

THE POST

TO:

A M E R I C A

May 2012

VOLUME #14, ISSUE #5

MISSION STATEMENT *The mission of the Polk County Genealogical Society is to assist in the exchange and dissemination of information for genealogical investigations.*

VISION STATEMENT *The vision of the Polk County Genealogical Society is to empower those interested in developing concise, accurate and comprehensive family histories.*

PCGS Mailing Address:
PCGS
C/o **Judy Wester**
901 - 8th Street
Centuria, WI 54824

Polk County Genealogy Society
Membership List

Rosemary Phelps

Sue Rupp

Norma Holmbeck

Angie Rose

Joyce Homsey

Carolyn Terranova

Chuck Adleman & Carol Adleman

Jay Bergstrand & Joyce Bergstrand

Judy Wester

Patricia Courtier

Helen Stoltz-Wood

Muriel Pfeifer

Russ Adams & Dorothy Adams

Myrna Anderson

Gary Gauer & Grace Gauer

JoAnn Hallquist

Marguerite Hallquist

Eloise Kimball

Art Hawkinson & Nancy Hawkinson

Barb Bibeau

Judith Peterson

Kathryn Otto

Thank you **Judy Wester**

PCGS / Treasurer

SURNAME INDEX

Starting in this May 2012 issue of THE POST, PCGS **members and guests** are encouraged to enter their SURNAMEN from investigations they are (even sparingly) engaged in exploring. PLEASE join this index with the surnames **YOU** are researching.

All that is needed are the surnames,
(various spelling-O.K. limit/12 names)
and **your** contact information.

If possible an email address is always good, but for those who do not have email, a postal address is also welcomed.

Please see page 5 for the beginning list.

Thank you.

2012 Tentative Schedule

Refreshments usually served before each meeting. Summer Schedule ~ started in April our programs moved to evenings at 7 PM at the Luck Museum.

Due to Memorial Day the May PCGS program Meeting will be **Monday 21 May 2012 7:00 PM Luck** Historical Society Museum **Dorothy Adams** / Research Trip Preparations and **Muriel Pfeifer** on Civil War Ancestor Research. Field trip to Minnesota Genealogy Society House cancelled.

June PCGS program will be 25 June 2012 at 7:00 PM Luck Museum
Russ Hanson - Internet Hands on Help

July 2012 PCGS program will be the participation of PCGS members at the Polk County Fair beginning with a working meeting on **MONDAY 16 JULY 2012 10A-3P** to help clean up the Little Red Schoolhouse prior to the fair 26-29 July. PCGS will treat the workers to lunch at the church hall directly across from the schoolhouse.

August Program: PCGS member **Judy Wester** presenting Danish genealogy online.
23 July 2012 7:00 PM Luck Museum -

September 24 7:00 Luck Museum at the Luck Museum. PCGS member **Richard Kretzschmar** "Come Journey With Me"

ANTIQUA/GENEALOGICAL EXHIBITS AT THE 2012 POLK COUNTY FAIR

From: Gerianne Christensen
email 12 March 2012

<geriannemchristensen@gmail.com> "Antiques and Genealogy will be able to be entered in the Polk County Fair as they have every prior year. The Fairbooks will be available after April 16, 2012. We distribute them via local banks and the Extension Office. The Fairbook will also be available online. Last year's deadline for entries was June 10, 2011, I would expect this year's date to be similar. 715.263.2261

PCGS Websites

<www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wipolk/index2011a.html>

is the newly expanded Polk County Genealogy Website. Thank you:

Russ Hanson

Please check out this website and email a thank you and/or comments to the PCGS email address: <polkgen@gmail.com>



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Polk County Genealogical Society

(Name and email addresses)

Chair: **Kathy Clark**

rkmlark@centurytel.net

Vice-Chair: **Jay Bergstrand**

jbergstr@amerytel.net

Tech Support/Liaison w/Luck Museum:

Russ Hanson

riverroadrambler@gmail.com

Secretary: **Dorothy Adams**

adams2410@hotmail.com

Treasurer: **Judy Wester**

jwestdale@centurytel.net

Newsletter Editor: **Helen Stoltz-Wood**

helen.f.stoltz-wood@my.uwrf.edu

Alsace Websites

So do you suppose that those German ancestors of yours might have come from France instead of Germany? Specifically, from Alsace (Elsass in German) tucked up in the northeast corner of France. It is just across the Rhine River from Germany, bordering that country on both the east and the north. Through the centuries, control of Alsace bounced back and forth. For years it would belong to France, then Germany and then back again, depending on who won the last war. To this day, German surnames are very common there.

“The Imperial territory of Alsace-Lorraine (German: Reichsland Elsass-Lothringen) ... was a territory created by the German Empire in 1871 after it annexed most of Alsace and the Moselle region of Lorraine following its victory in the France-Prussian War. The Alsatian part lay in the Rhine Valley on the west bank of the Rhine River and east of the Vosges Mountains. The Lorraine section was in the upper Moselle Valley to the north of the Vosges Mountains. In relation to its special legal status, since its reversion to France following World War I, the territory has been referred to administratively as Alsace-Moselle.

“Upper Alsace (Oberelsaß), capital ~ Colmar corresponds exactly to the current department of Haut-Rhin.

“Lower Alsace (Unterelsaß), capital ~ Strasbourg corresponds exactly to the current department of Bas-Rhin.

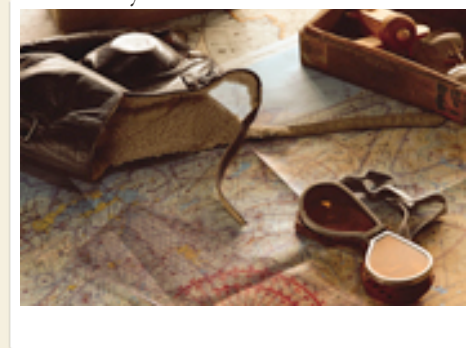
“Lorraine (Lothringen), capital ~ Metz, corresponds exactly to the current department of Moselle.” (1)

Emigration from Alsace to the United States was especially heavy during the 19th century, with many of those Alsatians settling in America’s midwest. The size of Alsace-Lorraine is less than 150 miles from north to south.

France is composed of one-hundred (100) departments, with two of them making up the area known as Alsace - #67 Bas-Rhin (Unterelsass in German) in the north and #68 Haut-Rhin (or Oberelsass) making up the south half. 2010 was a landmark year for descendants of those immigrants

from Alsace, as both Bas-Rhin and Haut-Rhin put their old church and civil records online. Both sites are in French, but, with persistence, a spirit of adventure and a genealogical word list, they can be navigated by those of us who do not know the language.

French records have a unique feature, the Tables decenalles , ten-year indexes of births, marriages and deaths. The writing is usually readable, which isn’t always the case with the original records. These indexes give dates for those events, making it much easier to locate the records themselves. The ten-year indexes do not cover all the record years.



To find records for Haut-Rhin, go to: <http://www.archives.cg68.fr.Services/Actes/Civils.aspx> Select your village (commune) click your choice under “Type d’acte”: Tables decenalles, Naissances (births), Mariages (marriages) or Deces (deaths). Click on “Rechercher”, choose the years and click on “Visualiser”. To go back to the home page, click on “Retour”

For Bas-Rhin, go to: <http://etat-civil.bas-rhin.fr.adeloch/index.php> First you agree to accept their conditions, then click on “Application flash”. Select the first letter of your village name, choose yours from the list. On the next screen, slide the bar along the bottom edge to the years you need, double click on the record you want. As with the records for Haut-Rhin, hold down on your left mouse button and you can move the record around the screen. Click on the screen to enlarge the image.

Genealogy Handout-Unsigned Article
(1) <http://en.wikipedia.org/Alsace-Lorraine>

Five Generations Project Publications

Published by General Society of
Mayflower Descendants

This series traces descendants of the Pilgrims down through the fifth generation to the birth of the sixth generation children. They are carefully researched and contain the best documented genealogical data

that is available (Hard cover books)

Edward Fuller	Edward Winslow
John Billington	Stephen Hopkins
Peter Brown	Degory Priest
Francis Eaton	Samuel Fuller
Edward Doty	Francis Cooke
William White	Myles Standish
James Chilton	John Alden
Isaac Allerton	Richard Warren
Thomas sRogers	Henry Samson
John Billington	William Bradford
John Howland	and Elizabeth Tilley

Dennis Vital Records

(Soft cover booklets in progress)

Robert Bartlett	William Brewster
Richard Church	Robert Cushman of Kent
Philip Delano	George Soule
Raynham Vital Records	

Mayflower Families

POB # 3297 Plymouth, MA 02361

History of East Immanuel Lutheran Church

Norwegian settlers from Black Brook and Alden townships originally chartered this congregation in 1870 having come up the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers by flat boats. A Frenchman, **Charles Vassau**, provided transportation from the river landing near **Stillwater, Minnesota** to **Wagon Landing** in **Alden** township, **Wisconsin**. Here the pioneers found the Babcock General Store, Post Office and Notary Public to serve their needs as newly arriving immigrants.

The charter members of this congregation were:

**Nils Otterson, Jakob Hougdaahl, Ole Monserud,
Hans P. Kulpen, Jonas Christianson,**

**Lauritz S. Selvig, Edward Larson, Ole O. Sundlie,
Peder Pederson, Hans Larson, Bryngel O. Solum,
Johannes Johnson, Ivor O. Aas, Andreas Larson,
Peder J. Gaudt, Anders P. Bjorholdt, Sijvert
Evenson, Peder Jakobson, Lars Bottolfson, John
Amundson, Even Sather, Torsten Halvorson, Jens
Syvertson, Peder Sather, Hans N. Putten,
Torger Halvorson, Andreas Fredrickson, Augustian
Hanson, Peder Ingebriktson, Torsten Olson, Ivar
Michaelson, Peder Frohre, Emil Olson
and Simon Hanson.**

The same year, congregants built a log church on a portion of land owned by **Peder Pederson** and became generally known by its location, "Blackbrook Church".

The first recorded business meeting on 1 March 1875 at the home of **Halvor Halvorson** dealt with establishing a cemetery. In the early years the members were assessed as the need arose. An example in one year, the assessment was \$.50 for the pastor's salary and \$.75 for a board fence around the church yard.

During 1872-1877 a bitter strife within the Norwegian Synod regarding doctrine divided families and neighbors. Some of the congregation withdrew from the Norwegian Synod and joined the newly formed Norwegian Danish Evangelical Conference and others withdrew to join with the **Little Falls Congregation**.

The worst depression of the times in 1893-1897 saw this congregation with a need to borrow money at 12% interest, when butter sold for 12 cents a pound and eggs for 6 cents a dozen. About this time a motion was passed at the business meeting to forbid smoking and spitting tobacco juice in church. Apparently it was not entirely effective as the matter was brought up at a later meeting.

Due to the continued strife in the Norwegian Synod, the East Immanuel congregation withdrew completely, operating as an independent congregation for a long time.

By 1902, **East Immanuel, Little Falls** and **West Immanuel** together called one Pastor to serve all three congregations until 1917 when **West Immanuel** separated to form its own parish and **Little Falls** joined with **Deronda** to form a joint parish. For the first time, **East Immanuel** was a parish on its own.

From History of the **East Immanuel Lutheran Church**,
Amery, Wisconsin **Article Unsigned**

POLK COUNTY NORMAL SCHOOL GRADS

Class of 1930

Anne Bibeau Eleanor Boettcher
 Ruby Buss Evelyn Eckstrand
 Alice Fladwood Laura Fuller
 LuLette Goldberg Martha Gundlach
 Agnes Hanson Mabel Hanson
 Gladys Harmer Viola Hjort
 Irene Iverson Ruth Larson
 Lillian Lind Viola Magnusen
 Agnes Peterson Florence Peterson
 Margaret Rostad Maybelle Rogers
 Florence Searl Selma Smith
 Gladys Swanson Myrtle Swanson

I Heard the School Bells Ringing
Jeanne Alling

PCGS Surname Index 2012

Member ID # Surname Surname Data

W 0009 Bach English
 W 0009 Bartel English
 S 0011 Beebe New York
 W 0009 Bille Danish
 S 0011 Boardman New York
 W 0009 Bush German
 S 0011 Cain Wisc / Ireland
 S 0011 Christiansen Denmark
 W 0009 Clapp English
 C 0013 Clark Vermont
 W 0009 Day English
 S 0011 Fay No. Dakota/Ireland
 S 0011 Hale Pennsylvania
 W 0009 Horn Danish
 W 0009 Jorgen Danish
 C 0013 Lund Norway
 C 0013 Lunde Norway
 C 0013 McCourt New York

C 0013 McLean Vermont
 W 0009 Pattishall English
 W 0009 Skow Danish
 S 0011 Stoltz Denmark
 S 0011 Thomas Ohio
 W 0009 Tretsven Danish
 W 0009 Welling Danish
 S 0011 Wood Cornwall, ON, CA
 C 0013 Young New York

PCGS Contact Information
 for Surname Index

Members ID# and Name / Email Address
 and/or Postal Address

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 W 0009 Wester, Judy
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Space saved for
Additional Names in our
Surname Index