



# 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.

*All meetings are currently cancelled due to CoVid 19 restrictions. Stay healthy.*

### Credit Card Payments

We are now able to take Credit Card payments. Currently we can take credit card payments for memberships, workshops, and some publications. We will be working over the next couple of months to make more of our products available for credit card purchase. We are also able to receive credit card payments for research records also by sending an invoice by which credit card payment can be made. We also will be taking credit card payments at the research center/meetings with a terminal. We are excited to provide this service to our members and researchers.

### Green County Surnames List

We are updating the surname listing on the web. If you have Green County surnames and would like to add yours, please send us the information to :

[info@greencogenealogywi.org](mailto:info@greencogenealogywi.org) with the header Surnames. Be sure to check to make sure you are not already on the list.

### Research Center Hours

Limited hours, as we get back to normal.

Tuesday 10 am - 3 pm

Other times by appointment: Contact

Bill Holland 608-325-2990

### GCGS Membership Dues

It's that time of the year. Your yearly membership fees are due. Membership form is next to last page here and you can also go to the our website to pay them.

<https://www.greencogenealogywi.org/>

### Donations through AmzonSmile

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).

#### Index

Calendar	Page 1
President's Column	Page 2
Shelf's Linings	Page 5
Trail's Mix	Page 3
Publications	Page 8
Membership Form	Page 9

## President's Message

We long for a return to normal or at least a new normal that can include being open and having some type of meetings. In the meantime, I have found some treasures

My husband's mother turned 95 this summer. She still lives at home but needs some extra help. We have had to make some changes in her home for her to stay there. We have also needed to do some updates on policies, accounts, etc. In that process we have discovered some of her treasures.

We joke that "Ida" is from three countries. She was conceived in Switzerland, born in Canada, and immigrated and was naturalized in the United States. But being born in Canada did not make her a Canadian. Her citizenship remained in Switzerland. Her lock box was filled with many genealogical treasures, including her Swiss birth certificate and her final Naturalization Certificate. She became a citizen on April 21, 1955 at the Rock County Circuit Court. It includes her picture and physical description and the certificate of citizenship is bound in a leather case. But that was not the end of the treasures.

Al & Ida Gerber lived on their farm in Jordan Township for 50 years. It was owned by Al's father, Alfred Gerber Sr, before them. Included in the lock box were all the farm papers including the original homestead certificate for the original 40 acres purchased on 1 Sept 1848 by Harrison Lloyd and another 40 acres purchased on 1 Aug 1849 by Edward Brimfield Phillips of Suffolk County, Massachusetts. Also included were the abstracts for the farm (2 abstracts because their farm consisted of two 80-acre farms). On the land that was purchased by Harrison Lloyd these names are listed (just in case you are doing research on any of these names):

Harrison Lloyd (homestead purchase)  
Edward Kitchell  
John W. Taylor

## President's Message—contdf

Arubut Ludlow  
John A Bingham (will included)  
Andrew Hanson  
Rudolf Utiger  
John G Faeser  
Otis Wells  
Edward B Phillips (homestead purchase)  
Henry Hubbard Jr  
Asa Richardson  
Caroline Bingham  
Christian King  
Nels/Nils Anderson  
George W Hoffman  
Christian King  
Charles Pike  
Anna Utiger (will included)  
Peter Luchsinger  
Minor Taylor  
Jas. F Wells  
John Arn  
Jacob Speich (will included)  
Elsbeth Sommer  
Afra Speich  
John McGrath  
Mary McGrath  
Edward Bucher  
Andrew Fryslie  
Henry Bucher  
Oswald Kubly  
Jacob H Elmer  
Charles Bayerhoffer  
Thomas Hefty (executor Elsbeth Sommer)  
Elsbeth Freitag  
A Frederick Trachsel  
Louisa Speich  
Fred Speich  
Christ Waelti Sr  
Elise Glauser  
Carl Schuetz  
Alfred A Gerber Sr, 19 Jun 1946

The records include bills of sales, satisfaction of mortgages, warranty deed. Next newsletter I will share the names from the second farm abstract and what we found in the "cigar box" (and it wasn't cigars!)

Hope you find your genealogical treasure!  
**Ginny Gerber**

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

## Trail's Mix

**By:**

### Debra Bailey Trail

Ever wondered about the homes your ancestors lived in? I know I have and have had pure luck in locating two of them. First is in Cazenovia, New York and happened that the town historian who was doing some research for me, realized the house his mother-in-law used to live in was that of my great great Uncle Rufus Allen. The historian sent me photos of the outside of the home and its gorgeous.

Just recently a friend, Evelyn Crooks, and another lady, Denise Benton, were both docents at the Brodhead Depot Museum. As they were chatting and got to know each Evelyn found out that Denise knew history of her home, that included being purchased in 1876 by Henry C. Putnam from Charles W. Mitchell who built it in 1868. Henry and his family lived in the house until 1945!

Evelyn knew I had Putnams in my family tree so she mentioned it to me. Long story short Evelyn sent me Denise's contact information.

I was so excited!! I could barely wait to send Denise an email with hopes she would share information about the house and maybe photos.

Soon I heard back from Denise who was extremely helpful sharing photos and information about the house. Even telling of the work she had done to keep the Victorian flair to it and having to fir out the three brick wall construction so she could add insulation. (I imagine that was a good way to keep warm!.)

In the process of this it was pointed out to me a small article in the "Brodhead Sesquicentennial" book with photo of house and telling about Henry Clay Putnam. I had read thru this book some time ago but suspect I hadn't known of Henry

## Trail's Mix—contd

in my tree at the time. Since then I have gone back thru the book to see if other information is in it that I can now connect with me tree. Fact is I have done that now with a couple other books for the area.

Thanks to Evelyn and Denise I now have another address where ancestors lived!



## Buckskin School Revisited

My cousin, Rose, was born in Green County but had lived in central Illinois most of her life, teaching special needs students. Recently, she moved back to Monroe to be nearer to her roots and relatives.

I have been reintroducing Rose to what Green County has to offer. She mentioned she hadn't toured the Green County Historical Society Museum since their updated display areas. In early October we visited the museum and ended up taking a trip down memory lane. The linoleum in the kitchen display area was the same pattern/color as her Durand IL childhood home.

Knowing the museum archives have been a work in progress, we asked what they might have on the rural Buckskin School in Washington Township. Our grandparent's farm was partially in Washington and Monroe Townships so our parents went to Buckskin School. Little was ever talked about their school days at Buckskin. Donna Kjendlie opened the archive room and retrieved five teacher ledgers from 1914-1930. Nine Bandi siblings attended during those years. What a find! Other families attending were Goecks, Keegan, Hare, Rufer, Wyss, Boss, Portmann, Leuzinger, Yaun, O'Meara, Indergand and Bruner.

We scheduled another time to copy and scan the records. It was especially interesting to my cousin how one teacher could teach all eight grades—some years as many as 34 students. We marveled through grades, attendance, teacher salaries and annual reports. Teachers during that time were Gertrude O'Donnell, Anna Steiner, Devota Billings, Lydia Sonderegger, Margaret Carey, Elsie Miller and LV Lockwood.

## Buckskin School Revisited— contd

Culminating the afternoon was Rose finding when her dad quit school to work on farms at age 13. My interesting find was the family's expulsion of my husband's future relatives. What were the grounds for being expelled in 1922? They returned to school the following fall.

A special thank you to those who preserve history and make it available. Ask, it's surprising what's out there and where.

Note: Currently the school was remodeled and made into a family home.

Submitted by:

Evelyn Crooks

### Buckskin School, 1909-1910

Washington Jt. District #3



## Shelf Linings

It is a beautiful day in the neighborhood as I write this today!! Not many more before we will be in the depths of winter. It will be a great time to organize your genealogy. After my move, I am still trying to find some of the lines that I hope to enter into the computer.

During most of the summer months we were once again shut down at the center. While we were happy to have the researchers that were out and about, we were disappointed that we couldn't help others that wanted to research our holdings. We are able to do research for others by asking for an appointment and following the Covid rules and regulations.

We have been working closely with the Green County Historical Society and we now hold most of The Times newspaper books. These books are on microfilm, however, the copy isn't always clear so it is nice to be able to still use some of these. Also by working with the GCHS museum, we were able to receive the family histories which are invaluable to the researcher. In return, we have given them some photos and they will hold the military books when they are completed.

The article on Buckskin School was a good example of working together. Several volunteers from the center also volunteer at the Historical Society so there is continual interest in what is going on at both places. The museum has a large collection of school books that are the teacher's records of the students.

As President of GCHS, I was able to open the museum for the afternoon to let Evelyn and Rose glean information from these books. It was a fun afternoon for them with the ahh's and "Did you know that?" sounds coming into the office.

contd

## Shelf Linings—contd

Sometimes we just don't know where we might find things but with a little communication, we might even be able to find that brick wall we keep trying to break down.

I wish you Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays as this will be our last newsletter until 2022. Don't forget to pay your dues soon.

*Donna Kjendlie*

## Where's Clark?

Recently my 88 year old aunt stopped at the Albany Historical Society Museum searching for info on her paternal grandfather. It was mentioned by surviving family that he was laid to rest in 1953 at the Mt. Hope Cemetery, Spring Grove Township, rural Brodhead WI. The museum president knew that I was related so she passed the query on to me. My aunt had contacted the cemetery's sexton with no records found. That started my investigation.

I did the usual google search, findagrave.com, ancestry.com, and familysearch.org with enough luck and info to get me started. Access to the obit binders at our GCGS Center and the Brodhead Depot Museum came up with an obit for Clark E. and his wife Ida E. Ida died in 1935 with the funeral held at Newcomer Funeral Home in Brodhead WI. Her obit stated being buried at Mt. Hope Cemetery. A call to the funeral home revealed a burial location was not filled in on Clark's burial permit. So I called my friends at the Green County Register of Deeds Office. There it was on Clark's death certificate- Mt. Hope Cemetery! I will also pass the info found for Clark and Ida onto the Mt. Hope Cemetery sexton for their records.

contd

## Where's Clark?

I phoned my aunt with what I had uncovered for her grandfather and grandmother's eternal resting place. The next unknown is where they were buried within the rural cemetery. Relatives have long wondered why they never had a headstone. One question brings another

Clark and Ida were finally documented to be at the Mt. Hope Cemetery by searching our small hometown resources and acquaintances.

Submitted by:

Evelyn Crooks

## My Deaf Great Grandparents

My great great grandparents Christopher and Abigail Meinert lived on a farm outside of Albany. They were married in November of 1851, Christopher having been widowed in May and left with four children. Abigail was widowed and had a son. Their marriage was one of convenience. Together they had five children who survived to adulthood—Statirah, Garret, Irad, Francis and Dora. As a relative related in a letter she wrote after visiting the Meinerts, “only Dora and Irad are normal”.

Garret, Statirah and Francis were deaf mutes at a time when this often led to ostracism, bullying, odd stares and sometimes being institutionalized. Thanks to Abigail, this did not happen. Somehow these children learned sign language. I noticed on the 1860 census there was, living with the Meinerts on the farm, a schoolteacher. Maybe she was just a boarder or maybe she helped with their education.

All three children were sent to the Delavan School for the Deaf where Garret learned to be a carpenter and Francis and Statirah were taught to be seamstresses. When Garret married a schoolmate, a deaf mute girl from West Bend, they were married at the school and Abigail wrote in her diary that “there were over 200 people in attendance, it was quite a show”. Francis gave the valedictory address at her graduation.

## My Deaf Great Grandparents- contd.

Garret and Emily, in spite of being deaf, raised two children. It was said by my grandfather that he grew up knowing three languages—English, German and Sign. Garret worked as a carpenter carving the decorative trim work on houses in Albany, Brodhead and Monroe. In paperwork I got from the Wisconsin State Historical Society of records from the school at Delavan, the cause of their deafness was reported to be “congenital” despite both parents having had children separately who were hearing.

The treatment of the deaf at Delavan was no picnic. During the time these children attended, there was a great scandal of abuse at the home and you can find articles in the Milwaukee newspaper covering the hearings that took place concerning this, and Francis was named as one of the witnesses.

I am grateful to Abigail and Christopher because they did not hide their children away as so often happened during the 19<sup>th</sup> century to children who were not “normal” but helped them to become educated, productive, happy citizens.

Submitted by:

Christine Spencer

Editor's Note: Wisconsin's First School for the Deaf was started by Ebenezer Chesebrough for his deaf daughter. There is a historic plaque on the school grounds.



## NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

BRODHEAD INDE-  
PENDENT REGIS-  
TER  
12 JULY 1956

## National History In Decades

(Continued from  
Centennial Edition)

July 12  
1956  
IR

### 1926-1936

#### Revels-Rockets-Boom-Bust

Charleston, cabarets, crossword puzzles, Al Capone, miniature golf; booze raids; Mah Jong; rumble seat petting; wild parades for Lindy; hero worship for Babe Ruth, Bobby Jones and Gertrude Ederle; Graf Zeppelin.

Then the bottom fell out — tickertape tears and busted banks; people listened to Amos and Andy to forget the depression; hungry men lined up daily for free soup; popular song, Buddy Can You Spare a Dime?; Herbert Hoover bowed out as president; FDR assured nation, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

Stock market crash; Lindberg non-stop flight, transoceanic; kidnapping and slaying of Lindberg baby; rise of Hitler; flight of Richard E. Byrd over South Pole.

Ohio state penitentiary fire, 320 people killed; repeal of prohibition; bank holiday called throughout country.

NRA; WPA; persecution of Jews in Germany; Dillinger killed; Independence of Philippines.

### 1936-1946

#### Blood-Sweat-Tears

Broken promises, Atomic bomb race; war around world; new hopes, visions.

Pearl Harbor, Corregidor, Guadalcanal, Anzio, Normandy, Leyte Gulf, casualty lists, gasoline banks, sugar stamps.

This is the Army, Mr. Jones.

Women donned overalls, slipped helmets over their curls, and worked side by side with the men.

Winston Churchill talked about blood, sweat and tears, which seemed applicable to the war effort everywhere.

Frankie Sinatra sang, Night and Day; Benny Goodman played his clarinet and Harry James his trumpet.

Gals wore bobby sox; zoot suit and long key chain were hep for solid jive hounds.

Lou Gehrig died; Gone With the Wind, and Snow White and Seven Dwarfs popular at theatres.

Lou Gehrig died; Gone With the Wind, and Snow White and Seven Dwarfs popular at theatres.

Hitler breaks Versailles treaty; FDR signs Social Security bill; Will Rogers and Wiley Post die in plane crash; Edward VIII abdicates; Civil War in Spain; Rome-Berlin Axis formed; USN Panay bombed by Japs; Amelia Earhart lost; Chamberlain; Munich; World War II began.

Peacetime compulsory military training began in United States; lend-lease signed; Leon Trotsky killed in Mexico.

Japs attack Pearl Harbor; wages and prices stabilized.

Pay-as-you-go income taxes begun; Battle of Britain; Dunkirk; Doolittle's Raid on Tokyo; Coral Sea; Midway; North Africa; Salerno; D-Day; Iwa Jima; Okinawa. President Roosevelt dies; VE day; VJ day.

### 1946-1956

#### Atomic Age-What Next?

Nautilus and neutrons; Eniwetok and Eisenhower; scrabble; panoramic windshields and parking meters.

First war brides begin to arrive; new look lasted as long as Canasta craze.

Korean conflict, television, mambo vied with square dance; hit parade toppers, Doggie in a Window, and Bushel and a Peck.

Brodie Siamese twins separated; Greenlease kidnapping.

Texas disaster; Winecoff hotel fire; promising years ahead; energy from sun; rockets to moon; atoms for peace; super sleek dream cars.

Decade of erasing war scars; rebuilding, readjustment of a "Police Action" in Korea; cold war; atomic and hydrogen bomb tests; rockets; jets; political changes; new horizons in science and medicine; mass polio vaccinations; Nuremberg trials; death of Madame Peron and Stalin; wild shooting in congress; Truman recalls General MacArthur from Korea; Queen Elizabeth ascends throne of Britain; Eisenhower elected president; Senator McCarthy; supreme court ruling on non-segregation in schools.

#### The Next 100 Years

No one can tell what the headlines will bring but it is safe to say there will be new disasters, new fashions, new accomplishments, new historic events, new adventures in science, and new miracles in medicine.

Here we are in this wonderful atomic age—what's next?

Our Family to Your Family

**GREEN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS**

Quantity	Publication	CD	Book
	1852 Militia Lists		\$7
	Naturalization Book One - cd only	\$15	
	1873 Green County Atlas with Index	\$15	\$20
	1877 History of Green County, WI		\$25
	1877 History of Green County, WI, index only		\$10
	1884 Green County History - cd only	\$15	
	1885 Monroe City Directory	\$15	
	1913 Commerative History of Green County - Bios and Index - Each Volume		\$30
	1913 Commerative History of Green County - Bios and Index - 2 volumes		\$50
	Prairie Farmer's Reliabe Directoy of Farmers & Breeders of Green County, WI 1919		\$15
	2000 - 2005 Monroe Times Obituaries	\$15	
	Green County Genealogical Newsletters 2001 - 2012	\$15	
	Juda Fast and Photos - reprinted from orignal 1975 version and includes index		\$10
	<b>CEMETERIES</b>		
	Albany Township Cemeteries	\$15	\$20
	Adams Township Cemeteries	\$15	\$20
	Cadiz Township Cemteries; 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	\$25
	Greenwood Cemetery - Monroe inscriptions	\$15	\$30
	Lewis-Jordan Cemeteries	\$15	\$15
	Monroe-Washington Township Cemeteries - transcriptions	\$15	\$15
	Mt. Hope Cemetery Photos - Spring Grove township	\$15	\$35
	Mt Pleasant Township Cemteries - Highland, Swinglii, Truax, Trumpy	\$15	\$20
	Mt. Vernon Cemetery - Juda	\$15	\$20
	Spring Grove Cemetery Transcriptions	\$15	\$25
	Twin Grove Cemetery Photos - Jefferson Township	\$15	\$20
	Union / Oakley Cemetery Photos	\$15	\$30

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 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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:** Donna Kjendlie

genysearcher@gmail.com

**TREASURER:** Suzann Holland

suzann@suzannholland.com

**SECRETARY:** Evelyn Crooks

raisinlady69@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—

Sargent at Arms—

At Large—Bill Holland, Sandy Wille, Nita Halverson, Jean Homan

Hospitality—Tamae Morrison

tmorrison3918@gmail.com



**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**

**First Class Postage**