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Gen News

The newsletter of the Douglas County Genealogy Club

Volume 10:3
Editor Vicki Garro

March 2015
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Meeting Date

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 3 at 6 pm at the Superior Public Library

On the agenda
Minutes
Treasurer's report
Committee Reports

Other Business-
Program will be: New and must have Google Tips for Genealogy.



Minutes February 3, 2015

Meeting called to order @ 6:05 by President Vicki Garro. Roger Saari motioned to accept minutes as published. Bobbi Hoyt seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Savings- 1799.08

Checking 108.56

Audit Report was done by Dave Johnson and Marlene Case.

Don Hauser Motioned to accept treasurer's report, Judy Aunet Seconded. Motion Carried.

Committees could use additional members. The Program committee will be meeting soon, Jim Mattson is the chairman.

Education, Programs and Presentations (EPP)- EPP- Jim Mattson, Lorie Madden, Vicki Garro, Judy Aunet

Membership, Public Relations, and Publications MPP- Jane Sigfrids, Jan Resberg, Vicki Garro

Judy and Vicki met with Kelly, the program coordinator at the Library. She has a lot of good ideas for working on genealogy in the library. Will probably be having events in the fall as she is getting married this spring.

Intros were done for new members.

Jan Resberg mentioned an article from Britian about allowing a 3 way split of DNA in Embryos.

Judy Aunet mentioned the Indiana state library is closing due to lack of funding. Other states are also closing. Vicki and Marlene talked about recent fires which have destroyed records.

The book we are donating in memory of Vicki Peterson has been ordered by Jane Sigfrids.

Nancy Crider was not able to attend tonight as she broke 2 toes on her right foot.

WSGS Gene a rama is in Madison this year. Fairly close to the Historical Society. March 27-28 Main speaker is Cyndi Ingle from Cyndis list which is a collection of over 300,000 genealogy links. WSGS also sponsors webinars the 3rd Tuesday of the month. MNGS sponsors them on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Schedules are on their respective websites.

Roger Saari motioned to adjourn, and Emily Frederick Seconded. Motion carried at 6:30 pm

Program- We watched 2 sessions of the Colletta DVD which we donated to the library.

Those in attendance were Judy Aunet, John Buczynski, Marlene Case, Emily Fredrick, vicki Garro, Donald Hauser, Bobbi Hoyt, David Johnson, Lorrie Madden, Irene Peterson, Jan Resberg, Roger

Saari, Jane Sigfrids, Karen Smoley, Guests: Melissa Jorgensen and her mother.

Snack Signups for the year: March: Irene Peterson, April: Marlene Case, May: Jackie Plunkett, June: ?, July: Jane Sigfrids, August: ?, Sept: Karen Smoley, October: Emily Fredrick, Sandy Novak, November: Bobbi Hoyt, December: Pot Luck, January: ?

Please let me know if you can take one of the ? months. Thank you.



Upcoming Meetings and Events

Looking for items for the 2015 calendar. If you know of any events, please email them to the address below.

This is a work in progress. We invite all area genealogy organizations to submit their events with contact information for publication here to vicgarro@centurytel.net

DCGC= Douglas County Genealogy Club
TPGS=TwinPorts Genealogical Society
WSGS= Wisconsin State Genealogical Society
MGS= Minnesota Genealogical Society
Feb 2 TPGS at Duluth Library 6 pm
Feb 3 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm
Mar 2 TPGS at the Duluth Library 6 pm
Mar 3 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm
Mar 27-28 WSGS Generama Madison
April 7 TPGS at the Family history Center 6 pm
Apr 7 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm
May 4 TPGS at the Duluth Library 6 pm
May 5 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm
June 1 TPGS Joint Pot Luck location to be announced.
Jun 2 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm
Jul 7 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm
Aug 4 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm
Sept 1 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm
Oct 2-3 MNGS Northstar Conference in the Twin Cities.
Oct 6 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm

Oct 17 WSGS Fall Seminar Marshfield
Nov 3 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm
Dec 1 DCGC at Superior Library 6pm

Be sure to check out the Minnesota Genealogical Society Calendar at <http://www.mngs.org/calendar.shtml> For a listing of other club events in the Twin Cities Area. Pay special attention to who is staffing the MNGS Library. Each of the affiliate clubs take turns which means you can have country focused genealogical research help. The WSGS website is <http://www.wsgs.org/>

As always, if you have additional dates for the calendar or if you find a date in error, please email them to me at vicgarro@centurytel.net.



If your friends did not get this issue of Gen News in their email, please ask them to send a message to the editor at vicgarro@centurytel.net.

If you would like to be a published author, send your genealogical article to vicgarro@centurytel.net.



Dues are Past Due!

Only \$10 annually (Jan-Dec) for an individual (only membership class we have) Dues can be paid at our meetings or contact our treasurer, Jane Sigfrids at 915 N 5th St. Superior WI 54880.

Committees New members needed!

Education, Programs and Presentations (EPP)- EPP- Jim Mattson, Lorie Madden, Vicki Garro, Judy Aunet
Membership, Public Relations, and Publications

MPP- Jane Sigfrids, Jan Resberg, Vicki Garro

Program Committee

The program committee met and decided the following schedule for the rest of the year. They will meet again on April 4 and 10:30 am at Superior Perkins if anyone wishes to join this committee. Unless specified, all meetings are at 6 pm.

March 3 Webinar- New and must have Google tips for Genealogy- Lisa Louise Cooke

April 7 Join TPGS at the Family History Library at Upham Road

May 5 Bobbi Hoyt and Karen Smoley will give a presentation on Find a Grave and Cleaning Gravestones

June 2 Jim Mattson will share his recent trip to Salt Lake City to do research and how to prepare.

July 7 Cemetery Walk- If bad weather will meet at Shamrock Pizza.

Aug 4 Tentative- Catherine Beebe will speak on doing genealogy with the DAR

Sept 1 Electronic Resources

Oct 6 Tentative- Phoebe Marten Writing your genealogy book.

Nov 3 Tentative- Bong Heritage Center

Dec 1 Pot Luck Christmas Party with TPGS.

Jan 5 What is new in Genealogy

Feb2 Webinar



News From the Internet

State Representative David R. Leitch has introduced a bill in the State of Illinois' 99th General Assembly that provides that owners of private property on which a landlocked grave is located have a duty to allow ingress and egress to the grave by:

1. family members and descendants of deceased persons buried there;

2. any cemetery plot owner; and
3. any person engaging in genealogy research who has given reasonable notice to the owner of record or to the occupant of the property or both.

The bill also provides that a landowner may not erect a wall, fence, or other structure or device that prevents ingress and egress to the grave unless the wall, fence, or other structure or device has a gate or other means by which ingress and egress can be accomplished.

You can read the full text of the bill at <http://goo.gl/eov3ul>.

The Digital Public Library of America is one of the most useful online libraries available today. It is new, having been formed less than two years ago. It is not a genealogy library. Rather, it is a general-purpose library that just happens to have a lot of genealogy material in addition to other topics. The Digital Public Library of America's mission is to make cultural and scientific works more accessible to the public.

The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) brings together content from America's libraries, archives, and museums, and makes them freely available to the world. In fact, the DPLA does not own any of the items in its catalog but instead allows users to access them through its own website, dp.la, and through various regional service hubs. The library's holdings come from institutions ranging from the Smithsonian, the University of Virginia Library, the New York Public Library, and smaller institutions, such as the Minnesota Streetcar Museum and the Montana Memory Project.

The DPLA serves as a portal to provide new ways to search and scan through the united collection of millions of items that may be stored on any of thousands of other library web sites. Unlike a traditional search engine, the DPLA displays available information about the items by timelines, maps, a "virtual bookshelf," format, subject, and partner.

The information in the DPLA portal may be accessed on desktop computers, laptops, and tablets.

The DPLA also features a library of a dozen apps, including OpenPics, which allows users to call up on their smartphones materials relating to buildings around them. In addition, the DPLA also offers APIs (application program interfaces) that allow other computers to access the DPLA information. As a result, thousands of online services can access the information in any of a myriad of ways.

One limitation is that the Digital Public Library of America is limited to public domain works or to works that are explicitly licensed for library access. The result is that millions of items are available online, but not everything that some of us might want. In fact, millions of items are licensed for library access.

An introductory video about the Digital Public Library of America may be viewed on YouTube at <http://youtu.be/m0ngLba4ewM> or in the video player below:

You can find a very helpful video, *How to Search the Digital Public Library of America* at https://video.utah.edu/media/t/0_ycqksy9v.

All in all, this is a great resource. I suggest you try it to see if it will help you in any way. You can access the Digital Public Library of America at <http://dp.la>

FamilySearch adds more than 19.2 million indexed records and images to Canada, Brazil, Puerto Rico, and the United States. Notable collection updates include the 7,120,120 indexed records and 6,113,876 images from the [United States, GenealogyBank Obituaries, 1980-2014](#) collection; the 4,835,296 indexed records from the [Puerto Rico, Civil Registration, 1805-2001](#) collection; and the 314,770 indexed records and 314,770 images from the [US, BillionGraves Index](#) collection. See the table below for the full list of updates. Search these diverse collections and more than 3.5 billion other records for free at FamilySearch.org

I love Google Books! There are great finds there for genealogists and for many other interests as well. Newsletter reader Barbara Ulus sent information

about her latest find, one that will interest any genealogist with ancestors living in New York City in 1919. Barbara writes:

“I’ve come across a free book on Google, which you may or may not know of, that lists the name, address and political party of all voters in the boroughs of NYC for 1919. Seems to list many more people than I found searching on the census. I guess people didn’t trust giving info to the census takers but most men wanted to vote as soon as they were able to.”

The *List of Enrolled Voters of the City of New York* is a 484-page book available for free to everyone in the U.S. at <http://goo.gl/OuWU8n>. However, it may not be available in other countries due to copyright laws that keep Google from making all books available everywhere.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is pleased to announce a new added feature to its Genealogical Research System (GRS). This new Supporting Documents feature allows users to purchase documents that were submitted with previously verified DAR membership and supplemental applications. These documents may include family bible records, deeds, wills and other various materials used to prove lineage to a patriot of the American Revolution.

Record Copies and Supporting Documents are now part of the DAR Online Library Documents Service. This service allows researchers to select an application or Supporting Documents (if they are available), pay by credit card, and instantly download the document as an Adobe PDF document. It is important to note that any applications or vital records (birth, death, marriage, divorce or other sensitive documentation) that are less than 100 years old will not be available in an effort to keep personal information confidential.

The “Boys in Blue” is a repository for photographs of more than 8,000 Illinois soldiers who served in the Civil War. All of these images have been scanned and are in the process of being cataloged and added to the web site.

Photographs of soldiers from the 4th, 10th, and 11th Illinois Cavalry and the 7th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 14th,

17th, 26th, 33rd, 37th, 53rd, 56th, 64th, 77th, 86th, 101st, 108th, 114th, 117th, 120th, 122nd, and 130th Illinois Infantry Regiments have been added. More pictures are being added as fast as they can be digitized and uploaded.

In addition to the names, regiments and companies in which soldiers served, other relevant information is included when it has been verified: where the soldiers were from originally; their residence at enlistment; the dates and the studios where the photographs were taken; and whether the photographs are tintypes, cartes-de-visite, or cabinet cards.

As they are completed, additional images from Illinois artillery, cavalry and infantry units will be added to this database. If the soldier or regiment being researched is not found now, you might check back periodically.

The "Boys in Blue" may be found at <http://cdm16447.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p15414coll1>.

Data presently stored on outdated technology such as VHS tapes, vinyl records, cassette tapes and floppy disks has already been lost, according Cerf. That is just the beginning, he told a conference last week hosted by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The lack of an electronic storage mechanism that can withstand centuries of time threatens to erode documents and digitally-stored memories through a process he has often referred to as "bit rot."

You can read more in an article in MarketWatch at <http://goo.gl/ETtfgK>.

MyHeritage has just brought online millions of Scandinavian records, the majority of which have never been digitized or indexed online before. Anyone with Scandinavian roots can search these records on MyHeritage's [SuperSearch](#) and will receive matches to those records relevant to their family tree.

As of today, the entire [1930 Danish census](#) (3.5 million records) is [available online](#). The new records were digitized by a partnership with the National Archives of Denmark. MyHeritage has now indexed and [digitized more than 120 million records](#) including all available Danish census records from

1787-1930 and Parish records from 1646 to 1915, all of which will be released during 2015 and 2016.

In addition, MyHeritage has also added the [Swedish Household Examination Rolls from 1880-1920](#), which include 54 million records with 5 million color images, of which 22 million records are already available online. The remaining records are scheduled to go online before the end of June 2015.

For more information, please see the MyHeritage Blog post at: <http://blog.myheritage.com/2015/02/myheritage-puts-exclusive-scandinavian-records-online>.

Set Yourself Up to Self-Publish: A Genealogist's Guide.
by Dina Carson. Iron Gate Publishing, Niwot, Colo. 2014. 203 pages.

Desktop publishing has been the answer to the genealogists' prayers. No more pre-requisite pre-orders of a boat-load of books from a vanity press in order to get a family history book into print. Even if you wanted only 25 copies, in the old days you had to order what the publisher demanded just to get a few books out.

Desktop publishing has freed us from the constraints of traditional book publishing.

Truth be told, none of us can write a decent family history simply because we want to. We need to take the time to sit down and study book design, format, font, copyright, front matter, back matter, body text, and all the parts encompassed therein.

Dina Carson has written an excellent handbook guiding the author through the steps that will produce a first-rate family history. She stirs our courage to start writing by explaining away the barriers, and then presents the tools we need to accomplish the feat.

Section One is an overview on Getting Started, encouraging the writer to find the stories of ancestors that were so compelling the writer spent years researching them.

Section Two is about Print Publishing, explaining the ins and outs of making a book look its best.

Section Three is about Electronic Publishing, how to turn a print manuscript into an electronic book.

Section Four simplifies the organizational challenges that accompany online publishing on websites, blogs, and social media.

Section Five describes acquiring professional assistance if you don't want to do the entire project yourself.

Ms. Carson details all the tools, and the reasons why we need them, in a clear, logical, and reassuring style.

You'd best publish the best book you can write the very first time, because once your book is out there, there is no pulling it back.

Set Yourself Up to Self-Publish: A Genealogist's Guide may be ordered from the publisher at <http://www.irongate.com/pages/self-pub.html> as well as from Amazon in both paper and as a Kindle ebook at <http://goo.gl/R41AqZ>.

[Findmypast](#) and the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYG&B) announced today that Findmypast will host the newly expanded Digital Library of the NYG&B. The partnership will provide additional membership benefits for the one of the nation's oldest genealogical organizations, while also offering a stream of new content to Findmypast's growing collections.

When launched, the expanded Digital Library will bring millions of new records to members of the NYG&B, including the complete U.S. Census, 1790-1940; U.S. Passenger Lists, 1820s-1950s; birth, marriage, and death records from across the U.S.; the PERiodical Source Index (PERSI), and many more. NYG&B members will be able to create an online family tree at Findmypast, and use new features such as Findmypast's recently launched *Hints* to accelerate their research.

Over and over, genealogists have been told that the copyright has expired for all works published in the United States before 1923. In other words, if the work was published in the U.S. before January 1, 1923, anyone is free to republish excerpts or even the entire book without obtaining permission. That statement remains correct today. However, many genealogists are not aware that the overwhelming majority of all books published prior to 1964 are also

free of copyright. That's "the overwhelming majority of all books" but not all of them.

Between 1923 and 1964, a renewal registration was required to prevent the expiration of copyright. If a work was first published before January 1, 1964, the owner had to file a renewal with the Copyright Office during the 28th year after publication. No renewal meant a loss of copyright. In other words, for all books published prior to 1964, the copyrights expired before January 11, 1992 **IF THE COPYRIGHT WAS NOT RENEWED**. However, a 1961 report from the U.S. Copyright Office estimates that 85% of the books never had the copyrights renewed. (See <http://www.copyright.gov/history/studies/study31.pdf>, page 187.) Therefore, those books are now public domain.

Major corporations generally had employees who monitored copyrights and made sure they were renewed before expiration. For instance, if you have a Disney comic book published during the 1940s, it probably is still under copyright because the Disney Corporation protected the company's copyrights and made sure the copyrights were renewed on time. However, the overwhelming majority of genealogy books that were self-published by individual genealogists probably did not have the copyrights renewed. The key word in that sentence is **PROBABLY**.

The laws changed for books published after January 1, 1964 and we can assume that all of those books are still under copyright today unless they were explicitly released to the public domain, according to U.S. copyright laws. The laws vary widely in other countries, however.

Determining whether or not a work's copyright registration has been renewed is a challenge but is not impossible. Renewals received by the Copyright Office after 1977 are searchable in an online database, but renewals received between 1950 and 1977 were announced and distributed only in a semi-annual print publication. The Copyright Office does not have a machine-searchable source for this renewal information, and the only public access is through the card catalog in the Copyright Office's D.C. offices.

In order to make these renewal records more accessible, Stanford University has created a **Copyright Renewal Database**. The database at <http://collections.stanford.edu/copyrightrenewals/bin/page?forward=home> covers only renewals, not original registrations, and is limited to books (Class A registrations) published in the U.S. As a result, the Copyright Renewal Database is a big help but is not the definitive answer to all copyright questions concerning books published prior to 1964.

If you plan on using a work that was published after 1922, but before 1964, you should research the records of the Copyright Office to determine if a renewal was filed. You can research in person at the Copyright Office in Washington, D.C., or pay the Copyright Office to do a search for you \$200.00 per hour (see http://www.copyright.gov/forms/search_estimate.html); or pay someone to perform the search for you.

You can read more about these copyright issues at <http://copyright.gov/circs/circ15.pdf>, <http://www.publicdomainsherpa.com/copyright-renewal.html>, <http://collections.stanford.edu/copyrightrenewals/bin/page?forward=home>, <http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/renewals.html>, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Copyright_renewal, and probably at a few dozen other web sites as well.

As always, thanks to Dick Eastman <http://blog.eogn.com> for information in this article.



Jim Mattson recently returned from a research trip to Salt Lake City and highly recommends the tour organizer ancestor seekers. <http://www.ancestorseekers.com/slcr/>



Using MetaData with your Genealogical Files Vicki Garro

I have long known about the meta data that you can add to digital images but hadn't really given much thought as to how that could be applied to my genealogy files.

Metadata describes other data. It provides information about a certain item's content. For example, an image may include metadata that describes how large the picture is, the color depth, the image resolution, when the image was created, and other data. A text document's metadata may contain information about how long the document is, who the author is, when the document was written, and a short summary of the document.

You can access the metadata of a file by right clicking and going to properties. Image files, and Microsoft office files allow you to add metadata in several fields. Metadata will stay with the file if you share it.

If you add tags to a file, it will make it easier to search for that file as tags are searchable in Windows Explorer.

I recently watched a Thomas MacEntee webinar at <http://flip-pal.com/videos/webinars/metadata/>

As usual, Thomas had some great ideas about using metadata for genealogy. Metadata has a comments section that Thomas recommended using for sourcing information, also, for labeling the people in the photo, where it was taken, when, etc. If it is a document, you can put copyright information there, claiming original rights to your creation.

As mentioned before, tags are a great way to staying organized and you can add multiple tags to a file. Tags are searchable, and you can also make them visible by adding that field to the details that are shown in Windows Explorer. There were many more tips in this Webinar, but alas, I am out of space.