

# Big Sky Roundup



<http://montanamsgs.org>

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2014-2015 Officers

July 2015

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## President's Message

### President - Shawna Valentine

#### Newsletter Editor – Shawna Valentine

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**Change.** None of us really like it, but know it is inevitable and if we give into it good things often occur because of it.

Days after the July MSGS Board Meeting, we received notice from Maureen Taylor, one of our scheduled speakers at the Butte Conference in September, that she was experiencing health issues and her doctor would not grant her permission to travel to our Conference.

So, Verba (MSGS Board Member responsible for Conference Planning) dropped everything and began a frantic search to find a second national speaker that would still meet the quality we have come to enjoy and expect. After a day and a half of hearing "I would love to come, but am already booked elsewhere" one speaker was not only delighted to come, but was available.

She is **Ceil Wendt Jensen, MA** from the Detroit, Michigan area and comes very well qualified. If you have Polish Roots, this is your opportunity as she is a national authority in Polish Research. However, her expertise extends far beyond the borders of Poland. She is a former photography teacher, and as such will speak on preserving and cataloging photos and other files. Another topic will cover North American & European Funerary customs and records. Her last presentation is very appropriate to Butte as it discusses "How to Document Miners".

I want to thank Verba for her necessary efforts in changing the Butte Conference and for your understanding in why the program has changed from what had been previously published. The Registration Brochure that was mailed in July is correct and it is also available on our website.

I hope to see you in Butte this September!

*Shawna Valentine, President*

## Summary of the 18 July 2015 MSGS Board Meeting



Shawna Valentine, President, called the meeting to order at 10: 06 AM. Those present were Shawna Valentine, Verba Valentine, Terry Atwood, Shirley Rogers, Mary Pitch, Marilyn Lewis, Al Stoner, and Kathy Patrick. Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved. Treasurer's report showed \$381.06 in checking account and savings account has \$17,269.09.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's report by Verba Valentine: **2015 Conference** – Butte (September 24, 25, 26) Arrangements for speakers flying into Butte are difficult and are the cause of added expense. When asked about the possibility of a Skype presentation Verba turned it down and was backed by the Board in that decision. Another unforeseen expense was liability insurance needed at the Butte Civic Center. A good turnout at the conference will offset some of these unexpected expenses. Verba needs to know how many Societies will need a table for the conference. Vendors who are not a member of a Montana Society will be charged conference fee as the tables are located in the same room as the speakers. Conference attendees will have an opportunity to share two surnames and two locations they are researching. This information will be posted on a bulletin board. We will be selling previous state conference t-shirts on the state table. **2016 Conference** – Missoula (September 22, 23, 24th. The theme is "Linking Our Trails". Amy Johnson Crow who speaks on Civil War and methodology has been booked. She will pair well with Judy Russell, The Legal Genealogist. We are looking for a local banquet speaker and activity. The Missoula Society has suggested an excellent speaker on the "Irish in Montana" for the banquet, but the board felt we needed something besides Irish since the last 2 years have focused on the British Isles.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Report – Shirley Rogers: We reviewed the pins. They are in shipment. Shirley is working on door prizes. She will be absent for part of the conference. We need people to help with the state table.

Mary Pitch delivered the Registrar's report. We have dropped Lincoln County from the list of Society members. Mary has contacted Societies that need to pay their dues.

### **Committee Reports:**

First Families & Early Settlers – Volume IV – Shawna reported that this edition will have roughly 210 pages. The phrase "submitted by" is being added to stories to cover any copyright issues. This edition contains 100 different submitters. Al Stoner presented an inventory of current books and recommended reassessing what we want to print in view of the inventory we are carrying. We discussed marketing and pricing for past volumes and Vol. IV.

Nominating Committee – The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Registrar are willing to stand for re-election. We are in need of a secretary.

**Old Business:** Marilyn Lewis shared the Central Montana Genealogy Society brochure showing what records the county offices hold. This was followed by a discussion of the best way to collect each county's holdings and make that available to the public.

**New Business:** The next Board Meeting will be at the Butte Civic Center (meeting room up-stairs), Thursday September 24, 2015 at 3:30 pm. The date for the October 2015 Board Meeting is Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> in Helena.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Patrick, Secretary

**Remember to send notification of any members who have died since last September to Judy Cohen at [bumpie6@bresnan.net](mailto:bumpie6@bresnan.net) so they may be included in the annual Memorial Program at the September Banquet. This is a Power Point presentation, so all names for the 2015 program must to be to Judy by Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> so she has time to compile the presentation.**

It's almost Conference Time and the place to be is the Butte Civic Center!

September  
24, 25, 26, 2015  
Featuring 2 National Speakers & 8 Topics



**Paul Milner**

Northern England Native  
Professional Genealogist  
International Lecturer  
and Author

Topics:

- English Parish Registers: How to Access, Use, and Interpret
- Buried Treasures: What's in the English Parish Chest
- Finding the Correct Place: Maps & Gazetteers for Scottish Research
- Effective Use of England's National Archives Website



**Ceil Wendt Jensen, MA**

Author, Educator, Former  
Photography Teacher  
Leading Expert on Polish  
Genealogy  
Featured on Genealogy  
Roadshow (Detroit) in 2013.

Topics:

- Archival Techniques for Family Historians
- Understanding Polish Given Names, Surnames, & Locations
- Records Arising from Death
- Sixteen Tons – How to Document Miners

**Banquet Program**

**Chris Fisk**, teacher & local expert on Butte's history will present **The Genealogy of Copper** at the Friday Banquet.

The Complete Conference Schedule & Registration Form may be downloaded at:

<http://montanamsgs.org/conferences.html>

**Harvesting Our Roots**



September 24, 25, 26, 2015

Butte Civic Center  
Butte, Montana

**Book Frolic**

Check your bookcases for items of **genealogical or historical interest** such as annuals, directories, county histories, genealogy books, tapes, software or videos that you would be willing to donate for use in this silent auction.

**PLEASE – NO Quarterlies, or Outdated Material.**

Items should be brought to the conference area on Thursday so they will be ready to view starting first thing on Friday morning. The Frolic area will NOT be open on Thursday for browsing – just for dropping off.

**Memorial Service**

If a member of your society has passed away since the last conference, please let Judy Cohen know by September 11th so that she may include them in the Memorial Service at the Friday Evening Banquet.

An obituary & picture are appreciated.

Judy's email address is:  
bumpie6@bresnan.net

**Conference Hotel:**

**Comfort Inn**, 2777 Harrison Ave.  
Rate: \$88.00 for Double Queen Room (over 2 people \$10/ea) 1 King Bed \$88.00 (single or double)  
Reservations must be made by September 9 for guarantee. Call 406-494-8850 and mention MT Genealogical Society. Reserve Early to assure room availability. A shuttle will be available from the Comfort Inn to the Civic Center.

**Deadlines:**

- **September 2:** Early Bird Deadline. Be sure your registration form has been mailed for the possibility of receiving up to \$75 of the Registration refunded.
- **September 9:** Deadline to reserve sleeping rooms at the Conference Hotel, the Comfort Inn on Harrison. Phone: 406-494-8850, Mention MSGS Conference
- **September 14:** Conference Registrations must be received by our Registrar in order to guarantee meals and handouts at the conference.

**Door Prizes**

These are always fun to get, but we need items to give away at our meal events.

Please bring wrapped gift items & turn them in to the Registration Desk when you pick up your badges. If the gift is gender specific, please note Male or Female on the outside.

## Calling for Award Nominations

The **Anna Mae Hanson Award** is given by MSGS in acknowledgment of dedicated service in the genealogical community. Named in recognition of MSGS founding member, Anna Mae Hansen, that quietly gave many, many hours and never asked to have attention for her efforts. Because of her fine example to other genealogists, an annual award is given at the state conference in her name to a genealogist who is an outstanding person, works beyond what is expected of them and is very dedicated to the field of genealogy.

MSGS will also accept nominations for the **Al Huntsman Award**. Named in honor of past president, Al Huntsman, this award will be presented to businesses or individuals who are not affiliated with a member genealogical society, but have been instrumental in helping promote genealogy.

Nominations for either award will be accepted from any MSGS member and should be submitted in a written letter that briefly describes the nominee's contributions to the local society and to MSGS if applicable. They should include why the person (or business) stands out and is worthy of this special recognition. Send letters to our Awards Committee Chairman, Mardi Whitmore, PO Box 1111, Livingston MT 59047 or emailed to her at mardellaw@juno.com so she has it by Tuesday, September 1st. The award will be given at our annual conference at the banquet, Friday, September 25th, 2015.

## Local Society Reports at Conference Lunches

Meals at conferences are a great way to meet and visit with new people and to learn what is happening around the state. Each meal provides time to visit among your table mates and both lunches are utilized as a time to share what your local society has been up to for the past year. Time is given to a representative from each local society present at lunch on either Friday or Saturday to give a **brief** summary of their accomplishments and activities for the year. Reports shouldn't be elaborate or lengthy, but give some thought as to who will speak for your society and what your year's highlights have been or what you are looking forward to next year!



Entertainment Ceilidh

**The Bitterroot Celtic Games and Gathering** will be held **August 15-16** on the beautiful grounds of the Historic Daly Mansion in Hamilton. Please attend and enjoy!

### **HOURS FOR 2015**

**Saturday, August 15:** 9am to 7pm, Free Ceilidh 7-10 (Entertainment tent)

Enjoy: Highland games   Celtic Vendors   Clan gathering   Dance  
Competition   Pipe & Drum competitions   Mansion tours   Musical

**Sunday, August 16:** 9am to 4pm Kirkan o' the Tartan

Children's Highland games   Athletic demonstrations   Dance demonstrations   Band competition  
Musical entertainment   Celtic vendors

See you there,  
Martha Hale, Regional V.P. Clan Fergusson Society of NA

## Genealogists' Declaration of Rights - We Need Your Support!

- Did you know that a date of death is no longer added to the Social Security Death Index until three years after the event occurs?
- Did you know the State Vital Records Officers have a Model Act which if passed in your state will close access to birth records for 125 years, marriage records for 100 years, & death records for 75 years?

**GENEALOGISTS NEED TO WORK TOGETHER AND SPEAK-UP IF WE ARE TO REVERSE THESE RECENT TRENDS!** We need to let Congress and our state legislatures know that genealogists need access to public records and **GENEALOGISTS VOTE!** You can help by signing the Genealogists' Declaration of Rights and by asking the societies to which you belong to encourage members to also sign the Declaration.

The Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC) has obtained 8,000 signatures over the last year including more than 1,500 at the national genealogy conferences, over 2,300 at regional, state, and local societies, and 4,100 online signatures. **WE NEED 10,000 SIGNATURES BY THE END OF 2015 FOR GENEALOGISTS TO MAKE A STRONG STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF OPEN ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS.**

We need **YOU** to sign the Declaration. Take five minutes and sign at <http://bit.ly/gen-declaration>.

Spread the word! Take a copy of the Declaration signature form to your local society and obtain more signatures. The signature form for organizations can be found on the RPAC Blog at [www.fgs.org/rpac/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/DeclarationSignaturePageOrganizational-2015-.pdf](http://www.fgs.org/rpac/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/DeclarationSignaturePageOrganizational-2015-.pdf).

Keep reading if you want more details about how access for genealogists has been restricted this year. There's bad news, but there's good news, too.

- Section 203 of the 2013 Bipartisan Budget Act, which went into effect 29 March 2014, closed access to the Death Master File (used by genealogists as the Social Security Death Index) for three years after an individual's death. Access during the three-year embargo is limited to persons certified by the Commerce Department. Certification costs \$400; the annual cost to access the data is \$995; the available data is limited; the search engine inadequate, and new audit and security requirements will make access unaffordable by even professional genealogists.
- Since 1 November 2011, the public DMF/SSDI has omitted those deaths which were reported only by states. The Social Security Administration also omits geographic data, although data aggregators such as Ancestry have been able to add data such as state of issue back into the SSDI based upon the first three digits of the SSN.
- Genealogists have had no access to death records in Oklahoma since a version of the 2011 Revision of the Model Vital Statistics Act was passed in 2012. Efforts to amend the law and provide access to attorneys did not make it out of committee in the 2015 legislative session.
- The Kansas Supreme Court has a proposed Rule 106 which would redact the mother's maiden name, date of birth, and city and state of birth from marriage licenses. RPAC and Kansas genealogy organizations have written the court but the procedures for implementation of a judicial rule are not clear so RPAC is continuing to follow up.

Where genealogists have been actively involved, access to vital records has improved. On a positive note genealogists from some states have been able to reverse the closure trend:

- Death Records in Virginia are closed for only 25 years. Images of Virginia Death Records 1912-2014 and Marriage Records 1936-2014 are available at the Library of Virginia and on Ancestry.com through 1987. See the 14 June 2015 RPAC Blog post, "Virginia Vital Records Online," at <http://www.fgs.org/RPAC> for more details.
- Pennsylvania death records have been digitized from 1906 to 1963 and are also available in the state and on Ancestry.com. Pennsylvania death records are closed for 50 years.
- The Michigan State Archives has recently added free digitized copies of death records from 1921-1952 to its earlier collection of imaged death records from 1897-1920.

For current updates on access issues check the RPAC Blog at <http://www.fgs.org/RPAC>.



## What's happening on the local level...

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### **Beaver Head Hunters – Dillon**

The Head Hunters have continued to keep active this summer. A work session was held last month to make table decorations for the State Conference, and everyone had fun. We had our annual summer outing in July at the Grant Kohrs Ranch in Deer Lodge. We toured the main house and learned the history of the ranch, which was extremely interesting. We were able to wander around and look in all the old farm buildings and see implements from the 1800s. We topped it off with a picnic lunch in the milking barn, which completed an enjoyable day.

Next month we will have our annual Cemetery Walk with Head Hunters playing the part of deceased Dillon old-timers. This is always a popular event, and an easy way to learn some of the local history.

Before we know it summer will be over and we'll be looking forward to the State Conference.

Submitted by Pat Darling, BHH Liaison

### **Central Montana Genealogy Society – Lewistown**

Tom Wojtowick, member of Central Montana Genealogy Society put together a guide for the Calvary Cemetery in Lewistown. These were available on Memorial Day at the cemetery. Last year he did this for the City Cemetery and these were available again this year. The guides pointed out the graves of prominent people and unusual gravestones and markers.

We are still keeping our obituary file up to date and doing research for other people. We will have our indoor picnic again in August.

Submitted by Marilyn Lewis, President CMGS

### **Flathead Valley Genealogical Society – Kalispell**

The Flathead Valley Genealogical Society has been busy the past several months. We had a wonderful meeting learning how the local family history center could help us and seeing all the new programs that they have available for our use. The next meeting was very useful as it explained how to set up your computer for genealogical research. Topics covered included available programs, computer and file management, downloading of files and pictures and organization of your computer.

In June, the Genealogical Society did their annual service by taking pictures of headstones in the Conrad Cemetery. More than 500 photos were taken and we are currently working on putting them on findagrave for all to see. Thanks to the society's efforts, all of Section B and most of Section E in the cemetery have been photographed and placed on Findagrave. And many in Section D are also completed. We are adjourned for the months of July and August but plan on beginning September with a program on using World Cat to order books to our local library and finding books online. Check out all the new information at our sponsored genweb site in the Montana genweb site. We have been adding marriages, deaths, obits, births and are currently working on 1989 obits and 1910-1920 Presbyterian church records.

Submitted by Vickie Rowley, FVGS Liaison

## **Gallatin County Genealogical Society – Bozeman**

During a busy spring, the society made significant progress on indexing probated wills, learned about determining kinship with DNA, celebrated its third anniversary and elected officers for 2015-2016.

Index Project Update: A small group of dedicated indexers continued re-boxing and indexing probated wills located at the Law and Justice Center in Bozeman. In the past six months, they have indexed over 2600 wills dating from 1886 to 1976. Plans call for indexing all wills up to the present.

In April, President Bonnie Jackson gave an excellent presentation on determining kinship with DNA. She covered numerous topics including what DNA is; different types of DNA testing; how DNA testing can help find relatives and determine ethnic origin; the three most popular autosomal DNA kits on the market; and the types of genealogical information that can be gained from Ancestry DNA and 23andMe. She also provided a comprehensive handout for reference and sources of additional information.

The society celebrated its third anniversary since its reactivation in 2012. The group shared cake, punch and personal stories of successful genealogy research over the past year. Members also celebrated the indexing of over 120,000 records in the past three years and ending the year with 46 active members. Before breaking for the summer, all current officers were re-elected for the 2015-2016 membership year: Bonnie Jackson, President; Karen Maika, Vice President; Linda Gengenbacher, Secretary; Norma Ardesson, Treasurer; Tricia Thompson, Project Manager; Jenn Vieth, Webmaster; and Carol Elliott, State Liaison.

Submitted by Carol Elliott, GCGS Liaison

## **Great Falls Genealogy Society – Great Falls**

### **Great Falls Genealogy Society Celebrates Its 40th Year!**

Great Falls Genealogy Society has been at the local Farmer's Market several times during summer of 2015, letting people know about our Society, its conservation efforts with Cascade County records, and celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> year as a Society and a Library. We continue to work at conserving and indexing Cascade County records, as noted in this Projects Update:

Work on the Ursuline Center Historical Records Inventory is about 70% complete. Three GFGS volunteers, Larry Spicer, Linda Long, and Janet Thomson continue to work with Sister Frances Porter on Monday and Thursday mornings in the Ursuline Archives. When complete, the Historical Records Inventory will be available at the Ursuline Center, the Great Falls Genealogy Society Library, the Great Falls History Museum, and other places as designated by Sister Porter. The Records Inventory encompasses materials from five states, and includes Ursuline Convent and School Records, many Indian school missions, and photos (brief description).

The GFGS Project to copy the Cascade County Inquests (1887, forward) continues. Members of the crew have completed copying several boxes of these fragile records, in cooperation with the History Museum, where the originals will be maintained. When complete, GFGS will have a copy of each available inquest. GFGS also has the Cascade County Coroner Registers, and has indexed both collections, previously.

Still another project that has just begun is the indexing of the recently acquired Chapel of Chimes Mortuary records. When complete, the index will encompass about 40 years of burial information for the Chapel of Chimes, which operated in Great Falls until purchased by Schnider Funeral Home. This is the second set of mortuary records given to GSGS for safe keeping and conserving.

Submitted by Janet Thomson, GFGS President

## **Lewis & Clark County Genealogy Society – Helena**

The Lewis & Clark County Genealogical Society's last three meetings included a talk by member Gary Wulf, who discussed "Searching Land Records". He talked about the different Homestead Acts and illustrated his talk using the BLM website, [www.glorerecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov). He also discussed the land records at the County Clerk & Recorder's Office which are numerous! In May we had member Fran Viereck tell us about putting together a small family reunion in a very short time, which led to a general discussion of reunions and how different members' families put their reunions together. In July we had a potluck picnic at Centennial Park where we were able to visit and get to know one another better. I was pleased to hear that several members connected who have research in the same area who will be sharing with their information with one another.

Submitted by Mary Pitch, LCCGS President

## **Powell County Genealogical Society – Deer Lodge**

The Powell County Genealogical Society meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at Kohrs Memorial Library. Our membership is small but very hardworking! We have finished our part in walking/indexing our Hillcrest Cemetery. Our partner in City Hall is digitizing the information. Her work was disrupted this past year because of internal problems but all is back on track now and moving forward. We are anxiously awaiting the index which we will make accessible to the public.

Our other on-going project is the indexing of BDM's from the New NorthWest (1869-1890) hard copy newspapers housed in our library. Now that they are available on-line, it should go much faster as folks can also work at home – "a light at the end of the tunnel".

Informative discussions are held at the end of each meeting on classes, blogs, webinars etc. in which members have participated. Nora Meier did a presentation on the dating of old photographs.

In April our members enjoyed a field trip to Helena, visiting the Mormon Family Research Center and the MSHS Library.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the Conference in September!

Submitted by Megan Thompson, PCGS President

## **Yellowstone Genealogy Forum – Billings**

Spring started with a program on medical records. Carol Turbes of St. Vincent Healthcare Medical Records discussed accessing medical records and the laws behind regulations on them. Her source was the journal for the American Health Information Management Association FAQ's. <http://journal.ahima.org/2013/04/01/accessing-deceased-patient-health-records-faq/>

In May is the club's annual meeting: election of officers, recognition of volunteers, accomplishments over the past year, and dessert. Officers elected were Laura Haefer, Treasurer; Irene Nelson, Recording Secretary; Ann Ferguson & Kay Cahill, Program Coordinators; Bobbie Meyers, Corresponding Secretary; P. J. Smith, President. The program for the evening was on Germans from Russia. (The American Historical Society of Germans from Russia held its annual conference in Billings July 13-18.)

Ed Saunders, retired Army, is documenting World War I nurses interred in Yellowstone County. He presented a program on finding and preserving family American military history. He gave information on what records are available and how to receive copies of them, from the Revolutionary War to present.

Ancestry Library Edition is used by many people. Forum members presented a program and hands-on help at the Billings Public Library computer room. To help them understand what documents they are finding on Ancestry, P. J. Smith reviewed each type of document, such as census records, birth, marriage, and death records, city directories, and military records. Ten people attended the program, and three members helped.

An agreement between Billings Public Library and the Forum was updated and signed. In return for the library providing space for the Forum to house its research collection, the Forum answers genealogy queries mailed to the library and assists library patrons with research. In 2014-2015, the Forum had eleven members who volunteered 430 hours. There were 280 visitors. Through donations and books purchased by the book selection committee, the Forum's research collection expanded by 69 books,

Submitted by P. J. Smith, YGF President



# Walter Bradshaw, World Champion Hammerman

By Shawna Valentine

For fifteen minutes, it was man against rock. The drill was placed and the blows began. Water spewed out of the hole as drills went deeper and deeper into a massive slab of granite. Two men working together transformed the strength and skills of the every-day miner into events that created champions based on who could drill the deepest hole. One man would hammer a heavy sledge upon a drill that was held by the other on the granite. Drills had to be rotated and changed as the hole grew. Timing between the partners was paramount. To win, the hammer had to maintain its rhythm and the drill had to be rotated and changed between blows. And in the height of West's mining era of the early 1900's, the fifteen minutes was also a competition of one mining town against another.

Known as hard rock drilling contests, the competitions were very popular. Miners enjoyed them as they exalted the exact skills and tools that they used every day into heroic possibilities. Competitions held on elevated platforms usually spotlighted Fourth of July, Miner Union Day, and Labor Day festivities. It was not uncommon to draw over 10,000 spectators and teams from as far away as Arizona. Betting was widespread. In Helena, a competition on Labor Day, 1 September 1901 featured five Montana teams, "two from Butte, two from Marysville and one from Clancy."<sup>1</sup> The Butte team of Walter Bradshaw and Joe Freethy won that day. Twenty-three days later the same team would break the World's Drilling Record in Spokane by drilling through 55 inches. That record was never surpassed.

Although he was actually born in Iowa on February 3, 1873, by 1880 Walter Bradshaw was living in the mining areas of Jefferson County, Colorado. The son of John and Martha Griffith Bradshaw, Walter grew up in the mining camps of Clear Creek County, Colorado and always claimed that state as his place of birth. In 1893 he, his widowed mother, and his brother Charles moved to Butte where the two boys found employment as blacksmiths.<sup>2</sup> By 1901, Walter began competing in the new sport of Hard Rock Drilling Contests and his skill, speed and strength soon catapulted him to the being one of the best "hammermen" the sport of hard rock drilling contests ever saw. Weighing over 220 pounds, Walter had the brawn. However, he was best known for his stamina and speed. Averaging between 70 and 80 blows a minute, the rapid, steady blows of his heavy sledge sounded like an "elephant jumping on a bass drum".<sup>3</sup>

By 1908, the popularity of the sport led to the idea an exhibition tournament to be held at Madison Square Garden in New York. Despite experiencing some health problems just before the trip, Walter and his partner Mike McNickolls traveled to New York only to find the promoter had left town, leaving the entire event in limbo. In addition, the change in climate worsened Walter's condition which led to an operation and a 15 day hospital stay just after he and his partner drilled. Although he stated "I could not do myself justice, and we got but 41 5/8 inches" Walter refused to admit he lost. He would only admit that the other team "made a better record than we did."<sup>4</sup>

With the rise of mechanization, the need of the human drillers in the mines and the popularity of the drilling contests waned. Walter became a mining engineer and worked in Idaho and at Maiden in Fergus County, Montana. He married Emma Neary in Butte on 8 July 1903, but the couple never had any children. She died 13 December 1949. Walter continued to live in Butte until his death on 29 September 1957 at the age of 85. The colorful icon of a segment of western mining history was laid to rest in the Missoula Cemetery, Missoula, Montana. He left no known survivors.

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<sup>1</sup> "Butte Men Win the Drilling Contest" The Anaconda Standard, Anaconda, Montana, Monday Morning, September 2, 1901, page 1, column 6.

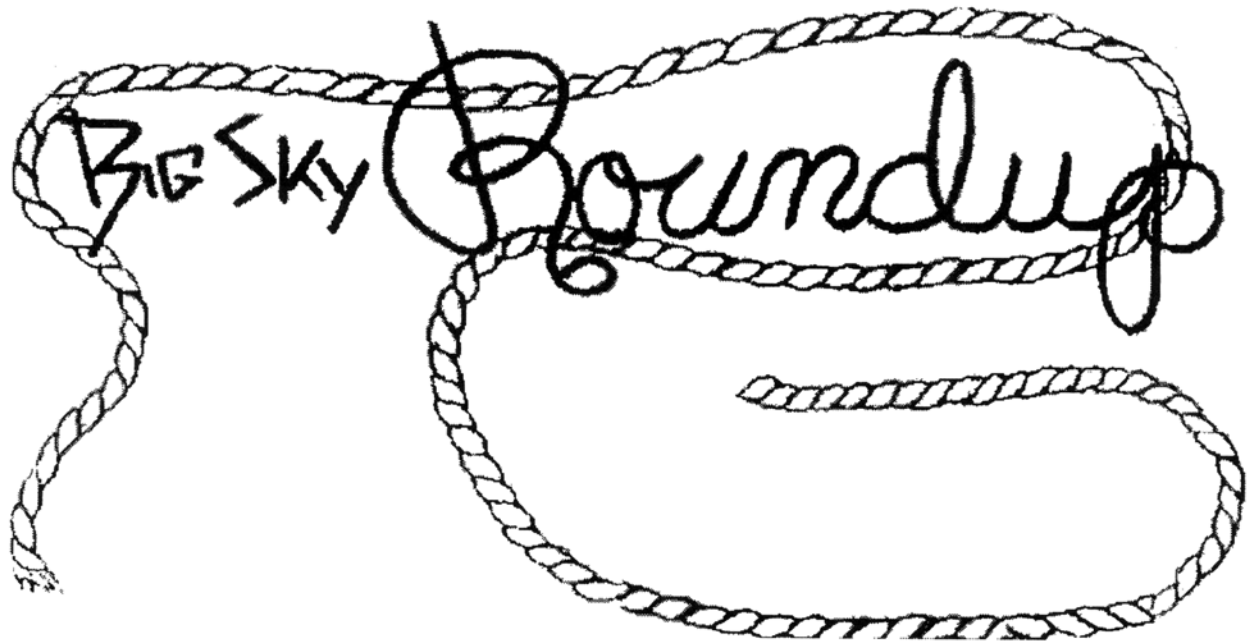
<sup>2</sup> Butte City Directory, R.L. Polk & Co., 1893.

<sup>3</sup> Obituary, The Daily Missoulian, Missoula, Montana, September 30, 1957, page 3.

<sup>4</sup> "W. Bradshaw Driller, Is Back from New York" The Anaconda Standard, Anaconda, Montana, Wednesday, July 1, 1908, page 11.



Terry Atwood  
PO Box 5313  
Helena MT 59602



### Harvesting Our Roots



September 24, 25, 26, 2015

Event to be held at the Butte Civic Center

Due to circumstances beyond our control, Maureen Taylor will not be able to speak at our September Conference in Butte as previously advertised. However, we are pleased to announce Paul Milner will be joined with Ceil Wendt Jensen, MA who among other qualifications is a former photography teacher and national expert in Polish Genealogy Research. See complete details in this newsletter and online at

<http://montanamsgs.org/conferences.html>