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Gen News

The newsletter of the Douglas County Genealogy Club
Volume 11:4
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Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 6 p.m. at the Family History Center at 521 Upham Rd in Duluth, in conjunction with the TPGS. Because of the change of location, business items will be tabled until the May meeting.

Meeting topics for 2016

January – Business Meeting
February – Meeting with the DCHS
March – Potluck celebrating our heritages and cultures
April 5 – Joining TPGS at the LDS Center in Duluth.
May 3 – Library resources at UWS.
June – Picnic with TPGS on Monday, June 6; Native American research on Tuesday, June 7
July 5 – Cemetery Walk at the cemetery on County Highway Z
August 2 – *Songs of the Mariners*, a musical group that sings sea chanties and gives some history of sailors' lives.
September 6 – Clerk of Courts and other courthouse research resources available
October 4 – DAR
November 1 – Bong Center; Jane will contact them
December 6 – Holiday Potluck

March Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2016
The monthly meeting of the Douglas County Genealogy Club at the Superior Public Library was called to order at 6:05 P.M. by President Jim Mattson. Officers present were President Jim

Mattson, Vice-President Jan Resberg, Treasurer Jane Sigfrids, and Secretary David Johnson.

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the February meeting as they appeared in the newsletter; it was seconded by Bobbi Hoyt. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report was given by Jane Sigfrids; a motion to accept was made by Emily Fredrick and seconded by Lorrie Madden. The motion carried.

President's Report

There was a discussion of upcoming meeting topics and events of the DCGC.

Committee Reports/Old Business

Jane Sigfrids presented an update on the website; she had a discussion with Jon Winter of Winter Systems about website possibilities. A free Google page is still being considered. Financial considerations will be discussed at the next Executive Board meeting (March 11 at Perkins', at 10:00 a.m.)

Judy Aunet gave an update on the Library "Lock-In" on April 1, 4:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. She urged everyone interested to sign up at the Library desk as soon as possible; a form is available.

Judy requested funds to purchase needed supplies for the event. A motion was made by Jan Resberg and seconded by Jackie Plunkett to approve an expenditure of up to \$100.00 for needed supplies. The motion carried.

The April 5th meeting will be held at the Family History Center, 521 Upham Rd, Duluth.

Judy Aunet reported on the upcoming DCGC meeting at UWS on May 3 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Jim Dan Hill Library and will include a tour of their archives.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Emily Fredrick and seconded by Jane Sigfrids; the motion carried.

Following the meeting, a "Celebrating Your Heritage Potluck" was held. Many dishes with an ethnic theme were brought. Members and guests displayed genealogy items and then presented them to the group, including Lorrie Madden wearing a Native "jingle dress" and demonstrating its ceremonial use.

Members present were: Judy Aunet, John Buczynski, Emily Fredrick, Donald Hauser, Bobbi Hoyt, Carol Kalm, Lorrie Madden, Irene Peterson, Jackie Plunkett and Karen Smoley. Eleven guests were present from the Twin Ports Genealogical Society.

(Respectfully submitted by Dave Johnson)

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

The quarterly meeting of the DCGC Executive Board was held March 11, 2016 10:00 A.M. at Perkins' Restaurant.

Board members present: James Mattson, President, Jan Resberg, Jane Sigfrids, Emily Fredrick, Bobbi Hoyt, David Johnson. Marlene Case was out of town.

Address corrections were addressed. An effort is being made to keep our address list up to date.

Membership dues were addressed: A motion was made by Dave Johnson to remove off the active list the name of any member who is two or more years out-of-date on dues payments. The motion

was seconded by Bobbi Hoyt and passed by voice vote.

Note: Names and contact information of members moved off of active list will be maintained but they will no longer receive newsletters.

Total paid members = 23.

EVENTS

"Foolin' Around with your Family Tree" April 1, 2016 @ Superior Public Library 4:45 - 8:30.

* Attendees are encouraged to sign up at Library ahead of time. A \$5 dinner option is available for those that sign up; attendees can also bring a brown-bag lunch.

* Helpers are asked to arrive at 4:15 to familiarize themselves with the area they will be assisting attendees with.

* Friends of the Library" will be providing limited snacks.

April 5: Our monthly meeting will be held at LDS in Duluth, on the Upham Road.

A motion was made by Jane Sigfrids to table the business meeting for the April meeting until May. The motion was seconded by Emily Fredrick and passed by voice vote.

Note: This is because we will be guests at an outside location and our meeting would be disruptive.

May 3: Monthly meeting will be at the Jim Dan Hill Library at UWS.

June 7: Monthly meeting will be at the Superior Public Library.

July 5: We will be conducting a cemetery walk at the Woodlawn Cemetery on Cty Hwy Z.

Note: Dave Johnson will provide a map for email distribution. Also, an (approximately) 100 yard, uphill walk is required to get to the cemetery. It is not handicapped accessible.

August 2: "Songs of the Mariner" by Judy Aunet at the Library

September 6: Douglas County records at the Library

October 4: D.A.R. by Judy Aunet at the Library

November 1: at the Bong Military Museum

December 6: Christmas party at the Library

WEB SITE

Web site options were discussed. A proposal was presented from Jon Winter of Winter Systems. An email letter from Marlene Case was read, in which she expressed her concerns about the cost of establishing a website.

A motion was made by Jane Sigfrids and seconded by Bobbi Hoyt to allow the expenditure of up to \$150 for a 3-year commitment to GoDaddy for a website to be built collaboratively by Dave Johnson and Jane Sigfrids. The motion passed by voice vote.

Note: The website will be reviewed at the next Executive Board meeting.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on June 23 at 9:30 A.M. at Perkins' Restaurant, with a program committee meeting to follow.

A motion was made by Jane Sigfridsto adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Emily Fredirick and passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:00.

Respectfully submitted:
David Johnson, Secretary
DCGC

Upcoming Meetings and Events

DCGC= Douglas County Genealogy Club
TPGS=Twin Ports Genealogical Society
WSGS= Wisconsin State Genealogical Society

MNGS= Minnesota Genealogical Society

April 1, 2016

Details have been finalized on our Library "Lock-in" event. The introductory genealogy workshop we will be conducting has been titled "Fooling Around with your Family Tree"; registration forms are available at the library front desk and an event has been created on the library's Facebook page. Many thanks to Leslie Meyer at the library for doing the public relations work.

Volunteers are still needed for registrations, dinner set-up and clean-up and helping attendees with website use and general genealogical research information. Please contact me with any questions at jnjsig@yahoo.com.

April 8 and 9, 2016

The Wisconsin State Genealogical Society is offering Gene-A-Rama 2016 at the Plaza Hotel and Suites in Wausau, WI, on April 8 and 9, 2016. The keynote speaker is Judy Russell, *The Legal Genealogist*. She is a genealogist with a law degree who writes and lectures on topics ranging from using court records in family history to understanding DNA testing. On the faculty of IGHR, SLIG, and GRIP, she is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, from which she holds credentials as a Certified Genealogist® and Certified Genealogical LecturerSM. Her award-winning blog is at <http://www.legalgenealogist.com>. More info for this event, along with registration forms, can be found at www.wsgs.org.

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 MNGS will hold its Spring Conference on Saturday, April 16, 2016 at the Bunker Hills Activity Center in Andover, MN. A conference flyer and registration information can be found at www.mngs.org.

TPGS schedule for Spring 2016

Tuesday, April 5th (Note the day change due to when the site is available) Visiting the Family History Center. Meeting will be at 6 PM. Location Church of Jesus Crist of Latter Day Saints, 521 Upham Road (Duluth Heights area) The Family History Center has a large repository of microfilm for research and has many “in house” databases for searching Free.

Monday, May 2nd 6 PM in the Green room. (tentative) **“Why Genetic Genealogy”** by Mary Lukkarila . Q & A to follow.

Monday, June 6th, 6 PM. Annual Indoor Picnic/Potluck. Holy Family Catholic Church, 24th Ave West and 3rd St. Bring a dish to share and enjoy fellowship, games and good food

Upcoming Meeting and Events is a work in progress. 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 them to me at jnjsig@yahoo.com.

News from the Internet

Illinois Man Claims He Can Show That Donald Trump is Related to Every U.S. President

blog.eogn.com/2016/03/25/illinois-man-claims-he-can-show-that-donald-trump-is-related-to-every-u-s-president/ Dick Eastman

Of course, everyone is related to everyone else. (See my earlier article at <http://blog.eogn.com/2015/08/25/we-are-all-related-so-get-over-it/> for details.) Therefore, it is no surprise that Donald Trump is related to a number of US Presidents. However, one genealogist claims The Donald is related to a hu-u-u-ge number of them. In fact, all of them. Genealogist Ken Reveal claims that Trump and President Obama are 26th cousins, four times removed. That’s rather distant, certainly not close enough to get invited to the family reunion. However, Reveal then goes on to say that Donald Trump is related to EVERY US President. For instance, according to Reveal’s research, Franklin Roosevelt is Trump’s fourth cousin once removed of the husband of the half first cousin seven times removed of the wife of his second great grand nephew of the husband of his half first cousin once removed. Again, not exactly close. You can read more and watch a video about Ken Reveal’s claims at <http://goo.gl/dagZy4>. Disclaimer: I haven’t verified Ken Reveal’s claims. However, I am not surprised. Again, everyone is related to everyone else. (See my earlier article at <http://blog.eogn.com/2015/08/25/we-are-all-related-so-get-over-it/> for details.)

(Editor’s Note: There were several interesting responses to this article in the comment section: three examples are reprinted here.)

Doris Waggoner March 25, 2016 at 11:41 pm

New England Historical and Genealogical Society, the oldest and most reputable genealogical society in the country, always puts a great deal of time and effort into calculating the ancestry of every serious contender for the nomination. I suspect there are reasons we haven’t heard from them on Trump’s connection with former presidents.

Ken Nagel March 26, 2016 at 4:59 am

Who is this guy? There isn't a single Google hit for him if you search "him" with genealogist before 2016. It's possible but hard to imagine someone even remotely qualified to be called a genealogist to not be somewhere on the web. Next what are his sources? The claim is that this took six months. A team of researchers working full time for six months would have trouble finding this info even though most president's families are already well researched. Extraordinary claims require extraordinary proof and it seems NO ONE has even asked him to prove this. YES WE ARE ALL RELATED however, like the guy that for sixty seconds thought he could have the world's largest family reunion learned, proving we are all related is a VERY DIFFICULT thing to do. I suppose this proves there should be a conversation as to what is a genealogist. Not everyone who collects rocks is a geologist is everyone who collects ancestors a genealogist?

(This response went in a different direction):

Carol Menges March 25, 2016 at 11:31 am

What I find interesting is a great website, BYU Family History Library's Relative Finder. It supports the idea that just about anybody is related one way or another to all kinds of historical and current people of interest, including presidents, nobility, long-ago emperors, celebrities, artists of various stripes, whatever. Usually distantly related but not always. As long as you have a (free) account to FamilySearch, in a flash it will show you all the relatives FamilySearch connects to you. Yes, there are incorrect presumptions, but it's also a collaborative effort where mistakes are in the process of being hashed out on a global scale. That makes Relative Finder pretty impressive and fun to play with.

(So, of course, I had to try it. And it did find two distant relatives, with a common ancestor ten generations back in each case. Ironically enough, both contemporary relatives are both members of the LDS Church.)

The following information comes from FamilySearch, courtesy of Jim Mattson):

Finnish Research on the Internet

(Note: Not all of the websites are in English.)

Church Records

Finland's Family History Association: digitized images and "members' only" searchable database –

http://www.sukuhistoria.fi/sshy/index_eng.htm

Hiski: index of birth, marriage, death from early to at least 1850 –

<http://hiski.genealogia.fi/hiski?en>

Finnish to English Word Lists

FamilySearchWiki: genealogical translations –

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Finnish_Genealogical_Word_List

Google Translate: modern translations –

<https://translate.google.com>

Emigration Records

Finland's Institute of Migration: Index of passenger lists, passport lists, etc. -

<http://www/migrationinstitute.fi/>

Reference Tools

Genealogical Society of Finland: researchers in Finland, forums, Facebook groups, publications, etc. – <http://www.genealogia.fi>

The Finlander Forum by the Swedish-Finn Historical Society: genealogical discussion forums for help with research problems – <http://finlander.genealogia.fi>

FamilySearch Research Wiki – Finland:

<https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Finland>

FamilySearch Facebook Groups: Community support groups for researchers throughout the world, no matter their skill level. Must have a Facebook login to access the groups. *Finland Genealogy Research:*

<http://www.facebook.com/FinlandGenealogy>

Learning Center: Videos teaching different aspects of family history research for all learning levels –

<https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/home.html>

Online Webinars from the International and Scandinavian Research Teams: Every month we teach live classes over the Internet. If you wish to join us, use the following link for more information –

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Online_Webinars_from_the_International_and_Scandinavian_Research_Teams

Swedish Research on the Internet*

*FamilySearch did not record any disclaimer in regard to language.

1. SVAR- Census Databases

The household examination extracts were used to create 1880, 1890, and 1900 census databases. **Cost:** Subscription membership required. Access is free at the FHL and Riverton Center.

Web address:

<http://sok/riksarkivet.se/folkrakningar>

2. SVAR – Scanned Church and other Records

The parish registers are being scanned from microfilm/fiche to be available through the internet on SVAR's website. **Cost:** Subscription membership required. Access is free at the FHL and Riverton Center.

Web address:

<http://sok.riksarkivet.se/kyrkoarkiv>

3. Arkiv Digital

A private company called Arkiv Digital re-filed the parish registers using digital cameras. The images are in color. They also have tax, court, probate, military and many other records. **Cost:** Subscription membership required. Access is free at the FHL and at FH centers.

Web address: <http://www.arkivdigital.se/>

4. Ancestry

Ancestry.com offers the Swedish parish records from earliest up to about 1920. Images were scanned from microfilm. They also offer the Emigranten populär database. **Cost:** Subscription membership required. Access is free at the FHL and at FH centers.

Web address: <http://www.ancestry.com>

5. Lantmäteriet- Swedish Surveying Office

They have one of the largest historical maps collections online in the world. Learn more on the FamilySearch Wiki at:

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Historical_Maps_of_Sweden. **Cost:** free.

Web address: <http://www.lantmateriet.se/>

6. DISByt- from the DIS Computer Genealogy Society of Sweden

Genealogists in Sweden have submitted family trees to an online database called DISBYT. This database contains 31.3 million entries of Swedes who lived before 1905. **Cost:** Subscription membership required (about \$25.00 per year).

Web address: <http://www.dis.se/denindex.htm>

7. Swedish Historical Dictionary Database, or SHDD

Over 41,000 Swedish words with English translation from 1814. The entire database is searchable. Allows you to search by old spelling, using partial words, or by category. **Cost:** Free.

Web address:
<http://swedishgenealogy.guide.com/shdd>

8. Ortnamnsregistret

This online gazetteer is provided by the Spåkrådet (the Institute of Language and Peoples Heritage). It's a great reference to find Swedish place names, whether old and new, residential or landscape. **Cost:** free.

Web address:
http://www.2sofi.se/SOFIU/topo1951/_cdweb/index.htm

9. Stockholm Stadsarkiv

There are many great online databases available through the Stockholm city archive to help you research your ancestors in the capital city. There are more options if you run the website in Swedish. **Cost:** free.

Web address: <http://www.ssa.stockholm.se/>

10. FamilySearch Research Wiki – Sweden

There are many good tools available through the FamilySearch Wiki on the Sweden page. Browse the Research Tools area to find useful tools. Browse the Topics area to find interesting articles on many topics. **Cost:** free.

Web address:
http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Sweden_Genealogy

11. Demographic Database of Southern Sweden

The website offers birth, marriage and death databases for many parishes in the counties of Halland, Skåne (Malmöhus, Kristianstad, and Blekinge). **Cost:** free.

Web address:
[http://www.ddss.nu/\(S\(il4fgu55lukvy45ug1mlw55\)\)/english/default.aspx](http://www.ddss.nu/(S(il4fgu55lukvy45ug1mlw55))/english/default.aspx)

12. Rötter, Nättidningen Rötter utgiven av Sveriges Släktforskarförbund

Finding your Swedish Roots: This website is created by the Federation of Genealogical Societies of Sweden. It contains many useful tools, articles and resources. Much of the site is useable in English. **Cost:** searching the website is free.

Web address: <http://www.genealogi.se/finding-your-swedish-roots>

13. Släktdata

This resource is created by a non-profit organization which has a goal to make indexed church records (and other tools) free on the Internet. **Cost:** free.

Web address: <http://www.slaktdata.org/>

14. Hans Högman's Genealogy and History Site

This website has many useful articles on many subjects for genealogical research in Sweden. **Cost:** free.

Web address:
http://www.algonet.se/~hogman/slahem_eng.htm

