

THE POST

TO:

A M E R I C A

March 2012

VOLUME #14, ISSUE #3

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*

Wisconsin Historical

Society holds the records for the Circuit Court of Polk County with regard to Naturalization records 1855-1954:

Records of naturalization cases in the Circuit Court of Polk County, Wisconsin include: Declarations of Intention (1859-1952), Certificates of Naturalization (1859-1906); Petitions (1859-1954), Indexes to these records (1855-1954); Repatriations (1941-1944); Orders Granting and Denying Petitions (1929-1954) and Certificates of Naturalization Stub Books (1907-1929)

*<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/1711.di/wiarchives.uw-whs-polk0032>

PCGS Mailing Address:

PCGS

C/o Judy Wester

901-8th Street

Centuria, Wisc. 54824

HELP WANTED

at the Luck Historical Society Museum
on Mondays 1-4 pm.

The 1940 Census Community Project

The PCGS members who staff the Luck Museum every Monday were searching for a service project to support the hobby of family history as a whole and genealogy within Polk County in particular. **Russ Hanson** PCGS member recently registered the Polk County Genealogy Group with the FamilySearch Indexing project allowing PCGS members to begin helping with this project. When the staffers are not assisting guests, who come to the Luck Museum for guidance with a genealogy question, participating in indexing the 1940 Census Community Project will become their goal. (Continue on page 4)

2011-2012 Tentative Schedule

Refreshments served
at each meeting.

4th Monday 26 March 2012

2:00 pm

**Luck Historical Society Museum
Records for Pre-1790 Research.
BEFORE first census records' to
prove ancestry.**

4th Monday 23 April 2012

2:00 pm

**Luck Historical Society Museum
Russ Hanson - Internet
(Hands-on help)**

4th Monday 28 May 2012 Field

trip to Minnesota Genealogy
Society House

on Concord Street in So. St. Paul
Carpooling will be available.

NOTE: If you have a suggestion for a
program, PLEASE do not hesitate to
share that idea with a board member.
Scheduling for the 2012 fall ~ 2013
spring season is already in the planning
stages. Thank you.

Remember:

The Luck Historical Museum is
hosting a **"DO MORE TOGETHER"**
event with history/genealogical
societies sharing and learning from
each other. All such societies are
welcome. Please call
Judy Wester at 715. 646.1447 or
Chuck Adleman at 715.472.4378 for
additional information.

Thursday 8 March 2012 1-3 PM

**Luck Historical Society Museum
Luck, Wisconsin**

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:

Marie Loughlin, Judy Wester
and most recently
Russ Hanson



FamilySearch <www.familysearch.org>

FamilySearch is the website of the Family
History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City. Owned
by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day
Saints (The Mormons), the FHL is the largest
genealogical library in the world. At this
website you are able to search for an ancestor
in Historical Records or Family Trees, or
Browse All Records Collections from here.

Historical Records includes searches in
numerous collections - in most cases you can
either view an image of the original record or
information extracted from the records; in
other cases you will only see an index with
links to other websites online that may be
subscription sites; or an index may not yet be
available, but you can browse the images.

(continued on page 3)

Polk County Normal School Grads

Class of 1928
Norma C. Bailey
Gertrude Brandt
Hilda Eden
Dorothy
Erickson
Edna Fuller
Clarence Holstrom
Delephine Holstrom
Delia Holmberg
Marion Jensen
Emaer Johnson
Viola Jones
Howard Jorgenson
Margaret Klimper
Johanna Larson
Emma Larson
Mrs. Cora Monty
Olga Mae Olson
Marion Patterson
Evelyn Preston
Selma Severson
Lester Swanson
Marjorie Vold
Ann Wickstrom

Jeanne Alling, Author
I Heard the School Bells Ringing

WISCONSIN GENEALOGY RECORDS

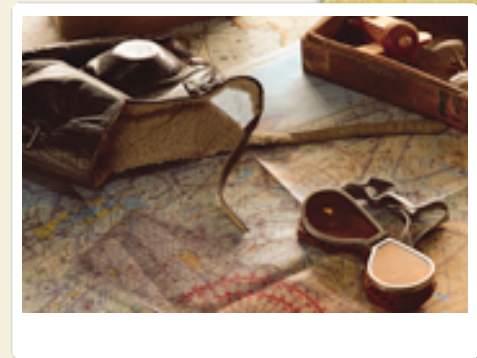
Search Wisconsin genealogy records such as cemeteries, births, obituaries, city directories, surnames, genealogy queries, census records and more from this web page. Go to the home page for other states as well.

ONLINE WISCONSIN GENEALOGY DATABASES:

Wisconsin Public Records
Wisconsin Genealogy Guide
Wisconsin Birth Records
Wisconsin Death Records
Wisconsin Marriage Records
Wisconsin Obituaries

WISCONSIN GEN RECORDS CON'T

Wisconsin Birth Certificates
Wisconsin City Directories
Birth Parent Search/AdopteeConnect.com
Wisconsin Cemeteries - FREE
Wisconsin Genealogy Records - FREE
Wisconsin Genealogy Queries - FREE



FamilySearch - continued from page 2

Historical Records in FamilySearch include:
 * U.S. Fed Census Records 1850-1930
 * Canadian Census Records 1851,1871-1891
 * Eng/Wales Census 1841-1861;1881-1901
 * State Census Records (varies by state)
 WI 1855,1857-1901; MN 1857, 1865-1905
 * Vital Records: WI Births 1826-1926;
 Marriages 1836-1930; Deaths 1835-1968
 MN Births 1840-1980; Marriages 1849-1950
 MN Deaths 1835-1990
 * SSDI (Social Security Death Index)
 * Naturalization Records
 * NY Passenger Lists -Ellis Island with links to www.ellisland.org
 * Military Records: Civil War Pension Index
 Revolutionary War Pension & Bounty Land
 Records; WWII Draft Registrations 1942
 * International Vital Records
 * IGI International Genealogical Index
 * Many more collections - click Browse
 Collections

UELAC and the Genealogy Quest

The "Vision" of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada is "to enrich the lives of Canadians through fostering public awareness of our national history, and, in particular, of the United Empire Loyalists and their contributions to Canada, while also celebrating their memory and perpetuating their heritage as an integral part of the Canadian identity." However, many family historians turn to the Dominion website, www.uelac.org with the hope of finding that one elusive ancestor who settled the growing country.

The key accessible resource for many is the *Loyalist Directory*. It began in 2004 as a special project of a few UELAC volunteers who got together to organize and present information on individual Loyalists. The first phase entailed transcribing the UEL Executive List which was created by the government of Upper Canada in the late 1700's. Although that list has about 3,000 names, there is very little information on each individual. Since then, names have been added from several sources - the Loyalist certificates issued since 1971 by UELAC, a historic list of Loyalists of New Brunswick, a ship's passenger list, and data from loyalist descendants. Without counting, the list is probably about 7,000 names now. Unfortunately, the directory will never be complete given the poor records from the late 18th and early 19th centuries in Canada.

The directory also indicates which lineage has been proven and the branches from which the application was made. This enables genealogists to confer and compare proofs used and needed.

Individual UELAC branch genealogists assist their members in tracing information required for the applications for the *Certificate of Loyalist Lineage*. As noted in the Directory, some applications are made far from where the loyalist first settled.

A synopsis of the struggles of the Loyalist is also given in many branch newsletters such as the *Hamilton Loyalist*. (<http://uel-hamilton.com/current.pdf>) UELAC also makes effective use of its electronic newsletter, *The Loyalist Trails*, and the social network of Twitter and Facebook to tell the story of the United Empire Loyalists and make connections for both genealogists and historians.

Thank you/UELAC

About the 1940 Census Community Project - (continued from page 1)

On April 2, 2012, images of the 1940 U.S. Federal Census will be released for the first time. Unlike previous census years, images of this census will be made available as free digital images.

Upon its release, the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project, a joint initiative between Archives.com, FamilySearch, findmypast.com, and other leading genealogy societies and organizations, will coordinate efforts to provide quick access to these digital images and immediately start indexing these records to make them searchable online with free and open access.

Interest in the 1940 U.S. Census is both significant and sentimental because it documents what is often referred to as "The Greatest Generation" of U.S. citizens. As a group, these are individuals who:

- Survived the Great Depression
- Fought in the Second World War
- Innovated technology (TV, Microwave)

There are many people still alive today who will be able to find themselves in the 1940 U.S. Federal Census. Others will be able to readily connect with relatives they knew personally or through family stories. Imagine the great resource this will be to current and future society members!

Email from **Darcy Brock**
SCVGS member
6 February 2012

Why the 72 Year Rule for U.S. Census Privacy

Currently, United States population census schedules are confidential for seventy-two (72) years from their official census dates. The designated 1940 census day for example, was 1 April, but that day will fall on a Sunday in 2012, thus an anticipated 2 April 2012 release. You may hear that the 72 year period reflects the life expectancy of the U.S. population at the time of the rule implementation, but that appears to be baseless. There are larger issues involving the codification of the rule in 1978 that present genealogists should be aware.

After the fire,, smoke and water damage at the U.S. Commerce Building in Washington D.C. in January 1921 effectively destroyed much of the 1890 census, it was apparent that a permanent federal archives was needed. The National Archives (NA) was formed in 1934 and in 1984 became the National Archives and Records Administration. NA's physical headquarters opened in 1935 in Washington D.C.

In 1975, James E. O'Neill, Acting Archivist of the U.S., commented that "Shortly after the National Archives was established and population census schedules transferred to the Archives, the Director of the Bureau of Census and the Archivist of the United States agreed that early population census records, 1790-1870, would be opened to all researchers immediately. The 1870 census records were made available when they were transferred to the Archives in 1942, 72 years after the census was taken. This established the 72-year precedent for restrictions on population census records." Those early censuses had been taken with no privacy or confidentiality restrictions; the original 1870 schedule, for example, went to the county courthouse for public access after the enumeration.

Roots-Key

Journal/Jewish Genealogical Society of L.A.
Volume 28, Issue 2, Summer 2008

ONE-STEP WEBPAGES

Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools

<steve@stevemorse.org>

The One-Step Website consists of about 200 tools ranging from Ellis Island searches to bidding on eBay. The tools are organized into sixteen (16) different sections and in general, the tools make other websites easier to use.

For example:

- * Ellis Island search forms and ship arrivals using three One-Step forms for searching for passengers in the Ellis Island database. The White and Gold forms ~ 1890-1924, and the All-New-York-Arrivals forms ~ 1820-1957.
- * Castle Garden Years/Other N.Y. Arrivals
- * Other Ports of Immigration
- * U.S. Census and *Maps
- * Births, Deaths & Other Vital Records
- * Characters in Foreign Alphabets
- * Other One-Step Webpages

The PIPOST

Nancy Hawkinson, Editor

Volume 27, Number 4, March 2012

Beginning Norwegian Genealogy Workshop

21 April 2012 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Hudson House Grand Hotel

Hudson, Wisconsin

Tronderlag of America will be conducting it's second Genealogy Workshop on the afternoon of 21 April 2012 at the Hudson House Grand Hotel, Hudson, WI.

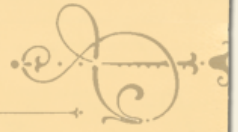
The seminar will be taught by Lag Genealogist **Barry Dahl**. The cost will be \$15.00, which will include a year of membership in the Lag.

Tronderlag of America is a bygdslag (lag) - an organization or association of emigrants and their descendants from the Trondellag region (middle) of Norway. Lags were established in the U.S. to maintain the ties to the homeland and provide a place for those emigrants to assemble at least once a year.

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Volume 27, Number 4, March 2012



January 2009

Issue No. Seventeen

apple.com/iwork

