



Dane County Area Genealogical Society News

Genealogical Resources at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum at September 4 meeting

Russ Horton of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (WVM) will be discussing the genealogical resources at the WVM and opportunities to help make its resources more accessible to others at the September 4 DCAGS meeting.

Horton, an Oshkosh native, received his bachelor's degree in history from UW-Madison and a dual master's degree in history and library science from UW-Milwaukee. He currently works as the Reference Archivist at the WVM in Madison.

The WVM is an educational activity of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and seeks to recognize and affirm the role of state veterans in America's military past.

Horton has been at the WVM for seven years and in that time has organized letters and photographs from the Civil War to the present conflict, helped genealogists discover their ancestors' military service records, aided researchers writing books on Wisconsin regiments or other military

topics, performed oral history interviews with veterans, and cataloged the occasional WWI sea mine or WWII fragmentation grenade.

We are at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at 4505 Regent Street, Madison, WI for the September 4 meeting. The church parking lot may still be under construction, so you may have to park on the street again. Please join us on September 4 at 7:00 P.M.

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DCAGS Member Passes Away

Jane Graff, a former newsletter editor of the Dane County Genealogical Society, passed away on August 7, 2008. Jane was an active genealogist and a volunteer at the State Historical Society library. A memorial service was held on August 27 at the Grace Episcopal Church. We offer our condolences to Jane's family.

What's New at the Family History Centers? In Person & Online

Pam Anderson led on a tour of what's new at the Family History Centers at the August 7 DCAGS meeting.

The first stop was HeritageQuest. This program allows searches for Census, Books, PERSI, Revolutionary War Era Pension & Bounty-Land Warrant Application files, Freedman's Bank. The new addition is the U.S. Serial Set, which has Memorials, Petitions and Private Relief Actions in the U.S. Congress.

The second stop was Genlines. This program can be accessed on the HP computer desktop at the Family History library. The computer is on the right side where two computers are against the wall. Genlines is a

Swedish program that includes church and archive records from the 16th-20th century. There are 16 million images of church records. These records consist of birth/baptismal, confirmation, marriage, death/burial, church ledgers and household examination rolls. In some cases these church records are complemented with those kept by a government agency known as Statistics Sweden (abbreviated as SCB).

Pam said you can search by county or parish. Genline allows you to go page-by-page, but Pam thought it was not a simple process of going next page or back a page. Pam found the program often timed out and was not able to

get the Familyfinder program to work at all. Printing can also be a problem because of the size of the files.

Records archive is available by subscription, and may be found at www.genline.com. You can download Genline FamilyFinder for free. However, to have full access to the Swedish Church Records archive, you must purchase a subscription. To read a review of the program, go to http://www.genline.com/resources/articles_1.php. It is written by Gary Shea of Bayside, Wisconsin

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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.

DCAGS Update:

The DCAGS Governing Board meets the 3rd Monday of each month. The next meeting is on Monday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. South Madison Library, 2222 Park St. We invite all members to attend. Please join us!

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What's New at the Family History Centers continued

The next item on the tour was the Godfrey Memorial Library. It has a nice search engine, but Pam said much of the information on that site is now also on World Vital Records.

World Vital Records, has a nice search engine that weeds out non-genealogical information, Pam said. Later this site will have the Brenner Collection from the Mittelfranken area of Bavaria. The collection has Ahnentafels of families from the area as well as marriage records of soldiers from the area in the 18th and 19th centuries. This will include an index as well as the actual records containing over 3.5 million names from 1650-1875.

The next program on Pam's tour was Footnote. Pam said it has an interesting search engine where you can continue to add more categories to reduce the number of hits. It has Revolutionary War records, FBI files, naturalization records index, especially New York state, U.S. passport applications and Civil War records, especially Confederate information.

The general www.FamilySearch.org website has research guides, guidance of what records to use to find a birth, death, marriage during different time periods in different counties, word lists, databases to search and the Family History Library catalog.

The last place on the tour was Search Labs at <http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html>. You can also get to the site from a link on the www.familysearch.org. Look at the second listing under "What's New." It talks about this as a prototype for searching millions of new records. It has U.S. Censuses 1850, 1860, 1870, 1900 with images, 1880 no images. The 1841 and 1861 England and Wales censuses. Other censuses include the 1930 Mexico, 1895 Argentina, 1855 and 1865 Massachusetts state, 1855, 1875, 1885, 1895 and 1905 Wisconsin state, and the 1885, 1935 and 1945 Florida state. There are also vital records with images, Georgia – death; Michigan - birth, death and

marriage; Ohio – death; Philadelphia – death; Texas – death and Utah – death. Vital records without images: Philadelphia – Marriage index; Texas – death index; Utah – death index; Washington – death index; West Virginia – birth, death and marriage and Ontario, Canada – death.

Other records: Civil War pension index, WWII draft registration card images for older men), Freedman Bank Records & Virginia Freedman's Bureau Virginia marriages, Cecil Co, Maryland Probate images, funeral records from Virginia.

Church records with images: Diocese of Belleville, IL, one Diocese from France, two from Spain, one from Czech Republic and Cheshire, Eng. and the Bishops Transcripts from Diocese Durham, Eng. There are also civil transcripts of Parish registers in Posen and Brandenburg, Germany. There are search engines for baptism, marriage, burials for Mexico and Norway, 1700-1900 and for baptism and marriage for England and Germany 1700-1900.

So, visit the Family History Center and take Pam's tour.

President's Message

Pam Anderson's presentation on the new databases that are available at the Family History Center and the new online resources available on the FamilySearch site prompted me to go home and check out the new features. Thanks Pam for an enjoyable program.

I would like to make all of you aware of two articles that were in the August 2008 issue of the FGS Delegate Digest. The first is about the online records from Georgia.

Georgia's 1919-27 Death Records Indexed Online

The State of Georgia has made over 275,000 death certificates accessible online at no cost. Researchers will no longer have to request by mail or personally visit the state archives to obtain certificates for deaths that occurred between 1919 and 1927. Each name in the searchable online index is linked

to a digital image of the actual death certificate. The extracted information is printed below the digital image. The certificates include age, county of death, parents' names, occupation, gender, race and cause of death. To search the index and view certificates, go to <http://www.GeorgiaArchives.org>. Under the "most popular" column, click "death certificates." The death certificate database is part of the Georgia Archives "Virtual Vault." This contains a treasure trove of important Georgia records such as colonial will books (1754-79), colonial wills (1733-78), headright and bounty plats of surveys (1783-1909), Chatham County deed books (1785-98), Confederate enlistment oaths and discharges (1861-64) and Confederate pension applications (1879-1960). No printed extractions are available for these records.

Cook County (Illinois) Birth, Marriage, and Death Records

The second FGS Delegate Digest article is about the online vital records from Cook County. These are not free, but you are able to search the database for free and gain some information. You can search using just surname or with both surname and first name. You can also search marriage records using the wife's maiden name. The only feature that I did not like is that it did not give both the groom's name and the wife's maiden name together. You can order the records for \$15 each.

Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson of the Public Records Access Monitoring Committee and a Director-at-Large of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, has recently spoken with both a supervisor and the senior public information officer of the Cook County Vital Records Department

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Upcoming events

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

WSGS Fall Seminar

What: Wisconsin State Genealogical Society will host Craig R. Scott, owner of Heritage Books. He will speak on researching military history.

When: October 11, 2008

Where: Janesville, WI, Holiday Inn Express and Conference Center

Registration Information:

www.wsgs.org

ISGS: 40 Years of Discovery – Portals into the Future

What: Illinois State Genealogical Society Fall Conference. The emphasis will be on use of computers in genealogy. Featuring D. Joshua Taylor, Beau Sharbrough, Eric Basir, Lou Szucs, Susan Anderson, Debra Mieszala, Lori Bessler and Kathy Carey.

When: October 18, 2008

Where: Elgin, IL, Elgin Community College

Registration Information:

www.rootsweb.com/~ilsqs

MATC Genealogy Classes for the Fall

The Internet Genealogy Intro classes cover basic internet skills and genealogy search methods; no prior experience in genealogy or internet is required.

The Internet Genealogy Intermediate classes cover searching both U.S. sites and international resources. Both classes help you locate free sites to use for your research. How to use the paid genealogy sites for free is also covered. A new feature has been added to both courses, students will now be able to review the class presentations at home on blackboard. An Internet Genealogy Advanced course will be offered in Spring '09.

To enroll, call MATC ACE at 258-2301 or go online at

http://www.matcmadison.edu/ace/ACE_Fall08_timetable.pdf. Course fee is \$47.67 if under 62. For those 62 or over the cost is \$4.

Internet: Genealogy Introduction, Fitchburg Senior Center, 5510 Lacy Rd., Fitchburg, WI, 6 PM to 9 PM, Wed., 9/17 to 10/22 2008

Internet Genealogy Introduction, West Side /Upper Iowa Univ., 4601 Hammersley Rd., Madison, WI, 9 AM to 12 Noon, Wed., 9/17 to 10/22 2008

Internet: Genealogy Intermediate, Oregon Senior Center, 219 Park St., Oregon, WI, 1 PM to 4 PM, Thursdays, 9/4 to 10/9 2008

Internet: Genealogy Intermediate, Waunakee Senior Center, 333 S. Madison St., Waunakee, WI, 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM, Tuesdays, 9/30 to 11/4 2008

Internet: Genealogy Intermediate, South Madison Ed Center, 2300 Park St., Madison, WI, 9 AM to 12 Noon, Thursdays, 10/2 to 11/6 2008

Internet: Genealogy Intermediate, Fitchburg Senior Center, 5510 Lacy Rd., Fitchburg, WI, 6 PM to 9 PM, Wed., 10/29 to 12/3 2008

Sign up early; an enrollment of 10 people per class is required for the class to run. If that number is not reached a week before the class starts the class will be canceled. If you know anyone who might be interested, spread the word.

Genealogy Classes for the Fall at the Wisconsin Historical Society

The Wisconsin Historical Society Library and Archives will offer the following classes this fall: "[Ancestry.com](#)" (12/6, Lori Bessler), "[From Daguerreotype to Digital File: Organizing and Caring for Family and Personal Photographs](#)" (9/27 [repeated on 11/8], David Benjamin), "[Oh Darned! Where Did I Put Uncle George? Organizing and Compiling Your Research](#)" (10/18, Rick Pifer), and "[Immigration and Naturalization Records](#)" (11/1, Dee Grimsrud). Click on the title of any class for further details (time, fees, location, class coverage) about that class. A discount on the registration fee is offered to those who are members of either the Wisconsin Historical Society or the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society. To register, download, print, and mail or FAX the [required registration form](#).

For further information, go to <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/classes/>

I hope to see you at our next meeting on September 4.

Pat Skubis

President's Message continued

regarding the progress of their posting the birth, marriage, and death records on their website

(<http://www.cookcountygenealogy.com/FAQ.aspx>) as not everything is yet posted. Here is a summary of what Jan has learned: Not all records are yet posted and it will take upwards of six months for the records to be complete. They are waiting for an outside indexing firm to provide them with the indexing to be posted. Birth records (75 years old and older): There are no birth records yet available indexed on the website prior to 1916. That means that 1916-1933 records should be available. Marriage records (50 years and older): Some are hand-indexed and there are intermittent years available: 1930-1937, 1940, 1945, 1948, 1949, 1950-1958. They are uploading 1930-1940

marriages. Death records (20 years and older): 1915-1946, 1949-1957, 1960-1988 should be available. As it is sporadic and it is being updated in "bits and pieces" there might be some other records in the years mentioned above that are also not yet posted. Just keep trying as they post the updated index frequently. Since this opened in early July they have had 6000 people register accounts representing 1/2 million pages. The international response they have been receiving from China to Croatia shows what an international passion genealogy is and Jan complemented [sic] the officer that Cook County has taken such a lead to make the vital records accessible to all. Jan has asked to be kept apprised of updates on the website and will report again as needed.

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
Sept. 4

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 2008:

President: Pat Skubis
p318skubis@hughes.net

Vice President: Tom Glassel
tglassel@gmail.com

Secretary: Gerry Schlecht
13gerry@att.net

Treasurer: "Walker" Walker-Crawford
walker@viridis.ws

Past President, Shirley Levine
shirts26@sbcglobal.net

Standing Committee Chairs

Membership: William "Bill" Baures
bauresb@juno.com

Programs & Education: Joan Nagle
JWNagle@merr.com

Public Relations

Historian: Sandy Zart
sandyzart@charter.net

Web Master: Rollie Littlewood
rklittle@wisc.edu

Newsletter: Ruth Simpson
rsimpson@terracon.net

SITE TO BEHOLD

MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES: Missouri Birth &
Death Records Database, Pre-1910

The Missouri Birth and Death Records Database is an abstract of the birth, stillbirth, and death records recorded before 1909 and that are available on microfilm at the Missouri State Archives.

The [Bureau of Vital Records](#) has certificates of Missouri births from 1910 to the present. The Bureau also maintains certificates of Missouri deaths that are less than fifty years old. Death records over fifty years old are available at the Missouri State Archives. (Search [Missouri Death Certificate](#))

The database currently contains over 185,000 records from 87 counties. Information found in this database includes:

Births and Stillbirths: name of child, date and place of birth, sex, and race; nationality, residence, and ages of parents, occupation and full name of father, maiden name of mother, name and address of medical or other attendant making return; in case of stillbirth, name of undertaker and place of burial.

Deaths: date of report, name, sex, color, age, occupation, marital status, nationality, birthplace; date, place, and cause of death; date and place of burial, addresses of undertaker, physician returning certificate.

The [Free](#) online records can be found on the Missouri Digital Heritage Web site at
<http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/birthdeath/>