

Polk County Genealogical Society, Polk County Wisconsin

THE POST

TO:

A M E R I C A

August 2012

VOLUME #14, ISSUE # 8

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.*

Thank you

to **all** PCGS members who not only cleaned the Little Red Schoolhouse in mid-July but also to those who staffed the Little Red Schoolhouse for the four days of the Polk County Fair. Thanks to:

Margo and Russ Hanson

for spearheading PCGS' part in cleaning AND staffing the schoolhouse for many, many shifts.

Thanks also to:

Judy Wester

Jay Bergstrand

Kathy Clark

Helen Stoltz-Wood

PCGS August Board Meeting

at the Luck Museum on

Monday 27 August 2012

1:00 PM

PCGS Mailing Address

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

2012 PCGS Fair Exhibitors & Awards

Family History Book

Judy Wester - First Prize & Grand Champion

Dorothy Adams - Second Prize

Angie Denotter - Third Prize

Family Group Sheet

Judy Wester - First Prize

Pedigree Chart

Judy Wester - First Prize

Descendant Chart

Joan Sorenson - First Prize

CONGRATULATIONS one and all!

Thank You to **Alyssa Autin** as judge.

2011-2012 Tentative Schedule

Refreshments during each meeting.

Summer Schedule April-October

Programs evenings (7PM-9PM)

at the Luck Museum, Luck, Wisconsin

August Program: Thursday 23 August 7:PM

In conjunction with the Luck Historical Society
 Luck Museum **Shaila Johnson**
 New Home Cemetery Kiosk

September Program:

Richard Kretzschmar PCGS member

"Come Take A Journey With Me" Monday 24
 September 2012 7:00 PM Luck Museum

October Program TBA

**NOTE: Fall program schedule in effect:
 Time: Afternoon gatherings beginning with
 the November 2012 thru March 2013 due to
 possible unfavorable weather conditions.**

November Program

Mary Jane Bridge / SCVGS member

"Genealogy Data From Probate Records"
 Monday 2:00 PM Luck, Wisconsin

December Holiday Event

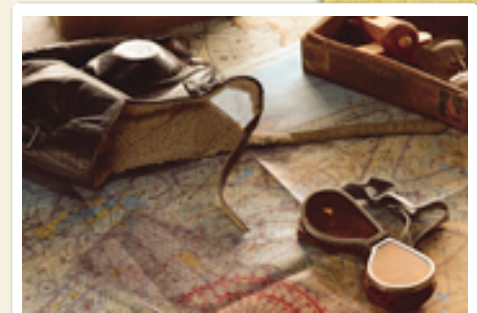
Second Monday 10 December 2012
 Noon Potluck - Luck Museum

PCGS Websites

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

is the newly expanded Polk
 County Genealogy Website.

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



Rhonus tempor placerat.

Siblings document cemetery history

Whitehall, Wisc. (AP)

Charting and photographing cemeteries might not seem
 like a popular item on someone's list after retirement,
 however, **Jim Seidelman** is doing just that and the work
 is proving to be extremely valuable.

Seidelman, of L.A. California and his sister, **Sue Feltes**

of Osseo have produced about 24 collections of
 cemeteries in the Eau Claire area and are working on
 others.

Seidelman learned of a grave marker website
 (Findagrave perhaps) which listed obituaries and other
 items of interest to genealogists.

Seidelman photographs complete cemeteries and
 includes as much information as possible, including
 charting out the locations of various graves. "There is a
 lot of history in cemeteries", **Seidelman** added.

From information in the
Amery Free Press/18 July 2012

Polk County Normal School Grads

Class of 1933

Marion Yde	Dorothy Johnson
Margaret Frokjer	Ethel Schiebel
Grace Thompson	Hazel Crearer
Doris Dueholm	George Hodson
Gladys Smith	Arnold Kooes
Dorothy Engels	Minerva Ostgard
Vivian Westlund	Karl Korting
Earl McKenzie	Karen Anderson
Evelyn Holen	Phyllis Peabody
Edna Potter	Gordon Holmgren
Thora Peterson	Clara Paulson
Ethel Johnson	Lorraine Blanch
Russell Vold	Edwin Shern
Irene Brunclik	Charles Williams
Adeline Hurley	Harriet Hendrickson

Jeanne Alling, Author
I Heard the School Bells Ringing

Don't Quote me, But . . .

*A sporadic Standard-Press Column - by R.E.V.
 One of the last of the country schoolhouses in Polk County was the Laketown District #3 Lanesdale school. The school has since been preserved as the "typical one-room schoolhouse" by the Polk County Historical Society [and at present is located at the Polk County Fairgrounds.]*

*Interesting tidbits from R.E.V.'s column include:
 The Lanesdale school was organized in Laketown District #3 in 1874. The first teacher was*
Euphemia Densmore.

The Lanesdale school integrated with Luck in 1957. However, there was much discussion at the time as to whether the school should integrate with St. Croix Falls or with Luck.

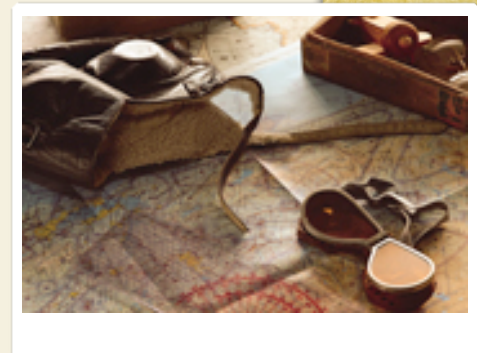
There were as many as 82 pupils in the one-room school at the time that **Emma Erickson (Mrs. George Hanson)** *of Cushing taught there in 1910-1912. The previous teacher was:* **Lily Peterson (Mrs. Alert Larson)** *in 1908. Other teachers included:* **Marion Nelson (1912-1914); Hazel Torgerson (1915) Bertha Anderson (1916) and Esther Hammerstrom (1918). Howard Jorgenson (1932-1940). Also: Hannah Wallin, Florence Burnstead, Mrs. Eugene Jensen, Jeanette Ditlefsen, Mrs. Arne Erickson, Mildred Glassel, Mrs. Helen Chase, Mrs. Elaine Jensen, Elsie Wicklund, Helen Fischer, Mrs. Virginia Larson, Loretta Kuhl, Mrs. Sylvia Lindberg, the last teacher after the District integrated.**

1940 Indexing Project for U.S. Federal Census

FamilySearch announced the addition of Minnesota and Rhode Island to the list of completed and searchable states in the 1940 US Census Indexing Project. To date (11 July 2012) **84.35%** of the entire collection has been indexed (with 31 states fully indexed) and are available for searching at <FamilySearch.org>

Wisconsin is 79% completed!

Thanks **Darcy Brook SCVGS** member



Recipes of the Great Depression of the 1930s -

Janet Van Amber Paske

For breakfast, **Anna Clech** of Menomonie, WI prepared a large pan of oatmeal so there would surely be a supply of leftovers for supper. Any cereal left over from breakfast was packed into loaf pans and chilled in the pantry. In the evening the cold cereal was sliced and fried in lard until brown on both sides and served with corn syrup out of a half-gallon pail. Children, even today, remember that they never tired of this delicious fried oatmeal.

Helen Cichy of Minnesota lent variety to her breakfasts with serving wheat berries directly from the granary. Wheat was washed and using a heavy pan was covered with water, with a good lid and brought to a boil. Proportions are 1 cup of wheat berries to 2 cups of water. Once boiling it was moved back on the wood stove to simmer for several hours. It was warmed up in the morning and served with rich milk or light cream and honey.

To provide Vitamin C when no oranges were available the German settlements relied heavily on sauerkraut for dinner. Tomatoes were used at breakfast served in a berry bowl with sugar added and cream poured over all. Exceptionally good with fresh bread and coffee.

Morning coffee was always full strength with children having a half-cup adding milk. Throughout the day water was added to the grounds and brought to a boil for further refreshments.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**-SAR-**

For those interested in their families joining the **SAR**, the first step recommended is visiting the national **SAR** website at <www.sar.org>

continue on to the "Membership" tab, next to "Getting Started" and then to the "Worksheet Application." This is the standard application form. The form is intended to be printed on legal size paper. If the applicant tries to print the form out on regular size paper, it will shrink the spaces so small that writing becomes almost impossible, or it will cut off part of the form, depending on the printer. An alternative is that a paper copy can be sent by snail mail but a postal mailing address is, of course, necessary.

The next step is to find the instructions for completing the form. Click on the large yellow word "Genealogy" on the home page of the national **SAR** website, scroll down toward the bottom of the menu to "Genealogy Policies" and "Application Preparation Manual." Click on the Manual; the applicant may wish to print out all or part of the Manual for future reference.

SAR does accept fully documented DAR applications as supporting documentation. A Record Copy is an official copy obtained from the national headquarters of the DAR or **SAR**. A Record Copy can be ordered online or by post. To order a DAR Record Copy, go to the national DAR website at <www.dar.org> The online orders take much less time to obtain and the cost is \$10.00 versus \$15.00 when a paper copy is ordered by post. The mail order copies generally take about three weeks to arrive.

The applicant will need to submit enough documents to show the candidate's relationship to the Patriot ancestor. A copy of the candidate's birth certificate and the marriage certificate of the candidate's parents are both required with the application.

The way the **SAR** application process works, is as follows:

- 1) The applicant needs to obtain and complete the application form. Then send the completed form to a New Member Helper along with one copy of the needed documents proving the family lineage from the candidate back to the Patriot ancestor.
- 2) The New Member Helper will review the application package to verify the lineage. Then the family data will be entered into the Application-Aid program on the computer and a Draft copy will be printed and mailed to the applicant.

- 3) The applicant will review the Draft copy for accuracy and completeness. If the Draft copy is okay, the applicant will let the New Helper Member know and the final copies will be printed for signatures on special **SAR** provided water-marked paper. If changes or additions are needed, the New Member Helper will make the changes before printing the final copies.

- 4) The final copies will be mailed back to the applicant for the candidate's signature. After both copies of the forms have been signed, they get returned to the New Member Helper along with two checks. One check is made out to "NSSAR Treasurer General" for \$110.00 (\$80.00 - national application fee + \$30.00 first year national dues). The 2nd check is made out to "WISSAR" for \$20.00 state application fee. The application fee is a one time cost. The first years dues are waived in Wisconsin at the state and chapter level.

Do not send any checks for fees before the final signed copies are returned.

- 5) When the New Member Helper receives the signed forms and checks, that person will make sure the sponsors sign the forms. Then the entire application package is assembled and mailed on its way for final approval.

The form has spaces on page two for the signatures of two current **SAR** members as sponsors. These may be family members or friends that are **SAR** members or if the applicant wishes the New Member Helper can be the candidate's sponsor and/or obtain the signature of another local member to sign as a co-sponsor.

There are five **SAR** chapters that meet in and around the Wisconsin cities of: Madison, Milwaukee, Racine/Kenosha, Eau Claire/Menomonie and rotating locations within the Fox River Valley area.

PLEASE, do not use any highlighters on any of the documents.

Bob Stone

WISSAR Genealogist

<ristone@chorus.net>

608.271.7217

2113 Manor Green Drive
Madison, WI 53711-3571

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
P 0021	Hughes	Ohio
W 0009	Jorgen	Danish
C 0013	Lund	Norway
C 0013	Lunde	Norway
C 0013	McCourt	New York
C 0013	McLean	Vermont
P 0021	Morgan	Ohio
W 0009	Pattishall	English
P 0021	Pfeifer	Germany
P 0021	Poppe	Germany
P 0021	Rockwell	Wisconsin
P 0021	Showalter	Switzerland
W 0009	Skow	Danish
S 0011	Stoltz	Denmark
S 0011	Thomas	Ohio
W 0009	Tretsven	Danish
S 0011	Wakeling	England

W 0009

S 0011

C 0013

Welling

Wood

Young

Danish

Cornwall, Ont. CA

New York

PCGS Contact Information

for the Surname Index

Members ID # and Name/Email Address

and/or Postal Address

*C 0013 Clark, Kathy

<rkmclark@centurytel.net>

*S 0011 Stoltz-Wood, Helen

726 Seventh Street, Hudson, WI 54016

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

*W 0009 Wester, Judy

<jwestdale@centurytel.net>

*P 0021 Pfeifer, Muriel Morgan

504 Wisconsin Avenue / Apt # 3B

Amery, Wisconsin 54001

715.268.6578

<mpfeifer@amerytel.net>

Space saved for additional surnames

Luck Museum Staffed by PCGS Volunteers

The PCGS members are meeting the challenge to staff the Luck Area Historical Society Museum **every** Monday afternoon (1:00-4:00 PM) to serve the public with their family history research.

PCGS Members, if you have 3 hours to share please volunteer by calling PCGS member **Judy Wester** at **715.646.1447**

to schedule a Monday that works for you.

A Whisper in the Wind**Prologue**

As I drive through the back roads and along main highways of Polk County, Wisconsin, I wonder about the people who settled here. They put their hopes and dreams into this area as they raised their families, cut the trees and tilled the soil.

Yet, we drive by crumbling foundations and vacant buildings, signs of times past. Where are these people? The thriving communities? These towns/villages called faded, paper or ghost towns ~ what happened to them? Are they just a 'whisper in the wind' or can we remember a time when this was a bustling region with stories needing to be told?

After looking in the history books and in the memories of those who lived in these areas, we find more than thirty (30) places, here in Polk County, which at one time were bustling communities. Now there are only crumbling foundations, an historic sign or just the vivid memories of those who lived there, when they were young or the stories they remember being told at their parents' knee on cold winter evenings. Stories of the difficulties in settling this area, the soil, the weather, shared with love from the souls of these inhabitants.

Atlas

Atlas was established on May 18, 1895. It is located in Laketown Township, Section 4. **E. E. Husband** writes: "**Jacob Livensparger**, a brother of **Daniel**, built a store in 1877. There were two blacksmith shops, the first built by **O.N. Gronlund** and the second by **August Gross**. **Peter Olson** built the first saw mill at the foot of Long Lake in 1875." We can assume the above refers to the settlement of Atlas, since there were no other hamlets in that area. On an old map the lake at Atlas is called Long Trade Lake. There was a creamery built at Atlas after the community became a dairy region.

Muriel Morgan Pfeifer

[<mpfeifer@hotmail.com>](mailto:mpfeifer@hotmail.com)

Subject Line: **Whisper**

Long time PCGS Member

Free Internet Genealogy Sites

by **Russ Hanson** at:

riverrambler.blogspot.com

FamilySearch.org

Findagrave.com

<www.more.lib.wi.us> for

Newspaper Archives

Badgerlink

HeritageQuest

Ancestry.com also has **some** free stuff as well

THE POST

is once again being mailed to as many Polk County Libraries as email addresses are made available. If you have the email address for a nursing home or senior housing complex that you would like a copy be emailed to, please inform one of the PCGS Board members. Thank you.

Stoltz-Wood wins Historical/ Genealogical Award

The Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS)

in conjunction with the

Wisconsin State Genealogical Society (WSGS), awarded

Helen Stoltz-Wood,

of Hudson the 2012 Genealogy/Family History Book

Award of Merit for

"*From Denmark to Wisconsin:*

One Family-Two Ships 1641-2011."

Columns,

The Newsletter of The Wisconsin Historical Society

Vol. 33 No. 4 July-August 2012, pg13

The award is given to the author of a genealogy book that best documents the history of a Wisconsin family and in the opinion of an independent panel of judges, made the most valuable contribution to public understanding of Wisconsin's past during the preceding calendar year.

"*From Denmark to Wisconsin*"

tells the saga of a Danish-American family from the 17th century in Denmark, through their 19th century immigration to northwestern Wisconsin to the present, primarily in Polk and St. Croix Counties.

Extensively documented from Danish and American records and well-illustrated,

"*From Denmark to Wisconsin*"

provides historical context to illustrate the 'whys' as well as the 'hows' of a family's history.

The Wisconsin Historical Society's Board of Curators approved the award at its meeting in Bayfield, Wisconsin on 23 June 2012.

WHS Award Letter