

# Dane County Area Genealogical Society Newsletter



*The February meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 4505 Regent Street, Madison, Wis.*

Winter 2014/2015

Volume 9, Issue 4

## *Polish Genealogy/Polish Heritage Club*

Joanna Pasowicz, President of the Polish Heritage Club of Wisconsin-Madison, will talk to us about Researching Polish family history, the ins, outs and roadblocks. She and her husband published his family history and are working on hers.

She has traveled extensively in the Poland area, and will talk about how the boundary lines have changed throughout the years.

Joanna will also give us information about the Polish Heritage Club of Madison, Wisconsin to share with those interested and bring a copy of her book.

Regular DCAGS meetings are generally the first Thursday of each month at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints located at 4505 Regent Street, Madison, Wisconsin beginning at 7 PM.

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The DCAGS Governing Board meets each month. The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup> – Location to be determined. Contact the President to be notified of the location once it is set.



### New Board Members Announced

Congratulations to the individuals that were elected to three-year terms (2015-2017) on the governing board! Barb Abbott, Dick Ammann and Joyce Peterson.

Officers have also been selected for 2015 and they will remain the same as 2014: President – Walker Crawford, Vice President – Jim Benes, Treasurer – Kathy Sparks, Secretary – DeAnn McAllan.



Individual Highlights: Upcoming Webinars, meetings, and events page – 2 February Facts-page -3  
President's Message, Change in Family History Center Hours, Volunteers needed for Gene-A-Rama, Researcher's Notice, and FGS Conference Notice page- 4 Recap of Show and Tell page -5 Board Member Contact Information, and Remember Auschwitz page -6



Illinois State Genealogical Society offers FREE WEBINARS usually 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.

The 2015 ISGS Webinar series is sponsored by [FamilySearch](#)



February 2015

**Basic Scandinavian Research**

- **Presenter:** Diana Smith
- **Date:** February 3, 2015, 8:00 pm Central
- **Description:** Researching the Scandinavian countries (Norway, Denmark, and Sweden) is very different from researching in the US. Learn about the patronymics, language, and more.
  - Overview of the influence of history and geography
  - Patronymics
  - Alphabets of each language - extra letters and search techniques
  - Use of dates and calendar basics
  - Hints for keeping track and searching efficiently
  - Resources for each country
- **Registration:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6829079176792483329>

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FREE WEBINARS Register at

<http://www.familytree.com/upcoming-webinars.php>

**One-Place Studies - Tracing the History of a Community 2/04/15**



**Zigzagging through German Church Records 2/11/15**

**Researching Your New Zealand Ancestors 2/18/15**

**Tap Into Your Inner Private Eye - 9 Strategies for Finding Living Relatives 2/25/15**

**Step-by-Step - Finding Confederate Soldiers and Their Records Friday-2/06/15**

**Researching Ancestors in the Era of Freedom Friday-2/20/15**

All webinars are at 1PM Central.

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## The Madison History Roundtable

meets the second Thursday of the month, September through May, at the Radisson Hotel, 517 Grand Canyon Drive, Madison, Wisconsin.

**Feb 12, 2015**

**Catharine Tripalin Murray**

Author of three cookbooks with recipes and memories from the Italian neighborhood in Madison, called Old Greenbush. The ten block neighborhood at the turn of the century was called "Little Italy," "Little Sicily," or more affectionately "the Bush."

People can attend just the program at about 7:15 PM, or make reservations for a meal at 6 PM which precedes the program. Reservations are required by Monday before the Thursday PM meal. Reservations can be made by email [madison.history.roundtable@gmail.com](mailto:madison.history.roundtable@gmail.com)

There is no advance registration for the programs. Annual membership is \$30.00/year. More information is available about the Madison History Roundtable on the web [www.mhrt.info](http://www.mhrt.info) and Facebook page.

You can also contact Bill Sayles (608-274-9342) or Jennifer Ehle for additional information (608-302-1722). All are welcome.

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## MyHeritage Library Edition

is coming to the Wisconsin Historical Society reading room. See [myheritagelibraryedition.com/support](http://myheritagelibraryedition.com/support) for some information about what data may be waiting for you there. Since this is public library edition, it is assumed that users will not be able to

add their own data to the MyHeritage databases though these installations, but can do searches on data added with personal subscriptions.

What's in the MyHeritage Library Edition? More than 5 billion historical records from all over the world. The USA federal census (1790-1940) and the UK census (1841-1901) with images. 1.5 billion exclusive family tree profiles from MyHeritage and Geni. 816 million US public records. Hundreds of millions of Nordic records. More than a hundred million tombstone photos. More than 80 million historical photographs, Military records, immigration records, and passenger lists. Citizenship & naturalization records. Directories, guides, references, biographies, and yearbooks. Government, land and court records. Wills and probate records. Exclusive databases such as the Jewish Chronicle, historical newspaper. Additional content under license including Tributes obituaries, Wiki Tree, Billion Graves, Canadian Headstones, and many others. 200 million additional records added on average every month! Submitted by Rollie Littlewood.

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## Ireland Parish Records to be Free Online\*

Reprinted from [www.madisoncatholicera.org](http://www.madisoncatholicera.org) Dublin (CNS) – The Catholic Church and the National Library of Ireland have partnered to make almost 400,000 images of Catholic parish register microfilms available online for free.

A National Library of Ireland statement called the records the single most important source of information on Irish family history prior to the 1901 census. Dating from the 1740s to the 1880s, they cover nearly 1,100 parishes throughout the island of Ireland and consist primarily of baptismal and marriage records.

The digital images will be available, for free, on a dedicated website, which will be launched next summer.

The microfilms have been available to visitors to the National Library of Ireland since the 1970s. However, this project means that, for the first time, anyone will be able to access these registers without having to travel to Dublin. Submitted by Walker Crawford

# February Facts

February is the second month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. It is the shortest month and the only month with fewer than 30 days. The month has 28 days in common years or 29 days in leap years. For such a short month it is loaded with National Holidays, Religious Holidays, and various celebrations. Starting on the first with, National Freedom Day is a United States observance on February 1 honoring the signing by Abraham Lincoln of a joint House & Senate resolution that later became the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. President Lincoln signed the Amendment outlawing



slavery on February 1, 1865, although it was not ratified by the states until later. The first commemoration took place on February 1, 1942, at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. As it has every year since, the remembrance included laying a wreath at the Liberty Bell. It is also the beginning of Black History Month, also known as African-American History Month in America. It is an annual observance in the

United States, Canada in February, and the United Kingdom in October, for remembrance of important people and events in the history of the African Diaspora. The precursor to Black History Month was created in 1926 in the United States, when historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History announced the second week of February to be "Negro History Week." This week was chosen because it coincided with the birthday of Abraham Lincoln on February 12 and of Frederick Douglass on February 14, both of which dates Black communities had celebrated together since the late 19th century. The expansion of Black History Week to Black History Month was first proposed by the leaders of the Black United Students at Kent State University in February 1969. The first celebration of the Black History Month took place at Kent State one year later, in February 1970. In 1976 as part of the United States Bicentennial, the informal expansion of Negro History Week to Black History Month was officially recognized by the U.S. government. President Gerald Ford spoke in regards to this, urging Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."

Groundhog Day is a day celebrated on February 2. According to folklore, if it is cloudy when a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day, then spring will come early; if it is sunny, the groundhog will supposedly see its shadow and retreat back into its burrow, and the winter weather will persist for six more weeks.



Abraham Lincoln on February 12.



February is American Heart Month, a time to show yourself the love. Learn



about your risks for heart disease and stroke and stay "heart healthy" for yourself and your loved ones. Cardiovascular disease (CVD)—including heart disease, stroke, and

high blood pressure—is the number 1 killer of women and men in the United States. It is a leading cause of disability, preventing Americans from working and enjoying family activities.

Saint Valentine's Day, also known as Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is a holiday observed on February 14 each year. It is celebrated in many countries around the world, although it is not a holiday in most of them.

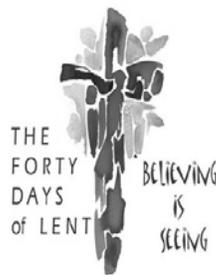


Mardi Gras also Fat Tuesday in English, refers to events of the Carnival celebrations, beginning on or after the Epiphany or King's Day

and culminating on the day before Ash Wednesday. Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday", reflecting the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season.



Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting, is the first day of Lent in Western Christianity. It occurs 46 days (40 weekdays plus 6 Sundays) before Easter and can fall as early as 4 February or as late as 10 March. Ash Wednesday is observed by many Western Christians, including Catholics, Lutherans, Methodists, Anglicans, and Presbyterians.



Chinese New Year celebrations, also known as the Spring Festival, in China it starts on the 23rd day of the 12th lunar month of the Chinese calendar. The festival lasts for about 23 days; ending on the 15th day of the first lunar month in the following year in

the Chinese calendar.

The Spring Festival is a national holiday in China. Government offices, schools, universities and many companies are closed during the period from the Spring Festival Eve to the seventh day of the first lunar month in the Chinese calendar.



2015 is the year of the Goat (Sheep or Ram) according to the Chinese Zodiac.

The third Monday in February, honors George Washington, born February 22, 1732.



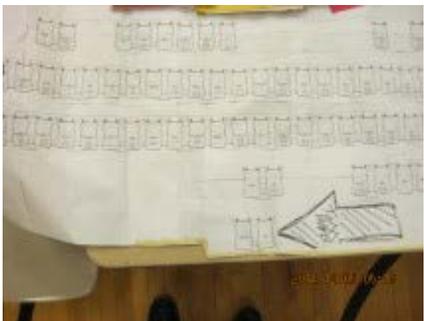
Sometimes it is labeled "Presidents Day" by state and local governments, in recognition of other American presidents, such as Abraham Lincoln, born February 12.

The legal name of the federal holiday, however, remains "Washington's Birthday". It was historically observed on February 22, prior to passage of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act by Congress.





# Third Annual Show and Tell



Thirty plus members of DCAGS gathered to show the fruits of their genealogical efforts. We had everything from a World War I uniform with medals to many generation family trees to self-published family histories to fantastic collections of family stories and photos. As we took a moment to pause we had many delicious homemade sweet and savory treats along with mulled cider and hot chocolate. Thank you to everyone that participated. Submitted by Walker Crawford  
Photos by Barb Glassel



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](http://www.dcags.org)  
or [www.facebook.com/dcags](http://www.facebook.com/dcags)



**Dane County Area  
Genealogical Society**

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



**See you on  
February 5<sup>th</sup>**

**DCAGS Governing Board  
for 2015**

President: Walker Crawford  
[walker@viridis.ws](mailto:walker@viridis.ws)

Vice President: Jim  
Benes  
[Jimbenes@iname.com](mailto:Jimbenes@iname.com)

Secretary: DeAnn  
McAllan  
[d.mcallan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d.mcallan@sbcglobal.net)

Treasurer: Katherine Sparks  
[kasparks55@yahoo.com](mailto:kasparks55@yahoo.com)

**New Board Members  
and Committee  
Members will be in  
the next edition**

**Remember Auschwitz**

On Tuesday January 27, 2015 Ceremonies were held marking the 70th anniversary of liberation of the concentration camp were over a million men, women and children were tortured and murdered by the Nazis during World War Two.

Around 300 survivors of the death camp returned to pay their respects to victims. Most of them were children sent to camp with their families, whose parents and older siblings often perished in gas chambers or from exhaustion and disease.

Wreaths and tributes were laid at the "Wall of Death", where inmates used to be executed by firing squad under the windows of two prisoner blocks.

According to figures provided by the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, the overall number of victims of Auschwitz in the years 1940-1945 is estimated at between 1.1 and 1.5 million people. The majority of them were Jews, who arrived at the beginning of 1942 and were killed in gas chambers.

On January 27, 1945 the former death camp was liberated by the Red Army Soldiers, who found 7000 prisoners, among them were 130 children. To view the article go to  
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/tv/tv-news/auschwitz-70th-anniversary-watch-steven-5054242>