

Dane County Area Genealogical Society News



Researching Your German Roots: Tips for American Genealogists, by Antje Petty



This presentation on April 4th will focus on the special challenges faced by American genealogists who want to research their ancestors from German-speaking Europe. It will address issues such as language, finding names and places of origin, and she will offer suggestions of resources online and off, in America and in Europe.

Antje Petty is the Assistant Director of the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (MKI). As the Institute's outreach specialist she helps connect the MKI with Wisconsin communities and schools through workshops, lectures, and publications.



In an article from the society & culture section of the March 23, 2009 examiner.com

Kathy Friberg listed a number of links for various German resources. The links that were published in the article all still work. If you want to read the whole article go to:

<http://www.examiner.com/article/genealogy-resource-german-ancestry>

Below are the links from this article.

- [About.com: German Genealogy & Family History](#)
- [ProGenealogists: German Genealogy Research](#)
 - [Bavaria Genealogy](#)
- [Genealogy.net: German genealogy Internet portal](#)
 - [German Research links](#)
- [KinQuest: German Research at Libraries and Archives in Baden-Wuerttemberg](#)
- [The Society for German Genealogy in East Europe](#)
- [D'ADDEZIO.com: German genealogy](#)
- [KindredTrails.com: Germany \(German\) Genealogy](#)
- <https://familyhistory.byu.edu/Pages/germany.aspx>
- <http://www.gsgmn.org/>
- [The Federation of East European Family History Societies](#)
- [Ostfriesen Genealogical Society of America](#)
- [Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota](#)
- [The Pommern Regional Group of Minnesota](#)



March/2013

Volume 7, Issue 7

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 Street, Madison, Wisconsin 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, April 16th at 6:30 p.m. at the

*Fitchburg Public Library
5530 Lacy Road
Fitchburg, WI 53711,
Madison Wisconsin*

We invite all members to attend. Please join us! Submit articles to the newspaper editor by the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

On May 2nd 2013, our speaker will be Kathy Sparks. Her topic will be Newspaper Nuggets

Individual Highlights: Recap of "Why go to Salt Lake City to do research?" page 2 Article "Planning a trip to England" page 3 Upcoming classes & Webinars page 4 & 5 President's message, Genealogy Fair notice and article on Icelandic girl getting to keep her name page 6 Survey page 7 Request for committee chair page 8



Recap of “Why go to Salt Lake City to do research?”

What are the benefits? These are the questions Shirley York Anderson, a veteran of 24 research visits to the Family History Library, answered at the March DCAGS meeting. The answers to these questions were: more research productivity; the availability of expert genealogical help and classes; access to hard-to-find records which otherwise do not circulate to local family research centers and are not on the Internet; and the “high” of being with people who share your passion. All this is done while maximizing the economy of your research time.

To make most efficient use of her time, Shirley always stays at the Plaza Hotel, a five minute walk across the street to the library. This handy location also allows her the flexibility to return to her room as needed for rest and a break from the non-stop research. The five minute commute also allows for more precious research time.

The five-floor Family History Library is entered without fees or screenings. Common to all the floors is a reference desk staffed by a mix of genealogy professionals and volunteer staff who provide research help. There are also service counters, which assist in computer help, scanner help, etc., for the 470 plus computers (loaded with Legacy software) and scanners which are available on all floors. Each floor also has classrooms where the visitor can sign up for specific topic research subjects. Of course, the visitors can bring their own computer and the essential flash drives which have minimized the need for making hard copies of records. If you choose to copy records, your purchased copycard replaces the historic rolls of dimes and quarters. Microfilm readers are available for records not yet digitized. All shelves are “open stacks” and self-serve.

Collections at the library are divided geographically. Family histories are on the first floor. Some are digitized and some remain in book form on the shelves. The second floor has films on the U.S. and Canada. The third floor has books on the U.S. and Canada. The first basement has the international collection excluding the U.S., Canada, and the

British Isles. The second basement has the British Isles and Australia.

Shirley shared the wisdom gleaned from her 24 visits. Some of her tips were:

- 1) Before you arrive in Salt Lake City, visit the Family History Library website. (<https://familysearch.org/locations/saltlakecity-library>) to learn about the library and its workings. The “learn” button on the library home page leads to information on classes available, library hours, “how to” instructions for ordering vault films, etc., and WIKIs which help navigate the collections available to the researcher.
- 2) Do your catalog work (documenting call numbers for books and films) before you arrive at the library. Shirley uses “Legacy” to copy and paste information into a “to do” list, and she uses the printed-out report for a “marked up” status report. For items kept in the vaults, the visitor can order ahead for reserved availability.
- 3) Always use a “tested” security cable for your personal computer, and use a “fanny pack” in lieu of any purse.
- 4) Use flash drives to minimize paper copies. Back up flash drives to your computer or another flash drive to minimize risk of data loss while travelling.
- 5) Invest in an apron with multiple pockets big enough to carry multiple films, and use a lanyard suspended around your neck to carry your copycard, a small amount of money, and your hotel key card.
- 6) Plan to visit the library during the “off season”—crowds in December are one tenth what they are during peak summer periods, so computer and scanner competition is less intense then.
- 7) Think about joining a tour group for your visit—there is instant camaraderie and a “high” being around like-minded knowledgeable and passionate researchers. Submitted by John Madigan

Deanna Wollin of Cottage Grove, Wisconsin stated that her good friend and former member of the South Central Chapter of the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society, Joan Huebeschmann passed away on December 20, 2012. Her relatives have donated her research to a local public library in or near Evanston, Indiana.

Planning a trip to England?

You might like to visit the Sloop Inn, St. Ives, Cornwall, England. The Sloop is supposed to be the oldest Inn in



St. Ives, dating back to the 14th century. The Elizabeth Baragwanath mentioned in the two articles below is a relative of Joyce

Peterson (who is one of our members).

Another relative found the information on the web and shared it with her. She thought that you might like to learn about her interesting ancestor and the place she lived.

"The History of the Sloop Inn and Joyce's relative."

The landlady - Mrs. Elizabeth Baragwanath - and her father George Wasley, before her occupied the house for nearly 50 years. She has its history at her fingers' ends; back to the time of an old smuggler known only as "Old Tubs".

"Old Tubs" and another noted and daring smuggler, whom they always called "Old Worms," and who had the command of the "swag" in Hicks's court, are the best remembered characters in St. Ives, and many a well authenticated tale of savage conflict between King's officers and St. Ives smugglers dates from Hicks's-court, and the Sloop on the fore sands. In and around the Sloop during election time congregated hundreds of fishermen; beer flowed like water. The red coat and cocked hat of an Excise man were like a red rag to an infuriated bull; party fights with fists, sticks, stones, and any other weapons coming to hand would throw Donnybrook into shadow. The most severe party fight ever known in St. Ives was on the 27th of March, 1820, when the effigy of one Tom Tucket was burnt in front the Sloop for the part he took in the return of Evelyn and Graham Messrs to Parliament. The members were charged with bribery, but their election was confirmed by the House of Commons. About 700 men, boys, and women were all fighters together on the fore sands, and great personal injury was inflicted.

In 1899, the Sloop Inn was a low, yellow-washed house crouched beneath a two centuries old slate roof with tiny dormer windows. Inside, was "like the deck of an old 74 line of battle ship - all beams and timbers", while upstairs, "a four poster bed would fill the state-room; the others were smaller." - West Briton & Cornwall Advisor

<http://www.hm-waterguard.org.uk/History-Snippets.htm>

"Pudding Bag Lane - in one way and out the same"

This lane was next to "The Sloop" at the bottom of Dick's Hill, now know as Fish Street. It was said that there was a cupboard in this first house that children were forbidden to open 'on pain of death'. When the row was pulled down in the 1920's it was rumoured that the demolition gang had found a set of steps that led down to a tunnel that then went under the road and surfaced in one of the many cellars under the inn opposite.



Perhaps this was a bolt hole for the illicit stock of the landlady of "The Sloop"; a place to hide her secret stash away from the prying eyes of the Customs Men. If so the landlady of the Sloop failed to use it when there was a raid on the town by HM Customs in 1898.

Many in the town had been allowed to simply pay their fines for possessing smuggled goods, but two innkeepers of the town were brought before the bench.

Mrs. Elizabeth Baragwanath was summoned in the St Ives Police Court "for a breach of Section 1876 by smuggling tobacco, and further with a breach of Section 6 of the Manufactured Tobacco Act 1863." The solicitor for HM Customs, one Mr. Le Breton, said he understood that she had pleaded guilty to both charges and he was willing to drop the second charge, provided she paid treble the duty and value on the other summons. So Lizzie Baragwanath was fined £7: 14s:3d.

The landlord of "White Hart Inn", William Elijah Benney, was similarly charged and was fined £1: 9s: 3d for having 1.lb 8oz of uncustomed tobacco. My math's was never good but at a rough guess that means the landlady of "The Sloop" had about 7lb: 8oz of tobacco stashed away.

I should add at this point that the "White Hart Inn" was also at the bottom of Dick's Hill and therefore also opposite the entrance to Pudding Bag Lane, so the apocryphal 'secret tunnels' could also have led to these cellars. Perhaps the tunnels had been abandoned long ago, due to this area flooding at very high tides. Perhaps neither landlord had any knowledge of their existence by this late date; leastways, neither innkeeper had made use of them. By Sandra Pritchard

[Downalong St Ives](#)

Upcoming Classes

University of Wisconsin Union Mini Course: Genealogy

When: Three Tuesday evenings: April 2, April 9 and April 16. The class runs from 6 to 8 p.m.

Where: Room L151, 1000 Bascom Mall Education Building, Madison, Wisconsin.

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 \$30 introductory rate for a six month membership or \$250 lifetime membership. The annual fee 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.

<http://www.union.wisc.edu/minicourses.htm>

Genealogy/Family History

Explore your roots and watch the family tree grow! Taught by Pat Skubis, past president of the Dane County Area Genealogical Society.

The four-week session will be organized into separate classes. Cost \$44 or drop in for \$12 per class. Join any time.

1. Records you can find at the library or at home using a library card.
2. Using Google and other search engines to do research.
3. Records that can be found on free sites.
4. Records at the Wisconsin Historical Society.

Dates: Wednesdays, Apr. 10 - May 1
Time: 6:00-8:00 PM

Place: Netherwood Elementary School, 276 Soden Dr., Oregon, WI 53575.

To register go to

<http://www.oregonsd.org/community.cfm?ubpage=101>



Illinois State Genealogical Society offers free WEBINARS, on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. All ISGS webinars are FREE and open to the public when they are presented live. For upcoming webinars: go to <http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=234> to learn more about the upcoming webinars and to register.

April 2013

Digging Through Documents Word by Word

- **Presenter:** Debbie Mieszala, CG
- **Date:** Tuesday, April 9, 2013, 8:00 pm Central
- **Description:** Proper scrutiny of each piece of information in a document is essential to understanding that item's evidentiary value. Studying every word's meaning and context ensures that evidence has been properly analyzed and comprehended.

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3231307790843086592>



Three-Hour Workshop Genealogy: French-Canadian Genealogy

French-Canadian research can be difficult. This class will uncover the variety of sources needed when seeking information about your French-Canadian ancestors.

Place: Wisconsin Historical society.

Date: April 13, 2013

Time: 9 am-noon

Instructor: George Findlen, certified genealogist

Ticket Info: \$35 for Wisconsin Historical Society and Wisconsin State Genealogical Society members, \$40 for non-members

Webinar: The Draper Manuscripts

Lyman Copeland Draper (1815-1891) was a lifelong student of early American history. Although he was born and raised in upstate New York, Draper made it his life's work to rescue from oblivion the history of the "heroes of the Revolution" in the South. His collection is used by scholars around the world. This class will show you what is included in this collection and how to access it.

Date: 4/16/2013

Event Times: 1-3 pm

Instructor: Jim Hansen, Wisconsin Historical Society Genealogy Reference Librarian

Webinar: Genealogy, Where Do I Go Next?

There are various layers of genealogical research. If you have used the censuses, vital records and newspapers, this class will show you how to research advanced records for immigration, military, land and other aspects of our ancestors' stories. This is a great class if you have hit brick walls in your research.

Date: 4/22/2013

Time: 6-8 pm

Instructor: Lori Bessler, reference librarian

Webinar: Archival Collections

Archives hold a variety of original records for the genealogist. Land, military, probate and other records are found in archival collections. This class will identify archival collections at the Wisconsin Historical Society as well as describe how to find these collections in other institutions.

Instructor: Rick Pifer, Wisconsin Historical Society director of public services

Date: 5/1/2013

Event Time: 6-8 pm

Ticket Info for above webinars: \$25 for each one, Wisconsin Historical Society and Wisconsin State Genealogical Society members, \$30 for non-members

To Register: Contact Lori Bessler at 608-264-6519, via email at AskLibrary@wisconsinhistory.org or download a [printable registration form \(PDF 136 KB\)](#).



**Wisconsin
State
Genealogical
Society
2013
Gene-A-Rama**

When: April 5 & 6, 2013

Where: at the Plaza Suites,
201 N 17th Avenue, Wausau, Wisconsin
"Putting it all together: Methodology
and Resources!"

Featuring: Paula Stuart-Warren, CG

Hosted by: Marshfield Area Genealogical
Group. Complete Gene-A-Rama 2013
information is available at
wsgs.org/cpage.php?pt=108.



"Gene-A-Rama
bound" and
looking for a
ride or have a

ride to offer? Please contact Walker via
phone, 608.206.3182 or
walker@viridis.ws indicating which,
number of people and what your travel
dates/times will be. He will attempt to
match folks up as much as possible.



**Reunion Special
Interest Group**

When: April 13, 2013

Time: 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM

Location: Schaumburg Township District
Library

Calling all Apple users! Reunion is a
genealogy software program designed
specifically for Macintosh and also
available as an app for iPhone, iPod
Touch and iPad. Learn the tips and
tricks that will have you utilizing this
highly regarded program to its fullest.

Facilitator: Marscha Chenoweth For
more information regarding Reunion
go to: <http://www.leisterpro.com/>
<http://caggni.shuttlepod.org/>



May 8-11, 2013 - Las Vegas, Nevada

**Building New Bridges
2013 NGS Annual Conference
National Genealogy Society**

http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info

August 21-24, 2013 - Fort Wayne, IN



**Journey through Generations
2013 FGS Annual Conference
Federation of Genealogical
Societies**

<http://www.fgs.org/cpage.php?pt=43>

Read more about the program at

<https://www.fgsconference.org/program/>

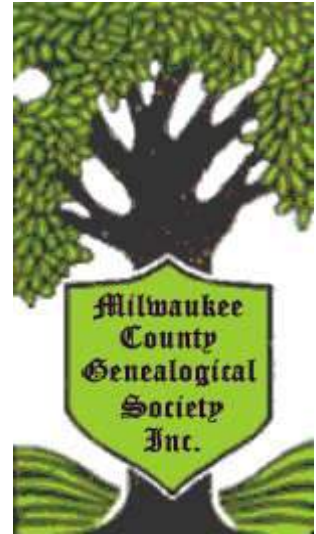


2013 Bus Trip to FGS

The Minnesota Genealogical Society
(MDS) is going to the **Federation of
Genealogical Societies (FGS)
Conference** in **Fort Wayne, Indiana**,
and you, too, can ride the bus!

The bus will leave Minnesota on August
20, 2013, returning August 25, and will
have a stop near Madison, Wisconsin.

If interested, please fill out the
[registration form](#). Someone from MGS
will contact you to make pick-up
arrangements.



Milwaukee County Genealogical
Society Inc. presents a workshop on
Saturday April 20, 2013. Location:
American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101
Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee,
Wisconsin. Phone 414-545-6030.
Registration starts at 8:15 AM and the
workshop ends at 4 PM.
For more information go to
[http://www.milwaukeegenealogy.org/
workshop.html](http://www.milwaukeegenealogy.org/workshop.html) where you can read
more about the speakers, topics, and
you can download a registration form.

**"Expanding Your Ancestry
through Technology"**



**OGS Annual Conference
Expanding Your Ancestry through
Technology
April 25-27, 2013** at the Millennium Hotel
West 150 Fifth St., Cincinnati, Ohio
<http://www.ogs.org/conference2013/>



President's Message:

=====|

I've written the last two months seeking your opinions and your ideas. My hope is that your lack of response indicates that we're doing a good job and that you're pleased with how things are going. This is great news! And I'm proud; the members that make up your board have spent considerable time thinking of how things can be even better. We are working to make sure that all things clerical are up-to-date. As we do this we are looking for what the next steps might be. We have written a survey to collect your opinions on those ideas. We ask that you take the 10 minutes it will take to complete the survey so that we know where to focus our attention. We will also use this information to guide policy decisions.

In this newsletter you will find a survey that you can complete and return either at the next membership meeting or via mail to our post office box. You can also complete the survey electronically at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9878VJW> Thank you for your time. Walker walker@viridis.ws



Genealogy Fair 2014

We would like to hold our next DCAGS Genealogy Fair in spring 2014.

If you would be interested in serving as chair, co-chair or as a member of the committee please let Walker Crawford know.

The former co-chairs will be happy to share materials from previous fairs and there are members who are willing to help.

Please join us so that we can again hold this popular event.

Icelandic girl allowed to keep 'masculine' name after winning court case.



A 15-YEAR-OLD Icelandic girl has been granted the right to legally use the name given to her by her mother, despite the opposition of authorities and Iceland's strict law on names.

Reykjavik District Court has ruled that the name "Blaer" can be used. It means "light breeze."

The decision overturns an earlier rejection by Icelandic authorities who declared it was not a proper feminine name. Until now, Blaer Bjarkardottir had been identified simply as "Girl" in communications with officials.

"I'm very happy," she said after the ruling. "I'm glad this is over. Now I expect I'll have to get new identity papers. Finally I'll have the name Blaer in my passport."

Like a handful of other countries, including Germany and Denmark, Iceland has official rules about what a baby can be named. Names are supposed to fit Icelandic grammar and pronunciation rules – choices like Carolina and Christa are not allowed because the letter 'c' is not part of Iceland's alphabet.

Blaer's mother, Bjork Eidsdottir, had fought for the right for the name to be recognized. The court ruling means that other girls will be also allowed to use the name in Iceland.

In an interview earlier this year, Eidsdottir said she did not know the name "Blaer" was not on the list of accepted female names when she gave it to her daughter. The name was rejected because the panel viewed it as a masculine name that was inappropriate for a girl.

Blaer had told the court she was very happy with her name and only had problems with it when she was dealing with state authorities who rejected it.

The court did not grant her any damages and government has not indicated whether it will appeal the decision to the Supreme Court.

<http://www.thejournal.ie/iceland-name-court-case-777371-Feb2013/>

Image: AP Photo/Anna Andersen, File

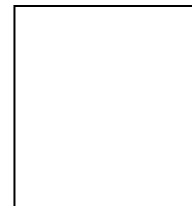
Dane County Area Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 5652
Madison, WI 53705-0652

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 on
April 4th**

**Become a Committee Member
One Position Open
Sign Up Today**

DCAGS Governing Board for 2012

President: Walker Crawford
walker@viridis.ws

Vice President: Jim Benes
jimbenes@iname.com

Secretary: DeAnn McAllan
d.mcallan@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Joyce Peterson
Jomay99@aol.com

Past President, Rollie Littlewood
rkittle@wisc.edu

Standing Committee Chairs

Membership: Walker Crawford
walker@viridis.ws

Programs & Education: Donna Johnson
Donna53705@aol.com

Public Relations: Vacant

Historian: Sandy Zart
sandy_zart@yahoo.com

Web Master: Rollie Littlewood
rkittle@wisc.edu

Newsletter: Pat Skubis
skubie27@live.com

*One Committee Chair
position remains open.
It is the public
relations position.*

*Being a Committee
Chair requires you to
attend the board
meetings that are held
once a month.*

*Each of the
committees could use
more members. All of
the committee chairs
would welcome help.*

*Attend a board
meeting and learn
more about how you
can participate.*