Kith and Kin



er MAGG

Volume Number 25

Issue Number 1

Date July 2009

RESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello Members of MAGG.

As I write this letter two things come to my mind. First, I am reminded of the old country western song by Gene Autry "Back in the Saddle Again". After a number of years, I've returned as your president. Second, I have now learned what happens when you don't go to an elections meeting...you are voted in as president.

All kidding aside, I'm glad to be back serving you and can't wait to share some possible new projects with you. But first, I want to thank our retiring officers who have given of their time, Don Schnitzler, our past president; Ada May, who served as our past treasurer; and Al Breden, who was one of our Officers at Large. In addition, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our new treasurer, Lorraine Rogers and Elaine Hansen, our new Member at Large, for both giving of their time for the next two years. Our group would not be able to exist without people who are willing to give of their time with a passion for genealogy such as you.

I also want to thank Judy Peterson for offering a Writing Class at the Marshfield Public Library. Judy has taught this class in Arizona during the winter months and has graciously offered to run it for us while she is back in Wisconsin during the warmer months. Judy's class meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the General Meeting Room for about an hour or so. They have already had several classes but you can attend whenever it works out in your schedule and as often as you wish. There is no charge for the class.

As you put dates on your calendar, don't forget our July meeting, which will be at the Thomas House Historical Center on July 23 at 7 p.m. Also check the "Upcoming Meetings and Events" section for this newsletter for more information and other meetings, workshops and classes that are coming up.

Finally, I leave each of you with a challenge for the remainder of the year to get back into your research, especially if you have set it aside or try some new resource avenue, if you are currently researching and have hit the notorious "brick wall". Share your problems in your research at a meeting or with fellow genealogists, as two heads are always better that one.

Here's to seeing you at future meetings and workshops. If you ever need help, don't be afraid to ask.

As Always, Vickie

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Thursday, July 23, 2009 at 7 p.m. Thomas House History Center, 103 South Central Avenue, Marshfield, WI.

The center is accessible through the front courtyard or by elevator inside the rear entrance of the building. The program will consist of a "Show & Tell" about any of your relatives that have served in the military. Bring stories and memorabilia, to share. Then, we will view the new historical display at the center "Lest We Forget" starting with the Civil War to Present. The display will be growing and changing over the next two years so plan on seeing it now and come back to see the changes as it is a work in progress.

Saturday, August 15, 2009

Registration begins for the Fall Genealogy Classes and Workshops offered through the Wisconsin Historical Society's Library-Archives Division. For program dates, locations, content and online registration information, visit http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/classes, e-mail asklibrary@wisconsinhistory.org or write: Lori Bessler, Library-Archives Outreach Coordinator, Wisconsin Historical Society, 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706.

Thursday, August 27, 2009 at 6 p.m.

Al & Pat Breden Home, 10465 County. Trunk. B, Marshfield, WI

"Annual Picnic" evening & potluck dinner will take place at the Breden's again this year. Pat has the deluxe version of Ancestry, which she has graciously offered for anyone to use. So, bring along your research if you'd like to tap into that resource. Also bring along any questions or problems that your are having in your research and maybe as a group we can help you out. And don't forget to bring a dish to pass.

Saturday, September 19, 2009, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

"Joint Meeting" hosted by the Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogy Society of Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Meeting will take place at the United Methodist Church, 441 Garfield Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Morning program includes roundtable discussions focused on fundraising, membership, newsletter, programs, projects, and web sites. After lunch, Kathleen Engelbretson from the Family History Library in Marshfield will update participants on the progress of the projects being undertaken by the Family History Library. Cost is \$10.00 per person, which includes morning refreshments and lunch. Additional information and registration form are attached to this newsletter.

Thursday, September 24, 2009 at 7 p.m.

Marshfield Public Library, General Meeting Room

Members of the Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogy Group



projects...Naturalization Intents, updating the Wood County Cemetery Indexes, and the Wisconsin Rapids & Vesper Newspaper Indexing Projects. They will also be sharing ways that we can join with them to help with some of these projects.

Table of Contents

- P. 1 President's Message, Upcoming Events
- P. 2 Operation Valkyrie, Footnote.com
- P. 3 Marshfield People Who Pay Income Tax 1913
- P. 4 Class of 1902 Graduates
 Students Not Absent or Tardy 1882
 Street Paving-Central Avenue 1914
- P. 5 Two Weddings 1914
 History of the Marshfield Schools Parts 6 and 7
- P. 6 Humor from 1929
- P. 7 Tampico Illinois Historical Society and Museum Oshkosh, Wisconsin Local History and Genealogy

at
The Public Library

- P. 9 Civil War Records, St. Louis Area of Missouri
- P. 10 Bionima.com Chicago Library Archives-The Defender Fun in the Records
- P. 11 Polish Genealogical Society of America National Archives Library Information Center
- P. 12 Historical Currency Converter

An Account of Operation Valkyrie

(A new movie from Hollywood)

Operation Valkyrie was a Hitler approved emergency scenario that set up the continuity of government and plan for the military if a general breakdown of civil order should occur, such as the Führer's death.

On July 20, 1944, in an attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler, Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg detonated a briefcase bomb at Hitler's Eastern Front military headquarters, the Wolf's Lair. Once Stauffenberg detonated the bomb, he believed Hitler to be dead. He rushed back to Berlin to initiate Valkyrie in order to take control of the government and the military with his fellow co-conspirators. The scene in Berlin quickly turned to

Search the <u>WWII Foreign Military Studies</u>, 1945-54 Find reports, interviews, questionnaires and more conducted during WWII from this Collection. From Footnote.Com



Photo of Colonel von Stauffenberg

For those of you who are not familiar with Footnote. Com, it is a reasonabley priced pay site containing images from the National Archives and several other sites. It has an agreement with the National Archives to digitize the entire collection and make it available to the public at a reasonable cost.

Some of the 57,094,574 titles are: Civil War Widows Pensions Revolutionary War Service Records Missing Air Crews-World War II Civil War and Later Pension Index Pennsylvania Archives US Censuses

US Censuses
City Directories
Apollo Mission Photos
Amistad Supreme Court Records
Confederate Amnesty Papers
Civil War Service Records
Cuyahoga County Ohio Birth Returns 1871-1908
Continental Congress Papers

And more at www.footnote.com

Marshfield Herald Saturday 6 December 1913 Page 4 Column 3

MARSHFIELD PEOPLE WHO PAY AN INCOME TAX

Following is a list of individuals and firms in Marshfield who pay an income tax, figures for the same having been furnished by the county clerk.

| Philip Adler | \$ 6.14 | |
|---------------------|------------|--|
| J. E. Adler | 2.67 | |
| John P. Adler | 2.66 | |
| R. E. Andrews | 1.05 | |
| A. H. Anderson | 1.07 | |
| C. B. Arnold | 2.00 | |
| C. F. Banderob | 1.20 | |
| Louis Baumann | .54 | |
| F. A. Bauer | 3.50 | |
| Albert Bartman | 5.00 | |
| E. S. Bailey | 3.90 | |
| Edward B. Barr | 2.19 | |
| H. R. Bathrick | 3.77 | |
| Ralph J. Baker | 7.96 | |
| M. J. Becker | 1.70 | |
| Hiram F. Below | 10.00 | |
| F. R. Bissell | 31.29 | |
| H. Bille, Sr. | 6.04 | |
| Hans Bille | 2.28 | |
| E. C. Bliskey | 2.42 | |
| Harry A. Bly | .53 | |
| C. E. Blodgett | 234.16 | |
| Geo. D. Booth | 36.17 | |
| Edw. Brickheimer | 1.00 | |
| Isaac Brody | 5.36 | |
| J. H. Burns | 6.52 | |
| Geo. B. Campbell | 1.27 | |
| W. D. Connor | 27.63 | |
| R. Connor | 19.90 | |
| L. E. Colvin | 1.98 | |
| Peter C. Cobeen | 6.69 | |
| Arthur J. Coram | .80 | |
| Eli Crotteau | 1.23 | |
| Peter Daul | .45 | |
| Edgar M. Deming | 20.49 | |
| Peter Dickoff | 4.78 | |
| Nettie M. Dickenson | 1.36 | |
| Elmer E. Dickenson | 15.04 | |
| Karl Doege | 83.70 | |
| E. N. DuFour | 16.60 | |
| 2. I. Dui oui | 10.00 | |

| H. Ebbe & Co. | 49.45 |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Chas. J. Eckes \$ | 20.36 |
| Clarence B. Edwards | 6.41 |
| H. C. Eiche | 12.19 |
| Felker Bro. Mfg. Co. | 173.34 |
| Edwin E. Finney | 18.85 |
| Harvey Fink | 3.94 |
| Martin L. Gagnelius | 5.10 |
| L. E. Gilson | 6.58 |
| G. R. Gustavson | 4.00 |
| G. E. Harrington | 2.70 |
| Chas. Hahn | 23.88 |
| Edwin J. Hahn | 17.50 |
| H. G. Hambright | 17.70 |
| W. S. Heaton | .09 |
| William Herman | 3.62 |
| Wm. Hipke | 16.33 |
| John G. Hoelz | 1.00 |
| John A. Hoffman | 1.00 |
| W. L. Harris | 1.40 |
| Geo. Henderson | .70 |
| Alexander Johnson | 1.24 |
| Guy L. Jorgenson | 1.00 |
| Henry Kalsched | 12.58 |
| Herman Kehrberg | 2.42 |
| J. E. Ketchum | 7.64 |
| John Kirschner | 1.00 |
| W. D. Kirkwood | 1.00 |
| M. E. Kiefer | 6.31 |
| A. Kleinheinz | .59 |
| D. A. Knilans | 6.41 |
| Mrs. J. G. Kohl | 2.00 |
| Kohl & Herman | .96 |
| Fred Korth | 1.22 |
| H. C. Koenig | 4.00 |
| Robert P. Kraus | 3.80 |
| Krasin Bros. | 3.99 |
| Robert L. Kraus | 70.84 |
| Herman J. Kuethe | 2.83 |
| Geo. J. Lang | 3.73 |
| Felix LaPoint | 1.50 |
| L. Laemle | 97.50 |
| Wm. Lee | 4.78 |
| W. H. Lind | 10.56 |
| P. J. Lyons | 14.94 |
| T. E. Lee | 3.44 |
| Marshfield Hdw. & Auto Co. | .52 |
| Marshfield Mfg. Co. | 8.53 |
| Victor A. Mason | 36.08 |
| Aaron L. MacFarlane | .74 |
| W. W. McCulloch | 6.50 |
| Frank J. Mettelka | 3.88 |
| i iddix J. Wicholka | 5.00 |

| F. B. Mertle | \$ 5.39 | Geo. W. Upham | \$ 46.67 |
|----------------------|---------|--|-----------------------|
| E. F. Mechler | .48 | Wm. H. Upham | 36.75 |
| H. H. Milbee | 18.74 | Wm. G. Uthmeier | 1.50 |
| Alfred Neuman | 2.00 | James B. Vedder | 4.57 |
| F. A. Noll | 22.04 | A. A. Ver Bryck | 1.00 |
| J. J. O'Connor | 6.68 | Fred Vollmar | 2.64 |
| | 4.50 | Joseph F. Volz | 7.42 |
| C. W. Otto | 11.45 | H. Wahle | 26.25 |
| John J. Orrick | | | .45 |
| Herman G. Pankow | 3.15 | Herman Wasserburger | 5.91 |
| Adolph G. Pankow | 2.79 | Hugo Wegener | .84 |
| Adam Paulus | 2.08 | Ernest Wegner W. D. Wheeler | .84 35.22 |
| William Paape | 1.39 | | |
| Palace Meat Co. | 10.00 | Leo F. Winterburm | 4.73 |
| Roy P. Potter | .40 | E. E. Winch | 2.77 |
| William T. Poad | 6.44 | Henry Wismeth | 2.42 |
| E. C. Pors | 13.54 | Mrs. L. A. Wright | 26.51 |
| E. B. Pulling | 12.48 | George S. Wood | 5.00 |
| A. D. Purdy | 1.60 | Frank L. Zweck | 9.46 |
| Joseph Rebsteck | 2.77 | Arthur Zelisch | 1.50 |
| Joseph Regenfuss | 2.08 | | |
| Margaret E. Reynolds | 1.20 | | |
| Rembs & Sturm | 7.71 | CLASS OF 1902 | 2 GRADUATES |
| F. B. Richmond | .05 | Marshfield News | 29 May 1902 P. 6 |
| Hamilton Roddis | 25.50 | | |
| Amos Roll | 3.65 | Members of the eleven | th annual |
| W. H. Roddis | 77.50 | commencement: | ar umuu |
| Leo Rose | 75.00 | | aria mamaku |
| Louis A. Salter | .05 | Seven girls and three b | |
| Hugo Scheibe | .60 | Wilhelmina Riedel, Lilyan Couture, Lydia | |
| P. J. Schaefer | 8.38 | Echhoff, Mary Powers | |
| L. H. Schoenhofen | 3.60 | Ernestine Donhard, Ar | lie Hinman, Charles |
| Frank Schneider | 9.93 | Whitney, Clifford Hetl | n and Peter LaMahieu. |
| Ida R. Sexton | 1085.74 | | |
| Chas. S. Sheerin | 65.02 | Students Not Abser | nt or Tardy |
| Wm. Springborn | .30 | • | |
| Thos. D. Spalding | 15.23 | January 1882 | |
| Chas. J. Sparr | 12.90 | Marshfield Times 11 | Feb. 1882 Page 1 |
| J. C. Stierle | 7.59 | | |
| Richard Strauss | 10.68 | Lomania Busha, Mary | Waber, Victoria |
| John F. Stierle | 4.19 | Busha, Johny Jekel, Christina Beell, Frank | |
| Jacob Sturm | 1.00 | Kohl, August Balkey, Philip Treviller, Peter | |
| C. H. Stuck | 3.25 | LaBelle, Louisa Jacobsen Teacher: H. E. | |
| A. A. Schoenwalder | 2.53 | A. Davis | |
| W. A. Terry | 4.93 | A. Davis | |
| William Thuss | 3.84 | THE STATE OF THE S | |
| Henry J. Thuss | 2.54 | FURTHER PROG | |
| F. E. Tice | 8.72 | STREET PAVING | |
| I. P. Tiffault | 1.13 | Marshfield News 12 Nov. 1914 Page 1 | |
| Leo Trudeau | 1.50 | Another step in the arrangements for | |
| Trudeau Bros. | 6.15 | paving Central avenue was made at Tuesday | |
| Richard Tredennick | 16.09 | evening's council meeting when the board of | |
| Frank R. Upham | 14.96 | evening 5 council filet | ung when the board of |
| - min ic Opinin | 11.70 | | |

public works was authorized to have the water services in the avenue replaced with new ones, all to be of **lead piping**. (Are these the ones being replaced now? Editor)

Marshfield News Thursday 12 November 1914 Page 1

TWO EARLY MORNING-WEDDINGS TUESDAY

Charles Wein and Cathryn Stangl were married at the parsonage of the Catholic church at 6:45 o'clock Tuesday morning. At 7 o'clock the same morning John Tauschek and Theresa Bauer were united in marriage in the Catholic church. Father Volz performed the ceremonies of both weddings.

History of the Marshfield School System Article 6 April 22 1929 P. 6

At the annual meeting held on July 8, 1885 a new procedure was taken. At this meeting the chairman, E. E. Winch, was called upon to appoint a committee of six women, one from each ward, to visit the schools during the year and report their results to the school board. The chair appointed the following committee: First ward, Mrs. F. Vollmar; Second ward, Mrs. E. S. Renne; Third ward, Mrs. Sarah Upham; Fourth ward, Mrs. H. Fergusen; Fifth ward, Mrs. E. M. Deming; Sixth ward, Mrs. J. Masten.

The bonded indebtedness of the school district at this time was \$6,000. The teacher's salaries were \$7,400 and the total school expenditures were \$10,175. The amount to be raised by taxation was \$8,840. Up until this time the members of the school board had served without pay. The treasurer was allowed the interest money obtained on school funds but as this practice was declared illegal he was voted a salary of \$50

per year but as there was some objection and disagreement as to the legality of this neither the treasurer nor the clerk were paid.

During the school year 1896-97 three teachers resigned and as a result the board was forced to take drastic measures to prevent further recurrences. One month's salary was held back until the close of the school term and should any teacher resign for causes other than ill-health she would forfeit this amount to the school board.

As early as 1896 Father John Eisen, pastor of St. John's Catholic church realized that it was necessary to provide more school room for the children of the parish. On October 18, 1896 he called a congregational meeting and as a result of this meeting it was decided to build a new school. Van Tyn and DeGelleke of Milwaukee were engaged to draw plans for the building. The contract for the construction was let to Thomas Wright and Phillip Frieders. The building (now the present St. John's school) was completed in November, 1897. It was built of brick, was two stories high, had eight class rooms, an assembly hall and a library. Its cost was approximately \$16,000.

To be continued

Article 7 April 23, 1929 P. 6

A private kindergarten was established in 1891 by a Miss Woods. It was conducted in the lecture room of the Presbyterian church. The object of this school was to teach the children objects. In 1897 kindergarten instruction was given in the public schools not as a special department but in conjunction with the primary grades. No special teacher was employed for this instruction.

In the spring of 1898 G. W. Paulus resigned as principal of the city schools and J. B. Borden was elected to succeed him the coming September. During the school year

1897-98 the high school was placed on the accredited list of the University Wisconsin. Eleven years later, June 6, 1909. it was placed on the accredited list of the University of Chicago. Three teachers were now employed in the high school and 13 in the grades. The enrollment in the high school was 102. Up to 1898 a total of 44 graduated from the high school. The average salary paid to the high school teachers was \$60 per month and to the grade teachers from \$35 to Mr. Borden received a \$40 per month. salary of \$1,350 for the school year.

At the annual meeting of the school district the board of education made the following recommendation to the electors: "We would state that the school buildings are again over crowded. The high school room which was built to accommodate 75 pupils was crowded to its utmost last year with 103 pupils. The same condition exists in several departments. This fall we must rent other rooms if possible to relieve this congestion. Our city is growing fast and our high school, which is now on the accredited list of the university of Wisconsin, to continue the good work done, will need more room and we unanimously recommend that at this annual meeting plans be made to raise money to buy a site and cause to be erected a new high school building."

At this meeting is was moved and seconded to provide for a committee of five to look up sites and report at the adjourned meeting of the district. The school board was empowered to borrow the sum of \$18,500 at the rate of 6 per cent. The vote on this proposition was 64 in favor and 34 against. A motion was made and carried that "in case the school board of School District No. 1 of the city of Marshfield, Wisconsin did not find the site of the present high school available, they be instructed to purchase a site in either the first, second or third wards of the City of Marshfield." It was further moved and carried "that the district board be instructed to advertise for bids and sell the bonds to the

highest bidder." At the adjourned meeting of the school district, the school board recommended that the new high school building be erected on the northwest corner of the block with the old high school. The electors at this meeting adopted the report of the board.

To be continued

HUMOR Marshfield News Herald 23 April 1929 Page 6

SPRING (to the tune of My County 'Tis of Thee)

Sweet Spring, it is of thee Sweet time of B.V.D. Of thee I sing Time of the See-more skirt Time when men like to flirt, Time when wives are alert---Oh, Gentle Spring Jacksonville, Fla Times-Union Oh, Spring, it is of thee--Time of the budding tree, And swimming hole. Time when I want to shirk Doing my daily work, Time when I would rather jerk A fishing pole. Dade City, Fla. Banner Sweet Spring! To thee I sing. Time when the redbuds sting. And young love sighs; Time of wind full of grits, Time of three-base hits. Time when picnickers sit In custard pies. Houston, Texas Post Dispatch Sweet Spring, excuse-ahem! We know thy requiem Devoutly sing. Pray tell us why thou wert With chilly airs begirt, Why did you do us dirt? Oh, fickle Spring!

Spotlight: Tampico Area Historical Society & Museum

by Valerie Beaudrault

www.tampicohistoricalsociety.citymax.com/ Home Page.html

Tampico located in Whiteside County in the northwestern part of Illinois. It is the birthplace of Ronald Reagan. The Tampico Area Historical Society has made a number of resources available to family history researchers. The website is a work in progress. Click on the Table of Contents link to access them. The following is a sampling of these resources.

Scroll down to the first untitled table. There you will find links to transcriptions of notices and announcements that appeared in local newspapers over the years. There are anniversary and marriages announcements, divorce notices, and an extensive collection of obituaries. In addition the Tampico Funeral Home Logs for the period 1896–1976 have been scanned and uploaded to the site. In some cases newspaper photographs have been scanned and uploaded to accompany the text. You will also find a link to area maps and atlases and a history of the HY & T Railroad, which is accompanied by an album of photographs.

Biographies

The biographies of well-known individuals from Bureau, Marshall, Putnam, and Whiteside counties have been transcribed from local histories and uploaded to the website. The original volumes were published between 1885 and 1908.

Cemeteries

The information found in this section is presented in a number of different formats. There are databases of burials in some of the larger cemeteries. There are narrative descriptions of cemeteries, their locations and conditions, and the lists of burials in them. A number of them have a single photograph on the main cemetery page. Click on the photo to open an album page showing the gravestones in the cemetery. Click on the

small photo to view an enlargement with a caption.

Churches

To date the histories and photo albums for three local churches have been uploaded to the website

Census, Directories, Voters/Tax Payers
There are a number of databases in this
section. They include 1877 Voters/Tax
Payers lists for Fairfield and Greenville
Townships of Bureau County; Merchants'
directories for Bureau County for the years
1892, 1902, and 1914; Merchants'
directories for Whiteside County for the
years 1902 and 1914; a list of Fairfield
Township Land Owners; and the 1860 and
1870 federal census for Tampico.

History

In this section researchers find historical information from a variety of sources including newspaper articles transcribed from the old issues of the *Tampico Tornado* and indexes, photographs, biographical information and other images from local and county histories.

Military

The Military section contains a number of lists of veterans of various wars from the Civil War on. For the Civil War there is a list of veterans buried in Whiteside County, veterans listed by place of residence, Tampico Area Civil War veterans, and Illinois Union Volunteer Regiments. There are also albums containing photographs of military veterans.

eNews

Vol. 11, No. 13 Whole #420 April 1, 2009

Spotlight: Local History and Genealogy Resources, Oshkosh Public Library, Wisconsin

by Valerie Beaudrault
www.oshkoshpubliclibrary.org/localhistory/g
enealogyresources
The city of Oshkosh is located in Winnebago

County, in east-central Wisconsin. The Oshkosh Public Library offers a number of local history and genealogy resources on its website. Click on the Local History link to open a drop down list through which you can access the library's digital collections.

Oshkosh Vital Records Index

The Oshkosh Vital records index is a project of the Oshkosh Public Library and the Winnefox Library System. This index covers vital events published in the *Oshkosh Northwestern* newspaper, which was founded in 1861. The database covers 1861 through 2007. Between 1868 and 1909 both daily and weekly editions of the newspaper were printed. Since 1909 the newspaper has been a daily paper. Fill in one or more of the fields below:

The database can be searched by last name and first name. You can limit your search by date and to a specific record type. The records include birth announcements, marriage licenses, marriage announcements, anniversaries, milestone birthdays, and obituaries. The data fields in the search results include last name, first name, event, newspaper title, and the date event appeared in the newspaper, plus page and column numbers. In some cases there are links to more detailed records. You can request a photocopy of the article. Just click on the 'Request' link.

Click on the Local History link to access the library's Digital Collections page, where you will find:

Historic Oshkosh Businesses

This collection contains photographs, newspaper articles, postcards, pamphlets and catalogs for eight businesses that prospered during early-to-mid-twentieth century in Oshkosh. There are 98 items in this collection. The database can be searched by keyword.

Winnebago County Rural Schools

This collection contains photographs of school buildings in thirteen towns from across the county. They date from the early 1950s. The collection is a cooperative project of the Forrest Polk Library of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and the Oshkosh Public Library. You can browse the collection or search the database by town or by keyword.

Local History Books

Oshkosh Public Library has digitized a number of twenty-five local history books on a variety of topics. They were published between 1887 and 1919. You can search the books by keyword or browse through the volumes individually, page by page.

Oshkosh Online City Directories

The Oshkosh Public Library has digitized twenty-nine city directories and uploaded them to its website. The directories are from years between 1857 and 1922. You can browse through the directories. The digital directories have been divided into the following sections: surnames, businesses, and street directories. You can also search the directories. Tips on using the collection have been provided.

Oshkosh Public Library's Photograph Collections

Online Photo Album

This photo collection provides "A Look at Life in Oshkosh Through the Eyes of Those Who Live Here." It is the library's digital photo and video album through which is plans to "preserve images of Oshkosh community life through photos and videos taken by residents and visitors."

Main Street Oshkosh

This photo collection contains 43 images of scenes around the city of Oshkosh.

Other Collections

The Oshkosh Atlases and Histories collection is part of the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections. Clicking on the collection's link to access all of the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections resources.

eNews

Vol. 11, No. 14 Whole #421 April 8, 2009 Spotlight: Civil War Prison Records

by Valerie Beaudrault Alton in the Civil War

www.altonweb.com/history/civilwar/confed/index.html

Located on the Missouri border, about fifteen miles north of St. Louis, Alton is a city in Madison County, Illinois. A prison was opened there in 1833 as the first Illinois State Penitentiary. The state penitentiary was closed in 1860. In December 1861, Major General Henry Halleck, Commander of the Department of the Missouri (a division of the U.S. Army), ordered Lieutenant-Colonel James B. McPherson to inspect the closed penitentiary. Colonel McPherson reported that the prison could be converted to a military prison for up to 1,750 prisoners, which would ease overcrowding in two St. Louis prisons. The first prisoners arrived at the Alton Federal Military Prison on February 9, 1862. The prison closed on July 7, 1865; the remaining prisoners were either released or sent to St. Louis.

Nearly 12,000 Confederate prisoners were held at the Alton Federal Military Prison. Different types of prisoners were housed there. Confederate soldiers made up the largest group. A number of women were imprisoned there for "treasonable actions, making anti-Union statements, aiding an escaped Confederate, etc." Bushwhackers or guerillas were also imprisoned for committing acts against the government, such as burning bridges and vandalizing railroads. The database contains 1,352 records of prisoners from fourteen different states who died at the Alton Federal Military Prison. Researchers can browse through the lists (alphabetical by last name) or they can run keyword searches of the database. The data fields in the database include the name of the deceased; rank; company; state; date and place of capture; date of death; cause of death; and place of burial.

In addition to the database, the website resources includehistorical information on

Alton in the Civil War. Gratiot Street Prison

www.civilwarstlouis.com/Gratiot/gratiot.htm
Across the Illinois-Missouri state border,
about 15 miles from Alton, is the city of St.
Louis, where the Union army operated the
Gratiot Street Military Prison. It held
Confederate prisoners of war, spies,
guerillas, civilians suspected of disloyalty,
and Federal soldiers accused of crimes or
misbehavior, such as drunkenness, theft and
even murder.

The lists of prisoners that make up the database have been transcribed from a Gratiot Street Prison ledger. The 646 individuals in the database account for only a small portion of the numbers of people who were imprisoned at the Gratiot Street Prison. The names are listed in the order in which they entered the prison beginning in August 1863. You can search for a particular individual by using"find" function under "edit" of your browser. There is additional information for some of the prisoners; click on the name link to access more data. The data fields in the transcription lists numbers 1, 2, and 3, and include name; rank; regiment; company; residence; where captured; when captured; height; age; eye and hair color; and remarks. When a prisoner was a civilian, the abbreviation "citz" appears in the 'Rank' field. The data fields for the transcription list of women and children include name; residence; where arrested; when arrested; when arrived at Gratiot; when released; and remarks. Biographies of a few of these individuals have also been included, as well as answers to a number of frequently asked questions and "Then & Now" photographs of the prison location. In addition, researchers will find the Gratiot Journal, an account of the prison with notes on people and events. covering the period from January 1863 through April 1864. There are a number of articles written by Howard Mann, who contributed tales of the Tenth Kansas

Infantry. The Gratiot Street Prison pages are part of a larger website titled Civil War St. Louis. Click on the Return to Civil War St. Louis link to access this website.

eNews

Vol. 11, No. 15 Whole #422 April 15, 2009

Edited by Michael J. Leclerc and Valerie Beaudrault

enews@nehgs.org

Hi Everyone,

I would like to share a new website I found called: www.bionima.com.

This website appears to be specifically setup to be used as a place to store and share your personal history, or one of a deceased family member or friend.

I came across this website because I am interested in family history and have used a variety of storage devices and programs, but always kept my eyes open for something better.

I thought perhaps some of you might have genealogy groups that meet at your library or in your community and you would like to share this website. It does not appear to be completely up and running vet, but it has a sample and there is a place to put in your email address and get on a mailing list for their newsletter. I will be sharing with our group here. Plus, the town of Manitowish Waters has a history of old resorts and people that owned them. Most of these resorts are gone and I would like to get those on this website, too. I believe Bionima has a place where people can comment about the pictures they see, which would be really neat. At the library we get a lot of questions about the history of the area, so I am hoping this website would be helpful.

I realize there are many ways to store information and a lot of sites out there on the internet, but it is fun to find a new one and learn what possibilities it may have which could improve how our patrons find information.
Thanks for your time!
Janelle
Janelle Kohl
Library Director
Frank B. Koller Memorial Library
P. O. Box 100
Manitowish Waters, WI 54545
715-543-2700
http://koller.wislib.org
jkohl@koller.nwls.lib.wi.us

The Chicago Public Library unveiled an archive May 27 that chronicles the history of the Chicago Defender, one of the nation's most important African-American newspapers. The Abbott-Sengstacke Family Papers encompass the extensive personal correspondence of the newspaper's founder, Robert S. Abbott, dating from the 1880s to the 1940s, and his nephew and publishing heir John Sengstacke (center), from the 1920s to the 1990s. It also contains rare early issues of the 104-year-old newspaper, business records, and some 4,000 photographs....American Libraries Online, May 29 - American Libraries Direct 6/3/2009



Harry Truman, John Sengstacke, Mayor Richard Daley 1956

FUN IN THE RECORDS

1900 Census Macon Georgia

Durrough Mother Head 31 Big Baby Daughter 9 Sweet Heart Son 7 Marriage License Application 1 July 1861 James Butler, born about 1806, was marrying his first cousin on his mother's side, Elvira Turner. The Clerk wrote on the license, "both bride and groom old and ugle"

Cause of Death

Wyoming County, West Virginia Immediate Cause of Death--Cremation Cause of Injury--House destroyed by fire

1860 Census Monroe, Virginia

NAME

RELAT. OCCUP.

Rufus Houchins

Head Clerk in store

Margaret Wif

Wife

Laura

Daughter Crier

Polish Genealogical Society of America

http://www.pgsa.org/EducationalCenter/

- About PGSA
- Membership
- PGSA Store
- Contact Us
- Directory
- Calendar of Events
- Volunteers

PGSA Announcements

Geography and Maps

PGSA Publications

Education Center

- Book Corner
- Copyright Laws/FAQs
- Dear Researcher...
- DNA Polish Project
- Heraldry
- History
- Ships and Immigration
- Library Research/ Research Policy
- Military History
- Military Records Sources
- Towns/Maps
- Translation Guides

Research Center

- Archives
- Chicago Polish Parishes
- Databases
- Notebooks
- Researchers/Guides
- Schools/Orphanages
- Translators

Resources/Links

- Vital Statistics
- Church Records
- Passenger Lists
- Military Records
- Polish Organizations
- Int'l Research Sources
- US Research Sources
- Ships

rousn Cunture

- Lira Ensemble
- Museums
- Music
- Polish Songs
- Wycinanki (Art of Polish Paper Cutouts)

National Archives Library Information Center

http://www.archives.gov/research/alic/refere nce/ethnic-heritage.html

Genealogy: Ethnic Heritage

See also the Ethnic Heritage bibliography for a list of books related to immigrant family research available in the Archives I Library in Washington, DC.

Contents:

- How-to/Research Information
- Other Helpful Genealogy Sites
- Resources & Searchable Databases
- Vital Records
- Ethnic Heritage
 - African-American
 - Asian
 - Australia and New Zealand
 - British Isles

- Eastern European and Russian
- French-Canadian
- Hispanic: Central and South America, Mexico, Caribbean, and the West Indies
- Jewish
- Native American
- Western European

Research Recommendations: Historical Currency Conversion

by Michael J. Leclerc

When researchers are dealing with old land and estate records, I am often asked "How much would that be worth today?" While Yahoo and other currency calculators are great at modern money, they often do not include the ability to convert values through time.

One great website is called "Historical Currency Conversions." This website, available at

KITH AND KIN Marshfield Area Genealogy Group Post Office Box 337 Marshfield, WI 54449 http://futureboy.homeip.net/fsp/dollar.fsp, is capable of converting many different kinds of currency to today's dollars. Here you can convert dollars, cents, pounds, guineas, sovereigns, merk, mark, crowns, florins, shillings, groats, pence, and farthings into today's money.

I did a quick search and discovered that a dollar from the year my grandfather was born (1912), had the same buying power as \$21.35 today. That same dollar from the year my father was born (1939) has the buying power of \$15.34 today. And the dollar from the year I was born (I'm not telling) has the buying power of \$6.88.