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Gen News

The newsletter of the Douglas County Genealogy Club
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Editor: Jane Sigfrids

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*Happy
New Year*

Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 2, at 6:00 p.m. at the Douglas County Historical Society, 1101 John Avenue in Superior. Included on the agenda are elections for the President and Secretary.

Meeting topics for 2018

January 2 – Business Meeting: at the DCHS
February 6 – Timeline of 1918 events as related to genealogy. Jan Resberg will be the presenter; at the DCHS
March 6 – John Colletta video; topic to be determined; at the DCHS
April 3 – LDS Research Center in Duluth
May 1 – Downtown Superior Guided Walk – the New York Block, the Washington Block and/or the Luyre Block. Dave Johnson will work on getting the community room at the Washington Block in case of inclement weather. We will possibly have one presenter for each building.
June 5 – Superior Fire Department history; at the Old Firehouse & Police Museum, 402 23rd Avenue East in Superior. Gary Carino and Dave Johnson will be the presenters.

July 11 - Cemetery Walk at the Greenwood Cemetery, 6 miles south of Superior on Highway 35. We will tour the Firefighters' Area and the Soldiers' Circle. We can arrange to obtain World War I veterans' names a month early and give individual presentations.

August 1 – Topic to be determined; tentative location – Superior Public Library. Arrangements are being made to have Rachael Martin, the executive Director at the Carlton County Historical Society, speak in return for a potential presentation there.

September 4 – Timeline of the 1918 Influenza Epidemic. Jane Sigfrids will be the presenter; at the DCHS.

October 2 – Story of the 1918 Moose Lake Fire. Dave Johnson will be the presenter; location to be determined.

November 6 – The 100 year anniversary of the end of World War I. Presenter to be announced; at the Richard I. Bong Center.

December 4 -Holiday Party; at the Upper Deck Restaurant, 1415 N 46th St in Superior. Approximate cost: \$15-\$16 per person.

December Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting was held on December 5, 2017 at the Vintage Italian Pizza Restaurant in Superior. As it was our annual holiday party, no business was conducted.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes Program Committee Meeting Minutes

A joint meeting was held on December 19, 2017, at 5:15 P.M. at the Upper Deck Restaurant.

Members present: President Jim Mattson, Secretary Dave Johnson, Emily Fredrick, Marlene Case, Bobbi Hoyt, John Buczynski, Jane Sigfrids

Excused: Jan Resberg

Executive Board:

President Mattson discussed a meeting he had with County Board member Mark Liebaert. Discussion was had concerning the Parkland Cemetery and a proposed building project. An unknown area of graves is not marked and must be protected. Mark also has a large ledger of inmates of the Poor House which has been turned over to the Old Brule Historical Society. Jim asked to have this volume accessible to the Genealogy Club.

Committees:

Committee membership was discussed. A separate sheet (attached) was updated and will be brought to the January meeting for final corrections.

Constitution/By-Laws Update:

Marlene Case has volunteered to chair this committee. Other members will need to be added. President Mattson advised that we should keep all editions of the constitution and by-laws for historical reasons and that the current set should be placed on the website.

Website:

Secretary Johnson reported October was the site's busiest month with 1,053 visits. November had 551 visits and December(to date) was at 538. One request was brought in through Superior Public Museums. Emily Fredrick was able to volunteer her time and sent family info, including photos of the old family home (which was Emily's home for some time) at 2310 E 7th Street.

A suggestion was made to add a page on the site dedicated to found genealogy requests.

Our membership is approximately 28 people. Treasurer Robin Barrett was not present.

Jane Sigfrids reported that we had 25 attendees at the Christmas party. Twenty-four people paid either prior to or at the party, and one person paid later, for a total of \$250.00. The bill for the event was \$256.55, which gave us a net loss of \$6.55.

Dues are due and can be paid at the January meeting.

Elections will be held at the January meeting; the President and Secretary positions are up for election. Secretary Johnson noted that he would be pleased to continue the position if no other candidate comes forward but he would be absent for many of the meetings mainly due to work conflicts.

The *Vital Records Handbook* by Thomas J. Kemp, which was proposed as a potential purchase, is not available through the library. If the club still wants to purchase it, Amazon is the best resource. It will be left to the club to decide in January.

The WSGS is holding their annual election. A ballot was received by the club. None of the positions were contested. A motion was made by Marlene Case and seconded by Bobbi Hoyt to cast the ballot affirming the candidates listed; the motion passed. Jane Sigfrids will send in the ballot.

The next Executive Board and Program Committee meetings will be held March 13, 2018 and 5:15 pm at the Upper Deck Restaurant.

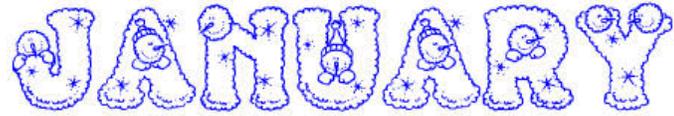
The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Program Committee:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. We reviewed our 2018 program topics and locations of meetings. Please see the listing on Page 1.

A motion to adjourn was made by Marlene Case and seconded by Jane Sigfrids. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Johnson, Secretary



Upcoming Events

DCGC= Douglas County Genealogy Club
TPGS=Twin Ports Genealogical Society
WSGS= Wisconsin State Genealogical Society
MNGS= Minnesota Genealogical Society
WHS= Wisconsin Historical Society

WSGS Webinar

Family Search: The Other 70%

Presenter: Jill Morelli

Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Time: 7:00 pm CST

Webinar Description: Did you know--if you do a surname search at FamilySearch.org you are only reaching 30% of the online documents that are available at that site? Maximize your "search power" by understanding how the image-only documents are arranged to find your ancestor's record easier. We will cover why these image-only records exist, why surname searches will continue to access only a fraction of the online records, and the impact of the discontinuation of the FamilySearch film distribution activity. We will cover three methods for accessing these image-only documents and describe the limitations of each. Finally, the organization of the image-only records will be covered and how to use that organization to your advantage, reducing the amount of "scrolling time." With FamilySearch digitizing their records and

eliminating the film distribution program in 2017, this topic is very timely. Discoveries await!

Register at:
<https://attendees.gotowebinar.com/register/989876411730844418>

After registering, you will receive an email with information and a link to join us the night of the webinar. Please remember that this is a first-come, first-served webinar, and that there are a limited number of spots to view the webinar live. Registering does not hold a spot for you. Those that log in first will be admitted to the webinar.

MNGS

Grand Opening

On Saturday, January 13, 2018 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, the Minnesota Genealogy Center will have a Grand Opening. There will be time to visit with the Interest Groups, Branches and Affiliates, have cookies and treats, take a mini-class on genealogy, tour the William J. Hoffman Library and Research Center, and register for door prizes. See you on January 13th!

Dues to Increase

Membership dues for the Society have remained the same for many years! We need to increase our dues effective January 1, 2018.

Individual 1-year membership will be USD 40.00 (from USD 35.00)

Family 1-year membership will be USD 60.00 (from USD 45.00)

Young Adult 1-year membership will be USD 20.00 (from USD 18.00)

A 1-year subscription to the MGS Journal (no other membership benefits) will be USD 25.00 (from USD 20.00)

**Editor's note: All info above from the MNGS website at www.mgs.org.*



Every attempt is made to keep **Upcoming Events** pertinent and timely. We invite all area genealogy organizations to submit their events with contact information for publication here to jnjsig@yahoo.com.

As always, if you have additional dates for the calendar or if you find a date in error, please email me at jnjsig@yahoo.com.



News from the Internet

Ancestry Had a Security Problem, Now Corrected

[Dick Eastman · December 23, 2017 · Online Sites · 11 Comments](#)

I normally don't publish articles on weekends but this one incident is important enough to make an exception:

Ancestry was notified this week by a security researcher that the researcher had found a hole in Ancestry's online security that affected a

small number of Ancestry subscribers. A file containing email addresses/usernames and password combinations from a RootsWeb.com server was exposed to anyone who knew where to look for it. There is no evidence that any hacker or anyone else other than this one security researcher ever accessed the file.

The folks at Ancestry quickly fixed the problem.

According to a notice posted in the Ancestry Blog:

"Our Information Security Team reviewed the details of this file, and confirmed that it contains information related to users of Rootsweb's surname list information, a service we retired earlier this year."

The same notice also states:

"We also reviewed the RootsWeb file to see if any of the account information overlapped with existing accounts on Ancestry sites. We did confirm that a very small number of accounts – less than one percent of our total customer group – used the same account credentials on both Rootsweb and an Ancestry commercial site. We are currently contacting these customers.

"In all cases, any user whose account had its associated email/username and password included on the file has had their accounts locked and will need to create a new password the next time they visit."

You can read the full security notice at: <https://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2017/12/23/rootsweb-security-update>.

Here is my interpretation of the problem:

Leaving any file containing user IDs and passwords exposed to the public is always a bad thing. The security departments at most online sites, including Ancestry.com, spend a lot of time

and effort making sure such breaches of security don't happen. In this case, one problem slipped through. That's regrettable.

Having said that, I also suspect this was a minor problem. Again, this only affects less than one percent of Ancestry's total customer group.

So far as anyone knows, the only person to access that file probably was the one security researcher. These people are sometimes called "white hat hackers," with the term "white hat" meaning they are the "good guys." (Remember the old-time westerns? The good guys always wore white hats.)

If a "black hat" hacker did manage to access the one file, there is no evidence that he or she has ever used it for nefarious purposes.

Next, the Ancestry folks did the right thing (in my opinion):

1. They fixed the problem immediately.
2. They publicized the problem immediately to let everyone know, unlike some companies that have tried to hide their security problems. (I'm looking at you, Equifax!)
3. All users affected will need to create a new password they next time they log in.

Here is what you should do:

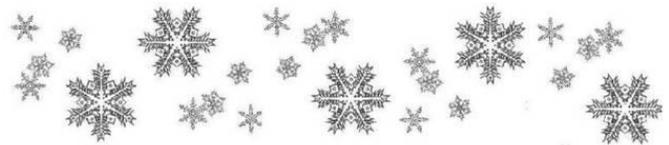
The only major issue I see is for anyone who uses the same password on other sites, such as a bank's online access or a stock brokerage account. Security experts always tell everyone to never share passwords amongst multiple web sites yet we know that many people ignore such warnings and use one password in multiple places.

It is theoretically possible that a hacker perhaps did find the file (it was not in an obvious place)

and may have extracted user names and passwords. If so, that hacker might now be trying to access bank accounts, stock brokerage accounts, and other sites that are attractive to hackers.

If you ignored the security warnings and did use the same password on multiple sites, you need to change your passwords on all those sites immediately.

And please, please do not use the same new password on all the sites!



Online Archives of the Milwaukee Journal and Sentinel Newspapers are Now Available

[Dick Eastman · December 22, 2017 · Online Sites · NO Comments](#)

The *Milwaukee Journal* print editions going back to 1884, *Milwaukee Sentinel* papers going back to 1910, and the *Journal Sentinel* dailies from 1995 through 2007 are back online again. The online archives were a part of the Google News Archive project that has now ended.

The archives are available at:

- Milwaukee Journal: <https://news.google.com/newspapers?id=jvrRlaHg2sAC>
- Milwaukee Sentinel: <https://news.google.com/newspapers?id=wZJMF1LD7PcC>
- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel: <https://news.google.com/newspapers?id=OP2gWFMetUpEC>

Details are available in the *Journal Sentinel* web site at: <http://bit.ly/2BXny3A>.

My thanks to newsletter reader Barb Johnson for telling me about the archives.

(Articles used with permission from Dick Eastman at <https://blog.eogn.com/>)

Library Lock-In Committee

Judy Aunet
Jackie Plunkett
Jane Sigfrids
Leslie Mehle – library liaison



DCGC Committees (2017)

Executive Board

Jim Mattson (President)
Jan Resberg (Vice-President)
Dave Johnson (Secretary)
Robin Barrett (Treasurer)
Judy Aunet (at-large)
Marlene Case (at-large)
Emily Fredrick (at-large)
Bobbi Hoyt (at-large)
Jackie Plunkett (at-large)

Program Committee

Jan Resberg (Chair)
Judy Aunet
Jim Mattson
Jane Sigfrids

Financial Review Committee

Marlene Case
Dave Johnson
Jane Sigfrids

Research Request Committee

Dave Johnson (Chair)
Emily Fredrick
Jane Sigfrids