

THE POST

TO:

AMERICA SEPTEMBER 2014 VOLUME #16 ISSUE # 09

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.*

**Polk County
Genealogical Society**

Thank you to
Dr. Kurt Leichtle,
for the interesting informal
lecture and Q and A session
at the 25 August 2014
class meeting at the **RRC**
within the Luck Museum.
Dr. Leichtle spoke on how
family letters and stories can
be saved and shared in a
genealogy project and in turn
how those stories add to what
becomes public history.

DUES!
2015 PCGS Dues
\$5.00 yearly
Please mail to
Judy Wester
901-8th Street
Centuria, WI 54824

Thank You.

Monday 22 September 2014

Northwest Regional Writer's, under the
direction of:

Denis Simonson and
Russ Hanson

are making a presentation to
PCGS members on creating an e-
book. **10:00-11:30 a.m.**

Why self-publish your book;
Selecting a mentor;
Getting your information in digital form;
Choosing the book format;
Assembling the digital pieces into
a single print-ready file;
Creating a cover;
The electronic publishing steps;
Proofing your book.

Refreshments and business meeting to follow.

2014 PCGS Schedule

ALL programs and business meetings are scheduled for the RRC within the Luck Museum. Guests are welcome!

The **Northwest Regional Writer's Group** on **22 September 2014, 10-11:30 a.m.**

Denis Simonson, Russ Hanson and company will present a program on creating an e-book.

(Additional information on page 3)

1:00 p.m. business meeting will address the progress of the "Genealogy Roadshow" project: Geo A. Nelson; Find-a-Grave and other agenda items following the presentation and refreshments.

****NOTE**** Time change for upcoming programs

27 October 2014, **Jay Bergstrand** with slides of the years he and his family spent in **Alaska**

****1:00-2:30 p.m.**

(Additional information on page 3)

Business meeting to follow presentation.

****1:00-2:30 p.m.** 24 November 2014

Russ Hanson land records & genealogy

(Additional information on page 3)

Business meeting to follow presentation.

Monday 8 December 2014

****12:00 Noon - onward.**

Please bring any Finger-Food you wish for sharing at this gathering of members and friends.

Business meeting to follow.

4th Monday/26 Jan 2015 **1-4:00 p.m.

Sharing time for what works in your research, which records are consistently good in quality and whose data can always be trusted; websites that are usually access free, for those who are not members of a paid genealogy source.

Please check out the PCGS website and email comments or inquiries to the PCGS email address: <polkgen@gmail.com>

Thanks to **Russ Hanson** for supervising this website.

PCGS CHANGES

Due to the lack of members available to act as officers, with a voice vote at the business meeting on 25 August 2014, the order of business will move from Robert's Rule of Order conducting PCGS business to that of Rule by Consensus -

Judy Wester volunteered to remain the Society Treasurer, with help from **Russ** and **Dottie Adams**.

THANK YOU to **ALL** members who served in one capacity or another, especially those who served (what seemed like forever, I am guessing!)

Dorothy Adams as secretary, **Jay Bergstrand** as President, **Judy Wester** as treasurer.

Russ Hanson will take some minutes at each meeting as he informed the group "that is how he remembers what he volunteered to do!"

Our little group will continue to forge ahead with projects, programs and purpose.

22 SEPTEMBER 2014 CLASS MEETING

10-11:30 a.m.

Northwest Regional Writer's Group

"How to" create an e-book"

at the RRC within the Luck Museum.

The Northwest Regional Writer's Group will make a presentation to the PCGS members on

22 September 2014. It will cover the

technical aspects of putting a book together.

The assumption is you have photos, documents, records, stories already gathered,

and you are know how you would like the

book to be laid out (what the chapters are and so on). The class will be somewhat like this:

Why self-publish your book

Selecting a mentor

Getting your information in digital form

Choosing the book format

Assembling the digital pieces into a single

print-ready file

Creating a cover

The electronic publishing steps

Proofing your book.

Led by **Denis Simonson** and **Russ Hanson**.

Refreshments and

business meeting will follow presentation.

NOTE

**TIME CHANGE FOR
 UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

**from morning sessions to
 afternoon sessions.**

Business meeting to follow presentations

27 OCTOBER 2014 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Jay Bergstrand's slide presentation of the years he and his family spent in Alaska.

Photos make a positive difference when incorporated into any family history.

Business meeting will follow presentation.

Land Records in Genealogy

Russ Hanson

has agreed

to speak

to the

PCGS

group on:

USE OF

LAND

RECORDS

IN

GENEALOGY

Monday 24 November 2014

from 1:00-2:30 p.m.

This meeting will be held in the RRC within the Luck Museum. As most of Russ's ancestors were farmers, land records are one way of tracing them. If you want to see what is

available online for land records as well as the basics of what is at townships and county office and for Wisconsin, what is at the state level,

Hanson will do a slide show and web demonstration of the aforementioned materials on the use of land records in genealogy.. He has

examples of original surveys, abstracts, maps, homestead info, as he once spend time assessing the farming value of the land selected (i.e. his

great grandfather's first homestead in Barron Co WI is now a gravel pit and his brother's land a frac sand mine -- meaning they were unlikely to have prospered as farmers)

Business meeting will follow.



Rhuncus tempor placerat.

Polk County Normal School Grads

Class of 1958

Marjorie Askow	Gene A. Bauer
Roland Belisle	Barbara Lee
Jeanette Gilbertson	Carol Maurer
Evelyn T. Hanson	LaVonne B. Jensen
Eleanor A. Kamish	Sherry L'Allier
Dionne McKenzie	Kathy Ogilvie
Helen McKenzie	Arleen B. Olson
Grace L. Olson	Janet G. Orr
Stella N. Peterson	Bonnie Sorenson
Kathryn Sorenson	Nancy Swanson
Constance Thompson	Esther Utoft

Jeanne Alling, Author*I Heard the School Bells Ringing***FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS RECORDS**

Many of our ancestors belonged to fraternal organizations or mutual-aid societies. Those types of organizations were important to immigrants. Some of the organizations provided insurance for sickness or death in the member's family including benefits for widows or burial expenses. Some organizations were religious or ethnic in nature while others were fraternal, political or charitable.

The largest fraternal organizations were Freemasons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows (www.ioof.org), and Knights of Pythias (www.pythias.org) — all non-denominational. Woodmen of the World (www.woodmen.com), Modern Woodmen of America (www.modern-woodmen.org), Benevolent & Protective Order of the Elks of America (www.elks.org), and Independent Order of Foresters (www.iof.org) were several other organizations. Another organization was The Grange, a fraternal organization for farmers, which also admitted women as members (www.gr)

Beginning Genealogy Class through WITC

Class Number 64576

Catalog Number 60-107-602

Class Title: Beginning Genealogy

Semester / Year Fall 2014 Units 0.30

Instructor Garro, Vicki L

Course Fee \$55.50

Senior Fee \$30.00

Location **Superior**: Building Senior Citizen Center -

Superior Instruction Mode: In Person (Classroom)

Day/time/dates F 01:00-04:00p 09/19-10/10

Twin Ports Genealogy Society, Fall 2014**The Future of Family History Research**

Here are some facts and insights into the impact technology has already had on our favorite hobby:

-FamilySearch continues to digitize all the records in its granite vaults, Internet Archive and Allen County Public Library are digitalizing the library's vast genealogy holdings (including issues of THE POST).

-Google plans to complete the scanning of all the world's 135 million books by 2020.

-The form factor of iPads, tablet computers and smart phones will make them convenient for people doing family history from anywhere.

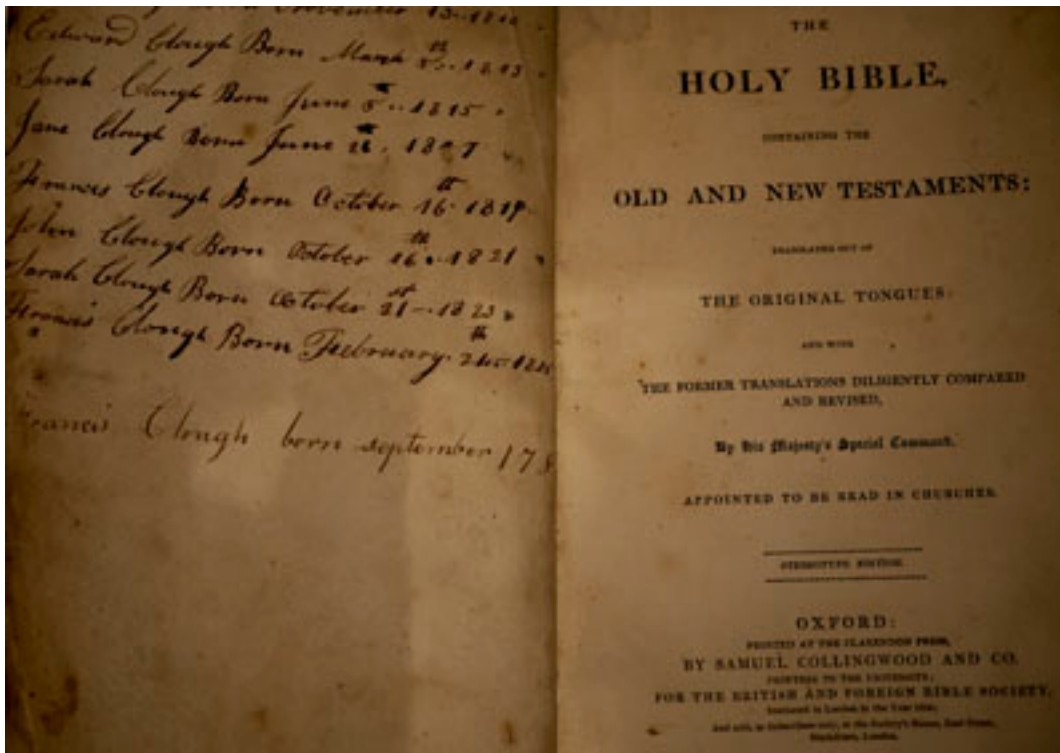
“Cloud” technology will allow a researcher to take a photo in a graveyard and upload for the world to see.

-Users of the Legacy genealogy software who own a smartphone can purchase a “My Family” app and transfer their Legacy files to their phone for quick and easy retrieval of data.

The Muskingum Quarterly/Jan 2012

US – The Tennessee State Public Library has put online a collection of some 1,500 family bibles that the library has been collecting since the 1920s. The collection consists of scans of all the pages in the bibles that contain notations such as dates of birth, baptism and marriage of various family members. In Tennessee, birth certificates were not required until 1908, making this collection particularly valuable for anyone with Tennessee ancestors (interesting fact: the US government still accepts a list of births in a family bible as one proof of citizenship).

When looking at this collection, be mindful that the information written into any bible has not been fact checked. Family records can deviate from official records in several ways. For example, it was not uncommon for families to alter the date of marriage in bibles to make it look like children were not conceived out of wedlock. Sometimes the cause of death is also different from the official record. This is particularly common if the individual died of the flu. Finally, some wealthy families also recorded the names and date of birth of their slaves. This collection can be searched by name. **Access is free.** [[Tennessee Bible Records](#)]



Family bibles can contain a wealth of information not found in official records.

See more at: <http://www.genealogyintime.com>

week of 8 August 2014

When some of the Blue Laws were listed in Rev Samuel Peters' 1781 book, *A General History of Connecticut*, it so angered the people of his home colony that they burned the book and banned its further publication. What was all the fuss about? Judge for yourself.

No one shall travel, cook victuals, make beds, sweep house, cut hair, or shave, on the Sabbath-day.

No one shall read Common Prayer, keep Christmas or Saints days, make minced pies, dance, play cards, or play on any instrument of music, except the drum, trumpet, and jews-harp

No one shall run on the Sabbath-day, or walk in his garden or elsewhere, except reverently to and from meeting.

No woman shall kiss her child on the Sabbath or fasting- day.

The Sabbath shall begin at sunset on Saturday.

To pick an ear of corn growing in a neighbour's [sic] garden, shall be deemed theft.

No one is to cross a river, but with an authorized ferry-man.

A person accused of trespass in the night shall be judged guilty, unless he clear himself by his oath.

No one shall buy or sell lands without permission of the selectmen {the town councillors}.

No Minister shall keep a school.

Men-stealers shall suffer death.

Whoever wears clothes trimmed with gold, silver, or bone lace, above two shillings by the yard, shall be presented by the grand jurors, and the selectmen shall tax the offender.

Whoever brings cards or dice into this Dominion shall pay a fine.

Every male shall have his hair cut round according to a cap.

Laws around marriage were plentiful.

No man shall court a maid in person, or by letter, without first obtaining consent of her parents; 6£ penalty for the first offence [sic]; 10£, for the second ; and, for the third, imprisonment during the pleasure of the Court.

No Gospel Minister shall join people in marriage; the Magistrates only shall join in marriage, as they may do it with less scandal to Christ's Church.

When parents refuse their children convenient marriages, the Magistrates shall determine the point.

Fornication shall be punished by compelling marriage, or as the Court may think proper. Adultery shall be punished with death.

A man that strikes his wife shall pay a fine of 10£; a woman that strikes her husband shall be punished as the Court directs.

A wife shall be deemed good evidence against her husband.

Married persons must live together, or be imprisoned.

Bestiality was punished by hanging; the offending criminal was then buried in a common grave with the slaughtered animals that had been assaulted. In the case where a woman falsely accused her elderly husband of this crime, the judge saw to it that he was executed. However, the court records noted that he was convicted of the crime of (wait for it) "*showing hospitality to strangers who came to his house at night, among whom were Quakers, Anabaptists and Adamites.*"

Thank you, **Stephen Davidson**: Loyalist Trails: UELAC newsletter 27 July 2014

South Africa – FamilySearch.org has added to their collection of South Africa Cape Province death records. These are civilian deaths that span the years from 1895 to 1972 (the compulsory registration of births and deaths in South Africa was enacted in 1894 and took effect starting in 1895). Some 92,000 indexed records have been added to the collection. The collection can be searched by first and last name. A typical death record lists the full name of the deceased, sex, place of residence, age, race, marital status, occupation, date and place of death, intended place of burial, and cause of death). **Access is free.** [[Cape Province Death Records](#)] Thanks to **GenealogyInTime Newsletter**, 16 August 2014

Rhincus tempor placerat.

Border Crossing Cards FamilySearch.org has indexed an additional 160,000 records of immigrants who arrived into the United States from Canada through northern New York state border crossings. The records from Buffalo, Lewiston, Niagara Falls and Rochester New York cover the years from 1902 to 1954, while records from northeastern New York State (Ogdensburg, Morristown, and other towns along the St Lawrence River) span the years from 1929 to 1956. This collection can be searched by first and last name. **Access is free.** [New York State Immigration Cards]. A 1913 immigration card from Niagara Falls, New York shows the physical description of the person along with the name and address of the relative living in the United States. These cards can provide valuable clues as to where and why the person immigrated to the United States (as this card demonstrates, most immigrants from Canada moved to the United States seeking employment).
See more at: <http://www.genealogyintime.com/records/>