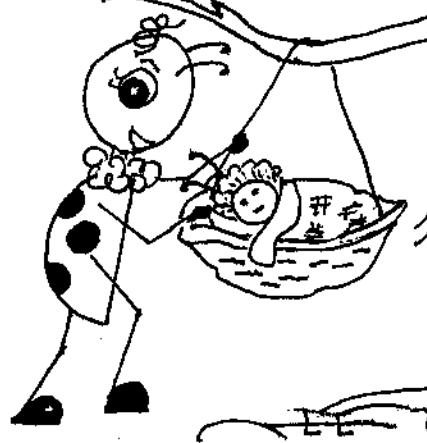




A Baby is our link to eternity
hiding under a bonnet.



NEWSLETTER FOR THE YELLOWSTONE GENEALOGY FORUM BILLINGS, MONTANA JANUARY 2004

TWO LDS LIBRARIES COMBINE

Family history researchers should be pleased to know that the Belvedere and Wicks Family History Centers have been combined at the LDS Church at 6th St. West and Ave. D.

The move was made since Thanksgiving and the new setting opened January 5th. The hours open are:

Monday, Friday and Saturday 10:00
am to 2:00 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
10:00 am to 8:00 pm

The phone number is 252-3763. You may want to call to see if films or fiche orders have arrived. Or to find your spouse if they haven't come home.

Stanley Stott is the Library Director and many of us know some of the staff from the two libraries which have been combined.

Charges for copies, microfilm and microfiche are as follow:

Printing---computer .05 each, regular copies .10, microfilm/microfiche copies .20, 3 1/2 inch computer discs .30, disc mailers .15.

Film rental is short term \$3.25, extended 3.25, and indefinite 9.75. Fiche are indefinite at .15 each. Orders for microfilm and microfiche go out on Tuesday and Friday. You will be notified when they arrive.

The Library is wheel chair accessible. Please phone ahead so you may be helped to the elevator which is inside the doorway of the Cultural Hall. The elevator will let you off on the stage level and you can proceed down the hall to the present 3 rooms of the Library.

Genealogists have a truly wonderful resource in the newly combined library. We hope you will visit it often.

GEN-ROOM HAS NEW LOOK

Have you visited our Gen-Room lately? Wow! It has a fresh look these days. In an attempt to make it more "user friendly" and to gain some additional shelf space, some changes have been made.

PJ Smith, chairman, with the YGF Board furnishing helping hands, plus Family personnel, has rearranged some book shelves, and cabinets. One shelf had to be cut off so that the tall wooden bookcase would fit on the west the wall. The obituary files are all close together. We are still shopping for a new obituary cabinet to improve that area. The bulletin board is on the east wall behind the door. Two new gray metal shelf units make use of space behind the door yet leave access to the light switch and thermostat above them. The new carpet installed last summer ties the area together. The carousels in the Teen Room have been moved from in front of our tree decorating the window which allows visibility into the room. We've been asked to turn on the light and leave the door open when using the Gen-Room for safety.

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

Happy New Year YGF Members,

May the New Year bring all of us some success in our genealogy quest. Perhaps it is time to try new methods of research to garner additional information. Come to YGF meetings, read journals and share ideas with others. A bit of luck helps!

Documentation! you need to do to verify YOUR relatives or your "First Family" in Montana. Sessions will be held to help you complete the form. You will receive a certificate from Montana State Genealogical Society and be listed in volume 2. One half of YGF members qualify for this. Lets all get it finished. Those in the future will thank you for adding to the information about early Montana people. You can contact Verba with your questions.

Thanks to the help of YGF members the reorganization of the Genealogy Room in Parmlly Billings Library is progressing. The objective is to make the collection more "user friendly". Come visit and use it!

If with this snow and cold gives you cabin fever, now is the time to think about a trip to Salt Lake Family History Library. How about YGF planning a group excursion? Voice your opinion.

Ann Ferguson,
President

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Please find your enclosed new membership list. If you have any corrections during the year, please call our Membership Chairman, Shawna Valentine at 652-5866. Keep near your phone for handy reference.

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

By Ellen Cushing

1. The Great Migration, 1634-1635, v. III, G-H
 2. Mayflower Families, v. 16, pt. 2: John Alden
 3. Mayflower Families, v. 18, pt. 3: Richard Warren
 4. Index to the 1820 Census of Virginia
 5. The Beginner's Guide to Using Tax Lists
 6. World War II Military Records: A Family Historian's Guide
- Donated by Bill & Corky Knebel:

7. Powell County, MT 1910 Census Index
8. 1920 Census Index, Custer County, MT
9. 1900 Federal Census Index, Fergus County, MT
10. 1910 Federal Census Index, Fergus County, MT
11. 1920 Federal Census Index, Fergus County, MT
12. Index of North Dakota 1890 Special Census
13. Chouteau County, MT Cemeteries
14. Wills of Cascade County, Great Falls, MT
15. Echoes From the Prairies (North Toole County, MT)
16. Marsh, Montana: Remembering the Yesteryears, 1910--1997
17. Synopsis of Old Dawson County, MT Newspapers, 1882-1910

FIRST FAMILIES/FIRST SETTLERS

by Verba Valentine
MSGS Vice-President

I hope everyone that is working on their First Families/First Settlers papers are getting along okay. If you need help please call me at 656-9840 and leave a message or email me at: blgsmarket@aol.com. I will try to schedule a meeting for those who couldn't make the first meeting around the middle of February. If you have the forms it is really easy to fill them out if you have the necessary information. Start with yourself and provide proof of birth and then that will prove the parent (which ever side you are working on). You will need proof that he/she is the child of the settler. This can be done by birth records, church records, census records, family Bibles, etc. You also need proof of when the ancestor arrived in Montana. This can be land records, Census Records, newspaper accounts, etc. Remember to include a picture if at all possible. We would like to collect all the forms and I will take them to the State Board meeting on March 27.

MEMBERS' HELP NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to take an inventory of the holdings in our Gen-Room at Parmlly. A sign-up sheet will be passed at the January meeting. A printed list will be available to check.

REFERENCES

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mtyg/>
New LDS Library: 252-3763
Parmlly Billings Library (Ref.) 657-8258

WHO IS HANK JONES?

Henry Z ("Hank") Jones, Jr. has been chosen as the primary speaker at the MSGS Conference to be held at Helena on September 23-25, 2004. Some of us have heard about him. Most of us would like to know more.

Hank has been actively climbing family trees since the age of eight, and since his graduation from Stanford, has specialized in tracing 18th century German emigrants. He's written several books, mostly on the Palatine, one of which, The Palatine Families of New York--1710 was winner of the Donald Lines Jacobus Award as "Best Genealogical Work of the Year". He's written many articles over the years that have appeared in prestigious publications such as The American Genealogist, National Genealogical Society Quarterly, The New York Genealogical & Biographical Record and others. He has been elected a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists, of whom there are only fifty in the world. His best seller, Psychic Roots: Serendipity & Intuition in Genealogy, a study of how intuitive nudges and serendipitous events sometimes influence our genealogical searches, is now in its 7th printing. It was dramatized on NBC's "Unsolved Mysteries" program to good response from inside and outside the genealogical community. Another book on Psychic Roots has recently been published.

As to Henry's "other life" apart from genealogical research, Hank Jones was a film actor for twenty-five years. He appeared in many movies, among them eight films for Walt Disney studios (such as "Blackbeard's Ghost" in which he costarred with Peter Ustinov). He has been featured on over 300 network tv shows such as "My Three Sons", "Family Affair", "Petticoat Junction", "Mod Squad", "Mork & Mindy", "The Love Boat", and "The Jeffersons", etc. which still come back to haunt him on cable tv today. Hank also was active as a singer co-starring on ABC-TV's Tennessee Ernie Ford Show and recording albums on RCA and Capitol Records. Talk about a man with many talents!

Most recently TIME Magazine had a cover-story devoted to genealogy in the new millennium and chose to close the article and tie things together with a quote from Hank Jones. I wonder what it was?

LATEST PERIODICALS FOR THE GEN-ROOM

by Athna May Porter

1. Family Chronicle--October 2003; Dec 2003; Feb 2004
 2. New England Historical & Gen. Register--Jul 2003 Vol 157 #627; Oct 2003 Vol 157 #628
 3. Family Tree Magazine October 2003; Dec 2003, Feb 2004
 4. Germans from Russia Historical Society Heritage Review Sept 2003; Dec 2003
 5. GRHS Newsletter--Sept 2003, Dec 2003
 6. Heritage Quest--July/Aug 2003; Sept/Oct 2003; Nov/Dec 2003
 7. History Magazine--Nov 2003; Jan 2004
 8. Journal of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia--Winter 2003
 9. American Historical Society of Germans from Russia Newsletter--Winter 2003
 10. NGS Newsmagazine--July/Aug 2003; Sept/Oct 2003; Nov/Dec 2003
 11. National Genealogical Society Quarterly--Sept 2003; Dec 2003
 12. New England ancestors--Fall 2003; Holiday 2003
 13. Forum-FGS Society Quarterly --Summer 2003, Fall 2003
 14. Daughters of the American Revolution--Owned by Family
- Three family newsletters that we receive regularly
Bunnell/Bonnell Newsletter
Guest-Guest Quarterly
The Chandler Family Association Newsletter

If you have unwanted periodicals that you would like to donate or would like to donate a subscription to a periodical, call Athna May Porter 259-2552 or e-mail at porter@imt.net



Happy is the man who fondly
Thinks of his forebears,
Who likes to tell the
Willing listener the tale
Of their achievements and
Greatness, and is glad to
See himself a link in the
Beautiful chain.

---Goethe

BIRTHS

Perhaps you've noticed your Editor has been trying to feature a theme in the newsletters beyond the reporting of local genealogical events. On 19 October 2003 we became the thrilled grandparents of our first granddaughter, Aime'e Elise, born to Kim and Byron. Our two grandsons are 19 and 16 with the eldest starting college at MSU. It's been a long time since we've had a baby in our family. Hence, the topic of "Births" was chosen as the theme in this newsletter.

ON THE SUBJECT OF BIRTH

January 2004 - by Donna McKamy

Birth of a nation, birth of a star,
birth of a hurricane, birthstones, birth
charts, birthdays, birth rooms.....

Funk and Wagnall's Dictionary tells us that birth defined is: 1. a beginning; an origin. 2. the bringing forth of offspring. 3. Ancestry or descent; lineage. Mr Webster takes account of the same in his dictionary. Synonyms for birth include background, parentage, line, lineage, nativity, origin, race, extraction, ancestry, house, affiliation, blood, blood line, pedigree, genealogy, stirps; legacy, heritage, patrimony, beginnings.

When our YGF Editor and new grandmother assigned this "columnist" with the subject of birth to write on, I thought, oh, how neat! A quick and easy study! I now believe I would need at least a dozen full issues of the Gen-Bug to only do a partial article on the subject of birth. There are literally many thousands of Internet research links using any combinations of words and phrases using the word birth.

Dozens of cultures have dozens of traditions and customs having to do with pregnancy, birth and care of the child immediately after. They range from the odd (rubbing a cooked chicken's tongue on the baby's lips to make the child a good talker; China) to the sweet welcoming (everyone, including children, shakes hands with the newborn; Ghana) to a Gaelic Celtic Culture Birth Custom called "the Old Mothering" where the child, as soon as possible after birth, would be taken by the mother and touch its brow to the earth believing that one could not be better blessed than to have the kiss of ancient

Mother of who we are all children.

As a researcher, I could have read all year on these histories, customs and curious events. I found that they are numerous, varied, and quite complicated although some are "cute".

The pioneering women of our country did not dwell on the "birthing" process, as evidenced in this quote from the book by Elinore Pruitt Stewart, Letters of a Woman Homesteader (later the acclaimed movie HEARTLAND which was placed near Harlowton, Montana.): "Well, soon we had the water hot and had filled some bottles and placed them around our patient, and after a couple of hours the tiny little stranger came into the world. It had been necessary to have a great fire in order to have light, so as soon as we got Baby dressed I opened the door a little to cool the room and Molly saw the morning star twinkling merrily. "Oh," she said, "that is what I will call my little girlie, - Star, dear little Star."

SEARCHING FOR BIRTH RECORDS

With this introduction the genealogist seeks birthdates and birthplaces for every person on their pedigree and family sheets. Let's think where they can be found. We'll hope Vital Records have been kept and a researcher can go to their locality and find them. And before our states kept records, there were Bibles, Churches and historians keeping records. In New England town clerks kept records. It helps to know the maiden name of the mother when searching for births.

And in families, there's usual and unusual places where births were recorded. In two of our families, the mothers wrote on lined stationery the names, birthdates and marriages of each of her children. In one newspaper clipping from the Denver area, it told that the mother wrote her children's names and birthdates on the end of her wooden ironing board. The mother died, children had moved and later the children went searching for that ironing board. It was found and one child planned to display it on their wall!

Whether you look at a book index or computer data base, you should check the locality and see what birth records are available. Is it in the time frame you want? If so, better check it out.

HOW I SOLVED IT

For many years my mother had told me that she was adopted. She said that she and her sister had returned to their birth area many times with no results. So for Christmas of 1999, I told her that my mission for 2000 was to find her real name. I started doing research at the LDS church on Wicks Lane, and was given all kinds of information. From that point forward, I posted messages on the Ancestry board, and started gathering my certificates. The first one I found, was the ORIGINAL one for my mother. That gave me the names of her birth parents. I then contacted her sister (whom she knew as both the adoptive parents kept them in touch) and found her place of birth. I then obtained my aunt's original birth certificate. The birth certificates identified that there were more children in this family than just the two of them. So my search continued. My mother said that she remembered a brother. She thought his name was William. Then, I received a response to my posted message from a 2nd cousin in Indiana, which led me to a 4th cousin in Utah and finally to a 3rd cousin in New York. None of these cousins knew of my grandparents and their children. My second cousin from Indiana still has relatives in the area where my mother and aunt were born. So in the summer she returned to the area to find the oldest brother who was Avery and died at age 4 (I obtained his birth & death certificates). The next brother was Raymond born in 1921 and the youngest brother was William born in 1927. My mother had correspondence from the orphanage in New York. I contacted them to see if perhaps the brothers had gone there. They checked their records and had no record of the boys. They referred me to several other places which all led to "brick walls". So by Christmas of 2000 my mother and aunt now had 2 birth certificates (a REAL one and the adopted one, and proof of brothers).

The year of 2001 was pretty dry and did not turn up many new clues, so in desperation on December 21, 2001, I mailed 170 letters to every "Bullis" (hoping someone would recognize the names and perhaps the sons had maintained the surname) in the state of New York requesting information on a Raymond and/or William. In these letters, I supplied them with my home phone number, address, and internet address for response purposes. On the reverse of this letter, I printed a

blank Pedigree Chart and asked they complete it and return it to me.

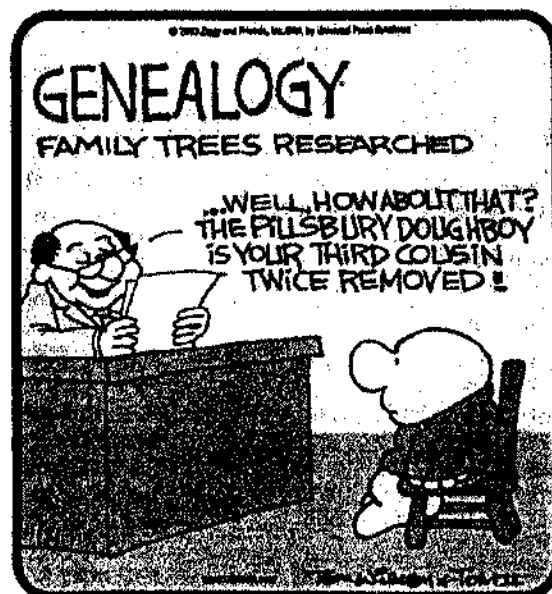
On December 28, I arrived home from work and there was a message on my answering machine with the following message: "We are calling about your letter, please call, urgent", they left only a phone number! So I called the number and was delighted to find out that the call was from Raymond's wife. They apologized for not returning the call sooner, but it took Raymond that long to stop crying. He had looked for his sisters many years ago and had given up hope of ever finding them. I then briefly, told him about my mother and her sister. I immediately contacted my cousin in New Jersey so she could tell my aunt (enough shock at one time is a lot to handle). They made arrangements to drive to New York and check out the situation. They met my uncle and called me with a report that there was no doubt he was who he claimed to be.

So for the summer of 2002, we had a family reunion for a brother and 2 sisters who had not seen each other in 74 years! This is how I solved it, and the search continues for the youngest brother.

Judy Cohen

Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small jobs. -----Henry Ford

ZIGGY



-----shared by Billie Glover

GEN-BUG NEWS

Coming Events

January 27, 2004 6:30 pm Social, 7:00 pm Regular YGF meeting at LDS Church, 6th St. West and Ave. D, Cultural Hall. Program: "How to Write Your Own Will" by Mark Parker, attorney.

February 15, 2004 Germans From Russia meet the 3rd Sunday of the month at the American Legion Hall, 2 to 4 pm.

February 21, 2004 Montana Big Sky PAF User's Group meets 10:00 am to 12:00, will start meeting at LDS Church, 6th St. West and Ave. Program: "AniMap" (County boundary historical atlas program) by Richard Davis.

February 24, 2004 6:30 pm Social, 7:00 pm Regular YGF meeting at LDS Church, 6th St. West and Ave. D, Cultural Hall. Program: "Open House and Tour of the newly combined Family History Center". Before the tour, members will rotate to information stations to learn what is available.

March 23, 2004 6:30 pm Social, 7:00 pm Regular YGF meeting at LDS Church, 6th St. West and Ave. D, Cultural Hall. Program: "Creative Memories and Old Photographs" by Sydney Gabel.

September 23 ,24, & 25, 2004 MSGS CONFERENCE at Helena, MT. Red Lion Colonial Inn. See article on "Hank Jones" inside.
