

WOOD COUNTY ROOTS



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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Greetings Everyone!

Happy March! Days are getting longer, but still chilly. Stay warm. Spend some time searching for your ancestor's online, viewing webinars, checking out new websites, etc. In the Amy Johnson Crow video, I heard of a couple of websites that are completely new to me. So I'll be checking those out.

Some of these cold winter days could also be great days for organizing your genealogy items, scanning photos and documents, citing your sources, making timelines, planning some upcoming research trips for when the weather warms up, connecting online or via telephone with long-lost cousins, and on and on. There are so many ways to research these days, it is mind-boggling!

The Photo Use Release Form was emailed to everyone last

month. I'd appreciate getting your signed copy returned to us to keep on file. Every new member that joins will be asked to sign one also. It probably won't be necessary for out-of-town (-county or -state) members to have a signed copy on file. Mainly it will be for adding photographs to our website. The form does cover all the bases just in case.

Get cracking on that "to-do" list to make it a "to-done" list so you can head out the door in the soon-to-be-warmer weather!

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.

The 1950 US Census: Are You Ready?

Thomas MacEntee, Genealogy Bargains

<https://genealogybargains.com>

hidefgen@gmail.com

Many genealogists remember the excitement in April 2012 during the release of the 1940 US Census. Following the “72 Year Rule” for records at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), the results of the 1950 US Census will be made public on Friday, April 1, 2022. It's never too early to prepare for this valuable data!

Why is the 1950 US Census Important?

Keep in mind that the US Federal Census is mandated by the US Constitution to be taken every 10 years to apportion seats in the House of Representatives. Like other record sets, the US Census was not created for genealogy purposes, but as genealogists we benefit greatly from the data.

The 1950 US Census is the first decennial census conducted after World War II. The war had a huge social and economic impact on the United States. Some of the questions asked are due to a) a severe economic recession in 1947, b) a post-war housing shortage with men and women who fought in World War II returning home, c) many women employed to support the war effort returned to keeping house full time, and d) a

shift in population away from rural locations and towards urban and suburban areas.

How was the 1950 US Census Different?

Here are some quick facts you might now know about the 1950 US Census data:

The population schedule for the 1950 US Census consisted of 30 lines with six individuals selected for Supplemental Questions. In the 1940 US Census, each page of the population schedule had 40 lines and only two selected.

Americans living abroad were enumerated for the first time in 1950. This included efforts to enumerate armed forces, ship crews and United States government employees living overseas.

The first non-military computer—UNIVAC I—was used to tabulate census data.

The 1950 US Census covered 150 million residents across 45 million homes.

For those who lived in hotels and “other places where transients usually pay for quarters” took place the night of April 11, 1950. In addition, many newspapers carried “missed person” forms at the end of the enumeration period. These forms could be clipped, filled out and returned to the Census Bureau.

The 1950 US Census: Are You Ready? Continued

Special "infant cards" were completed by enumerators of the 1950 US Census for each child born in January, February, or March 1950. These were used to test birth registration completeness for recent births. However, these cards were destroyed after the information was used for statistical purposes. The cards were never microfilm and as a result, there are no digital images.

Questions Asked on the 1950 US Census

Name of street, avenue, or road where the household is located

Home or apartment number

Serial number of dwelling unit

Is this house on a farm (or ranch)?

Name (head of household)

Relationship to head of household

Race

Sex

How old was this person on his last birthday?

Is this person now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or never married?

What State or country was the person born in?

If foreign born, is the person naturalized?

What was this person doing most of last week - working, keeping house, or something else?

If the person was "keeping house" or "something else" in question 15, did the person do any work at all last week, not counting work around the house?

If the person answered "no" to question 16, was he looking for work?

If the person answered "no" to question 17, even if he didn't work last week, does he have a job or business?

If the person was working, how many hours did he or she work in the last week?

What kind of work does the person do?

What kind of business or industry is the person in?

Class of worker the person is.

What You Need to Know About the 1950 US Census Data Release

Here is the latest information as of December 2021:

NARA will employ a rudimentary artificial intelligence (AI) program with optical character recognition (OCR) to "scan" the hand-written entries. An initial index will be created, and users can submit corrections to build a crowd-sourced index.

Only the **1950 US Census Population Schedules** have been microfilmed and digitized; these will be made available on April 1, 2022.

Genealogy vendors (Ancestry, MyHeritage) will likely outsource indexing while FamilySearch will use volunteers to build an index. For the 1940 US Census release, 150,000 volunteers indexed 132 million names in less than four months. The current estimate for the 1950 US Census using volunteers is six months.

To determine the correct Enumeration District and browse the correct set of images, **you need to know where your ancestor or relative lived on April 1, 1950**, which was Census Day for the 1950 US Census.

With that address, you can use the [Unified 1880-1950 Census ED Finder](#) at the Steve Morse One Step site to locate the correct Enumeration District for urban and suburban locations.

For rural addresses, you can use the [Viewing 1950 Enumeration District Maps](#)

The 1950 US Census: Are You Ready?

Continued

tool at the One Step site to access the maps and a visual review will be needed.

How to Prepare for the 1950 US Census Data

Locate the April 1, 1950, address for ancestor or relative: cover resources such as newspapers, correspondence, city directories, address books

Use the **Steve Morse One Step** website to locate Enumeration Districts. For rural addresses, the One Step site will point you towards the Enumeration District maps to review visually.

Create a spreadsheet or list of each person, basic info and their 1950 US Census Enumeration District.

Use this information once the census data is released on April 1, 2022.

Here's How You Can Get 1950 US Census Data NOW

Not many genealogists realize that the Census Bureau offers what is known as the **Age Search Service** (<https://www.census.gov/topics/population/genealogy/agesearch.html>) allowing residents to see census data for a fee. From the Census Bureau site:

“We will search the confidential records from the Federal population censuses of 1910 to 2010 and issue an official transcript of the results (for a congressionally mandated fee). NOTE: Information can be released only to the named person, his/her heirs, or legal representatives.”

Currently the fee is \$65 for a search of **one census per person** and payment can be made by check or money order (no credit cards accepted). The application form will ask you to list an address for the research subject. Remember that locating the proper enumeration district will help speed up the search. Normal processing time is three to four weeks; for an extra \$20 fee you can expedite the process.

1950 US Census Substitute

So, what if you need 1950 US Census data for others? The best substitute available would be a city directory for the location where your research target lived. Ancestry has created a **1950 Census Substitute** consisting of entries from US city directories up to 1955. See <https://www.ancestry.com/search/categories/1950census/> for more information and to start searching.

Resources**1950 Census Release Will Offer Enhanced Digital Access, Public Collaboration Opportunity** – National Archives

<https://www.archives.gov/news/articles/1950-census-access>

1950 Census Substitute – Ancestry

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/categories/1950census/>

1950 Census Questionnaire – United States Census Bureau

https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/questionnaires/1950_1.html

1950 Instructions to Enumerators – IPUMS

<https://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/inst1950.shtml>

1950 Instructions to Enumerators – United States Census Bureau

https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/census_instructions/1950_instructions.html

1950 US Census Overview – United States Census Bureau

https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/overview/1950.html

Age Search Service – United States Census Bureau

<https://www.census.gov/topics/population/genealogy/agesearch.html>

The 1950 US Census: Are You Ready? continued

Finding Transcribed ED Descriptions for 1950 in One Step – Steve Morse

<https://stevemorse.org/ed/ed.php?year=1950&state=AL&keywords=>

Getting Ready for the 1950 Census: Searching With and Without a Name Index

<https://stevemorse.org/census/1950census.htm>

How to Access the 1950 Census in One Step – Steve Morse

<https://stevemorse.org/census/quiz1950.php>

Infant Card 1950 Census – United States Census Bureau

<https://www2.census.gov/prod2/decennial/documents/04198170ch2.pdf>

Miscellaneous Codes 1950 Census – Steve Morse

<https://stevemorse.org/census/mcodes1950.htm>

Occupation Codes 1950 Census – Steve Morse

<https://stevemorse.org/census/1950occupationcodes.html>

Project 1950 – Volunteers Needed

<https://stevemorse.org/census/project1950intro.html>

The 1950 Censuses – How They Were Taken – United States Census Bureau

<http://www2.census.gov/prod2/decennial/documents/1950/proceduralHistory/1950proceduralhistory.zip>

Unified 1950 US Census ED Finder – Steve Morse

<https://stevemorse.org/census/unified.html?year=1950>

United States Census – FamilySearch Wiki

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Census

Viewing 1940/50 Census Tracts in One Step – Steve Morse

<https://stevemorse.org/census/tracts.html>

Viewing 1940/1950 ED Descriptions from T1224 Microfilm in One Step

<https://stevemorse.org/census/eddef1224.html?year=1950>

Viewing 1940/1950 Wards, Tracts, and Block Maps in One Step – Steve Morse

<https://stevemorse.org/census/1940-1950blocks.html>

Viewing Enumeration District Maps in One Step – Steve Morse

<https://stevemorse.org/census/arc1940-1950edmaps.html?year=1950>

Again Thank you to Thomas for sharing his articles with us.

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My Family



Tribute to a Member



Beverly Rose Werner Stimac, age 79, of Wisconsin Rapids, WI passed away peacefully on Saturday December 25, 2021 in Wisconsin Rapids, WI.

with the “Friend of Education” award for her dedication to her career. Beverly was a member of the SS Peter and Paul Women’s Club, the VFW Auxiliary 2534, and loved volunteering for the South Wood County Pantry Shelf. In her spare time Beverly enjoyed gardening, reading, crafting, sewing, and was an expert in quilling.

Beverly was born on September 10, 1942 to Edward and Margaret (Derfus) Werner in Marshfield, WI. She married Russell Stimac on November 18, 1967, and celebrated 54 years of marriage together. Beverly served her community as an elementary school teacher in Pittsville and Wisconsin Rapids many years, and served as the treasurer for WRPSSTU. In 1999 Beverly was honored

Beverly is survived by her Husband, Russell; sons, Christopher Stimac (Tiffany Althoff), and Matthew (Wendy) Stimac; grandchildren, Calliston Stimac, Cassandra Stimac, Benjamin Stimac, Luke Stimac, Zachary Stimac, Taylor Stimac, and Sara Stimac; Sister-in-law Joan Werner; as well as many great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Dennis Werner; and one infant sister.

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 19th, 2022 TBA Meeting at the McMillan Library in the Multi Purpose Room

March 25th-26th, 2022 WSGS Gene-A-Rama Virtually

April 16th, 2022 Presentation by Dana Kelly from Norwegian American Genealogical Center & Naeseth Library via Zoom.

Watch for Wayne's email about this meeting

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73145868172>
[pwd=SUhxd2EyU3NUSlJvam1oUEc3TXdtZz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73145868172?pwd=SUhxd2EyU3NUSlJvam1oUEc3TXdtZz09) Meeting ID: 731 4586 8172 Passcode: pxi95p

May 21, 2022 TBA

**June 18th 2022 Cemetery Walk Greenwood Cemetery
off Plank Hill Lane, in Armenia, Juneau County.**

We will discuss keeping the Zoom component for the future meeting. Let us know your thoughts on the Zoom continuing or not.

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 and July).
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!!!