

**Moving Forward
Thru the Past**

Montana State
Genealogical Society
Billings 2017



Montana State Genealogical Society
and the Yellowstone Genealogy Forum
host the

28th ANNUAL MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 21, 22, 23, 2017

**Big Horn Resort
in Billings, Montana**

LOCATION & ACCOMMODATIONS: The Conference will be held at the Big Horn Resort, 1801 Majestic Lane, Billings, MT. The room rate is \$89.00 for a King or Double Queen Room.

Reservations must be received by August 26 for guarantee. Call 406-839-9300 and mention MT State Genealogical Society. Directions: I-90 Zoo Exit 443. **Reserve early to assure room availability. Breakfast included.**

OUR SPEAKERS:

THOMAS W. JONES, PhD, CG, FASG, FNGS, has edited the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* since 2002. He is author of *Mastering Genealogical Proof*, a popular text book on genealogical assessment and reasoning. Tom has been tracing his family history since 1963. He has retired from a 30 year career in higher education and professor emeritus at Gallaudet University in Washington DC. Tom works full time as a genealogical researcher, writer, editor, and educator. He coordinates courses at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh, The Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, and Samford University's Institute on Genealogy and Historical Research. He is known for meaty lectures benefiting genealogists of all levels.

CeCe MOORE is the genetic genealogy consultant for the PBS television series *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.* Her work has also been featured on *20/20*, *Genealogy Roadshow*, *The Dr. Oz Show*, *The Today Show*, *Nightline*, *Good Morning America*, *Crime Watch Daily*, *Nancy Grace*, *CBS This Morning* and *The Doctors*, as well as being quoted in many online and print publications. Her primary focus is promoting genetic genealogy education and sharing positive stories about the power of genetic genealogy through the media.

STELLA FONG, CWP teaches cooking classes & wine seminars and has published *Historic Restaurants of Billings and Billings Food*. She will speak on "Historic Restaurants of Billings: Good Eats from the Past" at the banquet.

EXHIBIT AREA:

- Various MONTANA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES & genealogy related organizations will be represented.
- Don't forget the BOOK FROLIC - The MSGS Fund Raiser! Check your bookcases for annuals, city directories, histories, family histories, genealogy books, tapes & videos. Bring them to conference **Thursday** to be sold by silent auction. **Please - only genealogy or family history related materials. Do not bring quarterlies or outdated material. The Book Frolic area will not be open on Thursday for browsing.**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

See website www.montanamsgs.org/billings for things to see and do in Billings.

3:00 P.M. Book Frolic Drop Off - Big Horn Room, Big Horn Resort
3:00 - 5:30 P.M. REGISTRATION DESK OPEN, Big Horn Lobby
3:30 - 4:45 P.M. MSGS Board Meeting - Boardroom off Main Hotel Lobby
5:00 - Three Free Workshops: **First Families Workshop** - workshop for answers to questions on your application for First Families & Early Settlers of Montana.
Norwegian Research Workshop - Discuss ways to do this type of research
DNA Workshop - Discuss DNA questions and answers

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017 – 7:30 – 9:00 Registration Desk Open – Big Horn Lobby
8:45 – 10:00 A.M. Big Horn Room. Announcements, President Shawna Valentine. Opening Session: **FIVE WAYS TO PROVE WHO YOUR ANCESTOR WAS (SOME RELIABLE AND OTHERS NOT RELIABLE)** – *Thomas W Jones*. Case studies will illustrate five ways – some reliable and others not – that genealogists “prove” an ancestor’s identity: using information provided by others; using a single source; following a chain of evidence; correlating evidence from multiple sources; and weighing conflicting evidence. Attendees will learn how to use the GPS to identify their ancestors accurately.
10:30 – 11:30 A.M. **THE POWER OF DNA: GENETIC GENEALOGY BASICS** – *CeCe Moore*. Understanding the basics of the four types of DNA and three types of genetic genealogy tests is essential to successfully applying genetic genealogy to furthering your research. Explore the power of DNA to discover more about genealogy and extend family tree branches. This presentation helps to lay the foundation for genealogists interested in adding genetic genealogy to their skill set.
11:50 – 1:00 P.M. Stillwater Room. **LUNCH & SOCIETY REPORTS:** Menu: Soup & Salad Bar - Chef’s Choice Soup with Salad Bar, Coffee, Iced Tea
1:30 – 2:30 P.M. **GOING BEYOND THE BARE BONES: RECONSTRUCTING YOUR ANCESTORS’ LIVES** – *Thomas W. Jones*. You will learn how to extract information from frequently used genealogical sources and arrange it to create biographies that bring ancestors to life.
3:00 – 4:00 P.M. **AUTOSOMAL DNA: DISCOVERING YOUR ANCESTORS IN YOU** – *CeCe Moore*. We have all invested a significant amount of time and effort searching for information about our ancestors. Rapidly advancing genetic technologies have now made it possible to discover more about our ancestors and in ways we never could have imagined. CeCe will demonstrate the methods that the experts use to get the most out of their results, including chromosome mapping, trait tracing and applications for adoption search. Examples from CeCe’s research will be shared to demonstrate the potential for using autosomal DNA to discover more about our ancestors.
4:30 – 5:30 P.M. **INFERENTIAL GENEALOGY: DEDUCTING ANCESTORS’ IDENTITIES INDIRECTLY** – *Thomas W. Jones*. Participants will learn how to accurately deduce ancestors; identities & many aspects of their lives by digging below “surface information” in genealogical records and by combining information from several sources.
6:30 P.M. – Stillwater Room. **BANQUET** Southern BBQ – Buffet Style. Beef Brisket & Grilled Chicken, Salads, Baked Beans, Hot Fruit Cobbler, Corn Bread and Rolls. Coffee, Iced Tea Presentation of Awards, First Families Certificates and Banquet Program: **“Historic Restaurants of Billings”** – *Stella Fong*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2017

7:30 – 9:00 A.M. REGISTRATION DESK OPEN – Big Horn Lobby
7:45 – 8:45 A.M. Stillwater Room MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING, Everyone welcome
9:00 – 10:00 A.M. Big Horn Room, **WHO AM I: ETHNICITY ESTIMATES** – *CeCe Moore*. Addressing the question of “Who am I?” through DNA testing that provides ethnicity percentages is becoming a popular research tool for genealogists and even a pastime for the general public. It is important to understand the strengths and weaknesses of this aspect of DNA testing and the reasons behind them. Attendees will learn how to better interpret and analyze these results and what they can and cannot tell you about your family tree.
10:30 – 11:30 A.M. **SOLUTIONS FOR MISSING AND SCARCE RECORDS** - *Thomas W. Jones*. You will learn strategies for overcoming research barriers caused by lost or destroyed records, poor record-keeping, or a simple lack of records.
11:50 – 1:00 P.M. Stillwater Room **LUNCH & SOCIETY REPORTS.** Menu: Deli Bar – Smoked Turkey, Beef, Ham, with assorted condiments, Fresh fruit, Coffee, Iced Tea
1:30 P.M. **BOOK FROLIC CLOSES, RAFFLE DRAWINGS**
1:45 – 2:45 P. M. **GENETIC GENEALOGY CASE STUDIES** – *CeCe Moore*. Step-by-step case studies demonstrate the use of all 4 types of DNA in conjunction with traditional research to solve genealogical mysteries and showcase the exciting possibilities this work offers. After learning of its potential to reveal and unravel complex family relationships many are flocking to DNA testing to solve their own family mysteries and break down longstanding brick walls.

28th Annual Montana State Genealogical Society Conference
Big Horn Resort, 1801 Majestic Lane, Billings, MT SEPTEMBER 21, 22, 23, 2017 REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ MAIDEN NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

2 Surnames you are currently researching _____

2 Locations Researching _____

1st MSGS Conference

Full 2 day Conference Registration with Banquet & 2 luncheons \$124.00 \$ _____

Full 2 day Conference Registration (NO MEALS) \$65.00 \$ _____

1 Day FRIDAY ONLY Conference Registration (NO MEALS) \$45.00 \$ _____

1 Day SATURDAY ONLY Conference Registration (NO MEALS) \$30.00 \$ _____

MEALS: To guarantee meals, registration must be received **by Friday, September 8, 2017**. One of each of the three meals is included with the \$124.00 level. If you want to select only one or two of the meals for yourself, select the \$65 level above and then add the individual meals below. If you want to purchase additional meals for spouses, etc., please add these meals below:

Friday Lunch _____ @ \$21.00 \$ _____

Friday Banquet _____ @ \$34.00 \$ _____

Saturday Lunch _____ @ \$21.00 \$ _____

Conference Pins:

Billings 2017 @ \$5 each __ Starter Bar \$5 each __ Total \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Thursday's workshops are free but please indicate if you plan to attend for space planning

First Families Workshop _____ Norwegian Research _____ DNA Q's & A's _____

Send this form with payment to:
MSGs c/o Mary Pitch
700 Grant Avenue
Helena MT 59601

DO NOT BRING DOOR PRIZES THIS YEAR. WE HAVE BEEN ASKED TO DISPENSE WITH THEM.

Pre-registration must be postmarked by August 29, 2017 to qualify for the "Early Bird" drawing for a refund of the Conference Fee (\$65.00 Maximum).

Cancellation Policy: Full refund of all meal functions and registration fee (less a \$15.00 cancellation fee) will be issued if request is received by Friday, September 1, 2017. For cancellation notifications received after September 1, 2017, or for non-attendance, no refund will be given. We cannot guarantee that tote bags will be available to participants that register at the door.

MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
3462 Barley Circle
Billings MT 59102

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