

Genealogy Journal A quarterly publication of Martin County Genealogical Society, Inc.

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Editor: Walt Bruetsch, temp.

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

Coming Events: Oct 4th, Nov 1st, Dec 6th &
Jan 3rd: First Saturday of the month,
from 10 am to 12 noon, at the Blake
Library, individual help with genealogical
research.

Oct 17th - MCGS Meeting: 1 PM at the
Morgade Library, off Salerno Road. A
"Show and Tell" program, open to all
attendees.

Nov 14th - 15th - Florida State Gen. Soc.
convention in Maitland, FL. Sherton North
Hotel room reservations as low as \$88,
before taxes, etc. For the program, hotel
info and other up to date information,
check <http://www.flsgs.org>

Nov 21st - MCGS Meeting: 1 PM at the
Morgade Library, off Salerno Road. "The
History of Martin County" by Sandra
Thurlow.

Dec 19th - MCGS Christmas Social. A
traditional time of year to relax, enjoy the
treats and have fun with the Chinese
Auction. Bring an inexpensive item for the
auction, benefit the Library Fund.

Jan 17th - Family History Fair at the Palm
City LDS Church, 2401 SW Matheson Blvd.,
next to the Cummings Library.
Classes for all abilities and exhibits in the
gym, plus homemade soup for lunch.
Beginners at 9 AM, other class periods at
10:15 AM, 12:30 PM and 1:30 PM.

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

From the President's Corner

by Walt Bruetsch

This issue of the Martin County Genealogical
Society's (MCGS) Journal has a different look.
Your editor is using Microsoft (M/S) Word
instead of M/S Publisher to present the various
articles. This change is being made so we can
upload this issue (and hopefully subsequent ones)
to our website for possible downloading to your
computer as a 2008-09MCGSjourn.doc.

Most of us computer owners/users have Adobe
Reader on our machines/desktops so we can read
.pdf files. Now, if you don't have M/S Word on
your computer, you'll need to obtain M/S Word
Viewer. Here is how you can download it: Go to
<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/downloads/>
Click on 2007 Office tab. Click on Word 2007.
Click on Viewer. Then download it and the
Compatibility Pack. Each take ~15 minutes with
DSL telephone internet service.

The main reason for putting our MCGS Journal on
our website is so we can reduce the number of
copies we print and mail out to our membership.
That will save money. We'll notify you, our
members, via email when the issue is uploaded
and ready for your viewing. Thus you'll need to
keep us informed as to your current email. Note:
all genealogists should have one constant, forever,
email address. This for those emails that come 2-3
years after you posted a query on a message board.

Other reasons for having MCGS' Journal on line
is that it will serve as an archive, members can
print only the articles they deem necessary and
you'll be able to read them when you are away
from home. And you can increase the text size to
suit your visual requirements.

So if you are willing to accept this electronic
Journal, please send Walt a short email, using the
email address you want MCGS to contact you at.

And THANK YOU very much for helping MCGS
modernize.

Take a Risk!

by Walt Bruetsch

I heard a good sermon last Sunday, August 3rd, about taking a risk and receiving a reward. No risk, no reward.

I would like our members to take a risk.
Become the editor of our newsletter.
Be involved with our Obits Project - like entering data into a computer program for an eventual database.

Be a writer of an original article for the Journal.

Be a speaker at a monthly meeting and/or at the Family History Fair.

Be a telephone caller.

Be a host/hostess at a monthly meeting.

Be a _____[fill in your own desire].

There are many ways to be involved with the "doings" of the Martin Co. Gen. Soc.

So take a risk,

become involved and reap your reward!

**FSGS 2008 GENEALOGY CONFERENCE
IN MAITLAND, 14-15 NOVEMBER**

The Florida State Genealogy Society (FSGS) will hold its 2008 conference in Maitland, 14-15 November. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Orlando-North, 600 North Lake Destiny Dr, Maitland, Florida

A full two-day registration, if postmarked by 23 October 2008, is \$88 for FSGS members and \$98 for non-members. For those who choose to stay at the Sheraton Orlando-North overnight, mention FSGS for a special room rate (\$88 + taxes).

Rooms are being held until 23 October.

For reservations call 866-837-5175.

The registration form and contact information may be found on the FSGS website www.flsgs.org.

Genealogy Room Musings

by Walt Bruetsch

Who's making off with MCGS' back issues of the Family Tree Magazine from the Blake Library's Genealogy Room? Please leave them for all of us to read and enjoy. If you find a pertinent article, make a copy.

The September 2008 issue of The Family Tree Magazine has an article on the "101 Best Web Sites". The sites are available online via

www.familytreemagazine.com/101sites/2008

The sites are arranged into several categories. They are:

1. Best for Beginning Researchers
2. Best for Web Researchers
3. Best for Military R.
4. Best for Us R.
5. Best for African-American R.
6. Best for Canadian R.
7. Best for Immigration R.
8. Best for British Isles R.
9. Best for Continental R.
10. Best for Jewish R. and
11. Best for Genetic Researchers. To this Genetic list, I would add www.ybase.org

Wishing all researchers much success.

Irish Genealogical Research

from The Genealogical Inquirer
June 7, 2008, Vol. 8, No. 6.
Plymouth (Mass.) County GenealogistsInc.

By Dennis Ahern on 30 May 2008

The National Library of Ireland (NLI), Council of Irish Genealogical Organizations, has finally re-opened public access to the microfilms of the Roman Catholic parish registers of the 'closed' dioceses of Cloyne, Kerry & Cashel & Emly. For the past 16 years there has been no public access at all to the microfilms of the registers from the diocese of Cashel & Emly and only limited access to those for Kerry and Cloyne.

The issue of access to the microfilms for these dioceses has been a hot issue for many years now and is one that CIGO has raised previously with the Library. The 're-opening' of these microfilms after all these years is terrific news for those who are searching for Catholic ancestors in County Kerry and parts of Counties Tipperary, Limerick and Cork.

You can read more about this story at <http://www.cigo.ie/news.html>

Editor's note: The website of www.cigo.ie has a wonderful links page. In particular are the county library websites, County Clare being a top notch one for various index databases.

Journaling Timeline

From the Gen. Club of Osceola Co., FL
Dec 2007 Issue

I am seventy-five and shortly after getting my first computer about a dozen years ago, I started chasing down family names, facts, etc. and was bitten by the genealogy bug. In addition, I found that I craved more personal information about some of these folks. I decided to get my own "things" in order.

I have a computer journal in addition to a written one. In the computer journal I wrote down every year starting with 1932 [year of birth] and saved it on my computer. As I found time or as I thought of things I started filling in events that happened in certain years. I'd find photos of me starting school and the house we lived in when we lived in a certain town. I added historical events - Pearl Harbor, D-Day, V-E Day, V-J Day, and many other things. It got to be so much fun.

When I thought I was through, I sent copies to my children and they added events that I had omitted. I also add to it as medical events are occurring these days. It has become so useful for me in remembering when personal things happened in our family. Now I have a great timeline that has become a springboard for my own children to hopefully grow their own timeline. Jody, Ancestry Weekly Journal, Sept 30, 2007

Back Across The Ocean Advice

from Baden-Württemberg Digest

Vol 3, Issue 221, 17 Jul 2008 RootsWeb.Com

By Marleen Van Horne

German genealogy being what it is, you have to know where your ancestor was born and lived before immigrating to North America, in order to do any research there. If you do not have that information, no paid researcher can find them for you.

Assuming you know where your ancestor was born, then check the catalog of the Family history library in Salt Lake City to see if the Library has the records for that town and the surrounding town on microfilm. Go through these records before you make any attempt to hire a researcher.

If it is possible for you to go to Salt Lake City, you will not only have access to all of the microfilm, but you will have access to the Library staff who are experts in German genealogy. Otherwise you can order the films at your nearest Family History Center. They often times have people who can help you with records in foreign languages. [MCGS has a Germanic SIG that may also be helpful.]

Once you have exhausted all of the resources available to you here, then you can consider hiring a researcher to fill in the gaps in what you have already found. You will know specifically what to ask for, and you can give the researcher a

list of what you already have, so they will not waste your money reresearching what you already have.

The problem with hiring a researcher before you have done the basic groundwork is that you do not know what is missing and what to ask for. They will very likely send you information, but it might not be the important nitty gritty information.

On the few occasions I have had others do research for me, I have never been happy with the results. I have never used a German researcher, you may very likely find they are more professional than the people who have done research for me.

Marleen Van Horne

German Illegitimate Children & More Info

from Baden-Württemberg Digest

Vol 3, Issue 221, 17 Jul 2008 RootsWeb.Com

By Teva Scheer

By the mid-1800s, in the territories now part of Baden-Württemberg, it would not have been the nobility that established a fee for marriage. As a result of the post-Napoleonic territorial consolidations of 1803-1806, the noble landlords lost their sovereignty and most of their power when their little fiefdoms were incorporated either into the Grand Duchy of Baden or the Kingdom of Württemberg.

So any top-down marriage restrictions would have come from those two

governments. But I think it's far more likely the restrictions and the marriage fees were instituted by the local villages and towns than the Baden or Württemberg governments.

Until the mid-1800s, 'citizenship' or Bürgerrecht remained a function of the village or town ruling elders (usually called the Gericht). Just because someone was a citizen of the village of Fürfeld, for example, didn't mean one had the right to move to or live in the nearby village of Siegelsbach.

Even if an individual applied for and received permission to marry someone from another village, that individual also had to apply for permission to live there, and pay a hefty fee. In most cases, people were truly trapped in their home villages, until our ancestors decided to leave for America.

But back to the marriage fees and restrictions. Most of Baden and large parts of Württemberg practiced partible inheritance, which meant that (theoretically) all children shared equally in their parents' estates.

As the population grew in the 1700s and 1800s, it became harder and harder to support a wife and children because each family's land holdings were shrinking with the increased population. A town or village was obligated to provide charity support for any legal inhabitant of the town or village, so to protect the village

resources, the ruling elders imposed severe restrictions on marriage, thereby attempting to curtail increased population.

But all they actually achieved was a significant increase in illegitimate births. The result was that by the 1850s, the illegitimacy rate in Württemberg was 16.3, and in Baden it was 16.9. (My source is Mack Walker's book *German Home Towns*, p. 398.)

Here's a quote from Walker's book, pp. 398-399: "It is almost certain, that one effect of blocking communal entries by prohibiting marriage was to increase the rate of illegitimacy, wherein [German territories] at the end of the fifties led western Europe. In Württemberg there was a survey to find out what effects the marriage and membership laws [i.e., the restrictions on admission to village citizenship] actually had on the marriage rate.

The figures showed that about one formal application for marriage in thirty was refused by the communities in 1847-51, and that in 1852-1856, about one in fifteen was refused by communities and state in combination. Neither figure takes into account the effects of informal community pressure, and neither takes into account the number of marriages delayed or prevented by the presence of the law without its formal invocation against the applicants."

BITS AND BYTES

From Family Chronicle, June 2008 via the Genealogy Club of Osceola County, FL, Newsletter Vol. VII, No. 6 - June 2008

by Diane L. Richard

Local websites are increasingly placing digital material online. These are some recently discovered locale-specific resources that are worth checking out.

Monroe County Library, New York, www2.libraryweb.org, has an extensive digital online collection that includes directories, indexes, journals, newspapers, photographs, maps, postcards, prints, reproductions, manuscripts (letters and memorabilia) and so much more.

Researching the Irish in Troy, New York? Check out the Troy Irish Genealogy Society, www.rootsweb.com/~nytigs/ProjectsPage.htm, an authoritative resource for researching the Irish in Rensselaer County.

Included are: Alderman/ Assistants, Wards, Bank Officers, History of the Police Department, Death and Marriage Records from a Newspaper Collection, Rensselaer County Marriage Index, etc.

27,000 enlargements of postcards from the collection of Gerard Silvainare are now available online at JewishMemory .com, www.Jewish-Memory.com. Images from all over the worlds, from every continent and every angle of Jewish life, such as: family life, Zionist posters, pictures of shtetls, ghettos, synagogues, markets, schools,

musicians, beggars, famous writers, societies, meetings and much more! When starting one's research, list of relevant resources are always welcome.

Price and Associates, www.pricegen.com/resources.htm, has three such list of "Expert Links" for England, the US and Scandinavia.

30,000 images at the new Tennessee State Library and Archives website, <http://tnsos.org/tsla/imagesearch/index.php>. This impressive online collection features images of everything from newspaper clippings and engravings to broadsides and copies of paintings, etc.

SUGGESTED WEBSITES

50 Most Popular Genealogy Websites for 2008 - offered by Jean Witherington <http://www.progenealogists.com/top50genealogy2008.htm>

Michigan Genealogist on the web

by Elaine Harrison

The latest edition of the Michigan Genealogist Newsletter has been posted to the web and can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/hal/GeneWebNewsletterSummer2008_242677_7.pdf

As usual, it is full of interesting tidbits that will help you in your genealogy research.

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY MAIN LIBRARY

The Genealogy Department of the Indian River County Main Library is very grateful to RootsWeb who has hosted our web page for eleven years. Last year, our main library web site changed its URL and we planned to move ever since. Finally, it is done. Our new web site addresses is:
<http://www.irclibrary.org/genealogy>
NEW EMAIL: genealogy@irclibrary.org
NEW ONLINE CATALOG:
<http://catalog.irclibrary.org/polaris/>

Some of the items you will find on our web site: directions to our library, hours open, an index to Indian River county obituaries; a family history beginner's kit; general guides to areas in our collection, Florida history, interlibrary loan policies and much more. Soon, we will add our new local history web pages.

You will also find indexes and guides on our web site: Florida Indexes, Archive Center Guide, City Directories, Maps, Microfilm Index, Microfiche Index, New Materials, Pathfinders (Guides to our collection), and bookmarks.

The following items are unique to our collection and may not exist anywhere else in Florida. Email staff for information on how to receive a photocopy of the page. Index to The American annual monitor ... or, Obituary of the members of the Society of Friends in America Vol. 1-6 1857-1862.

Index to Decisions of the Department of the Interior: in cases of the United States granting and governing pensions. United States. Department of the Interior Washington: G.P.O. (1887-1930)-22 Vols.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me: Pamela J. Cooper, Supervisor Archive Center & Genealogy Department Indian River County Main Library 1600 21st Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960 772-770-5060 x4148 - Fax 772-770-5446 Email: pcooper@irclibrary.org

State of Georgia Death Certificates

from the FGS.org Aug 2008 News

The State of Georgia has made over 275,000 death certificates accessible online at no cost, for deaths that occurred between 1919 and 1927. Each name in the searchable online index is linked to a digital image of the actual death certificate. The certificates include age, county of death, parents' names, occupation, gender, race and cause of death.

To search the index and view certificates, to go www.GeorgiaArchives.org. Under the "most popular" column, click "death certificates."

Cook County, Illinois

Birth, Marriage, and Death Records

from FGS.org Aug 2008 News

Uploading and updating is an on-going process at the following Chicago website. www.cookcountygenealogy.com/FAQ.aspx

MCGS' 2008 Board of Directors

President:	Walt Bruetsch	220-1638
Vice President:	David Eldridge	546-5083
Secretary:	Lee Vought	286-6470
Treasurer	Arlene Ackermann	781-4393
Assistant Secretary:	Jane Lewis	287-0670
Member at Large	Tom Lewis	287-0670
Member at Large	Dianne McKeon	221-8281

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 or Joanne your updated email addresses!

The *Genealogy Journal* is usually printed four times a year and distributed at the March, June, September and December MCGS meetings. Suggestions and contributions are welcomed.

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. **Time from 10 am to 12 pm.** This is a free event, given by Sandy McDonnell. Bring your laptop for individual help after the meeting. The remaining dates for 2008 are all on Thursdays (not necessarily the same week of the month) and in the small Conference Room # 1 except as noted: September 25th, October 30th, November 20th and December 18th.

MCGS's DNA SIG will be meeting at about 3 pm after the MCGS meeting on September 19th.

MCGS's Germanic SIG will be meeting after the MCGS meeting on October 17th.

Check MCGS's website for news on the other Special Interest Groups within MCGS: the New England Region SIG.