

WOOD COUNTY ROOTS



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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Greetings Everyone!

So here we are still in the pandemic, still masking, and still awaiting the end of it all. I'm not sure how y'all feel, but I'm ready to get back to normal, or as normal as we can be in the aftermath of a worldwide pandemic.

Let's get on to more interesting items. I sure hope you guys registered for virtual Roots Tech Conference. It was free with so many topics to choose from that my mind didn't know which way to go. On the website on which you registered, there were some other awesome videos available from the 2018 Conference. That website is rootstech.org. Check it out. I'm sure there will be some of the videos from this year's virtual conference posted on that website after the event, which was February 25-27. It was always my dream to be in Salt Lake for that conference, but I never made it there until now. Huh, it took a pandemic to get me there! Oh well...I'll take advantage of it. Hope you did also.

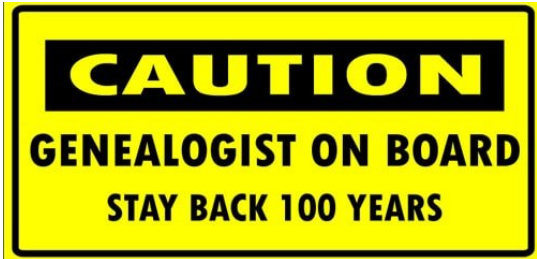
I hope you are finding ways to do research from your living room. I am finding more websites now than ever before. Everyone seems to want to share. Look for

the latest on the Family Tree Magazine website. There's a list of 22 sites of historical photo databases. If you don't get that newsletter, let me know and I'll forward it to you.

The annual Gene-A-Rama is coming up and it's going virtual this April 9th and 10th. Be sure to sign up for this event. If you're a WSGS member, it's quite a savings. Lots of pluses in joining WSGS including lots of free webinars and recordings you can listen to.

Well, I am swamped in tax season and just came up for air to get this done. Hopefully, I will be cutting back on my accounting business this year and will finally get a chance to do more genealogy and scrapbooking and reading and relaxing.

Happy Hunting!
Bev Peaslee, Chair



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:

Mary Moss

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 1357 of this newsletter. Please check with Tina, our treasurer, on the status of your membership.

Navigating the Seven C's of Genealogy

by Thomas MacEntee of Abundant Genealogy

<http://abundantgenealogy.com> abundantgenealogy@gmail.com

Are you new to genealogy and family history, but don't know where to start? Or have you been doing genealogy for years, but you find yourself wandering aimlessly, with no real focus and no real results? Most people need a plan when they want to accomplish something such as tracing their roots. So I've come up with a "roadmap" with seven different focus areas. They're easy to remember, because these seven "concepts" are easy to understand, easy to accomplish, and easy to remember.

The Seven C's of Genealogy

Clean: Take inventory of what is in your "genea-cave," get organized and make it easier to find what you need. This also means cleaning up and organizing digital files and folders as well as Internet favorites and bookmarks. Why should you spend time searching for stuff just to get ready to research when you could better spend that time searching for ancestors?

Collect: Create a solid system for capturing information including digital images as well as paper-based document. Become disciplined in saving images and documents IMMEDIATELY and renaming the file to accurately describe the item. Work as if you only have "one pass" on using a source; wring out as much information as possible!

Curate: Review source material to see how it proves or disproves a fact. Write a source citation RIGHT AWAY and don't put it off. Use proven evidence evaluation techniques to determine the reliability of the source. Document, document, document in a research log!

Create: Write a concise proof for specific facts as well as specific ancestral relationships. Write ancestor character sketches based on proven facts. Carry this info over to family history books, photo books, blog posts, calen-

dars and other items to share with family members as well as other researchers.

Connect: Don't become isolated, especially with a dependency on using online resources. Get out and connect with archives and repositories. Connect with other genealogists at conferences and institutes. Use online resources such as Facebook groups, DNA matching communities and more to keep connecting.

Conserve: Don't forget to focus on preserving your work for future generations. This includes creating backup copies of data, scanning and digitizing images as well as videos, slides and audio tapes. Create a "successorship" plan so that a family member, another researcher or a genealogy society can inherit your work and carry the torch forward.

Continue: Basically the "rinse and repeat" cycle. Continue following the C's especially when it comes to education. Stay on top of the latest technologies, apps and programs. Take time to build a reading list of journals and books related to your research. Attend a genealogy conference or online webinars.

Navigating the Genealogy Cs

So whether you want to cover one or all of the topics listed above, here are some "how to's" to get the job done. And don't forget to consult the resource list at the end of this handout to get started!

Clean

Having trouble getting organized to even start cleaning? Try following the *Organize Your Family History* website and sign up for their newsletter. Also, join *The Organized Genealogists* group on Facebook for resources. The book *Organize Your Genealogy: Strategies and Solutions for Every Researcher* by Drew Smith is an excellent guide to have on hand. And also consider creating an organized **Genealogy Research**

Continued:

Navigating the Seven C's of Genealogy

By Thomas MacEntee

Toolbox with all your favorites and bookmarks as well as the resources you use most. Remember that this is YOUR system of organization you are creating and it has to serve your needs.

Collect

We spend a lot of time and money “finding” stuff either online or traveling to libraries and archives. The best use of your time and money is to “do it right the first time.” This means treating that record as if you’ll never see it again. So for Ancestry and all other online sites, understand how to save a record image, and don’t just store it on their site! Make sure you download it to your computer and give it a recognizable file name. Get in the habit of making sure this is the **FIRST** thing you do when reviewing a new find! Amy Johnson Crow’s article *Why You Should Download Your Files From Ancestry and Every Other Website* make an excellent argument for adding this routine to your research. And check out the article *A Simple Four-Part System for Naming Digital Photo Files* by Denise Levenick which also works for any digital file.

Curate

This is probably the most difficult concept to embrace, especially since it can be time consuming and slow down your research. But instead of flitting from shaky leaf to shaky leaf, you’ll actually be documenting your research trail and reducing the need for do-overs! Start with using a **Genealogy Research Log** and make sure you consult the free document analysis and source citation resources at Elizabeth Shown Mills’ website *Evidence Explained*.

Create

In reality once you’ve done a reasonable exhaustive search, it is rather easy to write a one page “sketch” of your ancestor with the proven points of research. See the article *Using Biographical Sketches to Engage Family History Readers* by stories to tell for one approach to writing about your ancestors. But don’t leave it at that! Consider creating longer documents and even mini-books for those more interesting ancestors. What about photo books and other mementos to share with family members? Check out the free recorded webinar **Ready, Set, Gift!** at the Flip-Pal mobile scanner site for ideas that go beyond the simple write up on your research. Sharing what you’ve found with family and friends is the best way to ensure others will be interested in your work.

Connect

While “create” might be difficult, “connect” is probably the easiest especially in today’s world of social media and online education tools. Facebook is now what most genealogists use to connect with others when working on genealogy. Katherine Willson’s Social Genealogy website has an excellent **“Genealogy on Facebook List”** with thousands of different genealogy-related Facebook groups to join as well as Twitter accounts to follow. And when it comes to education, use the **Online and Offline Genealogy Education Resource Lists** at Abundant Genealogy to track the latest

Conserve

Besides finding our ancestors, we want to leave a legacy to our future generations, right? Again, this is a focus area that you should work on in tandem with research, not just as an after-thought. Check out **Resources for Preserving Family Photos, Slides and Home Movies** for some ideas on which technology works best for digitizing and preserving items.

Continue

This is really a “do it yourself” concept when it comes to what resources to use. We all research differently, we all have different likes and dislikes when it comes to choice of social media, education etc. Think “broad” and be open to new things. If you have trouble tracking projects and areas of focus, check out **Trello**, a free project management program that is easy to use. Consider joining **The Genealogy Do-Over** group on Facebook to stay focused. Melissa Barker, aka “The Archive Lady” posts a new article bi-weekly with advice on preserving family heirlooms. And download **After You’re Gone: Future Proofing Your Genealogy** with resources on ensuring that your genealogy research will endure beyond your lifetime.

Resources

A Simple Four-Part System for Naming Digital Photo Files

https://www.familytreemagazine.com/articles/save_share_family_history/family-photos/a-simple-four-part-system-for-naming-digital-photo-files/

After You’re Gone: Future Proofing Your Genealogy

Continued : Navigating the Seven C's of Genealogy

By Thomas MacEntee

<https://www.genealogybargains.com/afteryougonepdf>

Building a Genealogy Research Toolbox

<https://abundantgenealogy.com/genrestools>

Citing Sources and Evaluating Evidence

<https://abundantgenealogy.com/citehandout>

Evidence Explained: QuickLesson 17: The Evidence Analysis Process Map

<https://www.evidenceexplained.com/content/quicklesson-17-evidence-analysis-process-map>

Genealogy On Facebook List

<https://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list/>

Genealogy Research Log

<https://genealogyresearchlog.com>

Offline Genealogy Education Resources

<https://abundantgenealogy.com/offlinegenedUS>

Online Genealogy Education Resources

<https://abundantgenealogy.com/freeonlinegened>

Organize Your Genealogy: Strategies and Solutions for Every Researcher

<https://www.genealogybargains.com/organizeyourgenealogy-ebook>

Organize Your Family History

<http://organizeyourfamilyhistory.com>

Ready, Set, Gift!

<https://flip-pal.com/videos/webinars/ready-set-gift/>

Resources for Preserving Family Photos, Slides and Home Movies

<https://abundantgenealogy.com/money-saving-resources-for-preserving-family-photos-slides-and-home-movies/>

Sample QuickCheck Models (source citations)

<https://www.evidenceexplained.com/content/sample-quickcheck-models>

The Archive Lady

<https://abundantgenealogy.com/tag/the-archive-lady/>

The Genealogy Do-Over

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/genealogydoover/>

The Organized Genealogist

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/organizedgenealogist/>

Trello for Genealogy and Family History

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/trelloforgenealogy/>

Using Biographical Sketches to Engage Family History Readers

<https://www.storiestotellbooks.com/blog/using-biographical-sketches-to-engage-family-history-readers.html>

Why You Should Download Your Files From Ancestry and Every Other Website

<https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/why-you-should-download-your-files-from-ancestry-and-every-other-website/>

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For more information, please visit Abundant Genealogy at <http://abundantgenealogy.com>.]



Writing a Query

From NGS

If you have every thought about sending in a Query to some of the large National Societies you might want to read this.

Posting a Query:

As a family historian, you will ask for information from other researchers who may be tracing the same family lines. Queries may be published in magazines, genealogical society publications, or online mail lists or forums. Writing a concise short paragraph that clearly defines your question will help readers understand what you want. Follow the hints and use the Query Abbreviations to write an effective query.

Not sure how to write a good query? View an example and read some helpful hints for Writing a Query below.

**Good queries are:
Clear—Specific—Simple—Concise**

Example:

Subj: Allen Smith of Barren Co KY, 1821-abt 1857
Researching Allen Smith, b 1821 VA, mov to Barren Co KY bef 1850, m Susan Carter. dpl Metcalfe Co KY abt 1857. Bro of Geo. W. Smith, Civil War veteran. Will share GEDCOM. Email SuzyQ@Smith.com.

How to Start

Each query should ask a specific question or questions about one particular individual. Clearly state your question right at the start. For example: "Seek bpl/d/m of Allen Smith..." Sometimes you might want to ask a question about a number of people; for example, a husband and wife. If this can be done simply, without causing confusion, it is acceptable. However, if there is no obvious connection between these individuals or if the query becomes too complicated, then submit a separate query for each individual.

Subject Lines

Subject lines in email queries and on message boards should be short and to the point. Surnames, place names, and dates are all that is necessary. Do not include unnecessary text. More complete details can be provided in the body of the message.

Sentence Beginnings

Avoid beginning sentences with pronouns; this can cause confusion especially when a number of individuals have been mentioned and it is unclear which one you're referencing. By using actual names to begin sentences, you can avoid ambiguities.

Abbreviations

If you want to use accepted abbreviations for your query, consult the list of Query Abbreviations below.

abt	about
aft	after
aka	also known as
anc	ancestor/ancestry
arr	arrived
b	born
bap	baptized
bef	before
bd	birth date
bpl	birth place
bro	brother(s)
bur	buried
ca	circa
cem	cemetery
cen	census
ch	child(ren)
Co	County
d	died
dau	daughter
dd	death date
desc	descendant(s)
d/o	daughter of
dpl	death place
em	emigrated
esp	especially
exch	exchange
f	father

Writing a Query Continued

fam family
 fr from
 g grand
 gg great grand
 h husband
 imm immigrated
 incl includes
 liv lived
 m married
 m1 married first
 md marriage date
 mo mother
 mov moved
 mpl marriage place
 par parent(s)
 poss possibly
 prob probably
 r resided
 re: regarding
 rel relationship
 Rev Revolutionary War
 s son
 sib sibling(s)
 s/o son of
 vic vicinity

w wife
 wid widow

What Not to Included

Any information that is not *directly* related to your query should not be included. It is often tempting to include some of the interesting facts you have discovered about your subjects and to explain your relationship to them, but remember—your goal is to write a query that can be read quickly and easily, and to get a result. You can best achieve this by keeping it clear, specific, simple, and concise.



NATIONAL
 GENEALOGICAL
 SOCIETY®

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 USA
 Telephone +1 703-525-0050 or +1 800-473-0060
ngs@ngsgenealogy.org

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 20, 2021 *Not planned*

April 9 & 10, 2021 *Gene-A-Rama WSGS virtual seminar.*

April 17, 2021 *TBA*

May 15, 2021 *TBA*

June 19, 2021 *TBA*

Membership note:

Due to the Pandemic Meetings are cancelled temporarily, but when they do resume we will follow the regular day 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

*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

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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!!!