



THE GREEN COUNTY GENEALOGIST



Calendar

Meetings & Field Trips

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

Sept. 3 Family History Projects: How to Share Your Research with Family Who Don't Care - Presented by Lori Bessler, Reference Librarian at WI. Historical Society Library Archives

Oct. 1 Ladies First: Finding Your Female Ancestors— Webinar by Lisa A. Alzo. Discover underused sources to help you understand the daily lives of your female ancestors.

Nov 5—"Finding Swiss Relatives—Dead & Alive" by Sherry Anderegg and Swiss Friends

Dec 3 Hollywood & WWII. Presented by Ed Finch.

Genealogy Society Presents Second Annual Throwback Thursday Classes

The Green County Genealogical Society is holding free genealogy classes from 10:00 am to Noon each Thursday morning starting August 4 through October in the lower level of the Monroe Public Library. November 3 will be a day to research and ask questions. You do not need to attend every class. There is no pre-registration. However, you may call 608-921-1537 for more information or check our website at www.greencogenealogywi.org to see each week's topic. Classes are open to all genealogists - beginners and advanced.

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.

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In Memory of Donna J. Krebs

Donna J. Krebs, age 82 of Monroe, formerly of Browntown, died on Friday, August 19, 2016 at the Monroe Clinic Hospital following a short illness. Donna was born August 12, 1934 in Warren, IL, the daughter of Thomas and Viola (Luy) Martin. She graduated from Warren High School and married Arthur Krebs



on May 31, 1954 in Martintown. Donna and Art farmed the majority of their lives in Cadiz Township. Donna was a member of the State-line Homemakers, Green County Ag Chest and Dairy Queen involvement, was active in the Green County Genealogical Society, and had attended Hope Community Church. Donna's passion was genealogy and her love and pride was her family. On many days Donna could be seen having coffee with friends at Culvers.

She is lovingly survived by three children, Robin (Joey) Lomas of McConnell, IL, Roger (Diana) Krebs of Browntown, and Richard (Diane) Krebs of Monroe; nine grandchildren, Casey, Katie, Shyntel, Shelly, Sheena, Tyler, Ryan, Adam, and Brent; seven great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Art, in 1992; granddaughter, Stephanie; great grandson, Tus; a granddaughter-in-law, Dawn; and all her siblings.

Graveside services will be held on Tuesday, August 23, 2016, at 11:00 a.m., at Saucerman Cemetery, Cadiz Township. The family will greet friends at the Monroe Moose Lodge following the service. In lieu of flowers a memorial fund will be established in Donna's name. The Newcomer Funeral Home, Monroe, is assisting the family. Condolences may be shared at www.newcomerfuneralhome.net.

Reprinted from "Monroe Times", 19 Aug 2016

President's Column

It is a sunny cool afternoon in August as I sit here to write this column. After several 85-90 degree days, it was a welcomed coolness. A fun time to be outside and catch up on some yard work and then sit and enjoy the sunshine. As I get older, I find that it is more sitting and relaxing than get up and doing.

It is with a great sadness that we lost a charter member this week. Donna Krebs was a volunteer of our society since the beginning and was always willing to do her part. For many years, she was the one that took care of our local news binders. We must have about 75 of different locations in Green County. She also enjoyed working with the Dairy Queen material and Ag-Chest too. A great historian and advocate for the Browntown area.

She was a friend to all of us and will be greatly missed. Her obituary is elsewhere in the newsletter. As a reminder, put your passwords for your programs, your subscriptions online and anything else you may have a password for, in spot easily found and then tell someone where it is. If they can't find them, nothing can be deleted from your computer.

It does remind us that time is short and we should take time to enjoy some of the things that are near and dear to us. First is our family; call your parents, aunts and uncles. Not only will they enjoy hearing from you but you might pick up bits and pieces of stories to add to your family history.

Take a little time each day of week and work on your family genealogy. Scan in some pictures or articles into your genealogy program. Share something with others. Look at some new websites for additional information. Go to the library and read genealogy magazines.

Enjoy the fall and let us know your genealogy success stories

Donna Kjendlie

GCQS President

After You're Gone: Future Proofing Your Genealogy Research

Try as we might, we really have little control over what will happen to our possessions, even our bodies, after we die. Yes, we can draw up legal documents, we can express our wishes to family members and more; however, there are no guarantees when it comes to these matters. The best we can do is prepare, plan and communicate now.

When it comes to your years of genealogy research and material, what plans have you made to ensure that it doesn't die with you? Here is some advice on creating a realistic plan to get your "genealogy affairs" in order so that the next generation of researchers can benefit from your years of hard work.

The Perils of Inaction: Lost Genealogy

To gain some insight as to what could possibly happen to all your genealogy stuff, simply read the haunting story *Cleaning Mother's House* by genealogist Michael John Neill. As you hear the words, just imagine one of your children or grandchildren being in the same situation and not knowing the importance of your genealogy research.

You have a responsibility to safe guard your research and to make sure it gets passed on properly. ***If you don't act now, someone else will act on your behalf.***

Basic Planning and Data Successorship

How can you create a plan for the future of your genealogy research without knowing what you have? The first step is to create an inventory of ALL of your items.

Hard Copy Items

Use a special notebook, a document on your computer, or a spreadsheet. Just get it down in writing and also realize that you should update it periodically. Items to include:

- Genealogy research binders, folders and stack of paper
- Genealogy books and magazines purchased over the years

After You're Gone—contd

- Photos, slides, negatives, videos, CD-ROMs
- Technology items such as scanners, software programs, flash drives
- Miscellaneous items such as audio recordings, gadgets, etc.

Make sure you label each item or include a note; remember that the person cleaning out your possessions may not be a genealogist.

Digital Items

And what about your genealogy data? You may not realize how much information you have and where it is stored. The easiest way to organize all your digital assets is to create two backups: one in the cloud and one on an external drive or CD-ROM.

- Genealogy database files
- Scanned photographs and documents
- Digital books, magazines and guides
- Digital writings such as PDFs and blog posts you've written
- Emails from family and other researchers as well as emails that you've sent
- Any other items you believe are important including social media posts

Working with Societies, Libraries and Archives

There are many "myths" about being able to donate your genealogy to organizations:

- "You can donate any and all of your genealogy stuff to the National Archives."
False: The National Archives is the archivist of record for the United States government; it does not typically archive personal items.
- "You can donate your genealogy to the Library of Congress."
Partially true: The Library of Congress does accept published genealogies and other items of importance.

contd

After You're Gone—contd

If you plan on donating anything related to your genealogy to an archive, a library or a genealogy society, here is a plan you should follow:

- **Contact the organization.** Always check a repository's policies before making a donation or directing your executor to make a donation.
- **Inform family members.** Let your family or friends know what your plans are involving the organization.
- **Include a monetary donation.** It costs money to process donated materials no matter how well organized those items may be. If possible, make sure you include a financial donation to the institution. Another option is to direct your executor to sell off specific items to raise money for preservation of the collection.

Finally, realize that you can always donate items NOW rather than after your passing. By donating now you have more power to direct how the items will be used and which organizations can benefit from those items.

Technology to the Rescue

As with other industries and even hobbies, genealogy has moved into the digital realm, for better or for worse. Advantages include the ability to preserve fragile items through scanning and digitization as well as the ability to share items with other researchers. Disadvantages include the ability to easily delete items with the touch of a key or failing to update technology like moving from floppy discs to flash drives. And there is also the fear of having your digital items stolen or "hacked."

Another idea is to utilize one or more websites that offer a virtual "lock box" for digital items including photos and documents such as **Protect Their Memories**. Or create your own using DropBox or Google Drive since online services can and do go out of business from time to time (remember **MyFamily.com?**).

Best Practices for Genealogy Future Proofing

In summary, here are some tips of future proofing your genealogy research and making sure it is preserved for others to use for generations to come:

After You're Gone—contd

- **Take inventory.** Determine what you have including hard copies as well as digital assets and online sites.
- **Include in estate planning.** Create a codicil to your will or make sure there are some form of instructions concerning your genealogy research.
- **Backup your data.** Backing up your genealogy data is a good habit for the living and it will keep all your info in one place for your executor.
- **Future proof your technology.** CD-ROM discs degrade over time. Negatives and movie film can fade and fall apart. Transfer items to digital ASAP.
- **Have that conversation with family.** Be very clear about where your genealogy research is located, why it is important, and what you want done with it.
- **Contact organizations.** Determine which libraries, societies and archives will accept all or part of your collection. Donate items you don't need NOW.
- **Post items online.** Consider starting a blog, even a private one, to preserve your family stories. Do the same with a family tree on Ancestry or one of the popular genealogy sites.
- **Do stuff NOW.** Tell your own stories NOW. Write that genealogy book NOW. Interview family members NOW.

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Event Tells Story of Swiss Internees

On July 20, thirty seven people gathered to watch the Forced Landing documentary by Daniel Wyss. Wyss tells part of the little known story of WWII airmen interned in Switzerland. The video included Swiss newsreels and interviews of internees of Wauwilermoos punishment camp near Lucerne, Switzerland. In 2014, the Prisoner of War medal was awarded to eight American airmen and all 143 of the Americans held at Wauwilermoos were recognized. Our audience included family members of a New Glarus man who had been interned there, Martha Bernet who lived in Switzerland during the war, another whose cousin was stationed there as part of the legation team there to represent the rights of the Americans, and other veterans. Interesting discussion led by member Roy Thomas (who has researched and attended reunions of internees) followed the documentary.

In 1943, the Americans had air bases in England and Italy. American pilots and crew were told that if they got into trouble to head for the closer of either Sweden or Switzerland. Neutral countries were "obliged" to force aircraft invading their air space down. One hundred and fifty American planes were forced down over Switzerland. The Swiss people were surprised to learn that their military had shot at Allied planes.

Interned officers were housed in private homes or hotels. (The tourism industry was suffering because of the war. The U.S. paid the cost of housing the internees in the hotels.) Other ranks were housed in 1000 purpose-built barracks and expected to work. Of the 105,000 foreign servicemen interned in Switzerland, about 1700 were Americans. 1500 were pilots and their crews.

Swiss Internees—contd

Americans were told that, if captured, it was their duty to try to escape and return to their or another American. If internees attempted to escape and did not succeed, they were sent to punishment camps. Wauwilermoos housed more than 1000 prisoners of 20 different nationalities. Some were there for being drunk and disorderly. Others had attempted to escape. The Swiss government felt that since the internees attempted escape, they were no longer covered under the Geneva and Hague Conventions.

The living conditions at Wauwilermoos were horrible. Hygiene conditions led to skin rashes and dental disease if internees were there for an extended period. Since they were malnourished, any illness they contracted was more serious. The commandant of the punishment camp was Swiss Army Captain Andre Beguin. Beguin was an imposter and Nazi sympathizer who had fooled the Swiss government and army into giving him the head position at the camp – a position not wanted by most. It is thought he stole to sell rations from the Red Cross intended for the internees and took some of their personal belongings. He also withheld letters. Beguin was removed from his position in July of 1945. He was charged with the crimes that could be proven – money matters and loans not paid (but not for the mistreatment of the internees) and imprisoned for 3 ½ years.

When the airmen returned home after the war, for the most part, they didn't speak of their experiences. Many people assumed because they were in Switzerland, they had an easy time. That was not so for those in Wauwilermoos. Wauleermoos punishment camp is not

Contd.

Swiss Internees—contd

mentioned in published histories of Switzerland. This documentary helps tell the story. The DVD is in our Research Center now. Thank you, Roy, for providing the DVD and leading the discussion.

By: Sharon Mitchell

My Grandpa Went to Excelsior Springs, Missouri National Resort

When I first saw Erika Janik speaking on WPT's University Place about the Strange Origins of Modern Medicine, I thought of my Grandpa John Lemon Elliott (1892 Scott County, IN – 1958 DeKalb County, IL). Grandpa Elliott died when I was eight. I remember he had knobs attached to the steering wheels of his Pontiac Chieftan and tractor so that he could steer since his hands were so crippled with arthritis that he couldn't grab the wheels without them. After he died, my mom would send me to stay with "Grandma Down on the Farm" (Irene Daisy Lyle 1895 Jefferson County, IN- 1990 Lake County, IL) for a week or so during the summers. Erika's presentation made me remember Grandma telling me how Grandpa went to Excelsior Springs in hopes of curing his arthritis. After my mother Vera Letitia Elliott Small (1918 Scott County, IN – 2004 Lake County, IL) died, I inherited some papers that she had inherited from her mother. Among those papers were post cards.

There were a number of post cards from Missouri National Resort, but only two had been written and mailed to my grandma. The first was dated "1,3,29" and read: "Dear Family Just a line to let you know I am better I look for a letter today

My Grandpa Went to Excelsior—contd

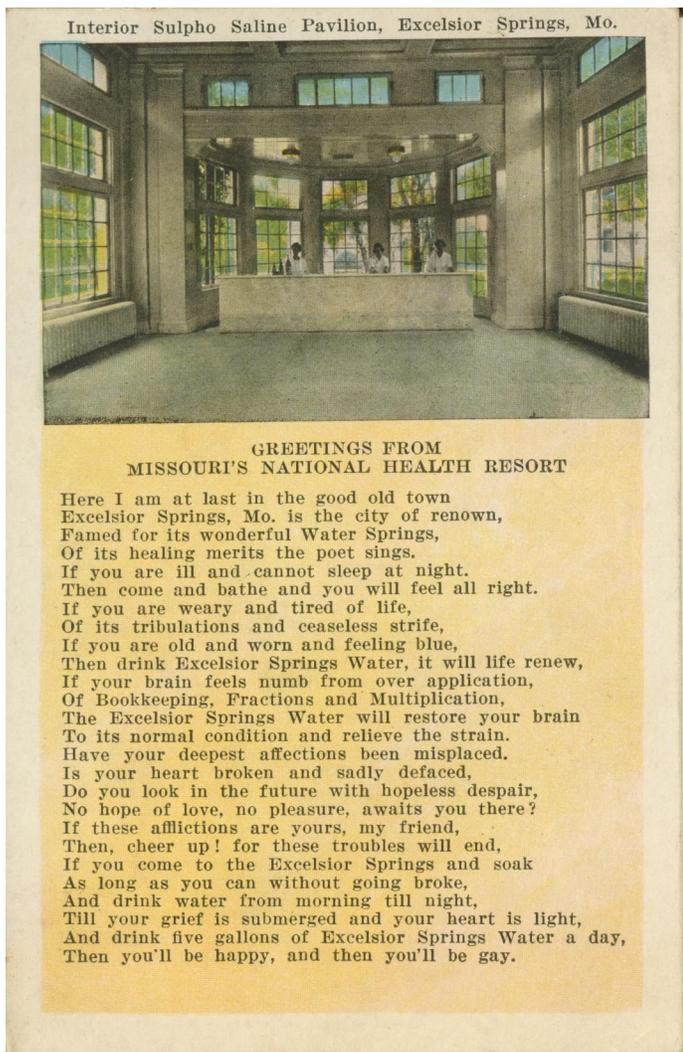
but it did not come Dr. said he was going to make a new man out of me in to week more if I get along like I have I will be O.K. Your L.E.M.O.N." (I am still trying to find where Lemon, his middle name, came from. There are two other family members with that middle name, so think it's a surname from somewhere.)

The second postcard was dated "1.23.29." "Dear Family Well I am on my feet yet I think my rist is coming fine the Doc think I had better stay and take a few more treatment but I am think about coming home before long. Your Hubby." Erika mentioned that these resorts often would check the finances of their clients and keep them there as long as their money would hold out. I'm sure that it was a struggle for my farmer grandpa to pay for the weeks that he was there. They rented the land he worked until the year I was born when they bought a small farm. In 1929 they would have had my mom and uncle to support as well.

I assume that my grandpa wrote letters besides the post cards during his stay at the resort. One postcard had a poem describing "My First Bath." I'm not sure that after reading the poem that I would have been inspired to visit Excelsior Springs. Excelsior Springs wasn't famous only for its resort. It also was the home of the James family and Grandpa purchased a few post cards that showed their family members.

By: Sharon Mitchell

My Grandpa Went to Excelsior - contd



Old Postcards/Photos

Do you have old photos or postcards you'd love to share with us, please submit them to DLB56@aol.com . And if you have a current picture of the old location that would be fun to share to.

Modern Medicine

Remember our May speaker, Erika Janik, and her talk on the Strange Origins of Modern Medicine? I received an email regarding an article on the subject available free online.

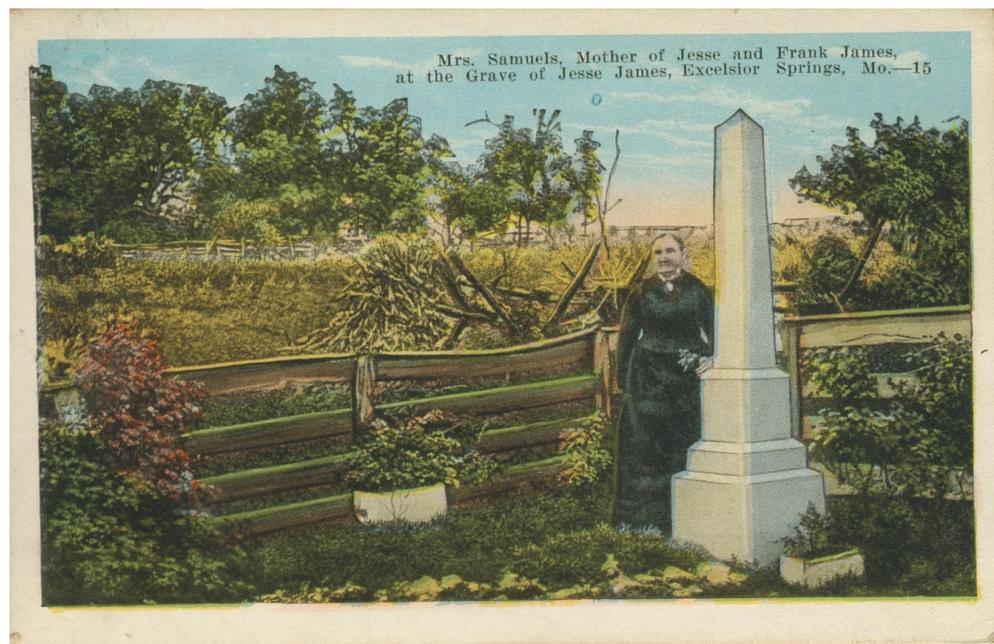
You can read all about the Reinhardt twin brothers in *Giving Them What They Want* by Erika Janik and Matthew B. Jensen. The article was published in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* by the Wisconsin Historical Society in 2011. The article is now available online and free of charge at <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41331156>.

Trail's Mix

This month I just want to say how much Donna Krebs meant to me. I met her many years ago when I came back for visit. She shared her old postcards with me, and I mean not just to see

but she gave me several of them for my collection. She was also one of the members who looked out for info on my family. Donna you will be missed by many!

RIP



Tracing the Scandinavian Invasion of the Midwest - August Topic

Julie K. Allen, chair of the U.W. Scandinavian Studies Dept., started her presentation by telling us about the Kensington Rune Stone found in Minnesota in 1898 by a Swedish farmer. It had the date 1362 carved in it. Runes are symbols used by Germanic peoples in 3rd-13th centuries - especially in Scandinavia. The text of the stone has been translated to indicate it was about an exploration journey of 8 Geats (ancient Swedes) and 22 Norwegians. To learn more about the stone, visit <http://www.kensingtonrunestone.us/>.

There were three million Scandinavian immigrants arriving in American from 1825 to 1925. Julie told us it was a trickle or slow creeping chain migration rather than a mass migration. A member or family from a community would emigrate to American. Once established, they would encourage other family or community members to join them. It took 14 weeks in "coffin ships" (so-named by the number of passengers that died at sea) to get to America in the sailing ships. These immigrants were called "sloopers" since they came in sloops. Since most followed relatives or community members, the immigrants were found in clusters where their language and customs were not as foreign to the neighbors. Records of these immigrants can be found in church records, newspapers, Civil War soldier pension files, etc. Colonel Hans Christian Heg was commander of the 15th Wisconsin Volunteer Regiment which was the only non-English speaking regiment of the Civil War and was made up of Norwegians, Danes, and Swedes. Most served for the Union. The Wisconsin Historical Library, NARA (National Archives and Records Administration), and the Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum in Decorah, IA are places to learn about the

Tracing the Scandinavian—contd

the Scandinavian immigrant and military experience. Our speaker commented that the Scandinavian peoples were always warring against each other and it surprised her that so many fought in the Civil War for their new country.

Colonel Hans Christian Heg's father Even Hansen Heg settled his family in Muskego and ran a newspaper. He acted as a clearing house for immigrants looking for a community to live in. These immigrants, while retaining their traditions, were influential in their new country. Half of Minnesota's governors before 1900 were first or second generation Scandinavian-Americans. Rasmus B. Anderson was a Norwegian American who served as U.S. Ambassador in Copenhagen for four years. It was said that his main cause was to make Norwegians honored in American. In 1874 Anderson wrote the book America Not Discovered by Columbus popularizing the idea that the Vikings had discovered America. In 1930, Wisconsin became the first state to celebrate Leif Erikson Day – October 9. This date has nothing to do with Erikson, but rather is the day in 1825 that the Sloopers arrived in New York. The University of Wisconsin Scandinavian Studies is the largest and oldest in the country. It started as the Norwegian Department in 1875.

Julie K. Allen suggested using military records, letters, and journals and diaries to learn about the lives of Scandinavian immigrants and Civil War soldiers. Letters can have a wealth of information and may be found in family papers and archives. It would cost an immigrant in the US about ½ of a week's wages to send a letter home. The letter would be passed around to relatives, friends, and neighbors and often published in the community newspaper. Most would tell about their health, crops, neighbors,

Tracing the Scandinavian—contd

etc. Usually they painted a pretty picture, but some letters warned not to expect too much. Immigration came at a high cost. Once in America, the immigrants lost their social standing and financial stability. They went from leading citizens to being ridiculed for their dress, language, and customs. They left Scandinavia full of hope and ambition. They often found pain and humiliation in America. While in Scandinavia, everyone in the area would know the families; here no one knew them.

Julie suggested reading soft sources – narratives about immigrants that can give depth to our ancestors' lives. These may be newspapers, oral history, memoirs and autobiographies, letters, novels, film, and stories. Hard sources include ships lists, census records, financial transactions such as deeds and titles, and church records. Those emigrating needed to receive certification from their home priest to leave the parish. This would be given to the priest at their new church to let him know they are a "Lutheran (etc.) in good standing." These served as character references and told about the family and their church life. Some churches may still have these or - if they haven't been lost - they may be in an archive or museum.

Those emigrating had to decide what to bring with them. Many were practical things they would need to start their new lives – tools, cooking and farm equipment, etc. Many of those items were used up/broken and no longer around. They also would bring special items – the family wedding gear that was handed down to be used at family weddings, Bibles, or perhaps a primstav -a Norwegian calendar stick that tells when to plant crops – in Norway and also church holy days. Many Norwegian immigrants brought their items in

Tracing the Scandinavian—contd

in wooden chests that were decorated with Rosemaling. Often the family name would be painted on them as well. Some would have a rounded top – those would have to be stacked on the top since other trunks wouldn't stack well on them. These trunks carried all the hopes and dreams of the immigrants at a time when people hardly ever left their home parish. Per Lysne of Stoughton, Wisconsin got the Rosemaling industry started in the U.S.

Julie told us that before 1890 (when steam ships were being used) Scandinavian emigrants may have left from Liverpool or Hamburg rather than one of the Scandinavian ports. In general, a surname ending in "son" is Swedish and "sen" Danish or Norwegian.

Some books and references that our speaker recommended:

[A Community Transplanted; The Trans-Atlantic Experience of a Swedish Immigrant Settlement in the Upper Middle West, 1835–1915](#) by Robert C. Ostergren

[Civil War Citizens: Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in America's Bloodiest Conflict](#) by Susannah J. Ural et al

[Giants in Earth: Saga of the Prairie](#) (about Norwegians in Dakota) by O E Rølvaag
[Come Join Me in the Spring](#) (Immigration to America from the Helland Farm Community Norway to Wiotia, WI) by Nancy Louise Coleman and Olav Veka

[Wisconsin My Home](#) by Thurine Oleson (The the story of Thurine Oleson, born in Wisconsin in 1866 to parents who had emigrated from Telemarken, Norway)

[The Sweet Land](#) – Movie about a Norwegian who orders a bride; the family send a German wife and the reactions in the community.

[Farmer's Daughter](#) – 1947 movie with Loretta Young

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
	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 \$

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

GC GS 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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**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**

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.

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First Class Postage