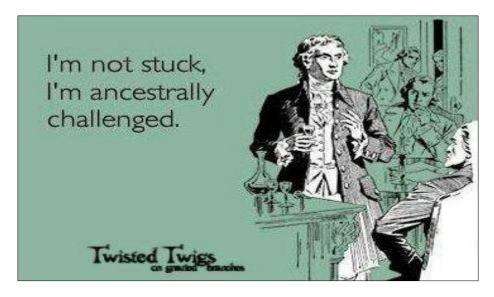
Dane County Area Genealogical Society News

We're Having a Group Discussion Night on May 1st (7 pm) in the Gym of the LDS Church – Come Brainstorm!



The goal this month though is for each of us to bring a problem in your research that you've not been able to solve and use your tablemates to brainstorm for a solution.

For this reason I would suggest not sitting with folks you normally do if you've already used each other for this purpose. We might try grouping based on problem type but I don't know that will be necessary to be successful.

You are also welcome to bring a homemade treat to share and beverages will be provided by DCAGS. (If you're not a baker you shouldn't feel obligated because there is always plenty!) Submitted by Walker Crawford

Individual Highlights:

Upcoming Webinars and Forest Hill Cemetery Tour, page-2
Conferences, Research Trip, Workshops, and Poem, page-3
FGS Conference, and Preserve the Pensions Request, page-4
Notice Regarding Dane County Vital Records, and WHS Webinars, page-5
Recap of April's Program, page-6
Military Websites, and the President's Message, page-7
Board Member Contact Information, page-8



April/2014

Volume 8, Issue 8

DCAGS Update:
The DCAGS Governing Board
meets each month.
The next meeting will be on
Monday, May 19th, at 6:30 PM at
the Fitchburg Public Library.

Our June meeting will be held on June 5th.

The Topic: Free online resources that you can access from home or at your library.

Presenter: Patricia Skubis





Illinois State Genealogical Society offers FREE WEBINARS on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. All ISGS webinars are FREE and open to the public when they are presented live. Go to http://ilgensoc.org/cpage.php?pt=234 to learn more about the upcoming webinars and to register.

May 2014

Organizing (or Reorganizing!) That Family Reunion

- Presenter: James M. Beidler
- **Date**: May 13, 2014, 8:00 pm Central
- Description: There's no place as good for a family's history as a reunion, but the gatherings come and go – learn how to organize one that will last or reorganize one that's fading.
- Registration: https://attendee.goto
 webinar.com/register/41006124767
 06085633
- This webinar is sponsored by FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org)



FREE WEBINARS
REGISTER at
http://www.familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php

Legacy Family Tree - Virtual User's Group Meeting



Learn tips, tricks, and best practices related to using the Legacy Family Tree software. Topics for beginners through advanced presented by the Legacy staff and other

experts. We'll also leave time for questions and answers. Have a favorite Legacy tip and want to share it? Send us an email, we'd love to have you participate. Everyone is welcome!

Presented by Legacy Family Tree Panel at 1 PM
Central on Friday, May 2, 2014.

50 Year View - What I've Learned Climbing My Family Tree

Looking back at the last 50 years, Tom Kemp will present his key tips and techniques that he has learned over a life time of genealogical research. "If this was my last lecture - this is what I want you to know." Prepare to be informed and entertained in this in this rapid fire review of the key tips Tom has to share

with us. Presented by **Tom Kemp** at 1 PM on Wednesday, May 7, 2014.

Photo Apps for Android, iPhones or iPads
Whether you carry a smart phone or a tablet
there are great apps out there to help you snap
and edit pictures. Digital organization for all
those photos is included. This covers taking
contemporary family history photos to
documenting a relative's collection. Presented
by Maureen Taylor at 1 PM on Friday, May 14,

I Had My DNA Tested - Now What?

2014

Hundreds of thousands of genetic profiles for family history and ancestral purposes have been generated by private laboratories, universities, and the National Geographic's Genographic Project during the past fifteen years. However, many individuals that had their DNA tested were somewhat disappointed, as the information provided by many laboratories is often difficult to understand. What do all these numbers and letters means? What can they tell about my past? As Ann Tuner and Megan Smolenyak stated in their book, Trace Your Roots with DNA, test results for just one person are like the sound of one hand clapping." The great paradox in genetic genealogy is the fact that in order to understand your own DNA, you need to know something about the DNA of everyone else! Thankfully, a number of online databases are providing large quantities of searchable data in an effort to provide the missing hand. Knowing which resources are available and how to properly use them is key to understanding our personalized genetic genealogy and getting the most out of our own genetic profile. Presented by Ugo Perego at 1 PM on Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Using Tax Lists to Solve Genealogical Problems
Benjamin Franklin is said to have stated, "The
only things certain in life are death and taxes."
Taxation can take (and has taken) many forms.
The mission of this presentation is to discuss
some of they ways in which our ancestors were
taxed, the records that were created, and
where we might find those records.
Additionally you'll learn how those tax records
may help you solve some of your genealogical
questions. Presented by Linda Woodward
Geiger at 1 PM Central on Wednesday, May 28,
2014.





Genealogy Research in BadgerLink

Presenter: Kara Ripley

Date: Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Time: 7:00 PM CDT

 Webinar Description: BadgerLink is Wisconsin's online library which provides access to licensed content such as magazines, newspapers, census records, full text family histories, videos, and images. These resources are provided exclusively for use by all Wisconsin residents and are materials that are not available through regular search engines such as Google. In this session, learn the basics about using BadgerLink to conduct genealogical research!

Register

at: http://tinyurl.com/mz3v45y Webinar ID: 150-944-107

After registering, you will receive an email with information and a link to join us the night of the webinar and handout information. Please remember that this is a first come first serve webinar. Registering does not hold a spot for you. Those that log in first will be admitted to the webinar.



Historic Madison sponsors

Forest Hill Cemetery Tour

Sunday, May 18

1:00 PM

The tour will focus on individuals involved in the Civil War, both on the battlefield and home front.

Gather outside the Catlin Chapel, just inside the front gate off Speedway Road at its intersection with Regent Street and Highland Avenue.

Admission Free

March 2014 Volume 8, Issue 8 - page - 2 The Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois announces their first all day conference to be held May 17, 2014. The conference starts at 8 AM.



with Thomas MacEntee and CAGGNI presenters

Register now for CAGGNI's first ever day-long conference,
GeneaQuest! GeneaQuest 2014
features nationally-acclaimed genealogy blogger and genealogy-tech professional Thomas
MacEntee. Thomas's keynote address, Genealogy: The Future Is
Now will present the programs, apps, and websites that are hot now and also tell how you can prepare for the genealogy technology of the future.

Breakout sessions and computer labs featuring CAGGNI's own presenters Caron Primas Brennan, Nancy R. Thomas, John Stryker, Sandra Trapp and Michelle Bray Wilson will deepdive into Genealogy Apps, Google Tools, Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Family Tree Maker, Genetic Genealogy, Picasa and Flip-Pal.

Visit our <u>GeneaQuest page</u> for complete program and speaker information.

Join us also at GeneaQuest's exclusive GeneaUs Bar for informal discussion in your favorite genealogy or technology specialty area.

This event will be held at Elgin Community College, Building

E. Map Program Brochure

March 2014 Volume 8, Issue 8 - page - 3

Madison History Round Table

May 8, 2014

Presenter: Dee Grimsrud, retired genealogist and archivist, from the Wisconsin Historical Society.

"Colonel Heg and His Boys"

Stories about soldiers who served in the 15th Wisconsin Infantry, Norwegian-American regiment in the Civil War.

The MHRT meets the second
Thursday of the month at the
Radisson Hotel, 517 Grand Canyon
Drive, Madison. Reservations are not
required. Social hour begins at 6:00
PM, with a catered dinner if
reservations are made two days in
advance to John Driscoll, 608-2740996.

The presentation begins about 7:15 PM. Contact Jennifer Eager Ehle, 608-302-1722, or Bill Sayles, 608-274-9342, for additional information.

September 2014
Salt Lake City Research Week at the Family History Library



Starting at 4 PM, Monday, 22 September 2014 to 5 PM Saturday, 27 September 2014.

Spend a week at the world's largest genealogy library with help from professional genealogists.

Help provided exclusively for our guests by Ancestor Seekers professionals at regular intervals. Our

experts will help you find the records you need, thus providing a more productive and enjoyable experience.

Six nights at the Plaza Hotel (next door to the Library) included in the price. Just arrange your travel to Salt Lake City and we take care of the rest.

Optional Evening Activities.

For more information go to:

http://www.ancestorseekers.com/slcrt/event.p hp?id=45&r=ft233&et mid=665483&rid=24576 4480



The German Interest Group of Wisconsin will host their Annual Workshop on July 12, 2014.

Featured Speaker Michael John Neill

Place: Hamilton Auditorium in the Conner Center at UW-

Whitewater Campus. For more information or questions, please call Jean or John. Phone: (Jean) 608-302-4681; (John) 608-362-4311. Web: gig.wi@hotmail.com

Workshop flyer and registration form will soon be found at http://gig-wi.com/events.htm

ODE TO SPRING.

Spring has sprung,
The grass has riz;
But it's still unsung
Where the flowers is.

or

Spring has sprung
the grass has riz
I wonder where da birdie is?
The bird is on the wing
come, come that's quite absurd
The wing in on the bird

Oh my oh my am I perturbed

A conference for the nation's genealogists



FGS provides a unique setting to interact, connect, and learn from many of the world's genealogists. This year's event in historic San Antonio promises to deliver an educational and enlightening experience unlike any other.

The conference program provides more than 150 conference programs and workshops on a wide array of topics, including those of local, regional, national and international importance. The exhibit hall gives you a chance to explore the latest genealogical gadgets, books, and websites.

Take a look at the conference brochure https://www.fgsconference.org/FGS2014 %20RegistrationBooklet web.pdf for a complete list all of the sessions, speakers, workshops, and special events taking place in San Antonio.

Conference Registration:

- Early Registration (postmarked or online by 1 July 2014)
 - o FULL four day conference registration (Wed. through Sat.) \$195
 - o Single Day \$85
- o Registration (postmarked or online AFTER 1 July 2014)
 - o FULL four day conference registration (Wed. through Sat.) \$250
 - o Single Day \$99



Be sure to register early to take advantage of the early bird price and to get tickets to the meals and events you want to attend before they sell out! Please note that luncheons, special events, and workshops are not included in the above prices.

Come to San Antonio and get involved! Register https://www.fgsconference.org/registration/



The pension records from the War of 1812 are among the most requested documents at the National Archives. Ancestry.com has provided a dollar for dollar matching grant, so every dollar you contribute to help digitize them will make four more pages accessible and free for everyone. Go to http://www.preservethepensions.org/ for more information and to donate.

Do Your Dane County Vital Records Searches NOW!

The Dane County Register of Deeds (ROD) will be not be allowing in-person searching of vital records for an extensive portion of 2014, due to remodeling of their office and off-site storage of their records during the remodel. The tentative dates for this closure are 30 May 2014 through 1 January 2015. The ROD office will be referring all searchers to the Wisconsin Vital Records Office (VRO) during those seven months. As those who have used the VRO know, searching for Dane County vital records there is much more restricted than in the Dane County ROD office. Staff in the ROD office indicate that searching in their office in 2015 will not be much different than it is now, although their floor space will be reduced. I suggest that if at all possible you do any Dane County vital records searches you expect to do this year very soon.

Rollie Littlewood



The Wisconsin Historical Society is offering two workshops in May for local history organizations and interested genealogist. These will be presented via live Webinar - Log on from your home computer. Payment and registration form are necessary to confirm a spot for the selected webinars.

For registration information contact: Amy Norlin, at 608-264-6579. Email: amy.norlin@wisconsinhistory.org or to register on line

http://preview.wisconsinhistory.org/calendar/event/3442/

Webinar: Researching Historic Buildings May 8, 1:30 PM- 3:00 PM

Gain the tools you need to discover the history of a historic building. This introductory webinar will help you prepare to research an individual building, whether a home,



school, business or farmstead. The webinar will focus on learning about specific research sources for determining the history of a building, as well as learning about its occupants. Great for learning more about the place you - or your

ancestors - called home, or learning more about your community.

Instructor: Joe DeRose, survey and registration historian for the Wisconsin Historical Society's Division of Historic Preservation-Public History.

Cost: \$30 (\$20 for members of the Wisconsin Historical Society or affiliated local historical societies).

Webinar: Basic Cemetery Documentation Thursday, May 22, 2014 1:30-3 PM

This webinar will cover the basic steps of documenting cemeteries. After the presentation, there will be ample time for questions and answers.

Topics covered include an introduction to documentation surveys and forms, and an overview of general definitions required for documentation, including monument types and materials used in cemetery architecture and memorials. The presenter will also share photography tips and basic tips for cleaning of stone monuments.

Instructor: Jason Church, materials conservator in the Materials Research Program at the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

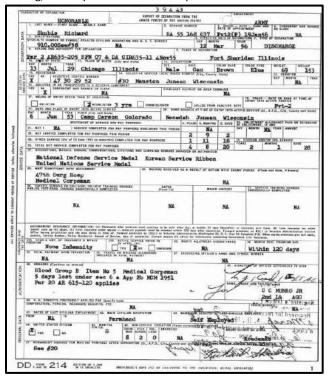
Contact Us: Phone: 608-264-6519

Email: info@wisconsinhistory.org

April 2014 Volume 8, Issue 8 - page- 5

Recap of April DCAGS Meeting

"TDY," "MOS," "AIT," branch, unit, rating or rank, the "brig," and "DD-214." If you were ever in the military, these letters and numbers have significance to you. At the end, the most important combination was the "DD-214." If you are a genealogist, the lack of knowledge of military acronyms and names might not land you in the brig, but they can cause research problems.



At the April DCAGS meeting, Russell Horton, a reference archivist at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, offered advice on how to research and make sense of records for Wisconsin veterans whose records are on file and available for research at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum was started in 1901 by Wisconsin Civil War vets in the GAR Memorial Hall of the Wisconsin Capitol. In 1993, it moved to its new building on the Capitol Square. Most of the records stored are for veterans who have a Wisconsin connection—lived or died here or served in a Wisconsin military unit—and primarily date from the Civil War and later. For veterans prior to the Civil War, Horton stated that better resources would be the National Archives or genealogical organizations like the DAR.

If you are researching a family member, the staff at the Museum will be able to help you discover details of service such as where the person served, the years of service, battles participated in, wounds received, medals awarded, prisoner-of-war records, military occupation, physical descriptions, and burial records. In some cases, there might be beneficiary information. In other cases, supplied information may lead to pension or medical records which can become a trove of names, dates, and places significant in the veteran's life. In many cases, the facts can clarify, enhance, or refute family lore about the veteran.

Besides military records, the Museum also houses items of a more personal nature—donated letters, diaries, maps, photographs—given by families of veterans and organizations like the VFW, the American Legion, and the DAR. There are over 2,000 periodicals and a military history library with details of units and the battles in which they fought. From WWI to date, the Museum has also collected 2,000 oral history interviews. As Horton pointed out, sometimes an oral interview or diary or letter from a friend or acquaintance your researched person served with can give info and clues about where to search in a stalled investigation.

The most extensive museum holdings are from WWI and WWII, but the Spanish-American War and the Mexican Border War (Poncho Villa incursions) also have archives. 4,000 vets served in the Spanish-American War from Wisconsin—mostly national guard unit call-ups. An online database has the names of these vets with one exception—those who served in the Philippines are not included in the data. The Mexican Border War involved 4 Wisconsin national guard units who only made it to encampment in Texas before the war ended. These records are handwritten and list next of kin.

The WWI records list 120,000 vets who served. These microfiche records are in the process of being indexed into a searchable database in anticipation of the approaching centennial of the war.

WWII records, by law, are restricted to the vet, if alive, and only to the "next of kin", if the vet is dead. Federal law restricts the public release of records for 60 years. The primary record for WWII vets up to today is the separation record—the DD-214. Unfortunately, a major fire destroyed 95% of the separation records for WWII vets. What the fire and the restrictions mean for the genealogist is that other sources must be searched for the information. Horton suggested these sources: 1) National Archives for remaining 5% of saved records; 2) Federal Department of Veterans Affairs; 3) County Veteran Service Officer, county courthouse indexes, and register of deeds in county of residence; 4) Wisconsin Historical Society; 5) public library or local county genealogical or historical society in county of residence; and 6) American Legion and VFW posts where vet lived. Info may be limited, but sometimes a DD-214 or document containing same data can be part of a file.

There is also a burial card index for vets covering the years from WWII to the 1990s compiled by various cemeteries. Cards are alphabetical, and there are variations in quality and completeness of info supplied.

Russell Horton and the staff at the Museum are eager to help in your search. His contact information is:

Russell.Horton@DVA.Wisconsin.Gov 608-267-1790

The Museum's website is: www.wisvetsmuseum.com
Horton suggests you visit the website and search the on-line indexes before you call. Horton said the Museum is also soliciting military related letters, diaries, photographs, among other memorabilia, (please call first) associated with Wisconsin vets.

Submitted by John Madigan

MILITARY WEBSITES

World War I

- **Doughboy Center** http://www.worldwar1.c om/dbc/
- **World War I: Trenches** on the Web http://www.worldwar1.com/

The Great War 1914-1918

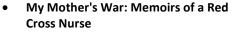
http://www.pbs.org/greatwar/ In the Trenches: The Soldier's Experience in World War I

http://www.thetrenchexperience.com/

FOR HOME

AND COUNTRY

- **Encyclopedia of the First World War** www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/FWW.htm
- **World War I Document Archive** http://wwi.lib.byu.edu/
- **Propaganda Post Cards of the Great War** http://www.ww1-propaganda-cards.com
- First Call: American Posters of World http://www.library.georgetown.edu/exhibition/firstcall-american-posters-world-war-one-collectionroger-n-mohovich



http://www.murphsplace.com/mother/main.html

World War II

Hypertext History of the Second World

http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar

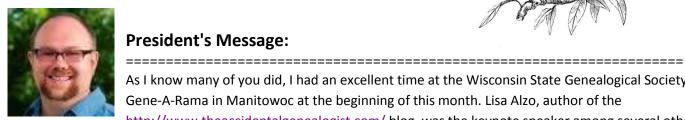
The Institute on World War II and the **Human Experience**

http://www.fsu.edu/~ww2

- **World War II Oral Histories** http://www.tankbooks.com
- A People at War http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/a people at war /a people at war.html
- **World War II Poster Collection** https://images.northwestern.edu/catalog?f[instituti onal collection title facet][]=World+War+II+Poster +Collection+at+Northwestern+University+Library
- What Did You Do in the War, Grandma? http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/WWII Women/ tocCS.html

For more sites, Google the War that you are interested in. Check out military sites of other countries and wars that your ancestors may have fought in.





President's Message:

As I know many of you did, I had an excellent time at the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society's Gene-A-Rama in Manitowoc at the beginning of this month. Lisa Alzo, author of the http://www.theaccidentalgenealogist.com/ blog, was the keynote speaker among several other

interesting speakers. If you've not had a chance to read her blog previously I would encourage you to take the time to do so now. Between speakers I spent a lot of time browsing through the many vendors and genealogy related displays that were there. And admittedly, I tried to do my part in supporting the vendors as we appreciate them being there, many of

them traveled hundreds of miles. WSGS and Manitowoc's genealogical society did a great job in hosting us including many great door prizes and keeping everything on time. Next year's Gene-A-Rama will be held in Madison, so if you couldn't make it because of travel this will be your chance to partake in a great experience.



Dane County Area Genealogical Society P.O. Box 5652 Madison, WI 53705-0652 Address Service Requested We're on the Web! See us at: www.dcags.org

or

www.facebook.com/dcags



Dane

County Area Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 5652 Madison, WI 53705-0652

See you on May 1st

Become a Committee Member One Position Open Sign Up Today



President: Walker Crawford walker@viridis.ws

Vice President: Jim Benes <u>Jimbenes@iname.com</u>

Secretary: DeAnn McAllan d.mcallan@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Katherine Sparks kasparks55@yahoo.com

Member at large: John Madigan <u>j.madigan@sbcglobal.net</u>

Past President, Rollie Littlewood rklittle@wisc.edu

Standing Committee Chairs

Membership: Walker Crawford walker@viridis.ws

Programs & Education: Donna Johnson <u>Donna53705@aol.com</u>

Public Relations: Vacant

Historian: Sandy Zart sandy zart@yahoo.com

Web Master: Rollie Littlewood rklittle@wisc.edu

Newsletter: Pat Skubis skubie27@live.com

We would like
one or two
people to join the
Board and fill the
vacant
Public Relations
position.