



# 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.

**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.

### 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

### President's Column

Fall is settling in and with the time change we will have more hours to spend with our genealogy. I recently attended a meeting with Lori Bessler from the Wisconsin Historical Society on "Organizing Your Genealogy". Her emphasis was on organizing so it makes sense to the next generation. What good is all the work we put into discovering who are ancestors are and then someone else cannot figure out what we have done. This is especially true of our digital files. We need to have them organized in a sensible fashion for the next generation or for a genealogical society we would like to donate them to. We usually start out with a system that works for a while then it becomes an out of control monster as it grows. Lori presented different ways our digital files can be organized and yet keep our personal tastes in the organizational system. I have already begun a redo on my system and my goal is to get it done by spring. (Lofty goal?? – maybe) Once it is organized what do we do? Write your story. What good are all those records if we don't put the story together. It gives life to our genealogy and brings interest to our children and

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## President's Column

Your stories don't have to be perfectly written they need to be shared. As you write your stories share them with us so they may be included here in the newsletter.

Do you have a Facebook account? Be sure to follow our page "Green County Genealogical Society, WI" for the latest updates and happenings. I also discovered a couple of groups you may be interested in following, especially if you are looking for pictures of your ancestors. "Forgotten Faces, Forgotten Places" and "Family Treasures Found". The goal of both of these groups is to return old photos to their families. They post the pictures with what information they have and if it is your family you may claim the pictures and they will be returned to you. A group closer to home is "Lost Photos of Lafayette County". How exciting it would be to find your family pictures!

Happy Researching!

**Ginny Gerber**

## Shelf Linings

WOW! What a windy morning as I sit having my coffee pondering what today will bring. Winter is on its way. Did you get to some cemeteries, court houses or genealogy libraries this summer? Do you now have files of research? Winter in and get to know your ancestors.

Our lock-in program with David Bradford on Google Tips was very interesting. A wealth of info on how to get around in Google without getting lost or receiving thousands of hits.

Do you still need more information from Green County? Have you checked out the website? <http://greencogenealogywi.org> members only has lots of information. If you

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## Shelf Linings

are able to come to the center, you could check the public computers desktop. There are indexes there that are not available anywhere on line. Can't come here? Send us a research email and we can let you know what we find and costs. [info@greencogenealogywi.org](mailto:info@greencogenealogywi.org).

Recently, we received a small collection of Brodhead year books, (a great research item); also a few Blue Books that are fun to look through. I found a patent article on a great great uncle. We have also been fortunate to have genealogists donating or letting us copy their family histories. These aren't all online and so interesting to see how they are put together and I love reading the stories in them.

If you don't live near our society, why not try volunteering at one near you? So many benefits! You learn what is there, (just might be something that will help you); you might be able to help someone else find their families; or you might be able to learn the workings of the society library and how to get help from them

Many of our books can be loaned out for \$1 per month plus \$3 postage. Valuable information for a small price.

As tax season, comes upon us, you might think about a donation to our society for supplies, equipment, etc. We have a wish list going. It is tax deductible and will help both you and us.

Have a great holiday season and have a great time researching.

Merry Christmas

*Donna Kjendlie*

*GCGS librarian*



## Trail's Mix

Sometimes I marvel at how 3 people or sometimes just 2 of us (President and Librarian) write our columns without communicating with the others yet they seem to be on the same wavelength.

As I was forming my thoughts on this one I see President's Column touched on what I was going to talk about (which is yet another take from my column last newsletter). So I will expand on her Write Your Stories.

What I want to add to my stories and to any of my family that want to include them stories about people in our life that are not blood relatives. You know, the best friends or family by marriages.

Many people have touched our lives (and continue to do so) and it would be great to include them in our stories. We should include full names (birthdate if known) and where this occurred. Imagine finding a photo of relative with someone and it just says "Margaret" on the back and a maybe a year. Well, you might find in the stories that Margaret was Margaret Smith who was your ancestors best friend growing up.

And don't forget with holiday season fast approaching it is another good time to get these stories from our family. Along with stories about the holiday traditions.

So get writing and get encouraging family to write their stories for you. Remind them it doesn't have to be perfect, just write away.

Happy Holidays.

**Debra Bailey Trail**



## Christmas Wish List

It's that time of year we do our budget planning and we examine this last year's income and spending. We continue to see the trend of less income vs. increased expenses. Part of this has come about because more and more records and information are available online so there is less need and interest for our publications and research. Our goal for this upcoming year is to highlight the local records we have that are not available online. In the meantime, we have put together a Christmas Wish List. We will be giving opportunity at the November meeting with a Christmas Genealogy Tree in which you may select items to purchase or donate towards the purchase and then return the items to the December meeting to place under our Christmas tree. But if you live far away or cannot make it to our meeting and would like to participate we have included some of our "wish list". Please feel free to call or email with any questions concerning details or cost about any items.

### Archival Boxes

- Toner for printers (this is one of our major expenses)
- Hanging file folders
- Paper (including copy, colored and card stock)
- Tri-fold Display Board
- Foam matting for storing large pictures
- Glue Sticks
- Scissors
- Scotch Tape
- Staples
- Post it notes
- Sticky dots for newsletter
- Coffee
- Paper plates, cups, plastic silverware, napkins
- Cleaning wipes

Thank you for your time, donations, and participation with the Green County Genealogical Society.

## COINS LEFT ON TOMBSTONES

While visiting some cemeteries you may notice that headstones marking certain graves have coins on them, left by previous visitors to the grave.

These coins have distinct meanings when left on the headstones of those who gave their life while serving in America's military, and these meanings vary depending on the denomination of coin.

A coin left on a headstone or at the grave site is meant as a message to the deceased soldier's family that someone else has visited the grave to pay respect. Leaving a penny at the grave means simply that you visited.

A nickel indicates that you and the deceased trained at boot camp together, while a dime means you served with him in some capacity. By leaving a quarter at the grave, you are telling the family that you were with the soldier when he was killed.

According to tradition, the money left at graves in national cemeteries and state veterans cemeteries is eventually collected, and the funds are put toward maintaining the cemetery or paying burial costs for indigent veterans.

In the US, this practice became common during the Vietnam war, due to the political divide in the country over the war; leaving a coin was seen as a more practical way to communicate that you had visited the grave than contacting the soldier's family, which could devolve into an uncomfortable argument over politics relating to the war.

Some Vietnam veterans would leave coins as a "down payment" to buy their fallen comrades a beer or play a hand of cards when they would finally be reunited.

This tradition can be traced to as far back as the Roman Empire.

## SAVE!!!

Please save your NAME BRAND ink cartridges!!!

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

## Donations to GCGS through AmazonSmile

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the eligible charitable organization of your choice (that's us – Green County Genealogical Society).

## Twisted Twigs On Genealogy



## Stephenson County Genealogical Society September Workshop

Two GCGS members attended Stephenson County Genealogical Society's Workshop in September. The three part workshop opened with "Creating a Research Plan" before doing research in archives and libraries. Terry Feinberg told us that a research plan is about results. It should be orderly, methodical, data collected with focus, have an examination of facts, analysis of the information, is a way to better understand of our families, family stories, and the decisions that made us who we are today. A plan should be on one person.

You can start with family pedigree or group sheet. Be sure to include where the information was found (entire citation). If the information came from personal records, note who has them and where they got them from. Choose the person you want to research and ask questions such as: Who were the parents? When and where was the subject born, etc. Put the questions you want answered in the order of importance to you. Consider what records may give you the answers and where they may be located. Re-evaluate after your research trip.

The second part of the workshop was a tour of the Local History Room in the Freeport Library. While the primary focus is on Stephenson County, like our research center, they also have resources for other locations. Some Stephenson County resources are yearbooks, plat books, Sanborn maps, directories, surname histories, church records and histories, cemetery records. Copies of vital records are available for genealogical purposes for \$2 for births 1855-1916 (1901-1940 are not indexed), delayed births 1887-1914 (some indexed), marriage certificates May 1855-1940. There is an index for probate which includes adoptions, guardianships, pension, estates, etc. A card index of

## Stephenson County Genealogical Society September Workshop

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of articles from five different newspapers will be online in the future. The vertical file includes people, places, topics, photos (by family name), businesses, surnames, and schools. Other resources are Stephenson County Poor family records and cemetery records, funeral records, Old Settlers list, Freeport newspaper indexes by year, microfilm, land tract records. You should call before going to verify that there is a volunteer working.

The third part of the workshop was on military records. They have records on Stephenson County Civil War 46<sup>th</sup> Regiment, and VFW WWII names and information. Jean found some relatives listed in the VFW records. Until WWI if the soldiers fought, they got land or something. Bonus records show information on the person, even if the bonus was rejected. Military records are available online from NARA, but you need to be a direct relative. The General Land Office has patents online. Illinois State Archives also has bonus records.

Sharon Mitchell

Happy Birthday to Alex Sutter one of our youngest members. With Grandma, Karen Sutter who is also a member.



## Privacy Policies and Permissions

Because our insurance does not cover privacy issues we want to be clear what our policy is on privacy and sharing information. Following is how we handle these permissions:

### ***Research Queries***

#### **Expect Us to Store, Share and potentially Publish Your Research Results**

Of course we agree not to share information about any living relatives with anyone, but the underlying information in our Research Center is public domain and available to other researchers. We often keep a file of past research projects as a resource, in the event you return to commission additional research OR, as a starting point, if a relative requests similar research. Unless you specify otherwise, we put researchers with common family interests in touch with one another so that they can share their genealogies.

#### ***Visitors to Research Center***

Visitors to the Research Center sign the following document:

#### Green County Genealogist's Code of Ethics

In order to protect the integrity of public records and library books, I am ethically bound and hereby agree:

1. That I will treat with the greatest care and respect all public records, library books and material which may be available for my use.
2. That I will speak with courtesy to all volunteers when requesting to see records and archival material. I will be courteous and thankful.

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## Privacy Policies and Permissions—contd

3. That I will not tear, erase, mark or remove any public record, library book or any part of such records, books or material and will refrain from mutilating, defacing or otherwise destroying any part of such records

4. That when I have finished viewing a record, book or material, I will put it in the designated place.

I do \_\_\_ do not\_\_\_ give my permission for my information to be shared with other genealogists.

I do \_\_\_ do not\_\_\_ give permission for sharing of any photos, stories, etc. for newsletter, Facebook, website, etc.

### ***Membership***

When you fill out the membership form the following is included:

\_\_\_ I do \_\_\_ do not give my permission to have my information printed in any handouts, newsletters or publications (including the website, Facebook, etc.) that GCGS may develop. If not checked, permission is granted.

It is important for you to understand that if you did not check either box you have given permission for us to use photos, stories, etc. in all of our print and digital publications. If for any reason you do not want to give this permission you must contact us so we have it on record.



## **WHS Conservator Spoke at October Meeting**

Robin Carlson, a conservator at the Wisconsin Historical Society, told us that WHS is excited about their new museum. The museum will be their focus for the next few years. The public is encouraged to give them suggestions for displays and interactive experiences.

Robin told us preservation is essential to stop damage before it happens. Restoration is very expensive and will not return the item/document to its original state. To store family heirlooms and archives at home, the first thing is to avoid attics and basements which have environments most detrimental to the items. An optimal environment is one that the temperature is between 65-69 degrees and 50% +/- 5% humidity. Temperature controls the rate of chemical degradation. Humidity especially affects items with wood pulp. Large swings in temperature and humidity facilitates mechanical flex and stress that damages documents.

Light provides heat and energy that causes chemical degradation and fading. To protect from light, keep out of light as much as possible, use UV filters and protective glass, and display copies when possible to protect originals. Other environmental considerations are pests (such as silverfish), humans (sweat, oils, lotions, make up, finger prints), corrosion, chemical/air pollution (not using acid-free supplies), and the inherent vice of the item (such as newspapers naturally turn yellow and brittle.) Different materials attract different pests and should be inspected regularly.

Wash your hands before handling heirlooms and archival items. Never smoke, eat, or drink around objects. Don't wear jewelry, perfume, lotion, or nail polish. Pick up objects and support them carefully. There are pluses and minuses for wearing gloves.

## **WHS Conservator — contd**

While gloves prevent oils from hands being transferred, they also make it more difficult to feel and pick up objects. There are different types of gloves – lint free cotton, nitrile, micro-dot, and latex that have different applications.

To protect paper documents remove rubber bands, pins, and paperclips. Non-stainless steel staples can be removed. If paperclips or staples are necessary, a piece of mylar should be placed over the papers before the paper clip or staple is applied. Do not attempt to repair items yourself. Be wary of acid-free tape and use only on back. Organize your collections. It is best practice to keep notes with the items. Use pencil on back of photos or photo-safe marker. String tags can be used for other items. Don't use ball point pens since the ink is water or alcohol soluble and may bleed into the surrounding area.

Collections should not be stored in/on wood or varnished containers. Top shelves should be avoided (plumbing leaks and dust) and the floor should be avoided (floods). Best containers are acid free boxes and folders or buffered items that meet ANSI standards. Glassine is not acid free. There are good plastics that can be used. Mylar sheets can be placed on wood shelves under archival items. Realize that even buffered products will acidify over time. Use sleeves to protect photos. If stacking, alternate sleeve seams so they don't cause arching. Cotton and cotton twill tape can be used with polyester batting to pad objects. Large items can be rolled. Robin rolls on the outside of tubes and puts protective sheet on outside. This way the item is not damaged from pushing and pulling out of the tube.

If there is a flood or other water problem, fans and dehumidifiers should be used to circulate the air and the temperature kept cool. If unable to dry, freeze items within 48 hours to avoid

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## **WHS Conservator — contd**

avoid mold. Digital collections should be identified using descriptive names. Copies should be in multiple places. Weed out duplicates and unneeded files. Robin gave us a handout with resources for preserving collections and finding archival storage products. This is on file in our Research Center. After the meeting Robin sent an email with the following URL's and comment regarding LED lights in response from a question from the audience. "In a quick summary, LEDs are okay to use in place of UV, but there are considerations."

[http://www.getty.edu/conservation/our\\_projects/science/lighting/case.html](http://www.getty.edu/conservation/our_projects/science/lighting/case.html)

<http://www.connectingtocollections.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/SSL-Guidelines-Ver.-10.0.pdf>

Sharon Mitchell

## **Early Green County Cheesemaking**

Topic of September Meeting

Donna Douglas, Executive Director of the National Historic Cheesemaking Center here in Monroe, spoke at our September 1 meeting. She started by providing statistics on the Green County and Wisconsin dairy industry. In 1890 Wisconsin established the first dairy school in America. Wisconsin became the nation's leader in cheese production in 1910 and was the first state to require cheese makers to be licensed. It takes a three year program to become a licensed cheese maker and those who want to be a Master Cheesemaker must pass a 60 hour test. Green County had 151 cheese factories in 1920. (Dodge was the number one Wisconsin county with 165 cheese factories.) Many changes from 1920 to 1960 contributed to the closing of factories. These changes included improved transportation (trucks, cars, railroad),

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## **Early Green County Cheesemaking**

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milk trucks replaced milk cans, electricity allowed milk cooling on the farm, and stainless bulk milk tanks kept dust out of the milk. Green County has gone from over 300 cheese factories to twelve of the state's 144 cheese plants. These twelve now produce more cheese than those 300 factories together. Wisconsin now produces over one quarter of the nation's cheese. The Green County cheese industry has been important not only for the cheese factories and farmers, but also for cheese equipment industry, electricians, Surge, and other suppliers and employers in the county. The Wisconsin dairy industry generates 43.4 billion dollars of economic activity in the state per year.

Donna showed us two videos. The first was a silent film made in the 1930's of a day at the Bragger cheese factory. It was voiced-over by a cheesemaker. We saw a farmer bring a milk can and the can (weighing over 200 pounds) being emptied into the factory. The farmer then had the can filled with whey (by-product of the cheesemaking process) to take to feed his pigs. The cheese making process was very physical and wives were greatly involved in the process. Cream needed to be separated for the lower fat milk needed for Swiss cheese. Making cheese was a hot job. The temperature of the curd was 122 degrees. The cheese was put in rings and then stored in a 70 degree room for four to six weeks (for Swiss Cheese). Twice a week the cheese had to be turned and washed with a salt whey solution. Since there wasn't electricity in rural areas, the farmers needed to bring milk after each of the two daily milkings and the cheesemaker had to make cheese twice a day. The second video was made more recently and depicted

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## Early Green County Cheesemaking Contd.

The second video was made more recently and depicted current and retired cheese makers making cheese in the Center's Imobersteg Farmstead Cheese Factory the way it was made 100 years ago.

Donna gave us passes to visit the National Historic Cheesemaking Center and invited us to attend the Swiss wheel cheese-making demonstration held the second Saturday in June. She also said the National Cheesemaking Center has over 200 videos on Utube about cheesemaking. If unable to visit the Center in person, you may want to investigate the videos. The Green County Genealogical Society has information on the cheese factories and cheesemakers in our Research Center located in the lower level of the Monroe Public Library.



**To All Our Veterans, We say Thank  
You for Your service and defending  
our freedoms.**

From "The Brodhead Independent-  
Register"

Nov. 05, 2014

## 11 Facts about Veterans Day

1. Veterans Day is celebrated annually on November 11th.
2. The holiday honors anyone who has served in the United States armed services.
3. The holiday started in 1919 when President Wilson proclaimed November 11 to be Armistice Day.
4. The first celebration of Armistice Day marked the one year anniversary of the end of World War I.
5. Armistice Day became a federal holiday in 1938.
6. In 1954 President Eisenhower signed a bill establishing the holiday through Congress and changing the name to Veterans Day to include all veterans, not just those of World War I.
7. In 1968 the holiday was moved to the fourth Monday of October, but was later moved back to November 11th in 1978.
8. All federal offices and many schools and businesses are closed in observance of the holiday.
9. Veterans Day coincides with many other countries' celebration of Armistice Day or Remembrance Day. These holidays also commemorate the end of World War I.
10. There are approximately 23.2 million veterans in the United States that the holiday honors.
11. America's Parade in New York City is the largest event in the nation celebrating Veterans Day.



**GREEN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS**

Quantity	Publication	CD	Book
	1852 Militia Lists		\$5
	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
	<b>CEMETERIES</b>		
	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 \$

# MEMBERSHIP FORM

We invite you to join us.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

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)

I do \_\_\_\_\_ do not \_\_\_\_\_ give my permission to have my information printed in any handouts, newsletters or publications that GCGS may develop. If the box do not is not marked permission is granted.

## GCGS 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.

## GCGS OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT:** Ginny Gerber

ginny.gerber@gmail.com

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Evelyn Crooks

raisinlady69@gmail.com

**TREASURER:** Sherry Anderegg

sanderegg@tds.net

**SECRETARY:** Judy Huber

jud3939@gmail.com

### DIRECTORS—Appointed:

Newsletter—Debra Bailey Trail

dlb56@aol.com

Website—Ginny Gerber

ginny.gerber@gmail.com

Librarian—Donna Long Kjendlie

genysearcher@gmail.com

### DIRECTORS—Elected:

Program Chair—Sharon Mitchell

Smitch2416@aol.com

Sargent at Arms—

At Large—Bill Holland, Sandy Wille, Nita Halverson

Hospitality—Susie Rufener



**Green County Genealogical Society Research Center  
925 16 th Ave.  
Monroe, WI 53566**

**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](mailto:info@greencogenealogywi.org)**

**Contributions to Green County Genealogical Society, Inc. are deductible under section 170 of the IRS code. We are now a 501(c)3 organization. Please keep us in mind if you have articles, memorabilia, donations or other gifts in kind.**

**Green County Genealogical Society Inc.  
925—16th Ave.  
Monroe, WI 53566**

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