



Walworth County Genealogical Society Newsletter

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May - June 2016

Please consider making a donation to the local food bank, or to the Lakeland Animal Shelter. If you bring your donation to the meeting, one of our members will make sure the donation gets delivered.

2016 Dues are due! If you haven't paid your dues and are not a Lifetime Member, please send in your payment as soon as possible.

In the event a meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather, we will post a message on the website www.walworthcgs.com or call 414-217-4900.

2016 Meetings, Events

June 7th - 6:30 pm

"Lifewriting workshop - writing our own stories to share with our families; the kind of stories we with our ancestors had written for us" with Judy Rockwell.



July 5th - 6:30 pm

Tips and techniques for utilizing the new Family Search online web site presented by Nancy Rockwell of the Elkhorn



Wisconsin Family History Center, W4615 Potter Rd., Elkhorn, WI.

July 16th - 1:00 pm

Annual Cemetery Walk - Heart Prairie Cemetery, County Highway O, north of Territorial Road

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Notice!

New Library Hours

In an effort to be available to folks with full time jobs, our Genealogy Library will have extended hours the **third** Tuesday of each month . The new hours for the **third** Tuesday will be 10:00 am until 7:00 pm.



Deb Ketchum, Librarian

Ketchum's Korner



Ten years ago, on June 27th, WCGS moved from the Aram Public library in De-lavan to the Matheson Memorial library in Elkhorn. *HOLY COW 10 YEARS AL-READY!!!!!!*

Although the space we occupy is a fire exit and library meeting room, it has be-come a much better improvement from the Aram library. We were able to acquire more library space, a storage closet for non-library related items, WI-FI access for free and expand on our computer lab.

Over the years we've received several substantial donations to add to our col-lections. The Wisconsin counties research binders, personal family histories, the New England pre1700 family histories series, newspapers from 1940-1960 for obituaries, a collection of ancestry indexes on compact discs and our latest is a ledger book from Bob Reek.

Here's a review of our attendance the last ten years:

2006: 100	2009: 242	2012: 122	2015: 86
2007: 100	2010: 140	2013: 110	2016: 36 to date
2008: 102	2011: 154	2014: 128	

Now you may look at those numbers and think that's not much. But...if you con-sider the library is primarily open weekdays on 5 days of the month for 49 weeks of the year, it's not a bad average. Hence, the expansion of hours on the third Tuesday this year to 7pm. Karen Weston, the Archivist for UW-Whitewater Area Research Center is our librarian on duty as of 3:30pm.

We've also had the opportunity and space to hold genealogy classes and work-shops with the use of Matheson's staff and computer lab.

Although we have no room to expand we are always looking for better ways to collect and store our research materials. So keep donating your genealogical ma-terials and watch for improved changes in the future. Beginning with; Matheson Memorial has purchased new tables and chairs for the research area room.



From the President's Desk



Mike Hay & Chris Brookes- WCGS Co-Presidents

Mike's Message:

Summer has arrived!

It seemed like it was going to take forever to get some decent weather, so that we could, once again, start our outdoor pursuit of family history. Martha and I just returned from a trip to Brown County where we visited a cemetery populated by some of my ancestors (see picture on page 31). It felt good to have the grass beneath our feet once again as we scanned stones looking for the names. Have you noticed that most cemeteries have a nice breeze? For us, Memorial Day has always been a perfect time to prowl cemeteries, what with the flags, flowers, and remembrances loved ones have placed in honor of the deceased.

We are still looking for volunteers for our 2016 Cemetery Walk at Heart Prairie Cemetery, and the time is drawing near!

July 16th is the date for the event, and anyone who wants to help out should contact Deb or meet with us at the cemetery on June 12th, at 2pm for a Cemetery program meeting at Heart Prairie cemetery for those who will be participating in the program. The cemetery is between Hwy 12 on the north & Hwy A on the south on County O, just north of Territorial Road. If you need directions, please give us a call at 414-217-4900.

Please call Deb to confirm attendance 262-215-0118. If not enough response the program will be canceled.

Chris's Co-Comments:

Finally summer seems to have arrived. And summer means Cemetery Walk for WCGS. I was involved with the cemetery walks even before I became a member of WCGS. I found them to be great opportunities to bring the stories of local, perhaps little-known, people to life for visitors. Learning about the early residents of a community and what life was like "back in the day" is always fun, but the event takes a lot of planning and organization. Everyone's help is needed and appreciated so SAVE THE DATE - July 16 - and come to our next meetings to hear updates and find out how you can be involved.



Helping Others

By Christine Brookes

I recently took on the challenge to research a Scottish family with connections to Chicago and Lake Geneva. Through Google, Ancestry, censuses, ship's records, newspapers, archival documents, and emails, I've discovered quite a bit, but I still have a couple missing pieces, so the story is not ready for publication. What I did find out was how connected I feel to this family and how much I care about them and want to learn what their life was like.

Can you imagine a widowed mother traveling across the Atlantic with three children, two girls aged 15 and 13 and an 11 year old son, in August of 1916? The United Kingdom had already been at war for two years. The waters around Scotland were mined by the Germans; two ships had already been sunk after striking mines. Ships of the Royal Navy's Grand Fleet were engaged with the Imperial German Navy's High Seas Fleet. The Highlands of Scotland were declared a restricted area. America had not yet entered the war so the frightening 11-day journey across the sea to New York must have seemed worth the risk.

Did the family travel by steamer through the Great Lakes or for 20 hours on a train from New York to Chicago? Were they met at the newly completed Municipal Pier (Navy Pier) or at the LaSalle Street Station by their relatives?

Many immigrant families were settling in the north side residential district of Lake View. The houses were mostly large, brick multi-family structures in contrast to the rural farmhouses on the moors of Central Scotland, but there they

chose to live. A neighborhood elementary school was available and the new five-story Lake View High School had just been completed. The girls had both attended school in Scotland, and the young lad had already been at boarding school for three years, so education seemed to be a priority for this family. Within a year, his mother enrolled him in another boarding school, a military academy in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Perhaps this ad running in the Chicago Daily Tribune influenced her.

NORTHWESTERN MILITARY AND NAVAL ACADEMY

The new fireproof home of this well-known school for boys is now on the shores of beautiful Lake Geneva. After exhaustive study of both American and European schools, every known improvement in sanitation, ventilation, heating, lighting and fireproofing has been adopted. A country school within two hours of Chicago. High scholastic standards. Special attention given to preparation for college entrance by certificate or examination. An honor system of government, based on twenty-five years of right tradition gives true training in citizenship. Outdoor life and sports are emphasized. Nine Cadillac military automobiles, a fleet of naval cutters and other unusual features make the boys' life both enjoyable and profitable. Late spring and early fall months lived in a model camp. Limited enrollment. Character references required. For catalogue and further information address

Col. R. P. DAVIDSON
Superintendent
LAKE GENEVA, WIS.

Fixed Annual Charge Covers Board, Tuition, Uniforms, and all necessary expenses, including pocket money

After researching this family and learning of the lad's graduation, subsequent marriage and birth of his son, career, and ultimately his death, I feel as close to them as if they were my relatives. If you've completed your own family story, or if you're hitting a personal brick wall, try helping someone else get started. You can find satisfaction in their appreciation and happiness.

April Program Re-cap

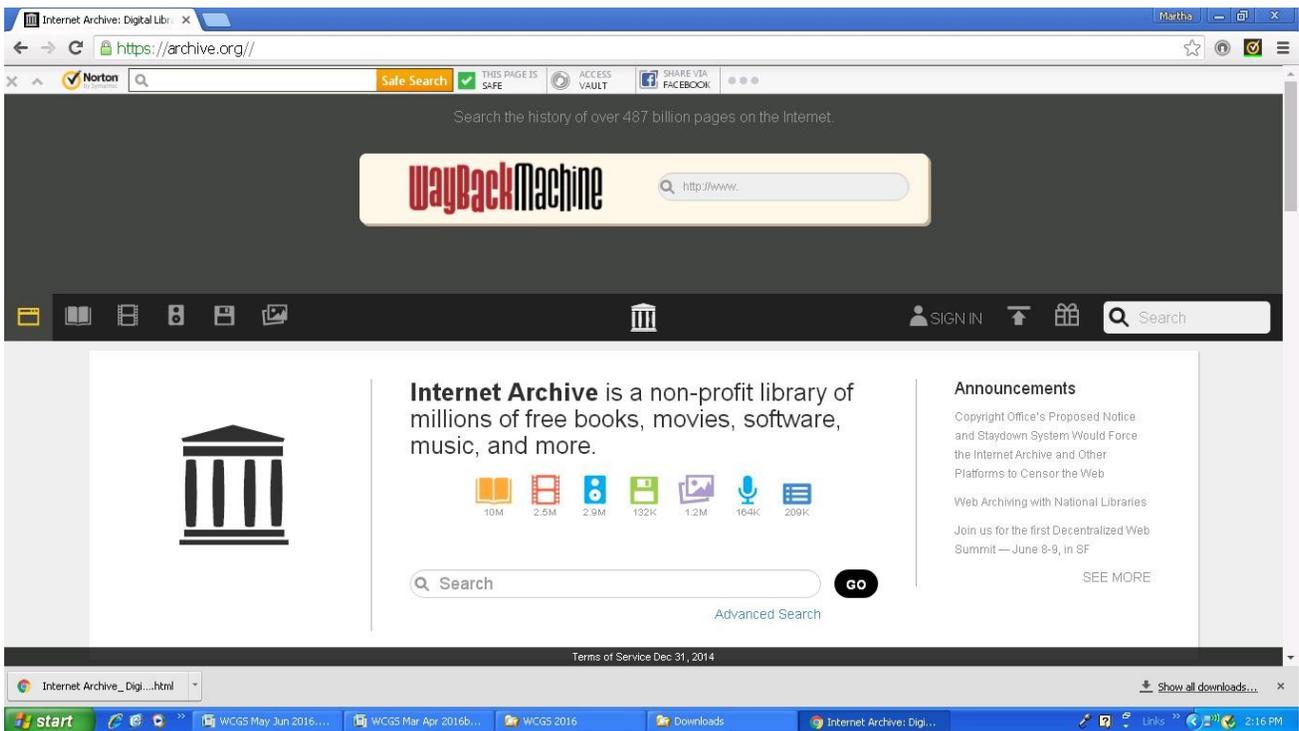
For our April meeting, Kristin McCallum, president of the McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society, shared information on “The Internet Archive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit that was founded to build an internet library. To get to the Internet Archive site, enter <https://archive.org/> into the address bar. The “wayback machine is snapshots of web pages. If you click on a page today and get the 404 error (page not found) you can try the wayback machine to see if the original page can be found. Adding to that, there are out of copyright books for the user to read and/or download in hundreds of categories. Also, if you like the old radio shows (I’m sort of addicted) you can find them on Internet Archive. Check it out!



Mike Hay and Chris Brookes lead the meeting.
Marilyn Traver, secretary, taking meeting notes.



Turnout was pretty decent . Some folks we hadn't seen for a while.



This is the home page of Internet Archive. You can spend hours in here and still not find everything.



AROUND THE COUNTY TIDBITS

by Shirley Sisk

East Troy – Harry Dickinson came up from Rockford last week Monday to visit Philip Graves. They started on their wheels Tuesday morning on the return trip to Rockford. The rain halted them for the night at Clinton, they reaching home Wednesday noon.-----
 ----- At her home in this village, Sunday evening, July 26th, Mrs. Thayer passed from life away. A few friends and neighbors were about the bed as the suffering lady breathed her last. The funeral services were held at the house, Rev. A. J. Hayner officiating, and the body was borne to its final rest in the village cemetery.-----

Saturday evening, Aug. 8, a basket social will be given at Jude's Opera House, closing with a hop, under the management of the Catholic society. Proceeds to go toward laying a side walk along Union St. to the Catholic church.-----
 ----- Mrs. O. B. Rogers and daughters, Mabel and Fay, were visiting at her father's, near Elkhorn, most of last week.-----
 ----- On the first of January, next, the Lake View Hotel property, now owned by John Porter, will pass into the hands of a stock company, of which John Porter and George Porter, of this place, R. L. Porter, Mukwonago, John E. Ennis and H. A. Christie, Chicago, are the incorporators. Remodeling the house, building cottages, and other improvements will be commenced at the close of this season. (from The Delavan Republican, Wednesday, August 5, 1891)

Millard – Wednesday evening, Oct. 25, occurred a very pretty home wedding at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Howard, near Whitewater, when their daughter, Inez B. became Mrs. Harry Weaver. The bride's dress of white, was typical of her lovely character. The groom, who has always lived here, is highly esteemed by all. They will reside at

Millard.----- Fred Harrison had an auction Friday. He moves to Whitewater this week, Earl Bronson taking possession of the farm at once.----- Rev. E. Packer and family go this week to their future home at Des Moines, Ia. We wish them Godspeed.-----
 -----Rev. Hoffman will give his lecture on "Cuba and the Spanish War" next Friday evening.----- Hubert Barker is erecting a new hog house. Lewis and Snow are the carpenters.----- Mrs. L. A. Ballard spent last week in Chicago, buying goods for the Millard store. (from The Enterprise, Delavan, Wis., Thursday, Nov. 2, 1899)

Darien – Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Heffley left for their future home at Homer, Ill., on Saturday afternoon.----- Mrs. Wheeler Thomas has been quite ill ever since her return from Iowa, where she had been spending the fall months.----- Isaac Thomas, of Geneva, was called here last week by the severe illness of his father.-----
 Will and Charley Frey, of Waterloo, Wis., are visiting their mother, Mrs. Miserez.-----
 ----- Mrs. Alexander Reed, better known as Auntie Reed, was seriously ill last week.----- 21 pounds fine granulated sugar for \$1.00 at Welch & Benner's.-----
 ----- Rev. J. E. Noftinger will go to Milledgeville, Illinois, about the 27th.-----
 - Mrs. Emile Moon, of Sharon, spent a couple of days with her parents last week. (from The Delavan Republican, 14 Dec., 1893)

Allen Grove – The Misses Jennie and Lizzie Hale go to La Port, Ind., to make their future home.----- Miss Minnie Dalton has moved to Whitewater.

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Around the County Tidbits

----- Henry Meloy and his father-in-law, James Rhodawalt, have moved to Tomahawk, Wis. ----- Frank Randall is moving his family into the Smith house; we are glad to welcome them to our village. ----- Walter Dalton is visiting his brother at Rochester, Wis. ----- Mr. Joseph Conly is taking mud baths in Indiana. ----- Alvah Allen has his mill dam in good repair and is waiting for water to fill the pond. ----
 ----- The remains of Mrs. Jennie Wessel, who died at Sharon Tuesday, were interred at South Grove Thursday afternoon. (from The Delavan Republican, Delavan, Wisconsin, Thursday, November 2, 1899)

MCIGS 2016 Summer Conference

McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society is taking reservations for their summer conference held at the McHenry County College, 8900 US 14, Crystal Lake, IL on Saturday, July 9, 2016.

The conference has a variety of speakers and different presentations. To check out what the conference is offering, go to the website: <http://www.mcigs.org/conference.html>

They are also seeking vendors to represent their organization at the MCIGS conference. Should we think about making a presence at this conference?

Genealogy Research Tip

Everyone thinks the internet is instantaneous and if you hear that something new has been loaded to the internet you should be able to access it immediately. Unfortunately, this is not necessarily so. Depending on the server, it can take 12 to 24 hours for a file to be accessed by everyone. For example, a file loaded to a server on the west coast would probably be accessible

to people on the west coast much sooner than folks in the east. Also, a google search may not find the file in a search for up to a week. Patience is a necessary virtue when searching the internet.

What's in a sign?

I love signs! While visiting in Brown County, WI, Mike and I went looking for some of his relatives in Saints Edward and Isidore Catholic Church Cemetery. We walked up one side of the cemetery, through the middle, and back down the other side. Walking back to the car, I suddenly burst out laughing and Mike admonished me that we were in a Catholic Cemetery. I said, "You've got to see this!"



I can't help wondering where your car might be towed!?!

News from Neighboring Societies

Burlington Genealogical Society - Wed. June 15th, 2016 @ Burlington Gateway, (496 McKanna Parkway, Burlington, WI) "Your Electronic Genealogy Legacy" free program presented by Judy Rockwell. What will happen to your research and other electronic digital services you have access to you pass on ?
Wednesday, July 20th - 6:00 pm - Annual Picnic

McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society - Thursday, June 9th, 7:00 pm @ The Pointe (5650 NW Hwy in Crystal Lake next to Target) . "Using the Newberry Library for Family Research" July - see page 31.

British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois (BIGWILL) - Saturday, July 16th, 10:00 am @ The Community Church, 5714 Broadway St. (two blocks west of U.S. Route 12), Richmond, Illinois. "Skeletons in Our Closets: Researching a Family Scandal" will be presented by Robin B. Seidenberg.

Kenosha Genealogy Society - Monday, June 13th, 6:30 pm until 9:00 pm @ Madrigano Auditorium of Gateway Technical College, 3320 30th Avenue, Kenosha, WI. "Skeletons in Our Closets: Researching a Family Scandal" will be presented by Robin B. Seidenberg.

Kenosha Genealogy Society shuts down for July and August.

The Kenosha group is hard at work preparing for the September Tri-County Family History Fair which they will be hosting this year.

German Interest Group - is having their 2016 Annual Conference on July 9th at Hamilton Auditorium in the Conner Center The University Center building of UW-W Whitewater, Wisconsin.

Topics will be:

1. Getting the Most Out of FamilySearch.org
2. Jumping over Hurdles in German Research
3. Smith or Schmidt: Keeping Track of Name Changes
4. Crossing the Ocean with the Internet

Editor's note: If you have an announcement from any group you are a member of and would like to see it in our newsletter, please send me the information at wcsnewsletter@gmail.com

May Program Re-cap

Our May program was presented by Ted Johnson, an estate planning attorney with Godfrey, Leibsle, Blackburn & Howarth, S.C. Instead of spending the time discussing estate planning and retirement, Mr. Johnson encouraged questions from the members and visitors.



Ancestor Inquiry

Do you have an ancestor who held public office? Do you have an ancestor who pushed for a change that made things different? Let me know. I'm going to check mine and let you know in upcoming issues. If you have an ancestor who made a difference, you should brag about it. Here is your chance!

M & M Tips

Working on the Grider Family web site, we drilled down to a husband and wife with no death dates. We searched family trees on the web, but unfortunately no one had death dates. Sometimes we give up and just use a question mark, but for some reason with this couple we did not want to do that.

We noticed that the husband had served in the Civil war. We signed in to Fold3 (Mike has an account) and looked for the pension records. We found the date the husband died in the pension record, but how to find the date of the wife? We read through document after document where the wife had to have representation proving that she needed the pension to survive. Finally across the page of one document we found scrawled that it was closed upon the death of the wife and there was the date! Hooray!

It wasn't until we finished that I realized that every document we read was in cursive except for the few forms (the filled in lines were in cursive). Future genealogists may have a very hard time.

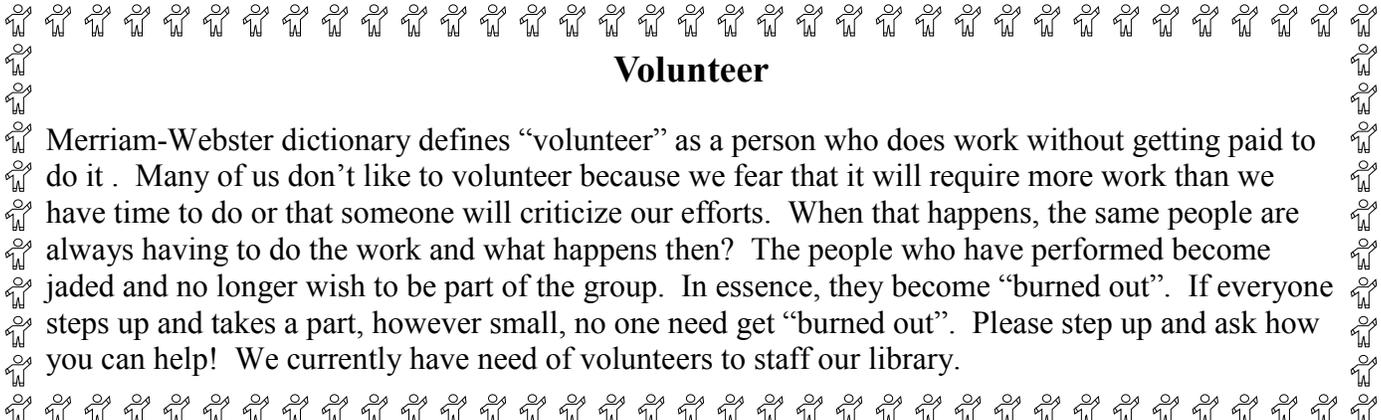
Last newsletter (and again this one) I have put out a challenge in this election year to brag about our ancestors who held public office. I've been reading through a book on Dyckmans (my mother's maiden name was Dyckman) and found some, but unfortunately, the closest relationship is half-third cousin 6 times removed. I guess my direct line ancestors weren't public minded.

Mike Hay, however, had a relative who was a Brown County Judge from 1956 - 1967. John D. Kehoe was Mike's first cousin twice removed. From 1944 - 1954 he was a Lawyer and member of Wisconsin Democratic State Central Committee; (alternate) delegate to Democratic National Convention from Wisconsin, 1944 - 1952; and a secretary of the Wisconsin Democratic Party in 1954.

In January 1942, then attorney, John D. Kehoe, traveled to Washington with Thomas R. King, Oconomowoc state chairman, to confer with federal authorities on the possibility of starting a shipyard in Green Bay. Ships had been constructed in Green Bay during World War I and it was felt that the location on the Great Lakes would be advantageous not to mention that having a defense contract would enable the city to secure defense and regular production materials ahead of non-defense sections.

He died October 25, 1977 in DePere, Brown County, WI and is buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, DePere, Brown County, WI. The stone is marked: Judge/Husband. He is buried next to his wife, Ann Lee.

Whenever Mike and I go anywhere we inevitably meet people who are interested when we talk about the genealogical society. We tell them to be sure to talk to their older relatives and get them to relate stories. I was the youngest in my family and my older sisters weren't interested in asking questions of my grand parents and elderly aunts. The few stories I know were the ones my parents would tell and believe me, I asked a lot of questions!



Volunteer

Merriam-Webster dictionary defines "volunteer" as a person who does work without getting paid to do it. Many of us don't like to volunteer because we fear that it will require more work than we have time to do or that someone will criticize our efforts. When that happens, the same people are always having to do the work and what happens then? The people who have performed become jaded and no longer wish to be part of the group. In essence, they become "burned out". If everyone steps up and takes a part, however small, no one need get "burned out". Please step up and ask how you can help! We currently have need of volunteers to staff our library.

Below is a survey to help the society be more responsive to our members and to assist us in gaining new members. Please fill it out and bring it to the next meeting or send it to WCGS, P.O. Box 159, Delavan, WI, 53115-0159, and make it attention to: WCGS Newsletter Editor or email it to wgsnewsletter@gmail.com. You, the members of WCGS, know what programs you would like to see. Without your input, we can only guess what you are interested in. Please help us make good decisions.

Survey

1. Are there any past programs we have presented that you would like to have us repeat? If the answer is “yes” which programs and why?

2. Would you be interested in a group research trip to the Newberry Library in Chicago or the Historical Society in Madison?

3. What topics would you like to see as a program?

4. What project or projects would you like to see the Society focus on?

5. What suggestions do you have to help increase our membership?

6. Would you be willing to take part in workshops presented by the Society?

I'm desperately looking for more members to fill out the “Are You Related to Me?” form. If you need a form, email me at wgsnewsletter@gmail.com and I will be glad to send it to you.

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE BY WCGS

Walworth Co. Probate Record Index - 1848-1939	\$35.00
CD in pdf and searchable	\$25.00 plus \$1.00 s/h
1857 Walworth Co. Atlas - township maps and index	\$16.00
1873 Walworth Co. Atlas - maps & Index (soft cover reprint)	\$20.00
Walworth Co. - Directory of Prairie Farmers & Breeders (soft cover reprint)	\$30.00
1882 Walworth County Index to History Book	\$30.00
1912 Walworth County Index to History Book	\$29.00
Area Research Center UW-Whitewater Resource Guide	\$12.00
Declaration & Naturalization Papers Vol I \$18.00 Vol 2 & 3 (combined)	\$15.00
Walworth County Pre-1907 Death Index	\$22.00
BLOOMFIELD - Hillside Cemetery- Genoa City	\$23.00
DARIEN - Darien Cemetery	\$22.00
DELAVAN - Delavan Area Cemeteries (Spring Grove, Old Settlers, St. Andrews, Arboretum and some church burials reprint)	\$14.00
East Delavan Union Cemetery	\$25.00
History of Delavan School 1982 - index only	\$18.00
EAST TROY - Oak Ridge Cemetery	\$18.00
St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery	\$25.00
GENEVA - Lake Geneva Area Obituaries (updated through June 30, 2010)	\$25.00
Pioneer Cemetery	\$15.00
Union Cemetery— plus some Geneva/Lyons Townships	\$20.00
LAFAYETTE - White Oak Cemetery	\$ 7.50
Hartwell-Westville-Sugar Creek Lutheran Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00
LAGRANGE -LaGrange Pioneers (reprint of 3600 names, full index)	\$27.00
LaGrange Township Cemeteries	\$10.00
LYONS - Hudson/Lyons (Old Quaker) / Wija Farm Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00
St. Joseph & St. Killian Catholic Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00
RICHMOND - Richmond & East Richmond Cemeteries	\$10.00
SHARON - Oakwood	\$15.00
SPRING PRAIRIE - Hickory Grove	\$25.00
German Settlement / Mount Hope / Diener Cemeteries (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$12.00
SUGAR CREEK - Millard Cemetery	\$15.00
Hazel Ridge Cemetery	\$20.00
Mount Pleasant Cemetery (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$15.00
Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery (DVD tombstone pics included)	\$15.00
TROY - Little Prairie	\$15.00
WALWORTH - Walworth Center (Walworth Village listings)	\$20.00
Brick Church Revised 2007	\$20.00
Cobblestone, WI/Bigfoot, IL (two different cemeteries in one book)	\$20.00
WHITEWATER - St. Patrick's Calvary	\$15.00
Hillside Cemetery	\$25.00
Unknown Burials	\$18.00
Index to the Annals of Whitewater	\$12.00

Shipping and handling as follows: \$5.50 per book

To order these publications, circle the selection(s), make check payable to WCGS and mail to:
WCGS, PO Box 159, Delavan, WI 53115.

Membership (Jan 1st- Dec 31st) is \$15 individual (\$100 lifetime), \$18.00 family (\$200 lifetime), \$7.50 student

NAME _____ email _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ SURNAMES _____

I do ___ or do not ___ give my permission to have my information printed in any WCGS media.

DSTK 1/14

WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

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OTHERS: Newsletter Editor: Martha Hay wcgsnewsletter@gmail.com				
Past-President & Librarian: Deb Ketchum				
Historian: Pat Blackmer				

Regular meetings of the WCGS are the first Tuesday of each month at the

Delavan Community Centre, 826 E. Geneva St., Delavan, WI.

Library Hours: Matheson Memorial Library, 101 N. Wisconsin St., Elkhorn, WI- Every Tues. 10-3pm
other times by appt - call 262-215-0118

The membership year runs from Jan. 1st thru Dec. 31st. The newsletter is published bi-monthly.

*****Dues are \$15 (\$100 Lifetime) for an individual, \$18.00 (\$200 Lifetime) for a family, \$25 contributing, \$7.50 student.
\$5.00 additional per year to receive the newsletter through the mail.

MEMBERS: Want email meeting minutes or not?? Contact

Visit the Walworth County website and uncover your roots! <http://www.walworthcgs.com>

Email us at: societynews@walworthcgs.com

DELAVAN, WI 53115-0159
P.O. BOX 159
WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY