

# The Green County Genealogist

## Volume 13, Issue 2

## March-April 2014

### MEETINGS & FIELD TRIPS

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



**April 5** – Green County Men who served in the Civil War presented by Jonathan Rupp

**May 3** Anniversary Workshop given by George Findlen. This will include 3 sessions: “Not In MY Family!,” “Using Standard Histories to Find Elusive Relatives,” and “Mining Obituaries.” More details to be announced later.

**June 07** “Cooking with Tin, Copper and Iron: 18th and 19th Century Food Preparation” by Nancy Sorchyr.

**July 05** Members & visitors are invited to bring and share memories and personal items.

Note: Our February meeting was canceled due to weather and extremely poor driving conditions. Antje Petty has agreed to re-schedule her talk on German/American Resources for Genealogists for our November 1, 2014 meeting.

### WE NEED YOUR TIDBITS

Feel free to send us “tidbits” that might be interesting to put in the newsletter. Don't forget to include the source of those tidbits. This is your newsletter and we welcome your contributions.

### USED INK CARTRIDGES

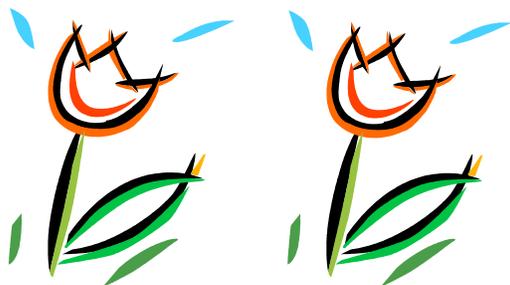
Don't forget to bring your used ink cartridges to the Research Center. We can recycle them and earn some money to purchase office supplies for the center.

### THINGS

Do you have photos for Green County you'd like to share or photos you'd like help trying to identify? Send them to [DLB56@aol.com](mailto:DLB56@aol.com) and we'll put them in newsletter. We can also put them on the website if you would like, just let me know.

### MEMBERSHIP CARDS

If you are a member and would like a membership card, please send a self-addressed envelope to GCGS Inc., 925—16th Ave. Monroe, WI 53566.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

On a sunny cold morning, I have been typing article entries from some of our members. It was wonderful to have some new input for the newsletter. Hopefully, we will be able to have follow-up articles each issue.

You will find the "Bright Ideas" article a big help in reviewing some of the genealogical resources that you tried in the past or hadn't thought of trying. Our research center receives the Family Tree Magazine from one of our members. It gets passed around the research center volunteers and then gets put on the magazine shelf. This issue will be used for a genealogy networking gathering at the Beloit Senior Center in March and was submitted by Frieda Liddicoat

Jerry Stabler stopped in one day and asked if extracts from the county histories would be a good addition. They were welcomed and will begin with this issue.

Judy Huber was doing some research on probate records and was interested to know more about where Green County records were and how accessible. You will find that information elsewhere in the newsletter.

For those of you that cannot attend our programs and meetings, we will continue to try to get a summary of those into the newsletter. Sometimes we have to pick and choose.

Once again we were looking for more space for our ever growing research center. And once again, we were able to secure more shelving. With the generous donations of our members, we continue to grow in leaps and bounds. We have a great selection of material for Green County. Oh, you say, you live here

## FROM THE PRESIDENT—cont'd

but don't have ancestors here? Come and check out the other counties, states and country books we have. You wish you had a cemetery listing from Waushara County? Stop by, we have it. Maybe not all of the cemeteries in a county but with the Wisconsin State Genealogy Newsletters, we will have a pretty good selection.

We now have volunteers that come in and work on a designated project. It is nice to have someone filing clipped articles for our surname and subject file. Our never ending funeral records are slowly taking shape. And never forgotten are our newspaper gals. I heard that we are now into the 1960's with all previous papers having been clipped. It seems as fast as we clean off a shelf in our working area, we find something else to fill it and work on.

Hats off to all of our members. Our men do great "behind" the scenes work. Or should I say behind the shelves. They move our shelves, keep our binders stacked so we can get to them, build whatever we seem to need and are always ready to have a little fun.

We have become a genealogy family, we worry if someone doesn't show up, we call to see if they are ok, we work together, lunch together, tease together and we wouldn't have it any other way.

Our Research Center is something to be so proud of and many volunteers come to appreciate it and let us know.

I hope that you enjoy the articles and if you have something in mind that you would like to learn more about, please let us know.

*Happy searching*

*Donna Long Kjendlie*

## TRAIL'S MIX

By

Debra Bailey Trail

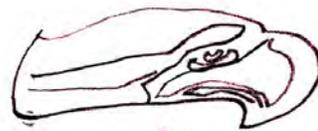
This column will be little different. It's more a show and tell about why doing genealogy is so fun. Last fall I agreed to put up 4 hours of genealogy research time for a charity drive at work. In the end I also offered the research to the other 5 bidders (3 excepted) for the same winning price. Everyone has been totally thrilled so far but the third person's is the one that really

## TRAIL'S MIX—contd

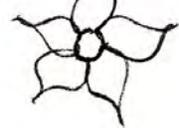
got me. The winner was extremely thrilled with it and told me how much excitement it had created at her house with her children and her step-children. Well that made me happy but a few days later in my mailbox at work I received this thank you note, written by the 10 year old daughter on her own, no promoting from anyone.

Dear Ms. Bailey Trail,  
Thank you for what you did for me and my family and for making that amazing family tree. It looks like you spent 4 months on it, not 4 hours. This is amazing on what I'm learning of how my family came to be. It is so nice to have a piece of information that is a big part of my life. I am so grateful for what you have done for my family, it means a lot to me to not have half of my life unknown. Sincerely,

THANK YOU!  
Go Hawks



(SORRY IT DOESN'T  
LOOK GOOD)



THE DAO FAMILY (written by Rossia)

## RECAP OF DECEMBER 2013 MEETING

By: Sharon Mitchell

Alice Louella, Christine, Miranda And Edwina Among Visitors To December Meeting

Christie Strait , director of the Green County Historical Society, was the speaker for the December 2013 meeting. Christie told us how she received a phone call regarding the opportunity to purchase some original Blair "Do-Ed" dolls designed and made by past Monroe residents Doris (Grinnell) and Edwin Blair. Doris' hobby was researching, collecting, costuming and creating historically correct dolls. Her husband, Edwin, created the molds, while Doris researched and costumed the dolls using vintage materials that she obtained from various sources including Monroe residents, and even the junk man. There were fourteen Do-Ed dolls made and then the molds were destroyed. Christie learned much about the Blairs and the dolls from a box that came with the dolls containing letters, articles, and other papers. It took an average of three months to make and costume each doll.

Christie illustrated the attention to detail that Doris went to as she dressed "Alice Louella" in clothes from 1872, including a collapsible bustle. The doll "Christine" was dressed for mourning in 1884. "Miranda" wore reform dress (Bloomer Costume) of 1890. "Edwina" was dressed in an 1849 gown and was Doris' favorite. Christie Strait and her husband donated these dolls to the Historical Society where they are on display periodically.

After Christie's presentation members enjoyed a Christmas pot-luck and good conversation.



## **PROBATE FILES & WI. HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The WI. Historical Society is currently in the process of scanning the Green County probate records. There are 135 boxes (approximately 337,000 double-sided pages) spanning 1850-1930 so it has been and continues to be an ongoing project. We have finished scanning cases from 1850-1908 so those are available for use in paper form. We are still working on the 1909-1930 so those are closed for probably 6 more months.

We are working on transferring the original paper to UW-Platteville. When that happens the "location" field in the catalog will indicate "UW-Platteville."

It is not necessary to obtain the case number before requesting a record. In the course of digitizing the records we have created a spreadsheet that serves as a name index. All that is necessary to find a file is the name. Then the reference archivist can consult the spreadsheet to find the case number and then the file.

We are indeed digitizing records from other counties. The Green County records and the records from other counties are part of a larger project. The Historical Society has entered into an agreement with FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com that will vastly improve access to historic probate records. Historic probate records—microfilmed in Wisconsin courthouses and at the WHS headquarters by the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) over the past 50 years—will be scanned, indexed, and made accessible online. Probate records from Wisconsin counties will be available for free to all Wisconsin residents. Records will start to appear online in late 2014.

You can receive paper copies by mail or a PDF file by e-mail. Cost is 25 cents per page plus charge of \$15 (\$10 for WHS

## **PROBATE FILES & WI. HISTORICAL SOCIETY—contd.**

members).

You can also go to Madison and view the files and make your own copies at 10 cents per page.

This information was provided to Judy Huber (Thanks for sharing) by Virginia Fritsch, Public Records Archivist for Wisconsin Historical Society.

Visit their website: [www.wisconsinhistory.org](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org)

## **SETTLING ESTATES**

Estate files can be a wealth of information to the genealogist. They may often contain wills that list heirs, property, debts, and other valuable leads to one's family history.

When searching for estate files it is best to check with each county or state you are researching as some states consider estate files to belong to wider category called probate. These probate files might also include such cases as guardianship, commitment cases, and adoptions. Some of these files might be sealed to the general public.

## **MEMBERS SURNAMES**

It's been a while since we have requested our members to submit a list of their Green County WI surnames, dates (if known) in Green County, and where they were born.

We'd like to create a log of names for matching up with other researchers. Please submit the information to me [DLB56@aol.com](mailto:DLB56@aol.com) and include SURNAME as the subject line. I will then create a database of the names.

As of this newsletter we've only had two members send their information in. Here's hoping to more.

## RESEARCH CENTER VISITOR

A young gentleman from Albany WI arrived at the GCGS Center with a book he acquired at the St. Vincent De Paul Store in Monroe WI. It was an old book with a business label pasted to the inside cover that read "J.W. Hicks, Dealer in Drugs, Books, Stationary, etc.- Albany Wis." Frieda Liddicoat, Lillian Slocum and Evelyn Crooks investigated resources at our Center and found the following for him in just a short time:

Frieda went on the internet and did a google search for J.W. Hicks, Albany WI. Up came his name in "The 1884 History of Green County WI." Jay W. Hicks was born in Eureka, Rushford Township, Winnebago County WI on December 18, 1856, the son of Oliver and Sarah Powell Hicks, both native to New York. Jay W. graduated from the University of WI in 1880 and engaged in teaching until 1883.

In July 1882 he married Edith Stearns, a native of Green County WI. Edith was born October 13, 1854 to John ("JB") and Eliza (Fanny E.) Stearns on the old Stearns farm about five miles north of Monroe WI. Edith graduated from the University of WI about 1878 and took great pride in literary work. Possibly, how the J.W. Hicks label was later found in the Shakespeare book in question? Edith was also very involved with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Jay and Edith had two daughters as noted in her obit, Ethel and Aurelia, both of whom married.

In 1883, J.W. Hicks owned a drug store on the Murrey Block in downtown Albany WI. The business was located in the Murrey Opera Hall building until an 1887 fire destroyed the entire building. The fire was thought to have been started by burglars

## RESEARCH CENTER VISITOR—cont'd.

Albany's earliest drug store histories began in 1845 and ended in January 1974 with the Dehmer Drug Store, according to the publication "Yesteryears- The History of Albany."

J.W. returned to school to study law after the fire. They then moved to Prentice WI where he practiced law before relocating about 1925 to Seattle WA.

An obit for Mrs. Jay Hicks was found by Lillian in our obit index that provided more information on the Hicks family. Edith passed away on December 27, 1928 at the age of 74 in Seattle WA. She was a sister to G.O. Stearns of Monroe WI and Dan Stearns of Miami FL. J.W. Hicks passed away sometime after Edith but an obit was not located.

Our visitor left the Center with copies in hand and information to his questions the residents of Albany couldn't remember.

Submitted by Frieda Liddicoat, Evelyn Crooks and Lillian Slocum



## NEW PUBLICATION

Clarno Cemetery Transcriptions includes the cemeteries of Bethel-Hawthorne, Bowen Family Burial Ground, East Clarno, Figi Farm, Old Pioneer, Staver, and West Clarno.

The book or the CD sells for \$15 and can be ordered by sending check for \$18 to cover the \$3 s/h fee to Green County Genealogical Society 925—16th Ave., Monroe, WI 53566

## HAVE YOU TRIED CYNDI'S LIST?

Last fall Sherry Anderegg and I attended the Lake County (IL) Genealogical Society's Annual Workshop. The main speaker was Cyndi Ingle, creator of CyndisList.com, a categorized index to more than 327,000 online genealogical resources. While I had heard of and used Cyndi's list, I had no idea of its depth. Cyndi describes the list in various ways: "a categorized & cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the Internet; a list of links that point you to genealogical research sites online; a free jumping off point for you to use in your online research; a "card catalog" to genealogical collections in the immense library that is the Internet; and your genealogical research portal onto the Internet."

Cyndi started her list as a project to share one page of internet addresses with her local genealogical society. In 1996 it expanded to 6 pages and today has links cross-referenced to more than 190 categories and over 43,000 individual sub-categories. There are over 100,000 hits to the website each day – more than 3 million hits per month.

Cyndi stressed that before using any internet site, you should evaluate it. Who writes the material? Who owns the site? What is the motive/purpose/mission of the site? Is the data freely available to use? She advised us to read the purpose or mission of the site, the "about us" section, the last revision date, copyright information, and FAQ's. Is it a corporate, individual, organizational, or governmental site? Where does the information come from and how reliable is it? Is it copied from previously transcribed/published information? Are sources given for the information? She would like us to do this evaluation of the site BEFORE using the search

## HAVE YOU TRIED CYNDI'S LIST? - cont'd

to look for the information we seek. (That's hard to do when you're running down some information, but something I'll try to do now.) She reminded us that a pretty site doesn't mean quality research or accurate information. Don't assume the site obtained permission from other people before putting information on the internet. Ask for permission before copying, reprinting, etc. anything published online. Information should be verified before assuming it's correct.

The two navigation tools on Cyndi' List are the category index and the search engine (which only searches within Cyndi's List). New links are added as Cyndi has time to visit, verify, & examine the site. Visitors to her site are encouraged to submit links, but should first make sure that they aren't already included. If a link is broken or there is another problem with a site, she would like to know. A graphic marks sites that have been added in the past month. If a site charges for information, that is also indicated. Cyndi has a free mailing list that she uses to update users of new sites, & important announcements for the genealogical community.

I think that I will be visiting [www.CyndisList.com](http://www.CyndisList.com) in the future to learn more about the ancestors I'm looking for and their lives. Why don't you give it a try?

By: Sharon Small Mitchell



**GREEN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS**

Quantity	Publication	CD	Book
	<b>1852 Militia Lists</b>		\$5
	<b>Naturalization Book One CD only</b>	\$15	
	<b>1873 Green County Atlas with index</b>	\$15	\$15
	<b>1877 History of Green County, WI.,</b>		\$30
	<b>1877 History of Green County, WI., Index only</b>		\$15
	<b>1884 Green County History CD only</b>	\$15	
	<b>1885 Monroe City Directory</b>	\$15	\$15
	<b>1913 Commemorative History of Green Co Bios and Index EACH Vol</b>		\$30
	<b>1913 Commemorative History Of Green County Bios and Index 2 vol</b>		\$55
	<b>Prairie Farmer's Reliable Directory of Farmers &amp; Breeders of Green County, WI 1919</b>		\$12.50
	<b>2000-2005 Monroe Times Obituaries</b>	\$15	
	<b>Green Co Genealogical Newsletters 2001-2012 with Index coming soon</b>	\$15	
	<b>Juda Facts and Photos</b> reprinted from original 1975 version and includes index		\$10
	<b>CEMETERIES</b>		
	<b>Albany Township Cemeteries</b>	\$15	\$20
	<b>Cadiz Township Cemeteries, revised edition 2013</b>	\$15	\$15
	<b>Calvary, Old Calvary, Poor Farm Cemeteries</b>	\$15	\$25
	<b>Clarno Cemetery Transcriptions</b>	<b>\$15</b>	<b>\$15</b>
	<b>Greenwood Cemetery – Brodhead</b> inscriptions	\$15	\$35
	<b>Greenwood Cemetery, Monroe</b> inscriptions	\$15	\$35
	<b>Lewis-Jordan Cemeteries</b>	<b>\$15</b>	<b>\$15</b>
	<b>Monroe-Washington Twnshp Cemeteries</b> – transcriptions	\$15	\$15
	<b>Mt. Hope Cemetery Photos</b> - Spring Grove tnsnp	\$15	\$35
	<b>Mt Pleasant Township Cemeteries-</b> Highland, Zwinglii, Truax, Trumpy	\$15	\$20
	<b>Mt Vernon Cemetery</b> – Juda	\$15	\$20
	<b>Spring Grove Cemeteries-</b> Transcriptions	\$15	\$15
	<b>Spring Grove Township Cemeteries, Photos</b>	\$15	\$25
	<b>Twin Grove Cemetery, Photos,</b> Jefferson Tnsp	\$15	\$25
	<b>Union/Oakley Cemetery Photos</b>	\$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.  
 You can also order on our website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wigreen> using PayPal.

Annual membership is \$12.50 per year and entitles members to 10% discounts on publications.  
 Year runs from Jan 1-Dec 31. If you wish hard copy, please remit an additional \$5.50 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. \_\_\_\_\_

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 \$12.50 (EMAILED NEWSLETTER) \$18.00 (POSTAL NEWSLETTER)

## CGGS Meeting and Contact Information:

green\_ancestors@hotmail.com

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wigreen>

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.

## CGGS OFFICERS

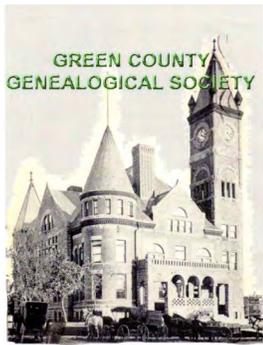
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Organized April 2001

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Hours Tues and 3rd Sat 10-3  
1st Sat 1-3 other times by appt 608-325-2326

WEBSITE: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wigreen>  
EMAIL: [green\\_ancestors@hotmail.com](mailto:green_ancestors@hotmail.com)

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**  
**925—16th Ave.**  
**Monroe, WI 53566**

**First Class Postage**

