



Walworth County Genealogical Society



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Sept-Oct 2018

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 262-723-9150.

2018 Meetings/Activities



Sept 22nd—11am to 1pm. Cemetery Walk, Hillside Cemetery, 418 S. Wisconsin Street, Whitewater.

Oct 2nd—6:30 pm. , **Black Point-Remarkable Women of Geneva Lake** by Chris Brookes, Delavan Community Center

October 26, 10:00 AM work day at WCGS Library

Nov. 6—6:30 pm, **Pre-planning Your Funeral**, by Andy Haase, Haase Lockwood Funeral Homes-Delavan Community Center

Dec 4th— **5:30 pm!** , Christmas Dinner Party— Ham, Beef, Chicken provided, Pot Luck— Take Away Bingo.

Dec 6th - 1:30 pm, Board Meeting, , Delavan

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www.facebook.com/wcwgcs

A heartfelt welcome to new member Jennifer Motszko-She is the new archivist at UW-Whitewater, we are happy to have her join us as our new connection to the Research Library.





From the President's Desk



Chris Brookes & Martha Hay- WCGS Co-Presidents

Good food. Good fun. Good friends. Our 30th Annual Dinner was a great success. And the Board Meeting the following Thursday reflected people's satisfaction. However, only 18 members attended so there was some conversation on how to increase participation in an event that celebrates our society. Over the years we have also had some interesting programs after the dinner, and this year was no exception. Thanks to Karen Weston, we were able to visit the Whitewater Historical Society Museum after hours. Highly recommended to those who haven't been there. So that brings us to the question: how would you like to celebrate our Annual Dinner? Look inside this newsletter for a Suggestion Box and bring your ideas to the next meeting or send us an email with your ideas.

The September meeting of the board marked Mike Hay's final Board Meeting as a voting member, after 8 years. Did you know, Mike and Martha are the first ones to Delavan every month to pick up the key to the Community Room, and the last to leave after they lock up and drop the key back at the bank's night drop? They bring the coffee maker, most of the refreshments, supplies, sign-in materials, reports, AND they staff the library twice a month. Thanks from all of us for all you have done for the Society. We hope you stay involved.

On another note: I spent the Labor Day weekend laboring over my family tree, trying to extend some lines another generation or two. By just typing a person's name into a Google search, some sites popped up that I haven't used before. Have you used WikiTree.com? I found a biography of my 3rd great-grandfather there! What about geni.com? It's owned by MyHeritage but offers a different way to search a surname other than Ancestry or Family Search. Have you had success on a site you recommend? Please let us know in the Suggestion Box.

Here's a link to 50 Free Genealogy Sites to Search Today: <https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-resources/50-free-genealogy-sites/>

The calendar for the last quarter of the year includes:

OCTOBER 2 – 6:30 PM – another program from Black Point Estate Speakers Bureau:
“Remarkable Women of Geneva Lake”

SAVE THE DATE: Friday, October 26, 10:00 AM work day at WCGS Library

NOVEMBER 6 – 6:30 PM – Program: “Pre-planning Your Funeral” by Andy Haase, Haase-Lockwood & Associates

DECEMBER 4 – 5:30 PM - Elections and Christmas Party (Ham, Beef, Chicken entrees) Take away bingo

DECEMBER 6 – 1:30 PM – **BOARD MEETING** – *with new Board*

See you at the meeting!

Chris

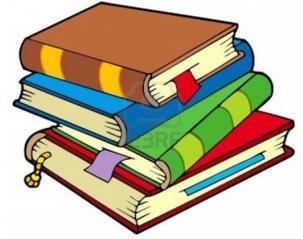


Martha's co-comments:

Our 30th annual dinner was very good and all those who came seemed to enjoy themselves. I can't help being a little disappointed that more of the local members did not attend. The annual dinner is a time for us to really get to know each other and to share what's going on in our lives. Meeting nights are usually very busy with the society business and then the program. We don't often get to “let down our hair” with each other.

The summer is almost over, and after the horrible heat and humidity of the last month we can only wonder what the autumn is going to be like. I'm not looking forward to early snowfall.

WCGS Library Page



Library Report:

The following is a list of some of the books and materials added to the WCGS Library so far this year.

Family Genealogy Surnames : BASSLER, COLE, CONGER, HOLLINGER, MANDIGO, McLEAN, MONTAGUE, MONTANYE, RECKNAGEL, ROBINSON, ROWE.

Walworth County Books: Beautiful Lake Geneva, Delavan Churches-Anniversary and Homecoming Program, History of Tibbets School, Annals of Lake Geneva 1835-1897, White-water Register Obits, Norwegians and their church.

Jefferson County: Bride and Groom Indexes, Jefferson County cemeteries, Bibliography History of Jefferson County.

Rock County: Evergreen Cemetery in Albion

Racine and Kenosha County History -1879

Old Crawford County Wisconsin Index

Wisconsin: History of Wisconsin American Legion, Counties of Wisconsin COW book, revised.

Newspapers: Hi-Liter July-Dec 1956, Aug-Dec 1960, Sep-Dec 1983

Other states: History of Tennessee, New Hampshire Marriage and Intentions 1709-1961, Concord, Massachusetts-American Town, Plymouth County Massachusetts Probate Index 1686-1881, Green County New York Detailed Census 1855,

Germany: Census Records 1816-1916, Trace German Roots Online.

Submitted by Diana Bird

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

They will be delighted to hear from you!



Lodewycke VanderMark

Newly Discovered Ancestor

I recently discovered a biography of my paternal third great-grandfather on WikiTree.com. Lodewycke VanderMark was born 28 February 1760 in Rochester, Ulster County, New York. At age 16 he served in the American Revolution as a Drummer Boy “in the company of Capt. Benjamin Cartright, Col. Levi Pawlding in May 1776 at Rochester and was at the capture of Burgoyne in 1777. He also served four or five months in 1778.”

Lodewycke married Charity Van Auken in Pennsylvania in 1783 and had three children: Frederick, James, and Experience (nicknamed Spiddy) before they moved to Phelps, NY in 1792. The move involved a “cavalcade of wagons loaded with goods and people, the horses, oxen, five sows and a dozen sheep.” When they came to the Susquehanna River, almost everything, except Mrs. VanderMark, was loaded on flat boats. As she was not a good sailor, she preferred to stay on land and take a “trail along Seneca Lake through what it now Seneca County to the half-Indian village which was Geneva.”

Just think, my own Geneva Lake was named by a surveyor from Seneca, New York who was reminded of a lake in his home state of New York, and when he was working here, the area was populated by the Pottawatomi Indians who created the trail around our lake. An amazing series of connections I just had to share!

To finish the story: Charity’s journey took two days on horseback. She carried Spiddy in her arms and drove all the livestock. One young hired helper accompanied her. She reunited with the rest of the family to complete the trip from Pennsylvania to Geneva, New York. They waited there for two days for Lodewycke’s brother to come from Phelps to take them to their new home.

Son Frederick, at age 19, built a saw mill and a stone mill, known as Howe’s Mill, in Phelps. Two more children were born there: William and Silas (my second grand-grandfather). All of the family was buried in the old VanDermark burial ground.
Source: *Vandermark Family History*, by Bovey. 1942.



AROUND THE COUNTY TIDBITS

by Shirley Sisk

Delavan – Last Sunday, George Collie, residing near the lake shore, stepped out of his carriage to turn a cow into the yard, leaving his horse unhitched, when it started to run. Mr. Collie made a dash to get hold of the lines, and in doing so, was knocked down between the wheels, one of which passed over his body, inflicting quite severe injuries. A Physician was summoned, who, on examination found that three of his ribs were broken, besides the bruises sustained. He is 77 years old, and has been badly afflicted with asthma for a number of years, and it is feared this mishap will be a serious affair with him. At the present time he is quite comfortable considering what he passed through. (The Delavan Enterprise, April 29, 1897)

Tibbets – James Parsons commenced making sorghum, Wednesday.----- Messrs. West and Fountain are at the State Fair with their exhibition of farm products.-----Mrs. Ashton Davis, who has been under the doctor's care for some time is able to ride out again.-----Frank Fish, wife and family drove out from Milwaukee and spent last week visiting the Weaver and Loomer families here and at Millard.-----Mrs. John Lauderdale and Mrs. A. Morris entertained the Nott, Mosher and Foster families to dinner at the home of the latter, one day the first of the week. (The Enterprise, Delavan, Wis., Thursday, September 23, 1897)

North Walworth – Mr. Thomas Lackey and son, took business trip to Janesville, one day last week.-----Mr. John Lackey, has recently purchased of Mr. Weed of Delavan, 100 acres of land joining his father's farm on the south. No doubt John intends to make a pleasant home for some nice young lady.-----

-----Mr. O. Salisbury of Linn was the guest of H. A. Trumble last Wednesday and Thursday.-----Miss Mary Wyckoff, is canvassing for a cook book in Lake Geneva.-----Our early spring had a sudden freeze up, last Friday.-----R. S. Trumble and C. A. Bassett each lost a cow last Saturday, the former by its eating too much ground feed, and the latter by breaking a leg.-----Mrs. W. C. Van Velzer, son and daughter of Delavan, visited at Mr. R. S. Trumble's a couple of days last week. (Delavan Enterprise, Wednesday, April 3, 1889)

East Troy – Mr. T. H. Concklin is likely to become a resident of the Cream City. Having steady work there he may take his family also.-----"Elkhorn John" and "Mabel F." were stretching their limbs on the Waukesha race course last week. Some of the "boys" were over to see the fun. How much money the horses won we know not.-----The meeting of the G.A.R. at Detroit, this week, will call out a few of the members of Henry Concklin Post. O. F. Winne, H. H. Rogers and F. Rheimer are among them.-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 Street 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.-----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. (The Delavan Republican, Wed., August 5, 1891)



NEW FEATURE! Member Stories to Share



We know you all have unique family stories, and we would like to hear about a story you think others would find interesting. It doesn't have to be about someone famous or notorious, whatever you want to contribute is welcome. Please keep it short so I can get at least two to three on a page. I know you like to tell family stories, we all do, so let's share!

"We've uncovered some embarrassing ancestors in the not-too-distant past. Some horse thieves, and some people killed on Saturday nights. One of my relatives, unfortunately, was even in the newspaper business." — **Jimmy Carter**



From Martha Hay:

The half 2nd cousin 6 times removed of Martha Hay, was Staats Morris Dyckman. Staats (pronounced "States") was born in 1755 and was a Loyalist during the Revolution. When the war broke out, he traveled to England and worked as a quartermaster for the English. Unfortunately, for the English, he was a bit of a thief and managed to keep some of the money set aside for the troop supplies that they often didn't get what they needed to fight the colonists. After the war, he returned to New York and began building a mansion near Peekskill, NY which he called Boscobel. When money grew short, he returned to England and sued for back pay. It took about two years, but he won the suit and got his back pay. Lucky for him, they either didn't know he had been stealing or it was so rampant by all the quartermasters that it was never investigated. He returned to New York, but died before Boscobel was completed so he never slept a single night in his mansion. Perhaps his thievery helped the colonists win. We'll never know.

A distant cousin of Mike Hay liked to smoke a pipe. This cousin was a woman and in those days it was considered "unseemly" for a woman to smoke. She would never smoke her pipe near the house or around any other people, so would use the excuse that she was going to get the mail out by the road. One day she went out to wait for mail and was smoking her pipe when she saw the mailman coming down the road. She thought that she had tapped the fire out and hurriedly put the pipe in her apron pocket. Unfortunately, the pipe had not gone out and the apron caught on fire. She was unable to get the apron off before her clothing was caught up in the fire and she perished. We wonder how many times she had successfully

Member Stories Continued:

From Judy Rockwell:

A snapshot of life in and near the Black Hills in 1890 from my grandfather's diary

My grandfather, Cyrus Barnett Johnson, was traveling back and forth between the farm in Bear Butte Valley about 10 miles east of Sturgis, South Dakota and my great grandfather's sawmill in Boulder Park between Sturgis and Deadwood. The spelling and punctuation are his! The italics are my comments.

January 19, Wednesday (*at the mill*)

Father went to Sturgis with my team, he had them shod. Run the mill some this after-noon Everybody is sick with a cold pheimony or La gripe it is the sicklyist time that I have ever know of in this country

February 15 Saturday (*at the mill*)

Team ran away with me broke boath waggens

March 21 Thursday (*at the farm*)

Irvy (his brother) helped me finish the well today. We started to clean the well out at the barn but could not on account of the sent (scent), it smell worse than a skunk and almost like one.

April 27 Sunday (*at the farm*)

Read the newspapers, baked biscuit, stewed apple-sauce and rested

November 4, Tuesday (*at the farm*)

Worked in the house Voated for the first time. (*He was 21 and this was the first year South Dakota was a state*)

December 19 Friday (*at the mill*)

Did nothing Mr. Sparkes went to the Valley, his family sent for him I gues they wer afraid indians would rade the valley. Bub Summers took May and the children hoame.

Sitting Bull had been killed on December 15.

December, Monday 29 (*at the farm*)

Went to the valley for hay, found Mrs. Sparkes and five of her children in my house. About half past eight in the eavning Mrs. Springer came oaver and said that a soldier had been at her place and told her that there had been a fight with the indians that one officer and soldier had been killed and fifteen wounded that set the Sparkeses wild so Mrs. Springer took them home with her.

The Massacre at Wounded Knee at the Pine Ridge Reservation by the 7th Cavalry had killed 150 Indians about half women and children that day.

December 31, Wednesday (*at the mill*)

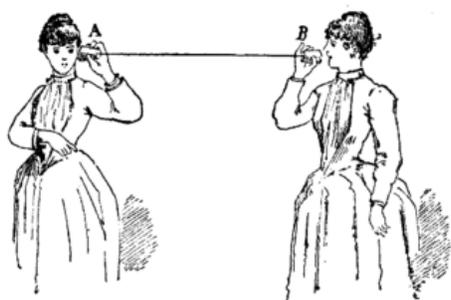
One moar year gon and not much moar happier, richer or wiser for it have been paddling my own canoe since last march by don't find anything easy or pleasand about it and the loo of things ahead is not veary plesant A twenty-five hindred debt on my hands and only three hundred of it payed this year yet I will get there in about eight years not veary pleasant to think of is it

Member Stories Continued:

From Shirley Sisk:

My great-great grandfather, Charles Napoleon Blake married Augusta Butterfield, who was the first public school teacher in Dodge County, Wisconsin. Their only child, William C. Blake, was born in 1857. Charles was in his 30's when he went south during the Civil War to assist as a civilian engineer with the Federal forces. He never returned home after the war, stayed in the south near Wartrace, Tennessee. Charles wrote letters home to his young son back in Fox Lake, Wis., always with excuses why he couldn't come to see him or send money, etc. No divorce record found in Dodge County. In those days it was much easier to walk away and start over. My daughter, Sharyn, traced Charles N. Blake in census records in Tennessee and Texas, but was he really "our" C. N. Blake? New wife – new family. Sharyn found his burial place in Texas and went to see it in the middle of nowhere, but was he "ours"? My brother, Dale, had the DNA test done through Ancestry and guess what! One of Charles' descendants also did a DNA Ancestry test and matched up as "a 4th to 6th cousin match, with a high degree of confidence". Sharyn looked at this cousin's family tree and there he was, Charles N. Blake, with the correct birth date, so he is "ours".

Postscript: Also William C. Blake's son, Rev. William Blake, born around 1900-1, wrote the book "Cross and Flame in Wisconsin", which is the story of United Methodism in the Badger State, copyright, 1973. Also Rev. Blake was my grandma's brother, and he married my parents in 1930.



Other Society News to Report

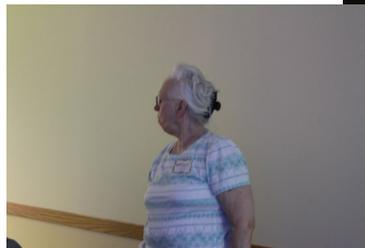
KCGS– Kenosha County Genealogical Society is looking for photo volunteers at St George Cemetery, 2901 Sheridan Rd, Kenosha, WI on 7 different dates from July 27th To October 19th. Please visit their web page at <http://www.kengensoc.com> and /or Facebook page for dates and times.

WCGS AUGUST 2018 ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND GENEALOGY JEOPARDY MEETING

If you are under the impression that genealogical meetings can be dull, you are very much mistaken. Thanks to Karen Weston we have enjoyed playing Genealogy Jeopardy for the 2nd time at our August Ice Cream Social meeting, it is sooo much fun! I knew the competition was tough, but we laughed a lot and learned new information. I could have played for another hour. Karen also generously donated the cost of the Gift Cards given as prizes. Don't miss this meeting next year! Jeopardy and Ice Cream, perfect combination for fun!



Growing the Country	Native Americans	Abbreviations	Trails	Sources												
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200	200	200	200	200												
300	300	300	300	300												
400	400	400	400	400												
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WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL DINNER
2018
30TH ANNUAL DINNER, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH
841 BREW HOUSE RESTAURANT
WHITEWATER WI



This N' That

From Karen Memory:

Subject: Only 100 Years Ago

This is really fun and interesting to read. Hard to believe but true.

The year was 1918. This will boggle your mind. "One hundred years ago."

What a difference a century makes!

Here are some statistics for the Year 1918:

The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.

Fuel for cars was sold in drug stores only.

Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.

The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.

The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year.

A dentist \$2,500 per year

A veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year.

And, a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births took place at home

Ninety percent of all Doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION!

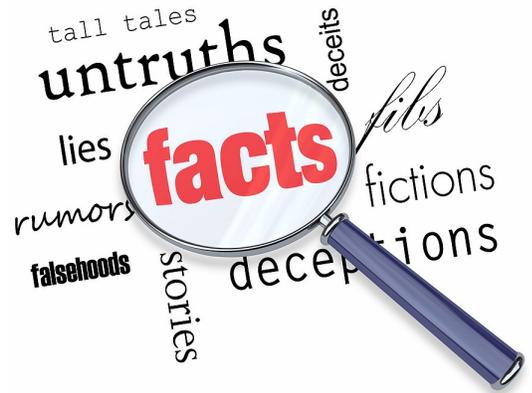
Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press AND the government as "substandard."

Sugar cost four cents a pound.

Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.

Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

Most women only washed their hair once a month, and, used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo.



SUGGESTION BOX FOR 2019

Please take a moment or two and fill out this quick survey for the benefit of the Board of Directors so they can make informed decisions about choosing activities and programs that are held during the year. You can turn it in during the next meeting on October 2nd, mail it to WCGS, PO box 189, Delavan WI 53115-0159, or reply to the WCGSnewsletter.com address and I will forward your responses to the Board, thank you.

Annual Dinner 2019 to be held at:

- ♦ At a restaurant?
- ♦ Catered?
- ♦ Pot Luck?
- ♦ Other?

Favorite Genealogy Websites ?

Ideas for future programs/fund raising events?

How can you help your Society?

- ♦ Officer
- ♦ Board Member
- ♦ WCGS Library
- ♦ Other ideas?

WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

CO-PRESIDENTS	Martha Hay Chris Brookes	455 Fellows Road 721 S. Curtis St. #139	Genoa City, WI Lake Geneva, WI	wcgspres@gmail.com cbrookes@wi.rr.com
VICE-PRESIDENT	Karen Weston	9601 N. Kyle Dr..	Whitewater, WI	wcgsvpres@gmail.com
SECRETARY	Marilyn Traver	473 E. Geneva St Lot 10	Elkhorn, WI	msearchin@gmail.com
TREASURER	Michael Hay	455 Fellows Road	Genoa City, WI	wcgstreasurerwi@gmail.com
DIRECTOR(S)	Diana Bird Karen Helwig Judy Rockwell Dolores Schutt		Harvard, IL Whitewater, WI Elkhorn, WI Clinton, WI	
OTHERS: Newsletter Editor: Peggy Schutt wcgsnewsletter@gmail.com				
Library Committee: Diana Bird, Judy Rockwell, and Marilyn Traver				
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, 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

DELAVAN, WI 53115-0159

P.O. BOX 159

WALWORTH COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY