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Gen News

The newsletter of the Douglas County Genealogy Club
Volume 12:2
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Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 7, at 6:00 p.m. at the Superior Public Library. The program will feature a presentation by Cathy Tonkin on writing and publishing a family history.

Meeting topics for 2017

January 3 – Business Meeting
February 7 – Cathy Tonkin on writing and publishing a family history
March 7 – John Coletta genealogy video
April 4 – LDS Research Center in Duluth
May 2 – Presentation on Superior Fire Department history at the Old Firehouse & Police Museum
June 6 – Open
July 11 - Cemetery Walk at the Jewish Cemetery
August 1 – Open
September 5 – Meeting at the Douglas County Historical Society
October 3 – DAR
November 7 – Richard I. Bong Center
December 5 -Holiday Potluck

January Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting was held on January 3, 2017 at the Superior Public Library. It was called to order at 6:05 pm. by President Jim Mattson. Officers present were: Jim Mattson, Vice-President Jan Resberg and Treasurer Jane Sigfrids. Secretary Dave Johnson was excused.

A motion to accept the December meeting minutes as they appeared in the newsletter was made by Jan Resberg and seconded by Jane Sigfrids. The motion was approved.

Jane Sigfrids gave the treasurer's report. Jan Resberg motioned to accept the report given. Jackie Plunkett seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Jane reported the Douglas County Genealogy Club has 27 members.

Minutes from the Executive Board/Program Committee meeting held December 14, 2016 were published in the newsletter. Correction noted: the February 7 program will be Cathy Tonkin on writing and publishing a family history; the March 7 program will then be a video by John Coletta.

Marlene Case is a member of the Executive Board and should have appeared as absent from the Executive Board/Program Committee meeting on December 14.

Bobbi Hoyt has asked if someone closer to the venue would assume the hosting responsibilities for the Christmas Party. It was decided to leave this on the agenda for future discussion.

Jim Mattson reported on a discussion with Mark Liebaert regarding the Parkland and Woodlawn Cemeteries.

The Financial Review Committee, consisting of Dave Johnson, Lorrie Madden and Marlene Case, will need to schedule a meeting with Jane Sigfrids, outgoing Treasurer.

Judy Aunet reported the plans for the Genealogy Lock-In and the presentation to the DAR are proceeding.

Elections of the Vice-President and the Treasurer were held. Jan Resberg agreed to accept the nomination for Vice-President and Robin Barrett accepted the nomination for Treasurer.

An email received from Jeremy Adam was presented, regarding ownership of land in Bayfield County. Jackie Plunkett volunteered to research for him.

Jan Resberg motioned to adjourn the business meeting at 7:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Jane Sigfrids. The motion was approved.

Members present: Jim Mattson, Jane Sigfrids, Jan Resberg, Emily Fredrick, Robin Barrett, Judy Aunet, Jackie Plunkett, Marlene Case

Respectfully submitted by Emily Fredrick, acting secretary for January 3rd meeting

(Editor's addendum: Volunteers are needed to continue the library indexing project. Judy Aunet demonstrated the materials that are used for this.)

Dues Reminder

The deadline is approaching for paying your \$10 membership dues for 2017. Dues can be sent to Robin Barrett, the new treasurer, at 313 Homecroft Ct, Superior, WI 54880. Checks should be made out to the DCGC.

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

DCGC

The DCGC Genealogy Library Lock-In is scheduled for Friday, March 31, 2017 at the Superior Public Library; the time schedule is still being worked out. We'll be continuing with the theme "Foolin' Around With Your Family Tree". Lee Grady from the WSGS will be the keynote speaker.

TPGS

The TPGS will be hosting a workshop in the Green Room at the Duluth Public Library on Saturday, March 11, 2017 from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm. The title of the event is **Family History, DNA and Me... A Day of Discovery**. It is free and open to the public; no registration is required.

WSGS

February 2017 Webinar: Caring for Keepsakes

Presenter: Denise Levenick

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Time: 7:00 pm CST

Webinar Description: This presentation will highlight heirloom preservation tactics for anyone caring for family keepsakes, from digitizing to basic archival care for common family treasures such as photo albums, loose photographs, Bibles, clocks, jewelry, and more. Dozens of photos illustrate best practices for digitizing artifacts, proper storage, and avoiding damage from poor storage and common hazards such as silverfish, mold, and acid migration. Discover what to save when you inherit a houseful of "treasures," how and where to store your keepsakes, and how to set up a home archive so you can easily access items for research and sharing.

You can register at:
<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/8256923685132587011>

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.

Information for the 2017 WSGS Gene-o-Rama is now available on the WSGS website at wsgs.org. The event will be held April 6-8, 2017 at the Chula Vista Resort & Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells.

MNGS

Wednesday, February 1, 2017

Partly Sunny: Making Sense of DNA Matches (Webinars)

7:00 pm to 8:15 pm

Description: Some genealogists scour DNA results for possible cousins, others use DNA to test hypotheses about relationships of living people. In either case, they depend on testing companies' criteria for identifying matches and on their predictions of relationships. These predictions are a bit like weather forecasts – they are estimates. Learn why these estimates, or predictions, are sometimes overly optimistic and sometimes overly pessimistic. Learn about how random mutations affect analysis of Y-DNA and why recombination of autosomal chromosomes require predicted relationships to be expressed in ranges.

Presenter: Jay Fonkert specializes in 19th Century American genealogy, but also wanders into English, Scandinavian, Dutch and German research. He has lectured at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and at major conferences around the country, and has published articles in numerous journals and magazines.

Cost: Free!

To

register:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/214747095388898051>

If you're new to webinars, check out this link: <http://blog.geneawebinars.com/p/how-it-works.html>

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

10 Free Social History Websites for Genealogy

1/19/2017

By Nancy Hendrickson

Start delving into the details of your ancestors' daily lives by exploring 10 of our favorite (and free!) social history websites.

In school, we learned history by studying big events and big people. We pored over details of the Revolution, Abraham Lincoln, Manifest

Destiny and the Great Depression, all from a comfortable (and detached) bird's-eye view. What we didn't learn was how those events affected ordinary people—such as our ancestors.



[Library of Congress](#)

Social history bridges that gap by teaching us the everyday details regular folks lived through. It's a study of how your North Dakota ancestors recovered from the Schoolhouse Blizzard of 1888, or what foods were served at a Sunday dinner on the farm. Social history adds the flesh to genealogical charts, forms and data; it brings "real" history to life. You can begin delving into the details of your own forebears' daily lives by exploring 10 of our favorite social history websites.

** You'll learn all about apps for creating and sharing family stories in our video class [Storytelling Apps for Genealogy](#), part of the [Winter 2017 Virtual Conference](#), taking place online March 3-5. [Register today at FamilyTreeUniversity.com](#). **

Library of Congress Digital Collections

The [Library of Congress' multimedia website contains more than 9 million digital items](#), including interviews, photographs, books and records, with some items dating back as far as 1490. Pulling from 100 collections, subjects range from baseball to the Civil War to farming in the Great Plains.

Want to know what it was like to travel in early America? Read Alexander Hamilton's 1744 journal of his travels through the northeastern colonies. Interested in 19th-century politics? Look for the 1861 broadside urging Massachusetts citizens to vote for Stephen A. Douglas for president.

You can search the entire site at once or drill down to search individual collections, a few of which were singled out in this article.

American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1940

[Explore a treasure house of memories taken from 2,900 interviews conducted for the Works Progress Administration](#) (later renamed the Works Projects Administration). The keyword-searchable conversations in this collection offer insight into income, occupation, politics, religion and culture.

You'll find yourself looking through a fascinating window to social history, sometimes dating back to Civil War and slavery days. For example, in the words of a former Missouri slaveowner: "Slaves in Clinton County very often ran away, but they didn't go far. The pad-a-rollers, men hired to hunt them in the woods at night soon brought them back. We had one man to run off. I was much frightened when they tied him up to lash him, but they never whipped him and he never ran away again."

Bethlehem Digital History Project

[This collection chronicles the Moravian community of Bethlehem, Pa.](#) from its founding in 1741 to 1844, when the community first opened to non-Moravians. Residents kept a community diary of milestones and everyday events; you can view translations from German for the years 1742 through 1745, as well as journals, memoirs and letters.

Digital Library of Georgia

[Digitized material from libraries, archives, museums and other cultural institutions lets you peer into the Peach State's past.](#) Peruse 2,000 letters, military orders and archeological images created between 1730 and 1842. Civil War material includes a soldier's diary and two collections of letters, one from the wife of an Atlanta lawyer and plantation owner. And don't miss the Colonial will books.

You can search by keyword or browse by topic, county, time period, institution or media type. (Learn about the history of Georgia's capital city, Atlanta, in this issue's City Guide.)

First-Person Narratives of the American South, 1860–1920

[This collection contains 140 diaries, memoirs, travel accounts and ex-slave narratives.](#) You can search by keyword or browse by subject, author, title or place. Several topics relate to women's history, including diaries, social life and customs. One such item is Eliza Ripley's recollection of social life in New Orleans, including her experience with "domestic science" (housekeeping), her church, plantation life, entertaining and shopping. American Indian life is another core area of this collection.

New Deal Network

[More than 900 newspaper and journal articles, letters and advertisements](#) cover

subjects relevant to the period's social, cultural, political and economic history. Want to ride along on a 1931 road trip? Go to the Archives in the Attic section and read "Seven Months of Boyhood Adventures," the narrative of two 19-year-olds who traveled the country during the Depression. Particularly interesting is the cost of food: Three eggs and buttered toast cost 10 cents, for example.

New York Public Library Digital Gallery

Interested in images of your ancestors' times? [Check out this virtual photo album of more than 700,000 images from the library's holdings.](#)

It's fun to browse by a broad topic such as Culture and Society or Arts and Leisure; you can then drill down further using the search options within individual collections -- or search the whole collection.

Among the site's gems: images of fashions and Ellis Island immigrants, cigarette cards, landscape photography, floor plans of New York apartments and scenes of the city from the 1870s.

Ohio Memory

[Here you'll find 75,000 primary sources from more than 4,100 collections covering Ohio life, culture and history](#) to 1903. You can search all collections by keyword, or browse by subject, place or contributor. Subjects offer a fascinating look at everyday life, including railroad statistics, a riot following a 1924 Ku Klux Klan rally, and papers for an indentured apprentice.

Plymouth Colony Archive Project

[Dig into documents pertaining to the social history of Plymouth Colony](#) from 1620 to 1691. You'll find court records, colony laws, 17th-century journals and memoirs, probate

inventories, wills, town plans, maps and fort plans.

The site is laid out like a research room: Click the area you want to enter, such as Grave Art in New England, Probate or Times of Their Lives.

Raid on Deerfield: The Many Stories of 1704

[Read both sides' accounts of the famous 1704 raid on Deerfield, Mass.](#), by 300 French and their American Indian allies. At the time of the raid, 112 Deerfield men, women and children were captured and forced to march 300 miles to Canada during winter.

Material includes 17th-century popular songs, and 17th- and 18th-century French music. Perhaps your own Colonial ancestors would have raised their voices in singing "Our Forefather's Song" -- it's been traced back to 1643 New England.

Tip

Living history museums provide an up-close-and-personal look at what your ancestors' lives were like. Find ones of interest in the [online directory of the Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums](#).

Adapted from the March 2011 issue of *Family Tree Magazine*.