

Editor: Walt Bruetsch, temp.

Assistant Editors: John Lea, Sandra Larsen and
Arlene Ackermann.

Letter from the President

by Kimberly Carvel

Coming Events: Apr. 4, May 2, Jun. 6,
Jul. 4, Aug. 1, Sep. 5: First Saturday of
every month, from 10 am to 12 noon, at the
Blake Library, individual help with
genealogical research.

Apr. 17 - MCGS Meeting: 1 PM at the Blake
Library. "Other Research Locations" by
Sandy Larsen.

May 15 - MCGS Meeting: 1 PM at the Blake
Library. "Saints, Slobs, and Sinners" by
Joyce Menard.

June 19 - MCGS Meeting: 1 PM at the Blake
Library. "Surnames & Locations of
Research" - audience participation.

July & August - no MCGS meetings.

For events in the State of Florida, go to
<http://www.flsgs.org> Click on Calendar.

FGS' Sept. Conference in Little Rock

Now is the time to plan your summer vaca-
tion. If you are going to be in Arkansas in
early September, consider attending the
Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)
Conference in Little Rock, Ark., September
2-5, 2009.

Go to www.fgs.org and click on the Con-
ference link to check out all the informa-
tion on: Program, Registration, Hotels,
Travel, Exhibits, Sponsors and Blog. The
Winter 2008 issue of the FORUM has a two
page article about the Conference, which is
for genealogists of all experience levels.

{We will print your genealogical stories, etc.}

It's hard to believe it's March already. Many changes
have occurred since the last issue of this Journal.
Walter Bruetsch has stepped down as President (and
many thanks to him for all his hard work), and I have
become your new president. Returning Board of
Directors members include David Eldridge, Lee
Vought, and Tom Lewis. Sandy McDonnell has
rejoined the Board, and also joining is Jerry Bloom.
Dianne McKeon left the Board for family reasons and
has been replaced by Patti Kirk. Patti is the
President of Family History Researchers
(headquartered in Vero Beach) and is a welcome
addition to the Board.

In January, the Society held its 12th Annual Family
History Fair in conjunction with the LDS Church and
the event was well attended. In February, Reba
Shepard presented her program, "Preserving Your
Data". Reba's husband, Larry, a long time member
and former President of MCGS, died late last year,
and a number of MCGS members attended a very
touching memorial service for him in January.

Moving forward, we have a number of programs
including today's "Irish Research" and April's
program, "Other Research Locations", plus five
programs in the coming months, that should make this
year an informative and entertaining one for the
membership. I would love to have more feedback
from the members as to the type of programs you
would like to see in next year's schedule.

In fact, we need more involvement from the Members
in every area. A number of the Committees are
screaming for volunteers. Romaine De Santo, who has
been the "temporary" Chairperson of Hospitality for
over a year and a half, would like to have some
capable member take over her position. Also, we have
openings on our Nomination and Audit Committees.

In closing, I ask you, please volunteer. The Society
will be greatly diminished unless everyone helps out
by volunteering in some capacity.

Gen Room Musings

by Lloyd Welker

The following databases, available on computers in the Special Collections (Genealogy) Room, may help with your "brick wall".

Ancestry, Library Edition is provided by the Martin County Library System. It is available at all branches, but is not available for home use. (An Ancestry membership can be purchased.) It includes 1.2 billion records and more than 3000 databases. The USA census permits one to locate an ancestor every 10 years after arrival in the USA. Other databases are United Kingdom (UK) Census, Civil War, WW-I, Immigration, Historical Newspapers, and hundreds of others. Check the list of recent or the entire list of databases.

New England Historic Genealogical Society's online database is provided by the MCGS. Although the New England States are the source of most databases, New York, New Jersey and other locations are covered. Click on the database tab to see a list of databases available. Search this site. Many ancestors passed through New England and continued westward.

Family Search databases are available at familysearch.org. This may be reached by typing familysearch.org into the computer's address bar or by clicking on the Favorites Tab, scrolling to Genealogy, US and clicking on LDS-Main Page. While the traditional search features are available, the LDS pilot program is worth looking into. On the main page, click on the Search Tab. On the drop-down menu, click on Search Pilot. On the map

that appears click your area of interest to see the databases available.

Favorites: The Favorites Tab provides links to many USA, UK and General genealogy sites. Check out the Favorites Tab. Try a Google search for your ancestor or check usgenweb.com for state and county.

Newsbank: This database is shown on the Library's list of databases. Search it by newspaper name, state, region, and more. Take the guided tour before searching this database. Most of the available issues seem to be recent. For historical newspapers use Ancestry, Library Edition, or NEHGS.

Ask the volunteer about these databases.

Everton Gen. Helper

The Jan/Feb 2009 *Everton's Genealogical Helper* magazine is converting to a quarterly publication, to save money. So this issue is also the Winter 2009 issue. It contains an article of 25 pages on "The Best Scandinavian Sites on the Net", as well as articles on French and Germanic research.

The Hobby of Genealogy

Source: Branching out: "Internet increasingly is opening up the past to today's families" by Christina Hennessy, Staff Writer for Stamford, CT's The Advocate, Jan. 25, 2009.

The opening lines of this article, reads: "Scaling the family tree requires patience, perserverance and a love of history and research, even if the Internet has made the climb a tad faster." Read the entire article: www.stamfordadvocate.com/livingandhealth/ci_11553112

Descendants of William the Conqueror

The author of www.william1.co.uk, Alan Freer, of Byfleet, Surrey, England, wishes people to see his website and contact him with updates to the descendants list.

UK and Irish 1911 Census Update

Source: FORUM, Winter, 2008 issue

Author: Jan Meisels Allen of Calif.

The FORUM magazine has a one-page article about the 1911 Census in the countries of England, Wales, Ireland, and Scotland. Researchers of these countries should read this article to learn how to access the data that has already been posted. Normally, 100 years has to pass before results can be released to the public.

Obtain more information for Ireland at www.census.nationalarchives.ie/about/index.html The England and Wales website is www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/1911census/ The Scotland data will not be available until 2011 as different laws apply. Their website is www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/ Expect a fee to access the various databases.

Records Preservation & Access

A feature article of every issue of FGS' FORUM magazine is the Records Preservation & Access page by Librarian Linda McCleary. Linda has a variety of news stories that cover genealogy societies, national and state organizations and foreign countries. The Winter 2008 issue has an paragraph about Chicago (Cook Co, IL) records. This article should be a must read.

MCGS is Going GREEN

By Jerry Bloom, Membership Chairperson

Your MCGS Board of Directors conducted a survey last month about your preference in receiving the quarterly Journal newsletter through the MCGS website or via the traditional method of a printed version with hand delivery at the monthly meetings or mailed to your home. In the interest of reducing excess paper consumption and reducing the MCGS newsletter budget to free up funds for more educational projects, the membership was polled in a survey. We attempted to contact every member.

The results were overwhelming and gratifying! Seventy-two members responded to the survey, with 71% of those respondents saying YES, we wish to receive our Journal via the MCGS website. That means we have reduced our annual newsletter budget costs by approximately 50%. That is quite an achievement. Pat yourself on the back, people! And a big thank you from the BoD.

Each issue will continue to be published quarterly, and those members who have expressed their willingness to read their news via the eJournal method, will be receiving a notice in their email box alerting them that the eJournal is available for viewing. If you wish to be included in this ecology project, just let me know.

The membership roster is being issued. Please contact me with updates at (920) 559-7440 or jerrybloom@fales.org so we have the latest information to contact you.

MCGS' 2009 Board of Directors

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| President | Kim Carvel | 229-8486 |
| Vice President | David Eldridge | 546-5083 |
| Secretary | Lee Vought | 286-6470 |
| Treasurer | Sandy McDonnell | 781-3800 |
| Member at Large | Jerry Bloom | cell: 920-559-7440 |
| Member at Large | Tom Lewis | 287-0670 |
| Member at Large | Patti Kirk | 567-7463 |

Martin County Genealogical Society membership meetings are generally held the third Friday of each month at 1 p.m. Guests are welcome. There is a short business meeting preceding a program. Annual Membership Dues are \$20 for one and \$25 for a family & organization.

Email addresses can be found on the MCGS website. Members: Please give Lee your updated email addresses!

A membership form can be found on the MCGS website, and it's use is encouraged so that up-to-date information is given along with your check.

Schedule for MCGS' FTM SIG

MCGS has a Family Tree Maker Special Interest Group. Join this SIG for an informal sharing of knowledge in the use of Family Tree Maker, Word, and Excel. It is held at the **Morgade Library** off Salerno Road, west of US 1, next to the IRCC campus. **For 2009, it is the second Thursday of every month from 2 pm to 4 pm.** This is a free event, given by Sandy McDonnell and others. Bring your laptop for individual help after the meeting.

The New England Region SIG has expanded to include NY, Penn., NJ, maybe Del., and the Canadian Maritime Provinces. Meeting each month after the regular 3rd Fri. MCGS meeting.

MCGS's DNA SIG will be meeting after the MCGS meetings, on a "as requested" basis.

MCGS's Germanic SIG will be meeting after the MCGS meetings, on a "as requested" basis.