

## **THE POLK COUNTY POST**

*Polk County Genealogical Society (PCGS)  
June 2010, Volume #12, Issue # 6*

**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.

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**THANK YOU** to **James Rusch** for presenting the program at the May meeting on land records. Lots of good information and the Q and A at the conclusion was most interesting.

Thanks again, **Jim Rusch.**

\*PCGS monthly meetings will continue to be held on the fourth Monday of each month. June-August 2010. at the Polk County Historical Society Museum in the research room.  
Meeting start at 2:00 pm  
Monday 28 June  
Monday 26 July  
Monday 23 August

### **Polk County Genealogy Society Dues**

**Jan-Dec 2010 \$5.00** per person

Please make out your check or money order to PCGS and mail to:

**Judy Wester**  
901-8th Street  
Centuria, Wisconsin 54824

### **\*June, July, August**

**Every Monday**

**12:00 -4:00 pm**

PCGS members please gather at the Historical Society Museum in Balsam Lake - 12:00- 4:00 p.m. to assist researchers in their quest for family history within the museum and research tips in other areas.

### **Volunteers are needed for:**

July 5th  
August: 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 30th.

### **\*Monday 27 September 2010**

Program: **Barb Oestreich**  
Please gather at the Senior Center - St. Croix Falls 7:00 p.m. Refreshments to follow

### **\*Monday 25 October 2010**

Gather at the Senior Center - St. Croix Falls 7:00 p.m. Program: TBA Refreshments to follow

### **\*Monday 22 November 2010**

Gather at the Senior Center - St. Croix Falls 7:00 p.m. Program: TBA Refreshments to follow

### **\*Monday 13 December 2010**

Annual Potluck Holiday Event  
Noon - Location: TBA

**PCGS members and friends:**

**Joanne Hallquist** and **Rosalie Kittelson** presented a 'research room paper' to the genealogy board of directors on 24 Monday 2010 outlining ten challenges for the genealogy society members to follow when working in the research room.

In an effort to clearly define the role of the genealogy society members within the research room at the Polk County Historical Society museum a meeting was held at 3:00 pm on 2 June 2010. **Jay Bergstrand, Russ** and **Margo Hanson** represented the genealogy society; **Martha Flip, Rosalie Kittelson** and **Joanne Hallquist** for the historical society. **David Knutson** of the historical society was scheduled to attend but was ill.

The following came out of the meeting on Wednesday 2 June:

#1. The first of the ten points was that the historical society remained firm on the insistence that all volunteers allowed to work in the research room be members of the historical society.

#2. Both genealogy and historical society agreed that all volunteers would sign in and out.

#3. It was cleared up that the \$3.00 daily fee would NOT apply to genealogy members working on genealogy society projects or historical

society tasks in the museum. The fee also would NOT apply to monthly genealogy society meetings in the resource room.

#4 and #5 The historical society 'research room paper' suggested "Fees for research request (outside) are to be collected by the volunteer. Fees are the following: first one-half hour (Free); thereafter, \$20.00 per hour." and "fees for copies of research room materials: \$1.25 per sheet."

There was much discussion about #4 and #5 fees for research work in the archives and for copying fees but no movement from the historical society.

#6. The policy on using a camera to photograph documents within the research room will be looked at again by the historical society.

#7 and #8. There was much discussion about what the genealogy society people actually accomplish in the research room. The genealogy society team did not think the historical society members realized that the cataloging and indexing of reference materials and family, community and church histories etc. accomplished by the genealogy society members, is exactly what is needed to properly organize the research room.

#9. The genealogy society team agreed that to further things along in a spirit of cooperation, the genealogy society members on each Monday would do at least a portion of their shift on historical society tasks provided the tasks were related to the mission and vision of the genealogy society.

#10. The outcome of the 2 June meeting as your genealogy teams see it will be that the genealogy society members continue as before, working on our listing and indexing and meeting on Mondays. Our summer monthly meetings will continue to be held at the museum on the 4th Monday of June, July and August, beginning at 2:00 pm. One of the first projects that PCGS members need to try and accomplish is to determine what are genealogy society materials and what materials does the historical society own.

\*\* If anyone in the genealogy society is denied the chance to volunteer because of not having historical society membership, it should be seriously pondered by the genealogy society board. The genealogy society board, of course, can not require membership for our people in any group other than our own.

**Jay Bergstrand**  
**Russ and Margo Hanson**

*If at all possible, genealogy society members **please** attend the meeting on Monday 28 June at 2:00 pm in the research room at the museum and give direction to your board members. If you are unable to attend, please telephone or send an email to the Bergstrands or the Hansons and express your views on the issue. What are the implications of the "the paper" to the genealogy society's participation in the staffing of the research room; to the storage of our materials in the research room; and to our continuing relationship with the historical society?*

*I trust members on both sides wish to see reason and to reach some type of a compromise - we are neighbors and as such we must each respect the other persons' point of view. - **Editor***

## **NEWS from the Family History Library**

Films from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City can now be ordered for use at numerous genealogical and historical societies in the United States.

Two of the more recent additions in Minnesota are the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul and the St. Michael Historical Society in St. Michael.

### **Norwegian Record Collections**

by  
FamilySearch

In connection with the 2010 National Genealogical Society Conference, held in Salt Lake City, FamilySearch.org unveiled a new beta site <<http://fsbeta.familysearch.org/>> to the public along with the publication of 300 million additional records.

The collections included in this new release are:

- \* Baptisms - 1634-1927
- \* Burials - 1666-1927
- \* Marriages - 1660-1926.

### **MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS**

The Minnesota Historical Society has available on its website: <[www.mnhs.org](http://www.mnhs.org)>

an index for the Minnesota State Censuses, 1849-1905. This is the same index and images currently available on Ancestry.com but unlike Ancestry, the MHS will be able to correct the index and even replace bad images. The census index pages can be purchased online, with electronic delivery within minutes, just like the birth certificate images. For more information, go the MHS website.

If you plan to visit the MHS this summer, note that the Hubbs Microfilm Room will be closed from 29 May thru 21 June 2010 for carpet replacement.

All three articles

Thanks to **Nancy Hawkinson**  
St. Croix Valley Genealogical Society  
The PIPOST, June 2010, pg 3

## **Formula of 8870**

by **Darcy Brook**

When the age at death is given in an obituary or on a gravestone or perhaps a church burial record in the 'old country', you can use

### **The Constant Formula of 8870**

to determine the birth date to within one or two days of accuracy. Follow the examples provided here.

#### **Simple Problem:**

1870/07/12 - Died 12 July 1870  
- 68/09/25 -Age 68 yrs, 9 mths, 25 dys

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1801/97/87  
- 88/70 - Subtract constant formula

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1801/09/17 - Proper birth date

#### **Problem with days converted:**

1829/01/21 - Died 21 January 1829  
- 46/11/08 -Age 46 yrs, 11 mths, 8 dys

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- 88/70 - Subtract constant formula

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1782/01/43 - Deceased person was born  
43 January 1782

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- 30 - Subtract one month of 30  
days from 43 and add one  
month to January

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1782/02/13 - Proper birth date

#### **Problem with month converted:**

1910/05/13 - Died 13 May 1910  
- 50/02/16-Age 50 yrs, 2 mths, 16 dys

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1860/02/97  
- 88/70 - Subtract constant formula

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1859/14/27 - Deceased person born in  
14th month on the 27th  
day, 1859

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- 12/00 - Since there are only 12  
mths in a year, subtract  
12 from 14 and add one  
year to 1859

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1860/02/27 - Proper birth date

Thanks **Darcy!**

