

THE POLK COUNTY POST

*Polk County Genealogical Society (PCGS)
May 2008, Volume #10, Issue #5*

**Polk County Genealogical Society
POB # 101
Balsam Lake, Wisconsin 54810**

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.

PCGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: **Richard Kretzschmar**
Vice President: **Kathy Clark**
Treasurer: **Russ Adams**
Secretary: **Dorothy Adams**
Editor: **hs35@uwrf.edu**

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THANK YOU

Alan Hagstrom

for the April meeting program
"Using DNA in your Genealogy."
Good time of Q & A ranging from questions/answers about your family history to questions/answers pertaining to the big picture of FAMILY history.

-2008-

Tentative Schedule

NO Fund-raising/
Grants Board meeting in May
5:30 pm PCGS Board Meeting
7:00 pm May program
ALL at Rocky Waters Restaurant - Osceola

*****Notice*****

All MAY PCGS meetings are one week early
due to the
Memorial Day Holiday
AND
change of program meeting **location** to the
Rocky Waters Restaurant
for this month.

*Monday 19 May 2008

"Using Ancestry.com"

presented by

Kathy Clark - PCGS member

*****Rocky Waters Restaurant*****

Osceola, Wisconsin 7:00 PM

GENEALOGY MONDAY

EVERY Monday from 1-4 PM

June/July/August

**(4th of July is on a Friday this year so
PCGS Genealogy Monday is not
affected)**

PCGS members, once again,
meet at the Polk County Historical
Society Museum in Balsam Lake,
Wisconsin to assist in helping others
locate family history data in the records
available. Please join us if/when you
are able.

Sept/Oct./Nov. Program Ideas Needed!

Please email **Kathy Clark**

<rkmlark@lakeland.ws>

with your suggestions.

VETERANS GRAVE REGISTRATIONS

POLK COUNTY , WISCONSIN
VOLUME ONE- (continued)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cemetery</u>	<u>Page</u>
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No X or Y

- Z -

ZEHNER, Daniel David

Clayton 54

ZWISKY, Peter

Russian Orthodox 242

This completes the Polk County
Veterans Grave Registrations -
Volume One - Editor

POLK COUNTY MARRIAGES 1855-1867

Groom / Bride Vol/Pg

**CORRECTION: Jane not John Thompson
in the Sheimadine marriage.**

SHEIMADINE, Bornt/Jane THOMPSON

2 Jan 1871 2/62

SIMONDS, Geo W./Jane FOLSOM

29 Oct. 1866 1/209

SINGAG, John/Nancy SKIES

16 Feb. 1864 1/68

SMITH, Andrew/Matilda WILSON

17 Mar 1869 2/152

Copied from Polk County Vital Records
by **Muriel Morgan Pfeifer**
PCGS member

ATTENTION The 2008 PCGS yearly
membership dues are payable at our monthly
meetings or may be mailed to the treasurer.
Thank you.

Polk County Genealogy Society

Jan-Dec \$15.00

Please make your check or money order
payable to PCGS and mail, along with your:

Name, Address, State/Zip
to

Russ Adams

2410 River Road

St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin 54024

Family History Research

or genealogy, whichever term you
prefer, recently received a good deal of
print space and television time. In the
20 -26 April edition of AMERICAN
PROFILE magazine a many page spread
features <Ancestry.com> and the
step-by-step methods of finding
ancestors. "When did your ancestors
come to America? Share your ancestral
story at <americanprofile.com>"
"HOW DO YOU SPELL YOUR SURNAME?
Many immigrants to the United States
were illiterate and unable to write or
communicate their names, especially if
they spoke a language other than
English. Therefore, genealogists often
encounter variations in the spelling of
surnames, which were either written as
they sounded or Americanized by
families trying to blend into their new
homeland. For example, Becker
sometimes was changed to Baker;
Martini to Martin; Mueller to Miller;
O'Cullane to Collins; Romanowski to
Roman; and Schmidt to Smith.

The most common last names:

- 1- Smith
- 2- Johnson
- 3- Williams
- 4- Brown
- 5- Jones
- 6- Miller
- 7- Davis
- 8- Garcia
- 9- Rodriquez
- 10- Wilson
- 11- Martinez
- 12- Anderson
- 13- Taylor
- 14- Thomas
- 15- Hernandez
- 16- Moore
- 17- Martin
- 18- Jackson
- 19- Thompson
- 20- White"

During *Black History Month* in February
the Twin Cities Public Television (TPT)
broadcast a 2-hour program featuring
four different Black Families looking for
their ancestors.

Polk County Historical Society

Email from:

Darrell Kittleson/9 April 2008/3:47 pm
13th Annual Bus Tour

Date: **13 June 2008**

Where: Meet at "**Amery Senior Center** ...for coffee and a place to leave our cars...also return to the Senior Center.trip to **Shell Lake** to the **Woodcarving Museum**, and **Train Ride** from **Spoooner to Spring Brook with 3-course meal**. For more information, call me at 715.483.3979; or **Carl Johnson** at 715.268.8353. Reservation by 20 May 2008. \$50.00"

Websites

As I search the internet, I come across new and exciting genealogy websites.

The University of Wisconsin has a growing digital collection that can be found at

[<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WI/>](http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WI/)

and

[<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>](http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/)

is a searchable database if your ancestor was granted homestead lands from the federal government., original images are available for purchase or you can print them out.

Thanks to: GEN NEWS
Douglas County Genealogy Club
April 2008,
Volume 3:2, page 3.4

Summertime Games we Played

"Tug-of-War
"Captain May I
"Hide and Seek
"Red Rover-Red Rover
"Anti-Anti Over
"Kick the Can
"Duck, Duck, Goose
"Pump, Pump Pull Away

The finer rules of the games we played may have differed from neighborhood to neighborhood, but they all required much physical activity, especially running. "

Thanks to **James M. Campbell, Sr.**
ROOTS in Washburn County Jan 2007
for a trip down memory lane.

DNA websites and Selected Resources

Genographic Project website:
<nationalgeographic.com/genographic>

Family Tree DNA website:
<www.familytreedna.com>

NGS Quarterly *Genealogy and Genetics*,
December 2005

Adding DNA to your Family Tree
by

Susan C. Meates in
Family Chronicle March/April 2008

DNA Q & A
by

Susan C. Meates
Family Chronicle Nov./Dec 1997

Thanks to
Alan Hagstrom
PCGS member / April program speaker

REASONS WHY IMMIGRANTS CAME TO WISCONSIN

Even with daily extremely hard work, in most places, the poor of the world could never own the land they farmed or the homes they lived in. The 'push/pull' factor was at work. (I suspect the same push-pull factors that the 'First Families' encounters as they fled Africa for Australia- April program)

Families decided to leave because the opportunity for land ownership in the 'old country' could never be realized; the increasing injustice and cruelty created hunger and hardship that pushed one family, several cousins and often an entire neighborhood to look for a better place to live and raise their children.

The dreams of families in poverty throughout Europe were turned into action and the chance for affordable land; equal justice under the law; better pay for their hard work 'pulled' immigrants to Wisconsin.

TEN WAYS TO LOCATE YOUR
ANCESTOR'S BIRTHPLACE

- 1-Obituaries and death notices
- 2-Probate records
- 3-Gravestones
- 4-Newspaper Marriage Announcements
- 5-Local newspapers
- 6-Community histories
- 7-Immigration/naturalization records
- 8-Passenger lists'
- 9-Assisted immigration
- 10-Child immigrant schemes

Family Chronicle
March/April 2003
pages 15-16

MARKET GARDENING

An area of specialized farming called market gardening generally grew up around centers of population." "Truck farming" is another name for this intensive type of growing vegetables for city or small town farmer's markets. In today's market, "factors that determine the location" of vegetable farms is available land for tilling near a good market. Many co-op farms in 2008 raise vegetables for their local farmer's markets.

In the days of our ancestors, implements that truck farmers used "were pushed by hand: combined hill and drill seeder, wheel hoe, cultivator, rake and plow; fertilizer, pea and bean drill; double wheel hoe for cultivating young strawberries, the first hoeing of onions and raking in young cabbage; a single wheel hoe for cultivating leeks, parsley, and young lettuce."

Farming in Early Minnesota
by

Edward J. Lettermann
Ramsey County Historical Society/1999

The 5 W's of Writing Overseas -
WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE,
WHY and HOW

1. Be prepared. Things to do before writing: the importance of names, places, dates; determine the location of the records you seek; gather pertinent data.
2. Determine reason(s) for writing: formulate specific goals and objectives; will the recipient think your request is compelling.
3. Construct a well-written letter: does your request command attention; do not know what language to use; standard business letter style; keep a copy on file.
4. Know to whom you are writing: a relative; a professional genealogist; a genealogical society; a parish office/church office; a civil office or a local newspaper.
5. Things to remember: responsibilities and obligations: do not ask for material available in the US; make request easy to answer; offer reimbursement for services and materials.

Maralyn A. Wellauer

Wisconsin Sesquicentennial Family
History Conference Syllabus -
Madison October 1998

Chorzempa, Rosemary A.

*MY FAMILY TREE WORKBOOK: GENEALOGY
FOR BEGINNERS*, New York: Dover
Publications, Inc., 1982

Levine, Ellen

*IF YOUR NAME WAS CHANGED AT ELLIS
ISLAND*, New York: Scholastic, Inc.,
1993