



**Montana State Genealogical Society
and Lewis & Clark County Genealogical Society
host the**

30th ANNUAL MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 19, 20, 21, 2019

**Delta Hotels Helena Colonial
in Helena, Montana**

LOCATION & ACCOMMODATIONS: The Conference will be held at the Delta Hotels Helena Colonial, 2301 Colonial Dr., Helena, MT. The room rate for Double Queen Room is \$109.00, King \$119.00 plus taxes. Over 2 persons per room additional \$10.00 each person. Reserve your room BEFORE 19 AUGUST 2019 to receive these rates. To reserve a room online, go to link on montanamsgs.org/conferences or Phone: 406-443-2100 and state you are with the MT State Genealogical Society. **RESERVE EARLY – ROOMS LIMITED**

OUR SPEAKERS:

James M. Beidler - German Life's Family Research / Familie Forschung columnist and author of two successful commercially published German genealogy books (*The Family Tree German Genealogy Guide* and *Trace Your German Roots Online*). His newest book is *The Family Tree Historical Newspapers Guide*. Beidler writes "Roots & Branches," a weekly newspaper column and blog (at www.roots-branches.com). He is also a research-reports editor for the worldwide research firm Legacy Tree Genealogists.

Kris Rzepczynski - Senior Archivist at the Archives of Michigan, where he specializes in family history and Michigan research, Kris has worked in the genealogical community for nearly 20 years. He holds a Master of Library and Information Science from Wayne State University and a Master of Arts in History from Western Michigan University. Kris has presented at national, state, and local conferences.

Ellen Baumler - Former Interpretive Historian at Montana Historical Society and co-curator of *Forgotten Pioneers: The Chinese in Montana*. She is award-winning author of numerous books & articles and has taught Montana history in classrooms of all ages across Montana. She is a member of the Humanities Montana Speaker's Bureau. Her current projects include a book on Montana's Cemetery History.

EXHIBIT AREA: Ballroom

- 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 Do not bring quarterlies or outdated material.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 19, 2019

- 2:00 – 2:30 P.M. John Finn, Director, Lewis & Clark Library, 120 Last Chance Gulch. Large Meeting Room: Slides of pending changes for the L & C Library. **2:30 – 4 PM** See MSGS Library Digitizing
- 3:00 – 5:30 P.M. REGISTRATION DESK OPEN, Delta Hotels Helena Colonial Conference Area Lobby
- 3:30 – 4:45 P.M. MSGS Board Meeting – Russell Boardroom 2nd Floor off Lobby
- 5:00 – 6:30 P.M. Free Workshops: **First Families of Montana** - For answers to questions on your application for First Families & Early Settlers of MT. Bring paperwork. Deadline Vol V is Jan 2020 Montana Rm 2nd Floor
Relatives Around Me from Family Search - If you have a tree on Family Search, join us to learn if fellow genealogists in the room are your relatives. **Before coming Download Family Tree App to your phone.** Clark Rm 2nd Floor
- 6:30 – 8:00 P.M. Free Reception in Capitol-State. **Need ticket to attend**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019 – 7:30 – 9:00 Registration Desk Open – Conference Lobby
8:45 – 10:00 A.M. Ballroom. Announcements, President Shawna Valentine. Opening Session:

BECOMING AMERICAN: RESEARCH WITH NATURALIZATION RECORDS – *Kris Rzepczynski*. Although one of the most important tools in family history research, naturalization records can often be very difficult to locate. This program will explore naturalization records, the many tools available to assist you in your research, and successful strategies to locate citizenship records, utilizing both online and print resources.

10:30 – 11:30 A.M. **TACKLING THE "BORN IN PENNSYLVANIA" PROBLEM** – *James M. Beidler*. Many researchers will find their research extends to an ancestor said to be "born in Pennsylvania" without additional information. Learn the strategies for making the needle bigger and the haystack smaller in this type of search!

11:50 – 1:00 P.M. Capitol-State. **LUNCH & SOCIETY REPORTS**: Menu: Deli Buffet of Sliced Roast Beef & Breast of Turkey, Lettuce, tomato, red onion, pickles, cheddar, pepper jack, American cheeses, mayo, mustard, bread, Tossed Salad, house ranch. Potato Chips & Chocolate Chip Cookies. Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade

1:30 – 2:30 P.M. **BIG CITY BLUES? RESEARCHING URBAN ANCESTORS** – *Kris Rzepczynski*. Using case studies from Chicago, Detroit, and other cities, this program will explore successful strategies for researching ancestors in large urban centers across the US.

3:00 – 4:00 P.M. **GERMAN IMMIGRANT WAVES: CONTRASTS AND SOURCES** – *James M. Beidler*. The 1700's "Pennsylvania Germans" were a different breed than the "German Americans" who immigrated in the 1800's. This presentation shows the differences in geography, economic class, religion, and aspirations of – as well as sources about – the two great waves of German immigration as well as reviewing "the basics" of German genealogy.

4:30 – 5:30 P.M. **MIDWEST REPOSITORIES AND ONLINE COLLECTIONS** – *Kris Rzepczynski*. The Midwest is full of archives and libraries bursting with genealogical records and online content. This session will explore some of the key research institutions and their collections.

6:30 P.M. Capitol-State. **BANQUET** – Center Cut Pork Loin **or** Cheddar Chive Crusted Chicken, Fresh Green Beans, Oven Baked Potato, Salad Bar, Assorted Cheesecakes. Coffee, Tea.
Presentation of Awards and First Families & Early Settlers of Montana Certificates.

Banquet Program: **Ellen Baumler** – *The Work is Never Done: Homesteading Women*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

7:30 – 9:00 A.M. REGISTRATION DESK OPEN – Conference Lobby

7:45 – 8:45 A.M. MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING, Capitol-State
Everyone welcome.

9:00 – 10:00 A.M. Ballroom. **ZIGZAGGING THROUGH GERMAN CHURCH RECORDS** – *James M. Beidler*. Explaining the methodology of using the baptismal, confirmation, marriage and burial records from German church registers most effectively. By utilizing the different bits of information found in each, researchers can zigzag their way to adding centuries to a pedigree.

10:30 – 11:30 A.M. **BEYOND NAMES AND DATES: ADDING THE "STORY" TO YOUR FAMILY HISTORY** – *Kris Rzepczynski*. Our ancestor's lives are so much more than just names and dates on a pedigree chart. This program will explore record collections and examples beyond the basics that can provide rich detail and reveal fantastic stories about your ancestors' lives.

11:50 – 1:00 P.M. Capitol-State. **LUNCH & SOCIETY REPORTS**. Menu: Soup & Sub Sandwich Buffet. 2 Soups, Assorted Subs: Ham & Swiss, Beef & Cheddar, Turkey & Pepper Jack, Cold Cut Combo. Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade.

1:30 P.M. **BOOK FROLIC CLOSES, RAFFLE DRAWINGS**

2:00 – 3:00 P. M. **PIONEERS AND COLONISTS: BACKGROUND OF GERMANS IN EASTERN EUROPE** – *James M. Beidler*. Millions of German-speaking people never spent a day in today's countries of Germany, Switzerland and Austria. For centuries, German-speaking enclaves existed in Eastern Europe. This presentation introduces and gives historical background about these "Germans outside Germany".

30th Annual Montana State Genealogical Society Conference
Delta Hotels Helena Colonial, Helena, MT SEPTEMBER 19, 20, 21, 2019 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 2 luncheons & Banquet: Choose Pork Loin____ or Chicken _____ \$134.00 \$ _____
Reception no additional charge but **MUST** indicate IN ADVANCE if you plan to attend _____

Full 2 day Conference Registration (NO MEALS) \$70.00 \$ _____

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 6, 2019**. One of each of the three meals is included with the \$134.00 level. If you want to select only one or two of the meals for yourself, select the \$70 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 _____ @ \$18.00 \$ _____

Friday Banquet: Pork Loin ___ Chicken ___ @ \$30.00 \$ _____

Saturday Lunch _____ @ \$18.00 \$ _____

Food Allergies _____ Vegan _____ Gluten Free _____

2019 Helena Conference Pins: @ \$5 each ___ Starter Bar \$5 each ___ \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

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

Lewis & Clark Library _____ First Families Workshop _____ Relatives Workshop _____

Send this form with payment to:

**MSGS c/o Mary Pitch
700 Grant Avenue,
Helena MT 59601**

Pre-registration must be postmarked by August 27, 2019 to qualify for the "Early Bird" drawing for a refund of the Conference Fee (\$70.00 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, August 30, 2019. For cancellation notifications received after August 31, 2019, 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

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
BILLINGS MT
Permit No 1



**Montana State Genealogical Society
and the
Lewis & Clark County Genealogical Society**

**Host the
30th Annual Conference
Delta Hotels Helena Colonial
2301 Colonial Drive
HELENA, MONTANA**

**PRESERVING THE PAST
SEPTEMBER 19, 20, 21, 2019**