



THE GREEN COUNTY GENEALOGIST

Calendar

Meetings

Meetings are held at the Monroe, WI Public Library at 10:00 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month.

July 7 Taverns, Trinkets, & Tidbits - Dr. Lance Sathoff will discuss the history of Monroe's Taverns and Bars

August 4 Swiss Cemetery Walk Field Trip details TBD

September 1 Early Cheesemaking in Green County – Donna Douglas from the National Historic Cheesemaking Center will share the history of cheesemaking in Green County.

October 6 Preserving Family Treasures – Katie Mullen Preservation Coordinator Wisconsin Historical Society

November 3 Funeral Homes and Family History: They Are Dying to Meet You! – Daniel Earl –webinar

December 1 Members Show & Share – Christmas/holiday memories and family traditions – favorite ornaments or gifts from the past or any other family heirloom or story.

SAVE!!!

Please save your NAME BRAND ink cartridges!!!

We have received notice that we are able to be reimbursed for Name Brand cartridges Only.

President's Column.

Here are some happenings around our society:

Sandy Wille and I made a trip to Jefferson County. We spent a day at the Dodge/ Jefferson Counties Genealogical Society in Watertown. Since my family settled in that area from Germany I had a lot to discover! I didn't make it past the church records so that means another trip is needed. The next day we made a trip to the Jefferson County Historical Society and the Hoard's Museum Archives. Both offering lots of ideas on organization of records and bits of family information.

We completed our grant to the Monroe Fund and hope to be hearing about that soon - maybe even before you receive this newsletter. We requested enough money to purchase two more computers for the Research Center.

We are now members of the Monroe Chamber of Commerce. This will help us with promotion of our events and all the resources that the Chamber offers to its members.

We are in process of becoming an affiliate of the Wisconsin Historical Society. A big

Index

Calendar	Page 1
President's Column	Page 1-2
Shelf's Linings	Page 3
Trail's Mix	Page 3
Publications	Page 10
Membership Form	Page 11

President's Column.– contd

thank you to Donna Kjendlie, our librarian, for taking this on and completing the paper work.

We held our Annual Meeting with a Norwegian theme. Sandy Wille treated us with several Norwegian goodies and many pictures and stories of her trip to Norway. Glenn Borreson shared about the "Coffin Ships" and his family's story of their journey from Norway to America. Congratulations to Bill Holland for the "Volunteer of the Year" award and to Judy Huber for the "President's Award". We appreciate all the work all our volunteers do!

We enjoyed a field trip to the Green's Prairie Cemetery and learned about both the prairie and the history of the cemetery and the surrounding area.

Alex Sutter, our teen member and worker at the Research Center, graduated from eighth grade. Congratulations, Alex!

Our summer hours have started. We are open an additional day on Fridays form 1-4. The hours coincide with the Historical Society. If you are visiting from outside the area you may visit the court house, Justice Center, Historical Society and our Research Center on the same day. It's also an opportunity for each of us who live here to do some of our own research.

Upcoming happenings:

July 28 is Generosity Days on the Square. We will have a booth and our focus is sharing genealogy with young people. Be sure to stop by.

Cheese Days is September 14-16. We are once again planning to have a booth at Turner Hall on Saturday, September 15. We hope to make people aware of our existence and encourage people in genealogy.

President's Column. –contd

As a follow up to our Cheese Days booth we are planning a Lock-in at the Library in October. We will be learning how to maximize the search options of both Ancestry and Family Search. Don't forget our monthly meetings with very interesting speakers. We learn so much from each one that enhances our genealogical stories.

Have a great summer!

Ginny

Alex being honored for 8th Grade Graduation..



L to R: Donna Long Kjendlie, Alex Sutter, Karen Sutter and Ginny Gerber.



Shelf Linings

Another busy month at the center. Researchers are starting to travel and we welcome them for their research addiction!

Seems like each week, we are adding a little more to our website. I am amazed at the hits we get. It makes our job worthwhile when we know that others are searching out Green County.

Our Brodhead Historical Society to the east of us has just opened their new addition. If you are local or passing through, you might want to take a look. It is beautiful and thanks to the many volunteers that made the exhibits happen.

The Green County Historical Society is busy opening day and for the summer. The Archives Room is progressing and they hope to be able to offer research in the near future.

Both Societies have a wealth of information and are willing to share on a limited basis. There are other organizations that can provide limited information on the area also.

As for our Research Center, I am happy to announce that we have not moved furniture for two months now. Things are moving some but only to make space for more. We are reorganizing some shelves so that we can add more family genealogies. We are so appreciative of what we have received and would like to have them all out for research.

Our last year was busy, with marriage scanning, township records scanning and work on indexing. All long term projects that will be valuable when ready ,

Our public computer has many indexes on it that are not on the web site. Be sure to ask to use them if you come for research.

Shelf Linings—contd

We will once again participate in Cheese Days by taking computers to share info at Turner Hall.

Take time to smell the roses and get busy on your genealogy. Reunion time is coming so hope you can get lots of answers then. I am hoping for the same.

Donna Kjendlie

Librarian

Trail's Mix

This newsletter's plug from me is the Family Book Creator plug-in for Family Tree Maker. If you have not seen this little gem I'd suggest taking a look at it. Very reasonable price.

I just finished printing two books (paternal and maternal side) of friends family tree I've worked on for last year. And WOW is all I could say.

Using this plug in you can have the family tree made into book very quickly. It creates table of contents, index of names, index of places and the chapters. You can choose what things you want to include etc.

Family Book Creator created the book and I chose to save my first round as word document format to do spell check. I would not recommend changing pagination issues because the table of contents and indexes will not change numbering. Then I saved that as pdf file for sharing with family members.

You can save the file to variety of formats. I also understand from what I read that the MAC version of this is either out now or will soon be available.

Enjoy.

Green's Prairie Cemetery Walk

On May 17 several of our members were treated to an interesting cemetery walk at Green's Prairie Cemetery just outside Postville. A couple members participating have ancestors that were buried there.

Tom Mitchell guided us through the cemetery telling us about the history, the flora, and the people buried there. He said it is one of the oldest cemeteries that is still around. (Many pioneers buried their dead on their land. The area and graves may no longer be marked and many have been plowed over.)

The cemetery is named for William Green who sold the land to Green County and York Township in 1846.

The first burials were in 1846 of a child and mother who died shortly after childbirth.

The last burial was in 1920 of a wife of a Civil War Eagle Brigade veteran.

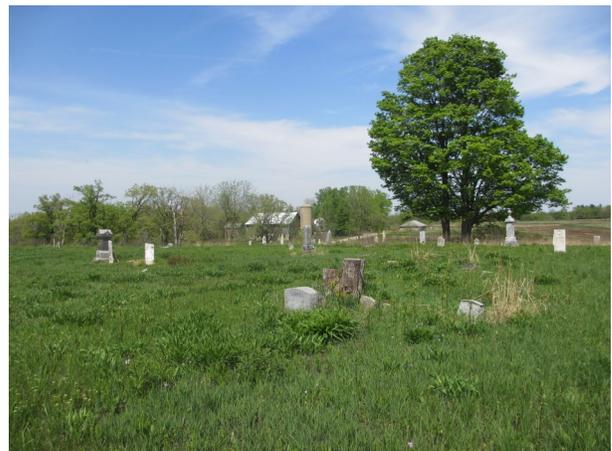
In 1927 the chain link fence was put around the cemetery to keep cows out as they were knocking over and damaging the markers. Other markers were damaged as a result of mowing with tractor and sickle bar. As a result, it is not known which lots were used and which were not. Many of the graves transcribed by Virginia Irvin in 1969 are no longer marked. So burial lots are no longer being sold. As there is no income for maintenance or improvements, the cemetery continued to decline. The Prairie Enthusiasts have somewhat adopted the cemetery and burn the native prairie once a year before Memorial Day. They use metal shields and water to protect the markers from the fire and smoke. When burning, they leave some of the area

Green's Prairie Cemetery Walk—contd

unburned as a refuge for overwintering insects. The Enthusiasts used their funds to work with the State Historical Society and others to get some of the markers repaired. A new sign showing the historical importance of the cemetery is being installed. There are six Civil War veterans, four War of 1812 vets, and the oldest was James Biggs, a veteran of the Blackhawk War. Dave Green recently discovered two of the 1812 veterans during the research he does on the cemetery. Our Research Center has his book (and updates) that records the history he has discovered. Molly Peebles had the earliest birthdate (1761) and died in 1852 at the age of 91. A story is told that the last burial was an unidentified hobo that was buried outside the fence, but no documentation has been found to verify that

Tom identified prairie plants and told us some of the unique characteristics of them. One, needle grass (called porcupine grass in Illinois), has seed heads that are very sharp. As they are distributed by the wind, they stick in the ground and as they dry they start twisting like cork screws into the dirt. The gray colored lead plant was supposedly gray because it grew over lead deposits. Hazelnut is one of the few prairie shrubs and is a favorite wildlife mast. Each Memorial Day, a program is held at the cemetery about 1:30 p.m. to honor those buried there.

Sharon Mitchell



Wisconsin Dairy Industry History

At our June Program, Dave Driscoll, Wisconsin Historical Society curator of economic history, told us that the history of dairying in Wisconsin is a complicated and messy story. He handed out time lines to help us understand how it happened. (A copy can be found in our Resource Center subject files.) Before Wisconsin was a dairy state, it was considered the bread basket of America, leading other states in wheat production. Milwaukee was the leading wheat shipping port up to 1870. After the Civil War, wheat production declined due to decrease in land fertility, erosion, cinch bug, and the opening of new lands in Minnesota and Dakota.

The first recorded Wisconsin cheese made off of the farm where the milk was produced was done by Anne Pickett of Lake Mills by adding milk from her neighbor's cows to that of her small herd. Until then, cheese made in Wisconsin was made by the family that raised and milked the cows – mostly for their own use. The 1850 U.S. census showed 90% of Wisconsin's population lived on farm and its residents made 400,283 pounds of cheese.

New York State was the inspiration for the shift to dairy. The farmers there had gone through wheat production decline previously and had turned to dairy. They standardized cheese production and developed the concept of associated dairying – a cheese maker using milk from other farms to produce cheese rather than each farm using their own milk to make butter and cheese. Prior to this, dairying had been considered women's work as other food preservation was. Most cheese had been eaten on the farm where it was produced. Results varied depending on the quality of the milk which was influenced by feed quality, animal health, kitchen tools, and the wife's skill and attention to detail. Cows were understood

Wisconsin Dairy Industry History

to be duo-purpose animals - used for both milk and meat. They were often pastured in the warm months, milked in spring and summer, and if there was enough feed, they may be kept over the winter. If not, they were slaughtered or sold. This practice did not get the most economic benefits from the cattle.

In 1857-58 John V. Robbins of Dane County acquired the first purebred dairy sire (Jersey) in Wisconsin. Some farmers having learned from the New York farm history, decided to try to farm for milk only. This was a difficult sell to their neighbors since start up and feed were more expensive and farmers had to rethink the way farms were managed. Milk and cheese needed to go from being supplemental income to the cow being the symbol of the farm management revolution from traditional wisdom to scientific evidence. It involved year-round milking, foliage crops, silos, and silage. Foliage crops had to be grown and harvested and twice-a-day milking changed labor requirements. Harvest equipment, barns, and silos were needed for feed and there were no guarantees of the results. Butter was easier to make and didn't need aging and storage, but cheese was more stable than butter, could be shipped, and brought greater profit.

In the 1860's Wisconsin's dairy output grew faster than the population. The first Wisconsin specialized cheese factory was built in 1864. This was the associated dairying first pioneered in New York. Nicholas Gerber, a Swiss immigrant, opened Green County's first cheese factory southwest of New Glarus making limburger cheese in 1868. Wisconsin produced 2,000,000 pounds of cheese in 1870. Education was started to teach farmers better ways of doing things and lobbying was started to get freight rates changed so Wisconsin products became more favorable and to ban

Wisconsin Dairy Industry History— contd

margarine. Hoard's Dairyman financed the first cow census taken in the United States in 1889. A year later the University of Wisconsin established the first collegiate dairy school. A 12-week Dairy Short Course was offered to farmers, not just the degree students. The Babcock test, which measured butterfat content of milk, was developed and used to keep dairy-men from skimming, diluting, or adding other fats to the milk. Farmers using these practices had caused Wisconsin cheese to have an awful reputation that took a while to recover. It became apparent the one organization could not support both the farmers' and the cheese makers' interests since both wanted to make the most profit. Farmers learned to keep stats on how much milk the cows produced. Dairy herd improvement associations promoted purebred herds and breeding genetics. The UW produced an enormous amount of research on cow nutrition and health.

In 1909 the Plymouth dairy board became a statewide organization which became the National Cheese Exchange in 1918 and moved to Green Bay in 1956. This board let the farmer know what markets were and get a fair price. Cheese is now traded on the Chicago Board of Trade.

Wisconsin saw a shift from a failing farm market to producing more than half the cheese in the country. There were growing pains and conflicts between farmers and cheese makers. They had to learn to work together for everyone's interest. At one time Wisconsin had 2000 cheese factories. The lesson is that there is not one big solution, but a number of small solutions. Early on Monroe was the center for foreign type cheeses. Now a variety of cheese is made here. There are always

Wisconsin Dairy Industry History— contd

challenges – milk prices, what to do with the whey, water pollution, and the market for dry milk. Producers need to be able to react and rethink their processes. Crop production and rationing is now a science. Refrigerated rail cars did a lot to transport Wisconsin cheese throughout the country. Dave told us that he is working on a dairy exhibit for a new Wisconsin Historical Society Museum and asked for our suggestions and comments.

Sharon Mitchell



What Programs Would You Like Next Year?

I greatly appreciate the suggestions for programs that I have received in the past. Pretty soon I will be scheduling programs for 2019 meetings. Let me know of subjects that you are interested in, speakers you would like to hear, etc. I can't always find the speakers or schedule the suggestions, but I do try.

Sometimes it takes more than a year. If you have a suggestion, please email it to me at: smitch2416@aol.com. Thanks.

Sharon Mitchell

Norway & Coffin Ships at Our Annual Meeting

The Monroe Sons of Norway lodge set up a display for our meeting showing Norwegian customs and traditions. Member Sandy Wille had a display about her trip to Norway. Sandy told us about her trip to Norway which involved planes, trains, ferry, and bus. They encountered a number of challenges – canceled flight, rain, substitute tour bus driver that drove too fast, didn't know where he was going, and drove over the curbs. Not being Norwegian or ever visiting there, I was afraid to try to spell the place names, so asked Sandy to write about her trip. So, the next few paragraphs are her summary of her part of the program. The photos were great and showed the variety of their experiences.

Sandy Wille talked about her trip to Norway last June. She went with her sister-in-law and niece on a tour of Bergen, Naeroy Valley, Staheim, and ended in Oslo. She talked about the many sights she saw, including the Bryggen area in Bergen. This was a major fishing port in Norway, complete with an open-air fish market where people could purchase many different types of seafood.

Their tour also included a ferry ride down the fjord from Gudvangen to Flam. Once arriving in Flam, they went on a one-hour trip aboard one of Norway's leading tourist attractions, the Flam Railway. They stopped along the way next to a waterfall where a skit was performed about a Huldra, a siren woman, who tries to lure men into the waterfall. This is one of many Norwegian folktales that she learned about.

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Norway & Coffin Ships at Our Annual Meeting—contd

of many Norwegian folktales that she learned about.

After many more stops along Norway's beautiful countryside, their final destination was Oslo, the capital city of Norway. Here they saw the Royal Palace, the Oslo City Hall, and Vigeland Park. The City Hall is where the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony is held. The building is beautiful inside and out, decorated with historical themes describing Norway's past. Vigeland Park is the world's largest sculpture park made by a single artist, Gustav Vigeland. It contains over 200 statues.

Sandy highly recommends a trip to Norway! She enjoyed her trip so much, that she is planning a return trip in August, this time to do some genealogy research!

After our lunch, Glenn Borreson told us about coffin ships. The first "coffin ships" were during the Irish famine (from 1845-1852.) Ship owners filled them to the maximum causing overcrowding, disease, and death. There was 30% mortality on some of the ships. Glenn showed us images of a haunting Coffin Ship Memorial in Ireland. The bronze rigging was formed by bones and skeletons of the unfortunate. Many of the ships were unseaworthy. They were over-filled, and some insured to the max with the owners hoping they could collect the insurance money.

Henrik Ibsen wrote that the families left complete but arrived in pieces. After the eight to 12 week trip, many that survived were orphans or widows/widowers. Glenn said his mother told him she saw her grandfather buried at sea when she was six years old. Glenn's ancestors probably took a ship from Norway to Scotland or Ireland and then another to America. Ole, Glenn's great-great grandfather, was a logger in Wisconsin. The Norway Heritage site on the internet describes the steerage (real

Norway & Coffin Ships at Our Annual Meeting—contd

economy) accommodations. It was often on cargo ships and “between decks” - one level down from the open deck. Straw mattresses were on the bunk beds. Family bunks slept up to six people. The family was responsible to bring their own food and for its preparation. Drinking water and firewood for cooking was included with the tickets. There were toilets down there, but never enough for the number of people. The smell and stench would be so bad that the crew would refuse to go down. The environment spawned disease – cholera, typhoid, measles, and others. Deaths of children were the most common. The bodies of the dead were wrapped in canvas and placed in coffins. A brief service was held before burial. Sharks followed the ships to feed on the dead. In 1862 typhoid killed 49 of 249 passengers on one ship with an additional 31 dying in quarantine at Quebec.

Ole Johnson’s obituary mentioned the 98 day ocean voyage he had made. When mother Bergit died, she left children that were eight, six, four, and two years old. They may have docked at Quebec harbor since they were in Quebec in 1861. Trains sometimes converted cattle cars to carry passengers on benches. The family lived in Stoughton, Coon Valley, Vernon County, and North Beaver Creek in Trempealeau County. It was hard to do pioneer farming without a wife to care for the children. The youngest child was adopted by his aunt and uncle. The oldest girl married. There were many family changes. Glenn found that none of the birth dates in the United States matched those in the Norwegian parish records. He hypothesizes that the mother (who died) was the one that kept track of the dates. It was certain that the coffin ship and immigration experience fractured families. Glenn and his wife enjoyed visiting with parish members from churches

Norway & Coffin Ships at Our Annual Meeting—contd

he had served as a Lutheran minister.

All the help with the planning, setting up, and donating food is greatly appreciated.

Sharon Mitchell

Sons of Norway Members & Display



GCGS and Sons of Norway members



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Research Center Location & Hours

We are located on the lower level of Monroe Public Library, 925 16th Ave., Monroe, WI.

Hours:

Tuesday & third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

First Saturday of the month 1 pm to 3 pm

Oct. thru May

Friday 1 pm to 4 pm June thru Sept.

Other times available by appointment. Call 608-328-7436

Then (and Can you find it NOW)

Send a photo of this location now to DLB56@aol.com.



GREEN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Quantity	Publication	CD	Book
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	Naturalization Book One CD only	\$15	
	1873 Green County Atlas with index	\$15	\$15
	1877 History of Green County, WI.,		\$30
	1877 History of Green County, WI., Index only		\$15
	1884 Green County History CD only	\$15	
	1885 Monroe City Directory	\$15	\$15
	1913 Commemorative History of Green Co Bios and Index EACH Vol		\$30
	1913 Commemorative History Of Green County Bios and Index 2 vol		\$55
	Prairie Farmer's Reliable Directory of Farmers & Breeders of Green County, WI 1919		\$12.50
	2000-2005 Monroe Times Obituaries	\$15	
	Green Co Genealogical Newsletters 2001-2012 with Index coming soon	\$15	
	Juda Facts and Photos reprinted from original 1975 version and includes index		\$10
	CEMETERIES		
	Albany Township Cemeteries	\$15	\$20
	Adam Township Cemeteries	\$15	\$20
	Cadiz Township Cemeteries, revised edition 2013	\$15	\$15
	Calvary, Old Calvary, Poor Farm Cemeteries	\$15	\$25
	Clarno Cemetery Transcriptions	\$15	\$15
	Exeter Cemetery Transcriptions		\$15
	Greenwood Cemetery – Brodhead inscriptions	\$15	\$35
	Greenwood Cemetery, Monroe inscriptions	\$15	\$35
	Lewis-Jordan Cemeteries	\$15	\$15
	Monroe-Washington Twnshp Cemeteries – transcriptions	\$15	\$15
	Mt. Hope Cemetery Photos - Spring Grove tnsHP	\$15	\$35
	Mt Pleasant Township Cemeteries- Highland, Zwinglii, Truax, Trumpy	\$15	\$20
	Mt Vernon Cemetery – Juda	\$15	\$20
	Spring Grove Cemeteries-Transcriptions	\$15	\$15
	Spring Grove Township Cemeteries, Photos	\$15	\$25
	Twin Grove Cemetery, Photos, Jefferson Tnsp	\$15	\$25
	Union/Oakley Cemetery Photos	\$15	\$35

Shipping and handling—CD's are \$3 Books are \$3 for 1st book and \$2 for each additional

Send check to Green County Genealogical Society, 925 16th Ave, Monroe, WI 53566 Enter quantity you want in quantity col.

Annual membership is \$15.00 per year and entitles members to 10% discounts on publications. Year runs from Jan 1-Dec 31. If you wish hard copy, please remit \$22.00 to cover postage.

NAME	ADDRESS
PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Total book price	Amount paid \$
Membership	Amount paid \$
DATE Cash or check #??	Total amount paid \$

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Can we print your name in the newsletter as new member? _____

This is a _____ Renewal _____ New _____ Sponsored Membership

I would like to give an additional donation of \$ _____

What topics are you interested in learning about? _____

Your surnames _____

Membership Fee \$15.00 (EMAILED NEWSLETTER) \$22.00 (POSTAL NEWSLETTER)

CGGS Meeting and Contact Information:

info@greencogenealogywi.org

Website: <http://www.greencogenealogywi.org/>

Meetings are at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month. They are usually held in the Monroe Public Library located at 925-16th Ave. Monroe, WI. We are in the community meeting room on the second floor.

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Sargent at Arms—

At Large—Bill Holland, Sandy Wille, Nita Halverson

Hospitality—Susie Rufener



**Green County Genealogical Society Research Center
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**Hours Tues and 3rd Sat 10-3
1st Sat 1-3 other times by appt 608-921-1537 (Donna Long Kjendlie)**

**WEBSITE: <http://www.greencogenealogywi.org/>
EMAIL: info@greencogenealogywi.org**

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