

WOOD COUNTY ROOTS



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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Greetings Everyone!

"So it looks like we may be finally seeing the end of the pandemic." No sooner were the words out of my mouth and along comes the Delta Variant. So much for that!

We had a very interesting program at Powers Bluff in Arpin with Robert Birmingham, author of various books on the area. He did have a few books there to sell and was autographing them for us. I think Wayne has his address if anyone would like an autographed copy. Check with Wayne as for the price, etc.

Meanwhile, courthouses, libraries, research centers, etc., were opening for us to again enter their hallowed halls for genealogical research. I would suggest you check with any place that you are planning on visiting to make sure they will be open. Don't believe what it says online as this doesn't always get updated.

The Wisconsin State Genealogi-

cal Society was all set to have their Fall Seminar at the Mead Inn in Wisconsin Rapids on October 9. But...it will now be presented virtually. Check their website, www.wsgs.org for details. The presentations will be available to those who registered for a short time after the live presentations.

With the uncertain times ahead, we will try to stay in touch with you regarding our meeting format. Wayne has been doing an excellent job at this. Be sure to check out our Facebook page along with our website.

Again, we will stay in touch with you as to our future plans for meetings, etc. Meanwhile, stay safe, and keep on hunting!

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.

Recipes From The Past

When I was searching for ideas for articles for the newsletter I came across an article in Genealogy Bank called “Memories of My Grandma ‘Baba’” by Jessica Edwards [<https://blog.genealogybank.com/memories-of-my-grandmother-baba.html>].

This got me thinking about all the recipes that we have had handed down for generations. Some that we have made part of our lives and comfort foods that we have when we need that connection to family and our past.

She shared some recipes that her maternal grandmothers two favorite recipes. The first is a Christmas cookie Kolatchki (pronounced KO-la-tch-key) a Czech cookie and Speidis (pronounced Spee-dees) a meat dish. So I am sharing the recipes with you.

Kolatchki

(instead of nuts, other possible fillings include: poppy seeds, prunes, fruit pie filling, or preserves (keep in mind that the pie filling and preserves are not as nutritious).

Ingredients

1 lb shortening
4 medium eggs
5 to 6 cups flour
4 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 bag powdered sugar
8 cups nuts, ground finely (use walnuts usually but you can substituted your favorite nut)

Water to moisten ground nuts and sugar

Number of servings: 4-6 large roles or about 50 cookies

Instructions

For dough; mix all ingredients together in a large mixing bowl, but only add 5 cups of flour until you see if the dough is still sticking to your hands (and the bowl) or not. If it is still sticking slowly add the remaining flour until it no longer sticks.

Take ¼ of the dough from the bowl and using a rolling pin, roll out dough on a surface overs with powder sugar (I put powdered sugar into a sifter and “sprinkle” the surface so it doesn’t have lumps) until dough is about ¼” thick. If cookies are desired cut the sheet into 2” squared; if doing a roll, then cut the sheet in half to make two rolls.

In a saucepan, combined filling ingredients if doing nuts, poppy seed or dried fruit, adding just enough water to moisten the ingredients and enough sugar to sweeten to taste until mixture is warm – be sure to stir constantly!

Spread filling on dough. If making cookies; place a teaspoon full in center of cookie and fold up two (opposite) corners to center (can hold it in place with a toothpick if needed). If making a roll; spread the filling on each half sheet, leaving about a ½ on each side with no filling, then roll one end toward you (like a jelly roll). Transfer to UNGREASED cookie sheet (you can also line the cookie sheet with parchment paper to save clean up.

Bake at 300 degrees until golden

Recipes From The Past Continued

brown (about 10-15 minutes for cookies, 20-25 minutes for rolls). Remove and let cool.

Sprinkle with powder sugar before serving.

Note If not eaten in the first two days, store in the freezer as it can go moldy because of the moistness in it. Place the baked cookie rolls or cookies in freezer bags. When ready to eat, microwave the cookies for 15-25 seconds to defrost them.

Speidis

Ingredients

2-3 lbs lamb (any meat can be used but my family preferred the lamb)

½ cup oil

½ cup red wine

¼ cup garlic

¼ cup oregano

¼ cup sweet basil

¼ cup dill weed

¼ cup spearmint

3-5 cups water

½ loaves of sliced Italian Bread

Instructions

Cut meat into ¾ to 1" cubes.

Mix ¼ cup garlic, oregano, sweet basil, dill weed, and spearmint together in a small mixing bowl.

In a 1 gallon container layer meat and spices.

Add wine, water and oil to container.

Place in refrigerator to marinate for minimum of 3 hours and maximum of 3 days.

When ready to cook, drain liquid from container.

Preheat broiler to 500 degrees or grill on a grill outdoors.

Skewer the pieces on metal skewers and place pans under broiler for approximately 10 minutes, or on the grill until meat is medium to medium rare.

Take a slice of Italian bread and wrap around the meat and gently pull the meat off the

skewer and eat "hot dog style". Both recipes sound interesting.

In the article she also talks about her grandmothers quilting and rag rug making. Her ending paragraph read as:

"I share these recipes, and stories of quilts and rugs, to pass on some memories to those that come after me. These memories teach them about my grandmother, yes but also something about me and what I like to do. I'm paraphrasing an old adage: "If you remember someone who has passed on, then they go on living." By passing on these memories it means both my grandmother and I will go on living long after we die. What things can you pass on about each relative you know/knew?" ("Memories of My Grandma 'Baba'" by Jessica Edwards <https://blog.genealogybank.com/memories-of-my-grandmother-baba.html>)

If you have a family recipe that you would like to share, I would be happy to put it in the newsletter. Just email me or mail me your recipe.

GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



Martha was upset that the German website was in a foreign language.

One-Name Study

Researching for articles and ideas for the newsletter I have come upon an article on One Name Studies.

A One Name Study seems a bit backwards for genealogists or maybe not. What you do is you research all occurrences of a surname, instead of just looking for a specific family.

This allows you to focus on a specific area geographically and where they went from that point forward. You would find the place of origin of that surname, you are researching the genealogy and family history of all people with that given name and its various spellings.

You are looking for the origin of the name and the different spellings, how often it was used, where they went from that point, patterns of immigration and emigration.

Looking at the Surnames there are several different types and the variety of spellings.

Locative: comes from the geography of where someone came from or lived. (geographic like Green Hill or Townsend)

From a place: like Beckham or Helmsley

From an occupation: like Thatcher, Draper, Cooper

Postholder: from a particular postal region

Patronymic: from your father: Erikksdotter, Carlsson, Johnson

Matronymic: from you mother: Margetson, Tillotson

Diminutive Forename: Forename altered to be used as a surname by adding kin, let, cock to the end: like Bartlett, Dykin

Genitive: which implies ownership by someone: like Squires, Manners

Nickname or Physical Appearance: like Fox, Cruikshank, Longfellow

Collecting information is the hardest part of the project. (If you have ever searched for family members, I have written down information on people who could be family and might be related, on the outside chance that it might be important.)

Once you have gathered as much info as you can, then the next part is family construction, linking people into family units and if the names change over time. Identifying spouses and their locations, pulling in missing information. Figure out the meaning of the surname, its origin, various spellings, and migration patterns.

I read about this on a website called Guild of One-Name Studies <https://one-name.org/>. Maybe this can break down some stumbling blocks in our research. Just food for thought.

Research Center to Check Out

If you are doing Norwegian research you need to check this place out. I took a couple of classes and it broke open my Norwegian side brick wall. You might even see an old friend there.

Norwegian American Genealogical Center & Naeseth Library

415 West Main Street
Madison, WI
53703-3116

Phone: (608) 255-2224



NAGC members are welcome to visit Naeseth Library free of charge.

Non-members will be asked to pay the \$15.00 Daily Use Fee.

Membership starts at \$50 per year.

Please call ahead to make an appointment, if you will need staff assistance.

Some websites to check out.

<http://www.nagcnl.org/>
<http://www.nagcnl.org/classes/>
<https://www.digitalarkivet.no/>
<http://www.norwayparishes.com/>



Obituaries of Norma Reber and Bev Polansky

Norma Reber, age 83, of Wisconsin Rapids, passed away Thursday, June 3, 2021 at Arborwood Lodge in Wisconsin Rapids.



Norma was born June 17, 1937 in the Town of Port Edwards to Russell and Helen (Burke) Francis. She married Roger Reber on December 23, 1955 in Nekoosa, Wisconsin. Norma worked for Consolidated Papers in the bookkeeping department for 27 years, retiring in 1992.

Norma enjoyed bingo, camping, her many trips to Florida, her dogs Buffy and Nicky, and loved spending time with family and friends.

Norma is survived by her children; Deborah (Rod) Knoll, Wisconsin Rapids, Marianne (Edward) Saylor, Nekoosa, WI Robert (Melody) Reber, Baraboo, and Roberta (Russell) Kelnhofer, Wisconsin Rapids. Grandchildren: Christina (Luke) Schenk, Kelly (Jeff) Gosh, Stephanie (Joel) Gomez, Erik (Katie) Saylor, Matthew (Amanda) Saylor, Bryan (Erin) Saylor, Caitlin Saylor, Nicole (Robert) Rodriguez, Jeremy (Shannon) Reber, Jaih (Gabrielle) Reber, Sarah (Ben) Howe, Jennifer Rauch, Wayne Miessau, Jr., Corbin (Wendi) Kelnhofer, Jennifer Kostuchowski, Carey (Nick) Pagel, and Corey Lewis; thirty eight great grandchildren: nine great-great grandchildren: siblings: Larry (Jenny) Francis, Wisconsin Rapids and Linda (Jeffrey) Brost, Nekoosa; brother-in-law: Lawrence Reber, Pensacola, FL.; sister-in-laws: Barb Francis, Portland, Oregon and Trudy Reber, Marshfield, WI, and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her husband, parents, brothers: Robert, Hal, and Randy Francis; mother-in-law and father-in-law: Ernest and Stella Reber; brothers-in-law, Marvin and Howard Reber; sister-in-law: Geraldine Reber; great-grandchildren: Alex and Hannah Saylor; and great-great-grandchild: Nevaeh Conkey.

sin, to Phillip Chan Schuyler and Olive Mae Warwick. She married Charles Evan Pergrossi on December 15, 1962, at Algoma (Wisconsin) Methodist Church. Beverly married David Allen Polansky on February 10, 1973 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Wisconsin Rapids. Bev retired after 17 years as a Commercial Lines Transportation Underwriter at Sentry Insurance.

She loved to camp with family, draw and paint, make cards and record the family history.

Beverly was an active member at St. Luke's and also Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wisconsin Rapids while her children were growing up. As a freshman and sophomore, she was a student at Lincoln High School in Wisconsin Rapids and was graduated from Sturgeon Bay High School in 1962. She traveled with her Navy husband and sons, Chuck and John, living in Spain and Panama as well as many states and eventually settled back in Wisconsin.

Beverly is survived by first husband Charles Evan (Sarah Hawley Denson) Pergrossi, her sons Charles David (Jean Pratt) Pergrossi (Amber & Ashley) of Wisconsin Rapids, John Michael Pergrossi of St. Charles, Illinois (Anthony, Zachary, Gregory, Vincent and their mother Denise Lampman) of Wisconsin Rapids, and David Allen Polansky of Madison, Wisconsin. Blended family includes children of David Polansky, Sr., and Margaret Iwanski (Rafay and Timothy); children of Charles E. Pergrossi (Brian and David (Chelsea) and their mother Luz Maria Lara Sanchez, and Heather (Randy) Collins, Kimberly (Andrew) Gardiner and Christopher. She is also survived by brother, Clark Warwick (Barbara Quinby) Schuyler of Vacaville, California, and sisters: Barbara Schuyler Ruch of Menasha, Wisconsin; and Babette Miller (Donald) Rademacher of Stevens Point, Wisconsin; three great-grandchildren as well as many close and loved nephews and nieces. Beverly was preceded in death by David Polansky, Sr., her father, step-father Roland Miller, mother and sister, Mary Jane Schuyler (Glenn) Krueger, sister-in-law Yvonne Daigle Schuyler (Lee) Rofkahr, nephew Edward (Elisabeth Bender Baggett) Robinson (Corey), Tammy Swonger and Dorothy Miller.

Burial will be at a later date at Clay Banks Cemetery in Door County.



Beverly Ann Polansky, age 76, of Wisconsin Rapids, WI, died on July 16, 2021, at Wisconsin Rapids Health Services.

She was born on September 26, 1944, in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

There's More Than One

Do not limit yourself to one way to locate information and records. Doing so can guarantee that your "brick wall" stands strong and proud for even longer.

For information about records and accessing those records:

- The "big genealogy fee-based" genealogy sites—Ancestry, Findmypast, Newspapers.com, Genealogybank, etc.
 - The "big free" genealogy sites—FamilySearch, FindAGrave, etc.
 - State archives websites—not all info is online
 - State record agencies websites—not all info is online
 - Regional and university library websites—not all info is online
 - Local library websites—not all info is online
 - Local record holder websites—not all info is online
 - Local genealogy/historical societies websites—not all information is online
- There are probably a few other ways as well to

locate records and information about those records. But looking in these places will get the researcher on their way to locating as much as possible. [michaeljohnneil](#) 12:31 pm on August 13, 2021

Just an FYI for those who are members of the **Wisconsin State Genealogical Society**, there is talk of a dues increase at the first of the year. You can register for two years ahead, if you wish to save some money. (I would recommend it.)

Many societies have been discussing raising their dues prices, due to the cost of postage and general expenses to keep the societies going. So be sure to turn in all of your societies dues as soon as you might be able to save a few dollars for a couple of years.

Tina Krummel

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

- Sept 18, 2021** *Meeting will be via Zoom*
- Oct 8-9th, 2021** *WSGS Fall Seminar will be virtual again this year.*
- Oct 16th, 2021** *Meeting to be announced will be either in person or via Zoom*
- Nov 20th, 2021** *Meeting to be announced will be either in person or via Zoom*
- Dec 18th, 2021** *Speaker Via Zoom Dana Kelly, Executive Director of the Norwegian American Genealogy & Naeseth Library ?? Christmas Meeting ??*

We will discuss keeping the Zoom component for the future meeting. Let us know your thoughts on the Zoom continuing or not. A link will be send via Email, but here is the link:

Time: 09:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Monthly: [https://us04web.zoom.us/meeting/upcsc-yggDMrHdYBDTwcDBsM1cuXMYAnV5iM/ics?icsToken=98tyKu6rrz8vEtKdsR6FR7YqBY-gZ_zwplxcgqdkjvRFCN3QBDbZ-FXCp9GMdbm](https://us04web.zoom.us/join/https://us04web.zoom.us/meeting/upcsc-yggDMrHdYBDTwcDBsM1cuXMYAnV5iM/ics?icsToken=98tyKu6rrz8vEtKdsR6FR7YqBY-gZ_zwplxcgqdkjvRFCN3QBDbZ-FXCp9GMdbm)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73145868172?pwd=SUhxd2EyU3NUS1Jvam1oUEc3TXdtZz09>

Meeting ID: 731 4586 8172

Passcode: pxi95p

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	Flores Gumz
3 years	Betty Pearson
2 years	Mary Moss
1 year	

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:

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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!!!