



Walworth County Genealogical Society Newsletter

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July-Aug 2017

Mission Statement-The WCGS was organized for the purpose of bringing together family researchers who can network together and promote preservation of heirlooms and documents. Our goal is to help others find their ancestors, to educate them about genealogy, to copy cemeteries in the area and to stimulate interest in the county and genealogy.

In the event a meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather, we will post a message on the website www.walworthcgs.com or call 414-378-9879.



2017 Meetings, Events

August 1– 6:30pm–Delavan Community Center -Annual Ice Cream Social! Bring your own toppings to share, we provide the ice cream, there will be fun and games!

September 5– 5:30pm Our Annual Society Dinner will be held at the 841 Brew House, 841 E Milwaukee, Whitewater. More info at August 1st mtg.



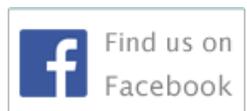
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Welcome to new member Ralph Clark!

Welcome



www.facebook.com/wcwgcs



From the President's Desk



Chris Brookes & Martha Hay- WCGS Co-Presidents

Chris's Message:



Dear WCGS Friends –

The patriotic celebrations of summer, Memorial Day and Fourth of July, may bring to mind relatives or ancestors who served in the military. We thank them for their service and honor them with flags and markers in cemeteries across the land. Isn't it thrilling to hear that martial music and sing our patriotic songs?

I grew up hearing bagpipes and drums on a daily basis at Northwestern Military & Naval Academy, and I think of the cadets as part of my extended family. Each year as my dad read the necrology at the Memorial Day parade, the list of names started with Terry Beck, killed in Vietnam December 1967, age 18, after only two months in country. Not my real brother, but a brother nonetheless.

On the personal side, James Harkness, a minute man in the Revolutionary War, is my DAR patriot. My grandfather Lloyd Best served in WWI. Doug Brady, my cousin, was lost at sea during WWII (see his story in this issue). Other family members, though not in the armed forces, have given service to this country in the police department and the priesthood and as educators. I think of them all during this season of remembrance.

More celebrations are on the horizon. Mark your calendars for the Ice Cream Social meeting Tuesday, August 1 at 6:30 in Delavan, and the Annual Dinner Tuesday, September 5 at 841 Brewhouse in Whitewater starting at 5:30 – more info to follow.

Hope you are having an enjoyable summer.

Chris

Martha's Comments:

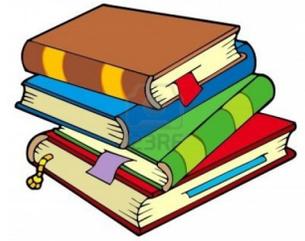
I just learned that the Family Search team will no longer be shipping microfilm out after August 31, 2017. So if there is a film or films that you are thinking about ordering, get your order in soon. Any orders that are in before August 31 at midnight will still be fulfilled. I also heard that the price will be less and that the Family History Centers will not have to send the films back so you should be able to have extended time to search them.

Mike and I have become members of a MCIGS Genealogy DNA Interest group in Illinois. The group is connected to the McHenry County Genealogical Society. The speaker, David A. Stumpf, is a retired pediatrician who has been doing genealogy for many years. He is willing to do a program for us. He does not charge anything but did suggest that it would be nice if we paid something for his travel. He is very easy to understand and loves to answer questions. At our next meeting, August 14, 2017 at the Cary IL (1600 Three Oaks Rd.) Library. We are going to bring our own laptops and he will help us circumnavigate the DNA screens.

See you at the Ice Cream Social!!

Martha

WCGS Library Page



You never know what you might find in the Genealogy Library!

As a member who grew up in South Dakota and has few connections to Walworth County, I thought I'd show some of the information I have found on my ancestors in the library. There are amazing resources from Wisconsin, most other states, and several foreign countries.

Among my earliest ancestors to arrive in America were Edward FitzRandolph and his wife Elizabeth Blossom, my 7th great grandparents.

I found the following information in *The Winthrop Fleet of 1630* by Charles Edward Banks "Fitzrandolph, Edward From Sutton-in Ashfield, Notts. Came in 1630, according to diary of his grandson Nathaniel of New Jersey. Probably an apprentice when he emigrated, and perhaps one of those freed in 1630 when provisions became scarce (Dudley Letter). Several of them went to Plymouth Colony and stayed there. Fitzrandolph married in Scituate. In 1669 he removed to New Jersey (Pope)."

I also found him in *Lineages of Members of the National Society of the Sons and Daughters of Pilgrims* in an application for membership by William P. Ivins.

In *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England 1620-1633*—3 volumes I found an entry for his father-in-law Thomas Blossom listing Elizabeth as his daughter and that she married Edward FitzRandolph in 1637

Finally in *New England Marriages Prior to 1700* "FitzRandolph, Edward (1607) and Elizabeth Blossom (abt 1620-1713)" I'm looking forward to searching more resources for other early arrivals.

Some other books on immigration and emigration in the library include *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England 1634-1635* in 7 volumes, *Passengers to America, Ships of Our Ancestors* by Michael J. Anuta, *The Complete Great Migration Newsletter Volumes 1-10* by Robert Charles Anderson

Library News

The committee has finished inventorying the collection and Marilyn has updated and uploaded the index to the computer in the library.

Volunteers are needed for indexing some obituaries. Marilyn has files on the first computer for entering the information. Volunteers are also needed to help on Tuesdays any time between 10 and 3 or on the 3rd Saturday of the month between 10 and 2 for part or all of the day.

If you have suggestions for purchase or have something you'd like to donate please contact one of the library committee members.

Submitted by Judy Rockwell

To contact any of the members:

Diana Bird - 815-943-3690 - leave a message if no answer.

birddiana1@gmail.com

Judy Rockwell - jjrockwell@gmail.com

Marilyn Traver - msearchin@gmail.com



Put. Douglas F Brady - His Story

By Christine Brookes

In my great-aunt Mabel's house there was a shrine to her only son, Douglas Francis Brady, lost at sea on Christmas Eve 1944. Seventy-three years later, we are learning the rest of the story.

On D-Day, 2017, my phone rang. My brother was calling from Normandy, France. He had just found Doug's name on the Wall of the Missing in the American Cemetery and heard the story of the sinking of his ship. Suddenly we knew his regiment, division, and the name of the ship, SS Leopoldville, a Belgian cruise ship turned troop transport. The research began.

Doug and my mother were first cousins, making him my first cousin once removed. Mom and Doug were a year apart in age. Both graduated from Lake Geneva High School; Doug went on to the University of Wisconsin-Madison to study pre-med. He entered service in March 1943 at age 19. By November 1944, Doug was part of the Medical Detachment of the 262nd Infantry Regiment of the 66th Infantry Division, US Army. They trained in Dorchester, England, until December 24 when they transferred to Southampton to prepare to cross the English Channel to Cherbourg, France.

Five miles from the coast of France, the Leopoldville was torpedoed and sunk by the U-486, a German submarine. Approximately 763 soldiers died, together with 56 of her crew. Following the disaster, all US documents regarding the sinking of the Leopoldville were classified, and remained so until 1958-59. The British records were not released until 1996. According to the 66th Infantry Division website: "The soldiers of the 66th Infantry Division were ordered not to tell anyone about the sinking of the ship and their letters home were censored by the army during the rest of World War II. After the war, the soldiers were also ordered at discharge not to talk about the sinking of the SS Léopoldville to the press and told that their GI benefits as civilians would be canceled if they did so."

Families at home received official death notices sporadically over months in order to keep information about the disaster from the public. Reasons given were so morale wouldn't be broken and to keep the enemy from knowing so many reinforcements for the Battle of the Bulge would not be arriving. Doug's obituary did not appear in the Lake Geneva newspaper until March 1945.

The U.S. Navy later announced the sinking of the Leopoldville to be the second-largest loss of life from the

sinking of a troop transport ship in the entire European Theater.

Once the documents were declassified, awareness of the incident began to surface. In 1983, Jacquin Sanders published *A Night Before Christmas*. The following year Clive Cussler, with his shipwreck organization, the National Underwater and Marine Agency (NUMA), finally found the ship - in a different place from where the wreck had been previously marked on charts.

Allan Andrade authored *Leopoldville: A Tragedy Too Long Secret* in 1997. The Amazon book review states: "Thanks to the publication of this book and the publicity that it has received on regional and national television programs, Americans can now understand what had been a hidden tragedy."

In 1998, the History Channel broadcast the documentary film "Cover Up: The Sinking of the SS Léopoldville". In 2009, the National Geographic Channel aired "Deep Wreck Mysteries: Sunk on Christmas Eve," a special that recreated the events that led to the sinking and had divers investigating the wreck. Also Don Nigbor and his son Peter have started a website, www.leopoldville.org, to honor the lives of the men lost and of the survivors. Survivors and family members are encouraged to share their stories. My brother and I will be contributing Doug's story to this site.

Finally, we know the SS Leopoldville and those lost at sea are memorialized in Normandy, France; Weymouth UK; Wall of the Missing in Cambridge, England; Fort Benning, GA; and Titusville, FL. Many states have followed New York in declaring December 24 a Day of Remembrance since victims came from 47 of the 48 states. Doug's headstone in Oakhill Cemetery, Lake Geneva, simply reads: "Killed in the English Channel Dec. 24, 1944." His awards included Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, American Campaign Medal, and World War II Victory Medal.

As Clive Cussler aptly described the Leopoldville sinking, "Forgotten by many, remembered by few." Now my family has much more to remember about our cousin Doug.



AROUND THE COUNTY TIDBITS

by Shirley Sisk

DELAVAN – The “Glorious 4th,” next Tuesday.-----There is to be a Fourth of July celebrarian at Mineral-Spring Park, Turtle Lake. Boat race at 3 o’clock p.m. Dancing and other amusements-----Teachers and pupils of the Congregational Sunday school enjoyed a picnic at Collie’s Grove, Delavan Lake, on Tuesday.-----Mr. and Mrs. Owen Cavanaugh are the happy parents of twin boys, born June 13th, 1893.-----The funeral of Mrs. Betsy Thomas will be attended from the house, at 9:30 o’clock, tomorrow—Friday morning.-----Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Bailey returned on Wednesday from a visit of several days at the World’s Fair.-----Miss Lula Parish, of Chicago, arrived yesterday to visit her grand-parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Heminway.-----Mr. Tom Widdowson, of Mankato, Minn., visited his father and other friends here from Thursday until Saturday last.-----Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Hicks are attending the World’s Fair this week.-----Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Smith arrived from Cherryville, Kansas on Tuesday. (The Delavan Enterprise, Thursday, June 29, 1893)

ELKHORN – Mrs. Emily Barrett, wife of Rev. Newton Barrett, D. D., died here on Tuesday morning, Nov. 5th.-----Capt. H. L. Carver, of St. Paul, was the guest of the family of Henry Hubbard on Sunday.-----Abram Norton and Robert Porter left on Monday for San Francisco, Cal.-----Mrs. T. W. Harvey took her departure on Wednesday, for Monroe, Mich.-----Will Lyon and Will Smith, took a few days outing, and returned on Monday evening from Chicago.-----The livery stable of W. H. Spencer has changed hands, the purchaser being Frank Brooks, a son-in-law of W. J. Stratton-----Our people dispose of the fallen leaves of shade trees, by burning them in the street, creating an intolerable smudge, and running risks of fire if the wind should rise. When we reach the next grade of civilization they will be pressed into bricks by a miniature hay press and dried for

kindlings. (Delavan Republican, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 1889)

LYONS – Mrs. Phoebe Healey is entertaining her sister, Mrs. Robinson, from Genesee Co., N.Y., and also a niece from the same place.-----Mrs. Gill has moved to Geneva, where she will spend the winter.-----Mr. Chas. Stubbs has purchased Mrs. Hubbard’s house and his family is now nicely settled in the same.-----The oyster supper last Tuesday evening was a pleasant feature of the week’s programme. Mrs. G. V. Weeks and Mr. and Mrs. O. Gillett furnished some excellent music which was much enjoyed by all. The society cleared \$13.35. (Delavan Republican, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 1889)

WILLIAMS BAY – The long looked-for telescope builders have come at last. They came Saturday night by wagons from Chicago, loaded with picks, shovels, wheel-barrows, etc., and are at present working on the telescope grounds. On Sunday large crowds of people turned out to see a lot of tools spread out on the ground.-----C. M. Williams has got the cellar to his new store about finished.-----Mrs. Z. V. Sawyer and family spent last week at Springfield, visiting friends, and returned Sunday evening.-----It is reported here that Miss Lillie Pemberton has purchased the store building from the Barker Lumber Co.-----O. Dodge has commenced to erect his new building, the cellar being completed and the carpenters are at work on the frame.-----Mr. Joseph Keats, our hotel keeper, is sick with the quinsy. (The Enterprise, Delavan, Wisconsin, Thursday, April 25, 1895)



Program Recaps June-July 2017



The WCGS June Meeting was held at the Area Research Center at UW-Whitewater, led by our Vice President Karen Weston. Karen's knowledge of the library resources gives researchers helpful pathways to finding valuable information. Thank you for providing the assistance.



The July 8 meeting was held at the Hillside Cemetery in Whitewater as a preparatory event for the 2018 Cemetery Walk that will be held in co-operation with the Whitewater Historical Society. The walk will include gravesites of citizens prominent in UW-Whitewater's history. Upon Mike's suggestion, we all agreed to adjourn the meeting to the 841 Pub for lunch, and Karen Weston gave us a rundown on the people she thought should be included in the walk. We all agreed there are some issues to work around regarding the layout of the cemetery and ease of access, but we have a year to work it out. Do they make 4 wheel drive hill climbing golf carts?



News from Neighboring Societies and Members

Volunteer Opportunities:

Kenosha County Genealogical Society is still working for 2 hours on Friday mornings thru August on their Tombstone Project. Visit their website and click on their calendar of events for information on the project. They have a contact name and phone number listed if you have more questions.

Irish Fest:

August 17-20th at Henry Maier Festival Park, Milwaukee WI.

McHenry County Genealogical Society:

Wednesday, July 26th at 7pm, MCIGS will be hosting its first webinar. Thomas MacEntee will be their first webinar speaker with the topic **What's Been Done: Using Someone Else's**

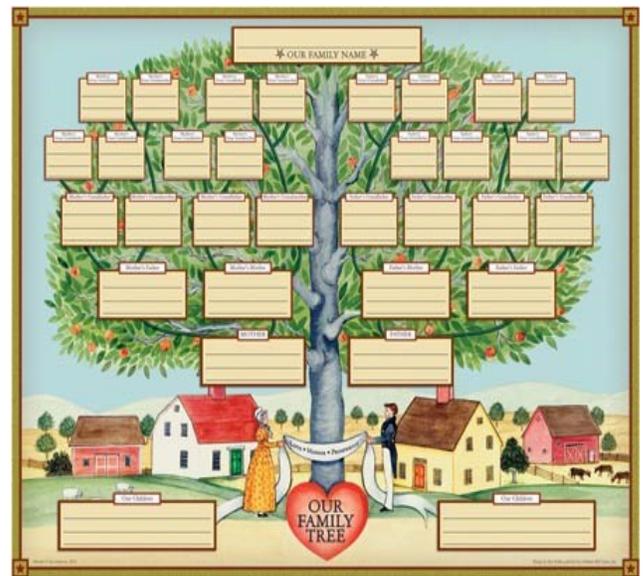
Genealogy. For more information, visit <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/537087508104687873>.

For those of you that use Roots Magic, one of our members, Karen Memory, is reminding us that the newest version 7.5 is now available as a free update to the 7.0 version. The newest version has 2 features of interest that work

with Ancestry.com. There is now a Tree Share for Ancestry, and the newest version works with Ancestry Hints. They also have a Facebook page with a post announcing this change that should help if you need assistance. Karen also sent a note telling me about a recent genealogy meeting she attended that gave her an “ah hah” moment that made her glad she had attended the meeting, and was wondering if any of you had the same experience.

Karen also sent a link below that gives you views of Civil War photos of the past and their present view. Interesting to see, copy and paste to your browser, enjoy the views.

<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/ng-interactive/2015/jun/22/american-civil-war-photography-interactive>



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.

Are You Related To Me?

Name: KATHLEEN BAKER

1. How did you get interested in genealogy?

When a child my grandmother told me that I was related to Anneke Jans who was Dutch, related to the King of England and owned Wall Street, NY.

What I actually learned about her:

Anneke/Annetje was born 1605 Norway, sailed to New Amsterdam, America with her husband Roelof Janz in 1603 with daughters Sara and Trintje. They were “homesteaders” on property near the current Wall Street . After her death (and 2nd marriage to Eduardus Bogardus) in 1663 family members fought and lost legal battles for decades

2. Names, places, and dates of ancestors:

James and Rosa Mullen (b. 1805 Ireland) and three daughters (Catherine/Kate, Margaret and Ellen) arrived from New York in Burlington, Racine Wisconsin about 1846. James passed away suddenly in 1849. Rosa married Nicholas Gaffney and separated from him by 1870 when listed on 1870 census with daughter Kate and son-in-law Patrick Dunn.

Patrick Dunn (born about 1820 Ireland) was probably from Kilkenny Ireland and came to Wisconsin about 1847 escaping the Irish Famine., where it is assumed that his first wife Julia Delaney died He was searching in “Missing Friends” for his three sons—Kieran, Thomas and John—who separated from him shortly after arrival in Canada. Patrick Dunn and Catherine Mullen married 1865 had three daughters (Mary, Ellen, Margaret), a fourth daughter (Josephine) was born in the Walworth County Poor House, Kate died shortly after and Patrick’s location unknown.

3. Name and places.

4. Burial areas.

I have not been able to locate burial sites for Patrick or Kate Mullen Dunn; James and Rosa Mullen. Assume they are in Racine or Walworth County.

5. Any vets in your family line?

Burlington Standard dated 15 Feb 1865 lists Patrick Dunn as enlisted and mustered for the amount of \$300. I have not been able to find his military record.

6. Have you visited the old homestead?

NO

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

Continued

8. Any surprises on your research?

On a trip to Walworth County, I found a newspaper publication in Walworth County Independent, Nov 21, 1889 and court records that report Mary Dunn brought suit against her employer William Bruce for assault and rape resulting in the birth of male child March 1890. Despite a witness testifying to her screams for help, Mary lost the case and put the child up for adoption while staying at the County House. I suspect the Bruce family may have taken the child. Mary later married, had 9 children, and homesteaded in New Mexico with spouse Rudolph Schlessinger. This is my direct line; I come from strong female stock



Ever wonder why genealogists generally write dates in this fashion— 16 Jul 2015? This separates the day of the month from the year, and using the four-digit year eliminates confusion as to which century you mean. Each month is (usually) abbreviated to the first three letters.

Part of the reason for using this format is because that is how dates are written in Europe. So using this format lets you get used to how the dates are used there (helpful when you are looking at records from Europe). It also avoids confusion that is possible if you write a date in just numbers, as 11/01/01. Is that November 1, 2001 (or 1901 or 1801), or January 11 in some year that ends in 01? Looking at 11 Jan 2001, it's easy to tell the correct date. (posted in Webster County Newsletter 2015)



If you are reviewing a death certificate and are having a hard time reading the cause of death, look for a number that indicates the cause of death. Sometimes these are written on the certificate, or there is a field for the info. If you are lucky enough to see one, this link might help you determine the cause. It is the International Classification of Diseases, used in Medical Records. You might have to search for older versions to get the answer. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd10cm.htm>.



Found a tip about using aluminum foil to do a gravestone rubbing. It suggested you cover the gravestone that is hard to read with cheap aluminum foil, rub it with a damp sponge and the words magically appear! The picture used as a demonstration was impressive. I hope it works! I love to read the inscribed words but can't always do that because they have faded. Take a picture of the rubbing right away to document what you see, because of course it is not permanent.



Genealogy

M	A	P	S	P	O	U	S	E	V	I	H	C	R	A
C	G	R	E	T	H	G	U	A	D	E	A	T	H	N
H	T	N	E	R	A	P	L	I	B	R	A	R	Y	C
A	O	R	I	R	E	S	E	A	R	C	H	E	R	E
R	R	E	I	L	G	E	L	B	I	B	M	H	A	S
T	P	W	I	H	B	E	L	I	D	Q	L	T	T	T
P	H	O	R	A	T	I	I	E	S	N	W	A	I	R
I	A	L	E	B	D	R	S	S	R	L	A	F	L	Y
R	N	F	C	A	E	C	I	U	E	E	L	L	I	R
C	T	Y	O	N	E	L	S	B	R	X	H	I	M	E
S	R	A	R	N	D	P	L	Z	B	N	A	T	W	T
N	A	M	D	S	I	M	A	R	R	Y	A	T	O	E
A	I	A	S	H	C	T	N	A	R	G	I	M	E	M
R	N	O	S	M	A	I	D	E	N	N	A	M	E	E
T	O	M	B	S	T	O	N	E	S	U	S	N	E	C

ANCESTRY	ELLIS ISLAND	PARENT
ARCHIVES	EMIGRANT	RECORDS
BANNS	FATHER	RESEARCH
BIBLE	LAND	SHIPS
BIRTH	LIBRARY	SIBLING
CEMETERY	MAIDEN NAME	SON
CENSUS	MAPS	SPOUSE
CHART	MARRY	SURNAME
DAUGHTER	MAYFLOWER	TAXES
DEATH	MILITARY	TOMBSTONE
DEED	MOTHER	TRANSCRIPT
DESCENDANT	ORPHAN TRAIN	WILLS

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<http://www.thepotters.com/puzzles.html>

WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

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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, phone 262-723-9150
other times by appt - call 262-279-6541

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 Marilyn Traver, msearchin@gmail.com

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

Email us at: societynews@walworthcgs.com

WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
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