



Dane County Area Genealogical Society News

Ann Wells' Presentation Rescheduled to March 3rd: Genealogical Organization

February 28, 2011

Volume 5, Issue 6

Bad weather forced the cancellation of the February meeting, so Ann L. Wells has rescheduled her talk on getting and staying organized to the March 3rd meeting. She will focus on both organizing all of our "papers" and on organizing our research plans.

She is a woman who NEEDS to be very organized herself, as she has many, many "irons in the fire" in her life. She was one of the founders of the British Interest Group of

Wisconsin and Illinois, where she also organized a research trip to London.

She is currently very active in the leadership of the McHenry County Genealogical Society, the Illinois State Genealogical Society, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and the International Society for British Genealogy and Family History (ISBGFH); she is the director of the British Institute, an annual course sponsored by ISBGFH. And she

does both personal and professional genealogical research.

Be sure to come and hear her thoughts on how to keep your genealogical life in order.

Please join us on Thursday, March 3 at 7 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 4505 Regent St.

Treasures May Await You at the Family History Center¹

Rollie Littlewood

Many of you heard Maureen Brady tell us in October about recent and future developments at FamilySearch. In broad terms, FamilySearch is the web presence of the Family History Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (commonly referred to as "the LDS church" or "the Mormon church"). We learned a bit about "the Family History Center Portal," which provides free access at most Family History Centers (FHCs) to about a dozen genealogy subscription databases. (The Portal is NOT available at FHCs associated with non-LDS libraries, such as the Wisconsin Historical Society

[WHS] library, nor is it available from private residences.) These databases include several of particular interest to British Isles researchers: [FindMyPast](#), [19th Century British Library Newspaper Digital Archives](#), and [The Genealogist](#).

According to the FindMyPast (formerly known as 1837online) home page, it features the only complete 1841-1911 census collection online, the most complete online index of BMDs (1837-2006), parish records for baptisms, marriages and burials dating from 1538, migration records including 24 million passenger list records, and

military records covering the First and Second World Wars. The census, BMD, and parish records are only for England and Wales.

The home page of the second website mentioned above claims "it is the most comprehensive collection of national and regional newspapers of Victorian Britain available. This full-text, fully searchable digital archive currently includes papers originating in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland."

The Genealogist touts itself as "The Leading British Genealogy Research Website."

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

DCAGS Update:

The DCAGS Governing Board meets the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is set for Tuesday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the new South Madison Library on 2222 Park St. We invite all members to attend. Please join us!

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Family History Center Treasures Continued....

For those interested in Swedish records, there is [Genline](#) and (perhaps) [ArkivDigital](#).

The eight other subscription databases in the Portal, with less ethnic emphasis, include [Alexander Street Press - American Civil War](#), [Footnote.com](#), [Godfrey Memorial Library](#), [HeritageQuest Online](#), [Historic Map Works Library Edition](#), [World Vital Records](#), [Paper Trail](#), and [Ancestry](#). Brief descriptions of what is available on each of these websites can be viewed at https://help.familysearch.org/publicizing/699/106761_f.SAL_AreaSupport.html>. Note that the availability of

Ancestry at Family History Centers is a very new development. The version now available at FHCs is virtually identical to Ancestry Library Edition, which can be accessed at the WHS library and any of the public libraries served by the seven-county South Central Library System.

The Madison FHC is located near the southwest corner of the LDS church at the corner of S. Segoe Rd. and Regent St. The regular hours are Tuesday, 9am-9pm; Thursday, 9am-noon and 6pm-9pm, and Saturday, 9am-noon; they are closed on most

holiday weekends. They also close occasionally due to weather concerns or conflicts with other church activities. If, when wanting to access the resources of the Portal you do not see an appropriate icon on the desktop, enter fhc.familysearch.org/ in the location field of Internet Explorer or ask an FHC staff member for help.

¹ Adapted from an article first published in the Nov/Dec 2010 issue of *BIGWILL News*, the members' newsletter of the British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois.

Editor's Message

I began editing the newsletter for the Computer Assisted Genealogists of Southern Wisconsin (CAGSW) in 2001. I took over for the late Jack Brisse, who had edited the newsletter from its beginning in 1991. I have determined that I will also turn over the DCAGS newsletter duties at the end of this year – serving 10 years as newsletter editor.

DCAGS will be looking for someone to serve as editor after I leave. If you are interested, please let Rollie or myself know.

As part of this process we will be doing some evaluation of the newsletter in the future – what people like or dislike about the newsletter and how it could be changed or improved.

Ruth Simpson



Genealogy Quiz

From www.funtrivia.com

Genealogists frequently use a chart that shows multiple generations of a person's genealogy. What is that chart called by genealogists?

What group maintains the largest genealogical library in the world?

Which group(s) requires a documented genealogy of potential new members?

What relation is your grandmother's cousin's son to you?

When beginning to compile your family tree, who is the first person to list on your pedigree chart?

How often are U.S. Federal Censuses taken?

Enjoy the quiz!

FGS FORUM

All issues of *Forum* are now on the DCAGS website. These quarterly issues span twenty-two years, from 1989 through 2010. The latest one can be downloaded from <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~widcags/fgsforum/forum10winter.pdf>>. The others can be viewed by substituting the last two digits of the year for "10" and "spring," "summer," or "fall" for "winter" -- as appropriate. ("dcags.org" does NOT work in this situation -- the full "real" URL must be used).

Forum is a fairly substantial genealogy magazine published by the Federation of Genealogical Societies. Recent issues have had 50+ pages, each with several "meaty" articles as well as announcements of things to come. Currently there is no comprehensive index to the contents of *Forum* but most issues (through the Spring 2009 issue) have been included in the *PERiodical Source Index (PERSI)*, which is available as part of HeritageQuest Online. Recent issues can be text searched if the issue is open in a program similar to *Adobe Reader*.

Upcoming events

Oregon Community Education Genealogy Classes

Beginning in March, Genealogy classes will be offered by the Oregon Community Education program. Pat Skubis will lead three sessions, each lasting for five weeks. Sessions can be taken in any order. All classes meet at the Senior Center (219 Park St., Oregon) begin at 6:30 p.m., and last for two hours. The cost is \$44 per session.

Session 1: Starts on Tuesday March 1st

Week 1: Tips on gathering and recording your genealogy information.

Week 2: Locating vital records.

Week 3: The Family History Center and Records on the FamilySearch site.

Week 4: Tracing your family using the census, city directories and land records.

Week 5: Rounding out your family history.

Session 2: Starts on Tuesday, April 12th

Week 1: Information and tools needed to locate records overseas.

Week 2: "Scotty did not teleport them over here, they came in ships."

Week 3: "What does this say?" or "How do I read this fancy script?"

Week 4: The Wisconsin Historical Society on and off-line.

Week 5: International and other resources.

Session 3: Starts on Tuesday, May 24th

Week 1: Using Google and other search engines.

Week 2: Resources found at the Library of Congress.

Week 3: Black Sheep in the family.

Week 4: Think outside the box.

Week 5: Social Networking and Family Trees.

For more information contact: Scott Lein, CE Assistant Director, Community Education, 123 E. Grove Street, Oregon, WI 53575, 835-4097, email: srl@oregonsd.net.

More details can be learned by downloading the current Oregon School District Community Education booklet from www.oregonsd.org/files/101/ws%202011%20booklet%20web%20final.pdf; these classes are described on page 5 and a registration form is on page 26 of the booklet.

University of Wisconsin Union Mini Course: Genealogy

When: Three Tuesday evenings: April 5, April 12 and April 19. The class runs from 6 to 8 p.m.

Where: The room at the University has not yet been assigned.

Instructor: Sherry Lloyd is an experienced genealogist with over 25 years of experience.

Description: Interested in discovering your family's history? We will look at how to begin genealogy, what resources are available, how to keep track of your information and genealogy standards.

You will learn how to find information on the Internet as well as the large amount of information available at your local libraries. Emphasis will be on using free computer programs and Internet sources.

Cost: Standard charge for Union members or students: \$44.50; for UW staff or others the charge is higher. Anyone can become a Union Member for \$55 a year or \$250 lifetime membership. The annual \$55 goes toward the lifetime membership. UW Alumni and UW Retirees may be eligible for lower rates on Union membership. Also a member of the Union may bring a guest at the same rate. Please see Mini Course web site for membership options and registration, <https://www.union.wisc.edu/minicourses>

MATC Internet Genealogy Class

Catalog/Class 60803622, Class #70188

Spring Semester 2010-2011

Class Dates Wednesdays for 5 weeks, Apr 6 2011-May 4 2011

Meeting Times: 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Location: Deerfield High School

Instructor: Pat Skubis

Approximate Tuition: \$56.38

Seats Available: 10

<http://programs.matcmadison.edu/programs/enrichment/internet-genealogy-intro>

NGS 2011 Family History Conference

Theme: Where the Past is Still Present

Where: The NGS 2011 Family History Conference will be held at the [North Charleston Convention Center](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/new-gallery/RegistrationForm.pdf) in Charleston, South Carolina.

When: 11-14 May 2011.

Registration: Online registration for the NGS 2011 Family History Conference is now open. Register today!

<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/galleries/new-gallery/RegistrationForm.pdf>

Conference Blog for details:

<http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

Federation of Genealogical Societies 2011 Conference, Pathways to the Heartland

When: September 7-10, 2011

Where: Springfield, Illinois

Registration:

<http://www.fgs.org/2011conference/>

Bus Trip to FGS Conference Planned

WSGS is in the planning stages for a bus trip to the FGS conference in Springfield, IL

They would like to hire a coach bus to travel down to Springfield on September 6th, returning on September 11th. No definite price has been set, but a rough estimate of the cost for the round-trip bus fare would be \$150. Conference registration and hotel fees are not included in that amount. WSGS is looking at room arrangements for the group if enough people are interested.

Please answer the following questions by e-mailing the WSGS Office at wsgs@wsgs.org and copying Mary Rieder, WSGS President, at mrieder@wi.rr.com

1. Would you be interested in participating in a group bus trip to the FGS Conference in Springfield, IL, next September?

2. What city/county do you live in?

3. Please indicate if you would need a hotel room, and how many people you might be sharing the room with? Room rates at the conference hotel (which is across the street from the Convention Center) start at \$119 +tax per night. A triple is \$134 +tax per night. They do not have rollaway beds or sleeper sofas available.

PLEASE RESPOND ASAP, so arrangements with a bus company can begin. Thanks!

President's Message

Reminders

We need several people to identify and arrange for interesting speakers.

We need someone to help

publicize our events on the web and in the newspapers.

There are lots of records at FamilySearch which need indexing.

Rollie Littlewood

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

Or www.facebook.com/dcags



Dane County Area Genealogical Society

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

**See you at the
March 3
Meeting!**

DCAGS Governing Board for 2011:

President: Rollie Littlewood
rklittle@wisc.edu

Vice President: Don Cole
846-3819

Secretary: DeAnn McAllan
d.mcallan@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Walker Crawford
walker@viridis.ws

Past President, Pat Skubis
skubie27@live.com

Standing Committee Chairs

Membership: Pat Konrad
Patkonrad1@yahoo.com

Programs & Education: Vacant

Public Relations: Vacant

Historian: Sandy Zart
sandy_zart@yahoo.com

Web Master: Rollie Littlewood
rklittle@wisc.edu

Newsletter: Ruth Simpson
rsimpson@terracon.net

Genealogy Fair 2011

We are very excited to announce the Third Biennial Dane County Area Genealogical Society Genealogy Fair. The fair will be held on Saturday, October 8th, 2011. The location will be announced soon. We are in the process of looking for speakers, topic ideas and other suggestions of things you would like to see at the fair. If any of the historical or genealogy organizations in the area would be interested in co-sponsoring this event please let us know.

Invitations will be sent out soon to all organizations which might be interested in having a display at the fair. We are also interested in hearing from our members who might like to have an opportunity to display their family history/genealogy information at the fair. Interested individuals should contact co-chairs Pat Skubis (skubie27@live.com) and Walker Crawford (walker@viridis.ws), 608.206.3182. Ideas or requests for participants/topics can also be sent to us.