

**THE POLK COUNTY POST**

*Polk County Genealogical Society  
(PCGS)*

*January 2012, Volume #14, Issue #1*

**Polk County Genealogical Society**

**C/o Judy Wester**

**901-8th Street**

**Centuria, Wisconsin 54824**

**VISION STATEMENT:**

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

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

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

Thanks to **Jay** and **Joyce Bergstrand** for offering their home and hospitality for our Holiday Event event again this year. However, the December Holiday Event was cancelled due to bad weather predictions.

**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**

Please check out this website and email a thank you and/or comments to the

PCGS email address:

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

**ATTENTION:**

Just wanted to remind everybody to act quickly before this source goes away. The SSDI is still searchable on [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org). The most recent death I found on a quick generic search for Johnson was Sept 2011. -  
**Vicki Garro** - Twin Ports Genealogy Society

**2011-2012 Tentative Schedule**

Refreshments after each meeting.

**NOTE: CHANGE of VENUE and CHANGE of MEETING TIME:**

At the October meeting, the decision was made to move the time of the monthly meetings from evening hours to afternoon hours for the next six months starting in November.

(Nov-April)

PCGS has also shifted the location of the meeting from the Senior Center/St. Croix Falls to the Luck Historical Society Museum.

Reasons presented for the changes are the WIFI accessibility at Luck Museum; in addition, the possibility of poor winter weather and thus driving conditions throughout the next six months, making the drive to the meetings during daylight hours easier than during evening hours.

**4th Monday 23 January 2012**

**2:00 pm**

**Luck Historical Society Museum**

Research Trip Preparations

~ **Dorothy Adams** ~

Researching Civil War Ancestors

~ **Muriel Pfeifer** ~

**4th Monday 27 February 2012**

**2:00 pm**

**at the Luck Historical Society  
Museum**

Preparations for **Genealogy  
Exhibits** at the **Polk County Fair**

**4th Monday 26 March 2012**

**2:00 pm**

**Luck Historical Society Museum  
Records for Pre-1790 Research**

'Pre-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. Thank you.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The Polk County Genealogy Society  
members will endeavor to staff the  
Luck Historical Society Museum

~ **WEATHER PERMITTING** ~

**Each MONDAY in**  
**January 2012 (2,9,16,23,30)**

**EACH MONDAY**

in **FEBRUARY (6,13,20,27),**

**MARCH (5,12,19,26),**

**APRIL (2,9,16,23,30)**  
**2012**

**TIME - 1:00 - 4:00 PM**

Please call Judy Wester  
(715.646.1447)

or Jay Bergstrand (715.268.9523)  
to schedule a time slot.

Subject: Newspaper Map:

This is brilliant

[www.newseum.org/todaysfrontpag  
es/flash/](http://www.newseum.org/todaysfrontpages/flash/)

Put your mouse on a city  
anywhere in the world and the  
newspaper headlines pop up.....

Double click and the page  
gets larger ... you can read the  
entire paper or some if you click on  
the right place. You can spend  
forever here.

Also, if you look at the  
European papers, the far left side  
of Germany will pop up as The Stars  
& Stripes (European edition, of  
course) AND, this site changes  
every day with the publication of  
new editions of the paper.

Hope you enjoy this.

**Norma Holmbeck, PCGS** member  
email dated 30 November 2011

**State fair century farm applications available**

Officials at Wisconsin State Fair announce that applications are now available for the 2012 Century and Sesquicentennial Farm and Home Award.

To qualify for the award, families are required to provide proof of continuous family ownership of a property in the state of Wisconsin for either the last 100 or 150 years. All property owners will be honored at a special Century and Sesquicentennial Farm and Home Award program held on Tuesday, Aug. 7, in conjunction with the 2012 Wisconsin State Fair.

Honorees will receive complimentary fair admission tickets, an invitation to the awards breakfast and a commemorative photo, certificate and outdoor sign provided by Hillshire Farm, a longtime program sponsor.

The Century Farm and Home Program began in 1948 in conjunction with the state's Wisconsin's centennial celebration. There are currently 8, 583 century farms and homes nestled through the Badger State.

To request a copy of either application, write to either Farm and Home Program, 640 South 84th St., West Allis, WI 53214; or call Jill Albanese, program coordinator, at 414-777-0580. Applications are not available online.

The deadline for applications is March 1. Only one certificate is issued per property.

Taken from Wisconsin Agriculturist  
January 2012.

**Judy Wester** PCGS member

**Polk County Normal School Grads**

Class of 1926

**Mabel Anderson  
Irene Erickson  
Martina Erickson  
Florence Faurot  
Ruby Frank  
Naomi Jensen  
Edith Johnson  
May Lagenbach  
Fred Lesch  
Gertrude Lumsden  
Ella Mattson  
Elsie Nelson  
Beatrice Olson  
Mildred Risberg  
Paula Spauton  
Hilfrey Swanson  
Cleo Wade  
Dorothy Ward  
John Nelson  
Gertrude Ginsbach  
Irene Rogers  
Marjorie Warring  
Vera Engels  
Grace Huston  
Mabel Markee  
Grace Johnson**

**Jeanne Alling**, Author

*I Heard the School Bells Ringing*

**Luck Museum Hours Staffed by PCGS**

"We are endeavoring to be at the Luck Museum **every** Monday afternoon (1:00-4:00 PM) to serve you with your family research.

**Volunteer if possible to assist in staffing  
Polk County Wisconsin Genealogy**

Contact Person: **Judy Wester  
715.646.1447**

### **PCGS purchased cart**

PCGS members purchased a  
**chair cart**

for the Luck Historical Society Museum, Luck Wisconsin. Prior to an event the folding chairs always needed to be hauled out to the gathering area and returned to the storage area one at a time at the beginning and the conclusion of an event. Now the chairs are stored on the cart in the storage area, rolled out to the event area, set-up/taken down and returned after the event's closing which makes this job so much faster, easier and neater.

I believe the cost was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$120.00

### **The Freedmen's Bureau**

The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands ... often referred to as the Freedmen's Bureau was established in the War Department by an act of 3 March 1865. The Bureau supervised all relief and educational activities relating to refugees and freedmen; it issued food and clothing, operated hospitals and temporary camps, helped locate family members, promoted education, helped freedmen legalize marriages, provided employment, supervised labor contracts, provided legal representation and investigated racial confrontations. The Bureau also assumed custody of confiscated lands or property in the former Confederate States, Border States, District of Columbia, Indian Territory and settled freedmen on those abandoned or confiscated lands. The Bureau also worked with African American soldiers, sailors and their heirs to secure back pay, bounty payments and pensions. The bureau records were created or maintained by bureau

headquarters, the assistant commissioners and the state superintendents of education and included personnel records and a variety of standard reports concerning bureau programs and conditions in the states. Go to <<http://freedmensbureau.com/>> to see additional information for the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Washington D.C.

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### **UWRF Archives**

14 January 2012

will be Pierce County Day for the open Saturday, although everyone is welcome to come regardless of whether your research is in Pierce County or a neighboring county.

**Saturday 11 February 2012** will be **Polk County Day**. A free class is offered at **9:15 AM** to learn how to use the resources at the ARC.

### **Treasure Trove of Global Genealogical Records now Available in Wisconsin**

The Collections of the Genealogical Society of Utah include records held around the globe. They include church and civil records, family and local histories, land and military records and other genealogical gems. The Wisconsin Historical Society's library and archives now make those records available to researcher here in Wisconsin. This service has just become easier to use.

Researchers now go to [familysearch.org/films](http://familysearch.org/films) to place the order for their microfilm and select the Wisconsin Historical Society as the receiving Family History Center Affiliate. Also, the cost has come down to \$5.50 a reel and the short-term loan now goes to 90 days instead of 30 days. If you have further questions, please contact the reference staff of the library at 608.264.6535 or via email at [asklibrary@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:asklibrary@wisconsinhistory.org).

