



# Dane County Area Genealogical Society News

## *Ann Wells to Discuss Genealogical Organization at February 3rd Meeting*

*January 31, 2011  
Volume 5, Issue 5*

Ann L. Wells, from Crystal Lake, Illinois, is coming back for a return engagement (she talked to us about cemetery research this past August). In February she will share her thoughts on getting and staying organized. 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, February 3 at 7 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 4505 Regent St.

## *Showing Off Your Family Tree*

The family tree is the basic foundation for most genealogy work. We use pedigree charts to show our ancestors. Pat Skubis showed us the many ways that family trees can be displayed. A family tree can be simplistic, colorful, modern, or traditional. They can be displayed as wall hangings, on tote bags or be part of a family history book.

An early example Pat showed was by Herzog Ludwig I who reigned from 1568-1593. The family tree was finished in 1585. It can be seen at: <http://www.answers.com/topic/genealogy>. The tree is very unique with cherubs at the top.

Another early example is the family tree of Anthony Saunders Morris (1803-1885) began compiling a complete

Morris family tree in 1860. When he succeeded in documenting nine generations of male descendants, he hired lithographer Louis Hugg (1856-1894), one of Philadelphia's leading printmakers, to draw the family tree in its entirety. The result is a massive sixteen-plate panorama of an actual tree (approximately six by five feet), which holds all the names of the Morris family.

<http://blogs.princeton.edu/grapnicarts/acquisitions/> Pat noted that the men are the branches that continue the lineage and the women only appear as foliage.

Pat showed us many examples of different types of charts: pedigree, ancestor, fan, and bowtie. Many are available with genealogy programs you

may own. Pat showed us where you find blank charts. A typical Pedigree chart is available at [http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~arcrawfo/images/free-pedigree\\_chart.gif](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~arcrawfo/images/free-pedigree_chart.gif).

Fan and bowtie charts are available at <http://www.thetreemaker.com/> Charts sell for about \$10.00. Pat showed us a completed 7 Generation Bowtie Chart that sells for about \$69.00. Its size is about 24" x 18".

The Fan chart is found at <http://www.thetreemaker.com/samples/cousins-chart/family-genealogy-record.html>.

Colored background or Photo Trees can be found at [www.kunaicho.go.jp/e-about/genealogy/koseizu.html](http://www.kunaicho.go.jp/e-about/genealogy/koseizu.html),

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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.***

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### ***DCAGS Update:***

*The DCAGS Governing Board meets the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is set for Tuesday, February 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!*

## Showing Off Your Family Tree Continued....

An interesting example of a Descendant chart can be found at [http://www.mcdoa.org.uk/Vernon's\\_French\\_Connection.htm](http://www.mcdoa.org.uk/Vernon's_French_Connection.htm). It includes six designer 12x12 papers in 300dpi JPEG files. File Size: 16MB. Pat said you will need a photo-editing program in order to create the different pages. In addition PDF directions on how to do digital scrapbooking can be found on the website.

Pat showed an example of how a person used the program to show the resemblance between her grandfather and father.

Many people do scrapbooking as a way to display their pictures. Family genealogists are no different. There are a couple of programs that focus on family displays for scrapbookers. One is My Family Genealogy Records Paper Pack. <http://www.designerdigitals.com/digital-scrapbooking/GettingStarted.html>. It uses templates plus your own photos. When completed you will have a 20-page family ancestry history scrapbook album, plus cover, 12x12!

Several online publishing companies offer reasonable rates to publish your digital scrapbooks. Pat listed a couple: <http://www.designerdigitals.com/> and <http://www2.snapfish.com/>.

Some programs allow you to create the books on your computer and upload for printing. With others you use their layouts and add your own photos.

Pat showed us some custom genealogy family trees created by JoAnn Kenny, a Midwest artist and illustrator. She creates trees that are either 16 X 20 or 18 X 24. Prices range from \$300 to \$500 depending on the number of names and personalized illustrations. Her website provides some unique creations. <http://www.joannkenny.com/familytrees-genealogy.html>.

Personalized family trees can also be found at <http://www.shorashim-teud.co.il/data/pics/novis%20tree10.jpg>. The work can vary according to

individual requirements, materials, complexity, size, number of copies, etc. Prices start at \$300.

Pat said that beautifully illustrated customized framed family trees, combining family photographs with professional graphic design, are a unique and exciting gift for all significant family events.

Another place to find blank, stock, custom templates, or the ultimate family tree is Classic Family Trees, <http://www.classic-family-trees.com/index.html>

A Picture Pedigree Chart puts the person's portrait in the places that the names and information appear on a regular pedigree chart, <http://www.howtofindyourroots.com/charts>. When completed it will make a nice visual presentation.

Preprinted templates can be used to display your family tree from [www.milliande.com/family-tree-template-blank.html](http://www.milliande.com/family-tree-template-blank.html).

Pat said you can buy clear stickers and type your information on your computer and then print it onto the stickers and paste them onto the template. Then you can frame your completed tree.

Pat showed several examples of charts, cross-stitch kits, canvas bags, quilt kits and other gifts on can order from FunStuff, <http://www.funstuffforgenealogists.com/store/enter.html>, an online store that sells all sorts of genealogy items.

An example that Pat showed was called Kin-Kits. The kit includes: one panel of high quality white canvas-like material with an outline already there for you to add your photos and data, Inkjet photo transfer paper, one set of templates, one permanent fabric pen and a complete set of instructions. The panel is 18" wide x 24" tall and has a multi colored floral pattern. You scan your own photos and print them out on the transfer paper and just iron them on to the fabric. The

fabric has been serged and finished off so there is no sewing at all! Pat said it was a great way to show off the family. The price is \$49.99.

<http://www.funstuffforgenealogists.com/store/enter.html>

Pat said you can create a free family tree in PowerPoint, [http://presentationsoft.about.com/od/powerpoint2007/ss/080217familytree07\\_9.htm](http://presentationsoft.about.com/od/powerpoint2007/ss/080217familytree07_9.htm). Six different templates can be downloaded.

Consider adding a background picture to your family tree chart. This is called a watermark. The background picture should be significantly faded so that it does not detract from your family tree. Read about watermarks on <http://presentationsoft.about.com/od/powerpoint2007/ss/080222watermark.htm>

Cafepress.com, <http://www.cafepress.com>, allows you to design your own family tree and then apply it to tote bags, tee or sweatshirts, posters, calendars or other items. Pat showed how she designed her tote bag.

You can also create prints, posters or photos and have them custom framed or put on canvas at Imagekind, <http://www.imagekind.com/shopping/prints/default.aspx>

Martha Stewart has also gotten in the game, offering a number of Family Tree projects at <http://goo.gl/LJCv5>.

Pat's entire PowerPoint presentation, with examples and pictures, is available at [www.dcags.org](http://www.dcags.org). Don't miss it!

Pat ended by saying, "be creative" and display your family tree for all the family to see!

Other members also brought examples of their family trees. Bob Gruetzmacher brought a family tree that he made for a family reunion. It was over 20 feet long! The kids love it, he said.

Make your family tree today!

# Upcoming events

## *The German Interest Group*

**Where:** St. Mark Lutheran Church, 2921 Mt. Zion Ave., Janesville

**When:** Monday, February 7 at 7 pm.

**Guest speaker:** Ted Kinnaman, Emeritus Professor of Music from UW-Rock County - "The Tragedy of the Weimar Republic: Politics and Culture." The Weimar Republic was the government of Germany from 1919 until 1933. It was Germany's first democratic government and was culturally brilliant as well as politically tragic.

**Cost:** Free

**Contact:** Rick Leyes at (608) 754-5538

## *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 1<sup>st</sup>

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 Family Search 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 12<sup>th</sup>

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?"

### *President's Message Continued...*

My purpose in this letter is to invite you to give Walker and Pat your ideas about talks you'd like to hear, demonstrations you'd like to see, vendors you'd like a chance to patronize, organizations you'd like to know more about, and how you would like to help. We can't guarantee we can get what you'd like, but we won't know what you're interested in if you don't speak up now. Walker can be reached at [walker@viridis.ws](mailto:walker@viridis.ws) or (608) 206-3182; Pat can be reached at [skubie27@live.com](mailto:skubie27@live.com) or (608) 424-3919.

*Rollie Littlewood*

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

Week 5: International and other resources.

**Session 3:** Starts on Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>

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](mailto: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](http://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>

## *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/north-charleston-convention-center) 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/north-charleston-convention-center>

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](mailto:wsgs@wsgs.org) and copying Mary Rieder, WSGS President, at [mrieder@wi.rr.com](mailto: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!

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)

Or [www.facebook.com/dcags](http://www.facebook.com/dcags)



**Dane County Area  
Genealogical Society**

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

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

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**DCAGS Governing Board for 2011:**

President: Rollie Littlewood  
[rkittle@wisc.edu](mailto:rkittle@wisc.edu)

Vice President: Don Cole  
846-3819

Secretary: DeAnn McAllan  
[d.mcallan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d.mcallan@sbcglobal.net)

Treasurer: Walker Crawford  
[walker@viridis.ws](mailto:walker@viridis.ws)

Past President, Pat Skubis  
[P3L8skubis@hughes.net](mailto:P3L8skubis@hughes.net)

**Standing Committee Chairs**

Membership: Pat Konrad  
[Patkonrad1@yahoo.com](mailto:Patkonrad1@yahoo.com)

Programs & Education: Vacant

Public Relations: Vacant

Historian: Sandy Zart  
[sandy\\_zart@yahoo.com](mailto:sandy_zart@yahoo.com)

Web Master: Rollie Littlewood  
[rkittle@wisc.edu](mailto:rkittle@wisc.edu)

Newsletter: Ruth Simpson  
[rsimpson@terracon.net](mailto:rsimpson@terracon.net)

***President's Message***  
***Get Ready to Go to the Fair***

Yes, I know I'm rushing the season (quite) a bit. But I want to bring all of you into the planning process for the 2011 DCAGS Genealogy Fair. I'm sure a lot of you attended and enjoyed the Fairs DCAGS put on in 2007 and 2009; we hope to put on an even better one this year.

The idea of the fair is to showcase as much as possible what's available and exciting in and around Dane County for doing genealogical research. DCAGS members and folks who haven't joined the fold get a chance to see a lot of the genealogy resources they can avail themselves of--both people and data. Some of our "sister organizations" get a chance to showcase what they have to offer. It's a good chance for lots of people interested in doing family history to come together and compare notes.

For the moment we're looking at Saturday, 8 October as the date for the Fair--not set in stone, but very probable. Two board members have volunteered to take the lead in organizing: Walker Crawford and Pat Skubis.

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