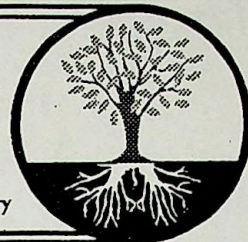


NDSGS

FEBRUARY 2002

NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH DAKOTA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



NDSGS March Meeting

- Patrice Hartman, president NDSGS

I am now entering my third year as President of the North Dakota State Genealogical Society. I need to say thank you to all of the people who function behind the scenes to keep this organization going. It is great to see the progress being made by George Barron and his crew in the compilation of the Morton County Cemetery book. This has been a collaborative effort by many individuals around the state. Progress has also been made on obtaining access to the pre-1925 Burleigh County Marriage Records. We need to continue to establish and maintain these working relationships to improve the availability and access to all public records.

One of my goals for the next two years is to find a way to post the ND State Death Index on the internet. Another goal is to see a cemetery compilation for every county in the state. With your help and support we will accomplish both of these goals.

As I look forward to the next two years I see many exciting things occurring with record extraction and compilations.

Keep up the good work.

QUARANTINED! (FOR GENEALOGY FEVER)

The inhabitants of this place have been stricken with GENEALOGY FEVER, a deadly, infectious disease.

SYMPTOMS: Notepapers stuffed in pockets and purses; heart palpitations at the sight of gravestones and old trunks filled with letters; bloodshot eyes from excessive microfilm exposure; erratic speech patterns punctuated by proper names of pilgrims and princes; cold sweat upon the arrival of mail.

**Speaker for the March meeting:
Harley Trefz from Jamestown**

He will be giving a presentation on the North Dakota State Hospital. It will cover the history of the Hospital, what types of records were maintained for the patients, what records are available to family members, what records are restricted etc.

Keck's Kiosk

If it looks like the contents is a little heavy on the local level, I'll just say that it's really appreciated when information is sent that can be used in our Newsletter. If I've not included someone's submission, please let me know as some things get 'buried' in my inbox, even when I have them flagged, tagged and (hopefully) filed in their proper folders!!

As I look at other newsletters, things like listings of burials and names found in registers seem to be one of the most important items we can share. So, if you've been researching your family, making lists or indexing various records, send some information along..... :) /jki

INCURABLE!

THE COST OF LIVING?

"It's hard to understand how a cemetery can raise its burial cost and blame it on the cost of living!"

Scandia Congregation Cemetery (Williams County)

(Submitted by Gloria Johnson, Cemetery Project Coordinator)

This cemetery is located nine miles south of Grenora, North Dakota, on County Road #5, three miles west and one-half mile north. It is located beside and behind the still-standing church, which is not in use today. The church was abandoned with all of the furnishings still inside. The front door was open, so we stepped inside to be taken back in time with pews still in place as was all of the altar-area furnishings.

Only one church was built in this township -- the Scandia Evangelist Lutheran Church in the summer of 1919. Two acres of land were donated by Martin Israelson for the site. The congregation had organized in 1913, having met in homes until a church was built. A cemetery was established at this site. It contains an area of 1.6 acres, ore or less, and is known as the Scandia Congregation Cemetery.

Those buried here are:

Marie (Hermanson) Anderson
John E. Boone
Oscar Carlson
Harold A. Erlien
Emmer J. Folvag
Helen Palma Folvag
Henry J. Folvag
Julian A. Folvag
Mary A. (Krogslie) Folvag
Levi T. Granseth
Lloyd Norris Gronseth
Mathilda G. Gronseth
Nels L. Gronseth
Alice J. (Kvam) Hendrickson
Arlyn Hendrickson
Barbara Kay Hendrickson
Clara A. Hendrickson
Gene E. Hendrickson
Carl Hermanson
Louise A. Hermanson

Anna Elice Houg
Martin Israelson
Alfred A. Johnson
Andrew G. Johnson
J. Anselm Johnson
Lina (Larson) Johnson
August Langberg
Maren (Jacobson) Langberg
Peter Jens Langberg
Robert A. Langberg
Olive Grace Lansrud
Thora C. (Hermanson) Lansrud
Albert P. Lund
Madsen Baby Boy
Marie (Jacobsen) Madsen
Gena Marion
Arthur N. Nelson
Carl Nelson
Carol Ann (Sahr) Nelson
Donald I. Nelson

Henry I. Nelson
Mathilda (Johnson) Nelson
Thorkel M. Nelson
Karen Olson
Peterson Baby Boy
Ernest I. Peterson
Norris H. Peterson
Peter T. Peterson
Ragnil Josephine (Mehus) Peterson
Ruth Palma Peterson
Theodore G. Peterson
Jerome H. Sevde
Lydia C. Sevde
Glenn Merlin Smebak
Josie Irene jVaagen
Ole Westgaard
Olga K. (Johnson) Wiersen
Otis Johan Wiersen

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Also located in this area of Williams County is a grave of Signe M. Delker, which is located seven miles south of Grenora on County Road #5, along the west side of the road. The lone grave for Signe is found on the former homestead land of Burt Delker, where he buried his wife of one year. They were living in a dug-out sod shack on their claim at the time of her death. She died of childbirth and the flu. Burt Delker's real surname was Mortenson. He came to Climax Township in the early 1900's from Montana. Their sod shack was just above a spring on their claim, so he named it Springdale Stock Farm. Her grave is neatly fenced in white fencing and has a white granite stone marking the grave area (dod. 1913)

Gloria Johnson, WCGS Cemetery Project Coordinator

Share your knowledge;
it is a way to achieve immortality.

My family coat of arms ties at the back.
... is that normal?

My ancestors must be in a witness protection program!

My family tree is a few branches short!
All help appreciated.

Minutes of September 21, 2001, Meeting

President Patrice Hartman called the meeting to order at 1:00 on September 21, 2001.

The meeting was held in the Project Room of the North Dakota State Heritage Center.

Genealogical societies/clubs representatives present:

Patrice Hartman, SWNDGS; George Barron, JRGC; Jacki Keck, WCGS; Don Smith, BMHGS;
and Dolores Vyzralek, State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Other genealogists attending: Daphne Drewello, JRGC; Beth Baumann, BMHGS; Pat Ashley, SWNDGS; Gerald Newborg, SHSND.

President Patrice gave a welcome. It was decided to hold the business meeting following the speaker. Patrice welcomed Gerald Newborg, State Archivist, SHSND. As secretary Dorothy Pearson was absent, Patrice Hartman was appointed to take minutes of the meeting.

PROGRAM

Gerald Newborg addressed the following questions about the North Dakota State Historical Society:

1. **What records will the historical society accept?** As the official state archives all state and territorial records are deposited with the society. The society is also a depository for all newspapers. Many gifts are received from private sources. The ITD Information Technology Department is in charge of records management.
2. **Are there any records that are not accepted?** Most records are accepted but local offices are encouraged to keep all permanent records.
3. **What happens to the records once they reach the archives and how accessible are they to the public?**
Generally all records are open to the public and can be located by using the card catalog, data-flex file or other finding aids.
4. **Are there any restricted records and what are the reasons for this?** The only records that are restricted are those that are mandated by law.

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Don Smith made a motion, which was seconded by Pat Ashley, that the minutes of the June 15th meeting be approved as printed. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT

Don Smith, Treasurer, reported that our balance is \$1,050.46.

Motion made by George Barron and seconded by Daphne Drewello to file the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussed distribution of the North Dakota State Genealogical Newsletter. The newsletter is available on-line. Those present who received the newsletter online did not feel they needed printed copies. Jacki Keck had printed copies, which were distributed. Don Smith will mail copies to the 15 members who do not have online access. Publication of the newsletter should occur about 2 weeks before the scheduled meetings. Jacki will continue as editor and asked that information and reports be sent to her one month before the meetings. Don Smith will continue to make copies and mail them out.
2. The NDSGS brochure - Jacki Keck will update the brochure and send a few to each genealogical society in the state.
3. Statewide Death Index - no ideas for funding have been presented. It was noted that David Mayer is no longer with the North Dakota Department of Health.
4. Don Smith will send out the dues notices in December.

NEW BUSINESS

1. We need to review the bylaws that refer to terms of office for officers and the number of members needed for a quorum.
2. Don Smith passed out a list of the paid members. There are 29 members.
3. George Barron made a motion to continue with our current officers, seconded by Jacki Keck. Motion carried. The motion was amended to state that John Mogren was elected to fill Dorothy Pearson's position of secretary. Amendment by Don Smith, seconded by Jacki Keck. Amendment carried.
4. Don Smith and Beth Bauman reported on the pre-1925 Burleigh County Marriage records. They hope to start indexing these.
5. George Barron gave a progress report on the Morton County Cemetery project. He also handed out a written list of all cemeteries and burials in Morton county. George volunteered to do the data entry. Katherine Bauman will be the proofreader and Don Smith will work on the publication. Thank you to all who have worked on this project.
6. Jacki Keck mentioned the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society Annual Seminar that will be held in Estevan on October 26-28. Contact Jacki if you are interested in attending.

Next Meeting is (the third Friday) March 15, 2002 at 1:00.

It was requested that Dolores check on the availability of a room for us at the Heritage Center. The meeting was adjourned.

Patrice Hartman, Acting Secretary

Bismarck-Mandan Historical & Genealogical Society

Meets on the second Thursday of each month @ 7:00 p.m. at the Bismarck Public Library

Our website is up again thanks to Gary Zentz, our president-elect. Visit us at

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ndbmhgs>

Our meetings and program schedules are listed there, give a look. There are some outstanding programs coming up.

We have completed two new publications: "School Census of Rural Burleigh County School Districts - 1922-1927," and "Zion Langedahl Lutheran Church, Tuttle, North Dakota." Records of the church membership (including a reprint of the 50th anniversary book)

We are also busy planning our WORKSHOP, scheduled for September 28, 2002. This work-shop will be centered on basic genealogy including local sources. More to come as plans firm up. We are aware of Moorhead's workshop the same day, however it became a matter of scheduling a place to hold it.

Our membership peaked at 100 in December of 2001. Now the goal is to increase or at least maintain that figure.

Submitted by Don Smith

Bottineau County Genealogical Society

...is inactive. Write to the Bottineau Historical Society.

Bowman County Historical & Genealogical Society

Pioneer Trails Regional Museum Hours:

Winter = 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Mon-Sat

2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Sunday

Summer = 9:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon-Sat

1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Sunday

Central North Dakota Genealogical Society

Meets at 7:00 p.m., the third Thursday of each month at the Harvey Public Library. This is an active society.

Dawson County Tree Branches Genealogical Society (Montana)

Meets on the third Tuesday of months Sept-May @ 7:00 p.m. at the Glendive Public Library Basement, 200 S. Kendrick Ave.

James River Genealogical Club

Meets first Tuesday of each month April through November @ 7:00 p.m. in the Northern Plains Electric Coop, Carrington

Our James River Genealogy Club is still on its resting period. We meet the first Tuesday of each month April through November. So our first 2002 meeting will be in Carrington, at 7PM on Tuesday April 2nd.

Our volunteer searchers have been busy over the winter with searches for people at a distance. A couple of our members are still at work attempting to compile the first-ever cemetery book for Morton County, which will eventually be published by the Bismarck-Mandan Society.

Some members are working on their own family histories and some are at their winter chores of indexing items such as school censuses, to broaden our searching tools. We have many hits and questions to answer on our usgenweb pages for our five county pages on the internet.

We continue to buy newspaper microfilm.

Our latest purchase was a donation of films from three small newspapers to the Alfred Dickey Public Library in Jamestown. That library is getting quite a collection of genealogical materials and is expecting a new film reader/copier in a few days.

We are looking forward to spring and new meetings with interesting programs.

Mary Kuhn, Secretary-Treasurer,
Newsletter Editor

McLean County Genealogical Society

...is inactive. Most members joined the Mouse River Loop Genealogical Society; these individuals continue to handle the inquiries for that area of the State.

A black and white halftone illustration of four people in business attire sitting around a table. From left to right: a man in a suit and tie, a woman in a patterned blouse, a man in a suit and tie holding a folder, and a woman in a dark jacket. They are all looking towards the center of the table, appearing to be in a meeting.

Williams County Genealogical Society

At our September 2001 meeting, we carpoled out to the Lewis and Clark Historical Site in Stony Creek Township. Marv Baarstad conducted an interesting tour for us of the rock monument located along the Little Muddy River and [showed us] how we could locate on his compass the Cut Bluff Area that was once a site of Lewis & Clark's travels. The Boy Scouts are developing this site for public use. To think we were standing in the exact area that Lewis & Clark had once stood dating back to approximately 1804. [...the number of the Scenic Route off which L&C Park can be found./jki]

Summer projects, sources and stories were shared. Sheets were distributed so everyone could see what the Cemetery [Index] Book will look like when published.

Our October meeting was held at the Community Library at 7:00 p.m. We were informed of the micro-film, computers, reserach books, inter-library loan and other resources available for genealogical research.

At our November meeting, we learned that several of our members are related to historic figures, etc. Marv Baarstad is a relative of the artist/painter Charles Russell, who was related to William Clark, the explorer. Joann Green said she is related to Knute Rockne, famous football player. Gladys Bakken said an ancestor is said to have been married to Sacajawea's son. And so the interesting stories go.....

A table was set up at the Upper Missouri Arts Council held in January at the James Memorial Library. Our cemebery indexing project was displayed, informing the public of our on-going project to publish these records. We are going into our fifth lyear and still coming upon new names of burials in our county. Gloria also did a presentation with KUMV-TV for their evening news show, regarding our Sociey and the work they are doing on the cemetery indexing project; also the new names that she has found through research of burials in the new section of the old Ft. Buford Military Cemetery. At our January meeting we focused on Ellis Island, on the internet and where research can be obtained.

Laura Raad of Artice Portrait Studio will be our guest at our March meting, sharing how to reinish/restore and take care of old photos and show us items she has restored.

Our Obituary Project continues to grow ... we are copying obits from microfilm available at the library and from old local newspapers. These are filed alphabetically in a series of notebooks in the library for use by the public.

Our Society meets monthly from September to May, with summers devoted to personal genealogy projects-and continued rural cemetery indexing for our book to be pusliehd soon, we hope.

Gloria Johnson, chairman

I want to find ALL of them!
So far, I only have a few thousand.

I should have asked them BEFORE they died!

I think my ancestors had several "Bad Heir" days.

I'm always late.
My ancestors arrived on the JUNEflower.

Only a Genealogist regards a step backwards
as progress.



Members of WCGS at Lewis & Clark Site, Williams County
(l-r) Adrienne Stepanek, JoAnne Goodman, Marv Baarstad and
Peg Hagan. Photo taken by Gloria Johnson

Finding People in Unindexed Census Records

On April 1, 2002, the National Archives will open the 1930 federal census to researchers at its reading rooms. Shipments of microfilm will go to libraries and vendors, to be quickly added to collections for use in other locales. Only then will researchers be able to purchase individual reels for their own personal libraries.

The 1930 census includes 59 reels of film for the State of Minnesota (i.e.) and no index of any kind. It will take some time before the films themselves are readily available for viewing, and even longer before any vendors, individuals or local group will be able to create and market an index -- even one which covers only a small portion of the state. So what's a researcher to do?

Strategies:

* Find out specifically where the family lived when the census was taken.

As with all census records (both federal and state), preparation to take the census began with defining manageable areas called enumeration districts (or EDs). The State was separated first into counties, and then into townships, villages and cities. When a city was too large for an enumerator to finish within a couple of weeks, it would be divided into wards and/or precincts. This made it easy to assign enumerators and to ensure that all areas had been counted. For families living in rural areas, this will result in a researcher looking through smaller portions of the microfilm to find a family.

* Look for a contemporary city directory or other source of addresses for city dwellers and check it against an ED/address listing.

For counties with large cities, a specific address can cut the search from multiple rolls of film to one ED. The Census Bureau very specifically defined the ED boundaries within cities.

Genealogists are time unravelers.

Genealogy is like playing hide and seek:
They hide ... I seek!

Genealogy: Tracing yourself back to better people.

There is a microfilm publication which outlines those boundaries and another which replicates some of the city maps. These films may be part of the collection at your favorite research library. In addition, Park Genealogical Books has compiled maps and ED listings for the major cities within Minnesota and Wisconsin. Often libraries have other finding aids that researchers can use to narrow the scope of a search.

* A same-era map showing the townships at the time may be helpful.

Yes, it's easier to find a family when a census is indexed. But that doesn't mean that the researcher should not look for the family until indexes are available. (Incidentally, the hints above work for other unindexed censuses, too!)

A little preparation can make your review relatively quick and successful.

Mary Bakeman, Park Genealogical Books, Roseville, MN

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### **Scanning Mailing Lists for Pertinent Information**

If you are like me and have several mailing lists and sometimes don't have time to read each one through, here is a quick tip to scan them for your ancestors. Once you have the mailing list folder open, use your Edit button, then click on Find. Put in your ancestor's last name and click on Find. If anyone has mentioned your ancestor's last name, it will take you promptly to that area in the text. If not, it will tell you that it has found nothing. Of course, in not reading through all the messages, you might overlook some other interesting bits of information. <grin>

Dawn Watson

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QUERY EXCHANGE

[Snail-mail responses can be sent to Editor of the Newsletter for forwarding.]

Any links to African American Genealogy research in North Dakota?

Solicitation for information pertaining to this query was sent out by e-mail in conjunction with a reminder that articles were due for the NDSGS Newsletter. Two responses came back and I've combined their information.

A key resource is "**African Americans in North Dakota: Sources and Assessments**" by Thomas P. Newgard, William C. Sherman, and John Guerrero, Bismarck: University of Mary Press, 1995. Besides a useful index of names, it lists African-Americans in U.S. Census reports from 1870 to 1920 taken from their searches through the various censuses. It is out of print. It is possible a few copies still are available either from the University of Mary Press or the University of Mary bookstore.

Otherwise, you might try a search of ODIN [Online Dakota Information Network] to see what libraries have it that you could borrow it from on interlibrary loan or visit a library that has it and use it there. We have it at the State Historical Society archives and library.

ODIN can be searched on the web: <<http://www.odin.nodak.edu/>>

Best wishes, Susan Dingle <sdingle@state.nd.us>

and

Sandy Slater <sandy_slater@mail.und.nodak.edu>

Head, Special Collections, Chester Fritz Library - UND

The inquirer wrote back, saying, "Thank you so much for your response. My query is general in nature. This came about as part of a genealogical discussion of African American in the Northwest and we are thinking about researching the presence of African Americans across the country especially in areas where they might be few in number. I could not find any links on your website.

[If anyone has additional information they would like to share, e-mail directly to: <plcg21@aol.com>]

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Looking for M.K. Braford; Mandan? [From NDSDMN-L@rootsweb.com]

J.G. Braford moved from Michigan to possible East Grand Forks and then to Staples, MN. He was in Staples in 1912. They (wife?) had 3 children: Montague Keith married Annie Stacey in 1895 and moved to Mandan, ND. They had 3 children: Ione, Evelyn, Clifford. M. K. was employed by Canadian Railway as a conductor. He arrived in Dauphin, Manitoba as he got off the train, he died from a heart attack. His sister Mrs. L. E. (Maude) Flint & his father, J. G. Bradford, brought him to East Grand Forks for burial. After his death, Annie & children moved to California.

Maude married L. E. Flint and resided in East Grand Forks. Charles resided in East Grand Forks...don't know if he married or not. Any information will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you! -- Linda Drilling <F2led3154@voyager.net>

QUERY SUBMISSION FORM

Name(s)

Information (dob/dod/area lived in/marriage/offspring/etc)

Also Researching:

Respond to:

Address:

Member Queries Welcome

() Interested in membership

Mail to: Jacki Keck, NDSGS Newsletter
703 West 7th Street
Williston ND 58801-4908

Genealogy: Chasing your own tale!

Genealogy .. will I ever find time
to mow the lawn again?

That's the problem with the gene pool:
NO Lifeguards!

I researched my family tree ...
and apparently, I don't exist!

North Dakota State Genealogical Society, Inc.

