

# WOOD COUNTY ROOTS



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## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

### *Greetings Everyone:*

I imagine with the balmy weather over this past weekend, everyone's mind is turning to Spring! Spring is a time of renewal, new beginnings, rejuvenation, resurrection, and re-growth. As this wonderful time of the year approaches, perhaps it is time to give some of your research some rejuvenation.

Do you know the best way to do that? Lots of researchers put aside their problematic areas. Let them rest for a month or two. At the end of that time, pick that research up and look at it with new eyes—taking time to re-read and analyze all your notes. Fill in that timeline you've been meaning to do. Take note of what your research is missing and put these items on your "Genealogical To-Do List." What! You don't have one of these? I have to-do lists for just about every aspect of my life—for my accounting business, for my position as treasurer of my church, for my scrapbooking hobby; oh yeah, there's always that junk drawer, spare room, or garage that needs cleaning! Ugh!

Seriously, a timeline and a to-do list are important tools for any genealogist. The to-do list is essential for remembering what you were going to check on the next time you were at the local courthouse, church, or library. Timelines will help you put

that research into perspective as it relates to your ancestor's place in history. Sometimes putting your ancestor's life and historical happenings together opens your eyes to new areas of research.

We had a very successful and fun meeting in February. I think we were overwhelmed with people wanting help. I'm thinking we need to do something like this again. Please let Wayne know your thoughts, comments, constructive criticism, etc., on the program format. Obviously, from the turn-out of visitors at this meeting, our community has a need for more of these types of programs. Let's see what we can do to fill that need!

There are more interesting, informative meetings on the horizon. Don't forget about Gene-A-Rama put on by the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society. Come join us in Manitowoc for a weekend of sleuthing out your ancestors!

Have a wonder, rejuvenating, renewing SPRING!

*Happy Hunting!*  
*Bev Peaslee, Chair*

***"Done! Everything in the family tree has been found and is completely organized" — said no genealogist. Ever."***

## NEW OFFICERS

Officers were voted in at the end of last year to take us on into the new year. Please help the officers out in any way that you can. Our society is only as strong as its members.

- Chairman:  
Bev Peaslee
- Vice Chairman:  
Wayne Peters
- Secretary:  
Sue Miller &  
Myra Sweet
- Treasurer:  
Tina Krummel
- Trustee:  
Flores Gumz

## Dues!

It's that time of year again—your annual dues are payable now. Our membership year runs from August 1 through July 31.

Check your newsletter label. The line above your name has the expiration date of your membership. There is a membership form on page 1325 of this newsletter. Please check with Tina, our treasurer, on the status of your membership.

## Tour Your Childhood Home with Google and Google Earth

by [Lisa Cooke](#) | Aug 28, 2017

*Ever thought of visiting your childhood home? Here's a story about people who are actually buying theirs back. For the rest of us, here's how to use Google and Google Earth to revisit your childhood home and relive some memories—without spending a dime.*

Your childhood home—or perhaps another beloved family home—is your own personal address on *Memory Lane*. Who wouldn't love to stroll up to its doors and recapture some memories? Even if you're not interested in buying back an old family home, many of us are curious about the houses we used to love. Are those houses still there? What do they look like now? What else can we learn about them?



### 1. Find the address for your childhood home

If you don't recall the street address of your favorite family home, ask a relative or look it up. For U.S. addresses since 1940, you might start with the U.S. Public Records Index, searchable in part or full at Ancestry.com (volumes 1 and 2 for 1950-1993), FamilySearch.org or MyHeritage.com. Look also in records such as:

- **telephone and city directories** (the example shown here

is from Ancestry.com's massive collection of U.S. city directories (1822-1995); the same site also has enormous collections of British phone books (1880-1984) and U.K. city and county directories (1766-1946); German address books (1829-1874) and German phone directories (1915-1981); Canadian phone and address directories (1995-2002) and Canadian city and area directories (1819-1906); Australia city directories (1845-1948), New Zealand city and area directories (1866-1954) and more)

- **draft registrations** and other military paperwork
- **Social Security application forms**, known as SS-5 forms
- **deeds**
- **old family letters**
- **newspaper articles**

Felix Herman, wrks Johnson Works, o h Main st, Morr. 4-  
Felix Homer, mill hand, o h near Bedford Pike, 7-7  
Felix John A. carpenter, o h Elm ave, Morrellville, 4-12  
Felix Peter, laborer, o h 287 Main st, Coopersdale, 2-2

Johnstown, PA

## Silver Buckles and other treasures found

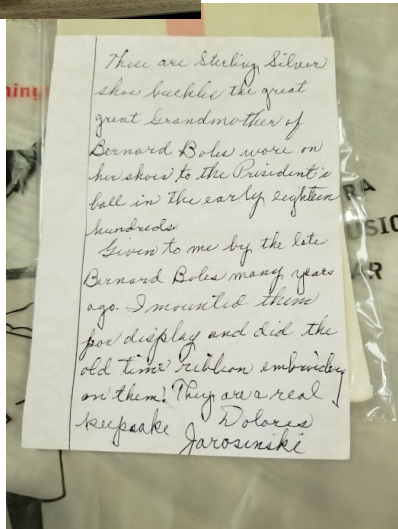
**Bobby Shafto's gone to sea,  
Silver buckles at his knee;  
He'll come back and marry me,  
Bonny Bobby Shafto!**

Well we don't have them on our knees, but on of our new member Helen Legare has found some silver shoe buckles and other treasures that she is looking for their next of kin and proper home



These are sterling silver shoe buckles the great great grand-mother of Bernard Boles wore on her shoes to the President's ball in the early eighteen hundreds. Given to me by the late Bernard Boles many years ago. I mounted them for display and did the old time ribbon embroidery on them! They are a real keepsake.

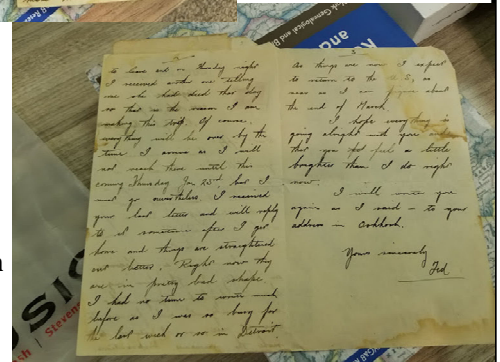
Dolores Jarosinski



A baby Bonnet was with the buckles.

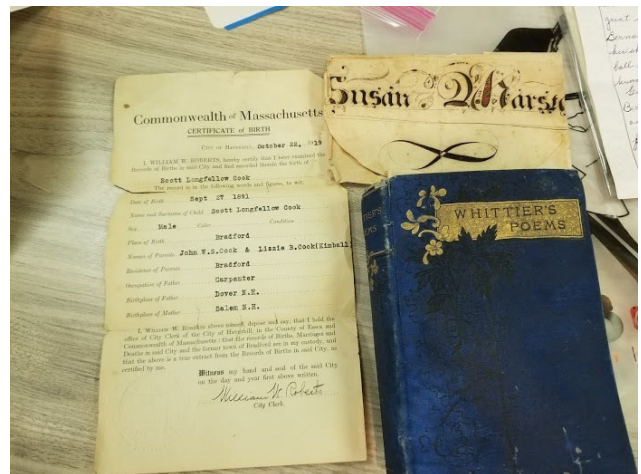


Helen also found some letters from the Cunard Line To a Miss Lucille Williams of Oshkosh From Ted.



She also found a birth certificate in an old book.

From the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for a **Scott Longfellow Cook**.  
Born Sept. 27th 1891, Parents John W.S. Cook and Lizzie (Kimball) Cook Born in Bradford.



If anyone knows or might know someone who this might be part of the families. Please contact

Helen Legare  
P.O. Box 383, Wisc Rapids, WI 54495

## Tour Your Childhood Home With Google and Google Earth Continued

For U.S. addresses from 1880-1940, look to U.S. census records, which include street names and house numbers. In the example below from the 1930 census, you can see “Cedar Street” written vertically by the red arrow, and the house number written for each household entry, as shown in blue.

childhood home or another family landmark, such as an ancestor’s homestead or burial place.

### 3. Google the address of your childhood home

Googling the address of your family home may produce unexpected and interesting results like these:

a) **Sale listings.** If your house has been on the market in recent years, you may be able to find a listing with great details, and even pictures of the inside today. Top Google search results from specific addresses often bring up real estate websites with varying degrees of information, such as square footage, current estimated value, year built, most recent sale date and price, and more. Weed through these entries to see whether Zillow or another similar site shows a current or past listing for sale or rent. These may contain more details and may even have interior and exterior pictures of the house as it is now.

Watch closely—Google may bring up houses nearby, not the one you’re looking for. But even a neighborhood listing for a house built on a similar floor plan may jog your memories of the home and may give you a sense of what the area is like now.

b) **Historical information.** A Google search result may bring up historical news coverage or obituaries from digitized newspaper websites like Newspapers.com (a subscription may be required to view these in full).

*“from Lisa Louise Cooke’s Genealogy Gems at [www.GenealogyGems.com](http://www.GenealogyGems.com), home of the free Genealogy Gems Podcast”*

Line No.	Street	House No.	Dwelling	Family No.	Name	Relation	Home Ow.	Home Va.
20					Henrietta	wife-H		
21					Brisson	son		
22					Lenny B	son		
23		2416	277	285	Thiffich Theodor J	Head	0	2500
24					Beth	wife-H		
25					Frederick L	son		
26		2424	278	286	Bowker, Henry M	Head	0	3500
27					Isabelle M	wife-H		
28		2504	279	287	Lantz, Charles	Head	0	2500

From the 1930 US census, Ancestry.com

If you can’t find an address on an old record, but you think you could navigate yourself there on a map, it’s time to go to Google Earth and fly yourself there!

### 2. Use Google Earth to view your childhood home now

Google Earth is your on-ramp to your own personal Memory Lane. Go to the site, enter an address, and watch yourself “fly” to that address. If you don’t know an exact address but you know where to look, enter a street name or even a city. Then zoom in to the neighborhood and street section of interest. Activate Street View, if it’s available. Not sure how to do that? <http://lisalouisecooke.com/free-google-earth-for-genealogy-video-class-by-lisa-louise-cooke/>

Once you’ve found the location, take a close look. Is the house still there? What does it look like now? How has the landscape changed? The neighborhood?

You can use Google Earth to revisit your own

**Queries**

**Wayne Peters sent:**

Looking for information on the parents of Charlotte "Lottie" Leota MEYERS, who was born abt. 1874 in Adams County, Wisconsin. Charlotte was in Adams County at least until 1880. Possible parents could be Burt Meyers and Charlotte Harvey.

**Tina Krummel sent:** Looking information on Israel Jero (Gerow, Jerro) Born in 1812 in Canada Lived in New York State in Housfield, Jefferson Co. Genesse Co, and in Outagamie Co. Wisc.. His father was Henry Gero of Canada (abt. 1790-?) It was said that Israel took a cooking pot and left his wife (SeCeila) and family about 1870s. That is where all information seems to stop.

[How Complete Is It?](#)

Posted: 23 Feb 2020 09:57 AM PST

A source should never be used without the genealogist asking:

How complete is it? How was it compiled? What could be missing?

*FindAGrave* is perhaps the perfect example. It only includes burials that have been submitted by someone who either took a picture of the tombstone or, in some cases, learned about a burial in the cemetery or another source. It's a great resource, to be certain, and it is a great place to start, but by its very nature it can be incomplete. Not every burial had a tombstone, deaths before death records were not recorded, and not every death or burial gets mentioned in a newspaper, etc.

Every site or set of records should be used with the same concern over completeness—not just *FindAGrave*.

But you should always be asking yourself "how complete is this source?"

**WSGS Gene-A-Rama**

**Wisconsin State Genealogical Society  
2020 Gene-A-Rama**

**Investigating Your Roots – Becoming a  
Genealogy Super Sleuth!**

**Friday & Saturday, April 3 & 4, 2020**

**Holiday Inn 4601 Calumet Avenue Mani-  
towoc, WI**

**George G. Morgan & Drew Smith  
Deb Anderson, Andy Barnett, John Berg,  
Lori Bessler, Karen Duvalle, Carol Gibson,  
Russ Horton, Hannah Patten.**

**Hosted by  
Manitowoc County Genealogical Society**



Includes:

**Ask A Genealogist: sponsored by The Society of  
Mayflower Descendants in the  
State of Wisconsin**

**Go to Wsgs.org for an order form to mail in or  
register via Paypal on the website.**

**Be sure to register soon. April is coming fast.**

## In Memory



**Charlotte M. Diesburg**, age 86, of Wisconsin Rapids, passed away Monday February 10, 2020 at Aspirus Riverview Hospital surrounded by her family.

Charlotte was born May 21, 1933 in Kulm, North Dakota to Charles Martin and Esther

Kosanke. She was a 1951 graduate of Kulm High School. Charlotte married James Diesburg on March 31, 1989 in Port Edwards. For ten years Charlotte was employed at Schreiber Cheese in Wisconsin Rapids, retiring in 1989.

Charlotte enjoyed genealogy, crocheting blankets for her family, playing Yahtzee and doing puzzles. She was on the same bowling team for 25 years. She was the matriarch of her family who taught us all how to be strong and get things done.

She is survived by her husband James Diesburg; five children Raneë (Bill) Graf, Russell Kruse, Ronald (Rosanne) Kruse, Roger (Joni) Kruse and Randall Kruse; step children Sue-Ellen (Jeff) Kingery, Gerald Diesburg, Betty Vollert, Mary (Pete) Pederson, Kelli Ann (Mike Trzinski), Jamie (Todd) Boudreau and Jason Diesburg; 11 Grandchildren; 14 Step Grandchildren; 15 Great Grandchildren and 10 Step Great Grandchildren.

Charlotte was preceded in death by her mother; granddaughter Sara and step daughter Rox-Ann Heindl.



**MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
**DETACH AND MAIL WITH A CHECK FOR \$15 PAYABLE TO:**  
**HEART O' WISCONSIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**P.O. Box 1565**  
**WISCONSIN RAPIDS WI 54495-1565**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**New members only:** You may have **one** free surname search if you reside outside of Wood County, WI (a \$10 value).

Surname you would like researched: \_\_\_\_\_

The membership list is published once per year in the December newsletter. We ask that you give permission for us to publish your address, telephone number, and e-mail address by responding to the following questions. **(Please clearly circle your answer; if no response is given, we will automatically publish):** I wish to have the following published in the December newsletter: my address? **Yes No**; my phone number? **Yes No**; my e-mail address? **Yes No**

Members may submit one free query per year, which will be published in the Society's newsletter in order to contact others researching the same ancestors. It should be 50 words or less, not counting the name and address of the submitter. Members and non-members may submit additional queries at the rate of 10 cents per word.

Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want a membership card mailed to you. Thanks.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 21, 2020**      *“Intersection of History and Genealogy; The discussion will examine how history is connected to our family histories.” John Berg*
- April 3-4, 2020**      *Gene-A-Rama Investigating Your Roots: Becoming a Genealogy Super Sleuth. With George G. Moran & Drew Smith at the Holiday Inn, Manitowoc, WI*
- April 18, 2020**      *“Using DNA in Family History Research” Wayne Peters of the HOWGS will discuss the types of genetic tests available to genealogists, problems the tests can and cannot assist you with, privacy issues and how a DNA test changed his family tree.*
- May 16, 2020**      *Madison Research Trip. We will take a trip to Madison for research. Details will follow*
- June 20, 2020**      *“Skunk Hill”, Robert Birmingham, author of many publications including Skunk Hill: A Native Ceremonial Community in Wisconsin will be our presenter. After the presentation we will carpool to Skunk Hill (Powers Bluff) by Arpin for a tour. No business meeting for members.*
- July 18, 2020**      *No meeting, Enjoy the summer!*

**Membership note:**      *Please note the change of date and time.*

*The third Saturday of the month from August through June (skipping January).*

*At 9:30 a.m. At McMillan Memorial Library*

*As a committee we have changed our meeting date and time temporarily to see if attendance would rise. We are in need of encouraging new members and activity from members who are in the Wisconsin Rapids Area.*

*We would like your input. You can email, or mail our President.*

*Email: [info@howgs.org](mailto:info@howgs.org)*

**U.S Mail :**    *Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 1565  
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54495-1565*

*Look for us on Facebook.com*

*Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society.*

*It is a now an open group so please check it out.*

## Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society

Chairman	Bev Peaslee
Vice Chairman	Wayne Peters
Secretary	Sue Miller & Myra Sweet
Treasurer	Tina Krummel
Trustees 3 years	Flores Gumz
2 years	Betty Pearson
1 year	Mary Moss

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Book Purchases	Flores Gumz
Hospitality	Joyce Keehn
Indexing	Mary Peters
Library Files	Arlene Keehn
New Members	Joyce Keehn
Newsletter	Tina Krummel
Sunshine	Sue Miller
Website	Di Neinfeldt
Tech Data Admin	Ben Chitek

## Wood County Roots Editor:

Tina Krummel  
2520 Ranger Rd  
Wisc Rapids, WI 54494  
Phone: 715-325-5840  
E-mail: krummtin@gmail.com

**HEART O' WISCONSIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

**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—August through June—on the Third Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.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:**

Tina Krummel Phone: 715-325-5840 E-mail: krummtin@gmail.com

**Visit us on the web at [www.howgs.org!!!](http://www.howgs.org!!!)**