

# THE POST

TO:

**A M E R I C A**

June 2012

VOLUME #14, ISSUE #6

**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

Thank you to:  
**Dorothy Adams**  
and  
**Muriel Pfeifer**  
for presenting the May  
genealogy program.

**Muriel's** program was on  
researching Civil War ancestors  
and **Dorothy** presented tips for  
taking a genealogy research  
trip.

Both of these ladies are long  
time PCGS members.  
Thanks again!

## POLK COUNTY FAIR

26, 27, 28, 29 July 2012

The PCGS membership, under the direction of

**Russ Hanson,**

has accepted the responsibility for coordinating

the exhibits as well as for staffing at the

**LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE**

during the four days of the county fair.

PCGS members: PLEASE bring

**genealogy** items as well as

**schoolhouse** items

for display in the schoolhouse.

(Wednesday 25 July 2012 is set-up day.)

Any questions please email **Russ** at:

<[riverroadrambler@gmail.com](mailto:riverroadrambler@gmail.com)>

WORK day on Monday 16 July 2012 at

the fair grounds starting at 10A-3P

Noon break - PCGS treats.

This article, from the *Amery Free Press*-May 2012 issue, is included in this June newsletter THE POST because the subject of genealogy entries in an open class at a local county fair MAY be a first ~ at least ~ that PCGS is aware. This little newsletter reaches many other societies, both throughout Wisconsin, the Allen County Library in Indiana, societies in other States across the United States and a couple of Canadian societies.

The idea was one of **Judy Wester's/PCGS** and **Dale Wood/Polk County Fair Board**. The judging was done by PCGS members, **Jay** and **Joyce Bergstrand** and myself. The exhibits are viewed by all who pass by the Antique's building and give good exposure to the hobby of genealogy..

PCGS member **Russ Hanson** wrote the majority of this article.

### **GENEALOGISTS** **prepare for the Polk County Fair**

The Polk County Genealogical Society reminds you to get your Polk County Fair entries in by 11 June 2012. You can pick up a fair booklet at most of the local banks in the county. The Polk County Genealogical Society, for the second year, is sponsoring eight genealogy entries under the Antiques Department in the open division.

Detailed information can be found at:

[<http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wipolk/>](http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wipolk/)

Lot #198, a family history book, is meant to be an original genealogical history of a local family done in the past five years and not previously submitted. Although this could be a family scrapbook, the judges are really looking for genealogical aspects including such things as:

- index and page numbers,
- details of family births, deaths, marriages, etc.,
- siting the sources for the information given,
- pictures of family members at work, at play, celebrating, perhaps family members attending a funeral, and/or at school,
- pictures of community events and neighbors are encouraged.

Please identify the people in the pictures. There were several great entries last year!

Lot # 199 is a family history on a disk, flash drive, or other computer readable media.

Lot numbers 200 and 201 are pedigree charts and descendant charts. These are what most people think of as family trees. Pedigree means your ancestors going back in time (i.e. Mom, Grandma, Great-Grandma ...) and descendant means going forward in time (i.e. Great Grandpa, Grandpa, Dad and yourself).

Lot 202 is a family group sheet. This is a special type of form used by genealogists to document a family. Normally it contains factual information about a couple and their children.

Lots 203 and 204 are: a Century Farm, meaning that one family holds title to a Polk County farm for 100 years and Century Family certificates, meaning that one family resided in Polk County for 100 years. The first is administered through the Wisconsin State Historical Society and the second through the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society.

The Polk County Genealogical Society (PCGS) will be at the Polk County Fair every day hosting the Little Red School House. Stop in to visit and learn more about searching for your roots.

In addition, every Mondays 1-3 PM at the Luck Historical Society Museum, PCGS has volunteers available to help you answer questions about fair exhibits and/or other genealogy related questions, including indexing the 1940 US Federal Census Project.

Please feel free to use this idea for your society at your local county fair.

**2012 Tentative Schedule**

**Refreshments usually served before each meeting.**

Summer Schedule ~ as of April our programs moved to evenings at 7 PM at the Luck Museum.

June PCGS program will be 25 June 2012 at 7:00 PM Luck Museum

**Russ Hanson** - Internet Hands on Help.

July 'program' will be a working session on Monday 16 July 2012 at the P. C. Fairgrounds

helping to clean up the

Little Red Schoolhouse prior to the fair.

Time: 10A-3P with a noon break

(PCGS will treat the workers to lunch at the church hall directly across from the schoolhouse)

Good time to bring any genealogy items or schoolhouse items for display.

NOTE: While there is a lock on the schoolhouse door - personal responsibility for your artifacts is necessary.

August Program: PCGS member

**Judy Wester** presenting

Danish genealogy online.

27 August 2012 7:00 PM Luck Museum -

September 24 7:00 program

at the Luck Museum.

PCGS member **Richard Kretzschmar**

"Come Take A Journey With Me"

October and November Programs TBA

December Holiday Event

Second Monday 10 December 2012

Noon Potluck ~ Luck Museum?

**PCGS Websites**

<[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wipolk/index2011a.html](http://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 a comment to the PCGS email address at:

<polkgen@gmail.com>



*Rhonus tempor placerat.*

**ANTIQUE / GENEALOGICAL EXHIBITS AT THE 2012 POLK COUNTY FAIR**

From: **Gerianne Christensen**

email 12 March 2012

<[geriannemchristensen@gmail.com](mailto:geriannemchristensen@gmail.com)>

"Antiques and Genealogy will be able to be entered in the Polk County Fair as they have every prior year.

Exhibits are to be brought to the Fair Park on Wednesday, July 25, 2012. Please feel free to contact me with any other questions or concerns. Thanks for being a part of the Polk County Fair!

**Gerianne Christensen,**

Polk County Fair Society POB # 435  
301 US Highway 63N Clear Lake, WI  
54005 715.263.2261"



**Polk County Normal School Grads**

Class of 1931

- Anna Anderson**
- Hazel Anderson**
- Iona Chell**
- Norma Fortman**
- Ethel Grant**
- Ellen Hedlund Mathias**
- Doris Hanson**
- Ruth Jackson**
- Gordon Johnson**
- Leora Johnson**
- Mauritz Johnson**
- Myron Johnson**
- John Larson**
- Marie McKenzie**
- Grace Paulson**
- Irene Peterson**
- Pearl Riley**
- Dess Schreiber**
- Max Seed**
- Mildred Setter**
- Gertrude Setter**
- Avis Everson**
- Amy Strom**
- Norma Swanson**
- Florence Tietz**
- Marjorie Young**

**Jeanne Alling**, Author  
*I Heard the School Bells Ringing*

CONGRATULATIONS  
 to

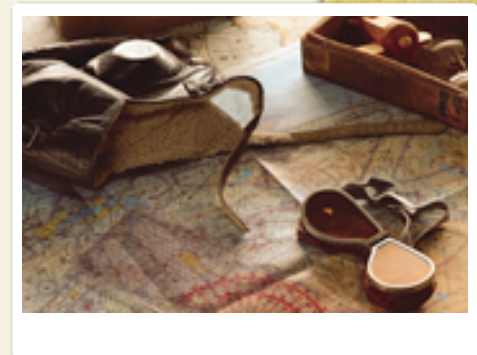
**Kathy Deiss**  
 on her retirement from the  
 position of St. Croix Valley Genealogy  
 Society Chairman after 15 terms.

**Job Well Done, Kathy!**  
 and a major welcome to  
**Judy Olsen**  
 who takes over from **Kathy.**

**Five questions to ask about every record:**

- 1 - Why was the record created?
- 2 - Who created the record you are seeking?
- 3 - Who provided the information that went into the record?
- 4 - How did you get the record?
- 5 - What are alternative sources of support ?

<<http://michaelhait.wordpress.com>>



**BOOK NEWS**

submitted by **Judy Wester** PCGS member  
*History of the St. Croix Valley,*

Edited by **Augustus B. Easton**, was reprinted in 2010 and available in paperback and hard cover. It is also digitalized so that you can read it and of course, it will find the name(s) you are looking for and bring up that page@ [http://books.google.com/books/about/History\\_of\\_the\\_Saint\\_Croix\\_Valley.html?id=GxEwAAAAyAAJ](http://books.google.com/books/about/History_of_the_Saint_Croix_Valley.html?id=GxEwAAAAyAAJ)

(Editor's note of caution:

this can be a wonderful source of information, however, in this and in ALMOST ALL "Mug" books - the script was submitted by the person that is being interviewed SO rarely is anything printed that would not be complimentary. I suspect the alleged family 'horse thief' will NOT be found in any of the 'Mug' book.)

**NORLANDSIAGET STEVNE**

26-28 June 2012

**Stillwater, Minnesota**

Nordlandslaget of America, a heritage group for descendants of Norwegian emigrants from the northern Norway counties of Nordland, Finnmark and Troms, will hold their annual Stevne in Stillwater, MN , 26-28 June 2012. Headquarters for the event will be The Lexington Inn and Suites.

For additional information please contact **Nancy Hawkinson** at 715.549.6872 or email at [nhawk@spacestar.net](mailto:nhawk@spacestar.net).

Polk County Genealogy Society's  
"Second Saturday"

responsibilities at the Archives-UWRF continues on Saturday 9 June 2012. The Archives is open from 10:00 - 4:40 PM.

Please know that if you are not able to contribute time for the entire day - for however many hours you can spare,- the Archives will be happy for your assistance.

The assigned months for PCGS are  
Feb / Jun / Oct

**PCGS Surname Index 2012**

*Member ID # Surname Surname Data*

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

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

**PCGS Contact Information**

***for the Surname Index***

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

**C 0013 Clark, Kathy**  
<[rkmclark@centurytel.net](mailto:rkmclark@centurytel.net)>

**S 0011 Stoltz-Wood**  
**726 Seventh Street, Hudson, WI 54016**  
<[helen.f.stoltz-wood@my.uwrf.edu](mailto:helen.f.stoltz-wood@my.uwrf.edu)>

**W 0009 Wester, Judy**  
<[jwestdale@centurytel.net](mailto:jwestdale@centurytel.net)>

### Progress of the 1940 census Indexing project

In the two months since the release of the 1940 US Federal Census, the Community Indexing Project announced that over **41 million** census records are now indexed by over **101,000** volunteers. Nineteen state indexes are complete or nearly so and will be online soon - some already are, so check it out.

Wisconsin is 16% complete and

Minnesota 28% complete.

Completed indexes that are online can be found at:

FamilySearch website [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

or at

FindMyPast [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com)

and at

Archives.com [www.archives.com](http://www.archives.com).

PCGS is a partner with FamilySearch in this effort. If you are interested in learning about this project or need some additional assistance,

**Russ Hanson** will be available at the PCGS

Monday 25 June 2012 - 7:00PM Program at the Luck Museum for assistance with the census indexing project and/or other computer research questions.

### Some 1940 Census Trivia

#### Top 10 Girl's Names

Mary  
Linda  
Barbara  
Patricia  
Carol  
Sandra  
Nancy  
Sharon  
Judith  
Susan

#### Top 10 Boy's Names

James  
Robert  
John  
William  
Richard  
David  
Charles  
Thomas  
Michael  
Ronald

Thanks, **Nancy Hawkinson**  
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### Recipes

of the Great Depression  
of the 1930's by **Rita Van Amber**

### Dandelion Dinner

No meal was more eagerly awaited for and enjoyed with more relish than the springtime dandelion dinner. The best dandelions were found partially under leaves. They were gathered by the dishpan full as soon as they made their appearance. To clean them the top of the leaves were held together while the bottom root part was cut away. After shaking out the very inner growth and discarding it, the tender stems and leaves were put into another large pan and were thoroughly washed.

Bacon or side pork was fried and removed to a serving dish. Vinegar was added to an equal part of drippings in the pan. Several hard boiled eggs were sliced over the cut up greens, a potato was crushed into it, (hot from the boiled potato kettle) and the vinegar dressing was poured over hot from the stove. The large salad was tossed lightly and served with the boiled potatoes and side pork or bacon. No gravy was needed or ever wanted with this dinner. The unique piquant flavor of the greens blended just right with the plain mealy potatoes. Very large bowls of this salad were consumed as long as the dandelions were in season.

Dandelions were also prepared by steaming them and adding a similar dressing. They were popular in most communities as were another green called lambs quarters. These were always steamed and prepared like spinach. By the time the dandelion season came to an end the young beets were sprouting their tender leaves, except through the drought when only weeds grew. These greens survived the dry weather longer than the gardens and grains.

The drought was a climatic disaster lasting from  
1933 - 1937.

**D. C. Stensrud**