

## **THE POLK COUNTY POST**

*Polk County Genealogical Society (PCGS)  
March 2008, Volume #10, Issue #3*

**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**

\* \* \*

THANK YOU

**Judy Wester** for presenting the February 2008 program on researching ancestor records for inclusion in heritage organizational societies.

Get well wishes to PCGS long time member **Dorothy Adams**. We all send our best for your speedy recovery.

-2008-

## Tentative Schedule

### **NOTICE: Monday 24 2008**

**4:30 pm** Fund-raising/Grants Board meeting  
**5:30 pm** PCGS Board Meeting - Both at Rocky Waters Restaurant - Osceola  
**7:00 pm** March program - Osceola Library

\*Monday 24 March 2008

"Genealogy 101"  
presented by

**Paul Garneau Clark** - 3M Genealogy Club  
Osceola Public Library - 7:00 PM

\*Monday 28 April 2008

"DNA Genealogy"  
presented by

**Alan Hagstrom** - PCGS member  
Osceola Public Library - 7:00 PM

### **One week early due to the Memorial Day Holiday**

\*Monday 19 May 2008

"Using Ancestry.com"  
presented by

**Kathy Clark** - PCGS member  
Osceola Public Library - 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**  
<[rkmclark@lakeland.ws](mailto:rkmclark@lakeland.ws)>

with your suggestions.

VETERANS GRAVE REGISTRATIONS

POLK COUNTY , WISCONSIN  
VOLUME ONE- (continued)

Name	Cemetery	Page
<b>VASSAW, Joseph</b>	Amery	4
<b>VASSAU, Leo Thomas</b>	Amery	11
<b>VAN BLARICOM, David</b>	Clear Lake	74
<b>VINSON, Samuel R.</b>	Clear Lake	96
<b>VAN PELT, Stanley</b>	Lorain	155
<b>VOSS, Brynjulf</b>	Milltown	184
<b>VANIMAN, Frank</b>	Pleasant Hill	237
<b>VINCENT, William J.</b>	St. Croix Falls	249
<b>VALGREN, John Rueben</b>	Traveler's Rest	290
<b>VAN KEWREN, M.</b>	Wolf Creek	315

POLK COUNTY MARRIAGES 1855-1867

Groom	/	Bride	Vol/Pg
<b>THOMPSON, Alex/ Marget LINDBERG</b>			1/78
<b>STEVENS, Andrew/M.A. MONTGOMERY</b>			1/40
<b>STURNEGK, Fred/ Lolu A. GALKINS</b>			2/125
<b>SWANSON, John/Matilda NELSON</b>			2/217
<b>SWENSON, Peter/Sophia DALGREEN</b>			2/249
<b>SWEERZEY, George/Mary Ann REMIE</b>			2/218

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**BRITISH ISLES GEN SEMINAR**

*sponsored by the*

Blue Hills Gen Soc-Barron County, Inc.

**29 March 2008 9: 00 AM - 3:30 PM**

Barron County Courthouse Auditorium

330 LaSalle

Barron, Wisconsin

(park behind Courthouse on Monroe St.)

*Pre-registration by 20 March 2008*

*non-BHGS members: \$25.00*

*(includes lunch)*

*after 20 March:*

*non-BHGS members \$30.00*

*(includes lunch)*

1. **Getting Started in Ireland**

by

**Tom Rice,**

*Professional gen researcher/teacher-CG*

2. **Finding Scottish Ancestors**

by

**Tom Rice**

3. **Family History Research in England and Wales**

by

**Michael Puckett,**

*35 years as speaker/researcher*

*on English genealogy*

Name/Address/Phone #/Email

Non-Member fee: \$25.00 by 20 March

\$30.00 after 20 March

**Please:** return registration and fee to

Blue Hills-Barron County

POB # 383

Cameron, Wisconsin 54822

***If at all possible, please support this event with your attendance.***

**PLANNING**  
*for the Future of a*  
**HISTORICAL RECORDS ROOM**  
**(HRR)**

*at the Polk County Historical Society  
Museum in Balsam Lake, Wisconsin*

An HISTORICAL RECORDS ROOM (HRR) evolved with the prospects of an addition to house an elevator and auxiliary space within the Polk County Historical Society Museum. The concept is for an archival depository, accessible to the general public, for all genealogical and historical documents pertaining to Polk County.

The HRR will one day hold many more of the fundamentals for historical/genealogical research including: school registers, census records, church and cemetery records, numerous published family histories, reference books for local history, "how-to" genealogy publications, and the history of local communities.

Every Monday from 1-4 PM during the summer months of June, July and August, volunteer members of the Polk County Genealogy Society, meet at the museum to sort, transcript, label, and assist visitors looking for family history data. PCGS would like, from our members and friends of PCGS, input regarding the development of a long term plan to continue to collect and preserve our Polk County genealogical and historical records. **We need to look ahead, plan, and make sure growth continues.**

This **survey** will give members/friends a chance for input. Please share your thoughts on the survey questions and email your reply to PCGS secretary at:

**DOROTHY ADAMS**  
<[adams2410@hotmail.com](mailto:adams2410@hotmail.com)>

or  
**THE POST**  
<[hs35@uwrf.edu](mailto:hs35@uwrf.edu)>

**SURVEY QUESTIONS:**

- 1. What do you, as a PCGS member/friend, envision for the growth of the Historical Records Room over the next two years: five years: ten years?**
- 2. How do PCGS members accomplish our visions?**
- 3. Other suggestions or comments:**

**Thank you.**

Great article by:  
**Irene Spence**-Archival Executive,  
Lanark County Genealogical Society,  
Lanark County, Ontario, Canada  
November 2007 **The Lanark Log**

**Wisconsin STATE Gen Soc.**  
**11-12 April 2008**  
**Plaza Hotel & Suites Conference Center**  
**Eau Claire, Wisconsin**  
Hosted by Genealogical Research  
Society of Eau Claire, Wisconsin

**Featured speaker:**  
**Maureen Taylor**  
New Englanders to the Midwest  
Discover Genealogical Clues in Photos  
Walk Ancestors Footsteps-Vacation  
Methods for telling your Family Story  
Tales from the Photo Detective  
**Other Speakers:**  
**Don Lizer**-Allen County Public Library  
**Lori Bessler & Rick Pifer** -  
Wisconsin Historical Society  
**Duane Swanson** - Minnesota Hist. Soc.  
**Nancy Emmert & George Findlen** - WSGS

<[www.wsgs.org](http://www.wsgs.org)>

## DIGITIZING OLD SLIDES

by **Justine Dorton**

used by permission of:

**Cindy Carmen**

email dated 25 February 2008

"Making slides and negatives all digital would stop the slow side of quality erosion they are currently undergoing."

One way to do it: "the Digital Film Scanner, by VuPoint for around \$120.00," which "Requires Window XP. After installing the driver and software, I plugged in scanner into a USB 1.0 port (the instructions state you need USB 2.0). The USB 1.0 connection definitely slowed down the scanners ability to do real-time scanning changes, and the scanner ate up every spare inch of RAM on my 6 year old computer."

"I decided to give the poor scanner a break. I moved onto the newest PC we've got, installed drivers, installed software, plugged that scanner into a USB 2.0 port, and we were off and humming. It is worth noting at this point, that this scanner comes with attachments for use with both slides or negatives, and and as I discuss my experience with these slides, you can apply all I mention to the use of negatives, as my experienced was similar with both."

The complete article can be found <[www.kindredconnections.com/DigitizingOldSlides.html](http://www.kindredconnections.com/DigitizingOldSlides.html)>.

Advertisements included pictures of devices for viewing and digitizing slides and negatives: Veho Film and Slide Converter-\$129.95 and Digital Negative Converter-\$99.99. Books which can give more details about digitizing slides/negatives are: Scanning Negatives and Slides Digitizing Your Photographic Archives by **Sascha Steinhoff**-\$29.67, and Digital Restoration From Start to Finish: How to Repair Old and Damaged Photographs by **Ctein** - \$39.95.

## Brick Wall Suggestions

1. Analyze what you have - did you miss something
2. Surround the roadblock/brick wall
  - \* birth certificate
  - \* death certificate
  - \* Obits
  - \* focus on children/siblings
3. Use an old map, find the closest:
  - \* cemetery
  - \* church
  - \* city
4. Visit the cemetery with the:
  - \* obit
  - \* death certificate
  - \* cemetery sexton
  - \* sketch of family folklore
5. Work backwards from a theory
6. Learn the history of a region/province for the time period you are interested in, use:  
<[www.ourtimelines.com](http://www.ourtimelines.com)> .
7. Learn about the wars that swept thru the area you are interested in
8. Post queries in genealogy newsletters and town newspapers for your interested areas
9. Research county or town history
10. Verbal history - question older relatives in your family
11. Network with other researchers - JOIN A GENEALOGY CLUB OR SOCIETY in the area of your research as well as at home
12. Research cluster migration
13. Research names next to your family on ship's list
14. Military records / Widow's pension Handout from **PAUL STERNBERG**