



Dane County Area Genealogical Society News

April 30, 2007
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Resources at the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies and at the Norwegian American Genealogical Center

What do Germans and Norwegians have in common? Madison is home to both a German and Norwegian research center – the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies and the Norwegian American Genealogy Center. DCAGS members will have the opportunity to learn more about each Center at the May 3 DCAGS meeting.

Kevin Kurdylo, the librarian and archivist at the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies, will tell us what Max Kade

can and cannot do to help genealogists. Mr. Kurdylo's job includes everything from maintaining and adding to their collection of German-language items published in America and working on the organization's Web site, to answering reference questions, copy setting and mailing their Newsletter, and trying to keep the dust down to a minimum.

Jerry Paulson will tell us about the resources available at the Norwegian American Genealogy Center. Jerry is a familiar person to many of

us, as a member of DCAGS and the WI State Genealogical Society. He also has taught genealogy classes at MATC for 25 years. In his retirement years he joined the staff of Vesterheim Genealogical Center, which became Norwegian American Genealogical Center as of January 2007.

Please join us at the May 3, 2007 meeting at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints located at 4505 Regent, Madison, beginning at 7 p.m.

Genealogy Fair Set for September 8

DCAGS will be hosting a Genealogy Fair on September 8. The Board is looking for volunteers, including a chair for the Special Education Fair Committee. The Special Committee will work with the Program and Publicity Committees in planning the Fair. Volunteer Now!

Regular DCAGS meetings are the first Thursday of each month at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints located at 4505 Regent, Madison, Wisconsin beginning at 7 p.m.

DCAGS Update:

The DCAGS Governing Board meets the 3rd Monday of each month. The next meeting is on Monday, May 21 at 6:30 p.m. South Park Library, 2222 Park St. We invite all members to attend. Please join us!

Genealogical Research at the UW-Madison Archives

David Null, Director of the UW-Madison Archives, will joined us at our April 5 meeting to talk about resources available in the University Archives for genealogical research.

There are 356,000 living Alumni of the UW, 2000 faculty and 16,000 staff, so the UW has lots of information. David provided us with a list of materials.

Admission Papers: the Archives have admission papers starting in 1886. The papers can included biographical information as well as school transcripts.

Yearbooks. (online from 1885-1977). The first two yearbooks, 1885 and 1888 were called Trochos. It has been called the Badger since 1889. Until 1932 the Badger was done by the Junior class and

cover the year before the date on the book. For example, senior pictures in 1928 yearbook are from the class of 1927. Early years often covered athletic events from 2 years before the date on the book. Usually only undergraduates are covered. Not everyone had a senior photo included.

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Genealogical Research in the UW- Madison Archives cont...

Class Albums. From 1872 to 1890. Most classes produced a class album. All have photographs, some have autobiographies or a history of the class. Not all photos are identified.

Student Directories. There are separate directories from 1888 forward. Earlier ones were printed with the course catalog/bulletin. It lists the name, year in school, hometown and local address, etc.

Alumni Magazine. (online from 1899-1990) It has had various names – Wisconsin Alumni Magazine or Wisconsin Alumnus, Wisconsin Alumni, and now On Wisconsin. Early editions covered a lot of campus activities. Often has news from alums, such as engagements, marriages, birth announcements, new job announcements, and death notices.

Alumni directories. The main early one was published in 1921, which is available online. It covered 1849-1919, included year(s) graduated and degree(s), if living, where they were living circa 1920 and often job. There are

print directories of Wisconsin Alumni Association members from 1980 and 1990. In 2000, WAA published an All-Alumni Directory.

Commencement programs. It lists date of graduation, degrees conferred.

Transcripts. The Archives do not have transcripts, but they are available at the Office of Register, see, <http://ordertranscript.wisc.edu/faq.php>

A question was asked about theses. The Master Theses are housed in the libraries.

Faculty and Staff

David said there is more information on faculty generally. Some are listed in the Yearbooks and Alumni Magazine.

Faculty (and some staff) employment cards. (1948-1950) Lists positions held, salaries, sometimes other information. Includes references to actions to the Board of Regents minutes.

Staff directories. Separate directories from 1888 on. Earlier ones were printed with the course catalog/bulletin. Usually include

rank, department, and home address.

University budgets. 1984 to present. Show employees by department, with position and salary information.

Biographical files. The Archives has over 6000 biographical files on University faculty and staff. They range from 1 page to multiple folders which can be several inches thick.

Other Materials. The Archives also has Memorabilia Files (arranged by date), student scrapbooks (around 50 ranging from the 1850s in the 1930s), *The Daily Cardinal* from its beginning in 1892 and much more.

Other Sources: Wisconsin Alumni Association, <http://www.uwalumni.com/> University of Wisconsin Digital Collections, <http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/>

The Archives is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Memorial and Steenbock Libraries or go online at <http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/UW>. The collection will eventually all be housed in the Steenbock Library. So, take some time to visit the Archives!

Puzzle of the Month is a new feature. It is a great way to share what we know. A member may submit (on a 4 x 6 card) a basic puzzle and give it to a program committee member. At each meeting a new puzzle will be announced and any member can offer direction, an answer or you can bring the info to the next meeting. Each puzzle of the month will be printed in this newsletter as well as the answer/solution to last month's puzzle. Everybody learns!

Puzzle of the Month

On the question from last month, relating to what is the proper county to list as the place of death when the person lived in one county, was involved in a car accident in another county, which resulted in

being transported to a third county where he was declared dead. It was suggested that the county that issued the death certificate maybe the proper county to list as place of death.

The Puzzle for May: "What do I need to do to preserve my family history?"

If you have a suggestion or idea, bring it to the May 3 meeting.

Upcoming Events

Expand Your German Research

When: Saturday, July 14, 2007

Where: Greenhill Center of the Arts, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater, WI

Featured Speaker: Larry O. Jensen of Salt Lake City, Utah

Sponsored by the German Interest Group-Wisconsin

Registrations postmarked by July 1st are guaranteed lunch and a syllabus. For more information and a registration form go to: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wigig/index.html>.

2007 FGS Conference "Meeting at the Crossroads of America"

When: August 15-18, 2007

Where: Fort Wayne, Indiana

For full information, including the complete program schedule and registration materials, go to: <http://www.fgsconference.org/>. Early registration deadline is June 1. WSGS

is running a bus to the FGS conference; it will probably stop in Windsor to pick up passengers from the Madison area. See www.wsgs.org for more details.

The Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International 11th bi-annual Genealogical/Cultural Conference

When: October 18-20, 2007

Where: Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall in Madison

Go to: <http://www.cgsi.org/whatsnew.asp?inEventID=398> to learn more.

The Illinois State Genealogical Society 2007 Conference

When: October 20, 2007

Where: Elmhurst, Illinois

The Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Fall 2007 Seminar

When: October 27, 2007

Where: Wausau, Wisconsin

Featured speaker: J. Mark Lowe.

Site to Behold

Did your ancestors ever live in Chicago or anywhere in Cook, County Illinois? If so you are going to love this site. It is great!! All you need is the address of the house and if it's still standing, you'll be able to get and save or print a Photo of it. Not only can you get the photo, but it will give you the description of the property, the assessed value, and the age of the property and the approx. price it would sell for. You can also get a map of the lot that the house sits on and the map allows you to zoom in or out. Try out this great new link. If you do not have the address for your ancestor, try looking for it in the census. <http://www.cookcountyassessor.com/filings/searchflat/search.asp>.

I was able to find my husband's grandparent's home, so happy house hunting!

By Pat Skubis

President's Message

Spring Greetings to all of you and a big thank you to David Null for his interesting program on "What's available at the UW-Madison Archives" and what can be found at the UW Digital Collection Center. Finding records like report cards, admission papers, yearbooks and student directories can help us learn more about our ancestors. This information fills in the spaces between birth and death and makes the ancestor's life come alive. It's the neat stuff that we probably did not know since most of us did not get to see our parents' report cards!

The Genealogy Fair Committee held its first meeting this past week. Pat Stone, Ruth Simpson, Sandra Donner and myself form the

core committee. We will be asking others to participate in various assignments between now and the Genealogy Fair scheduled for September 8. I want to thank those who have already volunteered to help.

Be sure to check our coming events and note our July meeting will now be the second Thursday of the month, July 12, because of the July 4th Holiday. Since this is a picnic outing to the Dane County Historical Society, be sure to mark the change on your calendar.

I would also like to thank Anne Woodson for showing me the software and online sites she uses to search for Swedish ancestors. I really appreciate all the information

we were able to locate on my Swedish ancestors. It filled in some blanks and also let me locate three people in Sweden who are somehow related to my family. If you have Swedish ancestors and would like to know more about the programs that she uses, she would be happy to help you get started. Thanks again Anne, I am waiting to hear from Sweden.

If you get a chance, check out some of the conferences being held close by. The recent WSGS conference in Oconomowoc was great and I know I enjoyed learning something new.

I hope to see all of you on May 3rd.

Pat Skubis

Volunteers Needed

Two volunteers are needed to serve on the Audit Committee. The Committee will review the financial records of the prior year. Contact Pat Skubis if you can serve on this committee.

Dane County Area Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 5652
Madison, WI 53705-0652



Address Service Requested

We're on the Web!

See us at: www.dcags.org



**Dane County Area
Genealogical Society**

P.O. Box 5652
Madison, WI 53705-0652

**See you
May 3**

We have a new web
address: www.dcags.org.
If you enter the address it
will take you to the
group's website on
Rootsweb.

DCAGS officers for 2007: Standing Committee Chairs

President
Pat Skubis
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Vice President
Pat Stone
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Secretary
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**Mark your calendars on
July 12!**

The DCAGS will be visiting the Dane County Historical Society at the Lussier Family Heritage Center at Lake Farm County Park on Thursday, July 12 from 5 to 8 p.m. (The meeting will be on the 12th to avoid a conflict with the July 4th Holiday.)

Members are encouraged to bring a picnic at 5:00 p.m. We can either eat inside or outside depending on the weather. (The room is air conditioned.)

Beginning at 6:30 p.m. Debbie Kmetz, the cataloguing coordinator of the Dane County Historical Society, will show a sampling from the various collections – post office records, 4-H Club and Homemakers' Club records and student newspapers from Central High students in Madison.