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Gen News

The newsletter of the Douglas County Genealogy Club

Volume 10:2
Editor Vicki Garro

February 2015
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[Facebook](#)

Meeting Date

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

On the agenda
Minutes
Treasurer's report
Committee Reports

Other Business-
Program will be from the DVD series by John Phillip Colletta on Military records and Homestead records.



January 2015 Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Vicki Garro.

Bobbi Hoyt motioned to accept the minutes of the November meeting as published in the January newsletter. Judy Aunet seconded. Minutes accepted.

Jane Sigfrids gave the Treasures report. Jim Mattson motioned to accept Treasurers report as given. Judy Aunet seconded. Treasurers report accepted.

Jane Sigfrids volunteered to continue as Treasurer and Jim Mattso agreed to serve as Vice President.

Committee members for the Education, Programs, and Presentations will be Jim Mattson, Vicki Garro, Bobbi Hoyt and Judy Aunet. Lori Madden was absent from meeting. Membership, Public Relations, and Publications will be Jane Sigfrids, Vicki Garro, Jackie Plunkett with Jan Resberg absent.

Sign up sheet for snacks assignments was passed around.

Bylaws were changed to reflect the following: "Names will be removed from the mailing list if dues are not received by the February meeting."

Jim Mattson suggested change be made to allow \$50 purchase of memorial book for members who have died. Jackie Plunkett seconded. Motion carried. After discussion, Marlene Case motioned to purchase "A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland" for donation to the Library in memory of Vicki Peterson. Jackie Plunkett seconded.

Jane Sigfrids motioned to adjourn the meeting. Second by Karen Smoley. Meeting adjourned to hear results of Ancestor Swap.

Present at meeting: Eileen Gannon, Karen Smoley, Bobbi Hoyt, Emily Fredrick, Sandy Novak, Irene Peterson, Vicki Garro, Jim Mattson, Jane Sigfrids, Marlene Case, Jackie Plunkett, and Judy Aunet.

Snack Signups for the year: Feb: ? 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 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. This will be the last newsletter you receive if your dues are not current.



Committees New members needed!

Education, Programs and Presentations (EPP)- EPP- Lorie Madden, Vicki Garro, Jackie Plunkett

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

Free Webinars:

MGS presents free monthly webinars, open to the public. The evening webinars, broadcast the first Wednesday of each month except January and July, are archived, along with handouts, for viewing by MGS members in the Members Only section of the MGS website.

Wednesday, February 4, 7-8:15 p.m.

Thomas MacEntee, Genealogy Do-Over: A Year of Learning from Research Mistakes

Wednesday, March 4, 7-8:15 p.m.

Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, FMGS, FUGA, Midwestern & Plains State Level Census Records

Wednesday, April 1, 7-8:15 p.m.

Kathryn Lake Hogan, Find Your American Ancestor Using Canadian Records

Wednesday, May 6, 7-8:15 p.m.

Ginny Sharp Sommarstrom, Researching Your Swedish Ancestry in the 21st Century

Wednesday, June 3, 7-8:15 p.m.

Jennifer Alford, Genealogy and GIS: A Beginner's How-To

More information and registration at:

www.mnsg.org



WSGS Webinars

Researching Your Swedish Heritage in Living Color Using ArkivDigital

Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM CST

Presenter: Kathy Meade

Grandmothers, Mothers & Daughters: Researching Your Female Lines

Presenter: Lisa Alzo

Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM CST

The New and Improved Wisconsin Historical Society Website

Presenter: Lori

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM CST

WSGS Webinars are archived at <http://wsgs.org> and are available to WSGS members on demand as a _____ members benefit.



Twin Ports Genealogical Society

TPGS announces Spring Programs (We Do Not Meet In January, July, or August)

Monday, 02 February 2015: 6-8 pm @ Duluth Public Library, Green Room

520 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802

Time To Explore: Greet our member and professional genealogist, Joanne M. Sher, and explore the topic, "What's On Your Bookshelf? Essential References for Every Genealogist."

Monday, 16 March 2015: 6-8 pm @ Duluth Public Library, Green Room

520 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802

Time To Preview: Join us for a preview of *Discovering Your Roots: An Introduction to Genealogy* by John Colletta a DVD set of 15 lectures available for check-out. Share your "brick walls" and pick-up some new ideas for breaching them.

Tuesday, 07 April 2015: 6-8 pm @ Family History Center

521 Upham Road, Duluth, MN 55811

Time To Research: Meet the staff and volunteers of the Family History Center, learn about the genealogy resources they have, get an update on what's new with FamilySearch (the largest free genealogy database) and research onsite.

Monday, 04 May 2015: 6-8 pm @ Duluth Public Library, Green Room

520 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802

Time To Learn: Greet our members Karen Smoley and Bobbi Hoyt, learn the tricks of creating and using memorials on findagrave.com, then explore safe techniques for cleaning and preserving gravestones.

Monday, 01 June 2015: 6-8 pm @ (Location To Be Announced)

It's A Party!: Join us and our friends from the Douglas County Genealogy Club for a joint

indoor/outdoor social and potluck. Good people, good fun, and genealogy games too!



What is in the Superior Public Library?

Judy Aunet put together the following resource for Genealogists.

Resources at the Superior Public Library

Microfilm

- Index to Naturalization Records
- Naturalization Records (WI Circuit Court - Douglas County - Boxes 1-24)
- John A. Bardon Papers
- Federal Census Records 1860-1930
- Wisconsin State Census Records 1895 & 1905
- Village of West Superior Census 1887
- City of Superior Census 1891
- Census of Union Veterans and Widows 1890
- Superior City Directories 1888-1981
- Yearbooks from Superior schools
- Superior newspapers
- Regional newspapers
- Wisconsin Necrology
- Genealogical Resources such as the "New England Register", "American Genealogist" and the "Index of the Newberry Library"
- Town of Superior Proceedings
- County & Regional Histories & Atlases WI
- WPA Project Historical Records Survey

Paper Resources

- Newspaper index for Superior newspapers
- Yearbooks
- Superior & Wisconsin book collection
- Genealogy Books

Search Terms (when using Merlin catalog)

Word Search - Area research, genealogy, Superior, Wisconsin, Douglas County, Duluth, St. Louis County
Call # - LS, L, R/G



News From the Internet

"[Genealogy Roadshow](#)" is scheduled to be broadcast on PBS at 8 pm Eastern time, 7 PM Central. However, PBS stations often "time shift" programs to different times or dates. Check your local listings to find the time and PBS station near you.

The following is a quote from the new page on the Black Vault web site at

<http://projectbluebook.theblackvault.com>:

"January 29th, 2015 - It is with great frustration to announce, that Ancestry.com, and their subsidiary Fold3, has laid down a claim to copyright on the Project Blue Book material - which has long been labeled as "public domain" by the National Archives & Records Administration (NARA). Ancestry.com is claiming ownership to the digital version of this material - despite me having records that Fold3 doesn't even have in their archive and I received under the FOIA starting back in 1996. They simply claimed it was 100% theirs and I was forced to remove it.

"Because of my attempt with properly crediting Fold3 with a DIRECT LINK to their site as partial credit for some of the material, they used that show of proper credit by me to issue a copyright claim under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). Anyone who knows anything about the law can attest; you are "guilty until proven innocent" so this was the beginning of the end. I never hid from Fold3 as a source, and even brought them up in some media interviews I did take part in, which were all cut out. No one cared about that part of the

story – this new archive was what they wanted to report on because it was simple, straight forward, easy and free. And people loved it.

“Based on an evidence-less claim I was forced to remove the entire site. That’s right, there was ZERO evidence submitted to my web hosting provider of ownership or copyright or license, but rather, they simply placed the accusation which is all it takes.”

The full article is much longer. You can read all of it at <http://projectbluebook.theblackvault.com>.

Maybe you’ve hit a wall in tracing an elusive ancestor, or you’ve received DNA-analysis results of which you can’t make heads or tails. At this point, you might consider getting professional help. Henry Louis Gates Jr. (well known for his *Finding Your Roots* television program) and Suzanne Stewart, a researcher at the New England Historic Genealogical Society, have pulled together some guidance that can point you in the right direction. You can find this interesting, although brief, article about finding a professional genealogist to help you at <http://goo.gl/KqoJYH>.

Malvern, PA (January 29, 2015) – Accessible Archives, Inc., a publisher of electronic full-text searchable historical databases has signed an agreement with the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library to preserve in digital format a number of primary source collections relating to President Lincoln and the State of Illinois. Once the materials have been digitized and made fully searchable, they will be available to genealogists, scholars, students, and those studying historical issues of personal interest as new databases by Accessible Archives. This collaboration was coordinated through Unlimited Priorities LLC, a firm specializing in support for small and medium-size companies in the information and publishing industries.

Established in 1889 as the Illinois State Historical Library by the Illinois General Assembly, it later was renamed the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library to reflect its essential role in telling the story of

Abraham Lincoln’s life. The library holds an impressive collection of Lincoln materials, among them Lincoln family letters and a prized collection of Lincolniana and assassination materials. In addition, the library contains the premier collection of materials on Illinois history, including myriad books, original maps and thousands of boxes of personal papers and other records relating to Illinois’ political, business, and cultural leaders. The county history collection provides at least one history from each of Illinois’ 102 counties, which over time will become available through Accessible Archives. The Library also stages exhibits that showcase its impressive historical holdings relating to all aspects of Illinois history, including an extensive Civil War collection and strong offerings on slavery and abolition, early settlement, church and community histories, and Illinois coal mining.

Kathryn M. Harris, Library Services Director, commented on the recently completed agreement: “The partnership that we have entered into with Accessible Archives will benefit not only the Presidential Library, but also genealogists, historians, researchers or anyone interested in Illinois or Lincoln history. We look forward to a long and fruitful relationship!”

This is a follow-up to the article published five days ago in this newsletter at <http://goo.gl/UlqiNI>. This was written by Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson of the IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee:

As mentioned in Friday’s January 23, 2015 posting to this announcement list, the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) extended the comment period from January 29, 2015 to March 30, 2015. No reason has been given for this extension. The notice of the extension has been posted in the Federal Register and may be read at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-28/pdf/2015-01546.pdf>.

To read the proposed final rule go to: For those who wish to review the proposed final rule see:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-30/pdf/2014-30199.pdf>.

The proposed final regulations for certification for access to the Death Master File have major concerns for genealogists and small businesses. As drafted they are:

1. limited data elements in the Death Master File making it all but unusable for meaningful genealogical searches;
2. prohibitive charges for access to the data and to becoming certified; and
3. security provisions that are not small business-friendly.

IAJGS is submitting our statement expressing our concerns later this week. It will be posted on this announcement list. Individual forensic and professional genealogists should express their concerns by submitting a statement by March 30, 2015. To submit a statement it must be submitted to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word or Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF formats only.

The Archdiocese of New Orleans announced this morning that as of March 1, 2015, visitors to St. Louis No. 1 Cemetery will be permitted only if accompanied by a licensed guide. The reason cited is increasing vandalism.

The Archdiocese of New Orleans says allowances will be made for families who own tombs within the cemetery, but this edict effectively closes out genealogists from this historically rich source of information. There are plans to do the same in the St. Louis No. 3 and St. Roch cemeteries.

The St. Louis No. 1 Cemetery is the final resting place of some of the most illustrious citizens of New Orleans, including; Etienne Boré, sugar development pioneer; Daniel Clark, financial supporter of the American Revolution; Paul Morphy, world famous

chess champion. Notable structures include the famed oven wall vaults, the supposed resting place of Voodoo Queen Marie Laveau.

You can read more in an article by Susan Langenhennig in The Times-Picayune at <http://goo.gl/ZFg414>.

RootsTech 2015 will be a 3-day event offering more than 200 classes; an expo hall of hundreds of exhibitors and sponsors, including interactive booths to assist in your family history journey; general sessions with well-known and inspiring speakers; and entertaining events at the end of each day. See my earlier article at <http://goo.gl/c4c7uC> for details.

One vendor in this year's exhibits hall, **EZ Photo-Scan**, is inviting all attendees to bring their family pictures, documents, and any memorabilia that can be digitized, for **free** scanning on site.

EZ Photo-Scan has a goal of 100,000 photos and documents to be scanned. The company will be using the Kodak Picture Saver Scanning Systems photo scanners, models PS50 & PS80. The scanners can digitize up to 85 photos per minute (that's fast!) and also can double as a scanner for treasured documents, too. It can save the images in a number of different file formats or even save images directly to your smartphone. It also can directly load scanned photos into FamilySearch.org. In fact, another Scannx Photo ScanCenter has been installed at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City recently.

More than a dozen photo scanning stations will be available throughout the Expo Hall to scan family photos. There is absolutely no-charge. E-Z Scan professionals will be available to assist RootsTech goers to get started and answer questions.

You can read more on the E-Z Photo Scan web site at <http://goo.gl/rLVVA4>.

Genealogists can access free genealogy ebooks on Google Books, Archive.org, the Family History

Library, Allen County (Indiana) Public Library, Brigham Young University Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University Hawaii Joseph F. Smith Library, Houston Public Library – Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, and at the Mid-Continent Public Library – Midwest Genealogy Center.

Another great place to search for ebooks is at Mollie Lynch's "Genealogy Book Links" at <http://genealogybooklinks.com>. Her list is updated frequently and includes many smaller digital collections that you otherwise might never think of.

MyHeritage has just announced the release of **Family Tree Builder**, a powerful genealogy program for Macintosh owners. I have been a beta tester of this program for the past few weeks and must say that I am impressed with it. Best of all, it is available free of charge. It is obviously the most powerful free genealogy program available today for Macintosh owners.

The Macintosh product is based on Family Tree Builder for Windows, a free and very powerful genealogy program that has been downloaded more than 40 million times by genealogists all over the world. The program is easy to use. Entering names and other information about individuals is easy to do. Of course, if the user already has another genealogy program and is taking Family Tree Builder for a trial run, it is simple to export a GEDCOM files from the other program and then import it into either the Windows or the Macintosh version of Family Tree Builder.

There is a third option for entering data as well: synchronizing your online data on MyHeritage.com with Family Tree Builder in your computer. I will explain that a bit more later in this article.

The best part of Family Tree Builder, in my opinion, is how it smoothly integrates with the billions of records and global family trees available online on MyHeritage.com. The software in your computer can (optionally) communicate with MyHeritage's

databases and search for matching records and additional individuals in your family tree that you may not yet know about. Best of all is the accuracy of those searches. In my experience, the individuals identified as possible relatives have been correct more than 95% of the time.

As the Civil War was winding down 150 years ago, Union leaders gathered a group of black ministers in Savannah, Ga. The goal was to help the thousands of newly freed slaves. From that meeting came Gen. William T. Sherman's Special Field Order 15. It set aside land along the Southeast coast so that "each family shall have a plot of not more than forty acres of tillable ground." That plan later became known by a signature phrase: "40 acres and a mule." You can read about this interesting story, and its sad ending, in an article by Sarah McCammon in the NPR web site at <http://goo.gl/YBk4w1>.

23andMe is a company well-known to genealogists for its DNA services. On Monday, the company announced it is sharing (anonymously) the DNA data it has collected on 650,000 individuals with pharmaceutical giant Pfizer. Sharing resources, the companies say, will help them figure out new ways to treat disease and to design clinical trials. About 800,000 customers have signed up for 23andMe's services over seven years, with two-thirds of them giving consent to let their personal test data be used in research.

The anonymized collection of gene scans represents a huge sample of genetic profiles from which researchers hope to decipher connections between DNA and disease. The data appears to be valuable enough that Pfizer isn't the only big pharma company looking to dig further. Last week, according to Forbes, 23andMe inked a deal with Genentech worth \$10 million up front, and up to \$50 million if further milestones are reached.

23andMe stresses that the information is anonymized. No identifying information will be included with the DNA sans provided to other companies.

You can read more in an article by Davey Alba in Wired at <http://goo.gl/wxX4qO>.

Chris Cummins is a professional photographer who writes a personal blog about photo preservation and a number of other topics as well. He recently published *How To Preserve Old Photos Without Losing Your Mind* that focuses on simplifying the overwhelming process of turning old family photos into an organized, safe and searchable digital archive with tips for how to preserve the film and paper originals.

The article covers a lot of topics, including:

- The Biggest Enemy of Preserving Photos: Procrastination
- Set a Very Reachable Goal
- Identify which photographs are most important to you and your family
- The Four Question Test for Photo Preservation
- Time To Digitize Those Old Pictures
- Warning: Be Careful Placing Too Much Faith In Technology
- How To Create Digital Copies Of Your Family Photos
- Your Scanning Options
- Flatbed Scanners
- Smartphones
- Hiring Someone Else To Scan Your Family Photos
- What Software Should You Use?
- Where To Store Your Digital Copies
- Cloud Storage Services: A Comparison
- Use Metadata: Don't Make A Digital Mess Of Your Real World Photo Mess
- Preserve Old Photos: How to Keep The Originals Safe
- Often The Actual Prints Themselves Are A Thing Of Beauty Too And Are Worth Preserving
- So How Do We Keep The Original Prints And Negatives Safe?
- The Storage Environment: Keep It Cool, Keep It Dry

- Good Storage Enclosures:
- Proper Handling: Make It Easy
- What To Store The Prints and Negatives In?

You can read *How To Preserve Old Photos Without Losing Your Mind* at

<http://www.glowimagery.com/how-to-preserve-old-photos/>.

Melvin J. Collier has published an article in his *Roots Revealed* genealogy blog that I would suggest should be required reading for all genealogists interested in DNA. For instance, Rule #1 says, "Please do not take any DNA test without first trying to put together your family tree. DNA test-takers need to have started working on their family tree or pedigree chart before jumping to DNA. DNA alone will not magically generate your family tree for you."

You can read that and 19 more rules at

<http://rootsrevealed.blogspot.com/2015/01/20-dos-and-donts-of-dna.html>.

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

