



# WOOD COUNTY

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## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

### *Greetings Everyone*

#### Chairman's Corner:

Here at the Society one meeting, we took a survey to see what our members wanted from the Society.

When the results were in, they had opted for more "educational programs". So we are having "how to" sessions. Our first class was on how to use Familysearch.org to get the best results. We had some problems with the site and so are duplicating the lesson for January. Familysearch is the Mormon site and has film from all over the World. They are digitizing some of the history books and land records and old wills on their website. If it isn't on the internet site, then it can be ordered for viewing here at home. I have some film ordered right now to find out more from Wrentham, MA and my ancestors who started their life there. I recommend ordering film to be viewed at Hatch Library in

Mauston. Wausau has a LDS Library as does Marshfield, but neither has a printer to use, and Hatch does. Everyone who starts in genealogy thinks that they have to pay for Ancestry and that is not true. There are a lot of sites that have old records, military, and census, of course starting with Family search, Olive tree genealogy, and usgenweb.com. Simply google where, and who and see what comes up. Most of the Eastern states have Historical Societies, and state appointed historians. Use them for your brick walls and good hunting.

Diantha Neinfeldt/Chair

*Genealogists favorite game:  
Ancestor Hide and Seek*

## 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:  
Diantha Neinfeldt

Vice Chairman:  
Tina Krummel

Secretary:  
Doreen Dimick

Treasurer:  
Norma Reber

Trustee:  
Karen McCarthy

## 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 1206 of this newsletter. Please check with Bev, our treasurer, on the status of your membership.

## Sketches of Wisconsin Pioneer Women Compiled by Florence Chamber Dexheimer Sarah Janet Wood Balderston

In a little brown house, on top of the hill, at the corner of Third and Vine Strs. lived "Grandma".

It seems quite fitting that she occupy a place among the pioneer women of Wisconsin – having lived for more than seventy years in the same house.

Sarah Janet Wood was born in Seneca Falls, New York, June 24, 1834. Her mother was Hester Jane Kirtland, descended from Robert Chapman, Born 1616 in Hull England, who came to Boston in 1635.

Her father was Joseph Wood, who's ancestor, Daniel Wood lived in Boxford Massachusetts in 1630, and was also of English descent.

When a wee little girl, Sarah Janet came with her people to fort Hill, Illinois, Chicago then being a mere trading post. Her family lived some years on the Illinois farm, where in 1843 the mother died.

Joseph Wood, the father, was a born pioneer, and in 1846 he came ajourneying into the wilds of Wisconsin and finding the pine land good, he built a home, and for him Wood County was named.

Three times he made that long journey with teams from Illinois to Grand Rapids with the little daughter, before she would stay in the Indian country. A new mother Matilda Compton, and small brothers coming during these years, helped to make life less lonely for the little girl Janet.

My mother often told us that on one of the journeys her

father brought one wagon filled with pinks, lilac and honeysuckle bushes, "York State" roses and "pineys", Lombardy poplars and Balm of Gilead, packed by the capable hands of her step-mother, thus starting these shrubs and trees in this section of the country.

Mother told us many interesting tales of the early days. She say there is no question about whom the law-abiding feared most in those days – the red men or the river men.

The Indians were very numerous and very peaceful, but the river men were inveterate fighters and worse drinkers.

She often told us that the coming of the stage was always an event. One day it brought Thomas Scott with two barrels of merchandise. On the corner where the Wood Co National Bank now stands, Thomas emptied the barrels, put boards across them, spread out this merchandise and went into business.

The same Thomas Scott who later became a moneyed man in Wisconsin and who founded our T.B. Scott Public Library. In those days this was Portage County, Plover being the county seat, and many a night the young people drove to Plover sixteen miles, (horse power- not motor) to dances.

Dances and candy pulls, sleigh rides and the Ladies Aid society furnished entertainment for these peaceful people and the lumber-jacks furnished the thrills.

When Sarah Janet Wood was nineteen, she was wooed

and won by William Balderston from Baltimore, Maryland.

The courtship was a stormy one, and on February 12, 1853, the lovers eloped. The would-be bride went down to the "Wisconsin House", operated by George A. Neeves and his good wife Mary, to meet the other members of the bridal party. The groom had a team and sleigh ready nearby, but as the wedding party crossed the road, the irate father saw them and then trouble began.

The bridesmaid ran madly up "Pumpkin Hill" pursued by the bride's father. By the time he discovered his mistake, his daughter, in the arms of the best man, was carried over the creek, and minus one slipper, was taken down Third Street, then an Indian trail, to a mill boarding house, operated by friends.

Here the wedding party once more gathered, the bride was loaned some shoes, and after hours of driving they reached New

Buffalo, Sauk County, Wisconsin. There in the early morning they routed the Justice of the Peace out of bed, and standing by the kitchen stove the marriage vows were taken.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> the same year, 1853, mother moved into her home on what is now known as Third Street, the only other building on that street being the mill boarding house.

Pine trees, raspberry and black berry bushes filled the country round about. Father named the street High Street in memory of one in Baltimore, tho it was commonly known as "Quality Row" until a few years ago.

To be continued...

More to follow in the next newsletter.

[http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/WI/WI-idx?  
type=header;&id=WI.PionWomen](http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/WI/WI-idx?&type=header;&id=WI.PionWomen)

## SOME DISEASES OF OUR ANCESTORS CONTINUED

*Chorea:* Found in both sexes, especially often however, in girls. A nervous debility is almost always present before the attack. Fright thought to be a frequent cause, or over fatigue or mental excitement. See St. Vitus Dance.

*Colic:* Acute abdominal pain in infants.

*Consumption:* A gradual wasting away of the body, formerly applied especially to tuberculosis of the lungs. Galloping Consumption was a rapid form often proving fatal within six weeks.

*Croup:* A condition resulting from acute obstruction of the larynx caused by allergy, a foreign body or infection, occurring chiefly in children and

characterized by a barking cough and hoarseness.

*Debility:* Loss of or lack of strength.

*Decline:* Another term for Tuberculosis.

*Diphtheria:* An acute infectious disease primarily affecting the nose, throat and larynx. Characterized by fever and moderate pain. Frequently results in enlargement of the muscles of the heart. A recommended treatment for severe cases was teaspoonful doses of whiskey every two to three hours.

*Dropsy:* An abnormal accumulation of fluid in any body cavity. The most frequent refer-

ence is the Edema around the heart.

*Dysentery:* A term given to a number of disorders marked by inflammation of the intestines. Accompanied by pain in the abdomen and diarrhea containing blood and mucus. Causes may be chemical irritants, bacteria or parasitic worms.

*Dyspepsia:* Impairment of the power of digestion, usually applied to discomfort following meals. Possible cases are excess acidity of the stomach, gall bladder disease and inflammation of the colon. Treatment was chiefly diatetic.

More to come...  
From The Pipost, June 1987.

## HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED?

Every time I have passed this marker I have wondered about it. Who was buried there? Why was it there? It is sitting in a grove of trees, alone and majestic. Finally curiosity got the better of me and I stopped. I took the time to walk to the marker and take a picture of it.

This marker is on 48th Street in the



Town of Grand Rapids at the north end of the playground of Children's Choice School. (now called the River Cities Academy)

This is what I learned. The Marker reads Eugene Bender Memorial

Grove 1957. It is in memory of Eugene Bender a former teacher at Children's Choice School in the 1950s. He taught 5th, 6th and 7th grades.

He died at age 32 from a heart attack. His obituary was in the Daily Tribune Jan 4, 1957 reads as follows.

### **Children's Choice Teacher Stricken**

Eugene A. Bender, 32, Lake Wazeecha , a teacher at Children's Choice School, died about 10:30 P.M. Thursday at his home following a heart attack. Death occurred within seven minutes after he was stricken.

Funeral services have been arranged for 2 p.m. Sunday at the Baptist Church in Bancroft with the Rev. David Wisthoff officiating. Burial will take place in the Pine Grove Cemetery with military rites by Hagerstrom-Rude Post No 9, American Legion, of which he was a member.

Mr. Bender was born at Bancroft on Oct 15, 1924, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Bender. He attended grade and high school there and received his bachelor of education degree at Wisconsin State College, Stevens Point, after serving three and one half years in the Marine Corps. This was his sixth year at Children's choice School, where he taught 6th and 7th grade.

On July 10, 1946, he married Doris Clark of Plover. They have four sons Terrill, 9, Allen, 7, Vernon, 6, and Randall, 2.

Other survivors are his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Bender, Bancroft; one brother, Donald , Rosendale; one sister, Mrs. Marshall Adams, fort Atkinson, and three grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Bender and Mrs. John Meddaugh all of Bancroft. One brother Bernard, preceded him in death.

## **33 Are Given Final papers of Citizenship**

Upon recommendation of Fred Campbell, Green Bay, naturalization examiner, Judge Herman J Severson granted final naturalization papers to 30 applicants at the Wood county court house today.

The following people of German descent received their citizenship papers: Carl William Becker, Fredrick Christner, August Jenka, whose name was officially changed to August Teres, Boris Lewy, Changed to Peter Boris Borlew, Moritz Cahn, Jacobine Johanna Cahn, Theophilus Cahn, Bartha Matilda Yandt, Elizabeth Piepenburg, Alexander Abraham, Joanna Abra-

ham, Anna Weinfurter, Wilhelmina Anna Deigmann.

Italians granted papers were maria Ehrnsberger (Sister mary Heriberta), Justine Scheuring (Sister Mary Sila), Barbara Himmler (Sister Mary Theodina), Anna Maria Schuster (Sister Mary Smerentiana), Theresa Meyer (Sister mary Humiliana), Theresa Kohl (Sister Mary Rorviada).

Those of Austrian descent receiving citizenship papers were Fred Schneider and John Zalabsky; Agnes Busch (Sister Mary Nonnita), Canadian; August Bogs

and Walerya Chrapia, Polish: Cornelius Balkanonde, Netherlands: Angellis Routsia, changed to Angil T. Routsis; Esther Elizabeth Knudson, Sweden Elof Sidof Malenberg, changed to Sidof Miller, Sweden: Maria Dimitri, Albania. Absent were Terzie Krummel, Hermine Spielmann and John Leikus. Their cases will be continued.

Wisc Daily Tribune Friday Nov 17, 1941

Please note that some of the spellings were hard to read in the newspaper copy.

## Dear Genealogists From California

I received this letter with several obituaries in it I will post one or more in the newsletter as I get them. If this is someone in your family and you wish the original please contact HOWGS and I will send it to you.

### Dear Genealogists

Knowing what a valuable tool obituaries can be for genealogists, I have been clipping obituaries from the Los Angeles Times and the Orange County Register. AS I clip them I sort them by counties and send them to the genealogical society that has a connection with the person in the obituaries. I am enclosing the ones I have collected for your county and hope that they will be of some use to your members. I am more than happy to continue sending them to you, if you would like to receive more.

Very truly yours  
Eleanor E. Borkenhagen

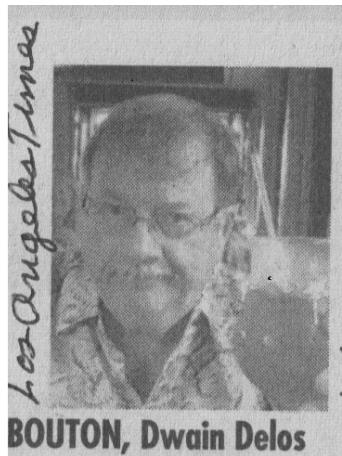
### Johnston, Charlotte

Charlotte Johnston was born on 11/13/1919 in Port Edwards, Wisconsin. She is the youngest of eight siblings. She married the love of her life, Howard Johnston on September 3, 1939. They were happily married for 73 years until his death in 2012. Charlotte held a variety of jobs as a book keeper and accountant. She was elected the city clerk of Orange for seven years.. Upon her retirement Charlotte enjoyed gardening, needle point and spending time with her family and grandchildren. She also enjoyed her many years involved with Soroptomist and activities with various church groups. Charlotte is survived and will be dearly missed by her Children, Marie (married to Larry Stapleton) and Jack (married to Michelle), Kim (married to Brian Secrest), Jeff, Brad (married to Mayumi), and Corrine (married to Mike Moore); and 10 great grandchildren: Sommer, Sarah, Sabrina, Savannah, Carson, Be, Gavin, Abigail, Grace, and Zoe. Charlotte passed peacefully away on May 3, 2016. Celebration activities for Charlotte will be held at Fairhaven Memorial Park, viewing on Tues-

day, May 10, 2016 from 5-8 PM and services Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 10:00 AM in the Mortuary Chapel.

[www.fairhavenmemorial.com](http://www.fairhavenmemorial.com)

Orange Co Register 8 May 2016



### Bouton, Dwain Delos

August 11, 1942 – April 8, 2016

On April 8, 2015, Dwain Delos Bouton left this world and moved on to a peaceful resting place. Dwain was born in Wisconsin Rapids, WI to Carl and Frances Bouton. He grew up with a love and passion for baseball and

played minor league ball for the Milwaukee Braves in the 1960s. He served his country in both the Oregon and California Army National Guard receiving his honorable discharge in January 1972. In his career, Dwain experts in the United States founding and operating CRC Consulting Group, Inc. from 1990 until he passed away. Dwain was at the forefront of his industry writing standards that are universally practiced and his contribution to the waterproofing industry is enormous. Dwain thrived on working with others, guiding projects with excellent results. Dwain loved to travel and find new and exciting places. Dwain is survived by his wife Vicki, and daughters Heather and Elizabeth, and son-in-law, Shawn. A celebration of Dwain's life will be held at a later date.

Los Angeles Times 1 May 2016

More to come in the next Newsletter.

### Ernenputsch, Jr, John Henry

### Rannow, Renee Kathryn

## Home for Wayward Girls at Babcock



**Home for Unwed Mothers  
In Babcock**

Babcock had a home open for wayward girls in early 1906 according to birth records at the Wood Co. Courthouse. With new restrictions on birth records of unwed mothers there are no records for public viewing after them mid 1907s. The home was open for about two years. The building was originally the Oakwood Hotel and the largest building in Babcock. It was torn down shortly after the Home closed. It was also known as Rescue Home for mothers and children. None of the babies were named and the mothers came from many different areas such as Scandinavia, Merrill, Naples, Viroqua, Rudolph, Iowa, Bangor, Wyacena, Sturgeon Bay, Sauk Co., Amherst, Waterville, Staples, MN, Symes, MN, Junction City and Minnesota City, MN.

A mention of the home and a picture of the building in the Wisconsin Daily Tribune, Wood Co. Centennial Ed. August 4, 1956 p. 18

Submitted By Annie Greeno

**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

**7 Dec 2016 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society Meeting, The Alexander House, Port Edwards, WI.** This will be our annual Christmas gathering. Please note the day of the week change. Come and join us for sweet treats and good fellowship.

**25 Dec 2016 Happy Holidays to everyone.**

**Jan 17, 2017 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society Meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.** We will be taking another look at the CD Vesper Children's Letter Disk.

**Feb 14, 2017 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society Meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.** We will be looking at how to do Gravestone rubbings,

**March 14, 2017 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society Meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.** To Be announced, local talents to be shared.

**April 11, 2017 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society Meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.** Yet to be decided..

**April 6-8, 2017 WSGS Gene-A-Rama Date will be in Chula Vista in the Wisconsin Dells.** More information to come.

**May 9, 2017 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society Meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.** Yet to be decided.

**June 13, 2017 Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society Meeting, 6:30 p.m., McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.** Cemetery Walk

*If you're a member of WSGS, don't forget their very informative webinars which you, as a member, can access on their website at [www.wsgs.org](http://www.wsgs.org).*

**Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society**

Chairman	Di Neinfeldt
Vice Chairman	Tina Krummel
Secretary	Doreen Dimick
Treasurer	Norma Reber
Trustees	3 years Flores Gumz 2 years Karen McCarthy 1 year Eugene Meier

**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

**Wood County Roots Editor:**

Tina Krummel  
 2520 Ranger Rd  
 Wisc Rapids, WI 54454  
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 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—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:**

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

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