Plat Maps</b> <i>Birdie Monk Holsclaw</i></p> <p>A brick-wall case study is used to show the technique of using tract maps to add dimension to land records. In addition to a brief instruction on making a typical map and solving mapping problems, the presentation shows how reconstructing a neighborhood can uncover valuable genealogical facts and clues.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>12</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spinsters and Widows: Gender Loyalty within Families</b> <i>Laura G. Prescott</i></p> <p>Your female ancestors and their sisters had few public rights, but often wielded an unspoken power in deeds, wills, and personal accounts. Probe the records and discover maiden names, relationships, and the voice of women in 19th century America. Examples will show how brick walls were hurdled and empty spaces in genealogy charts completed once the women's accounts were uncovered.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>13</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Yellowstone County Records</b> <i>Lesley Corcoran Bill Jones</i></p> <p>Gain insight as to how larger counties are structured as the Chief Deputy Coroner and the Supervisor of the Clerk &amp; Recorder's Office discuss their records which are found in Billings. They will cover what is available for our use, and how we may access them. They will also discuss how the level of detail in the information gathered by their departments have changed over the years.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>14</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10:30 – 11:30 am</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wheatland County Records</b> <i>Mary Miller</i></p> <p>Smaller counties are usually structured a bit differently than ones with large populations as Mary's title as "Wheatland County Clerk &amp; Recorder/Election Administrator/Registrar" attests. Join her as she discusses various records available in Harlowton and how court-houses and genealogists might work together to preserve records.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>15</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tracing Scots-Irish Pedigrees</b> <i>Arlene H. Eakle, Ph.D.</i></p> <p>Using specific life patterns to identify &amp; trace Scots-Irish ancestors back through Ireland to Scotland &amp; beyond: migration &amp; settlement patterns, naming patterns, kinship networks, loyalty commitments, and the amazing body of sources that document their lives and pedigrees. Much NEW research is now available on these intriguing ancestors. This session will explore the new research and its impact on our genealogy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>16</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tech Talk</b> <i>Cleve Kimmel</i></p> <p>This is your opportunity to ask questions about the MSGS Web Site. As MSGS Webmaster, Cleve's goal is to have every member society have an active website. It is a time for discussion about what you would like to see on a web site, how societies may profit by having a web site and how to go about sending in information. As a result of the enthusiasm generated at Gardiner last year, Cleve will also bring his historic maps and let you choose which ones you wish to discuss.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>17</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>11:50- 1:00</b></p>	<p><b>Lunch:</b> Menu – <b>Chicken Italiano</b> (Tender Chicken Breast Marinated in Italian Vinaigrette, Cooked &amp; Topped with Mozzarella Cheese. Served on a Fresh Roll with Jo Jo Potatoes and coffee service)</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1:30 – 2:30 pm</b></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Finding the Story in Your Ancestors' Lives</b> <i>Birdie Monk Holsclaw</i></p> <p>A winner of the National Genealogical Society's Family History Writing Contest tells how to find stories in your ancestors' lives. Learn how to see everyday documents in a new light, and how to turn cold facts into biographical information about personality, historical events, and social conditions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>18</b></p>	

## Our Speakers:

**Eric Bittner**, Certified Archivist of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)—Rocky Mountain Region in Denver, was raised in Colorado and Wyoming. He attended Black Hills State College in Spearfish SD and the University of Wyoming and holds a M.A. degree in American Studies. Employed at the National Archives since 1988, his duties include reference, record description and inventory, outreach (including workshops for genealogists), and preservation. He is a member of the Society of Rocky Mountain Archivists, Wyoming State Historical Society, & the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation. Eric is presenting Session #8 (*Family History Sources at the National Archives: Rocky Mountain Region*).

**Lesley Corcoran**, Supervisor, Clerk & Records Office Yellowstone County since 1986. She has worked directly with birth & death records since 1991 and real estate records since 1986. She started with Yellowstone County Finance Division in 1984. She is a Yellowstone County native. Lesley is co-presenting Session #14 (*Yellowstone County Records*).

**Arlene H. Eakle**, Ph.D. is president & founder of The Genealogical Institute, Inc.; a professional genealogist with 30+ years experience in research; a consultant; a seminar presenter of more than 500 workshops & seminars in the U.S., Canada, & Europe; & author of more than 90 books, newsletters, scholarly articles, and family histories. She is an expert in tracing ancestors of Native American background. She is also skilled in tracing ancestors from the British Isles. Recently she formed a non-profit Genealogy Library Center, Inc. to accept and preserve genealogy manuscript collections that might otherwise be destroyed. Arlene is presenting Sessions #3 (*Tracing Ancestors Who Lived in Cities*), #6 (*Migration Patterns Into the Central United States*), #11 (*Tracing Native American Ancestors*), & #16 (*Tracing Scots-Irish Pedigrees*).

**Cyndi Eide** works for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as a Contact Representative in the Information Access Center (IAC) in Billings. The IAC maintains the historic land records of the General Land Office (GLO) for Montana and the Dakotas. Cyndi assists customers researching GLO survey notes, plats, and land patents on a daily basis. Before coming to the BLM, Cyndi acquired experience researching land records working for American Title and Escrow, Montana Department of Revenue and Sweet Grass County. She is a Certified Interpretive Guide through the National Association of Interpreters and has recently worked presenting programs highlighting the GLO and Buffalo at the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Events. Cyndi is presenting Session #7 (*Opportunities for research at the Bureau of Land Management*).

**Birdie Monk Holsclaw** CG FUGA began adapting computers for genealogical purposes in the 1970's and has been an instructor at Samford University's Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research. She is a contributing author; has served as a board member or committee chair for the Association of Professional Genealogists and the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and indexer of the National Genealogical Society (NGS) Quarterly; She has been a lecturer at numerous NGS & FGS conferences since 1990. In 2003 she won the NGS Family History Writing Contest. Birdie is presenting Sessions #2 (*Following Up: Turning Internet Databases Into Real Sources*), #9 (*How to Turn a Clue Into a Usable Source*), #12 (*Beginning at a Black Oak: Reconstructing Your Ancestor's Neighborhood with Plat Maps*), & our closing session #18 (*Finding the Story in Your Ancestors' Lives*).

**Bill Jones** has served in the Yellowstone County's Sheriffs Dept. for 30 years and as Coroner for 17 years. He is currently the Chief Deputy Coroner. Bill is co-presenting Session #14 (*Yellowstone County Records*).

**Cleve Kimmel** grew up in Billings, living about three blocks from where the old town of Coulson was located. He was an Engineer/Scientist & Business Manager in the Aerospace Industry and holds several Patents in cryogenics. An interest in the area's history led him to team with Vernon Drake (early Montana pioneer & architect) to research the true origin of the Twin Monuments located in South Hills. After 5 years of research, he was able to reconstruct eight of the Bozeman Trail Segments & the Bridger Road that wound through the Crow Indian Reservation. He was awarded Honorary Membership in the Pioneers of Eastern Montana for his research of early pioneers and area history which used actual testimonies from original text. Cleve also serves as webmaster for MSGS and hosts the Yellowstone County site of the USGenWeb. Cleve is presenting Sessions #4 (*The Bozeman Trail*) & #17 (*Tech Talk*).

**Mary Miller** was born and raised in Livingston, Montana but has spent her adult life in Harlowton where she and her husband have ranched for 32 years. Mary is currently in her 9<sup>th</sup> year as the Wheatland County Clerk & Recorder/Election Administrator/Registrar. Mary is presenting Session #15 (*Wheatland County Records*).

## Our Speakers, Continued:

**Laura G. Prescott** is a professional researcher, writer, and speaker. She is former Director of Marketing at the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston. Originally from Charleston, West Virginia, she has lived in New England for over thirty years. She graduated from Dartmouth College in 1980 with a B.A. in History. She is the genealogy project manager for the Nickerson Family Association of Chatham, Mass. She lectures and writes for national audiences on a variety of genealogical topics, most specifically the use of personal documents and manuscripts in genealogical research, genealogy on the Internet, and computerized genealogy for Mac users. Her articles have appeared in *Ancestry*, *New England Ancestors*, *Genealogical Computing*, *NGS NewsMagazine*, and *Digital Genealogist*. Laura is presenting our Keynote Address #1 (*Through the Looking Glass: Making Sense of Digital Genealogy*) and Sessions #5 (*Timelines: Placing Your Heritage in Historical Perspective*), #10 (*Treasures Within the Ivory Tower: Finding Family in Academic Archives*), & #13 (*Spinsters and Widows: Gender Loyalty Within Families*).

**Kyle Rickoff** is currently Q2's archivist and he has been instrumental in retrieving priceless archive footage from the KTVQ "vault". For the past few years he has been able to dig up amazing pieces of history on film, in order to bring old news stories to life once again. He will soon graduate from Montana State University-Billings, and continue archiving Q2's past for everyone to enjoy. Kyle is co-presenting *Views from Q2's Vault* to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Billings at the Banquet Friday evening.

**Jake Whittenberg** joined the Q2 TV News Team in December of 2004. As a reporter Jake enjoys telling stories of people in the community that impact and inspire everyone. He follows Montana's economy and business community closely. Graduating in 2004 from Montana State University-Bozeman with a degree in Media and Theatre Arts, he is excited to now be in the community of Billings. His proudest moments are his in depth reports from the hurricane stricken Gulf Coast, anytime he's fly-fishing, on the golf course, or spending time with his wife Tara. Jake is co-presenting *Views from Q2's Vault* to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Billings at the Banquet Friday evening.

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## Where Did They Go? In Search of Our Ancestors in Billings, October 4, 5, & 6, 2007



Conference  
sponsored by the  
Montana State  
Genealogical Society

and hosted by the  
Yellowstone Genealogy Forum  
of Billings, Montana



**Send in your Registration Form Today!**

**18<sup>th</sup> Annual Montana State Genealogical Society Conference**  
 Holiday Inn Grand Montana, 5500 Midland Road, Billings, MT 59101  
**October 4, 5, 6, 2007 Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Full 2 Day Conference Registration (NO meals) \$42.50 \$\_\_\_\_\_**  
 1 Day: Friday ONLY Conference Registration (NO meals) \$27.00  
 1 Day: Saturday ONLY Conference Registration (NO meals) \$22.00  
**Total cost of 2 day Conference Registration with all 3 meals for 1 person is \$79.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_**

**MEALS: To guarantee meals, registration must be received by Monday, September 24, 2007.**  
 Individual or additional meals may be purchased for spouses, etc. Please indicate quantity of each meal ordered.  
 Friday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 9.25 each \$\_\_\_\_\_  
 Friday Banquet: **Choice** of either \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken or \_\_\_\_\_ Pork (**please specify**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ total dinners @ \$18.50 each \$\_\_\_\_\_  
 Saturday Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 8.75 each \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Tour:** "Cemetery Rituals and Customs of Yesteryear" Thurs, Oct 4<sup>th</sup> 3-6 pm \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20.00 ea \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Conference T-Shirts:** (Charcoal Shirts with Black Print of the Conference Logo)  
*[Shirts ordered with Registration will be available Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> upon your arrival.]*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Short Sleeve @ \$10.00 ea \_\_\_\_\_ Long Sleeve @ \$12.50 ea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Size(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Size(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Please indicate which sessions you plan on attending:</b>				
<small>(Number found to the left of the description in the above schedule.)</small>				
<b>Friday, October 5:</b>			<b>Saturday, October 6:</b>	
8:30	1		7:30	Business Meeting
10:30	2	3	9:00	12 13 14
1:30	5	6	10:30	15 16 17
3:00	8	9	1:30	18
4:30	10	11		

**Remember to make a record of the sessions you have selected.**  
**You are not bound this, but we do need a general idea in order to schedule rooms.**

**Send this form with payment to:**  
 MSGS c/o Shawna Valentine  
 3420 Granger South # 20  
 Billings MT 59102

Pre-registration must be postmarked by September 7, 2007 to qualify for the "Early Bird" drawing for a refund of their Conference Fee (\$42.50 Maximum).

**Registrations must be postmarked by September 24, 2007 to guarantee meal availability.**