

Walworth County Genealogical Society Newsletter



Volume 21 Issue 4

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July-August 2012

Guest Speakers/Programs for 2012

October 2nd, 6:30 PM: Karen Weston—"Researching Native American Ancestors"

November 6th, 6:30 PM: Roundtable Discussion—"What are we doing here?"

We will have elections for officers in December—who would we like to see heading our organization? Who will step up? Who will volunteer? Also, we will have a sign up sheet for the Potluck Dinner in December

December 4th, 6:00 PM: Potluck Dinner, elections for officers, Bingo

Don't forget to bring an item for Lakeland Animal Shelter!

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Ketchum's Korner

Deb Ketchum, Librarian



In the library there are sections where we rely on donations from our members and others who visit us. The first one is our Society scrapbooks. These albums contain clippings of newspaper articles and photographs of people and events. We welcome your donations of any newsworthy article with genealogy content you attended. Did you have a family reunion? Did someone from our group hit a milestone? Did you attend a workshop, program, and event for family history? Did you take a trip to a research organization or the "family" homeland (whether a state or country)?



The other section would be our Surname books. Volumes A-Z grow as you give us information to put into the binders. Pedigrees, bible records, family documents, articles, and photographs; pretty much anything you would like to share with others that could possibly connect you to other families and help preserve the family history. Although we will accept most family history-related information it would be mostly appreciated if you could provide the source for where you obtained your information.

Meantime there's a wide variety of "How To" books in the library that can be checked out. We also have a modest selection of CD's from Ancestry, LDS, Family Tree and others that can be viewed for those of you who don't have access to the online sites. Stop in at the library and let's see what we can send you home with to get you started in your family research. Check out system is limited to members only.





AROUND THE COUNTY TIDBITS

by Shirley Sisk

Sugar Creek - Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Flitcroft are reported as being quite sick. Mr. F. has been under the weather for some time. He took a heavy cold last fall and it settled on his lungs, which with an old army difficulty makes it quite serious for him.-----The South Sugar Creek butter and cheese factory has been organized on the co-operative plan, and stock to the count of \$25,000 issued. At a recent meeting the following officers were elected: Samuel Solvenson, Pres.; Will Solvenson, Treas.; Ole Jacobson, Sec.; Albert Bassett and Tutson Jacobson, with the other officers, the Board of Trustees. The factory is to be located on the Bassett Corners,--to be built on contract by the lowest bidder. We wish the undertaking all imaginable success. (Wednesday, Dec. 31, 1890, The Delavan Enterprise)

Lyons - M. W. Kinney is reported on the sick list. We hope it is nothing serious.-----B.C. Simons, of New York, a brother-in-law of Russel and J. E. Waite, is visiting with them here. (January 13, 1882, from the Delavan Republican)

Brick Church - Mr. Rafferty, who has been visiting Mr. D. McNally for a few weeks past, has returned to the Soldiers' Home in Milwaukee.-----A double wedding occurred at the residence of H. S. Bell, last Sunday. It being the marriage of his niece, Miss Lottie Ronse to Mr. H. Stoppole and also Miss Stoppole to Mr. Crawford. (May 28, 1896, The Sharon Reporter)

Darien - After an illness of over a year, Mr. William Carter passed peacefully away at his home in this village Saturday evening, at ten o'clock, May 16, 1896, aged 84 years. Mr. Carter was one of our early settlers, having settled here in the latter part of 1838, making a location on section 21. His wife (Adaline

Seaver) still survives him, and from a family of nine children--five girls and four boys, only one brother, Mr. O. Carter survives him. He was laid to rest Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock; Mr. Will Hodge, a spiritual speaker from Milwaukee, offering words of comfort.----Mr. and Mrs Eugene Dodge came out from Springfield Monday to attend the funeral of his uncle, W. Carter. (Thursday, May 21, 1896, Delavan Republican)

The Town of Troy - In the town of Troy during the year ending 1st June 1870 there were ten deaths from Scarlet Fever. Emma Graft, 8 mos.; Mary Dwyer, age 7; Julia Dwyer, age 4; Johannah Dwyer, age 2; Leonard Waters, age 4; William J. Morrison, age 16. Those six died in April of 1870. The other four were Gertrude Lake, age 3, January; Charles A. Waters, age 3, March; Myrtie M. Montague, age 5, February; and Burt Henry, age 3 in January of 1870. Also two deaths from typhoid fever, James Cassey, age 19, born Conn., a farmer who died in January of 1870 and Ann (looks like) Lumb, age 51, born England, married, keeping house, who died Dec. of 1869. (Taken from the Persons who Died listing in the Federal Census for 1870.)

The Town of East Troy - John Weltrow, age 61, a widower and a farmer, died in August of 1869 due to a fall from Ladder. Ann D. Young, age 27, married, born Ireland died in Dec. of 1869 from consumption. Michael O'Brien, age 34, farm labour, born Ireland, died Dec. 1869 of Suicide Drowned. Mial Stone, age 73, married, born Vermont, farmer, Died Dec. of 1869 of Epileptic Apoplexy, old age and Dropsy. (Taken from the Persons who Died listing in the Federal Census for 1870.)



Do You Know?

By Marilyn Traver

Researching in newspapers has a lot of advantages, especially if your ancestors made the news from selling a cow to making the headlines whether good or bad.

With more newspapers online today, it is much easier to research them. There are 3 websites that have information on thousands of newspapers and where to find them.

The first newspaper website, www.newspapermap.com, has an interactive map searching over 10,000 newspapers all over the world. Searching by location you need only zoom on a specific area and click on the icon for the newspaper which can be read online.

In the search box you can search by specific newspaper title or location. There is a color code for different languages in the bottom right corner. Yellow is for English. To read the newspaper in the native language just click on the thumbnail image of the paper and you will be taken to the newspaper's website. There are many historical newspapers at this website and to access them, go to the search box, click on the Historical (hist) button, which causes the map to change to the historical icons.

The second website is the world's largest network of library content. www.worldcat.org. This allows you to access the collections of libraries in your community, as well as over 78,000 libraries all over the world. It even includes public, corporate and academic libraries and is growing everyday.

If a paper copy or roll of microfilm of the newspaper exists in a public library, this site can find it. You can search for any type media; books, audiobooks, documents, and photos of historic

significance and digital versions of rare items not available to the public.

This last one listed is hard to get to. www.stanford.edu/group/ruralwest/cgi-bin/drupal/visualizations/is_newspapers. You can't enter all the wording at once. Start with www.stanford.edu then type, in the search area in the upper right corner the word, newspapers. Click on "Data Visualization: Journalism 's Voyage West| Rural West Initiative." Pick the choice closest to what you are looking for. This website has plotted, on a map, over 140,000 newspapers published in over 3 centuries. This information comes from the Library of Congress' project of "Chronicling America" and is updated regularly. There is a time slider at the top of the screen to the right and as you move it forward the newspapers appear on the map represented by dots. The more newspapers in that area the larger the dot. Click on the zoom tool in the upper right corner of the screen and drag the screen to reorient to the area you want. Zoom in until you can distinguish between the dots. Hover your mouse over a dot and the newspapers in existence in that area in the time selected will appear in the lower left corner of the screen.

Each newspaper listed in the Details box is hyperlinked to the Library of Congress Chronicling America catalog entry. The place to view these newspapers is listed under the "Libraries That Have It" link located at the top of the listings.

From article "Finding your ancestors in Old Newspapers, by Family Chronicle, May/June 2012.

Are You Related To Me?

The spotlight this newsletter is on Mike Hay, our intrepid vice-president and all around good guy. Ok, so I'm a little prejudiced.

1. How did you get interested in genealogy?

When I was young, my maternal grandmother lived with my family. I would hear her talking with my mother about the old times and members of the family I hardly remembered or never even met. It occurred to me that since they were now gone, when I died, the stories and the people would be forgotten so I started writing them down.

2. Names, places and date of ancestors.

William Daniel Hay (my father) born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, October 4 1907; Daniel William Hay born in Grindstone City, Michigan; John Hay born in Scotland. Mary Anne Kehoe born in Montpelier, WI; William Kehoe born in County Clare, Ireland; William Coleman born in Carhumore, Limerick, Ireland. Ruby Laverne Ogle (my mother) born in Danville, Illinois, October 4, 1907; Albert Ogle born in Lafayette, Indiana; Samuel Howard Ogle born in Muskingum, Ohio; Joseph Ogle born in Maryland; Stella Grider born in Bismarck, IL; John Thomas Grider born in Ludlow, IL; James Elmer Grider born in Adair, KY; Hamilton Grider born in Burke, NC; James Grider born in Burke, NC; John F. Grider born in Maryland; Hans Martin Grider born in Switzerland. On my mother's side I can trace my roots back to the fourth century.

3. Names and places:

My mother's family on her father's side came from Danville, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Maryland, Delaware, and Northumberland England, while her mother's ancestors came from Ohio, Kentucky, North Carolina, originating in Switzerland. My father's family came from the Green Bay, Wisconsin area, Michigan, and Scotland on his paternal side and Green Bay, Wisconsin and Ireland on his maternal side.

4. Burial areas:

My parents are buried in Kenosha, Wisconsin. My mother's parents are buried in Kenosha, Wisconsin. My father's parents are buried in Eaton Township, Brown County, Wisconsin. My gr-grandfather on my father's side is buried in Grindstone City, Michigan. I don't know where my gr-grandmother is buried. My gr-grandparents on my mother's side are buried in Danville, Illinois. Joseph Ogle is buried in Muskingum, Ohio (I've never seen the gravesite).

5. Any Vets in your family line?

My gr-grandfather, Samuel Ogle, was in the Civil War. I have two ancestors that I know were in the Revolutionary War.

6. Have you visited the old homestead? Does it still exist today?

My grandmother's home near Green Bay still exists and I have visited it recently, although the house is rented out now it is still owned by a family member. The homestead lived in by my gr-grandmother and owned by my gr-gr-grandfather on my paternal grandmother's side still exists and is still in the family. I have been inside the house and it is next to the family cemetery in Eaton Township. On my mother's side, however, the house she grew up in no longer exists, although I visited there many times as a child. Her mother grew up on a farm which was originally the Huffman property, then became the Grider property after the Huffman's died out. The family cemetery is still adjacent to the property, but only part of the original farm is still in the family.

7. Anything interesting happen while researching?

Yes. My maternal grandmother's ancestors were good at marrying sisters. One married the sister of Daniel Boone. Another married the sister of George Washington. Another married the grand-daughter of the Plantagenet family which means I am descended from royalty.

8. Any surprises in your research?

Yes, the royal ancestry came as a big surprise. When you find you are related to royalty, you can trace back centuries. The records may not know exactly when someone was born, but they always have an exact death date.

9. Please contact WCGS to network with me.

Since this is an election year, we thought it might be interesting to look at the first politicians in Walworth County.

Submitted by Marilyn Traver

FIRST MAYOR of ELKHORN WISCONSIN

Harley C. Norris was voted as the first president and a board of six trustees on May 3, 1892, under a general law of 1887. From 1846 to 1892 the towns and villages each had a board of three supervisors and from 1857 was under a special charter. He was president for the village of Elkhorn before becoming mayor.

Those who served as trustees were Otto Arp 1894-5, George W. Bentley 1896, George B. Cain 1896, Augustus F. Desing 1893, Charles Dunlap 1893-7, Egbert Francis 1892-3, S. Clayton Goff 1892-6, John Hare 1897, Fred W. Isham 1894-5, John Keeffe 1893, LeGrand Latham 1892, John Morrissey of Church St. 1892-3, Herman Nappe 1896, Thomas H. O'Brien 1892, William O'Brien 1897, John J. Slattery 1897, Thomas E. Slattery 1892, George B. Sprague 1894-6, DeWitt Stanford 1897, August Voss 1894-5, Phillip S. Wiswell 1897.

Elkhorn and other villages were changed to a city of the fourth class per the laws of 1889, chapter 326, which was discovered or remembered by Hon. Joseph F. Lyon, upon which there was an election for city officers held on May 3, 1897 and 3 days later Governor Scofield's proclamation completed the transfer from village to city. The new order began Jun 1, 1897 with Mr. Harley Norris as Mayor of Elkhorn. The first board of aldermen were: First ward, Augustus F. Desing, William O'Brien; second ward, Samuel Breese, Jr., Charles C. Gaylord; third ward, F. Maxwell Porter, DeWitt Stanford.

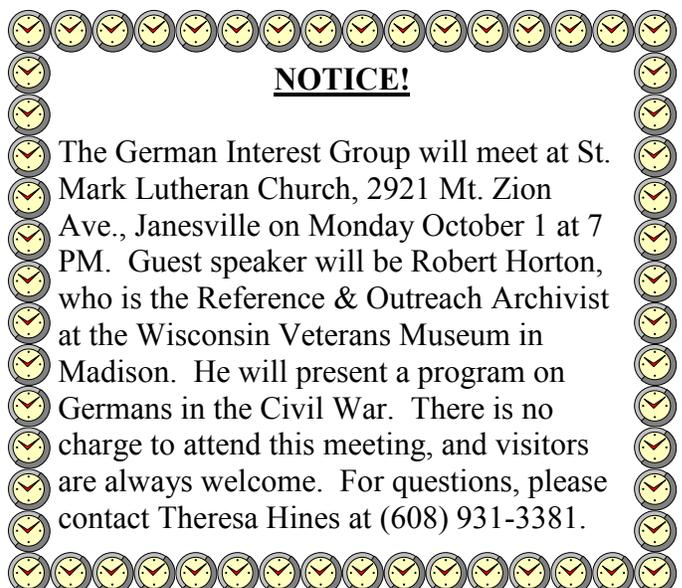
The chairmen of the village board during the period of county commissioner government were William H. Conger, 1862, 1868-69; Horatio S. Winsor 1863, 1866; and Edwin Hodges 1864-5, 1867.

Harley was born in sugar Creek Township, Walworth County, Wisconsin on February 11, 1885, the son of John A. Norris and Julia M Richardson Norris. John came to America, lived in Ohio, and married Julia M. Richardson, a native of Connecticut. John and his wife were very early settlers of Sugar Creek township.

Harley had 4 siblings: his brothers John E unmarried and died in California; William R died unmarried in Elkhorn, Daniel R lived in the Ozark region in Missouri; and sister, Elizabeth was the wife of George B. Spoor and lived at Cordova, Illinois. Harley lived on the farm with the family then moved to Elkhorn with his family when 12 years old. He attended the public schools, then clerked in his father's hardware store and assumed the business, remaining there until 1904.

He married Alice W. Allen of East Troy, in 1879. Her father Lucius and Juliet (Barnes) Allen came to Wisconsin from Ohio. Mr. Allen was a descendant of the Brewsters of "Mayflower" fame. Two children were born to the family; Edwin L., born July 8, 1880, and Lucius A. born February 10, 1890.

Harley was a very prominent citizen winning the admiration of the people with the reputation for industry, public spirit and wholesome living. He held several positions in Walworth : 4 years of Walworth county Agricultural Society, in 1908 he held the county treasurer on the Republican ticket, was village treasurer for 4 years, mayor for 2 terms- 1897 and 1902, and city clerk for 4 years. He was a conscientious and faithful public official and had been in the Republican party county and local organizations. The first five elections for Mayor were for one-year terms. Since 1902 the official term has been two years.



NOTICE!

The German Interest Group will meet at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 2921 Mt. Zion Ave., Janesville on Monday October 1 at 7 PM. Guest speaker will be Robert Horton, who is the Reference & Outreach Archivist at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison. He will present a program on Germans in the Civil War. There is no charge to attend this meeting, and visitors are always welcome. For questions, please contact Theresa Hines at (608) 931-3381.

Program Re-Cap

The Ice Cream Social in August was well attended. Chris Brookes brought in extra hats for anyone to wear and several of us took advantage. Chris Brookes' program as Mary Delafield Sturgis was very enjoyable and she really took us back in time.



Chris Brookes as Mary Delafield Sturgis.



Martha looks like she's wearing a bowl. It really is a hat.

The September meeting was our annual dinner and the program was Quaker research presented by Maureen Brady. We recorded the program and are creating DVDs for any member who would be interested in viewing. Send your requests to Mike Hay at wcvsvpres@gmail.com.

November Meeting—Round Table Discussion

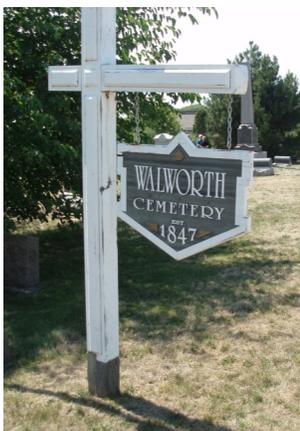
What are we doing here?

The round table discussion being planned is for all members to give their input to what will make our society better and bring in more members and keep the members we currently have. Any members who want to voice their feelings but cannot attend for whatever reason are welcome to send an email to Mike Hay at wcgsvpres@gmail.com or Martha Hay at wcgnewsletter@gmail.com. We will be happy to include your thoughts at the round table discussion. Genealogy is exciting and often frustrating. What can we do in our society to help our members? What programs can we present that will benefit our members (as well as entertain)? This is everyone's time to speak up!

So, towards these goals, we have the following points to ponder...

- What would our members like to see?
- In 2009, the society had a program about WorldCat, a global catalog of library collections. Would we be interested in another program about this excellent source for books, CDs, and videos or would we want a workshop to show us how to use WorldCat?
- We want to have workshops... What workshops do we want and who will give them?
- Should we have a program on Catholic Genealogy? Who could we get to present the program?
- We know that everyone in our group has ideas of what they would like to see and learn about. Give us your input at the round table discussion and with your help, we can move forward with these ideas.
- What do we need to do to bring in new members? All members can help with this! Spread the word.
- Remember that elections will be held at the December meeting. What kind of officers do we want? Who can be a good officer? Think about taking a role. Remember that we are all volunteers.

Village of Walworth, WI anniversary cemetery walk



Walworth County Genealogical Society had presence at the Walworth 175th anniversary cemetery walk.

Family History Fair

Saturday, September 29, 2012 9-3

...The Annual Regional Genealogy Fair...

— Public Invited — Free admission & free parking —

Burlington High School Commons, 400 McCanna Parkway, Burlington, WI 53105

Presented by the Burlington Genealogical Society, Co-hosted by Walworth County Genealogical Society

...Increase your genealogy skills

...Learn tips and ideas for building your family tree!

...Meet Historical Fiction Authors

...See Family History Projects

9:00 Registration

Exhibits, displays of Family History Projects from BGS members, silent auction, sales of genealogy materials, meet others working on their family trees. (+ Rumor has it there may be costumed visitors from other historical eras...)

9:30 “Fact and Fancy in Historical Writing”

Demuth sisters, authors of two historical fiction novels set in Racine County: *Plank Road Summer* and *Plank Road Winter*.

11 am & 1:30 Breakout Sessions

- Writing styles, writing for a specific audience, creating interesting narratives; Demuth sisters, authors of historical fiction
- Genealogy 101, basic research technologies for Genealogy; Dick Ammann, Genealogist and Museum archivist
- The DAR & Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution organizations; Nancy Lehman
- How to use the Family Search program on the Internet & what’s available at the LDS Churches; Priscilla and Marshall Wren, Co-Directors, Elkhorn Family History Center

Noon: Overview of Special Exhibits and Exhibitors.

Lunch available for purchase from the Grater Tater on site, or take a quick trip to local Burlington Restaurants in Historic Downtown

Afternoon Break: Door prizes throughout the day, silent auction, exhibits, visit booths, unique family history projects on display, meet others.

Door Prizes and Silent Auction items include: One Year membership to the Burlington Genealogical Society, Two Gift Certificates for the Town Fryer, Flower arrangements, Seasonal Baskets, Special Gift bags, Genealogy Books & related items.

For more information Contact Bonnie: 262 634-8815

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wiburlgs/>

All information subject to change

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE BY WCGS

Walworth Co. Probate Record Index - 1848-1930	\$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
Button-Kronwall Family Scrapbook (Linn & Bloomfield, & Hebron, IL Township)	\$25.00
Walworth County Pre-1907 Death Index	\$22.00
BLOOMFIELD - Hillside Cemetery- Genoa City	\$23.00
DARIEN - Darien Cemetery	\$22.00
DELANAV - Delavan Area Cemeteries (Spring Grove, Old Settlers, St. Andrews, Arboretum and some church burials)	\$ 3.50
East Delavan Union Cemetery	\$25.00
World War I Service Records (Delavan Area only, includes every name index)	\$20.00
History of Delavan School 1982 - index only	\$18.00
Delavan Sesquicentennial Supplement	\$20.00
Images of America- Delavan	\$20.00
EAST TROY - Oak Ridge Cemetery	\$18.00
ELKHORN - Hazel Ridge Cemetery	\$20.00
Mount Pleasant Cemetery	\$15.00
Images of America-Elkhorn	\$20.00
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	\$12.00
LAGRANGE -LaGrange Pioneers (reprint of 3600 names, full index)	\$27.00
LaGrange Township Cemeteries	\$10.00
RICHMOND - Richmond & East Richmond Cemeteries	\$10.00
SHARON - Oakwood	\$15.00
SPRING PRAIRIE - Hickory Grove	\$25.00
SUGAR CREEK - Millard Cemetery	\$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)	\$18.00
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: \$2.00 for the 1st book and \$1.00 for each additional
 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 \$12 individual, \$15.00 family, \$7.00 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.

WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

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OTHERS: Newsletter Editor: Martha Hay wcgsnewsletter@gmail.com				
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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 or 262-728-6182

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

****Dues are \$12 for an individual, \$15.00 for a family, \$25 contributing, \$7 student.

MEMBERS: Want email meeting minutes or not?? Contact Kay - wcgs04@yahoo.com

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

E-Mail us at societynews@walworthcgs.com

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