

THE POLK COUNTY POST

*Polk County Genealogical Society (PCGS)
December 2010, Volume #12, Issue # 12*

**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.

Unfortunately due to bad weather the November PCGS meeting was cancelled. Many thanks to

Lynne Schauls

Centuria Librarian for agreeing to be our speaker -

let us trust **Ms. Schauls** will be willing to be scheduled for another time.

The Polk County Genealogy Society will staff the Luck Historical Society Museum on

Monday 8 November and
Monday 22 November 2010.
12: Noon- 3:00 PM.

Sometimes refreshments will be served!

2010-2011 SCHEDULE

***Monday 13 December 2010 -
NOON**

Annual **Potluck** Holiday Event
Home of **Jay/Joyce Bergstrand-**
PCGS member
Program: Collection Policy
Discussion

***Monday 24 January 2011**

Gather at the Senior Center Main Street
St. Croix Falls, WI. Program:
"Surround Your People with History"
PCGS member
Refreshments to follow

***Monday 28 February 2011**

Gather at the Senior Center - 7:00 p.m.
St. Croix Falls Wisconsin
"Sharing Software Reports"
Judy Wester - PCGS member

***Monday 28 March 2011**

Gather at the Senior Center - 7:00 p.m.
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin
"1914 Plat Map Project"
Norma Holmbeck - PCGS member
Refreshments to follow

***Monday 25 April 2011**

Gather at the Senior Center - 7:00 p.m.
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin
Program: **Russ Hansen** - PCGS member
"PCGS and the Luck Historical Society"
Refreshments to follow

***Monday 23 May 2011**

Gather at the Senior Center
St. Croix Falls, Wisc. - Program:
"Ancestry.com/Family Tree Maker"
PCGS Team presentation

December Holiday Event Program

At the October PCGS meeting, a Polk County family made the trip to the St. Croix Falls Senior Center seeking out the genealogy society president and entrusted the Polk County Genealogy Society with an entire box full of their family's genealogy undertakings. Between 25 and 40 local families are a part of this collection. Perhaps PCGS should have said "this treasure belongs at the State Historical Society" or "this jewel should be committed to the ARC at River Falls" and given the family our suggestions. We did neither. **Now**, having accepted this family's lifelong work, how do members of PCGS (you and me) access the accumulation of local history using current archival standards to ensure a foregoing proper PCGS collection policy. This needs to include ethical and principled handling of a Polk County Genealogy Society holding, being ever mindful that the collection will be housed in the Luck Historical Society Museum.

Perhaps a couple/three questions PCGS members need to ponder on?

1. Understanding narrow vs broad interest and local connections, should this particular collection be kept intact or divided and spread out within the communities of interest (other genealogy societies / ARC / State Historical Society)?

2. Does PCGS want to accept and house all and any families genealogy work, for example, . when 'Aunt Tilly' doesn't want to mess with the "stuff" any longer?

If PCGS accepts all and every family genealogy project, can we all reasonably expect, when Happy Valley Resting Home has our room ready, all our (collection would be a really nice and upscale word as opposed to 'junk') has a home and our kids then do not have to deal with all our "stuff?"

3. Space is always an issue (be it my library or the Wisconsin State Historical Society Library) - how much space does PCGS have and how much of that space should be committed to what one family

deemed important? Should it always (and only) be the family with name recognition that gets to 'share' their family history treasure at our doorstep?

Discussion at this December meeting will be informal, and therefore, hopefully easier to begin making important decisions. Please attend and help your Genealogy Society use inclusive language where

- ideas are encouraged
- suggestions will be considered
- opinions will be studied
- proposals will be examined
- recommendations will be advocated,

to form a conscientious and honorable collection policy for all of Polk County citizens and their life stories.

In the end citizen and genealogists "together" can, by first taking small steps, be assured that eventually our genealogy society archives can compete in being the best of the Wisconsin Genealogical Society system.

Military Records

for US and Canada. Check this out: <www.ancestry.com/militaryrecords?o lid=44910&o lid=44910>

Several weeks ago this site was free, however, that may no longer be true.

Thanks PCGS member
Richard Kretzschmar

ARC at River Falls

Weather permitting:

Polk County Genealogy Society once again is scheduled on the second Saturday of **February -the 12th, 2011-** to 'help' Polk County researcher who make the trip to the ARC on this particular Saturday because we are going to be there to help.

Time: 9:30 for a half-an-hour refresher course on where Polk County materials are located **until 2:00 PM.**

This will insure that we can all get home well before dark.

PLEASE,

do not forget the

Potluck Holiday Event

Noon - Monday 13 December 2010

at the home of

J. and J. Bergstrand

with the Collection Policy discussion

