

WOOD COUNTY



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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Hello Fellow Genealogists!

I was reading an article about one of the more successful businessmen and he had "Five Rules to Success." I thought that way of approaching other avenues could be just as important.

Rule One—Concentrate on the objective. That could apply to our research of an individual in our family tree. Collect all of the information already found and make a list of what else is needed to round out that person. It is easy to miss something vital in the material you already have.

Rule Two—Prepare a plan to meet that objective. When making a trip to the archives or library, have a list of just what they have available and what you need to look for. Timelines are good.

Rule Three—Resist the impulse to deviate from the plan. In other words, don't go off half-cocked on something or

someone else. Concentrate on what you came for.

Rule Four—Pay attention to every detail and make certain it is covered before proceeding with the plan. Read the material thoroughly and make notes. This will help you understand what you have found. Always check other name spellings even when they seem out in left field. Make sure that you have covered all of the resources available.

Rule Five—Always think in terms of success—never in terms of failure. This seems trivial but many of us do it. "Oh, I know I won't find anything so why spend time." Search through every possibility. You don't know when you can get back to that library or archives.

Happy Hunting!

Diantha Neinfeldt

ADDRESS CHANGE

Please note that we have a new post office box number. We changed our address in September. Please use the new address immediately. Thanks.

**Heart O' Wisconsin
Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 1565
Wisconsin Rapids WI 54495-1565**

A "HEART" WELCOME!

We welcomed two new members to our midst in October.

Kay O'Shasky, who lives in Wisconsin Rapids, says she now has some time and would like to do some research on her Wolosek ancestors. In the horse world, that is a familiar name—Felix Wolosek had a Leopard Appaloosa named Poker Chips. My first horse was a Leopard App sired by Felix's horse. Kay said she had a chance to ride Poker Chips! But I digress here—she's more interested in the ancestry of the Woloseks themselves and not the horses! So let's all help her if we can! Give Kay a big "Heart Hi" when you see her at a meeting!

Sherry Strub joined our ranks through our web site. She lives in Nekoosa. We hope to see her at some of our upcoming meetings. See her query later in this newsletter.



TIDBITS OF GENEALOGICAL INTEREST

Following are tidbits taken from Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter.

- ◆ The Canadian Federal Archives is sitting on a backlog of 98,000 boxes of undocumented government records, some dating back to 1890! They have vowed to come up with a plan to tackle this mountain of material by the end of 2015! (What are the chances that there's something you've been looking for on your ancestry in this mountain of stuff?)
- ◆ Time magazine says that genealogy is the second most popular hobby in the U.S., after gardening, according to ABC News, and the second most visited category of websites, after pornography! It is now a billion dollar industry!
- ◆ Today hundreds, if not thousands, of adoptees have used DNA genealogy companies like Family Tree DNA, 23andMe, and Ancestry.com, to jump over bureaucratic barriers and find members of their genetic families. CeCe Moore, a professional genetic genealogist, appeared on "Finding Your Roots" with Henry L. Gates Jr. on PBS. DNA testing is the only way for "foundlings" to find their birth relatives since "opening records can't help when there are no records," said Ms. Moore.
- ◆ An agreement between JewishRecords Indexing-Poland and the Foundation for Documentation of (Polish) Jewish Cemeteries now links the JRI-P databases and the Foundation's database of more than 200,000 graves from 81 towns. For a full list of the cemeteries, go to <http://cemetery.jewish.org.pl/list>. The JRI-P database can be found at www.jri-poland.org.
- ◆ More than 80,000 digitized genealogy and family history publications are now available online at Google Books, Archive.org, Allen County Public Library, Brigham Young University Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University Hawaii Joseph F. Smith Library, Church History Library, Family Search Library, Houston Public Library—Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, Mid-Continent Public Library—Midwest Genealogy Center, and Pennsylvania State University Libraries' Digitized Collections. Besides doing name searches on these sites, try location searches also. You can also try religious affiliations, veteran's organizations, and fraternal organizations, to name a few.
- ◆ Check these tidbits out!



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(Cont'd on Page 1180)

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Please let me know if there are any mistakes on this list. Thanks. The Editor

PERSI HAS A NEW HOME!

The Allen County Public Library (ACPL) Genealogy Center and findmypast.com have partnered to help you gain quick access to ACPL's PERiodical Source Index (PERSI). If you go to Heritage Quest site (from McMillan Memorial Library's site) to check out PERSI, you will see it's listed as "Search PERSI Archive (1800-2009)." It appears as though the newest additions to PERSI will be available at <http://search.findmypast.com/search/periodical-source-index>. Go to this site and explore the database, using different search terms and filters, and compare your results.

PERSI is now going to include digital images of the original articles. Some links are available now to digital images from the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, 1870-1920; more images will become available. PERSI is not an every name index but it is a useful research tool for finding genealogical and historical information which may not be online or in print elsewhere.

Read the whole story in an article by Carol Richey in the Oct/Nov 2014 issue of [Internet Genealogy](#). Check it out—you'll never know what you may find!

RANDOM ACTS BACK!

Good News—Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness is back online! We were all dismayed when the site went down in November, 2011, and did not reappear. It seems one of the original founders had died. At one time, there were over 4,000 volunteers registered to help others with An Act of Genealogical Kindness.

I for one had benefited from this website in looking for information about my great-grandfather's brother in Batavia, New York. A volunteer from that area found his obituary for me, plus went to the cemetery and photographed his tombstone and that of his wife's. Then she found his wife's obit for me also. She also went on to send me more newspaper stories about the man and his inventions. She went above and beyond the call of duty!

Visit their website, www.raogk.org. Look around the site and volunteer to help others with Wood County research. The website has links to FAQs so check those out before you sign up to volunteer. Your time is not compensated but you will be paid for your expenses.

SHERRY STRUB'S STORY

I'm a beginner and I'm searching for information on grandparents on both sides of my family. On my father's side, mainly my great-great-great-grandfather, John Johnson, born in 1815 in Ireland who settled in Illinois (Thornton, Chicago). I'm not sure what his wife's name was, but I believe it was Naomi, born in NY or Ohio. Their son, Dr. William J. Johnson, was born in Chicago on April 28, 1842, and died in Rudolph, WI, on March 19, 1932. He married Laura Luerelia Wright of Underhill, Chittenden, VT. Laura was born in 1846-1847 and died in 1928. Laura's mother, Orilla (I would love to learn her maiden name.) Wright Collins, was born in Hinesburg, VT, on August 30, 1826, and died in Radisson, WI, in July 1916. Laura's father shows up as Carlos E./Charles E. Wright born between 1820-1822 in NY or Vermont. My mother's maiden side of the family is from the Chicago, IL/Stevens Point, WI, area—the Marek and Perlock families are from Poland(?).
Sherry Strub, sastrub@wctc.net

EARLY QUEBEC ANCES-

Are you researching Quebec ancestors? Then it's time to check out this website—<http://www.genealogie.umontreal.ca/en/leprdh.htm>. This is perhaps the best online source. The Programme de Recherche en Demographie Historique was created by the University of Montreal. In English this is called the Research Program in Historical Demography. It is known as simply the PRDH.

This database is a reconstruction of almost the entire population of Quebec from the beginnings of French colonization in the 17th century. It is a computerized population register composed of biographical files on all individuals of European ancestry who lived in the St. Lawrence Valley. The file for each individual gives the date and place of birth, marriage, and death, as well as family ties with other individuals. Most of the data was obtained from the Catholic parish registers of old Quebec. The PRDH site includes Acadians who settled in Quebec but it does not cover Acadia itself.

France did not supply a great number of emigrants to its colonies across the Atlantic in the 1600s. Roughly 15,000 Frenchmen and women sailed for Canada. In contrast, the British Isles, with a population just over 1/3 of France's, sent almost 380,000 immigrants to the New World over the same period.

You can navigate the site free of charge and conduct a first-level search. A name search will return a list of references to that name. If you want to follow through and get further information on the references, you will have to subscribe. Check out the website for subscription costs.

There is lots of information available free on this website, including an alphabetical list of all Catholic parishes in Quebec, maps of all the parishes, information about some of the pioneers of Old France, the ancestors of a given family name, to name a few.

The above is taken from Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, 21 May 2014, www.eogn.com.

FIVE-GENERATION PEDIGREE CHARTS PROJECT

The Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society is starting a new project—5-Generation Pedigree Charts. The purpose of the project is to gather and make available 5 - generation pedigree charts of the members of our Society. These are the guidelines that will be used for the project:

- Open to all members of Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society.
- Do not submit charts with living people listed on them.
- All charts become the property of the Society.
- Charts may be submitted in either paper or gedcom format.
- All information will be entered into a computer-generated pedigree chart

to ensure uniformity of appearance.

- The charts could be published in paper format and/or put on the Society's website.
- Each member may submit as many charts as they wish (the Society retains the right to limit the number of charts that will be published per member).
- Name, address, and e-mail of submitter will be on each chart (if published to the website, a possible link to a member's personal web page could be inserted).
- An every name index will be part of the project.

The chairman of this project is Myra Sweet. Please contact her directly with any questions. Her email address is myrasweet@charter.net.

All correspondence and submissions should be sent to:

Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society
Attn: Pedigree Charts
P. O. Box 1565
Wis. Rapids, WI 54495-1565

The above guidelines were written in 2006 when Emil Krause volunteered to do this project. It was updated with Myra's name as chairman and our new address. Some of the guidelines were updated also since Emil's original files were lost in a computer crash and a sample of what he was doing isn't available. A fresh start will have to be made. Bear with us as we move forward with this project. Any suggestions would be helpful—Myra.

GENEALOGY BASICS 101

Have you hit a brick wall in your research? We all have at one time or another. Some of those brick walls may never be broken down all at once but we can gradually chip away at them little by little. Some ideas that may help are to put that line away for a while. Give yourself some space and time away from it. Maybe pick it up again in six months; go over the data like it is something you've never seen before; read each piece of information carefully; maybe take some notes. Chances are something will jump out and hit you in the face! If this doesn't work, try going on some websites that offer genealogy basics.

If you google "genealogy basics course," a wealth of websites pops up for you to peruse. I look for the ones that say "free." One that comes up is on **about.com**. Another is on CyndisList. The URL for this is www.cyndislist.com/education/online-courses-and-webinars. She has many, many sites listed here for courses that cost money and free ones, too. Another good source of genealogy basics is www.familysearch.org. Go to the learning center there and, oh my, the courses listed here are endless. You can go to countries to learn about their genealogy info or go to a specific topic—church records, civil records, etc. There is also a list of different formats—audio, interactive slides, video, or video and slides. I have just hit the tip of the iceberg here—check it out yourself but make sure you have lots of time to look over everything!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

13 Jan 2015 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Don Schnitzler will be presenting a program on "The Lumbering Industry of Wisconsin." The program will be at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting to follow.

10 Feb 2015 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Phil Brown of the South Wood County Historical Corporation will present "A Magical History Tour of Wisconsin Rapids." This is a Power Point presentation based on his historical bus tour of Rapids. The program will be at 6:30 p.m. followed by the meeting.

11-14 Feb 2015 Federation of Genealogical Societies 2015 National Conference. "Connect. Explore. Refresh." is the theme of this conference held in conjunction with RootsTech 2015 at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, Utah. Check out www.fgs.org for the details.

10 Mar 2015 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. The program will be "Roundtable Discussions" with members bringing in some of their collections that helped them find their ancestors. Program at 6:30 p.m. followed by the meeting.

27-28 Mar 2015 Wisconsin State Genealogical Society, Gene-A-Rama, held at the Sheraton Madison at 706 John Nolen Drive, Madison, WI. More information coming soon. Check the www.wsgs.org web site for further details as they are announced.

14 Apr 2015 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Program to be announced.

02 May 2015 Wausau Family History Center Conference. Details and registration will be available in the Spring. Save the date!

12 May 2015 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Program to be announced.

13-16 May 2015 National Genealogical Society 2015 Family History Conference, St. Charles, Missouri. "Crossroads of America" is the theme of this year's conference. Registration is now open. Get all the details and the registration form at www.ngsgenealogy.org.

16 Jun 2015 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society Annual Cemetery Walk. June is traditionally our annual "cemetery walk." We still have to choose a cemetery so details will be shared as we develop them.

If you're a member of WSGS, don't forget their very informative webinars which you, as a member, can access on their website, www.wsgs.org.

Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society

HEART O' WISCONSIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Chairman | Di Neinfeldt |
| Vice Chairman | Tina Krummel |
| Secretary | Doreen Dimick |
| Treasurer | Bev Polansky |
| Trustees 3 years | Eugene Meier |
| 2 years | Ben Chitek |
| 1 year | Flores Gumz |
| COMMITTEE CHAIRS: | |
| Book Purchases | Flores Gumz |
| By-Laws | Pat Fischer |
| Genealogy Class | (Vacant) |
| Historian | Bev Peaslee |
| Hospitality | Joyce Keehn |
| Indexing | Mary Peters & Bev Peaslee |
| Library Files | Arlene Keehn |
| New Members | Doris King |
| Newsletter | Bev Peaslee |
| Pedigree Charts | Myra Sweet |
| Research | Mary Moss |
| Sunshine | Sue Miller |
| Website | Di Neinfeldt |

Wood County Roots Editor:

PURPOSE OF SOCIETY: To assist members and others in genealogical research and to preserve local records.

DUES: \$15 per household—one newsletter per address. Please list names of all persons joining. Due at or before 31 July. Membership year runs from 01 August through 31 July.

MEETINGS: Held monthly—September through June—on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the McMillan Memorial Library, 490 East Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, WI (right across the street from the Hotel Mead & Convention Center).

Wood County Roots Editor:

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