



# Dane County Area Genealogical Society News

## *David McDonald Presents "Polly's Family: From New England to the Plains and Beyond" at May 1 Meeting*

David McDonald will be the guest speaker at the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of DCAGS. His presentation is entitled: "Polly's Family: From New England to the Plains and Beyond." David will be telling us about migration from New England to the Midwest and beyond.

David McDonald's research specialty is in the "Old Northwest," those states (or parts thereof) formed from the "Territory Northwest of the River Ohio": Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. In addition to these

states, David has conducted extensive research in neighboring states, such as Kentucky, Iowa, Missouri and Pennsylvania and elsewhere across the United States. He has research interests in transcontinental migrations of New England families, the effective use of Christian church records and repositories, and fraternal organizations and societies and their records of genealogical interest.

David has more than twenty-five years' research experience throughout the

United States, Canada, and in various European countries, particularly the British Isles and Germany.

David is a Certified Genealogist<sup>sm</sup> under the auspices of the Board for Certification of Genealogists<sup>sm</sup>. He is also a volunteer proctor for the National Genealogical Society's Home Study course.

Please join us May 1, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at 4505 Regent Street, Madison, WI.

April 30, 2008

Volume 2, Issue 8

Upcoming June 5 Program:  
"The story of the mysterious photos taken in the 1800's by two Madison photographers"  
by Pat Skubis

## *Family Tree Maker*

Family Tree Maker 2008 was the subject at the April 3 DCAGS meeting and Walker Crawford was our guide.

Family Tree Maker is a very popular program and Ancestry.com recently revised the program in 2008, integrating it with other features of Ancestry.com.

Under the tab "People" Walker showed us how to enter information on the page. On the screen you are allowed the option of three views: pedigree, family and individual. You can easily

navigate generations. The program allows you to customize your facts by adding different fields. It allows you to attach photos, documents and audio and video files.

Walker also said there is a Timeline feature that highlights personal and family events integrating them with world events that occurred during your ancestors' lives.

Walker showed us a planning tool for sorting and managing your to-do list and what tasks need to be accomplished.

Another feature is Places. It allows you to input places on a map and it then can list the people associated with the place. The place authority within the program has more than 3 million place names that helps you correctly enter locations.

A large interactive map, powered by Microsoft Virtual Earth, allows you to format your map as a road map, a satellite photograph or a combination of the two. You will be able to print the map.

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***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.***

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***DCAGS Update:***

***The DCAGS Governing Board meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. The next meeting is on Monday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m. South Park Library, 2222 Park St. We invite all members to attend. Please join us!***

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## Family Tree Maker continued...

There is a Media tab, which allows you to scan a picture and manage it in one place, although it can be attached to multiple people. The feature also allows you to enter a caption and date, which will stay with the photo. These features make it easy to manage photos and other media files and incorporate them into charts and reports.

Walker explained there is an excellent sources tab. Once again you only have to enter the information once and it can be used in multiple places. There is also standardized criteria for rating your sources.

The program allows you to print reports and charts. Walker explained that when Family Tree Maker 2008 was first released it offered fewer options than previous Family Tree Maker programs for reports and charts. However, there are patches available to upgrade the program and additional charts are being added.

Right now the following charts are available:

1. Pedigree
2. Descendant
3. Relationship
4. Hourglass chart
5. Genealogy Ahnentafel report
6. Genealogy register report

You can also create heirloom-quality books using the new Ancestry Press self-publishing tool. The types of books available are a family history book, a photo book or a scrapbook. You can also order Family Tree posters. Walker included a product details page in his handout.

A couple of other features in Family Tree Maker are:

A web clipper that lets you merge data from anywhere on the web into your tree.

The ability to import data from other genealogy programs, including Personal Ancestral File, The Master Genealogist and

Legacy Family Tree.

You'll receive an immediate alert if Family Tree Maker detects a potential problem with your entry including unlikely dates and duplicate records.

If you go online, [www.familytreemaker.com/](http://www.familytreemaker.com/) there is a training video on the program featuring Megan Smolenyak and a tutorial.

There is a 14-day free trial subscription to Ancestry.com.

Family Tree Maker 2008 retails for \$39.95 and requires a Windows XP/Vista operating system.

One user in the audience, although an owner of Family Tree Maker 2008, said she reverted to her previous version, FTM 16, due to perceived shortcomings and advised others to delay purchasing 2008 software until it was fully improved and corrected.

## Last Call: Newberry Library Trip

This is the last call for you to sign up for the DCAGS bus trip to do genealogical research at the Newberry Library in Chicago on Saturday, July 12. The Newberry Library is regarded as being in the top tier of genealogical research resources in the U.S. The sign-up deadline is May 1. Cost of the minibus (with bathroom) will be about \$20-30 per person. The Newberry Library staff offers an orientation and guidance, but because the library operates on a closed stack system participants will need to use the [online catalog](#) to develop their requests. A lounge provides space for eating bag lunches. The very informative website is available at [www.newberry.org](http://www.newberry.org).

Why would you want to visit the Newberry when there is such a fine genealogical library in Madison?

No library can have everything. The Wisconsin Historical Society Library has a

wonderful collection for North American history, but has very little material relating to European history. You can see what the Newberry considers to be its particular strengths for family historians by viewing their "Genealogy at the Newberry Library" web page at [newberry.org/genealogy/collections.html](http://newberry.org/genealogy/collections.html). Among other guides mentioned on this web page are [Chicago Church and Synagogue Records](#), [Chicago Neighborhood Research Guide](#), and ethnic group and country guides for [Bohemian](#), [English](#), [Germanic](#), [Hispanic](#), [Irish](#), [Italian](#), [Jewish](#), [Norwegian](#), [Polish](#), and [Swedish](#). If you are considering participating in this trip, you will definitely want to do some research on the Newberry website ahead of time, either from your own personal computer or from a library computer. You should view the [Research at the Newberry Library](#) web page, paying particular attention to the

discussion about what parts of their collection are NOT in the main online catalog.

If you want to do research at the Newberry, why would you want to go on this bus trip?

Simple!– 1) to leave the driving and parking to someone else, 2) to share a day of research with other congenial folks from DCAGS, and 3) to save some money (gas and parking for a normal car would run about \$50 for a similar trip). Somewhere between fifteen and twenty-five participants are needed to make this trip feasible. If you want to join in, contact Pat Skubis at (608) 424-3919 or [p318skubis@hughes.net](mailto:p318skubis@hughes.net) no later than Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> (preferably before the evening meeting). We need pretty firm commitments, not just "Maybe?"s, by this date. Note: this trip – if it "flies" – will be handled as a subsidized membership benefit; non-members interested in joining us on the trip will be asked to pay membership dues for 2008.

## Upcoming events

### *Profiles of German Emigrants*

What: The German Interest Group-WI is sponsoring a German Workshop titled "Profiles of German Emigrants" Featured speaker will be Baerbel Johnson who is a professional genealogist and works at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

When: July 12, 2008

Where: The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater campus.

Registration:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wigig>

### *Fitchburg Days – A Celebration of Our Irish History*

When: May 16-18

Where: McKee Farms Park, Fitchburg, WI

What: From noon until 5 pm on Saturday Mary Kay and Patricia Geyh will be at the Irish Genealogy Table in the Cultural Tent, offering expert

assistance on tracking down your Irish ancestors. Also on Saturday, at 2:00 pm the Fitchburg Historical Society will give a half-hour presentation on "The Early Irish Settlers." Starting at 1:00 pm on Sunday, there will be three one-hour Historic Fitchburg Trolley Tours.

For more information:

<http://fitchburgdays.com/>

### *Footprints of Family History*

What: The Federation of Genealogical Societies Annual Conference for Genealogists

When: September 3-6, 2008

Where: Philadelphia, PA

Registration Information:

[www.fgsconference.org](http://www.fgsconference.org) Early registration due by June 2.

### *Cornish Genealogy Seminar*

What: The Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society and the Cornish Society of Greater Milwaukee are

hosting a genealogy conference on Cornish Genealogy.

When: September 26-27, 2008

Where: Comfort Inn, Mineral Point, WI

Registration Information:

[www.cornishfest.org](http://www.cornishfest.org)

### *Genealogy Classes for the Fall at the Wisconsin Historical Society*

Advance Notice: The Wisconsin Historical Society Library and Archives will offer the following classes this fall: "Ancestry.com," "From Daguerreotype to Digital File: Organizing and Caring for Family and Personal Photos," "Oh Darned! Where Did I Put Uncle George? Keeping Track of Your Family," and "Immigration and Naturalization Research."

Registration information will be placed on the WHS website when dates are confirmed:

<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/classes/>

## *Visit from a German Relative by Joyce Nigbor*

A distant German relative of mine, Thilo Proff, became interested in genealogy three months ago. He is very good with English and the computer (he will soon be appointed Director of the ProSieben TV Station in Munich, Germany) so while searching the Internet, he found the web page for the German Interest Group - Wisconsin. I am a member of that group, and he found that I was looking for Proff relatives from Oberdollendorf, Germany just as he was so he e-mailed me. For some reason two e-mails did not go through, but he

persevered and sent one to the German Interest Group. They forwarded his March 18 e-mail to me.

We communicated back and forth, and he told me he was on an "Ancestry.com tour of the US and Canada (Minnesota, Iowa, Saskatchewan, California, etc.), and would really like to meet living family members in the US or Canada. I wrote back and said it was too bad that he had already "done" the midwest (at the time he was heading for Canada), but if he wanted to meet a living relative why not stop in Chicago on his way back

to Germany, and my husband and I would drive down to see him.

He wrote back saying that he was canceling the California part of his trip, and coming to visit me. So he flew to Chicago on March 31, and rented a car to drive to Madison. My husband and I took him out to eat, and then he and I spent over two hours comparing notes on the Proff/Asbach family before he left the following day. We had a wonderful time together, and I am sure it will be a contact that will be mutually profitable for years to come. Viva the computer and organizations!!

## *President's Message*

Judging from the weather the past few days, it may almost be safe to say that spring has finally arrived and I am sure we are all very happy to see the grass turn green, the early flowers bloom and the return of our summer song birds.

It was nice to see so many of you

turn out to hear Walker Crawford's talk about the features of Family Tree Maker. One of the most valuable lessons learned from his talk is that you should always wait to buy new software since it never fails that the program will have to be fixed. Thanks, Walker for sharing your experience in using the program.

Don't let all this nice weather stop you from attending the meeting in May, where our speaker will talk about migration across the USA. See you all in May.

*Pat Skubis*

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](http://www.dcags.org)



**Dane County Area  
Genealogical Society**

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

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**See you  
May 1**

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We have a new web address:  
[www.dcags.org](http://www.dcags.org).

If you enter the address it  
will take you to the group's  
website on Rootsweb.

**DCAGS officers for 2008:**

President  
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Vice President  
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**Roslyn L. Waddell 1922 - 2008**

Roslyn L. Hogenson Waddell, a charter member of the original PAF users group and a regular presence at monthly meetings with husband Joe since 1992, passed away March 26.

Roslyn, a native Wisconsinite, met Joe in Tennessee during WW II, she a USN WAVE and he an Army Air Force pilot. They were married in 1944. After the war they made homes at numerous Air Force Bases, including Japan. They were assigned to Truax AFB in 1958, made so many friends that they decided to settle in Madison after Joe's retirement in 1965.

Trips to Norway, the land of her parents, and later cancer treatments and Alzheimer Disease care, were among the few things that kept Roslyn from attending meetings of PAF users group which successively became CAGSW and DCAGS.□

Roslyn and Joe were the parents of Joy and Joe III. They lost their son last Fall. Three grandchildren survive.

*By Shirley Levine*